

VOL. I.

NO. 1.

THE CRESCENT.

A MONTHLY JOURNAL,

PUBLISHED BY THE

DELTA TAU DELTA FRATERNITY.

W. C. BUCHANAN,

EDITOR IN CHIEF.

ASSOCIATE EDITORS :

W. W. SHILLING, Meadville, Pa., J. H. SHINN, Bethany, W. Va.,
LEWIS T. WOLLE, Bethlehem, Pa., WM. A. CULLOP, Hanover, Ind.,
C. C. MAYNARD, Galesburg, Ill.

W. C. BUCHANAN,

J. P. L. WEEMS.

} PUBLISHING COMMITTEE.

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TERMS OF THE CRESCENT.

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SALUTATORY.

Every experiment has a strange experience. All beginnings differ. The success of one is the death of others. Great schemes have such obscure origins, that they are seldom remembered. While great schemes very often have obscure endings. We prefer an humble birth, with a glorious ending. Our bow is the very humblest, while our pretention is still less. Youth, modesty, bashfulness, inexperience and ignorance, but with a devoted heart, a soul in the enterprise, and a belief in success, and faith in a well-worked enterprise, makes up the origin of THE CRESCENT. Warm hearts are beating in admiration, and ready to rejoice at our success or to sorrow at our failure.

A failure at this time is not altogether unexpected. Success would be our heart's great content and happiness.

Our object is civil, literary and instructive—Greeks though we be. Our strife will be a war for the heart's wishes, and our success will be in the interest of our brotherhood.

Our object is civil, since it will be no innovation of society pretexts or people. Our object is literary, since it will seek to instruct, cultivate and enlighten all who may peruse. And our object is instructive, since it will teach and inform without prejudice or partiality all who may desire to learn the experiences, successes and undertakings of the "Greeks of modern times who are toiling up the hill."

We do not seek to underrate, undervalue or misrepresent or lower any, but our civility will inspire us to rise to a level with others that we feel are much higher.

Founded in the interest and for the good and benefit of the Delta Tau Delta Fraternity, our first and last great care shall be for its good and its success.

The Delta Tau Delta Fraternity is a College organization. A society that has for its aims, sociability, enlightenment, fraternization of feelings, association of

ideas and thoughts, communion of souls, cultivation of fraternal feelings and the success of its members.

Its membership begins at that period when youth is cut loose from parental obligations and attentions. At that period when a boy feels that he is a man. "When with just a dozen shirts sir, he's gone to see the elephant"—or at that period when the first lines of a familiar college song are very descriptive:

"When we first came on this Campus
Freshmen we as green as grass."

But the fraternity bond never ceases when college days are over. The incoming and outgoing years cherish and foster, preserve and maintain the ties that early and youthful associations formed.

In the interest then of these and those that may be hereafter formed THE CRESCENT is introduced to the brethren and to the public. We make no rash promises and tell no lies. Our purpose, our aim and our intent is very humble and unpretentious. Our success must depend on the fraternity and its friends and well-wishers. Our purpose will be more patent to all than we can find terms and words to express.

It will be non-sectarian and independent in politics. We welcome all communications on whatever subject that may be of interest. We gladly invite full reports and correspondence from other fraternities and bodies. Our best efforts will be used to secure insertion and publication of whatever may be sent us of interest to our or other bodies.

Our paramount interest is the welfare of our own society, but we are not selfish and next to our own, have the good of others at heart. We will make an extreme effort to please and suit every one, still our friends must remember that THE CRESCENT and its managers are not altogether free agents, but are working under the jurisdiction of the Alpha Chapter and the fraternity at large, and while we have great scope we are still held to accountability at each Annual convention; therefore, if we are unable to conform to the wishes of some, don't put all the burden on the managers.

THE CRESCENT will be issued monthly during the College year. Ten numbers constituting a volume.

As the greatest proportion of our friends and subscribers will be attendants of various Colleges and Institutions of learning, we will make an effort to fill the columns of THE CRESCENT with literature and news interesting to such readers. A new enterprise like the present will need much fostering, we therefore

look with much interest to all those who have been anxious to witness the first of THE CRESCENT.

In consideration of our promise therefore we beg to introduce to the public the first number.

"To you the Fair, the True, the Good,
We consecrate
This emblem of our brotherhood
What'er its fate
May Justice, Mercy, Love and Truth defend
Its sacred honor until time shall end."

EDITORIAL STAFF.

The subjoined list of names are Secretaries of various chapters of the fraternity and are made under the minutes of the last Convention Assistant Associate Editors of THE CRESCENT. We give the address of all that we could obtain. New Secretaries will please send in their names, with their proper address.

The Secretaries of the various division grand chapters are Associate Editors and are as follows:

W. W. SHILLING, Alpha-Allegheny College, Meadville, Pa.

LEWIS T. WOLLE, Pi-Lehigh Univ., Bethlehem, Pa.

J. H. SHINN, Theta, Bethany College, Bethany, W. Va.

WM. A. CULLOP, Phi-Hanover College, Hanover Ind.

C. C. MAYNARD, Lambda, Lombard Univ., Galesburg, Ill.

The Assistant Associate Editors are as follows:

F. N. PARKER, Beta, Ohio Univ., Athens, Ohio.

J. FRED. WILSON, Gamma, Wash. and Jeff. Col., Washington, Pa.

F. E. BACON, Epsilon, Albion College, Albion, Mich.

FRANK N. CARTER, Eta, Buchtel College, Akron, O.

G. E. BRECK, Iota, Mich. Agrl. College, Lansing, Michigan.

FRED. STONE, Kappa, Hillsdale College, Hillsdale, Michigan.

C. B. FORNEY, Nu, La Fayette College, Easton, Pa.

W. H. CROW, Omicron, Asbury Univ., Greencastle, Indiana.

F. E. IDELL, Rho, Stevens Institute, Hoboken, N. J.

J. F. BAUSMAN, Tau, Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa.

J. C. SARGENT, Upsilon, Ill. Institute, Champagne, Illinois.

W. C. THOMPSON, Chi, Franklin College, Franklin, Indiana.

W. A. GOODSPEED, Omega, Iowa Agr. College, Ames, Iowa.

CHIS. GALEENER, Epsilon Beta, Ill. Wes. Univ., Bloomington, Illinois.

C. P. COLBURN, Psi, Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Indiana.

IRA DeLONG, Xi, Simpson Centenary College, Indianola, Iowa.

We are very desirous to receive the names of all the Secretaries, in order to place in above list. When the names are all in, a better disposition of the same can be made than the present management and number will permit.

THE CRESCENT must depend upon the Secretaries for much of the fraternity news, which will make its columns interesting.

For the present the Editor in Chief and J. P. L. Weems will act as publishers, different arrangements will be made soon.

THE CRESCENT.

"Knowledge is Power."

In the workings of the fraternity there has been felt a deficiency existing some where. Some factor that was necessary to complete the "make up" of her efficiency seemed to be wanting; but where that factor was most needed, and, indeed, what it was, was not fully realized for some time. At last it was discovered, and the place where it belonged was ascertained. It was plainly proven that the above quotation—"knowledge is power"—was the missing factor, and as firmly believed that it could be fully supplied.

Not lack of knowledge of personal nature is meant, but knowledge of the fraternity at large. It was quite evident that there did not exist that general knowledge of the workings, powers and affairs of the fraternity that was necessary to procure success. How then could we possibly hope to succeed as a fraternity when we lacked that knowledge which was so essential to our existence? How could we enter the field of modern Grecian warfare, with hopes of success, without this knowledge? How could we hope to meet and defeat those who were opposed to Greek societies, and who have so malignantly libeled us when our power was not fully known or appreciated?

The missing factor—that link that was wanting to complete our power—was at last discovered. It was long before it was fully realized; and then, not till chapter after chapter, unable to withstand the pressure of the opposition, had contended for supremacy, aye, even for existence, and had crumbled and died, were any definite measures taken to avail ourselves of the good that would surely result to us from its realization and adoption.

