
COLUMBIA INSTITUTION FOR THE DEAF AND DUMB.

OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION FOR DEAF AND DUMB.

OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

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Family Supervisor.—**WM. L. GALLAUDET.**

Attending Physician.—**N. S. LINCOLN**, M. D.

Matron.—**MISS ANNA A. PRATT.**

Assistant Matron.—**MRS. ELIZABETH DENISON.**

Master of Shop.—**ALMON BRYANT.**

* The duties of this professorship are for the present discharged by the Professor of Mathematics.

† The duties of this professorship are for the present discharged by the Professor of History and Ancient Languages.

REPORT.

**COLUMBIA INSTITUTION FOR THE
INSTRUCTION OF THE DEAF AND DUMB,
Washington, October 29, 1870.**

SIR: In compliance with the acts of Congress making provision for the support of this institution, we have the honor to report its progress during the year ending June 30, 1870.

NUMBER OF PUPILS.

| | |
|--|------------|
| The pupils remaining in the institution on the 1st day of July, 1869, numbered | 77 |
| Admitted during the year..... | 5 |
| Since admitted..... | 18 |
| Total | 100 |

Under instruction since July 1, 1869, males 72, females 18. Of these fifty-two have been in the collegiate department, representing twenty States and the District of Columbia, and forty-eight in the primary department. Seven have left the college during the year, and three have left the primary department, one of these latter having been expelled for misconduct. The pupils that now remain connected with the institution, ninety in number, are equally divided between the two departments.

HEALTH OF THE INSTITUTION.

Through the sparing mercy of a kind Providence we are permitted to record the fact that none of our pupils have been removed by death, and that no alarming disease has made its appearance during the year. The few cases of sickness that have demanded the notice of the attending physician have been slight in degree and have in every instance yielded readily to treatment.

DEATH OF HON. AMOS KENDALL AND HON. B. B. FRENCH.

The institution has, however, been sorely afflicted in the removal by death of two of its most honored directors.

Hon. Amos Kendall, the founder and first president of the institution, passed from earth on the 12th of November, 1869, at the venerable age of eighty-one years.

At a special meeting of the board, on Tuesday, November 16, 1869, the following proceedings relative to the death of Mr. Kendall took place.

The president made official announcement of the death of Mr. Kendall, after which, Rev. Dr. Sunderland offered the following resolutions:

Whereas it has pleased Almighty God, in the unsearchable wisdom of His providence, to remove by death our late associate in this board, the Hon. Amos Kendall, at the

advanced age of eighty-one years, and after a life of the highest usefulness and honor; therefore,

Resolved, That in this event we, the surviving members of this board, feeling the full weight of the affliction, both to ourselves and to the institution of which he was the founder and for several years the most powerful patron, do at the same time recognize in it the righteous hand of our Father in heaven, and bow in filial submission to the ordering of His sovereign will.

Resolved, That in the character and history of our departed friend the faculties that ennoble and the virtues that adorn our nature in all the relations, whether of public or private station, had a most conspicuous illustration. Endowed with an intellect of the largest grasp and of the clearest perception, he comprehended with equal facility the plainest and the deepest problems of human interest; with whatever subject he was called to deal, whether in science or religion, in Church or State, in his hands the obscurities vanished, its difficulties disappeared. A man at once of the greatest simplicity, the greatest probity, and the greatest resolution, he was equal to any task and fitted for any position of trust or honor that was in fact or that might have been assigned him among his fellow-countrymen. And in the successive periods of his career we cannot fail to mark those rare qualities which most distinguished the man, the citizen, and the Christian, and which so signally combined in him, now furnish to the youth of our country an impressive and inspiring example.

Resolved, That, above all other things, we acknowledge a deep and grateful sense of that Divine grace which, especially during the later years of his life, was shed upon him, and which gave to the close of his earthly existence the splendor of a cloudless sunset, the harbinger of human hope and the day-dawn of man's glorious immortality.

Resolved, That these resolutions be entered in the records of this board and published in the city journals, and that a copy of them be transmitted to the family of the deceased.

Mr. French seconded their adoption with the following remarks:

This month of November 1869 will stand in the annals of the future as remarkable on account of the deaths of eminent individuals who have gone from among mankind during its continuance. George Peabody, Admiral Stewart, General Wool, Robert Walker, and Amos Kendall—names known to the world, and which shall forever live in history—have all passed away during this month, now only half expired.

We here have now especially to notice the death of Amos Kendall, who died in this city on Friday last, the 12th instant, full of years and full of honors, he having been born in August 1789, and having been prominent from his early manhood to his death as a man belonging to the nation.

