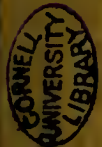
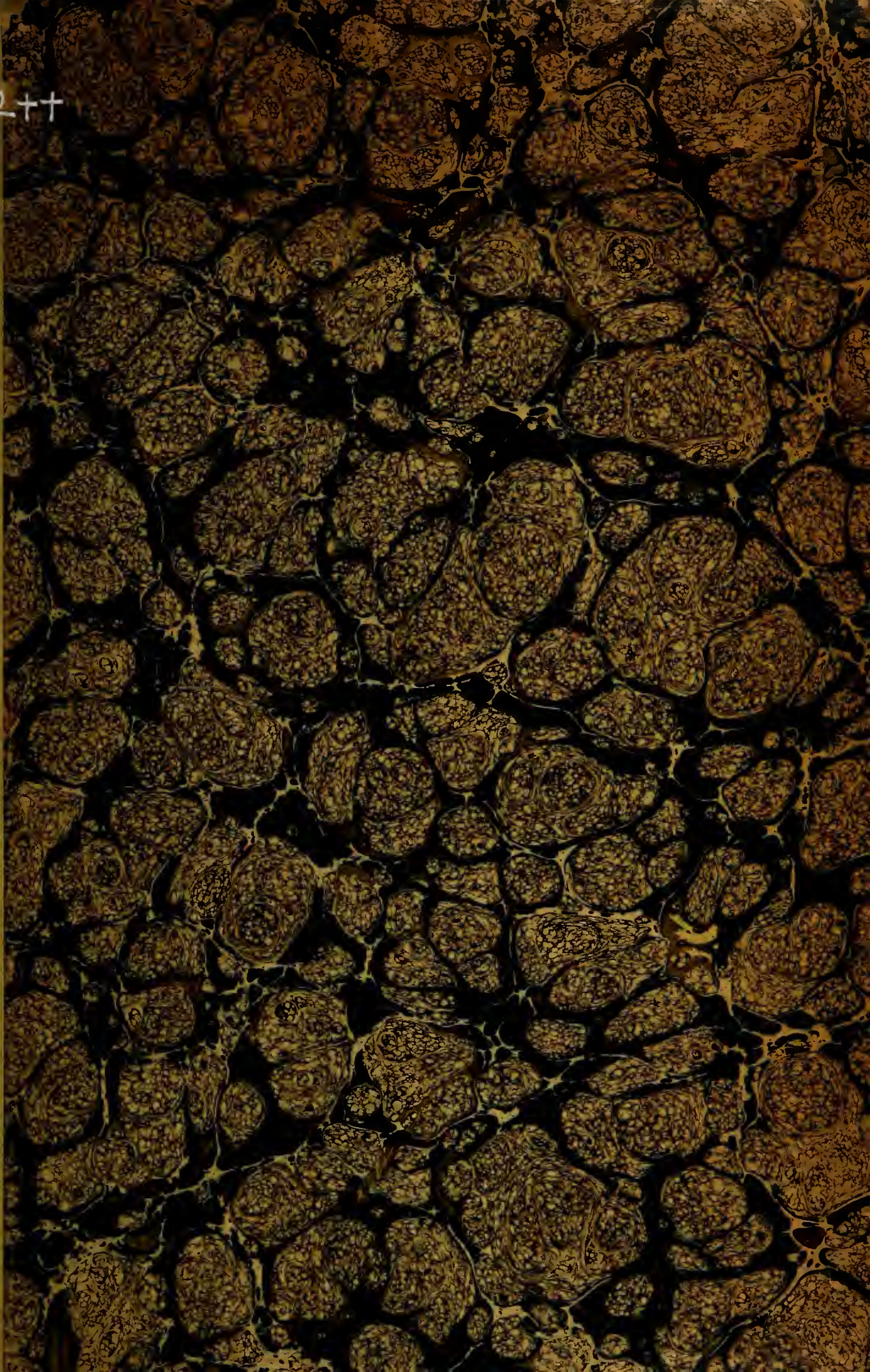


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THE RISE OF THE DRAMATIC SPIRIT IN ELIZABETHAN ENGLAND.

By Professor J. M. HART, of University of Cincinnati.

A Lecture Delivered Before the Unity Club.

1. Unquestionably the crowning and the distinctive glory of Elizabethan literature is its drama. Test the assertion, if you will, by the facts. What is there in Elizabethan prose comparable to the long line of Italians, beginning with Boccaccio in the fourteenth century and continuing in the great historians and novelists of the sixteenth century? Comparable even with the great chroniclers and essayists of France under the Valois? Which one of our Elizabethans can we measure with Machiavelli or with Montaigne? In narrative and lyric poetry the Elizabethan age has, it is true, much to be proud of. One work will do for all: the *Faery Queen*. Yet can we afford to set up the *Faery Queen* as that by which we wish to be finally judged? Spenser, its author, was directly under the influence of Ariosto and Tasso. Not that he was an ignoble borrower. He knew perfectly how to make his acquisitions his own. Nevertheless, we may admit this much of the *Faery Queen*, that it would never have become what it did become but for the direct example of Ariosto and Tasso. And then, after claiming for Spenser all the sweetness, all the originality of imagination that have won for him the name of the poets' poet, can we claim for him a place by the side of Dante? I for one can not. To revert to my original assertion, if you wish to see the crowning and distinctive glory of Elizabethan literature, you must look for a greater man than Spenser, for a more substantial realm than fairy-land.

2. How did it happen that Elizabethan drama rose to such perfection as made it not only the envy of its own day, but the idol of ours? How did it come by the force which sustained a Marlowe, a Shakespeare, a Jonson? I will tell you, if you will first tell me what there was in Italy of the sixteenth century that sustained a Michel Angelo and a Raphael. Or, if you reject this game of quits, I will make the humiliating assertion that I do not know what made Marlowe, Shakespeare, Jonson. Nature moves in a very mysterious way. Why should she bring forth a brood of dramatists, then sweep them away and fill their place with a brood of lyrist, then brush them away and substitute a brood of satirists? It is a mystery to me, and I can only acknowledge the fact. Yet there are certain points from

which we can get at least a better view of Elizabethan drama than if we lose ourselves in vague wonderment.

To begin with, Elizabethan drama was the expression of literary emancipation. It was on the boards of its play-houses that the English folk first spoke the accents of freedom. To my mind the drama of the sixteenth century was the training-school for the great Rebellion of the seventeenth. Every great drama presupposes three things:

- a. Men directly and intensely interested in scenic representations.
- b. Facilities for acting, possible only in a community that has accumulated a fair measure of material comfort and established centers of population able to support bodies of actors.
- c. Freedom of utterance. A muzzled drama can never be truly great.

