

was reached. A second Kindergarten might be opened next door and we doubt if our numbers would suffer any depletion. The neighborhood teems with possibilities in the shape of children.

ELIZABETH JARRETT.

(To be continued in our next.)

The Anniversary Reception.

No brighter day in the history of our College ever dawned than Thursday, the fourteenth of February, 1895. As the Fourth of July is to the nation, as Christmas is to the Church, so was this day to us—our festal, our holy day; a day long to be remembered in the annals of the College!

There have been birthdays and birthdays, but this was the twenty-fifth—the silver day. Nor was this the only, hardly, perhaps, the chief cause which made the day glorious in our sight. Years ago, many more than twenty-five years, an idea was born in a man's mind. From that time he struggled bravely for the realization of that idea—struggled, indeed, for he met with little encouragement at first. Yet in the end he won, as brave men must; and when at last his idea took form and shape and the Normal College began its work, he was at its head; and ever since he has held that honored place, and guided our Alma Mater wisely and well, until it has become the College that it is to-day. The wise, strong man you know, Dr. Thomas Hunter; and it was to honor him, to show its deep appreciation of his work, to tender him its heartiest congratulations on his twenty-fifth anniversary as President of the College, perhaps more than because of its love and loyalty to its Alma Mater, that the Alumnæ met together in the evening of the College's greatest day—February 14, 1895.

When we entered the building and went upstairs to the chapel, who was there that did not exclaim at the beauty of the decorations? From either gallery to the center of the arch over the platform were festoons of smilax, while the whole wall behind the platform, except the space filled by the flags we know so well, was covered with green, giving an indescribably pretty effect. In the center of the flags was hung a fine portrait of that dear and honored friend of the college, the late Mr. Wood. The painting is a gift to the College from his wife. President Hunter's desk was decorated with the lavender and white College colors, and just below it there were massed beautiful white flowers. The galleries were hung with the National and the College colors, and in the center of the rear gallery by the organ were the flags presented to the College a few years ago by the John A. Dix Post of the G. A. R.

From the south gallery came the gay strains of the orchestra's music, while the throng of people who filled the chapel to its utmost capacity chatted and laughed and congratulated one another on the occasion which had brought them together. And when at last a hush of expectancy came over them, and a murmur arose that the President was coming, the enthusiasm knew no bounds. We clapped and we clapped, for was he not our President, and were we not more proud of him than we could express, though we blister our hands with our clapping? When the President and the faculty reached the platform, the speeches, which were the order of the evening, began.

Mrs. John I. Northrop, President of the Alumnæ, who therefore presided during the evening, delivered an address of welcome. Mrs. Northrop spoke of the work of the Associate Alumnæ in educational and philanthropic lines; of the marked success which many of its members had achieved in the various fields in life; of the advantage our Alumnæ possesses from the fact that most of its members reside in the same city; and of the gratitude it felt and desired to express on that occasion, to the City, to the College and to the man to whom the success of the College was due—Dr. Thomas Hunter. The address closed with a hearty welcome to all the members and friends of the Alumnæ.

An address by the Hon. Charles H. Knox, President of the Board of Education, followed. President Knox called the attention of the audience to the efficiency of the New York teachers and to the fact that the majority of them were Normal College graduates. He spoke in glowing terms of Dr. Hunter and his life-work as an educator of the young.

Mayor Strong, whose name appeared on the program, was unable to be present, but sent a letter regretting his enforced absence, full of congratulations to President Hunter and of expressions of his good-will towards the College. Other letters of regret were read from Vice-President Stephens, Governor Morton, Chancellor McCracken, of the University of the City of New York, and many others.

Mr. John Jasper, City Superintendent of Schools, paid high tribute to the excellence of the Normal College graduate as a teacher, and spoke in admiration of the long and efficient service which Dr. Hunter had rendered the cause of education.