As I aided on Sunday last in bearing his mortal remains from Calvary Church, I could not but recall the time when, on the evening of October 19, 1847, I witnessed the feeling ovation which was paid to him in that very church by his warm friends who took that method of expressing toward him their affection and also their joy at his safe return from an European tour of considerable length. I remembered how I saw him, old as he was, walk down that very aisle, arm-in-arm with the pastor of the church, with a step as elastic, and a form as erect as if the weight of not more than a score of years was upon him. I remembered how we all rose to greet him; how we passed around and welcomed him home individually, and how we all delighted to behold him; and how I wished and hoped that he might be spared to us for many years.

Alas! that hope could not be gratified beyond the brief period of two short years, and I was one who was honored with the sacred office of bearing his venerated remains from that church of his love toward its last resting-place on earth.

He had my esteem and respect while living, and I feel that it is an impossibility that I can pay too much honor to his memory now that he has departed.

Mr. Kendall was personally known to me for the last thirty-six years of his life. I knew him well by reputation ten years, at least, before I became personally acquainted with him, he having studied law with Chief Justice William M. Richardson, whose family I was intimately connected, and in which Mr. Kendall was ever spoken of in terms of high praise and affectionate remembrance. And as evidence of a reciprocal feeling on the part of Mr. Kendall, I will say that the first time I met him, after we heard of the death of Judge Richardson, he said to me, "My love and respect to Judge Richardson were only surpassed by the love and respect I had for my good father."

I came to Washington in December, 1833, and Mr. Kendall was one of the first persons with whom I became acquainted.

When the magnetic telegraph was in its swaddling-clothes Mr. Kendall was associated with myself and a few others in nursing it into adult life. We were directors of the first company ever formed in the world, and we were both presidents of it at different times. We were co-laborers in bringing the great invention of Professor Morse from infancy to full manhood, and both of us had the extreme satisfaction of seeing a little line of two insignificant wires, extending from Washington to Philadelphia, grow

into a huge net-work, covering nearly the whole earth, and spreading itself beneath the billows of the heaving ocean, bearing the whispers of man to man thousands of miles asunder.

This association led to a frequent intercourse between us. We met together, we traveled together, we occupied the same hotels together, and I enjoyed exceedingly the volumes of instruction and information which I derived from his ever-active and well-informed mind.

Again, in this board I met him; first as its president and then as a brother director, where you have all seen him, and respected, ay, loved him, while he poured out before you in his modest and unassuming manner sage counsels and wise advice.

Mr. Kendall, from his first entrance into business life, was a man of mark. Whatever he undertook he prosecuted with all his might. He seldom, if ever, started into anything until he assured himself that it was right, but once in there was no compromising: he pursued his object with a zeal and ability that assured success.

Honest in every action of his life, true to every principle he ever professed, patriotic to the last drop of his blood, with a courage, both physical and moral, that admitted of no retreat, he went forward, and did not, as such a man could not, escape the tongue of slander and reproach. But he lived it all down; he came out of the furnace the pure and refined gold of human nature, and in his latter days was acknowledged by all as one of the best of men.

He has gone from us in all the glory of an honest Christian man. "Joy, joy!" were the last words he uttered, and I doubt not that he now participates in that real "joy" which awaits all who live and die as he did.

Mr. McGuire paid a tribute to the memory of the deceased in the following remarks:

Mr. McGuire said that he felt impelled to speak some of the thoughts and feelings with which the occasion filled his mind and heart. For more than thirty-three years he had known Mr. Kendall intimately, and throughout that time had enjoyed his friendship and his personal confidence. It is (continued Mr. McGuire) with much satisfaction, and with a melancholy pleasure, that I now recall the many evidences of his regard and esteem, as shown on the frequent occasions of our confidential interviews as *personal friends*. I knew of all the important business matters in which he was engaged, and I believe there were none, from the commencement of our acquaintance until the day of his death, in regard to which he did not advise with and consult me.

I had often heard of Amos Kendall at my home in Pennsylvania, and being of the old democratic party, and interested in whatever affected its great leaders, I read everything that was written in the papers of my section about Mr. Kendall, whether in his favor or against him. So severe and bitter were the attacks upon him, and such the frightful character of the description given of him by his political enemies, that when I came to Washington on a visit, in 1832, I expected to find, as the subject of these political portraits, a large, athletic and burly man, of fierce and angry demeanor, with bowie knives in his belt, and ready to remove with violence or crush by main strength whatever impeded his way or opposed his progress. His intellectual power had wrought upon the fears of his enemies, and their descriptions had wrought upon my fancy. When I saw the man myself, spare and light in figure, with a face full of kindness and thought, and of pleasant, courteous, and gentle manners, I could scarcely realize that he was indeed the person my mind had pictured as Amos Kendall.

Shortly after this visit I came to Washington to reside, and it was my good fortune to live next door to Mr. Kendall. An intimacy grew up between the families. I saw him in his domestic life, and probably had a better opportunity to observe him at home, and see his inner life, than any person not a member of his immediate family. He was always gentle and kind, and delighted in the company of children, sharing in their amusements, and drawing them to him by that sympathy which children are so quick to discover.

