The “Bee Tree”, an iconic ivy-covered tree that stood on the Pacific University campus for many years, was already old and hollow when pioneer Tabitha Brown arrived in Oregon in 1846. Mrs. Brown started a home for orphans that would grow into Pacific University. According to the Forest Grove News-Times, the tree was “said to have housed a swarm of bees who furnished the little old lady with honey which she sold to buy provisions for her orphan children.”
EIGHT

Histories of Pacific University

On two occasions, separated by twelve years, George Atkinson wrote a history of Pacific University. Although the second contains considerable duplication, there are substantial differences in style and content, which warrant reproduction of both documents in this volume.

The first of the two was prepared for, and forwarded to the U.S. Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia. On Jan. 24, 1876 State Supt. Rowland, asked three men from Pacific University (trustee Atkinson and faculty members G.H. Collier and Horace Lyman) to prepare and provide a history of Tualatin Academy and Pacific University for the Exposition. It appears to have been written in some haste, appearing in the Oregonian on Feb. 9, just sixteen days after Rowland’s letter of request. A note at the end of the published report, from Profs. Collier and Lyman, tells us that they had asked Atkinson to write the ‘historical sketch’.

The second history was written by Atkinson and presented to the Fortieth Annual Meeting of the Trustees, on June 19, 1888. It would be Atkinson’s valedictory to the school, his death occurring the following February.

The first history was written at a time of public tension between Pacific’s President, Sidney Harper Marsh, and some of the faculty and trustees. This is particularly evident in the penultimate paragraph, where Atkinson declares:

“The divorce of such a school from the warm heart of the Christian church is a calamity which no golden endowments can compensate.” That sentence suggests that the college was growing away from
its church roots, and seems to speak critically of Pres. Marsh’s exceptional success in raising funds for the school, a record documented in detail in a preceding portion of the article.

The writer continues by defending the trustees, and the Oregon Association of Congregational Ministers and Churches, against charges of interference in the affairs of the school. Two years later President Marsh, in reviewing with the trustees his twenty-five year tenure, expounded at some length about inappropriate ecclesiastical efforts to influence the affairs of the school (see Atkinson: Pioneer Oregon Educator, p. 160).

In the interests of historical clarity a sustained investigation of Marsh’s differences with the Trustees might well be warranted, to determine which things other than church interference were at issue, thus providing a clearer rationale for their challenges to Marsh.

The lengthier second history (1888) takes a more leisurely pace through the founding years, in addition to discussing the tenures of Marsh’s two successors, J.R. Herrick and J.F. Ellis. Marsh’s leadership is applauded, and the controversy over ecclesiastical interference is not mentioned.
History of Pacific University: 1876

Source:
The Oregonian Archives
Multnomah County Library
Feb. 9, 1876

CENTENNIAL: HISTORY OF TUALATIN ACADEMY AND PACIFIC UNIVERSITY

Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
Salem, Oregon, January 24, 1876


Gentlemen—You are hereby appointed a committee to prepare the history of Tualatin Academy and Pacific University, to be forwarded to this office by next February 15 where will be compiled Educational and Scientific Reports for the U.S. Centennial Exposition for 1876.

Very Respectfully Yours,
S.S. Rowland, Chairman, comm. E. & S. Reports.

The undersigned in fulfilling this service premise that the frequent mention of several persons connected with this history has been essential to its truth and completeness. The sources of history, as of a river, are like hidden springs, hardly known, until the tiny rivulet marks its own course.

We can trace the rise of this institution to only two distinct and apparently independent sources that united opportunely, or as we prefer to say, providentially. What thoughts had been germinating in other minds before are concealed from us.

The American Home Missionary Society in September 1846, within a month after the treaty on the Oregon boundary had been made public by President J.K. Polk, having planned to begin their mission work on the Pacific Coast with Oregon as a field, requested Rev. G.H. Atkinson to be their pioneer missionary, with a commission to aid
in planting churches, schools and diffuse Christian knowledge. Dr. Badger, the Secretary, directed him in May 1847 to call upon Rev. Theron Baldwin, Secretary of the then new Society for Promoting Collegiate and Theological Education at the West. The interview was brief, ending in these incisive words: “You are going to Oregon. Found an Academy that shall grow into a College, as we founded Illinois College.”

Two weeks after his June 21, 1848 arrival in Oregon City George Atkinson shared Baldwin’s message with the Rev. Harvey Clarke, who had come from Vermont and New York with his wife as self-supporting missionaries to the Indians of Eastern Oregon and thence to West Tualatin Plains, now Forest Grove. The Oregon Association of ministers to churches was there planned and partly organized to meet at Oregon City Sept. 1848. The subject was presented to that body, and the following minute was made of their action.

“At the meeting of the Association of Congregational and (New School) Presbyterian brethren Sept. 21st, 1848, it was resolved that it was expedient to found an Academy under our patronage. On discussion it was resolved that the Tualatin Plains is the most favorable location. After continued discussion it was resolved to appoint Trustees, who shall locate an Academy, become incorporated, and attend to its interests.” Rev. Harvey Clarke, Hiram Clark, Esq., P.H. Hatch, Esq., Rev. Lewis Thompson, Wm. H. Gray, Esq., Alvin W. Smith, Esq., James M. Moore, Esq., O. Russell, Esq., and Rev. G.H. Atkinson were appointed Trustees, who organized by choosing Rev. H. Clarke, President, Rev. G.H. Atkinson, Secretary, A.T. Smith, Esq., Treasurer and Hiram Clark, Esq., Auditor and by adopting a constitution and by-laws.

