THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF HARVARD COLLEGE TO THE OVERSERES, EXHIBITING THE STATE OF THE INSTITUTION, FOR THE ACADEMICAL YEAR 1858-59

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Thirty-fourth annual Report of the President of Harvard College to the overseres, exhibiting the state of the institution, for the academical year 1858-59 by Various

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THIRTY-FOURTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

PRESIDENT OF HARVARD COLLEGE

TO THE

OVERSEERS,

BEHIBITING

THE STATE OF THE INSTITUTION

FOR THE ACADEMICAL YEAR

1858 - 59.

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REPORT.

To the Honorable and Reverend, The Overseers of Harvard College.

THE undersigned respectfully submits his Seventh Annual Report on the condition and prospects of the several departments of the University.

In the Academical Department there has been no considerable change in the course or methods of instruction during the past year. Professor Child, who was absent by permission for part of the time, has returned, his place while he was abroad having been supplied by Mr. Jennison, Instructor in Elocution, without expense to the College. Mr. Sophocles, formerly Tutor in Greek, has been appointed Assistant Professor of Greek. The following persons have been appointed Proctors: — Winslow Warren, A. B., in place of Mr. Noble, resigned; William P. G. Bartlett, A. B., in place of Mr. Longfellow, resigned; and William H. Huntington, in place of Mr. Brown, resigned.

For reasons which approved themselves to the

Corporation and the Board of Overseers, the Instructors in the Modern Languages have been reduced to two. The whole instruction in Spanish and Italian is now assigned to the head of the Department, who is also to be a member of the Faculty, and receive the full salary of a Professor of the College. It is matter of sincere regret that in consequence of this change the College has lost the valuable services of Mr. Monti, the Instructor in Italian. Mr. Bello, the Instructor in Spanish, had previously submitted his resignation, in order to return to Cuba. Dr. Arnoult, after having filled very acceptably for six years the place of Instructor in French, has resigned, and the Rev. Charles Miel has been appointed his successor.

It was mentioned in the last Annual Report of the President, that the Hon. John C. Gray had provided for two prizes, of two hundred and fifty dollars each, to be awarded to the two members of the Class of 1860 who shall be found, after a special and thorough examination in the Second Term of their Senior year, to have made the greatest proficiency in the study of Pure Mathematics. During the past year the same gentleman has given the College five hundred dollars more, to be divided into two prizes of equal value, which are to be awarded for the same object, and on the same conditions, to members of the Class of 1861. The

undersigned is of opinion that there is no way in which high scholarship is so likely to be promoted in the University, as by the establishment of large prizes of this description for those who distinguish themselves in some particular department of study. He hopes that the example here set for the encouragement of the Pure Mathematics may be followed by others for the encouragement of the moral and physical sciences, and of classical learning.

Measures for the separation of the Divinity School from the College, under the Act of the Legislature passed for that purpose, are in progress. The petition was filed at the March Term in 1859; as was also the answer of the Attorney-General, to the effect that he had no objections. After some delay, the Society for the Promotion of Theological Education, mentioned in the Act, have consented, if the separation is decreed, to accept the trusts. It is expected that the argument in the case will be heard, and the decision of the Court obtained, before the end of the academic year. The School, meanwhile, is well attended, and with every advantage to be derived from instructors and books.

The Law School is in a more flourishing condition than at any former period, numbering at present one hundred and seventy-eight students, drawn together from every part of the country. The Brattle House is still held by the Law School, and occupied, for the most part, by Law Students. At

the instance of the Law Faculty, the Corporation have passed a declaratory vote in order to correct a prevalent error respecting the name by which this department of the University is known. The Hon. Nathan Dane, though not its founder, was one of its liberal and early benefactors, in consequence of which his name was given to one of the Professorships, and to the public building or hall occupied by the School; but it was never given, or understood or expected to be given, to the School itself. The true and legal name of the School is not, as many will have it, the Dane Law School, but "The Law School of Harvard College."

The great event of the year affecting the condition and prospects of the Lawrence Scientific School is the establishment at Cambridge of a Museum of Comparative Zoölogy. About seventy-two thousand dollars were raised by subscription for this object; to which the State, by an act passed April 2, 1859, has added a grant of one hundred thousand dollars, payable, under certain conditions, from the avails of the sales of lands belonging to the Commonwealth, in the Back Bay. Out of the funds contributed by subscription, a building has already been erected to receive the collections; and the fitting up and arrangement of the whole are in such a state of forwardness as to authorize the hope that the Museum will be opened for purposes of instruction the next Term, and for public exhibition at the commencement of the next academic year. From the Articles of Agreement appended to this Report, it will be seen that the property of the Museum is in the hands of a Board of Trustees; but the scientific control of the entire collection, and its free use in the instruction of members of the Scientific School, and of the Undergraduates, are reserved to the College. It is believed that the new arrangement will prove satisfactory to all parties; and especially to the College, which without expense not already provided for will thereby secure forever the benefits of a vast and continually increasing apparatus for instruction in the natural sciences.

In the Medical School, Henry I. Bowditch, M. D. has been appointed Jackson Professor of Clinical Medicine, in place of Dr. Shattuck, who has been transferred to the Hersey Professorship of the Theory and Practice of Physic, left vacant, as mentioned in the last Report, by the resignation of Dr. John The Report of the Treasurer shows that the subscription begun the last year in aid of the School has received considerable additions. By this important movement the debt incurred in erecting and repairing the Medical College, in Grove Street, Boston, has been liquidated, and a permanent fund commenced, to be called the Jackson Medical Fund, in honor of Dr. James Jackson. The name of Dr. Jackson has also been given to the Professorship of Clinical Medicine. The recent extension of the