I have sometimes gone to his house, (continued Mr. McGuire,) and found him stretched out on the floor with his own children and mine romping around and upon him, pulling at him, and tumbling over him, and he as merry and happy and as full of the sport as any of the little ones. At other times I have found them at the game of blind-man's-buff, with Mr. Kendall playing the part of the blinded man, and the little ones romping away from him around the room, and he in the sport and in the spirit as much of a child as any among them. Whatever sports would amuse them he was ready to engage in, and he seemed always to come among them with a heart as young and light as their own.

He had some views in regard to matters connected with the duty and responsibility of official position which might now be regarded as *old-fashioned*. While he was Postmaster General, I happened to be with him on one occasion when Mr. Reeside was present. Mr. Reeside said to him: "Mr. Kendall, whenever you desire to travel, my

stage coaches are always at your service; you can have the use of an entire coach at any time." Mr. Kendall turned, and replied promptly and with emphasis: "Mr. Reeside, I never ride at the expense of other people; and were I to ascertain that a clerk in my Department accepted such favors of you or any other contractor, I would consider it sufficient cause for his removal from office."

Mr. McGuire then spoke of Mr. Kendall's poverty after he retired from office as an evidence of the uprightness and purity with which he had discharged his official duty. He said that Mr. Kendall, at the close of his official career, had an old carriage and horses, and was obliged to sell them because he was not able to pay for keeping the horses; and that he was at times in such reduced circumstances that he was under the necessity of borrowing the means for the daily needs of his household. He had, said Mr. McGuire, given his great energies and his vast intellectual power to his country, to the sacrifice of his private interests; but the time was to come for him when that genius that had served the nation was to recuperate his private fortunes, and enable him to gratify the charity and benevolence with which his nature was full.

When most persons regarded the magnetic telegraph as simply an interesting philosophical experiment, Mr. Kendall, with a foresight which, in all matters that interested him, indicated the power and correctness of his thought, prophesied that it would not only be profitable to those engaged in the enterprise, but would be productive of great results. Mr. McGuire went on to speak of Mr. Kendall's connection with Prof. Morse, and the circumstances under which he became interested with Prof. Morse in the telegraph, believing that it must be a success, and confidently expecting to realize from it large pecuniary advantages for himself. He did not, however, foresee at that time, nor could any man have foreseen the full extent of its immense success, nor did he correctly estimate the great profit he was afterward to realize from his investment. "He offered me (continued Mr. McGuire) one-half of his interest in the line between Washington and New Orleans for five thousand dollars, and urged me strenuously to accept it, suggesting with much good will his desire that I might be associated with him in an enterprise in which he took a deep interest, and of whose utility and success he professed a profound and abiding conviction."

Mr. McGuire then gave an account of Mr. Kendall's connection with the Deaf and Dumb Institution, and said: His active mind and generous heart seemed to be always anxious for occupation in some enterprise for the good of his fellow-creatures.

It happened that circumstances associated me with him in connection with an incident that first excited his sympathy in behalf of that disabled class for which this institution was established. A despicable wretch, in wandering over the earth, had fortuitously, as it turned out, made Washington his home, where he got possession of a building in the First ward, and fenced it in like a sort of prison, with a high board fence. He then hunted up all the deaf and dumb children in the community, got them in his possession, and took them to his building, pretending to call it a school for them. He would then take them about the city and exhibit them for money. A washerwoman from Georgetown, engaged in my household, informed some of my family that her son was a pupil of this man, and that in visiting him she said that the children in this so-called school were treated with cruelty, almost starved to death at all times, and thrown aside with neglect and brutal inhumanity when they were sick.

Happening to meet Mr. Kendall a day or two after hearing of the account given of this establishment, I stated to him what I had learned, and he at once, with his prompt and characteristic decision of purpose, said: "Let us go and see how this is." On the suggestion we went at once, and finding the gate at the entrance locked and barred, we broke it open and entered the building. The miserable sight cannot be described; it was heart-sickening. Two of the unfortunate children lay sick on a pallet, moaning most piteously. Unable to help themselves, it was evident from their horrid condition that their wants had not been attended to, probably for days. Mr. Kendall's generous nature was deeply moved. He called the man to account for the condition of the children, and the treatment they received at his hands. He promised reform. There seemed no remedy for the evil except through the man himself. But this remedy was not given, and his promise of reformation was not observed. But a philanthropist who was in earnest to do good, had witnessed himself the suffering that cried for aid, and did not rest contented with an unperformed promise of amendment. Mr. Kendall went to work, and by the aid of the law and courts of the District, obtained possession of the children and took them to Kendall Green, and there himself became their guardian and their teacher, and that was the commencement and the foundation of this Institution, the Deaf and Dumb.

