Chapter IV

THE ADMINISTRATION OF PRESIDENT ALONZO CHURCH

FROM 1830 TO 1843

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A New President Takes Charge

The closing of President Waddel's administration found the following results accomplished:

1. The fact that the University, in spite of the many obstacles met during the past twenty-eight years, had so progressed as to insure its permanency.

2. A slow but nevertheless certain increase of interest in college education was manifest among the people of the state, though not sufficient to guarantee adequate financial support to the University.

3. An unchanged devotion to the classical curriculum, though here and there some evidence of coming debate in favor of more attention to the sciences.

4. A determination to keep the minimum age requirement for admission sufficiently high to exclude mere children such as had been admitted during the earlier years.

5. A determination to increase the efficiency of the faculty, both as to numbers and scholastic attainment.

6. A renewed activity on the part of trustees and faculty in enlarging the offerings of the University in every field of educational endeavor.

7. The number, character and influence of the several hundred alumni were beginning to be felt throughout the state and there was some talk of organizing an alumni society, which forecast the founding of such a society five years later.

The outlook was pleasing, and, though the old ship was destined to have at times some rough sailing, she was definitely on her way to a splendid destination.

It is true that just at that time the greater part of the work of instruction devolved on Professor Alonzo Church and Professor James Jackson, with the assistance of Tutor Lathrop. But the trustees were already planning to fill the vacancies caused by a few resignations and it was not felt that that presented any very serious difficulties.

Hitherto there had always been more or less trouble in securing a president, but when Moses Waddel resigned the presidency of the University in 1829 after his
marvelous success in the administration of that office, his successor was on the campus ready to begin his work. The trustees did not have to advertise for applicants or spend months in securing the right man. A simple motion in that body, the unanimous vote of all members present, the mere waving of a wand and there he was, - Alonzo Church.

He was the first man chosen by Moses Waddel as a member of the faculty when he took up his work as president in 1819. He had served with success a period of ten years as a staunch supporter of President Waddel. He was known to be a good disciplinarian and by virtue of his long association with Georgia students had come into a good understanding of their nature and temperament. He possessed a strong mind, well-trained, and was a man of culture and refinement. He enjoyed the full confidence of the trustees. The students respected, even though many of them didn't love him on account of his strict and stubborn enforcement of rules of conduct. He had never meddled in politics and that was a rare accomplishment in those days. And then he was a Presbyterian preacher. So he filled the fill.

He had been called to the office of chief executive of the only college in Georgia. He did not in any way underestimate the task he knew he was assuming, but he took charge firm in the faith that such was his predestined work and that he would make a success of the undertaking.

Of course he could not see into the future, neither had the Board of Trustees or the Senatus Academicus prophetic vision, but he was entering upon what proved to be an administration that was to stretch over a longer period of time than that of any other executive head of the University. He was destined to preside over the University for thirty years.

Alonzo Church

Alonzo Church was a native of Vermont, a typical Yankee, who was fated to become a thorough Southerner by adoption and to spend the remaining days of his life in this section of the country. Athens became his home and here he remained until his death.
Ha.rmon was a graduate of Middlebury College. The ministry was his chosen lifework. It is doubtful whether, back in 1819, when he came to the University of Georgia to teach mathematics, he even dreamed of devoting the remaining days of his life to education. He was not a Yale product, but he never got so very far away from the Yale tradition. Like practically all educators of those days he was devoted to Greek and Latin and all the contents of the classical curriculum. During the latter part of his long service, science did edge its way in and vocational training did at times unfurl its banner.

As soon as he had graduated Alonzo Church turned his eyes south. He was not without a mind to adventure and he had heard that Georgia was a good place in which to try his wings. He secured a position as teacher in the Academy at Eatonton, Georgia. He achieved success in his new undertaking, and his success was not confined to the teaching profession, for there he met Miss Sarah Trippe, a beautiful and accomplished young woman, who became his wife. Those who knew them have said that no more handsome couple ever stood up before the minister to plight their troth and join hands in the covenant of marriage. She was his loving helpmeet throughout a long life. Eight children blessed their union and a number of their descendants are now well-known citizens of Georgia.

Dr. Henry Hull, University alumnus of the Class of 1815, for sixteen years a member of the University faculty under the administration of Dr. Church, gives this description of him: "In person, Dr. Church was tall and well-proportioned, of dark complexion, with lustrous black eyes and hair, graceful in carriage and dignified in bearing. He was of a quick temper and absolutely fearless, but had great self-control. Well-behaved students had respect and affection for him, but the disorderly feared and avoided him more than any other member of the faculty. He was a rigid disciplinarian, prompt to correct and rebuke the slightest indication of disorder or inattention in his class room."

He brought with him from his Vermont home much of the stubbornness and unyielding disposition of the New Englander. He had his hours of accommodation and
gracious contact, and he also had his hours of unyielding determination, not
unmixed with occasional flares of temper. Whenever he reached a decision that
he was convinced was right there was no moving him.

He must have become a man of rare power, for he passed through a number of
trying situations, always maintaining the confidence of the governing body of the
institution, the Board of Trustees. At different times he ran into serious dis-
agreement with members of his faculty, but he generally had his way. Feeling between
him and some of his professors was not always harmonious, but he remained at the
head of the institution and some of the professors went their way.

Dr. Hull, who was intimately associated with President Church and who was not
one who came into conflict with him, in commenting on this feature of his life and
conduct, said of him: "He had views as to the proper conduct of a college, which
amounted to convictions. The officer who would not or could not come up to his
standard, or could not accept his views, was in his opinion not the officer the
college needed. Complaints were made without mincing matters, of incompetency or
neglect of duty."

There came into the faculty during his administration several men who were
equally fixed and unyielding in their convictions and there were inevitable clashes.
As the story of his administration unfolds, it will be seen how, in some way, he
dominated both faculty and trustees until the general break-up in 1856, when the
Board asked all the faculty to resign. But even then, it will be noted that, although
he had resigned, he was re-elected and those members of his faculty with whom he
had been in conflict were not re-elected.

The administration of President Church has been called "The Golden Age of
the University." It is certain that the faculty did excellent work in those days
and President Church showed much ability as an executive, but that expression came
into use partly for a different reason - the records achieved by alumni. True
that their education was directed by Dr. Church and his faculty but their personal
brain and effort contributed also to bringing about that characterization of the
institution. In largest measure it was the life records of the young men who
graduated during that administration that caused that period to be called "The
Golden Age of the University." Stephens, the Cobbs, Johnson, Benning, Palmer,
Bartow, the LeContes, Sanford, Rutherford, Curry, Hill, Gordon and others. Their
lives and achievements reflected the glory of the institution.

Dr. Church served in a day when science was beginning to record its triumphs
and when the new views of life began to bring about conflicts with the leaders in
the religious world. He was a strict fundamentalist in religion. Darwin and
evolution were anathema to him. He represented the prevailing religious belief of
that day. The time had not come, as at present, when the doctrine of evolution
is generally accepted and when it is almost the universal opinion that there need
not be any conflict between science and religion.

President Church was inevitably drawn into disagreement with the more modern-
minded members of his faculty. Aside from differences on science and religion,
there were several members of the faculty who did not endorse his views on strict
college discipline. There was a growing tendency to get away from some of the
harsher rules as to student conduct and faculty guardianship. Hence there was at
times lack of harmony between him and some of his faculty members. Notwithstanding
all that, President Church was able up to the very end of his administration to
put his programs through.

The reports of the committees of the Board of Trustees showed that the buildings
were in good condition, the library well-kept, the scientific apparatus in first
class condition and the faculty at peace when Dr. Church took over the presidency.
And then, too, the institution had an attendance of about one hundred and fifty
students. Quite a difference between that situation and the two professors and
seven students that greeted Moses Waddel when he took charge of the University in
1819. The only similarity was in the number of professors, for Dr. Church had but
two professors to begin with in his faculty, on account of vacancies that had not
been filled.
Additions to Faculty

It was quite clear that the first problem to be solved by the new president was that of strengthening the faculty and that as soon as possible. President Waddel had been doing considerable teaching himself and now he was gone. Dr. Church had been doing much of the teaching and he had now been elected president. Dr. Henry Jackson had resigned in 1827 and the work in Natural Philosophy had been turned over to Dr. James Jackson, professor of Chemistry and Geology. Dr. Stephen Olin, professor of Ethics and Metaphysics, had resigned the previous year. The chair of ancient languages was vacant and a new professor of mathematics was needed to fill the chair formerly occupied by Dr. Church.

That was a situation that would have daunted a less-determined man than Alonzo Church, but with characteristic wisdom and energy he went after the solution of the problem that confronted him.

Steps were taken by the Trustees before their adjournment in August 1829 to add new members to the faculty. Professor George W. McGahee, of Tennessee, was elected professor of mathematics and James P. Waddel, a son of Dr. Moses Waddel, was elected professor of languages.

Fate stepped in and broke up these plans. Professor McGahee accepted the position and started for Athens to take up his work. On the way to Athens he died suddenly. Professor Waddel accepted his position, but after a few months resigned. Some thought he gave up the place on account of criticism about undue preference for Presbyterians, but that was probably not the cause, as several years later he did accept the same position and filled it a number of years.

Dr. Church filled in as teacher for the time being, but when the Board of Trustees met three months later in November 1829, the University still had no professor of mathematics or languages. James Camak was elected professor of mathematics and James Shannon, a Baptist preacher in Augusta, was chosen as professor of languages. William L. Mitchell was elected as a tutor. Dr. Shannon accepted and filled his position five years, then resigned and was succeeded by James P.
Waddel, who served from 1836 to 1856. James Gamak resigned as professor of mathematics and was succeeded by Dr. Henry Hall, who served until 1846, a period of sixteen years. Rev. William Capers was elected as professor of Moral Philosophy and Bible, but did not accept.

Progress was being made, but the first year of President Church's administration was largely marking time. He, with much energy, filled in as a teacher when needed, but he continued to work for a larger and stronger faculty and with the passing of another year success crowned his efforts.

In his annual report to the trustees, President Church recommended that there be added to the curriculum the Study of the Evidences of Revealed Religion. The trustees were determined not to get into any quarrel with the Methodists and Baptists, and while not opposed to Dr. Church's recommendation decided that this study "be confined to the general principles of the Christian religion, and that nothing sectarian be admitted in such instruction or lectures."

The commencement of 1830 was honored by the presence of former President Waddel. The trustees passed a special resolution inviting Dr. Waddel to walk in the procession and take a seat upon the Chapel stage. The old veteran teacher enjoyed very much the cordial reception and the attention shown him.

The graduating class presented the following program:

Prayer by Dr. Cummins

Oration

Hugh L. Henderson
Charles W. Howard
Wm. R. Hunt
A. E. Elliott
Nath G. Foster
George W. Vance

Latin Salutatory
English Salutatory
Different Modes of Investigation in Natural Sciences
The World's a school of wrong and what proficients swarm around.
Knowledge is Power
The probable degree of mental culture in America
Thomas W. Dyer  
Francis R. Goulding  
Edward M. Herron  
William McElroy  
James M. Smythe  
William McKinley  
David S. White  

American Literature  
The 19th Century in America  
Importance of a Navy  
National Sins  
The Utility of Physics and Metaphysics to man comparatively considered  
Moral Science, Intellectual Philosophy  

Valedictory - Mental Cultivation

The degree of Bachelor of Arts was conferred upon those taking part in the program, and upon ten other members of the graduating class:—Benjamin B. Beall, John M. Borders, Marcus A. Franklin, Joseph J. Griffin, Alexander Grinnage, Robert B. Houghton, Felix G. McKinney, Albert G. Semmes, Frederick D. Wimberley and Amos G. Whitehead.

The degree of Master of Arts was conferred on Kinchen Haralson, Samuel J. Cassels, Joseph Kenney, Austin H. Walker, Archelus H. Mitchell, Erasmus L'Acree, John Campbell, Edward Cobb, Junius Hillyer, Thomas Magruder, A. L. Lewis, Henry P. Hill, Sampson W. Harris, Briggs H. Moultrie, William B. Lumpkin, George H. Harris, Andrew G. Semmes, alumni of the college, and upon John W. Satterlee, of Middleburg College.

The Class of 1830 graduated twenty-three men, while twenty-four others were members of the class but did not continue their work to graduation.

Nathan G. Foster became a Baptist preacher, a lawyer, a judge of the Superior Court and a member of Congress.

Wm. H. Hunt was an Episcopal minister and served in the State Senate.

Charles W. Howard, one of the first honor graduates, was a large farmer, a Presbyterian minister and fought as a Captain in the Confederate Army.

William McElroy became a Presbyterian minister.

William McKinley was a lawyer and legislator.

A. G. Semmes became a judge of the Superior Court in Florida.
James M. Smythe was an editor.
Edward M. Heron was a physician and planter.

The member of this class who achieved greatest distinction was Francis R. Goulding.

Francis Robert Goulding

Not even Daniel Defoe in his "Robinson Crusoe" has given more pleasure to children and young people than Francis Robert Goulding, A.B. graduate of the University, Class of 1830, has given them in the pages of *Young Marooners.* That book may not enjoy the literary prominence accorded to Defoe's masterpiece, but to many it is a more enjoyable book.

Goulding was born in 1810 in Liberty county, Georgia, the son of Thomas Goulding, the first native-born Presbyterian minister in Georgia. After graduating in 1830 he attended the Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Columbia, South Carolina, graduating therefrom in two years. The remaining years of his life he was a Presbyterian minister, but found time to write a number of interesting books.

He was endowed with a vivid imagination which was manifest in fields other than literature. In 1842 he invented the sewing machine. He did this to help his wife and relieve her of considerable work. There his interest in the machine ended. He cared nothing about securing a patent, and several years later Howe announced his invention, but there is no doubt about Goulding's invention having preceded Howe's by several years. He accomplished what he set out to do, relieved his wife of much tiresome work, and never thought anything about what a boon his invention might be to other tired workers.

In 1843 he began writing *Young Marooners.* It is true that he had Defoe's great work as a model, but, in order to make the book more attractive to children, he made his chief characters children themselves. He spent three years in perfecting this book. Then it was refused by the first publishing house to which it was submitted. The next time he had better luck. It went through several editions in this country and six different publishers in England issued it to thousands
upon thousands of interested readers.

Goulding later on wrote a number of books in order to support his family
as everything he had in the way of material possessions he had lost during the
War Between the States. These books were "Marooner's Island," a sequel to
"Young Marooners," but not as interesting a story, "Woodruff's Stories," "Frank

He died at Roswell, Georgia, August 22, 1881.

New Buildings Follow Disastrous Fire

President Church had concluded a successful year's work when the annual
session of the Board of Trustees adjourned in August 1830. Within a few weeks one
of the only two large buildings was in ashes. New College was totally destroyed
by fire and with it went the scientific apparatus that had been accumulated during
the thirty years of the University's existence, and also the library that by
this time contained several thousand choice and well-selected books.

The Trustees met in November 1830 and, admitting that they had no money
with which to erect a new building and purchase new apparatus and new books, called
upon the legislature for help. The call was not made in vain. The legislature
authorized a loan of ten thousand dollars, which later on was repaid, and made an
annual appropriation of six thousand dollars, which was continued for eleven years.

In April 1831 the contract for the erection of the new building was authorized
and an agreement was made with Crane and Hobday to erect the structure at a cost
of $12,349. Work was started in a few weeks and the building now known as New
College was completed by the next annual commencement in August 1832. But the
Trustees were not satisfied with the quality of the work and declared that "most
of the work of the new college edifice has been done in a manner unsatisfactory
to the Committee." The contractors were required to correct certain deficiencies
before full payment was made.

With the new appropriation made by the legislature, the Trustees were satis-
fied that additional needed buildings could be provided.
In August 1831, the Trustees directed the Prudential Committee to proceed to the building of a new college Chapel, to be completed by the annual commencement of 1832. The contract was awarded to James R. Carlton and Benjamin Towns. They were not able to entirely complete the new chapel building by the annual commencement of 1832, but they did the work so well that on August 1, 1832, the Trustees were moved to say: "The new chapel which is nearly complete is a tasteful and handsome building. It is apparently correct in its proportions; it is certainly elegant in its exterior appearance and convenient in its interior. The work, so far as the committee are informed or can judge is faithfully done", and in August 1833 the Board passed a resolution "that the thanks of the Board be presented to Messrs. James R. Carlton and Benjamin Towns for the elegant and faithful manner in which they have completed their contract."

According to the trustees' records the original New College building had four stories. Unless the small basement of the present building be counted as a story, then the present structure has only three stories. New College has served many purposes. At first it was used principally for classrooms, in the seventies and eighties as a dormitory, then again for class rooms, then back again as a dormitory, then the first story for a college bookstore, and at present the first floor is used for the bookstore and a social meeting place, while the two upper stories house the School of Pharmacy.

This new chapel, now one hundred and twelve years old, has across the years become the most venerated building on the campus, from the stage of which thousands of graduates have received their diplomas.

Troup and Clark Politics

The keeping of politics out of the management of a college has always been a difficult job. In fact, politics more than a century ago as well as in this day crept into the affairs of the University. However, much as one may refer to the bad influence of politics, the fact remains that political influences will be found
at work in schools, in churches, in cities and in states. Sometimes they disrupt homes. These influences are like taxes and death. They are always present.

In this respect the opening years of the administration of Alonzo Church were nothing different from the years that had gone or those yet to come. Josiah Meigs lost his job as President of the University in 1811 because he was too radical a democrat and used his tongue too freely in criticism of the trustees, and since the Church regime there have been noticeable incidents where politics interfered with University government, notably in recent years.

The political row stirred up about the time Dr. Church assumed the presidency of the University did not specially involve political principles. It was the result of personal politics. At that time there were two factions in Georgia politics, the "Clark Party" and the "Troup Party." The one was headed by John Clark, the other by George M. Troup. Both of these leaders during their lives served as Governor of Georgia. It was difficult to determine just what these factions were quarreling about, but there was plenty of quarreling and bitter quarreling at that. E. M. Coulter, in his "College Life in the Old South" came about as near as anyone else to giving the correct answer to the question when he recorded in the pages of that book the following: "The principles that separated the two parties might have been a well-kept secret, but the character of the people who composed each group was fairly easy to ascertain. In general, the Troup men were those who had started out to follow George M. Troup and they liked to think of themselves as aristocratic and cultured. The Clark men followed John Clark, who had been a backwoods son of a backwoodsman; they were more apt to be small farmers and men of few pretensions."

That the control and management of the University should have caused a contest between these two political parties was evidence of the fact that the University had become a power to be reckoned with in Georgia. The Troup men had the inside track, the majority of the trustees and faculty being on that side of the political fence. The Clark men resented this and charged that the University
students were being trained as Troup supporters. Governor Troup was himself a member of the Board of Trustees of the University.

On November 10, 1830, the Board of Trustees passed the following resolution: "Resolved, That in the opinion of this Board of Trustees, it is expedient and proper that said Board should be increased to the number of twenty-eight, and that the legislature be requested to appoint eleven Trustees, which added to the present Board, will constitute the number of twenty-eight."

The next session of the legislature named the following as new trustees:

Howell Cobb, of Houston County, John A. Cuthbert, Angus McD. King, Wilson Lumpkin, David A. Reese, Stevens Thomas, James Tinsley, Zachariah Williams, Jacob Wood, Thomas W. Murray and Daniel Hooks.

It has been said that these additional trustees were named in order to equalize the two political factions on the Board of Trustees and that all eleven of the new appointees were Clark men. If such was the case, it is hard to explain why the request for their appointment came from the Board of Trustees, a body dominated by the Troup faction. If the Troup faction was trying to increase its hold on the Board of Trustees, it woke up thoroughly disillusioned after the legislature made the appointments.

No bad results came from this play of politics. It is true that the Trustee minutes show that there followed more divisions on motions before the board and more instances where yea and nay votes were recorded. But there is no record of resulting discord or dissension.

One result of a political nature did come about in the passing of a rule prohibiting students from expressing political opinions in addresses. On November 14, 1831, the Trustees passed the following resolution: "That it be the duty of the Faculty to examine the productions intended for the public exercises of the students at the annual commencements to be hereafter held at the college, and that they cause to be excluded from them all political matter involving the party politics of the day."
No movement to suppress political criticism ever was carried out very successfully in America, and the experience in the University at that time was of that nature. The students evidently paid little attention to the prohibition and the faculty had trouble in restraining them. A year and a half later the students had evidently been disobeying this college law in a flagrant manner, which led a trustee to introduce the following resolution on August 5, 1833:

"Resolved, That all party or sectional politics, or political discussion of such a character, either oral or in writing, or publishing, or any other display of emblems of personal indignity to public characters, or in fact any other indecorous or immoral exhibitions, having a like tendency shall not be permitted in Franklin College, and the same is hereby expressly forbidden to be used or practiced by any youths or students during the time they are attached to said college." But the Board considered the resolution too drastic and laid it on the table.

The former rule stood for many years, and while the students generally expressed their opinions of public men, the faculty did keep them from incorporating their opinions in their commencement addresses. Within the past half century in some instances the commencement speeches by students have been censored. Several years since, when athletic feeling was running high between Georgia Tech and the University of Georgia, the trustees saw fit to exercise their powers of general supervision by forbidding certain banners to be placed on the Tech buildings that were calculated to stir up trouble with the Georgia student body.

Not many gifts had been made to the University, but at the 1830 commencement the Trustees accepted with thanks a gift from Mr. George S. Walker of 154 pieces of gold, silver and copper coins of different nations, also 50 pieces from Col. Henry Cumming, and at that commencement Hon. William H. Crawford presented the library with the "Dictionaire des Sciences" in forty-five volumes. At that time a gift of that many important books was quite an accession to the library.

At this session of the Board, Hon. William H. Crawford tendered his resignation as a member and it was accepted with great regret. For eleven years he had been
an active member of the Board, had helped carry the institution through its most crucial days and had seen it rise to a position that commanded the respect of the best-informed citizens of the state. Mr. Crawford had never fully recovered from the attack of paralysis during his campaign for the Presidency of the United States in 1824, and his resignation was no doubt caused by his declining health.

Following the fire that had destroyed the library and scientific apparatus, the Trustees took action in November, 1830, to replace the destroyed property and appropriated $3000 for the purchase of books and apparatus.

Session of 1830-1831

The session of 1830-1831 was marked mainly by decided movements toward the strengthening of the faculty. Dr. Stephen Olin had served two years under President Waddell as professor of Metaphysics and Ethics. He had resigned in 1826, but on April 6, 1831, he was recalled as Professor of Ethics and Belles Lettres. He came and served another two years and again resigned in 1833. Dr. Olin was not very popular with the students, but many regarded him as an excellent teacher.

The chair of Modern Languages had not been filled since the services of Petit de Claville ceased during the administration of President Meigs. Now the trustees called for the election of a professor who could teach French, German, Italian and Spanish at a salary of $1000 per annum. That was a pretty big job cut out for the new professor at a very low salary, to say nothing of the required ability to teach four modern languages. The trustees realized the somewhat ridiculous nature of the proposition and raised the proposed salary to $1400, the same amount paid the other professors. To this position Dr. William Lehmann was elected and for eleven years he filled the position acceptably until his resignation in 1841.

Dr. Malthus A. Ward was added to the faculty at this time as professor of Natural History.

Thus at the end of his second year, President Church had assembled a faculty of five professors and two tutors, as follows:

President - Alonzo Church
Professor of Mathematics - Henry Hull
Professor of Chemistry and Physics - James Jackson
Professor of Ancient Languages - James Shannon
Professor of Modern Languages - Wm. Lehmann
Professor of Natural History - Malthus A. Ward

The men who made up the faculty were men of ability and both as to numbers and efficiency the faculty compared favorably with other college faculties in institutions throughout the country much older and more liberally supported than the University of Georgia.

The stable is always looked after the horse is stolen, and the trustees, in view of the disastrous fire had ordered fire buckets for the buildings, a night watchman to live in one of them and were investigating the question of taking out ample fire insurance.

President Church was evidently out after more students, for the trustees approved one of his recommendations that irregular students be admitted at the age of fourteen, the same as regular students. Though the president was usually very strict as to scholastic requirements, he recommended that students be allowed to "rise" from one class to another, although they may have failed in one subject. The trustees were more hardboiled and directed the faculty to adhere to the old custom that required the student to pass in all of his studies before he could "rise" to a higher class.

The legislature at its last session had passed a resolution that at least one poor boy from each county in the state should be given a free education at the University. The trustees were not averse to this, but they were without the necessary money and referred the matter back to the legislature with the request that the funds be provided. It is not recorded that the legislature made any appropriation.

President Church ventured into new fields when he recommended to the trustees
that each member of the faculty deliver annually a course of lectures written in
full on the several subjects connected with his department. He probably made that
recommendation without consulting the members of his faculty. Had he done so
they might have considered it as being analogous to a comprehensive examination
imposed on students to test their knowledge of the subjects studied. The trustees
approved the recommendation provided too much time be not taken up in the lectures
and that they be confined to the last subjects taught by the professors.

So the professors were put on the spot and had to deliver the goods. The
plan worked fairly well for one year, then began to get frazzled at the edges
and soon was nothing more than a worn out garment. Professors, after all, are
just grown-up students, and if put under pressure, some of the old student aversions
are apt to crop out.

Calling the Trustees' Hand

President Church had been in office less than two years before he called the
hand of the trustees on the subject of discipline of students and the interference
of the trustees after the faculty made its decisions.

One I. A. B. Bouchille had been dismissed from college by action of the
faculty. He went before the Trustees, declared that he regretted his conduct, and
solemnly promised to behave himself if re-admitted. The trustees voted to re-admit
him. That was done about eleven o'clock on the morning of April 4, 1831. A few
hours elapsed during which President Church flashed his black eyes and snapped his
teeth together and made up his mind that he would see who was boss. Dr. Church
did not like it when any one interfered with his enforcement of discipline. That
afternoon the trustees passed a resolution declaring that "nothing has exhibited
itself in said proceedings, calculated to impair their confidence in the justice
or prudence of the faculty in their administration of the college affairs."

That was a rather mild resolution, but it represented more than would appear
on the surface. The trustees would not meddle again with the disciplinary views
of Alonzo Church.

The next year several students were dismissed for disorderly conduct and the Trustees proceeded to put the faculty on the back and to say by resolution passed August 1, 1832, after requests had been made for the re-instatement: "that it is more important to enforce the laws and discipline of the college and the rightful authority of its officers than to preserve any number of disorderly students in the institution."

The next year a student who had been dismissed took his case before the trustees. The trustees decided that they had no right under the existing laws to supervise and reverse the decision of the faculty in the case of a student being dismissed. President Church was in the saddle and there he remained for nearly thirty years. He had his troubles all right, but he ruled with a firm hand. Those boys who broke the laws as to student conduct didn't like him, but he was never a man to court student favor at the expense of satisfactory conduct. The trustees swallowed their medicine gracefully and thereafter President Church was not bothered with trustee interference.

The graduating exercises of the Class of 1831 were participated in by nine students. James W. Harris, the first honor man, delivered the valedictory. Lemuel B. Robertson and Thomas J. Moore, sharing second honor, delivered the salutatory and an English oration respectively. James A. Nisbit and Joseph Saffold, sharing third honor, delivered orations, as did four others, Robert E. Belcher, H. E. Kneeland, Todd Robinson and William Taylor.

The degree of Bachelor of Arts was conferred on these students together with the following members of the class: Robert E. Belcher, John S. Dobbins, Theodore M. Dwight, Bennett Harris, Samuel Rutherford, Ebenezer Sternes, William P. White and William W. Wiggins.

Class of 1831

The Class of 1831 graduated seventeen members, while fourteen were in attendance part of the time but did not graduate. Six members of the class became
lawyers, six farmers, two ministers, two physicians, two legislators, three judges, one Supreme Court Justice, one state treasurer, one Congressman.

James Walton Harris was first honor graduate, and became a successful lawyer and planter. Thomas J. Moore was second honor graduate. Joseph B. Saffold was a member of the Alabama legislature and a Judge of the Superior Court. Ebenezer Starnes achieved great success as a lawyer and after serving as Judge of the Superior Court became a Justice on the Supreme Court of Georgia. He also wrote several interesting books. William Taylor was a Judge of the Superior Court.

John Basil Lamar was a planter with large farming interests. For a number of years he was a trustee of the University of Georgia. He served in the National Congress, was a member of the Georgia Secession Convention and a Colonel in the Confederate States Army. He was killed in the battle of Crampton's Gap in 1862.
The first thirty years of the University of Georgia were years in which no special attention had been paid to the beauties of nature or the many and abundant natural resources of the state. The struggle for money with which to meet the expenses of the institution had been the heaviest task and the curriculum had embraced mainly languages, mathematics, and natural science. Both faculty and students enjoyed the forests and streams in and around Athens, but that was outside the classroom. The bold spring that had been admired by the committee that selected the site for the University campus was still furnishing pure drinking water, but the coming of the shad up the Oconee river, that had been held out as an inducement to Governor Milledge by Daniel Easley for the purchase of the land, was still being awaited.

But in 1831 President Church and his faculty, in looking over the college lands west of the main campus, were enamored of the scenery along a sparkling little stream that danced over shining pebbles onward to the Oconee, and the decision was reached to establish a botanical garden and add the department of Natural History. So on April 5, 1831, on motion of Mr. James Gamak, the Board of Trustees "resolved, that a professorship of Natural History be now established with a salary of fourteen hundred dollars." That marked the beginning of what is now referred to as the old botanical garden.

The trustees began to look around for a competent teacher and as usual found him in New England. On August 2, 1831, this professor was elected; he was directed to lecture on botany, mineralogy, geology, and physiology, and an appropriation of five hundred dollars was made for a mineralogical cabinet.

The new professor was Dr. Malthus A. Ward, of Salem, Massachusetts. Dr. Ward was thoroughly competent to teach botany and, while he remained in the faculty of the University, was one of its most popular professors, but while he taught a beautiful subject, he was not an example of beauty itself. Mr. A. L. Bull, in his Annals of Athens, says: "Dr. Ward had none of the elements of manly beauty.
His features were not harmonious, his figure was ungainly, and his costume composed of pants belonging to different ages. But he was a gentleman of education, an enthusiastic botanist, and a gentler, kindlier man never lived."

He had not been here long before the college boys gave him a nickname. There are very few faculty members who escape this treatment at the hands of the students. So Dr. Ward became "Dr. Pegs." That name, which stuck to him to the end, was saddled on him when he made a certain statement to his students. As Mr. Hull related in his book, "The quaintness of his expressions seemed to impress his lectures on the students. He once said: 'Words, young gentlemen, are only pegs on which to hang your ideas.'"

A few months after the election of Dr. Ward as Professor of Natural History, on November 15, 1831, the Trustees set aside the land for the botanical garden by passing a resolution that "the lot known as the Steward's Lot be set apart for the purpose of establishing a botanic garden and that the house on said lot be fitted up for the residence of the professor of Natural History, which he shall be entitled to occupy on the payment of reasonable rent." At the same time the sum of three hundred dollars was appropriated with which to do this work.

The exact dimensions of the new garden are not recorded, nor any description of it other than that it was "the lot known as the Steward's lot." Yet its location and its approximate size are known. It covered the land on the northern side of what is now known as Broad Street, then known as an extension of Front Street, and extending up Tanyard Branch to its headwaters, a bold spring at the beginning of the ravine back of what is now the Athens High School. It is probable that a small portion of the garden was along Tanyard Branch to the south of Broad street and along the steep hill that rises from the banks of the branch westward. Somewhere near the summit of the hill was the house that the new professor was to occupy.

The small stream had been given no name at that time, and years later when it received a name it was not in keeping with the beautiful old garden that once existed along its banks. "Tanyard Branch!" What a name to bear as it swept
through what was once a beauty spot! But that is the name that finally attached itself to the stream and in spite of the incongruity, such has been the name throughout the years. Perhaps there was no incongruity when the name was bestowed, for the glory of the old garden had at that time departed, when a tanyard had been located at a point down the stream.

No more beautiful spot could have been selected on the land that had been given to the University by Governor Milledge. On either side of the branch the hills rose to the east and to the west. At one point near Broad street the hillside was very steep and the scenery was somewhat mountainous. Quite a number of large trees were scattered over the fields that constituted the garden spot. The soil was admirably suited for the work that was to be done. Under the care of Dr. Ward and his assistants the garden was made beautiful, but after a few years interest in the work decreased, financial difficulties presented themselves and finally in 1856 the botanical garden passed into history.

Strange to say, it went from one extreme to another and in later years became a slum section, the greater portion of which was covered by cheap negro houses, which in turn became dilapidated and neglected. Such is its condition today, save for a number of good houses to the south of Broad street erected under the rehabilitation program for white families and occupying ground near the old garden.

The botanical garden lasted twenty-five years and then was sold and the work discontinued. That quarter of a century was marked by an honest effort on the part of a number of the faculty members to make the project go, but it never could be made a financial success and the trustees were unwilling to put any more money into it. The first ten years it was under the supervision of Dr. Ward. Then, when the faculty was reduced in number in 1842, and Dr. Ward retired, it was left to a gardener, who, despite his efficiency as such, could not carry it on successfully.