If "knowledge is power," what then would give us more knowledge of each other, and thus insure our power, than a paper published in the interest of the fraternity? For it was fully shown that we had resources and energies sufficient to draw them out if we only knew how to act, when to act and where to act.

Not only is there power in knowledge, but that power is greatly intensified by a unity of action. So it was

seen that a paper would impart this knowledge in which existed so much strength, and also aid to fully unite us, thus increasing our power of usefulness many degrees.

But how to obtain means to conduct the paper, and how to conduct it, was a matter that seemed hard to unravel. The remedy was discovered that would heal our difficulties; but how to procure it was the next, and, indeed, most difficult undertaking. Proposition after proposition was submitted to the Annual Conventions; plan after plan was undertaken, but without success. We are pleased to announce, however, that we fully believe that we have devised a plan by which the matter seems fully accomplished. Having faith in our plan of action now agreed upon, we offer to our Brothers *THE CRESCENT*. We trust that it may bear with it a renewal of life and vitality with each issue sufficient to meet all demands.

We only ask that our Brothers assist us in our enterprise and we hope to be able to give them such a paper that will meet all emergencies. Only open the doors of your halls, and the portals of your hearts, and let the rays of *THE CRESCENT*, with its warmth and vigor, light them up.

As the crescent of the night increases, turning the darkness into the brightness of day, so may our *CRESCENT* increase, turning darkness into light, ignorance into knowledge, knowledge into power, until our Brotherhood, increased and strengthened by the fondest and purest desires, shall become a lasting union, in which love and truth shall sweetly blend.

THE DELTA TAU DELTA FRATERNITY.—ITS ORIGIN AND HISTORY.

By JAS. S. EATON.

Like all other organizations it is reasonable to suppose that this one had a beginning, but we need not go back to the antediluvian ages to find it. In fact, it is of quite modern origin. Go with me back to our younger days and we find Delta Tau Delta Fraternity nurtured in its infancy at Bethany College, Bethany, West Va. I have seen different dates, but the only unquestionable and reliable one of its founding is, Jan. 1st, 1859, as given in the catalogue. It would be natural to suppose that such a step would be under contemplation and likely discussed for some time prior to this, but the above date is given as the correct time that it started as a Fraternity. A letter written by W. C. Buchanan to Chapter Theta is now in my possession and corroborates to some extent the preceding statements. It also gives some idea of the condition of the institution at that time and the thoughts entertained concerning our Fraternity before its true organization as such. So with his consent, I will here insert it

almost entire, for I can not do better, although it contains some things, which I shall mention under other divisions.

CINCINNATI, April 5, 1876.

BRO. D. T. D :

I received yours of the 27 ult., some days ago, and delayed answering till I could find out some of the facts I did not possess when you wrote. I have just received a letter from Milton R. Freshwater of Chicago, Ill., one of the early members, giving me some data. Our early history, like most all enterprises when first started, has been neglected and it is now hard to gather together any sort of a connected story of its start, or its foundation. I will give you what I know, which I presume, in some respects, will be new to most of the present members of Theta Chapter and in fact to all the later or younger members of the fraternity. It was in the year 1857-8, the spring session of Bethany College, then in the zenith of all its greatness. In the Presidential Chair sat the founder of the College, Alexander Campbell. Its corps of professors and instructors was complete in every department. The yearly attendance of students was increasing rapidly. It bid fair to be the great College of the West and the South. It was patronized richly by the courteous and wealthy gentlemen of the South. The old buildings had been carried away by the destructive elements. The present site had been selected and the corner stone already laid for a building that had few superiors. The College Halls and Society rooms had already been visited by other fraternities, chapters, and members. The fraternities already had asserted their influence, their power and their control in the Society to such a degree that it became necessary for an organization of some kind to oppose them in order to share any of the honors of the Society or the College. This was the first cause of organization—it was one of necessity. You know that "necessity" has "always been the mother of invention." During the session of 1857 & '58, the organization continued. At that time no thoughts of spreading the association had entered the minds of its members. It was only a local organization intended to accomplish certain ends—viz.; the furtherance of the interest of its few members; the oppositions to the different fraternities of the College in the Societies; the associating together of good friends and the promotion of the interests of all, then its purpose was ended. So it continued, with no thoughts beyond the college campus. Never dreaming that it was the embryonic form of a great association increasing yearly. On the first of January, 1859, it was regularly organized by about ten members whose names you will find as founders in the Catalogue. The majority, or indeed nearly all of them, have heard the requiem sung and have passed over the river. Man is unfortunately doomed, except in rare cases, never to see the accomplishment of his wishes and the consummation of his

plans. Bethany College then enjoys the distinguished pride of being the Fountain from whence sprung the D. T. D. Fraternity. * * * On the 1st of Jan., 1859, the Alpha Chapter was established at Bethany College. From that day we remember our annual reunions and anniversaries. The forms, the signs, the significations and constitution, of course, differed from the present. We have engrafted many changes on the old system; but the principle is the same though the forms are forgotten. It is the supreme law of our existence to change. Men as well as nations and governments, and philosophy as well as religion undergo the immutable law of change. We should always admire our motto and change for the better. The coming years, no doubt, will witness many more important and interesting changes. Let us hope they will all be for the better. Chapters were instituted at a number of places by the Alpha Chapter while at Bethany. The old records and papers of Alpha while at Bethany have been lost or destroyed. Nothing now remains so far as I can learn. The Alpha Chapter remained at Bethany till about 1862, the end of the college year I presume. The Civil War ended the bright career of Bethany College for a long while. It was crippled in finances, in attendance and in everything by the war. All the fraternities lost their strength at this time. Many, and I think all of them disbanded. * * * From Bethany, I think, the Alpha chapter went to Washington and Jefferson College at Canonsburg, Pa. From Canonsburg, Pa., it went to Delaware, Ohio, and from Delaware, Ohio, to Meadville, Pa. This, I think, completes the chain of title of the Alpha chapter. I think it was in the spring of 1866, the College having regained some of its old ardor, and regaining rapidly in strength, when a number of enterprising students determined to have another chapter organized at Bethany. Some of them, I believe, went to Washington, Pa., and were there initiated, when they came back and organized Chapter Pi. I think in the old minute book of Chapter Theta, you can find the charter to Pi, and many of the minutes. Chapter Pi was started under favorable auspices. The members were energetic, they were in fact brilliant—numbering some of the most accomplished students that ever attended Bethany College. They were such men as Jas. L. Allen, of the bar of Chicago, Ill.; Wm. K. McAllister, City Solicitor of Nashville, Tenn.; Prof. Jas. I. Nelson, of Mo.; Ben. B. Ferguson, of Mo.; Jacob O. Stout, of Ohio; Prof. Henry N. Mertz, of Wheeling, W. Va.; Wm. H. Spencer, of the bar of Fort Scott, Kansas; R. W. Thomas, of the bar of San Jose, Cal.; and many others. The chapter was shortly afterwards changed from Pi to Theta. Theta has lost nothing of the lustre of the past. Each year adds laurels to the crown and keeps green the memory of an eventful and happy past. The association is now becoming so extensive, so large, that the voice of fraternal rejoicing, wherever raised, is heard and answered by kindred spirits. The long years

lengthening out will perpetuate it and endear every member." * * *

This somewhat lengthy letter came into my hands after the writing of this history was completed and inserted here on account of the much general information it contains concerning the College at Bethany and our fraternity. Bear it in mind in the further development of this history and give the credit to Bro. W. C. Buchanan for so rich a treat.

Ancient Mysteries.—Their History, Initiations and Ceremonies.

By J. S. HARTZEL, of Tau.

FIRST PAPER.

An Apology.

