

Brockport's Past: Students of the Normal School

By Shane Swann



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Charlotte Allen

Class of 1884



- ☞ Born and raised in Brockport
- ☞ Received her education in Music from the Academic Department
- ☞ Later studied elocution in Philadelphia
- ☞ Became a well-known elocutionist, delivering monologues locally, and in New York, Europe, and the American West
- ☞ Moved to Chicago in the 1890s, where she continued to perform

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Charlotte Allen

Class of 1884

The Elocutionary Entertainment.

A good-sized audience assembled at Ward's Opera House last Friday evening, the occasion being the closing entertainment of Prof. Mark B. Beal's elocutionary class. The following programme was rendered:

- The Widow's Light,.....Augusta Moore.
Miss Emma S. Loveridge.
On the Shoens of Tennessee,..... E. L. Beers.
Mr. Chas. F. Bullis.
A Soliloquy on Higher Education,
Master Charlie Allen.
Lost and Found,.....Hamilton Aide.
Miss H. Mabel Williams.
Keston's Charge,.....
Mr. Leonard Allen.
The Street Musicians,.....
Miss Georgia Palmer.
The Signing of the Declaration of Independence, }Lillard.
Dr. M. E. Graham.
Mrs. Smart's Experience on Skates at Ward's rink,
Miss Hattie L. Fulliger.
Tom's Little Star,.....Parris Foster.
Miss Clara A. Bullis.
Brier Rose,.....Deyaan.
Miss Lottie M. Allen.

Readings, by Prof. Beal.
The programme was interspersed with fine musical selections.

All of the performers acquitted themselves well, and it would be indeed difficult to specify those who showed superior skill.

Brockport Republic, May 26, 1884

Miss Lottie Allen is now in Philadelphia, pursuing here musical studies.

Brockport Republic, September 30, 1884

A Fine Entertainment.

Miss Lotta Allen, a lady who has already become quite famous on account of her elocutionary powers, is to give an entertainment at Ward's Opera House next week. On this occasion she will be assisted by exceptionally fine literary and musical talent, so that a very entertaining programme is promised. The indications are now that there will be a very large attendance. See advertisement elsewhere.

Brockport Republic, February 18, 1886

Miss Lotta Allen of Clarkson, went to New York city a few days ago, where she is to remain for a time, at least, giving instruction in elocution, her skill in which is making her quite famous.

Brockport Republic, April 18, 1887

Miss Lotta Allen, of New York, is at her home in Clarkson. She expects to enter a month's course of elocution there, and then go to France to perfect herself in her profession.

Brockport Republic, July 25, 1887

Miss Lotta Allen returned from Europe in time to get her Christmas dinner at home. It is understood that she will resume the teaching of elocution in the near future.

Brockport Republic, December 26, 1888

Mrs. Winfield Scott, nee Miss Lottie Allen, of Chicago, with her son returned to Chicago on Friday afternoon after spending a week with her father, John Allen, Esq., at his home on Adams street. She thinks of returning here in about three weeks. This week she has two engagements to fill in Chicago in giving her noted monologue recital. She has been at this business more or less at times for a number of years.

Brockport Republic, April 28, 1898

CRIPPEN

Mrs. Charlotte Allen Crippen passed away last week at her home in Chicago, Ill. She was the daughter of the late John and Lotty Allen and spent her childhood days at her home on Adams Street. She is a graduate of the local Normal School.

She leaves to mourn her, her husband, Stuart S. Crippen; four sons and one daughter; one sister, Mrs. Alexander Ferguson of Charlotte and one brother, Charles Allen of West Palm Beach, Florida; also two cousins, the Misses Allen of Erie Street and many other relatives and friends.

Brockport Republic, October 6, 1932

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Caroline E. Field



Class of 1877

- ❧ Graduated from the Normal Department with a Classical education
- ❧ Relocated to Seattle, Michigan
- ❧ Presented a well received essay at Commencement

A carefully studied subject was evinced in "The Voice of the Rocks," as treated in an essay by Caroline E. Field. They deserve veneration because of their great age. The history of the rock world is more accurate because tinctured by the historian.

Brockport Republic, June 26, 1877

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Edwin C. Loomis



Class of 1877

- Received an education from the Normal Department in English
- President of the Gamma Sigma fraternity
- Later resided in Perrysville, Indiana

GAMMA SIGMA ENTERTAINMENT.

Pleasanter weather Friday evening resulted in a largely increased audience over that of the preceding eve. The floral decorations of the stage were the same as when the Arotiscus was performed.

The evening's exercises opened with an address by the President, Edwin C. Loomis. He dwelt particularly upon the importance of literary culture, and said that the value of literature as the moulder of thought cannot be overestimated. Authors continue to exert great influences, through their writings long after they have passed away. The address was carefully prepared, and was well received.

