HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA.

BY J. L. PICKARD, LL. D.

INTRODUCTORY.

With love of liberty our forefathers recognized intelligence as requisite to its maintenance. In the earliest settlements, the "meeting house" and the school house were erected side by side. The "minister" and the "master" held leading positions in civil, as in religious affairs. In England the effort to educate the people began in the churches, and in its higher departments had sole reference to education for the church. Cathedral schools abounded, and around them towns were builded. In Holland a new educational era arose with the founding of the University of Leyden. During the half century succeeding, other universities helped to spread the reputation of Dutch scholarship throughout the world.

So Pilgrims and Puritans alike brought with them to the New World the fruits of a liberal education and a passion for its acquisition by their children.

In 1636 the Colonial Legislature of Massachusetts offered four hundred pounds sterling toward the establishment of a college. There is no record of its acceptance unless the college at Newtown (so known in the early history—now Cambridge) availed itself of the offer.*

*In 1750 the Colony of Massachusetts Bay included in its expenditures £186 13s 4d as salary of the President of Harvard College.—Minot's History.
In 1638 Rev. John Harvard bequeathed seven hundred pounds sterling and a library of three hundred volumes which served as the foundation of Harvard College (Harvard University of to-day.)

In 1642 the legislature passed an Act requiring the "Selectmen" of every town to have a "vigilant eye over their brethren and neighbors, to see, first, that none of them shall suffer so much barbarism in any of their families as not to endeavor to teach by themselves, or others, their children and apprentices so much learning as may enable them perfectly to read the English tongue, and knowledge of the capital laws, upon penalty of twenty shillings therein."

When the Colonies came into possession of lands ceded by individual Colonies in 1784, the Continental Congress in providing for the sale of these lands, by Act of May 20th, 1785, set apart one thirty-sixth of the entire domain for support of Common Schools.¹

Soon after the "Territory of the Northwest" was dedicated to freedom by the Ordinance of 1787, provision was made for the support of Academies and Seminaries in the gift of lands.

This gift has been in the form of two townships or forty-six thousand and eighty acres for each State formed out of the public domain. All the present states with the exception of the thirteen original states, and Maine, Vermont, Kentucky, and Tennessee, have received these lands now designated as "University Lands." Texas is an apparent exception since by terms of admission she was left in control of all the lands within her borders. She has, however, followed the United States system of survey and reservation for school and university purposes.

Ohio has received three townships,² Florida ³ and Wisconsin ⁴ four townships each.

¹ After the adoption of a system of survey the 16th section out of each township was reserved. Since 1848 the 36th section is also reserved.
² When the first tracts of land were sold in Ohio, before surveys were completed,
Five hundred thousand acre grants made to sixteen states for internal improvements were wisely donated by some of the States to common schools as the best kind of internal improvements.

Saline Lands, at first reserved, have at various times been given the States in which they lie, and in part have gone to support of schools and universities.

Swamp Lands, considered valueless for many years, were given to the States. The avails have in some states been used for school purposes.

Agricultural College Grants, thirty thousand acres for each Senator and Representative in Congress, have in a few instances been placed in the hands of university authorities.

Five per cent of Net Proceeds of Sales of Public Lands has been given to States in which public lands were situated to be applied as State Legislatures might see fit. School funds have received the benefit in some cases.

The above are all the sources opened by Congressional action from which public education in Iowa could have drawn support.

STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA.

Note.—In the preparation of this sketch of the State University of Iowa it has been my purpose to use all available sources of information. The Statutes of Congress, the laws of the Territory and of the State of Iowa have been freely consulted. The Records of the Trustees of the Institution from its organization have been examined. Catalogues have yielded information upon courses of study. The Historical Address of Hon. Thomas H. Benton, Jr., of 1867, and the Monograph of Professor L. F. Parker prepared for the Bureau of Education at Washington upon

it was specially provided that the companies purchasing should set apart one township for Seminary purposes. One of the two companies complied.

3 U. S. Statutes, 25th Cong., 2nd Sess., Ch. 73.
4 U. S. Statutes, 33rd Cong., 2nd Sess., Ch. 5.
5 U. S. Statutes, 27th Cong., 1st Sess., Ch. 16.
6 U. S. Statutes, 31st Cong., 1st Sess., Ch. 84.
7 U. S. Statutes, 37th Cong., 2nd Sess., Ch. 130.
8 U. S. Statutes, 39th Cong., 2nd Sess., Ch. 78.
9 Before Iowa came into the Union some states placed in their School Fund their share of surplus revenue distributed by 24th Cong., 1st Sess., Ch. 113.
"Higher Education in Iowa," 1893, have furnished valuable information. Indebtedness to Professor Theodore S. Parvin, LL. D., one of the first Trustees and early a professor, always a warm friend of the University; to Hon. Peter A. Dey, for many years a member of the Executive Committee; to Secretary Haddock, who has for thirty-five years been officially connected with the business management, and to Amos N. Currier, LL. D., for thirty-one years a professor and now Dean of the Collegiate Faculty and acting President since the death of President Schaeffer, and to B. F. Shambaugh, Ph. D., in "Documentary History of Iowa," is gratefully acknowledged.

Such an institution was in the minds of our people as represented in the Legislative Assembly of 1836, convened at Belmont, Wisconsin. The part of Michigan Territory lying west of Lake Michigan was set off as Wisconsin Territory April 20, 1836.\(^1\)

Rights accruing under the Ordinance of 1787, also rights accruing under Michigan Territory, were extended to all territory of Wisconsin. Thus was the Ordinance of 1787 made operative in Iowa through Wisconsin. One of the rights thus secured was to the Congressional Grant of two townships of land for University purposes. The first act in which Iowa was interested was passed by the legislature of Wisconsin, approved by Governor Dodge December 8, 1836.

Wisconsin was divided into six counties, Dubuque and Des Moines lying west of the Mississippi river. Dubuque County was represented in the Council by John Foley, Thomas McCraney and Thomas McKnight; and in the House by Peter H. Engle, Loring Wheeler, Hardin Nowlin, Hosea T. Camp and Patrick Quigley.

