

# THE KEY.

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No. 1.

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## POEM.

Read at the Eighth Biennial Convention.

'NEATH the trees of a grand old forest one glorious summer day,  
Nature's brightest, most beautiful banners seemed everywhere unfur'd,  
And my heart bowed down in silence, with a voiceless wonder filled,  
At the richness, and the beauty, and the sweetness, in God's world.

Butterflies rode on sunbeams and stopped to kiss the flowers,  
Shy ferns hid in the shadows as the butterflies passed by,  
While breezes whispered promises of cool, soft, summer showers,  
With fragrance-laden air—breath of the laughing sky.

The clover blushed and nodded as the grass bowed low at her feet,  
The golden-rod scattered rich jewels and the south wind bore them away,  
Bright poppies looked up proudly at the tall and stately wheat,  
The brook came tinkling, dancing, the gayest of the gay.

Birds in the maple above me, fluttered and swayed and sung,  
Seeming to whisper secrets too softly for me to hear;  
The pine-tree rattled its needles, the elm its branches swung,  
The willows close by the lake side gazed down in the mirror clear.

Lilies fair of the meadows, that toil not, neither spin,  
 Held up their pale, pure faces as waiting again to hear  
 The voice that called their garments fairer than king's had been,  
 That bade us trust our Father, and cast away each fear.

Then over the lake came stealing the notes of a silver chime,  
 Like a benediction falling—"Peace on earth!" they seemed to say,  
 And they called to mind this legend\* that was told in olden time,  
 And I wrote it as I listened on that glorious summer day.

In the belfry of a little church  
 There hung a sweet-voiced chime of bells. Their notes  
 Right merrily rang out, obedient ever  
 To the white-haired old man whose skillful touch  
 Brought from them only sweetest melody.

One Christmas eve, with dreams of the glad morn  
 The gentle old musician went to rest;  
 "I'll fill the air with joyous peals," said he,  
 "The people shall rejoice to hear the notes  
 That usher in this happy, holy day.  
 'Twill make them think of how the angels sang  
 When the first Christmas dawned upon the earth."

But when the hour of midnight tolled,  
 Dark clouds came sweeping o'er the tower,  
 And darker shadows still of discontent  
 Fell on the peaceful chime. A low, but harsh,  
 Discordant sound was heard among the bells.

"For seven long and tiresome years," said one,  
 "We've hung here in this lonely place, and I  
 Am weary singing always but one tone,"

"Together we make richest harmony,"  
 Whispered a sweet-voiced bell. "Oh, yes, I know,  
 But I am tired of this monotony,  
 And I've resolved that I will sing no more."

"What, not on Christmas day?" they all exclaimed.

"No. No. Not even then. Could you but feel

\*From an old allegory.



One spark of common sympathy, you soon  
Would promise to be silent, and refuse  
To heed the sexton's hand upon the keys.  
If all are still, no *one* will then be blamed.  
He'll think we are worn out, and that we need  
To be recast, and so he'll take us down  
From this high tower where we have been so long,  
And thus we'll have a chance to see the world."  
A murmur ran from bell to bell till each  
Agreed to follow what the leader said.

Within the shadow of this old church tower  
A humble little cottage stood: that night  
A widow's only child lay dying there;  
And as he turned and tossed upon his bed  
He looked with eyes of longing toward the east,  
Waiting with patience for the dawn of day.

"Dear mother! lift me up," he said, "that I  
May catch the first note of the Christmas chimes.  
Is morning almost here?" "Yes, darling, yes.  
I'm sure the chimes will ring now very soon."

Light's golden arrows flashed across the earth,  
And day had come, but all the bells were mute.  
The anxious mother strained her weary eyes,  
In looking toward the tower. "It may be, dear,  
The poor old sexton has slept late to-day."  
But in her heart she thought instead, "Perhaps  
The hand of death has touched him, too.  
Then who will lay my darling tenderly away?"  
The child's voice fainter grew. "Do you believe  
The chimes will ring in heaven, mother dear?"  
"You certainly will hear sweet music there,"  
She answered, choking back the bitter tears.  
"Hark! they *are* ringing!" cried the boy, his eyes  
All brilliant with a strange and heavenly light.  
"How beautiful, how beautiful it is!"  
Then fell back in his mother's arms and died.





Of how their sad, though needful, lesson taught  
To them (perhaps we, too, may heed) that each  
Must faithful be to whatsoever tone  
Or quality the Master's hand to us  
Has given, knowing well that all  
Are needed to make out the perfect whole  
That forms the rich, full harmonies of life.

Kappa sisters, hear the meaning that this legend brought to me :—  
    We must live and work together like a perfect chime of bells,  
Every chapter, every Kappa of our dear fraternity  
    Helps to make or mar the harmony that down the ages swells.

Are we ever true and loyal, quick responding to the touch  
    Of the Master's skillful fingers calling forth the melody,  
All the notes will sing of sympathy and tenderness and love,  
    Never failing, never weary, never longing to be free.

Let no sullen silence ruin the completeness of the song,  
    Or a jar of discord ever mar the sweetness of the whole,  
Then the world will pause to listen, lifting heavenward their hearts,  
    And the Father's benediction rest on every waiting soul.

*August, 1886.*

*Minnie A. Barney.*



## THE FRATERNITY: ITS RELATION TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION OF WOMAN.

An Address delivered before the National Convention of the Kappa Kappa Gamma Fraternity, August 26, 1886, by Mary B. Jewett, of Lambda Chapter.

### *Sisters of K. K. Γ. and Friends:*

Sir Wm. Hamilton, the renowned philosopher and metaphysician, many years ago penned this familiar sentence: "In the world there is nothing great but man; in man there is nothing great but mind." If it be true that the greatest endowment of humanity is mind, it must likewise be true that the most important business of man's life is the care of the mind, the cultivation and development of its faculties. This is embodied in what we call education.

What then is education? In answer to this question, were we to propound it to different persons at different ages and in the different lands of the earth, a great diversity of answers would be received. How various have been the ideas and practices in religious education. The monk believed himself to be giving his religious nature the best possible opportunity for development by shutting himself out from all communication with his fellow men—by retiring to the dungeon or the cave, there prostrating himself before the emblems of his faith, mortifying his flesh and calling upon his God to make him pure and holy in thought and life. The world was to him a snare—all flesh was vanity. His religion was introspective, none of it shone out upon the world.

St. Simeon Stylites from his pillar of penitence cries:

"Have mercy, Lord, and take away my sin,  
Let this avail, just, dreadful, mighty God,  
This be not all in vain, that thrice ten years,  
Thrice multiplied by superhuman pangs  
In hungers and in thirsts, fevers and cold,  
In coughs, aches, stitches, ulcerous throes, and cramps,  
A sign betwixt the meadow and the cloud,  
Patient on this tall pillar I have borne  
Rain, wind, frost, heat, hail, damp, and sleet, and snow."



The changes that have taken place in the views of the world concerning the education of the intellect, from the time of St. Simeon Stylites to our own, have been as great, if not greater than those in the department of religious education. Formerly the training in the great universities was principally concerned with the abstract speculations of philosophy and metaphysics. None of the studies were concerned with the world of vegetable, animal or human nature. The student was much like the monk; his life was nearly as ascetic. The subject of his meditation was not the same, but the manner of life was quite similar. His study was his world—a world of books.

To-day the truly educated man is not he who has grown wrinkled and yellow, like the parchment over which he pores, not he who lives apart from his fellow men, the ascetic life of the monk in his cell, not he who, by the consuming fire of an intellect absorbed only in its own development, has burned up all physical vitality and is like a sheaf of grain blighted before its time. No! the educated man to-day is the one who finds the materials of his culture and development in the world about him as well as in the study;—yes, much more than in the study. He is the man who has broadened his human sympathies, who has come into close, warm, human contact with his fellow men, who has not only learned the thought of the men of past times from the musty and dusty tomes of his library, but who knows the thought of the men of his own day and can meet them on common ground. The more familiar he has made himself with the thought and feeling of the men of other ages, the better will he be able to understand, sympathize with, and when occasion calls for it, direct the thought and feeling of his own time. Such a man is a power in the world. No man can become a leader of thought or action to-day who draws his inspiration wholly from the past. A leader must be abreast of the thought of his own time—must be thoroughly alive to all the great issues of the day. In order to enkindle enthusiasm in others, he must himself be enthusiastic, and this he can be only when he has himself been a part of the great human body which he would attempt to lead to a higher and a nobler plane of life. A solitary life of study and meditation can never fit a man for such a position.

Hence the days of monastic life for the student have passed away, and we have the real student in the man who understands his fellow-men, the laws which govern human society, and the great realm of nature around him. By this very knowledge, the student has learned to know himself.

In this development, another side of human nature is brought to light—the social side. It is a matter of no less importance that this be cultivated than that the purely intellectual faculties should be. Humanity—a human being, is not one, but many sided. How many undeveloped powers lie in all of us! That is the truest education which gives the broadest development. Tennyson said of the Duke of Wellington, "He faced four ways to every wind that blows." A great man of our day must face more than four ways to every wind that blows. His development must be many-sided, if he would be a leader of that many headed, many hearted thing—the people.

Education does for all the higher faculties of man that which is done for the body when it receives the care and nourishment which are necessary for its growth, health and strength.

One side of such a development was entirely lost sight of in the education of ancient times. It was in reply to the demand, originating in a need of human nature—a demand for closer union and stronger ties between those whose aims and desires were the same—it was in response to this all-pervading demand that the college fraternity arose. The underlying purpose was a noble one—that of mutual helpfulness and encouragement among friends engaged in a common work. College students, at least in our country, have always shown a tendency to form themselves into societies, and in our day the class of societies calling themselves fraternities has become of great importance in the college world and has rapidly grown in favor.

The first American society bearing a Greek letter name was founded in the same year with the American Declaration of Independence, and in the very state where Patrick Henry, the earliest and warmest advocate of the doctrine of independence, lived. This earliest and most honored of fraternities is the Phi Beta Kappa, originating in the college of William



and Mary, in 1776. The causes of its origin, as of that of all the early fraternities, were two in number: First, the promotion of a literary spirit, and second, the development of the social nature and affections by the establishment of a fraternal bond of fellowship. The latter has always been an acknowledged and real object in all similar organizations of a subsequent date, and the former, though perhaps in our day not given so prominent a place as it formerly received, is nevertheless, in the best fraternities, by no means lost sight of.

