FORTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF HARVARD COLLEGE, 1872-73

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Forty-Eighth Annual Report of the President of Harvard College, 1872-73 by Charles W. Eliot

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CHARLES W. ELIOT

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

PRESIDENT OF HARVARD COLLEGE.

1872-73.



CAMBRIDGE: UNIVERSITY PRESS. 1874.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR 1872-73.

TO THE BOARD OF OVERSEERS:-

THE President of the University has the honor to submit the following Report for the academic year 1872-73, namely, from September 26, 1872, to September 25, 1873.

RESIGNATIONS.

CHARLES S. PEIRCE, Assistant in the Observatory, resigned December 2, 1872.

FBANCIS G. SANBORN, Instructor in Entomology, resigned February 28, 1873.

JOSEPH H. SENTER, Assistant in the Library, resigned June 1, 1873. SAMUEL BREAKLEY, Proctor, resigned June 23, 1873.

MARCELLO HUTCHINSON, Assistant in the Laboratory of Agricultural Chemistry, resigned June 30, 1873.

WILLIAM ELDER, Assistant in the Chemical Laboratory, resigned June 30, 1873.

WILLIAM W. BOYD, Proctor, resigned June 80, 1873.

James J. Myers, Proctor, resigned September 1, 1873.

ARTHUR I. FISKE, Tutor in Greek, resigned September 1, 1873.

Pierre J. Boris, Instructor in French, resigned September 1, 1873.

George T. Dippold, Instructor in German, resigned September 1, 1873.

APPOINTMENTS.

(UNLIMITED, OR FOR TERMS LONGER THAN ONE YEAR.)

James B. Greenough, to be Assistant Professor of Latin from September 1, 1873, June 2, 1873.

JOHN K. PAINE, to be Assistant Professor of Music from September 1, 1873, June 2, 1873.

* In these lists the dates are the dates of appointment by the President and Fellows.

- WILLIAM EVERETT, to be Assistant Professor of Latin from September 1, 1873, June 2, 1873.
- George L. Goodale, to be Assistant Professor of Vegetable Physiology and Instructor in Botany from September 1, 1873, June 2, 1873.
- CLEMENT L. SMITH, to be Assistant Professor of Latin from September 1, 1873, June 2, 1873.
- GEORGE H. PALMER, to be Assistant Professor of Philosophy from September 1, 1873, June 2, 1873.
- FRANK E. ANDERSON, to be Assistant Professor of Greek from September 1, 1873, June 2, 1873.
- James B. Ames, to be Assistant Professor of Law from September 1, 1878, June 2, 1873.

JOHN FISKE, to be Assistant Librarian, June 2, 1873.

- Adrien Jacquinot, to be Tutor in French for three years from -September 1, 1873, June 2, 1873.
- GEORGE A. BARTLETT, to be Tutor in German for three years from September 1, 1873, June 2, 1873.
- ARTHUR I. FISKE, to be Tutor in Greek for three years from September 1, 1878, June 2, 1878.
- ALLEN W. GOULD, to be Tutor in Greek for three years from September 1, 1873, June 2, 1873.
- HENRY H. A. BEACH, to be Assistant Demonstrator of Anatomy, November 11, 1872.
- WILLIAM JAMES, to be Instructor in Anatomy and Physiology from September 1, 1873, June 2, 1873.
- CHARLES B. PORTER, Demonstrator of Anatomy, to be also Instructor in Surgery, June 23, 1878.
- James A. Beatley, to be Assistant in the Laboratory of Agricultural Chemistry, June 23, 1873.

ALFRED W. FIELD, to be Proctor, June 30, 1873. EDWARD D. BETTENS, to be Proctor, June 30, 1873. JOHN MURDOCH, to be Proctor, June 30, 1873. JOHN F. SIMMONS, to be Proctor, June 30, 1873.

(FOR ONE YEAR OR LESS.)

For 1872 - 78.

JNO. F. WEIR, to be University Lecturer on the Means and Principles of Art, March 31, 1873.

CHARLES S. BRADLEY, to be Lecturer on Equity, October 9, 1872. JOHN C. GRAY, JR., to be Lecturer on Evidence, October 28, 1872.

GEORGE H. PALMER, to be Instructor in Philosophy, October 9, 1872.

ALLEN W. GOULD, to be Instructor in Greek, October 28, 1872.

ALBERT R. CRANDALL, to be Instructor in Natural History, November 25, 1872.

Walter Faxon, to be Instructor in Natural History, November 25, 1872.

JOSEPH B. WARNER, to be Instructor in History, December 9, 1872.
EDWARD S. SHELDON, to be Instructor in Italian and Spanish, February 28, 1873.

For 1878-74.

CLARENCE J. BLAKE, to be Lecturer on Otology, June 23, 1873. JOHN O. GREEN, to be Lecturer on Otology, June 23, 1878.