Author and actor must be free to speak straight to the popular heart on matters that interest it most vitally. Now one of the first features to strike the student of Elizabethan drama is the boldness, not to say recklessness, with which topics of the times were brought upon the stage. If you wish to know the old drama aright, pray do not confine yourself to Shakespeare. Ben Jonson said of him, you will remember, that he was not of an age but for all time. I take the liberty of saying that Shakespeare was for all time, precisely because he was *not* of his age, *i. e.*, he was not immovably rooted in it, he moved a little outside of it. At many points we learn less of the age from him than from inferior dramatists. Shakespeare had all the spiritual freedom of his contemporaries without sharing their audacity. Yet even Shakespeare produced his "Henry VIII." less than ten years after the death of Henry's daughter, Elizabeth. Beaumont's "Philaster" was produced in 1608, *i. e.*, at a time when matters were rapidly shaping themselves toward an alliance, diplomatic and matrimonial, between England and Spain. Yet the piece is little more than the embodiment of a sneer against the Spaniards, impugning their intelligence and even their courage. Still more remarkable is the play entitled "Sir Thomas More," produced about 1590, and therefore during the life of Elizabeth. In the words of Mr. Ward: "Its hero is first exhibited as the wise judge, the energetic politician and the renowned scholar. He deals out equity at the expense of a justice of the peace; he suppresses a dangerous insurrection and holds sportful converse with 'the famous Clarke of Rotherdam,'

Erasmus; and then, after listening to a slight dramatic entertainment, sits in high council of state. It is here that he declines to submit to the King's demand. After this we are introduced to the house at 'Chelsey,' and that domestic circle which Holbein has rendered so familiar to us. More's cheerful and philosophic bearing is very effectively depicted; and we then accompany him to the Tower and to the scaffold, from the stairs of which he delivers himself of his well-known dying words: 'A very learned worthy gentleman seals error with his blood,' says the personage whose speech concludes the play. Containing a considerable admixture of humorous passages, it is altogether a pleasing and vigorous dramatic sketch of the serene and generous character to which it is designed to do honor. Though, as it seems to me, offense was carefully avoided in the construction of this play, the fact of its production is not without historical significance. But a great time invariably brings with it a sense of freedom with regard to the past—however comparatively unremote—which it casts into the shade by its own greatness. Our literature in the last two decades of the sixteenth century exhibits many instances of this emancipation; and a stage which could appeal to the public sympathy with a victim of the legislation of Henry VIII., was before long to venture with a certain degree of freedom upon reference to Elizabeth's own reign."

I need not multiply examples. Enough to say that the stage won for itself during the reign of Elizabeth the right to speak its mind freely, provided it did not attack directly the court, or morality, or religion.

3. In what way did Englishmen win such freedom so early, whereas Frenchmen and Italians had to wait for centuries? The answer must be sought from the professed historian of English politics. I can only suggest a thought or two. Elizabeth was by nature arbitrary. But through circumstances she was a temporizer. Even Henry VIII. had never been an absolute monarch in the continental sense. True, Mr. Green tries to depict him as such. But Mr. Green's coloring is altogether too vivid. Henry VIII. at his worst was far from being a Francis I. or a Charles of Spain. Whatever Elizabeth's private wishes may have been, her acts were fettered by the very lawlessness of her father's. Her claim to the throne was not unquestioned. Many an Englishman held sincerely that Mary Stuart had better rights and greater abilities. For twenty weary years Elizabeth's rule, her very life was in jeopardy. She kept herself in position only by means of prudent concessions. Not until Mary's head rolled from the block at Fotheringay Castle did Elizabeth feel somewhat safe. Only *somewhat*, be it observed. France was a lukewarm ally; Spain an open, deadly foe. At last the blow long threatened fell. But it fell flat and harmless. The Invincible Armada was utterly ruined, and Spain crippled for centuries to come. Elizabeth was free. But her people also had made themselves free. All Englishmen felt that it was *they* who had crushed the Spaniard. For years they had fought him by sea and by land, without orders from the Queen, often against her express orders. They knew that if they had become masters of the sea, it was by virtue of their own enterprise and steadfastness.

4. It is this spirit, then, of self-reliance that is embodied in Elizabethan drama. Great as is its purely literary interest to us, its historical interest is no less great. It reveals to us the enthusiasm, the boldness, the fertility of resource, the self-reliance, the towering self-esteem, the canny prudence in reaping every substantial reward of success, in short all that seething cauldron of demoniac impulse which makes the Elizabethan character so phenomenal. Shakespeare never spoke a truer word for his age than when he said through Hamlet: "They (the players) are the abstracts and brief chronicles of the time; after your death you were better have a bad epitaph than their ill report while you live."

Remember we are considering a generation that had no

newspapers, no magazines, no public libraries, no clubs, none of the thousand outlets whereby our modern mood finds its vent. The play-house was the safety-valve of the great throbbing English heart. The Englishman went to the play-house to see himself there and his national heroes, men like Drake, Frobisher, Norris, Hawkins, adventurers like Tom Stukeley. I can think of nothing that will better illustrate the *temper* of the stage than the prologue written by Peele for his play of "The Tale of Troy." It is entitled a Farewell to Sir John Norris and Sir Francis Drake.

Have done with care, my hearts. Aboard, amain,
With stretching sails to plough the swelling waves;
Bid England's shore and Albion's chalky cliff
Farewell, bid stately Troynovant adieu,
Where pleasant Thames from Isis silver head
Begins her quiet glide and runs along
To that brave bridge, the bar that thwarts her course,
Near neighbor to the ancient stony tower,
The glorious hold that Julius Cæsar built.
Change love for arms! Girt to your blades, my boys!
Your rests and muskets take, take helm and targe,
And let God Mars' Consort make you mirth,
The roaring cannon and the brass trumpet,
The angry-sounding drum, the whistling fife, etc.

Bid theaters and proud tragedians,
Bid Mahomet, Scipio and mighty Tamburlaine,
King Charlemagne, Tom Stukeley and the rest,
Adieu! To arms, to arms, to glorious arms,
With noble Norris and victorious Drake,
Under the sanguine cross, brave England's badge.

Sail on, pursue your honors to your graves.
Heaven is a sacred covering for your heads,
And every climate virtue's tabernacle.

To arms, to arms, to honorable arms.

Hoist sails, weigh anchors up, plough up the seas
With flying keels, plough up the land with swords.

In God's name venture on; and let me say
To you, my mates, as Cæsar said to his,
Striving with Neptune's hills: You bear, quoth he,
Cæsar and Cæsar's fortunes in your ships.