The coincidence of this important date in American college history with that most important of all dates in American political history might profitably be dwelt upon. Without doubt the fraternal bond, the brotherly love which is outwardly symbolized by the bond of the fraternity organization, existed before, just as the spirit of independence, which found its utterance in the declaration of '76 had existed before. But the act of '76 was in both instances important as being an open declaration—on the one hand of the demand of a youthful, energetic nation, for the liberty to govern itself; on the other hand, of college friends, for the right to draw more closely together in the formation of a compact body bound together by ties of mutual helpfulness and regard, having in view the same lofty aim of self-development.

The history of the development of fraternities and their growth in power and influence would be an interesting subject for an address before a fraternity convention—but I must not allow myself to be drawn into it. My purpose is rather to confine myself to a narrower field of investigation, the growth and development of women's fraternities.

The centennial of American fraternities was, I believe, not celebrated. I do not remember to have seen in Philadelphia in 1876 any display of mystic badges—any symbols of the mysteries of the college secret society. Had American college fraternities attempted to make a display at the national exposition, there would have been brought to the attention of educators one other exhibition, in addition to the many there made, of the fact that the women of America were coming to the front in the field of education, and that what college men had found to be good and profitable, college women were beginning to test; for, as is well known,

there were in existence in 1876 five fraternities whose membership consisted of women. They were in the order of establishment: Kappa Alpha Theta, Kappa Kappa Gamma, Delta Gamma, Alpha Phi, Tau Phi Beta.

The fact that there were in 1876 five college fraternities of women is an important indication of the remarkable and rapid progress that America has made in the field of higher education for women.

As President Cutler, of Western Reserve University, said in the argument before the Board of Trustees in favor of continuing to women the privileges of attendance upon that institution: "There never was a plainer, more obvious or stronger tendency visible in the sphere of education than the present tendency toward the joint education of men and women in all the higher as well as lower studies." Fifty-one years ago Oberlin took the first step, and since then, there has been a growing tendency toward this joint education, both in this country and in Europe.

The President of Michigan University in his report for 1883 says: "As we have now for thirteen years, without the least embarrassment, admitted women to all the privileges of instruction in the university, we cannot but observe with gratification how rapidly public opinion, both in Europe and America is coming to approve the granting of substantially the same opportunities for education to women as to men. It may be questioned whether this change is not the most important event in the educational history of the last fifteen years."

Germany, Russia, Austria, Hungary and Greece are the only nations of Europe in which women are excluded from the joint use of the higher institutions of learning. Even in the old and conservative universities of England the movement has made rapid progress. The uniform testimony from all colleges where the experiment of joint education has been tried goes to prove that women have sensibly lifted the scholarship and the moral tone. Their presence checks rudeness and cultivates politeness and self-control. They hold their own in examinations and their health endures the strain of mental work as well or better than that of the men students.

Columbia College has recently taken the unusual step of conferring



the Doctorate upon a woman. Geo. Wm. Curtis, in the September *Harpers*, in commenting upon this action, says: "The incident was a sign of that gradual advance and amelioration of opinion which constitutes the progress of civilization. The test of civilization is the estimate of woman. Among savages she is a slave. In the dark ages of Christendom she is a toy and sentimental goddess. With increasing moral light and larger liberty and more universal justice she begins to develop as an equal human being. Like snow and ice before the increasing sun of spring, prejudice and ignorance, and consequent injustice have melted in the glow of a truer view of human society." He goes on to pay a most beautiful tribute to American women engaged in the cause of higher education. "In any time or in any country were there ever women who could be more truly described in Shelley's phrase as Shakespeare's women, so feminine and fair are they, than those who may to-day compete for the Doctorate or receive the diploma of the Bachelor? Has the opportunity of larger knowledge, of more various employment, of legal equality, tended in any least degree, to degrade all that is finest and rarest and most poetic and enchanting in womanly nature or womanly manner? No, it is not that the young woman who knows more of Astronomy and Greek is less womanly than Juliet but that the old barbarism still survives in us, and tries to imprison them in what we choose to call their sphere, instead of leaving them to the same freedom of choice that we demand for ourselves, and so enabling them to be what Providence designed them to be."

In no other age of the world's history has the position of woman been so exalted, her opportunities so wide, her development so great as in our own century.

All the great movements of progress and civilization, in the fields of education and other lines of philanthropic work, have received material aid from woman. In view of the facts cited, there is no need of enrolling ourselves among those who clamor for more rights and privileges for woman, far rather would I urge upon my sister to take advantage of the golden opportunities which are already hers, nothing fearing that when she has proven herself able to do a good and noble work the abundant

and unquestioned right to do that work will be hers. The movement of woman toward cultivated and broadened intelligence is rapid, and all other things that are good and desirable for her will follow in its wake.

Literature has been ennobled and dignified by the work of nineteenth century women. Among the great ones of our century there are two women whose work is destined to endure as a permanent contribution to the treasures of English literature. They are the poet, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, and the novelist and philosopher, George Eliot. These are but two among many noble women of our own age, concerning whom I might speak. For intellectual power I could cite a Madame de Stael, a Caroline Herschel, a Margaret Fuller; for power of persuasion, the gift of beautiful, eloquent speech, our own Mrs. Livermore whom we all love and honor and are proud to call a Kappa sister; but I choose these two because they stand out in the history of nineteenth century literature pre-eminent above all the rest.

There have been many women in the world of literature who have been womanly writers. Mrs. Browning is an example of such. There have been some women who were masculine in thought and expression. Of such Madame de Stael is a noted example. There is another class of rare human beings—nobly enlarged human souls, of whom we do not think as masculine or feminine, in thought or expression, who are above the limitations of sex. George Eliot is such a woman as this. Shakespeare and Goethe were such men.

Mr. Stedman calls Elizabeth Barrett the most inspired woman of all who have written in ancient or modern times. The English call her Shakespeare's child, and she is such a daughter as Shakespeare or Milton ought to have had. When that most beautiful of marriages was consummated by which the most gifted poetess of England became the wife of one of the best English poets, she gave her life to a noble cause, she became the advocate of Italian liberty. For that oppressed and down-trodden land she did her noblest work. She died in the year when her hope, the end for which she labored, was attained. Italy, the land of beauty, of romance and poetry, was free and united.

George Eliot stands side by side with her poet sister in nobility of



purpose and perhaps surpasses her in clearness of intellectual vision. She was distinctively a moral teacher in her books, a writer of philosophical insight and at the same time of great and generous moral aim. She sets before us lofty ideals, teaches the exalted doctrine of self-sacrifice. Her noblest lesson is that there is a higher good than the happiness of self and that it is found in the good of others. Her books abound in heroes and heroines who are noble embodiments of this truth.

If we lacked other evidence, the fact that two as highly gifted women as George Eliot and Elizabeth Barrett Browning were the product of one age and country would be sufficient to establish the claim of woman to equal educational advantages with her brother.

It is as a result of the truth so strikingly shown in the work of two such women, that the intellectual powers of woman are not inferior to those of man, that we have seen in our own day the doors of our colleges opening to women. It is because they have thus opened, and because to-day the women are there side by side with their brothers, doing the same work and winning the same honors, that we to-day find them following the example set so many years ago in William and Mary's college—and drawing together for closer association, and it is to be hoped for their better development in all ways, socially, morally and intellectually, into fraternities.

The Kappa Kappa Gamma fraternity was organized at Monmouth, Illinois, Oct. 13, 1870, only ten months after the founding of the Kappa Alpha Theta, the first of ladies' fraternities, which was organized in January of the same year. The establishment of both societies was at that time considered experimental, for comparatively few colleges were then, sixteen years ago, admitting women to equal educational privileges with men. Since its organization the fraternity has grown rapidly both in numbers and influence. There are at the present time twenty active chapters and a membership of about one thousand.

Although then, we are not the oldest ladies' fraternity we stand upon nearly the same plane in that respect with our rivals, the Kappa Alpha Theta's. What should be the aim of that pleasant and friendly rivalry which exists and must exist between us and our sister fraternities? The

answer to this question is best embodied in what has already been given as the definition of a fraternity proper. (An organization for the purpose of drawing students together for their better development in all ways, socially, intellectually and morally. That body which best fulfils these aims will be the one to win the greatest amount of honor and influence. The inspiration that naturally flows from large numbers whose interests are closely united must be felt in such an organization. Its union should be one of real helpfulness to all its members.) That this may be true, too much care cannot be exercised in the choice of members; the standard both of scholarship and character should always be high.

Those who have the best interests of the fraternity at heart would be glad to feel assured that in every college where a chapter exists, the aim were to win every earnest, conscientious, noble girl in college, regardless of all minor considerations. In this way, and in this way only, can the fraternity grow in power.

(We desire that our fraternity should become honorably known as an association of young women whose business together is not merely social enjoyment. That will come of itself without being made a primary aim. But the desire should also be for a higher and better kind of enjoyment—the enjoyment that naturally flows from the helpfulness of contact with those engaged in the same great and good work.)

The hope of our land lies in the controlling, ennobling and civilizing influence of its women.

(No association of women, who are engaged in that most important of all work, self-development, can fail, unless it completely fails of its noblest and grandest possibility, to hold in view as its highest aim, as that for which it will always strive, cultivated, enlarged and ennobled womanhood, the highest and holiest possibility enfolded within our being.)



## INNOCENTS ABROAD.

MARGERET TOWNSEND TO HELEN STEVENS.

October 1.

*Dear Helen:*

When I wrote you that letter, which you must have thought endless, describing the first days of college life,—the examinations, the buildings, the professors, and the first morning in chapel,—I thought I should inflict myself on you again very soon. But *tempus* does *fugit* so fast! And we are so busy! A great deal of our time is taken up with the work we find necessary in organizing the class. You'd be surprised to know how many class meetings we're obliged to have. There has been one every other day, on an average, ever since the term began. Then there are important committee meetings which are often very long. This is especially the case with the committee on drawing up a constitution, because in considering such an important matter, there must of course be a good deal of discussion. I was on that committee and have been placed on the one that is to get up a Freshman social. We are told that the Sophomores always try to tease the Freshmen by stealing the refreshments or turning out the gas,—isn't it mean of them? So we are going to try to keep the date unknown to them. Then we have to study pretty hard because we are expected to be in constant readiness for unexpected examinations. These occur most frequently in Latin and Geek, and are called "skins," if written, and "quizzes," if oral. The reason we are in such terror of them is because they are so elaborately simple. The syntactical questions take us back to days of Cæsar, and to subjects which we haven't thought of since we came, saw, and conquered him.

