-THE-ECHO-

JUNE, 1909
ALBANY, N. Y.
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THE ECHO

Subscriptions, $1.00 per annum, payable in advance; $1.25 when not paid before January 1st; single copies 15 cents.

Contributions and expressions of opinion are solicited from the student body and interested alumni.

Address all business communications to the business manager, 250 Yates St.

The Echo is entered in the Albany Post Office as second class matter.
Frederika

Bielschowsky says, "Great geniuses less masters of themselves than other men are, must, like the mighty forces of nature, follow the laws inherent in themselves. They are sent to redeem humanity and while in the fulfillment of their mission, they become entangled in guilt." Perhaps in this statement we may discover the reason why the lives of many great men are so much more eventful and interesting than our own. In reading of their lives we often come across events which seem to belong more to the world of fiction than to that of reality, and we begin to realize how they are able to depict so accurately so many phases of life.

The German poet Johann Goethe, was certainly one of those great geniuses who was not master of his own life but who led, nevertheless, an existence full to the brim with all kinds
of interesting experiences. One of the first and most fascinating stories of Goethe’s life is that of his love for Frederika, the charming daughter of the Sesenheim pastor.

The first meeting of Frederika and Goethe was rather romantic. At the time, Goethe, together with his friend Weyland, was studying at Strassburg. Weyland, who was distantly related to the Brion family at Sesenheim had so interested Goethe in them that one day in the fall, the two took a self-imposed vacation in order to take the five-mile ride to the Sesenheim parsonage. Goethe evidently regarded the expedition as something of a lark, for instead of going properly dressed like Weyland, he disguised himself as a poor theological student by donning a queer assortment of discarded clothing and combing his hair in a peculiar old-fashioned way. On the way, he afforded his friend and himself great amusement by imitating the manner in which a poor theological student would ride and stopping at taverns to touch up his toilet and rehearse the part he was to play at the parson’s house. At last they arrived at the rambling old country house which was in a general state of dilapidation, doubtful whether to fall or stand.

There they found that the whole family except the father had gone for a walk. Goethe entered into a discussion with the friendly old man who told him of his plans for a new parsonage as frankly as if he had known him all his life. Soon the other members of the family began to come in, one by one. First came the mother, tall, stately and dignified, then the older daughter, Marie, pretty, active and roguish, then the two younger children, and finally Frederika, the demure beauty of the family. Goethe never forgot the impression which the first sight of Frederika made upon him as she stood there, in all her fresh loveliness, her blue eyes sparkling, her light hair piled high in massive braids with her straw hat swinging from her slender arm, Goethe was amazed at the picture, and thinking of his own ridiculous appearance, wanted to slink away out of sight. But
he overcame this temptation for the time and stayed on the rest of the day entering into the simple joyous life of the happy family, listening to their talk of the doings of numerous uncles, aunts, cousins and neighbors until Goethe began to think himself in the midst of one of the busiest of little worlds.

Along towards evening, Goethe became suddenly very quiet and absorbed in his own thoughts. He had just been struck by the great similarity between the Brion family and the Primrose family in the "Vicar of Wakefield," which he had recently read with much interest. Before this time Goethe had never imagined that anything in real life could approach the sentiment of this romance but here his quick imaginative mind had discovered almost perfect prototypes in the various members of the Brion family. In his fancy, the father of the Brion family became the Vicar, the mother, proud Mrs. Primrose, Marie Salomea, the sprightly Olivia, Frederika the beautiful Sophia, and the little brother the blundering Moses. The other sister Goethe did not take into account because she failed to fit into his simile.

While Goethe sat musing thus, the company began to grow dull and Weyland to arouse his friend and relieve the monotony, proposed a moonlight stroll. The suggestion was acted upon and Weyland with the older sister, and Goethe with the younger, started out in the shadowy moonlight to wander about the gardens of the quaint old place. Frederika soon proved to be as sweet and entertaining as she was beautiful; for that evening she told story after story of her quiet life, with such warmth of feeling that, as Goethe himself said: "The brightness of her talk turned darkness into day."

