

❖ SPELMAN ❖ MESSENGER ❖

"OUR WHOLE SCHOOL FOR CHRIST."

Vol. 2.

SPELMAN SEMINARY, ATLANTA, GA., MAY, 1886.

No. 7.

Written and read by Miss Nora A. Gordon on the occasion of the fifth "birth-day" of Spelman Seminary.

When all around us seemed so dark
With ignorance and sin,
Two Christians from the North came down
Our souls for Christ to win.
How true and noble was their aim,
To help those most in need;
Yet oft their trials were severe,
And sore to bear indeed.
Five years ago this very day,
The seed was sown in tears
By these two Christians who came here
Despite all doubts and fears.
At first with only ten and one,
In a room so dark and damp,
They met and gave the work to Him,
Who is our Guide and Lamp.
Five years ago, the records say,
Came those from far and near
To learn the way of Christian life,
And how their God to fear.
Many a gift these Christians had
To cheer them on their way,
And oft their hearts were filled with joy
That souls had learned to pray.
This seed, so small at first, has grown
So large in many hearts
That now a thousand souls do share
The good that it imparts.
O God, the praise belongs to Thee
For all the gain we score;
Do help us in the future years
To work as ne'er before.
May each of us who are engaged
In this the work of God,
Strive every day to walk the road
That our dear Saviour trod.

ere the next five years shall come,
he heathen world shall know,
missionaries from this school,
their duty here below.

n shall we gladly welcome death,
hen heathendom shall cease;
with those dear ones may we have
ernal life and peace.

il 11, 1886.

are told that the mails from the
have been laden with arbutus.

From our Washington Correspondent.

Jan. 31st, 1886.—This was the day for our regular Missionary Meeting, but we gladly postponed it upon learning that Mrs. Cushing was to speak at Calvary Church, and attended the meeting there. I wish every member of Spelman Seminary could have heard this noble woman's account of the work Abroad. She spoke of the physical degradation among the Kachins in Upper Burmah; of women whose hair had never been combed, and whose clothes had never been changed, but allowed to drop off piecemeal as they would; their spiritual condition corresponding to this darkened physical life. Yet they gladly listened to her teachings, sitting quietly on the floor as long as she would talk. She said she stood in a valley in Burmah and counted the Pagodas for idol worship which she could see from that one spot. There were one hundred and twenty! They have recently regilded their favorite Pagoda. For years they gathered gold for this purpose in large chests,—they have no banks in Burmah, and any spare money is invested in chains, rings or gems,—finally a great abundance of these rich offerings had been brought. A huge caldron stood near the Pagoda. The people were in line three or four abreast, and as they passed the caldron they threw in money, jewelry, anything which would help in the work. Mrs. Cushing watched one woman in particular. She was richly dressed in silk and embroideries. Gold chains hung nearly to her waist and she wore much jewelry beside. When she reached the caldron she pulled off all her chains and put them in. The next time round, and it was nearly half an hour before her time came again, she threw in her large gold ear-rings. The third time she put in her bangles and finger rings. The fourth time she had nothing to give. All her jewelry was

gone. With a desperate look on her face she drew a knife from her girdle and cut off a finger, letting it fall into the hissing caldron! She gave all her silver and gold and then in her devotion gave even a piece of her body to her heathen god. Isn't there a lesson here for us? Isn't there a devotion which makes us join earnestly with Miss Havergal in saying,

"Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold.
Take myself—and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee?"

E. Y.

ANNIVERSARY.

—Sunday, Apr. 11, completed the fifth year of Spelman Seminary. No previous preparations for any special exercises were made, but in the afternoon at three o'clock, an impromptu service appropriate to the occasion was held in the chapel.

After the usual opening song-service, prayer was offered by Mr. J. Thomas. A few remarks were then made by Miss Packard stating the object of the meeting, and giving an opportunity for all who desired to say a few words expressive of their interest in the school or in the exercises. Quite a number responded with brief testimonies which evinced a warm love for the school on the part of the pupils. The interest of this part of the services was enhanced by the fact that a number of those who spoke were among those who were in attendance at the opening of the school five years ago.

Miss Giles then gave a short history of the school recounting the events of each year. Although Spelman Seminary had a very small beginning and has seen many dark hours, yet it has been signally favored of God and its blessings far out-number its trials.