Des Moines County was represented in the Council by Jeremiah Smith, Jr., Joseph B. Teas and Arthur B. Inghram; and in the House by Isaac Leffler, Thomas Blair, Warren L. Jenkins, John Box, George W. Teas, Eli Reynolds and David B. Chance.

Peter H. Engle of Dubuque was Speaker of the House.

The above named gentlemen were the first men in what

\(^{1}\) U. S. Statutes, 24th Cong., 1st Sess., Ch. 54.
soon became Iowa to act in a legislative capacity in promotion of University Education.

Section 1 of the Act provides "That there shall be established at Belmont in the County of Iowa a University for the purpose of educating youth, the style, name and title whereof shall be the Wisconsin University, and the said University shall be under the management, direction, and government of twenty-one trustees, of whom the governor of the territory for the time being shall always, by virtue of his office, be one: and the said governor, and Ebenezer Brigham, John B. Terry, Frederick Hollman, William S. Hamilton, William S. Madden, James R. Vineyard, John Atchison, *Joseph B. Teas, *Isaac Leffler, *Peter Hill Engle, *Thomas McKnight, Charles Dunn, James B. Dallam, Henry S. Baird, Albert G. Ellis, John W. Blackstone, Gilbert Knapp, William B. Sheldon, and *Arthur Inghram, and they, and all further trustees shall continue in place during the pleasure of the legislature, and all vacancies which may occur shall from time to time be supplied by the legislature."

The rest of the Act resembles other acts for the establishment of non-sectarian institutions of the present day.

The names of the trustees are given that the people of Iowa may know whom to honor as the promoters of higher education for the youth of this fair state.

No definite action was taken by the trustees to carry out the provisions of the Act, and in less than eighteen months thereafter, June 12, 1838," the Territory of Wisconsin was divided and the necessity for two universities arose. Madison was substituted for Belmont in Wisconsin. Congressional action was taken upon the establishment of the "Wisconsin University" upon the same day that the Act of Separation of Wisconsin and Iowa was passed.

The first legislature of the Territory of Iowa met at Burlington. Provision was made for the location of the Capital,

*Residents of the Territory west of the Mississippi River.
11 U. S. Statutes, 25th Cong., 2nd Sess., Ch. 96.
which was finally fixed at Iowa City. Robert Lucas, Governor of the Territory, called the attention of the legislature to the necessity for the establishment of Common Schools; he had a warm friendship for elementary schools, but was averse to the support of higher education at public cost. He also recommended the memorializing of Congress for lands for the erection of a Penitentiary to which is added this clause, "also respectfully to ask an appropriation for literary purposes equal to the grant made last session to the Territory of Wisconsin." This incongruous clause was doubtless inserted at the solicitation of his Private Secretary, who himself liberally educated, felt the need of furnishing the youth of the Territory with an opportunity of pursuing their education beyond the rudiments, and who saw the possibility of securing his wish most readily by what might to-day be called "a rider."

The recommendation of Governor Lucas was heeded and the memorial to Congress was answered, both as to the penitentiary and to the University Grant. 12

Immediately upon the petition to Congress an Act was passed by the Territorial Legislature for the establishment of an institution at Mount Pleasant designated as "Iowa University," 13 and before the end of the session still another charter was given to "Iowa Seminary for education of both sexes." 14

Many charters were given to academies.

A convention for the formation of a constitution met at Iowa City upon the first Monday of October, 1844. Section 2 of an Ordinance covering certain propositions to be made to the Congress of the United States is as follows: "The seventy-two sections of land set apart and reserved for the use and support of a University . . . shall together with such further quantities as may be agreed upon by Con-

12 U. S. Statutes, Private Laws, 29th Cong., 1st Sess., Ch. 90.
13 Laws of Territory, Session 1838, Ch. 72.
14 Laws of Territory, Session 1840, Ch. 21.
THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA.

gress be conveyed to the State, and shall be applied solely to the use and support of such University, in such manner as the General Assembly may prescribe.” This is in accordance with provision of Section 5, Article X, of Constitution of 1844.

The constitution then submitted was rejected by the people. Another constitution was framed in 1846, and became the fundamental law of the State of Iowa when admitted to the Union December 28th, 1846.

Article X, Section 5, is as follows: “The General Assembly shall take measures for the protection, improvement, or other disposition of such lands as have been, or may hereafter be reserved or granted by the United States, or any person or persons, to this State, for the use of a University; and the funds accruing from the rents or sale of such lands, or from any other source, for the purpose aforesaid, shall be and remain a permanent fund, the interest of which shall be applied to the support of said University, with such branches as the public convenience may hereafter demand, for the promotion of literature, the arts and sciences, as may be authorized by the terms of such grant. And it shall be the duty of the General Assembly, as soon as may be, to provide effectual means for the improvement and permanent security of the funds of said University.”

Obedient to the above requirement the first General Assembly of the State passed an “Act to locate and establish a State University.” This act was approved February 25th, 1847.  

Section 1 Locates the institution under the title of “State University of Iowa” at Iowa City with such branches as public convenience may require.

Section 2 Donates the State Buildings and the lot upon which they stand to said University. (Note—An act had been passed looking to the removal of the State Capital, and the use of rooms temporarily was reserved for State officers.)

15 Laws of Iowa, First General Assembly, Ch. 125
Section 3 Donates to the University the congressional grant of two townships of land.

Section 4 Provides for a Board of Trustees of which the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall be President.

Section 5 Names the Trustees and fixes the term of office at six years.

Section 6 Gives the Superintendent of Public Instruction the power to establish a professorship for the education of teachers of Common Schools as soon as he may deem it necessary.

Section 7 Authorizes Trustees to dispose of lands when selected.

Section 8 Makes the State Treasurer the custodian of University funds.

Section 9 Determines the quorum for transaction of business at meetings of Trustees.