That night the young poet went to sleep happily musing over the charms of Frederika and the new Wakefield family, but the next morning he woke early much disturbed as to the appearance he must present before Frederika. The more he tried to readjust and improve his oddly assorted wardrobe, the more horribly ridiculous did he appear to himself in the piece-meal
glimpses he could get in the little mirror. He thought of appropriating his friend's clothes but they were too small for him and finally he gave up in desperation and rushed out of the house intending to go to Strassburg to get his clothes and return in time for dinner. However, he only got as far as the town of Sesenheim when he happened to think that the landlord's son, whom he had seen the day before in a fine new suit of clothes, was just about his size. He lost no time in making a bargain with this fellow and exchanging suits with him. Then, on dressing, he found that he looked so much like the owner of the clothes, that he could not refrain from completing the picture by blacking his eyebrows and adding other finishing touches. Finally armed with a christening cake as a pretext for returning, he went back in this peasant dress and again deceived the whole family, causing much surprise and fun.

In the meantime, Weyland had told the family of Goethe's real identity and the simple fun-loving people quickly forgave him and welcomed him again unto their midst. Here Weyland and Goethe stayed several days longer enjoying the social affairs of the little community much as children enjoy a new story book.

Before his departure, Goethe and Frederika had become very well acquainted and had pledged their lasting friendship by a kiss and embrace, so that when the poet went back to Strassburg, he fancied himself deeply in love.

The very next day after his arrival in Strassburg he wrote Frederika a long letter full of passionate feeling. "Certainly," the letter ran, "Strassburg never seemed to me so empty as now. I hope it may be better when time shall have worn away a little of the memory of our delightful unrestrained enjoyment, when I shall no longer feel so vividly how good, how amiable my friend is. But can it be that I could or would forget it? No, I would rather keep the little heartache and write to you often."

He did write to her often and she answered with letters char-
acteristic of her own sweet self, until Christmas time when Goethe paid the Brion family another visit.

At the beginning of Lent, Frau Brion and her daughters went to Strassburg, but as intercourse in the city would not be as intimate and unconventional as in the country, Goethe was glad when they returned to their own out-of-door home life where Frederika appeared at her best. That Easter, Goethe again went to Sesenheim and in the long country walks grew to know Frederika's character in all its phases. Later, he said of her, "The purest joy that one can have in a beloved person is to see that person giving joy to others. Frederika's bearing in the company was universally helpful. On walks she hastened hither and thither, an animating spirit and she knew how to fill in the gaps which might rise here and there."

These two young people constantly together, could not but be influenced by one another—she, so young, beautiful, eager to learn and admire, and he such a lover of beauty so eager to teach and to be admired. Gradually everyone, Frederika included, began to look upon the two as betrothed; and to all appearances he became one of them, sharing in common with them their joys over the happenings of the neighborhood such as weddings, christenings, the erection of a building, or an inheritance.

It was harder than ever for the lovers to part from one another this time, and a lively correspondence was started, interspersed on Goethe's side by poems and gifts of books.

In May, Goethe once more returned to quiet Sesenheim to enjoy Frederika's company, and the lovers' happiness was at its height when suddenly Frederika became ill. Goethe-left to himself began to realize that he was tiring of his Sesenheim picture-book and had outgrown the game of fancying himself one of the characters of the story. He began to understand that what had been for him only a beautiful dream, was for Frederika a serious affair. He knew that, as far as love was
concerned, Frederika, as his wife, could make him happy but was not unselfish enough to give up his career for her, so he began to struggle with his conscience to give her up. He showed very well his upset state of mind at this time in what he wrote to his friend Salzman, "Dear friend," his letter read, "It requires a great deal of courage to keep from becoming embittered in this world. My head is like a weathercock when a storm is approaching and the gusts of wind are changeable. Here I am driven from pillar to post, and the world is so beautiful if one could only enjoy it."

Finally he said good-bye to poor Frederika but he did not have the moral courage to tell her frankly that the bond between them must be broken, but waited until he arrived at Frankfurt and then wrote to her. "The answer," he said "lacerated my heart. I now felt for the first time what a loss she suffered and saw no possibility of alleviating it. I had wounded the most beautiful of hearts to its depths."