One of the teachers who was connected with the early history of the school, was called on for a speech and

gave some interesting reminiscences of her first experiences in the work, and of the change made by the school in coming from the basement of Friendship Church to its present location; she also reminded the pupils that the school was now in their hands to make or to mar its reputation.

Miss Packard followed with a short Bible Reading answering the questions, Who shall praise the Lord? How shall we praise Him? When are we to praise Him? The answers to these questions were found in Scripture passages and were read in concert by the students. An original poem given in another column was then read by Miss Nora A. Gordon, after which the exercises were closed by the audience chanting the Lord's Prayer.

IDEAS AND IMPRESSIONS OF MAINE.

I am, no doubt, somewhat bigoted in my opinion of the "Old Pine-tree State." I have called it by the sweet name *home* so long that even though I may never live there again, in my heart, *home* it will ever be.

Loving it and its queer old customs as I do, it is no wonder that I watch with jealous guard, lest aught be said against it; yet my indignation is often mingled with amusement at ideas which I have heard expressed in regard to the State, but more especially the ways of the inhabitants. So many have a picture of the "Maine backwood's-man" always before their eyes, they populate the State accordingly; consequently Maine is to them a pine wilderness inhabited by a good natured, happy-go-lucky, half civilized race, whose winters are passed in "felling trees," and who spend their summers in fishing at the far famed "Banks."

I shall never forget the queer experiences of a deluded Pennsylvanian who visited at my home, opposite Penobscot bay, Maine, a few years ago. He was an intimate friend of my mother's brother, and, as he was so anxious to visit the State, my uncle invited the young man to accompany him and see Maine in her snowy winter robes. Most gladly was the invitation accepted, although we were perfect strangers to him. What could be better fun for a week, he thought, than to wade through fathomless drifts of snow in company with rosy-cheeked lasses, whose chief employment and enjoyment was *chewing spruce gum*; to live most happily and substantially on a bill of fare which advertised *baked beans and brown bread* morning, noon, and night. No wonder he

anticipated a visit with such attractions. Who could do otherwise?

Now, as it happened, the gentleman arrived quite unexpectedly on a warm Saturday morning; one of those fickle days we sometimes have on the coast, even in winter,—far more like April than February. The ground, which had been white with snow, was then nearly bare; in fact, the whole aspect of nature would hardly have disgraced a Southern climate. Mr. Turner was somewhat surprised and not a little irritated, declaring Philadelphia colder than Maine.

I have smiled many times since, though perfectly unconscious of anything comical in the situation at the time, when we sat down to a dinner of "pork and beans" true down-east style. One picture, at least, was realized and I think, much to his satisfaction, as he did ample justice to the meal.

Under the circumstances, we did our best to entertain him, but, alas! his longed-for sleigh rides were obliged to be mostly on bare ground.

How many times the oft-repeated wish was heard, O, for a snow storm! and, as though in fulfillment of that wish, the snow storm came; one of the most beautiful I ever witnessed. It commenced to snow about twilight, in a steady, determined way, and continued to fall swiftly and silently all night.

The next morning, the very sunlight seemed brighter for the long night of storm, as it dispersed the clouds and kissed with rifts of diamond light the gems which gleamed like stars amid the ground's white mantle. A snowy frosting of several feet covered house-tops, fences, and trees. Maine was indeed lovely in her beautiful bridal robes, crowned with a hazy veiling of distant mountains looped here and there with green pine forests. Our fastidious guest was satisfied, as indeed he well might be with such a picture of exquisite loveliness before his eyes; and more than this, his dream of a ride on genuine down-east snow was realized at last.

Before his departure, he had met many of the people and been present at an evening party, and in all places he looked in vain for that "spruce-gum." It was not until his brief visit was drawing to a close, that he startled me one day with the abrupt question, "Where is your gum?" I looked up a moment rather perplexed; smiling at my wry forehead and questioning look, he added, "Yes, your chewing gum?" "Why," I replied, "we have it in Maine, of course, but what do you mean?" Then, with a

merry laugh, he said, "I expected to find your mouth full of spruce gum." In his mind, it was the Maine girl's solace, her life's bliss. Everywhere, even in church, she listens to the sermon, her eyes fixed on the preacher, but her mouth fixed never—chewing, chewing all the time. He found his mistake in that, as well as many other things, and I know that when his farewell was spoken and his footsteps turned homeward, he left, a "wiser if not a sadder man."