Section 10 Makes the University a non-sectarian institution.

Section 11 Provides for free instruction of fifty students annually in theory and practice of teaching, and in such branches of learning as are best calculated for the preparation of said students for the business of common school teaching.

Section 12 Gives the General Assembly full supervision of the University, its officers, and the grants made by the State.

Section 13 Requires the Trustees to keep a full record of their proceedings open at all times to inspection by the General Assembly.

Pursuant to this Act the General Assembly elected fifteen trustees to be divided by lot into three classes, the first class to serve two years, the second class four years, and the third class six years, and their successors to continue in office six years. The names of Trustees will be found on page 12 et seq.

Delay in selection of lands left the Trustees without means of support. The determination to retain the Capital
at Iowa City left the Trustees without buildings for University purposes even if funds were in hand.

The Trustees for seven years had little to do except to secure the selection of lands and to provide for their sale.

It is proper at this point to present a complete list of Trustees (since 1870 called Regents) with dates of service of each. In explanation of the apparent short terms of service of members appointed in 1858 it must be noted that the Constitution of 1857 took from the General Assembly the control of school affairs, and vested it in a Board of Education to be selected by the Legislature upon the second Tuesday of October, 1858. The first General Assembly under the new constitution met January 11th, 1858. By Act of March 12th, 1858, all educational laws previously in force were repealed, except those relating to School Lands and School Funds. The Act contains a provision pertaining to the University under which the governing board is to consist of twelve Trustees to be elected by the Legislature, with the Chancellor of the University ex-officio President. And the Governor of the State and the Superintendent of Public Instruction were to be also ex-officio members. Twelve Trustees were elected. The Supreme Court\(^\text{16}\) declared the act of the Legislature unconstitutional since the school laws, which create and designate the officers by and through whom the system is to be administered, are to originate with the Board of Education.

Upon December 25th, 1858, the General Assembly after legalizing their action under the Act of March 12th, 1858, proceeded to pass a separate "Act for the government and regulation of the State University of Iowa."\(^\text{17}\)

This Act provides for the election by the Board of Education of seven Trustees, three for one year and four for three years, the term of office thereafter to be three years. All ex-officio members were discarded.

\(^{16}\) See 7th Clark, Page 283.

\(^{17}\) Laws of Iowa, Revision of Code 1860, Ch. 84.
This form of control continued until March 19th, 1864, when the General Assembly abolished the Board of Education \(^{18}\) and two days thereafter provided for the election of seven Trustees by the Legislature with the Governor of the State *ex-officio* President, and the President of the University an *ex-officio* member.\(^{19}\)

This form of organization continued till 1870 when the Legislature determined upon a Board of Regents composed of one member from each Congressional District of the State,\(^{20}\) —each to hold office for six years after the first election when three classes for two, four, and six years respectively were selected by lot—and the Governor of the State *ex-officio* President, and the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the President of the University *ex-officio* members.

This form still continues except that in 1886 the President of the University ceased to be a member.\(^{21}\)

The Board of Regents consists at present of thirteen members, eleven by election of Legislature and two *ex-officio*.

For practical work the Board of Regents is organized in committees, the chief of which are Executive Committee, Committee on Finance, Committee on Buildings and Grounds, Committee on Faculty and Instruction, and Committee on Library. Each Professional Department has also its Committee.

I. BOARD OF MANAGEMENT.

The officers of the Board are placed in chronological order. Other *ex-officio* members in like order.

All other members are placed in alphabetical order, their time of service being indicated by dates.

**PRESIDENT.**

Superintendent of Public Instruction.

James Harlan, *ex-officio* .........................1847–1848

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\(^{18}\) Laws of Iowa, 10th General Assembly, Ch. 52.

\(^{19}\) Laws of Iowa, 10th G. A., Ch. 59.

\(^{20}\) Laws of Iowa, 13th G. A., 1st Sess., Ch. 87.

\(^{21}\) Laws of Iowa, 21st G. A., 1st Sess., Ch. 181.
AMOS DEAN, LL. D.
President 1855 to 1859.
THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA.

Thomas H. Benton, Jr., ex-officio ............... 1848–1854
James D. Eads, ex-officio ..................... 1854–1857
Maturin L. Fisher, ex-officio ................ 1857–1858
Chancellor of University.
Amos Dean, ex-officio ........................... 1858–1859
Elected by Board.
Thomas H. Benton, Jr. ......................... 1859–1863
Francis Springer .............................. 1863–1864
Governor of State.
William M. Stone, ex-officio ................ 1864–1868
Samuel Merrill, ex-officio ................... 1868–1872
Cyrus C. Carpenter, ex-officio .............. 1872–1876
Samuel J. Kirkwood, ex-officio ............. 1876–1877
Joshua G. Newbold, ex-officio ............... 1877–1878
John H. Gear, ex-officio ..................... 1878–1882
Buren R. Sherman, ex-officio ............... 1882–1886
William Larrabee, ex-officio ................ 1886–1890
Horace Boies, ex-officio ..................... 1890–1894
Frank D. Jackson, ex-officio ................. 1894–1896
Francis M. Drake, ex-officio ................. 1896–1898
Leslie M. Shaw, ex-officio ................... 1898–

SECRETARY.
Hugh D. Downey .............................. 1847–1851
Anson Hart ................................. 1851–1857
Elijah Sells ................................. 1857–1858
Anson Hart ................................. 1858–1864
William J. Haddock ......................... 1864–

TREASURER.
Treasurer of State, ex-officio ............... 1847–1855
Henry W. Lathrop ........................... 1855–1862
William Crum ............................... 1862–1868
Ezekiel Clark ............................... 1868–1876
John N. Coldren ............................. 1876–1890
Lovell Swisher .............................. 1890–