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Lois M. Hicks



Class of 1887

- ☞ Completed her education in Advanced English in the Normal Department
- ☞ Essay on the works of Charles Dickens was highly regarded

One of the best essays of the day was that of Miss Lois M. Hicks, whose subject was "Children in Dickens' Works." The characteristics of children were traced from different books of Dickens. The imperative need of teachers who make a study of the child nature was well shown.

Brockport Republic, June 20, 1887

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Sara Eliza Jordan



Class of 1898

- ☞ After completing her education in English in the Normal Department, she relocated to Farmington, New York

Miss Sara E. Jordan and her friend, Miss Lela Wilson, from Brockport Normal school, were home over Sunday, to attend the reception given in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis E. Jordan.

The Monroe County Mail, February 17, 1898

Miss Sara Jordan has been spending a few days with friends and classmates at Brockport.

The Monroe County Mail, March 9, 1899

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Frederick Fraser

Class of 1900



- ☞ Born in Belleville, Ontario, Canada
- ☞ Received Classical education in the Normal Department
- ☞ President of the Class of 1900
- ☞ Attended Harvard University in 1902, graduation *magna cum laude* in 1906
- ☞ Taught at the prestigious Hill School in Pottsville, Pennsylvania for 35 years

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Frederick Fraser

The oration of Frederick Fraser was on The Educated Man: "What are the subtle qualities," he asked, "which cause us to divide all men into two great classes, the educated and the uneducated? The diploma is not an infallible mark of distinction. The attributes which mark the educated man are not qualities which usually impress the multitude; they are indicative of the relation of man to his inner being. What an addition to his sources of happiness in the ability to enjoy the higher pleasures of life, in being associated with men who are the leaders of thought, in the possession of a thoughtful and well-stored mind, and, as a result of this, that greatest of riches, real happiness! The true education is one that prepares man for his life work and yet places him above it; and the supreme test of its worth is not alone its practical utility, but its result to the man himself, and, through him, to the world in which he lives."

Brockport Republic, June 28, 1900

Commencement honors, which are rewards of merit, have been won by the following members of the class of '00: (They are arranged alphabetically and not graded.) Miss Leona Adams, Mr. Robert Burns, Miss Ada Durand, Mr. Frederick Fraser, Mr. W. J. Hoover, Miss Edith Horton, Miss Bertha Peck, Miss Bertha Seely.

Brockport Republic, May 17, 1900

Class of 1900

Frederick Fraser, '00, enters Harvard next September. Avery Meech will take his place at Mohogan Lake School.

Brockport Republic, May 22, 1902

Frederick Fraser, '00, entered the freshman class of Harvard University last month. He not only passed all of his entrance examinations without conditions, but five of the subjects were marked "with credit." Students are not admitted by certificate from preparatory schools at Harvard or Yale, Radcliffe or Bryn Mawr; but the entrance examinations may be divided, and part taken one year, and the remainder the following year. Mr. Fraser had previously taken no part of the examinations. The fact of his passing so well under such circumstances brings very high credit to our normal school.

Normalia, November 1902

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Ethelyn Pearl Weller



Class of 1899

- Received a Classical education in the Normal Department
- Lived on Marion Street in Rochester while teaching at Fairport

The New Teacher's.

The corps of teachers for the Fairport schools, is now complete, as follows:

Arthur C. Nute, principal; Miss Minerva L. DeLand, preceptress; Paul Merriam, music, drawing and mathematics; Miss Elizabeth A. Pierce, English and science; Miss T. Elvira Martin, training class; Miss Charlotte E. Fuller, eighth grade; Miss Ethelyn P. Weller, seventh grade; Miss Carrie E. Parker, sixth grade; Miss Anna L. Atkins, fifth grade; Miss Stella G. Brown, fourth grade; Miss Anna McAniff, third grade; Miss Grace Schmeberger, second grade; Miss Grace P. Boyd, first grade.

North Side, Miss Alice E. Westerman, eighth and seventh grades; Miss Inez Blood, sixth and fifth grades; Miss Alida C. Hitchings, fourth and third grades; Miss M. Penner, second and first grades.

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Herbert Wilder



Class of 1898

- Studied in the Normal Department, graduating with a Classical education
- Member of the Alpha Delta fraternity
- Later resided at 741 Garson Avenue in Rochester

ALPHA DELTA AND PROTHEPIANS.
The entertainment given at Normal Hall on Friday evening was listened to by a large audience. Below follows the program together with scenes and characters in the play "The Spanish Gypsy!"