Another mind had been moved to a similar purpose. Mrs. Tabitha Brown, a lady of 68 years, formerly from Brimfield, Mass, the widow of an Episcopal minister, had followed her children and grandchildren from Illinois in 1846 to Oregon. Her heart had been moved by the sight of many orphan children, left on the Plains, and in 1847 she said to Mr. Clarke “I wish I was rich.” Why?, said he. In order to found an orphan asylum and build up an educational institution to furnish a home and instruction for these children. The
two formed the plan and collected the means to erect a log house for a home. Mrs. Brown gathered in 40 or 50 children, boarding them for a dollar per week. They employed a teacher and the enterprise was launched at West Tualatin. This Orphan School was offered to the Trustees of the proposed Academy that should grow into a college, and accepted by them.

Rev. Harvey Clarke pledged 200 acres of his claim, taken and held under the then existing Provisional Government of Oregon, for the site of the Academy and school village which was expected to grow up around it. The old log church with mud chimney on the outside, and puncheon floor and seats within, was offered and accepted as the temporary schoolhouse, and L.D.C. LaTourette was chosen 1st teacher. Rev. C. Eells was next employed as teacher, and a contract was let to build a more commodious house of hewn logs, a few hundred dollars having been subscribed.

The Trustees secured an act of incorporation from the first legislature of the Territory, called by the authority of the U.S. Sept. 26, 1849, “establishing in Washington County a Seminary of learning for the instruction of persons of both sexes in science and literature, to be known by the title of ‘the President and Trustees of Tualatin Academy’, empowering them when it shall be expedient to do so, to exercise all the privileges as President and Trustees of a college, or University, as the case may be, that should be exercised by the President and Trustees of other colleges and universities that may hereafter be created in this Territory.”

The land was laid out into blocks of four acres each, an acre to a lot, with streets 4 rods wide, and 20 acres were set apart for a campus; 10 of land pledged by Clarke and 10 of land pledged by Mr. Stokes and Rev. E. Walker.

Meanwhile the gold mines of California had been discovered, and, though gold dust in some hands was plenty, prices ruled high for labor, materials and food for all classes.

The school grew in favor and the need for more rooms led to the erection of what is now called the Old College Building. The Orphan
House was sold for $1,000 to be paid in the labor of the contracts, rated at $10 per day. Lumber was bought at $50 to $60 per m., lots were sold, which with other collections, paid $5,000 of the $7,000 which the building, enclosed with one or two rude rooms had cost.

The changes of teachers, the growing demands of this work, and the increasing debt laid a heavier burden upon Rev. Mr. Clarke and his family and other trustees & friends than they could bear. Grave questions had called for frequent councils of the trustees during these early years and you might see them coming on horseback by trails & roughest roads, through the woods, to spend days and nights in anxious search and earnest prayers for wisdom to guide and means to execute their original plan. The tides of a changing population were annually flowing to the mines, and it became a more and more difficult problem to know what to do with this and other institutions, and church buildings, that were more or less dependent upon the same men.

At this juncture in April, 1852, at the request of the Trustees Rev. Mr. Atkinson went to New York to enlist the aid of eastern friends and especially of the College Society. A circular reciting our efforts, aims and wants was published with endorsements of prominent ministers and business men in New York.

The enterprise thus begun was laid before Dr. Baldwin, who had given the idea, and then before the College Society with the request to be adopted as the next or 9th on their list, and to have the grant of $600, the interest on $10,000, annually to support a permanent Professor. Both requests were granted, and by public and private appeals $800 in coin and $700 in books were collected for the institution.

A professor was engaged, who after having spent weeks in studying text books and plans for the college course, declined to come, but introduced Rev. S. H. Marsh, a student at Union Theological Seminary. Mr. M. accepted a commission and began to collect a library and funds in order to enter upon the work in Oregon in May 1853. Dr. Eleazar Wheelock, his great-grandfather, had founded Dartmouth College in the woods of New Hampshire. Dr. James
Marsh, his father, had revived and strengthened the University of Vermont at Burlington. The memory of the one, and the many friends of the other, like Hon. Rufus Choate, Hon. Sydney E. Morse, Hon. George P. Marsh, Hon. H.J. Raymond & Hon. E.E. Benedict and others would probably aid the enterprise in which the son was enlisted, which has doubtless proved true.

The institution, thus adopted by the College Society with pledges of interest equal to an endowment of $10,000; having the renewed favor of the A.H.M. Society; with a larger circle of new friends and a professor, whose salary and supporters were assured, had indeed cheering prospects.

With this impetus in 1853 new pupils gathered to the Academy, of which Prof. J.M. Keeler had become the principal, and a few with crude but real college aims formed the first preparatory classes, placed under the care of Prof. Marsh. Prof. E.D. Shattuck, on becoming principal, gave a still greater uplift to the institution. The library of over 1,000 volumes, collected by Prof. Marsh had been placed upon its rude shelves; other rooms had been partly finished; the first Act of Incorporation had been replaced in January 1854 by one styled Tualatin Academy and Pacific University with more distinctive college privileges, Pupils and parents had learned more of the aims and methods of the Institution and though few had ever seen the example of a true college, they were well disposed to it, and in 1854 subscribed in lands and money $6,500, partially pledging $3,500 more. The community shared all the hardships of pioneers, added to the ferment of mining speculations and the terror of the Indian War of 1855. It was a day of trial and sacrifice to teachers, and in part to pupils, but more of a great burden to Rev. Mr. Clarke, who was held responsible for supplies, and debts, and improvements also, and to other trustees, who were toiling to provide for their young families. But all these friends sustained the institution, amid all the clouding proposals and discussions about change of location and subordination of the Academy to the College.

April 13, 1854, Rev. S.H. Marsh was chosen President, and was inaugurated August 21, 1855. E.D. Shattuck, Esq. was chosen
professor of languages, but not accepting this office, he continued through 1856 as principal of the Academy.