Thus Goethe forsook Frederika at a time when, as he afterwards confessed, it almost cost her life. He did not see her again until nine years later on his way to Switzerland. His party was traveling not far from Sesenheim and Goethe longed to see his forsaken Frederika again. So he rode out to the parsonage alone. There the family met him as kindly as they had nine years before and he found everything the same as though he had been gone only six months. He discovered an old carriage he had painted and old songs he had composed; and he and Frederika talked together just as they had so long ago. She made no attempt to arouse in him his old affection for her, and passed lightly over her illness, caused by his abrupt departure. He stayed all night and left the next morning very much relieved and self-satisfied.

Because Goethe was a genius and was justified in doing what would be utterly despicable in other men, he was also bound to suffer more severely than other men. The giant if he wishes
to file the ring of the giant in two must suffer the giant's penalty. All through life, Goethe's memory tortured him, punishing him more severely than life, ever could. His vivid imagination and delicately sensitive soul showed him very clearly the wrong he had done Frederika and forced him to atone bitterly for his thoughtless error. Even after his experience with Frederika we find Goethe endeavoring to win for himself what he calls internal absolution by acting as peacemaker whenever he saw young lovers about to separate. But he showed his repentance most of all in his writings when he created the faithless lovers in Clavigo and Götz. In his world of fancy, he tried to make up to Frederika in the two Marys, what he had failed to give her in the real world. As he grew older, and she remained faithful to him to death, he realized the extent of her great love and elevated her to almost Madonna-like glory in the Gretchen of his Faust.

As we review this sad yet charming love story in the life of the great genius, Johann Goethe, we are forced to admit that in his actions he was almost entirely governed by the forces within him and that only through the suffering caused by yielding to these forces could he carry out his redemption of humanity, by warning thousands of people through his books not to make his mistakes. We are inclined to criticize but stop when we realize how little we can understand his great motives, for, as Dryden says:

"Great wits are sure to madness near allied,
And thin partitions do their bonds divide."

A wonderfully gifted author once remarked that a true appreciation of literature was only to be gained by hard work and spirited effort. It is a truth so obvious as to be constantly overlooked. We simply forget that we can never appreciate anything until we are willing to put into it hard work and spirited effort.

The new Echo Board will take up its duties in September with many problems and difficulties to face, and if THE ECHO is to stand for the best work that the college can do, the board must receive the hearty cooperation of the students. A magazine of blank pages, like some one's essay on silence, would be unique but not interesting. The only way to arouse enthusiasm in that essay would be to put something worth while into it. THE ECHO will mean a great deal to us just as soon as we make it stand for the best that we can produce.

Let us then set up a high standard of literary excellence, that our magazine may sometime rank as high if not higher than any other college publication. Let us do our work with the hope that it may be good enough to publish. Let us criticize, if necessary, but constructively, and above all, let us infuse the work with that feeling of kindliness and good-will which is the true "college spirit."
Exchanges

“Other papers all remind us,
   We can make our own sublime,
If our fellow schoolmates send us
   Contributions all the time.

Here a little, there a little,
   Story, school note, song or jest,
If you want a good school paper,
   Each of you must do your best.”

The Great Big Man and the Small Boy

A great big man and a wee small boy
   Were talking away one day,
And a very curious talk it was
   In a very curious way.

For the big man wanted to learn so much
   That the small boy tried to tell—
Just what was the road to the fairies’ land
   And the place where the pixies dwell.

And the great big man was a stupid soul,
   But the wee small child was wise
And he taught the big man how to see
   The world with a small boy’s eyes.
   —Anne Coe Mitchell, Smith College Monthly.
Gypsy Song

What is the dew on the wild rose bud,
   The pink in the morning sky?
What are the stars high up in the night?
Why do the wild birds take their flight,
   When autumn flowers die?

What is the use of the great big world,
   The sea and sky and land?
Is the old world blind and running wild?
Is the dear world guided like a child?
   Can no one understand?

The running brook in the forest heart,
   The fireflies' dull glow,
The spangled web where the night elves trip,
When the fairies weave and the bold winds strip,
   No man can ever know.

Why your tears, your doubts and prayers,
   All selfish love and hate?
We live because we love life's thrall,
We live because we live—that's all,
   And who regrets his fate?

—H. B. Selleck, in the Brunonian.
Faculty Notes

Dr. Milne expects to spend most of the summer working at the office.

Mr. Sayles will leave about June 27th for Star Lake in the Adirondacks.

Mrs. Mooney will be at Wildwood, N. J.