Scene: Moon March. G. M. Rosenberg
Sister Waves Walks. J. R. Anson
Introduction to the Play.
The Mabel Cousins.
Monarchs. Nestin
Moons Emma Hains and Ray Gellan.
Act I. Scene 1. The courtyard of a Spanish town.
Scene 2. The Plaza San Antonio.
Act II. Scene 1. In the Castle. A firebreaking incident. Love's delight. Scene 2. The claims of the Gypsy. The struggle between love and duty.
Act III. The Gypsy camp. A the electric torch-light. In the Gypsy queen and her imperial father. A love's sacrifice.
Act IV. The Plaza San Antonio after the battle.
Act V. Love's farewell.
Characters.
Don Silva, a Spanish knight. Louis H. May
Ferdinand. Miss Elizabeth South
Zacarias the Gypsy violinist. Lewis T. Howard
Father Inquisitor, Prior of San Domingo. S. T. Taylor
Juan the Treasurer. J. Walter Tracy
Pepita. Miss Winifred Topping
Hilda. Miss School House
Gypsy girls. Hilda. Miss Mary Clark
Tonia. Miss Florence Rayson
The Gypsy boys. The Gypsies
Gypsy boys. Charles V. Spencer
Edward Brown.
Host. A. V. Foster
Helen, the aristocrat. William H. Tracy
Nelson, the Yankee. W. J. Fisher
Cypri in Lorraine, Spanish soldier. Willard G. Stevens
Noble. Herbert W. Wilder
Verde.
Spanish and Gypsy soldiers. Other Spanish men and women.
The above mentioned orchestra furnished the following program: Miss L'Acade, Rastman, piano; Miss Lavin S. Brown, first violin; Edward Brown, second violin; Isaac Palmer, guitar; Fred Palmer mandolin; Clifford Allright, cornet; Miss Sarah Brown, viola.

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Ethel Malin Wilder



Class of 1898

- ☞ Studied English in the Normal Department
- ☞ Married LaFayette Clapp, principal of Bergen school
- ☞ Resided at 243 Melville Street, Rochester

Lafayette Clapp, principal of the Bergen High School, was married last week to Miss Ethel Wilder, of Scottsville

Brockport Republic, September 4, 1902

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Harriet Cady



Class of 1877

- ☞ Received a Classical education in the Academic Department
- ☞ Highly intellectual, Cady was one of the first in her class
- ☞ Went on to Vassar College In Poughkeepsie, New York to continue her studies

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Harriet Cady

Class of 1877

- ☞ Cady was forced to leave Vassar College within a year of graduating due to ill health
- ☞ Her health continued to decline, and Cady passed away in May 1881 at age 22
- ☞ Her former teachers at Brockport remembered her in her obituary in the *Brockport Republic*

Obituary.

HARRIET L. CADY.

Our community was shocked and saddened last Thursday afternoon by the announcement of the death of Harriet Cady. It was known that she was seriously ill, and yet no one was aware that she was likely to pass away so soon.

Harriet was born in Brockport, and with the exception of short intervals has spent her life here. She was about twenty-two years of age, and seemed just ready to enter upon the responsibilities of a truly noble and useful life, when God called her to himself. She was a graduate in the classical course of the Academic department of our Normal School, and after completing her course here entered Vassar College, where she would have graduated this year had not ill health made it necessary for her to leave. Last July she went to Kansas with the hope of regaining her health, and seemed to improve until about Christmas. From that time she gradually failed, though hardly perceptibly to herself or her friends, until a few weeks since, when she was taken so much worse that it was thought best to bring her home. In her last hours she had all the care and attention that loving hearts could offer, and passed away as quietly and peacefully as

"One who wears the drapery of his couch about him,
And lies down to pleasant dreams."

Harriet Cady was a young lady of great intellectual promise. As is well known, she was one of the first in her class in the Normal School, and in her college course since that time she fully sustained her high reputation for scholarship. Her teachers universally testify to her high intellectual ability, and the honest and thorough character of all her work. But it is not merely her intellectual qualities that make her loss so deeply felt by the whole community; her character was as pure, her influence so elevating, her sympathy with all that is true and noble, so cordial and constant, and her love for and devotion to the service of her Lord so great that it seemed as though she could be truly spared at a time when these qualities were beginning to develop a precious fruitage.

Her mother and sister, in this crushing sorrow, will have the tender sympathy of the entire community.

The funeral services were held at the residence of Mrs. Cady on Monday afternoon.—The faculty of the Normal School were present in a body, the school having been closed to permit this mark of respect and sympathy. The pastor, Rev. Mr. Harbour, read selections from some of the most tender and touching poems and hymns in which was expressed with most exquisite appropriateness all the sorrow, the sympathy, the comfort and the cheering hopes which belong to such a death. This was laid to rest one whose life has been a benediction, and whose death is only a transfer to a sphere of action perfectly in accord with her sanctified spirit.

At a meeting of the Faculty of the Normal School to take action with reference to the affliction of their associate, Mrs. Cady, the following resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, we as teachers have long been associated with Mrs. M. A. Cady, and have pleasant and tender remembrance of the daughter so early called from the vicissitudes of this life to the rest of the life beyond,

Resolved, That we as her sincere friends and fellow teachers tender her our deepest sympathy in her sorrow, and express our sense of the loss she has sustained, feeling that we are indeed mourners with her for one whose relations to most of us have been intimate, and who especially endeared herself by her pure character, high intellectual qualities, and by her consistent and earnest life, to all with whom she came in contact.

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to Mrs. Cady and the village papers.

THE FACULTY OF THE NORMAL SCHOOL.