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REPORT

CONCERNING THE

AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE OF KENTUCKY

BY THE

REGENT OF KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY,

TO

GOVERNOR P. H. LESLIE, FEBRUARY 7, 1872.

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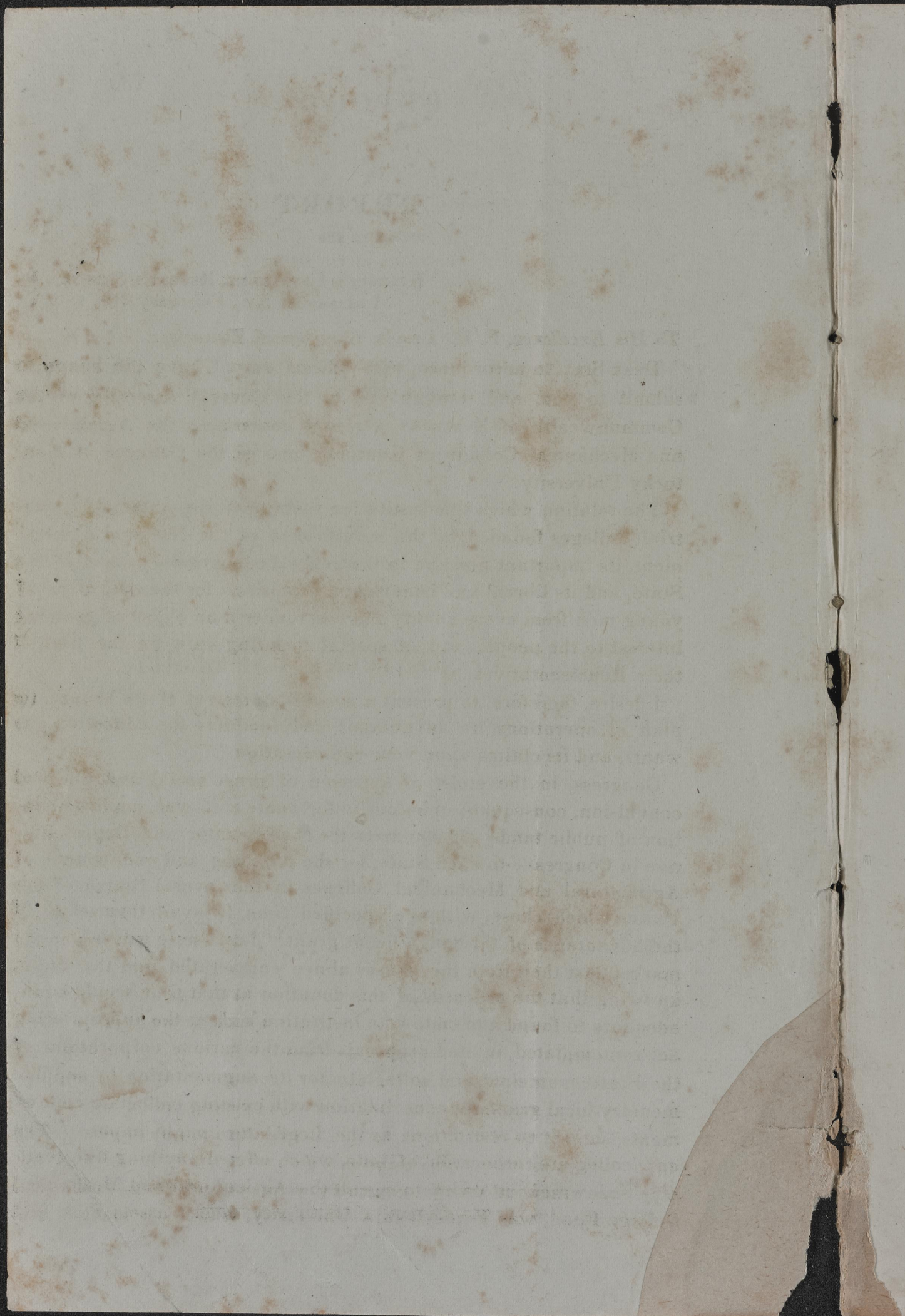
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1872.