TRUSTEES.
(Ex-officio, not named above as President.)
Superintendent of Public Instruction.
Abraham S. Kissel ............................. 1870–1872
Alonzo Abernethy .............................. 1872–1872, 1876–1876
C. W. Von Coelln .............................. 1876–1882
John W. Akers ............................... 1882–1886
Henry Sabin ................................. 1886–1892, 1894–1898
J. B. Knoepfler ................................. 1892–1894
Richard C. Barrett ......................... 1898–
President of University.
Oliver M. Spencer ............................ 1864–1866
<table>
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<td>James Black</td>
<td>1868-1870</td>
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<td>George Thacher</td>
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<td>Christian W. Single</td>
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<td>Josiah L. Pickard</td>
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<td>Abernethy, Alonzo</td>
<td>1890-</td>
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<td>Arnold Delos</td>
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<td>1866-1871, 1878-1880</td>
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<td>1897-</td>
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<td>Campbell, A. K.</td>
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<td>Dunning, J. S.</td>
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<td>Evans; Hiram K.</td>
<td>1898-</td>
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<td>1880-1886</td>
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Garnet, J. W. .................................................. 1894–1898
Gilliland, Shirley ............................................. 1891–
Gower, James H ............................................. 1847–1849, 1851–1857
Griffith, Joseph M. .......................................... 1859–1864
Grinnell, J. B. .................................................. 1858–1859
Ham, M. M. ..................................................... 1884–1886
Hardie, Thomas .............................................. 1877–1878
Hart, Anson ..................................................... 1851–1857
Henderson, John W. ......................................... 1874–1880
Higley, M. A. ................................................... 1898–
Hobart, C. W. .................................................. 1868–1870
Holbrook, Parker K. ......................................... 1896–
Huntsman, H. C. .............................................. 1884–1887
Ingham, Harvey .............................................. 1896–
Irish, John P. .................................................. 1868–1870
Jerome, I. N. ................................................... 1862–1864
Kirkwood, S. J. ................................................ 1857–1858, 1867–1868
Lake, P. L. ...................................................... 1855–1858
Lathrop, Henry W. ........................................... 1853–1858
Lucas, Robert ................................................. 1849–1853
Lyon, E. C. ..................................................... 1847–1849, 1851–1859
Mahin, F. W. .................................................. 1894–1897
Matson, Sylvester G. ........................................ 1847–1851
Matthews, Alphonse .......................................... 1884–1896
McCleary, J. D. ............................................... 1894–
McConnell, J. J. ............................................... 1886–1892
McCready, Samuel H. ...................................... 1847–1851
McGarry, George W. ........................................ 1851–1857
McKean, John .................................................. 1870–1876
Merritt, W. W. ................................................ 1870–1874
Moninger, W. R. .............................................. 1892–1898
Morsman, M. J. .............................................. 1852–1858
Osborne, B. F. ............................................... 1890–1896
Palmer, A. H. .................................................. 1849–1853
Palmer, G. D. .................................................. 1851–1857
Parker, Leonard F. .......................................... 1859–1862
Parr, Thomas S. .............................................. 1876–1882
Parvin, Theodore S. ........................................ 1847–1851, 1859–1860
Pickett, Charles E. .......................................... 1896–
Pomeroy, Charles ............................................. 1859–1862
Rankin, John W. ............................................. 1855–1859
Reeve, A. T. ................................................... 1872–1884
Reno, Morgan .................................................. 1858–1859
Rich, Joseph W. ............................................. 1886–1892
Richardson, D. N. ........................................... 1876–1894
Ross, Lewis W. .............................................. 1864–1870, 1874–1880
Rumple, J. N. W. ............................................ 1880–1886
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<td>1864-1870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodward, W. G.</td>
<td>1847-1853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wright, Carroll</td>
<td>1890-1892</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wright, Edgar</td>
<td>1858-1859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wright, Thomas S.</td>
<td>1882-1890</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

II. BRANCHES AND NORMAL SCHOOLS.

No funds were available for support of instruction; but it appeared to the General Assembly that the necessity for the establishment of two Branches 22 and of three Normal Schools 23 was imminent. The Trustees of the University were required to recognize them as upon an equal footing “in respect to funds and all other matters” with the University. The Branch at Dubuque was never carried beyond the appointment of a Board of Trustees.

The Trustees of the Branch at Fairfield selected a site, made a plan for seven buildings, expended $2500 upon one of the buildings which was destroyed by a hurricane. Rebuilding in a more substantial form, an appeal to the Legislature for aid 24 resulted in the severance of the only “Branch” having the semblance of life.

The Normal Schools, virtual branches of the University, were each to be organized under a Board of Seven Trustees.

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22 Laws of Iowa, 2nd G. A., Ch. 114.
23 Laws of Iowa, 2nd G. A., Ch. 78.
24 Laws of Iowa, 4th G. A., Ch. 100.
The School at Andrew began operations November 21st, 1849, with Samuel Pray as Principal and Miss J. S. Dorr, Assistant.

The School at Oskaloosa was organized in April, 1852, under G. M. Drake, Principal and his wife as Assistant.

The School at Mount Pleasant was never organized.

Aid was given by the Legislature to the School at Oskaloosa by one appropriation.

By the Constitution of 1857 the University was located at Iowa City without branches of any kind, and was thus left to the enjoyment of its inheritance and to the occupancy of its buildings upon removal of the Capital to Des Moines.

III. INCOME.

The funds for the support of the University are derived from the following sources:
1. The Congressional Grant of seventy-two sections of land.
2. The State Grant of a portion of the saline lands given the State by Congress.  
5. Tuitions.

IV. UNIVERSITY LANDS.

When Iowa was organized as a Territory the organic Law, approved June 12th, 1838, conferred upon her all the rights which had accrued to Wisconsin. Among these rights was the right to claim the gift of seventy-two sections of land for the support of "Academies, other schools, and seminaries."  

