

**MIDDLEBURY'S 100 YEARS
OLD TRADITIONS PRESERVED IN
NEW CHAPEL**

A Building of the New England Meeting-House Type to Adorn the Campus—Construction Work Has Already Begun—The College and Its Century of Ups and Downs

BY JOHN M. THOMAS
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In a quiet, old-fashioned town on the Champlain side of the Green Mountains just half-way between the Massachusetts line and Canada, is a New England college with a unique history which has preserved for over a century a consistent loyalty to the old New England type of college architecture. Founded in 1800 as the first institution to begin college instruction in Vermont, it proudly demonstrates continuous, entirely non-sectarian, Middlebury style took possession of its first permanent building just a century ago. It was a plain, but graceful and dignified, college hall strictly Colonial in type, not unlike Halls and Brewster in the Harvard yard, not

with an added beauty from the gray limestone of which it was constructed. It still stands on the campus, flanked and shaded by stately elm and oaks. During its hundred years of service it has never been closed, and is still an important element in the college life—it has furnished storage rooms, halls for recreation, administrative offices, and under the vigorous administration of Cyrus Hamlin it even housed the Hurary and provided a gymnasium.

Middlebury has had a checkered history, with more ups and downs than most New England institutions. During the first forty years it was easily the leading college in Vermont, and in that period graduated nearly twice the number of its neighbors, the University of Vermont at Burlington. One year its senior class exceeded that of Harvard, and in 1847 Middlebury's president, Henry Davis, declined a call to Yale because of the larger opportunity he believed the Vermont institution afforded him. Just before the turn of the past-century century was not so bright, and the college was just beginning to recover when the Civil War sadly smothered her in its halls and its recesses.

Now buildings were low and far between, but the "chapel" clearly a vestibule hall, completed in 1890, makes well with the earlier structure as one of the best examples of Colonial architecture in New England. Since 1890, however, it is

a bit more crude, but harmonizes well with the other structures and completes a college "view," which is still the fairest part of the campus.

Perhaps it was fortunate that Middlebury had no building fund in the 70s and 80s, the last years of American college architecture. The next building did not come until 1900, a library of classic outline built of clear white marble from the famous quarries of the Vermonts. The same style and material were followed in the Warner Science Hall in 1902. Middlebury has had a building revival since 1905, and four large buildings have followed each other in rapid succession, all in Colonial architecture.

The Chapel a Problem

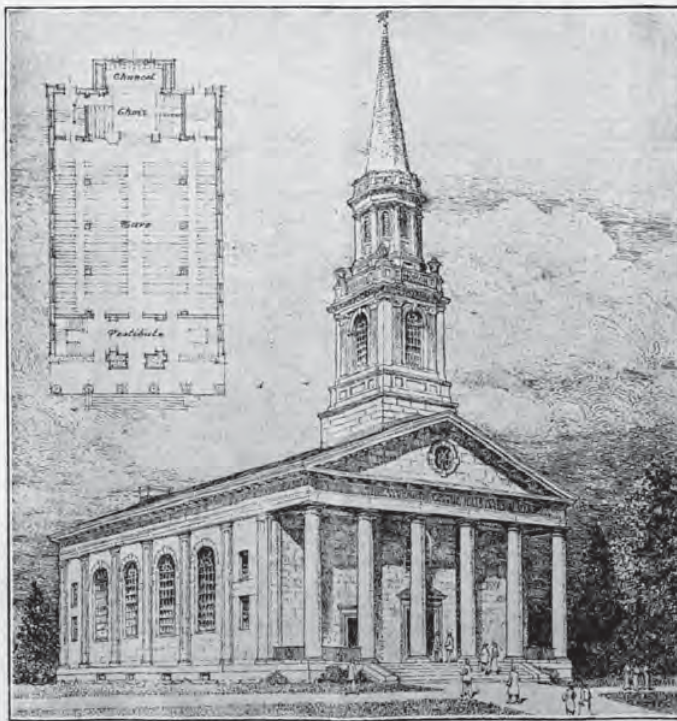
The proposal of ex-Governor John A. Mead to erect a chapel for Middlebury in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of his graduation presented a difficult problem to the college. Local influences called for "something different," given as at least Romanesque. The impossibility of a "beautiful service" in a structure of New England type was urged strongly. Photographs of many an imitation cathedral on American campuses were pressed for consideration.