The girls in the upper classes are very kind to us, though I notice they are somewhat partial in their attentions. For the first week they smiled upon us all, and after that they seemed to pick out a few girls and make much of them. This week, for instance, my room-mate (suppose, to be truly correct, I should say "chum,") and I had three invitations to go out to dinner, three to go home to lunch with certain

girls, and have been hailed with numerous cries of "Have you brought your luncheon to-day? Oh, then come and eat with me!" One girl brought Louise some lovely flowers, and another gave me a large box of Huyler's. Since we came we have been to a lunch, two card parties, and a candy-pull given by the upper-class girls. Isn't it sweet of them to ask us when we are such utter strangers? About a dozen of us Freshmen have met at all of them. I wonder how they happen to pick out the same ones every time.

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SAME TO SAME.

November 2.

*My Dearest Helen:*

Since my last letter to you the veil has been torn from my eyes. All those attentions of which I told you were paid with malice aforethought. I think that neither Louise nor I fancied they "loved us for ourselves alone," but we did think our invitations came from pure kindness of heart, and did not realize for several weeks that we were being "rushed," or "cultivated," as the process is called. We noticed that a good many of the girls wore fancy pins, and that these were of two designs. Louise suggested that the wearers belonged to committees on hospitality, or "Societies for the Enlightenment of Bewildered Freshmen," and I thought the idea plausible. We didn't like to ask the older girls about it, but some of the Freshmen who have been with us a good deal found out that there are chapters of two secret societies in college. They replenish their numbers every fall from the incoming class and spend considerable time on them, first in picking out their candidates and becoming acquainted with their characters, and then in making their own society the more attractive to the girls they have selected. Of course Lou and I were on our guard at once when we learned that, for we don't want to go into anything that we may be sorry for because of unnecessary haste on our part. One society invited us soon after we had made up our minds not to be in a hurry, and the other sent us a card saying that they issued



no invitations until November first. Both parties are doing a good deal of electioneering, and that which sent the invitation has been teasing for an answer until Louise and I run around the nearest corner when we see one of the pins approaching. This morning came the invitation from the other society, and now Lou and I shall talk the matter over in solemn earnest.

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SAME TO SAME.

December 1.

*Dear Helen:*

Am sure you'll be interested to know how we settled the question of societies. Well—O dear! I didn't mean to use that "excrecence of language," as one of the professors says. He calls "O dear" the "gentle maiden's oath," too! Louise and I found before us two questions: Shall we join any society? If we join, which of the two offered us shall it be? If we join no society we are independent of all the bonds imposed by a fraternity, we can choose our friends without comment, and are free from whatever odium attaches to a secret society. The element of secrecy is so small now, though, that that excuse can hardly be urged. On the other hand, is it not better to know a few girls as well as we should those in the same society? Working together, whether for improvement or pleasure, rapidly ripens acquaintance into friendship. Because we wear one pin what is to prevent our making friends with the wearers of a rival badge? Surely no such petty jealousy could arise as would wish to prevent that. "Yes, we will!" we both finally exclaimed. And then the question, "Which?" Of course our first thought was about the girls in each society. We were not long in making our choice on that ground alone. The relative strength of the rivals had been carefully laid before us, but we knew that the longest chapter roll didn't always mean the greatest strength, that might didn't make right. Quality not quantity was our motto. So we looked up the standing of all the colleges where both societies had chapters and made our decision on that point. And it coincided with our first. Then we came to minor points.

One society had sent us a printed notice that there were two societies and gave information of the time when it sent out invitations. The girls of this ilk had approached us slowly, as though studying us. The other side had made a dead set at us immediately, had paid us twice the attentions of their rivals, and had pledged two girls within a month. This seemed to us rather too quick work for they could not have known their candidates, and it certainly looked as if they wanted to catch them before their society was well known. This seemed to us to indicate either weakness or a desire to get ahead of their rivals. And for us it settled the question against them. We are of the — society and the other society is —.

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SAME TO SAME.

Twenty-five Years Later.

*My Dear Helen:*

\* \* \* \* \*

I can hardly think that it is so many years since I wrote those letters which you have just found. I never realized how happy our college days were until they ended, and now I am living them over again in my daughter. Do you remember the long quandary Louise and I were in about joining a society? My Julia came to me yesterday with the same question and the same doubts. The chief drawback, in my mind, is the feeling generated between rival societies. This is usually only at the beginning of each year, when the "warfare for human souls" is going on, and is soon forgotten. My society life has been very pleasant since I left college. In travelling I have found the warmest greeting in every collegiate town where we have a chapter, and there is an intangible bond which unites all members. I want Julia to repeat my experience, and have advised her to become a sister to whom I can give our familiar grip.

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Yours very sincerely,

MARGERET.



## PERTINENT AND PRACTICAL.

GREAT achievements are but the developments of great ideas. Lack of ideas is a serious detriment to the success of any organization. Corruption and defeat follow in the wake of the political party that sacrifices ideas and principles to party strife and jealousy. Devious are the ways by which ideas progress. Paradoxical as it may seem, the slower the development the greater the velocity and momentum. It was not a new idea that instituted the commune and guillotine of the French Revolution. Slowly through the centuries it had grown, but how rapid and how prodigious the final struggle! Truly says Carlyle, "How much is growing silently, resistless at all moments."

The surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown proclaimed the victory of an idea and heralded the beginning of an age that has been prolific of grand and noble undertakings. We belong to the era of progress that threw open the doors of our institutions of learning to the higher education of woman. The idea of her ultimate rights has not been lost sight of, but the rather enhanced in this advancement of her power and influence. Who would, if he could, retrieve the great blessings and benefits that have come to woman through this progressive step in the world's history? The ability of woman to master the classics and solve the intricate problems of calculus and celestial mechanics is no longer disputed; and because of this accomplishment have the charms and attractions of the fair sex been in the least deteriorated? Surely, through the avenues of education, culture and refinement woman cannot help attaining her highest sphere of usefulness.

Parallel with the superior educational advantages afforded woman is the growth and development of that singular anomaly—a *ladies' fraternity*. As a factor in the successful college life, its influence must not be gainsaid. Between its members there is the mutual interest, the kind encouragement, the friendly criticism, as it were, the "soul mystically strengthening soul" that is not found in any of the other college societies. We look back sixteen years to the organization of our fraternity and see

the difficulties with which our founders contended. In the contemplation of the present, we flatter ourselves that we are justifying the efforts of organization. If we are to advance in the next sixteen years as we have in the past sixteen, surely a little feeling of exultation will be pardoned. That the early forms of government have been changed and enlarged, but indicates our growth and progress. The fundamental principles remain the same; the idea has grown and expanded as is demonstrated in the success of our individual members who have gone forth to battle with the world. For nothing so much points to the growth and development of an idea as the advancement and progress of its champions.

It is a source of great regret that the moral and intellectual stimulus obtained through the chapter associations of the fraternity must very often be given up on leaving college. Wherever practicable, alumnae chapters should be organized and maintained with all the interest and vigor characteristic of the college chapters. Such chapters should be organized and conducted so as to meet the demands of the alumnae who, having entered the arena of life, are constantly growing and developing. Meetings should not be held so frequently as to make their duties too onerous, but often enough, withal, to insure their indubitable continuance. Such an organization might be made very beneficial to the members, if the literary exercises were to consist of a thesis on some living subject, followed by an animated discussion of the same. But there are various ways by which the interest could be maintained, for the idea of the fraternity is broad enough to admit of the performance of any good work in its name.

The prosperity and success of the fraternity magazine should be a subject of equal interest to the alumnae and undergraduates; for if in it the virtual ability of our members was wholly represented, we doubt if it would prove uninteresting reading to the non-fraternity people. The *Princeton Review*, the *Andover Review* and other periodicals have become popular with the reading public, and so might the *Golden Key* of Kappa Kappa Gamma, if only our best talent would rally to its support. To those aspiring to journalism or a literary career, it will lend a helping hand, and its success will more than anything else determine our position



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among fraternities. How welcome is the *Key* to the Kappa who has gone out from college and meets no more with her sisters in the bond, and never perhaps during a term of years even once crosses the path of a sister member of the fraternity! On perusing the *Key* the thoughts and aspirations of our college days come back to us, and we are strengthened to put more effort into the real life of our existence, and so keep apace with the growing opportunities and advantages of woman.

It is pleasant to think that among the great women of the future not a few will have come from Kappa's ranks. After all should it not be regarded as a blessed privilege to be numbered among the members of an organization affording so many advantages.

“’Tis not in mortals to command success,  
But we'll do more, Sempronius, we'll deserve it.”

TADE HARTSUFF KUHNS.

## THE CONVENTION.

THE eighth National Convention of the Kappa Kappa Gamma fraternity was held at Akron, Ohio, August 26th, 27th and 28th, 1886. Eighteen of the twenty chapters were represented, together with visiting members and members of Lambda chapters, making about sixty in daily attendance upon the exercises.

Through the courtesy of the chapter of the Delta Tau Delta fraternity the business meetings were held in its pleasant rooms so well adapted to our needs.

Each Convention brings its own amount of hard work to be done, alterations and improvements to be made, knotty questions to be settled, and though in '84 it seemed as if we had made the way easy for many coming conventions, yet '86 came in with so many demands that every morning and every afternoon of our stay in Akron was spent in business sessions in our rooms.

The results of our close application which will be of interest to the outside world may be briefly stated as follows: The eighteen representatives present gave full and interesting reports of their respective chapters, showing their healthy activity and literary growth, many things said revealed the direct and beneficial influence of the last Convention on the fraternity life.

The charter was returned from Pi chapter, California State University because of fraternity opposition and lack of good material among the students for members.

The *Golden Key* was made a quarterly and put in the hands of Phi chapter for publication. The contents of the magazine are to be chiefly of fraternity interest. The fraternity Catalogue was placed in the hands of Miss Hurd of Chi for completion. The work of compiling a fraternity song book with music was given to Miss Kelly of Iota. A number of important changes were made in the Constitution that it might meet every requirement. The following delightful letters were read:



CHATAUQUA, N. Y., Aug. 24, 1886.

