

## CHAPTER II

## Period of Early Expansion

At the close of the session of 1886-1887 our institution had the charter of a university and the ideals of a university but not a single college student. Each of the four years of the college preparatory course in the academy was represented and the course was genuinely what it professed to be. Strict conformity to nationally recognized standards continued as the years went on, to be a prime consideration. In conformity with these standards provision was made for such elementary instruction as conditions required.

The faculty for the session of 1887-1888 included four from those of the previous year. Besides those who remained permanently members, President Forbes and Professor Carson, there were Miss Tuthill and Miss Cheney who continued on the faculty through the session of 1888-1889. There were five additions. Two young men who had graduated with highest honors from the University of Rochester served but for the single year; Fred A. Race became ill and died during the following year; Wallace A. Truesdale accepted another position and continued his career as teacher, and he married Mr. DeLand's niece, Miss Addie Farce, who had been on the faculty in 1885-1886. Miss Ruth Gentry taught Mathematics and assisted in the library for two years. The new member who served longest was Miss Julia A. Dickerson, who remained with the institution for ten years. She taught English, and increasingly gave her time to the library. The beautiful cards which she printed are

works of art. She was from a distinguished family. Her father was editor of The Standard, later The Baptist, a weekly of national scope, published in Chicago. A brother at one time was editor of the same weekly, and later a prominent executive in connection with the University of Chicago. A rare personality, Miss Dicherson made a rich contribution to the life of the institution.

During this year there was a total enrollment of 102 students in all the departments; three of these, including Miss Helen DeLand, were college freshmen. Those in the Academy numbered 48. Other departments were the Normal, Business, Art, and Music. The student body was reported as representing ten states, Canada, and twelve Florida counties.

Various significant announcements were made in this catalogue: a four year college course was outlined in detail; Mr. Statson had contributed not less than \$3500 toward current expenses, and Mr. Sampson \$1000 for the purchase of library books; the library had become a depository for United States Government publications; and various valuable mineralogical and geological specimens had been contributed by Dr. Kost, State Geologist of Florida.

Dr. Kost was elected as a trustee in March 1886, but held the position only a short time.

Your scribe has brought the story of the young college down to the time when he personally entered the scene. He is somewhat uncertain whether he should limit himself to strictly objective presentations or should admit an autobiographical



element. Perhaps from time to time he will admit what might be called a personal interpolation.

In June 1888 I was taking a senior examination under President Martin B. Anderson of the University of Rochester. "The Grand Old Man" rose from his seat and came limping down to where I was writing and bluntly said, "They say Race is going to die. Perhaps you have a chance for a position in DeLand." Thus were suggested negotiations that have vitally influenced a large part of my subsequent life. One point of contact was my professor of Greek, twin brother of President Forbes. It was also suggested that I confer with Dr. David Moore, a DeLand trustee, whose Northern home was near Rochester. My appointment followed.

During the summer of 1888 occurred the serious yellow fever epidemic in Florida and particularly in Jacksonville. It is said that there were something like a thousand cases and hundreds of deaths in that city. Residents in various parts of the State report that so strict a quarantine was in force between communities that it was difficult to obtain provisions.

The scholastic year at DeLand regularly consisted of four seven week quarters the first beginning about October first. On account of the epidemic, it was decided to omit the entire first quarter and begin the session early in December.

A faculty group, including President Forbes and family planned to go from New York by Ocean steamship. To accompany

then I went to New York; but a severe Ocean storm disorganized water transportation and the party went by rail. In the morning before we reached Jacksonville the papers reported a severe frost in Florida, which, it was believed, would terminate the almost ended epidemic. Our Pullman, therefore, was permitted to go around, not through, Jacksonville, the first, we were told, to be so permitted for months. It was the evening of Thanksgiving Day, and we could see the majestic Florida pines by moonlight, a sight with which I fell in love never to waver in my loyalty.

At the opening of the session a little group of thirty-five pupils appeared, to be instructed by a faculty of nine. Mrs. Terry, apart from Messrs. Truesdale and Race, was the only member of the previous faculty not to return. A notable addition to the faculty was Mrs. A. C. Winters. Mrs. Winters was a member of the Payne family, prominent in connection with the early history of Madison, later Colgate, University. She was widow of a teacher, who was once principal of the prominent Baptist Preparatory School, Cook Academy. At DeLand she taught German and history, and was in charge of the girls' part of the dormitory, Stetson Hall. Her balanced personality, rich cultural background, and wide experience made for the next four years a valuable contribution to the life of the institution.

She brought with her three sons: Walter, the eldest, who is a physician in California; George, the youngest, a lawyer in Colorado; and Harry, who after varied education and business activities, has for years been a prominent member of our faculty.