The task which we have undertaken is by no means easy. The knowledge which the literary world has gained on the subject of Secret Societies and Fraternities among the Ancients, is very meager, and authoritative accounts of their Services and Ceremonies so fragmentary, that our most learned Antiquarians have experienced great difficulty in collecting full accounts of even the most celebrated mysteries. We are greatly indebted to such men as Macoy, the Rev. Dr. Oliver, Dr. Mackey, Warburton, late Bishop of Gloucester, and others of equally high authority, for much information which we present in this series of articles. So well have they worked up all the information that can be gathered, that we can call ours but a reproduction of their labors.

There is much that is really beautiful and sublime in these mysteries, and we wish our Brotherhood to be acquainted with their sublimity, and through knowledge of ancient initiations and ceremonies be guided in our own annual deliberations. We hope that these articles, modest and unassuming as they are, may be fruitful in much good, and the means of furnishing us with a fuller and more symbolical ritual.

I. *Ancient Mysteries in General.*

To the Christian Church belongs the moral and religious instructions among civilized nations. But before the establishment of Christianity this work was accomplished by those organizations among the ancients called "The Mysteries". They were conducted in secret and by those only who had obtained the right to practice them by a regular initiation. They had signs, tokens and symbols by which they were known to each other. Though of many different kinds and each nation practicing its own kind, they all point to a common origin through a similarity of doctrine, sameness of purpose and an initiatory service showing the same

general plan or design. The original society seems to have been that of the Gymnosophists of India, from which the idea of secret society, as well as their customs, usages and doctrines, were carried to Egypt, then to Greece and finally Gaul, Scandinavia and Britton. The principal of these mysteries are 1. the Indian or those of Mythras, celebrated in Persia; 2. the Egyptian, or those of Osiris and Isis; 3. the Orphic; 4. the Capirian; 5. the Phygian or Samothracian, 6. the Eleusinian; 7, the Sidonian or Dionysian; 8, the Pythagorean, and 9, the Scandinavian or Druidical rites of the Gothic and Celtic nations.

To the salutary influence of these mysteries on the people of India, Egypt, Greece and Syria can be directly traced the civilization and social institutions, the advancement made in Philosophy, Science and Art, which the nations attained. "They, under the veil of mystery, sought to illustrate the sublimest truths of religion, morality and virtue, and impress them on the hearts of their disciples." Membership for the most part was confined to the best educated classes, especially the Ecclesia or priests, who endeavored to establish an esoteric philosophy on the basis of the sublime truths which they had received directly from their Gods, through the patriarchs and holy men. They taught the existence of one God, the immortality of the soul and its resurrection to an eternal life; they laid great stress on the dignity of the human soul, and found the deity enshrined in the beauty and grandeur of the universe. They taught a system of pure morality, and that the mind claimed of them special attention in its discipline and culture. Regard for their fellowmen was also taught the candidate for initiation, and instructed to give his attention to the wants and petitions of suffering mortals.

The initiatory services were all of a funeral character. They celebrated the death and resurrection of a favorite hero or God, thus instructing the neophyte how, after passing through the thick gloom and darkness of this world and patiently enduring all suffering and affliction which their patron God was pleased to visit upon them, they would pass to a world of light and glory and surrounded by enduring joys and pleasures of heaven, would practice their ceremonies in the bodily presence of their deity. It was emblematical of the life of the just men on earth, and the passage or resurrection of the faithful to a heavenly state. The mysteries were divided into degrees, each succeeding one more secret, solemn and instructive, and a brother could not be promoted until, having prepared himself for the reception of the sublime and holier truths by a thorough purification, he had reached the place of wisdom and light. The initiations were held at night, in the thick darkness of impenetrable forests or subterranean caverns. Macoy describes the ceremonies of initiation most beautifully. He says that by the most solemn and impressive ceremonies they led the minds of the neophytes to meditate seriously the great

problems of human duty and destiny; imbued them with a living sense of the vanity and brevity of life, and of the certainty of a future state of retribution; set forth in marked contrast the beauty of virtue and truth, and the deep bitterness and tormenting darkness of vice and error and enjoined on them, by the most binding obligations, charity, brotherly love and inflexible honor, as the greatest of all duties, the most beneficent to the world and the most pleasing to the Gods. They also by these rites—rites magnificent and impressive and startling, by sudden transitions and striking contrasts—rites commencing in gloom and sorrow and ending in light and joy, dimly shadowed forth the passage of man from barbarism to civilization, from ignorance to science, and his constant progress onward and upward through the ages, to still sublimer elevations. The trembling and helpless neophyte, environed with terror and gloom, and pursuing his uncertain and difficult way through the mystic journey of initiation, which terminated in light and confidence, was a type or representation of humanity marching upward from the gloom and darkness of the primitive state of barbarism to a high degree of enlightenment, of social refinement and perfection. The initiatory rituals of Orpheus, of the Cabiri and of Isis, typifying thus the development of man and the progress of society, were in a sense prophetic announcements of a golden age to come—a more perfect state, where virtue, triumphant over vice, and truth victorious over error, would be installed on the throne of the world, and direct all human actions and relations.

From various ancient sources we learn that the belief was that the initiated would enjoy not only an increased share of virtue and happiness in the world, but would be the recipient of celestial honors in the next. "Thrice happy they who descend to the shades below after having beheld these rites; for they alone have life in Hades, while all others suffer there every kind of evil." Isocrates declares that "those who have been initiated in the mysteries, entertain better hopes, both as to the end of life and the whole of futurity". The mysteries were considered sacred and venerated by all, and the punishments for one uninitiated endeavoring to gain a knowledge of the secrets, whether intentionally or not, was death. Such was also the punishment prescribed for an initiated faithlessly viewing the duties and obligations, or making sport of the ceremonies which he had sworn to keep secure in the secret receptacle of his own breast. Livy tells us the following story illustrating the reverence of the members for their rites and symbols, and the danger the profane (uninitiated) incurred by going too near the temples of the mysteries: "Two Acarnanian youths who had not been initiated, accidentally entered the temple of Ceres, during the days of mysteries. They were soon detected by their absurd questions and being carried before the magistrates of the temple, though it was evident that they had come there by mistake, they were put to death for so

horrible a crime". Plutarch records the fact that Alcibiades was indicted for sacrilege, because he initiated the mysteries of Eleusis and exhibited them to his companions in the same dress in which the hierophant shows the sacred things, and called himself the hierophant, one of his companions the torch bearer, and the other the herald. Lobeck records several examples of reluctance with which the ancients approached a mystical subject, and the manner in which they shrunk from divulging any explanation or fable which had been related to them at the mysteries. Horace says he would not dwell beneath the same roof, nor trust himself in the same frail bark, with the man who has betrayed the secrets of the Eleusinian rites. Bishop Warburton says, "They were a school of morality and religion, in which the vanity of polytheism and the unity of the First Cause were revealed to the initiated." This opinion is supported by the testimony of ancient writers. Plutarch: "All the mysteries refer to a future life and to the state of the soul after death." In another place he tells his wife they "had been instructed in the religious rites of Dionysus, that the soul is immortal, and that there is a future state of existence". Cicero writes that in the mysteries of Ceres at Eleusis, the initiated were taught to live happily and to die in the hope of a blessed futurity. Plato in Phaedrus says that the hymns of Musæus, which were sung in the mysteries, celebrated the rewards and pleasures of the virtuous in another life, and the punishments which awaited the wicked.

As stated before the priests and educated classes composed the membership of these institutions. Their influence was therefore used in the interests of science, art, philosophy. These were all given a divine origin. The physical and natural were studied from the divine point of view. All nature, her laws and phenomena, motions and mysteries, revealed to them the presence of an unseen Intelligence; they were the reflex of the more substantial verities of the invisible—the eternal world. All education, in whatever form or under whatever shape or for whatever purpose or end, was religious. In their initiations and instructions they educated the neophyte in the facts of science and dramas of life represented on spiritual bases. These mysteries were, in fact, established to assist the education and development of man, to keep divine truth free from the debased polytheism which prevailed among the uninitiated, to rescue virtue from the contaminating influence of vice, and morality from the sneers and hoots of the vulgar. With these intentions the mystagogues employed every resource to stimulate the moral energies and awaken the noble instincts of those they sought to elevate.