*My Dear Young Sisters of the Kappa Kappa Gamma :*

I am highly honored by your invitation to meet you in Convention this week in the beautiful city of Akron, and I deeply regret my inability to accept your courtesy. I have two engagements this week at Thousand Island Park. Otherwise, I am so near you, I should not resist the temptation to spend a day with you, and should leave for Akron to-morrow with Miss Barney, the bearer of this note.

I am glad to know that the fraternity of Kappa Kappa Gamma is in a flourishing condition—that our young sisters who have banded together for mutual help and protection, as well as for improvement, stand firmly by their principles, and add to their numbers.

For women to associate in an organized form for the accomplishment of their purposes, is a modern idea which is ominous of good for the future. Isolated we can accomplish little. Organized and united we become one of the forces of civilization. And you are college-bred women from whom we have a right to expect a vast deal in the future in your influence on society, in the church, the family and home. So let your aims be high. Stand always for the right. Love one another and never fall out by the way. And do your utmost to elevate the standard of womanhood, physically, mentally and morally. I may never meet with you, but you are dear to me, dear young sisters, and you have my best wishes for your prosperity.

Yours most sincerely,

MARY A. LIVERMORE.

NEWPORT, R. I., Aug. 23, 1886.

*My Dear President :*

I have only time to say: God speed your meeting, and may the little golden key which is your emblem open many golden studies and sympathies to all of your good company, for your own happiness, and the good of mankind, of which womankind is the kinder half.

Yours always sincerely,

JULIA WARD HOWE.

MISS CHARLOTTE C. BARRELL,  
Pres. K. K. Γ.

Greeting from Eta chapter of Delta Gamma fraternity was read and acknowledged. The following Grand Council was elected to serve during the next two years :

Grand President—CHARLOTTE BARRELL, Cambridge, Mass.  
Grand Secretary—MARY KRENZKE, Akron, Ohio.  
Grand Treasurer—MARTHA MURRY, Irvington, Ind.  
Grand Marshal—KATE CROSS, Minneapolis, Minn.

The literary exercises given on Friday afternoon were of especial interest. Miss Mary B. Jewett, professor of English in Buchtel College, read an earnest, scholarly essay on "The Fraternity: Its Relation to the Higher Education of Women." Miss Barney of Tau, now one of the editors of the *Chatauquan*, held us all intent with her pretty poetic fancies about the Chimes—cleverly introducing a little moral for her

Kappa sisters, and Mrs. Henry Perkins of Lambda, "in lighter vein," gave us several bright songs and received hearty encores. Although at every turn we met with the courtesy and forethought of the hostess chapter, in the evening her preparations for the pleasure of her guests were particularly successful. Then we threw aside the cares and business of the day and gave ourselves up to the enjoyment of the hour.

Tuesday evening many of the delegates having arrived, we all assembled at the home of Miss Winnifred Herrick, to greet our President and make the acquaintance of our Kappa sisters, many of whose names were familiar, but whose faces we had never seen. Finding it somewhat difficult to connect the names and faces, we decorated ourselves with small labels bearing our own and chapter names. In this way we rapidly familiarized ourselves with the names, and also were able to identify each with her chapter. Some had the pleasure of renewing an acquaintance begun in Canton in '84, and it was like the meeting of old and tried friends.

Wednesday evening Miss McEbright gave an informal and very pleasant reception to the delegates and visiting members. After the work of the day all felt better acquainted and enjoyed themselves as Kappas know so well how to do. Miss McEbright had an artistic device for badging her guests for refreshments, giving to each a dainty boutonniere of nasturtiums, pansies or golden-rod. It was after twelve when the last group lingeringly took their departure.

Thursday evening was the crowning social event of the Convention. Miss Gertrude Commin's spacious home and the beautiful grounds about were brightly illuminated. There the hostess was assisted in receiving her many guests by Miss Barrell, President of the fraternity, Miss Hurd, Secretary, and Misses Krenzke, Webb, Jewett and Mrs. Parshall of Lambda chapter. Among the one hundred and fifty guests were the college faculty and many society people of Akron and the adjacent country. The dresses of the ladies and the beautifully spread tables in the refreshment room made the scene bright and attractive, and the laughter and ready talk showed the Kappas to be equal to the entertainment of their guests.



Friday evening we all came together for the last time, the occasion that night being the banquet. At nine o'clock we formed in procession in the parlors of Hotel Buchtel and marched down to the dining-room to the music of the orchestra which contributed bright and enlivening music throughout the evening. Seating ourselves at the tables, inviting with flowers and fine service, we first inspected the menus found beside each plate, and many were the expressions of surprise and delight at the exquisite painting and varied designs. We have been proud to show them as souvenirs of the occasion, and the more so as they were all the work of members of Lambda chapter. After some time spent in comparing and admiring the menus we turned our attention to the good things set before us. Having done ample justice to these, we drew back our chairs ready to listen and enjoy the program our toast mistress, Miss Jewett, had prepared for us. Responses were given to the following toasts:—

LAMBDA'S GREETING—Mrs. Emma Hyre.  
OUR NATIONAL CONVENTION, MU—Miss Martha Murry.  
OUR FRATERNITY, PHI—Miss Helen Joy.  
OUR BROTHERS, PSI—Miss Ella Boulton.  
ANTAGONISM, MU—Miss Tade Hartsuff Kuhns.  
OUR PROSPERITY, PHI—Miss Charlotte Barrell.

Mrs. Hyre said many pleasant things to us, more in farewell than greeting, in Lambda's behalf. Had it been possible before to question our welcome, every doubt must have been removed by Mrs. Hyre's cordial words.

Miss Murry gave us a well-finished and well-delivered address on the benefits and duties of conventions and paid a graceful compliment to Lambda's hospitality.

Miss Joy held our attention with her simple earnest words, showing her love for "Our Fraternity," and revealing the true fraternity spirit which is not outside form or merry-making, but within and imperishable.

Miss Boulton's amusing words about "Our Brothers" showed her thorough knowledge of the subject and her appreciation of the faults as well as the merits of brothers.

The presence of Mrs. Tade Hardsuff Kuhns at the Convention was an inspiration and pleasure, and when she arose in response to the toast, "Antagonism," all listened with the certainty of hearing the true interpretation of that much misused word. The antagonism which helped her to make the place for the fraternity it now holds, was the earnest effort to be at the head, to do the best, never descending to petty meanness or rivalry.

When Miss Barrell arose a hearty cheer greeted her. Our hopes and anxieties were satisfied. She was still our President, a type of the womanhood she desired for us in "Our Prosperity."

Resuming the same order of march as when entering, we left the dining-rooms and returned to the parlors where we spent some time in dancing, singing fraternity songs, and listening to Mrs. Perkins' charming voice. Just before leaving we collected on a small balcony and gave the "call" several times, vigorously.

During the interims of business and pleasure we visited Buchtel College and the Lambda chapter room which is made tasteful and pretty by the contributions of the members. Also, we enjoyed seeing some of the city, the beautiful drives and pleasant homes.

Not one of us but will always recall with pleasure the hospitality and kindness of the Akron people, who opened their houses for our reception as freely as did the Kappas themselves. And Lambda chapter; all gratitude is due it for its efforts to make the Convention a success.

Every Convention is a "liberal education" mentally and socially, and Minneapolis, Minn., is to be the next city to have the honor of entertaining that august body which will convene the fourth Wednesday in August, 1888.



## Editorial.

COMPANY Phi, Alpha regiment, first brigade, first division of the grand army of Kappa Kappa Gamma suddenly received orders to march to the frontier. They had heard the sound of battle from afar, but sheltered in the busy Hub, had been undisturbed by distant guns. Their armor was rusting on the walls while they, clad in the habiliments of peace, were pursuing their chosen occupations. So when the startling command came, for a moment they doubted its wisdom, thought there must be some mistake. But

“Theirs not to make reply,  
Theirs not to reason why,”

and company Phi obeyed orders. Now while they guard the interests of Kappa Gamma here at the front, do not forget their need of supplies. Send ammunition. Have no fear that they will run when the enemy opens fire. For, louder than the sound of guns or roar of cannon, they hear from every loyal Kappa heart, “Cheers for the old flag! cheers for the blue and blue!”

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THE report of the *Golden Key* for 1884-6, sent to the recent convention is concise, exact, and comprehensive. It should be read and studied in every chapter, first as a model report, secondly as an authoritative communication concerning our fraternity publication. It was a marvel of justice. It was just to Greek journalism, to the fraternity, and to Miss Taylor. Chapters please notice that we heartily indorse the following quotations from it:

“What is needed by the *Golden Key* in the line of literary contributions, are college and fraternity sketches and fraternity discussions. \* \* \* \* I, together with some others, regard discussions of literary subjects as profitable in fraternity unification and pleasant for mutual study; but the proportion of general literature to fraternity should always be small.”

“One who takes much interest in fraternity affairs soon discovers that the magazine is one of the most important factors in fraternity growth and consolidation. It brings

in the leading ideas of the best fraternities, it unites and disciplines the chapters, it expresses the fraternity policy, it determines the fraternity's general rank. Next to having no Convention or a poor one, the greatest fraternity calamity is to have no publication or a poor one. There is scarcely any fraternity of any importance at all that does not now have its publication, and the better the publication the better the fraternity as a rule. The care of its magazine is something Kappa Kappa Gamma cannot afford to neglect."

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IN a certain sense, externals are unimportant in Kappa Kappa Gamma. "It is not by pass-word, nor by hailing sign, nor by mysterious grip that we recognize." The power that holds us is independent of badge or colors and would still exist and strengthen if the various symbols were removed. And so we can live without chapter halls and chapter houses. We can meet in furnished or unfurnished rooms, in one place one week and another the next, at the house of a member safe from intrusion or in the college recitation room where the walls have ears—and for all this be none the less the fraternity we are. If this were not so, if the symbol and the place were essential to our existence, then the sooner we disbanded the better. For it is with these external aids as with friends: It is not safe to have them until we are able to do without them.

The history of Kappa Kappa Gamma demonstrates her ability to do without chapter homes. Then, let us secure halls and build houses. While not necessary, they concentrate and so intensify Kappa associations; they increase the material comfort and prosperity of the chapter, making libraries and reading rooms possible and affording place for chapter property; they nourish the existing fraternity spirit. The building of a chapter house requires enthusiastic and persistent effort. It requires time for money-getting, time for development of plan, time for building, time for completion, time for furnishing. But does that daunt a Kappa? The probability that those who work the hardest will not receive the benefit should not once be mentioned. Self-sacrifice is a fundamental of Kappa Kappa Gamma, and work for the chapter of the future and the fraternity as a whole is far worthier our name than the splendor of banquets or the glitter of diamond keys.



