## CATALOGUE AND CIRCULAR



# STRASBURG ACADEMY,



# FOR THE ACADEMICAL YEAR,

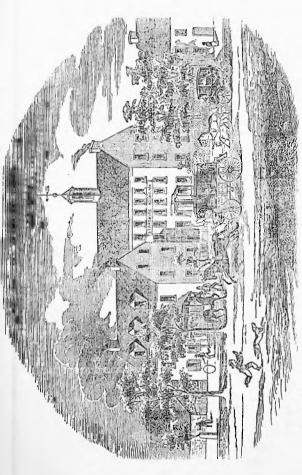


WITH AN ADDRESS TO THE "GAMMA THETA SOCIETY,"

BY REV. H. HARBAUGH.



LANCASTER, PA.
PRINTED BY JOHN II. PEARSOL.
1852.



FOUNDED MAY 1, 1839, BY REV. D. McCARTER, A. M., PRINCIPAL.



REV. D. MCCARTER, A. M.

P. LINCIPAL AND TEACHER OF ANCIENT LANGUAGES

Mr. D. B. ALBRIGHT, "D. EVANS,

TEACHER OF THE PRIMARY ENGLISH BRANCHES AND MATHEMATICS.

MR. G. SCHUDERER,

TEACHER OF LANGUAGES AND MATHEMATICS.

MR. E. E. GATES, TEACHER OF MUSIC.

# PRIMARY DIVISION.

#### FOR THE SUMMER AND WINTER SESSION OF '51'-52.

NAMES. RESIDENCE.
E. Adams, Lancaster county, Pa.
S. S. Brecht, Lancaster county, Pa.
C. H. Burr, Philadelphia " Pa. E. E. Burr,
E. E. Burr, Philadelphia " Pa.
E B Christy New York
W. A. Christy, New York. G. W. Donaldson, Baltimore. R. G. Diller, Lancaster county, Pa.
G. W. Donaldson, Baltimore.
R. G. Diller, Lancaster county, Pa.
W. H. Evans, Strasburg, Lancaster county, Pa.
Z. T. Galt, Strasburg, Lancaster county, Pa.
A. Groff, Strasburg, Lancaster county, Pa.
J. Groff, Lancaster county, Pa.
W. D. Howard, Ocracoke, N. Carolina.
S. S. Hess, Lampeter, Lancaster county, Pa.
H. M. Husband, Philadelphia. C. W. Karsner, Strasburg, Lancaster county, Pa.
C. W. Karsner, Strasburg, Lancaster county, Pa.
D. Karsner, Strasburg, Lancaster county, Pa. P. Kling, Concord, Lancaster county, Pa.
P. Kling, Concord, Lancaster county, Pa.
B. T. Leamon, Lancaster county, Pa.
H. Lovett, Strasburg, Lancaster county, Pa.
A. McCall, Strasburg, Lancaster county, Pa. R. D. McCarter, Strasburg, Lancaster county, Pa.
R. D. McCarter, Strasburg, Lancaster county, Pa.
G. Machmer, Berks county, Pa. J. Miller, Lancaster county, Pa.
J. Miller, Lancaster county, Pa.
J. Meredith, Church Hill, Queen Ann's co., Md.
D. W. Mules, Baltimore.
C. Musselman, Lancaster county, Pa. H. M. Myers, Lancaster county, Pa.
A. D. Did Politimore
A. R. Rider, Baltimore. R. P. Russum,
F. Ruth, Lancaster county, Pa.
r. readily,

. Sheafferstown, Pa.

. Lancaster county, Pa.

. . Berks county, Pa.

. . Berks county, Pa.

. Lancaster county, Pa. . Lancaster county, Pa.

. . . Philadelphia.

. . Bucks county, Pa.

Lancaster county, Pa.
Beauford, N. Carolina.

. Lancaster county, Pa.

. . Strasburg, Lancaster co., Pa.

#### CATALOGUE.

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NAMES.	RESIDENCE.
D. Ruth,	Berks county, Pa.
C. J. Ruth,	Berks county, Pa.
J. L. Shubert,	Philadelphia.
J. E. Share,	. Green Springs, Balt. co., Md.
W. H. H. Taylor, .	Philadelphia.
G. W. Weidler,	Lancaster, Pa.
	. Sheafferstown, Lebanon co., Pa.
PRIMARIES	38.
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PROGRES	SIVE DIVISION.
NAMES.	RESIDENCE.
E. Arthur, jr	Frankford, Pa.
	. York Springs, Adams co., Pa.
	Philadelphia.
	Washington city, D. C.
	Lancaster county, Pa.
	Strasburg, Lan. co., Pa.

J. S. T. Harrison, . Church Hill, Queen Ann's co., Md.

F. Goshert, . . . . .

T. Herr, . . . . . . . .

T. Pasteur, . . . . . .

E. S. Quigley, . . . .

S. H. Hershey, . . .

R. V. R. High,

J. Huy.

H. M. Lee, . .

N. M. Matts, . . . B. F. Musselman, .

G. E. Johns, . . .

E. Linvall, . . .

NAMES.				RESIDENCE.
E. Richardson,				Philadelphia.
J. Rudy, .				Dayton, Ohio.
T. C. Seltzer,				. Wilcox county, Va.
				Lancaster county, Pa.
J. W. Stout,				. Bucks county, Pa.
R. S. Unger,				. Bucks county, Pa.
J. B. Warfel,				Lancaster county, Pa.
G. W. Weaver,				Pottstown, Pa.
				27.