A total of eighty-five students, including one college sophomore, were registered during the year, fifty more than at the opening of the session. They kept gradually drifting in as Northern winter visitors arrived. This frequently complicated the process of instruction as the new comers required special coaching in order to be adjusted to the work of a class. As years passed this practice of late registration gradually decreased.

One more desirable characteristic of the early student body has continued with little change. Residents of many states have been represented. Hardly anything could more effectively tend to remove local prejudices.

Miss Carry Deming assisted as teacher of Latin, English, and Mathematics. My subjects were Latin and Greek; charge of the boys' dormitory was a supplementary duty the first year.

At this time, apart from the dormitory the only educational building was DeLand Hall. This provided space for all teaching, and for practice and laboratory work. Class discussions were conducted to the accompaniment of close-by vocal and instrumental music. The chapel occupied the lower floor of the east portion of the building. The large room above served various purposes. Here Professor Carson taught Mathematics and Science. Here was the chemical laboratory which boasted of individual slate covered tables. Against one wall were cases with a variety of scientific apparatus. Against another were shelves containing the beginnings of the library, which for the next ten years I was to supervise.

In the previous year Mr. C. T. Sampson had contributed a thousand dollars for the purchase of books. With this sum a very well selected collection of standard works had been purchased. The library had also been designated as a depository for United States Government publications. The shelves in the fall of 1888 contained between twelve and thirteen hundred volumes, listed in an ordinary blank book in order of acquisition, and placed on the shelves provisionally by general subject.

The problems of the librarian in 1888 were far different from those at present. There were two rival systems of classification of about equal standing, the Cutter and the Dewey. There were likewise two rival types of catalog, the alphabeticoclassed and the dictionary. Mr. Dewey while librarian at Columbia University used the former; but he had hardly left Columbia for the Albany State University before his successor began changing to the latter. Many aids, including the Library of Congress Cards, which the library now has, were then<sup>44</sup> available.

After our decision to use the Dewey system of classification, the American Library Association provided various helps towards securing a self-administered course in library science. As to catalog, the dictionary type was adopted.

Mr. Sampson continued his annual contribution of one thousand dollars for books; and by his will left securities that were designed to continue the contribution in perpetuity. In the use of these funds the primary object was to secure as a foundation of the library a balanced collection of the stan-



ard works in the essential fields. It was also recognized that files of the leading periodicals form important source material for investigation. Therefore from the beginning a considerable portion of the available funds were used for this object until in the following ten years there were secured practically complete files of such periodicals as the North American Review, The Atlantic Monthly, The Nation, The Scientific American, The London Quarterly Review, and The Edinburgh Review. This policy has been continued and extended until our library is recognized as being exceptionally well supplied with such material, much of which it would now be difficult to obtain. As the librarian frequently passed through New York City on the way to his summer home, he came into contact with dealers who specialized in periodical files.

These visits to New York have another advantage. Difficult problems of classification or cataloging could be recorded as they arose during the year and light upon their solutions obtained by seeing what was being done at Columbia or at the Albany Library School or at Colleges on the road to Western New York using the Dewey system. It is a matter of satisfaction that the decisions thus reached have proved to be in almost every respect in accord with present accepted library ways.

To return to the fall of 1888, early DeLand students will recall with pleasure "Uncle John and Aunt Charlotte" Nordstrom, faithful and accommodating Scandinavian caretakers of the buildings, and "Auntie" Hogan, the vigorous and efficient housekeeper;

and then there was the picturesque ex-slave Lewis, who made himself useful in various ways.

Dormitory students were expected to attend the church of their choice for the Sunday morning service. Devotional meetings were held in the chapel on Sunday afternoons, and there was a sort of evening family worship in the parlor of Stetson Hall. The dormitory rules of those days would by students of today be considered decidedly Victorian.

For several years Mr. DeLand had been devoting his efforts and resources to the development of the town and its surroundings. He had purchased land extensively, and by advertisements and guarantees as to advance of values sold extensively. But the frost of 1886 had raised questions as to the future of the orange industry. Land values shrank. Mr. DeLand scrupulously fulfilled his obligations, but with the result of practical bankruptcy. He realized that he could no longer contribute largely to the support of the University. We have seen that Mr. Stetson's contributions were steadily increasing. Therefore at the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees in February 1889, Mr. DeLand introduced the following resolution, which was unanimously passed:

"Resolved that in view of the generous gifts of our Brother, John B. Stetson to the University, and also in view of the fact that outside the tuition received and the interest on the small endowment fund, substantially the entire support and maintenance of the institution has for some time rested on him, we do hereby as a proper recognition of these facts,



change the name of this institution from that of the city in which it is located, to the John B. Stetson University or the Stetson University as our Brother may prefer, and we earnestly request our Brother to accept this expression of our appreciation of his generosity and of our confidence in him. Resolved that a copy of these resolutions be presented to Brother Stetson and that the first of these resolutions be published in our denominational papers."

