

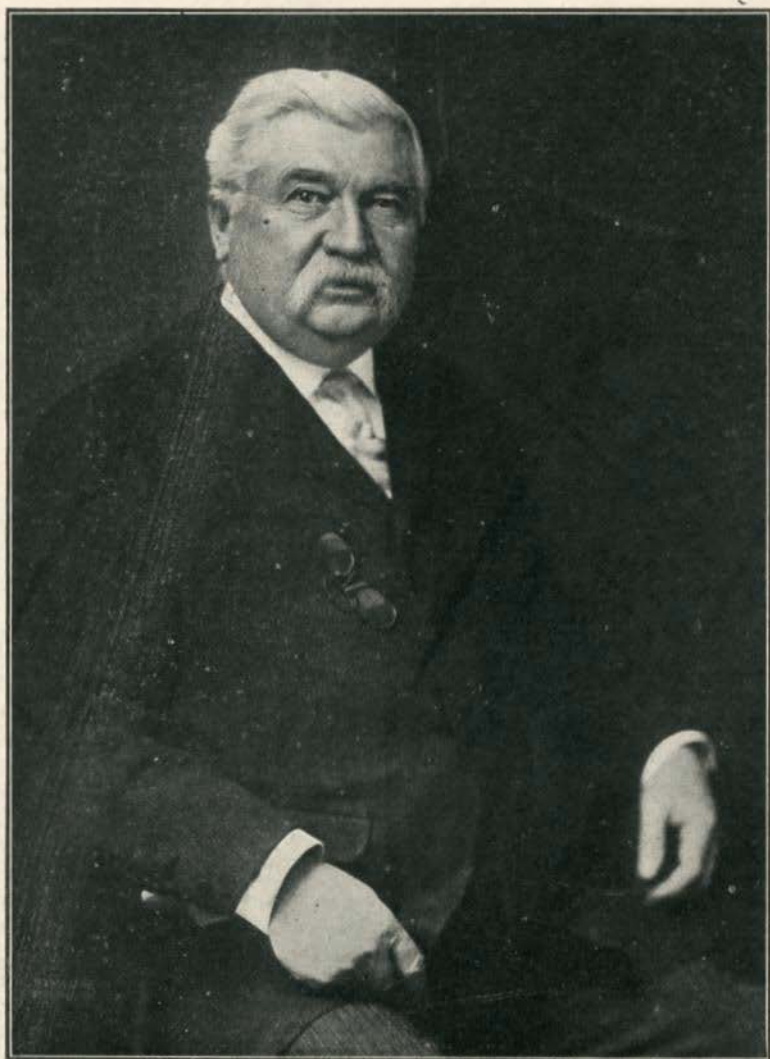
Lindenwood College

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COL. JAMES GAY BUTLER

January 23, 1840

August 22, 1916

BUTLER, COLONEL JAMES GAY

DEATH OF COL. BUTLER.

(St. Louis Globe-Democrat, August 22, 1916.)

Col. James Gay Butler died of pneumonia at 12:15 o'clock this morning. His death followed an operation for kidney trouble, six weeks ago. At the bedside were his wife, niece and nephew, Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Eastlick of 228 North Taylor Avenue.

Col. Butler was unconscious several hours before his death. He had been critically ill since the middle of July.

Col. Butler died at his home, 4484 West Pine boulevard.

Col. James Gay Butler was a capitalist as well as a philanthropist, and for many years was engaged in the tobacco manufacturing business in St. Louis.

Col. Butler had been in ill health for about three years, during which time he suffered two severe attacks of pneumonia. He also suffered from severe attacks of rheumatism.

He was the founder of many charitable organizations and many societies had been supported largely by his generosity. In December, 1914, Col. Butler resigned as president of the St. Louis Provident Association, of which he was the head for many years.

He had contributed largely to the Lindenwood College at St. Charles, Mo. His donations to that institution amounted to about \$250,000. He recently gave \$100,000 toward a building there to be known as Niccolls Memorial.

Col. Butler organized the Industrial Loan Company, also known as the "Poor Man's Bank."

Born in Michigan.

Col. Butler was born at Saugatuck, Mich., January 23, 1840. He was the son of William G. and Eliza Butler. He was educated in the public schools of Suffield, Conn., and Allegan, Mich. He entered the University of Michigan as a sophomore in 1858, but missed his senior year by joining the army in 1861. He received his B. S. degree forty-three years after, in 1904.

Col. Butler served in the Third Michigan Cavalry. He was in the ranks eight months, after which he was appointed second lieutenant, first lieutenant, adjutant quartermaster and major. During the last eight months of service he com-

manded a regiment:

He engaged in the tobacco manufacturing business in St. Louis in 1866 and afterward he became a director of the American Tobacco Company until he retired from the business. He retained his holdings in the company.

Col. Butler was a director and a member of the Executive Committee of the Mercantile Trust Company and the Mercantile National Bank. He was a director of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition and past supreme chancellor of the Legion of Honor; past commander of the St. Louis Commandery of the Loyal Legion; past commander of Ransom Post, G. A. R.; member of the Sons of the Revolution and the New England Society.

