Class of 1878

The class of 1878 graduated only 27 men, but there were 94 who had enrolled in the class during the four years and had not remained to complete the work for their degrees.

Though information as to the vocations of all the members of this class is inadequate, there were in after years eleven lawyers, eight farmers, five legislators, five physicians, five merchants, four judges, three teachers, two insurance men, two railroad men and one each, banker, manufacturer, journalist, college professor and minister.

THOMAS SUMMER MELL

Thomas Sumner Mell, son of Chancellor Patrick H. Mell, was born on the campus of the University of Georgia in 1859 and has been a citizen of Athens up to the present time, a period of eighty-seven years. He says that he has been present at every University commencement since the day of his birth, and no alumnus, living or dead, can challenge that record.

In college he was a student of brilliant parts. A member of the Phi Kappa Literary Society, he took much interest in debating and became one of the University's best speakers. He continued his studies in the Law School after graduating with the degree of Bachelor of Arts and won therein the degree of Bachelor of Law in 1880. He has successfully practiced his profession in Athens since that time.
He is a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon college fraternity and was its first Supreme Archon. Years ago he took a very active interest in the national affairs of the fraternity. Even up to old age he continued to manifest great interest in his college fraternity. In his younger days he served as city attorney of Athens and represented Clarke county in the Georgia legislature. When well past the three score and ten mark, he was elected as Mayor of Athens and served one term of two years.

Mr. Mell has all his life been a member of the Baptist Church, taking a prominent part in its affairs.

He is best known, perhaps, among University alumni as an after-dinner speaker than whom Georgia has never had one more brilliant or more entertaining. Possessed of much wit and humor, he could always be relied on at the banquet board to give to the occasion that touch of genuine good cheer and fellowship so necessary to the full enjoyment of guests.

Out of the many after-dinner speeches he has made, I pick the following as one of his best:

Chancellor Chelling was entertaining several distinguished guests at a luncheon. When the time came for speaking, the Chancellor went all around the table calling on first one and then another, and reserving Mr. Mell for the last speaker.

When Mr. Mell's time came to speak, the clock hands had moved forward considerably and he realized that what he had to say should be compressed into a minute or two. So this was his entire speech:

"I call attention to the remarkable similarity between Zaccheus, the publican, and myself. He was a man of small stature and so am I;
he was up a tree and so am I; and he came down quickly and so do I."

MOSES GEORGE MICHAELE

Moses George Michael was one of the youngest boys ever to graduate from the University of Georgia. He was born in Jefferson, Ga., in 1862, the son of Mr. and Mrs. David Michael, and when he graduated in the class of 1878 he lacked a few months of being sixteen years old. He graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Engineering, but instead of becoming an engineer, he became a dry goods merchant. Along with his brother, Simon, he organized the firm of Michael Brothers, and together they built up a wholesale and retail dry goods business that became known far and wide.

Mr. Michael was an orthodox Jew and was devoted to his church, but his mind and heart were so broad and catholic that in the affairs of life they embraced people of all religions beliefs. He was a ready and eloquent speaker and time and again was invited to address classes in the Sunday Schools of the Christian denominations. At high school commencements he was always at his best, and at Corom, Georgia, he made such an impression that he was invited back from year to year to make the high school commencement address, a custom that ceased only when he had reached an age that forbade his making any more addresses. The school formally conferred on him the honorary degree of Doctor of Friendship.

He was a civic leader of prominence, possessed of a great executive ability. Interested in banking, he became vice-president of the Athens Savings Bank and for a short while was its president. He served as a director of the Seaboard Air Line Railway.

He took great interest in educational affairs and for many years
was a member of the Athens Board of Education. His devotion to the University of Georgia never faltered. For several years he served as chairman of the committee in charge of raising the Alumni Library Endowment fund. A life-long Democrat, he was active in all movements looking to the success of that party. He served as a lieutenant-colonel on the military staff of Governor Allen D. Candler. He left to his children one of the largest business establishments in Northeast Georgia. He died at the age of eighty-two.

HUNTER POPE COOPER

Hunter Pope Cooper was born in Atlanta, Ga., May 16, 1880, and died August 24, 1906. He was the son of Thomas L. Cooper, an Atlanta lawyer and grandson of Mark A. Cooper, a long-time trustee of the University of Georgia. He spent two years in the University of Georgia and then went to the University of Virginia. He graduated at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York City. For years he taught in the Atlanta Medical College, was on the staff of the Grady Hospital in Atlanta, and was founder of the Elkins-Cooper Sanitarium in Atlanta. He married Miss Henrietta Tucker, daughter of Chancellor Henry H. Tucker, of the University of Georgia.

Richard Dowdy Callaway became a prominent farmer in Wilkes county and served in the state legislature.

Charles Lewis Floyd chose teaching as his lifework and for many years was a superintendent of schools in Alabama.

Samuel Talmadge LaHe was a promising young physician who died two years after graduation.

William L. Palmer succeeded as a physician in Missouri.

James Gordon Russell was a lawyer in Texas where he became Judge of the Seventh District.

George Gilmer Sale was a lawyer and also for years was a
teacher.

Paul B. Trammell became a banker, served as state senator 1888--1889 and as a member of the state house of representatives 1890--1893, also was Collector of Internal Revenue 1892--1897.

Benjamin M. Gross became a lawyer and judge of his county court.

Thomas F. McFaul and was a successful farmer and manufacturer and was a state senator 1896--1897.

William B. Dearing became a successful fire insurance broker in Savannah, Ga.

William Fannin Brown was a lawyer, served several terms in the state legislature and was judge of the city court of Carrollton, Ga.

Philip W. Davis was a lawyer, a state senator and judge of the county court of Oglethorpe county.

Charles McDonald Brown, son of Senator Joseph E. Brown, died in 1881 and in his memory Senator Brown established the Charles McDonald Brown Loan Fund in the University with a gift of fifty thousand dollars.

George Gilmore devoted his life to farming and merchandising. For a number of years he served as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Georgia State College of Agriculture.

James Watson Morris, a son of Professor Charles Morris, for many years served as Episcopal Missionary to Brazil.
CHAPTER VIII.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF CHANCELLOR HENRY H. TUCKER.

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CHAPTER VIII.

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Session of 1874–1875

The University of Georgia had a new Chancellor, Henry H. Tucker. In many ways he was different from his predecessor. While Chancellor Lipscomb was in no way subservient, he was of a sanguine disposition. Chancellor Tucker, while in no way intolerant or oppressive, was a man of more or less pugnacity, who spoke right out in meeting. Then, too, he did not see eye to eye with Chancellor Lipscomb on a number of subjects touching the best educational methods.

The administration of Chancellor Tucker was to last only four years. During those four years he fought under adverse conditions. One of these adverse conditions was the continued attacks of the denominational colleges. A large portion of his time and energies was taken up with answering critics. Another task was the management and development of the college of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts. He never altered his opinion concerning the teaching of agriculture. He was firm in the conviction it couldn't be taught practically as the people of the state were demanding. Lack of financial support, as usual, hampered him, and the elective system under which students could take practically such subjects as they wished to take oppressed him.

The writer has known intimately quite a number of the men, who as college boys attended the University in those days. He has never heard from them a criticism of Chancellor Tucker as to his ability, his high character or his loyalty to the institution. It simply wasn't written in the book of Fate that his administration was to be a success. As to student attendance, it continued from year to year to slide downward. At the end of the four years, a change in the administration was inevitable.

Perhaps there is no better place than right here to give a brief biography of Chancellor Tucker. It may disarrange the flow of the story
a little, but at its conclusion, the sequence of events can be taken up again.
HENRY HOLCOMBE TUCKER

When Chancellor Lipscomb laid down his work in 1874, the Methodists stepped down out of the chancellorship and the Baptists stepped in, for the day had not arrived in which anybody was considered for the position of chief executive of the University unless he was well known and favorably recognized as a minister.

The new Chancellor was Henry Holcombe Tucker. He was fifty-five years old. Thirty-five of those years measured the length of time from his graduation day. Merchant, lawyer, ministerial student, salt manufacturer, journalist, preacher, educator. He had been all those, but chiefly the latter two. He had a great intellect and it had been well trained. His character was above reproach. He had the courage of his convictions and he never hesitated to fight for them. He was a militant figure. He did not set the woods afire as chancellor, but everybody knew he was on the job, even though it lasted only four years.

His ancestors were Virginians. Both father and mother belonged to well-known Virginia families. His father was Germain Tucker, a man of culture and refinement, and his mother, Frances Henrietta Holcombe, was the daughter of Dr. Henry Holcombe, a well-known Virginian. Germain Tucker and his wife moved to Warren County, Georgia, where on May 10, 1819, was born to them the little son, to whom the name of his grandfather, Henry Holcombe, was given. Germain Tucker died a short while thereafter when only twenty-seven years of age and shortly thereafter his widow and young son went to Philadelphia. There in the City of Brotherly Love the boy received his secondary education and in 1834 entered the University of Pennsylvania, where he remained three years, when he took a notion to leave and go to the national capital where he would have the privilege of hearing the debates in Congress. He was intensely interested in debating and yearned to go where he could hear the best in that line.

He entered Columbia University in Washington and graduated, but he was not interested in his studies as he was in those debates and he expressed great regret that his stay in Washington had come to an end, for at that time Webster,
Clay, Calhoun and other great debaters were just coming into their great fame.

Strange it was, in view of his great interest in forensic disputation, that he should start his career in life as a merchant. But that was his first venture, launched in 1839 in Charleston, South Carolina. He had reasonable success in the mercantile world, but the work had no attraction for him and irked his combative spirit. So he buckled down to the study of law and in a few years was admitted to the bar. Just then he married Miss Catherine West and the vision of the happiest of lives opened out before him. Within a year she died and he was plunged into the depths of sorrow.

That was the turning point of his life. He turned to religion for his consolation, gave up the profession of law and became a theological student in Mercer University. There he received the best theological training under the tutelage and direction of the renowned minister and educator, Dr. John L. Dagg, who at that time was president of Mercer.

But he was not yet quite ready to commence preaching and entered the educational field as a teacher in the Southern Female College in LaGrange, Georgia. He still was possessed of that great attraction of speaking and debating, and added to that his conviction that he should preach the Gospel. So he entered the ministry in 1851. But he was very much like Moses Waddel, who years before had served as president of the University of Georgia. He had two masters, preaching and teaching, neither one of which he was willing to give up, and neither one of which he ever forsook. For practically the balance of his life he was a teacher and preacher.

In 1853 he was invited by the trustees of Wake Forest College, in North Carolina, to accept the presidency of that institution. He declined this offer and went to Alexandria, Virginia, where for a few years he was pastor of the Baptist church in that place. While living in Alexandria he married Miss Sarah Stevens. From there he went to Mercer University, the scene of his theological student days, as professor of English and Metaphysics where he remained until 1862 when the War
Between the States caused a cessation of college activities.

During the war he became a manufacturer of salt. Strange occupation for this preacher and teacher, but it turned out to be an important one. Dr. Tucker had a very vivid imagination. He had not favored secession, but he went into the Confederacy with his native state. He was convinced that there would be a shortage of salt in the South and he visited every section of Georgia calling on the people to manufacture salt. Many people poked fun at him and some of them thought he was somewhat unbalanced. He paid no attention to their ridicule. One of his biographers has this to say about him: "It was with a feeling of humility and gratitude that some of his critics later purchased salt manufactured in a factory of which Dr. Tucker was president, which was turning out over two hundred barrels of salt a day."

His heart went out to the sick and disabled Confederate soldiers and their dependents, and in order to help them he organized the Georgia Relief and Hospital Association. This organization functioned effectively throughout the war and was of immense help in caring for the sick and wounded soldiers.

After the war his versatile mind turned to journalism for about six months as editor of the Baptist organ, The Christian Index, and then, having been elected president of Mercer University, he left the field of journalism and served six years at the head of that college.

In 1871 he decided that he wanted to make a tour of Europe. He resigned the presidency of Mercer University and went to Europe.

In an article in the Georgia Alumni Record, October 1932, occurs this paragraph: "In the year 1871 an eminent American minister of the Baptist faith was traveling through Europe with his family. In Rome he found no Baptist church and very few Baptists. When he departed Rome possessed a Baptist church and at least one man had been baptized in the Tiber."