### ADVANCED DIVISION.

NAMES.									R	ESII	DENC	E.	
U. E. Bruner,								1	3er	ks e	count	ty, I	Pa.
G. W. Boyd,											isbu		
I. R. Bucher,								S	he	aflei	rstow	n, ]	Pa.
W. H. Cockey,											Balt	imo	re.
E. Dudley,							]	Phi	lad	lelpl	hia c	o., I	Pa.
D. Evans,								Ι	an	cas	ter c	o., I	Pa.
J. Good,					Š	Stou	ch	bur	g,	Ber	ks c	o., I	a.
A. T. Galt,						S	tra	sbu	ırg	, L	in. c	o., F	a.
J. T. Keets,			٠				Qı	iee:	n A	lnn	's co	., M	d.
E. B. Kelley,		٠			•		I	eb:	ano	on e	ount	y, F	a.
J. P. Magill,						1	Pri	ıce	G	eorg	ge co	., M	d.
G. W. Russum,					V	Vуе	M	ills,	, Т	alb	ot co	., M	d.
C. W. Simmes,	• •										Balt	imoı	·e.
Advanced,											1	3	
											2		
Primaries,											38	3	
Total,											78	3	

# COURSE OF STUDY.

### PRIMARY DIVISION.

STUDIES.			BOOKS USI	D.
Orthography, -	-	-	- Lynd's First I	Book.
Reading, -	-	-	- Comstock's Eloci	ition.
Writing, -	-	_	- Plain and Ornamo	ental.
Eng. Grammar, -	-	-	Sm	ith's.
" Geography,	-	-	Mitcl	ell's.
Arithmetic, -	-	-	- Davies' & Emers	son's.
History U. States,	~	-	Pict	orial.
Natural Philosophy,	~	-	- Parker's First Les	sons.
Composition,	-	_		
Declamation,	-	-		
Study of the Bible of	ommo	enced,		

### PROGRESSIVE DIVISION.

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### ADVANCED DIVISION.

STUDIES.						ooks	USED.		
Elements of H	Ty	Tytler's & White's.							
Intellectual Pl	ilosop	hy,	-	-	-	$\mathbf{A}$ l	ercrombic.		
Algebra-revi	ewed,		-	-	-				
Geometry	"		-	-	-				
Rhetoric,		-	-	~	-	M	ills Plains.		
Logic,			-	-	-		Hedge's.		
Biblical Antiq	uities,	-	-	-	-	Nevin's.			
Moral Philosop	ohy,	-	-	-	-	Wayland.			
Political Econo			-	-	-	Wayland.			
Evidences of C	hristi	nnity,	-	_	-	Λ	lexander's.		
Composition,		-	-	-	-				
Declamation,		-	-	-	-				
			-						
		L	ΑТΙ	N.					
Anthon's							371 11		
		-	-	-	•	-	Virgil.		
Horace,	-	-	-	•	-	-			
Juvenal,	-	-	-	-	-	•			
Livy,	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Sallust,	-	1	-	-	•	•	0 1		
Cicero's		-	•	-	-	-	Orations.		
			_						
		G	REE	K.					
Xenophon's		-		0=0	-	-	Anabasis.		
Homer's		-	-	-	-	-	Iliad.		
Woolsey's		•	-	Sel	ect G	reek	Tragedies.		

The leading studies of the Primary and Progressive Divisions renewed and the study of the Bible continued.

### COURSE OF INSTRUCTION.

The more advanced scholars will occasionally be exercised in making out written translations of Greek into Latin, and Latin into Greek.

Composition and Declamation,—with special attention to orthography, punctuation and pronunciation,—Latin and Greek exercises, and the study of the Bible, after each is commenced, will be continued through the course.

The German, French, Spanish and Italian languages, are taught on the very best system. The work used for beginners, is Ollendorf's new method of learning to read, write and speak the German and French languages, by G. I. Alden, A. B.

The Principal is decidedly in favor of this method, as he believes it very far surpasses all other systems that have yet been introduced, for enabling youth to obtain a practical knowledge, and especially to speak these languages in the shortest time.

Those who do not wish to take a full Academical course, can enter such division as they may prefer, when qualified by previous attainments, to do so, with advantage.

When the whole course is finished, the scholar is supposed to be qualified to enter the Junior Class at our best Colleges.

## THE STRASBURG AGADEMY.

This Institution has been in existence, under the care of the present Principal, about thirteen years. The Principal, who is also Proprietor, is endeavoring to assist in clevating the standard of a thorough education. He has incurred much expense in prosecuting his original purpose, of making the Strasburg Academy a permanent institution for the promotion of this end. Still farther expense will be incurred from time to time, in increasing the facilities for recreation and exercise; and in procuring additional apparatus for the use of the scholars, so far as required, and justified by the patronage received.

The Academy stands on a rising ground in the pleasant borough of Strasburg, Lancaster county, Pa., about eight miles south-east of Lancaster, and three miles from the Columbia and Philadelphia Railroad.

This being a pleasant and healthy situation, and easy of access, renders it peculiarly desirable to parents who may wish to place their sons from home to be educated.

The student is here preserved from those allurements to vice and extravagance which too generally beset public schools, whilst he enjoys all the privileges and opportunities of acquiring an education which are to be had at the first institutions in our country.

Considering the healthiness, the seclusion, and the moral atmosphere of the place, it is believed that there are few institutions more favorable for intellectual, moral and religious improvement, or where parents can more safely entrust their sons.

The healthiness of the location may be inferred from the fact, that there has been no serious sickness among the boarders in the Academy during the thirteen years of its existence. On the contrary, boys of delicate constitutions, especially those from cities, have uniformly improved in health, and in some instances, have become robust and vigorous during their residence with us.

As health is a matter of essential importance in education, and calls forth so much parential anxiety, a situation so uniformly healthful, and at the same time surrounded by such beauties of natural scenery as tend to cheer and clevate the mind, must be considered no ordinary advantage in an educational institution.