## REPORT

KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY, REGENT'S OFFICE, }  
LEXINGTON, KY., February 7th, 1872. }

*To His Excellency, P. H. LESLIE, Governor of Kentucky :*

DEAR SIR : In accordance with official duty, I have the honor to submit to you, and through you to the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, a report concerning the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Kentucky, one of the Colleges of Kentucky University.

The relation which this Institution sustains to the system of Industrial Colleges founded by the munificence of the National Government, its important position in the general educational system of the State, and its liberal and benevolent provisions for the education of young men from every county therein, render it an object of growing interest to the people, and of special fostering care on the part of their Representatives.

I desire, therefore, to present a concise statement of its history, its plan of operations, its advantages and facilities for education, its wants, and its claims upon your consideration.

Congress, in the midst of a period of great social and political convulsion, consequent upon our unfortunate civil war, made a donation of public lands—30,000 acres for each Senator and Representative in Congress—to each State, for the founding and endowment of Agricultural and Mechanical Colleges in the several States of the Union which chose, within a specified time, to avail themselves of the advantages of this magnificent grant. Land scrip was low in the market just then from the causes above enumerated, and the State, knowing that the proceeds of this donation at that time would be inadequate to found and endow an Institution such as the appropriating act contemplated, invited proposals from the various corporations of the State, municipal and collegiate, for its augmentation by supplementary local grants, or consolidation with existing collegiate endowments, subject to restrictions as the Legislature might impose. The only collegiate corporation of note, which offered anything like available endowment on which to ingraft this Agricultural and Mechanical College Fund, was Transylvania University, whose assets, cash and



real estate, were worth about \$160,000. This, however, was felt to be insufficient, and the probability was that the grant would be forfeited through inability or indisposition to comply with it. At this juncture, observing what was likely, if properly managed, to prove a munificent bequest, in danger of passing out of the hands of the State by default, and in harmony with my own plans for the founding and upbuilding of Kentucky University, a consolidation of the endowments of Kentucky and Transylvania Universities, it was proposed, upon the united endowments, that the Agricultural and Mechanical College should be ingrafted as one of the Colleges of Kentucky University. The advantages offered were manifold. In order to constitute an efficient and fully manned institution, such as contemplated by Congress and desired by the State, a large expenditure in buildings, experimental farm, Philosophical and Chemical apparatus, Geological and Mineralogical cabinet, with Museums of Natural History, would be required. All of this, if adequately provided, would have absorbed more than could be realized from 330,000 acres of land, even at its nominal value of \$1 25 per acre. Moreover, means must be provided for paying the salaries of competent Professors, not mere literary hacks, amateur Scientists, and dabblers in Language and Mathematics, but theoretical and practical scholars, educators worthy of the trust committed to their charge. This would involve an outlay, the facts and figures of which we here present:

|                                                                                                  |         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| President and Professor of Metaphysics and History, including Political Economy, etc., say ..... | \$2,250 |
| Professor of English, including Logic .....                                                      | 1,750   |
| Professor of Mathematics and Astronomy .....                                                     | 1,750   |
| Professor of Ancient Languages .....                                                             | 1,750   |
| Professor of Modern Languages .....                                                              | 1,750   |
| Professor of Chemistry .....                                                                     | 1,750   |
| Professor of Natural History .....                                                               | 1,750   |
| Professor of Military Science .....                                                              | 1,750   |
| Professor of Horticulture .....                                                                  | 1,000   |
| Professor of Agriculture .....                                                                   | 1,000   |
| Professor of Practical Mechanics .....                                                           | 1,500   |
| Principal of Preparatory Department .....                                                        | 1,250   |
| Assistant in Preparatory Department .....                                                        | 800     |