It was not long after his return from Europe that he was named as Chancellor,
upon the resignation of Chancellor Lipscomb. He came into that office at a time when the denominational colleges and the University were great rivals and when at times the feeling between the alumni of the several institutions was not the very best. He was a great Baptist and the Baptists had more members in Georgia than any other denomination. His services in allaying hostile feeling were conspicuous. With characteristic positiveness he met all charges against the University. Whatever else may be said of his administration it can never be said that he lowered his flag.

The progress of the University and the work accomplished during his administration, with something about the boys who came under his training and who became effective servants of the state and its people in the coming years will be written of later on.

After his resignation as Chancellor Dr. Tucker went back into church journalism as editor of the Christian Index, becoming its sole owner. He remained at his post of duty to the end, dying on September 9, 1891.

Throughout the varied activities of his life he never gave up his preaching. It mattered not what line of endeavor commanded his attention, in the very midst of all his work he carried on his preaching. And he was really a great preacher, possessed of intellect, energy, vision, character and unfaltering devotion to duty.

**AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION PROBLEM**

The first big problem that Chancellor Tucker faced was that of properly developing the new college of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts that had just been established as a part of the University of Georgia. With characteristic energy he tackled the problem, fought his way for four years and came to the end of his fight thoroughly beaten. It was not a disgrace that he failed to win this fight. Perhaps he handled it as well as any other educator in Georgia could have handled it. His successor, Chancellor Mell, didn't whip it, nor did his
successor, Chancellor Boggs whip it, nor was the evidence of coming success apparent until more than twenty years later when Chancellor Hill inaugurated the movement that led to the establishment of the new College of Agriculture as a part of the University of Georgia.

It was a tough proposition. Very few colleges in the country had made much progress in agricultural education. The initial preparation of the soil had to be attended to before the crop could be planted. At first there was a rush of students from the rural sections of Georgia. Then the number began to drop off and before the end of Chancellor Tucker's administration the attendance at the University had shown a marked decrease. He attributed this decrease to the lack of proper preparation of students in the high schools and academies. Whatever the cause, it was evident that the novelty had worn off and the progress of agricultural education in the University had been definitely checked.

BANNING OF FRATERNITIES

Upon quite a large number of students in the University Chancellor Tucker made anything but a favorable impression by his opposition to secret fraternities. There were then five Greek letter fraternities on the campus. In order of their establishment at the University they were Sigma Alpha Epsilon, 1866, Chi Phi 1867, Kappa Alpha, 1869, Phi Delta Theta, 1871, Phi Gamma Delta, 1871.

Chancellor Tucker was honestly of the opinion that they exercised a harmful influence, that they aroused class enmity, that they stood in the way of close attention to scholastic duties, etc. It was not long before they were banned by the Trustees. This, of course, was resented by the members of the five fraternities, but they were powerless to override the established rule of the college. Each student, on registering, had to agree not to join a secret fraternity while a member of the college.

The students signed up all right, but at the same time they joined fraternities. They hadn't agreed not to join during vacation periods, when they
would, of course, not be members of the college. So they joined during those periods and considered that they had not violated their pledges.

And it is highly probable that they met whenever they got ready to do so, for who could prevent a number of students gathering in a room for a social evening? It was not necessary for it to be called a fraternity meeting. They just met. A number of those boys, in after life, became leaders in both state and national affairs. It was inevitable that Chancellor Tucker's position would be revised, and so it came to pass when Chancellor Mell went into office. He told the trustees before he accepted the position that the ban against fraternities would have to be lifted. And that was one of the first things done after he became Chancellor.

In spite of all this, the college boys as a rule liked Chancellor Tucker. They respected him for his high character and for his uniform courtesy and kindness. He was an interesting speaker and they enjoyed the talks he made to the assembled students on various occasions. They knew that he had the courage of his convictions, and if there is anything the average boy admires in a man it is his willingness to fight it out under all circumstances. And, while he was not to say belligerent, Chancellor Tucker knew how to handle himself in any spirited controversy.

Chancellor Tucker, in addition to being quite a "scrapper" in argument, was quick in repartee and it was difficult for students to "put one over on him." They tried it one day during the chapel services and came out on the small end of the joke.

Chancellor Tucker had written on the blackboard the following announcement:

"Chancellor Tucker will meet his classes at half past eleven o'clock."

One of the mischievous boys, while no one was noticing him, slipped up to the blackboard and with a rubber erased the letter "C" and made the announcement read as follows:

"Chancellor Tucker will meet his lasses at half past eleven o'clock."
As the boys assembled in the room and read the announcement, there was much merriment, for the students had no idea what the venerable Chancellor had in mind in meeting the "lassies" as that was before co-eds came upon the campus.

Presently the Chancellor came in to conduct the exercises. He read the announcement on the blackboard. It called for a different kind of meeting from the one he had announced, and he noticed that here and there the students were smiling or snickering.

He walked through the hall and up to the blackboard. With one stroke of the eraser he eliminated the letter "1" and the announcement read:

"Chancellor Tucker will meet his asses at half-past eleven o'clock."

The smiles on the faces of the boys died out and there was silence. The Chancellor never said a word about the occurrence and it is not recorded how much resounding braying resulted when the "asses" reported to the Chancellor at the appointed hour.

DENOMINATIONAL COLLEGE OPPOSITION

In the vernacular of the present day Chancellor Tucker, during all his administration had a great big "headache" in the shape of denomination college opposition. It was not exactly a new question, but it had been very much accentuated. Back in the days before the War Between the States, President Church had from year to year explained decreases in attendance by referring to the influence of the church colleges in securing students who otherwise might have enrolled in the University. But by the time Chancellor Tucker took up his work on the campus there had been injected into the conflict much feeling and unfounded charges were being made as to immoral influences at the University. People were being told that if they wanted to send their boys to hell they should start them on the journey by sending them to the University.

Now Chancellor Tucker was a great Baptist preacher, but he did not hesitate mixing in combat with members of his own church. Likewise he knew how to put
the trimmings on with either his tongue or his pen. He proceeded to dress the brethren up in proper garments as well as to pay attention to those of other denominations.

Chancellor Tucker had occasion in 1875 to address the state legislature on the condition and needs of the University and in that address referred to this fight of the denominational colleges. He was a past master in the use of irony and sarcasm when he wished to employ those weapons. This was an occasion on which he wished to use them. Among other things he said:

"It is said that many young men have been ruined at the University. It is not said how many have been ruined at home, and who, perhaps, might have been saved if they had been put under the fostering care of the University of the State. But it may be well to look among these ruins and take account of the damage that has been done at this notable place. There is where William C. Dawson was ruined, and there is where Eugenius A. Nisbet was ruined, and there is where Iverson L. Harris was ruined and there is where Hugh A. Haralson was ruined, and there is where Judge John J. Floyd and his classmate, Judge Junius Hillyer were ruined at the same time and place. There is where Bishop George F. Pierce was ruined, with his distinguished classmates, Dr. Nathaniel Macon Crawford and Dr. Shaler G. Hillyer, and Bishop Thomas F. Scott and Dr. John N. Waddell, Chancellor of the University of Mississippi. These five classmates, Pierce, Crawford, Hillyer, Scott and Waddell were all slain at one fell swoop by the arch destroyer. They were all ruined at the University in the Class of 1829. Ebenezer Starnes met his fate at the same place and so did Henry L. Benning, both Judges of the Supreme Court. Howell Cobb and Herschel V. Johnson, both Governors of Georgia, were classmates and both fell together, and at the same time and place fell Judge Augustus Reese. Francis S. Bartow and Junius A. Wingfield were classmates and met the same doom. Judge James Jackson and Judge David A. Vason and David W. Lewis, for fourteen years a member of this body, and Governor John Gill Shorter,
of Alabama, were classmates and met a common catastrophe. Professor Shelton P. Sanford, William Hope Hull, Isaiah Tucker Irwin, once the Speaker of this House, and Professor John LeConte, of national reputation, and Rev. Dr. Benjamin M. Palmer, of New Orleans, were classmates, and the splendid galaxy all went down together.

"His Honor of the Supreme Court, Judge Robert P. Trippe and His Honor Judge Alexander Speer were in the same class, and met together the ruin which is so common at the University. This was the class of 1839. Professor Joseph LeConte and Thomas R. R. Cobb fell together. Dr. Felton and General Garlington were in the same class. Jabez L. N. Curry, Judge E. H. Pottle and Judge Linton Stephens were in the next, and Peter W. Alexander, Henry H. Jones, and last, but not least -- I say last but not least -- Benjamin H. Hill were in the next. Just look over the list — and the list might be indefinitely enlarged, for I have named only a few specimens of the many — and see what we have done."

But even such words could not stop the discussion. It went on and even grew worse. A good portion of the time of Chancellor Mell and Chancellor Boggs was taken up with the refutation of unfounded charges made by friends of the denominational colleges. With the coming of Chancellor Hill there began a movement towards better feeling and since that time there has been no great amount of friction. But some of it still remains. A Baptist minister asserted before a congregation in Oglethorpe County that the University of Georgia had never sent out a single minister of the gospel, and within the past ten years a Methodist minister asserted before a congregation in Greensboro that during the year more than a dozen young women had been dismissed from the University for immoral conduct. When that statement appeared in print in the Greensboro Herald-Journal, the writer, himself a Methodist, armed himself with the facts taken from the records and the testimony of the Dean of Women, showing that no girl had been dismissed and no such charge had been made against any girl, and presented the
facts to Bishop Ainsworth, who happened to be in Athens, stating to the Bishop that in his opinion no such preacher should be allowed to fill a pulpit in Georgia. The good Bishop said that was not within his jurisdiction and the presiding elder was the official to whom protest should be made. The writer may have been unorthodox, but he told the Bishop that if he were Bishop he would take jurisdiction. President Caldwell, in a letter to the offending preacher, set forth the facts and asked that an apology be printed in the Greensboro paper. The preacher made the apology and said he had been misinformed. But the fact remained that a preacher was carelessly circulating an awful charge without knowing what he was talking about.

The intense rivalry between the denominational colleges and the University has ceased. They have for years worked together most harmoniously. There is no indication that anything will arise to break their cordial relation. The University, to use Chancellor Tucker's word, is still engaged in the business of "ruining" students.
The first time Chancellor Tucker met with the Board of Trustees was on Feb. 5, 1875, and he came head-on into conflict with the opinion of the Governor of Georgia. A letter was received by the Board from former Governor Charles J. Jenkins in regard to a proposition of Governor James M. Smith that the number of members of the Board of Trustees be reduced to nine. That didn't suit the new chancellor at all, and he didn't hesitate to say so. The suggested reduction was not made.

The Board had abolished the chair of Greek and had added that subject to the department of Latin. Now Chancellor Tucker was a decided classicist and that change did not meet his approval. He told the Board so and the chair of Greek was re-established.

The new College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts was just getting under way. Chancellor Tucker did not believe that practical agriculture could be successfully taught and saw no future for the new college so far as that feature of its work was concerned. He did not believe in the elective maximum system, but had to carry it on. It would be a mistake to say that successful work was not carried on during the four years of his administration, but it would be stating the truth to say that he had an administration full of troubles.

At the Commencement session on July 28, 1875, Chancellor Tucker made his first report, showing an attendance of 229, a decrease of 37 from the prior year's attendance of 266. This falling off was attributed to the financial condition of the state, as well as the South and nation, during the year that had passed. The chief decrease had been in the College of Agriculture.

Chancellor Lipscomb's last report had referred to the largest number of cases of discipline during his administration. Chancellor Tucker's first report was about the opposite. He went into considerable detail on
that subject and the picture he drew was an interesting one. The boys must have considerably reformed or the new Chancellor must have overlooked offenses.

"I said he: "There has been only one case of intoxication. With that exception, not a solitary instance of open vice of any kind has come to my knowledge.

"The utmost vigilance has been exercised by my colleagues and myself, but no case has come within our knowledge where severe discipline could have been properly inflicted.

"During the whole year no student was under arrest and only at the opening was there complaint of citizens of boisterous conduct. There has been no personal collision between students and no officer has been treated with disrespect. There has been no disturbance at the churches or other public gatherings, no roystering songs are heard on the streets or campus by day or by night and seldom, if ever, has any large collection of students blockaded the sidewalks.

