IN THE CHURCH PORCH.

THEATRE GOING—CHRISTIAN UNITY.

A careful observation convinces me that every year the number of church members who habitually attend the theatre is increasing. I have talked with many pastors on the subject and they admit the fact, though some of them do so reluctantly. They know perfectly well that a large percentage of their members go to the theatre; but as it is impossible to indict a nation, so it has become impossible for the churches to discipline their theatre-going members, simply because of their great numbers. Even the denominations which specifically condemn the theatre are powerless to enforce their condemnation in practice; while other denominations either ignore the question entirely, leaving it to each member to settle for himself, or mildly approve of the drama in the abstract. An increasingly large number of the clergy either go themselves to reputable dramatic performances or approve of their members doing so. The fulminations of individual clergymen against the drama now excite little attention either in the church or out of it. It is not likely that any denomination will ever in so many words approve of theatre-going. But in the end it amounts to the same thing when they refuse to unchurch those who are known to be theatre-goers. I hold no brief either for the church or the stage, but simply state the facts as they are. It rests with the theologians to explain these facts, and give them the proper moral color.

"Yes, I attend the theatre occasionally," said a Baptist clergyman to me not long ago. "I do so because it is to me one of the best kinds of mental recreation. I never witness a good play without feeling the better for it. The drama is a school in which I learn much about humanity that I would not otherwise learn. It brushes away the cobwebs that are so apt to gather in the mind of a bookish professional man. It brings him in touch with the world of real men and women around him. It satisfies his hunger for that ideal justice and ideal triumph of right over wrong which are so seldom seen in the actual world. I do not assume to speak for any one but myself; but in my opinion an occasional visit to a first-class theatre would be good for all the clergy. It would quicken their sympathies, correct their superabundant idealism, give them a truer insight into the relations between good and evil, and last but not least would do more than anything else to elevate the drama. When Christian men and women, both clerical and lay, shall frankly recognize the drama as a necessary outcome of human nature, the moral character of the drama will at once reflect the ideas and beliefs of these Christian men and women. It will be whatever they desire to make it."

The churches have been very much handicapped in their opposition to the theatre by the tacit approval which many of them have given to lotteries and other equally objectionable entertainments the object of which is to raise money. There can be nothing invidious in referring to this, as most of the denominations are tarred with the same stick, and their organs have vigorously denounced the abuse. I was once present at a negro minstrel entertainment given in the church for the benefit of a church. And the only difference between the entertainment and a professional minstrel show was that it was a little more coarse and pointless, and not so well done. The wretched pastor had to be present at the thing, of course, in order to show that he sympathized with the efforts of the young people. He told me afterward that if he refused to countenance such entertainments he would lose his hold on the young people entirely, as they would go to another church where they would be appreciated. I have even known of church fairs in which certain pretty girls could be kissed for a dollar; that is to say a kissing game was opened, the entrance fee to which was one dollar. I need not enlarge on the lottery business, as we can see it in full blast every season at numerous church fairs. So long as these things are allowed, the churches cannot consistently condemn theatre-going. On the score of morality, decency, refinement and interest, a good play in a reputable theatre is far preferable to a demoralizing church fair with a lottery attachment or a cheap amateur dramatic show.

