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- 'The Outlook for Barnard College.'
- 'The Significance of the Recent Action of Brown University.'
- 'The True Significance of the Affiliated College.'
- 'The Influence of the Higher Education of Women on Religious Thoughts. — Apprehensions Allayed.'
- 'Another Step Forward.'
- 'The Opening of the Drexel Institute in Philadelphia.'
- 'Home Life for Girls in College.'
- 'The Influence of the Women's College upon the Girls' School of Today. — Barnard College and the Schools of New York.'

Among those who contributed to the series were: Arthur Brooks, Ella Weed, Bishop Potter, Lila V. North, Alice Wolfe, Dr. Mary Putnam Jacobi, and Annie Nathan Meyer.

APPENDIX C

(From *The Nation*, June 26, 1888)

NEW YORK, Jan. 21, 1888

AT THE present moment there are from New York City and suburbs two women students at Cornell, four at Bryn Mawr, thirteen at Smith, seventeen at Vassar (besides fifteen in preparation for it) and thirty-one at Wellesley; making a total of fifty-seven * students coming this year from New York City or some place whence they could easily attend a day college in New York. And if fifty-seven girls can leave their homes and encounter the discomforts of an independent life for the sake of pursuing a collegiate education, how many would attend college gladly, enthusiastically, were it not necessary to face the obstacle of leaving home? It is certain that where fifty New York mothers would consent to their sons leaving home to study at Harvard or Yale, only four or five would permit their daughters to attend Wellesley or Vassar. The principal of one of the best schools for young ladies, a school where the pupils are fitted conscientiously for a collegiate curriculum, told me the other day that, though she has only lately begun, she has sixty-five pupils (including two grades, seniors and juniors), and that, of the seniors, sixteen from this city are about to enter some college (Wellesley, Smith or Bryn Mawr), and at least five more are wofully bemoaning their fate because their parents will not allow them to leave their homes.

For the last thirteen years there has existed a 'Society to Encourage Studies at Home.' It merely aims to encourage

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women to study by a system of correspondence between teacher and pupil. It wisely supposes that there are a great many women who have a taste for study, but cannot leave their homes to attend college. A pupil can study as much as she thinks she is able, and can become as proficient as she wishes in any branch of knowledge that is capable of being studied at home, and without a tutor upon the scene. No degrees are given, but a certificate stating exactly what has been studied and with what success. The teachers are women of culture and refinement, and correspondence with them is a great boon. Of the women in New York who are longing for *something definite* to do in the way of study, and are prevented from attending college because there is none in the city, thirty-three pursue this course, besides thirty-six others that live in the vicinity, thus making a total of sixty-nine girls in New York and vicinity who are studying by this method for lack of better.

Sixteen hundred girls go to Normal College. Out of these sixteen hundred, only a small number become teachers, and that is the object and worth of the college — to turn out teachers. The curriculum of Normal does not satisfy the demand in women for a complete collegiate course; seven graduates of Normal College are now studying at Columbia. It is commonly supposed that only parents who could not afford to pay tuition fees send their children to Normal College. On the contrary, a very large number of the parents could easily afford it, and would gladly send their daughters to a private college where a higher curriculum and degrees could be procured. For such as could afford to pay tuition, President Hunter tells me he is very anxious to secure the right of conferring degrees, as the New York College for boys has the right. He would also alter or improve the present curriculum of Normal College, having an Art course for such as would care to take the degree of

B.A., a Normal course for such as would care to become teachers, and possibly an Industrial course for such as would wish to earn their living as artisans.

There exists also an apology for a collegiate course for women held out by Columbia College. There have been thirty-eight girls who began that course. During the four years, eight have dropped from the ranks — either from discouragement at the slender advantages offered and many difficulties to contend against, or perhaps from nervous dread of encountering the phalanx of staring youths; one girl has graduated and received her certificate, and one more has put argument into the mouths of the enemy by leaving the course to enter upon married life. Thus, with wonderful perseverance, twenty-eight girls have continued to take the course. These twenty-eight girls have worked nobly, actuated by the sentiment that a principle was at stake. They felt that they were there on trial, on probation; several of them, though deriving but little benefit from their labors, still kept on, hoping that their perseverance would finally induce the trustees to open to women students the full privileges of the college.