An actual annual outlay of \$20,000, exclusive of contingent expenses for Museum, Apparatus, Chemicals, janitor's fees, repairs of buildings and fuel, which aggregate not less than \$4,000 per annum. This is no fanciful computation, but based on actual facts and salaries. This would have required an additional endowment fund of \$400,000, at six per cent. per annum. To establish then an Agricultural and Mechanical College, such as would have been an honor to the State, would have required no less than \$800,000, viz—\$400,000 for farm,



mechanical works, museums, laboratories, etc., etc., and \$400,000 for permanent endowment. Let us see how these conditions are met by the existing arrangement in which the Kentucky Agricultural and Mechanical College is one of the Colleges of Kentucky University. It possesses for experimental purposes the finest estate in Kentucky, purchased for its use by subscriptions raised by myself as one of the conditions on which the Agricultural and Mechanical College should become one of the Colleges of the University, the cash value of which, including buildings and subsequent improvements, is not less than \$250,000, use of Libraries, Law, Medical, Scientific, and General, use of Chemical and Philosophical Apparatus and Museum, all of which accrued from the consolidation of Transylvania, and the value of which, especially the Libraries, cannot be expressed in dollars and cents; for there are there copies of books which money could not purchase. The students have access to all and every class taught in the College of Arts. They are furnished with instruction in all the various departments enumerated above, viz: Metaphysics, including Mental and Moral Philosophy, Civil History, Ancient, Medieval, and Modern; Political Economy, Mathematics, and Astronomy, French and German, Latin and Greek, Chemistry, Geology, Botany, Zoology, Physiology and Comparative Anatomy, English Literature and Logic, Civil Engineering, Military Tactics, Agriculture, Practical Mechanics, and Horticulture. No course west of the Alleghenies is more thorough, more complete; a six years' course, it is true, for those beginning with their education; but boys are not made scholars in a day. When the course is completed, the degree of Bachelor of Science is given. It has been made a matter of complaint that the students of this College were debarred from taking a degree in the College of Arts by a certain obnoxious course of Bible History. I venture to say in reply, that the Bachelor of Science who has gained his degree, after pursuing the course above mentioned, stands on a plane at least equally elevated with the Bachelor of Arts; and we submit to all concerned, whether anything should be added to a curriculum already so ample; moreover, the degree of Bachelor of Arts was never contemplated either by Congress or the Legislature of Kentucky in the plan of organization of a College, whose chief mission was to give instruction in the sciences related to Agriculture and the Mechanical Arts. When Kentucky University agreed to receive the Agricultural and Mechanical College as one of the Col-



leges of the University, the land scrip had appreciated from its minimum value, when the donating act was passed by Congress, to about \$1 per acre. It was, of course, expected that 330,000 acres of land would yield, when sold, a principal of \$330,000. This amount, at six per cent., would have yielded an annual income of \$19,800, and this was expected to be the available yearly fund for the support of the Agricultural and Mechanical College. But, instead of this, the land scrip was virtually thrown away. It was sold through State Agency—be it remembered I had nothing to do with this—for fifty cents per acre, and realized only \$165,000, which sum was then invested by the State in her own six per cent. bonds, and yields but \$9,900 annually. For this annual pittance, the Agricultural College has been maintained, and its work done thoroughly and well. The State of Kentucky has given not one dollar besides, either for the inauguration or maintenance of her Agricultural College, which has, to-day, an attendance larger than any similar College in America. We say given, for the \$20,000 advanced was but a loan, the payment of which she may, at any time, demand, out of the interest arising from the invested fund.

Other States either sold all their scrip at a fair price, investing the proceeds for the use of their Colleges of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts, or else sold part and retained part, locating the part retained in such places as are most likely to make them largely valuable, and furnish a yearly increasing income. There is not a single State which has realized so little, proportionately, from the Congressional grant as Kentucky. I select from the published financial statements of some of the principal Agricultural Colleges East and West, a few facts and figures for comparison with our own:

|                                                            |           |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Land received by Massachusetts from Congress (acres) ..... | 360,000   |
| Amount realized by sale of same .....                      | \$236,307 |
| Amount expended for farm from above .....                  | 29,778    |
| Amount given by town of Amherst .....                      | 75,000    |
| Amount given by Legislature .....                          | 70,000    |
| Amount given by Messrs. Mills .....                        | 10,000    |
| Amount given by Dr. Durfee .....                           | 10,000    |
| Total, less \$29,778, for farm .....                       | 361,529   |
| Expended in buildings .....                                | 125,000   |
| <hr/>                                                      |           |
| No. of students .....                                      | 85        |
| No. of professors .....                                    | 11        |
| Tuition .....                                              | \$36      |
| Room rent .....                                            | 15        |
| Expenses of laboratory .....                               | 15        |



