

# GALLAUDET COLLEGE

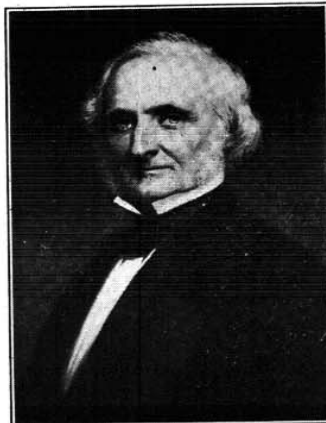
By DR. JOHN HOTCHKISS



DR. EDWARD MINER GALLAUDET  
The Founder of Gallaudet College and its first President

WHEN Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet saw the success of his efforts to give the deaf a common-school education, the wish stirred in his heart to go on and provide for them opportunities for a higher education. The expression of this wish was the inspiration of his youngest son, Edward Miner Gallaudet. Called to the Capital of his country to displace a charlatan who had been using a number of deaf waifs to excite charity for his own profit, young Gallaudet at once saw an opportunity to realize his father's wish and his own hope. He speedily interested the benevolent gentlemen who had invited him to Washington, secured friends in Congress, and, in April, 1864, had the happiness of seeing President Lincoln sign the enabling act that created the College.

The gift of the Hon. Amos Kendall of ten acres of his estate bordering the old limits of the city, about a mile north-east of the United States' Capitol, determined the site of the College. It is a very pleasant location, admirably suited to the needs of the studious student, not too near the distractions of the city nor too far removed from its aids to the College work. All of the many sources of political, literary, artistic, and scientific information—the Congress, the Executive Departments, the museums, the libraries, the art galleries, and the research bureaus of the Government—are within easy reach and freely open to the serious scholar. And it may be said that, aside from books and study, the four or five years of a student's residence in the Capital of his country are in themselves an education. The most careless youth can hardly live this life without immeasurably broadening his ideas and widening his sympathies. He is naturally interested in Congress, attends its sessions and, altho' he may not be one of those phenomenal products of the Oral Method that can read the lips of the Sphinx, he absorbs in one way and another, both here and in observation of other departments, a knowledge of the constitution and functions of the government that a person denied such privilege can never attain. And so of the general atmosphere of Washington as an international, as well as the national, political



HON. AMOS KENDALL  
Who donated the ground for the College



DR. JOHN HOTCHKISS  
The oldest deaf professor at the College

centre and seething pot, with its many military and civic pageants and its frequent gatherings of the learned and the laboring, the political, the professional, and the patriotic bodies of the land, and their earnest discussions of questions relating to the whole universe of science, art, and society. All this has its profound educational and formative influence upon the sensitive young souls who come hither from the far corners of the country. The underlying intention of the founders of the College was not specifically to fit its graduates for particular lines of work, but rather to awaken and broaden their intellectual gifts, and so to prepare them to perform more efficiently in any line of endeavor for which they might thereafter train themselves. They planned only for a

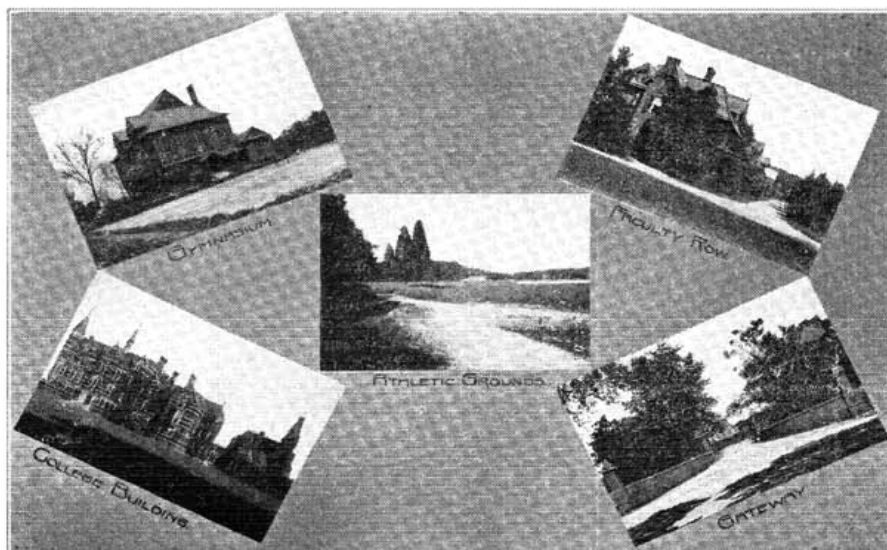


DR. PERCIVAL HALL  
President of Gallaudet College

broader and better foundation for happy and useful lives, leaving the acquisition of knowledge and skill in special lines to be acquired after the college course.