You follow them whose swords successful are,
You follow Drake, by sea the scourge of Spain,
The dreadful dragon, terror to your foes.

You follow noble Norris, whose renown,
Won in the fertile fields of Belgia,

Spreads by the gates of Europe to the courts
Of Christian kings and heathen potentates.

You fight for Christ and England's peerless Queen,
Elizabeth, the wonder of the world,

Over whose throne the enemies of God
Have thundered out their vain successful braves.

O ten times happy men that fight

Under the cross of Christ and England's Queen.

Assuredly this is not poetry of the highest order. But consider how it must have stirred the blood of those who have heard it thundered forth from the stage. Observe how the actor identifies himself with the man of arms. And this was no vain figure of speech. Many of them had proved their prowess on the battle field. Observe the fatalistic touch: any land is good enough to die in bravely. Observe finally the curious blending of religious fervor, hope of gain, and confidence of success. By the side of such typical adventurers, how tame must have seemed a mere aristocratic adventurer like Raleigh, an aristocrat pure and simple like Sidney. They were to have their record in the quieter stanzas of the "Faery Queen."

5. Thus much for the spirit of Elizabethan drama. Now for its form. To us its freedom and looseness of structure, its unconventionality, are matters of course. We are used to an action that roves from place to place and ranges through months and years. It does not surprise us to see a new-born babe blossom forth into the winsome Perdita, to whom our Hawthorne lost his youthful affections. We watch each evolution in Macbeth, from the first whisperings of treasonable ambition to the last fatal push that disseated him forever. The method is so common that we suppose it never could have been otherwise. Yet in 1560 the outlook was by no means so certain. The reign of Elizabeth was marked by a great literary conflict and signal victory. I

mean the conflict between the so-called unities and the loose or romantic structure of the drama. On the one hand learning, on the other national instinct. All English scholars of the period, scarcely one excepted, had passed under the influence of Italian taste and fashion. And the Italian stage then was dominated by Seneca. The tragedies of the Roman rhetorician seemed to them the model of perfection. The time must not extend beyond twenty-four, or, at the most, forty-eight hours. The scene must not shift beyond the limits of one city. The action or character must not evince any change. The play can give only the culminating point—the climax—of an event. Furthermore, there must be no commixture of the tragic and the comic. Scenes of violence and bloodshed can not be enacted. They must be imagined as taking place behind the scenes, or narrated by a messenger. Lastly, the play should abound "in brief sententious precepts of moral prudence," as Milton puts it.

Thus elaborated by Italian scholars and dramatists, who knew their Seneca, and thought they knew their Aristotle, the theory passed to England and was accepted there, as a matter of course, by University men. The Italian drama was to be translated, body and spirit, to a new home. But the scholars reckoned without their host. The English folk had developed from the later Church plays of the Middle Ages its own style of composition and standard of acting. Englishmen of the average type did not care for Senecan maxims. They were not afraid of bloodshed. They were rovers by profession, and liked a change of scene. And above all they cared for action. They wished to see something done, and the more of it the better. They were an insatiable public.

A shock was inevitable. Nor can it be doubted that at first the advantage lay with the scholars. Our best earlier dramatists were more or less Senecasters. So Norton and Sackville (afterward Earl of Dorset), the authors of *Gorboduc*, first performed at the Inner Temple, Christmas, 1561, and repeated in January, at Whitehall, before the Queen Men like Gascoigne and Sidney threw the weight of their influence in favor of the Senecan method. Observe how Sidney writes in his *Apologie for Poetrie*, 1580 or 1581: "Our tragedies and comedies, not without cause, are cried out against, observing rules neither of honest civility nor skillful poetry." Whereupon he proceeds to commend the Senecan style of *Gorboduc* and its moral phrases, but blames its disregard of the unities of time and place. If *Gorboduc* be faulty, how much worse other plays, where one skips from Asia to Africa? Now you are in a garden of flowers, and in a trice dashed upon the rocks in a shipwreck. Time is even less regarded. Princes and princesses fall in love. Their offspring grow up and fall in love in turn, after divers adventures, and all in two hours' space. Then we juggle comedy and tragedy, and think everything a comedy that makes us laugh. I give the substance of Sidney's strictures. He winds up thus: "But I have lavished too many words on this play matter. I do it because, as it is the excelling part of poesy, so there is none so much used in England, and none more pitifully abused. Which, like an unmannerly daughter showing a bad education, causeth her mother Poesy's honesty to be called in question."

Even while Sidney wrote, the tide was turning against him. His words betray a sense of discouragement. Reduce his antique phraseology to current English and it amounts to a sigh of regret: So many plays, so many poor ones.

6. By whom and in what way was the contest decided? The question still awaits an answer. Were all the plays between 1540 and 1590 preserved, even if those now extant were exhaustively studied by some competent scholar thoroughly familiar with the contemporary drama of Italy and France, we should be greatly enlightened. As it is, I can venture upon only two positive assertions: *a.* That the question was definitively settled before the appearance of Shakespeare. *b.* That the man who did more than any

other to decide it was Marlowe. Marlowe will be the subject of a subsequent discussion which I have not the intention of anticipating. Suffer me only a word. Marlowe won the day by demonstrating that it was possible for a tragedy of the new sort—a romantic tragedy, to use the now current phrase—to be an unmistakable work of genius. His predecessors had been well-meaning, but ill-directed and feeble. But after *Tamberlaine*, *Faustus* and *Edward II.*, no English playgoer but felt that such a lead was decisive.

To revert to my text, the new dramatic spirit. Once for all, the drama before Shakespeare is a drama of beginnings, not of perfect fruition. It was toilsome to those who wrought in it. It is almost as toilsome to us who read in it. Yet how precious were its achievements! Into what a glorious heritage of possibilities did the young Shakespeare enter by right of birth! As the young Goethe—two hundred years later—trod with light foot paths that had been made clear for him by Lessing and Herder, so the great genius of our language entered an arena that had been trampled into shape by a hundred dwarfs and giants, known or unknown. Do not let us make the common mistake of estimating the bulk of our early drama by its extant remains. It was an age of acting. The air was full of it. Hundreds of pieces must have been ephemeral in the strictest sense, dying with the night that saw them born. Layer upon layer, we know, goes to the making up of a solid stratum. Everything in Shakespeare's plays betokens an audience trained to judge, no less than an author qualified to write. The audiences of 1600 must have entered into the rendition of a piece as we—readers only and not listeners—can not possibly enter.

