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50TH ANNIVERSARY

1848 1898

ALLEGHTOWN SEMINARY

1848 1864

COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE AND MILITARY ACADEMY

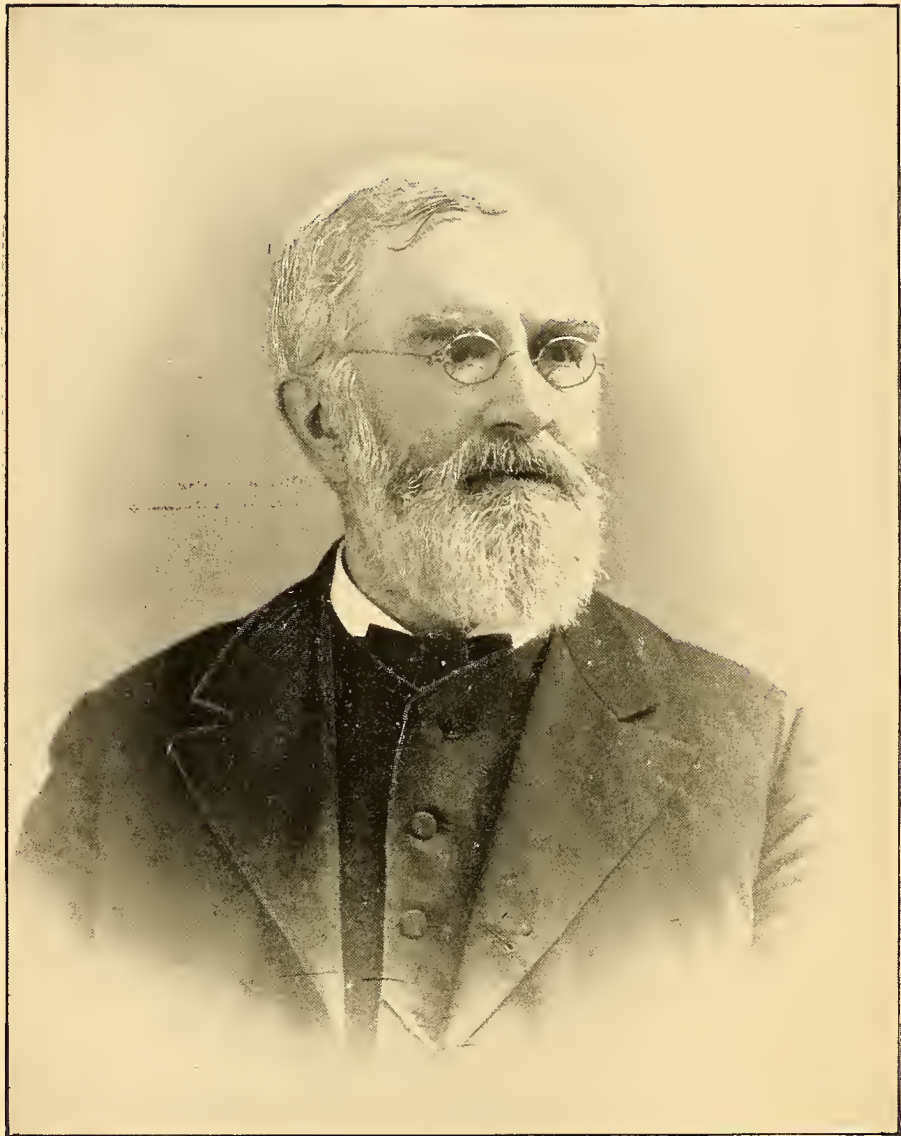
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MUHLENBERG COLLEGE

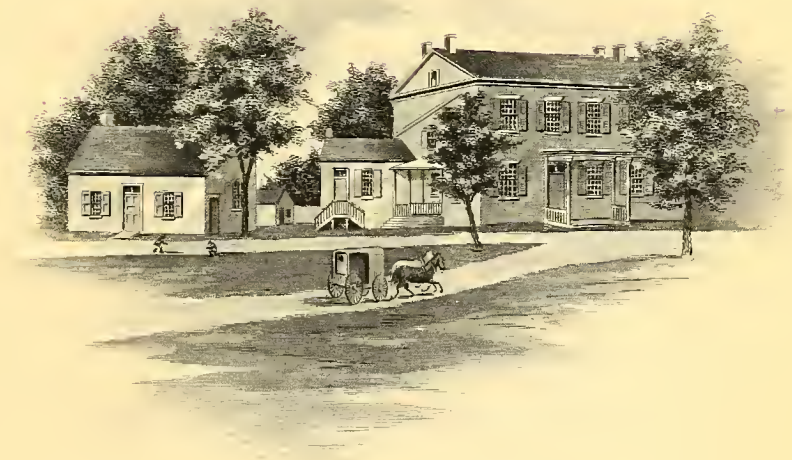
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REV. F. J. F. SCHANTZ, D. D.



