

**SOME SHEFF. HISTORY.**

**The Main Points in the Development of the School.**

In 1846, two professorships, one of Agricultural Chemistry and Animal and Vegetable Physiology, the other of Practical Chemistry, were established by the Corporation of Yale College. There was no provision for salary beyond a sum of \$5,000, promised toward the endowment of the Chair of Agricultural Chemistry, under the condition that \$20,000 more be found for the same purpose, a condition which was never fulfilled. On this slight foundation the Scientific Department of Yale was begun, under the direction of John Pitkin Norton and Benjamin Silliman, Jr., who held respectively the professorships of Agricultural and Practical Chemistry. In 1847, after the organization of the two chairs into a School of Philosophy and Arts, Professors Norton and Silliman rented from the Corporation the old frame building which had been occupied by Presidents Dwight and Day. Without rules, and unmolested by examinations, the first class, eight in number, began work in the Autumn of 1847. In those days the courses, especially for the scientific student, were few; laboratory practice, a course in Agricultural Chemistry under Professor Norton in the second term, and a course in Applied Chemistry and Metallurgy, under Professor Silliman, Jr., in the third term.

In spite of Professor Silliman's resignation in 1849 the School continued to prosper and at the Commencement of 1852 the degree of Ph.B was granted by the Corporation to the graduating class. On this same occasion Mr. William A. Norton accepted the chair of Civil Engineering—a position similar to the one which he had held in Brown University—and in the Autumn of 1852, his class having followed him from Brown, the School of Engineering opened with twenty-six members.

But in September of the same year the organizer and promoter of the Scientific School, Professor John P. Norton, died at the age of thirty, worn out already by his labors. "Never," says Professor Lounsbury, "has science anywhere had a more disinterested follower. He devoted himself without reserve to building up this department of Yale College, and much of the late success of the School has been due to that example of self-sacrifice to its interests. To it he gave for a few short years his toil, his time, his money; he ended at last by giving to it his life."

**MR. PORTER'S APPOINTMENT.**

Mr. John A. Porter accepted the chair of Analytical and Agricultural Chemistry in 1853, and in addition to his regular work, did much toward introducing the present system of education, upon broad lines of culture, as well as scientific instruction. And besides all that, it was through him that his father-in-law, Mr. Joseph E. Sheffield, was first interested in the Scientific School. In 1855 Mr. George J. Brush was elected to the chair of Metallurgy and in 1856 Mr. S. W. Johnston became Professor of Analytical Chemistry, to which Agricultural Chemistry was afterward added. From then on, the management of the school gradually passed into the hands of these two men.

A chair of Physics, to which the Rev. C. S. Lyman was elected, was founded in 1859. In this year Mr. Sheffield bought the building which had hitherto been used by the Medical College, and having enlarged and refitted it, handed it over to the Scientific School. In addition he gave \$50,000 for the endowment of the three chairs of Analytical and Agricultural Chemistry, Metallurgy and Engineering.

Professor William D. Whitney, who held the chair of Sanskrit in the University, in 1860, accepted in addition the chair of Modern Languages in the Scientific School. To him more than any other is due the success of the movement to give languages their proper position in the curriculum of the School. It is probable that the Sheffield Scientific School is unique in this respect.

Income acquired from the fund of the State, secured from the sale of public lands, allowed an increase of the teaching staff in 1863. In that year Mr. Daniel C. Gilman was appointed Pro-

fessor of Physical Geography and in the following year Professor Brewer was given the Chair of Agriculture, Professor Eaton the Chair of Botany and Professor Verrill the Chair of Zoology. In 1865 Mr. A. P. Rockwell was elected Professor of Mining. Another important step was taken in the year 1871-2, when the Professorship of Mechanical Engineering was founded. Mr. William P. Trowbridge was chosen to the new Professorship. In this same year Thomas R. Lounsbury was made Professor of English; Oscar D. Allen, Professor of Metallurgy and Francis A. Walker Professor of Political Economy and History.

The first entrance examinations were held in 1861, and covered Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, Plain Trigonometry, English Grammar, Geography and the elements of Chemistry and Physics. At the same time the course in Chemistry was lengthened to three years, and the "general course" then first established was made the same length. It was not until 1863 that the course of engineering was changed to three years.

**CHOICE OF PROF. BRUSH AS DIRECTOR.**

In 1872, the governing body of the School established as far back as 1856, and composed of the professors and the President of the College, elected an executive officer to take charge of the general management of the School. Professor George J. Brush was chosen. For a long time he had been practically the manager of the institution, and the disinterested devotion displayed by him to its interest, as well as the energy, ability and clearness of judgment which had characterized his direction during the most trying periods of its history, were recognized by the other members of the Board as fitting him for the direction of affairs. Professor Brush has been reelected at the end of each term.

The School continued steadily to develop its system and add to its corps of instructors. Mr. John E. Clark was appointed to the Chair of Mathematics in 1873; Sidney I. Smith was chosen Professor of Comparative Anatomy in 1875, and in the same year William G. Mixer was made Professor of Chemistry. In 1877, A. Jay DuBois was appointed Professor of Dynamical Engineering in place of Professor Trowbridge, who resigned that year to accept a professorship in Columbia. Professor Henry W. Farnam joined the Faculty in 1881, taking the vacancy caused by the resignation of Professor Walker to accept the Presidency of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and in 1882 the Professorship of Physiological Chemistry was founded, and Russell H. Chittenden was chosen for it. In 1883 Professor DuBois was transferred from the Engineering to take the head of the Department of Civil Engineering, left vacant by the death of Professor Norton. The Professorship of Mechanical Engineering was then offered to Mr. Charles B. Richards and was accepted by him. In 1884, the Chair of Physics and Astronomy, held by Professor Lyman, was divided and Professor Charles L. Hastings was chosen to the new Chair of Physics. Ten years later two more additions to the staff of instructors were made, in the appointment of Samuel L. Penfield as Professor of Mineralogy and Horace L. Wells as Professor of Analytical Chemistry and Metallurgy. The further additions to the Governing Board by the appointment of Charles E. Beecher to the Professorship of Historical Geology and Louis V. Pirsson to the Professorship of Physical Geology, have been spoken of in recent issues of the WEEKLY.

