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Washington. 10/2/-51.

Mrs. A. J. Cooper;
Dear classmate;

On this my 93d. birthday I want (If I have not already done so, I'm getting quite forgetful) to congratulate your 92nd on Aug. 10th.

Thanks for your letter with its inclosures which tell the story of a remarkable woman. She, doubtless, had the spirit and zeal of Oberlin and did much good.

I remember Miss McLennen but did not know her age, or that she was still living.

I have the Oberlin General Catalogue issued in 1908 which gives the name and notice of every one that had been in the school up to that date. It gives Ida McLennen as a graduate.

But the catalogues of Alumni of 1936 and 1948, which I have, do not mention her. She had only the Literary course and such got no degree and the college does not recognize such as Alumni, unless they have returned and earned a degree, as Miss Matter did.

I think they are right about it for they want their degrees recognized by other schools.

For many years Prof. Henry Bates, of Portland Oregon of the Class of 1876 was the oldest living Alumnus, but after his death, Oct. 23d 1949, at the age of 96, I felt justified in claiming that honor (if any).

I would be glad to share whatever honor there may be therein, for she, no doubt, deserves it and more.

On this, my 2nd visit to O., saw great material gain and probably, much in the courses, possibly some in the teaching. Pres. Stevenson and Mrs. S. are very able, fine people and seem to have become good friends of mine. Saw many old alumni but none of our class.

But it seemed discouraging to me, whose clean and upright ancestry goes back the Sam'l Freeman, who came in 1630 with Gov. Winthrop to help build Boston, and who has used tobacco, any alcoholics or any of the

over

Coca or other swill drinks that are so popular, to see smoking common, not only on the campus, but in all buildings and rooms! . tendency

Moreover, I thought I found a little [^] to tolerate charity toward communism.

Possibly this is only a passing phase and will pass. Let us hope so!

But what can we expect after a score of years of an administration that has built up a "Welfare State" and undermined the moral character of our people!

Thank you for sending Mrs. Bones letter and the clippings, as you may want to keep them.

I return them

Fraternally

F. C. Trauman