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The Carnegie Library

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THE CARNEGIE LIBRARY.

After months of toil and perseverance, President Thirkield accomplished his long cherished desire, and the University grounds are now adorned by one of the most magnificent libraries that has ever graced a college campus. The circumstances incident to the visit of Mr. Carnegie and his gift reflects much credit to the skill, forethought and ingenuity of our president, who more than deserves the tribute paid him by the students.

The small and inadequate rooms have give way to a superb structure which now accommodates several hundred students. The main reading-room, which of itself offers comfortable seating capacity for two hundred, is beautifully set off with tables of oak, with shaded, overhanging lamps. The panels are all decorated with pictures representing many historical *scenes*, and among the many paintings that grace the walls are two which are very significant to the eye of an American, for the recollections they recall; one is the Landing of the Pilgrim Fathers, loaned by Mrs. Elphonzo Young, and the other portrays a scene of the Underground Railway, a loan of Mr. E. T. Webber.

In accordance with the maxim of Mr. Carnegie, that he helps those who help themselves, the students have also aided in the decoration of their new library, for anyone seated in the main reading-room can with great satisfaction count the hours from a clock measuring over six feet, which was presented by the College Dramatic Club. And the council of upper class men has likewise given two large arc lamps, costing \$100, which now cast their beams on the entrance to the temple of knowledge. This spirit has aroused the students, and several classes have determined to follow the examples.

The librarian, Miss Flora L. P. Johnson, whose office is on the main floor, has proven herself to be not only a friend of the students, and one well capable of giving valuable information on most subjects, but one competent to manage the entire building.

On the top floor is situated the president's office, the board room, and a reading-room set aside for the medical students. And in the basement there is an assembly-room which seats over two hundred persons.

The effect of the library has been instantly felt, and the favorable advantages which it offers have infused a new literary spirit into the entire student body; and there is no doubt but that this gift of Mr. Carnegie shall well fulfil its mission, and ever remain both as a remembrance of a great library builder, and as a monument of the successful effort of our president.

THE NECESSITY OF A GYMNASIUM.

In all high schools, and in most of the colleges of this country physical culture is a part of the prescribed course of studies. Just as great stress is laid upon regularity in attending these classes as is laid upon attendance in the class rooms where other branches of education are taught.

It is true that college men have no time to take up this sort of work as a new subject, but if the subject is taught him during the high school or preparatory course, it is likely to become so much a part of him that he will, when he reaches college, indulge in athletic sports for mere love of them. By doing this he will develop and strengthen his whole body.

If we had at Howard a good gymnasium with a swimming pool, bowling alleys, and all that goes to make a building designed for this sort of work attractive and beneficial, it is certain that the number of students would increase, and the health and moral conditions of all would be improved.

Along with the gymnasium should come compulsory physical education for all students in the Academy and Commercial Department. This would naturally compel the students to live healthy, active lives. It would also solve one equation of the great problem which is before us, by presenting for admit-