**THE SIZE OF CLASSES.**

In 1852, the graduating Class numbered seven; in 1862, only six; in 1872, twenty-three received diplomas, and in 1882 this number had risen to thirty-six. In 1891 the Freshman Class numbered 207; in 1893, 228; and in 1894, 254. The withdrawal of free scholarships by the transference of land grant moneys, the hard times and the increased standard of admission have operated to reduce the membership somewhat in recent years.

**BUILDINGS.**

The year 1872-3 saw the completion of North Sheffield Hall, the second building given by Mr. Sheffield, who had expended over \$100,000 in it.

[Continued on 8th page.]

**JOSEPH EARL SHEFFIELD.**

**Sketch of the Life of the Founder of the Scientific School.**

Joseph Earl Sheffield was born June 19, 1793, in Southport, Connecticut. His father and grandfather were ship owners who, during the Revolutionary War, had maintained an armed vessel in the interests of the Colonies. His mother, Mabel Thorpe, was the daughter of Captain Walter Thorpe, also of Southport, a ship owner engaged in the West India trade. The Sheffield and Thorpes were both financially crippled by the Milan and Berlin decrees of Napoleon, so in 1808 Joseph Sheffield, in accordance with his own wishes, became a clerk in the store of Mr. Stephen Fowler, of Newbern, South Carolina. As a result of his industry and ability, he became a partner in a firm doing business in Newbern and New York City, in 1830. In spite of the hard times of 1815, Mr. Sheffield continued to prosper, and after traveling over a large part of the South, he moved his business to Mobile, Ala.

In 1822, Mr. Sheffield married Miss Maria St. John, daughter of Colonel J. T. St. John, of Walton, Delaware Co., New York. About this time he became associated with prominent business men in all parts of the country, notably Mr. Henry Kneeland, of New York and Mr. Nicholas Biddle, of Philadelphia. As a result of this intimacy which sprang up between him and Mr. Biddle, he was offered the Presidency of the Mobile branch of the United States Bank, which offer he refused.

In 1835, Mr. Sheffield moved North and settled in New Haven, where he lived until his decease in 1882. During his residence in New Haven Mr. Sheffield kept up his business connections and was interested in several very important enterprises.

In addition to the Scientific School which bears his name, other institutions have received benefactions from Mr. Sheffield. While these were very large in proportion to his moderate fortune it is impossible to form any accurate estimate of the value of his gifts. It is enough to say that in 1879, his benefactions to educational institutions alone, exceeded six hundred thousand dollars.

At the time of his death, Mr. Sheffield had given the School approximately four hundred thousand dollars. In his will he added a seventh part of his estate, treating the School as one of his children. This further gift was not less than half a million dollars, making the total gifts of Mr. Sheffield to the School which bears his name not less than one million dollars.

**Yale Men at the University of California.**

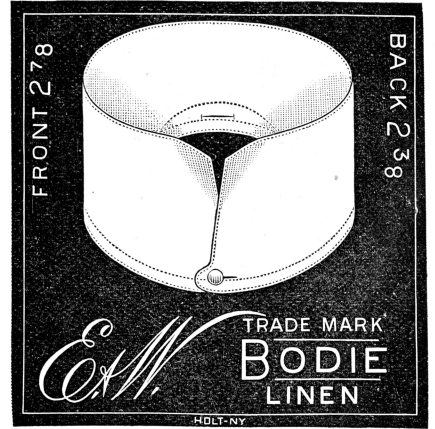
The Faculty of the University of California contains the following Yale men, thirteen in all:

- Martin Kellogg, A.B. 1850, LL.D. 1893, President.
- Thomas R. Bacon, A.B. 1872, B.D. 1877, Professor of European History.
- Edward B. Clapp, Ph.D. 1886, Professor of Greek.
- Cornelius B. Bradley, Divinity School 1869, Professor of Rhetoric.
- William A. Setchell, A.B. 1887, Professor of Botany.
- Wm. B. Bosley, A.B. 1892, LL.B. 1894, Ass't Professor of Law.
- Louis Dupont Syle, A.B. 1879, Ass't Professor of English.
- George M. Stratton, A.M. 1890, Ass't Professor of Psychology.
- Thomas F. Sanford, A.B. 1888, Ass't Professor of English.
- Clifton Price, Ph.D. 1896, Instructor in Latin.
- Clive Day, A.B. 1892, Instructor in History.
- Arthur C. Alexander, Ph.B. 1889, Ph.D. 1894, Instructor in Physics.
- Herbert C. Nutting, A.B. 1895, Ph.D. 1897, Instructor in Greek and Sanskrit.

**In the College Pulpit.**

Following is a list of the preachers who will occupy the pulpit for the next three Sundays:

- October 31—Prof. George Harris, Andover, Mass.
- November 7—Prof. Ladd, New Haven.
- November 14—Rev. Reuen Thomas, D.D., Brookline, Mass.



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