Allentown Seminary
1848

Semi-Centennial Celebration

OF

THE HISTORICAL ORIGIN

OF

MUHLENBERG COLLEGE,

On the College Campus, June 23rd, 1898.

ALLENTOWN, PA. :
PUBLISHED BY MUHLENBERG COLLEGE.
1898.

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ORDER OF EXERCISES.

CONCERT BY THE ALLENTOWN BAND.

Chairman, President T. L. Seip, D. D.

- Prayer.....Rev. Jos. A. Seiss, D. D., LL. D., L. H. D.
Historical Address.....Rev. F. J. F. Schantz, D. D.
Greetings from the Theological Seminary, Mt. Airy, Philadelphia.
Rev. Prof. J. Fry, D. D.
Greetings from The Ministerium of Pennsylvania....Rev. S. Laird, D. D., President.
Greetings from the former Principal of the Allentown Seminary,
Rev. W. R. Hofford, D. D.
Communications from former Students.....Read by Rev. C. J. Cooper, A. M.
Benediction by the first pupil of the Allentown Seminary.....Rev. F. Berkemeyer.



HISTORICAL ADDRESS.

REV. F. J. F. SCHANTZ, D. D.

“As Americans, we rejoiced in observing the quarto-centennial of the discovery of this western hemisphere; as Pennsylvanians, we cheerfully joined in the festivities of the bi-centennial of our great commonwealth; as descendants of noble colonists, we gladly participated in the centennial of the Declaration of Independence; as citizens of the great republic, we hailed the day on which the centennial of the inauguration of the first President of the United States filled many hearts with gratitude to God; as Christians, we annually commemorate the great events in the life of the Incarnate Son of God, the Savior of the World; as Protestants, we observe with deep interest the jubilees and centennials of the great Reformation of the sixteenth century; as pastors and members of congregations in this western world, we never fail to take an interest in the various festivals that commemorate the organization of congregations and the formation of ministeriums, synods and general ecclesiastical bodies. We cannot refrain from commending the custom that is becoming yearly more general, of having great reunions of families, at which the ancestors, who came from the old fatherland and settled in this country are not forgotten and the history of families descended from them is most carefully traced. Whilst the family, the State and the church are important factors in the life of the individual and those of common parentage, the prosperity of the commonwealth and the republic and the growth of the kingdom of our blessed Lord, we must not ignore the existence, the importance and influence of educational institutions and ever recognize as true that when proper schools are neglected the family, the state and the church must and will suffer.

“No apology need be offered for the observance of the semi-centennial of the first occupancy of the grounds of Muhlenberg College for educational purposes. Some of us had the pleasure

of attending, in 1858, the decennial of the Allentown Seminary opened here in May, 1848. Many were present at the quarter centennial festivities in 1873. The great reunion at the quarter centennial of Muhlenberg College in 1892, was an occasion of great joy to the many, who participated in the same. Well might the pupils of the earlier years wonder whether they would be spared to unite with the students of subsequent years in the observance of the semi-centennial. The honor of the appointment to deliver the address on this joyful, interesting and profitable occasion is greatly appreciated. It is not necessary to present to-day in an extended address the full history of the schools conducted here in the past 50 years. The historical address delivered at the quarter-centennial celebration on June 25th, 1873, was published in a large supplement of the Daily News, of Allentown, and covered more than 10 columns. The history of Lehigh and Carbon Counties, published in 1884, contains an extensive article on Muhlenberg College, furnished by the worthy president of the college, the Rev. Dr. T. L. Seip. The Memorial Volume prepared by the Rev. Dr. S. E. Oehsenford and published in 1892, in which year the quarter centennial of Muhlenberg College was celebrated, contains a full history of the institution to the year 1892. The “Jubilee” published by the Jubilee Committee of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania, in connection with the observance of the sesqui-centennial of the Ministerium in this year, contains a valuable history of the institution, prepared by the Rev. Dr. Seip, and has been placed with many families.