And then what a tool was put into the hands of the supreme artist just as he began his work! I mean blank verse. In the course of fifty years English blank verse had proceeded to its full development. Introduced from Italy by Surrey about 1540, it took a great leap forward twenty years later in *Gorboduc*. Poor *Gorboduc*, praised and blamed by Sidney, is anything but a great play. A Frenchman might call it a *drame manqué*. Its authors had in their hands as noble a theme as Shakespeare had in his *Lear*. But they were not geniuses, but men of erudition. To them a play was a chance for oracular mouthing and sugar plums of wisdom. Their personages do not act, they talk. Yet they do talk admirable blank verse—smooth, strong, finished. Let me quote a few lines, almost at random. Ferrex is speaking. He feels aggrieved at the partition of the kingdom:

"Is this no wrong, say you, to reave from me
My native right of half so great a realm,
And thus to match the younger son with me
In equal power. and in so great degree?
Yea, and what son? The son whose swelling pride
Would never yield one point of reverence
When I, the elder and apparent heir,
Stood on the likelihood to possess the whole.
Yea, and that son which from his childish age
Envieth mine honor and doth hate my life,
What will he now do, when his pride and rage,
The mindful malice of his grudging heart,
Is armed with force, with wealth, and kingly state."

This is only too smooth, too cadenced. It is deficient in variety. The writer does not know how to use the caesural pause. He is no genius. Now, pass to Marlowe twenty-five years later. I shall quote only a brief passage from one of his least known and poorest plays, *The Massacre of Paris*. The Duke of Guise is giving vent to his ambitious aspirations:

"Give me a look, that when I bend the brows,
Pale death may walk in furrows of my face;
A hand, that with a grasp may gripe the world;
An ear to hear what my detractors say,
A royal seat, a sceptre and a crown;
That those which do behold them may become
As men that stand and gaze against the sun."

Perhaps you will agree with me, that this, if not quite Shakespeare's grand air, is clearly prophetic of it.

ACADEMICA,

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MAX B. MAY,

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CINCINNATI, NOVEMBER, 1885.

THE first number of the ACADEMICA appears rather late this year, and we ask pardon for this delay. We hope that the unpleasantness existing between some of the students and the ACADEMICA can be amicably adjusted. We "desire the good will of all," and are willing "to smoke the pipe of peace," and "bury the hatchet." Students, let bygones be bygones, work for your paper and the paper will work for you; try to smooth the path of the editors, and see if the ACADEMICA can not be the friend of every one.

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COMMENCING next issue, we will publish a serial story, entitled "One College Year."

THE Board of Directors have added Prof. T. S. Noble, of the School of Design, to the Faculty, as Professor of Art.

THE Academic year 1885-6 opens under the most favorable prospects. The following is the enrollment: Regular, 27; special, 7; whole number of students: regular, 69; special, 16; total, 85.

The Cincinnati press is gradually advertising our institution.

The Board of Directors need have no fears concerning the future of our institution.

From this time forth the University of Cincinnati will increase both in reputation and the number of students.

ALMOST every college or university has one or more general organizations, either a literary or debating society, or both.

Shall the University of Cincinnati be an exception?

Students, wake up, stir up your now sleeping energy, and go to work with a vim.

Revive the McMicken Literary Society, and let it reflect credit both on yourselves and your institution. We are certain that the Faculty will give you all the necessary aid and encouragement.

THE Faculty adopted a wise plan last year in establishing a popular lecture course. May another lecture course be established, and may a more suitable time be appointed for holding the lectures.

THIS number of the ACADEMICA will be sent to our old subscribers, to members of the Alumni, and to the new students. We ask those who do not wish to subscribe for the paper please to inform us.

THE ACADEMICA asks the students for contributions. Our columns will always be at the disposal of the students. We have offered a prize (see local column) for the best literary contribution, and we hope every student will compete for it.

WE would like to run an "Alumni Column." In order to do this we must have news regarding the Alumni. If the Faculty or officers of the Alumni Association will furnish us with items we will only be too glad to print them.

THE Class of '89 is composed of energetic members, who will not only work for their class, but also for the University. This class has already organized, and have formed a literary society.

We wish you much success, and hope you will honor yourself and your institution.

THE ACADEMICA sustains a great loss by the resignation of Mr. Frank Thilly. Mr. Thilly was a member of the board during the greater part of the year 1884, likewise 1885, and was elected last May to serve during the coming year. Mr. Thilly, during his term of office, worked faithfully, and by his resignation the ACADEMICA loses an efficient servant.

THE students ought to settle once for all what constitutes a *quorum* in a students' meeting. If all the students can not be present some day after recitation hours, the Faculty ought to grant them an hour, convenient to all, in which to settle this important question. It would not be an unwise plan to adopt a constitution, which shall hereafter govern all students' meetings.

DR C. G. COMEGYS, Chairman of the Academic Committee, congratulated the ACADEMICA for its good work in behalf of the University. The Doctor said the increase of matriculates was in a degree due to the exertion of the ACADEMICA.

We modestly accept the compliment, and will always work in the interests of the students and the University.

THE Academic Department of the University of Cincinnati need not be ashamed of their worthy paper, the ACADEMICA."—*The Sibyl*.

We suppose that the above compliment has reference to our June (1885) issue, in which the workings of the various departments were ably set forth. The ACADEMICA will *always* work for its institution. Its columns will *always* be open to the Board of Directors and to the Faculty.

THE subscription price of the ACADEMICA has been reduced from \$1.50 to \$1. This is as low as it can be fixed. We hope every student will subscribe.

OUR UNIVERSITY BUILDING BURNED.

Shortly before four o'clock this morning (November 7th), a passer-by discovered flames issuing from the first floor of the McMicken University, on McMicken Avenue, near the head of Elm Street. He immediately sounded an alarm from box 98. By the time the department arrived the entire front of the building was in flames, and a second alarm was sounded.

It was only by the most heroic work on the part of the firemen that any part of the building was saved.

The entire front was completely gutted, and the loss will not fall short of \$30,000.

The fire is supposed to have originated in the laboratory, which is on the first floor.

The janitor, Joseph Frey, occupies a house a short distance from the University. He says that at eight o'clock last night he went through the building and found everything in good shape. He could not account for the origin of the fire.

General J. D. Cox, the Rector of the University, could not be seen, and the loss can only be roughly estimated.

Prof. Eddy, the Dean of the University, loses a very valuable collection of books. His apartment was entirely burned out.

The building was completed in 1874, at a cost of about \$75,000. It was opened as a university the following year. Its burning at this time, just at the beginning of a college year, is particularly unfortunate, and will entail no end of trouble to the college authorities and students.

As we go to press the University building is partly destroyed. We can no longer delay this issue of the paper. Full particulars next issue.