Each year, from the beginning, it was the subject of discussion in the Board
of Trustees and that body was reluctant to give it up. President Church was its strong advocate and it gave him real pain when it had to be eliminated. He considered that step quite unfortunate.

In August 1833, after the work had progressed through two years, the trustees expressed their "great reliance on the talents and industry of Professor Ward" and directed the Prudential Committee to construct suitable show cases for the reception of the mineralogical cabinet, also that all necessary labor be furnished for carrying on the improvements of the botanic garden. The next year the addition of several native and foreign plants to the garden was reported to the Trustees and also a collection of native minerals. The Trustees called attention to "the total inadequacy of the amount appropriated to the establishment of the botanic garden" and then proceeded to appropriate the large sum of $400. Another year, more compliments by the Trustees, suggestion for the enlargement of the garden and an appropriation of $450. Evidently more talk than money. Notation made that Lieut. William A. Shields, of the U. S. Navy, had made a valuable present of plants and seeds from the Cape of Good Hope.

In August 1836 the trustees expanded a little in liberality, appropriated $700 and authorized the employment of a gardener.

The following year was one of marked progress. The trustees referred to "the talented and vigilant administration of Professor Ward and the gradual improvement of the garden." Acknowledgement was made of "the receipt of about eighty-five specimens from John Bony, Esq., of Schharie, New York, and a few rare and very interesting minerals from the awful crater of Mona Lerra, in Owyhee." That is the way it was recorded. It is presumed they came from Hawaii. In 1838 the appropriation dropped back to $500 over and above the sales from the garden.

The report for 1839 showed that there had been experimenting with fruit trees and the trustees thought that in a few years the sale of plants and fruit trees would "defray all expenses of its management, and, at the same time, confer an important benefit on the state by the introduction and dissemination of fruit
trees suited to our soil and climate." The sum of $500 was continued, but it was to include the pay of the gardener.

In August 1841, President Church, in his report to the Trustees, said: "It may be true that the Garden has cost more than was anticipated by its founders, and the benefits derived by the students of College may be inadequate to the annual expenditure," but went on to say that "if our fellow citizens here can be gratified in visiting the Garden, seeing our collection, learning the names of cultivation, etc., some expenditure would at least be justified." Just how much the trustees could have expected from the appropriations they made can hardly be conjectured unless the trustees be regarded as a set of wild dreamers.

When the Commencement of 1842 came around, the Trustees found the University treasury almost depleted and two members of the faculty had to be dropped. They gave Dr. Ward a good recommendation, but dispensed with his services. Henceforth the garden was to be under the direction of the Professor of Natural Science, but as it turned out it was during its remaining days largely operated by the gardener.

The next year the question of discontinuing the garden was brought up but no action was taken. In 1844 the trustees recommended that the garden be sold. In 1845 the trustees were still unwilling to sell the garden and voted to give it $300 for maintenance. In 1846 the trustees expressed the wish that the City of Athens appropriate money towards keeping up the garden, but no such appropriation was made. In 1847 the report showed improvement in the garden and the trustees appropriated one hundred dollars to build a stone wall around a portion of it. In 1848 the trustees still held to the opinion that the garden could be retained and suggested that "a separate and distinct department be established in the botanical garden containing all native specimens in the vegetable kingdom to be designated as the Georgia Department and that the same plan be adopted in reference to the minerals, fossils and antiquities of Georgia." But the appropriation of money was not increased.

In 1849 the Trustee committee, while complimenting the gardener on the work
done, say "that they consider the Garden in its present arrangement as intensely failing in its purpose as a Botanic Garden," and express the opinion that "if the Board desires a Botanic Garden to be built up which shall give reputation to the institution an entirely different plan should be adopted. There should be commenced a system of exchanges with horticulturists and nurserymen throughout the Union and in foreign countries, which will fill up our garden with foreign plants at no expense save that of transportation."

In 1850 the report shows much improvement in the garden and the recommendation is made that steps be taken to more thoroughly irrigate the grounds and "that they have erected at least one jet d'eau provided it shall not cost more than fifty dollars." One can imagine what an attraction that little fifty dollar fountain would have been for students, citizens and visitors back in those days.

The Botanical Garden year by year was going to its doom, but the trustees in 1851 declared "to give it up would be taking a step backward and would illly become the University of the State of Georgia." No change in the situation was made in 1852. In 1853 the committee made a strong appeal for the retention and improvement of the garden, pointing out the great necessity for promoting this branch of learning, saying: "It is not without mortification that they allude to the fact that while nearly all the States in the Union have instituted inquiries into their Natural History at the public expense in sums varying from a few thousand to half a million dollars, nothing has yet been done in this important field of investigation by the Empire State of the South." In spite of the appeal of the committee, a motion was made to sell the garden and it failed of passage on the narrow margin of 7 to 12. The next year the Prudential Committee was instructed to sell the garden. The next year the trustees resolved to make one more effort to keep the garden, deciding that "its abandonment now after forming such an appendage for so long a period, would seem to indicate a retrograde movement greatly to be deprecated."

President Church in his report to the Board of Trustees in 1855 made a last comment on the subject as follows: "Feeling a deep regret that it should be
abandoned, I made an honest and earnest effort to obtain from the graduates and
a few friends of the college means sufficient to sustain it and although a
number responded promptly to the proposition, a sufficient number did not."

Came the commencement of 1856 and the end of the botanical garden. The follow­
ing resolution, introduced by Joseph Henry Lumpkin, was passed: "Resolved that the
Prudential Committee be authorized and directed to sell the Botanical Garden
belonging to the college, upon such terms as to cash or credit as the committee
may deem best, and that the proceeds, together with such additional sum if any,
as may be needed, be appropriated to inclosing with iron railing and suitable
gateways and ornamenting with trees, etc., the college grounds."

Thus ended the Botanical Garden; thus came the iron fence and the arch. The
beauty of the old garden has all faded and gone. There is nothing left of it
save a few trees, notably the old willow that came from a sprig that was taken
from the giant tree whose graceful limbs drooped over the grave of Napoleon, at
St. Helena. The iron fence and arch are still here and will remain indefinitely.

A few years since a movement was discussed to get back the property that was
once the botanical garden of the University and to add the other property on each
side of Tanyard branch from its headwaters to the stadium field, thus making a
beautiful park nearly a mile long. It was strongly advocated by the late Dr. J. M.
Reade, for so many years Professor of Botany in the University faculty. It was
also favored by the late Dr. George Foster Peabody. The plans were all worked out
and had they been carried to completion, the new park would have been one of the
most beautiful in the South. To have carried this movement to success would have
involved the expenditure of at least a half million dollars. It shared the fate
of all the other movements to support the botanical garden. It failed to materialize
on account of the necessary amount of money not being made available.

But the University of Georgia has not neglected Botany or Natural History in
the years that have come and gone since 1856. It required some time for the
development of this department but it finally came, so that now through its depart­
ment of horticulture, Landscape architecture and other subjects, it is offering
instruction of the highest type and contributing through different fields of research to the realization of the dreams of Dr. Ward and his supporters over a century ago.
Session of 1831-1832

By the opening of the session of 1831-1832 President Church, the trustees and the faculty, thoroughly harmonious in their work, had put the University in smooth and effective working order. Evidently the president and faculty did most of the work, for the minutes of the trustees disclose very little action taken on important subjects.

In November 1831 the trustees did pass a resolution to appoint a committee to find out what it would cost to establish a gymnasium on the campus. But that was the last that was heard of the worthy movement. Incidentally it may be remarked that other resolutions of like nature from that day to this have met in large measure the same fate, and still there is no gymnasium on the campus to meet the real needs of a large student body. But with the emphasis that will be placed on physical fitness after World War II is over, there is no doubt but that a marked advance will be taken in this direction.

The Trustees became convinced that the students were not doing as much academic work as they should, and accordingly passed a law requiring the members of the Freshman and Sophomore classes to attend recitations on Saturday mornings. To be sure that stirred up trouble among the students. Twentieth century boyhood has not changed on that subject. The Saturday morning classes are still held, but every year there is a howling protest.

At that time Broad Street, then called Front Street, was simply an ordinary red clay road. The trustees resolved to beautify the campus to the extent of enclosing it with a substantial fence and in August 1832 directed the Prudential Committee to have that work done at a cost of not more than two hundred dollars. Just how thirty-seven acres of ground could be fenced neatly and substantially for that sum of money, even in those days, could hardly be imagined. Along about November the Prudential Committee was asking for an increase in the appropriation. It is supposed that they got what they asked for, because in August 1833 the report was made to the Trustees that the campus had been enclosed. It was a pretty
neat looking fence, too, as shown in a picture of the campus as it was a century ago. Still it is doubtful whether that fence got very far from Broad Street, to say nothing of its stretching all around the block of thirty-seven acres.

New College and the new chapel were nearing completion and the trustees, carefully looking into the finances of the institution, came to the conclusion that they could authorize the erection of another needed building. So they passed the following resolution: "That the Prudential Committee cause to be erected a suitable two-story brick building for the use of the library and mineralogical cabinet, that the said building shall not cost exceeding two thousand dollars and that the committee shall select on the college domain a site for the building at least sixty feet from any other house." Thus came into existence what was known in the college days of the writer as "The Ivy Building", now a part of the southeast corner of the Academic Building. The distance between it and the Demosthenian Hall is less than the sixty feet required in the resolution. It is probable that some duck-legged member of the Prudential Committee stepped off the distance and imagined the length of his stride was a full yard.

The new building was finished within a year and the library which had already seen three homes came into its new lodging place. It was destined to make several other moves, and the final move will no doubt be made when it goes into the half-million dollar building that is to be erected with the money left the University under the will of Mrs. Ichabod Dunlap Little.

Trustees Go Star Gazing

The scientific apparatus that had been accumulated during the first thirty years of the University's life had been destroyed by fire and for two years the trustees had been slowly buying new apparatus. For the most part this apparatus had been bought in France and it was slow in getting to Athens.

About this time the trustees, no doubt at the suggestion of President Church who was a mathematics "shark", became astronomically minded and went "star gazing." They didn't consider the students in astronomy well-informed when they had simply
read books and listened to lectures by their professors. Steps must be taken to make it possible for them to see for themselves. It was something of the Missouri attitude of "show me." It is quite probable that the trustees themselves anticipated personal pleasure in taking a peep at the moon and the stars through the wonderful scientific instrument. So they decided to buy a telescope. In the resolution they passed they admitted that they didn't know much about it, but were willing to "adopt the opinion of the President in regard to the necessity of having a telescope for the use of the college, and therefore offer the following resolution:

"That the President be and he is hereby authorized to cause a telescope of sufficient size to answer the exigencies of the college to be purchased, provided the price does not exceed eight hundred dollars."

The purchase of the telescope was placed in the hands of Mr. Aaron Vail, of London, and nine months later, in August 1833, the minutes record that the telescope had been received.

That was more than a century ago, but the old telescope is still in good condition and is used by the classes in astronomy. True it is a small instrument, in no sense in a class with larger and more modern telescopes, and yet it has served and is still serving a purpose in the instruction of students in some features of astronomy.

The program of graduating exercises for the Class of 1832 was as follows:

Alexander H. Stephens
Stevens Thomas
John R. Reid
John W. Lumpkin
William LeConte
Robert M. Gunby
T. F. Montgomery

Salutatory
Patriotism is but a name given to the love of power.
Wisdom gives eternal fame.
Universal Suffrage
There is no constancy in earthly things.
Created life was formed for some great end, A center must be where its motions tend

Female Education
The custom of conferring the honorary degree of Master of Arts continued to be observed. In fact there seemed to be a growing tendency to increase the number of such degrees conferred at each annual commencement. It required the passing of many years to abolish this custom and make the Master's degree one to be secured only by extra collegiate work.


Class of 1832

The Class of 1832 was a larger class than its predecessor and a larger number of its members achieved prominence in after life. Also, the members of this class went into many more lines of work. There were six lawyers, five legislators, four ministers, four Congressmen, two judges and one each of merchants, manufacturers, governors, authors, bankers, physicians, planters, editors, physicians and diplomats.

Joe Wickliffe Baker became a Presbyterian minister and a professor in Oglethorpe University. James Johnson, a lawyer, judge, and Congressman. John Henry Lumpkin, a lawyer, judge and member of Congress. John Boyd Mallard, a professor in Oglethorpe
University. T. F. Montgomery, a Presbyterian preacher. John L. Kirkpatrick, a Presbyterian minister, president of Davidson College and professor in Washington & Lee University. Augustus R. Wright, lawyer, judge, member of Congress, member of Georgia Secession Convention, member of Georgia Constitutional Convention in 1877, Colonel in Confederate States Army.

The member of the Class of 1832 who achieved in after life greatest distinction was Alexander Hamilton Stephens. Had the University of Georgia trained no other student during the administration of President Church, the expenditure of all the money and energy and talent would have been justified.
A few years after the close of the War of the Revolution, a sturdy citizen of Pennsylvania who had come to that colony from England and who had fought against his mother country in the struggle for American independence, turned his face towards the South, leaving the banks of the Juniata, and with his wife, three sons and five daughters, traveled more than seven hundred miles to Georgia, the youngest of the thirteen colonies but recently acknowledged by George III to be free and independent states. His first abode was in Elbert county and then he moved to the adjoining county of Wilkes and built his home upon the banks of Kettle Creek, near the scene of the battle between Elijah Clarke, at the head of the Georgia forces, and the soldiers of Britain.

One of his sons, Andrew B. Stephens, became a farmer and school teacher, married Margaret Grier, of Irish lineage, and to them were born three children, Mary, Aaron Grier and Alexander.

Alexander, the youngest, born February 11, 1812, was a little more than a year old when his frail little mother died. A little later his father was married to Matilda Lindsey, daughter of a distinguished soldier of the Revolution, and to them were born four sons and one daughter, John L., Andrew Baskins, Benjamin, Linton and Catherine.

When the young boy was but fourteen years old, his father died. One week later his step-mother passed away. The family was thus broken up. Aaron, Mary and Alexander went to the home of their uncle, Aaron W. Grier, of Warren county, and the surviving children of the second marriage found homes with their mother's relatives.

This much concerning the ancestry of Alexander Hamilton Stephens, whose life is to be portrayed as an inspiration to youth, who became one of the University of Georgia's greatest alumni and one of the nation's greatest statesmen.

He must have inherited from his mother a frail constitution. Throughout his long and eventful life he never weighed more than ninety-four pounds, although
he was about five feet, ten inches in height. His massive head called for a seven and three-fourths hat; the remaining portions of his body were necessarily extremely thin. He suffered throughout his life from kidney and intestinal troubles, and it is doubtful whether for sixty-five out of his seventy years he passed many days, if any, absolutely free from pain. All along the years he was more or less morbid, expecting many times that the end of life was near, but even that did not daunt his unconquerable spirit.

The writer has for many years held him up as an example that the University students might well follow, when on account of a slight headache or a feeling of lassitude they decide to absent themselves from their classes, for Aleck Stephens never allowed his physical suffering to keep him out of the classroom or stand in the way of the performance of any duty.

He knew what it was to be poor. To gain position in the world and to do what he most desired to do called for struggle and economy. He knew how to meet that issue and win his fight.

He didn't have an easy time around the home. He had to work and to work hard, in spite of his frail body. Among other things, he had to attend to the sheep and see that they were in the fold every night, summer and winter. In one of his letters he tells how he failed to get one sheep home after tramping through the snow on a dark, winter night, and not reporting the fact to his father, and how he got a sound punishment when his father found out about it.

Just here a quotation from the same letter shows how even as a little boy he had a mind that weighed and settled questions, that he had opinions far ahead of the times. Said he: "The whole affair made a deep and lasting impression on my mind and I do not think I was ever again guilty of a similar piece of negligence. It was not from the fear of punishment; indeed, looking back I do not remember that I ever had a whipping in my life that did me any good; and I certainly was never deterred from doing anything by the fear of one. Perhaps I never deserved one more than I did this, and I did not feel that I had been wronged by it, which
is more than I can say of many that I did get.

"But such was my reverence and love for my father and such my trust in his justice and goodness that I did not think he would act in any matter of this sort from any motive but the sense of duty. But I thought then, and still think, that if he had not whipped me, but had explained the reason of his injunction to me to report any missing sheep at the time, and had gone with me as he did, and we had found the sheep dead in consequence of my neglect, this would have had all the effect upon me that the punishment was intended to produce."

Two years in a country school and one year at the academy in Washington, Georgia, under the tutelage of Alexander Hamilton Webster, a Presbyterian minister, brought him to the age of sixteen and made him ready to enter the University of Georgia. It had been only a few years since Mr. Webster had been a tutor in the University and no doubt he had much to do in planting in the mind of young Stephens a wish to become a student in that institution. Young Stephens had never had a middle name, but he had now become so fond of the middle name of his teacher that he added it to his own name and thereafter he was Alexander Hamilton Stephens.

A few months prior to his going to the Washington Academy, a Sunday School had been established in the neighborhood by Mr. Charles C. Mills, a Presbyterian elder, and young Stephens, although a mere boy, became a teacher therein. Mr. Mills was so impressed with the little emaciated but wonderfully intelligent boy that he concluded that he should be prepared for the ministry. Thus it came to pass that the Georgia Education Society, formed for the purpose of educating young men for the ministry of the Presbyterian Church, offered to send him to the University of Georgia.

In later years Mr. Stephens, writing in his journal, said: "The result of the consultation (with his uncle and aunt) was that I should continue my studies and go to college under the auspices of the Georgia Education Society, and if, after graduation, I should not feel it my duty to preach the gospel, there would be no
violation of good faith on my part. As for the money expended on my education, I should, in that event, refund it whenever, or if ever, I was able to do so."

And so in 1828 he came to Athens and entered the University. In preparing for his entrance examinations he followed the college boy custom of "spotting", and the result was the same as it still is in many cases. He selected the wrong "spots!" But he got out of the hole in which he found himself, whereas in my college days there was little chance of such luck where the guess was wrong. He had heard that the Latin examination would be on Virgil, so he reviewed Virgil, but it didn't get him anywhere, for President Waddel examined him on one of Cicero's orations against Catalina. As luck would have it, the paragraph selected was almost the last he had read in the book while at the Washington Academy. He had not forgotten it and he came through with a thoroughly satisfactory examination.

Concerning his first impressions of Athens and the University let the following letter, written just after arriving on the old campus, tell the story. It is given just as he wrote it to his brother Aaron and his friends. There are a number of misspelled words and incorrect punctuation is to be noticed, but it shows something of the amazement of a young boy coming into new surroundings and seeing things of which he had not come in contact back home.

Athens, Ga, August 6th, 1828

Dear Brother and Friends -

I have now an opportunity of informing you of my situation, early the morning after you left me, I left Washington for Athens with a crowded stage; but never the less we had a delightful jirnney, having good company, and pleasant weather.

In the evening about 5 o'clock we arrived safe in Athens. Thursday and Friday I was engaged - nothing particular, but walking about the streets, etc. On Saturday my examinations come on. After all my paper in reviewing at home; I was not examined on a single thing that I had reviewed; but as good luck would have it I missed no word. I was admitted in the Freshman Class - on Sunday the commencement sermon was preached in the Presbyterian church by Rev. Talmadge of Augusta - on Monday the Trustees of College meet. On Tuesday the Junior Class spoke. On today the orators of the senior class delivered their address. On tomorrow (Thursday) Benven Clayton will deliver an address as representative of the Societies. Thus far having fulfilled my promise; I will...
make a few observations with regard to the state of my feelings at present. The
idea I had formed of Athens, and the manner in which I now view it, is very
convincing to me; how far human conception, differs from the substance itself.
I had formed an idea that Athens and indeed all the up country was a red, poor,
barren, hilly country, but how far was I from thinking right? When to my
astonishment it is sandy, with fine crops and as far as I have seen very level.
The finest crops that I have seen by far are between here and Washington, but more
particularly between Washington and Lexington. Athens I discover is a very
popular retreat for the great people (especially about commencement.) Today there
are almost an innumerable number of people, horses, carriages, gigs, sulkies and
wagons, coke and cider carts &c. The tariff is carried to a high degree here;
it is sufficient for me to say that some of the people are so incensed against the
tariff that they wear their broadcloth every day in the week but Sunday and then
wear homespun. Mr. McDuffie came in Athens last Sunday he himself was dressed
in homespun and his boy in broadcloth. You can form an idea from the foregoing, how
the tariff stands in the minds of the people here. The colleges were illuminated
last night; a candle to every pane of glass. I boarded at Mr. Churches and am very
much pleased, both with Athens and the people. I must conclude as I have nothing
of importance, and I have a very sore finger. So fare you well at present:

And I ever remain your friend

A. H. Stephens

To all of my friends
Who now doth live
My compliments
in love do give

The story of his college days as told later on in his own words, as gathered
from the records of the Phi Kappa literary society, of which he was an enthusiastic
member, and from the testimony of others who knew him shows that he was never
absent from a class roll call, without good excuse, although at times he was in bad
health, that he never had a demerit against him either in college or in the
Phi Kappa Society, that he never had a quarrel while in college, that his expenses
were not over two hundred and five dollars per annum, that neither liquor nor cards
were ever introduced in his room, nor were indecent stories or jests ever allowed,
that tobacco was never on his list. Yet more boys, some dissipated, some pious,
came to his room than to any other student's room. They seemed to enjoy the clean,
decorous, inexpensive entertainment given there.

He led a happy and satisfactory life as a college boy. In writing of those days,
long after he had achieved eminence as a lawyer and statesman, he said: "Not an
incident occurred to cause regret; nor have I one unpleasant remembrance connected
with those four years." Notwithstanding this, he admitted that he had a skeleton
in his closet. He came to the conclusion that he did not wish to become a minister and thought that if he should not carry out his first intentions he would be regarded as ungrateful and mean. "Still," said he, "I did not permit these thoughts to render me unhappy. Sustained by an inward consciousness of rectitude, I drove them from my mind. But this was my skeleton. Apart from this no college days were ever happier than mine."

After having been in college two years, he came definitely to the conclusion that he could not become a minister, paid his own way for the next two years out of a little money that had been left him by his father, and borrowed enough money from his brother to relieve himself "from all obligations to the Education Society, refunding with interest, all that they had advanced."

In his own words he tells of this momentous decision: "I felt much more independent when I was paying my own way; but not the less grateful to those who had shown so much kindness toward me, and had taken so much interest in my behalf. All seemed to do justice to my motives; and I never heard an unkind expression or intimation from anyone when, as I drew near the end of my collegiate course, it was known that I did not expect to enter the ministry. Dr. Church (the president of the University), with whom I frequently conversed on the subject, never evinced the slightest disapproval."

Back in those days college boys were just as prone to play jokes on professors as they are today, probably more so. Young Stephens was evidently not above taking part in those pranks. In his letters he tells of several of them, of which the following is a sample:

"Old man Hopkins used to sit and have recitations in Blair's Lectures. One day, while Hopkins had us in charge, a little nancy pig was slipped in at the door. Professor Hopkins was a venerable old man, who wore a long queue of silvery whiteness; and the pig's tail was arranged so as to present as close a resemblance as possible to this queue. Professor Hopkins bore the joke with the philosophy of Socrates, while the young rascals roared with laughter. The pig
walked about the room, grunting at frequent intervals, and at each grunt shaking its queue, a performance which at each repetition brought a new burst of merriment."

Honors were not entirely awarded for scholastic excellence in the graduating class, but the old record book was found in later years, and "if honors had been distributed according to the present rule in Southern Universities he would have received the first honor."

He was graduated from the University on the first Monday in August 1832, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts.

While Mr. Stephens, according to all his letters and published utterances, said nothing about it, one of his biographers made the statement that he never received his diploma as it cost two dollars and he did not consider himself financially able to spare the money even for that purpose.

So, at the commencement of 1832, this statement having been called to the attention of the Board of Trustees, that body decided to remove all doubt upon the subject, and the diploma of Alexander Hamilton Stephens of the Class of 1832 was duly signed and awarded to Miss Queen Holden, daughter of Judge and Mrs. Horace N. Holden and great-great niece of Georgia's great Commoner, on her own graduating day.

Stephens, with no money in his pocket left the college halls and faced the struggles of life. He taught school a little over a year for $500, then gave up that work on account of physical exhaustion. But, in spite of his bad health, he turned right around and in a little more than three months prepared himself for admission to the bar and was admitted on July 22, 1834. Even in the midst of his law studies he found time to prepare and deliver an address on July 4.

He was only twenty-two years old, but that address showed his grasp of prevalent conditions and his judgment on great national questions. Those were the days in which Andrew Jackson and John C. Calhoun were fighting it out over nullification. In that speech Stephens made clear his views that a state had the right to secede from the Union but did not have the right to nullify an act of Congress and remain in the Union. Throughout his long public life he never budged
from this position taken when he had just reached his majority. At that time in his life he gave this description of himself in his diary: "My weight is ninety-four pounds, my height sixty-seven inches, my waist twenty inches in circumference, and my whole appearance that of a youth of seventeen."

Young lawyers did not spring into lucrative practices in a few months then any more than they do now. Stephens made four hundred dollars in fees his first year, a considerable portion of which he did not collect in cash. During that time he lived on six dollars per month. But those conditions did not last long. He soon was making large fees since it did not take him very long to establish his ability as a lawyer. His great friend, Robert Toombs, in later years said of him, "that he had an advantage over all the lawyers in Georgia in the fact that the jury would overlook sworn testimony in order to give him his verdict."

It was inevitable that he should enter politics. He was elected to the Georgia legislature in 1836, although but twenty-four years of age. He remained in politics the remainder of his life. His legislative service lasted until 1840. He served in the State Senate in 1842. In 1843, at the age of thirty-one he was sent to the national congress as a Whig and remained in that body until 1859. He made a great reputation as a Congressman. He was a leading figure there even in the presence of Clay, Calhoun and Webster.

Abraham Lincoln, who was in Congress with Stephens, in 1848, writing to his law partner in Springfield, Illinois, said: "I take up my pen to tell you that Mr. Stephens, of Georgia, a little, slim, pale-faced consumptive man, with a voice like Logan's, has just concluded the very best speech of an hour's length I ever heard. My old, withered, dry eyes are full of tears yet."

In January 1861 during the Secession Convention at Milledgeville, Stephens made the greatest effort of his life to prevent Georgia from leaving the Union. By a narrow margin the secession ordinance was passed. Stephens had never doubted the constitutional right of a state to secede; but he thought the step ill-timed, unwise, uncalled for and inexpedient. He followed his state out of the Union and
throughout the struggle served as Vice-President of the Southern Confederacy. He and President Davis did not get along very well. There was throughout the war much difference of opinion between them. After the war he was a prisoner at Fort Warren for several months, and then was released and went to his home in Crawfordville. He spent the next few years in writing the two volumes of his famous "Constitutional View of the War Between the States." He also published a "History of the United States."

He played a prominent part during Reconstruction days, but his views were too conservative to suit the temper of the people of Georgia in those times. He did not gain the popular approval as did Ben Hill. He was elected to the United States Senate during Reconstruction but was not allowed by the dominant party to take his seat in that body. He published a paper in Atlanta in which he gave his views on public questions and answered his critics. He lost several thousand dollars on that venture. He ran for the Senate again and was defeated by General John B. Gordon. In 1873 he was sent back to Congress without an opposing vote and served there for nine years. In 1882 he gave up his seat in Congress to make the race for governor of Georgia, was elected and served as the state's chief executive until his death, March 4, 1893.

Aside from his services to his country there were many instances of private benefactions. He accumulated very little money though his income was ample after he had established himself in his profession. He made several fortunes and spent them for the good of others. As far as his means would allow he was essentially a philanthropist. He remembered his own struggles with poverty and assisted more than one hundred young people in securing their education. He was close to the common people not only in politics but in private life. He never forgot the good women who had generously aided him during his college days.

I wish to close this account of the life of Mr. Stephens with a story that has been told about him. I do not know whether I read it somewhere or whether it was told me by someone. I know I did not originate it. It may be merely traditional and without foundation, but it is so much like Aleck Stephens and in keeping with
what he did throughout his life, that I hope it is a statement of real facts.

In the early fifties, it is said, when he had become a lawyer of great ability and reputation, it became necessary for him to go to Texas to represent a client in litigation that was pending in that state. Texas had been admitted to the Union only five years prior to that time. Mr. Stephens being a member of Congress when it was admitted. It had no great population and many of those who lived there were rough and uncouth. When he arrived at the little country court-house, he found it well filled by people interested in the cases on the docket.

Mr. Stephens realized that it would be some time before he could get into the trial of his client's case, so he seated himself comfortably in a chair to await the conclusion of the case on trial. It was a case in which a certain man was suing a widow for a sum equal to her entire property holdings, about thirty thousand dollars. The widow was present in the court room and with her were two bright-eyed little boys, her grandchildren, the children of her deceased son. Her case was being managed by a mere boy and evidently without the ability to meet opposing counsel.

Mr. Stephens took in the situation in a few minutes and his sympathy went out to the widow as he realized that the young attorney knew little about the law applicable to the case and was going head foremost to defeat.

He approached the widow and, after telling her that the young man did not know how to handle the case and would certainly lose it, offered to assist him, if she would consent to accept his services. She was delighted to do so and the young man was equally delighted. So Mr. Stephens took charge of the case and won it.

Mr. Stephens had not told the good woman his name, but in bringing out the evidence in the case he had learned all about her, where she was born, who she was, where she had lived, etc. At the conclusion of the case the overjoyed woman thanked him heartily for his services and asked him what was the amount of his fee.

"You owe me nothing," said Mr. Stephens. "It has given me much pleasure to have been of service to you."
"But you must accept a fee. You have saved for me all the money I have with which to rear and educate these two little grandsons."

"I cannot accept a fee from you. I had nothing to do and it has cost me no great amount of effort."

Then the great Georgian said to her: "You may not remember the circumstances, but back in 1826 a band of good women in Augusta, Georgia, became interested in a little sickly, emaciated boy who lived near Crawfordville, so much interested that they made up a fund to lend him to pay his way through the University of Georgia. You were one of those good women. The little boy is now a man and just at this moment he is standing before you. This, my dear madam, is little Aleck Stephens and he knows that the fee in this case has long since been paid."

In an address made before the Alumni Society just after the death of Dr. Crawford W. Long, Class of 1835, who had at one time roomed with Mr. Stephens in their college days, the great Commoner took occasion to say that Georgia should place in the national capitol the statues of her two greatest sons, General James Edward Oglethorpe, founder of the Colony, and Dr. Crawford W. Long, the discoverer of sulphuric ether anesthesia. The time came when the General Assembly of Georgia named the two sons of Georgia whose statues were to be placed in the national capitol. That body followed the suggestion of Mr. Stephens as to Dr. Long's statue, but disregarded his advice as to General Oglethorpe.

As the companion statue to that of Crawford W. Long, the legislature directed that the statue of Alexander Hamilton Stephens be placed in statuary hall, and thus the two former room-mates in Old College are companions again in enduring white marble quarried from the hallowed hills of their native state.
Admission Requirements Raised

The session of 1832-1833 was one of hard and effective work on the part of the faculty and students. President Church had the usual number of disciplinary cases to handle, but none of a serious nature. The trustees had no intricate questions to pass upon, and in fact held only one short session in November 1832.

During the November session, reflecting the judgment of the President and Faculty, the trustees passed the following resolution, tightening the entrance requirements:

"That a candidate for admission into the Freshman Class must have a correct knowledge of at least nine of Cicero's orations, the whole of Virgil, John and the Acts in Greek, English Grammar and Arithmetic."

It will be noted that while these requirements are far below the present requirements that are covered by graduation from an accredited high school and cover several fields of learning, in regard to Latin and Greek, they cover what would probably be contained in a year's college work. The instruction in the preparatory schools in Georgia in those days, such as they were, must have been excellent as to the ancient languages or the entering examinations of the Freshmen would have floored the greater number of the applicants for admission.

The commencement exercises on August 7, 1833, were the last in which the venerable former President of the University took part. The old man, now definitely facing the setting sun, was always delighted to march in the academic procession to the Chapel. On that day he opened the exercises with prayer. Then followed the arranged program.

J. C. Cosby, 2nd honor
P. Clayton
Wm. H. Harris
A. B. Powers
C. R. Kitchum, 3rd honor
A. G. Foster

Latin Salutatory
Fame
Powers of Man and his Vicissitudes
Triumph of Free Principles
Influence of Moral Feeling
Equal Distribution of Property
J. S. W. Pinkard Common Life Preferable
J. H. George Manual Labor
B. E. Habersham, 3rd honor Utility of Metaphysics
J. J. Gresham, 4th honor Valedictory

In addition to the above, the following members of the graduating class were awarded the A. B. degree: Bedney Franklin, James Freeman, John T. Grant, Edward R. Harden, Daniel Ingles, Allen B. Means, and Henry Sanders.