What he has done for it since, we all know. Originating in his kindness and philanthropy, he nurtured it by his charities until the day of his death, and still nurtured it by those charities since he is gone.

It has been said, (continued Mr. McGuire,) "Beware of the man of one book." In the proper sense of this saying, Mr. Kendall was a man of one book. When interested in any subject or enterprise it engrossed all the faculties of his mind, and he concentrated upon it all the force and vigor of his thought. He grappled it with such intel-

lectual vigor, and such intensity of feeling, that he could not separate himself from it. It went with him wherever he went, and spoke out in any conversation he had, however brief. When the opposition to the Bank of the United States was at its height, and Mr. Kendall believed that it was endeavoring to control the political affairs of the country, he became profoundly interested in arresting the peril which he believed threatened the nation from that institution. This subject then engrossed all his thoughts and feelings, and was with him everywhere and speaking in every conversation.

Talk of any other subjects, however interesting, and as soon as courtesy would permit he would recur to the matter with which his mind was struggling.

So was it with him when that other great question of his day, the tariff, was exciting the country. He seized upon it; he took it to his mind and made it the food of his thoughts. And when, retired from public life, he entered upon the telegraph enterprise, he seized that as he had done the great political question.

I was (said Mr. McGuire) at a dinner party with several gentlemen, among whom was Mr. Kendall, at the time he was so much interested in the telegraph. I offered a wager that before we separated he would introduce the subject of the magnetic telegraph. I had scarcely offered the wager before he started the subject, much to the amusement of those who heard the wager proposed.

And thus it was with him in the great enterprise of his philanthropy, the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb. Deeply interested in ameliorating the condition of this afflicted class of humanity, he was perpetually devising means and contrivances to accomplish the design of his benevolence.

Mr. Kendall did not possess what is commonly understood as a *bright* and *sparkling* mind, nor had he a quick appreciation of passing events—he was too much absorbed for that; but his mind was *strong*—it was *powerful*. It seized hold of a subject with a vigorous and unrelaxing grasp, and mastered whatever it seized. The rays of his thought were concentrated upon any subject to which they were directed, and by their intensity penetrated it in every direction.

Mr. McGuire interspersed his remarks with high encomiums on Mr. Kendall's character, his integrity, morality, and goodness, sincerity of purpose and simplicity of character.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted, and, on motion of Mr. Cooke, it was

Ordered, That Mr. French's remarks be published with the resolutions.

President Gallaudet laid before the board the following resolutions, adopted at a meeting of the officers, students, and pupils of the institution, held in the college chapel on Sunday evening last; which were read and ordered to be published:

Whereas our Heavenly Father has in His infinite wisdom and love summoned from earth Hon. Amos Kendall, the first president of the institution, and uninterruptedly a member of its board of directors:

Resolved, That while we acknowledge the goodness of that Providence which has gathered into the garner of the Lord "a shock of corn fully ripe," we do most deeply lament the sundering of those intimate and interesting relations which have subsisted between Mr. Kendall and ourselves, and shall never cease to mourn the absence of the one to whose efforts, influence and liberality our institution owes its establishment, and to whose enlightened judgment and safe counsels its present prosperity is in large measure due.

Resolved, That we shall cherish with respectful love, and endeavor to transmit to our successors here, our knowledge of Mr. Kendall's devotion to the interests of this institution, his many acts of benevolence in the community, the purity of his life and the triumph of his Christian death.

Resolved, That the erection upon the premises of this institution of some enduring testimonial of respect to the deceased would be but a just tribute to the value of his services to the institution, and we will gladly participate to the extent of our ability in any effort that may be made to this end.

Resolved, That we tender to the family of our honored ex-president our most heartfelt sympathy in their bereavement, begging them to allow us to join in mourning a father taken away.

Resolved, That the president be requested to communicate these resolutions to the family of the deceased and the board of directors of the institution.

EULOGY BY PRESIDENT GALLAUDET, DELIVERED AT THE MEETING OF THE BOARD HELD IN JANUARY 1870.

In the history of human effort instances are not rare where men of peculiar characteristics seem to have been designated by some overruling power to the accomplishment of special results.

No theory of chances can satisfactorily account for the marvelous adaptations of men to measures which are oftentimes seen in all departments of labor. Whether they be the result of a general law, the workings of which are beyond mortal comprehension, or of distinct emanations of the Divine will in each instance, a thoughtful observer cannot escape the conclusion that in the grand march of civilization, a *mind*, far greater than any human intellect, overrules events; appointing with unquestionable authority and unerring judgment to their respective places of power or trust those whom society acknowledges as its leaders, or the guardians of its important interests.