The last annual report recommended that a fund of \$100,000 be raised, the proceeds of which should assist in sustaining indigent students.

MISSOURI.

This State has located the bulk of her Agricultural College lands, the revenues of which will eventually amount to hundreds of thousands of dollars annually. Meanwhile, by State, county, and individual liberality, the University of the State has the following :

|                                                              |                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Gifts of persons in Boone county for securing location ..... | \$117,500          |
| Rollins' Aid Fund .....                                      | 30,000             |
| Gift of Boone county .....                                   | 80,000             |
| Gift of Columbia .....                                       | 10,000             |
| Gift of Phelps county for mining school .....                | 130,545            |
| <b>Total .....</b>                                           | <b>\$368,045</b>   |
| Income of Seminary Fund .....                                | \$7,220 68         |
| Income from State (annually) .....                           | 12,767 86          |
| Tuition fees .....                                           | 5,331 50           |
| Rents .....                                                  | 734 85             |
| <b>Total income .....</b>                                    | <b>\$26,054 89</b> |

Students in Agricultural and Mechanical Department, 13. This department recently organized. \$100,000 more is asked for improvements in farm, buildings, etc.

KANSAS.

The land endowment of this new State was but 90,000 acres. One half of this, or 45,000 acres, has been sold, and from which has been realized \$180,000. The income from this fund is \$16,000. The remainder of the land has been located, and will, in time, make the Agricultural College of Kansas abundantly rich.

|                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| No. of professors ..... | 8   |
| Students (male) .....   | 113 |
| Students (female) ..... | 60  |

IOWA.

|                                                       |                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Appropriations for buildings by the Legislature ..... | \$227,250        |
| Annual income from 209,309 acres (leased) .....       | 31 000           |
| Students paid 3 to 9 cents per hour on farm.          |                  |
| Students paid 3 to 7 cents per hour in garden.        |                  |
| Average annual earnings of those who labor .....      | \$54             |
| Students paid in shops same as on farm.               |                  |
| No. of students, many of whom are females .....       | 218              |
| No. of professors, some of whom are females .....     | 12               |
| <b>Total expenses for the year .....</b>              | <b>49,006 92</b> |

MISSISSIPPI.

1. This State appropriates \$50,000 annually, for ten years, to re-establish her University.



2. Two fifths of the proceeds of the fund donated by Congress for maintaining the Agricultural and Mechanical College, ingrafted on it by the Legislature.

3. \$100 annually appropriated for expenses of one student from each county. Mark this liberal provision of this State.

## VIRGINIA.

Virginia, desolated and impoverished though she was by the late war, made recent appropriations to her University of \$82,545. Total appropriations by Virginia, \$1,044,304.

## ILLINOIS.

This State, besides the princely gifts previously made to her State Industrial School, has lately given \$265,200 to the same Institution. Champaign county gave \$400,000. State gave 480,000 acres of land. Disbursements last year, \$70,746.

## CALIFORNIA.

This State gave lately to her University, in coin, \$245,000.

We might go on and multiply facts and figures. We will add a few more :

The endowment of Harvard, five years ago, was over \$2,000,000, and income \$180,000. Yale had, at the same time, over \$1,000,000. Columbia College, New York, over \$2,000,000. The annual income of Michigan University, since largely increased, was, in 1866, \$60,000.