It was further resolved that in case of Mr. Stetson's acceptance of this trust, measures be taken to secure the necessary ammendment to the charter. At this same meeting Mr. Stetson was elected President of the Board, and the original building, constructed and presented by Mr. DeLand in 1884 was formally named DeLand Hall.

A resolution was also passed expressing appreciation of Mr. C. T. Sampson's repeated gifts to the library and naming it the Sampson Library.

Mr. Stetson's letter accepting the naming of the University for him contained the following: "I have been and am still reluctant to accept the responsibility and trust which you thus urge upon me; and at the same time I have decided that if in your judgment the interests of the University will be best subserved in this way, I will waive the objections that lie in my mind and accept the important trust involved. It is needless for me to say that I appreciate the honor you confer upon me by this action."

To all it must be evident that for the future of the

University this decision was epoch making. By it Mr. Stetson not only consented that the institution should bear his name, but he practically committed himself to the continuation of the increasingly lavish contributions which he had been making.

At about this time the Stetson Manufacturing Company was incorporated. It is said that an investigation showed that the profits of the Company justified the issuing of three million dollars of eight percent preferred stocks, besides the common stock. This common stock, which at first had but little market value, later with great rapidity increased in value, yielding its owners handsome profit.

The pastor of the DeLand Baptist Church, in these early days was the Rev. John McKinney. Mr. McKinney, a graduate of Brown University and the Rochester Theological Seminary, was in every respect one of the finest of the pastors who have ever led this church, a gracious personality, able preacher, and efficient administrator. In 1888 he became a trustee of the University in which connection he rendered valuable service until the time of his death some ten years later. His was a beautiful family life. His eldest daughter, Isabel, has for many years been a member of the faculty of the Charles-Ann Illinois Normal College. The leadership of such a pastor as Mr. McKinney decidedly enriched the religious life of this University.

In 1889 the exercises of commencement week were held in the Baptist Church. An old photograph testifies to the lavish floral decoration of the room. Stetson's dramatic activities



had already begun. Miss Dickerson had trained a group of pupils to present a sort of literary parody with such references as to Dicken's "Do the Boys' Hall," and Gibbons' "Decline and Falloff the Rooshen Empire." One recalls among the actors a slender spindle-shanked youngster known as Bertie Fish, later the portly minister to Egypt.

A little later occurred the death of a prominent trustee, Mr. Statson's pastor, Dr. Peddie.

After the commencement exercises of 1889 a group of the faculty went by the Clyde Steamship Line from Jacksonville to New York and part of the company went on to Boston and attended the meeting of the Northern Baptist Convention. Several incidents in this connection seem worthy of mention.

At the meeting of the Education Society Mr. Fred Gates presented a report advising the re-establishment, under Baptist auspices of a University at Chicago, the former University of Chicago having several years before closed from bankruptcy. Interesting statistics were presented showing in the case of a number of educational institutions the large proportion of students coming from adjacent areas, facts showing the need of an institution in the Middle West. At the same time was presented Mr. Rockefeller's offer to contribute to the enterprise \$600,000 if the denomination would raise enough to bring the fund to \$1,000,000.

That prince of Southern Baptists, Dr. John A. Broadus, attended the Convention as a fraternal delegate, and, as was usual in his case, made an unforgettable address. He referred

to "the late unpleasantness between the North and the South, which in 1889 was much closer than at present. Pausing a few seconds amid impressive silence, he closed his message with these words, "Let the dead past bury its dead."

Groups of delegates went out to Cambridge to visit the Harvard campus and other interesting objects in the vicinity. Several Harvard students acted as guides. It is an interesting coincidence that the Stetson group were conducted by a young man named Lincoln Hulley, who for so many years was to serve as President of our University.

For the year 1889-1890 four teachers of the previous session did not return: Miss Tuthill, Mrs. Cheney, Miss Sentry, and Miss Deming.

We have attempted to mention all who so far were members of the Stetson faculty but as we proceed this will not always be practicable. Faculty changes at the early Stetson were frequent. This in general is true in the case of minor assistants. Here there were further reasons. The institution was young and little known. It was remote from the educational and cultural centers from which recruits were secured. Compensation was modest. Successful young teachers tended to seek positions in established and well known institutions or those nearer their earlier homes; or they would leave to continue graduate studies. Young women would marry and go away with their husbands. In five consecutive years Stetson had four different professors of mathematics. Melvin Smith, later professor at----being the one who served two years.