## A PLEA.

IN the last number of *The Key* was published the annual report of the chapters, and in that chapter record a brief account of the work done through the year. One could easily see that a great part of the chapters are doing earnest work, chiefly in a literary direction, and are making in truth a literary society of the chapter. At the same time one is struck with the absolute independence of each in choice of subject and arrangement of work. In a fraternity with its members scattered far and wide all over the country, anything like concentrated effort would seem well nigh impossible except so far as lies in the power of certain smaller groups and divisions, just what our separate chapters are for. But what is the significance of the fraternity in itself, if these are not all bound together, and *closely* bound? Not only in a general interest, a broad sympathy between the girls of the East and those of the far West, there must be some other bond to unite all hearts that own the sway of K. K. T. Shall not this bond be a common line of work, some one subject of study that shall occupy the chapters from East to West?

In the new system of requirements for admission to Harvard College, a student presenting himself for examination in *advanced physics* must at the same time present his own note-book, containing a record of the experiments performed and the results obtained. Where before the laboratory work of the preparatory schools was of a general, indefinite nature, consisting of a certain number of experiments which the student was to be able to say he had performed, with an intelligent understanding of the principles thereby illustrated, now each experiment must have, as it were, a measure, a definite result, and the note-book will reveal the working out of the problem, and the result obtained, all in black and white. Is there not a suggestion for us here? Can we not so arrange our fraternity work as to have at the end of the year, not the satisfaction of having done a greater or less amount, unmeasured, undetermined, but a written record of definite, united labor, and proved beyond question by our figures and results, ready for reference to all who would seek them.

In order to do this, there must be some one to guide, direct, control

the whole, and apportion the work to the different workers. What could be better than the convention assembly for this? It were easy enough to trace the progress of each chapter through the medium of *The Key*.

Then to look for a subject. *Magna ex copia difficile est deligere*—Is the work to continue literary? Then let us all take up some one book or author. First the book is assigned, each chapter will read carefully, comment upon, criticize. If anything of particular interest be found, which may well be shared with the other chapters, let it be sent to *The Key*, all will read eagerly from a fresh interest in the subject, and will feel a thrill of pleasure to find that others have been thinking of just the self same things as themselves. One gain already. Then let the book be translated into French or German, or both. The translating may be divided into small portions, several pages perhaps to each group of workers. Soon some few will appear more interested and better able to take charge of the translation, and to them may be assigned the careful revision of the parts, making a continuous whole of them. You suggest that the style of translation will differ so greatly in one part from that in another as to make the unity of the book impossible. There is little danger of such a thing if the *master hand* be found to revise it. Surely among our number are some strong language scholars who will hail with pleasure such an opening.

If it be too great an undertaking to translate from English into another language, let us attempt the opposite. If some French work were chosen, after every member of the fraternity had read it thoughtfully, it might be given to be translated into idiomatic English, a translation that should be a model, free from all restraint in style, one that should catch the idea of the French, and strive to convey that idea in fluent English, a *copy* of the original rather than a *translation*. What a field is open before us in the line of children's books! Who has not felt the difficulty of finding a sufficient number of standard books for young people, books that they may read with safety, that will arouse in them a desire for reading, and at the same time create a love of *good* literature? In French what a large supply of juvenile books, from the best authors, not at all childish, but exceedingly pure in style! Is there



no opening here? Many a charming story might be put into the hands of our children, were we to work in real earnest towards that end.

If such a course were pursued, the work might be taken up by a certain number from each chapter, leaving the rest to follow another line of effort. In many cases too, the *alumnæ* would become interested, and perhaps render valuable assistance from some superior advantage or greater leisure. Or again, the work might be assigned by provinces, thus confining it to certain regions. In either case *all* would have read the book at the outset, would know of the work under way, and eagerly look for the result. There would be something to show for the year's work in addition to the gain to each individual worker.

There will be some who are eager to take perhaps a dialogue of Plato, translate carefully, making copious notes, and render it into some other modern language than English. Many a Latin author would rejoice, if he were here, to see his books newly edited, and made more living and interesting for the student.

In the line of historical research too, there is no end to the work we might do. Are these things beyond our reach?

To turn from this literary field to that of human life, we are astonished to find more before us than we could possibly do in a lifetime, yet surely it is worth while to make a beginning, small though it be. And representing as we do so many different communities, by careful, persistent investigation of wrongs and abuses, and at the same time by systematizing and preserving in statistical exactness the facts thus brought to light, our progress in this direction will be anything but slow, and the world at large may be persuaded to right certain wrongs, the importance and gravity of which it never will understand till it sees the figures representing them, figures well-proved and accurate.

Finally in addition to the good we might do in these and many other ways, there would be a direct gain to our fraternity itself, and eventually to all secret societies. There are some people who are so unfortunate as to distrust and disbelieve in these "secret societies;" they, if they know of some grand work done by one of these societies, will be obliged to admit that however mean the agent, the deed is beyond question. They will

come to speak of the society by its work, to identify the one with the other, and to forget altogether their dislike for the tree that bears such noble fruit.

IN one of the chapter letters published in the last *Key*, we read with pleasure of a Pan-Hellenic Conference in which a plan was decided upon in regard to the cultivation of freshmen. It impressed us favorably, and we are glad to know of its adoption in one of the larger colleges. Personally, we can testify to its beneficent influence and can assure all doubters that it need have no resemblance to a "combination" or union of fraternities. It is only designed to do away with that chief evil of society life, "rushing," against which we cannot protest too strongly.

We are sure that a fraternity of women can never descend to the degrading methods used by some chapters of men's fraternities which have brought such disgrace upon secret societies in general. And yet we fear that there may be a growing spirit of false emulation among sister societies, and that ways and means may be employed in the exciting times of cultivation which, in more sober moments, would be considered doubtful. By no means would we decry a right spirit of competition. Let us do all that lies in our power as Kappas to keep the K. K. F. fraternity in the place where by right she belongs—at the head of all women's fraternities. But we should not forget that over-anxiety may work against us rather than for us. Any member of the fraternity will say that we want for sisters the noblest and truest women in the American Colleges, that we want women who are Kappas in spirit before they are in fact, and that we want only those who are drawn to us, who feel they can live and work with us to the best advantage. Now how can we get such women unless we are willing to wait patiently until they have known us and have decided that membership in Kappa would be a development and a delight? And how ill this accords with that "rush" system of some fraternities which seem to be anxious to take in any one of fair ability before he has an opportunity to know or to be known.

It may be objected that while we are waiting another society will



secure all the desirable girls. But waiting is not necessarily idleness. "They also serve who only stand and wait," and sometimes they serve best. When a freshman class enters college let Kappa be known by all means, let her influence be felt, let the new girls have a chance to see and know what she is. If there are other societies, unite with them, if possible, in some plan whereby no undue or premature influence shall be brought to bear upon the freshmen. We have known of circulars being sent to members of a new class, giving all necessary information concerning number of societies, date of founding, members, and containing the additional statement that pledges would not be requested before a certain date. By this plan the unfortunate infants were freed from the harrowing perplexities of cultivation time and were left largely to their own resources, to look about, and to make their decision in peace and comfort. If another society refuses to make such an agreement, it means that it is afraid to be known impartially, that it prefers to take in those who are not fully acquainted with the society, that it prefers to work hastily and slyly rather than to act slowly, surely, and openly. Have we much cause to fear such an opponent?

Let it be known that the chapter of Kappa Kappa Gamma is to send its invitations on a certain date, then leave the girls alone on the society question, become acquainted with them of course, keep them if you can from being rushed into another society, but live rather than talk the excellencies and glories of your fraternity—and success will surely be yours and ours.

## *Exchanges and Reviews.*

WE have just finished the perusal of the Kappa Alpha Theta, with the feeling that it is, on the whole, a good number, without being entirely satisfactory. The literary department is lamentably deficient. Nearly two-thirds of the pages are filled with short, detached paragraphs, in which it is impossible for any but a Theta to feel much interest. There seems to be a tendency towards short, unsatisfactory items in many Greek letter papers, and the result is an "exclusiveness" which debars any outside interest being awakened.

We will not discuss the question with the Freshman who so frankly expressed the conviction "of the superiority of Kappa Alpha Theta over her rival," Kappa Kappa Gamma. That must at least be conceded to be a matter of personal prejudice.

One question, however, we should like to ask; Why is it not desirable that women should use their Christian names? A feeling akin to disgust arises at the "ie" termination in print. From as many successive lines in our contemporary, we quote the names Carrie, Allie, Lizzie, Mamie, Mattie, and Nellie. We should all smile at seeing Johnnie, Willie, Teddie, Jamie, etc., in a men's magazine. Wherein lies the difference? If a woman have a solid, sensible name, let her not be ashamed to use it. Do you think Mamie Livermore and Katie Field would have produced a profound sensation in the world? The sooner women rid themselves of this foolish sentimentality concerning pet names, the better for all concerned.

From a "Shield" editorial we quote the following: "A chapter cannot exist without men. When there are so many rival organizations, good members cannot be secured without early, earnest and persistent effort. The rusher is the most valuable man you have. One thoroughly active and successful rusher is worth half a dozen other men to a chapter. He will raise a chapter in two years from the foot to the highest round of the ladder. Nor is this an office to be avoided. The man who wins in a close contest over good men is very apt to win in the close battles that will follow in the business world. He must have courage that never fears, and caution that never risks. Under the spotless features of the dove he must carry the wisdom of the serpent. He must be as daring as the soldier, as wily as the diplomat, as persistent as Talleyrand, as sudden as Cromwell," etc., etc.

May we be spared this invaluable member!



There is no one practice connected with fraternity life so destructive to its own best ends and so degrading to its members as "rushing." If the aim of a fraternity be merely large membership without regard to the character of the members, no better method could be invented. But if the aim be congenial tastes and mutual help, it is difficult to comprehend how either can be assured on an acquaintance of a few days. A feeling of disgust arises in the "victim," a feeling of contempt for a society which needs men so much as to lead it to throw away all dignity, together with a total loss of self-respect in the men who can so degrade themselves. Many a man in the ardor of pursuit quite loses sight of the primary object of societies. We do not denounce a cordial and friendly bearing toward new students, but "rushing" should be contrary to every inherent principle of fraternities. Even if rival societies will not agree to publish a "prospectus" and to appoint a common term of probation, the non-rushers will shine by contrast. It has been tried and has succeeded gloriously.

