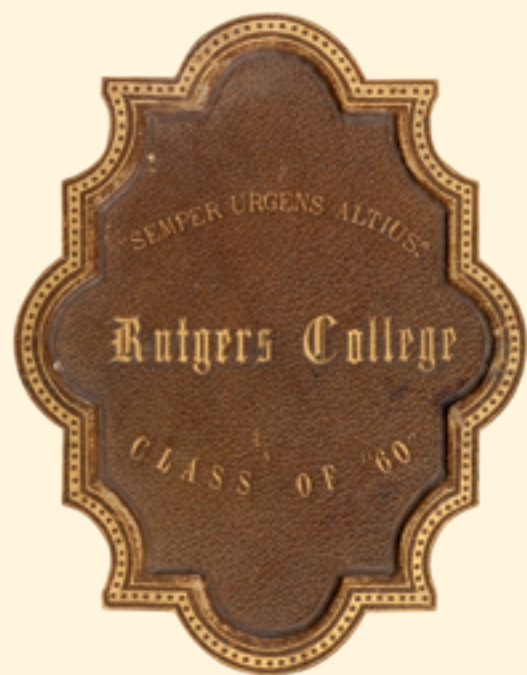




GEORGE W. MCNEEL



Friend A'yers

Gently and pleasantly have sped the hours of College life. Already we behold its closing scenes. Alma Mater claims us as her protégé no longer, but has given us to battle with the realities of life. In its turmoil, forget not thy destiny. May deeds honorable and noble call into action the generous impulses of thy soul. For thee are desired many green spots, bedecked with clustering flower and creeping vine. Draw thy pleasures from fountains whose waters leave no bitter taste: "then shall thou with step unflinching, thy grave approach, like one who wraps the drapery of his couch about him, and lies down to gentle slumbers, and pleasant dreams."

Your friend and classmate
Samuel Ayers
Natus May 31, 1837



Friend W. Beardslee

After a few short hours in the bright morning of life we separate to mingle with the busy multitude and perform our part in the fearful drama of our human existence. Though brief our stay at "Old Rutgers" the reminiscences of what occurred there will furnish many a gay picture with which to illuminate the pathway of life and should future days be for us they will come floating over our pleased imaginations with a vividness and beauty which time can touch only to render more attractive. In prosperity our friendship was pleasant; should adversity overtake us remember time and space can form no barrier to the exercise of genuine friendship.

Your friend and classmate
Natus November 23, 1837

J. W. Beardslee
New Fairfield Conn.



To Geo. W. McNeel

Our acquaintance has been short, but still long enough to ripen a friendship, the strength of which advancing years will not impair. Hoping, that when far away from the scenes of your College days, you may ever remember the many happy hours we have spent together, I remain

Natus 1840

Your friend and classmate
Alexander McC Bishop ZΨ
New Brunswick, N.J.



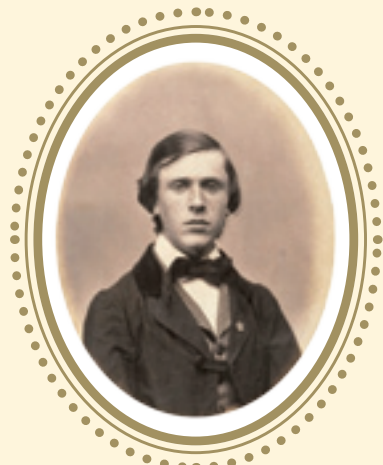
Friend Mack

"Our youth is like the dream of the hunter on the hill of heath. He laid him down and slept; he awoke amid a storm."

College life passes like a dream. Even now we hear the tempest hurtle without. When the few fleeting years of our life shall end, may we lie down in peace through Him "who gave Himself up for us all."

March 23, 1860
Rutgers College-
New Brunswick

Yours Sincerely
F. M. Bogardus
Class of '60



Friend Mac-

You will soon leave the classic shades of "Old Rutgers" and return to the more congenial scenes of your native Texas. May you as you return to your Southern home "live in hearts that you leave behind"; and may I hope that in the secret alcoves of memory's studio one name may find a cherished place, that of your sincere friend and Classmate

Natus August 29, 1840

Josiah J. Brown
Newark, N.J.