But some members of the early faculty remained through the years. The most striking example is Dean George Prentice Larson. Joining the faculty in 1886<sup>1</sup>, profiting by his varied experience, growing in classroom and executive efficiency, he has been a major member of the group for the sixty intervening years.

A similar case is that of Charles S. Farriss. A graduate of Wake Forest College and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary with successful experience as pastor and editor of denominational weeklies, he came to Stetson as Professor of Greek in 1892 and rendered distinguished service until the time of his death in 1938. Twice during interims between administrations he served as acting President of the University; and throughout the years in all his relations he enriched the community with the radiance of a gracious personality. In 1893 Mrs. Farriss joined the faculty as teacher of piano.

An extensive building program was carried out during the nineties. Mr. Stetson provided for the building and Mr. Sampson for the equipping of a plain but spacious frame building which for some time served as gymnasium for both men and women. For several years it was the only large auditorium on the campus. An ample platform or stage occupied the farther end, and in this room audiences gathered to witness plays or listen to addresses. Later it was moved farther back and became the band practice hall.

The catalog for 1891-1892 had as frontpiece a view of the partly completed central portion of Elizabeth Hall, which

was to become the principle building for instruction and administration. This enterprise was a conspicuous example of the fine cooperation of President Forbes and Mr. Stetson. Plans for the much needed building were drawn by Mr. Pearson, Mr. Stetson's Philadelphia architect. The first plan showed the entire building without the central towers, and with wings less conspicuous than those finally constructed. Dr. Forbes urged the addition of the tower which increased the expense of the building by several thousand dollars. The cost of the central portion of Elizabeth Hall was at first \$35,000, but later as \$45,000, all of which was contributed by Mr. Stetson. Mr. Sampson gave \$5,000 for furnishing, and a Mr. De Zouch of Philadelphia provided the furniture for the main office of Elizabeth Hall.

The Woodland Boulevard at this time had two driveways. A track was laid from the railroad through one of these driveways and into the campus, so that cars loaded with materials were left behind the building site.

Presentation Day, celebrated in February 1893 was a notable occasion. On this day Mr. Stetson was to present to the University this imposing structure, named for his wife Elizabeth. Dr. John A. Broadus was invited to deliver the main address. Leading Baptists of the state were invited to be present. A special stenographer was engaged to record the address for publication in the Florida Baptist Witness. An audience filling the gymnasium-auditorium gathered to witness the proceedings, to be further thrilled by the announcement



of Mr. Stetson's gift of \$50,000 to endow the President's chair.

For years there was an annual celebration of Presentation Day, so named rather than Founder's Day, as Mr. DeLand was recognized as founder of the institution.

The trustees had already been discussing the need of a new dormitory for women. Mr. Stetson offered to give \$5,000 toward a fund of \$25,000 for this object. Mr. Sampson subscribed liberally, and a group of trustees pledged themselves to attempt to raise each at least \$1,000. The catalog of 1892-1893 contained a full page picture of the completed central portion of the new dormitory for women, named Chaudoin Hall, in honor of the Rev. W. N. Chaudoin, Uncle Shad, as he was familiarly known.

Dr. Chaudoin was one of the most beloved of Florida Baptists. Coming to Florida from Georgia, seriously ill from tuberculosis, he improved in health. In spite of physical limitations he became increasingly prominent in the affairs of the Florida Baptists, being chosen as President of the Convention. He was a member of the original Board of Stetson Trustees, and at the original Presentation Day received from the institution the first honorary doctorate, the degree of Doctor of Divinity.

At the meeting of the Stetson Trustees in February 1894 resolutions were passed in appreciation of the recently deceased Dr. Sampson, who had so liberally contributed to the various needs of the University. In his will he designated \$20,000, the income from which was designed to continue in perpetuity the annual contribution for the purchase of books. He had been planning to provide for the construction of a library building, but

did not make obligatory to that object, the application of his legacy. The trustees voted to take \$2,500 from the fund to meet an unpaid balance connected with the building of the central portion of Chaudoin Hall and to pay for certain needs of the athletic field. Later the greater part of the bequest was used for the construction of the north wing of Chaudoin Hall.

The records of the 1894 meeting of the Trustees contains this item: "Voted that President Forbes' recommendation to grant Prof. Gordis one year's leave of absence on half salary be adopted." The University of Chicago was a pioneer in offering a regular summer term or quarter instead of a short summer school conducted by a few members of the faculty, as was the general practice. The staff included not only many of the leading members of the faculty but prominent invited members of other faculties. Registrations exceeded those of the other quarters of the year. Throngs of teachers from all over the country took advantage of the opportunity offered. (A special car was chartered to accommodate teachers coming from at least one Southern state. Professor, now Doctor, T. C. Mitchel, of Richmond University was in the summer of 1894 president of the Southern group.)