In response to a request from Iowa’s Delegate in Congress, Hon. Augustus C. Dodge, the gift was made “for the use and support of a university within the said Territory

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25 U. S. Statutes, 32d Con., 1st Sess., Ch. 42; also,
Laws of Iowa, 5th G. A., Extra Sess., Ch. 47.
Laws of Iowa, 7th G. A., Ch. 139.
26 Since 1836 these lands are designated as University lands.
27 U. S. Statutes, 26th Cong., 1st Sess., Ch. 90, Private Laws.
when it becomes a State and for no other use or purpose whatsoever, to be located in tracts of not less than an entire section corresponding with any of the legal divisions into which the public lands are authorized to be surveyed."

While the plan of survey contemplated that each section shall contain exactly 640 acres, cases arise in which "fractional sections" must be recognized, containing more or less than 640 acres. The amount to which the University was entitled was not to exceed two townships, or 46,080 acres. When the selections were made some "fractional sections" appeared more desirable, and were chosen by reason of greater value. As the result the University received only 46,052.61 acres. The location of the lands was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Acres</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In Appanoose County</td>
<td>640.00 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Boone County</td>
<td>2,613.48 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Davis County</td>
<td>1,297.36 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Dallas County</td>
<td>572.07 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Decatur County</td>
<td>2,560.00 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Hardin County</td>
<td>10,352.24 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Iowa County</td>
<td>646.65 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Jasper County</td>
<td>4,611.35 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Jefferson County</td>
<td>1,280.00 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Lucas County</td>
<td>4,547.84 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Polk County</td>
<td>5,194.19 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Scott County</td>
<td>645.16 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Story County</td>
<td>5,221.40 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Union County</td>
<td>638.20 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Wapello County</td>
<td>1,920.00 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Warren County</td>
<td>3,218.00 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total selected by Commissioners</strong></td>
<td>45,957.94 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Selected by Governor under Act of April 7, 1862</strong></td>
<td>94.67 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>46,052.61 acres</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The first Commissioner, William W. Dodge, made selection of one section, and removed from the Territory.

The Legislative Assembly, by resolution February 15, 1844, requested the Delegate in Congress to secure the appointment of two Commissioners to complete the selection, also to secure the passage of an Act authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States to certify to the
selection of a tract of 640 acres, including a farm near Agency which had been cultivated by the Indians previous to their cession in 1842. The effort of the Delegate was fruitless.

January 2, 1846, the request was renewed and John M. Whitaker was appointed to complete the selection. His acts and those of W. W. Dodge were approved by the Secretary of the Interior as given above.

The State came into possession of these lands when admitted to the Union, December 28, 1846. By Act of February 25, 1847, already alluded to, the Trustees of the University were empowered to dispose of the lands under “the same regulations as may be provided by law for the disposition and regulation of the sixteenth section in the different townships.” This provision has an important bearing upon matters to be considered later.

The lands selected were of good quality, though not always the best, as the real value of prairie lands was not then known, and timber lands were preferred.

The Trustees at first seemed to appreciate their responsibilities and to consider the interests of the institution under their charge. They appraised the lands on June 27, 1851, at a minimum of five dollars per acre. At the first sale, November 1, 1851, 645.16 acres were sold at $5.05 per acre, and soon after a tract of forty acres were sold at $5 per acre. So by vote of February 28, 1852, the Trustees raised the minimum to $10 per acre. Sad, indeed, was the day when the Trustees rescinded this action and sacrificed the interests of the University to the greed of speculators.

The question of responsibility for this sacrifice has been often discussed, especially when appropriations have been sought from the Legislature.

It is said that the action was in response to an act of the Legislature demanding that the lands be brought into the market from which they had been practically withdrawn by the ten dollar minimum.
February 7, 1854, the Trustees were considering the question of opening the University for students. They saw the need of a larger income. They appointed one of their number, the late Dr. M. J. Morsman, to make a personal examination of the University lands, to subdivide them into such parcels as might be sold to the best advantage without detriment to the adjacent tracts, and to place upon each subdivision a true valuation. The unsold lands were appraised at an average of $3.64 per acre. The lands were then offered for sale at several points during the year 1854. Nine thousand seven hundred ninety-two and eighty-three hundredths acres were sold at an average of $3.72 per acre. Private sales were made at appraisal.

January 25, 1855, nearly a year after the reduction from $10 to $3.64 per acre had been initiated by the trustees, the General Assembly passed the act which has been claimed as demanding the reduction. The main provisions of the act are as follows:

"SECTION 1. That from and after the taking effect of this act, all the School, Saline, and University lands which then remain unsold shall be sold only at public sale, except as hereinafter provided.

"SECTION 2. It shall be the duty of the person or persons having charge of the Saline, School, and University lands to offer the same at public sale after having given notice of the same as provided for in the law regulating the sale of the sixteenth section."

Section 3 provides for three offers at public sale not less than six months apart: the intervals of time to be in the discretion of the persons having charge of the lands "as they may deem it best for the interests of the fund intrusted to them."

The law provides for private sale after the three offers at public sale, but in no case to be sold at less than the price at which the lands have been appraised, and at such rates as

[29 Laws of Iowa, 5th G. A., Ch. 136.]
may be agreed upon between the trustees and purchasers.

The Act is in no sense mandatory as to time of selling but
as to manner of sale when the best time shall appear in the
judgment of trustees. The act is amendatory of other acts
which in all cases leave the time of sale to the discretion of
trustees.

It can not be claimed that the trustees were compelled
to sell the lands at the time they did. They chose to do so.
The only restraint upon them was in the disposal of lands
occupied by "squatters." The price of these lands was taken
out of the control of the trustees and placed in the hands
of two appraisers, one selected by trustees, and one by occu-
pant of the land (these failing to agree were to name a third
appraiser). They were to appraise the lands and improve-
ments separately. After the appraisal the occupant was
permitted to take the land at fifty per cent above appraisal.
Failing to accept upon the above terms for ten days, the
occupant surrendered his claim on condition that he should
receive from the purchaser at public sale the appraised value
of the improvements. Two thousand two hundred and eighty
acres were disposed of at an average of $2.50 per acre.

