

THE ALUMNÆ NEWS

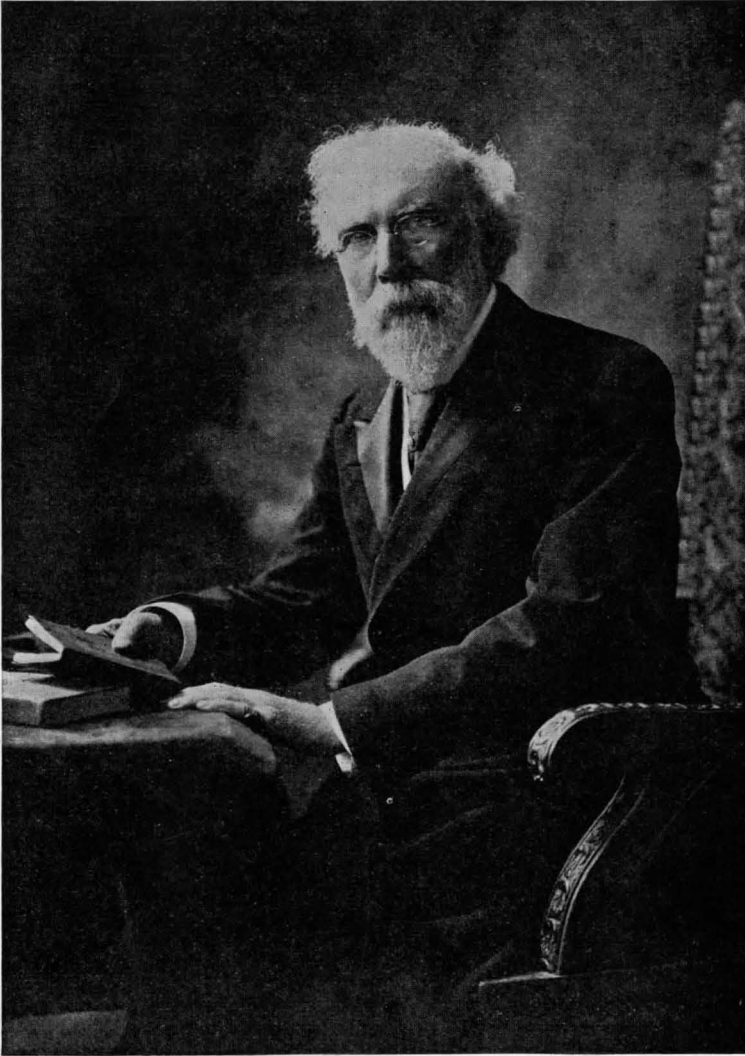
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No. 7



THOMAS HUNTER
Born October 19, 1831.

IN MEMORIAM

I sometimes hold it half a sin
 To put in words the grief I feel,
 For words, like nature, half reveal
 And half conceal the soul within.

(In Memoriam V)

Slowly, since the close of the spring term, we have been trying to reconcile ourselves to the loss of one who was most dear to us. But with the reopening of College, the deep sorrow of four months past becomes only the more acute, and we find it more than ever hard to realize that Mrs. Kieran will not be back with us, sharing as before our interests and loyalties.

That her earliest allegiance to the College was given when she was Kate Donohue, an honor student of the class of 1881, is, of course, well-known. But even then a destiny which no one could guess was designed to unite her to her Alma Mater in that closer bond for which she will ever be held in highest honor. As the wife of our beloved President, she would in any case have commanded our respect. But it was for herself she made us love her, and for those traits which everywhere could hold in fascination the most casual acquaintance, and endear her to all who enjoyed a deeper friendship.

She loved youth, and was herself eternally young. How characteristic of her it was that one of her favorite poems should be "The Child in Me." Those who were present at the Golden Jubilee Celebration of the class of '78 shortly before her death, will recall that she read the lines on that occasion and was deeply affected by them:—

For jealous age, whose face I would forget,
 Pulls the bright flower you gave me for
 my hair,
 And powders it with snow—and yet—and
 yet—

I love your dancing feet and jocund air,
 And have no taste for caps of lace
 To tie about my faded face:
 I love to wear your flower in my hair!

O Child in me, leave not my House of
 Clay,
 Until we pass together through its door!
 When lights are out, and Life has gone
 away,
 And we depart to come again no more,
 We comrades who have travelled far
 Will hail the twilight and the star,
 And gladly pass together through the Door!

At all times of her life she was surrounded by young people. Before her marriage she had a chance to study as a teacher. Later, as a mother and a grandmother she grew in understanding; and because she understood, and because youth recognized in her an affinity of spirit, it paid her the tribute of love in return.

But her sympathies stretched beyond youth to all human nature. Her keen knowledge

of psychology was derived partly from the richness of her own personal contacts, partly from the wide familiarity with literature by which she supplemented her experience. It is significant of her love for realities that in general reading her preferences were for biography and history, though her acquaintance in all fields was unusual.

Her sensitivity and love of beauty found their fullest satisfaction in poetry, and it was one of her gifts to be able to communicate her enjoyment of it to those about her. In an instant a situation could suggest to her agile mind a suitable allusion drawn from the stores of her remarkable memory—never the glib quotation which passes for smartness, but invariably a reference which showed that even the simplest or obscurest poem she read might for its beauty or its philosophy recommend itself to her.