The recipient of the above mentioned grant spent the summer, autumn, and winter quarters at Chicago, (teaching in connection with his fellowship during the winter quarter an elective course in his favorite field of Cicero's Letters.) The summer semester was spent at Berlin, and following weeks in travel, especially in Italy.



In the 1896 report of the Secretary of the Board, the Rev. Mr. McKinney, we find the following: "Prof. Gordis as Acting President of the University in the absence of Dr. Forbes made the annual statement of the Board of Trustees concerning the condition and prospects of the University. The report was full of encouragement and hope, and showed that despite the effects of the hard times upon the attendance of the school, the prospects were never better in those departments in which its special interest of teachers and trustees centered."

Dr. Forbes was present at the opening of the session of 1895-1896, but soon left on leave for the remaining portion. He traveled extensively in Europe and Palestine, and brought back a very extensive collection of photographs, which, mounted and framed, now adorn our halls.

At the request of the "acting president," Professors Carson and Farriss were associated with him as an executive committee and rendered fine cooperative assistance.

The "hard times" to which reference has been made resulted from the disastrous freezes of the winter of 1894 and 1895. Those familiar with the way of the orange tree know that one severe freeze may destroy the fruit, strip off the leaves, and even kill the small branches without permanently injuring the tree. But the orange tree is not deciduous and cannot breathe without leaves. So, after a freeze, sap leaps up as in spring time, and leaves burst forth in profusion. Then let another freeze strike the tree and it may be killed down to the roots.

That is what happened in the winter of 1894-1895. The

leading industry of Florida was paralyzed. Bankruptcy was epidemic. The gray leafless trees were what one journalist called "the tombstones of our departed prosperity."

Naturally, the registration at the University sharply declined, but there were other considerations than numbers. College registrations were slightly increased and in general the ratio of decrease was more marked among the local and more elementary registrants.

Meanwhile there had been various changes in the faculty. In the same year as Dr. Farriss, Miss Clara Brown came as teacher of Elocution and Physical Culture, remaining several years and leaving for further study, and Miss Anna Barrett besides teaching German assumed charge of the new women's dormitory. Miss Barrett was daughter of the prominent pastor of the Lake Avenue Baptist Church, of Rochester, N. Y., and sister of Mrs. Montgomery, well known for her activities in connection with Baptist organizations and for her translation of the New Testament. Miss Anna presided over Chaudoin Hall for three years, married, and was early taken by death.

The session of 1894-1895 saw many changes in the faculty, none of the newcomers remaining but a year or two. Miss Julia Carter taught voice for three years. Miss Julia Ober for four years, besides teaching Latin, was called Lady Principal, that is, Dean of Women. But several recruits of that season rendered long and eminent service.

Longest in service of the group is Clifford B. Rosa. During the fifty years of his connection with the University he



has performed various functions. He came as instructor in Commercial Branches. For a time he was also instructor in Military Tactics. For many years as Bursar he has efficiently carried heavy responsibility in the business administration of the institution.

Professor and Mrs. W. A. Sharp were both artists, he a painter, she a violinist. The stained glass windows above the chapel organ were designed by him. The large copy of a famous Russian painting at the rear of the present chapel is his handiwork. After many years of service he removed to the Pacific Coast.

Dr. and Mrs. J. F. Baerecke also came in 1894. A Hollander, graduate of the University of Utrecht, he was Professor of Biology and Physiology until his decline in health and death in 1920. Mrs. Vida Z. Baerecke long functioned as Woman's Physician, at various times assisting as teacher of Biology or German.

Most of those added to the faculty during the next five years remained but for a short time. Miss Lena Schreuder (1895) directed the Department of Music for three years. James T. Gorsline, (1896) son of a Rochester business man, taught Mathematics three years followed by Freeman McNall, who after one year left to enter upon a successful business career; Charles H. Lewis, (1897) was for five years director of the School of Music; Mrs. Harriet C. May (1897) directed the Practice School for three years; Miss Helen H. Harriman (1897) teacher of Modern Languages and Lady Principal, remained

three years; and Miss Anna Brown followed her sister, Miss Clara, as teacher of English, Elocution, and Physical Culture, remaining three years. Others were on the staff for even longer periods.