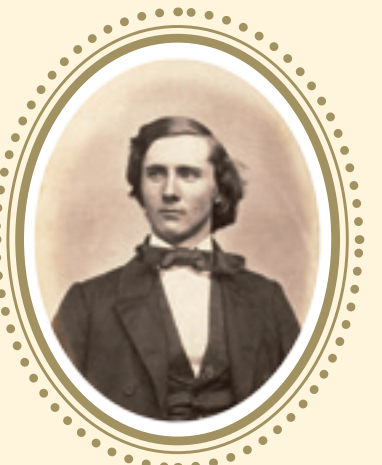


To G. W. McNeel

That you may be successful in the cause of truth and that you may ever, as now, merit the esteem of those around you is the sincere wish of your friend and classmate.

Natus July 21, 1839

Richd. De Witt, '60
Hurley, N.J.



To George W. McNeel

When you leave these Classic walls, for warmer climes and warmer hearts, surrounded by friends and fortune, and all earthly pleasures, may you gain many admiring friends, by your wisdom and knowledge, is the wish of your friend and brother

Natus August 1839
Class of 60

Jacob T. Field ZΨ
North Branch, N.J.



*To
George W. McNeel,*

"There is this paradox in Pride,—it makes some men ridiculous, but prevents others from becoming so."

In the storehouse of the mind shall thy memory be cherished.

Natus 1842

Yours in
T.K.Ø.
C. Ridgely Goodwin
Savannah, Ga



"Friendship is stronger than hatred"
John C.

May you live a long, useful, and happy life, and become one of the brightest beacon lights upon the intellectual heights of the nineteenth century.

1860

Yours in TKØ
J. E. Lanning ZΨ
of N.J.



*"How I want abolition hearts to see
My heart unaccommodated justly toward thee!"*
Jim Collins

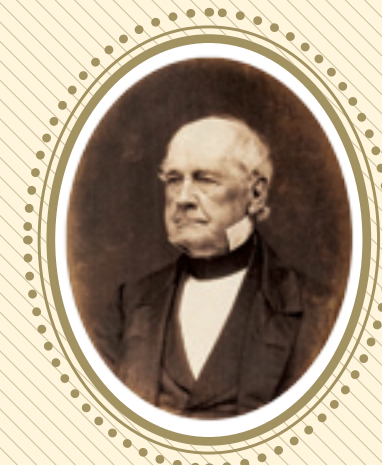
Delightful indeed have passed the hours we've spent together within the walls of Old Rutgers, and sad is this our parting.

"Bright be the sun above thee
Friend of my better days.
I knew thee but to love thee
And named thee but to praise."

Ever yours in the bonds of truest affection,

Natus August 16, 1839

J. Collins Pumpelly
Owego Tioga Cy, N.Y.



My Dear young Friend

When you return to your distant home to enter upon different and more extended scenes of action, I trust you will not forget nor disregard the ties that bind you to the North as well as to the South. The ties of personal friendship for me as your instructor, I have abundant reason to believe you will ever cherish; and be assured the thought gives me unfeigned pleasure. But there is another bond infinitely more important, more universal, and which affects a larger portion of the human family, which claims the attention of all true patriots. I mean the bond that unites all our countrymen in our fraternal Union, our glorious Constitution. Let no political foray ever lead you astray, nor induce you to forget, that there are good and true men at the North who regard the constitution as the greatest of earthly blessings; not only as affording peaceful protection to ourselves, but a refuge for the oppressed of all Nations. That God will bless you, and make you a great and good man, is the earnest prayer of your true friend.

Theodore Strong, Rutgers College.
[professor of mathematics]

February 1, 1860



*To
Geo W. McNeel,*

About to be separated as we are, probably for ever, that your future occupations may be crowned with abundant success is the wish of

Natus 1840

Your Friend & Classmate
Wm Remsen Taylor ZΨ
New Jersey



Friend Mc Neel;

May honor, fame, riches, long life, health and happiness be thine; but when thou shall move in the gay circles of fashion and receive the flattery and adulation which awaits Fortune's favorites, or when thou shall move among the noble and honored of the land then let not thy humble friend be forgotten.

Your faithful friend and classmate
Natus October 11, 1840

C. Van Derbill
New Brunswick, N.J.



Amicus Verus est Deus

[True friendship is divine.]

*"What the exquisite delights can tell,
The joy which constant confidence imparteth
We who can part the chosen inseparable,
Whose links in tender bands two faithful hearts
Friend Mc Neel,*

I have known thee but to love thee, and our intercourse has but cemented that affection. Time hurries on with its restless sweep, and the duties of our several spheres call upon us to say "Farewell." May the smile of Heaven attend you, and may you through a long life be blessed, and dispensing blessings. And, when you return to your pleasant home, in the "Sunny South", forget not your "Alma Mater", the "Class of '60", and your friend.