The honorary degree of Master of Arts was conferred on M. A. Franklin, James Watkins Harris, George F. Pierce, Ebenezer Starnes, John S. Dobbins, John Floyd, Henry Kneeland, Felix McKinney, Samuel Rutherford, William W. Wiggins, George McVance, alumni, and on George A. Holmes, of Amherst, Massachusetts, and J. G. McWhorter, alumnus of Princeton University.

The trustees were evidently uncomfortable during this commencement, and they gave vent to their feelings by recommending "that arrangements be made under direction of the Prudential Committee to afford better accommodation for the Trustees and Faculty on the Stage during the exercises of Commencement."

Class of 1833

This class graduated seventeen men with the A. B. degree while twenty-one others were in attendance a portion of the time but did not graduate. As evidence that they were on the average a well-behaved set of youngsters, in after life six out of the seventeen graduates became ministers of the gospel, two judges, and one each in the fields of finance, banking, law, farming, manufacturing, and medicine.

Philip Clayton had a flair for finance and served as Assistant U. S. Secretary of the Treasury, Assistant Confederate States Secretary of the Treasury and U. S. Consul at Callao, Peru.

John Thomas Grant achieved quite a success as a railroad contractor and banker, accumulated a neat fortune which was largely added to by his son William D. Grant and his grandson, John W. Grant, Class of 1886.
John J. Gresham was a successful farmer, lawyer and manufacturer and from 1871 to his resignation in 1889, twenty-eight years later, was a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of Georgia, serving a number of years as chairman of the Board.

Timothy M. Furlow, a matriculate who did not graduate, served as a member of the legislature and the State Senate.

Chandler G. Yonge, matriculate, became a successful lawyer in Florida and was Chancellor of the Diocese of Florida.

Doing Excellent Work

By the opening of the session of 1833–1834 President Church and his faculty had fairly struck their stride. Every piece of the machinery was running smoothly. The attendance was keeping up to satisfactory numbers and while some of the boys had to be disciplined, the great majority seemed to be more serious minded.

There were a few changes in the faculty that year, but nothing occurred to lessen the efficiency of that body. Dr. Stephen Clin, who had served two years under President Waddel, had resigned, and had come back to the University in 1831, was now completing his second year of service under President Church. He was offered the presidency of Randolph-Macon College, a thriving Virginia college, and resigned his position on the University faculty. At the meeting of the University trustees in November 1833 Dr. Clin's position as professor of Ethics and Belles Lettres was filled by the election of Dr. Samuel P. Pressley, who rendered highly satisfactory service until his death in 1833. At the same session of the Trustees two tutors handed in their resignation, William L. Mitchell and Wm. L. Hunt.

To fill their positions the trustees elected Charles F. McCay and C. W. Armstrong. McCay took up his work, but Armstrong did not accept the position tendered him and in his place Shaler G. Hillyer, of the Class of 1829, was named. Two years later Hillyer resigned, but McCay remained a member of the faculty twenty years, filling with efficiency several chairs, becoming one of the most colorful
members of the faculty, a party to several interesting episodes to be related later on, and in the end to become the generous patron of the institution through the establishment of an endowment fund with the most unique conditions attached to the gift and which will amount to at least eight hundred thousand dollars when its income can be first used about the year 1975. A full account of this fund will appear in the biography of Charles F. McCay that will constitute a part of this story of the University.

The new building for the housing of the Library and scientific apparatus having been completed, the committee on library paid it a visit and made the following report to the trustees:

"Having examined the situation of the library in the new room provided for it, the committee has the pleasure to remark the neatness and order with which it is now arranged.

"The valuable additions made to it during the past year have placed within the reach of the students a great additional amount of science. The committee cannot think the college illly furnished with books and in the selections to be hereafter made an increased attention to the value and character of the works ordered to be published is recommended.

"The committee remark in the books now in the Library a very great proportion of theological works. These books, however valuable and necessary in themselves, seem at present to extend fully up to the reasonable wants of the students, and they recommend that in purchases hereafter made, a greater proportion of valuable works be selected from other departments of learning and science."

The trustees took good care to let it be known that this resolution was in no sense an attack on religion, but it was no doubt true that the situation demanded attention. President Waddel was a great preacher and bought many books on theology. They had been lost in the fire that destroyed Old College. President Church was just as enthusiastic a preacher and in replacing the burned books he had crowded the shelves with books on theology. Books on history, sociology, literature and
science didn't have a fair showing. The trustees by their resolution remedied this situation and brought about a better balanced library and one better suited to the needs of the several departments in the University.

Up to this time, the University had been paying for the diplomas it awarded to its graduates, but in 1834 the trustees came to the conclusion that the students should pay for them and accordingly directed that the degree of the student should not be conferred until the cost of the diploma was paid. The cost of two copies of the Laws of the college and one copy of the library catalogue was also assessed against each. This law remained in force several years and then was abolished. Diplomas were furnished free when the writer was in college, but during the administration of Chancellor Barrow the number of graduates had passed into the hundreds and was increasing annually. The payment for such a large number of diplomas became a financial burden and a fee of five dollars was ordered collected. In recent years the number of graduates has so increased that the University would have had to pay out several thousand dollars annually but for this fee.

About this time politics must have been pretty lively for Mr. Prince is found introducing a resolution in the Board of Trustees criticizing the faculty for failure to properly censor the speeches made by students at commencement, which, among other things, stated that "the Board of Trustees notice with regret the admission of political topics into some of the orations pronounced by the students at Commencement; not only are the subjects foreign from their studies, and therefore can afford no indication of their proficiency, but are obviously of the most direct and injurious tendency."

The trustees evidently did not consider the situation in any sense grave or alarming, for Mr. Prince's resolution was laid on the table by a vote of eleven to three and was not taken up again.

Graduating exercises were held in August 1834 but the program was not preserved in the minutes of the trustees. It was no doubt an interesting program for there were a number of very brilliant members of that graduating class.


Class of 1834

The Class of 1834 had forty-nine members. Of that number nineteen remained in college up to graduation. In after life six became lawyers, three ministers, two generals in the Confederate army, two Judges of the Superior Court, two Governors, one Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia, and one each physician, Congressman, Speaker of the National House of Representatives, Cabinet member, United States Senator.

The three members who achieved greatest prominence were Henry L. Benning, Herschel V. Johnson and Howell Cobb.

Henry Lewis Benning

Henry Lewis Benning, in honor of whom Fort Benning, the largest infantry school in the world, was named, was a native of Georgia, having been born in Columbia county April 2, 1814. In 1831 he entered the University of Georgia, graduating with first honor in 1834. One month after graduating he took up the study of law in Talbotton, Georgia, under the direction of George W. Towns, who had seen service in the United States Congress and as Governor of Georgia. He began the practice of law in Columbus, Georgia. For several years he served as solicitor-general. Throughout his life he lived in that city, and nearby Fort Benning preserves in high honor his great name. In 1853, although less than
forty years of age he was elected as a Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia and served in that position six years.

He was an ardent secessionist and played a prominent part in the Georgia Secession Convention at Milledgeville in January 1861. At that convention prominent leaders were named to visit the Southern States that had not seceded and urge them to cast their lots with their sister states that already had taken that step. Benning was named as the delegate who was to visit Virginia. He appeared before the delegates to the Virginia convention and made a fiery and impassioned address. It was not long before Virginia left the Union and joined the Confederacy.

On the opening of hostilities Benning went to the front at once as the Colonel of the 17th Georgia Regiment in the brigade of Robert Toombs. It required more than a year to bring about his promotion to the rank of Brigadier-General and as such he served until the end of the war. He fought in nearly all the great battles in Virginia, was seriously wounded in the battle of the Wilderness, but fought on to Appomattox. After the war he returned to Columbus, built up a large practice there and remained as one of Georgia's great citizens. One of his biographers has said of him: "General Benning was one of nature's noblemen, formed in her finest mould and most lavish prodigality. As an attorney, he was open, candid and fair; as a jurist, spotless and impartial; as a warrior and patriot, brave, disinterested and sincere."

Herschel Vespasian Johnson

Another graduate of the class of 1834 who mounted high on the ladder of fame was Herschel Vespasian Johnson, who was born in Burke county, Georgia, September 16, 1812. During his college days, he was one of the leaders among the students. He studied law for one year after his graduation. He moved to Jefferson county where he practiced his profession successfully and at the same time attended to his large farming interests. In the late forties he was appointed United States Senator to succeed Walter T. Colquitt. In 1853 he was elected Governor of Georgia in a hot political race over Governor Charles J. McDonald and
was re-elected in 1855.

He was a believer in States Rights but wanted to see the Union preserved. In 1860 he ran for Vice-President on the ticket headed by Stephen A. Douglas. He went to the Georgia Secession and endeavored to keep his state from seceding. Failing in that he supported the Confederacy loyally. After the war he and Alexander H. Stephens were elected to the United States Senate, but the Republican reconstructionists would not allow them to take their seats. In 1872 he was elected as Judge of the Superior Courts of the Middle Circuit, in which position he served until his death in Jefferson County, August 16, 1880. From 1855 to 1868 he served as a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of Georgia.
HOWELL COBB, Class of 1834

Among the many sons of Georgia who achieved greatness in both state and nation perhaps none had as brilliant a record as Howell Cobb.

He was the son of John Addison Cobb, a native of North Carolina, who in the days of his youth had moved to Georgia, and Sarah Rootes Cobb, the accomplished daughter of Thomas Reede Rootes, a distinguished jurist whose home was in Fredericksburg, Virginia. He was born in Jefferson County, Georgia, September 7, 1815. His paternal ancestors were Welshmen and through the veins of his mother flowed the blood of Virginia cavaliers.

He was but a young boy when his father moved to Athens and here he received his early education in a school presided over by Mr. Fulton. His mental powers were fully realized by his teacher who predicted great accomplishments and when he entered the University of Georgia in 1830, it was predicted that he would be a brilliant student. He did not fail to measure up to the prediction, for he was graduated with honors in the Class of 1834.

He was not what one would call a real good student. He was possessed of a happy, jovial spirit and, as a boy, liked to have a full share of fun and frolic. But his brilliant mind made up for lack of full attention to his studies and when his college days came to a close he was third honor graduate in his class.

His biographer, Rev. Samuel Boykin, has this to say about him in those days of boyhood and early manhood: "The wonderful rapidity with which his intellect grasped any subject which engaged his attention, his unselfish nature, his generosity of disposition, his love of truth and his hatred of meanness and falsehood were the prominent characteristics of his boyhood as they were of his maturer years. Full of life, of exuberant animal spirit, fond of fun and manly sport, he often neglected his studies, and not infrequently transgressed the strict rules of scholastic and collegiate discipline, but the ready candor with which he acknowledged his fault, the generous anxiety with which he strove to relieve his companions from blame and punishment, the utter absence of mean motives or unmanly acts, even where
his breach of regulations or disobedience of orders was most flagrant, and his
unswerving fidelity to truth at all times and upon all occasions always atoned for
his misdeeds. His genial manners, ready wit, intellectual quickness and high
principle caused him to be universally beloved by his companions and won for him
the affectionate regard of all his tutors and instructors.

While a student in the University he was a member of the Phi Kappa Literary
Society, took great interest in the debates, improved his natural talent as a deep
thinker and a ready debater, and was so thoroughly attached to his society that a
short time after his graduation he became one of the chief contributors to the fund
with which the Phi Kappa Hall was erected.

In 1834 he was married to Miss Mary Ann Lamar, daughter of Colonel Zachariah
Lamar, of Baldwin county, one of the wealthiest and most influential citizens of
Georgia. Four sons and three daughters blessed this union, John A. Cobb, who
became a prominent planter and for many years was Ordinary of Sumter County, Georgia,
Lamar Cobb, a successful lawyer, Howell Cobb, who served more than a quarter of a
century as Judge of the City Court of Athens and for many years was a member of the
University Board of Trustees and a professor in the Lumpkin Law School of the University,
Andrew J. Cobb, who served for years on the Supreme Court of Georgia and also
for years as a member of the Board of Trustees and professor in the Lumpkin Law
School faculty, Mary Ann Lamar Cobb, who became the wife of Judge Alexander S. Erwin,
and Sarah Cobb, who married Colonel Tinsley W. Bucker.

In 1836 Howell Cobb was admitted to the bar and the following year at the age of
twenty-two was elected by the Georgia legislature as Solicitor-general of the
Western Circuit. In 1842, when he had just passed his twenty-seventh birthday he was
elected as a member of the twenty-eighth Congress and began his brilliant political
career. In five years he won the leadership of the Democrats in the national
Congress, and in 1849, though but thirty-four years of age, emerged as victor from
one of the most exciting contests ever waged in Washington, chosen by his Democratic
colleagues as Speaker of the House of Representatives.
It was a position calling for the rarest tact and ability, but he so managed
the unruly body over which he had been called to preside as to win the friendship
and good will of even those who bitterly opposed him on national questions.

Though a believer in states rights he was also fondly attached to the Union
and was largely responsible for the Compromise measures of 1850. When he returned
home he found that he had been terribly criticized by the Southern Rights wing of
the party to which many of his friends belonged. He felt that he must defend him-
self, and, having been nominated for governor, in a fierce contest against his
opponent, Hon. Charles J. MacDonald, he spoke in practically every county in the
state and was overwhelmingly elected, although at that time he was but thirty-six
years of age.

At the end of the term of office for which he had been elected, he retired to
private life and the practice of his profession until 1855, when he was sent back
to Congress. In 1856 he made several addresses throughout the North in favor of his
personal friend, James Buchanan, who in that campaign was elected as president of
the republic, and in 1857, at the age of forty-two years, was offered the post of
Secretary of State by President Buchanan, which he declined in favor of General
Cass, and was then named by the president as Secretary of the Treasury. In 1860
he resigned that position, and, giving up hope of preserving both the Union and the
rights of his native state under the constitution, cast his lot with the Confederate
States.

He was only forty-six years old when he called to order the provisional
congress of the Confederate States at its first meeting in Montgomery, Alabama, in
1861. His name was given much consideration when it came to the selection of a
president of the new nation, and there were many who believed him to be the ideal
leader for that position.

When it became necessary for him to sign the newly-adopted Constitution of the
Confederate States, the ladies of Montgomery presented him a large gold pen with
which to sign that document. He dipped the pen in the ink and affixed his signature.
Then he laid the pen back in its plush case. It was never used again for any purpose. It became in later years the property of his youngest son, Andrew J. Cobb, who presented it to the Georgia Historical Society in Savannah. The stain of the ink with which he signed his name back in 1861 can still be seen on the pen.

He next raised a regiment of soldiers and went to the front as a Colonel, soon became a brigadier-general, fought with conspicuous bravery in the battles up to and including Antietam, and was promoted to major-general before he reached his forty-eighth birthday.

At Crompton's Gap, in order to hold back McClellan's army and give Lee a chance to consolidate his forces to fight the battle of Antietam, his brigade and that of Gen. Barksdale were assigned that difficult task. They suffered severe losses but held the federal army back. The last years of the war General Cobb was at the head of the Florida and Georgia military districts.

After the war he took part in all of the public movements against the reconstruction measures of the federal government and the carpet-bag regime that had opened up in Georgia. His last great speech was under the famous Bush Arbor in Atlanta, where, along with Ben Hill and Bob Toombs, he laid bare the atrocious conduct of the reconstruction leaders.

In 1868 he went North with his wife and daughter, and on October 9 while standing in the lobby of the Fifth Avenue Hotel in New York City, talking to Bishop John W. Beckwith, of the Episcopal Church, he suffered a stroke of apoplexy from which he died almost instantly. He was fifty-three years old when he passed on. In twenty-six years he had gained all the honors and rendered all the great services that have been briefly recorded here. The interment of his remains was in Oconee Cemetery, Athens, Georgia, where an appropriate monument to his memory now stands.
More than a century ago, in 1842, when Howell Cobb, then a young man twenty-seven years of age, was sent to Washington as a member of the twenty-eighth Congress, there were plenty of Whigs in the good old Democratic state of Georgia. And much to the disgust of young Cobb there were entirely too many of that political persuasion in his home county of Clarke to suit him.

As a matter of fact, Cobb did not carry his home county in that race or in any other race he ever ran during the years of his brilliant political career. That was in no sense a personal affront, as he had many friends among the Whigs, but back there the shadow of the race problem had not fallen across the south and reconstruction had not arrived to make solid for years to come, if not for all time, the entire section beneath the battle-flag of the Democratic Party. Consequently men voted more freely just as they thought and as their convictions led them. As to Howell Cobb, his own family physician was a Whig and would call professionally on the aspiring young politician and go right on downtown and vote against him.

Now Howell Cobb had plenty of ambition. He hitched his wagon to a star and the record shows that he achieved marked success and signal victories when he moved across that political field of battle. But there were two ambitions that, strive as he might with all his energies, he was never able to satisfy. Apparently they ought to have been satisfied. On the surface appeared no insurmountable difficulties, but he went to his death with his two pet ambitions unrealized.

One of these ambitions came over from the days of his boyhood. It was that some day he might drive a coach and six like Zach Ivey, whom so many times he had seen driving the plunging steeds along the established coach route that ran through Athens.

And the other ambition was that he would some day be able to carry his home county of Clarke in some election, even if it should be for some inferior office. He had plenty of patience and hope sprang perennially in his breast. But toward the end of his career patience wore itself out and hope vanished. So he gave up the
struggle.

At that time the sleeping little town of Watkinsville was the county seat of Clarke County, holding itself proudly above its larger neighbor, Athens, and presiding in all his lordly dignity over the postoffice in Watkinsville was the Rev. John Calvin Johnson, a well-educated man and a local Methodist preacher. And Postmaster Johnson, although he was a close friend of Howell Cobb, was also a faithful Whig and as such had held his office for a number of years, previous Democratic administrations having cared nothing about removing him.

One day these two friends met on the main street in Athens and exchanged friendly greetings. Only a moment before Mr. Cobb had been thinking about one of his pet ambitions that could not be satisfied.

"Well, Calvin, I guess I have about given up the fight to carry Clarke County. You Whigs are so set in your folly and fanaticism that common sense will never have any influence over your actions. But let me tell you something and you can store it up in your memory. Some of these days I expect to pay the Whigs of Clarke County with compound interest for all they have done in denying me the one pleasure I desired above all others in my political life."

"Whatever you pay back, Howell, will be all right with us. It will be nothing in comparison to the calamity of Clarke County passing into the control of you Democrats. We are not afraid of such an occurrence in the future, and hence we can stand up under anything you may devise in the way of punishment."

The years passed by until 1856 was reached and there was an exciting presidential campaign on. The Whig party had given up the ghost and the Republican party was just appearing. Howell Cobb spent much of his time in making speeches at several places in the United States where the fight was most furious and made very effective contribution to the success of James Buchanan, the Democratic nominee, who was his very close personal and political friend. When the election was over, President Buchanan offered to his able Georgia supporter the position of Secretary of State. Mr. Cobb promptly declined the offer in favor of the venerable Democratic leader.
Lewis Cass, and President Buchanan then tendered him the office of Secretary of the Treasury, which he accepted. The hour of victory had struck. His patience had been rewarded. His chance to pay back the Whigs of Clarke County was at hand.

By a kind of gentleman's agreement it was customary for a cabinet officer to name the postmaster at the county seat in his home county and hence that pleasing opportunity fell to the lot of Secretary Cobb.

The Whigs in Watkinsville sensed the danger in the situation, but they did not take it lying down. They just wouldn't put up with a Democratic postmaster if they could avoid it. Why, the thing was simply unthinkable. So they bombarded the newly-elected president on behalf of Rev. John Calvin Johnson, who for several years had given perfect satisfaction as postmaster and who was applying for reappointment. But those Clarke county Whigs had reckoned without due consideration of the persuasive abilities of Howell Cobb. He had already chosen the man for the position of postmaster at Watkinsville and President Buchanan had agreed to appoint him.

Now there were only three Democrats in Watkinsville and neither of them held high position in the town. They were good, honest fellows, but politically they were anathema. And one of them, an old man, who was already facing the sunset, although he held the respect of his more fortunate Whig neighbors, could neither read nor write. He did know his alphabet and he had a good, though untrained, mind. That man was "Squire" Dicken. Just where he picked up his name "Squire" is not known. He had never held office and was not a landed proprietor. Perhaps the name had been bestowed on him as a compliment by those who liked the old fellow. So it came to pass that "Squire" Dicken was the man whom Secretary Cobb had persuaded the president to name as postmaster at Watkinsville.

When the announcement of his appointment reached Watkinsville, consternation reigned supreme. There was more evidence of life in that quiet little community than had been noticed in a half century. A declaration of war by the United States against another nation could not have stirred up more agitation. The Whigs were boiling over with rage, and out of the mouths of one and all flowed words of
criticism and denunciation, and some of the remarks were clothed in anything but complimentary or printable languages. Letters were written to the president, meetings were held and resolutions passed, and the mail was kept hot between Watkinsville and Washington.

One morning Secretary Cobb received a call from the White House, requesting his presence there as soon as convenient, as the president wished to see him on business of importance.

Secretary Cobb quickly repaired to the White House and entered the office of the President. President Buchanan sat behind his desk, a big frown on his forehead and a determined look on his face. Secretary Cobb couldn't imagine what had irritated the chief executive, but he was not long in finding it out.

"Mr. Cobb, I am asking an explanation of this Watkinsville affair."

"What Watkinsville affair, Mr. President?" replied Secretary Cobb, with a look of seraphic innocence on his face.

"Now, Mr. Cobb, you know perfectly well what I am talking about. I am getting dozens of letters from leading citizens and several resolutions from organizations in Watkinsville protesting against the appointment of Postmaster Dicken and asserting that he is an illiterate and his appointment a disgrace to their community."

Secretary Cobb was a man of very jovial nature. He leaned back in his chair, convulsed with laughter. He could afford to laugh at any remark of the president as they were close and intimate friends.

"Now, Mr. President, I thought you were a better politician than that. All this talk springs from pure Whig prejudice. Postmaster Dicken is a man of character. No man in Watkinsville enjoys to a higher degree the good opinion of the people. He is a true Democrat and has been all his life. He has never scratched a Democratic ticket. He has never been ashamed of or lowered his colors. Of course the Whigs do not like his politics any more than they like our politics and they think they can get by you on account of Watkinsville being such a small and insignificant.
Secretary Cobb carefully avoided mentioning the subject of education, and did not give the president time to interject a word into the conversation while he was stirring up the political ire of the chief magistrate.

"All right, Mr. Cobb, I see very clearly what is the matter in this Watkinsville case. We will teach those Whigs a lesson. Postmaster Dicken will remain in the position to which he has been appointed."

"That kind of talk, Mr. President, has the true ring. You are talking now like the real Democrat that you are."

So the Whigs of Clarke county had to swallow the medicine, though they did so with wry faces and much criticism and lamentation. On the appointed day Postmaster Johnson walked out of the office and Postmaster Dicken walked in.

The next few days found Postmaster Dicken seated on a split-bottom chair in front of the office beneath the spreading boughs of a big oak tree, smoking his pipe and enjoying life without paying the slightest attention to the criticism of the Whigs. He had walked around in the office and made arrangements to suit his own ideas and at the same time not require much of his time or attention.

One day while thus passing away the time, a citizen, who was about to enter the postoffice, asked him for his copy of the Athena Banner. Postmaster Dicken arose and accompanied the citizen inside the building. Pointing to a big table that stood in the middle of the room, he quietly said: "All right, sir, just step over there to that table and find your paper." That was all he could do, for he could not read the addresses and had piled the papers in one mass upon the table, requiring each subscriber to plow through the lot and find his own copy. There was much agitation of that pile of papers and at times the rumbling of exploding wrath and the sound of words not exactly Sunday School in their nature.

Presently came one seeking a letter that he was expecting.

"Squire Dicken, is there a letter here for John Adams?"

"No, Mr. Adams," replied the postmaster as he glanced at the pigeon-holed receptacle against the wall. "The 'A' box is empty this morning."
Came another citizen inquiring for a letter. "No, Mr. Johnson, there is no letter in the 'J' box today."

Came tripping in a lovely young lady and the postmaster was all smiles as he greeted her with genuine courtesy and great deference.

"Yes, Miss Morris. I have no doubt you have a letter. You will notice that the 'M' box is full of letters. Just go around there and find your letter."

The batch of letters was pulled out of the "M" box and Miss Morris, after looking at quite a number of letters, finally located the one addressed to her.

Postmaster Dicken had solved the problem of distributing the letters. Every letter started with "Mr.", "Mrs.", or "Miss", and he promptly shoved all of them into the "M" box.

The Whigs were in utter desperation and they had to give up the fight.

Now the Rev. John Calvin Johnson was in fairly good financial condition, didn't serve a fixed charge, and had some leisure on his hands, so he unselfishly resolved to straighten out the tangles. He offered to assist the postmaster in his work and the offer was gladly accepted. The office was soon running smoothly, the people were satisfied, Mr. Johnson made out all reports that had to be sent to Washington in a most beautiful handwriting and with absolute accuracy, and peace and brotherly love reigned in Watkinsville.

But unfortunately, a few months later, Mr. Johnson went down with typhoid fever and was confined to his sickbed for weeks. The people had to plow through a pile of papers again to get their newspapers and the "M" box was filled to overflowing.

At last the patience of the Whigs wore out and again they rose up in rebellion. They bombarded the president with letters, and civic and religious organizations by resolution censured him severely for allowing such a condition to exist.

One day the President and his Cabinet were in session discussing affairs of grave national import. Suddenly the president frowned and gritted his teeth and brought his fist down on the table.

"Gentlemen, we will suspend for a few minutes our discussion of the question
we were considering. It is true that it is a question of great importance to the
American people, but there is a question of much more importance that must be settled
right now before we discuss anything else. My peace of mind, perhaps my sanity, is
involved. I will be utterly unfit to direct the affairs of the nation unless I get
this off my mind."

Then turning to Secretary Cobb, he spoke sharply: "Mr. Cobb, it is all about
that Watkinsville postoffice. I am getting as many letters from that little town
of yours as I get from New York and they are all full of fire and brimstone. The
people of Watkinsville insist that this man Dicken is illiterate and absolutely
unfit to fill the position of postmaster. This matter must be cleared up at once and
for all time."

"That is a perfectly easy thing to do, Mr. President. I have told you before
all about the services of Postmaster Dicken and of his honest and unimpeachable
character and have pointed out that all of this stir is nothing but the venting of
their political animosity by the Whigs of Clarke County. But since you desire more
proof, just let the postmaster-general send over to his office and have brought
here the reports of Postmaster Dicken. You can take a look at them and see that they
are in perfectly beautiful handwriting and absolutely accurate in every respect."

The reports were soon in the hands of the postmaster-general. A curious look
came upon his face as he handed the reports over to the president without a word of
comment.

President Buchanan carefully perused the documents, a frown came over his brow,
he pounded heavily on the table and said: "Well, it is perfectly amazing to what
extent those miserable Whigs carry their political prejudices."

Postmaster Dicken served out his term of office, assisted later on by the
kind Mr. Johnson.

Some months after this scene during the cabinet meeting, Howell Cobb was walking
down one of the main streets in Athens, when he came face to face with his friend,
Calvin Johnson.
The greeting was friendly enough, but there was a stern look in Calvin Johnson's eyes.

"Howell Cobb, I am a minister of the Gospel and a believer in peace, but just at this moment I am tempted to lay aside my ministerial dignity and give you a sound thrashing for having this man Dicken appointed postmaster at Watkinsville and then using the reports I filled out for him and sent to Washington in such a way as to deceive the president and keep Dicken in office."

"Now, Calvin, just cool off a little. There is no use in getting mad about it. You will remember that some years ago I told you that the day would come when I would pay the Whigs of Clark County in overflowing measure for depriving me of the realization of one of my fondest dreams, the carrying of Clarke County in at least one election, and, Calvin, you know a good Democrat always keeps his promises. I believe you will agree with me that the Whigs have been paid in full."
Rhomas Beade Rootes Cobb, eight years younger than his brother Howell, was born in 1823. After his graduation from the University in the Class of 1842, but twenty years were to pass until that bloody day on Mayre's heights where he was to meet his death as he commanded the Confederate center in the battle of Fredericksburg.

It is simply amazing what that brilliant Georgian crowded into those twenty years. His brother, Howell, in the twenty-four years between his graduation and his death, had made a record unequalled for speed and brilliancy in the history of Georgia, as has been described in the preceding pages. Now the younger brother, in four years less of time, was to make fully as brilliant a record, though along different lines.

In the University of Georgia Tom Cobb was easily the leader of his class, winning the much coveted first honor. The class records of those days have been lost, but tradition has it that from start to finish in his college career his grades in the different studies he pursued were always a round one hundred, a record achieved by no other student in the life of the University. Whether that traditional story be absolute truth cannot, of course, be determined, but it at least bears the evidence of probability, for some of those who knew him best declared in after years that he had the most brilliant mind with which they had ever come in contact.

He was only eighteen years old when he graduated. Before he was twenty-one he was practicing law. It was only seventeen years between that time and the opening of the War Between the States. In those seventeen years he rose to greatness in the legal profession. Many lawyers, even in this day and time, regard him as the greatest lawyer given by Georgia to the bar of the state. In his youth he served as Solicitor-General and a short while after the Georgia Supreme Court was organized in 1843, he became its reporter. Though little more than a mere youth, he was made a member of the committee to codify the laws of Georgia. The greater
portion of that codification fell to his lot. No work was ever done with more 
accuracy or precision.

In his college days he had been a member of the Phi Kappa Society. He was 
recognized then as a boy of genius, possessed of the gift of impassioned oratory. 
As a close and convincing reasoner he had no equal on the campus. He was a 
devout Presbyterian and a young man of deep religious convictions. He honestly 
believed that slavery was sanctioned by the Bible and that the South was right in 
upholding and defending it. He gave great care and thought to the subject and his 
book "Cobb on Slavery" produced a profound impression throughout the South. He 
was a close student of government and no one was better prepared to debate the great 
issues of the day.

He had married Marion Lumpkin, daughter of Chief-Justice Joseph Henry Lumpkin, 
and along with his distinguished father-in-law he taught law for quite a while 
in the late fifties, and was one of the first teachers of law in the University faculty when the Lumpkin Law School was organized as a part of the University in 1859.

He was intensely interested in education, especially the education of women 
and he led the way in the movement to establish Lucy Cobb Institute and was 
really the founder of that college which opened its doors in 1859 and was named in 
honor of his daughter, Lucy Cobb.

Then the war came on. He was an ardent secessionist and threw himself with 
whole heart into the fight to carry Georgia out of the Union. It has been said 
that he declared in a speech in Athens that he would be willing to drink every 
drop of blood shed in the threatened war. There is no evidence to back up that 
assertion, but there is every evidence that his impassioned oratory did much to 
bring success to the cause of the secessionists.

In the Georgia Secession Convention in 1861, at Milledgeville, then the capital 
of Georgia, he was the most active delegate on the floor of the convention. When-
ever a question of law or constitutionality came up he was almost invariably the 
man who made the decision, so thoroughly recognized was his ability as a lawyer.
He went as a delegate to the convention in Montgomery at which the Confederate States of America were organized. His reputation as a lawyer went with him. His brother, Howell, although he had been prominently mentioned in connection with the presidency of the new republic, was made chairman of that provisional Congress. A committee was named to draft a constitution for the government of the new nation. R. Barnwell Rhett, of South Carolina, was chairman of that committee. Tom Cobb was one of the members. There is no documentary evidence as to who actually wrote the Confederate Constitution. It may have been the product of all the minds engaged in discussing its provisions. This much is certain. There is in the library of the University a collection of sheets of plain legal cap paper, on which in the handwriting of Tom Cobb is written the document that was adopted and promulgated by the provisional Congress. There are in places words scratched out and at other places interlineations. In other words these are the worksheets on which Tom Cobb wrote out the different provisions of the Confederate Constitution. He was less than thirty-eight years old when he did that work. It was his last great legal contribution to the world. The original engrossed copy of the Confederate Constitution is also in the library of the University of Georgia, but these work sheets in the handwriting of General Cobb preceded the engrossed copy. They constitute the real original.

But his call was not to legal service. The battle-front awaited him. He went to the front lines in Virginia as a Georgia Colonel. His ability was soon recognized and he rose to the rank of Brigadier-General. He fell mortally wounded on Marye's Heights at Fredericksburg and died in a few hours.