The branches taught embrace all those of a thorough English education, together with the Latin, Greek, French, German, Spanish and Italian languages, Vocal and Instrumental Music, Plain and Ornamental Writing, Drawing, &c.

The plan of instruction embraces careful attention to the moral and religious, as well as to the intellectual improvement of the scholar, and also to the formation of correct manners and habits.

Honesty, truth and integrity in the smallest matters, are diligently inculcated and required.

While every thing sectarian will be avoided, special attention will be given to secure an acquaintance with the contents of the Bible on the part of the scholars. With this view the Bible will be a text book, a portion of which will be studied every session, so as to secure, as far as possible, a thorough acquaintance with the whole, during the course of Academical studies.

The Principal hopes to make the study of the Bible not only profitable but interesting to youthful minds, by connecting with it information respecting ancient manners and customs, history and geography.

Boarders over sixteen years of age, when their parents desire it, will be accommodated with separate rooms, in which they can lodge and study, with generally two in each room.

Those under sixteen, as a general rule, will study together, during certain hours, morning and evening, (with suitable intervals for recreation,) under the supervision of the Principal or an Assistant; and in the school room during school hours. This plan is adopted from the conviction that boys generally, if left to themselves, are upt to waste a great deal of time.

All the boarders will be expected regularly to attend some place of public worship on the Sabbath.

There is in the place a Presbyterian, Methodist, Lutheran and Baptist Church, and others of different denominations in the neighborhood. The advantages of a Bible Class can also be enjoyed.

#### ARRANGEMENTS FOR BOARDING.

The Academic building is an extensive stone and brick structure, three stories high, sufficiently commodious to accommodate upwards of fifty students, who can all board with the Principal, and thus be continually under his supervision.

#### DISCIPLINE.

The method of discipline is such as to encourage and reward merit, strictly guarding against the severity which runs into opposition, as well as that feebleness which will not punish vice.

Parents are assured that the morals of their children will be strictly guarded, and every inducement held out to arouse to noble and generous action. Each pupil has presented to his mind every restraint which would guard him from the commission of crime and every motive to the practice of virtue.

A record is constantly kept of each student in his different studies, and a report made out at the close of each term, and forwarded to his parent or guardian, presenting a faithful account of his industry, scholarship, and general deportment.

### TERMS.

The year is divided into two sessions of five months each.— Vacations during April and October of each year.

The whole expense, including board, tuition, washing, mending, &c., per session of five months, \$60,00.

The only extra charge is for German, French, Spanish, Italian, and Instrumental Music, which is \$8,00 each per session. There is no other extra charge in any way connected with this Institution.

Books and Stationary will be furnished by the Principal at

very low prices.

All scholars from a distance are required to board in the family of the Principal, unless they have near relatives in town, or have previously arranged otherwise with his approbation.

Special facilities are afforded to young men of approved character, whose circumstances require the practice of rigid economy; particularly to those who have the ministry in view.

Youth of any age will be received.

The proper time to enter is at the beginning or middle of a session, but admission may be obtained at any other time, if desired. It is important that students for the whole session be present at the formation of the class, on the first or second day of the term, as variations from the regular course of study cannot afterwards be easily made.

#### EXAMINATIONS.

A public examination will be held at the close of each term, in the presence of the parents and friends of the students, and of such other persons as may choose to attend.

There will be an exhibition on the last evening of every

session.

Payment will not be required until the expiration of the

term, but then it will be uniformly expected.

The next summer session will commence on the first Monday of May. The winter session on the first Monday in November.

Parents wishing to place their sons in this Institution, will

please make early application to the Principal.

#### MODE OF CONVEYANCE.

Columbia and Philadelphia Railroad to Leaman Place, three miles from Strasburg. A Railroad from Strasburg to Leaman Place is now in construction, which will afford a direct communication to all the principal cities. Until the completion of the Railroad, Students will be conveyed to and from Leaman Place free of charge as heretofore.

There is a daily mail to Strasburg. Also a daily stage

from Lancaster to Strasburg.

## REFERENCES.

LANCASTER COUNTY. Dr. J. Steel, Strasburg, Rev C Karmer, " T. Galt, Dr. Isaac Winters,\* J. McPhail, Esq.,\* H. Musselman, Esq ,\* J. Linville, Esq. G. Withers, Esq .\* Rev. L. C. Ruiter,\* Rev. J. Leaman. M. Rockafield, Esu.,\* N. K. Zook, Esq.," A. Galt, Lsq ." D. Wallace, Esq., \* W. R. Ralston, Esq. A. P. Moderwell, Lsq.,\* D Evans, Esq ,\* J. Erisman, M. S. Groff," S. Minich." A. Merrisen. T. J. Wentz," S. T. Wood. LANCASTER CITY. Hen B Champneys,

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V. Wagner," "
J. C. Hiester," "
J. Beaver," "
G. K. Boyer, "Reading,
J. Geiger," "

Wm. Machmer.\*
J. Rentschler,\*
E. Good.\*
J. Ruth,\*
Alr. Weaver.

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Mr. Slure., Bultin'e co.
J. C. Atlee. Esq., New
Windsor, Carroll co.
Dr. S. Russum, Wye
Mills, Talbot co.
Dr. Cock, Bellsville,
S. T. Harrison, Queen
Ann's co.
J. Keets, do.