At Adelbert College, Prof. Perrin is reading a Greek play each Wednesday afternoon to any of the Seniors, Juniors or Sophomores who choose to attend. The *Reserve* will be issued by the Juniors this year, as usual. The editors are F. L. Baldwin, F. Kuhn, H. J. Uhl and Miss Annie Roeder. The Phi Delta Literary Society is doing good work. The Philozetian is not doing anything yet. Adelbert will have a field day next spring. The academy at Hudson had a fine one this fall, and was the cause of stirring up the college boys. The new men are all taken in by the fraternities, and honors are easy.

THE ACADEMICA.

With the enemies of the ACADEMICA this article has nothing to do. It is an appeal to those who have the welfare of the paper at heart.

No college journal is fully successful unless it reflects the sentiments of the students. This it can not do unless the students are in sympathy with the paper, and to some extent are willing to work in its interests. The ACADEMICA at present has but one editor; the prospects for a near election are not bright and consequently all the work connected with the journal falls upon his shoulders. Such a state of affairs is not conducive to the paper's prosperity.

Hitherto payment of subscriptions has been the only support given by the students to the ACADEMICA. This support is not enough. It is like giving clothing and shelter to a pauper without supplying him with food — he gradually starves to death. What our paper needs is contributions — an interchange of opinions on University topics, literary articles, and items of general interest.

If such are forthcoming the success of the ACADEMICA is assured. Against a paper made up of such material opposition can find no foothold. When students have found a medium for the discussion and settlement of their various opinions, the ideal school journal has been reached. Such an ideal can be attained. It remains with the students of the University to decide whether they will attain it or not.

It would not be out of place here to mention a few difficulties in the way of successfully conducting a college paper. In the first place, everybody expects too much from the board of editors. This board must put before the students every thirty days (1) one or two literary articles of merit; (2) all the news connected with the college; (3) opinions concerning the happenings of the last month. It must report the actions of the Board of Directors, the doings of the literary societies, and the results of the baseball games, and the like. It must give able reviews on all of the exchanges. This we think the editors would cheerfully undertake to do were their labors met with anything like sympathy or assistance.

No sooner does the paper appear than it is met with a running fire of criticism. "Every issue contains some thing objectionable." One says that the leading article is of no account; another says that the local items should be discontinued; a third finds objection to the exchange column. Every one has a word of disapproval; no one a word of encouragement. Such a state of affairs must continue as long as *five* students undertake to present the opinions of a hundred. Such a feat is impossible. *The only way* to manage a paper to the satisfaction of all is to get the students to present their own opinions. If once a spirit of controversy is aroused on a subject of local interest, the paper will fill itself. Once let each student feel that his college paper is open and eager for the expression of his sentiments, let him feel that the way to settle a disputed question is by argument through the ready columns of his representative paper (representative in more than name), and the college journal would become, instead of a source of quarrels and ill-feeling, a power in the University.

HENRY W. BETTMANN.

EXCHANGES.

The exchanges are gradually making their appearance. Together with the familiar ones come a host of strange faces.

The *Daily Crimson* has at last responded to our request to exchange. The *Crimson*, judging from its contents, must be of great advantage to Harvard students.

The *W. T. I.*, hailing from Worcester, Mass., is a new journal. We wish it much success.

The *Hesperian* appears with a new and beautiful cover, otherwise it is like the *Hesperian Student* of old.

How about the Inter-Collegiate Press Association? *Notre Dame Scholastic*, can you enlighten us?

Will the exchanges please send us a copy of their college catalogue.

The editor of "Notes" in *Campus* ought to wake up.

"Secretary Bayard is to deliver the commencement address at the University of Kansas. He has received the degree of LL. D. from Yale, Harvard and Dartmouth."

The Secretary delivered the address last June and we are not aware that he has made an engagement for the coming season.

The *Dennison Weekly News* is a new college journal.

The make-up of the *Foster Academy Review* is poor. Some good literary articles would improve the paper.

Carletonia has many literary articles: "Influence of Anglo-Saxon Conquest on the World," "Negro Suffrage," "Some of the Characteristics of George Eliot's Novels."

University Press and *The Badger* have united.

Oberlin Review would be greatly improved if it would run an exchange column.

The leading articles in the *Earlhamite*, "Is it Nothing," "The Need of an Ideal," and the Farmer and Education."

Polytechnic (Troy, N. Y.,) has changed its name to *Troy Polytechnic*.

Dennison Collegian appears with a new cover. The *Collegian's* editorials deal with subjects foreign to the field of college journalism.

The first number of the *Callanan Courant* (Des Moines, Iowa,) is before us. The paper, we think, undertakes too much for a college journal.

Yankton Student is a new college paper.

The *Hatchet* is small, but yet deals some heavy blows.

The following expresses our sentiments:

"We hope that the scholars this term will not possess the mistaken idea that having elected a board of editors they have freed themselves of all connection with the paper. Too often does this supposition exist; but it is a wrong idea. A board of editors are elected merely to have immediate charge of the paper. Other than this, the scholars stand on the same footing, as regards the management of the paper, as do the editors. A school journal is supposed to echo the voice of the scholars. At the present day an outsider judges a school in great part by the character of the paper emanating from it. To make a paper a thoroughly representative organ, it is necessary to draw its ideas, not from one class, but from the entire school. With this idea in view, it is

necessary, if the scholars desire to place their paper foremost in the ranks of school journals, to cheerfully contribute such articles as meet their ideas of any subject."—*Academian*.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

The Board of Editors of the ACADEMICA offers a prize of five dollars (\$5) in gold for the *best* literary contribution to the ACADEMICA.

CONDITIONS.

The competition is limited to students. Any student may compete.

At least *six* contributions must be sent in.

LOCALS.

SUBSCRIBE

For the Students' Paper.

ONLY \$1 a year.

DID you notice '88's button?

SEND in your contributions.

WAIT for "One College Year."

T. H. SCHMIDT intends graduating in '87.

THE Literary Society has not yet organized.

WHY have the periodical lectures been given up?

THE class buttons of '88 are admired "all around."

THE Faculty did not address the students this year.

THE Lab. has had a boom this year and desks are at a premium.

MR. COUCHE, '86, has earned the title the "Student Philosopher."

THE baseballists are happy. The Board gave them a new ladder.

THE draughting room will be closed against all intruders. Joseph has a key.

THE stoves in some of the rooms have been moved so as to give more heat.

WE wish the football eleven success. May it be a permanent organization.

CALISCH has given up roller skating and taken to singing. One as bad as the other.

THE Freshmen are holding too many meetings. P. S.—This is not intended to incite a riot.

MISSES BLOCH AND ELY, who received Normal diplomas last year, intend graduating in '87.