Kentucky University receives from the State an annual sum of \$9,900 for the support of her Agricultural College. For this she obligates herself to furnish tuition, free of charge, to 300 State students, or three from each representative district. Her halls are open. If not sent, she is not to blame. These students are selected by the Justices and County Judge of each county ; and how urgently I have endeavored to get the several counties in the State to do their duty, the following circular, copies of which have been sent from time to time to every County Judge in the State, will show :

## THE AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE OF KENTUCKY.

*To the County Judge of — County :*

DEAR SIR: The Agricultural and Mechanical College of Kentucky is in successful operation as one of the Colleges of Kentucky University, with an able corps of professors, at Ashland, the home of Henry Clay, near Lexington.

By a provision of the act incorporating the College, each legisla-



tive district in the State is entitled to send, free of charge for tuition, three properly prepared students, who shall have access also to the other Associated Colleges of the University without charge.

The law requires that the selection of the students shall be made by the Justices of the Peace in each legislative district. This should be done at the regular meetings of your court, and the orders appointing them duly certified by the clerk.

The appointees should be at least sixteen years of age, of good character and industrious habits, and should be versed in the elements of the English branches. It is earnestly recommended that the system of competitive examinations be adopted, and that one or more competent teachers be selected in each district as a Board of Examiners, thus giving all, especially the poor young men, a chance for the State honor.

Until the next meeting of your quarterly court, your own recommendation, together with that of a majority of the Magistrates, will entitle them to admission.

Boarding can be had under the club system at \$2 per week, the students furnishing their rooms; or they can secure good boarding in private families at \$5 per week, including everything except washing.

All students are allowed to work either two hours per day without compensation, or four hours at five to ten cents per hour (according to industry and proficiency); those adopting the latter course can defray a large portion of the expenses of their education, especially where they adopt the club system of boarding. It is recommended to such young men, as a matter of economy, that they bring with them, as far as practicable, their beds and bedding, and other articles necessary for their rooms. All students are under military regulations, and are required to have the uniform for dress parades, which can be obtained in Lexington at reasonable rates. They should bring not less than \$75 in cash for necessary outfit.

The session opens the second Monday in September, and closes on the second Friday in June following, the second term beginning the first of February.

A summer school is provided during the vacation for the benefit of students wishing to remain upon the grounds.

It is earnestly requested that you will call the attention of your citizens to the liberal advantages of this College, and that you will



see that some worthy young men are appointed as the recipients of its blessings.

For catalogue or further information, please address

J. B. BOWMAN,  
*Regent Kentucky University.*

N. B.—Other young men from this and other States are admitted to the same privileges of the A. and M. College, except that of free tuition.

J. B. B.

During the past year about seventy counties have been represented in the College, and there is a prospective increase for the current session, a much larger number being in actual attendance at this time than at the corresponding period of any previous year. The entire number last year in this College was two hundred and twelve, and in the entire University, six hundred and sixty, from twenty-eight different States and countries.

The general health, discipline, and progress of the students, was highly commendable, and under the able and successful administration of the accomplished presiding officer, Prof. James K. Patterson, and his faithful, laborious colleagues in the Faculty, the most satisfactory results were attained.

The moral and religious character and standing of the students has been satisfactory. A large number of the young men were members of the various Protestant and Catholic Churches, and the provisions of the charter in regard to religious tolerance, and freedom from sectarian bias, have been sacredly regarded. Although a majority of the Curators are, by the charter, members of the Christian Church, the composition of this Faculty, under restrictions imposed by the State Legislature and respected by the Board, is wholly undenominational, as the following will show :

Presiding Officer, Jas. K. Patterson, Presbyterian Church.

Prof. of Chemistry, Dr. R. Peter, Episcopal Church.

Prof. of English Literature, John Shackleford, Christian Church.

Prof. of Mathematics, Jas. G. White, Christian Church.

Prof. of Natural History, H. J. Clark, Congregational Church.

Prof. of Modern Languages, F. M. Helveti, Lutheran Church.

Primary Preparatory Depar't, D. G. Herron, Presbyterian Church.

Commandant, Col. S. M. Swigert, Methodist Church.

Tutor in Preparatory Department, E. E. Smith, Christian Church.