Miss Mary Willard, who taught under Dr. Hunter when he was principal of a grammar school, and who was for many years a teacher in the College, delivered an address on "Dr. Hunter's Work as a Teacher." Miss Willard's experience with Dr. Hunter fitted her pre-eminently to speak on this subject, and her short,

bright sentences brought before us with great distinctness Dr. Hunter in the class-room with his boys. It was an honor to belong to Dr. Hunter's class, she told us; and every boy felt it so and behaved accordingly. Dr. Hunter was the boys' oracle. Perhaps the feeling of the boys under him is best shown by the remark one boy made to his father: "Well, father, you may be right; but we boys know Dr. Hunter is." Miss Willard spoke with great admiration of Dr. Hunter as leader of the movement to abolish corporal punishment in the schools.

To the surprise and delight of the audience, the next speaker proved to be the very boy whose remark Miss Willard had just quoted. The boy is now Corporation Counsel Scott. He confirmed Miss Willard's statement, and said that his firmest article of faith as a boy was that Dr. Hunter knew everything. The secret of Dr. Hunter's success, he told us, was that he knew his boys, knew them as individuals, entered into their lives, and was in sympathy with them.

One of the most delightful speeches of the evening was an address by the Hon. Seth Low, President of Columbia College. President Low tendered to President Hunter and the Normal College, Columbia's heartiest congratulations. He compared the College to a telegraph office, which sends its messages to all parts of the world. President Hunter was, he said, the operator who impressed his messages on the girls who were trained under his guidance. They in turn went forth with these messages into the schools, spreading them, through the children, abroad in the world.

Professor Silas S. Packard, of Packard's Business College, delivered a bright, witty address which charmed his listeners. Mr. Charles E. Lydecker, President of the Alumni of the College of the City of New York, tendered to President Hunter and the College the good wishes of the City College and its Alumni.

Miss Helen Gray Cone then read a poem in honor of the day, which is published in another part of this paper.

After Miss Cone's poem, Mrs. Clara M. Williams, ex-Commissioner of Schools, delivered an address. She spoke of the love and gratitude felt by the Alumnæ towards President Hunter; a love and gratitude too deep, indeed, to find expression in words, yet embodied, as far as possible, in the token which she desired to present to him in their name—a loving cup, chased with the ivy leaf, and covered with quotations from the works of Shakespeare.

Much as we had enjoyed the other addresses of the evening, the best of all was reserved till the last, when President Hunter himself rose and spoke to us. In a few eloquent words he told

us of his affection for the College and its Alumnæ, and his gratitude towards the friends who had so honored him.

Never had we realized more fully all that President Hunter has done for every member of the Alumnæ and his influence over each one's life. Surely the line from Shakespeare at the head of the program expressed the feeling in every heart—"More is thy due than more than all can pay."

The program closed with the rendering of "Auld Lang Syne" by the orchestra, and then the audience pressed eagerly forward to shake hands and exchange a word of congratulation with President Hunter. When it was all over, one Alumna said as she left the chapel, "I hope the College will have twenty-five such twenty-fifth anniversaries," and I think she but voiced the feeling of us all.

On the morning of Tuesday, February 14th, the students of the Normal College celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the College and of Dr. Hunter's taking the place of President. The expressions of loyal gratitude to the College itself were mingled with those of loving appreciation for the tireless work and zeal of its head.

Among the gifts presented to the College upon the occasion were a handsome clock to replace the one which has heretofore unreliably marked the hour in Chapel. This came from the College as a whole. The Senior Class gave a carved oak chair to be used by the President on the platform. The Academic Seniors presented a picture of the late Professor Day.

From the Manual Training Class came a work of love, a large American flag, made entirely by their own hands. As a symbol of loyalty to the College and patriotism, no emblem could be more expressive. From the two Literary Societies came pictures, and from the Glee Club and the *Echo* (the College journal) books for the library.

Miss Helen Gray Cone and Miss Emma Klauser, Class of '76, have asked to pour tea at the next "At Home," April 5th (April 12th being Good Friday).

Beginning with our next issue, we shall publish every month abstracts of the minutes of the meetings of the Board of Education. These must be of interest to every one, but we especially considered those who are in the Public Schools when we decided to give our columns to these reports. We hope that they will appreciate this fact, and that we shall have many of their names upon our subscription list.