But nearly all of the students are poor, and naturally wish to fit themselves as speedily as possible for some remunerative employment. This has led to a demand that the college curriculum be made to include training along technical and manual lines. This has been done in a measure, so that students may, while pursuing the general course, secure a knowledge of rudiments that will materially shorten their apprenticeship when they begin their life-work. The preparation thus secured has enabled many students in chemistry to enter large industrial laboratories and there fit themselves for some special work; some even advancing to the heads of their departments and displacing their hearing chiefs. Others have found that their work at college in this study has fitted them to take up advanced courses in technical schools for the hearing with entire success. Electricity has been the specialty of a few with results like those in chemistry. Others have made a start in mechanical drawing that has secured entrance to the drafting departments of large industrial plants, and some of these have gone on and established themselves in successful independent work as architects. The Corcoran Art Gallery of Washington offers training in free-hand drawing, and a growing number of Gallaudet students are availing themselves of this opportunity with the purpose of devoting their talents to decorative art, illustration, and caricature.

The College also offers a course in cataloguing and the arrangement and care of libraries, and we note that former students in this course, who have become teachers, are applying their training in this line to the creation or reorganization of libraries in their state-schools. A growing number are interested in the courses in Agriculture and the several side-lines of dairying, poultry and hog-raising, and kitchen-gardening. Many are already successfully cultivating farms under varying conditions of climate and soil, from Alberta and Montana along to Virginia and Florida, and from New England to the Pacific



GALLAUDET COLLEGE AND ITS BUILDINGS

and far Western States. In the more manual courses of printing, linotyping, press-work, and type-writing, and in sewing and domestic work, introductory courses have been started, and these will be elaborated and enlarged as opportunity offers.

Any enumeration of the special advantages offered by Gallaudet College would be incomplete without a reference to the many and profoundly modifying influences arising from the association of young people in the college-life. In the management and work of their literary, dramatic, social, and athletic organizations, their executive and inventive talents are developed, their mental gifts quickened and sharpened, their altruistic emotions widened and deepened, and their bodily powers developed and trained. If their athletic relations with colleges for the hearing were judged solely by the number of victories won, the benefit would appear small; but, when we consider the amount of good hearty exercise, the self-denial that have trained and hardened the teams, the aggregate benefit is seen to be great. And it grows when we add the aplomb and self-respect gained by the measuring of their bodily and mental powers against those of hearing youth in possession of much greater advantages.

The number of students at Gallaudet has always been small,—a hundred, more or less,—and this number is not likely to be much augmented until the state-schools more generally encourage the capable among their graduates to prepare for a college-course; and, also, until some provision is made to aid these to bear the high cost of travel to and from Washington. Some states are already giving such aid, and it is hoped that eventually all will do the same. A number of former students, mostly from the Pacific and far western states, have evaded this obstacle by not once returning to their homes during the five years of their college-life, supporting themselves and securing funds for their college needs by work in the East during the long summer vacations.

Traveling expenses being provided, or evaded, all that a student who has been given a Government scholarship has to find for himself is his clothes and his textbooks, and enough money to pay the fees of the several college organizations that he

may wish to join. There are many ways in which students who are not afraid of work can earn enough for these purposes. The Institution employs them as help on the farm and lawns, and in the care and repair of the buildings, as waiters in the dining-rooms, as supervisors in the Kendall School, and in other ways; and the professors usually give some of them more or less work in the care of furnaces and in gardening, and in domestic work and sewing. Numbers have in the past kept themselves in funds by the practice of amateur photography, for there is always a great demand for pictures among the students, and the skill acquired in this amateur work enables such as prefer it to secure work for their leisure hours in the photographic establishments of the city. Others have found outside employment as printers, type-writers, copyists, jeweler's assistants, and even as messengers, laundry-agents, and news-boys.

Thus, by the liberality of an enlightened government, is provided for the deaf people of America, and of the whole world, an opportunity for a higher training that will the better enable them to overcome the handicap of their deafness; and the value of this opportunity may be judged by the results already attained. But it should be remembered, in judging the work of Gallaudet college, that it is but an extension of the work of the state-schools; and the limits to which the College can carry the culture of its students are fixed more by the work of the schools than by that of the College. If the schools do their work well, their pupils can go far; if ill, their pupils are doubly handicapped in the college-work and soon fall by the way-side. Therefore, our chief anxiety should be to perfect the schools. As they advance, the College will keep pace.

ALIKE

By JOSHUA REARD

The moth from out the shades of night,  
 Drawn by the treacherous flame;  
 Goes forth on wings, its fire escape,  
 As men in search of fame.

The Lime Light spread by fickle fame,  
 For vain ambitious minds;  
 Like Twilight fades, of tenure short,  
 And darkness draws its blinds.

The lower creation has its snares,  
 The higher has its fall;  
 The sluggish stream invites the fool,  
 The wise refuse its call.

The lower creation's hunger led,  
 Notion leads the higher;  
 The lower suffers most by frost,  
 The higher more by fire.

Though higher nature clothed with power,  
 Controlling land and sea;  
 Can gather grains of wisdom from,  
 The Spider and the Bee.

The higher weave their web of hope,  
 Then lie in wait for fate;  
 But ere their plans in life mature,  
 Old time has closed the gate.



STUDENT'S ROOM—GALLAUDET COLLEGE