I do not mean to exaggerate when I say, I believe Mr. Turner's idea of Maine almost universal among those who have never been there, and I think I am prouder of the wild old State because of these very peculiarities; because of its many rough, romantic scenes. I am glad the wild Indian yet finds his haunts amid its gloomy wilderness, that the pioneer still builds his hut under the shade of its forest trees, that it is hemmed with rocky wilds and bounded by ocean waves. I love it, love it to its very mountain tops, and wherever I may go, or wherever I may be, my prayer will often rise to Heaven, God bless Maine, the dear old "Pine-tree State."—NELLIE M. KEMP.

The following letter has been received from Rev. Alexander Crummell, D. D., Rector of St. Luke's Church, Washington, D. C.

Miss S. B. Packard,

Madam:—I have been made acquainted with the great work which you have begun among the women of my race; and I thank God through Jesus Christ for having put it into your heart to do this work.

For the black race, just now, I regard the training and education of one good woman as of vastly more importance than the graduation of a half-dozen lawyers. In the past the women of my race have had but little attention paid them. Great efforts, vast expenditure have been bestowed upon colored young men; and it seems to me we were going to have just such a civilization as one sees in Turkey, where indeed we can find men of supreme culture and with vast erudition; but the women present a dreary waste of ignorance, superstition, and incivility. The correction to this will be the establishing a few schools for thorough training of girls and young women in practical knowledge; availing, as far as possible, all the dangerous tendencies to useless æstheticism and over-wrought fastidiousness. The greatness of all peoples comes from the home and the family; there can be no homes and families

a people have no true, plain, practical, pious, and enlightened women.

I beg to thank you for your work as a personal favor, and I wish you "good luck" in the name of the Lord.

I am, madam, very truly yours,
Alexander Crummell.

WASHINGTON, D. C.,
April 6, 1886.

VIRTUE.

Virtue is strength or moral excellence. In speaking of a virtuous person we mean more than mere absence of guilt. We mean a person who has come in contact with the evils of the world and become strengthened by repeated victories.

Confucius says, "To be able under all circumstances to practice five things constitutes perfect virtue: these are gravity, generosity of soul, sincerity, earnestness, and kindness." Breese says, "Virtue is an angel; but is a blind one, and must ask of knowledge to show her the pathway that leads to her goal."

The knowledge here mentioned is not confined to college instruction, but is common sense. The great misfortune is that college opportunities are not always wisely improved or turned to good account.

We have often heard it said that such an one has so many temptations, that there is some excuse for his or her impure life. Yet we are told in God's word that "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." Just here we are reminded of what Dryden says:

"Virtue, the more it is exposed,
Like purest linen laid in open air,
Will bleach and whiten to the view."

O, how sad it is to remember those of our acquaintances, or even some of our friends, whose lives were once as pure as the crystal stream, now lost to the world, society, and themselves; their lives begun beautifully, as here and there they spoke some kind word which was as "gentle as the dew-drop," and their influence over those with whom they associated, as "sweet as the fragrant flower," yet some evil hearted one would not be satisfied until he has taken that, which Shakespeare says, "enriches him not; but makes the loser poor indeed."

Now girls, we shall soon leave these consecrated walls and go out into the world to be tempted on every hand, even by those who pretend to be our best friends. Let us not be led astray by them, but put our hands in our

Heavenly Father's, and be led by Him only.

Let us be *firm* in the right, say "no and mean it; yes, and stick to it." May we remember "to be self-reliant, that a dollar is only a hundred cents, to use every day, dry, hard, practical common sense, to seek to fill our minds with useful knowledge obtained from good books, to regard the morals of persons and not their money, to have nothing to do with imtemperate and dissolute persons, and last, but not by any means least, that a good steady mechanic is worth far more than a dozen loafers in broad-cloth." Let us by God's help do these things and we shall receive the sweet reward of virtue which is the approbation of our Heavenly Father.

—Pen Point—A Student.

—The old Moravian town of Salem N. C., the home of two of our pupils, has not permitted any liquor to enter the place for one hundred years.