What influences led the trustees to offer the lands at
public sale so soon after the Act of January 25, 1855, pre-
scribing the method of sale may be matter of conjecture.
When the trustees were put upon their defence, they claimed
that a loud clamor came up from the counties for the sale in
order that the lands might become taxable, and so burdens
upon tax-payers be reduced. A glance at the list of trustees
at the time of sale, shows that a majority of the Board were
residents of Johnson County, in which there were no Uni-
versity lands. In matters of taxation men are not generally
credited with a desire to relieve their neighbors.

A second line of defence lay in the pressure brought to
bear upon the trustees to open the institution as early as
possible to the youth of the State, and not deprive the then

29 Laws of Iowa, 2nd G. A., Ch. 58; 1st G. A., Chs. 111 and 125.
present generation of advantages for the benefit of those who would be better able to provide for themselves than were the pioneers.

Another glance at the list of trustees will show that a majority of the Board resided in Johnson County, and a large minority, at least, were residents of Iowa City within which the University had been located, and taxation would be lessened if the facilities for higher education should be furnished by the State, and Johnson County thus have a good high school without expense to the people of the county.

Three other trustees became partners in interest with those of Johnson County, since the Legislature had determined to open branches at Dubuque and Fairfield, and a normal school at Andrew, to be participants in University funds, and at each of which places a trustee resided.

I may here quote the statement of a prominent citizen of the State who was fully cognizant of the conditions obtaining at the time: "The fact is that the disposition of the various classes of lands of which the State became possessor through Congressional donations, was managed not for the interest and good of the people of the State, or the purposes for which they were donated, but in and for the interest of the counties (or of the members of the Legislature and their friends) in which the lands lay."

Still another argument in defence of the early sale of University lands was based upon the clamor of would-be purchasers who longed to secure the favorable terms of purchase—namely, one-fourth cash and ten years' time on the remainder at ten per cent interest—a very low rate for the time. Other lands were in market at one dollar and a quarter per acre, but cash was demanded and for this reason they were less sought for. This appeal might have been resisted by far-seeing men who had the interests of the University alone at heart. Did personal interest lead the trustees to yield to the appeal? From the records let the answer be taken.

Upon January 1, 1855, there remained unsold 27,781.91
acres. In accordance with the requirements of the Act of January 25th the trustees advertised a sale at Iowa City in the month of June following. This sale continued four days and resulted in the disposal of nearly 18,500 acres. Of this amount 11,036.20 acres went into the hands of five trustees and nearly 2,000 acres more into the hands of one who had been a trustee to within two years of the date of the sale, and who was re-elected two years thereafter. The ex-officio President of the Board participated with his fellow trustees in the sale. One peculiar incident of the sale is thought worthy a place in the records. One trustee had bid in a tract of 480 acres for $1682.02, and immediately forfeited the same. Upon a subsequent day he bid in the same tract at $957.52.

These transactions led to complaint of trustees for having made a sale at a time when there were few bidders. It was charged, also, that there was a combination of trustees to secure the lands. A committee of non-purchasing trustees made an investigation and reported charges not sustained. The price realized was but $3.20 per acre, less than a third of what the Board of trustees three years before had declared to be their minimum appraisal, and forty-four cents per acre less than a later appraisal made by one of their number after a personal inspection.

The complaint was carried to the Attorney-General of the State who declared the purchase by trustees null and void. The Legislature took up the matter and by joint resolution sustained the decision of the Attorney-General, not alone with reference to the trustees but including their assignees as well. But friends who had received the aid of trustees and of legislators retained their bargains. Lands purchased by trustees were returned to the unsold list to be again offered for sale by the trustees now forbidden the privilege of direct purchase.

The crisis of 1857 checked the sale and caused the forfeiture of some lands already sold. A careful examination

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was made of the record of sales, and report was made October 25, 1859, of sales up to that date of 31,411.36 acres, and of an invested fund of $110,582.75 as the result of sales. The price realized was an average of $3.52 per acre.

The early sale had proved a failure so far as opening the University was concerned, for lack of funds had closed all but the Normal Department. Less than thirty-two per cent of the munificent grant remained accruing higher prices.

Before the closing of the University, Chancellor Dean made a special effort to secure from the trustees the withdrawal of all unsold lands from the market, and an appeal to the Legislature for funds sufficient, with the income derived from the lands already sold, to keep the University open in all Departments. His advice was not followed, the trustees preferring to keep the lands in market at what they would bring and to suspend operations until the income would warrant re-opening.

Had the lands unsold been reserved for but a few years the thirty-two per cent remaining would have yielded an income much larger than that derived from the sixty-eight per cent already sacrificed. By 1865 lands of like quality sold readily at $15 per acre.

The State would have been the gainer, too, for demands upon the treasury would have been smaller for every year such drafts have been made. But foresight suffers loss of keenness when the eye is attracted by present necessities.

2. SALINE LANDS.

These lands were reserved from sale because of supposed value of salt springs. In Iowa twelve such springs with six sections of land surrounding each were in such reservation.* It has been declared officially that these seventy-two sections became a part of the University Fund.† Facts do not sustain the report. By Act of Congress providing for admission

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*In fact no such springs existed in Iowa.

† See Report of Register of State Land Office to the General Assembly of 1896.
of Iowa to the Union these lands were given to the State. These lands were sold between 1853-1858, with the exception of a few tracts of little value, at about $5 per acre, and the proceeds were placed in the State treasury.

After the removal of the capital to Des Moines, and the vacation of the buildings to the University trustees, an appeal was made to the Legislature for funds wherewith to put the buildings in repair. One who was cognizant of the proceedings of the Legislature from his place in the lobby writes in substance as follows:

"The Legislature had resolved to make no appropriations to State institutions on the plea of economy. The Asylum at Mount Pleasant and the State University were asking aid. The friends of the two measures were working in harmony—(cure and prevention of insanity?). The Asylum secured the appropriation desired by one vote. The agreement by which this winning vote was secured was faithfully carried out and the University obtained an appropriation of $10,000 from the Saline Fund—also the remnant of Saline lands, about 4,578 acres—also the balance of the Saline Fund after deducting the appropriation above cited, or $20,507.10 in notes, and $9,054.64 in cash, less $10,000. Had the notes been worth their face the University Fund would have received an addition of $19,561.74. But some of the notes had been paid and part of the lands reported unsold were proven to be the property of bona fide purchasers."