"My door is unlocked. None of my papers have been disturbed and no student has ever crossed the threshold on any improper errand. I have never seen a body of young men so orderly and well-disposed. It may well be doubted whether another college in the United States can show so splendid a record."

The chancellor evidently was surprised at such a record and he had no illusions as to its being indefinitely repeated for, continuing he said: "Candor, however, compels me to say that a state of things so extraordinary cannot be expected to last always. I have no idea we shall ever see another such year. I am equally candid in saying and I say it with emphasis, that I do not claim the credit of these remarkable results."
"It became my duty to set forth another state of facts, by no means so favorable and in strict contrast to what has been said. In the chapel and in the recitation rooms there has been much disorder. The chancellor then related how students had engaged in conversation, read papers and books and smoked cigars in the presence of the members of the faculty, during divine services had stamped and scraped with their feet, and during recitations had whistled and made other hideous noises. He stated that it was impossible to identify the offenders, that he had endeavored to arouse student opinion and in a measure had succeeded. In the last six months he had noticed a marked improvement.

The truth probably was that the boys had transferred their noisy behavior from the streets and public gatherings into the class rooms on the campus, but the chancellor got them in hand presently. Aside from that tendency to noise in the classrooms, it is very likely that the behavior of the students had greatly improved. The chancellor said his colleagues in the faculty did not agree with him as to the extent of misbehavior in the class rooms, but as he had set forth the bright side of the picture he taught he should be honest enough to paint the other side as well.

The greatest harmony was reported as existing between the members of the faculty and he suggested postponing for one year the re-organizing of the courses of study and the general re-organization that had been proposed at the last meeting of the Board.

Chancellor Tucker lodged a protest against the number of studies a student was allowed to pursue. That had come about through Chancellor Lipscomb's pet elective system. It was suggested that the faculty be given the power to fix the maximum study load. That, of course, is now the accepted procedure in all first-class colleges.
He reported that he had delivered the lectures on the Evidences of Christianity as requested by the Board. He was endeavoring to enforce the rule against sectarianism in the University, but acknowledged that he was beset by difficulties in that respect.

He was squarely against the practice of offering medals to induce students to do better work. He said the system of medals had failed to accomplish the object professed, and that the students took no interest in those contests, only one or two entering each contest. He declared that the medals given by the literary societies caused trouble, and that electioneering, treating and intrigue were rampant. If the medals were awarded by the faculty, some good might come from the system, but as it stood, it was "unmitigated evil." To which he added the remark that "fights grow out of the contests and the system in itself has all the elements of disorder and strife."

Chancellor Tucker was a believer in publicity and in polite terms he read the trustees a good lesson. It didn't have any great effect in that body, as it was always busy balancing the budget, and unwilling to take any great risks by over-appropriating. The Chancellor was right in this instance when he asked for the printing of more catalogs and insisted that the people of Georgia be fully informed as to what their University was offering to the young men of the state. He pointed out that one or two extra students secured by the catalogs would, through their fees, cover the extra costs. Other Chancellors were to face the same trouble in the future, not only as to the number of catalogs issued, but also the lack of pictorial bulletins and proper articles in the newspapers. Only recently have these deficiencies been met. Publicity of the right sort is always a prime requisite in the advancement of any educational institution. A full appropriation for this purpose will never bring the institution's bank account out in the red.
For several years there had been trouble in getting the students to return the books they had taken out of the library. No doubt that careless habit existed in all college communities, but it was seriously impairing the usefulness of the University library. The Chancellor reported that this situation was some better than it had been, but he suggested that no books be allowed to be taken out of the library except on the deposit by the student of money enough to cover the cost of the books taken out, that the books were mainly for reference purposes and the services of the library would not be impaired by adopting this method. The trustees very readily saw that such a step would practically bring the use of the books in the library by the students to an end and did not adopt the suggestion, being content to stand the loss if it could not be prevented.

On Feb. 3, 1875, the Chancellor addressed the General Assembly of Georgia, reference to which address has already been made in the biography of Dr. Tucker.

The new Moore College building had been finished and it was formally dedicated on June 19, 1875. The new College of Agriculture and the "Mechanic Arts was thus furnished ample and satisfactory quarters.

In June 1875 the students and the citizens of Athens enjoyed listening to the eloquent Ben Hill when he delivered his lectures on the United States Constitution.

On August 1, 1875, Montgomery Cumming was elected as Professor of Natural Philosophy and Astronomy, but at a later day the offer of this professorship to him was withdrawn.

At commencement that year the following degrees were conferred:

Bachelor of Philosophy—George D. Case.

Bachelor of Science—Pleasant A. Stovall, Thomas P. Vincent.

Civil Engineer—Marion Erwin, William H. Fleming, Joseph M. Hodgson, Martin Luther Morris, Chapman P. Twitty.

Civil and Mining Engineer—S.W. Cozart, Carlisle Terry.

Bachelor of Law—Henry W. Barrow, James M. Bellah, Frank L. Haralson, Rufus Hardy, John Collier Hart, James H. Hoskinson, Robert S. Howard, Samuel Gayton McLendon, John A. McWhorter, Robert L. Summerlin, John C. Williams, Boykin Wright.

Master of Arts—George Fletcher Gober.

Class of 1875

The Class of 1875 enrolled one hundred and eight students, of whom forty-three received degrees. That was an encouraging sign, for at the preceding commencement only twenty-three had graduated out of an enrollment of ninety-five. The decrease during the year had been largely in the lower classes.

In the years after graduation the members of the class were distributed as to vocations as follows: lawyers 21, legislators 3, farmers 7, judges 6, merchants 5, teachers 3, insurance men 3, Physicians 3, manufacturers 3, bankers 3, ministers 2, journalists 2, and one each
associate justice of Supreme Court of Georgia, college professor, congressman, dentist and broker.

Among the more distinguished members of this class in after life were Joseph Henry Lumpkin, William H. Fleming, John Temple Graves, George F. Gober, Pleasant A. Stovall, Boykin Wright and John C. Hart.

Joseph Henry Lumpkin, Class of 1875.

Joseph Henry Lumpkin, of the Class of 1875, was the son of William Wilberforce Lumpkin and Marion Louise Ring Lumplin, and the grandson of Joseph Henry Lumpkin, the first chief justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia. He was born in Athens, Georgia, Sept. 3, 1856. His father, at a later date, was a member of the University faculty.

At the age of nineteen he graduated from the University of Georgia with high honors. Like his distinguished grandfather he was very fond of reading good books. He took little interest in athletic sports, preferring to put his time in on reading. After graduation with the A.B. degree he moved to Atlanta and began the study of law. He was admitted to the bar in 1876 after standing a thorough examination. He then formed a partnership with Captain Harry Jackson, one of the brilliant young members of the Atlanta bar.

In 1877 he was appointed assistant reporter of the Supreme Court and when Captain Jackson resigned his position in 1882, he became the official reporter of that court.

Later on, when he resigned that office, Chief Justice Bleckley said of him: "Mr. Lumpkin's faculty for reporting is remarkable. He can, with more facility and expedition than most any other man I have ever known, arrive at the true contents of a record or opinion and present them in a condensed form, making a sort of miniature of any case, however large the proportions, and yet a miniature that reflects the features accurately."
He was appointed Judge of the Superior Court of the Atlanta Circuit by Governor Northen in 1893 and was twice re-elected to that position. On the resignation of Judge Joseph R. Lamar in 1905 he was appointed by Governor Terrell as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia, and served as such until his death in , a period of Years. during which time he rendered many important decisions comparable in clearness and deep appreciation of the law to those of his distinguished grandfather.

He was a man of fine business judgment and accumulated a neat fortune, which, being a bachelor, he bequeathed to his brother, Edwin King Lumpkin, a graduate in the Class of 1871 and an eminent lawyer in Athens. In , desirous of aiding young men of limited means to secure an education at the University of Georgia, he established a loan fund with an endowment of Five thousand dollars, the interest from which is loaned to worthy young men who need it to defray their college expenses.

(Here place the biographies of those mentioned above.)
John Temple Graves became a great journalist and orator. He was regarded by many as one of the truly great orators of the nation. The writer enjoyed his friendship and remembers quite a number of his eloquent and soul-stirring addresses.

He was born Nov. 9, 1857 in Willington District, near Abbeville, S.C. His grandfather, John Temple Graves, was a soldier of the American Revolution and his father, James Porterfield Graves, University alumnus, Class of 1842, served in the 51st Ga. Regiment, Confederate States Army, and lived beyond the ninety-year mark, at one time being the oldest living graduate of the University.

John Temple Graves was twice married. His first wife, Mattie Gardner Simpson, of Hancock county, Georgia, died without issue. He married in 1890 Anne E. Cothran, of Rome, Ga., three children being born to them, one, John Temple Graves, Jr., now being a well-known journalist.

In his college days John Temple Graves exhibited the talents that later on made him famous. He was recognized as an orator without peer even in those days. He was widely read and possessed a vocabulary scarcely excelled by anyone. The writer well remembers him in his prime. He had an almost illimitable flow of language. He never hesitated for a word. Figuratively he could weave garlands of flowers out of his storehouse of English words. He opened his mouth and the most beautiful sentiments came forth. While he had always something to say that was worth hearing and digesting, still the main attraction was the language he used and the fire and glow with which his well-formed sentences were uttered. He had a large head, and character was stamped on his face. In stature he was short and in no way did he approach stoutness.

Journalism was his chosen profession. The greater part of his life was given over to writing and with his pen he was as charming as with his voice. On the side he lectured and at times delivered great orations.
For several years in his younger days he lived in Florida and while there edited the daily Florida Herald. He moved from there to Atlanta in 1887 to become editor-in-chief of the Atlanta Journal. In 1888 he went to Rome as editor of the Rome Tribune. In 1889 he spoke before the Southern Society of New York.

At the memorial exercises held in the DeGive opera house in Atlanta following the death of Henry W. Grady, Mr. Graves delivered what was probably the most beautiful address he ever delivered, among other things coining that expression that has been quoted concerning Grady thousands of times, and which was chiseled on the pedestal of the Grady statue in Atlanta, "when he died he was literally loving a nation into peace." Portions of that speech have been used in hundreds of declamation contests at the University of Georgia and other Southern institutions, especially the eloquent peroration.

In 1892 he spoke at many places in the presidential campaign in which Grover Cleveland was elected for the second time. In 1894 he was the baccalaureate speaker at the University of Virginia. He was on two occasions the orator before the New England Society in Boston. In 1904 he spoke before the International Press Conference in St. Louis. He received innumerable invitations to speak from all over the South. In one year he was obliged to turn down over one hundred invitations to deliver addresses at high school commencements.

From 1902 to 1906 he was editor of the Atlanta News. In 1906 he became editor of the Atlanta Georgian. In 1906 he announced his candidacy for a seat in the United States Senate, but withdrew from the race on account of impaired health. In 1907 he became editor-in-chief of the New York Daily American.

Mr. Graves was outspoken in his views on public issues and frequently was on the unpopular side of the question.
That made little difference with him. As one of his friends said of him, "he would not flatter Neptune for his trident nor Jupiter for the power to thunder." He stirred up much criticism by his views on the negro question, especially as he set them forth in a lecture at Chautauqua, N.Y. They were far in advance of the Southern views at that time.

At times he was not in line with organized Democracy. In one of William J. Bryan's races for the presidency, Mr. Graves was a speaker in Chattanooga on the same platform with Mr. Bryan. In his speech he suggested to Mr. Bryan that he nominate Teddy Roosevelt for another term and thus usher in "a moral era of good feeling."

He never lost interest in the University of Georgia. He attended his class reunion, he was present at the meetings of the Alumni Society, his pen was always moving in support of movements looking to the advancement of the institution.

He died in-------------------
WILLIAM HENRY FLEMING

When it comes to maintaining one's convictions, among those Georgia alumni whom it has been the privilege of the writer to know well, none can be assigned higher rank in his judgment than William Henry Fleming, of the Class of 1875. He never measured results or trimmed his sails. His mind was made up and his conscience approving his decision, he stood by his guns and was immovable. Generally he won, sometimes he lost, but win or lose, he spoke his mind.

