

COLLEGE ARGUS

Vol. IV.

MIDDLETOWN, CONN., DEC. 7, 1870.

No. 6.

WHAT DOES THE FIRE SAY?

Blazing and roaring, what does it say,
Hurrying the smoke up chimney away?
Tells it of warmth, and comfort and rest,
Such as the bird finds in its soft nest?

Yes, and its tells me of bygone days,
Of childish frolic, and evening plays;
Tells of the fire-place, wide-mouthed and high,
Sending the sparkles up toward the sky.

Speaking to-night in words soft and low,
It tells me of father with locks like snow;
Mother, whose presence I seem to feel,
Knitting with glancing needles of steel.

Brothers and sisters gone from me now,
Diadems glitt'ring on each pure brow,
I seem to see in memory bright,
Brought from the past by my fire to-night.

Van.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the editors of the College Argus:

Our excellent friend and honored alumnus of the University, Rev. E. O. Haven, D. D., in his communication in the last number of the Argus, very properly corrects an error of one of your correspondents; but, in doing so appears to have fallen into some others, which, though not important, it may be worth while to notice. He entered, as he informs us, at the beginning of the fall term, 1838, the Commencement being then held, not at the close of the summer term, as now, but at the beginning of the succeeding term. The

"private house" where his room was assigned to him, I suppose was the house on the corner of the campus, then and now owned by the university, where Mrs. Fisk has resided for many years. (The catalogue of that year assigns him and his chum, Ira Perry, to No. 7, "College Hall.")

During the term, that wonderful man, Dr. Fisk, then President of the University, made him a call, as was his custom with newcomers; and the incident did not fail to make an abiding impression on his mind. And well it might, for this was the last term in which he was allowed, as a father, to look after the interests of the students of the university. He died on the 22d of the next February, 1839.

But Dr. H. goes on to say, "The new boarding house, now the Observatory building, had just been erected, and most of us took our meals at the commons table." No! The new boarding house had not then been erected; the "commons table," of which he speaks, was spread in the old boarding hall, which long since disappeared. When President Fisk died, he had made some preparation for the erection of a boarding hall; but the funds were wanting, and the enterprise was postponed. At the meeting of the Legislature in May, 1839, Gov. Ellsworth, in his message, recommended an appropriation to the University; and the sum granted in response, (\$10,000) was immediately expended in the erection of the new boarding hall, as it was then called; and at the "commons table" then spread,