Supt. Mechanical Department, David Calder, Presbyterian Church.

Supt. Horticultural Department, Joseph Walter, Catholic Church.



Each student is required to go to the church of his choice on Sunday morning. At three P. M., each Sunday, services are held in the College Chapel by clergymen of the city, of all denominations, who officiate in succession. The Presiding Officer conducts the daily morning chapel exercises, or invites one of his colleagues to do so in his stead.

Work is furnished in the machine-shop or on the farm to such as desire to supplement their otherwise slender resources by labor. About one hundred students were so employed last session. These work one half the day, and recite the other half. The rates of compensation are from 30 per cent. to 80 per cent. higher than in any Agricultural College in the country, and many sustain themselves easily by this means. The rates of compensation are, on the farm, 5 to 10 cents per hour. In shop, 6 to 15 cents per hour, in proportion to experience and capabilities. Students have come to this College on foot, without \$5 in the world, sustained themselves during the year, and gone home with some surplus means. These, of course, are exceptional cases; but they exhibit the fruits of indomitable will and heroic efforts in securing an education.

The patronage of this College is only limited by the accommodations, which are being increased as fast as the means can be secured. But no *State student has been turned away*; applicants for admission from other States, we regret to say, we have sometimes been unable to receive on account of insufficient attainments and inability to defray expenses. Yet, to the honor of the University, let it be known that in its various departments, about 250 young men received free tuition last year, and a large number of others paid less than \$10 per session of nine months.

The adoption of the club system has, by cheapening board, enabled young men of small means from this and other States to avail themselves of the advantages afforded, without employing part of their time in labor; many deserving poor young men from Kentucky, and the States in the South, have received at this College, since established, a good education, who, but for its existence, would, in all probability, never have been inside of College walls.

Many of those who are members of this College prefer to board in private families; and in all cases, when the means of the student will justify, he is advised to do so. Although the act of the Legislature establishing this as one of the Colleges of the University did not require us to furnish facilities for boarding on the ground, yet it early



became apparent that many would be compelled to forego the advantages offered, unless provision was made for cheapening board as well as tuition. To meet this want, comfortable accommodations have been improvised for a large number of students, some of which are substantial brick buildings, others wooden structures less durable, but still quite comfortable, which will give place ere long, we hope, to others more so. These have answered quite well our present necessities. Their general comfort may be inferred from the fact, that though all well filled, and though the winter has been one of unusual severity, there has been no case of serious sickness since the session began in September.

Comfort for our students secured, we have subordinated the question of external appearances to securing a competent staff of professors, and multiplying our facilities for giving the student what he has mainly in view, *a good education*. And yet that we have not been behind even in the matter of buildings, the fact that we have expended between \$40,000, and \$50,000 in this direction, is sufficient evidence.

Under the military *regime*, proper police regulations are enforced in order to secure cleanliness of club-houses and surroundings.

Daily, semi-weekly, and tri-weekly recitations are held in all the departments of study mentioned above, viz :

In English Literature, embracing Structure of English Language, Rhetoric, Criticism, Logic, and History of English Literature, daily.

Metaphysics, Moral Philosophy, and Evidences of Christianity, daily.

Mathematics, Freshman, Sophomore, Junior and Senior Classes, daily.

French and German, Junior Classes, daily.

French and German, Senior Classes, tri-weekly.

Chemistry, daily.

Civil Engineering, daily.

Classes in Natural History, tri-weekly.

Recitations in Preparatory Department, daily.

Agriculture and Mechanics, daily.

For this amount of instruction, the State furnished no farm, no work-shops, no buildings, no means for enabling poor young men to sustain themselves, no libraries, no museums, no cabinets. For none of these has she ever given one dollar. All the State has given is the annual proceeds (\$9,900), at 6 per cent., of the *moiety* of a mag-



nificent Congressional donation worth several hundred thousands, had it not been sacrificed, and for which sacrifice the Institution was in no way responsible.

