

of a large assemblage of friends of the institution. The site selected was an acre of ground donated by the city, but some ten acres of land adjoining were leased from the city for the use of the pupils. For one who sees it now, densely built up with elegant stone structures, it is difficult to realize that this was then a rural spot surrounded by green fields, woods and pasture lots, and reached only by country roads. The building was dedicated in its human purposes on the 30th of September, 1829. The address on the occasion was delivered by Rev. James Milnor, D. D., Rector of St. George's Church, who at the election in May had been chosen as the successor of Dr. Mitchell in the office of president. Though the cost had exceeded the original estimate by \$150,00, amounting in all to \$35,000, the entire amount, except \$10,000 given by the State, was secured by the directors, who thus far exceeded the condition imposed upon them by law.

While these events were transpiring, the Superintendent of Common Schools visited the institutions at Hartford and Philadelphia, and made a careful comparison of their system of instruction with that which had been pursued in New York, and made a careful report of his observations, which indicated his opinion as to the course it was desirable for the directors to pursue. The labors and anxieties connected with erecting a suitable building having been brought to an end, the directors now turned their attentions to making improvement in the internal management, and especially in the *personnel* of the corps of instruction. Under the inspiring guidance of their new president they inaugurated measures designed to give the institution a leading position in this country and in the world. Dr. Milnor visited Europe in 1830, at his own expense, and inspected a large number of institutions. On his return he brought with him from the Paris Institution, Prof. Leon Vaisse, an instructor who held high rank in the corps of the Paris Institution, to which he returned after some years of service in New York, and successively made vice-principal and principal.

The services of Harvey P. Peet, A. M., who has been associated with Dr. Gallaudet in the Hartford Institution as an instructor since the year 1823, and had, during the most of the time, had the charge of the administrative department of that institution, was soon after engaged to combine, under one head, the hitherto separate offices of principal and superintendent.

From this, dates a new era in the history of the institution. Mr. Peet, (afterwards known as Dr. Peet, by virtue of the title of L. L. D., conferred upon him by the Regents of the University of the State of New York,) entered upon his duties on the first of February, 1831, and at once, with characteristic vigor, began to introduce the changes which his experienced eye found necessary. He was a man of judgment and indefatigable energy, and he left nothing unattempted that would redound to the benefit and reputa-

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