

storage, and the erection of the little colony of huts in which the members of the expedition will pass the long winter. Now, at last he is to give vent to his pent-up geological abilities.

At one time last spring, commenting on the geological possibilities of the Antarctic, he said, "We are already in possession of some evidence to indicate that the Antarctic played a great role in earthly affairs years ago. And we have reason to believe that it may revert to its old position of importance. Perhaps after other continents have been robbed of their treasures, the Ant-

arctic may become the great storehouse of the race.

"The fossil plants found by Scott on his way to the Pole indicate that the continent once enjoyed a sub-tropical climate with winter seasons probably no colder than those of Michigan. There are outcroppings of coal, proving that at some time in the distant past, vegetation, including trees of considerable size, flourished there. Of the animal life we know nothing yet."

This is the field that "Larry" Gould is working on now—a virgin land as far as present civilization is concerned, with unlimited possibilities in research.

## Student Life in 1856—A Diary

This Second Series of Extracts Recounts Transportation Difficulties and the Excitement of Early Commencement

AS AN EVIDENCE of the pioneer spirit still present in the students of the fifties, this second portion of the faithfully-kept diary of Daniel Satterthwaite, '59, is a loyal monument. The difficulties incident upon the acquiring of a college education, the spirit of earnestness which seemed to guide them, the simplicity and perseverance in the face of what would seem to the modern student, serious obstacles—show even more clearly in this installment of the diary than in the earlier part.

The problem of transportation between Ann Arbor and Tecumseh appears to have presented difficulties, surmounted in various ways. A simple solution was to walk the entire distance, and the event of a sleigh ride was a real luxury. The "stage" from Saline to Ann Arbor, in which they endured "a long tedious ride against a cold wind and storm" is described as follows: "It was a miserable little sled, with board runners, and a rough board box, and a still more miserable horse before it, and to crown all, a drunken driver. The road was drifted full of snow most of the way, but we escaped with only one upset occasioned by running off the plank, where it was on an embankment."

From Clinton, there was also a stage, which investigation proves to have been "A long concern formerly used as a cracker wagon; it had springs under it, and a top, but the curtains were all gone, except the back one, which hung loose. One board seat in about the middle with a back to it and a sheep-skin cushion, one in

front for the driver, and between them a trunk with a buffalo robe on it, made up the complement of seats. It was drawn by four most miserably poor horses." On the particular ride recorded, there were three breakdowns which necessitated the disembarking of the passengers and even their assistance with the repairs.

THE PROGRAM of the Commencement Exercises of this class of '59 has been preserved and includes thirty-nine orations, theses, and poems presented by the members of the class as well as the usual Baccalaureate sermon, the Address—in fact three Addresses—and the President's Levee. Such themes as: "Man the Crown of Earthly Existence," "The Field of Blood" (a poem by the author of this Diary) "Worth, Not a Success,"

"The Measure of Greatness," "Religious Bigotry," "The Man of Public Spirit," "The Age of Gold," "The Philosopher's View," "The Power of Will," and others of like profundity.

In place of a class photograph, the class of '59 goes down to posterity in a photographic copy of caricature portraits of its members executed by one of their number, Stephen H. Webb. Uninformed, it would be difficult to identify these long-haired, black-bearded and much bewhiskered youths as college boys. Verily, a college education in the fifties was a desperate undertaking!

The following extracts from the Journal kept by Daniel Satterthwaite in 1856, while a student at the University, constitute the second installment which has appeared in the ALUMNUS.

### State University of Michigan

Fourteenth Annual Commencement, 1859

Baccalaureate Sermon, by the .....President

Sunday Evening

Address—before the Young Men's Christian Association, by Rev. J. M. Gregory, Supt. of Public Instruction.

Monday Evening, June 27th

Address—before the Literary Societies, by Alfred Russell, Esq.

Tuesday Afternoon, June 28th

Address—before the Alumni, by George E. Lee, Esq.

WEDNESDAY, June 29th, COMMENCEMENT

Wednesday Evening—President's Levee

WHY UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENTS OF EARLY DAYS WERE TREMENDOUS EVENTS AND OF SCHOLARLY IMPORT

Mar. 21st.