The ever faithful College Society was relied upon to support the professors, and applications were made in 1855 for $600, in 1854, 5, 6, 7, and 8 for $1,200 per year, the first being granted and paid, the larger sums were granted conditionally and paid as fast as possible by installments. In 1856-7 the faith of the college was tried by the departure of its students to the better endowed Eastern colleges. Our log houses had given way to frame dwellings, shops and churches forming a little village, yet there were no sure endowments. This exigency led to a special effort. Rev. T. Baldwin sent a free pass to Rev. Mr. Marsh to go to New York and help secure the annual salaries needed. Rev. H. Lyman having been chosen as professor of mathematics, April 5, 1857 with Rev. C. Eells, took charge of the declining institution and sustained it three school years. He reported the assets of Tualatin Academy and Pacific University, May 12, 1859, as $18,300 and $3,000 in subscriptions, with $850 debt.

The death of Mrs. T. Brown in 1857, and Rev. H. Clarke March 24, 1858, with other tried coworkers before and since added to the past trials. Yet pupils who had spent a few months, or terms, or years went away with new ideas of study, better fitted for business life and with some preparation for professional study.

Under the auspices of the College Society President S.H. Marsh, by patience and energy raised the general endowment, and reported on his return, May 21, 1861, $21,736.10 in valid subscriptions and $1,200 in books, receiving his expenses and $2,000 salary for two and a half years of collecting service.

With these funds new teachers and scholars came, and new demands for extended instruction. The first graduate was H.W. Scott, Esq., in 1863. The course of study was published to be in substance the same as that pursued in Eastern colleges, covering four years. The usual applications were made to the College Society for yearly aid, but their funds were not equal to their demands. Five young gentlemen were graduated in 1866. President Marsh was again
authorized to go East to obtain a larger endowment, under a pledge of $1,500 salary and expenses, leaving Prof. Lyman in charge of the institution. Hon. H.W. Corbett, as treasurer, had given special care to increase and invest the funds, and W.S. Ladd, Esq., having accepted the office and trust, fulfilled it in the same manner.

On June 16, 1867 President Marsh reported new collections and subscriptions for general endowment, $25,228.04 and the appointment of two more professors, viz: G.H. Collier, Professor of Natural Sciences, and J.W. Marsh, Professor of Languages. The report of the treasurer, May 5, 1868, showed a balance of $44,303.60 in invested funds. The library had been increased, by the efforts of Dr. Marsh, to about 5,000 volumes. The cabinets of botany and mineralogy have also been collected by the efforts of the professors in that department, yet the illustrations in philosophy and chemistry have been to some extent made with rude instruments, in part of home manufacture. The classes in the academy and college have been more distinctly organized and conducted, the public school having drawn off the least classified element. Students more patiently pursue the preparatory studies and some form of the collegiate course, either the scientific or classic. New and gifted teachers have helped to raise and sustain the higher standard of the school, while the numbers in all departments have not increased in like proportion.

President Marsh, needing a sure salary, made a third trip East in 1869 and reported May 3, 1870, $20,942.75 subscribed for a presidential endowment fund.

The loss of valuable instructors has often worked harm to the institution, as of Messrs. Eells, Shattuck, Tanner and Anderson. The list of graduates from all the departments, college, scientific, ladies’ course and normal course is 33. With the present corps of teachers and facilities much larger classes can be well taught and fitted for life’s work, yet there is still need of more funds for apparatus and buildings and special professorships, for which the president is making a fourth trip and appeal among the Eastern donors of the College and Home Mission Societies.
It is worthy of note that no trustee or officer of the board, as such, has received a dollar for his services or traveling expenses to the numerous trustees meetings and more numerous hours of consultation. Only teachers and other employees have been paid. The present secretary having held the office from the first meeting in 1848, and made all the records with one or two exceptions, is able to trace the growth and strength of the institution, and to feel assured of its more abundant and noble benefits to the people for the future. All its records have been transcribed, and all its titles and conveyances of land have been grouped in abstract forms and placed in a fire-proof vault. Its funds and endowments of $65,000, and other property of $20,000, entrusted to the care of its treasurer, Hon. H. Failing, are separately kept for the purposes for which they have been given, without cost for the care.

The village has grown to be incorporated with charter rights and powers, desirable for families and attractive to strangers. The influence of its alumni is felt in the circles of private and public life, in places of trust and of honor. It is no longer an experiment. The trustees have learned by trials its perils and its wants. Its opportunities for greater usefulness are opening every year, while the call for its best possible work is made by greater numbers of youth of both sexes. The steady drill of such men as have been and are in the faculty is its real force, while it also depends upon the vital sympathy of the Association which gave it organic shape and watched its earlier growth.

The divorce of such a school from the warm heart of the Christian church is a calamity which no golden endowments can compensate. Never has the touch of ecclesiastical control been laid on it. Never is it possible for an Association of such churches to control a corporate board who fill their own vacancies. Never has the Association or Board of Trustees attempted to use the Association for selfish ends. They have sought the common benefits shared by all the people in equal degree. The one view of the board has been to do the utmost good to the children and youth of the land and thus to all the people. Any attempt to pervert the funds, or to sequester any part of them to perpetuate personal, or family connections with the Academy of University, beyond the choice of the trustees, by attaching
conditions to funds given for the common welfare, will be a root of bitterness like the Dartmouth College case,¹ that had no remedy until it was purged by the highest court in the nation.

The Home Missionary Society and the College Society, which suggested and which have by their large constituency sustained it, deserve our gratitude. The laborious and faithful teachers, and the far-seeing and energetic President, with all other generous friends, deserve well of the public for the constant benefaction of this Academy and College. Its conduct in the past is its assurance in the future, in the hands of its custodians and teachers, whose names appear in the enclosed catalogue.

Respectfully submitted
G.H. Atkinson
G.H. Collier
Horace Lyman

The Rev. G.H. Atkinson, who has been the secretary of Tualatin Academy and Pacific University from its inception to the present time has, at our request, and with our sanction, prepared the above historical sketch.