THE REV. HOWARD A. JOHNSON, 82, has wedded Miss Mary E. Hubbard, a talented Indianapolis belle.

WONDER whether there will be a literary society or mock congress? "Read the answer in the stars."

THERE are a few young ladies in second Latin, third English Literature, second German, Psychology and second French.

THE Board of Directors of the University of Cincinnati have decided to give up their quarters in Wiggins' Block and to hereafter meet at the University Building.

WE hope the young ladies will forgive us for not paying them more attention in this number. We are too bashful to interview them. Please send us locals in time for next issue.

'87 AND '88 had quite a time of it in the draughting-room. When the smoke of battle cleared away the room was littered with chairs, but '88 had vanished into regions unknown.

SEND in your contributions.

FIRST LATIN is the largest class.

ALMOST every one is back again.

HEINSHEIMER, '89, is the smallest student.

LANGDALE's "Oh, yes," sounds very funny.

'89 has more Hughes graduates than Woodward.

THE Faculty look as if they had enjoyed their vacation.

EVERY Laboratory desk is in use, hence Prof. Norton's smile.

THE walls of the Laboratory have been painted. They needed it.

JOSEPH will make a good football player. He is always "kicking."

READ "One College Year." It will commence in the next issue ACADEMICA.

MISS AMANDA FRANK, '85, recently read a paper before the Unity Club.

MR. ERNEST TWITCHELL, '86, is in Atlanta, Ga. He is expected back in January.

THE baseball meeting did not materialize, and consequently no organization was effected.

WE noticed a new Latin lexicon on Professor Sproull's desk. Wonder if it is for the Museum.

JOHN WESTENHOFF, '85, is taking a post-graduate course. He is pegging away at chemistry in the Lab.

SMOKING and lighting of cigars in the building has been forbidden. The cigarette dealers will have a boom.

THE following is the enrollment: Seniors 13, Juniors 16, Sophomores 12, Freshmen 27, Specials 16, Post Graduates 1.

GERMAN RECITATION.—Professor: "Gentlemen, 'gedurft,' past participle of 'durfen,' is not often used." Mr. Kebler: "No, I have not met with it." Kebler is now considered authority on German verbs.

PRESIDENT COX delivered the first lecture in the Norwood lecture course, Friday evening, October 23d, at 8 o'clock. The subject was "D atoms, or Microscopic Plants, and Their Mode of Growth." The lecture was illustrated by a magic lantern.

MR. TOBIAS SCHANFARBER, '85, has been elected Rabbi of the Toledo (O.) Congregation. Speaking of his election, the *American Israelite* says: "It is quite encouraging to a young man to be elected the minister of so respectable a congregation before he has finished his studies, which claim his presence in the Hebrew Union College until next June."

WE clip the following from the *Commercial Gazette*:

UNIVERSITY FRESHMEN.

At a meeting of the freshman class of the University, the following officers were elected:

- President—Mr. Lawson.
- First Vice-President—Miss Block.
- Second Vice-President—Mr. Catlow.
- Secretary—Mr. Kinkead.
- Treasurer—Mr. Ahlborn.
- Poet—Miss Townley.
- Historian—Mr. Levi.
- Sergeant-at-arms—Mr. Mussy.
- Chaplain—Mr. Guttmacher.

This class is an exceptionally bright one, and has been complimented on its appearance and good scholarship displayed thus far.

The officers were chosen solely on their merits, and it is safe to say that never before has a better line of officers been chosen for the Freshman class of the University of Cincinnati.

We congratulate the officers-elect on having all been elected unanimously.

'88 mourns the loss of Miss Lietze.

THE football eleven will shortly play the Mt. Auburns.

THERE are many handsome young ladies among the new-comers.

SEVERAL of the football eleven were slightly bruised during a practice game.

LANGSDALE, '88, has been ill during the past two weeks, but is now all O. K. again.

JACOBSON, '86, wears a beaver, but he does not venture to bring it to the University.

THE class of '88 has a programme laid out for the ensuing year to consist of monthly literary exercises. This is a step in advance of other classes.

FOR the benefit of the newcomers, the Museum, *alias* quelle, *alias* hall, *alias* study-room, is on the third floor. It was originally intended for a study-room, but has been transformed into an amateur gymnasium.

THE TALE OF A FISH.

When a man doth wish to angle,
A hook like this he loves to dangle.

J

He has a line so good and strong,
And catches a fish about so long.

.....
Before he gets home the fish doth grow (?)
And he tells his friends that it stretched out so:

.....
But his friends who have a-fishing been,
Know that the man has lied like sin,
And they simply sit and smile and grin.

O O O O O O O O

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THE class of '89 is truly an energetic one. In addition to their regular curriculum they have organized a society for literary work, and give promise to accomplish great good in the future. At a meeting called for the purpose of forming into a regular organization and adopting the constitution framed by a committee previously chosen by the class, after having decided upon a definite constitution, the following officers were elected:

- President—Mr. Ellis G. Kinkead.
- Vice President—Miss Minnie Warwick.
- Secretary—Mr. William W. Watkins.
- Critic—Mr. William O. Mussey.
- Sergeant-at-arms—Mr. Abram Guttmacher.

The society intends to have semi-monthly meetings, and hopes to continue their organization through the four years of their University work.—*Commercial Gazette*.

WE SHOULD LIKE TO SEE

- EVERY one happy.
- A BASEBALL nine.
- A MOCK Congress.
- A FOOTBALL eleven.
- A LITERARY Society.
- FIFTY new students next year.
- WERTHEIMER, when he is not smiling.
- THE young ladies come to the Museum.
- THE Board of Directors visit the University.
- JOSEPH, when he is not claiming something.
- EVERY student a subscriber to the ACADEMICA.
- CLIFTON LEVY, when he is not sharpening a pencil.

THE Law School, Medical College, and College of Pharmacy annexed to the University.

FOOTBALL.

The University at last has a football team—one full of promise. It played its first game Tuesday, October 23d, and, though the score was a draw, the boys have every reason to be satisfied. Every member of the team showed a desire to work hard, and when good training and practice begin to show their effects, the football clubs of Southern Ohio will have to look to their laurels.

The club has an efficient and hard-working captain in Mr. Carson, who (if anybody can) will lead the team on to success. The players are as follows: Messrs. Carson (captain), Couch, Wright, Sampson, Bettmann, Ahlborn, Wrampelmeier, Lawson, Ramsey, Joseph and Freeman.

COLLEGE NEWS.

THE result of the Ohio election will not compel Oberlin to seek a new Greek professor, as Prof. Frost, the Prohibition candidate for Lieutenant-Governor, still remains in the Faculty.