Natus September 16, 1833

Dupuytren Vermilye.
Fishkill, Dutchess Co., N.Y.



The patriot's heart takes in his whole Country.

Yours truly
S. A. Van Vranken
[professor of logic and Christianity]



My Goodness Friend,

When we have finished our College course, and you have gone to your Southern home, remember that you are a citizen of a great republic. As such, be loyal, and countenance no schemes of personal or sectional aggrandizement. Tell your friends and neighbors that from your certain knowledge there is a great, conservative, Union-loving people at the North; that they look upon our country as one country, and never will consent to its dissolution. Tell them how a Frelinghuysen [the president of Rutgers] pleads their rights, and teaches his students to uphold the Constitution and the laws.

Natus March 10, 1838

Your Classmate,
Wm. Brownlee Voorhees.
Readington, N.J.



*To Mc Neel,
"Yellow Knight of the quill"*

As you cast your eye above, and it rests on the emblem of our editorial office, may the fond associations which linger about it, enable you to cherish more your co-operator in the editorial department. May it bring to your memory the old sanctuary, the dear old sanctum where "midnight oil" and incessant labors were sacrificed to the interests of our Mag. But I must speak a farewell; for we shall soon return to our respective homes and states which are probably more widely separated than those of any students here, yet I fondly indulge in the hope that you will none the less cherish the memory of one who has the honor to subscribe himself your friend and classmate.

Y. A. Williams ΔΦ
Class of '60



Friend Mc Neel,

That you may live to see all abolitionists turned to dust and the "Union" saved, is the wish of your friend and classmate

Natus September 20, 1840

D. Abeel Williamson 60
Plandome, N.Y.



*G. W. Mc Neel
Dear Sir
"Life is what we make it!"*

May your life be a blessing to the world and an ornament to the church! Allow me as co-editor and classmate to express my thanks to you for your kind friendship. When you shall have returned to your home in Texas, remember your friend from Michigan—whose best wishes go with you. In after years, memory will call up many sweet associations of our College days—our editorial anxieties and burdens, but also its enjoyments.

Bidding you a friendly adieu—
I remain as ever your friend & Classmate

Natus January 5, 1836

Egbert Winter
Holland, Mich.

THE College Years OF THE CLASS OF 1860

PRELUDE

The Missouri Compromise of 1820 allowed Missouri, part of the Louisiana Purchase, to enter the Union as a slave state. As a balance, Maine, then a territory of Massachusetts, was admitted as a free state. A line was drawn westward from Missouri's southern border. Above it, no territory could organize as a slave state except Missouri itself.

In 1854, the compromise was repealed and the balance was upset. The Kansas-Nebraska Act allowed voters in territories north of the line to decide the matter for themselves. This idea of "popular sovereignty" was authored by Senator Stephen A. Douglas, Democrat of Illinois. Indifferent to slavery, Douglas looked toward a West that would be peacefully developed by both North and South.

By 1856, a miniature war had broken out in the West. Proslavery and antislavery settlers had rushed into Kansas Territory to determine its future. The two sides established separate capitals and separate legislatures. Proslavery settlers had the support of a Democratic administration in Washington and "border ruffians" from Missouri, but "free-soil" settlers soon had the majority. Among the latter group was John Brown, an Ohio farmer who would emerge as a symbol of the Civil War, whether as martyr or monster.

1856

FEBRUARY

The Republican Party is formed for the purpose of halting slavery in the West. It is made up of remnants of the anti-Jacksonian Whig Party and the antislavery Liberty Party, defectors from the anti-immigrant American Party, and anti-"Nebraska bill" northern Democrats.

JUNE

John C. Frémont, famous explorer of the Far West, is nominated as Republican presidential candidate. The party platform affirms the "duty of Congress to prohibit in the territories those twin relics of barbarism—polygamy [in Utah] and slavery."

James Buchanan of Pennsylvania is nominated as Democratic presidential candidate. The party platform affirms the principle of noninterference of Congress as "the only sound and safe solution of the slavery question" in the territories.

NOVEMBER

Democrat Buchanan wins the first U.S. election in which the major parties are Democratic and Republican. Frémont loses every state in the South.