An esteemed Episcopal clergyman demurs to my playful description last Sunday of the spirit in which the Presbyterian Church might offer terms of union to the Episcopal Church. He thinks that to ask the Episcopalians to give up Episcopacy, a liturgy and vestments would be to ask them to give up every thing that distinguishes them from other churches, and as the Episcopal Church does not impose similar terms on other churches as a condition to unity, he characterizes my illustration as unfair. But is it true, as my good friend asserts, that "the Episcopal Church in her terms of unity does not ask any religious body to give up any doctrine or truth or rite of which it is already in possession"; I think not. Every non-Episcopal denomination of which I know anything claims to have a valid ministry; in other words it claims to have the authority to teach and preach the Gospel. But the Episcopal Church does not admit that claim, and, indeed, cannot admit it without surrendering the cornerstone of Episcopacy. It seems to me, therefore, that the Episcopal Church does ask its sister churches to give up everything which they possess or think they possess. For the moment they acknowledge that they have no valid ministry, they thereby acknowledge themselves to be no churches; and they are of course, therefore, in duty bound to seek admission to the Greek, Roman or Anglican communions as the case may be. This is the real point at issue, and no amount of pretty talk can obscure it. Imagine, for instance, an island thousands of miles from any other country. Imagine all the inhabitants of that island but 100 to be members of the Roman Catholic Church. Imagine those hundred dissenters to be members of a duly organized Presbyterian Church. Imagine that for various reasons it is impossible to establish or introduce the Protestant Episcopal Church in this island. The great Roman Catholic Church fully organized and the little Presbyterian congregation fully organized live side by side, amicably, yet independent of each other. One day an Episcopal clergyman arrives on the island, and on Sunday every one is anxious to see where he will attend service. Does he show his desire for Protestant unity by attending the Presbyterian service? Not at all; for he is a very strong Churchman and he holds that the Presbyterian Church is "not a branch of the true church." Therefore he worships in a Roman Catholic church, which "is a branch of the true church." And on Monday morning he tells those poor Presbyterians that in the absence of the Episcopal Church their only course is to submit to the Roman Catholic Church. In that way alone can they promote Christian unity. Carried to its logical conclusions this is the Episcopal position on the question of Christian unity. Need we be surprised if the Protestant "sects" do not at once recognize its beauty?

The relation between science and religion is a pretty threadbare subject, but Dr. Mengar has nevertheless succeeded in saying something fresh about it in the August "Forum." "Religion's Gain from Science" is his topic, and his argument may be summed up as follows:

1. Science has deepened reverence. It is not as ecstatic, perhaps as it was, but it is profounder and more rational.

2. Science has taught religion to think according to cause and effect. Religion now tends less to exhale itself in mere devotion, and more to ally itself with the laws of human nature and of society.

3. Science has delivered religion from its heaviest incubus, superstition.

4. Science has put religion upon the track of the important truth that laws are natural laws.

5. Science is delivering religion from the habit of defending doctrines and supposed truths because of their apparent usefulness. The relentless rule of science to seek for the truth—for realities—is becoming general.

6. Science has made religion more practical, more cognizant of the fact that duty covers all action, and less addicted to the drawing of lines of arbitrary distinction.

The Bishop of Ely will hereafter license his deacons to preach only one original sermon a week, on the ground that a young man just entering the ministry cannot with justice to himself or the subject prepare more than one sermon a week. He thinks that the people will be the gainers, as they will hear two good sermons a week, one original and one selected, instead of two poor original sermons. All this is in a measure true of old as well as young preachers. The thought of the second sermon to be written is very apt to paralyze the preacher while he is writing his first; and, on the other hand, the preparing of the first sermon exhausts all the vitality needed for the second. And this is one argument for a frequent change of pastorates; the clergyman is thereby enabled to use his "barrel" without having some one come up to him after service and say that he has heard that sermon before. But the use of the "barrel" is fraught with danger, and many a bright man has been ruined by it. Of course, I refer to a "barrel" of sermons.

"THE TARIFF OF 1888," a pamphlet of 20 large pages giving rates of duty now in force, in full, together with the entire Free List, and other valuable Tariff information. Timely for reference, and absolutely correct. Price 12 cents a copy. Published by "The Tribune," New-York.

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Prepares for all the leading colleges and scientific schools and furnishes to boys not intending to enter college a sound English education. French, German. Numbers limited. Personal attention of principals to each pupil. Primary class. Large building, newly equipped; in excellent sanitary condition. Gymnasium. Reopens Sept. 27.
REFERENCES.
F. A. P. Barnard, Pres. Columbia College; W. F. Warren, Pres. Boston University; Geo. J. Brush, Director Sheffield Scientific School; Mrs. Sylvanus Reed; H. Knapp, M. D.; E. Ellery Anderson, esq., Geo. Henry Warren, esq., Robt. E. Livingston, esq., W. Rhinelander Stewart, esq., John Sinclair, esq., John A. Stewart, esq., R. G. Rolston, esq., E. V. Loew, esq., John G. McCullough, esq., Wm. Paton, esq., J. W. Goddard, esq., James R. Whiting, esq., A. G. Agnew, esq.