Many would say it was a strange providence that permitted an unprincipled, self-seeking adventurer to attempt in a city so enlightened as Washington a wholesale traffic in the misfortunes of suffering children; but all will agree it was a merciful Providence that led this adventurer to seek the support of a man sure to lay bare his unworthiness; while few will deny that it was a wise Providence which rested its responsibility of organizing a beneficent public institution out of a chaos of selfish brutality, on a man of large executive ability, and great love for his kind.

It is not the purpose of the writer of this paper to attempt a review of the life and work of Hon. Amos Kendall, lately deceased, full of years and honors. To other and abler hands must be confided the duty of setting before the world the complete record of a life of such marked probity and so large benevolence as was his, while the writer will limit himself to a single chapter in that life, in an endeavor to show how fitting was the providential designation which allotted to Mr. Kendall the work of founding and fostering the Columbia Institution for the Deaf and Dumb.

It will be remembered by some of the present members of the board, that early in the year 1856, an individual, claiming to be conversant with the methods of instructing deaf-mutes, appeared in Washington with five deaf and dumb children, whom he had taken from the streets and almshouses of New York City, and bound to him legally as apprentices.

With these as the nucleus of a private school, he gathered a dozen or more deaf and dumb or blind children from the District of Columbia, and began teaching them.

He announced the purpose of establishing an institution for the education of the deaf and blind, appealing to the benevolent to aid him.

Naturally, the cause was one that took ready hold on the sympathies of the community, and money and supplies were freely furnished.

No warmer friend of the enterprise was found than Mr. Kendall, who contributed funds, and placed a house and lot at the disposal of the school, even before it attained any proper organization.

Judging that the deaf and blind of the federal District had as well-founded a claim on the bounty of the General Government as the insane, for whose benefit an asylum had then been recently established, Mr. Kendall framed a bill, incorporating the proposed institution, and making some provision for the support and instruction of the indigent blind and deaf children of the District of Columbia.

Hardly had this bill become a law, when suspicions were roused that the worthlessness of the head of the new institution was totally unfit to hold such a position.

An investigation was entered into, the results of which so entirely sustained the suppositions, that the orphans' court of the District of Columbia removed the indigent children from the control of their cruel master, and constituted Mr. Kendall their guardian.

This trust he accepted without hesitation, and assuming the responsibility of its support, took speedy measures to complete the organization of the institution, to the presidency of which he had been appointed by Congress.

The provisions of the act referred to, which was designed to provide for the education of the indigent deaf and dumb and blind of the District of Columbia, passed several days before the close of the session of 1856-'7, were found to be inadequate to the accomplishment of the object.

Under the emergency forced upon him by the action of the orphans' court, Mr. Kendall did not hesitate to assume very heavy responsibilities, that the institution might go into operation without waiting for that action of Congress which could only be taken the following year.

The buildings and grounds previously offered to the school were now donated to the institution. Mr. Kendall became security for purchases of furniture and supplies, and guaranteed the payment of the salaries of the officers of the institution.

During the second year, the time being unfavorable for securing an appropriation from Congress for buildings, and enlarged accommodations being required by the institution, Mr. Kendall added to his benefactions of the first year. These having amount:

to more than five thousand dollars in value, he still did not hesitate to incur an expense of eight thousand dollars for the erection of a substantial brick structure, which now forms a part of the building of the primary department.

Essential as were these services, they were by no means the most valuable rendered by Mr. Kendall to the institution.

It was in the general conduct of its affairs as the president of the board of directors that he displayed a sagacity, a comprehensive judgment, a liberality and a spirit of progress rarely united in one man, which were of far more consequence to the institution than the thousands of dollars and acres of land which he so readily gave when they were needed.

His ideas of the scope and magnitude of the work of the institution were broad and far-reaching.

He readily accepted the plan of developing it into a college, and of making it national in its field of operations.

No theories of penny-wise, pound-foolish economy, which have crippled and dwarfed many public institutions in the land, found a lodgment in his mind; and yet no man was ever a truer economist.

He wanted no so-called "cheap labor." His policy was to fill the offices in the institution with persons competent to perform their respective duties in the best possible manner, to pay compensation that should be entirely satisfactory to them, and then hold them to a strict accountability in their respective departments.

Leaving the active work of developing the institution to those on whom he deemed it properly to devolve, viz, its executive officers, he was the wise counsellor at every step; always ready to hear and weigh every plan that might be suggested; ever prompt for advance when it seemed safe and reasonable; always requiring full explanations and conclusive arguments when a measure was presented for his sanction, but earnest in support of that which his judgment approved, he seemed to combine the cautious conservatism of age and the enthusiastic progressiveness of youth in proportions which eminently befitted the position he sustained in the management of the institution.

Invariable in his attendance upon the meetings of the board, save when detained by illness or by absence from the city, Mr. Kendall was distinguished for his close attention to the business laid before him, and though quick in forming his opinion on any subject, he was always willing to give full weight to what might be said in opposition to his views, not unfrequently changing them as a result of discussions in the board.