The July number of Sigma Chi contains an interesting account of three new chapters to whom charters have recently been granted, and news letters that show the strong fraternity spirit. A poem or an article upon some subject other than Sigma Chi would make the paper of more general interest.

The Chi Phi Quarterly for June opens with a review of several books written recently by members of the Chi Phi Fraternity, and is followed by a history of Eta chapter of that fraternity, which will doubtless prove more interesting to the particular Greek than to the Greek world at large. A most readable article is that by George William Curtis on College Traditions and the College Fraternity, first published in Harper's. Truly, we, as societies, remembering those who came before us, and helped to make fraternities the aid to a higher and broader life, intellectually and morally, that nearly all now are, would likewise take for our motto, *noblesse oblige*. From the editorial department we take the following, which seems to us to apply equally to all societies: "The change from an active to alumnus connection with Chi Phi is indeed slight. But few written privileges are taken away, and fewer obligations removed. One privilege is never removed, and that is the privilege of showing the characteristic loyalty toward the order. You are passing out from what has been a part of your daily existence; you will have no direct control over the work of your chapter; you will not approve of all their actions; yet, be charitable. You may not know all the minor circumstances connected with their movements; had you such information you would likely approve their conduct. Above all, keep yourself in communication with your

chapter. Show that you are still concerned about its welfare, although absent from it. Nothing so soon discourages a chapter as the seeming apathy of its alumni."

Phi Delta Theta has published a manual that is noticed very favorably by many Greek papers. It is the first thing of its kind, we believe, and is admirably gotten up. A sketch of the fraternity, prominent members, fraternity and college statistics make up the contents. We have nothing but praise for the little volume, and hope that other societies may soon follow Phi Delta Theta's example. (Mailed to any address upon receipt of price by Walter B. Palmer, Nashville, Tenn. 30 cents paper, 50 cents cloth edition.)

Truly civilization still moves westward, that is, if one may speak of fraternity journals as giving light and liberty to the human race collectively and without reference to individual qualifications; but however that may be, we wish the Sigma Nu Delta every success in its new western home. In the number before us is an informal report of their convention, held in August, at Lexington, Ky., where good work was done in a short time, and a remarkable amount of fraternity zeal infused into its delegates. A sketch of the past and present of the Sigma Nu shows the growth of that fraternity by the statement that there are now thirteen living and active chapters where three years ago there were but two. "Why Fraternities?" is an address to the late annual conference of the first grand division of Delta Tau Delta by the president, Will Carleton, with arguments for and against secret societies. Among the latter is the consideration of time which fraternities demand; the tendency to take one's mind off one's studies; the financial cost of chapters and conclaves; disapproval of outside friends and the danger of societies becoming blind to any good outside their own fraternity. On the other hand, he argues that only by the close bonds of fraternity can men with differently developed, though congenial characteristics, accomplish all the possibilities of their several natures. The secret character of college fraternities is also urged in its favor as strengthening powers in discretion, also the influence they exert in enabling students to form the right sort of friendship at the beginning of college life, which is often carried into later life, and without which life is barren and fruitless, not a success or even an endurable existence. "Fraternities," he says, "if rightly conducted draw a man from self and teach him to live and toil for his fellow-beings, and that alone is an argument which will outweigh all opposition in the scales of any well-balanced mind." Among Greek Cuttings we notice the following interesting facts: Alpha Chi Omega is the latest ladies'



Greek society. Twenty-three fraternities now issue fraternity journals. The Phi Delta Theta is said to be the first fraternity to fully recognize their loneliness and to initiate one of the weaker sex into the mysteries of their beloved brotherhood.

Phi Delta Theta is to be congratulated on its recent collection of songs. The book is very well gotten up, the cover being particularly attractive. The words and music are better than the average, but in all our fraternities there is room for improvement in this direction. The earnest Greek spirit shown is to be greatly commended.

In the Kappa Sigma Quarterly for October is the following: "In the last issue of the Delta Upsilon Quarterly was a communication, the writer of which is a member of that fraternity, upon this subject: 'The Real Meaning of Non-Secrecy,' in which he claimed in most emphatic terms that any 'secret mottoes, grips, pass-words and rites are unknown in our fraternity.'" If the Kappa Sigma Quarterly quotes the above as expressing at all its sentiments, we most heartily approve of its principles. As soon as we leave behind us all the outward paraphernalia of fraternity bonds and rise to a realizing sense of its intrinsic dignity, so soon shall we rise in the estimation of the world without us, and we ourselves shall come into the truest meaning of fraternity. The chapter letters have a good amount of Kappa Sigma enthusiasm, though we see but little of original merit in the literary department.

The July number of the Phi Gamma Delta Quarterly is truly tantalizing and makes one's mouth water with its enticing menus and accounts of banquets. All young housekeepers will do well to subscribe for the Quarterly. Four of the nine literary (?) articles contain accounts of feasts at which the brothers partook of the "fat of the land," and two give the menus entire.

We are not sure by what name we should call the members of this fraternity, they themselves seem to be uncertain as to what their names really are, and in this one issue they are mentioned as "Deltas," "Phi Gam's," and "Feejees." Judging from their acknowledged fondness for purely temporal blessings we prefer the last title.

The first article in the magazine, entitled "Retrospection," covers a multitude of sins in those which follow, and with pleasure we read the strong arguments in favor of fraternities, and the personal testimony of one who, after the completion of his college course, testifies to the good which society life did him. And most heartily do we quote (with a change in gender) the last sentence of this article:

“So if I were allowed but one word of advice to the young woman first crossing the threshold of her fraternity experience, it would be simply Work!”

The Editorial Notes show a loyal spirit which we can praise, even if we doubt the expediency of making the editorial department so meager. The notes prepare the reader for the burst of loyalty and enthusiasm which awaits him in the Chapter Letters. This department is by all means the strongest in the magazine and its excellence can be copied by all society organs. To be sure, we wearied a little of the incessant laudations of the Quarterly, and we were rather astonished to learn that all the Feejee chapters are the strongest in all colleges, that they possess the “cream” (one of the fat things, presumably) of all classes, that they receive nearly all the honors to be conferred, and that in the one or two rare cases in which they fail of this distinction, failure is more glorious than victory. It seems as if we had read something of the kind in some other fraternity magazine, but perhaps we are mistaken. In spite of these peculiarities there is a most admirable spirit of brotherliness displayed in these letters, as if the writers were sure of ready sympathy and were actuated by a real desire to entertain and encourage members of other chapters.

There is a heartiness and openness in the Feejee letters that made us pang to know Feejee boys and made us grasp eagerly at the suggestion that they might move east. Let us know when you come, brothers, and we will show you what Boston can do in the way of the “fat of the land.”

We acknowledge the receipt of the Purple and Gold for November, the Delta Kappa Epsilon Quarterly for October, and the Rainbow of Delta Tau Delta for October, all of which came as we were going to press.



## Chapter Letters.

αἱ τῶν παρθένων πράξεις.

BETA—ST. LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY.

BETA Chapter has opened this year under favorable auspices. Four new members from the class of '90 have been initiated: Drusilla Irene St. Clair, Pt. Deposit, M. D.; Maude Amelia Wrigglesworth, Russel, N. Y.; Jessie Styles, Hermon, N. Y.; Rose May Libby, Colton, N. Y. They are girls whom we know will be a help and credit to our chapter and our fraternity. We have been making improvements in our room, which add greatly to its appearance.

On October 15 we held a musicale and social combined, at the home of Mrs. Hale, one of our resident Alumnae. Our programme consisted of solos, duets, recitations and choruses by the Kappas, assisted by vocal, instrumental, whistling and violin solos by townspeople, who kindly lent their aid. The entertainment was well attended and passed off very pleasantly, leaving us not only with the happy feeling that our town as well as college people are interested in Beta Chapter, but also with a neat little sum, which will aid us in ornamenting our room. Our literary work is essentially the same as that of last term, which we found both enjoyable and instructive. Alice Grace of the class of '83 is teaching in Canon City, Col. Gertrude Lee of '85 is teaching in Westbrook Seminary, Deering, Me. Emma Wall of '86 is teaching in Reno, Nevada. Etta Lake of '86 is in St. Louis, Mo., teaching in an Episcopalian school. Miss Daily of '86 is teaching in Parishville, N. Y.

ZETA—IOWA UNIVERSITY.

Zeta wishes to express her great pleasure at the action of the convention at Akron, to offer congratulations to the newly elected officers of the Grand Council, and sends her first letter for the new year laden with all good wishes for the success of the Phi editors.

The active members of the chapter returned to school full of enthusiasm and energy, rested by a summer at the various western lake resorts. Grace Thompson of '88 will remain at her home in Bedford, Ia., this year. At the beginning of the term Isa Moore was inaugurated as president of the Hesperion Literary Society. Agnes Holbrook, an alumna of Zeta, is now in attendance at Wellesley college, Wellesley, Mass. Carrie Spielman of '87 will be in school only during the spring term of this year. During the summer Mella Tuttle acted as an assistant editor of "Persinger's Times," a large society paper at Des Moines, Iowa. Nellie Rawson of '85 is now professor of domestic economy in the school of industrial arts at Toledo, Ohio.

#### KAPPA—HILLSDALE COLLEGE.

Kappa has eight active and four associate members this term. October 16 we initiated four girls: Florence Wyllis, '88; Dora Stamats, Annie Bartlett and Shirley Smith of '89. We feel very proud of them and of their growing love for the blue and the blue.

Our honored sister, Mrs. Mary Livermore, is to lecture here November 10. She will be entertained by our chapter, and during her stay a reception is to be given in her honor by the Kappa girls. Kappa and Xi are to hold a state convention at Adrian, Michigan, October 29 and 30. The fame of Lambda's hospitality is widespread and the chapters have heard such glowing reports of the national convention that with sighs the girls exclaim—"why didn't we all go!" May Ela, '89, has left us to join the Eta girls at Wisconsin University. Cynthia Simpson, '85, is studying in Germany. Flora Woodward, '87, is teaching at Litchfield this year. Mignon Kern is to return to college next year and join the class of '88. Madge Drake is teaching at Albany, Ohio. Laura Mudgett is at her home in Reading, Michigan, and still maintains an unflagging interest in our fraternity work.

