

Mr. Almer Wilcox
Harrington.

Conn.



Dear Christian Brother

W. R. College August 29th 1836

~~your letter~~ It was with much pleasure that we received your letter of July 29th and to learn that you arrived at ~~Bar~~ ^{Wilmington} safe. I will now therefore according to your pressing invitation endeavor to write a few lines to you. It is now vacation here the summer term ended Aug 24th on which day was the annual commencement this is always an interesting day to all the students five of the graduating class received the degree of B. A. and two of A. B. ^{one} of which is an alumnus of this institution and the other of Middle College. The New College Chapel was dedicated on Tuesday at 10 o'clock A. M. which is a neat and commodious edifice just erected by the benevolence of the Christian public. The plan and architecture of this building have been pronounced ^{excellent} by all who have seen it to be well proportioned and in good taste. It is 60 feet in length and 40 in breadth and three stories high. The first story is divided into one large room for a library and two recitation rooms. The second and third stories contain the Chapel and four recitation rooms. The recitation rooms are constructed with folding doors which on Commencement days are thrown open. With this arrangement a large audience can be accommodated. The Sermon was preached by President Pierce from Ps. 46. 4 "There is a river the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God the holy place of the tabernacle of the most High" The object of the discourse was to show that an institution of learning may be made "a river the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God" and to point out the several requisitions necessary for the accomplishment of this object. At half past one o'clock the Hance Society held its anniversary: its address was delivered by Professor Long

This object was to show the importance of the human
voice as an instrument of doing good. The address was accom-
panied by an oratorio of the Society. At half past three
o'clock an address was delivered before ^{the} Philogetion by
the Rev. A. F. Hopkins of Buffalo N. Y. In the evening
the Concordia Clerum was preached by the Rev. Josiah
of Warren ~~pastor~~. The commencement ~~exercise~~ commenced
at 10^{o'clock} A. M. and 2 o'clock P. M. The procession was
formed at the old college Chapel at half past nine
A. M. and at half past one o'clock P. M. and ^{moved} to the
New one. The exercises of the day were very interesting and indeed
all the exercises have been of the best week. I have attend^{ed}
a Sabbath School this summer about three miles from the
College in company with two others. A large number
of the children are Irish. There is need of great ~~an~~
exertion in our own land on the part of Christians to
give the gospel to all the people of our country
and to find out the dark places which are in it
and to establish the pure and undefiled religion of
~~Jesus~~ Jesus Christ. Christians have got to ^{be} more
faithful in ^{the} cause of their Lord and Master before
the standard of the gospel of peace shall be set
up in ^{the} waste places of the earth. I congratulate
you that you have chosen to spend your life in
building up Christ's cause and kingdom among the
heathen and I hope that the feeble prayer of your
friends will go up to the throne of grace that his
work may prosper in your hands. And may I
not hope that your prayers will ascend to our common

Father that I may be prepared to aid ⁱⁿ the great work
of bringing the people of this world out of nature's
darkness into Gods marvelous light. I am fully assured
that if Christians will do their duty the gospel
can be proclaimed to all nations in the space
of 20 years but more must be done than there
has been done yet. Mr Reed a missionary who has
returned from India has lately been here and has
given us a very interesting ^{account} of the country and natives
which if I had time I might give you a brief account
but I must ^{here} close by saying that I hope I shall
receive a long letter from you

Yours truly Walter S. Burleigh