He was born Oct. 18, 1856 near Augusta, Georgia, the son of Porter Fleming and Catherine Morange Morange Fleming. His father was a farmer and merchant, who lost nearly all his possessions during the War Between the States. Paternally he was of English descent. His great-grandfather was one of five brothers who came from England prior to the War of the Revolution. Three of these brothers fought in the Continental armies. On the maternal side his ancestors were French Huguenots. His grandfather, Isaac Morange, with his brothers, fought in the American Revolution under General Pickens.

When William H. Fleming was twelve years old he began working on the farm in order to help his father and continued this work until he was fifteen. The penalty of war had fallen upon his young shoulders. He knew what it meant to work and to work hard. He managed to attend Richmond Academy to prepare himself for college, for he had determined to get a college education. When he got ready to enter the University of Georgia he borrowed the necessary money from Alexander H. Stephens. He came to college serious-minded, and made every minute count. While in college he acted as college postmaster and even before graduation became a tutor at a small salary. He was an excellent student and a talented orator, reading extensively and taking a prominent part in debating. He won the Junior orator's medal. He graduated with the degree of Civil Engineer and later on received the degree of Master
He soon found out that civil engineering did not suit him as a life work. Law quickly became his chosen profession. He studied law under John T. Sheff make and was admitted to the bar in 1830. He achieved marked success in the practice of his profession. He served as President of the Georgia Bar Association 1894–1895. In 1888 he started his political career, serving as a member from Richmond County eight years in the Georgia house of representatives from 1888 to 1895. He was Speaker of the House one term. He was always a member of the judiciary committee and was the author of a number of important state laws. He was a believer in adhering strictly to the constitution and was an authority on constitutional law. He always voted against a measure that he deemed unconstitutional.

He was an ardent champion of public schools. He was the author of the bill to establish the State Normal School. One of his bills called for the quarterly payment of teachers' salaries, the payment of which had been delayed and at irregular intervals. He also introduced a bill to increase the number of judges of the Supreme Court. His entire service in the legislature was highly constructive in its nature.

In 1897 his political life broadened out into the national field, and he was elected to Congress, serving there six years until he was defeated in 1903. He had advocated a measure in Congress that his constituents did not approve. He stood by his guns, though he realized that his stand would probably defeat him. While in Congress he made a great reputation on account of his clear views and sensible speeches. His speech on the income tax was declared by Champ Clark, a Democratic leader, to be "a substantial and valuable contribution to the philosophy and political literature of the ages." His speech on the tariff was made a campaign document by the Democratic campaign committee and a million copies were distributed.
He was married Aug. 22, 1900 to Miss Marie Celeste Ayers, daughter of Major W. F. Ayers. One son blessed their union, William Cornelius Fleming, later a graduate of the University of Georgia, with a brilliant record.

William H. Fleming never forgot the kindness of Alexander H. Stephens in helping him on his way through the University. He promptly repaid the loan of money, but through the years kept green the memory of the great and generous Georgian who was always taking advantage of every opportunity to help aspiring young men. For years Mr. Fleming was one of the most active members of the Memorial Association looking after the restoration of "Liberty Hall" at the home of Stephens in Crawfordville, the erection of the marble monument there and in everything that was done to honor the memory of Georgia's great Commissioner.

His interest in the University of Georgia never for a moment flagged. He came back to his class reunions. He took part in every forward movement. For a number of years he was an active and valued member of the Board of Trustees of the University.
JOHN COLLIER HART

John Collier Hart was born in July 1854 near Union Point, Ga. His grandparents came to Georgia from Virginia and settled in Greene county. His grandfather, Thomas Hart, was a soldier in the War of the Revolution. He was a contractor and builder. He built the first chapel on the campus of the University of Georgia.

John C. Hart's father was James Hart, born in Greene county, but later on a business man in Augusta, Ga. His maternal grandfather, Dr. Collier, was a well-known South Carolina physician.

Young Hart entered the Sophomore Class, University of Georgia, and graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Law in 1875. In college he was of a literary turn of mind and a talented speaker. He edited the Georgia University magazine and was Junior medalist in the Demosthenian Society, as well as a champion debater, representing that society in one of its annual tilts against the Phi Kappa Society.

He located for the practice of law at Union Point, Ga., where he remained until his death in 1901. In 1884 he was sent to the Georgia legislature from Greene county and was re-elected in 1886 and 1888. In 1894 he was named as Judge of the Superior Courts of the Ocmulgee Circuit and served eight years in that office. In 1902 he was elected as Attorney-General of Georgia, which position he filled with marked ability. In 1887 he married Miss Irene Horton, of Augusta. He continued the practice of law in his native county after he retired from service as attorney-general of the state.

Judge Hart was among the ablest and most popular men in public life. He was prominently mentioned a short while before his death as a most available candidate for the governorship in Georgia.

His death was tragic. He delighted in hunting and on one of his hunting trips near his home he met instant death through the accidental discharge of the contents of his gun.
Another member of the Class of 1875 who achieved eminence as a lawyer was Boykin Wright, who was born May 22, 1852 near Covington, Ga., the son of Franklin Wright and Semina Selina Frances (Robinson) Wright. His ancestors, both paternal and maternal, fought in the War of the American Revolution.

He spent his boyhood days on the farm, while his father and brothers were fighting in the Confederate Army. He studied in the village school and Emory College and then came to the University to win in 1875 the degree of Bachelor of Law. On Feb. 17, 1885 he married Miss Margaret Cabell, of Richmond, Va.

He was active in politics, not so much for himself as for his friends and his party. He served as Solicitor-General of the Augusta Circuit twelve years. In 1902 he was appointed by Governor Candler as Attorney-General of Georgia to succeed Attorney-General Joseph M. Terrell, who had resigned that office. In 1904 he returned to the legislature for a term of two years.
Thomas Calvin Carlton became a lawyer, a judge of the county court and a Baptist minister.

Henry G. Dickinson was a lawyer, superintendent of public schools, and a member of the Texas legislature.

William Henry Doughty became an eminent physician and for many years was a leading member of the faculty of the Georgia Medical College in Augusta.

Dermott Henderson Hardy achieved success at the Texas bar and served as secretary of state in Texas.

Hugh Nesbitt Starmes was a farmer, then assistant state school commissioner in Georgia 1889–1890, horticulturist of the Georgia Experiment station 1893–1898 and for several years professor of agriculture, University of Georgia.

Thomas P. Vincent became a successful merchant and manufacturer, being president of the Athens Manufacturing Company.

Rufus Hardy achieved distinction as a lawyer in Texas, serving as district attorney and district judge, and also serving in the United States congress.

Samuel Guyton McLendon became a leading Georgia lawyer, was mayor of Thomasville, member of the state legislature 1884–1887, served as a member of the state railroad commission and for years was Georgia's Secretary of State.

Elisha P. S. Denmark became a successful lawyer and served in the state senate.

Hugh Haralson Gordon, son of General John B. Gordon, was a successful farmer. In the Spanish–American war he served as a Major of U.S. volunteers. For many years in later life he lived on his beautiful estate at Coral.
Session of 1875–1876

Chancellor Tucker had finished his first year as chief executive of the University of Georgia and was starting his second year when the institution opened its fall session in September 1875.

The situation was not encouraging and the Chancellor fretted under it. The attendance was declining, which he attributed, no doubt justly, to the hard financial conditions. Only those who went through Reconstruction in the South can testify as to those conditions. He was not satisfied with the preparation of the young men to take up college work; he considered the teaching of agriculture hopeless under prevailing conditions, even if it could ever be successfully taught. But he went right ahead with a will, and, though things may not have suited him, the work of the University was nevertheless successful so far as the attending students were concerned, as the faculty bore down to their work with great vigor, loyalty and devotion.

The report of the chancellor showed that during the year closing in July 1876, the attendance had dropped from 229 to 203. That was not so great a decrease, but subsequent years showed that it was a marked tendency and that the attendance would go to much lower figures before the decline was stopped.

The conduct of students when out in the city was reported as exceptionally good. In the class rooms and on the campus it had greatly improved. Stamping and scraping the feet on the floors had almost ceased.

The Chancellor gave no names, but it was clearly discernible that he had little regard for some members of the faculty, though he lodged no complaint against them. Said he: "A number of officers are not qualified to give instruction. A number are utterly unfit to teach at all and they so declare."
He was disgusted with the medal situation. He asked that all medals be withdrawn except those for Sophomore declamation and that the literary societies be prohibited from awarding debaters' medals. The trustees did not agree with him as to the literary societies and refused to prohibit them from awarding medals.

He asked that the name of his office be changed to Chancellor of the University of Georgia and President of Franklin College, but the trustees thought the latter title was implied in the first and did not make the change.

The degree of Bachelor of Chemical Science was suggested for those completing the work in the State College. That degree was authorized and awarded for a few years and then was discontinued and later on the degree of Bachelor of Science was authorized.

The Chancellor went after the trustees again as to more catalogs and a triennial catalog was ordered published, the first of its kind in nineteen years.

He was dissatisfied with the condition attached to scholarships requiring the recipients to teach in the schools at the state after finishing their work in the University, declaring that as a rule they were not fitted to teach and were a burden on the young people in the preparatory schools.

Prof. Charles Morris resigned the professorship of Greek, and the trustees requested him to withdraw his resignation. He did not do so and the teaching of that language went over into the Latin department.

Governor Jenkins resigned the chairmanship of the Board of Trustees and the Board refused to accept his resignation.

The degree of Mechanical Engineer was added to those offered graduate of the University.
A resolution was introduced and passed concerning the office of Chancellor, but it never took effect at the time set for its operation. It was as follows: "That the Chancellor's office be one of honor and distinction without salary; that he preside at all commencements and confer the degrees upon such occasions, leaving the faculty free to choose their own chairman." This resolution was to go into effect one year later.

Prof. L.H. Charbonnier was given leave of absence until July 1, 1877 in order to visit his native country, France.

The professor of Chemistry was directed to make a qualitative and quantitative analysis of all the mineral waters of the state.

The trustees were interested in improving the instruction in English and directed that English compositions be submitted by the students for criticism by the students in their classes.

At the graduation exercises the following degrees were conferred:


Bachelor of Engineering—Benjamin M. Hall.

Civil and Mining Engineer—M.L. Morris.

Bachelor of Science—William M. Henry, George Dudley Thomas, Joseph S. Cook, James U. Jackson.

Master of Agriculture—M.L. Morris.

Bachelor of Philosophy—Thomas R. Rusk.

Bachelor of Law—Samuel J. Hale, Hudson A. Jenkins, Bartown E. Thrasher J. Harvey Turner.

Master of Arts—W.D. Mitchell.
The honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred on Rev. John Jones, of Atlanta, and the honorary degree of Master of Arts on Eugene H. Barnett and Benjamin P. Gaillard.

Class of 1876.

The Class of 1876 graduated thirty-two men. The enrollment in this class during their Freshman and Sophomore years had been very heavy. For the entire period they had enrolled 167 students who were due to graduate with the class. The great majority were the students who came into the new Agricultural and Mechanic Arts college when it was opened and who remained in college only a short while. The greater number of them became farmers and business men. Of those whose vocations are recorded, the class furnished thirteen lawyers, eight merchants, seven physicians, five teachers, five legislators, two civil engineers, two bankers, two insurance men, three journalists, two judges, two manufacturers, one justice of the Supreme Court, one college professor, one author, one architect, one druggist, one cotton factor.

Two of the members of this class became distinguished professors of law, George Dudley Thomas and Andrew J. Cobb, whose biographies appear in that section of the yearbook which dealt with the history of the Lumpkin Law School.

Thomas Reuben Gibson cast his lot with the journalists. He rose rapidly in his profession in the city of Augusta, Ga. He was a native of Georgia, born in 1857. He was a brilliant writer and ready speaker. He came back to the campus about ten years later to deliver an address at commencement before the literary societies. He was appointed as U.S. Consul at Beirut, Syria and while in service there died in 1894 at the age of thirty-seven.
Leonidas Mell Landrum, born in Georgia in 1852, became one of the well-known teachers of Georgia. He was at one time Assistant Superintendent of the Atlanta City Schools.