“How then shall the duty with which the speaker has been intrusted be discharged on this occasion? Some years ago a gentleman remarked that he had heard a lecture on Martin Luther, delivered by a celebrated doctor of divinity and heard nothing new! That remark has not been forgotten and has led to the question whether our jubi-

lees, centennials and quarto-centennials are for the purpose of saying something new, or for the purpose of impressing properly on the minds of all that which is true. Some of us here to-day had the pleasure of residing at Allentown already in April, 1848. My home was previous to that time at the head of Cedar Creek. We had good public and private schools. My sainted mother was anxious to locate at Allentown to afford her younger sons the opportunity of attending schools of a higher grade. I shall never forget the greetings I received from the good town boys, who, as I was then not even as tall as I am now, feared no danger, when they called me 'buschknippel.'

"Allentown, now the queen city of the Lehigh Valley with a population of more than 35,000, had then about 3,700 inhabitants. It was an inland country-town, with Court House and jail. It then had one Lutheran, one Reformed, one Presbyterian, one Methodist Episcopal and one Evangelical Church. The Allentown Academy, chartered in 1814, and in actual existence since 1819, and in the building at the northwest corner of Eighth and Walnut Streets since 1827, was then in charge of competent instructors. Prof. R. C. Chandler was then the principal. The Female Seminary in the south building of the Homeopathic College, on Penn Street, was in charge of the widow of the lamented Rev. Andrew Young. Mr James Lee had a good private school on Union Street, below Eighth. Public schools were held in the large temperance building on Union Street and in other buildings in other parts of the town. The medical and legal fraternities were fully and ably represented. Allentown had a number of public houses, stores and workshops for various artisans. In 1848, the town had no railroad. Stages reached Allentown daily from the four points of the compass. In summer, merchandise was shipped and received by means of the Lehigh Canal; in winter, by means of large freight wagons. The town had then no telegraph and no illuminating gas. It was well favored by the publication of good German and English weekly papers. Rev. S. K.

Brobst, of blessed memory, had already in 1847, commenced the publication of the *Jugend-Freund*. Daily papers were received from Philadelphia.

"Some of us here to-day, witnessed on Ascension Day, June 1st, 1848, the great fire at Allentown, which destroyed all the buildings fronting on the north side of Hamilton Street, between Seventh and Eighth Streets, and nearly all the buildings on the south side of Hamilton Street, between the same streets, and a number of buildings in other parts of the town. The afternoon of June 1st, 1848, and the night that followed will never be forgotten. Great was the destruction of property and great the distress that was brought to many families. The fire started in the afternoon. Our home was on South Seventh Street. Residents on South Seventh Street, fearing the destruction of their dwellings, were busily engaged in removing the contents. I well remember a gentleman, who appeared in front of our home and not only expressed his deepest sympathy, but also offered a room in his residence to store valuable articles and to share the comforts of his home. That gentleman was the Rev. Christian Rudolph Kessler, the founder of the Allentown Seminary. I have no recollection of having seen Rev. Mr. Kessler before that afternoon. I had soon occasion to go to Livingstone Mansion, the stately historic building, in former days the home of the Livingstone family, and in more recent years the home of prominent Allentown families. I well remember the stone wall that extended along Walnut Street, from Fifth Street to the Jordan, the beautiful park north and the magnificent lawn south of the mansion.

"Here a good work was begun on May 1, 1848, the day on which Allentown Seminary was opened by Rev. Christian Rudolph Kessler, of the Reformed Church. Whilst the mansion afforded ample accommodations for a school of higher grade—a teachers' seminary, the worthy founder met with great disappointment. Proper patronage was wanting. The school opened with four pupils and closed its first

term of five months with eleven students, four of whom had come to prepare for teaching. Had the founder not been a man of faith and earnest prayer he would have succumbed before the close of the first term. The cry was heard 'Kessler's school will not set the Lehigh on fire'—and yet those who spoke thus proved to be false prophets. Whilst the original feature of the school was retained it was soon announced as a classical school for boarders and day scholars. At the end of the third term, in September, 1849, a catalogue was printed. It contained the names of 32 students. In the spring of 1850, the long stone building of one story, east of the mansion, commonly called Trout Hall, was refitted and arranged for a school room. At the opening of the next term, May 1, 1850, there was a large increase of students. A number of academy students had already, in the winter of 1849-50, entered the school with me. In this summer, the heart of the principal was cheered and the success of the school secured. The catalogue of 1850-51 reported an attendance of 80 students. Such, then, was the beginning of the institution founded May 1, 1848, which continued to grow until 19 years thereafter it became Muhlenberg College, which held its thirty-first commencement to-day.