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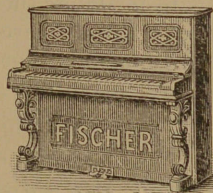
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The Press for the past few months has been full of reports of lawlessness. Taking thought of the extent of the country, with its mixed population colonizing here and there according to the attractions of pursuits or nationalities, we find a greater mass of people of one nation abiding in the Southern states than in any other part of the Union,—a people native yet foreign. Events plainly show the need that young people be taught to love their God and their country. A more general study of the laws of the land, of the Constitution of the United States, is a necessity if we would have an intelligent citizenship;—less of "boycotting," more regard for the rights of others; less one-sidedness in both business and political life. Our work is with neither politics nor business, but with those who help or hinder both;—with the women of a race that is to be lifted into rights and duties of citizenship; it is to form into perfect womanhood, of good judgment, varied capability, broad Christian character; and so influence future generations. Those mothers and sisters are moulding the boys and girls who will bear no small part in the future of our country. The broader, more practical the training, the better fitted will they be as instructors of a race numbering seven millions, of which only

one million have any education; where ignorance and superstition are to be met and overcome by wisely directed Christian effort.

ROCKEFELLER HALL.

This building, which is nearing completion, presents a very attractive appearance, and is said to be one of the best constructed in the city. It is named in honor of Hon. J. D. Rockefeller, who gave largely for its construction. The entire length is 133 ft., the main building being 49 x 74, three stories high. The first floor contains a hall 12 x 42 with office and library, each 16 x 22, one on either side; also two recitation rooms 22 x 38. The chapel occupies the second and third stories and is 45 x 70 and 24 ft. high, with large cove in angle of ceiling, and plaster cornices. The galleries on each end are 16 x 45. The room is finished in Georgia pine, and the windows bordered with stained glass. On each side of the building are wings 44 x 42, three stories high, each having on first floor a hall, connecting with front hall, 8 x 42. In one wing there are on each side the hall two recitation rooms 16 x 19; the other contains the Principal's apartments and two recitation rooms, making a total of thirteen rooms on first floor. The second and third floors are divided into dormitories, with the exception of four rooms which will be used for recitations, eight rooms to the floor, 10 x 16, thirty-two in all.

The entire building is finished in Georgia pine with oak stairways, and will be lighted with gas and heated by steam. The roof over the chapel, constructed on trusses, carries a cupola 18 x 22 with bell tower, on which is a vane, a gilt pen. From the cupola the best view is obtained of the city, and many peaks of the Blue Ridge, prominent among them, Lost Mountain and the Kennesaws; also the wonderful Stone Mountain, and many points of historic interest,—breast works thrown up during the late war. A telescope is greatly needed and would be much appreciated by the many visitors.

Much still remains to be done; the basement is unfinished, the rooms are unfurnished, and the arrangements for heating and lighting are incomplete. Why? For want of money.

—Our hearts have been made glad by the receipt of \$500, from Mrs. Minerva Anderson, Lowell, Mass., towards blinds for the new building. Will not some one who has the means kindly swell the amount to \$1000, the sum needed for the purpose?

—The month has brought many welcome visitors to us. Mr. S. Root came one morning, accompanied by Rev. Dr. Nelson of Raleigh, N. C. and Mr. S. M. Inman of Atlanta. Dr. Nelson has, for a number of years, been connected with this kind of work. He spoke very highly of Shaw University and its noble president. He spoke of the necessity of educating hand and head, but showed how useless all this would be, if the heart has not been given to Christ. The work at Spelman was highly commended.

Mr. Inman was introduced by Mr. Root and was received with a storm of hand-clapping. He expressed his gratification with what he had heard of the school, the training of so many young women to do good work in the world, and the teaching given them to be pure, true women.

—Rev. Mr. Powell of Mexico visited us accompanied by Mr. Stanton and Rev. Mr. Straton of the Central Church, of this city. Mr. Powell has been resident in Mexico twenty years. In his address to the school, he briefly sketched the religious history of that country, from the supplanting of the Aztec religion by the Roman Catholic, to the present, when for the first time the country is open to the Bible. In a population of eleven millions the Protestant school at Saltillo is the only one for girls in Mexico.

—Deacon Tate of Atlanta gave a very interesting and touching talk to the girls, appealing to them to remember and carry into practice the teachings which they are daily receiving, and to be true, noble, virtuous women.

—We also received a call from the Rev. Mr. Vaughan of Emory College, Oxford, Ga., who left with us some encouraging words. He said he had long wished to visit the school, but had waited for a pretext, which was furnished in a commission given him by Dr. Haygood. He was present at the morning Bible lesson, and expressed great satisfaction at the promptness with which the girls asked and answered questions.