G.H. COLLIER
HORACE LYMAN

TRUSTEES


FINANCIAL COMMITTEE


FACULTY


ALUMNI


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ii According to “Nose Sakae’s Study Abroad”, Yatsutaka Maruki, Oregon Historical Quarterly, Spring 2014, 115/1/48, Momotaro Sato and Sakae Nose also received degrees from Pacific University in 1876 (“Nose Sakae”, “Sato Momotaro”, and “Tamura Hatsutaro” are the Japanese convention, with family name first).
History of Pacific University: 1888

Source:
Pacific University Archives
MEMORIAL SKETCH OF TUALATIN ACADEMY
AND PACIFIC UNIVERSITY DURING FORTY YEARS

Read at Fortieth Annual Meeting Held at Forest Grove, Oregon,
June 19, 1888
By Rev. G.H. Atkinson, D.D.,
Secretary of its Board of Trustees

To the Honored Board of Trustees and Friends:

I have taken the liberty to revise the minutes of our Board, of which I have been secretary forty years, and collate salient facts herein as your own memorial.

In giving a sketch of the origin, progress and condition of this institution of learning, we desire to be especially grateful to God for his providential care of it from the first until the present hour. Our own conviction has doubtless deepened with years that his thought gave it being, nourished its infancy, furnished its needful support, guided its course, raised up instructors and watchful friends, and has thus made it a blessing to many youth, to many families, and to many communities.

Looking over its record kept through forty years, and recalling its early, frequent and not finished labors and trials, we find cause for thankfulness at every step in its history.

First, we thank God for its Home Missionary origin.

In September, 1846, the writer was solicited by Rev. Milton Badger, D.D., Secretary of the American Home Missionary Society, to become their first Home Missionary to Oregon. Being then under appointment of the A.B.C.F.M. for their mission among the Zulus of Southeast Africa, the request was declined. It was renewed in December, 1846, and accepted, after an honorable release from the Foreign Board.
On making a visit to New York in May, 1847, for instructions, among other duties, Dr. Badger introduced me to Rev. Theron Baldwin, Secretary of the American College and Education Society, then newly organized to establish a college in every state. Dr. Baldwin’s reply was: “You are going to Oregon. Build an academy that shall grow into a college, as we built Illinois college.”

Having waited for a ship, we sailed October 24th, 1847, for Oregon via the Sandwich Islands, and arrived at Oregon City June 21st, 1848.

About July 5th, in company with Deacon P.H. Hatch, I visited Rev. Harvey Clarke at West Tualatin, now Forest Grove. He lived in the log house now standing on the road to the depot. Mrs. Clarke, with her infant son of two weeks, commissioned her little daughter of six or seven years to bid us welcome. Her husband soon returned from his camp-meeting at the grove. After expressing his surprise and joy at our coming to help in Home Missionary work, which he and other had done with no help from the American Home Missionary Society, I mentioned to him the plan of “an academy to grow into a college,” and the need for an association of our churches and Christian brethren to choose trustees. We agreed to invite a meeting for such purpose, to be held at Oregon City, September 21, 1848.

That meeting was held, the association organized and the board of trustees were chosen and requested to incorporate and establish an academy with collegiate privileges.

A majority of the persons chosen were present and they met and organized.

It was resolved that a majority of the officers, with as many of the trustees as may be present at a regular meeting, be a quorum.

Rev. H. Clarke was chosen president of the board of trustees, G.H. Atkinson, secretary, A.T. Smith, treasurer, Hiram Clark, auditor.

The trustees adjourned to the 25th. They met as adjourned and resolved to solicit subscriptions in two counties, Tualatin and Clackamas, for funds to erect a building, and again met and located
the academy, near the orphan asylum, established a few months previous by Rev. Harvey Clarke and Mrs. T. Brown.

They formed and adopted a constitution, which authorized the name, location, officers and duties; provided that in all areas trustees shall be elected who believe and will maintain evangelical principles in conducting the institution. They declared its object to be the greatest mental and moral improvement of the pupils; that morning and evening worship shall be held; that the Bible shall always be a text-book in the institution. They required that the annual meeting of the trustees shall be held at 10 o’clock a.m. on the Wednesday preceding the annual meeting of the Oregon association, which then was held on the 2d Thursday in September. The constitution permitted no change in the articles which maintain evangelical principles and the use of the Bible. The by-laws required that every meeting of the board shall be opened and closed with prayer. No pupil is allowed to use tobacco in or about the school grounds.

Eight trustees signed the constitution March 1, 1849.

**ITS ACT OF INCORPORATION**

ENACTED September 29, 1849, by the legislative assembly of the Territory of Oregon, recites: “that there shall be established in Washington county a seminary of learning, for the instruction of persons of both sexes in science and literature, to be called ‘Tualatin Academy’; and that George H. Atkinson, Harvey Clarke, James Moore, Peter H. Hatch, Lewis Thompson, William H. Gray, Hiram Clark, A.T. Smith, and J. Quinn Thornton and their successors be declared a body politic and corporate in law by the name and style of ‘The president and Trustees of Tualatin Academy.’”

Among other powers, Article Second recites: “That they shall have the power so to enlarge the operation of said seminary as to enable them, whenever in the opinion of said president and trustees it shall be expedient so to do, to exercise all the powers and enjoy all the privileges as president and trustees of a college or university, as the case may be, that should be exercised and enjoyed by the president
and trustees of other colleges and universities that may be hereafter created in this territory."

The previous minutes and these citations from the act of incorporation show that the original purpose and spirit of the institution were assured. The academy had also a college charter of as large powers as any other that should ever after be created in the territory.

Its trustees were men of some experience in life’s affairs. They were pioneers, who heartily cherished the educational and Christian aim of this institution, and freely gave their thought and labor to start it, though in the humble log cabin. They accepted the log orphanage, with its groups of boys and girls, then in care of the aged matron, Mrs. T. Brown, and opened the way for their brighter prospects. Plans were laid to secure permanent and choice teachers, suitable books, and in 1851 the present college building was commenced by their agent, Rev. H. Clarke. Other building plans were given up for this object. Very little money was in circulation among the friends of religion and education. Subscriptions were small. Economy was essential at every step.

