

SPECIAL EDITION

THE LAFAYETTE.

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No. 13.

PARDEE HALL IN RUINS!

**The Magnificent Scientific Structure
Almost Entirely Consumed.**

THE LOSS MORE THAN \$100,000.00.

**Students Fight Valiantly and Rescue the Equipments
from the East Wing While the Firemen
Work with No Co-operation
or System.**



HE scientific department of Lafayette College, Pardee Hall, the handsome structure that has been a monument to the liberality and generosity of its founder — Ario Pardee — now stands with its western and central portions entirely consumed and the transverse east wing badly wrecked, as the result of a fierce fire that swept over it early Saturday morning. The loss entailed is estimated at from \$100,000 to \$150,000.

THE FIRE DISCOVERED.

When Jonas Walter, the college janitor, was on his way to the college, Saturday morning, about 5 o'clock, he noticed a strong blaze issuing from the windows of the biological department on the second floor. He at once ran to the No. 3 engine house on College Hill, and sounded an alarm. A telephone message from the operator at the Lehigh Valley depot had just conveyed the same information to the firemen, and it was but a few minutes afterward when the No. 3 company had two streams playing on the blazing building.

When the No. 3 company reached the scene the fire was confined alone to the biological

department, but was bursting from every window. A line of hose was run from the plug on the campus, and the work of fighting the flames began. The alarm had brought out the chemical engine and a hose carriage from the Central station, but soon after a general call was sent out and the entire fire department went into service. But meanwhile the fire gained headway. The flames, driven by a fierce southwest wind, quickly communicated to the central and more western portions, and before the entire Easton fire department could get sufficient streams on the fire the entire western transverse wing and lateral portions were doomed. The strong blaze, fanned by the southwest wind, attacked the central portion about 6 o'clock, and for some time it looked as if the fire could not be controlled and the whole building would be destroyed. The arrival of the Phillipsburg companies and the change of the wind naturally aided the grouping firemen, and the fire was finally under control after the equipment of the east lateral wing and transverse portion of the building had been wrecked or destroyed in moving.

It took a long time to get water on the flames, and, in fact, the first two hours' work by the firemen was a perfect farce. Tons of water were absolutely wasted, and what was worse, the firemen seemed to be wholly at sea. Finally Chief Oliver got the men into something like fire-fighting shape, and then, aided by the fireproof wall on the east of the main portion of the building, the firemen fought the flames to a standstill.

It was a pitiable sight to see the inefficiency which characterized so much of the work of the

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Editor-in-Chief.

CHARLES R. MICHAEL, '98.

Assistant Editor-in-Chief.

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THE LOSS TO LAFAYETTE.



WE have met with a great loss. Every friend of the college must grieve to know that Pardee Hall, our pride and delight, has been so largely destroyed. We, who are on the scene, know and feel the loss intensely. But we must not dwell upon that which is irreparable. We must only pause to recognize the promptitude and courage of faculty and students and employes of the college, not forgetting how bravely the firemen bore themselves in fighting the flames, and then press on to the future.

If we grieve with the prophet of old that, "Our beautiful house is burned up with fire;" we can surely sound with the hopeful expectancy of the same prophet his words of joyous prophecy; and thinking of the new building that will surely replace the present ruin, cry: "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. * * *

"They shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations."

There is every reason to think that the insurance is entirely adequate to restore the building and replace, for all practical purposes, the equipment. The precious fruitage of Dr.

Porter's long years of toil is largely lost; the Ward library and its autograph and book treasures can never be replaced; some of the other collections are irreplaceable, and Professor Madison Porter's generosity has suffered grievously. The insurance is all in sound companies of excellent repute, and the loss will doubtless be liquidated promptly. We shall have to look to the friends and alumni to rally to our aid in replacing the equipment, and restoring the collections.

Our watchword for the new year may well be:

"Look up and not down,
Look forward and not back,
Look out and not in,
Lend a hand."

ETHELBERT D. WARFIELD.

[Continued from page 103.]

banqueting as good Thomas Penn never forecast when he laid out "some ground for a town at the forks of the Delaware."

The building, of Trenton brownstone, with trimmings of light Ohio sandstone, was begun in 1871 and completed in 1873. The building had a total length of 256 feet and a depth of 84 feet, with lateral and cross wings four stories in height, the central part being five stories.

On the evening of June 4th, 1879, it took fire from the chemical laboratory, and at midnight was a mass of smoking ruins. It had been well insured, and from the fund so provided, Pardee Hall was soon replaced, the exact counterpart of the former building externally, but with many changes and improvements in the arrangements within, suggested by eight years of use.

The original building cost \$220,199.21, and the equipment \$65,722.67; total, \$285,921.89. The insurance received after the 1879 fire was \$100,880.49 on building and \$20,000 on equipment; total, \$120,880.49.

The re-dedication exercises on November 30, 1880, were attended with imposing ceremonies, President Hayes and members of his cabinet, Governor Hoyt and other distinguished guests being present.