The Ancients claimed for these mysteries a divine origin. The ancient teachers and educators also claimed this of their teachings. Bacchus answered the questions of Peuthus, in Euripides, by saying that he received his new worship and mysteries from the son of Jupiter. Phadamanthus the Cretan lawgiver.

Minos, Zoroaster, the Persian Seer, Pythagoras, Numa and others affirm this divine source of their laws and doctrines, some receiving theirs partially, others wholly from spiritual hands.

Music, sculpture and painting were cultivated and encouraged by the mysteries and received their first impulse in the ceremonies of these institutions. Literature and philosophy were pursued with ardor by the disciples of Orpheus and Eumolpus. The mysteries also gave birth to the drama; indeed their ceremonies were themselves dramas, shadowing forth, more or less perfectly, the great truths of God, of nature and of the soul, pointing man forward to his great destiny, acquainting him with the conditions of moral perfection and aiding him in advancing toward it".

The mysteries continued to flourish until the fourth century of the Christian era when they were conquered by the Christian Church, having in the meantime lost there vitality through degeneracy. They lost sight of these old land-marks, and, for the sake of defeating the aims of Christianity, opened the portals of their rites to the vile and vicious. Strict scrutiny of a candidate's past life and the demand for proofs of irreproachable conduct were no longer deemed indispensable. The services and ceremonies were peddled through the country by wandering priests, and sold to every applicant willing to pay a trifling fee for that which was once refused to the entreaties of a monarch. At length becoming too corrupt and contemptible they were forbidden to celebrate their mysteries at night by Constantine and Gratian, excepting, however, from these edicts, the initiations of Eleusis. However, in the year 438 A. D. and 1800 years after their first establishment in Greece, they were all abolished by a general edict of proscription given by Theodorus. Clavel tells us, however, that some continued in vogue until the era of the restoration. He says that during the Middle Ages, the mysteries of Diana, under the name of *Comses of Diana*, and those of Paor, under the name of *Sabbats*, were practiced in the country.

Convention of the Delta Tau Delta Fraternity.

The Annual Convention of the Delta Tau Delta Fraternity met at Lehigh University, in Bethlehem, Pa., May 2, 1877.

We give a synopsis of the minutes for the benefit of those who may not see the regular printed minutes.

Gen. Wildes, President, being absent, Bro. W. P. Augir, Vice-President, of Onagra, Ill., took the chair.

The Secretary's chair was filled by Bro. J. B. Thomas, of Washington, D. C., and Bro. James A. Porter.

Bros. Buddington, Cullop and Davis were appointed a Committee on Credentials and Bros. Porter, Paret, and Griffith, on Order of Business.

At 2 P. M. the Convention assembled and the Committee on Credentials reported the following delegates:

- Chap. Alpha—L. L. Davis.
- “ Gamma—T. G. Buddington.
- “ Epsilon—A. B. Augir.
- “ Eta—A. R. Ginn.
- “ Nu—J. K. Griffith.
- “ Iota—Jas. A. Porter.
- “ Kapda—W. B. Augir.
- “ Pi—T. G. Buddington.
- “ Phi—Wm. A. Cullop.
- “ Chi by Phi—Wm. A. Cullop.
- “ Psi—Wm. A. Cullop.
- “ Epsilon Beta—Wm. A. Cullop.
- “ Rho—Alex. C. Brinckerhoff and J. B. Pierce.
- “ Tau—B. F. Bausman.

It was decided to hold the literary exercises at 8 P. M., May 3rd. The oration to be delivered by Bro. Carlton, to be followed by the banquet at the Sun Hotel.

The Reports of Chapters was then read. (We shall insert the reports elsewhere if we can find space).

A committee of three, Bros. Buddington, Cullop and Davis, were appointed to select a time and place for holding the next convention. A majority of said Committee reported in favor of Pittsburgh, Pa., and the 20th of August as the time. The minority favored Akron, Ohio, and the first Wednesday and Thursday in May as the time. The minority report was adopted.

The report of the Treasurer was presented. The report shows a balance in the Catalogue Fund of \$54.85—a goodly showing—and a balance in the Extension Fund of \$107.92.

It was decided to publish a monthly paper called THE CRESCENT. W. C. Buchanan, of Cincinnati, Ohio, was elected Editor in Chief.

The following plan of publication was adopted:

1. There shall be a committee of three, called a Publishing Committee, consisting of Alumni or old Deltas.
2. This Committee should be appointed or reappointed each year at the annual convention.
3. No member shall be a student at College.
4. The members of this Committee should all reside where the paper is published.
5. All vacancies occurring during the year should be filled by Alpha.
6. The Committee shall elect one member of this Committee—Editor in Chief—to whom all editorial communications should be sent.
7. The members of this Committee shall appoint one of their number a Secretary and one a Treasurer, and to the former all business communications should be sent.
8. This Committee shall present at each annual convention a detailed account of their duties for the past year.
9. The Secretary of Alpha and the Secretaries of the Grand Chapters shall be Associate Editors, and the

Secretaries of each Chapter, Assistant Associate Editors.

10. No part of the constitution, by-laws, or the secrets of the fraternity shall be published, and when the editors have need to publish the names of officers they shall use the English names.

11. All chapter notes, editorials, reports, etc., shall be sent first to the Secretaries of the Grand Chapter, who shall revise them and send them to the Editor-in-Chief, and all such reports shall be arranged under its appropriate department—(for each division shall have its department in the paper.)

12. All other articles for publication may be sent direct to the Editor-in-Chief.

13. The Editor-in-Chief shall have power to reject, correct or revise all communications.

14. The paper shall be published monthly from September to June inclusive—ten months—at one dollar per year, and the first number shall be published from the 1st to the 15th of September, 1877, and each month afterward during the ten months.

15. The name of this paper shall be “THE CRESCENT.” The Committee on Unwritten Law reported that a change was not advisable.

Delta Betá chapter, at Andover, Mass., was assigned to the First Division, Grand Chapter Pi.

The Convention elected as officers for the coming year: President—Gen. T. F. Wildes, Akron, Ohio; Vice-President—R. C. Lamb, Chapter Phi, Hanover, Ind.; Secretary—W. W. Shilling, Chapter Alpha, Meadville, Pa.; Corresponding Secretary—Wm. A. Cullop, Chapter Phi, Hanover, Ind. For Orator—J. N. Hunt, Rock Island, Ill.; Alternate, C. F. McCollister, President of Buchtel College, Akron, Ohio. Poet—O. E. Angstman, Lansing, Mich.

The publishing of the history of the fraternity written by Bro. Jas. S. Eaton, was left in the hands of Alpha to do as she may think best.

An Extension Committee of three was appointed for the Eastern States—Bros. Trow, Idell and Buddington; and a committee of three for the Western States, consisting of Bros. Buchanan, Weems and Cullop.

Convention adjourned.

[If it is desirable and on request, we will print the report of the Treasurer in full, in the next issue of the CRESCENT.—Eds.]

Put-in Bay—A Suitable Place for the Annual Convention—Advantages and Accommodations.

PUT-IN BAY ISLAND, August 9th, 1877.

The writer has been an earnest and warm advocate for two years past, in favor of holding the Annual Convention of the Fraternity at some modest summer resort—accessible and convenient of access, pleasant and agreeable to go and return from.

To-day, sitting in a pleasant little room, looking out over the Bay, over Gibraltar and the green waters, at Middle Bass, Rattlesnake and Ballast Islands, with their green surroundings, nobody could say that a more favorable and suitable place on earth, could be found for the annual gathering of the good fraters and the commingling of fraternal feelings than these scenes. The lakes, the water, the breezes, the people, geographical location, all combine to make this spot as well as many others, pleasant and agreeable to visit.