**LAND GIFTS**

The gift of two hundred acres by Rev. H. Clarke at first, became the sure basis of the enterprise. The village was platted in four acres blocks, including streets, giving ample space for residences and campus. The additional gifts by Rev. E. Walker and by Deacon T. Naylor extended the village limits to valuable and attractive proportions. Its location and surroundings and scenic views in every direction, were found to be the objects of beauty and more in harmony with its aims as a school center than is usual to find. The gifts of Messrs. Buxton, Catching and others, at a later date, confirmed the permanence of the location. In this confidence families began to buy lots and move to Forest Grove to educate their children, and the growing village became a desirable place for refined and intelligent homes. The original conditions, that the sale of intoxicating drinks is forbidden in the deed of the property and
A Public Spirit

every lot sold, on penalty of forfeit of title, has added to the moral protection of the youth gathered there and to the families as well.

PRELIMINARY PLANS

An educational scheme begun so early had to prepare its own pupils in primary studies for the higher classes, and suffer the loss every term of those unable or unwilling to pursue even academic, much less collegiate, studies. This was our inevitable fortune. Here and there one had the wish to attain and complete an academic course; but the majority of those who were taught by Mr. L.D.C. LaTourette in the fall and winter of 1848 were in primary classes. Rev. C. Eells’ classes, from March, 1849, to 1851, and also at a later date, were in the common studies. Those of Rev. D.R. Williams, from January 9, 1851, two terms, were of the same standing with few exceptions. In fact, when the trustees let the contract in 1851 for the first academy building, now styled the old college building, it was said: “You have only a common school.” Miss E.E. Miller, now Mrs. J.G. Wilson, coming fresh from a ladies’ seminary in New York, found a school with only slight signs of grades and advanced classes. Prof. J.M. Keeler, in 1853, contracted to teach the academy, but its course of study had hardly an outline, although some pupils were up in the advance lines.

The wide-spread mining fever, the haste to take and improve claims, or to engage in business or professions or domestic life, depleted the school term by term of many of its promising pupils. Besides, the ideal academy was indistinct often in the mind of patron and pupil, while the college, with its four years’ course in classics, mathematics, sciences, philosophy and history, was far above the average student’s thought or purpose. Here and there a young gentleman or lady had listened to the teacher’s story of a thorough course, and quietly resolved to pursue it in this school, or in a better endowed institution in an interior or eastern state. Our board had to face this fact, and forecast its issue. What if it should establish the academy and prepare students for the college, could they be held to a full course here? Could we have any graduates? If so, could they rank with the alumni or alumnae of other colleges?
Whence could come the teachers for such a curriculum? How could they be supported? How could buildings be erected and furnished? How could a library be collected? How could apparatus and the most needed supplies of the school room and lecture hall be secured? How could we prepare and provide for these things, forty or thirty-five or thirty, or even twenty years ago, isolated as we were as an extreme state, almost beyond the pale of national recognition, and also isolated from the lines of travel in our own state? Not twenty-five years ago even, our condition was thought to be hopeless and helpless.

This problem was discussed by the trustees in the forties and fifties and sixties with deep and often feverish interest. Many a trip was made from Oregon City and Portland and Salem to Forest Grove, or vice versa, on horseback, or in lumber wagon, or on foot, in summer heat and winter storms and mud, to study and solve the oft-repeated questions of the academy and the college, the instructors and the books, their cost and the funds to pay them. Many an evening was prolonged to midnight and the early hours in conference and prayer and plans and resolutions, only to close with renewed purpose to go on with the enterprise with steady hand, as God in his providence should open the way. *It was all a gratuity* on part of the trustees. Our teachers had also all been in advance of the work before them. They ranked far above the school. They were poorly paid, and their income was not often definite and certain. They shared some of the toil and care of the Board also without pay, except the fine consciousness of aiding a good cause. But the main object, growth, permanence and fruit of the institution, were held firmly in mind.

DEBTS

Building accounts were settled from time to time by balances charged against the corporation. These were foretokens of larger ones on the completion of the academy. To avoid this and protect it against liens, work was stopped within the shell and a partly finished room or two. This was thought to be no disgrace, but an honor to the self-sacrificing president and agent of the Board, from whose gift of land lots were sold to complete the building.
THE AMERICAN COLLEGE AND EDUCATION SOCIETY

Early in April, 1852, it was foreseen by the writer that the institution must be put on a solid basis, by an appeal to the Eastern friends of higher Christian education in Oregon, through the American College and Education Society, whose Secretary, Rev. Dr. Baldwin, had first briefly outlined its plan. It was thought that this Education Society would endorse and place it on their list of colleges, as it had obtained academic and collegiate powers in its act of incorporation, this having been the first act of the kind in the Territory of Oregon or on the Pacific coast, under the protection of the United States.

It was also thought by the writer that the College Society would pledge the interest of a fund for the support of at least one instructor or professor in the proposed collegiate department from year to year, until such a fund could be raised in the East and safely invested. With these objects in view, while still a Home Missionary, he secured a pass to New York by the kindness of Capt. Benj. Knight, agent of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, and a commission signed by a majority of the trustees to do this service and secure such an instructor or professor for the college.

Endorsed thus with the authority and opportunity, he ventured to leave wife and two infant children with small provision for themselves, and start, April 1852, on the ocean and trans-Isthmus journey of about five thousand five hundred miles, trusting the endorsement of the act and its two objects by the officers and friends of the American Home Missionary Society. (The interests of a female seminary in Oregon City were also included in this purpose, as it had been largely in his care.)