A major event of the year 1896 and 1897 was the completion of Elizabeth Hall at an expense, said to have been greater than \$45,000, spent for the central portion. The wings were larger than those at first planned, the north addition measuring fifty by seventy-five feet and south eighty by seventy-five. In the case of the central portion Mr. Pearson was the architect. Better brick were secured and in some other respects the wings were superior to the central building.

The north wing was intended to house the library, which had been moved from DeLand Hall to the portion of Elizabeth Hall now occupied by the Registrar's Office. The first suggestion was to fuse the first and second stories into a high library room with galleries for supplementary stack space, but the final plan was to use simply the entire first floor for a spacious library room with supplementary cataloging space in the adjacent portion of the central building.

The south wing was an elaborate structure. The audience room proper with galleries on three sides occupied the space of two floors, while the upper floor was devoted to class rooms or laboratories. The platform and hall extension to the south was only as high as the chapel ceiling. A steel girder, weighing tons spanning the forty foot front of the platform, supported the outer south wall of the third story.



The architect doubted whether any local builder would be able to put this ponderous girder in place, but he did not realize the ingenuity and efficiency of our elderly one-handed English contractor, Mr. J. T. Clarke, who directed the construction of most of the ambitious buildings in DeLand for many years. His chief trouble was that he was so anxious to secure a contract that he would bid too low, and then so scrupulous in his effort to carry out the project as near perfection as possible that profit sometimes was little or nothing.

In 1897 he was made a trustee. Later the Board passed the following resolution: "Resolved, that this Board express to its colleague, Mr. J. T. Clarke, its highest appreciation of the skill, fidelity, and unselfish devotion with which he has given himself to the erection of the splendid buildings of the University. We feel that there is a very important sense in which these buildings will be his monuments, and we recognize the fact that he has wrought into their structure his own earnest interest in, and love for the University and its work."

All the cost of Elizabeth Hall, including the pipe organ and grand piano was met by Mr. Stetson. By a beautiful marble tablet on the south wall he indicated that the chapel was dedicated to the memory of his deceased little boy, Ben.

The building fully deserved the following official characterization: "The completion of Elizabeth Hall---makes it one of the most substantial, convenient, and elegant structures for the purpose of education in the entire land. The chapel,

which is thus provided, with its spacious dimensions, its large seating capacity, and the beauty and harmony of its construction, together with the splendid organ which it contains is a beautiful memorial to the young life to whose memory it is dedicated, and leaves nothing to be desired as a gathering place for the generations of students and friends of learning and education."

In the fall of 1897 the completed building was occupied and the library was moved into its new quarters. Through the American Library Association equipment including tables and lighting facilities were procured, hardly surpassed by metropolitan libraries.

The Presentation Day of February 10, 1898 was hailed as the most notable occasion in the history of the institution. Truly its only rival for that rank would be the initial Presentation Day of 1893. The Florida Baptist Witness for February 16, 1898 devoted the greater part of its space to the occasion, including complete report of the two principal addresses. The Supplement, DeLand's leading weekly, did likewise. The Jacksonville Times Union, probably Florida's leading daily, gave a full column on its front page.

A reproduction of this article, practically entire, will give a vivid impression of the public reaction to this great day:

#### Great Day at Stetson

"DeLand, Feb. 10. Today was the greatest day in the history of Florida's great school. It was the occa-



sion of the addition of \$180,000 in material equipment to the already extensive plant of Stetson University. It was characterized by the presence of vast throngs of visitors from different parts of the country, among whom were some of the most distinguished men of the nation including President William R. Harper of Chicago University and Hon. James L. M. Curry of Washington.

The programme began last evening with a grand organ concert by the famous organist, Mr. Adam Geibel of Philadelphia. This morning from 9 o'clock till 12 the public was invited to various exercises. Among them was a prize drill of cadets, under Commander Rosa.

At the conclusion of the drill occurred exercises in connection with the raising of an elegant new flag, the gift of Mr. Stetson. The flag staff is 175 feet high, and occupies a prominent place on the University campus. At this flag-raising an address was made by Professor C. S. Farriss. The accomplished daughter of President Forbes, Miss Helen, pulled the string which let go to the breeze the beautiful national emblem.

From 11 to 12 o'clock was given an informal orchestral concert in the auditorium.

From 2:30 to 5 o'clock occurred the presentation exercises proper. The principal address was deliv-

ered by President Harper. Nearly a thousand persons thronged the auditorium to hear him, and his address occupied an hour. It was listened to with rapt attention. President Forbes introduced him as the head of the foremost institution of learning of the country, a man who had not merely for years studied educational problems, but had mastered them.

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A magnificent ovation was given to Dr. Harper at the close of his address. Then came the presentation by him of the two new buildings, the laboratory, organ, etc., aggregating about \$75,000.

