

PRESIDENCY OF YALE

Development of the Functions of the Office.

Prof. Franklin B. Dexter, of Yale University, secretary of the Yale corporation, has been delving into the history of the presidents of the university, and the result of his researches is interesting. He says: "It is a fact not generally known that the first head of the collegiate school established by the legislature in 1701 as Yale, was called rector instead of president, and that from this office gradually arose the office and functions of the modern president of the university. The first rector was Abraham Pierson. He was a Harvard man, and it may be that Yale's fondness for Harvard dates back to the time she went to that university to select her first president or rector."

When Rev. Dr. Pierson was chosen rector, Yale was at Saybrook, Conn. Rev. Dr. Andrews, of Milford, was the second rector, and it was during his career that Yale was removed to this city. His duties were larger than those of Dr. Pierson, but he was only a supervisor of tutors. Up to this time the duties of the rector might be compared with those of the board of visitors of an academy or college at present.

Timothy Cutter, of Stratford, son-in-law of Dr. Andrews, succeeded him as rector. He had a trial of ten weeks. It had been complained of Dr. Andrews that he was a colorless official, but an opposite charge was made against Cutter. The feeling between the Congregationalists and Episcopalians was running high, and when it was learned that Cutter was really a Church of England man the trustees of Yale summarily dismissed him. He went to Boston, where, the Yale records say, his career was that of a quarrelsome, uncomfortable man.

The new house built on the Yale campus for the rector in 1722 had no occupant until 1725, because of Cutter's discharge. Then Rev. Elisha Williams, of Wethersfield, was inducted into office. He may be said to have been the first rector that resided at Yale. Five years after he became rector he was by act of the legislature made an ex-officio member of the board of trustees of the university. He did not for five years preside at the meetings of the trustees.

He served 13 years, resigning and being succeeded by Rev. Thomas Clap, of Windham, who made many changes at Yale. He had the college charter revised, practically creating a new office, and giving the president greater power in government than the rectors had had. The innovations of President Clap included the establishment of new professorships, religious exercises for the college, and the erection of new buildings. President Clap created the plan at Yale of government by faculty. He died after 26 years of service. Much feeling was shown against his innovations.

In 1777 Dr. Ezra Stiles was chosen president. He brought the college nearer the state, the governor and other state officers becoming members of the corporation. But he gave up government by faculty, owing to the opposition to President Clap.

After being 17 years at the head of Yale, Dr. Stiles resigned, and Rev. Timothy Dwight—the first President Dwight—came to the head of the university. His was a broadening influence. He had the university idea, and he set on foot plans for creating departments in the college, although the medical school was the only one established under his administration.

The widening influence of President Dwight was continued in the policy of his successor, President Day. The latter's administration marked the beginning of the policy of choosing the president from the ranks of the faculty, which has been adhered to ever since. It has been uniformly successful, every succeeding president showing thorough sympathy with his surroundings. President Day was the first president to turn back from the door.

"Lord, mistress, doan' yer know me?" asked the negro, with injured surprise in his voice.

"No, I don't think I do," said the lady.

"Well, I se de nigger what yer give de brekfst to dat mawnin' dat I put yer coal in," he said, with a grin, and before the lady could make reply added, "and I brought yer dis chick'en, which I hopes yer will 'cept frum me as er present."

It took some little time for the lady to remember the darky, but he finally convinced her that she had given him a meal when he was very hungry. He then told her that he had found work at a dairy near Macon, and had been given a good position. He appreciated her kindness to him, and had brought her chicken to prove it.

Such Is Fame.

A French literateur has been paying a visit to the tomb of Jean Jacques Rousseau, at Ermenonville, where his very name seems to be forgotten. A peasant, on being asked where the tomb was to be found, said: "Rousseau? Oh, yes; I know who you mean. I went to school with him. He was the first cabinet maker in this part of the country." Such is fame.

Partial paralysis attacked the three-year-old daughter of Mr. D. Reese, of Watsburg, Oregon. A physician discovered that paralysis was caused by a sheep tick which had taken refuge in the back of the child's neck. When the insect was removed the child recovered.

WANTED A LICENSE

But the City Clerk Was Mistaken as to the Kind.

One of our Maine cities has a city clerk that prides himself on his powers as mind reader, says the Belfast Cream. While I was calling on him not long since a lean, unshaven, uncouth specimen of backwoods humanity came shuffling in through the door. Our presence apparently rattled him, for he quickly assumed a leaning position against the door jamb at an angle of about 44 degrees. It was plain to see he had something on his mind that troubled him. The city clerk, turning aside to me, said in a low tone: "I can tell in a minute when a man comes for a marriage license. There is something about the victim of misplaced confidence about to enter matrimonial misery that I cannot explain, but my intuition never plays me false. And now this fellow is one of these deluded victims. He expected to find me alone, and, like a man that has committed murder, he wishes to confide in a friend, but does not want to tell too many. It is strange that when a fellow is after a marriage license he will act so much like a felon. Now listen while I question him. Mind, I never make a mistake in my man."

Turning to the leaning specimen, he remarked:

"Well, sir, is there anything I can do for you?"

The stranger looked at him carefully a minute, and then, lowering his voice to almost a whisper:

"I want a license."

The city clerk wore a self-satisfied smile as he asked: "What is your age?"

"Twenty-three."

"Where were you born? County, town and state."

"Dusterville county, Reubenstown, Ky."

"What is your father's name?"

"Zebulon Shooter."

"What was your mother's maiden name?"

"Elizabeth Mehitable Robinckack."

"Ever married before?"

"N-o-p-e," he replied, apparently surprised.

"What is the name of the lady whom you wish to marry?"

"Blazes, I don't wish to marry anybody. I just cum to this dodgasted country, and I want a license to peddle."

The city clerk collapsed, and I quietly bade the man who never makes a mistake "Good-day."

TRAMP WAS GRATEFUL.

A Macon (Ga.) Lady Gives an Instance of Rare Gratitude.

An incident which shows that all tramps are not without gratitude was related to a Telegraph reporter by a well-known Macon (Ga.) lady.

The tramp who, by the way, was a negro, saw a load of coal put off in front of the lady's house, and asked for the job of putting it away. The lady gave him the job, but before he started to work she noticed that he appeared to be weak, and, suspecting that he was hungry, asked him if he didn't want something to eat. He said he had not tasted food for several days, and the lady gave him a square meal. He then put the coal away, and after receiving his pay went away and was forgotten.

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