A.— DWIGHT SCHOOL, formerly NEW-YORK SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES. 1479-1485 Broadway (corner 43d-st.)
A carefully graded school for boys. This institution aims in methods and results to equal the best New-England schools, and affords a broad and thoroughly practical education. Pupils fitted for any college or scientific school, or directly for business and professional pursuits. Special facilities for those studying for advanced standing in college. An excellent preparatory department for boys from 8 to 11 years of age. Ninth year begins September 24.
For circulars and further information apply at the school.
HENRY C. MILLER, ARTHUR WILLIAMS, P. V. HUYSSOON, } Directors.

ARTHUR H. CUTLER'S SCHOOL FOR BOYS.
Mr. Cutler will be at the schoolhouse, No. 20 West 43d-st., on Monday, September 24. Autumn term begins Monday, October 1.

A.—CIRCULARS OF GOOD SCHOOLS FREE. State whether for boys or girls and locality preferred. R. E. AVERY, American School Bureau, 2 W. 14th-st., N.Y.

A SCHOOL FOR BOYS. THOMAS REEVES ASH, 145 West 45th-st. Resumes September 27. Apply after September 17, 9-12.

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Principals examine applicants on and after Sept. 17. Catalogues at the School and at Putnam's, 23d-st.

F. G. IRELAND'S CLASS FOR BOYS, 19 West 42d-st., reopens Thursday, September 27. Mr. Ireland will be at the class-rooms after September 15.

E. D. LYON'S Classical School, removed to 6 East 47th-st., will reopen September 26th; pupils are thoroughly prepared for the best colleges and scientific schools.

HARLEM COLLEGIATE SCHOOL, 20 EAST 127TH-ST., Will open its 5th year, Sept. 20

JOHN MACMULLEN'S School is in West 155th-st., and his house in West 161st-st., both near 10th-ave. About 300 feet from Cable Road. Open Monday, Sept. 17. Terms from $100 to $240. Boarders, $400. Circulars at Putnam's, 27 West 23d-st.

J. H. MORSE'S School for Boys, 423 Madison-ave. (near 49th-st.). Reopens Sept. 27. Until Sept. 15 address Cotuit, Mass.

LENOX INSTITUTE. A SUPERIOR COMMERCIAL, SCIENTIFIC AND COLLEGIATE DAY SCHOOL FOR BOYS, With Primary Department.
336 LENOX-AVE., formerly known as 6th-ave., between 126th and 127th sts., New-York.
Founded under the auspices and with the recommendation of numerous leading uptown families, whose names appear in the circular.
Prepares thoroughly for business, technical schools, American or foreign universities.
Under capable and energetic management; ten first-class American and foreign professors will be employed. No lady teachers. School opens September 18. Applications after September 1. Students from 6 to 20 years of age.
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GERMAN AFTERNOON CLASS, for boys attending other schools, between 4 and 6 p. m. on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, under the direction of the German professors.
LENOX ANNEX. GIRLS' CLASS, in the adjoining private house, 334 Lenox-ave., where a limited number of young ladies from 6 to 18 years of age will be taught by the professors of the Lenox Institute, under ladies' co-administration and co-instruction.
All instructions in Singing, Dancing and Needle-work is included free of charge.
The numerous applications for admission to the Institute already received fully attest the favor it meets.
ANDREW ZERBAN, President.

PREPARATION for Fall College Examinations. Summer Season WOODBRIDGE SCHOOL, begins August 13, 32 East 45th-st.

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SCHOOL FOR BOYS reopens Sept. 24, at 1,475 Broadway, near 42d-st. Office hours, after 10th, 9:30 a. m. to 3 p. m. WM. W. RICHARDS.

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THE DRISLER SCHOOL, NO. 15 EAST 40TH-ST. FRANK DRISLER, A. M., PRINCIPAL. REOPENS WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 26.