Comparing the Two Cobbs

Georgia never produced two greater brothers than Howell and Tom Cobb. Howell, ten years the elder, died at fifty-three; Tom died at thirty-seven. The story of their lives previously recorded, shows the heights of achievement to which they mounted, the one in middle age, the other just a little way beyond the boundaries of youth.
They were brothers and yet so different in so many ways. Dr. Henry Hull, who was on intimate terms with their father's family left this sketch of the two brothers:

"The question has been asked which was the more talented of the two? One may as well inquire which the greatest genius, a great painter or a great philosopher. There is no unit of measurement with which to compare them. So of these two brothers - their minds were of different structure. The Governor controlled men by unequalled management and tact, the General by the irresistible force of argument. The Governor was the greater politician, the General the greater lawyer. While the wonderful talents of both commanded respect, the social qualities, the genial bonhomie, the generous open-heartedness of the Governor secured your love; the commanding powers of intellect prominent in all the General said or did excited the admiration. The Governor would, in commercial language, look at the sum total of an account, without regard to the items, or grasp the conclusion of a proposition without examining each step of the demonstration. The General received nothing as true that could not be proved, and submitted every question to the crucible of reason before he pronounced their absolute truth. The Governor was generous and liberal almost to prodigality. With a hand open as day to melting charity, he gave to those who asked of him, and from those who would borrow of him he turned not away. And many were the cases of a princely generosity and charity which were never heard of in this world, but were recorded elsewhere. The General gave as much as, or perhaps more in proportion to his means, than did the Governor, but in a different way. His benefactions were governed more by the dictates of reason than by the impulses of feeling. All plans suggested for the promotion of the good of the public received his efficient and hearty support. He took a lively interest in everything connected with the prosperity of the town, the University, the schools and the churches. A man of the most wonderful versatility of talent, he would concentrate the power of his wonderful mind on the propriety and necessity of secession, on some intricate and abstruse point of law, on the best manner of
conducting a Sunday School, or on any subject that men thought of and talked about, with equal facility, and as if the matter under discussion was the only one had ever studied. The patient and long-continued investigation of the most abstruse subject was pastime to him. He surely was the most remarkable man of his day.

"General Cobb was a man of more intense feeling than his brother. In the secession convention in January 1861, held in the capitol in Milledgeville, he spoke with the irresistible eloquence of Patrick Henry and in 1862, a few months before his death at Fredericksburg, in talking to an officer from McClellon's army, engaged in the work of exchanging prisoners, he is credited with saying that the two greatest calamities that ever befell the human race was the fall of Adam and the landing of the Mayflower. And that wasn't said as a wisecrack. He meant what he said.

The writer of these lines remembers well two of the sons of Howell Cobb, who throughout their lives exhibited these same differences. Judge Howell Cobb, Class of 1862, had the broader mind and larger grasp of big issues without regard to detail. He was very much like his father. Judge Andrew J. Cobb, Class of 1876, had the better trained legal mind and the patience and concentration necessary for establishing step by step the proposition and the conclusion of a case at issue. He was very much like his Uncle Tom. Both were great lawyers.

Beginning of Denominational College

Opposition

President Church had directed the University ship through pretty smooth waters for five years, but clouds began to appear in the sky and coming opposition seemed to be in the air. The University was the only college in the state, but it was not destined to remain so very long. It was soon to have several competitors. Religious differences began to appear. Denominational opposition raised its head and for more than three-quarters of a century kept it raised. Everything appears to be religiously harmonious now, but it was not always so.

In 1830 the great majority of the people of Georgia belonged to no church
although from year to year the number of church members showed a good increase and
the churches were on the forward march. The Methodist and Baptist churches had by
far the greatest number of members. This was due to the intense missionary spirit
of those two denominations and to the vigor with which their preachers and
leaders carried on a constant battle for the advancement of their churches. The
Presbyterian Church had a goodly number of members, chiefly among the better educated
people of the state. The Episcopal Church had small congregations here and there.

There had been more or less criticism on the part of the Baptists and Methodists
when time after time Presbyterians were chosen to direct the affairs of the Univer­
sity and teach in its faculty. This criticism grew in volume as the years rolled
by but it was unheeded by the trustees. Brown, Findley and Waddell were Presby­
terian preachers, and now another one, Church, had been put in charge of the
University, though the Baptists had very much desired the election of Dr. William
T. Brantley and had been sorely disappointed when he was not chosen.

The leaders among the Methodists and Baptists made up their minds that they
would have colleges of their own denominations. They were tired of Presbyterian
dominance of the University. Sporadic bursts of criticism gave way to organized
effort and Mercer and Emory came into existence. At first they offered no serious
threat, but they had come to stay and year by year it became more apparent that
they were to become serious contenders for students in every section of the
state. They soon had the University authorities sitting up and taking notice.

Then the Presbyterians decided that they should have a college of their own and
Oglethorpe made its bow to the educational world.

Now there were not enough young men in Georgia prepared to enter college to
afford a sufficient number of entering students for four colleges. The contest for
students at first was negligible, but it grew with the passing years and finally
became vigorous.

The opposing colleges hurled some very serious charges against the University,
chiefly along the hackneyed line of lack of discipline among the students and
surrounding temptations that constituted a danger to the proper development of
good character. The new colleges had their disciplinary troubles, as all colleges
for the education of boys had theirs, but it was pointed out that conditions at
the University were much worse than elsewhere.

President Church and the trustees did a very good job during those years
and, while the attendance at the University might have been better had there not
been three other colleges in Georgia to attract students, still the management was
able to keep it up to sufficiently high numbers to enable the institution to go
on with the work successfully.

The rivalry between these colleges and the University was nothing near as
sharp in the days before the War Between the States as it was between 1870 and
1900. In those latter years it occupied a considerable proportion of the time and
attention of Chancellors Tucker, Moll and Boggs. It slackened during the administra­
tions of Chancellors Hill and Barrow. There has been very little of it since the
beginning of the administration of Chancellor Snelling in 1926. At the present time
the relations between the University of Georgia and the denominational colleges
are most cordial.

Both Emory College and Mercer University came into existence through a desire
to establish educational institutions in which for a portion of the time students
might work at manual labor. There were many boys on the farms to be attracted to
such institutions. Mercer had its beginning in a motion passed at the session of
the Georgia Baptist convention in the spring of 1831 "to establish as soon as
funds would permit a classical and theological school which would unite agricultural
labor with study and be opened for those preparing for the ministry.

This school, which was to be known as Mercer Institute, was opened in
January 1833 with thirty-nine students at Penfield, Georgia, all but three of the
students boarding in the home of the teacher, Rev. M. B. Sanders. That was the
beginning of Mercer University.

In 1833 the Methodists started the movement to establish a preparatory school
at Cullodenville. Later on the Methodist Conference authorized the establishment of the Georgia Conference Manual Labor School in the county of Newton which was chartered by the General Assembly of Georgia December 18, 1834.

In these preliminary movements leading up to the establishment of Emory College, Dr. Stephen Olin was on the scene. In "A History of Emory University" by Henry M. Bullock, it is reported that in 1833 a resolution was passed "that we have full confidence in Franklin College, Georgia, and will continue to cherish and promote its interests on all proper occasions." Mr. Bullock then adds his own words: "in candor, however, it must be admitted that Stephen Olin, at that time a professor in Franklin College, was a member of the committee submitting the report. The growing interest in higher education on the part of the churches was induced in part by the denominational rivalries which marked the period, and in part by the secular approach of the state universities."

Perhaps Mr. Bullock is correct in intimating that Dr. Olin was not so much interested in Franklin College as might seem from the wording of the report, for Dr. Olin resigned from the faculty of Franklin College and accepted the presidency of Randolph-Macon College and in 1834 he and Bishop Andrew made a report to the Methodist Conference as a committee on educational matters, and quoting Mr. Bullock the report "recommended the establishment of a manual labor school, took a cut at certain unnamed institutions by saying that 'conscientious parents believe that ignorance is less dangerous than temptations which throng the higher institutions of learning.' The report continues with praise for Randolph-Macon College. It is noticeable that Olin, having become president of Randolph-Macon makes no further reference to Franklin College."

The Manual Labor School declined in popularity and the college idea grew among the Methodists and on December 9, 1836, Governor Schley signed the Act of the Georgia Legislature chartering Emory College.

This much of the origin of Mercer and Emory is given here only in order to call attention to this new question of denominational college opposition. Those
two institutions have had their own historians who have set forth the details of their development and none more thoroughly or in better form than Mr. Bullock. Both have become great institutions, an honor to the state and a great influence for good in the development of her youth.
INTERESTED ALUMNI ORGANIZE

At the annual commencement in 1834 a new influence in the affair of the University became manifest—the aroused interest and enthusiasm of the alumni of the institution.

It is true that there were only a few hundred of them, and, while they had for years looked with pride on the work being carried on by the University, they had not been organized as a body so as to throw their combined strength behind any movement for the advancement of the institution.

But at this commencement scores of the alumni had come back to attend the annual exercises and with a fixed determination to organize and make themselves effective in the support of the institution. There were present more alumni than had ever gathered in Athens on any previous occasion, and they were enthusiastically behind President Church and the faculty, ready to serve in every way possible.

On August 5th, 1834 the Alumni Society of the University of Georgia was organized. It held its annual sessions and did good work for the next sixty-five years, and then in 1899, on the election of Walter B. Hill as Chancellor, the first alumnus of the University to fill that position, the Society began to strike its stride in a big way.

The fact that it was organized in 1834 is mentioned here. The detailed story of this society from its organization up to the present time is given in another chapter, in that portion of the book describing the work of the institution at the opening of the twentieth century.
The college year 1834-1835 was an uneventful time in the University. The meeting of the Trustees in November was not held on account of the lack of a quorum of the members in attendance. The faculty minutes disclose nothing of unusual importance.

At the graduating exercises in August 1835 addresses were made by S.M. Strong, D.H. James, William G. Smith, George M. Treup, Junius A. Wingfield, and by C.W. West, second honor, Crawford W. Long, third honor. The valedictory addresses were made by David Finley and Francis S. Bartew, the first honor graduates.

The degree of Bachelor of Arts was conferred on these speakers and also the following members of the class: E.L. Ragan, J.D. Thomas, Robert Iversen, J.H. Whitehead, John Diomatari, John J.A. Thomas and Grafton D. and Woodbridge. The story of John Diomatari, a Greek, was one of more than passing interest. Coming to this country as an immigrant from his native land, in some way he drifted to Athens and entered the University. He had no money and found it very difficult to maintain himself. Out of pure sympathy he was exempted from paying tuition fees. He was a pretty good student but several times had to be disciplined for violation of University rules. During his Senior year he left without standing his final examinations. His case finally reached the Board of Trustees, and that body, after considerable discussion, out of sympathy from the struggling people of Greece, allowed Diomatari to graduate. He became a good American citizen and finally served America well as U.S. Consul at Athens, Greece.


Adam T. Holmes, of Macen, Ga.
The Class of 1835 graduated only seventeen men, while thirty other members of the class attended only a part of the time necessary to the winning of their degrees. There was a smaller proportion of graduates than usual. Three members of the graduating class became ministers, four lawyers, three professors, three legislators, two farmers and one each of Confederate Congress, general in Confederate army, United States Consul. The three ministers were Walter R. Branham, who served the Methodist Church until he was a very old man, David Finley and Robert Iversen, who were Presbyterian ministers. Junius Addison Wingfield became a prominent lawyer, served in the state senate and was a lieutenant-colonel of Georgia volunteers in the Creek War in 1836.

The two members who achieved greatest distinction in after life were Francis S. Bartow and Crawford W. Long.

Francis Stebbins Bartow was a native of Georgia and was born in 1816. He was a brilliant student and carried off first honor in his class in the University. He married Louisa Berrien, a member of the distinguished Berrien family. He served with distinction as a member of the Georgia legislature. He was an ardent secessionist, went to the Georgia Secession convention in Milledgeville, ranged himself alongside Tom Cobb, another fiery secessionist, and helped carry Georgia out of the Union. At that time he ranked among the ablest lawyers in the state and had much to do with all legal questions that came up in that convention. From the Georgia convention he went on to Montgomery, Ala., as a delegate to the Provisional Congress of the Confederacy and took a prominent part in the work that set in motion the Confederate States of America.

He was distinctly of a martial nature. His place was at the front in battle. He went back to Savannah, organized troops, and went on to Virginia. Before the summer of 1861 arrived he was a brigadier-general.
When he left for the firing line his last words of farewell to his Savannah friends were: "I go to illustrate Georgia." The first great battle of the war was fought at Manassas or Bull Run, and in that battle General Bartow met death while leading his brigade against the enemy.

Some three decades ago, the Georgia Division of the United Daughters of the Confederacy decided to honor his memory in the way of a living memorial. The Division purchased a large farm at Rabun Gap, one of the prettiest pieces of property in that beautiful section of the state, far up in the Blue Ridges mountains, adjoining the lands of a school for mountain children that had recently been established under the guidance of Prof. Andrew J. Ritchie, and gave to that school the use of the magnificent farm. This memorial has been of great service to the school and its usefulness increases year after year. Several attractive cottages have been built by the U.S.C. on this land which serve as homes for the young folk who attend the Rabun Gap—Nacoochee Institute.

CRAWFORD WILLIAMSON LONG

The two sons of Georgia named by the state legislature for the honor of having their statues placed in the statuary hall in the national capitol in Washington to represent their native state were both graduates of the University of Georgia under the administration of President Church. Part of the collegiate education of one, Alexander H. Stephens, was directed by Moses Waddel and part by Alonzo Church. The story of Mr. Stephens' life has been told in connection with the graduating class of 1832. The story of the other, Crawford Williamson Long, is here given along with that of his class, the Class of 1835. During Long's Freshman year in the University he roomed with Aleck Stephens in a front corner room, second story northwest, in Old College.

The life story of the man who performed the first surgical operation in the history of the world under the influence of an anesthetic, sulphuric ether, is of necessity, of commanding interest, aside from the fact that he
was a native of Georgia and an alumnus of the University of Georgia.

Crawford Williamson Long was of Irish descent. His paternal grandparents were both born in Ireland. His grandfather, Samuel Long, came to Pennsylvania in 1763. He married Miss Williamson, of Ulster, Ireland, whose family name was given to her illustrious descendant. His grandfather, James Long, was born in Carlisle, Pa., and married Elizabeth Ware, of Virginia. James Long came from Virginia to Madison county, Ga., where he became a well-known planter, served in the Georgia state senate and was an intimate friend of the great William H. Crawford, for whom he named his son.

Crawford Long was born Nov. 1, 1815 in Danielsville, Ga. During his boyhood days he secured the best education afforded by the school at Danielsville and entered the University at a very early age, graduating with the degree of third honor in the class of 1835. This does not mean that he was not in reality first or second honor, as the faculty did not always award the honors strictly on the actual scholastic grades. While a student in the University he was a member of the Phi Kappa Literary Society. He taught one year in the Danielsville Academy and then began the study of medicine in the office of Dr. Grant, of Jefferson, Ga. He then took a course of one year in Transylvania College, Kentucky. In 1837 he entered the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, receiving his M.D. degree from that institution in 1839. He then spent eighteen months in New York "walking the hospitals."

He was greatly interested in surgery, and as he went through this experience in the hospitals he saw much of the terrible suffering patients had to undergo without the use of an anesthetic. His experience gave him a great desire to relieve as much as possible the pain that had to be endured under a surgical operation, and no doubt was the beginning of much study that found its solution three years later when he performed the first surgical operation under ether anesthesia in the history of the world.
In 1841 he moved to Jefferson, Ga., having bought out the practice of his old preceptor, Dr. Grant.

A few months passed——and then came immortality.

Dr. Long was not the first scientist or physician to believe that drugs could render a man insensible to pain. He was simply the first to put his belief to the acid test. Sir Humphrey Davy, as far back as 1799, had said "nitrous oxide appears capable of destroying pain, and it may probably be used with advantage during surgical operations." But his suggestion was not tested. Several experimenters in the scientific world believed that the inhalation of sulphuric ether would produce insensibility to pain, but never demonstrated their belief on a human being. Long had read of these suggestions, had thought much about them, had greatly desired to reduce human suffering as far as possible and when the time arrived, he did not hesitate to put his ideas to the test on a human being.

The story of Long's first operation on March 30, 1842, need not be told in detail here. On that day he removed a tumor from the neck of James M. Venable in his office in Jefferson, Ga., and Venable, according to his own statement, suffered no pain.

It has been said that Long stumbled on his discovery by accident. It is true that he became convinced of the efficacy of sulphuric ether through his own experience and that of others who had inhaled the gas on account of its exhilarating effects at what were called "ether parties" upon young people of that day. But that was simply the medium through which his scientific mind was working. He recalled his experiences in the New York hospitals and his longing for something to ease the pain in surgery. For some time he had been looking for just what now came to him through these ether parties. He knew, through bruises he had received and was unaware of, that there was something in the ether that deadened pain and he was convinced that it could be used in surgery. And he made sure by operating
en James M. Venable. That was two years before Horace Wells extracted a
tooth without pain and more than four years before W.T.G. Morton, a
Boston dentist, performed a similar operation through the use of nitrous
oxide. Meanwhile Long had performed a dozen operations successfully. He
told the doctors in his home county and in the neighboring city of Athens. There was no medical journal in Georgia to publish his discovery. He
gave as wide publicity as was possible to the discovery. He saw its
importance and wanted every sufferer to enjoy the relief it gave.

Later on a bill was introduced in Congress to appropriate
one hundred thousand dollars to Morton for his discovery. Then for the first
time the friends of Long came forward to counter that claim with the real
facts. Long's claims to priority of discovery were presented to the Senate by United States Senator William C. Dawson, of Georgia, a University
of Georgia graduate of the class of 1816. A considerable argument arose and nothing ever came of the movement to compensate the discoverer of
surgical anesthesia.

In recent years the United States government issued a number of
memorial stamps. One of these was in honor of Crawford W. Long for having
introduced surgical anesthesia to the world. In the presence of ten
thousand people in Jefferson, Ga., and within less than one hundred yards
of the old office in which Long had performed that first operation,
Postmaster-General James A. Farley, acting in his official capacity, sold
the first sheet of the memorial stamps to Mrs. Eugenia Long Harper,
daughter of Dr. Long, and in a splendid address expressed without the least
equivocation what must be the judgment of all who consider the facts: his
judgment that to Crawford W. Long belongs the honor of having performed
the first surgical operation under sulphuric ether anesthesia.

No doubt Dr. Morton deserved credit for his discovery of nitrous
oxide usefulness in surgery, but his discovery came more than four years
Long's. No doubt he gave it wider publicity, for he lived in Boston and was in easy reach of medical societies and medical journals. But the fact remains that Long performed the first operation under sulphuric ether anaesthesia and that he gave it the best publicity available in a little town and without medical journals to aid him in the dissemination of the facts.

The Southern Medical Association passed a resolution in 1922 expressing the belief Long was entitled to be called the discoverer of anaesthesia. In 1878 Dr. J. Marion Sims presented the State of Georgia with a heroic size oil portrait of Long to be hung in the State capitol. In 1912 the University of Pennsylvania unveiled a medallion to perpetuate the memory of its illustrious alumnus. During the same year Dr. Lamartine G. Hardman, afterwards Governor of Georgia, gave to the town of Jefferson a marble shaft honoring the memory of its former citizen. In 1921 a duplicate of the medallion of the University of Pennsylvania was given the University of Georgia by Dr. Joseph Jacobs, a Georgia alumnus.

On March 20, 1926 the marble statue of Dr. Long was unveiled in Statuary Hall in the national capitol, and a few years since a replica of that imposing statue, carved by the same sculptor, Jimmie Watt, of Nelson, Ga., was erected by the State of Georgia on the public square in Danville, Ga., in sight of the house in which the great discoverer of sulphuric ether anaesthesia was born.

Some of the most eminent English and French surgeons have acknowledged the validity of Dr. Long's claim to priority in this great discovery.

In 1851 Dr. Long moved to Athens, Ga., where he practiced his profession with great success, beloved by hundreds of warm friends. He died June 16, 1876 at the age of sixty-two, while caring for a lady in...
childbirth. His death was sudden from a stroke of apoplexy. Up to the last moment of his life he was the beloved physician. The remains of Dr. Long were interred in Oconee Cemetery, Athens, Ga. He was survived by his six widow, Caroline Swain Long, and by his four children, Mrs. Francis Long Taylor, Edward C. Long, Mrs. Florence Long Bartow, Miss Emma Long, Mrs. Eugenia Long Harper, and Arthur Long, all of whom have now passed on.

Years ago the University of Georgia set aside March 30th as "Crawford W. Long Day." On that day each year some distinguished physician delivers an address in the University Chapel honoring his memory and in tribute to his great contribution to suffering humanity. One of the most beautiful, most scholarly and most convincing of these addresses was that delivered by Dr. Frank Kelle Boland, of Atlanta, University graduate in the Class of 1897.

After devoting the greater part of his address to the story of the discovery of ether anesthesia, Dr. Boland gave a brief summary of the life work of the illustrious physician and beloved citizen. Said he:

"Even without the discovery of anesthesia Dr. Long would be considered one of Georgia's most distinguished physicians. At the unveiling of the monument to his memory in 1912 in Jefferson, Ga., Woods Hutchinson said that Long was in many respects in advance of his day. He treated and cured consumption by food and fresh air, and he treated typhoid fever practically as we do now. He operated several times very successfully for cancer of the breast, always clearing the ribs and removing the auxiliary glands. He cured several cases of lockjaw, and was especially skilled in the use of obstetrical forceps.

"Long was reared a Presbyterian, his father and paternal grandfather having been elders in the Presbyterian church, but he joined the Methodist church in order to be with his wife. He considered slavery as God's method of civilizing the African, and felt deeply the responsibility
of having slaves to control and influence. Politically he was a Whig, and with his friend, Alexander H. Stephens, he opposed secession, but like many other patriots, he went with his state into the service of the Confederacy.

"During the War Between the States he was never in active service, but was appointed by the Confederate government in charge of the military hospital on the University campus at Athens. The Southern Cross of Honor was conferred on him posthumously by the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

"All who knew him unite in declaring him a man of exceptional qualities of mind and soul. Dignified in manner, his whole appearance betokened culture and high character. It is said he possessed no eccentricities, very unusual in a celebrity. He was sensitive, refined, and considerate of others, free from envy, malice and uncharitableness. He maintained a slight reserve, except among intimates or congenial people. Cheerful in the sick room, he inspired the patients with confidence. He was fond of good music, tall and slender, dressed in conventional black, always with frock coat, in short, a high-bred, scholarly Christian gentleman."
When the trustees met on August 3, 1835, the first paper placed on the secretary's table was a letter from Professor James P. Shannon in which he notified the Board that it was his intention to resign at the end of that year his position as Professor of Ancient Languages. This came about through his desire to return to the ministry. The trustees did not want to give him up for he was one of the most popular members of the faculty as well as one of the most efficient. But his mind was made up and the trustees accepted his resignation and passed a resolution, "that they regret the loss of so useful an officer from Franklin College and take pleasure in stating that while connected with said institution the duties of his professorship were discharged highly beneficial. His whole course of conduct ably and faithfully met with the entire approbation of the trustees."

OLD PHI KAPPA HALL PURCHASED.

At the meeting of the trustees a communication from Professor Pressly on the subject of the purchase of the old Phi Kappa Hall, for the purpose of a lecture room, was read and referred to the committee on buildings and later on during the session a resolution was passed that "the treasurer pay to the said Society the sum of $400, on receiving from the said Society a deed for the said building properly executed."

Just what kind of a building that was, just where it was located and from what source came the money with which it was erected are facts not disclosed by the preserved records. Presumptively it was near the other buildings, else it could not serve for the purpose of a lecture room, and it must have been a small wooden building or the price paid for it would have been more than four hundred dollars. There is a tradition that the Phi Kappa Society was organized in the belfry of the old chapel and that for several years the meetings were held there. The probability is that in a few years some of its members raked up enough money to build a temporary
abiding place and that such was the building now being disposed of. It is
known that just about this time the new brick building had been completed
that has been the home of this Society for more than one hundred years
and that still is its home.

The purchase of this little building from the Phi Kappa Society
gives evidence of a fact that was known even in the college days of the
writer, to-wit, that the Demosthenian and Phi Kappa Societies and not
the University were said to own their respective halls. Of course, the land
on which they stand has always been the property of the University. The
ownership of these Society halls has, in a way, been recognized by the
University. There have been times when the use of the first floor of each
hall has been made available to the University through the payment of rent
by the University. That custom has now ceased to be observed, and, while
the University uses the first floor of each hall, no rent is now paid.
Ownership by the Societies is a purely sentimental matter. Of course,
the legal title is in the University.

QUESTION OF ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS.

President Church was convinced that students were being admitted
to the University at too early an age and he took vigorous steps to correct
that condition. He strongly recommended to the trustees that the entering
age be raised from fourteen years to sixteen years, pointing out that
anything less than sixteen years would be admitting very immature boys to
the University, poorly prepared and not mature enough to receive proper
educational training.

The trustees agreed with the president and unanimously recommended to
the Senatus Academicus "that no person shall hereafter be admitted in to
the Freshman Class under the age of sixteen years, and that a proportionate
increase of age be required for admission into each of the higher classes."
The Senatus Academicus agreed and such became the law as to admissions.

The trustees, in taking this action, however, pointed out that "something must be conceded to parental anxiety on this subject, and still more to those cases, and they are not a few, in which the restricted means of the parent compel him to hurry the education of the child to its completion."

There can be no doubt about the correction of the position taken by President Church, but the trustees, while supporting his contention, mentioned the two very causes that would make the new resolution ineffective. Back in the early days when the University was struggling for its very existence, children as young as twelve years were admitted. Of course they were too young, but parents insisted and the University acceded to their requests. The same two causes were still at work. The parents wished to shove their children through as rapidly as possible. The University had to have a certain number of students to maintain itself effectively. There were not over four hundred boys in Georgia each year prepared to take up college work, in fact not that many, if real and adequate preparation were taken into account. Three new colleges in Georgia were at that time preparing to enter the field in Georgia as competitors for students, Emory, Mercer and Oglethorpe. And these institutions would prepare manual labor schools that enabled boys to earn a good part of their expenses.

The new age for admission to the Freshman Class of the University of Georgia remained in effect just one year. At the next session of the trustees in August, 1836 the new law was repealed and the age for admission went back to fourteen years and there it remained for more than six decades, or almost up to the opening of the twentieth century. It was then changed to sixteen years and has remained such until the present time.
Tackling An Old Problem.

President Church was an inveterate foe of liquor. He never lost an opportunity to inveigh against it. When lecturers on temperance came around he showed them every courtesy and helped them in every way possible. As an educational executive he was up against a problem that existed to a greater or less extent not only in institutions of learning but very largely in the homes of the people. There were not so many teetotalers in those days and the cause of temperance had not gotten in its good work.

There was criticism then, as there has been criticism across the years, as to drinking among the students. A dozen students imbibing too much liquor would challenge the attention of the critics where six dozen might be in their rooms studying. That is the way it goes in these days, just as it was back there. The drinking set never constituted a majority. As a matter of fact they made up a decided minority, but there were enough of them to create disorder at times and to give the faculty trouble. There were always some of the students who had to be disciplined for drinking. So President Church went right after the trustees and invoked their help.

"The trustees tossed the buck right back to the faculty," said the Board: "The committee to whom the question has been referred are deeply sensible (who can be otherwise,) to the fatal effects which result from the resort of the students to drinking houses and other places of similar dissipation, and yet they are not aware that any other means for the suppression of this evil are within the reach of this Board in addition to those which have been heretofore provided. Perhaps an appeal might be made to the patriotism and intelligence of the people of Athens to discountenance by their united and public resolutions those who are thus engaged in ministering to youthful frailty. For the rest, all that remains is that the faculty should persevere in a vigilant scrutiny of the conduct of individual students and in the vigilant enforcement of the laws in cases of detection, with the full assurance of being sustained by the Board."
Dr. Church and the members of the faculty with more or less success bore down on the offenders. These boys constitutes a decided minority of the student body, but there were enough of them to give the president and faculty considerable trouble, and the minutes of the faculty show that they were handled with severe discipline at times and that a number of them were expelled. At the same time the great majority of the students went right on with their work and in after years by their accomplishments in life demonstrated the fact that President Church and his faculty did a good job. And even some of those who felt the rod of discipline in after years turned right about face and became real men. The writer has a fixed opinion that as much watchful care was exercised by President Church and his faculty over those who were disposed to drink as would have been exercised over them had they been at home.

Four years later this question arose again when the question of proper boarding places for students came up for discussion. That always was a serious question on account of the lack of a sufficient number of good, private boarding houses in the University community. The Board, backing up the request of President Church, passed a resolution "that no student shall be permitted to board of lodge in any of the public houses in this town at which a bar is kept or spirituous liquors or wines are furnished."

There never has been a day since the opening of the University when there wasn't a college rule against drinking. The writer can speak from observation of students across more than half a century and say with conviction that year by year there has been a noticeable improvement as to drinking, and that, while there are still students who drink, as there are in any community, the percentage of students who make a habit of drinking is smaller today than it has ever been.
From the beginning of the University the trustees had been very generous in the conferring of honorary degrees. Any graduate of the University, after the lapse of one year, was eligible to receive the honorary degree of Master of Arts, if he could show that he was of irreproachable moral character, and those who were not University graduates could be given that honorary degree on convincing the trustees of their worthiness.

Under this custom quite a large number of honorary degrees had been conferred. But in 1835 the trustees came to the conclusion that they should tighten up on the requirements. The rule as to the graduates of the University was not changed, but as to those who were not graduates of this institution it was made a little more difficult for them to get the degree. As to that class of applicants it was restricted to those "who shall be eminently distinguished for literary and scientific attainments and of fair and irreproachable moral character, provided two-thirds of the members present shall vote for the allowance."

It was also voted that "the degree of Doctor of Laws and Doctor of Divinity may also in the discretion of the Board be conferred upon any person who shall be eminently distinguished for his attainments in Jurisprudence or Theology and also in general literature and science, but the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present at a regular meeting of the Board shall in each case be necessary to the allowance of such degree."

This change in the rules as to honorary degrees had the effect of somewhat reducing the number of honorary degrees conferred, though a number of years were to go by before the promiscuous conferring of honorary degrees was to be eliminated. Shortly after the War Between the States provision was made for awarding the Master of Arts degree to those who pursued studies for one year after graduation with the A.B. degree. Walter B. Hill, class of 1870, later on Chancellor of the University, was one of the first students to win
the degree of Master of Arts through extra study. Later on the degree of M.A. became a regular undergraduate degree. When the writer entered the University in 1885, he decided to work for the M.A. degree. He was young and did not know exactly what he was doing or else was foolish enough to overrate his abilities. The requirements for the M.A. degree at that time covered every single class held in the University except those in the Department of Civil Engineering. Thirty-two recitations per week was the load in the Senior class. The writer got through with it and was awarded his degree, but, looking over the years and with mature judgment now than he had then, he is convinced that it would have been much better had he been satisfied with an A.B. degree and had taken another year to get the M.A.

Later on came the organization of the Graduate School, after which the degree of Master of Arts was no longer an undergraduate degree. At different times the trustees awarded the honorary degrees such as Doctor of Laws, Doctor of Divinity, Doctor of Literature, Doctor of Science, etc. More stringent rules were enacted. One year had to elapse after the presentation of a name for this honor before it could be acted on, thus giving time for investigation. For a number of years only one degree of its kind could be conferred at one commencement. In a few cases the rules were suspended and the degree awarded without the one year intermission.

Finally the number of honorary degrees conferred each commencement dropped off, and when the Board of Regents came into control in 1932, the custom of awarding honorary degrees went practically into the discard. Since that time, now a period of thirteen years, only one honorary degree has been conferred by the University of Georgia, that of Doctor of Laws which was conferred on President Franklin Delano Roosevelt on August 11th, 1933.
One of the thorns in the side of President Church was the military company, not only the state militia and muster day but particularly the disposition of the students to organize voluntary companies. The charge was made that these military companies promoted disorder among the students, that firearms in the possession of the students constituted a menace to good order and that attention to studies was seriously affected. The boys loved to go to the annual muster and to the four drills each year as required by law, especially as all this was carried on at the county seat, Watkinsville, some seven miles from Athens, and gave the students a chance to get out of town. The voluntary companies enabled them to parade over the campus in improvised uniforms, much to the annoyance of the professors. The writer is a believer in law and order, but at this long stretch of time since President Church directed the affairs of the University, and in spite of the fact that he, himself, is no longer a boy, cannot refrain, as he writes these lines, from sympathizing with the boys who in the hours of boyish enthusiasm took delight in an occasional trip to Watkinsville in their military trappings.

Military training is now considered an essential; back there, at least among the faculty and especially with Dr. Church its name was anathema. President Church never had liked military companies. He had had his troubles with them back in Dr. Waddel's time and now the nuisance had reached a point that led him to beg the trustees to go before the legislature and have that body exempt from all military duty all and other schools in the state.

The trustees were rather sympathetic to his request as evidenced by this excerpt from the minutes of that body in August 1835:

"The opinion is gaining ground among many of our most intelligent and patriotic citizens that the militia system even in its application to
adults and to men engaged in active life, is still worse than useless. We trust and hope that an intelligent legislature, anxious to promote the great cause of public education, will not refuse to exempt the students of this and every other literary institution in the state, including our academies and common schools, from the vexation of a system of military instruction so injurious to them in the pursuit of their studies and so very questionable to its tendency to accomplish its own particular objects."