Miss Perine intends to spend a few weeks in summer school at New York University.

Dr. Richardson will spend the summer at Upper Saranac, N. Y.

Miss McClelland will go to the St. Lawrence during vacation.

Mr. Bronson and Mr. Decker will study at Columbia.

Miss McCutcheon expects to spend the early part of the summer in Albany.

Miss Pierce expects to attend the “Convention of Sunday School and Mission Workers” at Silver Bay, Lake George in July, and will there conduct a course in “Methods in teaching mission work to juniors.”

Miss Sewell will spend her vacation at Glen Lake.

Dr. Husted will be in Albany and in the Adirondacks.

Dr. Aspinwall will spend the vacation at Lake George, Lake Cayuga and Montour Falls.

Mr. Woodard will spend the summer on his “deserted farm” at Hartford, N. Y.

Miss Cook expects to spent part of the vacation at the Columbia Summer School.

Miss Clement will be at Bergen, N. Y., and on the coast of Maine during the summer weeks.

Miss Bryce will be in the Adirondacks.

Miss Finney will be at her home in Binghamton.

Miss Cushing expects to spend the greater part of the summer in Michigan.

Miss Phillips will spend the summer at Nantucket.

Prof. Wetmore will be at Saybrook, Conn.
Junior Notes

Important meetings of the class were held May 12th and 19th, at Trinity church, Room 10. Those of the class who were absent from these meetings are being censured for lack of class spirit. Juniors, awake.

Miss Mabel Wood, a former member of our class, was with us again May 5th. We were all glad to see her, and wish she could have remained longer with us.

Miss Ackley of Rutland, Vt., visited college May 4th as the guest of Miss Louise Wheeler.

Sophomore Notes

Many members of the class attended the reception given by the Freshmen and report an enjoyable evening.

Miss Schrack recently entertained Miss Spieser of Stillwater. We regret to announce that the Freshman class has "tabled" our challenge for a joint debate.

Freshman Notes

A regular business meeting of the Freshman class was held on Friday, May 1st, in the grammar chapel.

Miss Anna Brown entertained a number of Freshman at her home, May 5th.

Miss Isabel Lewis spent the week end May 1st in New York City.

The class of 1912 gave its annual reception to faculty and students on May 7th. The primary chapel was decorated with palms and yellow daffodils, and many pennants added to the festive appearance. Zita's orchestra rendered a pleasing program during the early part of the evening, and later made dancing possible. Those receiving were the Misses Farnham, Knapp, Barnet and LeCompte and Mr. Rice.
Miss Florence Chase led the meeting held on Wednesday, April 28th. The topic: “Work,” was well developed by the leader, who used Christ’s work as an example.

On May 5th, an interesting meeting was held with Miss Gertrude Brasch as leader. The topic was taken from Romans 7:12.

Miss Beulah Brandow led a “Silver Bay Meeting,” held Wednesday, May 12th. The fourteenth chapter of John was appropriately chosen and read by the leader. Miss Leona Eaton held the attention of the meeting by a brief talk on the location and environment of Silver Bay. Miss McKinley added an interesting feature to the meeting by giving a short account of the religious spirit and inspiration acquired at Silver Bay.

**Delta Omega**

Miss Pauline Rockwell spent a week-end in May at her home in Amenia, and had as her guests, Miss Mable Northrup, Miss Edith Perry and Miss Helen Bennett.

Miss Jennie Anthony, 1905, who has been principal of a grammar school in Gloversville for several years, has accepted a position in the Boys’ Academy. Miss Anthony is to succeed Miss Burlingame 1904, who is leaving Albany to teach in New York City.

Two of our graduating members have accepted the following high school positions: Miss Hersey will teach mathematics at Poughkeepsie, and Miss Perry, mathematics at Tuxedo.

The regular May meeting of the New York Chapter of Delta Omega Alumnae was held May the twenty-second at the Martha Washington Hotel. At the end of the business meeting a delightful luncheon was served, and many Delta friendships were renewed and strengthened.

Thursday, May 20th, our faculty and alumnae members met with us at the Delta rooms to listen to another of Dr. Richard-
son's charming talks. We regard these informal afternoons with Dr. Richardson among our most delightful college associations. Many a bit of classic literature has been made rich with meaning through his entertaining and scholarly interpretations.

