CATALOGUE OF WILLIAM SMITH COLLEGE, GENEVA, NEW YORK 1908-1909

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OF

WILLIAM SMITH COLLEGE

GENEVA, NEW YORK

1908-1909



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FOUNDATION AND PURPOSE

The object of this College is to provide a thoroughly modern education in the arts and sciences, both as the needed introduction to professional or technical training and as an important preparation for civic life and duty. Those in authority will encourage well-directed specialization to any extent not inconsistent with the character of the institution, but it will remain their controlling purpose so to inform and develop the moral and intellectual life of their students as to render them fit for efficient citizenship and the service of God and their fellows.

On April 12, 1822, the Regents of the University of the State of New York approved a plan for raising Geneva Academy to college rank and granted a provisional charter to GENEVA COLLEGE; on February 8, 1825, they granted a permanent charter. Instruction began in 1822 in Geneva Hall, and in 1826 the first class was graduated. Bishop John Henry Hobart was the chief agency in the movement, extending over ten years, for this foundation. The charter members of the Corporation included clergy and laity of several churches, those of the Protestant Episcopal Church being in the majority.

The permanent charter provides that no ordinance, rule or order of the Board of Trustees shall "extend to exclude any person of any religious denomination whatever from equal liberty and advantage of education, or from any of the degrees, liberties, privileges, benefits or immunities of said College, on account of his particular tenets in religion." From the first the policy of the College has been in accord with the spirit of this provision. No religious tests have been applied in the case of Trus-

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tees, Faculty or students, and the institution, although it has been largely indebted for its support to the generous gifts and contributions of certain individuals and organizations of the Protestant Episcopal Church, has always been independent of the control of any ecclesiastical organization.

The educational plans of the founders seem to have been exceptionally broad and farsighted. At its first meeting the Corporation resolved to establish, in addition to the regular Classical Course, "another or English Course, to which students may be admitted and upon passing through which they shall receive, upon approved examination, an English diploma." This course, which is said to have been the first of its kind in this country, has been maintained from the beginning; it is now a fully equipped Scientific Course.

In the original endowment of the College the principal item was a sum of money raised by general subscription mainly in Geneva and its vicinity; next in value was an annual allowance from the Protestant Episcopal Society for Promoting Religion and Learning in the State of New York. A noteworthy benefaction was that of Trinity Church, New York, in 1851, amounting to \$3,000annually, one of the results of which was the change in 1852 of the title of the College to Hobart Free College, which was further modified in 1860 to HOBART COLLEGE.

The following professorships represent special endowments:—The Charles Startin Professorship, established in 1825 by Bishop Hobart out of a legacy left by Mrs. Sarah Startin of New York; the Hobart Professorship, founded in 1852 by friends of the College in co-operation with the Society for Promoting Religion and Learning; the Horace White Professorship, established in 1867 by

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the legacy of Horace White of Syracuse; the Prendergast Professorship, founded in 1862 by Mrs. Deborah Prendergast of Mayville; the Chaplaincy, endowed in the same year by the late John Hewett Swift of New York. Important gifts for other purposes are noticed in the account of the equipment. The largest benefactions received by the Corporation in recent years, apart from the Smith Foundation, have been the gifts of the late Mrs. Julia Douglas Merritt, the legacies of the late James Simons, the gifts of Mrs. Agnes Demarest of Buffalo, the Medbery Scholarship Fund, the Bishop Coxe Memorial Hall, the legacy of the late Matthew O'Neill, the gifts of Mrs. Charles Delamater Vail of Geneva, and the anonymous benefaction made recently through Frank Howard Nelson, '90, in memory of Charlie Rose Williams.

In September, 1908, the Trustees of Hobart College opened WILLIAM SMITH COLLEGE for the separate instruction of women. Through the generosity of William Smith, Esq., of Geneva, who erected and has for many years maintained the well-known Smith Observatory in Geneva, the sum of approximately four hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars was in December, 1906, offered to the Trustees for the purpose of founding a College for Women. On December 11, the Board by a unanimous vote resolved to accept the proposal; on December 13 the deed of gift was signed. William Smith College is accordingly under the management and supervision of the President and Trustees of Hobart College. Its affairs are, under their general direction, in charge of a special officer, the Dean of William Smith College.

The new College is, therefore, in its relations to Hobart College what is known as a co-ordinate institution. The work of the two Colleges is conducted independently

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by a common Faculty, upon whose recommendation the Corporation of Hobart College grants to the students of both institutions the same degrees. In accordance with this plan the Chemical Laboratory and the Physicai Laboratory of Hobart College are used by the women of William Smith College at different times from the men, and the Biological and Psychological Laboratories provided by the Smith Foundation are accessible under similar conditions to the men of Hobart College. The Library is open to Hobart and Smith students alike.

COLLEGE CALENDAR, 1909-1910

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April	7.	Wednesday,	EASTER RECESS begins, 1 P. M.
April	19,	Monday,	Easter Recess ends, 2 P. M.
May	30,	Sunday,	Decoration Day.
June	2,	Wednesday,	Semi-annual Examinations begin.
June	19,	Saturday,	Phi Beta Kappa Meeting.
June	13.	Sunday,	Baccalaureate Sunday.
June	15,	Tuesday,	Meetings of the Trustees and Phi Beta Kappa.
June	16,	Wednesday,	COMMENCEMENT DAY.
Sept.	33,	Wednesday,	FIRST TERM begins.
			Registration, 9 A. M.
Nov.	2,	Tuesday,	Election Day.
Nov.	34.	Wednesday,	Thanksgiving Recess begins, I P. M.
Nov.	29,	Monday,	Thanksgiving Recess ends, 8:45 A.M.
Dec.	13,	Monday,	Founder's Day.
Dec.	17.	Friday,	Christmas Recess begins, 6 P. M.
Jan.	3,	Monday,	Christmas Recess ends, 2 P. M.
Jan.	18,	Tuesday,	Meeting of the Trustees.
Jan.	24,	Monday,	Semi-annual Examinations begin.
Feb.	7.	Monday,	SECOND TERM begins.
Mar.	23.	Wednesday,	Easter Recess begins, I P. M.
April	4,	Monday,	Easter Recess ends, 2 P. M.
May	30,	Monday,	Decoration Day.
June	1,	Wednesday,	Semi-annual Examinations begin.
June	11,	Saturday,	Phi Beta Kappa Meeting.
June	12,	Sunday,	Baccalaureate Sunday.
June	14,	Tuesday,	Meetings of the Trustees and Phi Beta Kappa.
June	15,	Wednesday,	COMMENCEMENT DAY.