Francis B. Greenough, to be Lecturer on Syphilis, June 23, 1873. Edward Wigglesworth, to be Lecturer on Syphilis, June 23,

JAMES R. CHADWICK, to be Lecturer on Diseases of Women, June 23, 1873.

CHARLES P. PUTNAM, to be Lecturer on Diseases of Children, June 23, 1873.

JAMES J. PUTNAM, to be Lecturer on the Application of Electricity in Nervous Diseases, June 23, 1873.

STACT BAXTER, to be Instructor in Elecution from September 1, 1873, May 12, 1873.

HENRY HOWLAND, Tutor in German, to be also Instructor in History and Political Economy, June 2, 1873.

WILLIAM GRAY, HENRY J. BIGELOW, and THOMAS G. APPLETON, to be Trustees of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts for one year from March 1, 1873, February 10, 1873.

ORGANIZATION. - INSTRUCTION. - DISCIPLINE.

The teachers actually employed in the instruction of undergraduates during the current year, under arrangements made for the most part in the year 1872-73, are as follows:—

Year,	Professors.	Assistant Professors.	Tutors.	Instructors.	Assistante.	Total.
1878-74	18	. 15	5	4	. 8	50

The teachers actually employed in the College during the year 1872-73 were (as was stated in last year's Report, p. 10):—

Professor Asa Gray withdrew from active service in teaching at the close of the year 1872 - 73, and his work in the College was taken up by Assistant-Professor Goodale, who had already acted as instructor in botany. Fortunately for the scientific fame of the University, Professor Gray retains his professorship, and remains in charge of the invaluable Herbarium which his personal influence and labor, furthered by generous friends of science, have created. The Dean of the College, Professor Gurney, found it necessary last spring to diminish his labors for a time; and as it was much easier to fill his place temporarily as Professor than as Dean, it was arranged that his work in teaching should be transferred to an instructor for the year now current. Four tutors and two instructors were promoted during they ear to be assistant professors.

The tutors and instructors now in service are, with the single exception of a graduate of 1872, persons of considerable age and standing, who have had long and thorough preparation for their work. There was a period in the history of the College when the tutors were generally recent graduates, who were pursuing their own studies in the professional schools, and who had no more special training for their duties as teachers than the uniform, fragmentary curriculum of the College of that day supplied. That period is past. The College can now ordinarily command in its tutorships and instructorships the services of accomplished teachers, or of men of special and elaborate training in the subjects which they profess. At this moment not a single tutor or instructor is a member of a professional school.

There is a widespread notion, founded on a past condition of things, that the Freshmen on coming to college are placed in the hands of inexperienced young men who do not compare favorably in personal force and attainments with the masters of the schools which the Freshmen have just left. Whatever foundation there may once have been for this opinion concerning American colleges in general, and particularly concerning the larger colleges, there is now no foundation at all for it, so far as Harvard College is concerned. The teachers of the Freshman class are two professors, four assistant professors, three tutors, and one instructor. Of these ten teachers, only two are wholly devoted to the Freshmen; all the rest teach also Seniors, Juniors, or Sophomores. Nine out of the ten are men of much greater attainments in their several specialties than are generally to be found even in the best schools, - a result quite natural, inasmuch as college teachers have the privilege of devoting themselves to single departments of learning, - a privilege denied to most school-teachers.

There are three important subjects which are now very inadequately provided for at the University, although they have not of late been entirely neglected; they are English Literature, Jurisprudence, and Art, the latter more particularly in its relations to literature. Distinct, endowed professorships of these

subjects are much needed, the more so because of the increasing resort to Cambridge of graduates of this college and other colleges with the purpose of pursuing liberal studies as candidates for the Master's or Doctor's degree. Short courses of lectures upon these great topics, however good of their kind, are quite insufficient; the sustained, systematic work of resident professors is what is wanted.

By the liberality of the children of the late Nathan Appleton, the interior of Appleton Chapel was entirely reconstructed last year; galleries were put in, the chancel and pulpit were rearranged, handsome stainedglass windows replaced the former plain ones, and the walls and roof were beautifully decorated in color. It was supposed that the work would be almost finished in the summer vacation, but the extraordinary slowness of all the artisans employed delayed the completion of the work until the 22d of February, 1873. By the courtesy of the Shepard Congregational Society, the congregation which ordinarily worships in Appleton Chapel on Sunday was permitted to occupy the former church of that society, situated on Holyoke The change wrought in the interior of the Chapel was wonderful; it had been singularly bare and unattractive in appearance, and very hard to speak in; it was changed into a handsome, cheerful, and appropriate house of worship. The former resonance of the interior, which had made the Chapel so hard to speak and hear in, almost entirely disappeared, and the capacity of the building was increased from 650 to 900 seats. As the altered Chapel was found to seat as many persons as the church of the First Parish, the exercises of Class Day and Commencement were held last June in the Chapel, instead of in the church. Then disappeared the last trace of the official connection between the College and the First Parish, - a connection which had been maintained in various forms for more than two hundred years.