For some reason this question was not referred to the legislature and a year thereafter the committee of the trustees made another report which was adopted. It is given here in full for the purpose of showing how completely sentiment has changed with the passing of one hundred years, so that now military training is deemed to be essential and eighteen year old boys are drafted and after a few months of training are sent to the battle front, while in Georgia they are also given the right of the ballot.

This is what the committee of the board of Trustees in 1836 had to say:

"The students of this and every other literary institution in the state ought to be exempted from militia duty in time of peace. The committee believes that the whole community, especially in a government like ours, has an interest in education of the youth of the country, which very far outweighs any benefits that can be derived from the military service of those who are pursuing their collegiate studies, and they think it cannot be doubted that a participation in the ordinary parades of the militia is calculated to distract the mind of the student and to disqualify him for the performance of his peculiar duties. All who have reflected on the subject must be sensible that the time which is allotted to the purposes of instruction is too short for the accomplishment of many desirable objects, that the most sedulous employment of it will not more than suffice to qualify our youth for the discharge of their duties.
as citizens. It seems then to be the most obvious dictate of reason that they should be protected during this interesting period from everything which may interfere with the improvement of their minds. Upon the men of the country should devolve the services, whether ordinary of extraordinary, which the republic demands from its citizens, while the youth who are to succeed them are qualifying themselves for the performance of the duties which are to devolve upon them. They concur in the opinion expressed by the faculty, through the president, that volunteer military associations should not be permitted to exist among the students of the college and that the existing association be dissolved."

The legislature didn't act on the request and the students were happy. But their happiness was short-lived, for one year later in August 1837 the trustees ordered the dissolution of the volunteer companies and made it a condition of all future admissions to the college that "the applicants for admission shall not join said company or organize any other." Thus ended the voluntary military company in the University of Georgia, but the students still had to attend the muster drills. They couldn't parade on the campus, but they could take their occasional trips to Watkinsville.

After the war with Mexico interest in the question ceased. When the State College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts was established in 1872 as a part of the University of Georgia, Military science was one of the specified subjects to be taught therein. For a few years this became a part of the curriculum, but it was soon abandoned and the old Springfield rifles were locked up in a room in Old College.

In the fall of 1888, the teaching of the military science was resumed in the University and the cadets were placed in charge of Col. Charles M. Snelling, adjunct professor of mathematics. Since that time military science has been a part of the curriculum and for many years has been taught by officers of the United States Army detailed by the federal government for that purpose.
President Church was a man who kept his eyes open to everything the students did that didn't square with his ideas of proper conduct. He was square and honest and the boys respected him even if they did not agree with him as to matters of what they thought was severe discipline. Now he didn't like the way in which Junior orators were selected by the Demosthenian and Phi Kappa societies. In fact, that was a subject that was under discussion every year when the trustees met. The boys wanted to have their way and the faculty and trustees wanted to have their way and consequently there was always more or less discussion.

The methods of selection of Junior orators by the societies smacked too much of politics and ordinary ward politics at that to suit Dr. Church. So he suggested to the trustees that the method of selection be changed. The trustees observed that "they have learned with great regret that this has led to the introduction among the students of a system of canvassing, treating and carousal that must in the result be destructive to the interest of every literary institution in which it exists. Unless these evils can be arrested the committee are of the opinion that the exercise itself should be abolished, for nothing in their view can compensate for the morals which must result from the continuance of these practices. They think it desirable to afford to the members of the Junior class an opportunity of publicly exhibiting their claim to scholarship and to attainment in oratory. They believe it important to cherish a spirit of rivalry between the two societies which exist in the college. But these are benefits of which the value may be calculated, while the wicked evils that are stated to have resulted from the mode in which this exercise is at present regulated are incalculable, and in the highest degree alarming. The committee are not disposed to abandon without an effort to modify it, as the exercise in itself is commendatory and salutary. They recommend therefore as an experiment that the orators of the Junior class be chosen and designated in the following manner:
"They shall consist of three persons from each society to be chosen from a list of five to be designated by the faculty. On the day on which such selection is made by the faculty, the president shall announce to the societies respectively the names of the five persons so designated from their members, and each society shall on the same day return to the president the names of three persons chosen by such society from among the five persons nominated by the faculty, which persons shall be the Junior orators for that society.

If no other and more efficient remedy can be devised, they would unhesitatingly recommend that the Junior orators should be designated exclusively by the faculty or that the exercise itself should be abolished."

Nothing was stated as to the exact nature of the practices that were deemed objectionable. No doubt they were in line with political practices yet used in America, some harmless and some highly objectionable. The suggested plan was tried out and didn't give much satisfaction, for the students always objected to the faculty "butting in". Gradually it came to pass that the selections were made under strict faculty rules.
Salaries Are Increased

The state appropriation of $6000 per annum that had been available since 1831 had enabled the trustees to put the institution in good financial condition and at the 1835 annual session the salaries of faculty members were increased. The salary of the president went up to $2500 and the salaries of professors were boosted two hundred dollars, rising from $1400 to $1600. Considering the times and the cost of living in those days, these salaries were fairly good. In fact, fifty years later they were no larger, even though they should have been increased.

The regular appropriation of one thousand dollars was made for the purchase of books and the committee of trustees directed to make the selection of the books to be purchased. Several more years were to pass before the selection of new books for the library was referred back to the president and faculty, the place where this duty should have rested all the while.

Two gifts were noted, a number of Nautical Experiments presented by Colonel Beaufoy, of England, the work of his father, and plants and seeds from the Cape of Good Hope, presented by Lieutenant William A. Shields, of the United States Navy.

John C. Calhoun A Visitor

On August 3, 1836, at the graduating exercises there was present a very distinguished visitor, who was officially invited to a seat on the stage. That visitor was John C. Calhoun, who had served as vice-president of the United States in the administration of President Andrew Jackson, and who for the next fifteen years was to be one of the leading figures in American public life along with Henry Clay and Daniel Webster and other great Americans. He was a brother-in-law of President Moses Wadell and in his youth had been prepared for college by that eminent educator years before he came to Georgia as the executive head of the University. Dr. Wadell was still living in 1836 and it is probably true that Mr. Calhoun came this way in order
to pay him a visit. Mr. Calhoun was an honorary member of the Phi Kappa Literary Society, and at the meeting of that society during this commencement season Mr. Calhoun was called upon to preside over its deliberations.

Mr. Calhoun, after leaving Athens traveled on to Tennessee. On this trip he stopped for a little while at a small village called "Terminus." It had been given that name because it was the eastern end of a new railroad, the Western & Atlantic which had just been completed from the town of Chattanooga. A committee of the townsmen had Mr. Calhoun in charge showing him around over their little town, if indeed, it could at that time be called a town. He was very much impressed with the location and the surrounding country and ventured the remark that some day a city would be built there that would become the gateway to the South. He was a good prophet, for "Terminus" grew out of its swaddling clothes, later on became Martha'sville, and then adopted its present name, Atlanta.

A Degree by War Sentiment

At this commencement, for the first time, the trustees awarded a degree through war sentiment. Joseph Law was a member of the Senior Class proceeding towards his graduation. The warlike Creek Indians were on the rampage and soldiers were needed to take them in hand and protect the lives and property of Georgia citizens. So young Law determined that he would do his bit. Accordingly he went to the front to fight the Creeks and did not stay to stand his final examinations. Under the strict rule of the faculty he could not be graduated, but patriotic sentiment caused the trustees to waive that requirement and give him his degree.

That was not the last time that war services played their part in the granting of degrees. More than a third of a century after the close of
the War Between the States the trustees were sentimentally moved in regard to all the boys who were deprived of their degrees by volunteering into the Confederate army and serving honorably therein. It was ordered that their degrees be conferred upon them if living, and posthumously if they were dead.

After World War I, credit for full quarter was allowed a number of veterans and in several cases this concession enabled them to graduate.

Just what will be done concerning the veterans of World War II has not been fully determined, but it is safe to say that there will be given generous concessions for their services to their country and to the freedom of the world.

Several interesting Trustee actions

Tutor Charles F. McCoy had made good and his salary was raised from $800 to $1000. He was destined to go on up and to become one of the ablest and most colorful members of the faculty in after years.

The trustees didn't like the way in which the rooms and passages in the college buildings were kept, so a resolution was passed that every two months the rooms and passages should be thoroughly washed and twice a year they be faithfully whitewashed.

Prof. Shannon having resigned, Prof. James F. Waddell was elected as Professor of Ancient Languages, a position that he filled for the succeeding twenty years.

The trustees had begun to revert back to the habits of earlier days and on account of the large number of Board members it became difficult to rally a quorum in attendance on the meetings of the Board. It became a matter of serious import and the legislature was asked to enact a law fixing the quorum at a minimum of seven. A few years later the legislature did fix the quorum at a minimum of nine members in attendance.

At this meeting a report was made that the British Government had given the University a set of books on the History of England, and that the first ninety volumes of that valuable collection of books
had been received by the library.

The Board reached the conclusion that the students were spending too much money, that their extravagance was bringing about bad results, and a committee was named to get in touch with the parents of the boys and urge them to furnish their boys less spending money. The committee was appointed, took the matter up with the parents, but the probability is that the darling boys had just as much extra money as usual within a few months. There was no way getting around fond parents, especially fond mothers.

In Nov 1836 Charles F. McCay was made adjunct professor of Natural Philosophy and, in his place as tutor Charles S. Dod was named.


Just why so many speakers appeared on the program does not appear, but there were twenty-three out of the twenty-eight graduates who delivered speeches. Half of the speakers appeared on one day and half the next day, and even at that there must have been some wearied audiences. It must have been an experiment for it was never repeated.

The degree of A.B. was conferred on the twenty-three speakers and on the remaining five members of the class: W.T. Baldwin, Joseph Law, A.O. Bacon, John McKittrick and William McWhorter.

The degree of Master of Arts was conferred on Henry M. Jackson, Bedney Franklin, James F. Freeman, B.T. Habersham, C.G. McKinley, John W. Baker, Howell Cobb, and James S. Crosby, graduates of the University, and on John W. Predley, a graduate of South Georgia College, and James T. Phelps, a graduate of Middlebury College, Vt.
Class of 1836

The Class of 1836 was larger than its predecessor and graduated a larger percentage of its members. There were twenty-nine graduates and thirty-two who attended only a part of the required time and did not graduate. In the after life of the graduates six became farmers, six physicians, five ministers, four lawyers, two college presidents, two teachers, one United States minister, one manufacturer. Public life did not seem to attract the members of this graduating class. Nearly all of them succeeded well in life, though none mounted high on the ladder of fame. It was a class of all-around excellence both in college and in after life.

Augustus Octavius Bacon was a prominent Baptist minister, whose son, Augustus O. Bacon graduated in the Class of 1859, became a great lawyer and statesman and was for many years a United States senator from Georgia.

James Sherwood Hamilton became a successful planter and manufacturer and served for a long time as a member of the University Board of Trustees.

Jeptha Vining Harris was a successful lawyer, planter, legislator and a Brigadier General of Mississippi volunteers, Confederate States Army.

John Jones became a well-known Presbyterian minister and also served as chaplain of the Georgia House and Senate.

William Strong Lowery in later years served fourteen years as a member of the faculty of Erskine College.

Thomas L. McBryde was a Presbyterian minister and a beloved missionary to China.

Hugh Emmett Morrow achieved distinction as a teacher and was President of Griffin, Ga., Female College.

Timothy M. Furlow, of Americus, was a large planter and was much interested in education, serving as trustee of Wesleyan College, Southern College and Furlow College, and also as a legislator and state senator.
Benjamin Gudworth Yancey during his long life served in a number of useful fields. He was a lawyer and large planter, a member of the South Carolina legislature in 1840, president of the Alabama state senate in 1855, United States Minister to Argentina in 1858, president of the Georgia State Agricultural Society in 1867, member of the Georgia legislature in 1875, a major in Cobb's Legion, C.S.A., and a trustee of the University from 1860 to 1869, a period of twenty-nine years.
In 1836 Prof. Samuel P. Pressly died. He had succeeded Dr. Stephen Olin as Professor of Moral Philosophy and Belles Lettres in 1833 upon the resignation of Dr. Olin and had filled that chair most acceptably during those three years. The trustees named his successor but subsequently withdrew the invitation, having found that the newly-elected professor did not meet the requirements of the position to which he had been elected. President Church took over this work for the college year.

At the annual 1837 meeting of the Board of Trustees it was decided to improve the rooms in the large college buildings by enclosing the recesses on each side of the chimneys so as to provide large closets in which wood could be stored for winter fuel. This may seem to be an item of minor importance, not worthy to be included in a history, but it was of anything but minor importance back there over a hundred years ago, and even sixty years ago played an important part in college life. We boys used to buy wood by the cord from the farmers, have it dumped on the ground in front of the building, bring forth our axes, cut it up into fireplace length and store it in those very closets provided in 1837 under this action of the Board of Trustees.

A few years since, before Old College was remodeled, I went over to see my old room in which I lived sixty years ago, and took a peep into one of these same old closets.

The Episcopal Church asked for permission to erect a building on University property. The request was granted and a few years later the church building was erected on the site now occupied by the Holman Hotel. That church building was used until a new stone structure was erected on Prince Avenue, where the congregation of Emmanuel Church now worship.

No statement is recorded as to who delivered the graduation orations in 1837, but the degree of A.B. was conferred on W. Bank, W.J. Bulloch,

Class of 1837

The class of 1837 was smaller than its predecessor. Only fifteen were graduated, while twenty-five attended from time to time and did not complete their work. In after life three of the graduates became ministers, seven lawyers, four legislators, four judges of the Superior Courts, one justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia, two congressmen, and one each as governor, professor, college president, physician, author, farmer, and assistant U.S. treasurer.

William Banks was a Baptist minister, P.L. James a professor in Mercer University, David W. Lewis a lawyer, legislator, Confederate States congressman, president of the North Georgia Agricultural College and trustee of the University of Georgia; George W. McCay was a Presbyterian minister, Albert Williams a Baptist minister, T.C. Cuyler and Augustus S. Wingfield lawyers.

Benjamin C. Pressey became a distinguished lawyer, served as Asst. Treasurer of the United States 1853–1860; Asst. Treasurer of the Confederate States 1862–1863; District Judge for South Carolina 1863–1873; author of "Law of Magistrates."

John Gill Shorter was a lawyer, member of the legislature, Judge of the Eighth Judicial Circuit of Alabama and Governor of that state.
JAMES JACKSON

The member of this class who probably achieved higher distinction than any of his classmates was James Jackson. He was a native born Georgian, born in 1820. The legal profession attracted him and he made quite a success at the bar. He served in the Georgia legislature and as judge of the Superior Courts of his circuit. He also saw service as a member of Congress. For a number of years he served with distinction as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia. Throughout his life he was deeply interested in education and much of his time and ability was devoted to improving the educational institutions of his state. He was for years a trustee of Emory College, a trustee of Wesleyan Female College, and a trustee of the University of Georgia. Nor did he neglect the interests of his church. He was a delegate to the Ecumenical Council in London, England. Much of the constructive work of the University of Georgia over a period of years was due to his care, his ability and executive direction as a member of the Board of Trustees.
The University had never provided for the regular teaching of history and social science, that is, had never established a separate chair for those subjects, and a number of years were still to pass before that work was to be given the dignity and importance of a separate professorship. But President Church, though he never gave up his idea that classical learning should dominate the curriculum, still had a forward look, and just at this time considered it a matter of importance that students in the University of Georgia should know more about the government under which they were living. So he recommended to the trustees and the trustees put his recommendation into effect that there be provided a course in the constitution of the United States and the general laws of nations. It may be noted that during the next few decades some of the best constitutional lawyers in the state were those who attended the University of Georgia as students. Whether or not this new course of study had anything to do with their future achievements may be open to debate, but it was an important step along the right line and no small start toward the right direction. At the present time an examination on both the federal and state constitutions is required by state law of all graduates to whom degrees are awarded.

President Church was likewise interested in the history of Georgia and urged the trustees to provide for the research necessary to the writing of the colonial history of the state. The trustees in reply said that "it was a task too great for the limited resources of the college, but an undertaking well worthy of the munificence of the state legislature." The proposition was brought to the attention of the legislature but nothing was done by that body and it was not until the opening days of the twentieth century that the legislature directed former Governor Allen D. Sandler to prepare this history. He spent several years in this work and a number of invaluable volumes were compiled and published.

The annual report of President Church was full of suggestions and recommendations, all looking to the betterment of the institution. He desired the
trusting to establish a boarding house for the students to solve the ever-
renovation problem of proper boarding facilities, but the trustees could not see
eye to eye with him on that proposition, and said: "The erection of a boarding
house, as suggested by the president, would be not only a troublesome but also
an expensive undertaking, and therefore falling within the objection already made
against those projects where inadequacy of means has compelled their relinquishment."

But something had to be done to meet the situation and the
trustees authorized the faculty to "grant permission to parents and guardians to
suffer their sons or wards to sleep out of college upon the application of such
parents or guardians, under such restrictions as the faculty may deem expedient."
This was a troublesome question that taxed the ingenuity of the faculty for more
than a half century, but finally met its solution when the University became able
to erect sufficient dormitory buildings and place them under proper supervision.

The trustees at this annual session must have been in a good
humor and disposed to look after the financial interests of the faculty members
rather than make improvements in the way of buildings. For in spite of the plea
of lack of money for some things, the salary of the president was raised from
$2500 to $3000 and the salaries of professors from $1600 to $2000. Three years
later, on account of the withdrawal of the $6000 annual appropriation from the
state, the salaries had to be sent tumbling in the other direction.

The state sent over that year a number of old newspapers
that were bound and put in the library. Some of these are still on the
shelves and are often referred to by research students. Mrs. P. Watkins at this
time donated sixty volumes of valuable books.
Department of Civil Engineering

President Church was fond of mathematics. He had taught that subject ten years during the administration of President Wad del. It was therefore natural for him to sense the need for training in civil engineering. Among his recommendations to the trustees was one that such a department be established in the University. The Board favored such a step, but declared that no money was available. However, at the meeting held the following November they decided to abolish the chair of Moral Philosophy, that is not to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Prof. Pressly in 1836, and at the same time to establish the chair of civil engineering.

To the professorship in the new department Charles F. McCay was elected and he served in that position five years until, on account of lack of finances this work was abandoned and not taken up with a regular professor in charge until 1867. The trustees, in adding civil engineering to the curriculum, said: "The study of civil engineering in the college shall not be required as a part of the regular course of the college, but it shall be the duty of the professor of that department to give instruction at such times as may be determined by the faculty, in the science to such of the students as may be desirous to form a class and to such as may be desirous to join such class, not being members of the college, these latter paying the regular fees of the college."

In spite of the fact that the civil engineering courses were thus made elective, a number of students enrolled and there was genuine regret in 1842 when the chair of civil engineering was abolished.

A more complete story of the Civil Engineering department will appear elsewhere in these pages.
On Aug. 1st, 1838 the graduating exercises were held. Oration were delivered by A.B. Fall, J.D. Sharpe, P.H. Shields, J.A. Bradley, J.J. Kendrick, J.H. Jones, E.P. Clayton, M.E. Bacon; the English salutatory by John LeConte, second honor; the Latin salutatory by Peter Winn, second honor, and an oration by W.P. Harrison, third honor. The leader of the class was Shelton F. Sanford, but first honor rating was also given to Benjamin M. Palmer and J.T. Irwin, who delivered orations. Mr. Irwin was given the privilege of making the valedictory address to the audience and Mr. Sanford delivered the valedictory to the graduating class. The degree of A.B. was conferred upon the above named speakers and upon the following members of the class: M. Anderson, L. Anderson, R. Donald, W.R. Gignilliat, W.R. Lowery, A.H. Matthews, A. Mosely, F. Phinizy and J.P. McMullen.

It is recorded in the minutes that "an honorable certificate of proficiency was then publicly conferred upon Williams Rutherford, a member of the graduating class, who had pursued with success the entire course with the exception of the Greek language." Later on he was given the honorary degree of Master of Arts. Mr. Rutherford evidently was more interested in mathematics than Greek for he became a great teacher of mathematics and filled that chair in the University of Georgia for almost forty years.

This class was a notable one. Quite a large number of its members achieved eminent success in life. There were twenty-six graduates and thirty-four who did not attend all the while and did not graduate. Out of the entire class in after life seven were ministers, six physicians, five legislators, five farmers, four authors, three lawyers, two college presidents, two college professors, one banker, one capitalist, one merchant and one cotton factor. The seven ministers were Edmund Anderson, William P. Harrison, J.J. Kendrick, James P. McMullen, B.M. Palmer, Peter Winn and R.Q. Way. The six physicians were Lewis F. Anderson, John LeConte, A. O. Mosely, W.H. Cumming, T.L. Lamar, W.R. Lowery. The two college presidents were Milton E. Bacon and John Le Conte.

William Hope Hull became a distinguished lawyer, was a member of the legislature and Solicitor of the U.S. Treasury. For ten years he was a member of the University Board of Trustees. He was one of the first professors of law in the University and more concerning him will appear in the account of the Lumpkin Law School.

Those who achieved the highest distinction in after life were John LeConte, Benjamin M. Palmer, Ferdinand Phinizy, Williams Hutton, and Shelton P. Sanford.

JOHN LeCONTE AND JOSEPH LeCONTE

Two of the most illustrious graduates of the University of Georgia were brothers, John and Joseph LeConte. Of them volumes might be written but space forbids more than a modest story of their lives. Both were possessed of great minds, both were students of conspicuous ability, both served as members of the faculty of their alma mater, both mounted the heights of scientific achievement, both spent the most effective years of their lives as members of the faculty of the University of California.

In one of the mountain fastnesses of the great Yosemite, according to
their wishes, amidst the tall pines, the mountain laurel and the varied wildflowers they loved so well may be found their graves. Here on the University of Georgia campus their memories are kept green and paid lasting honor through the magnificent building that houses the school of Biology and that bears their name——Le Conte Hall.

The ancestors of the LeContes were French Huguenots, who came to America and settled in New Rochelle. From there William Le Conte went to Martinique married Marguerite de Valleau and returned to New York where he died in 1710. His grandson, John Eatton Le Conte came to Georgia, located on his farm in Liberty county and lived to be eighty-three years of age. One of his sons, Louis Le Conte, born in Shrewsbury, New Jersey in 1782, was the father of the two LeContes of whose lives and achievements this is now written. An interesting account of the life of that worthy man is to be found in the autobiography of his son, Joseph Le Conte. His wife died in 1826 and he was so grief-stricken that it was feared that he would lose his mind.

As a background to the scientific work of his two sons, the following is quoted from Joseph Le Conte's autobiography:

"In the early part of his lonely life, in order to divert his thoughts from his grief, he fitted up several rooms in the attic, especially one large one, as a chemical laboratory. Day after day, and sometimes all day, when not too much busied in the administration of his large plantation, he occupied himself with experimenting there. I remember vividly how, when permitted to be present, we boys followed him about silently and on tiptoe; with what awe his furnaces and chaffers, his sand baths, matrasses and alembics, and his precipitations filled us! Always fond of nature and science in all departments, he now devoted himself more and more ardently to the making and cultivation of a botanical and floral garden. His knowledge of botany and chemistry was profound. His beautiful garden became celebrated all over the United States. He was
almost equally acquainted with other departments of science, especially zoology, physics and mathematics."

Such was the atmosphere in which the two LeConte boys were brought up. Naturally, it was not surprising that in later years they became great scientists.

John LeConte, who was five years older than his brother Joseph, was born in 1818. During his college days in Athens, the scientific bent of his mind was noticeable. He was a member of the Phi Kappa Literary Society, took interest in its meetings, but never became a finished debater. After graduation in the class of 1838, he determined to become a physician and accordingly entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York City. Graduating there, he married Miss Catherine Graham and from 1842 to 1846 was a well-known physician. But the call of science still influenced his life and in 1846 he accepted a position as Professor of Physics and Chemistry in the faculty of the University of Georgia, a position he filled until 1855, when he resigned. Just after he resigned he got into a controversy with President Church through the columns of the Southern Watchman, in which charges and counter charges flew thick and fast, an account of which will appear later on in describing the sensational days of 1855 and 1856 which wound up with the trustees calling for the resignation of all the members of the faculty.

He served as Professor of Physics in the University of South Carolina from 1856 to 1869. During the War Between the States he was superintendent of Nitre Works, C.S.A. In 1869 he became Professor of Physics in the University of California, in which position he served until his death in 1891. He did much in the way of developing that institution, then in its younger days, and served as its president from 1875 to 1881. During his life as a teacher, he was the author of a number of scientific papers. He was probably not so widely known as his brother Joseph, but the impress he left upon the educational world was just as deep.
Joseph LeConte was a graduate of the University of Georgia in the class of 1841. But it is just as well that the story of his life be told here, as he and his brother throughout their lives were so intimately associated with each other.

The autobiography of Joseph LeConte is so authoritative and so well-written that several quotations are taken from its pages by permission of its publishers, D. Appleton & Co.

The pre-college education of Joseph LeConte was such as could be obtained from the country school, supplemented by instruction given him by his father. These schools had a number of teachers at different times. Among them was Alexander H. Stephens. One usually thinks of Aleck Stephens as a statesman, but here are the remarks of Joseph LeConte about him as a teacher:

"His appearance at that time lives in my memory. He used to join us in our ball-playing. I see him now in his shirtsleeves, bat in hand, with his tall, slender form, frail and thin to meagerness, and his pale, corpse-like face. How he would laugh and shake his gaunt sides when he made a good strike, and still more when we beat him! One thing about him is especially worthy of mention as influencing his pupils for good, his utter detestation of lying, deceit and meanness of every kind. He never encouraged tale-bearing but always openly reproved it. He cultivated in his scholars the sense of self-respect and honor."

In those days much was said about drinking and gambling and carousing on the part of students in the University, and even at the present time there is no lack of criticism by some people who are not especially enamored of this institution, so it might be well to record the judgment of Joseph Le Conte, written almost at the end of his long life, so full of experience with college boys, as well as his knowledge of how they conduct themselves in the days of his own college life in the University of Georgia.

Said he:
"College students are not so bad as some seem to think. They never deliberately try to lead anyone astray. They simply seek congenial association. Indeed I believe that college is the safest of all places for young men. It is impossible always to remain in the bomb-proof of home. One must go out into the world and fight the battle of life. Now, college men are a picked set, far better and safer than the average."

In the University, Joseph LeConte was a member of the Phi Kappa Literary society. He paid this high compliment to the literary societies: "I have seen nothing in college since that time at all equal to these."

It should be remembered that at the time he wrote those lines he had seen the best that the University of California could boast.

Joseph LeConte was never happier than he was in the presence of ladies as evidenced by these words: "Perhaps women were to me then, and I confess to something of the same feeling yet, a sort of superior beings, belonging to another and purer sphere of existence. I simply worshipped them x x x x x x
In these days it has become the fashion to ridicule this romantic feeling towards women, but there can be no doubt it is the greatest of all safeguards of the purity of young men."

In 1840 Joseph LeConte was a Junior orator at commencement and in 1841 a Senior orator. He never claimed to be much of a public speaker. He was at his best while lecturing his classes or writing on some important scientific subject.

His favorite professor while in the University was Charles P. Mc Coy, to whom he was deeply attached and for whose ability he entertained the highest opinion. Speaking of Prof'. McCoy, he said: "There was but one man in the faculty who was in any way remarkably, and whose"
personality strongly impressed me, viz., Charles F. McCay. He was an excellent mathematician and well-versed also in physics. He was the most skillful oral examiner I ever knew; his Socratic method of drawing out knowledge or of exposing ignorance was really marvelous; I have never known anything like it. I was afterward, from 1853 to 1857, associated with him as a colleague, and became very intimately acquainted with him, and learned to admire him:

Now, there were other strong members of the faculty when Joseph LeConte was in the University as a student, but he was naturally drawn to McCay on account of his scientific mind. But McCay's methods did not suit many of the students, who at times came into serious collision with him.

In music, Joseph LeConte was passionately fond of flute-playing, and was himself an expert with the flute. His favorite poets were Milton and Burns, Milton for his love of music and Burns for his love of nature.

For several years after his graduation Joseph LeConte studied medicine and for a short while practiced his profession. He married, January 14, 1846, Elizabeth Nisbet, a niece of Eugenius A. Nisbet, one of Georgia's great jurists.

In 1850 he made up his mind definitely not to continue to practice medicine and decided that his life-work was to be that of a scientist and teacher. He and his cousin, William Lewis Jones, who had graduated from the University of Georgia in the Class of 1845, and was later on to serve for years as a member of the faculty of the University, went to Harvard and studied under the famous Louis Agassiz. They accompanied Agassiz on his visit to the Florida Keys where the coral formations were studied. He looked upon Agassiz as the great reformer in zoology and the perfector of the great method of organized science.

Here is his judgment on the work of Louis Agassiz: "1--Agassiz' work and Agassiz' method prepared the whole ground and laid the whole foundation for the modern doctrine of evolution: 2--Agassiz' work..."
and Agassiz' method laid the only foundation of a possible scientific sociology."

In 1851 Joseph LeConte was called to be a member of the faculty of Oglethorpe University, then at Midway, Ga., and served there until December 1852 when he became a member of the faculty of the University of Georgia. He was expected to teach geology, botany and French. He was competent to teach the first two, but knew little about French. In this situation, he took lessons under a Frenchman and later on was overjoyed when shortly after he had tried his hand in teaching French, a regular professor was elected for that department.

His judgment of his faculty colleagues was that his brother John's "scientific knowledge was the widest and most accurate" he had known, that McCoy was "a man of the clearest thought and most exact method" and that he had "little intellectual sympathy with Scherb and Henry Waddel." He left the University faculty in 1856 at the time when there was a re-adjustment of the faculty, a full account of which will appear at its proper place. He went to the University of South Carolina in 1857 as Professor of Chemistry and Geology. His brother John had gone from the University faculty in 1855 to take a lectureship in Chemistry in the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York.

The War Between the States came on and he continued his work with the University of South Carolina until that institution closed in 1864. His services were conspicuous as chemist of the Nitre and Mining Bureau. His account of his experiences from the burning of Columbia by Sherman's army through the days of Reconstruction in South Carolina are graphically portrayed in his autobiography.

In 1869 John and Joseph LeConte went to California to take part in the establishment of the University of California. There were eleven students with whom to make a start. "The University was completely organized by John, who was to act as president until the election of such officer by the regents." Later on, from 1875 to 1881 John LeConte served as president of that institution. Joseph LeConte served as a professor in the University of California from 1869.
until his death in 1901, a period of thirty-two years he became one of the
greatest scientists in America and the full story of his achievements in the
world of science would cover the pages of several volumes. He was a member of
the greatest scientific organizations, both national and international and the
author of many articles and books, including widely-used textbooks.

Joseph LeConte was one of the earliest scientists to advance and demonstrate the theory of evolution. In fact he was teaching it as far back as the early fifties in his classroom on the campus of the University of Georgia. He laid no claim to being its originator, but that he was one of its very earliest advocates there can be no doubt. It was unquestionably true that his views on that subject were quite antagonistic to those of President Church, of the University of Georgia and that the chief executive of the Georgia institution did not approve of such instruction on the part of one of his faculty members.

After referring to Swedenborg, Lamarck, Darwin, Huxley and Spencer, touching this subject, Joseph LeConte put down in print his own conclusion, that it was left to American thinkers to show that a materialistic implication is wholly unwarranted, that evolution is entirely consistent with a rational theism and with other fundamental religious beliefs.

He comes to the end of his autobiography with these words:

"I claim that I was the pioneer in the reaction against the materialistic and irreligious implication of the doctrine of evolution. I look with greater pleasure on this than on anything else that I have done. All, or nearly all, of my philosophic writings are more or less connected with the doctrine of evolution, and I regard these as among the most important of my writings."
The University of Georgia never made a greater contribution to the cause of education than the training it gave to Shelton Palmer Sanford, on whom it conferred the degree of Bachelor of Arts July 31, 1838, more than a century ago, and a few years later the degree of Master of Arts.

By reason of strength he lived beyond the four score milepost on life's journey, his intellect unclouded by the passing years and his active service in the classroom maintained almost to the end of his life.

His paternal ancestors were English. They came to America more than two centuries ago and settled in Virginia. His great-grandfather lived in Loudon county, the most northern county in the Old Dominion, bordering Maryland, west of Baltimore. In that county was born his grandfather, Jeremiah Sanford, and his father, Vincent Sanford. It was natural that such a historic region should furnish many courageous souls to the cause of the American Revolution, and among them was Jeremiah Sanford, a neighbor and intimate friend of George Washington, a soldier who fought by the side of his great commander and who was present with him at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown.

In the center of the Greensboro, Ga., cemetery stands the tomb of Jeremiah Sanford, with this inscription:

"Jeremiah Sanford, Born in Virginia Nov. 4, 1739, Died Aug. 11, 1825. He was a soldier of the Revolution, a friend of Washington, and an honest man."

The same monument carried an inscription to his son, Vincent Sanford, who was the father of Shelton P. Sanford, and who through a long life was a citizen of Georgia, an honored member of his community, and a man of recognized ability, honesty and integrity.