"And now as we endeavor to review the history of the institution in these 50 years, we may properly refer first to the changes and improvements of the property. The parlor of Livingstone Mansion was used as the school room and an adjoining room on the north side as a recitation room from May 1, 1848, to March 31, 1850. In May, 1850, Trout Hall was used as a school room and one room in the mansion as a recitation room. Boarders were accommodated in the mansion, the residence of the principal. In the fall of 1851, the west wing of the college, erected in the summer of 1851, was first occupied by three departments, the primary and the academic for males, and the female which was opened in the fall of 1851, as Mrs. Young had closed her school. In the summer of 1854, the central building of four stories was erected and Livingstone

Mansion was raised to three stories. At the opening of the first scholastic year of Muhlenberg College in September, 1867, the cornerstone of the new building was laid and the building subsequently completed. Many changes have since been made on the buildings and on the grounds—the results of which former students readily observe. Those who were students in old Trout Hall would be glad to see it to-day. It would revive many pleasant memories. The old students have, however, lost less than was gained by its removal in improvements of the property.

"The changes in the name of the institution are evidence of changes of the character of the institution. The school was named 'Allentown Seminary' from 1848 to 1864 in the time of the great Civil War. From 1864 to 1865, it bore the name of 'Allentown Collegiate and Military Institute.' From 1865 to 1867, it bore the name of 'Military and Collegiate Institute, Allentown, Pa.,' and since 1867, it bears the name 'Muhlenberg College.'

"The friends of the institution were at first comparatively few in number, but increased with the growth of the school. Rev. S. K. Brobst, through his whole life as warm a friend as the Pennsylvania Germans ever had or may have now, had influenced Rev. Mr. Kessler to come to Allentown to open a school. Christian Pretz and Henry Weinsheimer, the owners of the valuable property, proved to be warm friends of the institution and readily made all the improvements in property as the same became necessary before it became the property of Muhlenberg College. Ministers and laymen of the various churches were early friends of the institution. To-day we must not forget the many patrons who sent their sons from 1848 to 1898 and those who sent their daughters from 1851 to 1867 to this school. The gentlemen who served as trustees after a charter had been secured for the Collegiate and Military Institute rendered valuable services. The gentlemen who served as a committee to secure subscriptions for stocks and the subscribers for the stock to secure the purchase of the valuable property—

when a full college was to be established—must be remembered to-day. The services of those who served as trustees of Muhlenberg College, the surrender of stocks by almost all of the stockholders to the Ministerium of Pennsylvania, the purchase of scholarships by numerous parties, the large and liberal contributions of many friends towards the endowment of the college, and current expenses of the same, the annual appropriation by the Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium of Pennsylvania and direct contributions of congregations, members and friends towards the support of the institution deserve special mention on this occasion.

“The eminent instructors of the institution in these 50 years, the simple mention of whose names is sufficient to recall their valuable services, were the following: Rev. Christian Rudolph Kessler, A. M., was the founder and principal of Allentown Seminary from 1848 to 1855. He was assisted by Messrs. John Weik, Wm. J. Marx, J. B. Evans, C. L. Lochman, Rev. F. J. Mohr, Prof. C. F. Wullf, Prof. Fr. R. Gerlach, Thomas J. Gross, Prof. C. F. Herrman, Rev. J. L. Kessler, D. D., Rev. J. Riale, Prof. C. V. Mays and Misses Eveline Black, Melvina Stanton, M. Wilson, L. J. Boyd and Mrs. N. Vogelbach. On account of impaired health, Principal Kessler was obliged to cease his labors in 1855 and on March 4, 1855, he departed this life aged only 32 years and 11 days. Many tears were shed on the occasion of his burial, at which the Rev. J. S. Dubs, D. D., and the Rev. Henry Harbaugh, D. D., preached the sermons. Those, who were students with me, in his connection with the institution will say with me as I said at the quarter-centennial in 1873: ‘The school at Allentown continues a lasting monument to his ability, his devotion to his calling, his self-denying labors and his triumphs of faith in his blessed Lord.’

“Rev. Wm. N. Reynolds, D. D., of the Lutheran Church, was the principal of the Allentown Seminary from 1855, previous to the death of Rev. Mr. Kessler to September, 1857. In these years, he was ably assisted by the following instructors: Rev. J. S. Kess-

ler, D. D., Rev. J. Riale, Prof. Luther H. Croll, Prof. E. J. Koons, Mons. J. Germain Anglade, Mrs. R. M. Eyster, Mrs. N. Vogelbach, and Misses M. J. Green, Catharine J. Reynolds, Adelaide S. Richards and a lady whose name is not remembered. In the fall of 1857, Rev. Dr. Reynolds accepted the presidency of the Illinois State University at Springfield, Ill.

