

THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT: 1791-1904

to be trotted out on dress parade. It is a great pity that they can't find anything else to introduce into this interesting institution, a combination of a college, medical college, agricultural college, scientific school, military academy, and female seminary, &c. &c. &c.

Marvelous to relate, "the college military was not invited to participate in the exercises [of Decoration Day] at which the President felt rather slighted, but the boys didn't feel very badly about it."

To return to more sedate matter of fact, we may note what Doctor Grinnell had to say at a reception in honor of Doctor Carpenter, held early in 1879:

When the Medical Department of the University was revived, and when Dr. Carpenter's connection with it began, 26 years ago, it had the first year 7 students. The receipts of the first term, after paying necessary running expenses, amounted to \$8.00, which sum was divided among five persons, giving each professor \$1.60. At the end of the first term three professors resigned. A year or two later a professor went off with the funds of the College. Another professor started with \$100 advanced by Dr. Carpenter to procure some subjects for dissection, and never came back.

The difficulties of the early days of medicine were numerous.

A pleasant account of student doings is that of the Sophomore Exhibition of 1879. After the close of the Exhibition, they were driven to Essex Junction, where at midnight Mr. Winnie served a fine supper. They spent the rest of the night in chat and amusements, and at dawn returned to Burlington, getting in about seven o'clock.

At the commencement meeting of the Associate Alumni of 1879, when John Dewey was graduated, the Reverend George B. Spaulding, of Dover, New Hampshire, spoke on "The Relation of American Scholars to Public Affairs." It was an interesting discussion, pointing out that in the "realm of public affairs scholarship is not at all asserting itself as it ought to." This was not the case formerly. "Thirty-six of fifty-six signers of the Declaration of Independence were liberally educated men, and the Continental Congress was largely composed of scholars. It was by the qualities that scholarship begets that these men snatched the country from anarchy and ruin and laid the foundation of a great nation." The speaker thought the college curriculum might be supplemented with study of political science to

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give instruction in practical scholarship. "Students must be drilled in ideas. Before the battle of fire is the battle of thought. There is in the ancient classics the best preparation for the duties of modern life."

It would be interesting to hear John Dewey's response to these statements. As his commencement essay was on "Limits of Political Economy," he probably approved a large part of the Reverend Mr. Spaulding's remarks.

An innovation of 1879 was the U.V.M. Medical Club, which met for the first time in December. It was a discussion club. The first papers were on "Sugar," "Anesthetics," "Nutrition," and "Perspiration." The meetings were held every Saturday and all interested in medicine could attend. As an incidental note, there was a bit of bragging on President Buckham's part when he pointed out that a few years ago Vermont had eleven of its graduates in Congress, while Yale had only six. "During the last twenty years we have had more graduates in Congress than Yale." Perhaps Yale produced more preachers.

By the time the 80's rolled around, the general pattern of the modern college had been pretty well achieved. The 60's and 70's had been a period of great achievement and change. The presidents and faculty were no longer recruited from the clergy. Traditional education was challenged and being superseded. This was the period of growth and expansion, and especially of material growth. During President Buckham's administration six new buildings were erected and the "Old Mill" had its face lifted. The result was not a harmonious whole; the heterogeneous collection along University Place led the Professor of English, Frederick Tupper, to speak of it as "The Seven Lumps of Architecture." They all, however, contributed to the upbuilding of a modern, effective educational plant. Frederick Billings produced an outstanding memorial by his employment of H. H. Richardson to design, in his characteristic Romanesque style, the Billings Library, to which was added a generous endowment for upkeep, besides the purchase and installation of the G. P. Marsh personal library, rich in literary and bibliographical rarities. The Williams Science Hall, Morrill Hall, Converse Hall, and Grassmount, the first women's dormitory, made for compactness, efficiency, and convenience lacking heretofore. The names of the benefactors, Frederick Billings, John P. How-