MARCH

The Supreme Court rules against Dred Scott. Chief Justice Roger B. Taney writes that Scott, as an African American, has no constitutional right to bring a case before the court. He then declares as unconstitutional any attempt to limit the rights of slaveholders in the territories.

JANUARY

President Franklin Pierce, Democrat from New Hampshire, declares Kansas's proslavery legislature the legitimate one. Nathaniel Hawthorne had expressed his friend Pierce's view of slavery in 1852: "Human wisdom and human efforts cannot subvert it except by tearing to pieces the Constitution."

MAY

Senator Charles Sumner of Massachusetts delivers a speech, "The Crime Against Kansas," that includes personal attacks on absent Senator Andrew Butler of South Carolina. That week, Representative Preston Brooks of South Carolina, a relative of Butler, enters the Senate chamber and beats Sumner with a walking stick.

In Kansas, a proslavery posse loots and burns the free-state town of Lawrence. In retribution, John Brown and a few followers remove five proslavery men from their homes and hack them to death.

AUGUST

More than 250 slave-state men destroy the free-state settlement of Osawatimie, Kansas. John Brown is one of its 40 defenders.

DECEMBER

The U.S. Supreme Court hears arguments in the case of *Scott v. Sandford*. The plaintiff is Dred Scott, a slave from St. Louis, Missouri. In the past, he had traveled with his master to a free state and a free territory. By living there, he argues, he had been made free.

1857

FRESHMAN 2ND & 3RD TERMS

MATHEMATICS, LATIN, GREEK, FRENCH

FEBRUARY

President-elect Buchanan announces a cabinet in which four of the six secretaries are southerners, signaling that he will pursue a southern interpretation of popular sovereignty—any territory is open to slavery until it becomes a state.

MAY

Dred Scott is purchased by a former master, who frees him.

JUNE

In a speech in Illinois, Senator Douglas praises the Dred Scott decision and assures free-soil voters that the property rights of slaveholders would be "barren and worthless" without the consent of the people.

FINAL EXAMS

1859

MARCH

In a speech in Chicago, Lincoln says of Douglas and slavery: "Whether by his doctrine of squatter sovereignty... whether it is covertly nationalized, by congressional legislation, or by the Dred Scott decision... the same goal is inevitably reached."

JUNIOR 2ND & 3RD TERMS

GREEK, MATHEMATICS, LATIN, CHEMISTRY, METAPHYSICS, ELEMENTS OF CRITICISM, MORAL PHILOSOPHY

JANUARY

In the Senate, Douglas addresses southern Democrats: "If you repudiate the doctrine of nonintervention and form a slave code by act of Congress when the people of a territory refuse it, you must step off the Democratic platform."

OCTOBER

In the final debate, Lincoln says: "Whether from a king, who seeks to bestride the people of his own nation and live by the fruit of their labor, or from one race of men as an apology for enslaving another race—it is the same tyrannical principle."

JUNIOR 1ST TERM

GREEK, MATHEMATICS, LATIN, CHEMISTRY, METAPHYSICS, ELEMENTS OF CRITICISM, RHETORIC

JULY

Lincoln challenges Douglas to a series of debates around Illinois. They agree to hold seven.

FINAL EXAMS

APRIL

Congress passes a bill allowing Kansas to vote on admission to the Union, but under the proslavery constitution. Douglas is opposed on the grounds of popular sovereignty; the bill does not permit a direct vote on the constitution.

SOPHOMORE 2ND & 3RD TERMS

LATIN, GREEK, CHEMISTRY, FRENCH, MATHEMATICS

1858

OCTOBER

Delegates arrive in the town of Leecompton, Kansas, to hold the territory's constitutional convention. Obvious fraud has favored the election of proslavery delegates. Free-state settlers, now the vast majority, stay away from the convention.

SOPHOMORE 1ST TERM

LATIN, GREEK, CHEMISTRY, FRENCH, MATHEMATICS

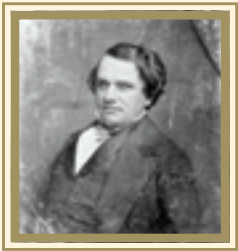
DECEMBER

President Buchanan urges congressional support of Kansas's admission to the Union under the proslavery Leecompton constitution. Douglas breaks with the president and denounces the constitution as "a flagrant violation of popular rights." Of slavery itself, he says: "I care not whether it is voted up or down."