As soon as we were all examined, we got excused and started for home on foot. Arrived at Saline about half past one. Waited there until four, and then started for Clinton, where we arrived about eight. Walked from there home, where we arrived a little before ten. Found the folks all well and somewhat surprised to see us. Felt like retiring pretty soon.

Mar. 31st.

Left home today and took the cars for Manchester, where I arrived about ten; then took the Chelsea stage—which by the way was nothing but a lumber wagon—but I was lucky enough to get a good seat, and that by the side of a lady, too. The roads were pretty bad, but not any worse than I expected, for we went through in three hours. Waited here till half past four for the cars, and was landed in Ann Arbor at half past five. Found all right.

Apr. 2nd.

It seems quite nice to get to study again. The result of the examination was read off tonight, We all passed and are now ready to go on. Elisha and Claudius have gone to bed, so I must quit.

Apr. 3rd.

Our recitations come one right after the other in the forenoon, that is from eight till eleven, which makes it rather nice for us who live so far from the buildings.

Apr. 5th. (Seventh Day)

After dinner took quite a long walk with my chum Beal, after which I returned to my room, studied a little and read some till supper time. After that pitched pennies a while with Jones to console him a little as he has sore eyes.

Apr. 8th.

How pleasant it does seem after long cold winter to be greeted again by the balmy airs of spring. But pleasant as it is we have to spend most of our time in the house poring over our lessons. Had some cider tonight for a variety as Taylor, Lamborn and Chandler were here. This evening Elisha and I walked a mile in 13 minutes.

Apr. 14th.

This evening attended a lecture delivered by Horace Mann, and I believe it excelled any I ever heard.

Apr. 16th.

Arose this morning a little before five, and Grant, Jones and myself went down to the pond to bathe. Found it pretty cold, but I believe we all considered ourselves better off for it. Ten weeks from tonight I suppose this term will close and if we don't miss of it we shall be sophomores by name.

Apr. 23rd.

This day commenced in Thucydides, and I must say that of all the Greek I ever met with this goes ahead. We have the twenty-second chapter in the first book, and if it don't make some freshmen squirm, they are different from me.

Apr. 26th.

(ED. NOTE: An entry by Beal.) This is certainly curious business writing another person's diary.—Today I went up the river—not Salt River—but the Huron River, to find some of my cousins. Left Daniel here with the ague. Hope he will not have it long. He feels bad I know, at least I should. Daniel wants I should set down this day he and Jones got their hats. He could not get his on until the lining was ripped out.

Apr. 27th. (First Day)

This morning felt as though I had had the ague, but managed to go up to prayers, so as not to get a mark. After I came back, went over to the druggist and got some quinine which I took in hopes not to have any more of the troublesome stuff. Felt bad all day and almost wished I was at home.

Apr. 30th.

Study, study, and study again. They keep us at it pretty steadily this term, but I don't care, for that is what we came here for.

May 5th.

In the evening Jas. P. Jones called on us and stated that there would be a ventriloquist here this evening to show what he

could do in that line. We were all quite anxious to hear the gentleman, so we concluded to go and run the risk of getting our lessons. Had a fine time laughing.

May 6th.

Have had quite a time cleaning house. Have had our room whitewashed, cleaned our windows and floor, shook the carpet, and bought some window-curtains, which we think add much to the appearance of our room. And now it looks quite like living; but I don't know as I can study any better.

May 7th.

This day finished reading Livy, and cannot say that I am sorry. Next week we are to commence Horace. I don't know how that will go, but I am not afraid of its being much worse than Livy—if it is poetry.

May 13th.

This afternoon translated our first lesson in Horace. Like it very well; think it is more interesting than Livy. Elisha is about sick, has been taking medicine. Hope he will be better tomorrow.

May 17th. (Seventh Day)

Afternoon took a long walk with James and Elisha. Went out west about three miles to a lake where that man was drowned about a year ago. Took a boat ride and returned home in the rain.

May 19th.

Great exhibition of the Ann Arbor brass band this evening. We can hear them quite plainly.

May 24th. (Seventh Day)

This afternoon went fishing in company with Elisha and James. Rather poor success, but I rather came out ahead. E. caught one, James none and myself eight. Rather small fry, but I guess they will be better than no fish at all.