Last week, representative men from all over the State of Ohio, warm in the democratic cause, gathered here and made Rome howl for several hours.

I never heard what objections were urged to this, or many other places for a meeting. Let me point out a few of the special reasons, why it is a suitable place to hold the annual feast.

In the first place, it will become necessary to change the time of meeting from the month of May to August. This, I believe, will be a judicious change. There is scarcely a member of the fraternity who does not take a trip every fall, generally in August and September. Every Delta then will gladly make his summer visit so as to take in his fraternity convention. It would become in short the mecca of Deltas, and like good musselmen we would all delightfully journey to the annual gathering, whenever the welcome notes of the slogan are heard.

Every student who leaves his college and his classes finds great difficulty in getting away, and often the convention is deprived of delegates for the reason that it is not possible for them to get leave.

Let me speak of the accessibility of Put-in Bay—that is an important item—and there are many other places just as convenient to go to. This Island is forty miles from Toledo, twenty from Sandusky, sixty from Detroit, and about one hundred from Cleveland. It is the most convenient point that has ever been selected for the States of Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and New York. These eight States comprise nine-tenths of all the members of the fraternity. Now from Detroit, as I said, it is sixty miles, from Chicago two hundred, from Louisville three hundred, from Cincinnati two hundred, from Pittsburgh two hundred, and intermediate points much nearer.

Rates of fare to this place at this season from all the points I have named are exceedingly low—being for excursion purposes. As for example the fare from Louisville was \$7 for round trip, from Cincinnati \$8 for round trip, etc.

The hotel accommodations are ample and cheap—rates being \$2.00 per day, by the week.

In connection with the Put-in Bay House there is a large hall, which is entirely idle all the day long, and which is a most desirable place for conventions to meet in. This could be had free of cost.

An erroneous and mistaken idea exists as to this, as

well as some other summer resorts, many people believe it is nothing but a rowdying, drunken, gambling and idle place, fit only for loafers and snobs. From the experience of two summers I must say that such ideas do great harm to many good people—that no land of promise on earth is visited by better people than come here.

It is one of the grandest places on sea or land for a communion of thoughts and hearts and souls! On a green island, that seems to have magically sprung from the bosom of a great lake, where cool breezes blow, where the grape finds its natal soil and amidst shady groves, kindred spirits can hold sweet commune, undisturbed with the cavil, the rage, distraction and fretted fury of life! It is like a venetian grove where ærial spirits come to lend brave and inspired thoughts to men below! It is inspired by a sea of pleasant life all about; it is inspired by all the surroundings that are full of beauty, grandeur, and magnificence!

Occasionally the great depths are stirred, and sea shores lashed and foam like mad, presenting the grandeur of the universe in a stronger and a mightier form. But over there are green isles that are inviting, and green bays and cavernous retreats that are solemn and over-awing, and over yonder are shady groves and cool retreats, and here at your feet climb the laden vine, and away off there, the wild waves surge and roll up and over the rocks, and here again is the fisherman in his little boat, and there is a boatman singing as he returns from leeward, reminding one of Byron's Lake Leman:

"Clear, placid Leaman! thy contrasted lake,
With the wild world I dwelt in, is a thing,
Which warns me, with its stillness, to forsake,
Earth's troubled waters for a purer spring.
This quiet sail is as a noiseless wing
To waft me from distraction; once I loved
Torn ocean's roar, but thy soft murmuring
Sounds sweet, as if a sister's voice reproved,
That I, with stern delights should ever be so moved."

We hope at the next annual meeting, the time and place for our yearly gathering will be changed. And from meeting in May—a busy month of the year—and at some chapter—where we always worry the brothers, we will be called together at a season of the year when we can attend, and at a resort where it will be pleasant to gather. It is an unfortunate fact, but only too true, that of the past conventions, the chapters at which they were held have universally been crippled, and nearly all have been completely broken down. This is sufficient warning to demand a change.

Letter from Alpha.

MEADVILLE, PA., August, 1877.

For the CRESCENT:

Sometime during the year 1875, the Alpha Chapter at Delaware, Ohio, unable longer to hold its high position as head chapter of the fraternity, or even to main-

tain itself as a chapter, smashed; in fact sunk ignominiously out of existence. The cause or causes of this disaster, as near as could be ascertained, were the culpable carelessness, lack of business capacity, and even might be added lack of integrity of the then active chapter. When we say the then active chapter, let it be understood that it is not our intention to cast any unjust reflection upon that chapter, or upon the members who may have belonged to the same previously to its disbanding; for we know that many true and noble Deltas have graduated from the institution at Delaware, and amid the cares and vicissitudes of active life still cherish a warm spot deep down in their hearts for the fraternity and chapter to which they belonged. To the loyal all honor is due.

At the time of this disbanding of Alpha at Delaware, Chapter Delta at Meadville, Pa., being in a vigorous condition with Bro. Jas. Eaton as Secretary, and desiring to know what was the matter with fraternity business at large, on her own account as chapter, through the pen of the Secretary, wrote repeatedly to the "Fountain Head" to know why the general stagnation. The reply came at last in the shape of a box, a foot square, containing a few dilapidated old letters, the sole effects of the defunct Alpha; the last will and testament of the same bequeathing this precious legacy to hold and keep in trust for the good and welfare of the Delta Tau Delta Fraternity.

On receipt of these invaluable documents Delta Chapter, realizing the situation, took active measures immediately to ascertain the condition of affairs; a man was sent to Delaware to inquire into matters. The report given by the delegate sent was to this effect: "I have examined into the affairs of Alpha, and find that they are in such a complicated and disordered condition that it is impossible to investigate the affairs of the chapter. But the facts of the case are plain and evident, and are as follows: that the members of this chapter are guilty of culpable carelessness and neglect of fraternity business; and as they are entirely non-committal on the affairs of fraternity as transacted by them, refusing to deliver over the books or expressing ignorance of the whereabouts of the same, the presumption is that they have appropriated the funds of fraternity to their own individual use. As a chapter, and owing to the existing state of affairs both as to their own chapter and the fraternity, have thought the wisest and safest plan was to disband and let the affairs of fraternity regulate themselves the best they may.

Chapter Delta then assumed the duties of Alpha, and through the exertions of the Secretary, Bro. Eaton, the business of fraternity began to assume a hopeful state. Here let us say a word in favor of Bro. Eaton, and if he chance to read this article we beg his pardon for using his name without license, by saying that the fraternity does not realize how much she owes to "Modoc Jim" for his unremitting exertions that year to get the business of fraternity into shape and system.

In our estimation it was the most critical situation in the whole period of its existence, and only realized by those who were at the head and thoroughly acquainted with the situation as it then appeared. There was a general dissatisfaction in the ranks, all business in a bad condition and a general apathy in almost every chapter of the fraternity. In the animal or in the business world activity is the only sure sign of a healthy life, and is the only certain sign of a good healthful fraternity existence. To the exertions of the Secretary, or rather Grand Secretary, of that year is due to a great extent the renewed vigor and activity invested into the life of fraternity, and from the impulse given at that time the fraternity has made several steps in advance and stands higher and in a better condition than it has ever before.

Chapter Delta, however, transacted the business of Alpha until the next convention, which convened at Meadville, Pa., when she was elected to fill that position of trust and honor by the convention there assembled, and from that time she has endeavored to fill that capacity with discretion and prudence, and with the welfare of fraternity always in view. But we neglected to say that on the death of old Alpha the present Alpha received not only the rich legacy of old letters, but also another testimonial of affection in the interest and principle of debts contracted by her departed predecessor. It is always very pleasant to have a friend remember you in his will, and the pleasure on receipt of his bequest generally counterbalances the sorrow of his loss. But for our part, we would rather our friends would live to a good ripe old age and enjoy their own debts, than will to us this tribute of their affection.

The present financial condition of fraternity is flattering, and should Alpha be forced to devise or convey the funds now in her possession, her legatee need not be afraid of receiving a token of her esteem in the shape of unpaid debts.