So courteous and unprejudiced was his action in his office as president of the board that during the seven years of his incumbency entire unanimity of action was reached on every important measure.

The lively interest manifested by Mr. Kendall in the institution during the days of its infancy continued unabated to the end of his life, and never did his feelings seem more deeply engaged than in the exercises of the first commencement of the college in June last.

In an address he delivered on that occasion he recounted some of the difficulties with which the college had had to contend, and, alluding to the marked success which had been attained, he evinced in the following earnest language his full appreciation of the work the college might be expected to perform:

"In ancient times it required the exertion of Divine power to enable the dumb to speak and the blind to see. The restoration of sight and hearing was the subject of miracles in the time of Christ. It was a part of His holy mission to cause the deaf to hear. We do not claim that there is anything supernatural in the teaching of the dumb in this our day; but is it not the fruit of that love of our neighbor which Christ taught His disciples, and that use of those faculties of the mind which God gave to man from the beginning?"

"What more noble invention has Christian civilization brought to man than the means devised to teach the blind and the deaf to read and write? And what more godlike charity can there be than in furnishing the means to enable these unfortunate children of darkness and of silence to receive the lights of knowledge and religion—virtually to enable the blind to see and the deaf to hear? And where shall our benevolence stop? Shall we be content to merely fit them for the animal drudgeries of life, or shall we enable those who have aspiring minds to soar into the heights of science and art, to solve the problems of nature and admire the wisdom of God?"

"But the subject is not merely one of benevolence; it is also one of public policy. How many hands are made permanently useful to society, and how many minds are awakened to aid in the progress of our age, by the deaf and dumb institutions?"

"It is an accepted proposition that, the brain being unimpaired, the destruction of one of the senses renders the rest more acute. If the sight be lost, the hearing becomes more distinct; if the hearing be lost, the eye becomes more clear and piercing. Why then may it not be, that persons deprived of hearing are more fitted to excel in some branches of learning than those in full possession of all their senses? Silence and seclusion are conducive to study and meditation. In the silence of the night the as-

tronomer can best study the heavens. In the silence of the desert and cave the hermit can best meditate on the vanities of life and the attributes of God. And is it unreasonable to hope that men whose atmosphere through life is silence, may, if allowed the benefit of a superior education, become prominent in all those branches of learning to the acquisition of which silence is conducive? Why may we not expect to find among them our most profound mathematicians and astronomers, our most clear thinkers and chaste writers, our most upright men and devoted Christians?"

The full value of Mr. Kendall's services to the institution as an adviser cannot be made to appear without a reference to the peculiar relations sustained by him to the writer of this paper, who was made the executive head of the institution before he had attained his majority.

Bringing with him no previous experience in the management of public institutions, and but comparatively little in the practical business of life, it was absolutely essential to the success of the institution placed in his charge that he should obtain from others much that age and experience alone can give.

It is with pleasure and gratitude he records the fact that he found in Mr. Kendall that sage and sympathizing counsellor of which he felt so great a need.

And he does not hesitate to attribute to the instructive value and restraining force of the suggestions his venerated friend was ever ready to give when applied to, a very large share of the success which a kind Providence has been pleased to accord to the institution.

Valuable to any man would be the advice of one so versed in the varied affairs of human life as Mr. Kendall; but to one standing on the very threshold of manhood, laden with responsibilities and cares too weighty for his years, the words of his elders were indeed like "apples of gold in pictures of silver."

The loss to those public institutions which enjoyed the benefit of Mr. Kendall's counsels in their management can hardly be over-estimated.

The loss to the Columbia Institution for the Deaf and Dumb is that of its founder, one of its wisest advisers, and its constant friend.

As such, may his name be handed down to the latest generations of those who shall come after him in the direction of the affairs of the institution.

As such, may he be known by all who may come to quaff at those fountains of knowledge in the opening of which he bore so important and honorable a part.

"He dies! the earth becomes more dark
When such as he ascend to Heaven,
For where death strikes a 'shining mark,'
Through bleeding hearts his shaft is driven.

"He dies! and still around his grave
The silent sons of sorrow bend,
With tears for him they could not save—
Their guide, their father, and their friend.

"He lives! for virtue cannot die—
The man departs, his deeds remain;
They wipe the tear, they check the sigh,
They hush the sob of mortal pain.

"He lives! his memory is the light
To which our eyes with reverence turn;
To love the true, to choose the right,
Are lessons from his life we learn."

Although for a less number of years identified with the management of the institution than Mr. Kendall, yet not behind him in earnest devotion to its interests, was the Hon. Benjamin B. French, who died on the 12th of August, 1870, at the age of seventy years.