“Rev. Wm. Phillips, A. M., of the Reformed Church, became the principal at the opening of the winter term, Nov. 1, 1857, and continued in the position to the close of the winter term, March 26, 1859. His co-laborers in instruction in these years were: Rev. J. S. Kessler, D. D., Rev. W. R. Hofford, A. M., Rev. Joshua Derr, Prof. C. F. Herrmann, Mons. J. Germain Anglade, the late Capt. Jeremiah P. Schindel, of the U. S. A., and Misses S. A. Barrett and Laura P. Hill. At the close of the winter term, March 26, 1858, the first decade celebration of the Allentown Seminary was suitably observed in the Reformed Church.

“In the spring of 1859, Rev. W. R. Hofford, A. M., of the Reformed Church, a student of the Allentown Seminary from the spring of 1850 to the fall of 1853, a graduate of Franklin and Marshall College, an assistant instructor of Rev. Mr. Phillips, became the principal of the seminary. He continued as principal to the close of the winter term in March, 1864. This was a critical period in the history of the institution, the effects of the financial crisis of 1857-58 were still felt and the war of the Rebellion opened in 1861 and continued during his connection with the seminary. The associate instructors in these years were the following: Rev. Dr. Kessler, Rev. Joshua Derr, H. LaRue, John Sykes, Prof. C. F. Herrmann, D. F. Schoedler, P. Williard, A. M., T. Kessler and Misses A. E. Avery, Maria Zerfass, Sarah Hughes and Olivia Mease.

“In 1864, the name of the institution was changed to the ‘Allentown Collegiate and Military Institute’ and chartered with collegiate powers and privileges by the legislature of Pennsylvania, March, 1864. The board of trustees consisted of 17 members: Hon. S. A. Bridges, president; Col. Henry C. Longnecker, vice president; Jacob

S. Dillinger, Esq., secretary; Wm. S. Young, Esq., treasurer; Hon. R. E. Wright, Hon. J. D. Stiles, C. Pretz, Thomas Jacoby, Charles W. Cooper, John H. Oliver, Henry Weinsheimer, Geo. P. Weil, John D. Lawall, Wm. H. Blumer, Thomas B. Wilson, Boas Hausman and Charles Kramer. The following constituted the faculty: Rev. M. L. Hofford, A. M., president; Rev. Wm. R. Hofford, A. M., vice president; Rev. J. S. Kessler, D. D., Edward Brodie Glasgow, G. A. Aschbach, Hon. Robert E. Wright, Major G. Ecken-dorff, Prof. C. F. Herrmann, Joel J. Rorrister and Chas. H. Asay. The circular of 1865-66 shows to what extent the institution had become a military academy for the title had become 'Military and Collegiate Institute, Allentown, Pa.' Rev. M. L. Hofford continued as president and the names of the following instructors appear in the circular of 1865-66: Rev. E. J. Koons, A. M., Rev. M. H. Richards, A. M., Rev. G. A. Hinterleiter, Rev. J. W. Wood, A. M., George Herman Rupp, F. H. Hutchings, W. W. Johnson, A. Spangler and S. Hughes. The female department was continued but the names of the female students do not appear in the catalogue. Was this omission owing to the reason that the title of the institution should then have been Military and Collegiate Institute and Female Seminary, Allentown, Pa.?

"Rev. M. L. Hofford, A. M., president, resigned in the spring of 1867. The institution was continued until June 16, 1867 when it was closed as the Allentown Collegiate and Military Institute. The first board of trustees of Muhlenberg College was elected by the stockholders on Feb. 2, 1867. The following were the first trustees: Hon. R. E. Wright, Rev. E. J. Koons, A. M., Jonathan Reichard, M. H. Horn, C. W. Cooper, Wm. Saeger, W. H. Blumer, C. Pretz, E. J. Saeger, B. F. Trexler, Rev. Wm. Rath, Rev. S. K. Brobst, Rev. J. Yeager, Rev. F. J. F. Schantz, Lewis Klump, E. S. Shimer, Henry Weinsheimer and Samuel McHose. The board met soon after their election and after proper organization elected the Rev. F. A. Muhlenberg, D. D., president of the college, which received the name of Muhlenberg College in honor

of the memory of Patriarch Henry Meichior Muhlenberg. The acceptance of the call by Rev. Dr. Muhlenberg gave great joy to all interested in the institution. The board of Muhlenberg College had charge of institution from April to June 16, 1867, but continued the course of instruction of the Collegiate Institute. The instructors from April to June, 1867, were Rev. E. J. Koons, A. M., vice president of Muhlenberg College, Rev. W. R. Hofford, A. M., Rev. S. Phillips, A. M., T. L. Seip, A. M., Mr. J. H. Brown and Miss A. Merriman. With the close of the Collegiate Institute in June, 1867, the female department was discontinued in view of the change from collegiate institute to a regular college and in view of the superior advantages afforded in distinct female colleges.