A WELL of salt water has been struck near Cornell College. Nature is evidently preparing for large freshman classes at that institution.

THE Harvard Baseball Association has elected officers for the ensuing year: President, H. D. Claflin; Manager, A. B. Potter. The receipts of the club for this season were \$890.61 above the expenses.

"A TON of dumb-bell" is an order sent out from Ann Arbor, Mich., for the gymnasium of the College.

THE *Harvard Crimson* thinks lacrosse will take the place of football at Harvard.

THE freshman class at the Institute of Technology, Boston, is the largest class of any college in the country.

THE report of the Princeton hazing was exaggerated

WELLESLEY COLLEGE opens with 510 students.

THE Inter-collegiate Football Association held its annual fall convention Saturday evening, October 10th, in the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York. Harvard, Princeton, University of Pennsylvania, Wesleyan and Yale were represented. The convention made the final revision of the playing rules governing the associations for the present season, arranged dates for championship games, and provided for a referee. Mr. W. C. Camp was chosen referee for the Wesleyan-Princeton, the Yale-Princeton and the Wesleyan-Yale games. Harvard will not play in the association this season. The following is a partial schedule of the games: November 7th, University of Pennsylvania vs. Wesleyan, at New York; November 14th, Princeton vs. the winner of November 7th; Yale vs. the loser of November 7th; November 21st, Princeton vs. the loser of November 7th, Yale vs. the winner of November 7th; November 26th (Thanksgiving Day), Princeton vs. Yale, at New Haven.

PROF. CHARLES KENDALL ADAMS, of Michigan University, has accepted the Presidency of Cornell University, *vice* White resigned.

THE name of the Illinois Industrial University has been changed to the "University of Illinois."

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY.

Johns Hopkins University consists of five or six brick buildings situated in the heart of the city. It has an endowment fund of \$300,000 given by Johns Hopkins in the year 1867. Three of these buildings are laboratories; the chemical, the physical, and the biological laboratories. The others contain recitation and lecture rooms and the library. There are no dormitories or dining associations. A student goes to college solely for work, and expects no class systems or class associations. He arranges his own board and lodging in some neighboring private house. In consequence of this arrangement, the faculty are never troubled with the vexing question of student disturbances.

The requirements for admission are about equal to those at Harvard, with a little more stress laid on French and German. A student may substitute them for Greek. For the college course, which is generally three years, the student has to choose, with some alternatives, from seven courses of study. If, for instance, he wishes to pursue a classical course, I. would be his choice. This includes Latin and Greek with the alternative of Mathematics or History. In Latin, besides composition, there are nine authors to be read, among them Livy, Horace, Tacitus, Cicero and Juvenal. In Greek there are six authors, Lysias, Homer, Sophocles, and others. Supposing he desires the modern studies, then for Science he can elect course III., comprising Chemistry, Biology, and either Latin, Mathematics or Italian. For a more literary course, he can take course IV., which includes History, Political Science, and either Mathematics, a laboratory study, Spanish or Italian. Thus one can see the courses are well arranged and evenly balanced.

In some matters the students are not as well off as the Harvard students. Although there is the Congressional Library in Washington, which is about an hour's ride on the railroad from Baltimore, yet the students do not have the advantage of immediate reference to such an extensive library as we have here. In one of the college buildings is a very well arranged library of about 26,000 volumes. There is a gymnasium on the opposite side of the street.

In the American acceptance of the term, the institution is not a university; for instance, it contains no law school or medical department. Yet it is rapidly growing in size, and great improvements are contemplated. It owns many of the buildings in the surrounding blocks, and as its capital increases, it tears them away to make room for buildings of its own. Its friends, indeed, have every reason to be proud of its rapid growth.—N. F. H. in *Daily Crimson*.

BOSTON YOUNG LADY TO HARVARD STUDENT.—"Above all things I admire Hogarth's curves."

Student (thoughtfully)—"Hogarth—er—I don't remember the name—what club does he pitch for?"

PROFESSOR (to freshman)—"Mr. A., what is the exact distance in miles to the sun?"

FRESHMAN (meditatively scratching his head)—"Well, professor, I did know, but I have forgotten."

PROFESSOR (sarcastically)—"That is a pity, Mr. A. You have forgotten more than any other man ever knew."

A TERRIBLE CALAMITY.

OUR UNIVERSITY BUILDING GUTTED.

Chemical Laboratory and Professor Benedict's Room Completely Destroyed.

Rest of Building Damaged by Fire and Water.

Origin of Fire Unknown—Supposed to Have Been Started by Spontaneous Combustion in Chemical Laboratory.

In our main edition we have a partial account of the burning of our University. The report is correct, except as to the destruction of Professor Eddy's room and library, both were uninjured.

THE FIRE.

About 3:45 A. M., Saturday, November 7, 1885, a passer-by discovered flames issuing from the ground floor of the University building. He immediately gave the alarm, and soon thereafter box 98 was turned in, which was followed by a second and a third alarm. The fire companies came promptly to the scene of the fire. Great difficulty was experienced in ascending the steep hill, and every one is surprised that the firemen succeeded in getting the flames under control as quickly as they did. The firemen deserve great credit for their noble work, and the Board of Directors can be thankful that Cincinnati has such an efficient fire department. The fire evidently originated in the chemical laboratory, or in the cellar below, but *how* no one knows, and the chances are never will. There are three theories, neither of which can be substantiated: (1) Spontaneous combustion, (2) a stray spark, (3) struck by lightning (a storm was raging Friday night). Joe, the janitor, states that at 6:30 Friday evening he went through the entire building, and when he locked up every gas jet was turned out and every fire was out. This can be taken as *true*, for every student will bear witness to the fact that Joe is a careful and trustworthy person.

SCENE OF FIRE.

In the laboratory proper there are about thirty-two desks, all of which are occupied. The following students, as near as we can remember, are Labs: Misses Joslin, Rawson, Huddleston and Oskamp; Messrs. Westenhoff, Scudder, Otten, Schmidt, Windisch, Miller, Kebler, Ramsey, Baetens, Wrampelmier, Gurman, Carson, Catlow, Meader, Newman, Hudson, Harper, Kramer, Loewenstein, and a few freshmen, whose names we can not recall.