Wit was another part of her heritage. In the humor of the Irish is something subtler than the quick-tongued sallies at which the world smiles. There is a force in it that lightens tragedy and finds laughter not far from tears. It makes philosophers of those endowed with it. It enabled her to make philosophically the temporary sacrifices demanded of her as a guarantee of more abiding happiness.

She found everywhere a joyousness in life. She loved gaiety and the society of others. In her practicality, she did not underestimate the importance of material things. Yet those who really knew her were ever conscious of the deeper-lying spirituality of her nature. Her sense of values was always true, and material goods alone could never have given her the complete satisfaction and joy she found in living.

These came to her through her faith. She cherished her religion and lived it. The unselfishness and charity that distinguished her dealings with her fellow-creatures were expressions of it. In another phase it showed itself as a sort of mysticism. She loved Nature as only they can who see in it the handiwork of God. A garden meant more to her than the splash of color apparent to the eyes of the sensualist. Her soul could recognize the more abiding beauty of its meaning. In the glory of the woods, she found boundless delight; and in those moments of quiet solitude she loved to pass in such surroundings, she kept vital within her that innermost spark which, reserved from the world, she saved for God alone.

It would seem that for one who found so much joy in living, to die would have been hard. But no one could have been better fitted than she, whose values were so just, to see in retrospect the beautiful symmetry and completeness of her life. She had lived to share with the husband to whom she was devoted, the honor of the position bestowed upon him in recognition of a life of outstanding service. She had lived to see her seven children successful and distinguished. In

them she gave much to life. In her simplicity she would never have questioned the way life might have chosen to repay her; but life chose to be kind to her, and she was singularly blessed. It cannot be hard to die when one has lived so completely!

MARY F. HIGGINS

In loving memory of Nella F. Haynes, Class of '73, who entered into Eternal Life June 27, 1931.

May she rest in peace, and may Light perpetual shine upon her.

Her classmate,

EUGENIA J. BOWNE

With regret we announce the death of one of our Alumnae members, Mrs. M. Heller (Rachel Hart), Class of 1879.

The Class of '87 announces with deep regret the death of one of its members, Miriam Strauss England, at Pittsfield, Mass., August 31, 1931.

JESSIE F. DIEDEL

Mr. Maurice S. Cohen, husband of the president of the Class of '80, died on July first at Mount Sinai Hospital.

Mr. Cohen was born in New York City, was graduated from New York University, and received his law degree from the Columbia Law School fifty-one years ago. He was former president of the Bronx County Bar Association and the law partner of the late Supreme Court Justice, Vernon M. Davis, in the firm of Davis, Cohen, and McWilliams. He was president and counsel of the Bronx County Chapter Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

In 1916 he was Democratic candidate for State Treasurer.

The Class of '80 extend their sympathy to their beloved president and her son and daughter.

(Mrs.) JOSEPHINE W. FLOWERS,
Secretary, Class of '80

The following is an excerpt from the will of our loyal and generous Associate Member, Miss Hannah Frankel, who passed away recently.

"I give and bequeath the sum of Five Hundred Dollars to the following.....

Hunter College of the City of New York, to be used for the Hunter College Alumnae Rooms, now located at 204 W. 55th St., New York City; I make this bequest because of Mrs. Esther Valet (now of 114 Morningside Drive), and I request that it be expended under her direction."

THE IVY PIN

For an Ivy Pin, send a check for \$4.17 (payable to Mrs. Theodore Simis, Treasurer) to Mrs. William S. Cross, 28 East 10th St.

SIX IN ONE

On June the eighth, the group which includes graduates of the years 1870-1875 inclusive, the earliest classes, of our beloved Alma Mater, met at the home of Mrs. Daniel P. Hays, president.

A resolution was unanimously carried, to invite the classes of 1876 and 1877 to join the group and to attend the next meeting, to be held in October, at Hunter Alumnae Hall, 204 West 55th Street. The group will then become Seven in One or Eight in One.

Miss Helen Gray Cone was our guest. She favored the amalgamation of the classes, and said that she would communicate with the members of her class.

Mrs. Hays's rooms had many flowers from her home in Pleasantville. After the meeting the president gave a delightful Afternoon Tea.

HESTER A. ROBERTS

THE CLASS OF '95

The Class of '95, in order to fulfill its obligation to make a gift to the new College, is planning to hold a Bridge Party at the Hotel Pennsylvania on Saturday, October 17th. Any alumna who will join us will receive a hearty welcome and be assured of a happy afternoon.

The single tickets are \$1.25; tables of four at \$5.00 will be furnished on request by the class president, Mrs. J. T. Mulligan, 475 West 141 Street.

E. I. F.

ALMA MATER, HUNTER C!

Tune: "America the Beautiful"

The years may come, the years may go,

For life is on the wing.

Fond mem'ries cling to Hunter Halls,

And loving thoughts they bring.

Those happy days of youth's bright dreams,

Long may their echoes ring!

To Alma Mater! Alma Mater!

Hunter C—we sing.

O Alma Mater! Alma Mater!

Friendship's holy ties

Have wrought for us a golden chain;

Those links we dearly prize.

Such cherished hopes and visions bright,

To fill our cloudless skies

For Alma Mater! Alma Mater!

Let our song arise.

All hail, all hail to Hunter C,

The spirit keep alive,

And like the ivy true and strong

Forever let us thrive.

All hail the lavender and white!

E'er faithful we will be

And to our Alma Mater we will

Pledge our loyalty.

ELLA T. CRAWFORD for The Girls of '85