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J. Irvin. E.q.\* [town.
Dr. C. Buther.\* ShaffersM. Wiegley. Esq.,\* "
H. Yengst,\*
A. E. Walton.\*

EUCKS COUNTY.
E Nickleson,\*
P. Hough,\*
J. Hibbs.\*
G. Biles,\*
S. Ely,\*

Wm II Howard, Esq.,\*
J Pasteur \*

ALFXANDRIA, LA. H. T. Bynum. E-q,\* Gen. M. Wells.\*

ALABAMA. L. II. Selizer \*

<sup>\*</sup> Those thus marked have had or still have sons or wards in this Institution.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

STRASBURG ACADEMY, FEB. 16, 1852.

REV. H. HARBAUGH, A. M.

Dear Sir: At a meeting of the "Gamma Theta Society" of this Institution, the undersigned were constituted a Committee, to solicit for publication, a copy of your most valuable, instructive and eloquent Address. Hoping you will comply with our request,

We remain, sir,

Yours truly,

G. MITCHELL RUSSUM, JOSEPH GOOD, A. T. GALT, ENOCH ARTHUR, Jr. JAMES P. MAGILL, CONMITTEE.

STRASBURG, FEB. 17, 1852.

Gentlemen:

I have received your note of yesterday, requesting a copy of my Address for publication. As it was delivered at your request, and for you, it is at your disposal. I hope, when published, it may find its way into the hands of some drowsy youth, who has been dozing in the midst of his privileges, and be the means of awakening him to diligence in the pursuit of knowledge. This is the best reward for which I can hope in permitting this "unvarnished tale" of youthful heroism to go before the public.

Yours, in the best of bonds,

H. HARBAUGH.

TO THE COMMITTEE.

### THE TRIALS AND TRIUMPHS OF GENIUS.

Gentlemen of the Gamma Theta Literary Society of this Institution :

DID you ever study the history of a single seed? What a world of mysterious power lies in its bosom! Lay it into the soft warm bosom of the earth, and then wait for wonders! Gradually its hidden life begins to travail and struggle earnestly toward a manifestation. Its bosom begins to swell—the fibres of its warm and glowing heart reach forth and lay hold of the surrounding earth—the germ begins to creep upward to seek the light, and soon we behold the plant, the flower, the fruit. Suppose even its position in the earth to be of the most unfavorable kind—suppose it covered with clods and stones, the germ ereeps hither and thither, till it finds an avenue by which it may emerge from its dark captivity and smile in the sun. Instances have been known where the buried germ has bored its way through the sole of a shoe or the felt of a hat! Such is the plastic energy of a thing that lives.

"A Raven once an acorn took From Bashau's tallest tree; He laid it down beside a brook, And lived an Oak to see!"

Did you ever study the history of a single mind? And is there nothing of this energy discoverable in it? Yes, verily. There is a life of mind, as well as a life of vegetation. It is of a higher order than the life of the seed, and embosoms an

energy capable of far more wonderful manifestations.

This life, this energy of mind, we will call Genius—which is, in sphere of mind, what the plastic power is in the sphere of vegetation. All men, therefore, have genius who have the life of mind. This life of mind is at first hidden and feeble, like the life of the seed; it needs to put forth its native energies—it needs to travail toward a birth—it needs to put forth its feelers, lay hold upon surrounding help, struggle towards light and freedom, and then we shall soon see it, not only blooming in hopeful beauty, but ladened with richest intellectual fruit. Like the plant, it must surmount the obstacles which would press down its aspiring life, and show itself stronger than the hindrances which stand in the way of its evolution. This process of strugglings we will call the trials, and this

victory over opposing hindrances, we will call the triumphs of Genius. We know that although the germ of the seed has great native force to surmount obstacles, yet they are sometimes too severe for it, so that its life is either entirely smothcred, or comes forth in monstrous distortion, so that it remains a crippled and fruitless thing for life. So it is with the life of It needs attention—it needs a genial soil—it needs a kind hand to aid it in fastening its feeling tendrils higher, so as thereby to aid itself in rising to light and freedom. helps are abundantly furnished at the present day in the form of Books, Schools, Academies, Colleges and Universities. Let not any one, in the pride of his own mental energy, undervalue these excellent means for reaching a high state of intellectual It was no disparagement of the Saviour's rising power that angels were employed to roll away the stone from the door of the sepulchre; so it is no dishonor to the strongest genius to acknowledge with gratitude those means which aid in opening the way. In what we shall say, therefore, in praise of the triumphs which the native force of mind can itself accomplish, we would not in the least be thought to undervalue the worth of regular teaching and study. What we desire is, to show, that while this should by all means be done, the other should not be left undone. We desire to show, that all those difficulties which lie in the way of the pursuit of knowledge will yield before a steady purpose—that the road to literary excellence, honor and usefulness, lies open to the most humble and obscure—and that diligence and perseverance will be crowned at length with the most triumphant results.

It is a remarkable fact, that most of our greatest and most useful men, both in church and state, rose to their honorable position, amid many difficulties, from the deepest obscurity. Those who are the heroes of the age, like the greatest rivers, have their birth in those noiseless retirements of humble life

to which no history can trace them.

What say the precedents which we find under the immediate care of divine providence, on this subject. Moses, the greatest lawgiver, was found among the bull-rushes, on the banks of a river. The greatest king was found among the "bleating of sheep," and was the smallest of all the sons of Jesse. The Disciples were fishermen; and their master was born in a stable and cradled in a manger; and the obscure Bethlehem, which has the honor of being the place of his nativity, is "little among the thousands of Judah."

Profane history is full of examples of a similar kind; and as example speaks louder than precept, we will endeavor to illustrate, from the records of history, our subject of the trials and triumphs of Genius.

By way of bringing the idea clearly before our minds, we will commence with a modern, and an American example.

"A few years ago, as the Rev. Mr. Gallaudet was walking in the streets of Hartford, there came running to him a poor boy, of very ordinary first-sight appearance, but whose fine, intelligent eye fixed the gentleman's attention, as the boy inquired,

"Sir, can you tell me of a man who would like a boy to

work for him, and learn to read?"