The Saline Fund given the University has not exceeded $30,000.

3. PRIVATE GIFTS.

Individual contributions toward the erection of the chapel included 680 acres of land.

32 U. S. Statutes, 32nd Cong., 1st Sess., Ch. 42.
33 Laws of Iowa, 8th G. A., Revised Code of 1860, Secs. 1856-1858; also 10th G. A., Ch. 78.
The lands belonging to the University and now practically disposed of are:

Congressional Grant ........................................ 46,052.61 acres
State Saline Grant, nominally .................. 4,578 acres
Private Donations .......................... 680 acres
Total ......................................................... 51,310.61 acres

The Productive Fund arising from lands now practically sold is $233,120.36.\(^3\)

4. STATE APPROPRIATIONS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Assembly</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Buildings</th>
<th>Repairs</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Permanent</th>
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<tr>
<td>7th</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$3,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>8th</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
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<td>10th</td>
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<tr>
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<td>500</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>23rd</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>50,000</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24th</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>68,000</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>25th</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>40,000</td>
<td>11,000</td>
<td>14,000</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26th</td>
<td>114</td>
<td></td>
<td>4,500</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$55,000 (estimated, can not exceed that amount)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26th</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>6,500</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>12,500</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>75</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>55,000</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>27th</td>
<td>142</td>
<td></td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$252,800 $130,700 $346,957 $728,000 $275,000

- Appropriations for Buildings ...... $327,800—expended, $97,800
- Appropriations for Repairs ...... 130,700
- Appropriations for Support........ 1,074,267

Total.......................... $1,733,457

\(^3\) See Biennial Report for 1898.

\(^*\) Buildings include equipment in some cases. Repairs include also permanent improvements.

\(^**\) 1-10 mill tax for 1901 to repair losses of Library by fire.

§ To be used in buildings by 1900.
THE FIRST UNIVERSITY BUILDING.

It was in this edifice that the University was organized in 1854. Until 1855 it was the only building used. In 1873 it was occupied by the Medical Department as a Hospital, and it continued to be so used until it gave place to the New Hospital in 1897.
5. TUITIONS.

These can not be given fully as in some instances they were received by professors in lieu of salaries.

The average for the past five years, as all tuitions are now paid into the treasury, and professors receive regular salaries, is $53,103.78.

IV. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS.

1. State Capitol and campus of fourteen acres is a gift from the State.

Congress made an appropriation of $20,000 to toward the erection of the Capitol. The commissioners in charge of its erection were limited to an expenditure of $51,000 dollars.

The corner stone was laid July 4th, 1840. The building is built of stone—is one hundred and twenty feet by sixty feet, and two stories in hight. It is after the Doric order of architecture.

At the present time the business offices of the University occupy half the first floor, the other half being used for recitation purposes. The Law Department has the entire second floor.

2. The first building occupied by the University was rented from the Iowa City Mechanics Aid Association. It was erected on a half block of land donated by the State for literary purposes. It reverted to the State upon the disbandment of the Association, and was given to the University. The building was two stories in hight, built of brick. It continued to be used by the University until the Capitol was vacated. Upon the organization of the Medical Department it was purchased to be used as a hospital. In 1897 it was torn down to give place to the present hospital.

3. "South Hall," a plain brick structure one hundred and eight by forty-five feet, three stories in hight, was erected upon the campus for a boarding hall, and for addi-

35 U. S. Statutes, 25th Cong., 2nd Sess., Ch. 169, Sect. 5.
36 Laws of Territory, 1839-40, Ch. 85.
tional class rooms. It has served the purposes of the Collegiate, the Medical, the Dental Departments. At present the first story is used by classes in engineering and as a ladies' drawing-room. The second story is used by classes in literature (English, French and German) and in history. The third story is occupied by Literary Societies, their halls being furnished at their own expense. The State appropriated $15,000 for its erection.

4. "North Hall," also upon the campus, is two stories in height, built of brick and is ninety feet by sixty-one feet in size. It was erected primarily for chapel services, the lower story devoted to the physical sciences. The Library for a time held joint occupancy with the chapel until it demanded more room and chapel services were held in Close Hall. The lower story is now occupied for physics exclusively. The Legislature appropriated $33,000 towards its erection, the balance of the cost—about $7,000—coming from individual donations of land and materials.

5. "Observatory," now used as a carpenter shop, was erected upon a half block of land at the head of Clinton street. The land and building were paid for out of the interest upon deposited funds drawn from the State treasury as soon as appropriation was made, in advance of need.

The telescope is now in a small structure upon the campus erected in 1891.

6. "Homeopathic Medical Building," a two story brick structure erected in 1878 upon a small lot east of the campus, obtained through the foreclosure of a mortgage. The first story is now used by the chair of philosophy, and the second story by the chair of pedagogy,—the department having removed to more commodious quarters.

7. "Boiler House." The basement has a battery of three boilers from which all the buildings upon the campus are supplied with steam for heating. The first story is used as an armory, and the second for mathematical recitations.

8. "Medical Building," eighty feet by thirty-six feet and
three stories in height was erected upon the campus in 1882 at a cost of $30,000—an appropriation by the Nineteenth General Assembly. It is built of brick. It is used exclusively by the Medical Department.

9. "Science Hall" was erected upon the campus in 1884, an appropriation of $64,000 having been made by the Twentieth General Assembly for that purpose. It is one hundred and fourteen feet by seventy-four feet, three stories in height. It is of brick. The first and second stories are devoted to natural sciences; the third floor is given up to the museum and the cabinet of natural history.