**Eta Phi**

The members of Eta Phi wish to express their deep regret at the approaching withdrawal of Miss Hannahs from the college faculty. Each of us feel a sense of personal loss, for we have been happy in counting her one of our friends. Miss Hannahs was one of the three members of the faculty who assisted in the forming of Eta Phi, and has ever since displayed the greatest interest in its success.

On Friday, May 21, the members of the sorority presented "The Rivals," a clever caricature of S. N. C. during the rushing season. The play was original and was written chiefly by Miss Osborn and Miss Stephens. The best scene was the schoolroom scene where Miss Stuart developed the idea that the earth is round. The cat was also an amusing feature of the play. The cast was as follows:

- Virginia Harwood .................. Harriet Osborn
- Helen Ainslee (Biscuits) ........ Adaline Raynsford
- Anne Watt .......................... Florence Hunter
- Edith Burton ......................... Florence Burchard
- Carolyn Gorden ..................... Agnes Stephens
- Mary Dean .......................... Leona Stephens
- Sally Temple ......................... Daisie Andrus
- Jane Chase .......................... Sarah Trembley
- Miss Harpin ......................... Clara Springsteed
- Isabel Pearly ........................ Florence Keller
- Patty Worthington ................. Louise Koon
- Katherine Kingsley ............... Lila Farnham
- Ruth Patton ......................... Agnes Stuart
- Lottie Elmond ...................... Grace Wilcox
Kappa Delta

The regular bi-monthly meeting of Kappa Delta was held at the sorority house, 82 North Allen street, Thursday evening, May 13th. After the business was transacted a social hour was enjoyed, in which Helen Schermerhorn's birthday cake played a prominent part.

Miss May Chant entertained Miss Helen Schermerhorn at her home in Johnstown during the week-end May 14-16.

Miss Florence McKinley represented the active members of Kappa Delta at the luncheon held at the Hotel Marlborough, New York City, May 22nd, where plans were made for the founding of a New York chapter of the sorority.

The members of Kappa Delta were entertained by Miss Mary C. Doremus at her home in Kingston, May 29th.

The sorority regrets to announce the long illness of Miss Fannie Payne '08, at her home at Shelter Island.

Psi Gamma

A regular meeting was held April 27th at the home of Florence E. Chase. After the business meeting, a dainty luncheon was served.

The sorority was the recipient of almost forty pieces of embroidered linen at a shower given at the home of Grace C. Graham '01 in Yonkers, May 1st, the guests being Psi Gamma Alumnae.

May 4th Psi Gamma met at 51 Eagle street, the literary work consisting of the life and works of Edgar Allan Poe.

The sorority met with the president May 11th, at which meeting a report was made of the Alumnae luncheon.
The New York branch of the Psi Gamma Alumnae Association held its annual luncheon at the Hotel Breslin, New York City, Saturday noon, May 8th, Miss Laura M. Stuckman '09, acting as the representative from the active sorority. The table was decorated with ferns and jonquils, the favors being corsage bouquets of jonquils. The place cards were water-color sketches with the sorority seal. Miss Anna M. Smith '01, president of the Alumnae Association, acted as toastmistress, the toasts being as follows: Albany Friendships, Miss Kathryn Riseley '02; Spinsterhood, Miss Lillian Menzer '00; Bride and Groom, Mrs. Dorothy Smalling Pettit '03; Shop-Talk, Miss Grace C. Graham '01; Suburbanites, Mrs. Mabel Horton Travis '01; Absent Ones, Miss Florence C. Travis '00; a novel toast, consisting of numerous letters and telegrams received from Alumnae; and The Sorority, Miss Laura M. Stuckman '09.

Following the luncheon, a business meeting was held, at which the officers were elected for the ensuing year. Miss Marie A. Hewson '05, was made the new president, and the president of the active sorority was elected to act as second vice-president.

**Phi Delta**

Friday evening, April 30, Phi Delta was entertained by Mr. Adrianzen. The host was in his usual joyous spirits and we spent a delightful evening with him.

On Thursday evening, May 13, our regular election of officers was held at the rooms of Mr. Case, 294 Hudson avenue. The election resulted as follows: President, Mr. I. T. Conklin; vice-president, Mr. L. R. Babcock; secretary and treasurer, Mr. H. B. Dabney. After the business meeting, amusements more or less trivial, were indulged in by those of us so inclined.