At a meeting of the board, held on the 20th of October, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas the hand of Providence has again been laid upon the directors of this institution in the sudden removal by death, on the 12th of August, 1870, of Hon. B. B. French, who for upwards of five years has been associated with the board, and who, during that period, has ever manifested a deep interest in the prosperity of the institution, and his regular attendance upon its meetings and his cheerful performance of the duties assigned him; therefore,

Resolved, That it is with sincere regret we are called upon to part forever, in this world, with our warm, personal friend and faithful director, Benjamin B. French.

That we bear testimony to his uniform amiability, his earnest coöperation in every measure that promised increased usefulness of the institution, his superior intelligence, as well as the strict integrity which, we believe, characterized him at all times and under all circumstances.

On motion the secretary was requested to send a copy of the foregoing to the family of the deceased.

At a meeting of the officers of the institution, held on Sunday evening, October 9, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas it has seemed good to Almighty God to remove out of this life the Hon. B. B. French who for upward of five years has been a member of its board of directors—

Resolved, That while we acknowledge in the event the wisdom and love of our Heavenly Father, who doeth all things well, we lament deeply the loss to the institution of a most active and efficient director; to ourselves, a friend with whom our social, as well as our official, relations have always been exceedingly pleasant; to literature and science, of an ardent lover and zealous supporter; to the community, of a benevolent, upright, and patriotic citizen.

Resolved, That to the family and relations whom the death of our friend has bereaved we offer our respectful and affectionate sympathy, especially to her who was united with him in the closest and tenderest of ties, commending her in this great sorrow to that divine consolation which is promised to those who mourn, and praying that He who has smitten may bind up.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be presented to the family of the deceased.

INSTRUCTION IN ARTICULATION.

Rev. John W. Chickering, jr., M. A., of New Hampshire, has been appointed to a professorship in the college, devoting his time for the present to the teaching of articulation to those of our students and pupils who seem likely to profit by such instruction. About twenty have been placed under his charge, and we have reason to believe that they will profit very greatly by the advantages furnished them in this new branch of study.

THE PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.

The course of training in this department has not differed essentially from that set forth in former reports. The instructors have been faithful and successful in their labors, and the pupils, in nearly every instance, have made all the advances that could reasonably be expected of them.

THE COLLEGE.

The progress of this department of the institution has been most encouraging. The professors and instructors have been devoted in the discharge of their respective duties, the general standard of scholarship and manly bearing among the students has been steadily advanced, and evidences have been multiplied on every hand to satisfy those who are most familiar with the work of the college that the liberality of the government in establishing and sustaining such a work is yielding results for good, fully commensurate with the amount of money required for the proper furtherance of the enterprise.

The regular course of study pursued in the college is as follows: This may, however, be varied by students who do not propose to take the degree of bachelor of arts, and such students may take degrees in science or philosophy, or certificates of the studies they have pursued.

COURSE OF STUDY.

Studies of the Preparatory Class.

Arithmetic, English grammar, physical geography, elements of natural philosophy, algebra through quadratic equations, Latin.

Studies of the Freshman Class.

Algebra, (completed,) geometry, Latin, English composition, book-keeping,* Greek.*

Studies of the Sophomore Class.

Spherical and solid geometry, conic sections, trigonometry, mensuration, navigation and surveying, Latin, Greek,* botany, French, chemistry, English philology, history.

Studies of the Junior Class.

Mechanics, astronomy, mineralogy, geology, German, rhetoric, Greek,* history of civilization.

Studies of the Senior Class.

Anatomy and physiology, zoölogy, logic, mental philosophy, political science and constitution, moral philosophy, evidences of Christianity. English literature, æsthetics.

Instruction in art is also given to those who desire it.

SECOND COMMENCEMENT.

The second commencement of the college, which occurred on the 30th of June, was an occasion of special interest.

Five students, having completed the full course of study above recited, were entitled to receive the degree of bachelor of arts. This distinction was conferred upon them by the President of the United States, acting in his capacity as patron of the institution for the first time in its history.

The honorable Secretary of the Interior delivered an address to the graduating class, full of encouragement to the young men, and to all the friends of the institution.

Mr. W. L. Bird, of Connecticut, the valedictorian of the graduating class, delivered the following oration and addresses, which are herein presented as evidence of the intellectual attainment now possible to those who have been deprived of so important a sense as that of hearing.

ORATION AND VALEDICTORY ADDRESSES OF WILLIAM L. BIRD.

BEAUTY.

God has so fashioned us that we are capable of feeling pleasure in various ways. The enjoyment of the beautiful is a pleasure we feel almost daily; one which, with proper cultivation of our capacities, we can make constant and inexhaustible. The Creator has filled the earth with beautiful objects; it depends upon ourselves whether or not we enjoy them.