The voyage was favorable, except for a severe illness on the Isthmus, which continued to New York. The return voyage was in a small, crowded steamer, infected with yellow fever, of which disease a large number died, and a larger number were stricken down, myself included.

Dr. Badger’s welcome was cordial and assuring. Dr. Baldwin’s was equally grateful, with the pledge to present and advocate the
endorsement of our academy with its collegiate powers, by the American College and Education Society, at their annual meeting in October, in Boston. Five months of waiting for that event was spent in soliciting aid for both institutions, and presenting their home missionary aspects and needs in sermons in New England, New York, and Brooklyn churches. The result was a collection of over $4,000 in cash and in books, for school and library in both.

The American College and Education Society endorsed our college and put it ninth in its order on their list, and pledged the interest, six per cent, of ten thousand dollars for the salary of our first college professor. This pledge they continued, and increased, on the application of our Board, the next and following years, and finally in 1856-7-8-9 and 60, on our application, and until a fund was secured in the East and securely invested so as to give an income of a greater amount.

A circular was prepared by the writer, and endorsed by leading ministers and educators, and used widely in every place visited to advertise and enlist friends for our institutions until January 5, 1853, on which date he started on the return trip to Oregon.

TEACHERS

Assured of $600 annual aid in support of one suitable man, the effort made to find such an instructor resulted in the choice of Rev. S.H. Marsh, then a student in the Union Theological Seminary, New York City, in October, 1852. A commission was given to him to collect funds and library under the auspices of the American College and Education Society, and report in Forest Grove, Oregon, in May, 1853, which was done. His appointment was confirmed by the trustees as Professor of Languages and General Science in

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[iii] The first eight colleges on the list were Marietta College (Ohio), Illinois College, Wabash College (Indiana), Knox College (Illinois), Iowa College (name later changed to Grinnell), Beloit College (Wisconsin), Wittenberg College (Ohio), German Evangelical Mission College (Missouri). Citation: Ninth Annual Report of the Society for the Promotion of Collegiate and Theological Education at the West. New-York: Printed by J.F. Trow, 1852., in the Society for the Promotion of Collegiate and Theological Education records, RG 0756. The Congregational Library and Archive, Boston, MA.
the Collegiate Department of Tualatin Academy, May 9, 1853. The agent’s reports were received and approved at the same date.

Prof. J.M. Keeler was put in charge of the academy and its income. Prof. Marsh had all the collegiate departments, with its small income and $600 from the American College and Education Society.

THE NEW NAME

One of the earliest plans of Prof. Marsh was to develop the college. At the annual meeting, September 6, 1853, a committee of three were chosen to petition the legislature for new college privileges, and with reference to a new name and place. At a meeting December 6, 1854, on the request of Prof. Marsh, the name “Pacific University” was adopted. January 10, 1854, the legislature considered a bill which became an act of incorporation, with the present title and the same college privileges as the first, and the same official powers and privileges, having eleven instead of nine Trustees in the Board, and the right to hold $500,000 in capital stock instead of $50,000. A change of location was proposed, and offers were made from the East Plain, besides larger offers to retain it at Forest Grove. Prolonged discussions were held upon separating the institutions into three divisions in care of as many special committees.

GRADES

In 1855 E.D. Shattuck, Esq., took charge of the academy and Prof. Marsh of the college. The institution thus had a teaching force far in advance of its own grades of scholarship. Prof. Marsh felt keenly the disparity and so did Prof. Shattuck. It was hard to find here any semblance to their Vermont academy and university ideals. The names, academy, college, university could not create either. Each term was only a sign. But progress had been made by the faithful pioneer teachers of 1848, ’49, ’50, ’51, ’52, and ’53. The more advanced and thoughtful students had a sort of prescience and ambition for the higher culture. Three men, who have been prominent in Oregon public affairs for twenty-five years, and whose influence has been widening with age and experience in their several lines of activity, were at an early date attracted to Tualatin Academy
and its prospective college. At length they became Academics; fitted for college and graduated; two at Yale, and one became the first alumnus of Pacific University. They were the first fruits of the faithful work of their teachers. They have reflected honor on both instructors and school. I need only name them to verify the fact—President J.W. Johnson, M.F. Mulkey, Esq., and H.W. Scott, Esq., helped to solve the ideal problem of our institution. It was done slowly. While it cheered Pres. Marsh, it made his desire more intense for students in the upper grades with a collegiate aim in view. As a parent’s heart is bound up in his child, so President Marsh was bound up in his pupils, for their sake and for the school. Their success filled him with joy. Their failure in the course made his path dark. The next class, in 1866, George H. Durham, Rev. Myron Eells, and E.B. Watson, Esq., gave strength to his conviction that both academy and college had a future of hope.

The following class of three, in 1867, J.Q.A. Bowlby, Esq., Rev. J.E. Walker, and Dr. D. Raffety, confirmed his hope. Later successive classes did the same.

Meanwhile, this slow progress for thirteen years excited and aroused him. He aimed for quicker and larger results. The younger classes that filled the academy pretty well every year gave too few to the college. How to make one build up the other was his desire, care and toil. Few knew his secret struggles. None, perhaps, felt all that he felt on the subject. The trial of the three committees did not make three schools.

FUNDS

Some thought that two teachers would suffice for fifty or sixty pupils of all grades, but there must be a corps or faculty for an academic and collegiate course. This was the herculean task before President Marsh. Rev. Dr. Baldwin sent him a “pass” on the Pacific Mail Steamship line to New York, in 1858, to go East and raise his own annual salary by pledged subscriptions for three years. His effort one year at this task barely succeeded under the aegis of the College and Education Society. Friends advised him to try for a fund of $20,000, and in two years he raised it and returned. Meanwhile,
Rev. H. Lyman, with other helpers, had held the fort. In two more trips he (ed.: Marsh) secured $45,000 more, thus making cash endowments of $65,000. This success prepared the way to support, in part, an able corps of teachers.