THE COLLEGE OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, cor. Lexington-ave. and 23d-st., New-York, Sept. 7, 1888. Notice is hereby given that by order of the Board of Trustees of the College of the City of New-York, the College will be formally opened on Thursday, Sept. 13, at 9:30 a. m., at which hour all instructors and students are expected to be present.
The re-examinations of the college students ordered by the Faculty in June will commence at 10:30 a. m.
Instructors will report to the President in the chapel at 9:25 a. m. ALEX. S. WEBB, LL. D., President.

UNIVERSITY GRAMMAR SCHOOL, 1,473 Broadway, near 42d-st.; 52d year; reopens September 24; rooms open after September 10; primary, commercial and classical departments; instruction thorough. M. M. HOBBY, W. L. AKIN, N. C. HENDRICKSON, Principals.

252 MADISON-AVE.—Class for boys will reopen October 1. Miss KETCHUM will be at the classrooms after September 15.

For Young Ladies—City.

A.—JACKSON SEMINARY, 2,025 5th-ave., n. e. cor. 125th-st.—Classical Boarding and Day School for Young Ladies and Children. Pupils fitted for college. Technical training. Building detached; large, airy; grounds extensive, well shaded. Professor of elocution, Mary E. Cherry. Boarders, $300 yearly. 22d year begins Sept. 26.

A.—MISS MARY HARRIOTT NORRIS, 937 Madison-ave. Classes reopen October 11. At home after September 25.

A.—MISS WARREN'S SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, WITH BOYS' DEPARTMENT. Reopens Sept. 27. 71 West 47th-st.

AFTER DATE, Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Charles H. Gardner's School for Girls will be permanently located at No. 607 5th-ave. Mrs. Gardner author of "History in Rhyme."

A.—MISS ANNIE BROWN'S SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, Reopens October 3. 713-715 Fifth Avenue.

CLASSICAL SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, 1861 Madison-ave., near 125th-st.—Pupils fitted for all colleges open to women; those completing preparation here admitted to Wellesley without further examination. Primary and advanced departments. Terms for boarding pupils moderate. Reopens Oct. 1. Miss North and Miss Barnes, Principals.

CARLISLE INSTITUTE, 751 5th-ave.—Boarding and day school for girls; special students in all departments; languages, music, studio; reopens Oct. 1; 16th year.

DURING MISS DU VERNET'S absence in Europe MISS CARRIER will open the school formerly under the direction of Miss Du Vernet, on October 1st, at 52 EAST 30TH-ST. Until September 15th address No. 124 Lexington-ave.

MADAME C. MEARS'S English, French and German Boarding and Day School for Young Ladies and Children, No. 222 Madison-ave., N. Y., will reopen October 1, 1888. French is the language of the family and school. Special classes in History, Literature, Art, and French conversation. Special attention to English, French and German Primary Department. Mme. A. C. MEARS, Principal.

Instruction.

For Young Ladies—City.

MISS CROCKER AND MISS BECK'S SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, 31 West 42d-st., opposite Bryant Park. Classes for Boys. Reopens October 3, 1888.

MISSES A. AND M. FALCONER PERRIN'S Girls' School. Removed to spacious house, 244 Lenox-ave., New-York. Tenth year begins September 27. Boarding pupils $600 per year.

MISS J. F. MOORE will receive Boarding and Day pupils at her residence, 117 West 76th-st., October 1. Kindergarten opens Oct. 8.

MISS M. D. HUGER, 42 PARK-AVE., NEW-YORK CITY. BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL FOR GIRLS. Will reopen on Monday, October 1st.

MISS SUSAN M. AMRINGE'S SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, No. 106 East 38th-st., near Park-ave., reopens October 3. References: Rev. Howard Crosby, D. D., Right Rev. H. C. Potter, D. D., Bishop of New-York; Prof. J. H. Van Amringe, Columbia College.

MADEMOISELLE VELTIN'S SCHOOL, 175 WEST 73D-ST. RE-OPENS OCTOBER 1ST.