On the other hand, in his letter of gift ex-Governor Mead had said, "I have in mind a dignified and substantial structure

in harmony with the other buildings of the college, and expressive of the simplicity and strength of character for which the inhabitants of this valley and the State of Vermont have always been distinguished." He asked that the chapel to bear his name might "rise from the highest point of the campus, as a symbol of its position, some prominent in every respect, which Christian character and religious faith should always maintain in its work for our youth."

The problem was submitted to Allen Collins, the architect, and they advised strongly that ex-Governor Mead's suggestion of "harmony with the other buildings of the college" be strictly followed. They have designed a chapel of the New England meeting-house type in the opinion, all in white marble, but with a wooden steeple. The architect, however, in order to recall the more successful efforts of the historic type will follow the colonial only so much. The woodwork of the steeple, ceiling and roof will all be birch, stained a dark color. By this means the objection to the colonial type has been successfully met. The ground has been successfully met. The ground has been successfully met. The ground has been successfully met.

A "Meeting-House" for Middlebury



Return to Early New England Architecture in College's New Chapel, the Gift of Ex-Governor Mead of Vermont.

TUFTS JUNIOR DAY MAY 13

The Usual Social and Athletic Programme Being Arranged—Western Trip for Musical Clubs

The class of 1916 at Tufts will celebrate Junior Day, Thursday, May 13. College activities will be suspended on that date and the whole day will be given over to the programme. An elaborate programme of social and athletic events is being made. The first event will be the flag raising followed by the parade of the "Horribles," which consists of members of the two lower classes, dressed in varied fantastic and grotesque costumes. Then will come a tennis match between the varsity team and Bowdoin and possibly some exhibition singles matches. Between the tennis matches and the Bowdoin-Tufts baseball game in the afternoon all the fraternities will entertain at luncheon in the different chapter houses. After the game a "sing" will be held either in the Gymnasium or on the "Box." At six the Junior Day social will be served during which there will be music and dancing. "The Home Question," a comedy by Alexander Dumas, fils, will be given in the evening in Jackson Gymnasium under the auspices of the Three P's Dramatic Society.

Long Trip for Musical Clubs

The schedule of nine concerts for the Western tour of the Musical Clubs has just been announced by Managers Melvin J. Messer, '15. The clubs will go as far west as Detroit, giving concerts in New York, Brooklyn, Schenectady, Buffalo, Detroit and Pittsburgh. At a recent meeting of the clubs, N. W. Morrison, '16, was elected assistant manager and Henry Priest, '15, was chosen secretary for the remainder of the year. The last of the series of college teas will be held tomorrow from four until six. Professor and Mrs. Charles E. Fay will receive. These teas have proved very popular through the season and a large attendance is expected. Students from both Tufts and Jackson are invited. The Sigma Tau Alpha Fraternity are giving a house party this evening at the chapter house on College Avenue. The entertainment will be music, games and whist. The guests are Professor and Mrs. George P. Ashley and Mr. and Mrs. C. I. Bacon of Maiden. The committee in charge is Harold R. Hamilton, '16, Lewis A. Tenier, '17, Raymond C. Taylor, '16, and Edward Burns, '18.

OTTOMAN TERRITORY

The Ottoman Empire is made up of Turkey in Europe—the strip of territory stretching across from the Black Sea to the Adriatic—and Turkey in Asia, which includes Arabia, Syria and Palestine, and proceeds in the line of Siam and Szechuan are also under the Sultan's rule. [New York Tribune]

THE MIDDLEBURY REGISTER

APRIL 23, 1915.

THE NEW CHAPEL.

Classical Architecture in a Form, Unconcerned with the 'Classical' Terminology from the Boston Transcript.

The new chapel of the Middlebury College, designed by the Boston architect, has a character of its own which is not unlike that of the new churches in New England which have a unique quality, which has not been known before.

In a sense, it is a new type of chapel, a new type of church building, a new type of religious architecture. It is a building which is not only a church, but a school, a place of worship, a place of learning, a place of life.

The chapel is a building of stone, with a steeple, with a tower, with a porch, with a balcony, with a gallery, with a pulpit, with a altar, with a font, with a baptismal pool, with a organ, with a choir, with a sexton, with a sexton's house, with a sexton's garden, with a sexton's well, with a sexton's house, with a sexton's garden, with a sexton's well.

Perhaps it was because that Middlebury had no chapel, that in the end, the Middlebury people in America were left with no chapel. The new chapel is a building which is not only a church, but a school, a place of worship, a place of learning, a place of life.

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EYE, EAR, NOSE and THROAT
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ALUMNI, ALUMNAE
The Kaleidoscope
Suggested for the dedication of a college chapel. The new chapel is a building which is not only a church, but a school, a place of worship, a place of learning, a place of life.