The parents of Shelton P. Sanford moved from Virginia to Georgia on 1810, locating in the town of Greensboro, and six years later, on January 25, 1816 Shelton Palmer Sanford was born. He was a sturdy boy, roaming the fields and engaging in the sports of his playmates, but never neglecting his studies. He was fond of reading and took advantage of every opportunity to read good books.
The educational facilities of Greensboro were not very plentiful, but he took advantage of all the opportunities afforded him. When he came to young manhood he betook himself of going to college. He had a young friend named Edwin Lawrence, who had graduated at Middlebury College up in Vermont. Now just at that time Alonzo Church, another graduate of Middlebury College, was making a name for himself as President of the University of Georgia, and young Lawrence urged Sanford to enter that institution, which he did in January 1835.

During his three years in the University he was a member of the Demosthenian Literary Society, and took more or less interest in debating, but his chief attention was paid to the study of the classics and mathematics, especially the latter.

No class in the history of the University furnished a larger percentage of its graduates who achieved high distinction in after life than the Class of 1838: Benjamin M. Palmer, the great Presbyterian divine, John LeConte, eminent scientist and president of the University of California, William Henry Cumming, statesman and minister from the United States to Japan, Ferdinand Phinizy, successful scientist and in his day the richest man in Georgia, Williams Rutherford, great teacher of mathematics, and others in different fields of endeavor.

It turned out that Sanford and Rutherford were to teach college mathematics all their lives. No doubt in those days of young manhood they worked together over many a mathematical problem on the University campus, that in the years to come they were to make clear to young students in their respective colleges.

Four members in the Class of 1838, under the rules and procedure of the faculty, shared first honor; Benjamin M Palmer, Isaiah Irwin, William Hope Hull and Shelton P. Sanford. As to the actual leader of the class, it must have been Sanford, for to him was accorded the honor of making the last speech at the graduating exercises, the valedictory to his class.
Prior to coming to the University he had three years of experience as a bookkeeper in Greensboro and had established a reputation for business judgment, common sense and honesty. A few months before graduation he had to decide a very important question. That decision fixed his life work. He had been offered the position of tutor in Mathematics in Mercer University and had told the authorities there that he would accept it. Mercer University was at that time located at Penfield, Greene county, only a few miles from his home in Greensboro. Shortly thereafter came from Augusta an offer of an appointment as an official in the Georgia Railroad Bank in Augusta. The bank offer was by far the best offer for the time being. It gave a fine opportunity for making money and for rising in the world of finance. It was a decision between a field that offered a chance for him to earn and accumulate money and eventual financial power, and a field of service that offered him a chance to serve thousands of young men who were in search of an education, but a field that offered little money compensation or, hope of achieving a future in the financial world. He had accepted the Mercer offer before he received the offer from the bank. He decided the question, as he did all other questions, along the line of duty. He had pledged his word to Mercer and he kept his pledge. No doubt he gave up fortune, but he made fame, and his influence for good in the lives of thousands of young men rounded out a great and good life.

In less than two years he was advanced from a tutorship to a professorship of mathematics and in that position he served fifty-two years. Even in the time of the War Between the States, after Mercer University had closed its doors, Dr. Sanford, then in middle life, remained and taught all the young men who could not serve in the army but who needed college training. He organized a company of students at the opening of the war, gave them thorough training and sent them to the front. There were eighty boys in that one company. They gave him a gold-headed walking cane on which the names of all
the members of the company were inscribed. He and Dr. Joseph Willet
arranged a quasi commencement in July and carried on until December when the
trustees began the rehabilitation of the college.

For several years after the close of the War Between the States,
"Dr. Sanford devoted much thought and time and attention to the writing of
mathematical text-books. In 1872 the text-books of Sanford's Analytical Series
were printed and put on sale. They were just what the schools had been looking
for all over the country, for more than thirty years they were preferred
above all others in the common schools of the country, both North and South. It
is no easy task to make the study of mathematics fascinating, yet so clear
was his treatment and so thorough his explanation of the difficult points that
he accomplished that very thing."

Just here the author leaves the historical story to insert a
personal judgment. All the arithmetic he ever learned was from the pages of
Sanford's Arithmetic. His judgment comes from actual experience and observation,
and to him it is clear beyond the least shadow of a doubt that no text-book
on Arithmetic has ever been published that is at all in its class. Assisting
in the training of his three children, as well as the children of friends
and neighbors, he can truthfully and confidently affirm that under the
Sanford method children can be taught arithmetic thoroughly and well in one-half
the time required by any other method. The educational world has no
doubt made progress during the last seven decades, but not in the teaching
of arithmetic.

Dr. Sanford received his mathematical training in the University
under Prof. Charles F. McCay, who was a mathematical genius and of whom much
has been written in this story of the University. At this time in the life
of the University the course in astronomy, as well as the laboratory
equipment, was even better than it is today.

Mercer University conferred on Dr. Sanford the honorary degree of
Doctor of Laws and he was nationally known as a lecturer long before the advent of the Chautauqua. One of his most interesting lectures was "The Romance of Mathematics." It would be difficult in these days and times to convince students that there is anything like romance in mathematics, but something like a century ago Shilton P Sanford knew how to turn that trick and his lecture on that subject was listened to with interest not only by the students at Mercer University and the citizens of Macon, but also in other parts of the country, North, East, South and West. Other institutions of large size and importance reached out in attempts to add him to their faculties, but when these calls came, in spite of the fact that some of them were very tempting, he always turned them down. He would not desert Mercer.

He never played in the limelight. He was modest and unassuming. No doubt he could have been president of Mercer University, but he always kept himself in the background. He did serve two years as acting head of the institution during the absence of President Nathaniel M. Crawford.

In 1840 Dr. Sanford was promoted from a tutorship in Mercer University to the full professorship of Mathematics. He then decided that he could afford to think about marrying. The choice of the young professor fell upon Maria F. Dickerman, a young lady from Boston, Massachusetts, who had been visiting in Georgia, and in that year she became his wife. His grandson, in later years, in commenting on the marriage of his grandparents, said: "The union of a slaveholder and a witch-burner was a queer combination." Yet it is true that probably few people have ever been so happily married.

Two children were born of that union, a daughter, Anna, who married A.J. Cheves, at that time a student at Mercer and later a prominent minister in the Rehoboth Association, and a son, Charles V. Sanford, who studied at Mercer, fought through four years of the War Between the States, and became the father of Steadman Vincent Sanford, Chancellor of the University System.
of Georgia for ten years, who also received his college training at Mercer.

Dr. Sanford was devoted to his work as a teacher and public life had no attractions for him, and yet he kept fully abreast of public movements at all times and had decided convictions thereon. He was a great believer in the Union and fought secession as long as it would do any good to fight it. When the crisis came and Georgia went out of the Union, like Ben Hill, Aleck Stephens and other Georgia statesmen, he threw his whole soul into the cause of the Confederacy, trained men for the cause and worked for it, and his only son fought during the entire war on the battlefields of Virginia.

He was fond of travel and every summer he and his wife would travel in different parts of the country. Saratoga Springs, N. Y. was a favorite with them and they spent many summers there.

He was fond of young men, gave them sound advice, made them feel at home, lent them money when they needed it to get through college, a great deal of which was never returned, but to that negligence he gave little attention.

He loved to meet and mingle with the boys he had once taught. When they came back to commencement his room was always full of them, for they invariably made it their headquarters. Richard Malcolm Johnston, the famous writer, was a member of the first class graduated from Mercer, and he came back at the fiftieth anniversary of the institution. Dr. Sanford at that time was still active and entertained him in his own home. It was a most pleasant event in the life of the old man who was then facing the western hills to join in conversation and reminiscence with one of the first students he had taught at Mercer.

A few quotations of opinions of those who knew him best will not be amiss just here:
From his grandson, Chancellor Steadman V. Sanford, of the University System of Georgia:

"He was a Chesterfield in manners and dressed immaculately from youth to old age. He was tall, erect, a soldier in his appearance, fond of humor, pleasing in his speech and in his approach, gentle as a girl and firm as a rock in his convictions. He was liberal in his views, never dogmatic, always sympathetic. All his life he conducted a class for young men in the Baptist Sunday School, and his class was always crowded. Nothing could keep him away from his duties at church. I think no man was ever so beloved as my grandfather by students and by everyone who knew him. Not because he was my grandfather, so I say it, but I honestly believe that he was the best man I ever knew or ever expect to know. This has been the verdict of thousands."

From Dr. E.T. Holmes, a member of the faculty and educational associate of Dr. Sanford:

"Prof. Sanford was a remarkable, picturesque character. The first thing that attracted a green boy to him was his courtesy and politeness. To the lowliest Freshman he was as gracious as if he had been conversing with some illustrious fellow-scientist. I remember a habit of his of always removing his hat whenever he passed a student or a group of students, and immediately the student would rise and tip his hat."

Dr. Holmes then tells another story about him.

"A tallish man, with a big frame, throughout his life Dr. Sanford was a great walker. A story is told of the Penfield days which illustrates both his ability as a pedestrian and his unfailing graciousness towards his wife. One afternoon he set out for a ramble through the village. His wife, needing a spool of thread and aware of his ambulatory talent, called out to ask if he was going to Greensboro, seven miles away. Such was not his intention, but he asked her what she required from Greensboro. "A spool of thread," she answered. "Well, my dear, I will walk over and get it."
And by nighfall he was back with the spool of thread.

"There was a spirit of dignity in his class room," said Dr. Holmes. Yet the students were always glad to go to class. He had a fine sense of humor. Through the years he had collected a fund of stories which he would occasionally tell to students, making characteristic gestures as he talked. Sometimes the students themselves would venture a jest, which the professor always enjoyed.

The many friends of Chancellor Sanford, who is one of the best raconteurs in the world, have often wondered to the source from which he received the marvelous gift of relating stories and cracking jokes. It must have come to him through inheritance, according to what Dr. Holmes had to say about his grandfather's collection of these stories.

The Memoirs of Adiel Sherwood by his daughter contain this statement concerning Dr. Sanford:

"His courtesy, amiability, persistent energy and proficiency in mathematics demand more epithets than I shall attempt to give."

In the Story of Georgia Baptists by Ragdale:

"Country Village. University for young men and Seminary for young ladies. Idyllic spot for poetry and dreams and romance. But romance and dreams refuse to give up to history their treasures and charms. Did the wise professors know of such things. One of two of them have fallen out."

"Gallant professors. Frail in body and in search of a balmy climate, a clever little Boston lady found a position as a music teacher at Madison and went with Professors Pierce and Chase to Penfield in January 1840. On July 30th following Maria Frances Dickerman became Mrs. Shelton P. Sanford. You have missed something if you never knew Maria."

On June 12, 1891, because of physical weakness, Dr. Sanford retired as an active member of the faculty but was elected professor emeritus. On Jan. 25, 1896, he celebrated his eightieth birthday anniversary. A few months
afterwards his physical forces began to give way. He was confined to his bed and his condition became so alarming that he was expected to die, but he rallied temporarily and for a time was on his feet again. Late in July however, after a visit to Indian Springs, he suffered a relapse, and on August 9, 1896 he died. In his death Georgia had lost one of its finest scholars and gentlemen, Mercer had lost the man who had served the institution longest and had done as much as any other to make it great.

In the face of such lives as that of Shelton P. Sanford and many other alumni of the University of Georgia, the product of the ability, the guidance, the training of the faculty; in the face of services he and others rendered Georgia and mankind, how pitifully insignificant the stories of occasional misconduct of students, of student disorders here and there, of occasional dissension among faculty members, of criticisms of inefficiency. Such men, numbered by the hundreds across the years, constituted the finished product of the University. They represent the true history of the institution and constitute its enduring monument.
In January 1837 there came to the University from the neighboring state of South Carolina a nineteen year old boy, who had already been to college in the north, had been expelled therefrom, had taught school and had come to Georgia to put the finishing touches on his education and get his coveted degree.

That boy was Benjamin M. Palmer, a native South Carolinian, having been born January 25, 1818, in Charleston, the son of Rev. Edward Palmer, who at his death in 1882 was the oldest living minister in the Southern Presbyterian Church. His ancestor, William Palmer, came to New England in 1621.

Young Palmer received his preliminary education in his own home, being prepared for college by his parents, and at the age of fourteen entered Amherst College. He was not what one would call a really handsome boy, but he had a large, well-shaped head with plenty of sense in it and character and firmness was stamped upon his features. He had no difficulty in leading his class the first year he was at Amherst, but in his second year he ran headlong into the faculty and the faculty came off on top. He was expelled and went back to his South Carolina home. The expulsion did not come about from any misbehavior or immorality. It was on account of his inflexible determination to stand by his convictions. Then as in after years it was seen that Ben Palmer might be argued with but never driven when a question of principle was involved. The faculty called upon him to disclose the secrets of an undergraduate society. He refused and defied the faculty. The faculty could not prise open his firmly closed lips. So he was told to go home. The University of Georgia has reason to be glad that he was expelled, for this institution gained a student who was destined to become one of its greatest alumni.

He was only a young boy but he went to teaching in a South Carolina school and served in that capacity nearly four years. They were years in which he studied and accumulated knowledge as well as imparting it to children who were in his charge. And thus, when he entered the University he was well-prepared, and during the eighteen months that he remained here he was a leader in the college community
and wound up his college career by being one of the first honor men in his class.

In 1841 he was married to Mary Augusta McConnell and in the same year was graduated from the Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Columbia, South Carolina. For two years he was pastor of the Presbyterian church in Savannah, and from 1843 to 1854 was pastor of the Presbyterian church in Columbia. While in that pastorate he founded the Southern Presbyterian Review in 1847. In 1854 he resigned as pastor and became a lecturer in the seminary.

In 1856 he went to New Orleans as pastor of the Presbyterian church, in which position he served forty-eight years and became the greatest of American Presbyterian ministers.

The Confederate war came on. Dr. Palmer was an ardent defender of slavery and an enthusiastic advocate of secession. He was three times the Presbyterian commissioner to the Confederate Army of the Tennessee. He never repudiated his Confederate beliefs. He accepted the results of the war but never admitted that he was wrong or apologized for his conduct during that struggle. He attended Confederate Veterans reunions and at the reunion in Louisville, Kentucky, after he had gone past the allotted three score and ten, still retained his old-time fire and delivered the principal address, during which he spoke what might well be called the last word on the right of the Southern States to secede. His address was published in full in the Confederate Veteran. It was simply unanswerable.

He was an orator of convincing power, was greatly interested in the relief of the Jews in Russia, and in educational circles was a trustee of Columbia Theological Seminary for fourteen years, a director of Southwestern Presbyterian University, Clarkesville, Tennessee, from 1873 on, a trustee of Tulane University from its founding in 1882 until his death in 1902. He wrote and published many articles on religious subjects.

Perhaps the most spectacular and most effective fight he ever made was that in which he defied and helped put out of business the infamous Louisiana State Lottery in 1891. It was a long, hard fight. It covered at least two years of active
effort. The Lottery was strongly entrenched in Louisiana and it took patience, energy and bulldog courage to give it a death blow. But Dr. Palmer possessed all these powers and used them. He was a man who never gave up when he set his teeth. Some have said that practically singlehanded he rid Louisiana and the nation of that foul organization.

In 1901 he came back to Athens to celebrate with his alumni friends the centennial of his Alma Mater. On that occasion he preached the centennial sermon, an account of which appears elsewhere in the story of the Centennial Commencement.

He was in the best of health at that time, although he had passed his eighty-third birthday. He gave promise of other years of service, but, unknown to him the sands in the hour glass had almost run out. In another year he had passed on. He died in New Orleans May 28, 1902, after having been struck by a street car on one of the streets of that city.

SEEING A HUMAN SOUL

Did you, kind reader, ever see a human soul? The writer saw one once, and he was sober and in his right mind when he saw it. It may have nothing to do with the history of the University of Georgia, but it fits in very well right here, for the soul that he saw with his very eyes was the soul of Benjamin M. Palmer, the great Georgia alumnus, of whom he has just been writing.

Many years ago Dr. Julius W. Walden was being ordained as pastor of the First Presbyterian church in Athens. Dr. Palmer had been selected to preach the ordination sermon. The writer was then editor of the Athens Banner and was interested in getting a good report of that sermon.

I had never seen Dr. Palmer, but on the Saturday preceding the day of ordination I passed an old man on the street whom I took to be the distinguished preacher from New Orleans. On inquiry I found that I was correct in my surmise.

That old man was not a beauty by any means. In fact he impressed me as being decidedly ugly. He was of moderate height, rather chunky build, broad shoulders, decided stooped. His head was large, his hair somewhat shaggy as I now remember.
His face was rough and lined.

On that Sunday morning I sat in the gallery where I had plenty of room for my writing pad on which I was prepared to take down his remarks. I was in full view of the pulpit. I saw him when he arose and announced his text: "God forbid that I should glory save in the cross of Jesus Christ, the Lord." It was the same old man of ugly looks and stooped shoulders I had seen the day before. He seemed to be anything but impressive.

He had preached about five minutes when I had a queer sensation. I rubbed my eyes to see what it was that had changed the vision. The ugly, rather hump-shouldered old man had disappeared from the pulpit. The preacher that was now thundering forth his message was a man fully six feet high. There wasn't a wrinkle on his face. His hair no longer had a shaggy appearance but was smooth and shining. His eyes no longer had the look of tired age. They were bright and lustrous. He was one of the handsomest men I had ever seen.

It was not a delusion, it was not simply the result of personal magnetism, whatever that may be. There was something supernatural in the appearance.

Whatever others may think, of this I am quite certain in my own belief: I was not looking at Benjamin W. Palmer's fleshly form. I was looking at his soul.
FERDINAND PHINIZY

Among the graduates in the Class of 1838 was one who, in the years to come, was to achieve great success in the financial world and to become probably the wealthiest citizen of Georgia at the time of his death in 1889. This young man was Ferdinand Phinizy.

The grandfather of this young man was Ferdinand Victor Francois Phinizy, born in 1760 in Parma, Italy, educated for military life in France, came to America in 1777 to fight with the American Colonials, took part in the battles around Savannah, was with Washington's army at Yorktown, and was discharged from service January 14, 1784. Soon after that time he married Margaret Congdon. He came to Augusta, Georgia, where he became a prosperous merchant. In the closing days of the eighteenth century he moved to Oglethorpe county, Georgia, building him a splendid residence a few miles from Lexington. In 1800 he moved to Augusta. By that time he had prospered in his mercantile operations and had accumulated a neat fortune. There he became a banker and from that day to this the name of Phinizy has been associated with all banking operations in that city. In the records of the opening year of the University his name frequently appears in connection with business transactions with the Trustees. He died October 19, 1818, while on a visit to his son, John, in Oglethorpe County. His estate was estimated to be worth $120,000. Five children were born to Ferdinand and Margaret Phinizy, of whom a son, Jacob, was the father of the subject of this sketch.

Jacob Phinizy was a planter in Oglethorpe County. He was a man of strong business intellect and had ample funds with which to give his children splendid educational advantages. He moved to Athens in order to give them that educational training, and his son, Ferdinand, entering the University of Georgia in 1834, graduated in the Class of 1838.

The college life of young Phinizy was that of a careful, industrious student. He had a business intellect like his father, and applied himself to his chosen
field of labor with success. Real estate, cotton, banks, railroads appealed to
him and across the years he was eminently successful. Counting in what he gave
directly to his children before his death, he must have accumulated around three
million dollars, which was a very large fortune in Georgia a half century ago.

The late Chief-Justice Richard B. Russell told the writer about a conversa-
tion he had had in the days of his young manhood with Mr. Phinizy, who was then
one of the state's leading financiers. He said that one day he met Mr. Phinizy
on Broad street and asked him the direct question as to how he had been so success-
ful in his real estate transaction and that Mr. Phinizy replied; "Dick, I can give
you a rule as to real estate that will yield you good results if you will stick
to it. It may not always work well, but averaged up over a number of years it will
not fail you. The rule is very simple. When you find everybody wants to sell
real estate, that is the time for you to buy; if everybody wants to buy, then you
should sell." Judge Russell said that Mr. Phinizy looked down brown street and
pointed to a certain brick store. "You see that store building, Dick? I have
owned it five different times and in the five transactions, buying and selling
under the rule I have given you, I made the value of the building as clear profit."

Mr. Phinizy was a very democratic man. He had an elegant home on Milledge
Avenue and an attractive summer home about a mile beyond the city limits. He
addressed neatly and with the members of his family moved in the best of Athens and
Georgia society. But there were times when his inborn democracy would assert itself.
He might be sitting on his front porch in the summer and a farmer friend would be
approaching in his shirt sleeves and farm overalls. Mr. Phinizy would get up and
go in the house and come out in his shirt sleeves. Presently dinner time, and he
would invite his farmer friend to come in to dinner with him. Some of Mr. Phinizy's
young sons would be coming to the table and see this farmer guest. They would go
cut into the hall and get rid of their coats and come to the dinner table in their
shirt sleeves. He saw to it that none of his friends were ever embarrassed in his
home, whatever kind of clothes they were wearing. He and his sons must conform
to the appearance of the guest.

Mr. Phinizy was always a man of sound morals and temperate habits, but he never joined the church until he was past sixty years of age. Judge Young L. G. Harris, president of the Southern Mutual Insurance Company, once told the writer the story of how Mr. Phinizy came to join the Methodist church.

Said Judge Harris: "One day, just after the Board of Directors of the Southern Mutual had adjourned its meeting, Mr. Phinizy, who had been a member of the Board a number of years and who was my strong personal friend, came into my office and said: 'Young, I have a question to ask and I know you will give me an honest answer. The question is, can a man be saved without joining a church.'"

"Yes, Ferdy, a man can be saved without joining a church." And Judge Harris was qualified to give the answer, for he was one of the best and most prominent members of the Methodist church in Georgia.

Mr. Phinizy seemed to be satisfied, for he was not a member of the church at that time.

"But, Ferdy," continued Judge Harris, "you can't. You occupy a high position in Athens; young men who need to join the church will look to you as an example and say that such a step is not necessary because Mr. Phinizy hadn't take it. You will be standing in their way. I rather believe you will have to join the church."

"You may be right, Young. I'll think about it," replied Mr. Phinizy.

About three weeks later, Mr. Phinizy went again into Judge Harris' office.

"Young, I have given that matter due consideration. You were eight. I am going to join the church." And he did.

In selecting the church that he would join, music came into the mental deliberations. Mr. Phinizy had a distinct aversion to musical instruments in a church, so he joined at the Boggs Chapel Methodist Church nearby his country home. There were no musical instruments there.

When Mr. Phinizy died one section of his will gave two thousand dollars to Boggs Chapel and two thousand dollars to Oconee Street Methodist Church, conditioned..."
on their never using musical instruments in church services. Boggs Chapel accepted the gift and has observed the terms of the gift. Oconee Street Church rejected the gift and has the musical instruments.

Mr. Phinizy reared a large family and his children have played a prominent part in their respective fields of labor. His first wife was Miss Harriet Bowdre. Their children were an only daughter, wife of the late Dr. Abner W. Calhoun, of Atlanta, and sons, Stewart, Leonard, Jacob, Marion and Billups. The three former were prominently connected with the banking business in Augusta, Georgia. Billups Phinizy was for a long time an Athens cotton factor and banker and during the latter years of his life was President of the Southern Mutual Insurance Company.

Mr. Phinizy's second wife was Miss Ann Barrett. Their two children were two sons, Barrett and Charles H. Barrett Phinizy, now dead, was a well-known insurance man. Charles H. Phinizy has for a number of years been President of the Georgia Railroad and Banking Company, of Augusta, Georgia.

WILLIAMS RUTHERFORD

The biography of William Rutherford will appear in the future of the book devoted to the administrators of Chevalier Hall.
Session of 1838--1839

The affairs of the University were moving along smoothly and the Trustees got into the habit of absenting themselves from meetings. This may have pleased the faculty, the members of which were doing their work satisfactorily and were not bothered with new trustee regulations. The trustee sessions of Nov. 1837, July 1838, and Nov. 1838 were held without a quorum of members present, and it was not until August 1839 that a quorum answered to their names. At that session the minutes of the three preceding sessions were read and approved so as to make all actions taken legal, except as to the sale of certain lots of land.

At the session of Nov. 1838 N H. Wood was elected as tutor and the police duties formerly performed by Prof. McCay were laid upon his shoulders. No doubt this gave Prof McCay much joy, for he never was enamored of such work. Prof Wood remained as tutor nine years and then became an adjunct professor. During that time the boys gave him plenty to do, both as teacher and police officer.

The tuition fee was fixed at $40 per annum and a library fee of $10 was authorized. These fees varied ever and anon, sometimes being entirely abolished and sometimes rising to higher figures. Present fees are about three times as large, but there is a desire on the part of the governing body to largely reduce them, if the state will make good the financial loss that would result.

Clergymen as Trustees

The minutes of the Board of Trustees contain the following paragraph:

"On motion of Dr. Tinsley, Resolved, that so much of the president's communication as relates to the filling of vacancies on the Board with clergymen be referred to a select committee." This committee was named: Messrs. Tinsley, Hamilton, Schley, Harri and Lumpkin.

Just what the recommendation of the president was on that subject goes
net appear in the minutes and the original report of President Church has long since disappeared, if indeed it was ever kept for any length of time.

Knowing the president's great devotion to religion and the ministry and his constant effort to lead the boys in the correct and religious life, the inference is that he wanted six clergymen on the Board. No further reference is made as to this committee that was appointed to consider the matter. In view of what the trustees did not naming the new trustees it is likely that the committee never held a meeting.

Evidently the Trustees did not agree with President Church that clergymen should be elected, for the very next paragraph in the minutes was:

"The Board next proceeded to the election of six trustees to fill the vacancies caused by the resignation of Messrs. Hook, Cobb and Habersham, and the death of Messrs. Prince, Thomas and Clayton, when it appeared that William C. Dawson, Charles Dougherty, Jesse Cleveland, Thomas W. Harris, Charles J. Jenkins and John P. King, Esquires, were duly elected." Five out of the six were lawyers and none of them a minister.

The trustees expressed their disappointment over the small number of books purchased for the library out of the thousand dollar appropriation that had been made the year before, and directed that the unexpended balance be used, this time under the direction of the faculty. Somebody had gone to sleep on the job and the trustees gave them a prod that woke them up.

President Church had a great desire to build a few houses on the campus to be used as residences by the professors, and had brought this to the attention of the trustees. He firmly believed that it was necessary for the professors to live near the students in order to preserve good order and enforce discipline. He believed in making the boys walk the chalk line as to behavior and it might be said that he expected the professors to do the same thing. A strict observance of the rules of the colleges was one thing that he insisted on. The trustees considered the question and, while approving the proposition,
decided that the state of the college funds would not authorize the expenditure of the necessary amount of money. Dr. Church, however, was determined to get those houses, and when he made up his mind on any plan of procedure he never gave it up entirely. He kept plugging away and several years later the houses for professors were erected.

The Athens Mechanics Mutual Aid Society asked for the donation of a lot of land, on which to erect a school house. The report of the trustees' committee on the application covered several pages of fine writing, every detail as to legal authority being reviewed, and wound up by declining the request, since the trustees did not have the legal authority to grant it.

At the annual commencement the number of speakers from the Senior Class was limited to the six honor men, no doubt to the great delight of trustees, faculty and citizens attending the exercises, as on one previous occasion it had required two successive days to get around the orations from practically all the members of the graduating class. The orations delivered that commencement by the Seniors were by W. H. Babsey, fourth honor; J. S. Fielder, third honor; B. F. Whitner and Joseph B. Jones, second honor, and A. S. Atkinson and Robert P. Tripp, fifth honor. Mr. Tripp enjoyed the distinction of being the valedictorian. The degree of A.B. was conferred upon those gentlemen and the other members of the class, B. A. Brown, P. Johnston, Thomas C. Mitchell, John Phinizy and Alexander Speer. The degree of D.D. was conferred on Rev. William Preston, of Savannah, Ga., but the usual large number of honorary A. M. degrees were conspicuous for their absence at this commencement.

Class of 1839

The graduates of the Class of 1839 numbered only twelve, a very much smaller number than usual. There were thirty other members of the class who did not go through to graduation.

Law, farming, legislative and judicial service and Congress seemed
to have been the attraction in after life. Eight became lawyers, nine farmers, eight legislators, two justices of the Supreme Court of Georgia and two congressmen. The eight lawyers were Alex B. Atkinson, W. H. Embrey, Jesse Velder, Joseph E. Jones, John Phinizy, Alexander H. Speer, Robert P. Trippe and Peter E. Love. The nine farmers were B. A. Brown, Jesse Velder, Joseph E. Jones, E. P. Whitner, F. C. Baldwin, Edward Cox, Matthew Cox, S. H. Cox and W. J. Whaley. The two justices of the Supreme Court were Alexander H. Speer and Robert P. Trippe. The two congressmen were Robert P. Trippe and Peter E. Love, Thomas C. Hibbet became a manufacturer and Joseph P. Stevens a physician.

The member of the class to achieve highest distinction in after life was the first honor man, Robert P. Trippe.

Robert P. Trippe was born Dec. 31, 1819, living born, four score, saw the opening of the twentieth century. His boyhood days were spent near Culloden, Ga., his father at a later date moving to Jasper county. He first entered Randolph-Macon College in Virginia but remained there only a term or two and then came to the University of Georgia. He was a member of the Phi Kappa Society, a ready debater, an excellent and popular student. He was admitted to the bar in 1840. In Dec. 1842 he was married to Miss Ovama O'Neal, of Forsyth, Ga. He was a Whig in politics and was elected as a member of the Georgia house of representatives in 1849 and was re-elected in 1851. In 1852 he ran for Congress and was defeated by David J. Bailey. In 1854 he was elected to Congress by a large majority and was re-elected in 1856. He was a talented and ready speaker and took an active part in the great debate of those days preceding the War Between the States. He returned to Georgia and was a member of the Georgia senate in 1860.

During the War Between the States he served as a member of the Confederate Congress. While holding that office he became convinced that he
ought to fight in the Confederate army. He volunteered as a private soldier and went to the front. He did not resign his seat in the Confederate congress, and, whenever the duties at the front would permit, he secured a short furlough and came back to serve as a Confederate congressman.

In 1873 he was appointed by Governor Smith as a member of the Supreme Court of Georgia to succeed Judge Montgomery. He served in that office until 1875, when he resigned and returned to the practice of law. He was succeeded on the Supreme Court by Logan E. Bleckley, who, as a thirteen year old boy, had been present during the session of Rabun Superior Court in 1840 when Judge Trippe was admitted to the bar, and had seen his father, James Bleckley, clerk of the Rabun court, sign Mr. Trippe's commission to plead and practice law.

Judge Trippe, in the years of his advanced age, delighted in reminiscing and was always the center of attraction as a conversationalist. He was the soul of chivalry and so courteous and obliging that he was a great favorite in those days with the ladies who delighted to gather around him and hear the old man tell most interesting stories as they came down to him from memoryland.
On Oct. 28, 1835 there was a sensation on the University campus. A member of the faculty had so far lost his poise as to send a challenge to a citizen of Athens to fight a duel, and the challenge had been accepted. The parties met in the old cemetery, but friends succeeded in stopping the affair before any shots were fired.

The professor was Charles F. McCay, in charge of the department of Civil Engineering; the other principal was William D. Baring, a young physician living in Athens and a member of one of the best-known families in that city.

McCay had been connected with the University faculty for several years. He had started out as a tutor and on account of his ability had become a full professor. He remained a useful member of the faculty fourteen years after this sensational incident.

He was a man of strong intellect and in his field was unexcelled. He made his students toe the mark and if they were up to any devilment they were sure to be found out by the alert professor. All that didn't lead to popularity with the students and he had trouble with them on several occasions. All agreed that he was an able teacher and anger him they received invaluable training, but nevertheless he was not well-liked by the boys, chiefly because he was exacting and would not let them do as they pleased.

A.L. Hall, in his "Annals of Athens" says of him: "He was a fine scholar and an exacting teacher. He was sure to find out all a student didn't know about the lesson. He seemed to take genuine delight in 'busting' a boy and showed no sympathy for him when he was down. Withal he was a conscientious professor, a strict disciplinarian and a fearless police officer. Naturally, he was unpopular with the students, and many were the attacks on his wet through his windows on dark nights, when he roomed in New College."

In Oct. 1839 a crowd of students decided to pay his room a visit. Under the rules of the University he had paid their rooms many visits to
see whether they were engaged in anything contrary to the laws of the institution. So they decided to return his calls. However, they did not go to find out what he was doing. They made a particular point to go at a time when he would not be there.

Thus on that October night they broke into his room in New College, gathered up his clothing, books, bedding and manuscripts, carried them out back of New College on what was later on known as Herty Field, and made a bonfire out of them. Many have been the bonfires that have blazed on that field while elated Georgia students danced around like wild Indians as they celebrated athletic victories, chiefly those over Georgia Tech, but that was the only time when a professor's belongings constituted all of the fuel that was used.