When we are offered a strange fruit which we have never seen, and are told to eat it, it is a natural impulse for us to desire to acquaint ourselves with its name, peculiar properties, place of production, and the like. In the same manner a person who has for the first time distinctly recognized those pleasurable emotions produced by beauty, is apt to ask himself, how does beauty give rise to these emotions? What is it that it can do so? What is the common property of beautiful things, considered as such? It is easy to give examples of the beautiful: the exquisite colors of a violet that charm us with their richness; a glossy horse, fleet as the wind, in the pride of life and strength; a sylvan nook, full of freshness and balmy odors, its deep quiet increased by contrast.

* Optional studies.

with the play of a tiny waterfall; a stately ship breasting the waves, under a cloud of canvass, rolling slowly from side to side in the swell of the ocean, seeming as if a thing of life; a glorious sunset, with its changing hues of red and gold thrown on the fleecy clouds, or kissing the glistening snows on the mountain tops, when the sun bids the world good night and sinks to rest. Observe how widely these objects may differ in every other particular, while each is still beautiful. How can all be beautiful and yet all so different? As puzzled Aristippus asked, "How can beauty differ from beauty?" Must we not conclude that beauty is the same thing in all these objects, however unlike otherwise?

Numbers of thinking men have maintained that we can comprehend exactly what this thing is, and have tried to explain what they conceive it to be. The small amount of satisfaction they can give may be inferred from the great diversity and disagreement there is in their conceptions. The principal definitions thus given are, that beauty arises from *novelty*; from *utility*; from *unity in variety*; from *order* and *proportion*; from a spiritual element in the object. The simple statement of these definitions is sufficient to show that they are inadequate. A wind-mill is novel to one who has never seen it before, but it may not strike him as beautiful. A ship-canal is more useful than the falls of Montmorency. A splendid sunset has variety, but no unity, while a single simple color may be most beautiful without any variety. Order and proportion is often only another form of the useful. The theory which makes beauty to consist, not in any mere arrangement of matter as such, but in this, that the arrangement expresses an immaterial element, to which our spiritual nature responds in sympathy, will apply to more cases of beauty than any other, and is, so far, the most satisfactory.

While all the above properties may enhance beauty, and each may be sometimes an essential constituent of the beautiful object, they fail to explain fully what beauty is. But leaving these questions to the philosophers, let us contemplate with cheerful mind and thankful heart the great amount of beauty which, in various forms, is proffered for our enjoyment in this world.

No fact more fully gives our limited minds an idea of the perfect skill and power of the Author of nature than that He accomplishes the most complex results by few and the most simple means; that He makes one and the same law operate in a multitude of widely different cases. When we observe under how great a variety of form and circumstance the subtle quality of beauty appears, our wonder and admiration may well be aroused. The classes of objects in which it is most apparent may be distinguished as those of *nature*, of *art*, of *character*, and of *literature*.

It is in nature that beauty comes most easily and most often under our observation. To ordinary observers, it is incomprehensible how a botanist will risk his neck climbing the rocks for an insignificant plant, or a geologist spend hours of deep thought and study on a bird-track in the sandstone; how a chemist will give his last dollar for an experiment which ends in gas, or an astronomer watch many long nights a faint speck in the fathomless heavens; yet, to them, the plant, rock, experiment, star, disclose beauties ever new and exhaustless. So it is in every science. The light penetrates deeper and deeper into the dark mysterious realms of nature, and forces our astonished minds to exclaim, "I never thought all this could be."

Yet the light of science is not *necessary* to our discernment of the beauties of nature. She ever opens herself to an attentive mind. The humblest individual in the lowly walks of life can cultivate in himself a tender susceptibility that will be touched at the sight of a simple flower in red and white, with as deep a joy and admiration as that which Kepler felt at the discovery of the laws of the solar system.

Poets, especially, have this susceptibility. Walter Scott tells us:

"Call it not vain: they do not err
Who say that when the poet dies
Mute nature mourns her worshipper,
And celebrates his obsequies."

Proud of the charge given him to govern the earth and subdue it, man tries to appropriate her beauty, to catch its fleeting revelations and embody them in a permanent form, thus creating the fine arts. According as he has studied nature faithfully, and understood her aright, will he succeed here. His statue, embodying the bold and graceful attitude, the clear and spiritual expression that existed but for a moment in some of nature's forms; his picture, giving in well-marked outlines and delicate tints the suggestion and harmony of an evanescent scene—both excel according as they represent nature truly. When they do this, we have before us the choicest objects of taste, the cream of beautiful creations. When these can be multiplied in number, we are to blame if we enjoy them not.

Even when a man needs all his energies to provide food, clothing, and shelter, he still seeks what beauty he can appropriate. He desires to build his house so that it may look beautiful; he, or at least his better-half, plants flowers as well as vegetables in his garden. He strives to imitate nature by combining beauty with utility. She colors and varnishes her apple, he colors and varnishes his table. The pleasures of