May 26th.

In the evening went to the court house to attend an indignation meeting in regard to the treatment of Sumner by a southerner named Brooks. Had a first rate meeting. Some of the students spoke, Power among the number. To close up with, he was burned in effigy here on the square.

May 27th.

This evening there was a meeting over at the court house again in regard to the Sumner affair. I guess judging from the noise in that direction they had quite a lively time. They have got up a Memorial to send to Congress to expel Brooks.

May 28th.

Quite pleasant but some cool. Nevertheless we went down to the river and took a swim, which went good and I guess all of us felt the better for it. After supper James P. Jones called on us. It seems he had been owing James fifty cents for some time, and the other night he paid him. James told him it was that much extra, and we thought he ought to treat. Jas. P. told him we were ready for it now. Upon this we all went down to Slack's and took some ice-cream.

May 29th.

Boise was absent yesterday, and told us that he might be absent today. On that supposition James and Grant would not go up. Elisha and I thought it best to be on the safe side, so we went. Found him there and recited in Greek. So James and Grant missed one recitation.

May 31st.

Three weeks from this evening is to be the grand exhibition of the Freshman class at the Exchange. I'll be glad when it comes.

June 7th.

This evening attended a called meeting of the Adelpic Union for the purpose of adopting the new constitution and by-laws, also to have a plan of our room presented by the committee appointed for that purpose. I like the plan very much. Think when we get it completed we shall have as nice a room as any of them. It is estimated to cost \$240.

June 10th.

This evening The Locos are rejoicing over the nomination of Buchanan.



## The Class of '59

As  
the Bewhiskered  
Students  
Appeared  
to  
Stephen H. Webb

The  
Scholarly Face  
in the  
Lower Left-Hand  
Corner  
is  
Our Present  
Diarist



June 13th.

This evening the regular order of business was laid aside with the exception of the oration, and as I was the orator I made a few remarks on the life of Martin Luther. After that we proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing term. They honored me sufficiently to elect me Secretary, which I did not want very much.

June 14th.

Jones has gone out to Glasiers for a visit, so Grant, Beal and myself are here.

June 16th.

Had a meeting of our class in our room again today for the purpose of considering some important matters in regard to our good time coming.

June 18th.

Afternoon our class was examined in Latin. Went off very well. I guess most of us passed. After the recitation was over with, the class presented Professor Braman with an edition of Shakespeare in six volumes, cost \$13.00.

June 19th.

Passed our examination in Greek this forenoon; came off well. Afternoon studied Geometry out in the grove, so as not to be disturbed by callers.

June 20th.

Hurrah! Hurrah! we are through. Our examination in Geometry came off this afternoon. All of us got through well. No more studying to be done now unless we choose to. Last year this day was the Exhibition at Lodi, when we were calculating and dreading the examination for admittance. But that time is past and I suppose we are almost as good as sophomores; I cannot perceive any great change in my feelings.

June 22nd. (First Day)

Did not rise this morning till nearly eight o'clock, though I did get up almost half past four, but as I could not start the rest of them, lay down again. I believe I never suffered more with the heat than I have today. Our room is very warm, and I am glad that we have not got long to stay here. Our thermometer stood at 98 today.

June 24th.

Towards evening James and I went out to meet Otis. Walked some over two miles and a half out of town and waited a long time and then walked back again despairing of seeing him this night. But we were disappointed in this for almost eleven or a little before he came.

June 25th.

Commencement has finally come, that day towards which we have all so long looked with pleasure. Arose about four o'clock. Took a short walk before breakfast. About eight o'clock Moses Comfort and Caroline Hoag and Woolson and Chloe Smith arrived. Just before that Asa Aldrich and J. W. Cook. We soon went up to the building, but as we arrived and attempted an entrance the guests were admitted but we had to stand back. Upon this we went to University where the students were collected and joined the grand procession and marched up to the building in all the splendor and pomp of Freshmen. We were lucky enough to obtain good seats. The exercises commenced about nine and continued until nearly one, quite interestingly I thought. Took dinner at the Exchange. After dinner soon returned to the building. Remained there until four and then left. After taking a little refreshment and walking around some started for home. Arrived there about one o'clock.