#### XI—ADRIAN COLLEGE.

At the opening of this term Xi had six active members, but we have since initiated another loyal member, Hettie Meikle, '88. We are progressing finely—furnishing our room. Three new stands, eight chairs



and an organ have been added without incurring debt. We are quite busy preparing for the sub-convention of the Kappa's and Xi's, which is to be held here October 29 and 30. We are expecting Alberta Oakley with us again. Two of our members, Hettie Meikle of the Star Literary Society and Sadie Palmer of the Lambda Phi, have been elected to represent their societies as first essayists at the coming anniversary. Enid Ware, Xi's only senior, received the prize at the annual inter-society contest last commencement. The gentlemen's fraternities show a kind interest in the Kappa girls. The Alpha Tau Omegas presented us with a large Bible and the Sigmas gave us a fine plush album.

*Marriages*—Cora Miller to Mr. W. A. Morris, Wichita, Kansas. Florence Raymond to Rev. G. R. Deakins, Trumbull, Ohio.

#### OMICRON—SIMPSON CENTENARY COLLEGE.

Omicron is more prosperous than it has been for several years. We have initiated four this term. Julia Taskett, Nettie Barrigrover, Louise Warren and Eva Moore. Our college is unusually full and we have had good material from which to select. Two of our girls are teaching at present but expect to be with us next year. We miss our last year's graduate—Cornelia Jones—very much. She has been with us at several of our meetings, however, and has given us an interesting and profitable account of the convention. The convention of the I. C. Sorosis was held here this fall. Lambda chapter gave a reception in honor of their delegates to which all the fraternities were invited. It was a very pleasant and enjoyable affair. The Phi Kappa Psi fraternity have a strong chapter here. Seven of its members were graduated last year.

#### TAU—SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY.

Tau chapter has begun the year with excellent prospects. The convention proved a wonderful inspiration to us, and the result is that we have initiated six girls—Agnes Foster, '88, Lettie Farwell, Nellie Reilay, May Robinson, Violet Telfer and Lida Wagoner, '90, and have four others pledged to join us later. We now have seventeen active members in college, the longest chapter roll in our short history.

Profiting by the example of some of our Western chapters, we opened our chapter rooms to the uninitiated on the occasion of a small reception to some of the ladies of '90. At the beginning of the term we were delighted with a new piano, the gift of the alumnae of our chapter, and our rooms are ever becoming more cheerful and homelike. Minnie A. Barney, poet of the last convention, is now at Meadville, Pa., filling a position on the editorial staff of the *Chautauquan*. The position is a very honorable one, and we are glad of her acceptance, although it has taken her away from us for this year. Alice C. Gillette, '85, has recently accepted the position of principal in the High School at Metropolis City, Ill., and has under her charge a corps of fourteen teachers. Ida Goldman, '85, is now teaching in the High School of this city, and we are much pleased to have her with us again at our meetings.

At this beginning of a new year, we again extend a hearty invitation to our sister Kappas to visit us, and assure to all a cordial greeting.

PHI—BOSTON UNIVERSITY.

*Dear Kappa Sisters:*

We are again at work after a summer, busy, idle, quiet, gay—according to our several members. Our enforced separation has made Kappa all the dearer; rested and invigorated by the long vacation, we come back cheerfully to "fresh fields and pastures new"—(class of '90.)

There have been some changes in the chapter. More than we can tell you, we miss our three '86 girls; but '87 bears its honors with dignity and grace, and after all our girls are ours still—however far away, the memory of their sincerity and kindness is always with us. Sarah Hobson, '87, is away from college for the present, but will be with us again in January. Lillian Knight, '89, is in California, and Elizabeth Fessenden in Germany. Notwithstanding the break in our ranks, our meetings go on as usual. The first of the year was devoted to business and fraternity songs, but we have now begun on our regular program, and with Miss Downing, '87, as president, everything indicates a profitable term.

The Key demands a great deal of attention necessarily. And just



here we would acknowledge with warmest thanks the ready support and kindly assistance of the other chapters. Our invitations for this year are but just out, and you will understand our fearful state of expectation and the rejoicing over each acceptance. '90 is a large class, and as desirable as large. We hope to make good our loss in numbers and something more. So far this term has passed without any special festivities—and we are reserving our forces for a grand initiation. Alpha Phi fraternity recently held its annual convention in this city and at the reception which Eta chapter of that fraternity gave in its honor, three Kappas were invited to be present. The evening was a most pleasant one—the faculty and friends of the chapter, both society and non-society, being present. With Kappa Kappa Gamma's greetings Phi chapter sent a basket of flowers in acknowledgment of the convention. We have listened to reports of our own convention, both from Miss Barrell and Miss Latham and have been consumed with envy of those fortunate girls who were able to attend. As in the past, prosperity be ours for the coming year.

CHI—MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY.

Fall is almost gone and all are hard at work. The monotony of college life has been broken by two initiations and one lecture. We have added to the list Lily Porter, Alice Berry, Nellie Hall and Nellie Cross—so that now with the support of some of our graduates we number thirteen active members. We have not had sufficient time for literary work and having become acquainted with a Miss Bennison, just returned from a trip around the world, we thought it would be an excellent plan to have her give us a course of lectures upon the various countries she had visited. On the evening of October 7 we invited our friends to the home of Miss Pillsbury to go on a "Trip Around the World." The talk seemed to be enjoyed by all and the evening's entertainment closed with a social gathering. We have had to give up the idea of a course of lectures much to the disappointment of all, but we hope to secure Miss Bennison's services, now and then, during the winter.

At the opening of the term, steps were taken to obtain a room for our use and one was secured in a building on the Campus—but as we can

not heat it, we are compelled to wait till spring before commencing to furnish it. Next year, however, we hope to have one in the main building Kate Cross has gone away for about two months to visit her old home.

Upon the return of Miss Hurd from the convention, we were delighted to learn the acceptance of our invitation to hold the next meeting here. We shall be only too happy to meet and know our Kappa sisters, and shall do all in our power to compensate you for the long journey many of you will be compelled to take. We extend a cordial invitation to each member of Kappa Kappa Gamma.

PSI—CORNELL UNIVERSITY.

Psi sends her first letter to the *Key* with heartiest greetings to all her sister chapters. Five of our members were so fortunate as to be in Akron during the convention of the past summer: Miss Kittredge, '86, Misses Boulton, Lougee, Wilder and Rogers, '88. The convention made the various chapters of the fraternity real individuals to us, and our fraternity feeling is strengthened by a warm personal interest in its members. As yet but one new name has been added to our roll—Miss Helene Boileau, '89. We are however, sanguine of increasing our number when the expiration of the time agreed upon in our prospectus enables us to extend invitations to the selected ones of the incoming class. This year we have agreed to eliminate from our conversations at regular meetings, the discussion of prospective members and have found the plan successful and one worthy of consideration. If the meetings are essentially of society interests, the energies of all are concentrated on making the gatherings most satisfactory.

Miss Jessie J. Cassidy, '86, is practicing architecture in New York City.

Miss Annie N. Curtis, '86, is teaching in a private school in Roxbury, Mass.

Miss Helen Kittredge, '86, is pursuing a course for trained nurses at Bellevue Hospital, New York City.

Miss Cora M. Clock, '85, is teaching at Middletown, N. Y.



## UPSILON—NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY.

The opening of the school year found Upsilon in a flourishing condition with eight members in college. Two transfers and three initiates have since increased our active membership to thirteen. September 19 we initiated in a most satisfactory manner, Amy Jarrett, '90, Chicago, who was pledged last fall and was N. W. U.'s first initiate for the year. Misses Carrie and Hattie Botkin, formerly of Iota chapter, have joined the class of '88 and been received into Upsilon. Clara Thompson, after an absence of a year on account of ill health, has entered college with '90.

Our literary work this term will consist of debates, essays and selections on various literary and political topics. We still continue our custom of reading the constitution and convention minutes once each month. The chapter was pleasantly entertained at the home of May Van Benschoten '86, on Sept. 27. Impromptu charades were the feature of the occasion, and a delightful evening was passed. Our sixteenth anniversary was celebrated, quite appropriately, we think, by the initiation of Lizzie M. Brown, '89, of Fond du Lac, Wis. Press of work obliged us to defer the ceremony until Friday, Oct. 15, but notwithstanding the short delay the occasion was one long to be remembered.

Kate L. Sharp, '85, has a very fine position in the academy at Elgin, Ill. New curtains, new pictures and an organ greatly improve the appearance of our hall and we enjoy it this year more than ever before.

The university is rejoicing in the fulfilment of a long-felt want. The new Science hall is rapidly nearing completion and will be ready for use January 1. It is a large and commodious building, to be devoted exclusively to chemistry and physics. Garrett Biblical Institute also takes delight in its elegant Memorial Hall, now in process of construction which forms a fine addition to our campus. The program of a called meeting Friday evening, Nov. 13, consisted of an initiation in which the most active part was taken by Maude Kendall, '90, of Kansas City. The chapter afterward adjourned to participate in an informal banquet. Beside the active and resident members, there were present Miss Carrie Case, ex-'89, and Mrs. Bain, *nee* Botkin, one of Iota's founders.

## SIGMA—NEBRASKA UNIVERSITY.

We have three new members this fall: Hattie Curtiss, '90; Edna Appelget, '88, and Josephine Young, '89, thus giving us our usual number of active members. Our delegate to the convention, Miss Allie Lantz, returned full of enthusiasm for Kappa, and we wish we might all have attended. Our literary work this term has consisted of quotations in answer to roll-call, a short sketch of the author's life, and selections read from his works, together with a rehearsal and criticism of the productions which our members have given in the literary society. Allie Lantz has accepted a position in the Lincoln schools. Sallie Cox, '88, is teaching in Shenandoah, Ia. We greatly enjoyed a visit, November 13, from Sopha Myers, '86. Rae Manley, '88, is librarian in the Lincoln Public Library. The three girls of the class of '87 are Kappas. Our university circle has been saddened by the death of two of its members—one a young lady from the Freshman class, and the other a member of the Senior class and a Sigma Chi. Frank Wheeler was a general favorite and his death seemed particularly sad. Sigma had made arrangements to celebrate the sixteenth anniversary of Kappa Kappa Gamma, but the gloom cast over our circle left us no heart for any social gathering.