"At the meeting of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania in 1867, the following were elected trustees: Rev. J. A. Seiss, D. D., Rev. G. F. Miller, A. M., A. W. Potteiger, Rev. W. J. Eyer, B. F. Trexler and Lewis Klump. Rev. F. A. Muhlenberg, D. D., as president of the college, became ex-officio president of the board of trustees according to the provisions of the charter. Muhlenberg College was formally opened in September, 1867. The inauguration of the faculty took place in the Court House on September 3, and the laying of the cornerstone of the addition to the college building on the following day. In these 31 years, the college has had as professors and instructors men of character, scholarship, ability and constant devotion to their work, of whom any educational institution could have been proud.

"Its first president, the Rev. F. A. Muhlenberg, D. D., came not as a novice. His long and varied experience as an instructor in Franklin College at Lancaster and as a professor in Pennsylvania College at Gettysburg had fitted him for the important position to which he was called. He made a great sacrifice in becoming the president of our college at its beginning, his labors were arduous, his trials were many, but his success in laying a good foundation and building securely and successfully on the same, will ever endear him to

those interested in the welfare of the institution. We regret that on account of bodily infirmities the beloved octogenarian is not able to be with us to-day. His deep interest in the college continues unabated. The call of Dr. Muhlenberg to the University of Pennsylvania was a high honor to Muhlenberg College.

"The second president of the college, the Rev. Benjamin Sadtler, D. D., 1877-1885, a man of superior attainments, for many years the faithful pastor of congregations, the warm supporter of educational interests, for many years the principal of a female college and the president elect of Pennsylvania College, entered upon his office also well fitted for the arduous and responsible position of a president of a college. Under his administration, the college continued to prosper and all regretted his resignation owing to bodily infirmities, the effects of injuries received by a fall on ice in the winter of 1884. His interest in the welfare of the institution continues unchanged and his services are gratefully remembered by all.

"The third and present president of the college, Rev. Theodore L. Seip, D. D., entered upon the duties of the presidency in 1886. When in the spring of 1860, I entertained in the parsonage at Reading two students bound for their respective homes, one the lamented Rev. Jacob B. Rath, of blessed memory, then a student in the Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, and the other a young man still connected with the preparatory department of Pennsylvania College, I had as one of my guests the future third president of Muhlenberg College. Dr. Seip's thorough preparation by taking a full course in the college at Gettysburg, and the three years' course in the Theological Seminary then in Philadelphia, his knowledge of men gained whilst a soldier and later whilst in the service of the United States Christian Mission, his experience gained as a teacher during his theological course, his connection with Muhlenberg College from the very beginning, his experience as the principal of the preparatory department and later as the incumbent of various chairs in the col-

lege, his eminent services in securing endowments for the institution and his thorough knowledge of all the varied wants of a Christian college, pre-eminently fitted him for the position, which he has filled so well for more than 12 years. We also have reason to rejoice in view of the services rendered by him and the success which has marked the institution in these years. The recognition of his ability and services by the state, by educational institutions of highest rank and by the church also, should lead all of us to pray that he may for many years to come continue to be the president of Muhlenberg College.

"Whilst a student at college, I had the pleasure of hearing the Rev. Dr. Kretel, then pastor of Trinity Church at Lancaster, deliver a discourse in which he showed that the great Reformer of the sixteenth century had as co-laborers eminent scholars and able instructors and that as little as Napoleon could have gained his victories without the aid of his marshals and Washington secured the delivery of the Colonists from the tyranny of the British ruler without the aid of his able generals, so little could the great Reformer have succeeded in his great work by the blessing of God, without the help of his eminent co-laborers. Thus we must also remember the labors of the associate professors and instructors in the college in the past 31 years, without whose aid the three successive presidents of the college could not have made Muhlenberg College what it has been and what it is to-day. Of those who were professors and instructors, the following have departed this life: Davis Garber, Ph. D., Rev. Reuben Hill, D. D., Rev. E. J. Koons, A. M., Rev. George F. Miller, A. M., Rev. Samuel Phillips, A. M., Rev. Jacob B. Rath, A. M., Rev. Hans Nikolaus Ries, Rev. B. W. Schmauk, A. M., Rev. Nero Strassberger, D. D., and T. C. Yeager, M. D. The following are still living, but no longer connected with the college: Rev. J. F. Fahs, Wm. Herbst, M. D., Rev. Wm. R. Hofford, D. D., Rev. Frederick W. Notz, Ph. D., E. F. Smith, Ph. D., Rev. G. F. Spieker, D. D., N. W. Thomas, Ph. D., and Rev. R. F. Weidner, D. D.

