

OTTAWA UNIVERSITY.

F. A. Dietrich,
LATIN AND ELOCUTION.

Report of
Prof Dietrich
Ottawa

To The Board of Trustees-

As instructor in Latin
permit me to make the following
report of the years work:

During the first term
I had four regular classes - 21 beginners,
11 reading Caesar, 8 the Aeneid, and 5
the Germania in the first half, the second half
being given to the study of Roman history
- in all 45 students.

The second term, ~~23 beginners~~,
Three regular classes - 23 beginners, 13
reading Cicero's Orations, and 8 the Aeneid -
- in all 44.

The Third term four regular
classes - 14 reading Caesar, 11 Aeneid, 6 Living
and 6 Horace, in all 37.

The large falling ^{of the last term}
^{especially} noticeable in the beginning class, is due
to the fact that in the spring term some
of the best students have to go

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^{require they must}
out to work and some of the others
because they will not work.

In some of the classes
the progress for the year has been
entirely satisfactory. In others our
work has been much impeded
by the fact that a large proportion
of the ~~classroom~~ were not prepared for
the work which the curriculum demanded.
Hence it was for the fact that many
of the students can only be in actual
attendance only six or seven months of
the year we might with a reasonable
degree of success perform three years work
in two as the present course of study
requires. But as it is I judge the class
to be an exceptional one if it is able to
properly prepare to follow the curriculum.
I respectfully suggest that ~~we~~ either
~~add~~ another ^{be added} year to the preparatory course
or the attempt to stand on the ~~same~~ a
level with colleges, having longer courses
be given up.

As instructor in Elocution I submit
the following:

The first term I had
for class instruction 30 students, in
two divisions meeting me on alternate
days.

The second term I had 31
students in two divisions, each
meeting me three times a week.
During the third term my lectures
were ~~wholly~~ given wholly to private
instruction.

The larger part of my
work has been outside of the classroom.
There have been with some exceptions
every Saturday afternoon what are
known as "chapel sessions" consisting
of essays, orations and declamations
in which all the students of the
regular courses have taken part. In this
work I ~~have~~ ^{was} assisted the
first two terms by Prof Olin who
corrected the written work. During the
last two terms I have given a

private rehearsal to every spoken exercise. The last term, I never had a regular ^{class} ~~class~~ but have given my time to private instruction ~~that~~ ^{as an evidence}. That my time has been employed I might say that in this term alone I have given over two hundred rehearsals - averaging about twenty minutes.

The work which lies chiefly in the province of elocution, that is delivery - has been on the whole satisfactory. Possibly with the acquaintance I now have with my circumstances and material I may be able to organize with a little more efficiency. I judge the elocutionary influences of the school to be good.

Of the other work - the composition

the writing I can not say so much. Productions have either been exceedingly crude or ~~else~~ ^{have} they looked original. This will not be difficult to account for when it is called to mind that in the entire classical course

as outlined in the curriculum,
 there is not the least provision for
 the study of the principles of writing.
 Happy and happy those whom we
 send out as graduates have by
 dint of hard labor so educated
 themselves that they are not without
 skill in this direction. Feeling the
 lack of class instruction as the basis of
 rhetorical practice, at the beginning
 of the last term with the consent
 of the faculty I assumed entire
 charge of the writing in order to try a
 plan by which I could partly fill the want
 and by more often coming into
 contact with the students help them
 to apply principles (which they have never
 learned) and at least secure originality
 and induce unity. The plan was as
 successful as I could have expected
 but it cannot take the place of class-
 room instruction. I earnestly ask
 that by some whether the present course
 of study can be revised so as to
 give due attention to the branch I

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am in doubt but I earnestly
request that in some way the
defect be remedied.

Truly I wish to
testify to the gentlemanly and
loyal like behaviour of the students
whose general competence and
alacrity have made the years
work a pleasant one.

J. S. Dietrich