John L. Tye, who, after graduating in the Class of 1876, earned the degree of Bachelor of Law at Columbia University, devoted his entire life to the practice of law in Atlanta, became one of the most successful lawyers in Georgia.

Benjamin Mortimer Hall, born in South Carolina in 1853, was a civil engineer of ability and splendid attainments. He served as professor of mathematics at the North Georgia A. and M. College from 1876 to 1889. He served as a member of the U.S. Geological Survey.

William M. Henry, born in Georgia in 1853, achieved success as a lawyer, was a member of the state legislature 1886–1897, and was elected as judge of the Superior Court in 1892. In that position he served more than two decades.

Hudson A. Jenkins, born in Georgia in 1855, was a lawyer, mayor of Eatonton, Ga., member of the Georgia house of representatives, speaker of the house, 1896–1897, and member of the state senate. He was a strong political factor in Georgia and was prominently mentioned for the governorship. He died in 1902 at the age of forty-seven.

A.C. Briscoe established a successful Business College in Atlanta. He also served as secretary of the State Railroad Commission.

Francis Wall Copeland, of Rome, Ga., was born in Georgia in 1852. He became a successful lawyer and was a member of the state legislature 1886–1901.

Barton Edmond Thrasher, of Watkinsville, Ga., served in the state senate and for many years was Ordinary of Oconee county. His son, B.E. Thrasher, Jr., for years has been State Auditor of Georgia and in that
office has rendered service to his state comparable in importance to that of the governor, since the state auditor and governor constitute the budget board and practically direct all the financial affairs of the state.

John Francis George, born in Georgia in 1855, after attending the University of Georgia, took his master of arts degree at Trinity College. He became an Episcopal rector and was the author of "The Son of a Southern Planter," and "American Church for American People."

Jacob Phinizy, son of Ferdinand Phinizy, Class of 1838, followed in the footsteps of his father as a financier and capitalist. He was for years president of the Georgia Railroad Bank in Augusta.

Percy E. Trippe, born in Georgia in 1857, after leaving the University graduated at West Point Military Academy, served for many years and rose to the rank of Colonel. After his retirement he was assigned to the University of Georgia as Professor of Military Science and Tactics and was holding that position at the opening of World War I.
Session of 1876--1877

The attendance during the session of 1876--1877 was only 161. There were 89 students in Franklin College, 61 in the State College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts and 11 in the Law School. That represented a decline of 42 from the attendance of 203 in the preceding year. The decline of more than twenty per cent was not to be disregarded. It gave the trustees hours of worry. It was necessarily disturbing to Chancellor Tucker and the faculty. The loss was heaviest in the agricultural classes. The farmers had lost heavily for several years under the great financial depression throughout the country.

Though outwardly there was harmony in the faculty, yet it could not be concealed that the Chancellor was not satisfied with the qualifications of all his teachers. The year before he had told the trustees that some of them were not qualified to teach. And then, too, he had little faith in the teaching of practical agriculture.

In speaking of the condition in the agricultural department he said to the trustees:

"This department has disappointed public expectations, and the reason of this is that the public expectations have been unreasonable. It seems to have been imagined that an unlettered youth, if sent here, could be so instructed that in a couple of years he would not only learn all about practical agriculture but that he would become thoroughly versed in all the sciences that bear on that branch of industry. In point of fact, such a student learns little about either. Practical agriculture can be learned much easier on a farm than in any institution of learning. The sciences that bear upon it, such as natural philosophy, geology, chemistry, Natural history, botany and zoology, can be taught advantageously only to those who have at least a fair knowledge of the ordinary branches of elementary education."
'Unless a student has had enough general literary culture to be able to use books to an advantage, to reason intelligently, to gather ideas speedily from the printed page, it is in vain to expect him to make rapid progress in the severer branches of knowledge or in any branch.

"The student must also have had such previous training that he can readily understand what he hears, and must also be reasonably expert in the use of the pen, so that he can take notes of oral lectures. Without these qualifications no student is prepared to profit by such instruction as ought to be given in college."

The Chancellor pointed out that in many cases the most elementary English had to be taught the students after entering the University.

"When, after a year or two, they return to their pursuits and it is discovered that they have learned nothing but what they would have been taught just as well, or better, in a common academy at home, saving board and travel, there is deep disappointment. Thus the institution loses its hold on the public confidence and becomes unpopular.

"For this evil there are two remedies. One is to raise the standard of qualification for admission; the other is to educate the public mind and let the people understand that there is no royal road to learning, no shorthand method of instruction, no peculiar privilege to agriculturists, and that it takes as long to educate a man for that profession as for any other.

"I have no fault to find with the College of Agriculture. The best possible has been done by that department. I shall offer some sweeping criticism but it is done in no unkindness nor with any disrespect.

"The great decline in the number of students is not owing wholly to financial causes. It arises partly from the fact that public confidence
in the institution is shaken by the perpetual changes made in its management. There is too much legislation."

He argues against the uncertain tenure of office and said: "As a choice of evils it would be better to retain a small proportion of incompetent officers on permanent conditions than that the whole institution should be rocked by perpetual earthquakes.

Chancellor Tucker evidently believed that the faculty members as a whole were not burdened with work, for he was certain that too men were being employed as teachers. That attitude must have caused adverse opinion among the faculty members.

The Chancellor continued in his report to emphasize this point and said: "We have too many professors. It is a serious thing to throw away five to six thousand dollars, but this is more than thrown away. The men who are here must be provided with work, and in order to do this the number of studies must be increased. This must result in one of two ways: either the amount of labor imposed upon the students is more than he can possibly perform or the amount of time given to each study is so small that he can accomplish little or nothing in any. I will exhibit to the trustees a schedule of the studies of the Junior Class and I will venture to say that there is not an experienced educator in the world who will say that this schedule is wisely adapted to the wants of any student.

"Several of the schedules, especially those of the higher classes, are in a condition like that of a farm whose owner has over-cropped himself, none of whose fields are well-cultivated and whose harvest will not pay for his labor. It would be better to have fewer fields. Ten professors and two tutors, the latter at small salaries, would be a most ample supply for all the students we are likely to have in
the next ten or twenty years. One of these professors might be and ought to be the presiding officer. Since I have been Chancellor I could have filled a professor's chair with the greatest ease.

"The greatest of all the evils we have to contend with is that incongruous, unintelligible and bewildering system which we call the "University System". I speak of this system as we have it and not as it may exist at other institutions. The question to be discussed is not one of merit or demerit but one of adaptation. Professedly all we can do is to imitate and imitators seldom succeed in copying anything but defect.

"The University system, so-called as we have it, is a hybrid. It is an attempt to engraft the foreign growth on the Georgia stock. The two things are incompatible and the mongrel result, as we have it, is inferior to either of the originals.

"The standard of scholarship is declining and has been lowered since the new system has been introduced than it ever was before and the tendency of that system is to depress it lower and still lower.

"The fact remains that we are in composition with mere academies and our influence so far as it goes is against them. The rivalry is as discreditable to us as it is injurious to them. Since I have been connected with the institution no student has ever been denied admission for want of scholarship, and men have been here in the State College who were almost illiterate and may have been in Franklin College not vastly better, and in this condition I found the institution when I came to it three years ago."

Emphasizing his utter opposition to electives in the curriculum, he lodged a protest against a system that allowed students to select their own studies, stating that "neither they nor their parents are com-
potent to do so. Thus mere lads are masters of the situation. This
demoralizes other students and puts the faculty to infinite and unneces-
sary pains."

It was thus very clear that some kind of a change had to come about if the University was to do real, effective work. A year passed and the change came when Chancellor Tucker stepped down and out. He had some good ideas, but he did not know how to work out the problem.

On Commencement Day the following degrees were conferred:


Bachelor Science: Eli M. Mallette, William R. MacIntyre,

Bachelor of Engineering: Benjamin W. Butler, Edward Hill Dorsey, Orville L. Greene, Albert Durant Smith, John E. Witherspoon

Bachelor of Chemical Science: George R. Alexander

 Bachelor of Philosophy: Daniel Pike Gill, William M. Howard, Mix

Michael Young MacIntyre

Bachelor of Agriculture: George W.P. Coates, Bliss Woodward

Bachelor of Law: William Yates Atkinson, Andrew J. Cobb, Wallace W. Fraser, Robert M. Holley, Darling J. Knotts, Hamilton McWhorter, Henry B. Mitchell, Sylvanus Morris, Moses M. Smith, Seaborn L. Weaver

Master of Arts: James Camillus Hinton.
Class of 1877

This class graduated 33 members. Ninety-seven others, mainly agricultural students, from time to time had enrolled but did not stay through to graduation. The class, in addition to a large number of farmers and business men not specifically recorded as to vocations, furnished fifteen lawyers, ten farmers, five legislators, four judges, seven teachers, three physicians, one governor, one United States Supreme Court justice, two college presidents, two college professors, one minister, two manufacturers, one congressman, four merchants, two railroad men, one broker, one banker, one United States consul.

Among those who reached highest distinction were William Y. Atkinson, Governor of Georgia, Joseph R. Lamar, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, William H. Howard, congressman, Hamilton McWhorter, judge, Charles Murphy Candler, and Alexander R. Lawton.
University alumni have from time to time filled the high office of Governor of the State. In the long list there has been none abler, more active or more courageous than William Yates Atkinson, graduate in the Class of 1877.

He was born Nov. 10, 1854, the son of a sturdy and successful farmer in Meriwether county. His boyhood life was spent upon the farm and he never lost interest in those who tilled the soil. When he was nineteen years old he moved with his parents to Senoia, Ga., where his older brother, Theodore E. Atkinson, prepared him for college. He was graduated from the University Law School in 1877. While in college he was a member of the Demosthenian Literary Society and emerged from college a strong and convincing master of debate.

He wasted no time in getting down to work. He began the practice of law immediately in Senoia, remained there one year and in 1878 moved to Newnan where he remained a resident the balance of his life. While he was a successful young lawyer it soon became manifest that public life had a lure for him that was not to be resisted. He loved Georgia and was convinced that in public life he could serve her efficiently. So he tossed his hat into the political ring in 1886 and was elected as representative from Coweta county in the General Assembly of Georgia. In that post he served four years. In 1890 he became chairman of the State Executive Committee of the Democratic party and was re-elected in 1892. By that time he was recognized as the Democratic leader in Georgia.

In 1894 he announced his candidacy for the governorship. The writer at that time was editor of the Athens Banner was was the first Georgia editor to publicly champion the candidacy of William Y. Atkinson for governor. His opponent was General Clement A. Evans, a beloved Methodist minister and a brave Confederate veteran. After a spirited race Atkinson
was nominated. In his second race for governor he was opposed by Judge James a-^* ^ines, nominee of the Populist party. He was again a winner. In the midst of his second term a race came on for United States Senator. For several ballots he led the field, but did not have enough votes to elect him. A deadlock ensued and he finally withdrew from the race. A few more ballots were taken and Alexander Stephens Clay was elected. Senator Clay served a number of years until his death.

At the conclusion of his second term as governor, Governor Atkinson resumed the practice of law. In a little over a year, ere he had reached the meridian of life, he passed away after a brief illness at his home in Newnan, Aug. 8, 1899.

The writer has always regarded William Y. Atkinson as one of Georgia's ablest sons and will always believe that he would have mounted the heights of political achievement had he lived a dozen more years. The gates of preferment had opened wide and he was on his way when death intervened.

Perhaps his greatest success was in advancing the cause of education in Georgia. He measured the future glory of Georgia by an educational yardstick. He believed in the common schools, he was enthusiastic in his support of advanced education for women, he wanted to make the University of Georgia one of the best-supported and most successful institutions in the country. While serving in the legislature he introduced and succeeded in passing the bill under which the Georgia Normal and Industrial College at Milledgeville (now the Georgia State College for Women) was established. He became chairman of the Board of Trustees of that institution, serving as such until his death. In the memorial exercises held by the Supreme Court of Georgia, the committee, referring to the establishment of that institution, said: "It is the creation of his brain, and will be a lasting monument to his interest in the education of the girls of the state."
One of the large buildings on the campus of that institution bears in his honor the name of Atkinson Hall.