A peace conference has been held by Messrs. Storrer, Boochever and Fitzpatrick. We believe with ex-President Roosevelt, in the furtherance of world peace.
Newman Study Club

The club held its last regular meeting of the term, Thursday, May 27th. At this meeting, reviews of the selections studied were given. The officers for the coming year were elected.

The year’s work has been both interesting and profitable. We hope, however, to make it a still greater success next year when our new college building will afford us better opportunities for meeting.

The girls are looking forward to vacation time and the pleasure that awaits them in the fall. Our new “home” will be an inspiration to us; and make our remaining college days seem only too short.
Alumni Notes

Election of Trustees of the Alumni Association of the
State Normal College

The present board of trustees:
Dr. William J. Milne, president of the college, ex-officio.
Thomas E. Finegan, '88, treasurer of the association, ex-officio.
Dr. Albert N. Husted, '55; Miss Anna E. Pierce, '84; Dr.

In pursuance of the resolution regulating the election of trustees, passed by the Alumni association at the annual business meeting, June 25, 1907, the executive committee, appointed as a committee on nominations by Principal Arthur Z. Boothby, 'oo, president of the association, have placed in nomination the following named persons for trustees:

For faculty member of the board of trustees (one to be elected):
Dr. Albert N. Husted, '55; Dr. William B. Aspinwall, 'oo;
Prof. John M. Sayles, '02.

For alumni members of the board of trustees (two to be elected):
Miss Anna E. Pierce, '84, of Albany; Dr. Henry E. Mereness,
'69, of Albany; Miss Georgia L. Reeve, '00, of Geneseo; Rev.
Charles H. Tyndall, '80, of Mt. Vernon; Miss Myra L. Inglesbe,
'85, of Hartford; Prof. Fred DeL. King, '82, of Lawrence, L. I.

Each alumnus is requested to register his vote for the three trustees on the ballot affixed, to detach and return the same at his earliest convenience to the secretary of the Alumni association.

Respectfully submitted by the executive committee of the Alumni association.

The annual reunion of our alumni will occur at the close of our sixty-fifth year, June 21st and 22nd, 1909.
PROGRAM OF EXERCISES

Monday, June 21—8.00 p. m., reception by President and Mrs. William J. Milne at their residence, No. 5 Elk street.

Tuesday, June 22—10.30 a. m., commencement exercises in the Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church, Lancaster street; 2.30 p. m., alumni literary exercises in the chapel of Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church; 4.00 p. m., alumni business meeting; 4.30 p. m., class reunions in charge of class secretaries; 7.00 p. m., social reunion at the Hotel Ten Eyck; 8.00 p. m., alumni dinner at the Hotel Ten Eyck.

MEMORIAL TABLET

At the last reunion it was resolved, that a soldiers' memorial tablet be erected in the new college buildings to replace the one destroyed by fire. To this end a committee consisting of Dr. Albert N. Husted, D. P. Austin, M. D., and President William J. Milne, was appointed. Dr. Husted was made treasurer of the tablet fund.

The Echo is greatly indebted to Miss Etta A. C. Briggs '08, for a most interesting letter about Fisk University and regrets that lack of space prevents its publication in this issue.

Miss Mina L. Nitzchke '08, ΨΙ, has returned to the States after teaching in the city of Mexico for the past year.

Miss Elizabeth K. MacMillan '07, ΨΙ, visited the college, Friday, May 7th.
Low Shoes

$2.00
$3.00
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<td>Stenographer</td>
<td>Electric-Lighting Supt.</td>
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<td>Advertisement Writer</td>
<td>Mechanical Engineer</td>
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<td>Show-Card Writer</td>
<td>Surveyor</td>
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<td>Window Trimmer</td>
<td>Stationary Engineer</td>
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<td>Commercial Law</td>
<td>Civil Engineer</td>
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<td>Illustrator</td>
<td>Building Contractor</td>
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<td>Civil Service</td>
<td>Architectural Drafts.</td>
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<td>Architect</td>
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<td>Textile-Mill Supt.</td>
<td>Structural Engineer</td>
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<td>Electrician</td>
<td>Bridge Engineer</td>
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