## IOTA—DE PAUW UNIVERSITY.

How long it seems since the last appearance of the *Golden Key*, and how anxiously we await the December number. Since its entrance into the literary world the magazine has made its home with us, until we had almost come to consider it a part of Iota. Now, since it has changed locations, we very naturally wonder what changes it will present and in what respects it will be improved. De Pauw opened very auspiciously in September. A larger number of students entered than at any previous year of the university's history. Of the number a reasonable proportion were young women and we were busily engaged for some time becoming acquainted and gathering into the fold those whom we deemed desirable for sisters. We were eminently successful and now we are a merry band numbering twenty-one. The new girls are Carrie Weaver, Leila Rouse,



Jeannette Smith, Minnie Cole, Ella Adams, Jessie Noble, Grace Johnson and Jean Nelson. Besides these we initiated Myrtle Grubb, Lucile Marshall, and Blanche Gelwick, who were chosen last year. We had some highly interesting initiations.

October 13 was a most delightful occasion,—indeed the anniversary is always *the* event of the year to us, but we all agree that the last was the best. We met at the home of Rosa Marquis, and spent the earlier part of the evening in singing Kappa songs, hearing letters from absent sisters and conversing on Kappa subjects. Later, refreshments were served, followed by the toasts which were unusually good. The following were the subjects: "The Sixteenth Anniversary," "The Fraternity," "Our New Girls," "Our Colors," "Our Supporters," "The Kappa Goat," "Our Prosperity." A number of gentlemen friends called to present greetings and congratulations.

To-morrow evening the University lecture course is to be opened by Mrs. Livermore, and after the lecture we shall meet her with our friends at the home of Rosa Marquis. We very proudly point to Mrs. Livermore as a member of Iota and there are yet some few remaining who remember the occasion of her initiation and frequently tell us of it. We are fortunate in having so many resident members—hence we do not feel the need of a hall.

Since we last reported we have had several weddings. Louise Johnson of '85 was married July 7, to H. B. Longden, professor of Latin in the university. We are always especially delighted over weddings that bring absent girls back to Greencastle to live. July 10, Jenny Ragan and W. H. Tunnell were married. Charlotte Johnson was married August 12, to T. B. Felder of Dublin, Georgia; we hope to visit her some time in the "sunny southland." Anna W. Downey, daughter of the Dean of the Law School, was married September 8, to Prof. E. E. Stevenson, superintendent of the Rising Sun city schools; we hope to see her here frequently. The last wedding was October 20, that of Susan E. Farrow and T. M. Bosson of this city. Miss Farrow graduated in '81, but has been in Greencastle a greater portion of the time since, and has never lost fraternity spirit.

We receive very interesting letters from Clara Conklin, who, after her graduation in June, sailed for Paris to continue her studies. At commencement we had a number of visitors, Lenia and Martha Tarbell, '83 and '84, of Providence, R. I., whom we had not seen for two years, Mrs. Chas. Bacon of Richmond, Ind., one of our charter members, Ida Andrus of Franklin, Iota's first initiate after the granting of the charter, Tamar Gray, '84, of Xenia, Ohio, and Minnie Zellar of Knightsville.

The girls who attended the convention had such a delightful time and have given us such glowing accounts that we have resolved to go "en masse" to Minneapolis in '88, convinced that we cannot afford to miss another such occasion. We are having very interesting and profitable literary work this term. A program was made out for the entire term and handed to each member, and we have no trouble about non-performance. But we are losing sight of the fact that there are nineteen other chapters just as full of news as we are, and we must not ask for further space—although we feel no inclination to stop.

#### EPSILON—ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY.

This promises to be one of the most prosperous years in the history of Epsilon chapter. Its members are beginning the year with hearts full of earnestness and enthusiasm for the work. We were highly pleased with the report of the last convention, were satisfied with all actions taken, and were greatly inspired by the full account given us by our delegate.

At the opening of the school year our circle numbered ten. Since then four, whom we thought worthy to wear the "Key," have been initiated: Esther Wilson, Nellie Knapp, Ailenee Cary, and Annie Tomlin. Our literary work is very beneficial. A novel and interesting program is arranged by our excellent president for each meeting. We moved into a new hall this fall, and have succeeded in fitting it up, so that it is pleasant and homelike. Edith Blades is studying music in Germany, where she will remain at least a year. Hattie Thayer spent the summer in the East, visiting friends, and has just returned to resume her school work. Miss Hanna, of Gamma, is teaching in the State University at



Normal, and visits our chapter occasionally. Grace Funk spent the summer travelling in California and some of the Western states. We have two seniors this year, Bina Van Petten and Lula D. Young. Nettie Greenlee took a pleasure trip this summer to Niagara Falls and Chautauqua. Mary Cowen, '85, entertained us at her pleasant home on the evening of October 2, and we enjoyed the same pleasant and merry time that Kappas generally have. Epsilon sends greeting to all Kappas and wishes them a pleasant and prosperous year.

OMEGA—KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY.

Another vacation has passed away and another school year has come, bringing to the Kappa girls of K. S. U. the best of fortune. This time we have to introduce to our sister chapters six girls who have joined the ranks of Kappa Kappa Gamma: Daisy Clendinen, Delphos, Kansas; Jessie McBride, Lawrence; Ila Williams, Lawrence; Ida Hofford, Allentown, Pa.; Birdie Atwood, Manhattan, Kansas; and Kate Hewins, Cedarvale, Kansas. They are all girls who will be an honor to Kappa Kappa Gamma, and we welcome them most warmly to our midst.

Mary Stimpson, '86, is a successful teacher in Lawrence. Evelyn Smith, '86, visited old scenes in September, but is now at her home in Abilene. Lou Palmer, '86, has been spending the summer and autumn with friends in Dodge City, Kansas, but will return to her home in Lawrence before the Christmas holidays. Etta Hadley, Omega's delegate to the last convention, reports a delightful time and brings us many helpful suggestions.

The university was lately visited by a sister whom we had never before had the pleasure of meeting—Mrs. Julia Ward Howe. Laura O'Brien, is unable to continue her studies this winter, but we hope to have her with us again next year. Mabel Gore has returned from a vacation, pleasantly spent in New York and Brooklyn and has resumed her study of music. Kappa Kappa Gamma will be represented in the first university concert of the year by Birdie Starr, Ila Williams and Birdie Atwood. Edna Maxwell will graduate from the Ladies' Seminary in Washington, Pa., the coming June, and will then return to Lawrence and complete

her course in the State university. Mabel Wemple has been visiting for several weeks with her cousin, Miss Minnie Hewins of Cedarvale, Kansas.

As the 31st of October fell this year upon the Sabbath, the Kappas substituted for their proposed Hallowe'en fun, an informal party given at the home of Mary Henshaw on the evening of the 29th. About twenty couples were present and all seemed to have a pleasant time.

The university is this year in an exceedingly prosperous condition. The students number about 450, a considerable increase over the attendance of previous years. A new Natural History building has been erected at a cost of \$50,000, and named in honor of the professor of that department, "Snow Hall." The dedicatory exercises, on the 16th of November were very interesting, the address being delivered by Prof. Edward Cope of Philadelphia. We are proud to say that this is one of the finest school buildings in the U. S., and will add greatly to the present advantages of the university. Omega sends greetings to her sister Kappas and wishes for them all a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.



## *New Books.*

### BIOGRAPHY AND CORRESPONDENCE.

- Gosse, Edmund.—Raleigh. [English Worthies.] Appleton. 75c. One of the best of an excellent series.
- Hollister, O. J.—Life of Schuyler Colfax. Funk and Wagnall. \$2.50. An interesting record of a sympathetic, helpful, wholesome life.
- Hunt, Leigh.—Autobiography. Harper. Paper, 20c. A delightful record of a literary life.
- Knox, I. W.—Life of Robert Fulton, and a History of Steam Navigation. Putnam. \$1.75.
- Lossing, Benson J.—Mary and Martha, the Mother and Wife of George Washington. Harper. \$2.50. An entertaining book as well as one of the best possible aids to a knowledge of the ordeal through which the colonies passed to become a nation.
- Madison, Mrs. Dorothy.—Memoirs and Letters of the Wife of President Madison. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$1.25. No novel could be more delightful than this short record of the life of a real person who seventy-five years ago was the most popular woman in America.
- Stoddard, R. H.—Life of Washington Irving. Alden. Paper, 30c.
- Wise, Daniel.—Men of Renown; Character Sketches of Distinguished Men. Cranston and Stowe. \$1.25.

### EDUCATION.

- Painter, F. V. N.—A History of Education. Appleton. \$1.50. An accurate work, giving the facts most worth knowing.
- Payne, W. H.—Contributions to the Science of Education. Harper. \$1.25.

### FICTION.

- Campbell, Mrs. Helen.—Miss Melinda's Opportunity. Roberts. \$1.00.
- Corbett, Julian.—The Fall of Asgard. Harper. 25c. Founded on ancient Norwegian history and the introduction of Christianity, it is not only a finely executed piece of work, but delightful reading.
- Danforth, Parke.—Not in the Prospectus. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. Paper, 50c.
- Forrest, R. E.—The Touchstone of Peril; a Novel of Anglo-Indian Life. Harper. Paper, 20c.

- Gibbon, C.—Clare of Claesmede. Harper. Paper, 20c. A story of the days of Cromwell.
- Gogol, Nikolai, V.—St. John's Eve, and Other Stories. From the Russian. Crowell. \$1.25.
- Graham, J. W.—Næara; a Tale of Ancient Rome. Macmillan. \$1.00. A far from ordinary treatment.
- Hawthorne, Julian.—John Parmelee's Curse. Cassell. \$1.00. A story of everyday American life.
- Holmes, Margaret.—The Chamber Over the Gate. Bates, Indianapolis. \$2.00. A thoroughly American novel. A masterly and unexaggerated tale of the deep passions and fierce struggles of human life.
- Jewett, Sarah Orne.—A White Heron and Other Stories. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$1.25.
- Lee, Vernon. [Pseudonym for Miss Violet Paget.]—Ottilee; an Eighteenth Century Idyll. Harper. Paper, 20c.
- Lee, Vernon.—A Phantom Lover. Roberts. 50c.
- Matthews, Brander.—A Secret of the Sea. Scribner. Paper, 50c.
- Norris, W. E.—My Friend Jim. Macmillan. Paper, 50c.
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