By virtue of his office as president of the Board of Directors of the Georgia Normal and Industrial College at Milledgeville, Governor Atkinson was ex-officio a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of Georgia and throughout his service in that position was never lacking in loyalty, energy and wise counsel. Elsewhere in this story of the University is given an account of the manner in which he was directly responsible for the election of Walter B. Hill as Chancellor of the University, a service to education and the state that cannot be measured.

Governor Atkinson was a man of vision. He was always studying ways and means for advancing Georgia. While in the legislature he was the author of the bill to place the election of the State Commissioner of Agriculture in the hands of the people. He was also the author of the bill to place telegraph and express companies under the jurisdiction of the Railroad Commission, a bill regulating the inspection of oils and a bill governing the leasing of the state-owned Western and Atlantic Railroad. I quote again from the report of the memorial committee which said of him: "The state papers of Governor Atkinson take rank with those of his illustrious predecessors, and bear the imprint of the statesman and patriot."

There were many who disagreed with him in politics. That was largely because he was outspoken and wore no man's collar. When he was convinced that he was right, no man could swerve him from his position. He had plenty of tact and accommodation, but they didn't function when they came up against conviction as to what should be done. He was a Democrat of the Andrew Jackson type. He was always loyal to his friends and whenever he could render them a favor without injuring his state, he did so. He was not particularly interested in rewarding political opponents.
but when duty called upon him to back them up, he had the courage to do so.

He was a man of unflinching courage. If he thought a man convicted of murder merited mercy, he would commute his sentence, but if he was convinced to the contrary, the sentence of the court was never interfered with. On one occasion hundreds of the people of Atlanta crowded the lawn in front of the executive mansion on Peachtree street, headed by the mayor of Atlanta, begging commutation of the sentence of death that had been pronounced upon a young man who had killed three men, escaping any penalty in the first two killings. The Governor heard them patiently and then told them in quiet and even tones that popular pressure had no effect on him when he knew that he was right and that the verdict of the court would not be disturbed.

A short while after he had retired from the office of governor and had returned to his home in Newnan one Sunday noon he and his wife coming out of church and walking towards their home ran into a mob of two thousand enraged men who had captured a negro rapist and were preparing to burn him at the stake on the public square of Newnan.

Governor Atkinson never flinched in the face of that mob. He climbed up into a buggy and addressed the mob, declaring that the law should be allowed to take its course. The enraged men did not care to listen to him. Then he told them that one thing was certain and that was that they were not going to burn the negro in Newnan in the presence of the God-fearing men and women of the community on the Sabbath day. And when he delivered that message there was fire in his eyes and the crowd saw that he meant business. One fellow pulled out a pistol, aimed at him and fired. A man nearby knocked the pistol up in the air and no harm was done. But the mob didn't burn the negro in Newnan. They shook the Newnan dust off their feet in a hurry. It was a brave act on the part of Governor Atkinson, but unavailing as to preventing the lynching of the negro.
The mob surged out towards Palmetto and finally the negro was put to death.

I quote again from the memorial committee, made up of a dozen of the ablest lawyers in the state: "He had great respect for the courts. He believed that the safety of life and property and the permanency of our institutions depended largely on the administration of justice through the tribunals provided by the constitution and laws." And again, in paying tribute to him as a public official and lawmaker, the committee said: "During his public life but few men, if any, equalled him in their influence upon legislation and in moulding the policies of the state."

After a brief illness, he died at his home in Newnan August 8, 1899. He had not lived a long life, but it had been a useful and a successful one that entitles his name to be placed among the names of the great sons of Georgia.

Governor Atkinson married Miss Milton, of Florida, who survived him many years. Their son, William Y. Atkinson, Jr., became a learned lawyer and is now a member of the Supreme Court of Georgia.
JOSEPH RUCKER LAMAR

Joseph Rucker Lamar was a member of a family of high distinction. Nearly three hundred years ago, Thomas Lamar, a French Huguenot, came to this country in 1670 and settled in Maryland. In 1755 four of his grandsons came to Elizabeth City, South Carolina. Among his descendants there were quite a number who achieved distinction, among them Lucius Quintus Curtius Lamar, who served in the United States Senate from Mississippi, was a member of President Cleveland's cabinet, and during the latter years of his life was Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. Another distinguished member of this family was Mirabeau Bonaparte Lamar, poet and statesman, and President of the Republic of Texas.

The mother of Joseph R. Lamar was the daughter of Joseph Rucker, a leading business man and banker in Elbert county, Georgia, and owner of large plantations in that section of the state, and in the home of his grandfather Joseph Rucker Lamar was born Oct. 14, 1857.

His early boyhood days were spent in Augusta, Ga., where his father was pastor of the Church of the Disciples. He spent his preparatory school days in several places, first in Richmond Academy, Augusta, then at Martin Institute, in Jefferson, Ga., then at Penn Lucy School near Baltimore, Maryland, at that time presided over by the well-known author and scholar, Richard Malcolm Johnston.

He entered the University of Georgia in 1874 during the administration of Chancellor Tucker, but was unable to remain through to his graduation on account of ill health and the removal of his parents to Louisville, Ky. After remaining there a while he entered Bethany College, in West Virginia, from which institution he graduated. He then studied law at Washington and Lee University and was admitted to the bar in Augusta, Ga., in April 1878 at the age of twenty-one. He was on the go throughout his entire experience in schools and preparatory schools and three colleges, but as he went along he gathered a world
of information and excellent training.

He entered politics just once, serving in the Georgia legislature from 1886 to 1889. The only reason he sought that office was to exercise some influence on measures looking to certain needed legal reforms. In his most active days as a lawyer, he contributed many papers to the legal literature of the state, "History of the Organization of the Supreme Court," "Life of Judge Nightst," "Georgia's Contributions to Law Reforms," "A Century's Progress in Law," and others equally interesting and informative. He served as President of the Georgia Bar Association and was one of the commissioners who brought out the revised Georgia Code of 1895, his work on that volume being the part assigned to the Civil Code.

On January 3, 1903 he was appointed by Governor Joseph M. Terrell as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia, taking the place made vacant by the resignation of Justice William A. Little. He served two years and in 1905 resigned on account of ill health and the overwork on the Supreme Bench at that time. He returned to Augusta to practice law and formed a partnership with Enoch H. Callaway.

On Dec. 13, 1910, he was appointed as Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, and served with distinction on that high legal tribunal until his death on January 2, 1916.

While in Bethany College he met Miss Clarinda Pendleton, daughter of the president of the college, Dr. W. K. Pendleton. They were married January 30, 1870. Throughout the illustrious career of her husband as lawyer and jurist she was his devoted helpmeet.
William Marcellus Howard was a native of Louisiana, born in 1857. He was a student of brilliant parts, graduating with the degree of Bachelor of Philosophy. The greater part of his life was spent in Lexington, Ga. He married Miss Augusta King, daughter of Dr. William King, of Athens and granddaughter of Augustin S. Clayton, member of the Class of 1804, the first graduating class of the University of Georgia. When but twenty-seven years of age he was elected as Solicitor-General of the Northern Circuit and filled that position from 1884 to 1892. In 1892 he was elected to congress from the old Eighth District and served in that capacity until 1910, a period of eighteen years. In the national congress he was regarded by Democrats and Republicans alike as one of the ablest men in the house. His work in committee rooms and in an advisory capacity was invaluable, and in debate on the floor of the house he ranked well up among the leaders. In 1910 he was defeated by Samuel J. Tribble. He moved to Augusta, Ga., where for several years prior to his death he practiced law as a member of the firm of Callaway & Howard. He had two sons, William King Howard and Henry Grady Howard.
Hamilton McWhorter may be justly ranked as one of the alumni of the University of Georgia who devoted his time and labor to the advancement of every interest of the old institution. No call for service ever went unanswered and to him is due the credit of bringing to pass many of the most splendid achievements in its march to success.

He was born in Greene county in 1858, the son of Major and Mrs. Robert Ligon McWhorter. After graduating with the degree of Bachelor of Law, he began the practice of his profession and rapidly forged his way to the front. He married Miss Sallie J. Pharr, of Wilkes county. Their children were Marcus Pharr, Robert Ligon, Hamilton, Howard, Thurmond, Julia, Camilla and Sallie. His son, Robert, is a member of the Law faculty of the University and for several terms served as Mayor of Athens.

At the early age of thirty he was elected as Judge of the Superior courts of the Northern Circuit and presided over that court for several years. In 1892 he made a race for Congress, but was defeated by Judge Thomas G. Lawson. Subsequent to that he moved to Athens and lived there for the remaining days of his life.

He was especially successful as a railroad lawyer, practicing in several states and in the United States Supreme Court. For several years he was Assistant General Counsel for the Southern Railway. Save in the one instance when he ran for Congress, he never entered politics for himself, but for his friends he was in every political race of importance for years, and his influence made itself felt. He was vitally interested in every movement that looked to the upbuilding of the state and gave of his time and talent to the work necessary for the accomplishment of a number of progressive reforms.

He was deeply attached to the University of Georgia. Much of the
work of his life was done for his Alma Mater. He was appointed as a member of the Board of Trustees of the University in 1901. He was one of the trustees who gave effective support to Chancellor Hill in starting the University on its greatest season of development. In 1905 he was one of the trustees who accompanied Chancellor Hill and Mr. Peabody to the University of Wisconsin to gain information on the subject of an up-to-date agricultural college. He served as a member of the Board of Trustees until his death in ————, a period of ———— years. It was probably in that position that he rendered greatest service to the University, as the Prudential Committee exercised the full powers of the General Board at all times save the short annual sessions, and the chairman of that body in large measure, in conjunction with the chancellor supervised nearly all the work of the institution. He was interested in the promotion of scholarship and as far as the financial condition of the University would permit he aided in bringing into the faculty the best-prepared professors to be found. He offered a medal for the member of the Freshman Class each year making the highest scholastic average, and since his death his children continue to offer this medal in memory of their father.
Measured by everything that went into the making of a real man and reliable leader of men, Charles Murphey Candler, A.B. graduate in the Class of 1877, stands out among the great alumni of the University.

He was born in Decatur, Georgia, March 17, 1858, the son of Milton A. Candler and Clara (Murphey) Candler. He was the great-grandson of Col. William Candler, an officer in the Army of the American Revolution, and the progenitor of the Candler family that has furnished so many distinguished sons to Georgia and the nation.

Nearly all the Candlers were Methodists, but Milton A. Candler was a devout Presbyterian and Murphey Candler followed in his father's footsteps religiously. Milton A. Candler, Class of 1854, served with distinction in the United States Congress and the maternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was Charles Murphey, a prominent member of Congress during the administration of President Pierce. Thus the love of good government came to Murphey Candler by inheritance.

In appearance he did not bear a Candler look. He must have inherited his features from the Murphys. Of ordinary size and rather thin, clearcut features, character and reliability stamped on his face, congeniality in his temperament—that was Murphey Candler as seen by his friends.

In the University of Georgia he ranked among the best speakers and debaters. He represented his literary society as a Champion debater and was a class speaker at Commencement during his Sophomore, Junior and Senior years, noted for the clearness of his language and the force of his arguments.

In 1879 he was admitted to the bar and practiced his profession in Decatur. In 1882 he married Mary Scott, daughter of George W. Scott, of Decatur,
founder of Agnes Scott College. He was always interested in civic and industrial improvements. He was the head of a large cotton goods manufacturing establishment.

It is probable that Georgia never had a citizen who devoted more of his time, ability and attention to the improvement of the state than Murphey Candler. In time he became an authority along many lines.

In 1886, at the age of twenty-eight, he was sent to the Georgia legislature as a representative from DeKalb county. In the second year of his service there he became the author of the public school law of the state. He came back to the legislature in 1902 and for eight years was a leader in that body, from 1902 to 1904 in the house, 1905--1906 in the senate, and 1907--1910 in the house.

During those years of service he was the author of the franchise tax law, the child labor law, the act establishing the Railroad Commission, and had much to do in the fight that led to the abolishment of the convict lease system that had become a disgrace to Georgia. He became an expert in methods of taxation. For years he was chairman of the Railroad Commission of Georgia, and in that position he gained a great reputation through the handling of many vexatious problems touching the relations of the railroads to the public.