"The following are the present members of the faculty and instructors: Rev. Theodore L. Seip, D. D., president; Rev. Matthias H. Richards, D. D., Rev. Wm. Wackernagel, D. D., Rev. John A. Bauman, Ph. D., George T. Ettinger, Ph. D., Philip Dowell, A. M., Ph. B., Rev. Stephen A. Repass, D. D., Rev. Jacob Steinhäuser, Henry H. Herbst, A. M., M. D., and Roderick E. Albright, A. M., M. D., (Instructor).

"Since the opening of Muhlenberg College in 1867, the academic department, the design of which is to prepare students for college, for teaching, for business, as well as to give them the practical education and culture for the various pursuits of life, has had the following principals: Rev. T. L. Seip, D. D., 1867-73; Rev. George F. Miller, A. M., 1873; William A. Beates, A. M., 1873-78; Rev. A. R. Horne, D. D., 1878-83; Rev. John Kohler, D. D., 1883-85; George T. Ettinger, Ph. D., 1885-92; J. R. Merkel, A. M., and F. G. Lewis, A. M. These were ably assisted by competent instructors.

"It is also proper to remember the services of those who served as officers of the board of trustees: Presidents of the board: Hon. R. E. Wright, 1867; Rev. F. A. Muhlenberg, D. D., 1867-76; Rev. William Rath, A. M., 1876-86; Rev. George F. Spieker, D. D., 1886, and Rev. S. A. Repass, D. D. Secretaries of the board: Rev. Edward J. Koons, A. M., 1867-69; Christian Pretz, 1869-74; Rev. Jacob D. Schindel, A. M., 1874-86; Rev. S. A. Ziegenfuss, D. D., since 1886. Treasurers of the board: Jonathan Reichard, 1867-83; Rev. Reuben Hill, D. D., 1883-84; Rev. C. J. Cooper, A. M., also financial agent since 1886. What would the United States and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania be without a secretary of the treasury? and I may ask what would Muhlenberg College be to-day without its present efficient treasurer and active financial agent?

"But the chief glory of our educational institution are not its buildings, not its names, not its patrons and benefactors, not its trustees, not its professors and instructors, but its students enrolled in the past 50 years and benefited by the instruction received within its walls. The complete list

of students from 1848 to 1867 would give nearly if not fully 1500 names. We regret that we do not have all the catalogues from 1848 to 1867. Those at our service present the following totals of attendance: 1848-1849, 32; 1850-1851, 80; 1851-1852, 128, (including female students); 1852-1853, 153; 1853-1854, 202; 1855, 167; 1855-1856, 142 male students, 58 female students, 200; 1857, no catalogue; 1857-1858, 154 male students, 49 female students, 203; 1859-1864, no catalogues, decrease of students during war; 1865-1866, 201 male students, female students not given.

"In 31 years, 436 young men have been graduated. The Memorial Volume of 1892 contains the names of all who attended the collegiate and academic departments from 1867 to 1892 and the number given to 1892 is 1465, the whole number to 1898 is 1771. These figures show that between 3,000 and 4,000 students attended the institution in 50 years.

"Who can give a proper presentation of the blessings conferred by the educational work at this place in the past 50 years? A good Christian education is the greatest blessing for the individual. Nothing on earth is to be compared with it. What is the possession of great material riches if the possessor be an ignorant and unchristian man or woman. Our divine-human Savior asked 'What shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul?' What is a home, where parents and children are ignorant and ungodly? Another wrote of home:

With the same letter, heaven and home
begin,
And the words dwell together in the
mind;
For they who would a home in heaven
win
Must first a heaven in home begin
to find.
Be happy here, yet with a humble
soul
That looks for perfect happiness in
heaven;
For what thou hast is earnest of the
whole
Which to the faithful shall at last
be given.

As once the patriarch, in a vision
 blessed,
 Saw the swift angels hastening to
 and fro,
 And the lone spot whereon he lay to
 rest
 Became to him the gate of heaven
 below,
 So may to thee, when life itself is done,
 Thy home on earth and heaven above
 be one.