FINAL EXAMS

AUGUST

In Pennsylvania, John Brown meets secretly with abolitionist Frederick Douglass to tell him of a plan. He will seize the federal armory at Harpers Ferry, Virginia (now West Virginia). With its arms, he will march through the South, liberating slaves and building an army as he goes. Douglass declines any involvement.



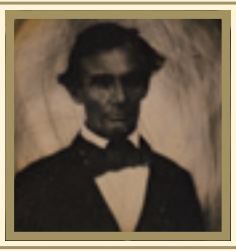
NOVEMBER

Douglas defeats Lincoln in the midterm election, but Republicans win control of the House of Representatives. Senator Jefferson Davis tells Mississippi constituents that he will favor disunion if a Republican is elected president in 1860.



JUNE

In their state convention, Illinois Republicans elect Abraham Lincoln as the candidate to face Douglas in the Senate race. In his acceptance speech, Lincoln says: "A house divided against itself cannot stand. I believe this government cannot endure permanently half slave and half free."



MARCH

During late-night debates on Kansas, a fistfight breaks out in the House of Representatives. It involves "some fifty middle-aged and elderly gentlemen," according to a reporter.



SEPTEMBER

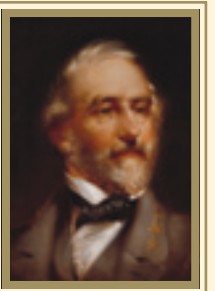
In a speech in Ohio, Lincoln says: "The chief and real purpose of the Republican Party is eminently conservative. It proposes nothing save and except to restore this government to its original tone in regard to this element of slavery, and there to maintain it."

SENIOR 1ST TERM

CHEMISTRY, EVIDENCE OF CHRISTIANITY, NATURAL PHILOSOPHY, CONSTITUTION OF U.S., GREEK

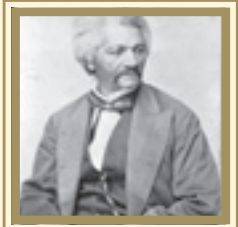
OCTOBER

John Brown and a biracial group of 18 followers take the armory. They are quickly beset by local citizens and militia, followed by U.S. marines from Washington, led by Army Colonel Robert E. Lee.



NOVEMBER

Frederick Douglass flees to Canada to avoid possible implication in the John Brown raid. He will spend the next year and a half in England.



FEBRUARY

In a speech at Cooper Union in New York, Lincoln describes the John Brown raid as "an attempt by white men to get up a revolt among slaves, in which the slaves refused to participate."



1860

SENIOR 2ND & 3RD TERMS

GEOLOGY, LOGIC, NATURAL PHILOSOPHY, LAW OF NATIONS, GREEK, RHETORIC, BUTLER'S ANALOGY, LATIN

JANUARY

The Democratic-controlled Senate holds hearings on the John Brown raid to determine if "subversive organizations" (including the Republican Party) were involved. Jefferson Davis is chief inquisitor.

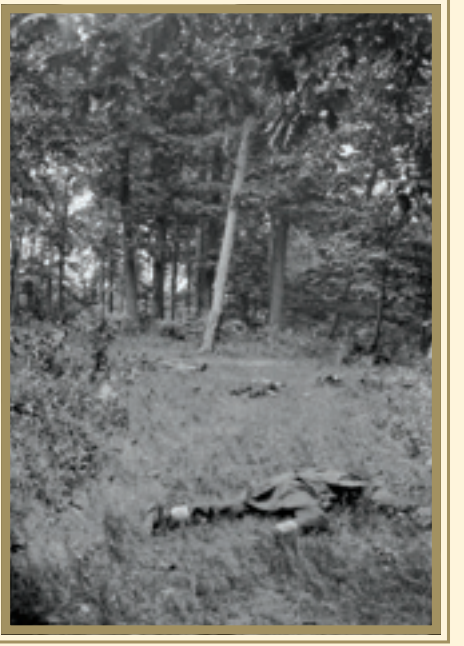


MAY

At their convention, Republicans nominate Lincoln as presidential candidate. The platform acknowledges a right to slavery where it exists but denies any right to legalize slavery in the territories.

DECEMBER

As a result of Lincoln's election, a special convention of the South Carolina legislature votes to secede from the Union. In the next month, Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Texas will follow.



"Our youth is like the dream of the hunter on the hill of death. He laid him down & slept, he awoke amid a storm."