At one time great pressure was put upon him to induce him to make the race for governor. From all the Georgia leaders of that day the writer picked him as the man for that position and told him so. Added to all his achievements was the fact that throughout his whole public and private life his vote and his influence were always on the moral side of the question involved. The state of Georgia missed a great governor when he declined to enter the race.

He was a devout Presbyterian, serving for years as Sunday School superintendent. Interested deeply in education he served many years as a trustee.
of Agnes Scott College.

His interest in the University of Georgia grew with the passing of the years. He very seldom missed the annual meeting of the alumni or his class reunions. During the period of World War I he was president of the University Alumni Society. He was an energetic worker in the drive for the War Memorial Fund in 1921.

He died at his home in Decatur------------------.
Alexander R. Lawton was born in Georgia in 1858. He was the son of General Alexander R. Lawton, of the Confederate Army. His wife was Miss Ella S. Beckwith. He was a young man of brilliant parts and in college made an enviable reputation. He graduated in the class of 1877 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts and thereafter studied law, which he had chosen for the profession to which he dedicated his life. He became quickly and easily one of the leading lawyers of Georgia. He was interested in railroad development and served as one of the chief executives of the Central of Georgia Railway.

True to his inheritance, when the United States declared war against Spain in 1898, he went to the front as a volunteer, being colonel of the 1st Georgia Volunteers.

Col. Lawton served a number of years as a member of the Board of Trustees of the University, taking great interest in the proceedings of that body and adding to it great strength in the work of developing the institution. He was especially interested in the improvement of the Lumpkin Law School. He was convinced that that part of the University needed re-organization and accordingly in the Alumni Society started the movement that resulted in the thorough re-organization of that school.
Session of 1877--1878

August 1878 marked the official closing of the administration of Chancellor Tucker, though in fact he continued to direct the affairs of the University until the new Chancellor, Dr. P.H. Hell, took charge in October.

At the August 1878 meeting of the Board of Trustees Chancellor Tucker made what turned out to be his last annual report. Although he made no reference in that report as to his future connection with the University, he must have known that he was singing his swan song.

He was closing his fourth year as Chancellor. Those four years had been for him years of confused effort. While there was no actual rupture it was believed that the faculty did not see eye to eye with the chancellor. The new State College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts had opened up its work as a part of the University of Georgia two years prior to his election as Chancellor and had attracted hundreds of young Georgians who came to enroll as students in the University, but year by year the attendance had declined in that college as well as in other departments of the University until it had reached a low of one hundred and sixteen. This reduction in attendance had assumed threatening proportions and had to be stopped. Hence there arose a demand for a change in administration. And there were other conditions as well that figured in the situation. A change in the chancellorship was in the offing.

The opening sentences of Chancellor Tucker's report showed that the old man was in a fearless state of mind, and before the report was finished he had given the trustees his views in words that could not be misunderstood.

These were his opening words: "The celebrated John Randolph,
having once grievously offended his constituents by some of his votes and speeches in Congress, was informed by friends that the excitement against him was so intense that he would incur the risk of personal violence if he appeared among the people of his district. Notwithstanding this, he had an appointment to address his fellow-citizens at a given time and place. A seething multitude of enraged people assembled, not to hear him but to crush him. Suddenly he appeared before them and by a strange magnetism awed them into silence and began his address, saying: "When I was a little boy, my mother taught me this: 'that the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom,' and it is my conviction after many long years of observation that the fear of man is the height of folly." The sequel of the story need not be told, for the wisdom that his mother taught him and the experience that his knowledge of the world gave him and the honesty courage of his manly heart made him invincible.

"I do not know that there is anything in the present circumstances parallel to those just related of the statesman of Roanoke, further than this; that grave and important statements are to be made, which ought to be made in the fear of God and not in the fear of man. That which I feel to be my duty I shall say, gentlemen, in a spirit regardless of consequences, but at the same time with due respect to those who may differ with me in opinion or who may question the correctness of my statements."

Now, if there was one thing known of all men who knew Henry H. Tucker, it was that he never stood in the fear of men. When he was convinced of anything he said so, regardless of what other people thought about it. So he told the trustees some things in plain language.

The Decline in Attendance

The main thing about which the trustees were agitated was the steady decline in student enrollment. It had begun to look like there would
be no more than a few dozen students in attendance in a few years unless some steps were taken to stop the downward trend. Chancellor Tucker had his idea as to what was causing the trouble. He did not refer to denominational colleges and their attacks on the University which constituted one of the causes, but what he had to say about high school preparation and the teaching of agriculture at that time was no doubt true.

The student enrollment for the session of 1877—1878 was 116. Of that number 70 were in the College of Liberal Arts, 40 in the State College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts, and 6 in the Law School. The greatest decline in attendance for several years had been in the State College and Chancellor Tucker gave his reasons for that decline. Briefly stated, they were a total lack of proper educational training preparatory to entering the University and the impossibility of teaching practical agriculture. Much that he said was true. It was not until a quarter of a century later under the leadership of Dr. Joseph S. Stewart, of the University of Georgia faculty, that the high schools of the state began to be thoroughly organized for furnishing the necessary preparatory training, and it was not until 1906 that the re-organized College of Agriculture, under the direction of Andrew M. Soule, began to demonstrate to the people of Georgia that practical agriculture could be successfully taught.

Here is what Chancellor Tucker had to say on these lines:

"There has been a steady decline in most of the departments for several years past, and it is worthy of remark that every year the character of the decline is the same; that is, the heaviest falling off is in the State College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts and the lightest has been in Franklin College. The reason of this I stated last year and will now only repeat, that the public had formed expectations of the State College which could not possibly be realized."
"Supposing, at first, that an almost illiterate boy could be transformed in a few months by means of what is called practical education into a scientific agriculturist or engineer, the people sent in their patronage to this college like a flood. Discovering their mistake and that a student of very low grade of culture could learn no more here than he could at a common academy, at one-fourth the expense, a strong reaction took place in the public mind, and the people not only discontinued their patronage but were led to underestimate the real merit of the institution. "First, they expected too much; now they give credit for too little. It will probably take several years for the public mind to adjust itself to the facts, which are, that valuable and thorough instruction may be and is given in this department and that, on the other hand, no shorthand method has been discovered by which a lad, wholly untaught, can be manipulated into an educated and scientific man in the course of two or three years. I repeat the very words of my last report when I say that a certain amount of personal culture is necessary to fit a man for anything. Special education can be begun only when a reasonable amount of general education has been completed. When people learn this, when they learn that a youth must be at least fairly if not thoroughly trained in such preliminary education as can be obtained at any good academy, before he is qualified to pursue to advantage the higher studies of this college, and that even then at least two or three years more will be required to complete a fair scientific education; and that after all this, several years of schooling in the great world itself will be necessary to teach the student practical wisdom and how to successfully apply his theories; I say, when the people learn all this, they will be prepared to appreciate that most excellent department of the University known as the State College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts. Until then the people are doomed to disappointment and
until then the Department will probably continue to decline in public favor. Even what I have now said will make the Department more unpopular for a time than ever. But occupying the position that I do, at the head of the highest institution of learning in the state, I feel it my duty to teach the public no less than the students, and to lay a broad and solid foundation in sound truth on which this Department may grow up to usefulness and glory. Its early and temporary prosperity was based on false grounds; of course such a superstructure, built on utter misconceptions, must fall to ruin. Let the people learn the real merit and the real purpose and scope of this Department and send their sons to it properly prepared to profit by its extraordinary and most splendid advantages; and let them cease to expect the semi-miraculous results heretofore vainly hoped for, and let them learn to realize that thoroughbreds can be had only by thorough training, and the result will be that this identical institution, which is now the subject of so much cavil and complaint would be, as by right it should be, even now, the pride and boast of every intelligent citizen of Georgia.

"Corroboration of the truth of my remarks is the fact that the largest patronage the State College ever had was in the second year of its existence. In the third year, which was before this administration was inaugurated and while the institution was in first hands, the decline began, just as I think it ought to have done. I risk nothing in saying that the great majority of students in attendance at that time made a mistake in coming here, and would have done better if they had remained at home and attended the ordinary school in their respective neighborhoods. While here they were instructed mainly by tutors in the merest rudiments of education, and they could have received such instruction just as well, or better, at home. In two short years the good sense of the people discovered the mistake and they wisely withdrew their patronage. Perhaps, if suitable steps were
taken, this patronage might be regained, but, having seen one bubble burst, I am by no means inclined to blow up another.

"The State College is really a magnificent institution; its officers are accomplished and its appliances superb; but it is wholly unadapted to the wants of ordinary school boys, and its patronage can be increased only by enticing lads of this class to attend. I shall hope that there will be no increase. The truth is, there is very little demand in Georgia for thorough scientific education, and while the institution retains its present and proper character, the legitimate patronage must necessarily be small. Its past popularity largely fictitious; the delusion has vanished and we may rejoice that we are coming now to a foundation of solid facts.

"As to the general decline in the number of students in all departments, I can only repeat the same old story but none the less true for being old. Continued and increasing financial depression affects all the higher and more expensive institutions of learning."

While the attendance at the University had dropped down to 116, that at the North Georgia A. & M. College at Dahlonega had risen to 300 and Chancellor Tucker undertook to explain. Referring to the condition of that college, Chancellor Tucker said: "Its patronage has largely increased; does anyone suppose that that department is held by the people to be superior to the departments at Athens? Or that it is equal to them? Or that it is within reach of or insight of them? By no means: it is cheaper, a fact in which there is immense attraction, and it is well-known that in elementary branches and also in some that are higher, a student can be satisfactorily taught. Many persons in their poverty have abandoned the idea of giving their sons such superior advantages..."
can be had at Athens, and send them to a cheaper place, where, after all, they can learn as much as they have time and ability to learn. A large number of the students there are of such a class, that if we had them here we should be obliged to organize them into grammar school classes, just as done here in the second year of the State College, which is the only year (in the sense of large numbers) it ever prospered. The tide has simply turned and the flood that came here during that single year now flows appropriately to Dahlonega."

Referring to the attendance at Emory College and Mercer University, the two denominational colleges in Georgia that were active and energetic rivals of the University, Chancellor Tucker, himself a distinguished Baptist minister, did not hesitate to take a rap at them. He said; "Emory College, in a neighboring county, is another exception. But the distinguished and gifted gentleman who presides over that institution, has made much personal effort to obtain students, effort of a kind that would not be expected of any officer here. Denominational colleges have an advantage over us in this respect; what would be proper and successful with them would be neither proper nor successful with us. By such means as this, perfectly proper and legitimate under the circumstances but from which our conditions debar us, Emory College has been sustained."

Concerning Mercer University he said; "Mercer University has had an agent in the field, scouring the state in all directions and making personal appeals at innumerable firesides, but notwithstanding this and notwithstanding its handsome endowment and its huge constituency, the number of students has declined from 150 in 1874-1875 to 108 in 1877-1878, and that, too, although it has a city of perhaps three times the size of Athens from which to draw local patronage."
Commenting on the enrollment at other well-known colleges, Chancellor Tucker maintained that the University of Virginia had only 120 students that might be called real college students out of its 353 in attendance, that Washington and Lee had 116, the same number enrolled at the University of Georgia, that Davidson College had only 81, that out of the 471 at the University of Mississippi there were only 143 of real college grade, that on the same basis of calculation Vanderbilt’s enrollment of 405 would dwindle to 129.

While other issues were involved, it was quite evident that the main criticism of the Tucker administration was that the enrollment of students was steadily going down and the trustees were evidently seeking a way to stop the retrograde movement. Hence it was that Chancellor Tucker paid so much attention to that subject in his report.

The Chancellor referred in his report to constant changes in the management of the institution, to criticisms in the press, to uncertainty in the minds of members of the faculty as to their tenure of office and finally said: "It is an evidence of the intrinsic merit of the University and of its wonderful resistive power, that it has been able to withstand the combined effect of convulsions from within and ceaseless attack from without. Its friends and enemies seem to have combined to open upon it a destroying fire in front and in rear, and yet, it still lives and has power and vitality enough, if it were only let alone for a season to recuperate entirely and recover all its former prestige."