"Whose boy are you, and where do von live?"

"I have no parents," was the reply, "and have just run away from the work-house, because they will not teach me to read."

The reverend gentleman took the boy into his own family. There he learned to read. Nor was this all. He soon acquired the confidence of his new associates, by his faithfulness and honesty. He was allowed the use of his friend's library, and made rapid progress in the acquisition of knowledge.

It became necessary, after awhile, that the boy should leave Mr. Gallaudet, and he became apprenticed to a cabinet-maker in the neighborhood. There the same integrity won for him the favor of his new associates. To gratify his inclination for study, his master had a little room furnished for him in the upper part of the shop, where he devoted his leisure time to his favorite pursuits. Here he made large attainments in the mathematics, in the French language, and in other branches.

After being in this situation a few years, as he sat at tea with the family one evening, he all at once remarked that he

wanted to go to France.

"Go to France!" said the master, surprised that the apparently contented and happy youth had thus suddenly become dissatisfied with his situation. "Go to France, and for what?"

"Ask Mr. Gallendet to tea to morrow evening," said the

youth, "and I will explain."

His reverend friend was invited accordingly, and at tea time the apprentice presented himself with manuscripts in English and in French, and explained his singular intention of going to France.

"In the time of Napoleon," said he, "a prize was offered by the French government, for the simplest rule of measuring a plain surface of whatever outline. That prize has never been awarded, and that method or rule I have discovered."

He then demonstrated his problem to the surprise and gratification of his friends, who immediately furnished him with means of defraying his expenses, and with letters of introduction to Hon. Lewis Cass, who was then our minister at the Court of France. He was introduced to Louis Phillippe, the King, and in the presence of the King, nobles and plenipotentiaries, the American youth—the cabinet-making apprentice, the poor boy who wanted to learn to read-demonstrated his problem, and received the plaudits of the Court. He received the prize which he had clearly won, besides valuable pres-

ents from the King.

He then took letters of introduction, and proceeded to the Court of St. James, Russia, where he took up a similar prize offered by some Royal Society, and returned to the United Here he was preparing to secure the benefit of his discovery, by patent, when he received a letter from the Emperor Nicholas himself, one of whose ministers had witnessed his demonstrations at St. James, inviting him to make his residence at the Russian Court, and furnishing him with ample means for his outfit. He complied with this invitation. repaired to St. Petersburg, and-is now Professor of Mathematics in the Royal College, under the special protection of the Autocrat of all the Russias! His name is George Wil-SON.

Will that do as a specimen of the triumphs of genius? this do to show how a poor, honest, industrious boy, who wants

to learn to read, may stand before Kings!

This is but one instance among many of a similar kind. It is easy to see that in this case it was not so much superior natural endowment of talent, as it was concentration of purpose, and persevering industry. The youth was awake, and looked up with a view to rise—and he gained his end. There are thousands for whom nature has done just as much, who will never be heard from, because they have not the patience and application necessary to draw out the native force of their own minds. The best soil produces nothing unless it is cultivated. The richest mines are useless until they are opened; so, native talent is hid till it is opened by a resolute self-application. Many an one has gone down to his grave "unwept, unhonored and unsung," who, if his talents had been evolved,

"——the rod of empire might have swayed Or wak'd to ecstacy the living lyre."

There are many who are content to remain in ignorance, and are kept from attempting anything noble, under the foolish notion that the triumphs of Genius are only secured by such as are specially favored by nature—they think they have not the native talent which is required. "Richard Burke being found in a revery shortly after an extraordinary display of powers in Parliament by his brother, Edmund Burke, and questioned by a friend as to the cause, replied, "I have been wondering how Edmund has contrived to monopolize all the talents of the family; but then, again, I remember, when we were at play, he was always at work." The force of this anecdote is increased by the fact, that Richard Burke was considered not inferior in natural talents to his brother. Yet the one rose to greatness, while the other died comparatively ob-Do not trust to genius, young men, if you would rise, but work! work! work!" It is the hand of the diligent that maketh rich. The highest authority has said: "Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before Kings; he shall not stand before mean men."

Let us turn over a few pages of the world's history and see what may be seen of the trials and triumphs of Genius. So rich is the subject, so plenty are the materials, that we can do

scarcely more than mention the names of the victors.

Æsop, the author of the celebrated Fables, was born a Publius Syrus and Terrence, both great men at last, were originally slaves. Epictitus, a celebrated ancient Stoic Philosopher, spent many years of his early life as a slave. He was so poor, even while he was engaged with the greatest ardor in cultivating his mind, that he lived in a house without a door, with no furniture except a table, a small bedstead and a miserable coverlet. In modern times the celebrated Rev. Lott Cary, at first Postor of a large colored congregation in Richmond, and afterwards a distinguished missionary to Africa, was for a long time aslave, employed in a tobacco warehouse. Still later, another missionary to Africa, was for a long time He made himself master of the Latin and Greek grammars while working at the blacksmith fire. He wrote the Alphabet upon the hearth-stone with a coal, and thus familiarized himself gradually with the forms of the letters, asking their names as opportunity offered. The grammar he fixed, leaf by leaf, into the inside of his hat, which he held before him with one hand, while he drew the bellows with the other, and thus committed its contents to memory. He is now in Liberia, a minister of the everlasting gospel, and known far and wide as the "learned slave."