The Alpha of to-day is proud of herself, and proud that she is one of the component parts of the Delta Tau Delta Fraternity. In Allegheny College she has decidedly the lead among the other fraternities, and with those principles of right that color every action and win the respect and esteem of faculty, student and citizen, she will keep the advance and win new favors at every step.

The membership of the chapter has been large during the year, numbering from 20 to 25. Perfect unity and harmony have marked all her deliberations and the mutual intercourse of her members. In unity there is strength, and in harmony there is certainly pleasure. From her outlook and her knowledge of the general condition of fraternity at the close of the college year, she is justified in saying that the Delta Fraternity has never been in a more prosperous condition, and through these first pages of the CRESCENT Alpha wishes to extend her greeting to all the chapters, and request that they do the utmost to build up their own

chapters and extend the confines and influence of the fraternity during the year.

THE Deltas who graduated from Allegheny College in June, members of Alpha, were T. D. Sensor, Byron, Ill.; Lewis Walker, Wellsville, Ohio; and Will. C. Bear, Meadville, Pa.

Symposium.

On the evening of June 27th, Alpha held her annual banquet and reunion, and a most delightful time was passed by the Deltas at the Commercial—especially at the table, where songs and toasts were in order. There were a large number of the alumni present, and added much by their presence to the occasion. Among the number we noticed A. B. Force, Esq., Erie, Pa.; W. W. and C. L. Powers, Pittsburgh, Pa.; also E. D. Allen, Franklin, Pa., a member of Chapt. Nu; and W. F. Pierce, Erie, Pa., a member of Chapt. Mu. Bro. Force responded to the chapter toast, and the enthusiasm of the boys knew no bounds as he related the deeds of former "Choctaws," when he was an active member of the chapter. It was an occasion long to be remembered.

Letter from Chapter Pi.

FOR THE CRESCENT.]

BETHLEHEM, PA.

The Delta Tau Delta fraternity can at present number only a few chapters in the East, but there is every prospect for its being soon widely spread in that direction. The great difficulties which the Eastern chapters have to contend against, are the numerous chapters of other fraternities, established in the same colleges with them. Our institution, the Lehigh University, presents especially such difficulties. The average number of students here is about seventy-five, and among these there are four at present, and some time ago there were five. The fraternities represented here are the Phi Kappa Sigma, Chi Phi, Zeta Psi, and the Phi Delta Theta, now defunct. At present these all exceed our chapter, Pi, in numbers, but some time ago we were at the head in this respect, until dissatisfaction caused seven or eight to withdraw from the fraternity. This latter loss, however, did not affect, injuriously, the workings of the Chapter, but, on the contrary, everything went on with more harmony, and at present is all that we could desire. We will start in next term with only four members, but will keep a sharp look-out for

the freshmen coming in in September. The Faculty of Lehigh University do not prohibit secret societies, so we experience no difficulties in that direction, but the Professors are very industrious themselves and take good care that the students follow the examples they set, and therefore we do not get as much time to attend to the interests of the fraternity as most of us desire. The meetings of Pi Chapter are held every Monday evening, at eight o'clock, and after the order of business has been fully attended to, we devote some time to social enjoyment. As the tuition is free at our University I think the number of students here will soon be largely increased and consequently we will have more chance to swell our number with the pick of the lot. Our University buildings are very attractive, the University itself being a handsome building, constructed without regard to expense, as will be seen by the fact that it cost \$500,000.00. Most of the departments are fitted out in very complete style, the laboratory especially, being one of the most complete in all its appointments in the United States. A large and handsome library building is now in process of erection which will when finished cost about \$200,000. It is to be built of stone from Connecticut and Maine, and will be finished by the first of December, 1877. All of the buildings here, as well as the advantages we enjoy, are due to the liberality of Hon. Asa Packer, President of the Lehigh Valley Railroad. On commencement day, to be held on June 21, one of our brothers will graduate as civil engineer. The other chapters in the first division encounter the same difficulties experienced by us, but all show a lively disposition for work. Not long ago a chapter called Delta Beta was founded at Andover Mass., which we watch with great interest, as we hope through the instrumentality of brothers going from there to Yale and Harvard, to establish our noble fraternity in those standard institutions. Chapter Gamma, at Washington, Pa., states that the students from which they have to choose their members, are, in a great degree, of rather a foppish character, and that is not their style, and therefore their number is not larger than it is, there being at present only five. Chapter Tau, at Lancaster, Pa., is in a flourishing condition, but they have been subjected to great trouble on account of the perjury and dishonesty of one of their ex-members, he attempting to bull-doze them by threatening to expose them if they do not suit his most worthy (?) person. Chapter Rho, at Stevens Institute, Hoboken, N. J., is flourishing, and has lately sent us a beautiful design for a new skeleton pin, which would be an improvement on our present pin. The design sent with it was to have a diamond in each of the upper corners of the Tau, a topaz in the foot, the center of the top was to contain the chapter stone, and the rest filled in with pearls. The combination of the Deltas was to be of pure gold, chased. Chapter Nu, at Easton, numbers only two, but will soon have more.

LEWIS T. WOLLE.

Personals.—News from "Tau."—Lancaster, Pa.

REV. D. H. GEISSINGER, '71 Allegheny College, is pastor of Grace Lutheran Church, of Lancaster, Pa. The Bro. is one of the leading young clergymen of the city, and, of course, takes a lively interest in Tau.

BRO. GEO. W. GEISER, '75 of Tau, has been Principal of "Bath Collegiate Institute" during the last two years. He will enter the Northampton Co. Bar during the course of the year. Address, Bath, Northampton Co., Pa.

BRO. B. F. BIERY, '75, is in the Senior Class Union Theol., New York City. The Bro. we understand, is very much attached to the belles of the Metropolis. Go ahead Ben, make yourself useful.

BRO. GEO. M. ZACHARIAS, '72 of Washington and Jefferson, and '77 of the Theol. Department of our Institution, is at present spending his vacation at his home in Baltimore, Md., preparatory to entering upon ministerial duties. Bro. Zacharias founded our chapter three years ago, and has been mainly instrumental in helping her through all her difficulties; we miss him very much. The farewell meeting of the chapter was one of sadness, though some of the features filled each loyal heart with pleasure. Tau receives "letters of instruction" from George every now and then.

BROS. BOWLING, LAURY and RHEINSBERG, '76, and members of the Junior Class in the Theol. Department, are spending vacation at their homes. Bro. Bowling is teaching school near Irwin, Westmoreland Co., Pa., during a part of the summer.

BRO. L. H. CORT, '78, at last accounts was in Colorado.

TAU will hold its second "Yearly Feast," or Banquet, as it is commonly called, sometime during commencement week, the committee has not yet decided upon the evening. After the supper will have been put to its proper place, a fine selection of about fifteen appropriate toasts will be responded to, followed by a poem written for the occasion by a member of the senior class, and the valedictory of the senior class and response of the chapter. It is the intention of the committee to intersperse the toasts with instrumental and vocal music, and to open the banquet with an initiation, if all things prove favorable, of two very desirable men, at which the chapter's beautiful and impressive initiatory service, prepared by Bro. Hartzel, '77, will be used. This will be one of the most interesting features of the evening, and will occupy one hour's time. A full account of the banquet will be sent to the CRESCENT.

Tau Banquets—The Good Things of Life Salted Down with Music, Eloquence, Poetry and Song.

LANCASTER, PA., July, 1877.