"What will make our homes such
 happy homes, if the blessings of proper
 Christian education be wanting ?

"The blessings of a sound Christian
 education are also noticed in the busi-
 ness relations of men. The tiller of the
 soil, the artisan in his workshop, the
 superintendent and his employe in
 large manufactories, the merchant and
 the clerk in great business houses,
 the president and the watchman of the
 banking house, the president of the
 railroad company and the flagman at
 the dangerous crossing, the attorney-
 at-law who is to aid men in securing
 their rights, the physician who minis-
 ters to sick and the trained nurse who
 watches by the bedside of the suffer-
 ing, the editor of the daily or weekly
 paper and the ever-busy reporter, men
 and women too in all the different
 lines of business prove to be the
 greater factors for good, when Christ-
 ian education has made them better
 men and women.

"In the affairs of the commonwealth
 and the Republic in times of peace and
 in times of war the blessings of Christ-
 ian education are also of great value.
 In the various branches of national
 and state government, the lawmaker,
 the judge and the executive officer and
 the citizens who are intelligent and
 Christian are the men, through whom
 'God saves the Commonwealth.' The
 general, who not only plans cam-
 paigns, but also prays that God give
 success to the right, the soldier and
 sailor who have not only learned to
 fight but also to obey the great Cap-
 tain of Salvation, the men and women
 who serve in commissions of mercy
 and minister to the sick and wounded
 are all of greater service in so far as
 they are both intelligent and Christian.

"The blessings of Christian education

are also found in our educational in-
 stitutions. Allentown Seminary was
 opened as a teachers' seminary in 1848.
 It was found necessary to enlarge its
 curriculum to meet other wants, so as
 to secure a liberal patronage. Did not
 the institution of various names from
 1848-1867 furnish many most excellent
 teachers to public schools and
 schools of a higher grade ?
 Has not Muhlenberg furnished
 many men who are to-day profes-
 sors in colleges, professors in theologi-
 cal seminaries and instructors in fine
 institutions of a lower grade. Have
 not the churches also been receiving
 the benefits of Christian education
 made possible at this place in the last
 59 years ? The minutes not only of
 the synods of the Lutheran Church,
 but also the Reformed, the Presby-
 terian, the Evangelical and other
 churches contain the names of such as
 received their college training in this
 institution. Students of the institution
 before 1867 and graduates of Muhlen-
 berg minister to-day in all parts of our
 Republic and in foreign lands. The
 churches have not lost but gained by
 having a well educated ministry. When
 Muhlenberg College was opened in 1867
 we could still hear men boast that they
 could preach, although they had never
 been within the walls of a college. Not
 long ago I heard a layman of a church,
 most of whose members, formerly
 spoke unkindly of college graduates,
 but most of whose members now make
 every effort to have a good college, to
 train men for the ministry, say that he
 was amused by the remark of one
 of the old style of boasters, who de-
 clared that he was not in favor of col-
 lege graduation, that he could preach
 well, although he had never been
 graduated in a Geological Seminary !

"Let me encourage all who partici-
 pate in this semi-centennial celebra-
 tion, to thank God for the institution
 that now numbers 50 years. We may
 truly say that God has favored the
 institution greatly. No fire has de-
 stroyed a building and no dissensions
 in the board, the faculty or the body
 of students have disgraced the insti-
 tution. To thank God for the advantages
 enjoyed by us. A large number never
 took a full college course, but were

fitted for many positions of usefulness. Many of us—students before 1867—were prepared here to enter colleges in other localities. Since 1867, many enjoyed the advantages of the academic department and then with others the full college course.

“Continue to love our institution. The man who turns against or ceases to love his God, his country, his home and his family is despised by all right thinking men and who has ever gained the respect of others by showing that he no longer loves his alma mater? Resolve to do by prayer, speech and acts, whatever lies in the power of the individual to advance the interests of the institution, that future generations may also enjoy rich advantages. Remember that the day may not be dis-

tant when Muhlenberg will move to have new buildings and an enlarged faculty. Allentown is the queen city of the Lehigh Valley, but why should this great city of nearly 40,000 inhabitants allow Easton to point to the fine buildings of Lafayette College on College Hill and Bethlehem to the magnificent buildings of the Lehigh University, without wishing that Muhlenberg College might also have buildings that would add to the beauty and glory of the Queen City of the Valley. We trust that when Muhlenberg College will resolve to enter upon the new departure, Allentown will claim the honor of furnishing the new adequate buildings, and the former students of the institution and the Ministerium of Pennsylvania provide for the increased endowment of the college.”

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