

cuted for the balance. So stood the case at the close of the fiscal year 1881-2. How stands the case to-day? Every cent of the obligations of the College, principal and interest, has been paid. Thousands of dollars have meanwhile been expended in addition for laboratory equipments for microscopes, spectroscopes, polariscopes and other material. Three well equipped laboratories for general chemistry, organic chemistry and agricultural chemistry, and for the experimental station, have been provided. Within the last year the Normal School has been strengthened by doubling the effective work of the department proper. Within the last year, too, the most important step which has ever been taken towards realizing the idea of agricultural training and experiment was taken by the Executive Committee, viz, the establishment of an experiment station for work exclusively experimental. Under the charge of a competent director its bulletins have already attracted attention from widely different quarters and have taken rank among the best publications of the kind in the country. Under the auspices of the director a measure requiring all fertilizers used in the Commonwealth to be analyzed at this station, and by the officers of this College, with safeguards for the protection of the farmer, was passed by the Legislature. Every package sold henceforth in Kentucky will bear the *imprimatur* of the College and bring the fact of its existence and its work home to every purchaser in the State. Moreover, the effective work of the Preparatory Department an indispensable feature of the Institution, has been largely increased since 1882.

We have no controversy with the denominational colleges of the land. We bid them God-speed in their work. There is room for them and for us. We believe that the net result of the contest has done them good as well as us. It has stimulated them to provide for the necessities of the youth of Kentucky by the effort to increase their endowments, to lengthen their cords and to strengthen their stakes. Under a mistaken apprehension of injurious competition resulting from the free scholarship, cheap tuition and enlarged facilities provided by the State College, they assailed the justice, the expediency and the constitutionality of State aid to a State Institution. These fears were groundless. Their patronage instead of diminishing has grown, and they, as we, are more prosperous now than they were four years ago.

Twenty-one years is the limit of minority. The State College has attained its majority. It stands erect to-day, having passed through a struggle for existence the severity of which no one knows so well as he who now addresses you. There have been periods when for weeks at a time I did not know the satisfaction of a sound night's sleep, undisturbed by the difficulties and dangers which beset the State College. That period is past. The State College has survived all and is here to stay. Its Trustees never despaired. Its Faculty bore privation, and borrowed money to supply the want of unpaid salaries. We have survived our perils, paid our debts, enlarged our sphere of educational activity. This is the net result of twenty-one years, and with pleasure and pride I present you this balance sheet to-day. We are, so far as we know, in peace and charity with all. This much we know, we are not voluntarily, and never intend to be, a disturbing element in the educational interests of Kentucky. Our mission is to extend the boundaries of human knowledge by instruc-