In the report Chancellor Tucker insisted that all laws of the trustees that denied to the faculty the complete control of the everyday life of the institution should be repealed. He was never a believer in dividing control with the trustees or the students. He referred to the days when President Church was presiding officer of the Board of Trustees and how trustees and faculty were kept en rapport. He had much to say.
about the necessity of abolishing what was known as the University System and going back to what was known as the College System. The one allowed students much more freedom in election of subjects to be taken. Chancellor Tucker was never in favor of wide elective power being given to students in determining what should constitute the requirements for a degree. On the subject of rigid requirements and free electives there has always been a wide difference of opinion among educators.

The Board of Trustees had passed a resolution that "upon the certificate of the President of the North Georgia Agricultural College that a young man there graduating has undergone satisfactory examination in all the studies required by the University of Georgia for a bachelor's degree in any named department, such graduate shall be entitled to receive such a degree from the University."

President Lewis, of the Dahlonega institution, graduated seven or eight boys with the degree of Bachelor of Arts and requested Chancellor Tucker to sign their diplomas degrees of the University of Georgia. Chancellor Tucker refused to do so, saying that the resolution called for an impossible thing, certifying that a graduate at Dahlonega had completed exactly what was required of a graduate at the University of Georgia. President Lewis pressed for a favorable action under the resolution. Chancellor Tucker conferred with the professor of law, and finally decided that he would have to sign the diplomas. But even though he had to sign them, he did so only in his official capacity, maintaining that they were not diplomas of the University of Georgia but diplomas of the North Georgia Agricultural College.

Chancellor Tucker took occasion to suggest certain retrenchments in expenditures. He thought an extra salary for the President of the A&m College unnecessary and that the Chancellor could do the work just as well
without pay. The extra pay for the inspector of buildings could be saved by having the Chancellor look after that work. Too much money was being paid for the farm superintendent. In his judgment the professorship of engineering could be dispensed with as a distinct chair and the work combined with that of the professor of Natural Philosophy.

A movement was on foot to establish branch colleges at Millidgeville, Thomasville and other places. This led Chancellor Tucker to give his ideas on the subject in the light of developments in later years, these views are of interest.

He said: "much has been said recently about the desirability of another agricultural college at Millidgeville and yet another at Thomasville. From what I have already said on the subject of agricultural colleges, it may be well-inferred that it my opinion such institutions are not needed. One really first-class institution of the kind, such as we have here, is all that the state can support; indeed, even one is more than can be supplied with properly prepared students, even if board and clothing were bestowed gratis as well as tuition. The number of young men who really desire scientific education is small, not a great many could be induced to take it on any terms. Hence the people seem to be calling for something that they do not need. But if by agricultural colleges they mean good schools, I am free to say that we can scarcely have too many of them. And if your honorable body can do anything to encourage and foster the establishment of such schools, I am sure you will do it.

"I shall be happy indeed to see the initiative taken in this direction by this University, especially as in this case, the schools established would be its feeders and not its rivals. Financial help the University is not able to give, especially if the plan of free tuition be adopted. Our funds, if scattered in all directions, would be of little service to
anybody, while, if concentrated here, they suffice to support one good institution. Certainly it would not be wise to fritter away a splendid endowment into nothingness; certainly it would be cruel thing, indeed it would be barbaric cruelty, to destroy a magnificent institution like this in order to build a half dozen academies on its ruins. It would be like the vandalism that pulls down solemn temples to obtain materials for less noble purposes.

"But if the moral power of this University and of its trustees and friends were brought to bear upon our legislature, a system of high schools, possibly one in each congressional district, might be established as parts of the University, and under the supervision of your honorable body, which would greatly promote the educational interests of our people.

"I have no matured plan to suggest, but merely call attention to what has been said in regard to Milledgeville and Thomasville, in order partly to show my sympathy, partly to give some direction to the movement, and partly in the hope that some abler mind may be led to propose something that shall be practicable and satisfactory. Any plan which will build up, without pulling down, would be a blessing to the community, while on the other hand, any plan which pulls down, in order that it may build up, not only will do no good, but will inaugurate an era of discord and strife, and will, at last, accomplish in full the errand of the destroyer.

So-called Agricultural Colleges.

"It may not be amiss for me to say in this connection, that the term Agricultural College, as applied to such schools as the people need, is a misnomer, and, like all other misnomers, is a misleader. In the first place, such schools are not in any sense agricultural. Practical agriculture cannot be taught at such a school, indeed, as I
think at any school; and the sciences which underlie the subject of agriculture are altogether too deep and too broad and too high for the capacity of boys at school. All that such boys can do is to learn the beginnings of knowledge and those are exactly the same for all classes of people, whether farmers, lawyers, doctors, merchants, mechanics, manufacturers, or anything else. To call a school of this kind agricultural is simply to use a catchword to take the popular ear and to furnish a pretext for the use of funds intended for other purposes.

"In the second place such schools are not colleges; it is not possible to supply them with the appliances of a college, and if they were so supplied, the appliances would be of no use, for the students are not sufficiently advanced to be able to appreciate them. As already said, the state does not produce suitable students in sufficient numbers to afford a large supply even to one real college, much less to a dozen. If these mere academies are called colleges, of course they must confer degrees and boast of their alumni, etc. Thus are the people misled. These so-called graduates are soon found to be not at all superior to those who are not graduates, and thus what is supposed to be education is brought into contempt and the real graduate, who has received a bona fide degree from a real college is also held at a discount. Thus the counterfeit, while not lifting itself up, does pull the genuine down. I protest against all pulling down, and against all counterfeits and against all misnomers. We need no more agricultural colleges, and certainly we shall have no more of them in fact, even if we should wise enough to have them in name. But some first-class academies where students can be prepared for the most excellent college which we have, are greatly needed, and to encourage the establishment of these at Milledgeville and Thomasville or elsewhere has been the object of the foregoing remarks."
Just here it is not amiss to call attention to the fact that a plan, somewhat similar to that suggested by Chancellor Tucker, was put forward about a quarter of a century later under the advocacy and sponsorship of Governor Joseph M. Terrell, under which an Agricultural and Mechanic Arts School was established in each of the congressional districts in the state, the grounds and buildings furnished by the localities in which they were located and the running expenses borne by the state. Some of them became good high schools, some of them attempted to assume the status of junior colleges. At first all of them had good enrollments; then in later years in some of them the enrollment dropped almost to the vanishing point. In only a few instances were they highly successful and when the Board of Regents took charge of all the institutions for higher learning, a number of these schools were abolished and those that were retained were elevated to the position of junior colleges and properly equipped and furnished with able faculties. All of those so preserved have been successfully administered and have not interfered with the Senior colleges. On the contrary they have to a considerable degree become feeders instead of rivals.

Elective or closed curriculum.

During the first sixty years of its existence the University of Georgia had operated under what was called the "College System" or closed curriculum. The faculty fixed the entire curriculum leading to one degree, subject to the approval of the trustees. The one degree was that of Bachelor of Arts and the student took it or left it. He had no privilege of selecting any subject himself. If he won his degree, he had to complete just what the faculty prescribed.

With the coming of the College of Agriculture and the Mechanic
other arrangements had to be made as to degree requirements. And then too there had been a growing sentiment against forcing a student to take Greek or Latin to conform to the established classical requirements. In the face of a growing demand for curriculum changes, the trustees went clear over to the other end of the line and adopted what was termed the "University System," then in use at the University of Virginia and other institutions. Under that system the student could select his own subjects, in other words could, with very little interference by the faculty, name his own degree requirements. True that he would get only a certificate of proficiency, the old A.B. requirements still standing. That was the system in use when Chancellor Tucker was named as the University's chief executive in 1874.

He was in revolt from the very beginning. He was not only a believer in the classical curriculum, but was unyielding on the subject of the closed curriculum maintained that a young student was not fitted to make selection of a course of study leading to a degree, that that was entirely the duty of the faculty. He did not believe in elective studies; the faculty should determine what the degree requirements should be. And yet it was manifestly impossible to restrict the courses of study to those required for the degree of Bachelor of Arts. Modern language was coming into play, engineering, science and agriculture had to be looked after.

There is no doubt about the student body abusing its privilege under the "University System." Selection of studies in a haphazard way followed. When a boy disliked a professor or a subject he was taking he would drop that subject and take up another. If it suited his convenience he would delay the completion of a Freshman subject until his Senior year. Sometimes a boy would be taking Freshman, Sophomore, Junior
and Senior subjects all in one year. There is no doubt concerning the confusion that followed and against that procedure Chancellor Tucker was always protesting. A considerable portion of his last annual report was devoted to that subject. It all wound up with the abandonment of the "University System" and the adoption of a system that provided six degree courses, three along the classical line and three along the scientific and agricultural line, but for each degree the curriculum was fixed by the faculty, and the student had only one elective privilege, that of choosing which degree he wished to work for and having made that choice he was not allowed to make any change in the requirements, could not drop one course and take another, could not defer subjects but must take them in the order set forth in the catalog.

Chancellor Tucker wanted no more than three fixed curricula but accepted the six. He was a great stickler for details and more than three pages of his report was devoted to a demand that it be specifically stated by name that the "University System" had been abandoned. Just what difference it made, since it was abandoned, is not apparent.

The six curricula approved were for the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Philosophy degrees in Franklin College and for the Bachelor of Agriculture, Bachelor of Engineering and Bachelor of Chemical Science in the College of Agriculture and the Mechanics Arts. Other degrees provided for were Bachelor of Law, Master of Arts (a five year curriculum) and Civil Engineer (a five year curriculum). These two latter were in effect graduate degrees.

For a number of years such was the system under which students were required to pursue their studies. The degree requirements are still passed on by the faculty, but year by year more elective play has been allowed and substitutions are allowed on approval of the college deans.
Some of the abuses of Chancellor Tucker's day have crept in. In large measure the faculty controls the degree requirements, but to considerable degree the students pick their subjects.

The controlling factor as to the chancellorship was the decline in attendance. The trustees had made up their minds that a change was necessary. Dr. Tucker did not resign and his resignation was not asked for. He simply was not re-elected.

At this session of the Board the question of branch colleges came to the front. Three towns in Georgia asked the trustees to request the legislature to establish branch colleges under the supervision of the University, Milledgeville, Thomasville and South Bert. Delegations from those towns appeared before the Board of Trustees to back up their requests. All of the requests were granted and in due time the legislature approved them. They functioned for a number of years and then their connection with the University ceased.

On August 6, 1878, the vote on the chancellorship was taken. The minutes record that "the Rev. Patrick H. Mell was nominated by Mr. Hall and upon counting out the ballots it appeared that he was elected." It was not stated whether or not Dr. Tucker received any votes, but it is generally accepted as a fact that Dr. Mell was unanimously elected.

When Dr. Mell was notified of his election he was surprised and embarrassed and he "desired as much time as could be given him to decide so important a question, stating that he had under his charge three churches which he would have to give up if he accepted the offer and that it would require a salary of three thousand dollars to support his large family."

The time for consideration was given him, the salary was fixed at three thousand dollars and he accepted the position. The Board
decided unanimously that Dr. Tucker should perform the duties of Chancellor to the end of the collegiate year and that he be paid his salary to Oct. 1, 1878.

The following members of the faculty were elected:

L.H. Charbonnier, Professor of Natural Philosophy, Astronomy and Civil Engineering

H.C. White, Professor of Chemistry, Agricultural Chemistry, Geology and Mineralogy

Eustace W. Speer, Professor of English Language and Literature and Belles Lettres

Samuel Barnett, Adjunct Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy

William M. Brown, Professor of Agriculture and Horticulture, Natural History and Political Science.

These elections were made in order to fulfill the agreement as to teachers in the A. & M. College. The other members of the faculty, in Franklin College, of course continued in their work.

At the 1878 commencement the following degrees were conferred:

Bachelor of Arts—Richard D. Callaway, Nicholas B. Chensault, Charles L. Floyd, John J. Huguley, Samuel Talmadge Lane, Daniel L. McIntyre, Thomas Sumner "Will, William L.C. Palmer, James C. Russell, George G. Sale, James B. Shields, Paul B. Trammell, Benton Hair Walton,

Bachelor of Engineering—Benjamin M. Gross, Thomas F. McFarland, Moses Gerson Michael.

Civil Engineer—Bliss Woodward

Bachelor of Chemical Science—Richard J. Moseley, L. Robert