These instances are in point. They show how difficulties may be surmounted by the force of mind. When were circumstances more unfavorable? when was any one called to struggle with more formidable difficulties in the pursuit of knowledge? and where do we behold more remarkable triumphs of genius? This proves that the path of literary excellence and honor lies open to all, however low and lumble their birth and station may be. These examples show that the most formidable obstructions will yield before manly perseverance and industry. There is no one who hears me, I feel sure, that ought not, in view of these examples, to be ashamed to speak of difficulties, and plead them as an excuse for remaining in ignorance. Where the will exists, there is also the way.

Some plead poverty as an excuse for not attempting any thing great and noble in the way of literary acquirements. Permit me to give a few specimens of the growth of genius.

"In the low huts of them that toil and groan."

The great Erasmus, who did more than any other man towards the revival of classic literature, about the commencement of the Reformation, was so poor that he had to stint himself in clothes to get the necessary books. "As soon as I get money," he exclaimed, "I will first buy Greek books, and then clothes." He became the greatest classical scholar of his time. The German naturalist, Schaester, lived on a halfpence a day in order to keep himself at the University; a little bread, and a few vegetables boiled in water, were his daily food; and although the winter was severely cold, he had no fire in his room. Yet he endured all this that he might continue to pursue his studies. The celebrated Librarian, Magliabechi, was once a seller of pot-herbs; and by his own private habits of study he rose to become "the most learned man of his age."

The parents of Professor Gotlieb Heyne, were extremely poor. His father was a weaver. During the first thirty-two years of his life he was not only in obscurity, but in a constant

struggle with the most distressing poverty. He was obliged to borrow all his books, and to copy them for his own use. Yet he attained at length to imperishable honors. He was. for half a century, one of the most learned and renowned Professors in the University of Gottingen, and died venerated and beloved of all. The celebrated Dr. John Prideaux, was so poor, that he sustained himself at Exeter College, by becoming an assistant in the kitchen; and yet he rose to be Bishop of Worcester, and author of a work of history which is a textbook in almost all Theological Seminaries. The famous Ben Johnson worked for some time as a bricklayer and mason; but when he had the "trowel in one hand, he had a book in his pocket." He was heard of after awhile, -and is heard of still. Henry Kirk White, one of the sweetest of the English Poets, when a boy carried the butcher basket for his father; and when ho was fourteen years of age, he was apprenticed to learn the stocking weaving. Poverty stared at him from all sides, but he ventured on and won. Both Henry Bullinger and Martin Luther, celebrated Reformers, got their bread, while pursuing their studies, by singing in the evening in the street under the windows of the rich. The celebrated Divine, Thomas Scott, was the son of a poor man, and was compelled when young, to do all "the most laborious and dirty work of a grazier." He became learned and eminent entirely by his own exertion and perseverance in a course of self-education. Alexander Murray first learned the alphabet from the back of an old wool card upon which his father wrote it for him with the black end of a stick snatched from the fire. Afterwards he was sent to the hills to keep sheep-and afterwards still, he became "one of the most learned men that ever lived." Linnæus, the founder of the science of Botany, was once apprenticed to a shoemak-His name and his fame will now be as lasting as the beauty and perfume of the flowers!

"I learned Grammar," says William Cobbet, "when I was a private soldier on sixpence a day. The edge of my guardbed was my seat to study in; my knapsack was my book-case, and a bit of board lying on my lap, was my writing table. I had no money to purchase candles or oil; in winter time it was rarely that I could get any light but that of the fire, and only my turn even of that. To buy a pen or sheet of paper, I was compelled to forego a portion of food, though in a state of starvation. I had no moment of time that I could call my own;

and I had to read and write amid the talking, laughing, singing, whistling, and brawling of at least half a score of the most thoughtless of men, and that too in hours of freedom from control. And I say if I, under circumstances like these, could encounter and overcome the task, can there be in the whole world, a youth who can find excuse for non-performance?"

Where, we may ask, is there a young man to be found, who need now labor under such disadvantages? The road to knowledge is now a road strewed with roses, compared with what it was to Cobbet. So much greater the sin and shame of igno-

rance.

But what more shall I say, for time would fail me to speak of Burns, the ploughboy, of Shakespeare, Sir William Jones, Dr. Johnson, Wm. Davy, Dr. Franklin, and a hundred more, who rose from obscurity and poverty, reached their glorious aim through the most discouraging obstacles, and at last, high and serene

"Upon the loftiest top Of fame's dread mountain sat!"

One more instance of genius triumphing over poverty. boy came to one of the Professors of a College, and offered to black boots and shoes for his tuition. At first even this birth was refused him; but he looked so beautifully in carnest when turning in disappointment away, that the situation was after all granted him. He commenced his career in science by blacking boots, but as old Humphrey says, he did not end there. He has been the president of a College in Penna, is the author of a work in two volumes, which may be seen in almost any bookstore, and is now the pastor of a large church in one of the Atlantic cities. Does any one sneeringly say, he stooped low—we answer he did not. No one but he whose only polish is mustaches and pomatum, and who is foolishly spending the money his grandfather earned as a day-laborer, would say so. He who considers this stooping, will never be a great man. The mightiest oak once crept, an humble thing, out from be-The path to honor, like that to immortality, tween the clods. begins in the dust. It is a truth high and eternal as the heavens, and broad as all history; "He that humblest himself shall be exalted; and he that exalts himself shall be abased."

Poverty, however, does not present the only difficulty in the pursuit of science, nor yet the most formidable one. There are other obstacles, and far greater ones, which have been met

and surmounted in the triumphs of genius.