MISS REYNOLDS'S SCHOOL, 66 West 45th-st., reopens Oct. 1. Apply by letter till Sept. 20.

MRS. ELLIMAN'S KINDERGARTEN and Primary Class. Fifth Year. 215 West 55th-st. Reopens September 26th.

MISS JENNY HUNTER'S SCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN, 8 West 127th-st. Reopens September 17.

MRS. GALLAHER'S SCHOOL FOR YOUNG LADIES, 51 West Fifty-second-st.

REOPENS OCT. 8. CIRCULARS.

MISS CHISHOLM'S SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, 15 East 55th-st. Will reopen the last Monday in September. Boys' Classes, Sept. 24.

MADEMOISELLE RUEL, No. 26 East 56th-st. SCHOOL FOR GIRLS. Reopens October 8. Number limited.

MADAME DA SILVA'S BOARDING AND DAY School for Girls (formerly Mrs. Ogden Hoffman's), No. 24 West 38th-st., reopens Oct. 1. Apply for circulars.

MISS GREENE'S Kindergarten and Elementary Class, 18 East 130th-st., reopens September 20, 1888. Training Class for Kindergartners.

MISS ELIZABETH L. KOUES' BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL FOR GIRLS reopens Oct. 1. Graduates prepared for college. No. 45 East 68th-st.

MRS. EDGAR STARR BARNEY, Day school and kindergarten, 23d-st. and 8th-ave. Reopens Sept. 13.

MISS KIERSTED'S SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, 26 EAST 62D-ST., Reopens October 3. Separate classes for boys. Studio.

RIVERSIDE SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, 152 West 103d-st.—Miss Emily A. Ward, Principal (many years with the Comstock School). Kindergarten. Boys' class. Resident pupils received. Reopens Sept. 17.

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THE MISSES WREAKS' BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL for girls, 37 East 68th-st., reopens Oct. 1; Separate class for boys. Kindergarten. Apply for circulars.

THE MISSES MOSES' BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL for Young Ladies and Children, reopens September 25. Kindergarten in charge of a trained kindergarten teacher. 647 Madison-ave.

THE MISSES GRAHAM will reopen their boarding and day school on Tuesday, October 2. 63 Fifth-ave., New-York.

THE COMSTOCK SCHOOL, (Established 1862). NO. 32 WEST 40TH-ST. Boarding and Day School for Young Ladies. Reopens Oct. 3. Miss DAY in charge.

THE MISSES GRINNELL will reopen their DAY SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, 22 East 54th-st., October 2.
Separate classes for boys, Oct. 1. Kindergarten, Oct. 10.

THE MISSES ROGERS' ENGLISH, FRENCH AND German School for Young Ladies and Children, 220 West 38th-st., reopens Sept. 17.

VAN NORMAN INSTITUTE (Founded 1857). HOME AND DAY SCHOOL.—Central Park, West, at 62d-st. (Morgan Mansion.) Mme. VAN NORMAN, Principal.

WEST END AVENUE SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.—Reopens September 26. Miss Thompson, Miss Annin, Miss Beard, Principals. West End-ave., 208, near 75th-st.

9 WEST 39TH-ST., SCHOOL FOR GIRLS. Applications may be addressed to Stowe, Vt., till Sept. 21. ANNA C. BRACKETT.

148 MADISON-AVE.—Mrs. Roberts and Miss Walker's English and French school for young ladies will be reopened on Thursday, September 27.

For Both Sexes—City

ALL THE LANGUAGES QUICKLY AND IDIOMATICALLY spoken by the MEISTERSCHAFT SYSTEM, at GASTINEAU'S SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES, 17 West 42d-st., opp. Reservoir. EDMOND GASTINEAU, A. M., Paris, Principal. Conversational treatment throughout. Superior native teachers. Class or private instruction.

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COLLEGIATE GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR BOYS AND GIRLS, 248 WEST 74TH-ST., NEW-YORK. Founded 1633, under control of the Collegiate Dutch Church. Reorganized 1987. Classical, Intermediate, Primary Departments. French and German by the Natural Method. Preparatory for College and Business. Reopens September 26. For catalogues and terms apply at the school to L. C. MYGATT, Head Master.