10. "Chemical Laboratory" is a brick structure practically three stories in height, one hundred and fifty feet by one hundred and five feet in size. The third story is given up to the Department of Pharmacy. It stands upon a block of land given to the University by Iowa City. The Twenty-third General Assembly appropriated $50,000 for its erection.

11. "Homeopathic Medical Hospital" is erected of brick upon the lot given by the city. It is seventy-five feet by sixty feet in size, is three stories in height, and serves the purposes of Lecture Room and Hospital. It has accommodations for fifty-four patients. The Twenty-fifth General Assembly appropriated $15,000 for its erection, and $4,000 additional was appropriated by the Twenty-sixth General Assembly.

12. "Dental Building" stands upon the campus. It is three stories in height, the main building eighty feet by seventy-two feet, and two wings, each fifty-four feet by twenty-eight feet. Its structure is of brick. The Twenty-fifth General Assembly appropriated $25,000, and $2,500 more was given by the Twenty-sixth General Assembly.

13. "Medical Hospital" is upon the site of the Old Hospital, extended by the vacation of a street by the city. The Administration building is ninety-six feet by fifty-eight feet and three stories in height. One of the two proposed wings
is completed and is two stories in height, one hundred and ten feet by thirty-eight feet in size. It has accommodations for seventy-five patients. The structure is of cream colored brick, and cost, with furnishings, about $55,000, the avails of a tenth mill tax levied by the Twenty-seventh General Assembly.

14. "Boiler House" No. 2. It contains the steam plant for the Hospital, and an upper story is devoted to laundry purposes.

15. "Collegiate Building" to be erected of stone upon the campus. It is to be two hundred and ten feet by one hundred and twenty feet, and three stories in height. The basement is under contract. The avails of the one-tenth mill tax will be used in its construction so far as needed. It is thought that the tax for three years at least will be required.

In addition to these buildings, friends of the Young Men's and the Young Women's Christian Associations connected with the University have contributed nearly $40,000 for the erection of a hall called "Close Hall" in honor of Mrs. Helen S. Close who gave $10,000. The Hall is two stories in height above a basement containing a gymnasium and bath rooms. A large auditorium has served the purpose of a chapel and for gathering of students since the old chapel has been occupied as a library and reading room.

V. ORGANIZATION.

The first record is of an adjourned meeting, July 15, 1847, at which By-Laws were adopted.

December 7, 1848, the trustees seemed to ignore the provisions of the law under which they were appointed providing for instruction of teachers only and to take a broader view which the name University suggested. They, therefore, listened to a committee asking that the College of Physicians and Surgeons of the Upper Mississippi located at Davenport be recognized as the Medical Department of the

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Laws of Iowa, 1st G. A., Ch. 125.
THE NEW COLLEGIATE BUILDING.

This Building will be completed in 1900. It represents the growth of the University by comparison with preceding cuts, though it stands at the head of many buildings now needed for the housing of its six families, while the others sufficed, each in its turn, as the home for the parental stock.
State University of Iowa. Committees were appointed to draft a plan and a basis of connection. The committees reported, and the trustees fixed upon the first Monday of November, 1849, for the beginning of a sixteen weeks' course of lectures to be given by Drs. Hudson, Vaughan, Flint, Rawson and Hastings, and Stephen Whicher, B. S.

The conditions of recognition were that the University should not be liable pecuniarily, nor should it acquire any control of the property of the College, nor control of its management.

No further action regarding organization appears until February 7, 1854, when a committee was appointed to consider the propriety of putting the State University into operation.

Committee reported May 8, 1854, that they had rented the Academy of the Mechanics' Aid Association. Their action was approved. July 7, 1854, a committee consisting of Messrs. Lathrop, McCleary and Lyon, was authorized to secure professors and to name the probable salary of $1,000 to $1,500 for each.

October 28, 1854, the committee reported correspondence with sundry persons, and was instructed to employ Messrs. Larrabee and Moore as professors, and to open the University upon the third Monday of November, 1854. November 21, 1854, Professor W. C. Larrabee was elected President upon a salary of $1,500 payable quarterly, and Professor Moore's salary (if he should accept professorship) was fixed at $1,200. It appears that neither gentleman accepted the position tendered. In March, 1855, a school is found in session under instruction of Alexander Johnston, Professor of Mathematics; Abel Beach, Professor of Languages; and E. M. Giffin, Principal of Preparatory Department. There is no record of their appointment, but they are recognized by act of trustees March 15, 1855, fixing the length of the term at sixteen weeks, with the rate of tuition as $4.00 per term.
April 2, 1855, James Hall was elected Professor of Geology, salary $1,500; and Josiah D. Whitney was elected Professor of Mineralogy, Meteorology, and Chemistry, salary $1,000.

May 28, 1855, Lorin Andrews was elected President; H. S. Welton, Professor of Languages (Abel Beach having resigned); John Van Valkenburg, Professor of Normal Department; and E. M. Giffin, was re-elected Principal of Preparatory Department.

July 16, 1855, Lorin Andrews declined the presidency, and Amos Dean, LL. D., of the Albany Law School, was elected Chancellor.

The first Wednesday of September was fixed as the opening day of a term of seventeen weeks. After a vacation of two weeks the second term of twenty-three weeks would begin—residents of the State to be admitted free of tuition the second term. The land sales of June already alluded to gave hope of a fund sufficient for support. Chancellor Dean accepted the position tendered, so far as to assume the work of organizing the force of instruction.

January 7, 1856, the trustees adopted Chancellor Dean's plan of departments as follows:
1. Department of Ancient Languages.
2. Department of Modern Languages.
3. Department of Intellectual Philosophy.
4. Department of Moral Philosophy.
5. Department of History.
6. Department of Natural History.
7. Department of Mathematics.
8. Department of Natural Philosophy.
9. Department of Chemistry.

To these were added the Normal Department and the Preparatory Department.

Nos. 6, 7, 8, and 9 constituted a scientific course leading to the degree B. S.; Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 constituted the philosophical course with three studies of scientific course leading

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With the expansion of the University idea the term Department is differently applied.