For THE CRESCENT:

The most interesting feature of commencement week to the Deltas of Franklin and Marshall College, was their banquet at the Grasse Hotel in this city, on the evening of June 27th. We were but a handful awhile ago, steadily struggling for existence; we now outrank, in quality and quantity, every other fraternity represented at our school, and the event was long looked forward to by the members of chapter Tau, as one by which they could assert to themselves, in quiet, the proud fact that they had come, had seen, and had conquered. Invitations had been sent to alumni and absent members to join us round our festal board; a number of these could not be present, but Brothers George Zacharias, of Baltimore, Md.; George W. Geiser, of Easton, Pa., and D. H. Geissinger, of Lancaster, were welcomed among us. Walter J. Bausman, a brother of our worthy S. A., was initiated into the mysteries of our secret shrine early in the evening, and he, too, was a partner in our pleasure. At 9.30 o'clock we sat down to an elegant repast, "far from the madding crowd." It is needless for me to discuss the table and its contents. Every one did full justice to every thing. Supper over, we adjourned to the private parlor of the "Grasse," where we indulged in "a feast of reason and flow of soul." Our addresses, toasts, and poem lasted until the city clock hard by tolled out the hour of midnight, and warned us to rooms and morpheus' arms. The following abstract report of our after-supper exercises does not do justice to many of the speakers, but our brethren who read the CRESCENT can form an idea therefrom of our meeting's tone.

A. B. Reiser, of '80, chapter Tau's presiding officer, acted as toast-maker, and delivered an address of welcome to the visiting brethren. He spoke of our advancement, and the hope he entertained of our further progress. Tau's latch-string will always be out, and her heart ever open to welcome the faithful workers who laid her foundations. In response to his call, the following toasts were responded to:

"Our Fraternity—Its Influence on Character": by Rev. D. H. Geissinger. The principles of the Delta Fraternity, as enunciated in the initiatory service of Tau chapter, could not fail to act upon the lives of young men, and make them fruitful in good works.

"Our Clergy": by Rev. G. M. Zacharias. The first Delta resident in Lancaster was a clergyman; he hoped that many young members of the fraternity would be numbered in the ranks of the christian ministry. All Deltas, and especially the clergy of the fraternity, would always be welcomed at his home.

The next toast: "Our Alumni," was to have been

responded to by B. F. Biery, of Union Theological Seminary, New York city, but as the brother could not be present, it was passed over.

"Our Lawyers;" by G. W. Geiser, Esq., of Easton, Pa. Brother Geiser knew of no lawyers in our chapter. He was one only *in esse*. Some of the greatest men our country has produced have been lawyers. We boast of Jefferson, Clay, Calhoun, Webster and Sumner. Lawyers are generally the most liberal members of the christian church. He cast back the charge that they were mostly infidel. The majority are christian. He hoped they would honor our country, and our noble fraternity as well.

"Our Fraternity—Her Future;" by Daniel Gibbons, '78. It was axiomatic to state that our fraternity would be perpetual. The future was something upon which we always liked to speak, and about which we indulged in the fondest of day-dreams. The foundation of fraternity was broad, liberal and christian. Hon. J. Proctor Knott had said it, and he gave it hearty support, that the Creator had not established any aspiration in the human breast for which he had not given corresponding means of accomplishment. If we would establish our fraternity firmly throughout the land, we must supplement desire by work.

"Our Motto—Labor for the Beautiful and the Good;" by J. Harrison Geissinger, '80. We possess a motto of which we can justly be proud, one which, if firmly graven upon our hearts, cannot fail to make a great impression upon our lives. What that contributes to real happiness is omitted in the injunction to "labor for the Beautiful and the Good." Are not innocence, candor, generosity and heroism involved in the beauty and goodness of humanity? In nature are not the heavens and the earth, with their beautiful and goodly adornments, constantly inciting us not only to grand conceptions and aspirations, but also to noble action? Never let our belief in the Good and Beautiful forsake us. It will be medicine in sickness, richness in poverty, and the best part of all that will ever delight us in health and success.

"Our Own Chapter;" by B. F. Bausman, '80. We have reason to be proud of our chapter. We have successfully grappled with difficulties from within and without. We have an interest in the fraternity at large, but are especially anxious for the welfare of chapter Tau. Our chapter does not occupy a mean position in the fraternity, but a prominent one. The annual reunions of Tau promise to be more pleasant each succeeding year. We have gained the moral ascendancy at Franklin and Marshall, and now that we have firmly grounded a thing of beauty, let us each do our share to make it a joy forever.

"The Ladies;" by C. W. Levan, '80. No single word expressed more than "ladies" to Brother L. It included "mother," the sweetest word. He knew from experience that the fair sex had an influence over men. Their society elevates, strengthens and purifies.

"Franklin and Marshall;" by John N. Lawfer, Allentown, Pa. Though not appreciated as it should be, our school is worthy of praise and support. Many names honored in church and state look to her as their *alma mater*. May she live and prosper.

"Our Yearly Feast;" by Harry R. Friese, Harrisburgh, Pa. Our annual feast is one of "brotherly love," and fraternal welfare. May it not only be indulged in while we are members of the institution on the hill, but always. Let our brotherhood be broken only by death. We bid farewell to each other now as we go to our respective homes to spend the "long vacation." May we all be returned to enjoy the society of each other and "yearly feasts" in future time. Let the present time be remembered by all as one of pleasure.

"To you, the Fair, the True, the Good we consecrate,
This emblem of our brotherhood, whate'er its fate.
May Justice, Love, and Truth defend
Its sacred honor until time shall end."

"Our Color—The Royal Purple;" by Frank Elliott, '80. Brother Elliott spoke of the significance and use of colors. Every son of Tau should wear the imperial purple proudly, and assert by their deportment to the outside world that it is in reality "the sign of royalty." The toasts having all been responded to, Brother A. F. Driesbach, '77, read the following poem, written for the occasion.

OUR CHAPTER'S SHRINE.

All hail to thee O sacred shrine!
To thee fond mem'ries closely cling
Where all thy sons, from time to time,
Thus meet to rest beneath the wing
Of friendship, and of love and peace,
While surging tides of trouble swell
Across life's path, and never cease,
But onward roll where mortals dwell.
We are together here to-night,
To crown our youthful brow once more
With friendship's wreaths, so pure and bright,
Which none but Deltas ever wore.
And when we're severed far and wide,
Of thee we ne'er shall cease to think;
But move along upon the tide
Of transient life's uncertain brink.
And whilst we part, as brethren do,
We'll not forget thee, Delta Tau,
Because thou hast been always true
To such as closely round thee draw.
In peace we bow before thy shrine
Where oft we did in secret rest;
O may thy star forever shine,
E'en if we're numbered with the blest.
But fare the well, when death's cold hand,
Amidst the pleasures of this life,
Shall bear us to another land,
Where neither hatred is, nor mortal strife.
Once more upon us smile, thou queen
Of goodness, beauty, truth and love;
We soon shall leave this happy scene
And go to fairer climes above.
O sacred shrine! breathe soft and low,
And answer back a "fare you well;"
May all thy sons in wisdom grow
As ages roll, and tell
The joyful news on yon bright shore,
Where Delta Tau's shall part no more.

Bro. Jacob S. Hartzel, of '77, then delivered the valedictory address, speaking as follows:

Brothers:—Our meeting to-night has been one of gayety and mirth. The muses kindly favored us with their presence. Wit and wisdom have been lavishly poured forth from all sides. Counsel has been given, and we have been imbued with new life by the instructive words of our older *fraters*. The words of each one have given us new zeal and equipped us for fresh conquests. But a subject of a different character now presents itself to us; we are called upon to bid farewell to chapter Tau in the name of the senior members.