The Agricultural and Mechanical College has asked the State for nothing additional hitherto. It proposed to make good its claim to further aid by what it should do in a period of self-appointed probation. It now comes before your honorable body with a just pride in what it has accomplished, so much on so little, and asks Kentucky to do for this Institution, which has hitherto been thrown too much on its own resources, what a parent should do for a son. It asks that the annual appropriation should be at least doubled by the issue of its bonds, and that it should be made the equivalent of the proceeds of 330,000 acres at \$1 per acre, the value of the scrip when the negotiations with Kentucky University were concluded. It asks for this to enable it to extend its sphere of operations, to appoint additional Professors, to make the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Kentucky in equipment, in strength, in all that makes an Institution great, the greatest in the South and West.

We do not forget, in this connection, to state, that while the Agricultural and Mechanical College has received advantages from its connection with the other Colleges of the University, some from the College of Arts, some from the Commercial College, some even from the Law College, that to these several Colleges it has given advantages in return. All the students of the College of Arts, of the Commercial College, of the Bible College, and of the College of Law, are admitted to its classes in return. Notably is this the case in the Departments of Natural History, Modern Language, Political Economy, Metaphysics, and Civil History and Chemistry. More than forty from the Commercial College alone, mostly young men from the Southwest, took the department of Political Economy in the Agricultural and Mechanical College annually.

We have thus secured the advantages of co-operation to an extent never before realized in Kentucky, exemplifying the old classical lines,

"By mutual confidence and mutual aid,  
Great deeds are done and great discoveries made."

We have also secured, to the full extent, the advantages resulting from division of labor. These two principles, whereby the fruits of industry are cheapened and multiplied, and increased in value, the great principles on which political, social, and, we may add, educa-



tional economy rest, have been elaborated, applied, and realized through this College for the State of Kentucky. Others, who had neither the ability nor the will to inaugurate and carry on this enterprise when the Congressional grant went begging, are now willing to come forward, when the possibility of an Agricultural College has been demonstrated, eager to reap the harvest which another has sown. But I mistake the sense of justice and fair play which have always characterized Kentucky if such *eleventh-hour* philanthropists (?) be permitted to appropriate the credit which, of justice, belongs to those who have borne the burden and heat of the day.

The State geological survey, began by Dr. Owen, has never yet been completed. I beg leave to suggest to the Legislature that this be continued till completion. Our Agricultural College can aid the State materially in this respect. Dr. Peter, who made all the analyses of soil for Dr. Owen, is with us. We can likewise furnish a competent Botanist, perhaps the best in Kentucky, with a Zoologist and Paleontologist equal to any in any State west of the Alleghenies. We can likewise furnish many junior members of the scientific corps.

A State with such vast mineral wealth, in these days of rapid progress, cannot afford to be ignorant of her own resources. The limits of our coal and iron fields are yet imperfectly determined, and the geological formation of many counties is still a matter of the vaguest conjecture. We must awake and place ourselves in the van of progress, intellectual as well as material. By a specific appropriation of the small sum of \$5,000 per annum, for five years, the geological survey of the State could be completed under the auspices of its own Agricultural College, with its corps of scientific and practical workers, at a very reduced cost. During the three summer months of vacation the active work in the field could be accomplished, large collections of Botanical, Geological, Mineralogical, and other specimens, could be made for the Museums, and the results of the field labor could be worked up in the laboratories during the session, greatly to the benefit of the State and of the College. I earnestly commend this suggestion to the consideration of yourself and the Legislature.

The Legislature of Kentucky has made adequate appropriation for founding and maintaining Asylums for her Deaf and Dumb, Blind, and Insane. The ample accommodations, beautiful surroundings, and abundant means furnished to minister to the necessities and