The Monroe Heath Museum of National History was then presented by Professor Carson on behalf of Mrs. Monroe Heath of Chicago. This museum is quite complete, and was furnished by the famous Professor Ward of Rochester.

President Forbes then advanced, saying that he had become a little jealous of so much speech-making, and said that he wished now to make a speech himself. He then presented a list of eighteen names, including that of Mr. Stetson, who he said, had given to the endowment fund of the University the magnificent sum of \$100,000, Mr. Stetson leading the list with \$50,000.

When this announcement was made, the enthusiasm of the great audience exploded again and again in



wild bursts of applause. It could hardly be controlled long enough for Dr. H. W. Gelston to accept these magnificent gifts on behalf of the University. During his exceedingly witty and appropriate remarks the great auditorium rang with continuous applause, many waving their handkerchiefs.

In the evening at 8 o'clock Hon. J. L. M. Curry, ex-Minister to Spain and agent of the Peabody and State educational funds, delivered an address.

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At the close of Dr. Curry's address, a reception was held in the parlors of Chaudoin Hall, Mr. and Mrs. Stetson, President and Mrs. Forbes, and the Hon. J.L.M. Curry received.

Thus passes into history the most memorable day in connection with higher education in the annals of our own State."

This visit of President Harper to Stetson marked an important stage in the recognition of the standards of the University. One of Dr. Harper's original measures was the establishment of affiliation between the University of Chicago and colleges of approved standards. Kalamazo College, the institution of Michigan Baptists, for instance, enjoyed such recognitions.

Dr. Harper personally and in detail examined the situation at Stetson--the requirements for admission, the equipment, and the competence of the faculty, and arranged for

the admittance of our institution to complete affiliation with the University of Chicago.

Honor graduates of Stetson became at once graduates of Chicago, and the degree of any graduate completing successfully one quarter's work at Chicago was reenacted. Members of the Stetson faculty were granted free tuition while on leave, doing graduate work at Chicago. Chicago students who for climatic reasons wished to spend the winter quarter at Stetson were given full credit at Chicago for such work. A certain amount of supervision was required, that Chicago might be assured that standards were maintained.

It is obvious that such recognition by one of the foremost universities of the country had tremendous significance for a small young southern institution.

President Harper is said to have expressed surprise at the courage shown in rigidly, amid existing conditions, maintaining nationally recognized standards. Of course this was at the sacrifice of attendance and to a certain extent of income. At the commencement of 1896 there was but one graduate from the college, our present Professor Winters. In the year of 1897-8, the total college registration was twenty-two--one graduate, three seniors, two juniors, three sophomores, six freshmen, and seven elective students. A total of 241 names were enrolled. Obviously, as far as numbers were concerned, the college students seemed an almost negligible minority, less than one-tenth of the entire enrollment. As Dr. Harper recognized, standards rather than numbers



constitute the major asset of the college.

As had been the case from the beginning of the institution, the student body represented widely separated places. In 1897-1898 they came from eighteen states, twenty-four Florida counties, and two foreign countries.

This chapter's title is The Period of Early Expansion. The three of four years following 1898 may from various considerations be properly so characterized. College enrollment increased from twenty-two to sixty, and the total registration from 241 to 419. Twenty-four states were represented, twenty-nine Florida counties, and three foreign countries. But perhaps the most distinctive characteristic of these years was the tendency, already begun, to develop what had been called departments into distinct schools, and to organize new units. The policy looked toward the fulfillment of what was implicit in the original name of the institution. The purpose from the beginning was to found, not simply a college, but a University; although of course, that term in America then conveyed a somewhat different meaning from what it does at present.

At first there was given to teachers' training only a single year, substituted for the third year of a three year general academy course, or a year supplementing the academy course. Later, the amount of instruction was increased, and in 1898 we find reference to the Normal and Practice School. There had been early demand at Stetson for sub-academy classes. Young Florida ministers would enter prepared only for A or B Summer School work. One, for instance, amused the teacher

of a Geography class by saying when asked the location of a certain city, "I disremember where it's at." When the Practical School was organized, it took over all sub-academy work, and expanded it to include kindergarten and the four primary and four grammar school grades. It therefore became possible for one to have at Stetson all his work from kindergarten to the reception of his A. B. or L. L. B. degree. Dr. Forbes' early connection with the faculty of the Brockport, New York State Normal School doubtless contributed to his interest in the work of teachers' training.

The Business College was announced to open in the fall of 1897. The work was to include Telegraphy and Spanish. The latter reference is significant in view of the later importance of Spanish American business for our country, and the fact that Dr. Forbes in later life developed what was probably the most successful institution in the United States for the training of Spanish speaking business men.