The celebrated Spanish painter, Navarette, through illness, when only two years of age, became both deaf and dumb. Think of a lad who can neither speak nor hear, crowding himself into the ranks of those who are on the way to emminence and honor? His biographer says, he became the greatest artist of his age. Nicholas Saunderson became blind when he was one year old. Yet he mastered both the Latin and Greek languages, and became such a proficient in them, that he could understand them when books in those languages were read to him as well as the English. This was in the fifteenth century, when the present facilities for teaching the blind were all unknown. He next commenced the Mathematics, and mastered all the ancient masters in that science. He left all his masters behind him in Astronomy. All this he did before the 24th year of his age. In the 25th year of his age he became a professor of natural science in the University of Cambridge. He lectured on Optics! He is author of a work on Algebra. He had conferred upon him the honorary degree of Master of Arts, and a few years afterwards, the degree of Doctor of Laws! He, at the close of his life, delivered a Latin Oration of great eloquence before the University, in presence of the King, and died in the 57th year of his age, full of hon-The celebrated Mathematician, Euler, wrote his "Elements of Algebra," and his "New Theory of the Moon's Motions," while he was blind. Dr. Henry Moyers lost his sight when he was three years old, yet he became eminent in music, the ancient languages, and in all the departments of natural and mathematical science; and was eminent as a lecturer. M. Huber of Geneva, became blind in his seventeenth year, and yet he became the author of one of the most original and ingenious works on the habits and natural history of insects. ever written. John Metcalf lost his eyesight so early as to be unable to recollect anything about light, yet he became first a guide in intricate roads, during the night, or when covered with snow. Afterwards he became a surveyor and projector of highways in mountainous districts in England. So eminent did he become as an engineer, that he was employed to new-locate roads, where difficult places were to be avoided, and better routes selected. Milton, it is known, wrote his immortal Paradise Lost when he was blind. Homer, according to tradition, wrote his wonderful poems in blindness-poems which date at least 1000 years before Christ, and which will

be the astonishment of the learned to the end of time. Well done for

"The blind old man of Scio's rocky Isle."

We close the exhibition of these examples, not because there are no more, but because we fear of wearying your patience. With such obstacles before them, many would think of nothing else but begging, or going to the Poor House; yet these heroes stepped over them and passed on! What a lesson for us. What a lesson for those who have never met one single obstacle but their own indolence; and who are content to remain most contentedly ignorant just because knowledge is not received by inheritance, like the money they are lavishing upon their vanities, or because it cannot be eaten with a spoon like soup!

The shame of ignorance becomes so much greater, in this age, when we consider the facilities which are now enjoyed. In former former times, books were scarce and dear; now they are almost like the leaves of Autumn. Especially have elementary books in all sciences been multiplied and simplified to such an extent that almost any science can be acquired without a teacher. All that is known, on almost all subjects, is within reach of the humblest. He who cannot purchase, can

easily borrow.

On account of time-saving inventions, time has become more plenty. We need but half the time in which to do the same amount of works, as our forefathers did. Mind has so far mastered the physical world, and has made science its servant to such an extent, that it has abundant leisure to cultivate its own powers, and to make itself still more completely lord over this lower world. But alas! worldliness, fondness for amusement, and other earthly trifles, seem also to be increasing with the progress of the age, and the tide of things, like a stream is becoming shallow in proportion as it becomes broad. Knowledge seems to become more superficial as it is becoming more general. Because the work of providing for the body, and getting rich is easily done, men sit down to cat and rise up to play. A novel, a circus, a dance, or a glass of Lagar Beer, seems to be relished more than the waters of Castilia; and the fumes of a Principe, is more regaling than the purest air on the hill of science, and sure any of these is better adapted to rock the faculties of the soul to sleep than the keen electric animations of science. See the loafer! whether upon the

storc-box, upon the bench before the bar-room, or upon the sofa! how he loves his inglorious ease. "Science," he exclaims, "Science!"—can a man eat it? Can a man drink it? Will it make a man laugh? What then is science?" And back he falls again into his original dosings as if he had been shot

with poppy!

The examples to which we have referred plainly exhibit that success in the pursuit of knowledge is only possible where there is a love of reading, an industrious use of time, and the most undeviating perseverance. The glorious rewards that are reached at the end, are too precious to be bestowed upon the indolent. None but the victor, can with grace wear the crown, and wave the palm. The trials must ever precede the triumphs of Genius. He who is willing to submit to the labor and self-denial involved in the pursuit of knowledge, may feel sure of final success.

Lives of great men all remind us We may make our lives sublime; And departing, leave behind us Footsteps in the sands of time.

Footsteps, that perhaps another Sailing o'er life's solemn main, A forlorn and shipwrecked brother, Seeing, shall take heart again.

Let us then, be up and doing, With a heart for any fate; Still achieving, still pursuing, Learn to labor, and to wait.

It is never too late in life to begin the pursuit of knowledge. Zwinglius was 38 years of age when he began the study of Greek and Hebrew, and he mastered them both. Oliver Cromwell was 42 years old before he entered the army. The celebrated Admiral Blake was in his 50th year when he first went to sea. Sir William Jones, the most extensive linguist that ever lived, having been acquainted with 28 different languages, perfected himself in most of them after his 33rd year; and was studying the grammars of several oriental languages up to within a few weeks of his death. Cato, the old Roman Censor, commenced learning Greek in his old age. The soul does not expect to die at death, and hence need not cease to feel an interest in its own expansion towards the close of life; but rather the contrary; especially if we believe that the hu-

man mind will continue to expand in eternity. Under the power of this belief it ought rather to kindle into new animation at the near prospect of being transferred into a higher state of existence, where wisdom dawns with a clear radiance upon the soul, and where we may hope to know even as we are known.

It must, however, be evident to all that the young are peculiarly interested in the subject to which we have now called attention. Youth is the rich, soft, moist meadow ground out of which the stream of life arises; and the course it then takes it is apt to keep. Now, then, or never! Few rivers are turned into a new channel when once they sweep along in the full tide of their strength; and equally few human beings turn into a new course when once the strong current of middle life is bearing them on towards their destiny. Youth, then, is the time

to form high purposes, and to set out for high ends.