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HARLEM Kindergarten and Preparatory school, 27 West 126th-st.—Seventh year begins September 24. German taught conversationally in all classes. A special course in literature and ancient history for young ladies. Send for circular. Miss MARY EHRHART, Principal.

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MOELLER INSTITUTE, 336 West 20th-st.—Kindergarten, Day and Boarding School, prepares for business and college. Founded 1863. P. W. Moeller, Principal.

P. BERCY'S SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES, 39 WEST 42D-ST., OPPOSITE BRYANT PARK. The modern languages quickly and correctly spoken by a practical natural method; continuous teaching by conversation; teachers carefully selected; pure pronunciation. P. BERCY, director of this school, and author of many educational French books used in hundreds of schools, will himself teach in the French department.

STERN'S SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES of N. Y. CITY, Between Madison and 5th aves. 27 EAST 44TH-ST., NEW-YORK, AND 177 MONTAGUE-ST., BROOKLYN. German, French, Spanish, Italian, Latin and Greek. We, members of the Union Theological Seminary, having completed a course of twenty lessons under your Professor, take great pleasure in testifying to the superiority of your system of instruction over any other with which we are acquainted. The majority of us have studied German before, but do not hesitate to affirm that we have gained more under your course of instruction than we did in twelve months under other systems.—Union Theological Seminary, New-York, January 25th, 1887.

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THE BERLITZ SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES, Madison Square (25th-st. and Broadway). TERMS BEGIN NOW. Branches: Brooklyn, Boston, Washington, Philadelphia.

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BROOKLYN HEIGHTS SEMINARY.—This day and boarding school of young ladies (38th year) will reopen September 26. Circulars sent on application. 128 Montague-st., Brooklyn, N. Y. CHARLES E. WEST, MARY A. BRIGHAM, Principals.

BROOKLYN FROEBEL KINDERGARTEN, 210 Clinton-st., cor. Atlantic-ave. This kindergarten, established 1877, will be reopened Monday, October 1. MISSES SHARPE, Principals. For information apply 30 Garden place.

FISH'S SCHOOL OF SHORTHAND and TYPEWRITING, 186 REMSEN-ST., BROOKLYN.
For the thorough training of shorthand writers for business employments. A first-class school in method and equipment.
Full information given on application by post, or in person, from 9:15 a. m. to 5:30 p. m. Hours of instruction—9 a. m. to 6 p. m.
Evening School, beginning Oct. 1. Call on or address JAMES H. FISH, 186 Remsen-st., Brooklyn.

REV. HARRIS R. GREENE'S day and home school for young ladies, (26th year), 165 Lafayette-ave., Brooklyn, N. Y. Send for catalogue.

ST. CATHERINE'S HALL, BROOKLYN, N. Y. In charge of the Sisters of St. John the Evangelist. Advent term opens September 26. Rector, the Bishop of Long Island. Terms, per annum, English, French and Latin, $350 to $400. Application to be made to the Sister-in-charge.

THE CRITTENDEN. ENGLISH PREPARATORY, FRENCH SCHOOL and Kindergarten for both sexes. 97 Hicks-st., corner of Pineapple. 3D YEAR, beginning Sept. 20. Miss H. M. WHEELER, Principal. Eight years connected with the Packer Collegiate Institute.

23D YEAR.—Prof. W. A. Stamm's boarding and day school for boys. 102 Berkeley place, Brooklyn.

Instruction.

Musical Instruction.

A.—NEW-YORK CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC, For 18 years located at 5 EAST 14TH-ST. ONLY. (34 door east of 5th-ave.) Established 1863, chartered in 1865, and empowered to award Diplomas and confer Degrees.
At this FAMOUS SCHOOL of VOCAL and INSTRUMENTAL Music, Harmony and Composition, Elocution, Modern Languages, Drawing and Painting.
The FIRST ORGANIZED and best appointed in America. Students receive unequalled advantages.
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