—The Dedication of the Chapel will occur May 18, at 1,30 P. M.; Commencement, May 27, at 10 A. M. Friends of the school cordially invited.

—The desk of the Principal, Mr. Packard, is adorned with a lovely cluster of roses, the gift of Prof. W. J. Holmes, the first that bloomed in his garden. There is a certain preciousness about first things that no later ones can claim. Hence the command, "Honor the Lord with the first fruits of all thine increase."—April 26.

—We have been greatly privileged recently in receiving a visit from Mr. Boston Smith of Minneapolis, Minn. Mr. Smith is a Missionary of the American Baptist Publication Society, and is visiting the South in the prosecution of his work. He attended the devotional exercises in the chapel, on Friday morning; on which occasion, the remarks he made were so inspiring that every one was anxious to be present at the Bible Reading which he promised to give on the following Sunday afternoon. No one was disappointed in his anticipation of the Bible Reading. It was earnest, instructive and could not fail to be helpful to all who are striving to be more faithful in the service of Christ. In the evening, Mr. Smith attended the prayer meeting, which closes our Sunday services. He must have been gratified by the manner in which the afternoon service was alluded to—many of the students expressing themselves as thankful for the encouragement and help it had given them. His remarks gave additional interest to the meeting. He was very much pleased with the singing of the students, and they were delighted that in this way they could return in part the pleasure they had received. We are sure that the visit of Mr. Smith will be long remembered at Spelman, for the helpful words spoken and the warm interest so kindly manifested.

—On Easter morning, Miss Packard and Miss Giles were made the recipients of some very pretty cards and flowers and a beautifully illustrated copy of "The Old, Old Story," from a number of the pupils. They expressed their thanks at the close of the morning devotional exercises. It was a pleasant surprise, and was one more proof of the appreciation in which they are held by the students.

—At four o'clock in the afternoon on Easter Sunday, the faculty and students assembled in the chapel for an Easter service. A large number from the city were present.

The exercises were prepared entirely by a number of the students under the direction of Miss Sallie B. Waugh and Miss Clara A. Howard, and were intended as a pleasant surprise to the teachers as well as to the students who, although they knew that something unusual was going on, were ignorant of what had been prepared, and were as surprised and delighted as any of the participants could wish. The exercises consisted of short recitations on Easter topics interspersed with music. Both the recitations and the music were beautiful-

ly rendered. We must not forget to mention the little girls who took quite a prominent part in the exercises and did themselves great credit by the pleasing manner in which they recited their parts.

The floral decorations about the platform were very pretty and tasteful and the mottoes were all well chosen. We heartily congratulate those who took part on the success of their efforts.

—We were pleasantly surprised, a few days since, to see our good friend, Rev. W. J. White, of the *Georgia Baptist*. He gave a very interesting talk, telling us of the thirtieth anniversary of his marriage. A number of his young gentlemen friends and his deacons, bearing useful gifts, called upon him. The young ladies followed with refreshments. The address was delivered in Mr. White's usual happy manner.

—Nearly three thousand articles are laundered each week at Spelman.

—Up to the present time about nine hundred garments have been made in the sewing school.

—We wish our Northern friends could enjoy with us the delights of these bright, warm days. The pink and white bloom of the fruit trees has been succeeded by clouds of azaleas, varying in shade from scarlet to most delicate pink.

—Among the many bouquets received by Miss Packard on May-day, was a pretty basket of flowers containing the following tribute:

God watches the deep red roses,
With His tender love and care;
Sendeth the sunshine and dew-drops;
Gives them perfume sweet and rare.
May the same dear Heavenly Father
Watch your life-path all the way;
Make it blossom with love's dear roses,
Make it beautiful as May.
May it lead at last to the river,
Where flowers immortal bloom,
And the Father's hand shall lead you
To His own dear Heavenly home.

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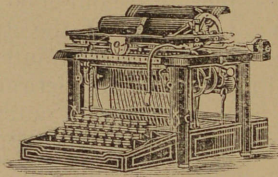
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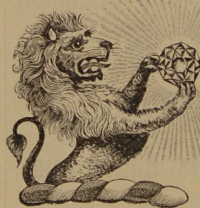
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