**FACULTY**

The well-invested fund secured the support of a small faculty. The successive professors, Rev. H. Lyman, E.A. Tanner, D.D., G.H. Collier, L.L.D., J.W. Marsh, Ph.D., Prof. A.J. Anderson, Ph.D., Thomas Condon, Ph.D., W.N. Ferrin, A.M., W.D. Lyman, A.M., and other, illustrate the quality and high standard of instruction given. The graduates, men and women, in the successive classes for the second twelve years until his death, were a grateful testimony to the value of his aim and labors in establishing the college. His last statement on record, that “the college may have begun ten years too soon,” or that the academy could, perhaps, have done the work, was hardly sustained by the facts. It was his heroic purpose and effort alone to establish the college in fact, as well as in name, that could win the crown, and it did. His final statement that the institution is one body, with its various departments, shows the error long pursued of a threefold division.

This brief review of the steps of progress actually made awakens gratitude afresh for the kind Providence that brought him to this work and held him a quarter century in it. He was conscious how incomplete it was when disease obliged him to lay it down. He became aware that the enterprise could not, in the nature of things, have been hastened much more rapidly.

**INVESTMENTS**

By the faithfulness of our treasurers, especially Messrs. Corbett, Ladd, Failing and Hinman, all the trust funds have been sacredly made up and held. Incomes have been devoted to the current cost of instruction. Nothing has been lost on investments. Rigid economy has been the rule, while prompt quarterly payment to instructors has not only given them confidence, but has won credit to the institution.
In the changes that have occurred during the last decade among the Faculty and the higher standards and more varied courses of study, the aim has been to keep in rank with Eastern colleges, and furnish our pupils a curriculum of equal value, as far as our funds will allow.

**PRESIDENT J.R. HERRICK, S.T.D.**

During the brief term of our second President, the courses of study in both academy and college were revised and advanced to higher standards. Dr. Herrick saw the need of a Ladies’ Hall, and promptly undertook to raise the funds in New England and New York, under the endorsement and aid of the American College and Education Society, to erect the present building on plans prepared by an eastern architect at the expense of Mrs. F. Billings. It is not complete, but it is commodious and a monument of his energy and zeal for the welfare of the institution. It has especially given a high character to the ladies’ department.

**PRESIDENT J.F. ELLIS, D.D.**

During the four or five last years, the plans and efforts have been to bring the academy in closer relation to the college. The classes have been graded and drilled in the line of college work. Prof. Edwards has found it far easier to lead and hold students to this line than it was for either Professors Keeler, Eells, Shattuck, Tanner, Marsh, Anderson, Robb or McMahon, or the lady principals. They all prepared the way in the minds of pupils and parents. Now, the movement is in the higher direction. The present is opportune for personal life plans and their vigorous execution. Help may be given at vital points. Our educational forces may center on the definite aims of the pioneers of thirty and forty years ago. It may be said that every truth and trial in the past has been valuable. The tests in school and home have evolved thought and created an educational sentiment of a higher order and a wider range. The ethical idea and aim of the institution have been kept in steady course by the Christian teachers and by the Christian homes and churches here established, and no doubt supported and diffused by the sympathies and prayers of the same classes everywhere. It has been easy to introduce the aesthetic
elements at this later period of our progress. The Conservatory of
Music, begun in fact by Mrs. Dr. Marsh and other years ago and
now in care of Mrs. Prof. Edwards and her assistants, has become
a cheering and more assured factor, because of better facilities and
classified courses of study and practice.

ART

The Conservatory of Art, in care of the skillful and well-trained
amateur, Prof. Clyde Cook, a native Oregonian, not only invites
students in the vicinity, but bids fair to draw them from wider fields.
Prof. J.M. Garrison is restoring the almost lost art of penmanship.
The Botanical Department, in charge of Prof. J.W. Marsh, Ph.D.,
only waits suitable rooms and cases to display a well-arranged
variety of Oregon’s rich and luxuriant flora, collected by himself,
and by the enthusiastic botanist, Prof. Howell, of Sauvie’s Island.

Other departments of science in care of Prof. W.N. Ferrin, A.M.,
wait for rooms and cases, funds and time to collect and enlarge the
exhibits, easily accessible and accumulating around us, which the
hands of experts will readily help to arrange and illustrate.

We dwell among mountains which unfold nearly all the strata of
geologic eras. We traverse the glacial moraines of the unknown past
and connect them with those in process of formation. We touch the
shores of the older oceans and collate their memorials with the later
Biology and Conchology.

These open to us abundant sources to enrich the cabinets and form
a museum of instruction for pupils in every line of study.

Our library of six thousand volumes only waits for a suitable building
to unfold its rich treasures of knowledge, and to collect larger stores
where they can be safely kept.

Can we have such a building? Will friends of good learning help
erect a library building with classrooms and halls for apparatus and
museum?
FEMALE EDUCATION

We have thus far done much to ennoble the quality and range of female education, according to the terms of our original academic and collegiate charter, granted Sept. 9, 1849—the first act of this kind granted under United States law on the Pacific Coast—and under our second charter, granted in 1854, on the same terms, as we have done for the education of males. We have taken for granted that the law of birth of both sexes in the same family, and of home education together, implies the birth-right of equal advantages in the same school-room and lecture hall. We have seen no reason why the self-respect and mutual respect, the dignity, the virtue and the honor cherished in the home, should fail to be cultivated to even higher degree in the school of every grade from the primary department to the academic and collegiate graduation. Our trial and observation of the experiment during forty years have deepened this impression upon our minds.