All the desks containing apparatus and chemical reagents and in most cases chemical books of references were completely destroyed. Here and there scattered about on the charred mass were found lying stray leaves from some stained "Fresenius," triangules and retort stands, and parts of "Bunsen" burners. Everything in the laboratory proper, including the "distill," was destroyed. Adjoining the laboratory proper is a small room known as the "combustion room." This too was badly burned, we think, however, the combustion furnace is safe. Adjoining this room is the quantitative laboratory, Professor Norton's office and the chemical supply room. Professor Norton's room was unharmed, the quantitative laboratory somewhat damaged, and the supply room only partially injured. It is exceedingly lucky that this latter was not destroyed, for it not only contained valuable chemicals, but likewise some very explosive ones. At this writing the loss in the laboratory can not be estimated, but Professor Norton thinks \$3,000 will cover it. In the hall are the cloak-boxes (1-18) and furnace, both were destroyed. One baseball bat, one wooden stool and one apron (Kebler's) were saved.

In the physical laboratory several valuable instruments belonging to Professor French were destroyed. With this exception not much damage was done.

On the first floor, where the Dean's office, Professors Benedict, French, Seybold and Norton's lecture-rooms are, the damage was great. The Dean's office and ante-room were uninjured. Professor Benedict's room was completely burned out, and Professor French's room was somewhat burned, and all his apparatus destroyed. In Professors Seybold and Norton's rooms the damage was confined to the burning of the floor. On this floor was a large case containing very valuable physical instruments. At present they are only thought to be slightly damaged by water.

On the second floor are Professors Eddy, Hart, Hyde, Sproull and Leonard's lecture-rooms, and two cloak and one ante-room. Damage here consisted of burned flooring and broken partitions.

On the third floor are Professor Gilbert's room, museum, draughting and engineer's room and one ante-room. Damage consisted in burned flooring, broken joists and cracked plastering. All the walls of the halls are damaged by water.

It is an imposing sight to look from the ante-room adjoining the Dean's office upon the ruins of the laboratory. The outside of the building is also damaged. The side facing McMicken Avenue is somewhat smoked, and several windows are entirely knocked out. The loss on the building will probably be \$12,000, which is covered by insurance.

The origin of the fire, as before stated, is a mystery which probably never will be cleared up. Professor Norton says: "Thus far it is a mystery. We have not been able to go into the ruins, for the reason that the insurance companies

have not made their inspection. We don't know just where it originated, whether in the cellar or in the laboratory."

"Was it the result of a chemical explosion?"

"I think not from an in the laboratory; for ythingall the dangerous chemicals were at one side of where the fire originated, and are untouched. Sometimes, where coal is stored in a confined space, as has happened on shipboard, there is an explosion, but that is a very unlikely thing to happen in our cellarage."

"There was no fire in the building?"

"No; the furnace was out and new material in it ready for lighting. There was no light in the building. The gas is all turned off by one cut-off, and there were no banners aflame. A few weeks ago a party of boys were arrested and fined for breaking the glass at the building. I know of no one else who would be likely to entertain any ill-feeling against the University, and it is not likely that they did it. So you see the origin of the fire is absolutely a mystery."

The Board of Directors and the Faculty held separate meetings Saturday afternoon at three o'clock to determine what should be done. The Board of Directors decided to proceed at once with the work of rebuilding. A committee of experts will examine the building, and every thing will be rebuilt. Consequently we will have a new laboratory, no doubt, much finer than the old one.

President Cox thinks the recitation-rooms will be ready to be reoccupied in a week, but the appearances are against this.

TEMPORARY QUARTERS.

The Board of Directors decided that recitations should go on as usual and accepted with thanks the following:

Hon. Samuel F. Hunt, President University Board:

DEAR SIR:—The University building being burned down, I take pleasure in informing you and the Board that the Hebrew Union College building and each room thereof is at your service, to be used as temporary quarters by the University of Cincinnati. There is sufficient room in the building for the University classes.

The Hebrew Union College building is at your service up to 2 P. M., as long as you may deem proper to use it.

I have the honor to be,

ISAAC M. WISE,

President Hebrew Union College.

The Hebrew Union College is located on the north side of Sixth Street, just below Cutter. The building is a large, double stone-front and amply capable of accommodating all the University classes.

Those students who have had any books burned are requested to report their loss to Professor Norton. In all cases the books or value thereof will be replaced.

The burning of the University building in the beginning of a prosperous academic year is very discouraging. All the students no doubt feel disheartened at the idea of giving up their comfortable quarters, especially the Labs, who for some time to come will be out of work. We hope all the students will make the best of it, and will try to get along as well as can be expected under the circumstances.

Now is the time for our public-spirited citizens to endow

our University, Cincinnati's University, and the best University in Ohio, probably in the West.

PRESS COMMENTS.

[Times-Star.]

Of course the destruction by fire this morning of the McMicken University is a great public calamity. Perhaps, however, now is the time to suggest that a change of location would be advantageous. The present site would be very valuable for manufacturing purposes, while the University buildings might be put up on some of the hills where they would not only show to better advantage, but would be improved in every way. The argument that the institution would then be too far removed from the center of the city is not to be considered, as rapid and more rapid transit between the town proper and the suburbs is every year annihilating distance. Strangers constantly comment unfavorably on the fact that the University is situated in the midst of the smoke and dirt of a manufacturing part of the city, and wonder why it was not placed where the students might enjoy the free light and air of the hilltops. Experience has shown that its location has been a drawback to the University's progress, and now the time has come when a change can conveniently be made.

A GHASTLY CALAMITY — COLLEGE HOUSE IN RUINS.

Few of those who felt the shock of a heavy explosion yesterday morning imagined what its cause was. Around College House, however, all was bustle and excitement. Men but half awake and hastily dressed were standing at a respectful distance from three windows which had been blown into atoms by some unseen force, and were awaiting a repetition of the shock with a mixture of awe and curiosity. However, as no second explosion took place, they became bold enough to inquire more closely into the cause.

It appears that the occupant of room No. 37 had had his chandelier broken off the evening before, and had stopped up the broken pipe with a wooden plug. To his astonishment, when he woke up at a quarter of eight yesterday morning his room was filled with gas, and to ascertain whether it was genuine gas or not he struck a match, thereby having his doubts very quickly satisfied. The result of the experiment was an explosion so heavy as to be felt all over the yard. The windows of the room were violently blown out over the sidewalk, the door was partly blown open, the ceiling was sprung, and the walls on the entry displaced about six inches, and about twenty feet of plastering so damaged as to have to be torn down immediately. All the plastering in the room was shaken loose, and the wood work, paper and ornaments were badly scorched. Everything was in great disorder in the room when the *Crimson* reporter entered it; masons were engaged in tearing down plaster and cleaning away the rubbish caused by the explosion, curious men stood in groups and surveyed the wreck with great interest.

The gentleman who caused all this excitement was fortunately not severely hurt by his carelessness; but it is safe to say that College House has not been so profoundly stirred — in both senses of the word — for many years. — *Daily Crimson.*

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