Of course Prof. McCay was outraged and the other members of the faculty felt the same way about it. Prompt investigation was made to get at the real offenders, but the investigation ended as most such inquiries end, in nothing definite being learned. There were plenty of students dancing around that fire, but when put on the stand all of them declared themselves as innocent as lambs, stating that they were out there trying to put out the fire.

In some way suspicion rested on Alfred L. Dearing, a young student, the son of William Dearing, one of the leading citizens of Athens, and someone sent an anonymous letter to Mr. Dearing, accusing his son of guilt in this outrageous performance. Later on young Mr. Dearing was shown to have been innocent of the charge.

William E. Dearing, an elder brother, believed that Prof. McCay had sent that note to his father and made severe remarks about him. Some rough correspondence followed, and McCay, considering himself insulted, sent a challenge to William E. Dearing, which was accepted. The arrangements were made for the duel, but there was a leakage of news somewhere and when the two
principals met in the old cemetery just across Jackson Street from the main campus, friends were there to put a stop to the proposed bloodthirsty proceedings and no shots were fired.

By the time McCay got back to his room he realized that he had acted indiscreetly in sending the challenge and that his conduct was to be severely condemned by the Trustees. He at once wrote a letter to the Prudential Committee resigning his position in the faculty. The committee asked him to continue teaching until commencement in August 1940, at which time the Board of Trustees could make a final decision.

Feeling among the members of the Board was about evenly balanced. Some wanted to accept the resignation and others believed McCay should be kept in the faculty as he had repented of his action, and was a very valuable man in his work.

A special committee of the Board was named to investigate and make its recommendations. The chairman of that committee was Charles Jenkins, an alumnus of the Class of 1819, who afterwards became governor of Georgia and who was destined to serve on the Board of Trustees a period of forty-five years. Here is the report his committee presented to the Board:

"On the 17th of October 1839, Prof. McCay by a written communication inquired of the Prudential Committee whether or not they desired that he should discontinue to discharge the duties of his office on account of his having given a challenge to fight a duel with a citizen of this place and in consequence of the occurrence which ensued therefrom. Though not informed by the document referred to what the ensuing occurrences were, the committee believe it is perfectly notorious that the challenge was accepted and that the parties actually met with hostile intent within sight of the college edifice.

"In conformity with the advice of the Prudential Committee, on the same day Mr. McCay tendered his resignation with a view to have it submitted to the Board of Trustees at their meeting for their final action thereon."
"On 9th of January, 1840, the Prudential Committee requested Prof McCay to proceed in the duties of his professorship until the Board of Trustees should have decided on the acceptance or rejection of his resignation.

"It is abundantly clear that the resignation was not induced by any wish to disconnect himself with the institution, but was the unprompted suggestion of his own sense of propriety as the most appropriate method of bringing this novel question before the Board from which emanated his appointment to office.

"If the circumstances of the case develop nothing incompatible with the duties of his station, the resignation should promptly accepted. The practical question above stated involves unveiled in its length and breadth the abstract question: Is the practice of dueling compatible with the office of instruction of youth? Three considerations have brought the members of the committee to a negative answer. 1st. If you tolerate the practice among the faculty, there is no reasonable probability that you can suppress it among the students. If this proposition can be maintained, it would seem to be conclusive on the subject, for whatever may be said in defense of the practice among men, it will hardly be contended that boys, congregated for the purpose of education, should be permitted to refer the petty quarrels which daily spring up, from honorable competition in the lecture room or spirited struggle in the campus sports, to the arbitrament of the sword or pistol. College regulations must be sensible, must be defensible on principle to be effective, hence no practice should be tolerated in the faculty appertaining either to the duties and privileges of citizenship nor to the matters of business, which are necessarily inhibited absolutely to the pupils under their charge. Young men who have passed the meridian of college life invariably feel stirring within them the aspirations of mature manhood. They essay to think, to act as men. They consider onerous all regulations which restrict them in perfect exercise of the privileges and the full fruition of the rights of man. They strive to..."
anticipate what time has in reserve for them, but too grudgingly postpones, and their ardent indignations are especially fascinated by the punctilious honor and the desperate doings of the duelist. In their eyes the immorality of the practice is merged in the exciting romance: its fatal consequences are overbalanced in view of the courage it is supposed to imply and the charming notoriety it confers. Hence even now they do sometimes set at naught the influence of example and the penalty of expulsion in maintenance of honor. Surely then they need not the encouragement of your countenance nor the practical sanction of those especially deputed as their instructors in science and their example in conduct. Most certainly they require all the restraints which your regulations can superadd to the sanction of law.

"2nd. Your committee consider it the bounden duty of this Board to regulate and govern the University as to commend it to the favor and patronage of all worthy men, whose good fortune it is to be fathers of sons. It cannot be disguised that the recognition of the principle involved in the rejection of Prof. McCay's resignation would forfeit the confidence of the religious part of the community. Should you succeed in suppressing the practice among the students whilst permitted to their instructors, with what impression on the subject would they go forth from your walls to the actual scenes of life? Would you expect to find among them any other than professed duelists? Would they be likely to repudiate a code sanctioned by the Board of Trustees and practiced by the faculty of their Alma Mater? If you give this sanction, if you establish this preceident, what claim have you to the confidence and patronage of that large class of most worthy men who desire to see their sons regulate their conduct by that law whose end is 'peace on earth and good will to men'?"

3rd. The alumni of the University should be introduced into the world as law-abiding men. Dulling is prohibited by the penal code of Georgia.
and the sanction of the prohibition is capital punishment. If, in the face of this law, you wink at its violation by one of your instructors, how baneful the lesson you inculcate in the youths of the seminary. They now await in anxious suspense your decision. They will trace out its results. They will investigate the principles it involves. By yielding ourselves to the dictates of a generous but mistaken sympathy, the Board may unwittingly sow in many a youthful breast the seeds of error which in due time may yield the fruits of sorrow.

"Deeply grieved that so worthy a man and so able an officer should have been betrayed into an act that can neither be justified nor excused without an abandonment of duty on our part, the committee feel themselves constrained to recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

"Resolved, That this Board highly appreciate the services rendered by Prof. McCay to the University of Georgia and deplore the necessity which dissolves his connection with it.

"Resolved, further, that Prof. McCay's resignation of his office in Franklin College be accepted, and the action of the Prudential committee regarding the payment of his salary to the present time be confirmed."

Thus it seemed that the skids were being put under Prof. McCay and that he would soon be traveling away from the University of Georgia. But there were some on the Board who did not agree with the report of the committee and Judge Harris offered the following as a substitute:

"Whereas a difficulty occurred some time last fall between Prof. McCay and Mr. William E. Dearing, a citizen of the town of Athens, which resulted in a challenge by the former which was accepted, but the parties were prevented from meeting by the interference of some of the citizens of Athens, and whereas the said McCay, in conformity with a suggestion made by the Prudential Committee, tendered his resignation as a professor in College, which said resignation with all the circumstances as to the original dispute has been laid before the Board for its final action, from which it appears..."
that the room of Prof. McCay was entered during his absence, and his property, consisting of books, manuscripts, bed, etc, was taken therefrom and committed to the flames, that pending the inquiry into the said transaction some person addressed a letter to Mr. William Dearing, Sr., charging one of his sons with being concerned—Mr. Dearing, Jr. called on Prof. McCay to know if he had written said anonymous letter—Prof. McCay denied all knowledge—This opened a door for correspondence, which was conducted as to be well-calculated to excite and irritate Mr. McCay, and who, while thus excited and irritated, yielding to the suggestion and advice of some friends, gave the challenge.

"The foregoing is the simple narration of the facts and Prof. McCay states expressly that dueling, both in theory and practice, is repulsive to all his feelings and he believes wholly inexcusable under any circumstances, that he does not attempt to justify or excuse said act, and the only palliated offered is the wanton injury committed on his property, the insult offered and repeated the excited feeling produced in consequence thereof and the yielding to the suggestions of those he considered as friends, instead of exercising his own judgment, and that he does most deeply and sincerely regret his having so yielded:

"The Board, fully concurring in the sentiment expressed by Mr. McCay, in relation to the practice, would, if the act was unrepented of, without hesitation vacate the office, yet when his deep contrition is made known to us under a full view of all the circumstances, and considering his high literary attainments, his excellent and unblemished character (except in this one instance), the Board while it condemns the said act, as alike contrary to the laws of God and man, are disposed to be lenient and to permit him to retain his chair. Therefore, Resolved, that Prof. McCay have leave to withdraw his resignation."

The line was squarely drawn, the debate was heated, and it was known that the vote on Judge Harris' substitute would be close. The
and nays were called for.

Those who voted for the substitute were: Camak, Dougherty, T.W. Harris, Jackson, Paine, Cooper and Groves—8

Those who voted against the substitute were: Gilmer, Harden, Jenkins, Lumpkin, McDonald, Reese and Tingley—7

So the substitute was adopted. Prof. McCall withdrew his resignation and served thereafter as a member of the faculty for fourteen years. The gloomy predictions of the committee never came to pass. While no doubt there were critics of the University who disapproved the retention of Prof. McCoy in the University faculty and rolled the whole occurrence as a sweet morsel under their tongues, no sentiment in favor of dueling arose in the faculty or the student body. More than a century has elapsed since those days and no such sentiment has ever arisen. During all that time there is of record only one instance where students attempted to pull off a duel and that attempt failed. In that instance the offending parties apologized for their conduct and were allowed to remain in the University, and no bad result came from the leniency of the faculty and trustees.
The trustees in Nov. 1839 failed to have a quorum of the members in attendance and could not hold a meeting. They went right after the legislature again with insistence that the number of members required for a quorum be reduced and the legislature was at last prevailed on to grant the request so on August 3, 1840, at the next annual commencement, under the provision of the new law, the Board held a session for the transaction of business.

Strict economy had been observed in the management of the affairs of the University and the year had ended with a surplus of $8959.63 in the treasury. President Church wanted some additional instructors and friends of the library were asking for more money. The trustees said that nothing along that line could be done until the annual state appropriation of $6000 was fixed securely for the college.

The Act of 1830 provided for the payment of that sum annually until the legislature ordered its discontinuance. There had been some talk about such a step being taken and the trustees were in doubt about the future action of the legislature. As it turned out their doubts were well-founded, for just one year later the blow fell and the University had to revise its budget.

Class of 1840

Further than routine work nothing was done at this session of the Board save the discussion of the McCay-Bearing duel affair, of which an account has been given, and the granting of degrees to the graduating class. The degree of A.B. was conferred on John W. Quartermah, first honor, Jeremiah Kendall, first honor, William J. Perdue, first honor, A.L. Borders, second honor, A. Milton Graham, third honor, S.W. Baker, fourth honor, Andrew Baxter, E.P. Bonner. James Brownlee, J.H. Hoehl, Louis A. Goseke, C.B. Gray, W.H. Mosely, Joseph D. Pope, T.P. Saffold, T.S. Stevens, T.O. Vernon, William Williams and William W Winn. No honorary degrees were conferred.

Twenty men graduated in this class and thirty did not complete their work. The law, the ministry and the farm claimed the attention of the majority.
of this class in after life. While none of the graduates achieved great eminence, their average attainments were most creditable, a few of them achieving distinction.

Eight became lawyers: Gonza, Greene, Kendall, Mosely, Pope, Saffold, Vernon and Bonner. Five became ministers, borders, Echols, Perdue, Quarterman, and Williams. Eight were attracted by country life and became successful planters, Baxter, Saffold, Bonner, Dowdre, Fortman, Phinizy, Pope and White. Boykin and Bonner became physicians, Greene and Vernon judges of the Superior Court, Kendall and Pope legislators, Dearing and Pope bankers. One went into each of the following callings, teaching engineering and business.

Session of 1840--1841

At the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees in August 1841, the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred on two ministers who in life achieved a great success in their chosen field of labor. Rev. Nathan Hoyt, who was pastor of the Athens Presbyterian church from 1830 to 1866, a period of thirty-six years, and grandfather of Ellen Axson, who became to first wife of Woodrow Wilson, president of the United States, and Rev. Stephen Elliott, who served as the beloved Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Georgia.

Acknowledgment was made of the gift of a large number of books by President Church and Prof. Waddel.

It had now become apparent that the income of the University would suffer a loss of $6000 per annum as the state was not disposed to continue its appropriation and there was nothing for the trustees to do but prepare to meet the blow when it came. So a special committee was named to study the question and report at the annual session in August 1842 as to the best plan for the re-organization of the faculty.

The orations on Commencement Day, Aug. 3, 1840 were delivered in the chapel by the following members of the graduating class:
G. A. Mallette, 2nd honor, Latin Salutatory
Luther J. Glenn, 2nd honor
Henry Newton
Joseph LeConte, 3rd honor
Thomas S. Winn
Zachariah L. Nabors
Louis LeConte
William S. Norman
J. W. Williams, 3rd honor
Samuel Hall
Thomas R. R. Cobb, 1st honor, valedictory

The degree of Bachelor of Arts was conferred on these graduates and also upon the other members of the graduating class: Joseph A. Andersen, John Anderson, Solomon Barnard, John P. Culbertson, Joseph B. Gibert, Stephens L. Habersham, Charles E. Jones, Ulysses B. King, William W. Knox, George R. McCalla, John L. Mallard, John T. Newton and William H. Newton.

The honorary degree of Master of Arts was conferred on Ben T. Mosely, Francis S. Bartow, L. Anderson, W.P. Harrison, John Henry Jones, S.P. Sanford, John Le Conte, E. Anderson, Ed P. Clayton, William Hope Hull, Ferdinand Phinizy, and P. Winn, alumni of the University, C.D. Bowman, graduate of Harvard University, and Dr. William Bacon Stevens, of Savannah, Ga.

Class of 1841

The Class of 1841 graduated twenty-four members and only fifteen failed to stay in college to graduate. This was far beyond the usual percentage of graduates and reflected the ability and determination of the members of the class to fight on to the completion of their education. In after years from the graduates of this class came, seven lawyers, six planters, four ministers, two physicians, two college professors, one general, one legislator, one justice of the Supreme Court, one judge.
Luther J. Glenn was a distinguished lawyer. He married Mildred Cobb, a sister of Howell and Thomas R.R. Cobb. He was a Colonel in Cobb's Legion, C.S.A., was a member of the Georgia Secession convention, and after the war served the state in the legislature and as Mayor of Atlanta.

Samuel Hall also became a great lawyer and for a number of years was an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia.

The four ministers were Joseph B. Gibert, Gideon A. Mallette, Henry Newton and Thomas S. Winn.

The two members of the class of 1841 who achieved greatest distinction were Joseph LeConte and Thomas R.R. Cobb. A short biography of LeConte appears elsewhere in the story of the Class of 1838, in connection with the biography of his brother, John LeConte, who was a graduate in that class. A biography of Thomas R.R. Cobb is found with that of his brother, Howell Cobb, in those pages devoted to the Class of 1834, of which Howell Cobb was a member.
President Church just wouldn't give up his fight for the building of residences for professors on the campus. He was like a white English bulldog, an animal that never turns loose after he has fixed his teeth in his victim's neck. And he was willing to increase fees charged the student if that would help provide the desired houses.

The trustees said that these two propositions were all that appeared in the annual report of the president that required special consideration and action. Both of the propositions were turned down on account of lack of money, for the state legislature had lopped off that $6000 annual appropriation. But President Church had the consolation of knowing that his proposition for the new residences was endorsed in principle, if not financially, and that he would get them sometime in the future.

Here is what the Law and Discipline committee had to say on the subject:

"In regard to the expediency of erecting two professors' houses adjacent to the college edifices they consider the proposition only as connected with the discipline of the college, other aspects of the question appertaining to other committees. There are considerations which induce your committee to regard very favorably the recommendation of the president."

"1st. The opinion of the president himself as the chief executive officer of the institution, having a long experimental acquaintance with our system and therefore more cognizant of its defects and their appropriate remedies, is of itself in a good degree authoritative."

"2nd. The committee believe that the oldest and most useful colleges of our country have found it advisable to provide dwellings for their professors on the premises."

"3rd. If the authority of the faculty exercises as it should a restraining influence on the young men residing in the college edifices, their can be no doubt that their residence on the premises will tend to prevent..."
The committee thought it altogether probable the charge for tuition might be advantageously raised in times of prosperity, but in the present circumstances of the country, when all men are driven to the retrenchment of their expenditures, they believe that education, already too much neglected, should not be made more costly. They therefore recommend that no action be taken on that subject.

The committee might have added that three other colleges in Georgia were bidding for students and therefore the time was not propitious for raising tuition fees. The report of the committee was just a pat on the back for President Church. The committee knew that the finance committee would turn down the proposition.

The trustees would not make an appropriation for the library nor provide the money for making much-needed repairs on the college buildings but they voted one hundred dollars to secure proper music during commencement. Perhaps they sensed the need for something to cheer them up in their hour of financial gloom. They also voted to continue the appropriation for the botanical garden. It was apparent that the aesthetic was dominant just then in their thoughts.
The day of reckoning had come. For eleven years the institution had been drawing $6000 each year under a direct appropriation of the state. This appropriation bill carried the proviso that it would remain in effect until the legislature decided otherwise. For several years this proviso had hung like the sword of Damocles over the heads of the University trustees. That it would some day fall was probable, and for the past few years had been looking for that catastrophe. They had done their best to avert it and now the time had come to face it and bear the consequences.

The friends of the University in 1841 were putting up the strongest fight possible. Hon. Charles J. Jenkin, an alumnus of the University in 1823, as at that time Speaker of the House of Representatives, was very much in favor of continuing the appropriation. The University had another friend in the legislature in the person of Alexander H. Stephens. In 1840 the legislature had asked for full information as to the amounts of money collected by the state on the sale of lands belonging to the University, so as to give its members information on the subject of this direct appropriation, which would bear upon the issue as to whether or not the appropriation should be continued. Mr. Stephens had compiled some interesting statistics on that question. Among other things done, he had written an interesting letter to Speaker Jenkin as follows:

Crawfordville, Ga., July 17, 1841

Dear Jenkin:

Yours of the 16th inst. is before me, and below you will find a copy of the statement you requested. You will also find the same in more legible form in the Chronicle and Sentinel of the 25th December last. I think you do well to be marshalling your forces for another winter campaign. From the tables you can easily see the character of the "const." I have not thought of the subject since last winter or attempted to "cipher" it out, but from my
made recollection of some estimates and calculations than I am of opinion that upon a correct and accurate settlement by compounding interest upon the annual receipts into the state treasury of University funds and deducting the annual current expenses of the college which have been provided for and met by appropriations from the treasury, since the adoption of the system, instead of leaving the trustees to rely upon the interest on the University funds, subject to their own control (which was for the collegiate year 1822) the amount due the University will be found to be something over one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and if a fund of even that amount can be secured as a permanent endowment, separated from the treasury of the state and turned over to the trustees, I am fully persuaded it is the very best arrangement that can be made upon that subject. An endowment of that amount, invested in good stocks, as it can be, will yield an annual income of very near, if not quite, twelve thousand dollars. This sum, with the proceeds of tuition, ought to support the college. And if the amount actually due upon such settlement as I suggest to the University should be over one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, I believe it would be advisable for the trustees to make a proposition to the legislature to take that amount and have a separation—"a real divorce, "a vinculo matrimonii." For then the question would be settled. And depend upon it, if the matter remains five years longer, dependent as it is now upon the whims of the legislature, I should not be surprised if every dollar by way of appropriation be withdrawn, if indeed the college buildings themselves escape sale or confiscation. The Goths will not spare even the temple.

Respectfully,

Alexander H. Stephens.

The prepared statements referred to by Mr. Stephens in his letter show that the State had collected from the University sales of land from 1816 to 1829 the sum of $32204.10, that up to Nov. 15, 1840 the Central Bank in Augusta had collected $32 936.87 in University bonds, $522x.72.
interest and had remaining bonds to the amount of $4883.46.

As set forth in another chapter on "State Support of the University" the total amount finally accounted for by the state was about $140,000. It is doubtful whether the state ever accounted in full for the money it collected from the sale of University lands. The University never got the full benefit from its original gift of forty thousand acres of land. It lost five thousand acres in the boundary dispute between the states of Georgia and South Carolina, and some of the remaining lands in the final accounting by the state.

The annual appropriation of $5000 was stopped after 1841 and the trustees faced the inevitable task of reducing expenses by that amount.

Re-organizing the Faculty.

However much it was to be regretted, the University, from lack of finances, had to take a backward step. It had six professors in the faculty. At least two of them had to go. The salaries that had been raised recently had to be reduced to the former figures.

The faculty was re-organized on the following basis when the trustees met in 1842:

"The president will exercise the duties of Professor of Mental and Moral Philosophy and Political Economy. There shall be a Professor of Chemistry and Natural History, a professorship of Mathematics and Astronomy, a professorship of Ancient and Modern Languages, and a professorship of Natural Philosophy and Civil Engineering. Belles Lettres and Rhetoric shall be taught by the President or professor who shall be designated by the faculty. They further recommend the employment of one tutor."

The faculty were then assigned to these duties. President Church, Professors James Jackson, Henry Hull, James P. Wadell and Charles F. McCay, and Tutar N.H. Wood, the president's salary reduced from $3000 to $2500, the
salaries of professors from $3000 to $1600.

The two members thus dropped from the Faculty were Prof. William Lehman, of the department of Modern Languages, and Professor Malthus A. Ward, of the department of Natural History and Biology. With the exception of Emanuel Scherb, who taught modern languages in 1853 and 1854, there would be no regular teacher of those languages for the next twenty-seven years, and the next regular teacher of biology would appear forty-six years later in 1888. Those subjects would in a way be taught in other departments. The botanical garden, that had been under the supervision of Dr. Ward, would be under the supervision of the professor of Natural Sciences, but its chief work would be done by the gardener. It would not be many years, however, before the lost ground would be regained and the University would again strike its stride.

Professors Ward and Lehman were good teachers and the trustees hated to give them up. In giving them their notice, the Board by resolution said:

"The Board cannot permit the ties which have connected these officers with the college to be severed without expressing the opinion that it entertained of their character as men and as instructors.

"The Board regret the necessity which exists, arising from the diminished revenues of the college of dispensing with the services of Professors Ward and Lehman.

The conduct of these gentlemen during the twelve years of their connection with the college, both as citizens and instructors, has been such as to merit the entire confidence of the Board of Trustees.

The faculty, even though it was reduced in numbers, met the situation satisfactorily by the proper distribution of work, and President Church, always a hard worker, did his share of the work. Later on,
when finances were a little better, provision was made to meet the demands of such situations as arose, and the work of the institution was kept up to the highest standard of excellence.

Class of 1842

The Class of 1842 was somewhat larger than usual. Twenty men were graduated with A B degree and thirty-eight were in college for varying lengths of time but not sufficient for graduation. This class was partial to agriculture, six of its graduates becoming farmers and eight of the five additional matriculates landing on the farm. There were three lawyers, two preachers, two physicians, one judge, four legislators, one editor, one teacher, one congressman and one banker among the graduates in their later lives.

In spite of criticisms that the University didn't look after the spiritual interests of its students as it should, year by year graduates went forth into the ministry and in this class there were five who became preachers: W. H. Felton, James R. McCarter, John Baldwin, George H. Hancock and J. O. Lindsey. Alexander A. Allen was a fine lawyer and served as Judge of the Superior Courts. James Porterfield Graves was a teacher and planter, and a Presbyterian elder. He lived to a very advanced age, over ninety years. At one time he was the oldest living graduate of the University. His son, John Temple Graves, Class of 1875, was one of the most prominent editors in the South and as an orator had few equals.

The member of the Class of 1842 who achieved greatest prominence was William Harrell Felton.
WILLIAM HARRELL FELTON

The State of Georgia has given to the world a number of truly great orators. One of her greatest was William Harrell Felton. Oratory was born in him and was highly developed throughout his life. In the University he was an orator and debater of recognized ability. In after years whenever he was announced as a speaker hundreds crowded in to hear what he had to say. When it came to stirring up a crowd he was a past master.

He chose medicine as his profession and practiced for a number of years. He loved the life of a farmer and for the greater part of his life he was devoted to agricultural pursuits. In his younger days he became a Methodist preacher. He was not attached to regular Conference stations but throughout his life preached many sermons as a lay minister.

He was also attracted to politics, and as a young man represented Bartow county in the Georgia legislature in 1851 and 1852. He took an active interest in national elections. He was a member of the United States Congress in the 44th, 45th and 46th sessions of that body. At different times he was a member of the Georgia house of representatives, his service as such covering some forty years.

While attached to the Democratic party, Dr. Felton was nevertheless a man of very independent mind. It irked him to be bound down by party rules. So eventually his independence brought about his defeat.

He was twice married. His first wife was Miss Ann Carlton, of Athens, the daughter of Mr. James R. Carlton. She lived only a few years after marriage. His second wife was Miss Rebecca Latimer, who was his companion and helpmeet throughout many years and who survived him and lived to the ripe old age of ninety-three. She was a woman of brilliant intellect and throughout her life was intensely interested in politics. She was the constant companion and faithful adviser of her husband in all of his political campaigns. Under the appointment of Governor Hardwick she became the first woman in the history of the country to occupy a seat in the United States Senate.
Under her will, all of her papers and documents, quite a collection, came to the University of Georgia. She was devoted to her husband and in his memory erected an imposing monument on the courthouse square in Cartersville, Ga.

If anyone desired to get into a good-sized controversy, all he had to do was to say something in derogation of Dr. Felton, and forthwith Mrs. Felton would put the trimmings on him, and she was a master in the use of sarcasm and ridicule.

I remember distinctly the first time I ever saw William H. Felton. Back in the early eighties I was going home from the Boys' High School in Atlanta. I stopped at the old capitol building on Marietta Street and went upstairs to see just what a legislature looked like, as I had never seen one in session. There was a great crowd in the gallery of the house of representatives, but I squeezed in and got a good seat on the front row.

Just then I noticed an old man with snow-white hair and bent form rise from his seat and step out into the aisle. His left hand rested on a stout walking stick, his right hand was raised and pointed to a seat in which sat Hon. Edgar G. Simmons, representative from Sumter county. And then followed the explosion. In all my life I have never listened to a speech that approached that one. It was an invective in a class all by itself. He literally tore the hide off Simmons, who could do nothing but take the lashing while he fidgeted nervously in his seat.

And here is what caused it all. Dr. Felton was a great advocate on a prison reformatory for young boys. All through his life he was busy doing something for the uplifting of the underprivileged and those delinquents whose reformation might be brought about. From year to year he had introduced a bill to establish such a reformatory, but had never been able to get the measure through. He had declared that if his proposed bill should not be passed, he would be willing, if such an extension of life could be given him, to come back to the legislature and fight for his bill if it
should take two thousand years to win the victory.

Simmons in reply to the declaration said that if such a thing should come to pass, it would come through the intriguing of the political She of Georgia.

Now Dr. Felton had never read the recently published novel, "She", by H. Rider Haggard and did not know that Simmons was picturing him as the political "She" of Georgia with a life extended to two thousand years (at least that is what Simmons later on said he meant by his remark). Dr. Felton really believed that Simmons was referring to Mrs. Felton and that was more than the old man could stand. He was fairly ablage with indignation and he turned loose all the eloquence and invective that was in him. Not even the language of Macaulay in his essay "Barere exceeded in its severity the remarks of the venerable Georgia orator concerning the "man" from Sumter. He would not call him gentleman.

Dr. Felton did not like Joseph B. Brown at all. He had been extra severe in his criticism about the leasing of the W. & A. Railroad. It is said that one day, when Joe Brown was riding on the train from Atlanta to Chattanooga, looking over the road that was under the management of a company of which he was president, the conductor came to him and told him there was a passenger on the train who was drunk, had no ticket and was insisting that he be put off at "Hell." The conductor knew of no such station, and was asking the president of the road what to do with the drunk passenger.

"Just put him off at Cartersville. That is where he is heading. You know the devil lives there," was the reply of Joe Brown.

When I was night editor of the Athens Banner in 1890, I used to wait on Broad Street in the afternoon until the University Board of Trustees adjourned so that I could talk to the members and get the news of the meeting.
Now Dr. Felton was intensely inimical to dancing, drinking or any other conduct that smacked of worldliness. He was also active in advocating any measure that would protect the student from temptation. When he unlimbered and got down to rock bottom in his tirades against all the things he detested, you could hear him almost a quarter of a mile. I didn't have to wait for a personal interview with Dr. Felton. I could get all the information I needed by simply standing out in Broad Street and listening.

Dr. Felton served on the Board of trustees from 1879 to 1891, a period of twelve years.

His widow outlived him many years, during which time she was a live wire in Georgia politics. When she was named as United States Senator for the unexpired term of—

it was not her privilege to take her seat on the floor of the Senate as the Senate was not in session. Her term expired on March 3rd and the new Senate came into session the next day. The newly-elected Senator, Walter F. George, graciously allowed Senator Felton to meet with the new Senate for a few hours in order that she might have the experience of sitting in a regular session of that body.

Mrs. Felton died at the age of ninety-three. In her will she left all her manuscripts to the University of Georgia, containing quite a number of valuable papers touching the political history of Georgia over a period of more than fifty years.
Wh the Board of Trustees met in annual session in August 1843, they found in the report of the president an account of the riotous conduct of several students and the action of the faculty in expelling six of them. They also found an appeal from the six students asking a reversal of the faculty action and re-admission to the University.

Years ago the Board had interfered with faculty discipline by restoring an expelled student and had had to apologize to the faculty. This appeal now would re-open such a question and the Board was in no humor to interfere again. So a resolution was introduced, declaring that the Board had no jurisdiction in the matter. The next day, after considerable discussion that resolution was defeated and the Board prepared to pass on the appeal. The next day the question was again discussed and by a close vote the Board declared that it had no jurisdiction and referred the whole matter back to the Faculty "with the request that they would review their decision and if upon reconsideration and circumstances would justify them in relation thereto, it would meet the approbation of the Board." The authority of the Faculty having been established, the Board washed their hands of the whole affair.

But the old question of professors staying in their rooms and supervising studies bobbed up, as well as the visiting of the rooms of the students each day. That was a question like Banquo's ghost that just wouldn't down at the bidding of the president or the Board. In referring the matter back to the faculty, the following resolution was passed:

"Your committee are of the opinion that the good order and discipline of the college would be greatly improved and promoted, if all the officers of the college occupied during the day the rooms occupied as study rooms in the college buildings. So many mere youths enter our college that it requires the vigilant and restraining influence of professors to
prevent those habits of inattention which are liable to be formed and which always result in disorder. Your committee consider this duty of punctual attendance so obvious and important as not to admit of being dispensed with.

"The views of the President upon this subject, founded as they are upon long experience and close observation, are not only entitled to the respectful consideration of the trustees, but should receive their earnest co-operation in carrying them into effect.

"Resolved, therefore, that if such be not now the practice, each member of the faculty should occupy a room in one of the college edifices during the hours set apart for study in the daytime for the purpose of enforcing order."

Now that was exactly what some of the members of the faculty did not want to do. Under the law the president of the University served as chairman of the Board of Trustees and later on at least one member of the faculty, John LeConte, asserted that for that reason he could do pretty much as he pleased and be backed up by the trustees. President Church was willing for the professors to live in separate residences on the campus and was trying to get such residences built, but he didn't want them to live too far apart from the students. The trustees wouldn't interfere with the faculty about the expulsions, but did throw back this irritating question of staying in the study halls during study hours. The trustees admitted the need for the residences for professors but declared that no money was available for that purpose.

The question of more training in oratory came up and action was taken establishing the chair of oratory and belles lettres. To that position Joseph Henry Lumpkin was elected, but he declined the position offered him. No doubt they needed a professor of oratory, but training along
that line must have been pretty good at that time, for only recently
Tom Cobb and William H. Felton had been graduated, and in the Junior Class
there was a young student named Ben Hill who was already an orator of note.

There were several distinguished visitors from South Carolina in attend-
ance during the Commencement of 1843, Hon. George McDuffie, the renowned states
man, Hon. F.W. Pickens, a leading citizen of the Palmetto state, and Rev.
James Shannon; Dr. Shannon, who had served as a member of the University of
Georgia faculty, was now at the head of a South Carolina college. During
this commencement the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred on Mr.
McDuffie.

President Church, having done much extra work during the year,
was in a state of health where rest was required, and he was accordingly
given a six months leave of absence in order that he might recuperate.

No list of student orators at this commencement was recorded but the
presumption is that the greater number of the eighteen graduates spoke, as
such was the general custom at the time.

The degree of Bachelor of Arts was conferred on George W. Allen,
James H. Anderson, Samuel Borders, John L. Bird, J.L.M Curry, Robert J.
Henderson, James F. King, S.D. Kirkpatrick, James LaRoche, Lafayette Lamar,

The Master of Arts degree was conferred on W.P. White, A.G. Foster,
Augustus Wingfield, W.H. Dabney, James H. Rhols, Benjamin M. Palmer, William
Class of 1843

The Class of 1843 numbered forty-nine students, of whom eighteen received their degree, the others for various reasons not graduating.