For a number of years we have labored together for the best interests of a common cause. Side by side we toiled, digging for Tau a road to success. Side by side we stood, sharing each others burdens, and assuming each others difficulties. But now we are to be separated, perhaps for a long time, perhaps forever. We leave behind us a treasure, placed for safety into your hands; that treasure is chapter Tau—yea, our fraternity. Her destinies will be watched by you, and to the extent of your vigilance will be the degree of success. Hers is a noble mission and yours a sacred privilege, so Labor for the Beautiful and the Good in behalf of the Delta, the Eye and the Crescent. Toil on. Let your lights shine brightly, sending their rays far out among men, guiding the proper persons to our shrine. Let what has thus far been accomplished be but the dim dawn of a daylight of success. Gather into your midst the cream of the Institution. Strive to fill the vacant chairs of Tau with men of noble character, men of whom we may ever feel proud, men who will bring honor upon the fraternity. But since such men are scarce, do not fill them with inferior men, just for the sake of filling. Let your object be morals, not numbers; quality, not quantity; and when the opportunity arrives for realizing this object, then work earnestly, work faithfully. Remember that too careful you can not be as to whom you admit to our mystic circle, for once united with us they are to be a help or a hindrance, and will exert an influence either for good or for evil; and remember again, that you are laboring, not for yourselves, but for the Beautiful and the Good. Bear in mind that it is not an easy thing to maintain a chapter surrounded by difficulties such as are brought upon us by the Faculty; and that it is consequently necessary to have earnest, hard-working men to cheer and push on when others are discouraged and fall back, and to overcome the arguments and the reticence of those you are seeking, and who you desire should worship at the shrine Delta Tau. For an example, we need but look at Mr. S——. He told us but the other day that he preferred us to the Φ 's and would have joined us had we but come first. It is too late now to lament; it is too late now to wish that we had been more prompt, and put forth more efforts, as some of us have wished and lamented. No one is to blame but ourselves, and I earnestly hope that this piece of whole-

sale negligence, so dearly bought, may serve as a lesson and show us the necessity of earnest, hard-working men in the chapter.

Another fact about membership might be referred to at this point. You want persons with pocket-books, moneyed men, men who have the interests of the chapter in their pockets as well as in their hearts. You don't want anyone who clutches every cent, nor do you want many beneficiary students.

I would also here urge the necessity of permanent rooms to hold our meetings in; rooms particularly fitted for secret-society meetings, whither we may go when we please, stay as long as we please, and, in one sense, do as we please; where we can keep our papers and documents, and feel assured that they will not be paraded about by others the next day and made sport of, or lost through the unpardonable negligence and carelessness of a secretary.

Brothers, you come to this institution to study; one of the three stones in the foundation wall of Delta Tau is intellectual improvement. Therefore study faithfully, study well. Each one try to be at the head of his class, try to carry with him into the world some of the honors of the Institution. But one thing remember; do not study for the sake of honors; do not study for the sake of leading the class, for that is mechanical, selfish, unnatural; but study for the sake of the fraternity, study for the sake of study, study for your own sakes, because it is then that you have the true manly spirit; it is then that you become what it was intended man should become by the creator; it is then that you become really and truly men.

You who have left, in former years, the brotherly care, the friendly and paternal aid of a chapter, you who have trodden the highways and by-ways of deceitful "Mother Earth", lend us who are about to follow you a helping hand. We desire your guidance and instruction, and you who are to remain, we look to you still for aid in travelling across life's desert. Yea may we all be helpmates to each other, let us all stretch the right hand of fraternal fellowship across the arbor of our Fraternity, and say to each one: "Brother onward! upward!" Yea, let us, in the name of humanity, stretch the right hand of christian fellowship across the kingdom of light, and keep every suffering mortal over the shoals and quicksands of time. Let us apply the Christian principles of fraternal love and friendship, which we have learned from Delta Tau, not only to members of our fraternity as we must, but also members of God's fraternity—the fraternity of humanity—as we should, be they Christian or Pagan, Jew or Gentile.

And now bidding farewell to each one, I hope and pray that God's blessing may rest with the fraternity in the future, as I feel it has been with her in the past.

Brother Will A. Miller, of the sophomore class, replied as follows to brother Hartzel's stirring farewell speech:

BROTHERS: Once again, at the close of another year's

course of study, have we met around our festive board. This collegiate year has passed around almost like a flash of lightning, that so beautifully lights up the canopy of heaven, and then passes away and leaves the astonished beholder to wonder over its effect. Old Time has almost completed another cycle of existence in the history of our chapter. He has slipped around in his course so quickly that it seems like an impossibility for us to realize it. To the older members, more than the rest, it seems but a few months since we last gathered around our glistening board. It is too true that time has flown by as on wings, and brought us to the second *symposium* of our chapter.

But as I look around our little band, I see that Old Time, although he has glided so swiftly by, has not passed without leaving behind him some marks by which we can trace out that he has gone on his regular course.

But alas! as I glance around me I see that there are some familiar faces wanting in our midst to-night. Some who were with us at our last *Symposium* and others still younger, and but newly-made members have been called home. Their cheerful faces and flowery wit would add to the zest of the evening, and although they are not present to-night *in corpore*, they are, I feel certain, here *in spiritu*. During the year we have enlisted under our banner eight or nine more members of the purple hue. In this time we have had to undergo and pass through many trials and ordeals, but we have fought hard, and have borne the purple standard triumphantly through, and to-day we stand second to none of our sister fraternities at this institution. We have always striven to carry out our motto, and by so doing have come off victors.

Brothers, who have completed your course of study, and are about to separate yourselves from your *Alma Mater*, and from your fraternity as active members, you are about to enter life in earnest. It is a fixed fact; a stern solemn reality. A life-work must be undertaken by every one, and when it is begun there can be no turning back. Regrets are idle, sighs are useless. Life can be made pleasant and it can be made disagreeable, all depends on personal endeavor. "Every man is the architect of his own fortune". He who rears for himself one great and honorable and glorious, the merit and the bliss are his; but he who builds a polluted, unsightly edifice, misery and shame belong to him. "True success", some one says, "is the product of the sum of our years multiplied by our good actions". As you go forth from our band upon the dreary, rough, and deceitful ways of the world, all kinds of difficulties will rise up before you. You will have to suffer defeats, you will have to know how to bear victories. You will be thrown among all classes of men. You will be surrounded by deceit as well as honesty. Learn to know humanity. Beware of the flatterer with his oily words and sentences. You will be tossed by every wind and wave. You will be borne hither and

thither, now on the shoulders of the impetuous crowd up to the temple of Fortune and Fame, there to be crowned with Earth's laurel, now carried low down, in the deceitful paths of Pleasure's garden, the outside of which is to the human eye gaudy and pleasing, but whose interior is nothing more than a wasteless desert.

Brothers, you shall be missed in our secret circle, as we assemble from time to time. Your chairs will be vacant, and as we look toward the place where you were wont to sit, we will think of you with feelings of deepest love. Your presence, brother Hartzel, shall be especially missed. I can assure you—you who have done so much for us—that in your departure we lose one of the best sons Tau ever cherished, one of whom she will ever proudly boast. You have given time to frame an initiatory service that will be to our chapter and to you a lasting memorial; you have been the back-bone (if I may use the expression) of our chapter; you have often given us words of encouragement and advice in the hour of adversity.

Brother Dresbach, you shall also be missed from out our sacred shrine. As the poet of the chapter, and of the literary society to which you belonged as well, you often brought credit to yourself and our brotherhood. Do not cease to invoke the muses to instill more and more the divine music of poetry into your soul. May your lives be true and pure as gold, and your labors so constantly increasing that you may be crowned with success. May the all-seeing Ruler of the universe lead you upward to Himself, and may you by working for the beautiful and the Good in this present life, come to inherit the fullness of an eternal life hereafter.

J. H. G.

Letter from Epsilon Beta.

BLOOMINGTON, ILL., June 12, '77.

Dear CRESCENT:—If not too late we should like to send you our hearty congratulations, your prospect is certainly good at least in this locality and our whole chapter unite in wishing you God-speed.

Chapter Epsilon Beta of the Illinois Wesleyan University is still in its infancy, but having a strong constitution and parents zealous for its welfare it is sure to become a brilliant youth and flourish in a green old age.

We hope soon to see your smiling countenance among us and become better acquainted. And rest assured that our chapter will rise to your hearty support.

Fraternally Yours,

CHRIS. GALEENER, Cor. Sec.

We received a number of letters and reports from Chapters, but could not insert them in this number of THE CRESCENT for want of space. They will all appear in the October number.—EDS.