By a resolution of the Trustees of Columbia College adopted June 8, 1883, it was ordered that 'a course of collegiate study, equivalent to the course given to young men in the college, should be offered to such women as may desire to avail themselves of it, to be pursued under the general direction of the Faculty of the College, in accordance with the following principles and regulations, etc.' This read excellently — it seemed as if the long-talked-of loaf was at last to be thrown to the women; but, alas! it soon turned out to be a stone, and of a particularly indigestible quality. These 'principles and regulations' simply were to the effect that the women could pursue their studies wheresoever and howsoever they pleased, except under the

sacred roof of Columbia. Their unhallowed presence was not for an instant to be sanctioned in the laboratory or the lecture-room. All that concerned Columbia was that the women were to be present at its examinations twice a year, and to be able to answer certain questions, which questions satisfactorily answered, they were at liberty to return home again and prepare for the next set of questions.

It is no easy task for a girl to study alone, unaided by tutor or professor and prepare for examination papers more difficult than the boys', inasmuch as the examinations for women were prepared from the entire range of the books, and the examinations for men prepared only from lectures, the particular bent of which had become familiar. Yet twenty-eight New York girls are now doing it.

A couple of years later the trustees passed a resolution allowing the college to confer degrees on women if they had in all respects followed the full equivalent to the boys' course—in all respects except the important ones of attending lectures and working in the laboratories. Is it to be wondered at that only two or three essayed to gain a degree of B.A. or B.L. under such conditions?

The women have been admitted, during the past couple of winters, to lectures given at Columbia on Saturday mornings. Prof. Boyesen, Prof. Charles Sprague Smith, Dr. Butler, Dr. Titus M. Coan, and others, have been heard with great enthusiasm each week by some two hundred ladies, and many applicants for tickets were obliged to be refused. Some years ago, several professors were in the habit of inviting a few ladies to attend their lectures. Among the ladies invited were some members of the President's family and a daughter of one of the trustees. All was going smoothly when unfortunately the trustee in question in an evil moment was seized with a desire to read the Constitution and By-Laws of the College. To his horror he

found that, in allowing his daughter to attend the lectures at Columbia, he was violating the laws of the college! He at once withdrew his daughter; the President could scarcely permit his relatives to remain, so he was obliged to follow the example of the trustee, and soon there was not a woman left.

The President called a meeting of the trustees and read them the resolution passed some years ago by them, and essayed to prove that the admittance of women to the lectures was not against its spirit, but only the letter of it. The resolution was to the effect that no person should be allowed to attend the lectures of the college, without having duly matriculated as a student of the college. The President clearly explained that at the time the resolution was passed there was no thought of women entering the college and asking for admission to the lectures. The resolution was passed merely to prevent the possibility of the professors' permitting men to attend their lectures, pocketing the receipts obtained, and thus depriving the college of its tuition fees. As the admission of women to the lecture was a matter of courtesy, and known to the college, there could be no such objection. Notwithstanding this very plausible reading of the resolution by the President, the trustees agreed that women must no longer be allowed to attend any of the lectures.

Failing in his object, the President then called another meeting and asked the trustees to legalize the admission of women to the lectures by another resolution, worded carefully so as to preserve the spirit of the original resolution. This they refused to do, and even those who had hitherto shut their eyes to the prevailing habit now vehemently opposed the resolution permitting it. When asked by the President for an explanation, they could only answer that they wished the question had never arisen before the

Board, for, though in the irregular operation of the illegal habit they had seen no real objection, still they were loath officially to advocate such an advanced and liberal (and possibly demoralizing) state of things. So, since that day, no women have been permitted to attend the regular lectures. Even if women could legally be admitted to the lecture-room, there would still exist a reason why coeducation could not exist at Columbia proper. Columbia, like Harvard, needs all her income for the institution as it now exists, and does not care to assume new responsibilities.