What had been called our Art Department became the School of Art, and the Music Department, the School of Music.

The College of Law, first announced to open in October 1898 actually opened a year later. High School graduates were to be admitted and the degree of L. L. B. conferred after successful completion of a two years course. Later there was an arrangement whereby the first year of the law course was substituted for the fourth college year and the two degrees conferred for the five years work. A good working law library was said to have been acquired "through the generosity



of the Bar of Florida." Graduates were admitted to the Bar by a Florida Statute. Albert H. Farrah was the first Dean of the College of Law, and Cary D. Landis, long prominent in local and State legal, judicial, and political activities, was his associate on the law faculty. Since for years there was no other law school in the State, Stetson had a conspicuous part in the training of Florida lawyers.

Then, there was to be, not merely a Department of Engineering, but a School of Technology "with Laboratories for Mechanical Engineering, well equipped Iron and Wood Working Shops, Forge Rooms, and Foundry." Ellery Paine was elected Dean of the School of Technology and Professor of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering.

Most of these new units in the structure of the University were to be housed in Science Hall, a sixty thousand dollar building in process of erection during the college year of 1901 and 1902 the gift of "A Friend," not officially designated. The ground floor or basement was to be occupied by the Department of Domestic Science and the shops of the Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Departments. The main floor was devoted to Physics and Chemistry; and the upper floor to the Law Department, to Drawing rooms of the Engineering Department, and the Studio of the Art Department.

During this period there were, besides those already mentioned, various additions to the faculty. Thomas H. Briggs, later prominent as a Columbia teacher and author, was our Professor of English for the single year of 1899-1900. He

was followed by Edmund K. Broadus, who remained two years. (The Professor of Latin was on provisional leave of absence, studying and teaching in Chicago for the years 1898-1900, during which period his place was taken by J. P. Kalbfus, later successful conductor of private schools for boys in Rochester, New York. When his predecessor, for climatic and family reasons was unable to return, Mr. Kalbfus' place was taken over by Robert J. Bonner, whose work for the Ph. D. degree at Chicago was well under way. After three years he returned to Chicago, completed his graduate work, and joined the Chicago faculty, finally becoming Chairman of the Department of Greek, a position which he held until reaching the age for retirement.)

The most significant addition to the faculty in this period was that of J. Archy Smith. Brilliant scholar and successful teacher and administrator, he was an instructor at the University of Chicago where he had the prospect of a promising position, but his need of a milder climate attracted him to Stetson. Here as Dean and Professor of Mathematics he spent the remainder of his active years.

At various times the trustees had discussed the desirability of having supplementary dormitories where students of limited resources might, by cooperation or other means, live economically. Several such buildings were mentioned in the catalog for 1901 and 1902. The former Hudson residence, just west of Stetson Hall was designated as East Hall. Kent Hall, the building on the north west corner of the Boulevard



and West Michigan Avenue, an early residence of Mr. John B. Stetson, and later of his kinsman, Colonel Stetson. Both of these buildings were later torn down. Hamilton House, on West Minnesota Avenue was formerly the residence of Dr. James L. Hamilton, who was Professor of Psychology and Biology for the single year of 1893 and 1894, and who suddenly died. The original Conrad Hall, named for Mr. J. B. Conrad, who contributed the major part of the expense of its construction, was also early designated as a dormitory providing reduced expenses. This building was situated on the Boulevard a little north of Chaudoin Hall and was later destroyed by fire. The policy of providing facilities was not permanently continued although students have been given many opportunities to earn part of their expenses.

We have in this chapter traced the expansion of the Institution for about fifteen years from the time of the granting of the charter in 1887. The name of DeLand University was given to a school occupying two modest frame buildings on a four acre campus. There was not a single college student and an enrollment of eighty-two in the year of 1886-1887. In the fifteen following years there was an addition of buildings and equipment comparing favorably with that of the following forty years. Practically all the Schools and the Departments that present justify the name of the University had already been organized, besides the School of Technology, Department of Domestic Art and Normal Practice School, which have been discontinued. While only sixty of the 1901-1902 enrollment of

in the Collège of Liberal Arts, affiliation with the University of Chicago validated their standing as conforming to national standards. There was, besides the Law Library, a splendidly equipped and fully organized college library of about ten thousand volumes, most of them carefully selected and purchased. The Scientific laboratories were supplied with apparatus for all reasonable need.

This fine development was due to two coordinating elements, the activities of the ambitious and dynamic President, and the support of such generous contributors as Mr. Stetson, H. Sampson and others. Surely the fifteen years may properly be called The Period of Early Expansion.