Lawyers, farmers, and legislators chiefly made up the class roll in later years, seven farmers, seven legislators, and six lawyers. There was one minister, one congressman, one diplomat, one associate justice of the Supreme Court, one Superior Court judge, two physicians, one manufacturer and one Confederate brigadier general, developed out of this class. Edward H. Pottle became a well-known judge of the Superior Courts. Lucius J. Gartrell was a member of the legislature, solicitor-general, a member of Congress, a brigadier-general in the Confederate army and in 1862 conducted an unsuccessful campaign for governor of Georgia against Alexander H. Stephens.

The two members of the class who achieved greatest eminence were Linton Stephens and J.L.M. Curry.

Linton Stephens

Linton Stephens was a half-brother of Alexander H. Stephens, and the son of Andrew B. Stephens and his second wife, Matilda Lindsay Stephens. He was a tiny tot in 1826 when his father and mother died within one week of each other. The children by the first wife went to the home of a Stephens uncle and those by the second wife were cared for by the Lindsay family. Thus in their younger days Alexander and Linton Stephens grew up apart.

But Aleck Stephens took a special fancy to his little half-brother, and the ties of affection became closer and closer until they became nothing less than adoration. It is difficult to reach a conclusion as to whether it was fatherly or brotherly affection on the part of Aleck Stephens.

The part played by Linton Stephens while a student in the University of Georgia was that of a well-behaved, studious young man.
He excelled in his class work and in the Phi Kappa Society took much interest in debating. He chose law as his profession and was not specially enamored of politics and public life, though he gave vigorously of his time and labor in all movements of vital interest to his state. He rose rapidly in his profession, became a great lawyer and finally became an associate justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia. He saw service in the Georgia house of representatives and state senate.

During the long years of service in Congress, Alick Stephens wrote hundreds of letters to Linton. No person in all the world was so beloved by Alick Stephens.

While in the Georgia legislature in 1884, Linton Stephens prepared and introduced resolutions in protest against the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus and a resolution in favor seeking peace if any success should come to the Confederate armies and give the Confederate government a chance to make such a movement honorably and without confession of defeat or renunciation of its principles.

After the war, when Alick Stephens was a prisoner in Fort Warren, Linton secured permission to stay with him, and that voluntary imprisonment in Fort Warren gave many hours of pleasure to the frail and worn vice-president of the Confederate States.

He barely reached middle age, dying in 1872. He had long been a resident of Sparta, Ga., and his remains were interred there. On Sept. 5, 1914, the dust of Linton Stephens was brought to Crawfordville, Ga., and placed in a grave alongside that of his devoted brother, Georgia's great Commoner.

In the office of Judge Stephens a short while before his death, a young man who had just graduated at the University of Georgia, studied law under the direction of the eminent Georgia jurist, and at the time Judge Stephens' dust was transferred from Sparta and interred on the lawn of Liberty Hall, in Crawfordville, he had just been nominated for the office of
governor of Georgia went down to pay the last tribute of affection and made the principal address of that occasion.

If it is given to immortal spirits to know the happenings in this world, then it is certain that the spirit of Alexander H. Stephens and that of Linton Stephens were in that hour overflowing with happiness.
One of the truly great alumni of the University of Georgia was Jabez Lamar Monroe Curry. Great he was in several fields of life——great as an orator and statesman, a scholar, an author, a historian, a diplomat, a social reformer, an educator, a civic patriot and a man. This statement covers much territory, but his life and achievements merit the encomium.

In the national capitol at Washington, under the privilege accorded to each state to place therein the statues of two of its most famous sons, are the statues of three alumni of the University of Georgia. The State of Georgia is represented by the statues of Alexander H. Stephens, Class of 1832, and Crawford W. Long, Class of 1835. The third statue is that of J.L.M. Curry, of the Class of 1843, representing the State of Alabama, the state in which he lived the greater part of his life, although he was a native of Georgia.

He was born in Lincoln County, Georgia, June 5, 1825, the son of William Curry and Susan Winn Curry; on the paternal side he was Scotch—English, on the maternal, Welsh. The subject of this sketch was born in what was called the "Dark Corner" of Lincoln County, at that time far removed from centers of population or educated people. His father was a farmer and merchant. The bolder, abler and more intrepid spirits were moving westward in search of richer lands to conquer and of such spirit were the forebears of J.L.M. Curry.

Young Curry never liked his three given names. He said: I know of no good from my long name, but not a little inconvenience." His parents named him Jabez LaFayette Monroe, the first of Biblical origin meaning "Sorrow or Trouble," the second as a "token of gratitude to the friend of Washington," the third in honor of the president of the United States. The boy, when he reached the age of responsibility, dropped the "LaFayette" and substituted Lamar." He was related to the celebrated Lamar family.

His mother died when he was a mere tot. His father married a second
time and a son, Jackson C. Curry, was born. For his step-mother and his half-brother he always had a deep affection.

In later years J.L.M. Curry gave a description of the people among whom he was born that is about as correct and comprehensive as anything that has been written of those pioneer Georgians. Said he: Their creed was generally simple. A man ought to fear God and mind his own business. He should be respectful and courteous to all women; he should love his friends and hate his enemies. He should eat when he was hungry, drink when he was thirsty, dance when he was merry, vote for the candidate he liked best, and knock down any man who questioned his right to those privileges. He was almost always an ardent politician and a strong partisan on whichever side he enlisted. But a man would have been held in reprobation who should attempt to serve his party by fraud or corruption. There was no ballot box stuffing." Some politicians of these latter days might learn something from those old-time political views in the "Dark Corner" of Lincoln county, Ga.

As a boy he went to the "old field school." Since this is the story of a great University, a few lines descriptive of the old field school may not be amiss. Edwin A. Alderman, in his biography of Curry, thus describes it: "The old field schoolhouse which the little boy attended was built of logs, with the interstices daubed with clay. It was set in a woods and was roofed with puncheons. There was but one door, and the shutter of the single, unglazed window swung on creaking wooden hinges. The window itself was simply a hole in the wall, opposite the huge fireplace, made by cutting out a section of one of the logs. Alongside the narrow opening was a wide plank, fastened against the wall, which was used by the school children as a writing desk."

But such buildings could not bind the minds or spirits of determined and ambitious boys. Out of such schools, inadequate as they were, came
many of the truly great men of America. Young Curry was a typical boy. He never hesitated to help bat the teacher out of the schoolroom and even went so far as to help duck him in the neighboring creek. Later on, while he was attending school in Lincolnton, a number of the pupils went out to have a few hours of fun and frolic, and young Curry put in his time drawing "a series of figures in charcoal on the whitewashed walls of the temple of justice."

Young Curry then spent a year as a pupil at Willington, South Carolina. The founder of that celebrated academy, Moses Waddel, after having finished his work as president of the University of Georgia, was then too old to continue his work as a teacher at Willington. He had turned it over to his two sons, James P. and John N. Waddel. When Curry finally came to the University of Georgia, he found his preceptor, James P. Waddel, teaching Latin and Greek in that institution.

His father having moved to Talladaga county, Alabama, in 1837, where he engaged in farming and running a large store, young Curry spent a couple of years helping him in his work, at the same time putting in some of his time in study. Then came the moment of decision when it was to be settled where he would go to college. The University of Alabama had been opened in 1831, and naturally it was expected that the father would send his boy to that institution. But William Curry, who had known a number of Georgia graduates and had learned something about the University of Georgia, decided in favor of sending him to Athens, along with his half-brother, Jackson, and their step-brother, David H. Rensan.

When he reached Athens he was assigned to a room in New College. One of his first acts was to join the Phi Kappa Literary Society. He chose that society because most Alabama students belonged to it. Concerning the training received in the Phi Kappa Society, a few lines quoted from Curry himself...
will give an interesting insight into the training afforded by the two literary societies of the University.

"The debates were conducted with much spirit. Through my college course I have much attention to my literary society; and whatever success I have achieved as a speaker is very largely attributable to my training in this society. I must bear emphatic testimony to the value of these exercises upon my subsequent career."

Now young Curry had his own ideas, even while a student, as to what interested him most. He was evidently not a total believer in Latin and Greek, although in those subjects he stood high in his classes. He was passionately fond of English and thought more time should have been spent in teaching the students the literature of their mother language. The University had a good faculty in those days, but only one member seems to have impressed him as being a real great teacher. Strange to say that faculty member was the teacher of Physics, a subject that had more or less Mathematics in it and Mathematics was one subject with which Curry had to struggle. It is significant that Joseph LeConte, himself a collegemate of Curry, should have picked the same professor as being the greatest teacher in the faculty. That Professor was Charles F. McCay. It is undoubtedly true that McCay, in spite of the fact that he was not so very popular among the students on account of his exacting too much work from them, was nevertheless regarded by all of them as a great teacher.

Here are the comments of Curry: The curriculum was of the old-fashioned kind, Latin, Greek, and Mathematics predominating, with very little science, and the teaching was chiefly of the textbook order. Prof. C.F. McCay, one of the best teachers I ever knew, 'kicked out of the traces' and strove with some success to make his department of Mathematics and Mechanical Philosophy to conform to what is now universally accepted as a necessity of
liberal education. English was ignored, and McCay published for his class a "calculus of his own, and a published lecture on "Matter" created a local sensation, being regarded for its exposition of 'potency' as a long stride towards materialism. Looking back from present surroundings and the great progress of college education and all teaching, I am constrained to say, with undiminished loyalty fro my Alma Mater, that, McCay excepted, the president and professors in teaching power were not up to modern standards. Nevertheless, the institution was of a solid character, the relation between faculty and students was most pleasant, and the four years at college were among the most pleasant and profitable of my long life."

Curry always placed special emphasis on the teaching of English. It was undoubtedly true that in its earlier days the University of Georgia, too much infatuated with Latin and Greek, neglected English. Curry, even to his middle age and later as a great educational executive, always emphasized the teaching of our mother tongue.

In 1887, when both of them were old men, Curry received a letter from Joseph LeConte, the venerable professor of geology in the University of California, in which was the following: "I remember the very active part you always took in the debates of the Phi Kappa Society, and how I envied your readiness, so strongly contrasted with my own painful shyness."

And as a postscript, LeConte wrote: "We have just received two or three first-class seismographs. Wanted, an earthquake to record. They are rather scarce about here just now. If you have any to spare, send them on." LeConte did not live until the day when the big earthquake came, but in due course of time it did come with devastating effect in San Francisco, though it was not sent by J.L.M. Curry. In response to the request of Joseph LeConte.

When the day for his graduation approached, he was worried about
his mathematics and feared he would not pass and get his degree. But he buckled down to work on that subject and did pass. He had served as a Junior orator the preceding year and on his graduating day was third honor man in his class and delivered an oration at the graduating exercises.

Immediately after graduating, the question of attending a law school was taken up and on Sept. 1, 1843 he entered the Dane Law School of Harvard University. In February 1845 he was graduated therefrom with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. He had the advantage there of studying under Joseph Storey and Simon Greenleaf, two of the greatest lawyers in America. He returned to Alabama and practiced his profession successfully.

He was strict constructionist as to the Constitution and was a follower of John C. Calhoun. He believed in the right of secession, and while he bowed promptly to the decision of the War Between the States he never gave up his belief concerning the right of the states to secede when they took that step.

He was early attracted by politics and at the age of twenty-two was elected as a representative in the Alabama legislature, receiving the largest vote of any candidate in the state. Even at that early period in his life he was a strong advocate of education. He boldly advocated free schools supported by the state and advocated measures for assisting the University of Alabama. Concerning his work in the legislature, he said: "I always voted for measures in favor of education."

On March 4, 1847 he married Ann Alexander Bowie, of South Carolina. Four children were born to them, only two of whom lived to adult age. His wife died in 1865 while he was at the battle front. Two years later, on June 25, 1867, he married Mary W. Thomas, of Richmond, Va.

After a few years of law practice and looking after his farms, he was again elected to the Alabama legislature in 1863. He was the author of...
bill to provide a geological survey of Alabama and succeeded in having it passed. The subsequent development of the coal and iron deposits in Alabama bore exact evidence of his foresight.

In 1857 he was elected to Congress, where he took a prominent part in the great debates that preceded the opening of the War Between the States. Alabama seceded from the Union January 11, 1861. Ten days later, Jan. 21, 1861 the entire Alabama delegation in Congress addressed a letter to the Speaker of the House withdrawing from that body. In his last address in Congress, Curry had said: "If our friends in Congress be not able to interpose for the security of the South and for the preservation of the Constitution, I, for one, shall counsel immediate and effective resistance, and will urge the people to fling themselves upon the reserved rights and the inalienable sovereignty of the State to which I owe my first and last allegiance."

He was one of the leaders in the Montgomery convention that organized the Southern Confederacy and served as a member of the Confederate Congress until 1863. By the fall of that year, following the capture of Vicksburg and the battle of Gettysburg, there was a considerable peace sentiment in Alabama and in his ree for re-election as a member of the Congress he was defeated. President Davis named him as Commissioner under the Habeas Corpus Act to serve in Gen. Joseph E. Johnston's army. The greater part of 1864 was spent in that service. In October 1864 he was made a lieutenant-colonel in the 5th Alabama Cavalry and from that time to the end of the war he saw active service in the army. He accepted the arbitration of the sword and applied for pardon which was granted Sept. 24, 1865 by President Johnson. His political disabilities were removed under the act of Feb. 27, 1877. Like his great leader, Lee, he surrendered no principle but devoted the remaining days of his life to the service of a reunited country. He spent all his energies to rehabilitating the waste places of his country and to
a new society on the ruins of that which had been overthrown. He became an American in the broadest and most catholic sense of the term without ever failing to remember that he was a Southerner and an ex-Confederate, and his loyalty to the flag of a reunited country was not tempered nor restrained by his equal loyalty to the old creeds and the old landmarks, established in the faith of the fathers."

In Nov. 1865 he was elected President of the Alabama State Baptist convention and during the same session was named as President of Howard College, in which position he served until April 1868. He had always been a prominent Baptist and he now made up his mind to enter the Baptist ministry. On June 28, 1866 he was ordained. Everyone realized his ability and his high character. During that year he received calls from churches in New Orleans, Richmond and Baltimore, but accepted the pastorate of the Selma, Ala., Baptist Church at a salary of $4000. It was at this stage in his life that he became interested in the education of the negro and realized the responsibility of the white race in the proper education of the blacks.

Although he was called to preach by congregations in more than a dozen large cities, he was not specially attracted by fixed locations. He became one of the greatest preachers in the Baptist church and at different places and on many occasions preached sermons of rare power. During his first year in the ministry he preached one hundred and nineteen sermons. It was nothing unusual for him to preach forty, fifty or sixty sermons a year. But along with it he carried the work of a teacher and his chief desire was to extend the blessings of education to all people without regard to race or condition in life.

On July 13, 1868 he accepted the professorship of English Literature in Richmond College and in that college he labored two years.
He also taught law and philosophy. During his first year there he preached sixty sermons. Invitations to pastorates continued to come in, but he declined all of them. He delivered lectures and preached sermons in New York and other Northern cities. In 1870 he took the chair of constitutional and international law in Richmond College. In 1871 he was offered the presidency of three colleges, Georgetown, Ky., Mercer University and the University of Alabama and a professorship in the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. These were but a few of the calls that came to him, but by this time his work as a lecturer was carrying him to cities in every section of the country and the chief aim of his life had become the educational development of the South.

In 1870 he made an address in Brooklyn, N.Y., on "Conditions and Prospects of Education in the South," made a report leading to the Baptist Italian Mission. In 1871 Rochester University conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Divinity. In 1872 he was elected a trustee of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and also President of the General Baptist Association. In 1873 he delivered a profound address before the World's Evangelical Alliance in New York City. In 1874 he was elected president of the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist convention. He spent the year 1875 in Europe.

In 1877 he was offered a place in the cabinet of President Hayes, even though he was diametrically opposed to the political views of the president. They had been classmates at Harvard and the closest friendship existed between them up to the death of President Hayes. He declined the offer with thanks to his old friend, and went on with his chosen work. In 1878 he made a famous speech in Richmond on "Laws and Morals" and took a prominent part in the discussions about the state debt of Virginia. By this time he had become a great religious and social leader in the South. In 1880 he again visited Europe.

Dr. Curry was fifty-five years old when he entered a field of labor in which he was destined to render the greatest services in his life,
and in which, with the exception of three years, he spent his remaining days. On Feb. 3, 1831 he was chosen as the General Agent of the George Peabody Fund.

George Peabody was an English merchant who had accumulated a fortune of several million dollars. He was an American by birth, having been born in Massachusetts. He was conversant with the facts of history touching the War Between the States. He knew the ravaged condition of the South and realized the inability of the Southern people to meet the financial burdens of the coming years. He was a philanthropist who sincerely wished for all people a decent education. So he determined to use some of his money for the promotion of education in the South. Accordingly in 1866 he set up a fund of $2,100,000, the interest from which was to provide educational improvement in this section of America. Later on, in 1869, he increased the fund to $3,500,000. It was for the benefit of both white and black races.

His fund was officially created Feb. 7, 1867 and its Board of Trust was made up of sixteen eminent Americans from the different sections of the country. Robert C. Winthrop, one of the ablest sons of Massachusetts, was the chairman. The other members were Hamilton Fish, of New York, Bishop Charles P. McIlwaine, of Ohio, General Ulysses S. Grant, Admiral D. C. Farragut, William C. Rives, of Virginia, John H. Clifford, of Massachusetts, William Aiken, of South Carolina, William M. Evarts, of New York, William A. Graham, of North Carolina, Charles Macalester, of Pennsylvania, George Wetmore of New York, Edward A. Bradford, of Louisiana, George N. Eaton, of Maryland, and George Peabody Russell, of Massachusetts.

In constituting this fund Mr. Peabody expressed the wish that the money be used to meet "the educational needs of those portions of our beloved and common country which have suffered from the destructive ravages and the not less disastrous consequences of civil war." It was plain that this magnificent benefaction was for the benefit of the
people living in the Southern States.

The first General Agent was Dr. Bernas Sears, who served as such fourteen years up to the time of his death. Both Chairman Winthrop and Dr. Sears had consulted years before as to who should be the General Agent when Dr. Sears ceased to function in that position. They agreed that of all the men in the United States J.L.M. Curry was best fitted for that position.

He resigned his position in Richmond College at once and entered upon the discharge of his new duties. The history of his service as General Agent of the Peabody Fund could easily fill a large volume and will not be repeated here. His years of service were full of travel that carried him into many states of the American republic. He was the evangel of universal education, the need for state-supported common schools for both races, the need for better trained teachers, better buildings, better faculties. He addressed many legislatures and many educational associations.

In 1885 he accepted the appointment by President Cleveland as Minister to Spain and served with conspicuous ability until 1898, when he resigned and came back to again take up his work as General Agent of the Peabody Fund.

On March 2, 1882, John F. Slater, of Norwich, Conn., set up a trust fund of one million dollars to be known as the Slater Fund, the income to be used for "the uplifting of the lately emancipated people of the Southern states and their posterity by conferring on them the blessings of a Christian education." Dr. Curry was made agent of that fund and carried that work along with his work as General Agent of the Peabody Fund. Former President Hayes was a member of the Slater Fund Board of Trustees and he had not lost his appreciation of the great ability of his former classmate at Harvard.

The income from these two funds was used mainly for preparing better teachers and for the support of normal schools. When the Peabody Fund was finally closed out and its assets distributed years after Dr. Curry's
death, the larger portion went to the Peabody Normal College in Nashville, Tenn. Several Southern colleges were given $40,000 each for the erection of buildings to house their colleges of education. Among these colleges was the University of Georgia and with that money the Peabody Education Building on the University campus was erected.

Dr. Curry was the author of many articles and books on education and other subjects. Among his best known books were "The Acquisition of Florida," "Constitutional Government in Spain," "William Ewart Gladstone," "The Southern States of the American Union," "Sketch of George Peabody and a History of the Peabody Education Fund," and "Civil History of the Government of the Confederate States, with some Personal Reminiscences." This last being probably his greatest.

He took a leading part in the work of the Southern Educational Conference, an organization that paved the way for great developments in a number of Southern colleges and universities, among them the University of Georgia.

The University of Georgia, always proud of this distinguished alumnus, in 1887 conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Laws, and in 1901 called him to deliver one of the main addresses during the week in which it celebrated its centennial.

He was ill only two weeks before he died on Feb. 12, 1903, at the home of his brother-in-law, Colonel John A. Connally, near Asheville, North Carolina. His remains were interred in Richmond, Va.

It is doubtful whether any man ever left a more lasting impress upon the lives of his people than J.L.M. Curry. He was a great and impelling influence in the upbuilding of education throughout the South and in that work of wonderful achievement he reached millions of people.

Edwin A. Alderman, himself one of the South's great educators, in the concluding chapter of his biography of the great Georgian and great...
American says: "Men may forget the oratory, the diplomacy, the intellectual vigor, the gracious, compelling charm of Curry, the man, but will not forget the seal, the self-surrender of Curry, the social reformer and civic patriot, and when the final roll shall be called of the great sons of the South, and of the nation, who served society well when service was most needed, it may well be believed that no answer will ring out clearer than the 'Adsum' of J.L.M. Curry."
Nearly one hundred years ago William T. Thompson gave to the reading public a book under the name of "Major Jones's Courtship," which served to amuse thousands of readers with its abundance of wit and humor and quaint expressions. It consisted of letters written to Mr. Thompson by one Major Joseph Jones, of Pineville, Ga., who always signed himself "your friend till death." The book has been out of print these many years, but with this acknowledgment to the author, and to Carey and Hart, who published it in 1848, the following chapter is re-printed, since it bears on the University of Georgia Commencement of 1843.

Major Jones was something of a backwoodsman, but he had a bright mind and knew how to express himself well, even if his spelling was entirely unorthodox. He appears to have had a bent for traveling around and seeing the world, and, while not a rich man, there is every evidence that he had enough money to take little trips and see something of the world. At least that is the way in which Mr. Thompson described the chief character in the book he wrote.

One day, back in 1843, the Major took a notion into his head that he wanted to visit Athens during the University Commencement. He had "heered" a lot about the gala times on such occasions and nothing must do but that he should take that trip. He had finished his courtship, had won his beloved Mary and had settled down to housekeeping. Young Jones, Junior, had not yet arrived, but he had started on his way, and the Major was quite careful about Mary's health. Well, the Major and his wife took their trip to Athens in August 1843 and when he got back home he wrote a letter to his friend, Mr. Thompson, about what he had seen. It is to be regretted that he didn't write something
about Ben Hill, J.L.M. Curry and Linton Stephens, who were college boys then and who delivered orations at the Commencement, but he was so excited about a man with long whiskers that he gave his chief attention to writing about him.

Here is the letter he wrote about that trip to Athens:

Pineville, August 8th, 1843.

To Mr. Thompson:--Dear Sir: You know I promised you, when I saw you up in Athens, to give you an account of the Commencement and other matters and things when I got home. Well, if there's any thing I do lament, it's a man who breaks his promise to a printer, or don't pay him for his paper when he ought to--so the first thing I done when I got home was to write a letter to you.

Ever since I went to the Commencement of the Female college down to Macon, I've had a monstrous curiosity to see how they done things at a regular boy college, and as soon as I found out the time it was gwine to take place, I told Mary I was gwine to Athens. Her lip dropped in a minit.

"Oh yes," ses she, "you don't care nothin for me now--you'd just as leav be away from home now as not--I didn't think you'd get tired of me so soon--but its always the way with the men."

"I told he I wanny tired of her at all, but jest wanted to go up to Athens, and she could go along with me in the buggy.

"Yes," ses old Miss Sallie Stallins, "you can go along with Joseph, and it'll be good for yer helth."

"But, mother," ses Mary, "you know I aint well enough to travel."

"Oh, yes you is, child, and it'll do you good," ses the old woman.
The galls all knew it would be the very best thing for her and I promised I would drive as careful as I could, and after a while she consented to go; but I believe it was more cause she didn’t want to be away from me than for the good of her health.

Well, it tuck ’em but a half a day to fix, and when we got loaded up, I was afraid old Ben was gwine to have more’n his match to pull us, they’d put in as much plunder. We had two trunks, and a banbox, of course, and lots of provisions, and more vials of medicines than would fill a piny woods doctor’s shop, and hartshorn and assafedity enough to kill all the vermin in Georgia.

Nothing serious didn’t happen on the road, only Mary was monstrous sickly every now and then when we come to a bad place, and like to make me upset three or four times by catchin’ hold of the lines when I was dinin’ my very best drivin’ to git round the holes. We got to Athens little before dark and I tell you what I was a good deal disappointed in the place. It’s a monstrous hilly and hollery place but it’s rite smart of a town and has some pretty conspicuous buildin’s in it. I hadna’ had no idea it was anything so large nor so handsome. But I needn’t tell you nothing but what that, I stepped at the Planter’s hotel, wher we got a frustrate supper, and wear I never seed so many people at one table afore in my life. At first I et rather sparin’, thinkin’ ther wouldn’t begin to be enough for ’em all, but the niggers were all th’ time bringin’ in new dishes rite hot out of the kitchen, and I believe ther was as many baskets full of fragments when we was done as would feed all the people in Pineville. After supper Mary found some of her old acquaintances from the Female College, and I left her in the parlor to talk with ’em, and went out in the porch and smoked a seegar and talked politics with the gentlemen til bedtime.
The next day was Tuesday, and after breakfast I tuck a walk down to the College Avenue to see the crowd, and such a crowd I never met afe. Ther was people of every sort, size, condition and, circumstance, from the Governor of that state down to neggers and dandies. Ther was members of Congress and judges and big lawyers, from every part of the state and some from Carolina, and Freshmen and Softmores enough to keep Georgia in a stew for century to come. It was a perfect Jan of the distinguishing, and I never felt so small afe.

But ten o'clock the bell rung for the Junior exercises, and I went and got Marynd went to the chapel as soon as I could, to git a good seat. The house was full, but the crowd kep comin from all quarters, and what I set I had a perfect view of 'em as they marched up the passage ways lookin round for seats. I tell you what, it was a live animal show for true. I never could believed ther was so many different tastes—so many outlaidish notions in human natur. Ther was fellers with ther britches stickin to 'em as if they had been melted and poured into 'em, and some all puckered round the waist like a lady's workbag, but ther clothes was nuthin to compare to ther hair and whiskers. Some had grate long drizzled locks that almost kivered ther faces, and looked like they hadn't been combed in a month, and some had long, strate, greasy hair that hung down in clumps like taller candles. Some had whiskers that hid all but two little openins rite round ther eyes, and some were shaved clean all over except rite on the tip end of ther chins, where a little nasty-looking tag of hair stuck out like a billy-goat's beard and it was really musin to see some young chaps with soap-locks ed some six months standin, but who had not been long enough away from the breast to raise a goat-nod—jest to see the little pinfeathers, as you might call 'em, on ther chins, how proud they was of 'em and stick 'em out towards the galls.
I was settin lookin at the natural curiosities as they passed, when I
seed a sort of a stir down towards the dare, and some old gentleman
behind me sed, "whatsen yeath is that comin yender?"I looked, and shore enough there was a climax of hairy wonders comin up the aisle. I never wa
so cut to make anthing out afores--I couldn't tell whether it was a man
woman, or monkey. It had grate long silky hair hangin all down over its
neck and shoulders, and sich a pair of whiskers as no human ever wore
before, They kivered all the side of its face and run clear round its
chin, and hung way down an its great, Its complexian was light, and its
face looked sort o'pale and sheepy, and its hair and whiskers close up
to its chin, was between a sorrel and a drab color, but down towards
the eend the whiskers was colored as black as a bareskin. Everybody was
gazin at it and wanderin whar it cum from, and some of'em was laughin rite
in its face. I was monstrous glad Mary was settin rite behind a
monstrous tall woman what had a grate big conestoga bannet on, as she
couldn't see it, for I knew it would skeer her almost to death if she
was to see it walkin towards he. It got a seat after a while, and I
thought the galls would die laughin at it. But, good lord, some of 'em had
no biznès to laugh, for they had bustles en that would have litterally
litterally threwed the whiskers and the thing that were 'em entirely in
the shade. I never knewed what a bustle was afores. Would you believe
it, Mr. Thompson, that I saw Bustles up in Athens that, if they'd been
mad out of real flesh and blood, would broke the back of any gall
in Georgia to carry 'em. It's a fact as shore as I'm settin here.
Why, some xizn of them looked jest as much out of proportion as a big
bundle of fedder does tied to the handle of a pitchford. It is really
audacius to see to what monstrous extremities they carry them things. I'm
a married man, and I believe I love my wife as well as the next man,
but I do believe if anything would make me sue for a divorce, it would be to see my wife teatin' about such a monstrous pack on her back as some of them I saw up to Athens—but shaw, Mary aint sich a fool.

After they all get pretty well settled, the young gentlemen commenced their speeches, and I don’t think anybody could want any better evidence that Georgia boys is got some smartness. Mary liked'em all first rate, except one feller who spoke last. He gin the galls all sorts of a rakin', and I could see see of their eyes shinin' like they didn't thank him for it. He run'em down for every thing he could think of, and sed if one of 'em had made her appearance to elf father Adam in the garden, with such a huge bustle on as they wear nowadays, the old feller would tuck fright and never stopped till he scaled the walls of Paradise.

After the speeches was over, I tuck Mary to the hotel and after dinner I wanted swaded her to go and take a little walk. I was gwine down to the river to shaw her the cotton factory and was walkin' along College Avenue talkin' to her bout the fine stores and handsome houses, when, just as we get opposite to a watermelon cart, she gin a loud scream, and if I hadn’t grabbed hold of her like a steel trap, she’d dropped rite down in the street—"Oh, my Lor!" ses she, "What's that? I looked up and what should I see but that infernal hairy thing jest semin out from behind the cart. I never had a better mind to spile anything all to pieces in my life—to think it should come and skare Mary almost out of her senses; but I had to take care of her, and so I had to let it go on. Mary was so overcome I had to take her rite back to the hotel and stay with her all the evenin, and give her assafedity and held the hartshorn to her nose. It is a outrageous shame that sich things should be lawed to go at large, skeering the women and children to death. I wouldn’t a had Mary to see it for anything in the world, fer ther aint no telling
yet what may be the consequences.

The next day we went to hear the graduates speak and see 'em git ther diplomers. The speeches was all fust rate, but I noticed one thing which I blieve was the case with the Jubier class too. Then that was the smartest and made the best speeches didn't have more'n a reasonable quantity of hair on their heads, which goes to strengthen me in cht opinions that it is only uncultivated brains that runs all to hair, as uncultivated land runs all to weeds. If I had a son and wanted to make anything out of him, I would keep his hair cut close to his skelp. After the speeches was over, the President gin each of 'em a piece of paper tied with a blue ribbon, and told 'em to go home and be good boys, to dress like gentlemen, and be gentlemen, and try to get along genteely through the world. Then he called up a whole lot of fellers and made 'em Masters of Arts, and gin 'em a paper tied with a blue ribbon. Somebody ax'd me if I wasn't gwine to take the degree. I told 'em no, for I tuck the "Miscellany."---he said the degree of Master of Arts; "Oh, ah," ses I, for I didn't know what else to say, and when he went away I ax'd Mary what it was. She said it was a title what they gave the scholars. Nothavin much book larnin myself, I didn't cut 'em to the trouble, and we went home to our hotel.

The next mornin we went to hear Mr. Pickens, of South Carolina, make his spech, and sich a thunderin crow and sich a everlastin gatherin of carriages and horses I never did see. I kept a sharp lookout for the hairy man, for fear he might give Mary another skeer, but I didn't see him. I spose he got lost during the night among his whiskers and couldn't find himself in the mornin' mornin in time enough to come to the cration. You heered Mr. Pickens's spech and knew how good it was as well as me, so I won't make my long letter any longer by
sayin anything about it.

Mary was anxious to git home, and as soon as dinner was
over we started and got home the next day all sound and safe. Mary says
she thinks Franklin College is a first rate institution, but she sees if
she was a perfesser she would rather be eng to the Female College at
Macon, for she sees there wouldn't be half so much danger of gettin
walled now and then as there is when they have boys to deal with. She
says they didn't whip none of their perfessors when she was in College, tho
though they used to make ugly faces at 'em sometimes. But she says boys
is always worse than galls any way you can fix 'em, and I'm very much of
her opinion. Georgia boys is monstrous rough customers if they git ther
dander up, and it won't do to fool with 'em. No more from

Your fren, till death,

Jos. Jones.

Doubtless the reader may have the curiosity to know what
became of these whiskers. In brief, the owner thereof, when he read about
Major Jones new letters about his article on the
whiskers, among other things learning that the barbers in theng had
had an overbear of work cutting hair and shaving off whiskers, and as
for bustles, one letter informed him that "en last Sunday at church, I sa
twelve young ladies sitting on one bench where but eight could possibly
store themselves in the standing room."