And we think that as trustees we have voiced the sentiment of our corps of teachers, twenty-three gentlemen—Messrs. L.D.C. Latourette, C. Eells, D.R. Williams, Wm. Adams, J.M. Keeler, S.H. Marsh, E.D. Shattuck, H. Lyman, W.A. Tanner, G.H. Collier, J.W. March, O.G. Harpending, A.J. Anderson, T. Condon, W.N. Ferrin, J.C. Powell, J.D. Robb, W.D. Lyman, J.F. Herrick, J.F. Ellis, J. McMahon, D.L. Edwards, L. Walker—and nine ladies—Mrs. E.M. Wilson, Mrs. Prest. Marsh, Mrs. Prest. E.A. Tanner, Miss Wing, Miss Mack, Miss Carson, Miss Scott, Miss Adams, Miss Pool, and their associates and assistants—who have been the instructors in this institution. Surely, we have heard no dissent from them. Their high standing as a body of educators has not been surpassed in the State. Their judgment is entitled to respect and confidence.

It only remains to express our gratitude to God for the continued existence of Tualatin Academy and Pacific University. We hold in grateful remembrance the two great societies that proposed and have aided it from the first. We inscribe a memorial tablet to Rev. Harvey Clarke for his gift of two hundred acres of land and ten years of service as president and agent essential to its being, and to other like donors and helpers. We owe grateful remembrance to such a body
of instructors, who have shared its discomforts patiently while doing its work. We keep in glad memory its eighty-three graduates, Alumni and Alumnae, most of whom still live to reflect honor upon their Alma Mater, but also to realize that their faithful and patient course of study to the end made this academy and this college possible. We rejoice in the prosperity of many hundreds of other students who have remained with us for a few years, or even a few months, only.

We thank God for Dr. Marsh, its first president, to whose untiring zeal and courage for a quarter of a century are due the order of its course and the chief endowment for its support.

We recall the aged matron, Mrs. Tabitha Brown, whose maternal sympathy for the orphan waifs, children of Oregon pioneers, fathers or mothers, who died on the plains, caused her and Rev. H. Clarke to plan and build the log orphanage, collect those children, provide food and clothing for them, and, with others, teach or provide a school for them, and finally, when the number became too large, and the care too great, transfer the building and the school to the Trustees of the Academy. The sacredness of this trust has been a precious aroma in the life of academy and college. We know not whether any one of them long shared the benefits of our school, but they were the first plans in its nursery, and they remember it as their school home. We trust that the Brown endowment fund, left by Mrs. B. and now accumulating in the hands of our trustees as a sacred trust, will at length furnish an income to pay the tuition of many orphans and thus support at least one Instructor in memory of Mrs. Brown, the orphan’s friend. No purer or sweeter memorial can grace her name and gladden her children and her grandchildren and great grandchildren in the Pacific Northwest, or reflect more honor on her native town and State, Brimfield, Massachusetts.

We recall the devotion of A.T. Smith, and Deacon T.D. Naylor, early trustees, to the well-being of the institution, and many other friends of its infancy by whose help it grew.

We trust that the Marsh endowment fund, begun by his small bequest, and rapidly increased by our treasurer’s faithfulness and skill, shall ere many years become the endowed professorship of its
author’s favorite and chosen studies, mental and moral philosophy. We trust also that the Eells endowment fund, now creeping up into the thousands, may before a third decade closes furnish an income to support a professor of those ancient languages and literature which have done so much to give depth of thought and breadth of influence to college-trained students, and thus extend the benefits indefinitely to future students, according to the wish and aim of the liberal donors, Rev. Cushing Eells, D.D. and wife.

We are well aware that the life of this institution of learning gave life and growth to the village, and a full reward to all the people for whatever they did in its behalf. We know that most abundant blessings return to liberal souls.

Now, as a Board of Trustees, twenty-eight of whom have been thus associated, ten of whom have died, one only of the first incorporators and two only of the second incorporators now remaining in the Board, we can unite in a thank-offering of praise to God that he has called us to the trust and service of this institution of Christian learning. We are well aware that it has been largely a season of preparation. We have aimed and prayed that it might be a constant benediction to the assembled youth and to all the homes of the people. We rejoice that it retains its long-tried friends in the Eastern societies and national societies. For their gifts and sympathy, we have cherished gratitude and hope. With the gains of four decades assured, we now face the future. It is not to rest, but to enlarge our view and our plans. We need and must keep abreast of the inflowing population. The outlook cheers. The door of opportunity opens. The demand for trained youth of the best Christian stamp is urgent. The material is at hand in our homes and churches. The prayers and purposes of the good and true are with us. Ours is vantage ground, more commanding than we could see forty, thirty, or twenty years ago. We need not abate a jot of heart or hope or courage to give up our strength for a longer term and deliver our work to others whom we may trust to extend it to other generations.

Our third president is ready and eager to lead on and up to the highest ideal and broadest culture of the academy and college. The gentleman and lady principals of the academy and their assistants show by the
choice quality of their work now done and doing, their ability to bring out even more and better fruits of culture. The faculty of the college rejoice in the real and finer growths of their departments under the improved qualities of the academic grades. They will join heartily in the upward and onward movements of the institution, especially if relief can be given in some lines of study by a division of labor. In manufactories one man is set to do one line of work, and he is expected to do that perfectly. It must be so in the college. One or two men can not do everything. It takes many persons to do everything in an institution of learning, and it pays to have them. This means the investment of more money. This is now the imperative demand of Tualatin Academy and Pacific University. What have we as a ground of hope? The same purposes and plan with which we began forty years ago. These same great Missionary Societies, the American Home Missionary Society and the American College and Education Society, and their friends in four thousand churches! We have the assets and experience of forty years. The institution is an object lesson. We have its site and furnishings. Its endowment. Its faculty. Its graduates. Its students. Its friends. Possibly its foes, for every cause must prove its worth by its enemies as well as by its friends. We have more and better material out of which to make more finished products. We have larger home resources, and abler and more willing donors. We know our pressing needs. We can utilize our gains more wisely. We have the same Divine Providence and Holy Spirit to safely lead us and assure us the best results.


