

Reports

Sprague
Courses of
Study.

we yet endeavor to encourage thoroughness by requiring all Candidates for Degrees to take one of the regular courses. The courses in Arts emphasizes the studies which have hitherto usually been included under that head in colleges; the course in Science, Natural History, Natural Philosophy, and Mathematics, the course in Letters, English & Modern Languages, literatures & Kindred Studies.

By giving, early in the training common to all the regular students, outside of the Normal Course, a taste of the Natural Sciences, of the classical languages, and of Mathematics and literature, on hope to lay in the minds of all students a broad & solid foundation of learning and by defining the choice among the courses to the beginning of the Second Collegiate year, we hope to ensure a wise selection as to the kind of superstructures.

The most numerously attended Department has been the preparatory. We shall continue to aim to make it profitable as we can to its members, but we earnestly desire that the time may soon [inserted above] come when we can remand all preparatory students to the Academics, the grammar schools, and the High Schools, and denote [illegible] wholly to the proper work of College & University.

Normal Dept.

Next in number and perhaps first in importance, is the Normal department. We hope during the coming year to do better work in this direction than ever before, though much of that has been good. But we greatly need the help of a teacher trained in the most recent normal methods, and I hope very soon to be able, with the aid of the faculty, to name a candidate who shall combine with other excellencies this important qualification. I have also some reason to expect, that it will be found practicable with year concurrence & consent, to gather some of the children in this neighborhood into a little school, to be taught by some of our best Normal students, a model school of observation and practice under careful supervision. Such schools are regarded as an indispensable [adjunct] to many of the best Normal schools, and the advantage of such school to a young teacher can hardly be overestimated. I hardly need to add that the work of a Normal Dept should be strictly professional, and that it is of the greatest

Note: Unsure of words in brackets