At this period of life however hidden dangers lurk in the arbors where the most inviting flowers grow. Evil society opens its unclean embrace. To all the ardent senses existing evil presents some of its defilements. To the eye appear the pride and vanity of life,—to the ear the whispers of unbelief, and the siren seducements of forbidden pleasure. Passion is strong, hope is active, the jud; ment restless and impatient of restraint, and the balance is hanging in fearful poise between weal and wo—between glory and shame. Here is the day of trial; and I need not say that thousands fail to pass safely the dreadful crisis! We need but look among our acquaintances, upon whom the morning of life has dawned as brightly and hopefully as upon us, to see fearful shipwreck of health, character, and all that makes life pleasant and eternity desirable.

"Oh! Pilot, these are fearful seas, There's danger on this deep."

It is true, nothing but true religion, is a full safeguard in these circumstances; yel, next to it, we know of nothing to recommend more highly than the pursuit of knowledge. Nothing can aid you more in avoiding the path of idle and low profligacy than a love for books—a love for the high pursuits of science. This will give employment to your leisure hours—it will give you company in loneliness—it will go far to destroy all taste for the lower enjoyments of sense and vanity—it will open to your minds a vast field of pure and elevated enjoyment—and above all, it will fit you for a life of usefulness and honor.

We are born with active minds, and if we do not employ them in a right way, they will employ themselves in a wrong one. It is an old Proverb, and a true one: "An idle brain is the devil's workshop." And equally true is the old couple!, which you have all learned from your school books—

"Satur finds some mischief still For idle hands to do."

An industrious youth, who is interested in the cultivation of his mind, is not likely to become a street rowdy. Those, who every evening, throng the corners of the streets, and proclaim their own shame, and the shame of the families to which they belong, are there because they are destitute of all taste for the higher enjoyments of mental improvement. The precious time which is there spent is not only useless to them and annoying to others, but it is the most infalible introduction to a rude, intemperate, useless and unhappy life. It is a training, not towards the honorable triumphs of genius, but for stratagem and spoils.

Shame on him that licks the dust upon which brutes tread! Shame on him who crawls like a worm, when he might rise like the eagle to face the sun, and leave the record of his flight among the stars! Always look up, that is the destiny of spirits. Grasp, with a firmness that yields not even to death, the banner upon which is written your glorious purpose. When difficulties threaten, and when the sirens of ease seek to allure you from your onward and upward path, wave your banner into their faces,

and purpose in your heart to take another step.

It need scarcely be remarked, that what has now been said of the triumphant success which attends industry and perseverance in the pursuit of knowledge, applies with equal force to both sexes. This path which opens so invitingly, which leads through a region of such pure enjoyment, and which ends on such a serene eminence of honor, lies before the female equally as before the male. Literature is clothed with the same importance to them, and is equally necessary and ornamental in the position which they occupy in the social sphere. If true literary cultivation shows to advantage any where, it is when it clothes this Priestess of the inner circle and the inner shrine.

In conclusion, permit me to add a short, but beautiful poem, in which this idea of seeking to rise, which we have endeavored to exhibit to you in this discourse, is beautifully illustrated.

A youth, struggling through difficulties towards eminence, is represented by a traveller ascending the Alps. The Alps, as you

are aware, abound in lovely and peaceful vallies, where every object invites the traveller to tarry. They abound also in cold, icy and dreadful mountains, where the path is overhung with threatening glaciers and avalanches "in awful grandeur piled" above the traveller's head. In one of these beautiful vallies, at the foot of one of the Alps, just at nightfall, a youth is coming along. His home is afar! He looks at the dangerous steeps before him. For a moment his heart sinks; but again his courage rises at the thought of his friends and his home beyond the cold and frowning peaks of the Alps. He bears in his hand a banner upon which is written his motto "Excelsior!" which is a Latin word and means higher—indicating his purpose to scale the steeps before him. The Peasants warn him by the dangers before him not to proceed, and invite him, in the tender accents of kindness, to tarry with them in their quiet homes in the valley. Even lovely maidens appear, and by all the moving influences of beauty seek to melt his purpose. But like a true hero he flourishes his banner, crying Excelsior, and passes on, though danger and death are frowning in his path.

> The shades of night were falling fast, As through an Alpine village passed A youth, who bore, 'mid snow and ice, A Banner with the strange device, Excelsior!

> His brow was sad; his eye beneath Flashed like a falchion from its sheath, And like a silver clarion rung The accents of that unknown tongue, Excelsior!

In happy homes he saw the light Of household fires gleam warm and bright; Above the spectral glaciers shone, And from his lips escaped a grean! Excelsior.

"Try not the pass," the old man said; Dark lowers the tempest everhead, The roaring torrent is deep and wide!" And loud that clarion voice replied, Excelsion!

"O stay," the maiden said, "and rest Thy weary head upon this breast?" A tear stood in his bright blue eye, But still he auswered, with a sigh, Excelsior. "Beware the pine-tree's withered branch!
Beware the awful avalanche!"
This was the peasant's last good-night;
A voice replied far up the height,
Excelsior!

At break of day, as heavenward
The pious Monks of St. Bernard
Uttered the oft-repeated prayer,
A voice cried through the startled air,
Excelsior!

A traveller, by his faithful hound, Half buried in the snow was found, Still grasping in his hand of ice That Banner with the strange device, Excelsior!

There, in the twilight cold and gray, Lifeless, but beautiful he lay, And from the sky, serene and far, A voice fell, like a falling star! Excelsion!