President Barnard has told me that he has every reason to believe that, if only the funds for a separate College could be raised and a building not far from Columbia be built or hired, there could be soon put in working order a successful college with its instruction furnished by the professors and other instructors of Columbia College. I have not met with any professor that would not be heartily in favor of such a plan. They all agree in thinking that the present course at Columbia for women is little more than a farce, and yet the women students continue to increase in number, so eager are they to pick up the stray crumbs of knowledge that are offered them. Even now, though there is not yet a regular college where women can be instructed by the professors of Columbia College, there are a great number of principals of private schools for young ladies who, shrewdly seeing how anxious their pupils are for something, anything, really collegiate, have engaged one or more Columbia professors or tutors to lecture to the girls during the winter, and the different instructors may be seen scattered about the city as trump cards in hands of clever schoolmistresses. An Annex to Columbia would, of course, be compared with the Harvard Annex. It could well bear comparison. The Harvard Annex has been established for about eight years; it began with twenty-seven students and today has one

hundred students. It now occupies modest but comfortable quarters in Cambridge and only requires to be recognized as permanently connected with Harvard University to become a perfect success. The founders of the Harvard Annex had to cope with serious difficulties that are entirely removed from the founding of an Annex to Columbia. The students of the Harvard Annex are not permitted to gain a degree, but are obliged to content themselves with certificates. On the contrary, a graduate of the Columbia Annex would readily receive the degree of B.A., as the 'Circular of Information' for the Collegiate Course for Women at Columbia College, 1887-88 reads: 'The degree of bachelor of arts will be conferred on such students as shall have pursued, during four years, a course of study fully equivalent to that for which the same degree is conferred in the School of Arts, and shall have passed the examinations required.' And, further, 'Any woman who shall have taken the degree of bachelor of arts in the collegiate course for women may study for higher degrees under the direction of the Faculty of the College.' And for those who wish only to pursue some special studies: 'To students not pursuing the full course required for the degree of bachelor of arts, but limiting themselves to one or more courses of inferior range, a certificate of proficiency in the subjects pursued will be given on the satisfactory completion of such course or courses of study, to be signed by the President of the College and the examining professor or professors.'

In Cambridge, they have an Annex and are praying for certain conditions that will insure its permanent existence and success. In New York, we have the conditions that would bring permanent existence and success, *but we have no Annex.*

'Where shall the scholar live?' says Longfellow. 'In solitude or in society? In the green stillness of the country

where he can hear the heart of nature beat, or in the dark, gray city, where he can hear and feel the throbbing heart of man?' I will make answer for him, and say 'In the dark, gray city.' In this 'dark, gray city,' this huge, growing, striving, ambitious city with its many means of satisfying life's demands, there is one lack—the lack of a college where women may attain a complete education without leaving their homes and families. Ought we not, therefore, to begin at once to organize an association for the collegiate instruction of women by the professors and other instructors of Columbia College?

ANNIE NATHAN MEYER

Memorandum to the Trustees / 50

APPENDIX D

The signers of this petition were:

W. S. Rainsford	Jesse Seligman
Annie Nathan Meyer <i>03M</i>	Thos. Hunter, Pres. of Normal College, N.Y.C.
Alfred Meyer	Abram S. Hewitt <i>115M</i>
T. G. Croswell	Anne C. L. Botta
William M. Taylor	Robert Collyer
C. E. Snape	Alex C. Webb
Dewitt J. Seligman <i>03M</i>	W. R. Huntington
Jacob H. Schiff	Frederick Saunders
Mary Mapes Dodge	Lyman Abbott
Richard W. Gilder	Fordyce Barker
W. H. Draper	W. N. Polk
J. Edward Simmons	Arthur Brooks <i>03M</i>
Chauncey M. Depew	Gustav Gorthell
Bettina Froelich	Joseph H. Choate <i>03M</i>
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