alleviate the condition of our unfortunates, marks a new epoch in the world's history. While it is the bounden duty of every State thus to provide for its helpless and unfortunate, it owes a duty not less imperative to the strong of head and sound of limb, who, by consequence of poverty, are placed at a disadvantage in the struggle for existence and reputation and honor. But every county in Kentucky has a score or more of youths growing up in ignorance, who, if they had an opportunity to develop their intellects, would become a power in the pulpit, in the forum, in the press; who would mould the thought and shape the destinies of their fellows, and stamp their impress upon the civilization of the age. There are in Kentucky, to-day, future Watts, and Stephensons, and Arkwrights, and Crittendens, and Clays, unconscious of their own powers, awaiting the helping hand of the State, their common mother, to bring them forward and evoke the mental and moral power that shall yet move and direct the destinies of millions. The inmates of Asylums for the unfortunate exert no reflex influence upon their fellows in the great busy outside world from which they are cut off; but the boys who enter the class-rooms of your Academic Institutions come forth in time to exert a wholesome, an elevating, and ennobling influence on all with whom they come in contact. I come before you now, gentlemen of the Legislature, not on my own behalf, but on behalf of the poor young men of our Commonwealth; the men of the mountain as well as those of the plain. Those whose broad acres and mercantile success have endowed them with this world's goods in abundance can educate their sons at their own expense. My plea is on behalf of those who have nothing but muscle and brains. These I want brought forward, and these the State must bring forward if they are to come to the front at all. I want the Legislature of Kentucky not only to double our available income for the support of its Agricultural College, but to make provision for sustaining, at its expense, at least three young men from each county, who shall be selected by competent boards by competitive examination. These, educated with enlarged conceptions of human duty, with intelligent views on agriculture and mechanics, trained by severe mental discipline in the processes of thought, and imbued with correct ideas of political and domestic economy, will each return to elevate and adorn and dignify human labor, and to show that neither hereditary wealth nor ancestral reputation, nor reputable, connection make the man.



I want those who live fifty or one hundred years hence to see in the Mountains of Kentucky the sons and grandsons of those whose intellects were first awakened, and whose genius was evoked by the men who now labor to give the State an Agricultural College worthy of her. For myself, I have no higher ambition than to give the remainder of a life, sixteen of the best years of which I have already devoted, without fee or reward, to the foundation of a University for the education of the masses of my native State, and of the Mississippi Valley. Part of my conceptions have already taken shape and have borne fruit, part, for lack of means, are yet unrealized. To go into detail here is, perhaps, inopportune. I will only say I hope yet to see the day when the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Kentucky University, fostered by the Legislature as it should, will have hundreds of students within its halls from all parts of this and other States, with Laboratories better equipped, Museums better stored, Libraries and Cabinets better filled, than any College in the South or West, and with every subject within the whole compass of human knowledge taught in it as well and as fully as in any Institution in Europe or America. I want to see it permanently and successfully established as one of the Colleges of a great free University, founded upon broad, liberal, catholic principles, unsectarian and unsectional in every department, and in all its character and influence in harmony with the spirit of an enlightened Christian civilization. To that end, with the co-operation of the authorities of the State, and of all her liberal-hearted citizens, I am not only willing, but anxious to give my remaining years and energies gratuitously to the full development of a work which, I trust, in the Providence of God, will redound in richest blessings to thousands unborn.

In conclusion, I desire to state that I have, from time to time, extended an invitation to the honorable Board of Visitors, appointed by your predecessor, to look into the practical operations of the Institution, with a view to a full and explicit report of its affairs, which, I trust, will be made at an early day by them, or by their successors, who are to be appointed by your Excellency during the present session of the Legislature. I now desire to renew to you and them, and to all the honorable Senators and Representatives of the General Assembly, a cordial invitation to visit Ashland and the Institution, and to know for themselves its wants as well as its success in its struggling infancy.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

J. B. BOWMAN,

*Regent Kentucky University.*



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foregoing recommendations, together with provisions for carrying the same into effect, the passage of which they recommend.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

P. P. JOHNSTON, *Chairman*,  
GEO. WRIGHT,  
D. G. MITCHELL,  
DAVID R. MURRAY,  
FRANCIS L. CLEVELAND,  
J. T. TARTAR,  
C. U. McELROY,  
J. M. KASH,  
R. L. SPALDING,  
J. S. OWSLEY,  
HENRY GEORGE,  
M. HAMILTON.