

Subject: One for you - Madison Smith PA73

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Conversation: One for you - Madison Smith PA73

RQ - I emailed you about Smith the other day. Madison Smith is on your list of African-American students, and his carte de visite is in your possession. Amherst was very prompted in forwarding the attached account and tribute to Smith, who died while attending Amherst. Great stuff! By my count, Smith is the second former slave we have identified who found his way to Andover following the Civil War. DC

Marat, on the coming morrow, to the dignity of a God.

Thus perished Charlotte Corday, who, far in advance of her generation, demonstrated by her actions that she fully comprehended that fundamental principle of all government, that the lives of many would never be safe in the hands of one—a lesson which her deluded countrymen only learnt through the terrors of a revolution, and the iron despotism of a Napoleon.

MADISON SMITH.

As we enter upon another college year we miss several of our associates. Death has taken one of these, and many friends are called to mourn the loss of Madison Smith. His brief life was so eventful that numerous readers of the *STUDENT* will, no doubt, be interested in a condensed account of it. He was born of slave parents, in North Carolina, where he lived until his seventeenth year. Then, while house-servant to a physician, the Union army extended its lines beyond the limits of his master's estate, and he became free. Soon after, he started for the North, to find an uncle, who had previously gone to Amesbury, Mass. He earned his passage to New York, and finally arrived at Amesbury, though suffering from severe illness. Here a good Samaritan found him, and cared for him until his recovery. His case excited much sympathy among the people of the town, and he gained employment with Mr. J. R. Huntington as house-servant. Though naturally bright and active, he was pitifully ignorant, and could neither read nor write. His ideas of right and wrong, too, were such as slave life conduced to give him; but he was patiently instructed, and found to be an apt scholar. He had but a few months of schooling, yet made the most of that. Afterwards he learned the painter's trade, at which he worked until he went to Andover. In the meantime he had become interested in religious matters, and joined the Congregational Church in the place. His pastor recognized his ability, and advised him to fit for college, procuring him the means with which to start. It was at Phillips Academy, Andover, that the writer's acquaintance with him began. Though compelled to labor in addition to his studies, in order to meet his expenses, he maintained good rank in his class, and was one of the successful competitors for prizes for original compositions. While at Andover, his was a consistent Christian life. He was gentlemanly in demeanor, and was possessed as well of good social qualities, which broke down the barrier of color, and

made many friends, who, with us, will regret his early death. Graduated with the class of '73, he came to Amherst. His life here is well known, for most of those whom he met he made his friends. Several times while in college he was attacked by the same disease of which he at length died, and during his sickness, there was no lack of those who were pleased to wait upon him, and his patience under suffering was sufficient recompense for all trouble. It is not often that one in his position gains so many staunch friends. He was far from perfect, and retained many of the habits acquired in slave life; yet they who knew him best, knew that he fought long and hard to overcome them. In after years, when we shall look back over the battle-field of life and recall those whom the Great Captain has gathered home, there will be few whose record will be better than that of Madison Smith, brief though it was.

Exchanges.

The new editorial boards of our various exchanges come, with proper humility, before their readers, and set forth their plans and determinations for the year upon which they are entering. From personal motives, if from no others, we wish you, one and all, success in making real your ideals of college journalism; for, can a more enviable position be imagined than that of an editor whose labors consist in perusing journals of such an high order of excellence as it is your aim to attain.

College boys are naturally credited with possessing less than the average business knowledge. Our experience would go to show, however, that they are entirely deficient in the veriest rudimentary business instincts. Out of some thirteen applications from Amherst for the position of college correspondent to the *Republican*, and half as many from Williamstown, not one of the letters enclosed the postage stamp needed to insure attention to their contents.—*Springfield Republican*.

Three numbers of the *Yale Record* are before us. "Is Williams a District School?" in the second issue, and "Business Habits," in the last, are very sensibly written. The latter, in particular, is worthy to be read by every student. Yale is not the only college whose members are remiss in business matters. We would commend this article to the attention of the thirteen Amherst men mentioned in the preceding item. Might we suggest to the author of "On the Fence," that his uncomfortable position may have had its influence on his verses.

Prof. (looking at his watch,) "As we have a few minutes, I would like to have any one ask questions, if so disposed." Student. "What time is it, please?"—*Ex.*

We would insinuate nothing as to the scholarship of any member of the Junior class; but yet, if, by chance, there be a man who does not comprehend the mysteries of Astronomy, he would doubtless be benefited by a perusal of Schedler's Manual for the Use of the Globes, a copy of which has been forwarded to us by the publisher, E. Steiger, 22 Frankfort St., New York.

Both copies of the *Cornell Era* which we have received, devote no inconsiderable portion of their space to reports of the Saratoga regatta, and comments upon the same. However, you are altogether excusable, Cornell. You did win a victory over which you may well rejoice; but don't let it lift you so far above things mundane that you will allow the *Era* to degenerate

The *University Herald* evidently does not intend to lose the good reputation it has already earned. The present number is highly creditable to its editors. "Moods of Neptune" was not ground out from the mill which supplies the majority of college papers with so-called poetry. It has the genuine ring. We would also notice the article on "Application," as practical and well written.

Not long ago, at a mansion on Murray Hill, a sentimental young lady strolled with a gentleman, on whom she had her eye, into the conservatory. Looking up pensively into his face, she said, with tears in her voice, "Ah, no one loves me, Mr. Barnes!" "Some one does." "Yes?" said the lady, dropping her head, and pressing his arm ever so little "Yes, Miss Nellie," said the wretch, "God loves you."—*Ex.*

The *Dartmouth* of Sept. 9, contains that most absurd motion, said to have been passed by Amherst previous to the regatta, declaring her intention and ability to come in ahead of Brown and Dartmouth. To be sure, the item is totally false, as the *Dartmouth* very well knows; and, moreover, this is not the first time it has appeared in the same columns; but then it fills up as many lines as though it were both true and new, therefore we will not be too severe.

We would acknowledge the receipt of the following, of which we are unable to speak at length, The Nation, Williams Athenæum, Oberlin Review, Yale Courant, College Ohio, Niagara Index, The Western, The Proof Sheet, Our Dumb Animals, Woman's Journal, Forest and Stream, Boston Advertiser.