Gave Himself and His Gifts.

Like Tennyson's knight, Col. Butler "gave himself with his gifts."

His benefactions, public and private, which were so large as to rank him "the leading philanthropist of St. Louis," were made mainly because the donor enjoyed giving them. He gave up days at a time from absorbing business, in order to see how things were progressing at Lindenwood College, where he had in the last few years given more than \$250,000, besides early benefactions of no small amount. He frequently visited the Y. W. C. A., which he started on its building fund by his \$50,000 gift.

The education of young womanhood was a hobby with Col. Butler, just as it had been with his pastor, the late Rev. Dr. S. J. Niccolls of the Second Presbyterian Church. A depth of sentiment unsuspected in the life of a practical business man was found in his carrying out the wishes of his pastor by building, as his last bequest, a \$100,000 dormitory to double the college capacity. On the anniversary of Dr. Niccolls' death, last Sunday, the building stood half completed. A few days before, in a moment when Col. Butler rallied from a semistupor, he said: "How I wish it could go up faster. I want to see it finished."

The new building is named the Niccolls Memorial. Col. Butler was a member of Dr. Niccolls' church during almost all of the latter's fifty years' pastorate. During the greater part of that time he was an official in the church.

Dr. Niccolls was president of Linden-

wood College Board. Col. Butler, long a member of the board, was elected to succeed him as president.

In this capacity Col. Butler bestowed the diplomas upon the girl graduates last June, telling them amusing reminiscences as he did so. As one of the girls was named "Wilhelmina," he was reminded of a season in Germany at a famous spa when a German "Wilhelmina" taught him German, at an age almost as advanced as the elder Cato, who learned Greek at 80. He advised the girls to be patriotic and to spurn all young men who were not for the defense of their country.

Girls Tempt Him From Diet.

Col. Butler was put on a diet by his physicians, but the girls of Lindenwood College made him break his regime more than once. Sorority banquets and senior celebrations sent such pressing invitations to him that he came, with many boxes of candy and many bouquets of violets, as the girls knew he would do. He knew every girl by name, and they greeted him as a father. After such feasts the guest of honor invariably declared that his health was no worse, but rather better.

The girls soon made songs in Col. Butler's honor, shouting them lustily in defiance of all rules, when he visited them, even in the midst of chapel exercises. A favorite song had this refrain:

Col. Butler is our friend,
He will to our wants attend,
Tra la la, tra la la.

Butler Hall, at Lindenwood, a dormitory with a large swimming pool, was built at a cost of a little over \$100,000 by Col. Butler and dedicated two years ago.

Mrs. Butler shared the enthusiasm of her husband for the advancement of the college. A conservatory of music, named "Margaret Hall," in her honor, was the first building given to the college by Col. Butler. He also enlarged other buildings, equipped new heating plants, beautified the campus and added many benefactions to the college, not the least of which were prizes in gold for the girls excelling in domestic science and other branches of study.

Col. Butler gave quietly to the Provident Association in generous sums, and it is said that he seldom refused any case of need. Besides his gift of \$50,000 to the Y. W. C. A. building fund, he kept constantly flowing a stream of per-

sonal gifts to that institution. But a condition of this giving was that the donor must not be made known. He attended the Y. W. C. A. Board meetings as long as he was able to do so.

Among the many civic interests to which he was devoted, the suppression of smoke had a leading place. Col. Butler was president of the League for the Abatement of Smoke, and he was unceasingly vigilant. An amusing example was noted once in a conversation between himself and a companion while crossing a railroad bridge in a car on a misty day. The companion spoke of the beauty of the foggy wreaths below.

"What!" exclaimed the enemy of all smoke. "Haven't I educated you yet to know that smoke is never beautiful, in any shape whatever?"

In his final illness, Col. Butler asked often for Rev. Dr. John L. Roemer, the president of Lindenwood College. Dr. Roemer remained with him constantly during the last hours of his life.

FUNERAL OF COL. BUTLER.

(St. Louis Republic, Aug. 25.)

No sermon was preached at the funeral of Col. James Gay Butler at the Second Presbyterian Church yesterday. Rev. Dr. Samuel C. Palmer read the Scriptures and Dr. John L. Roemer, president of Lindenwood College, offered prayer.

The widow, Mrs. Butler, was able to attend, with the aid of two nurses.

The active pallbearers were a detail from Walker-Jennings Camp, United Spanish War Veterans, consisting of Commander H. F. Kendall, Capt. Robert E. Lee, F. W. Cheever, Otto Emmendorfer, M. B. Lilly, Charles W. Seaman and Francis Drischler. Two buglers from Jefferson Barracks sounded "Taps."

The City Council of St. Charles, headed by Mayor John N. Olson; official boards of the Mercantile Trust Company, Industrial Bank, Second Presbyterian Church and Lindenwood College and directors of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition attended the funeral. The Exposition directors adopted resolutions of tribute to Col. Butler.

In the church the ceremony of decorating the casket with the American flag was performed by the Loyal Legion, while at Bellefontaine Cemetery, Ransom Post, G. A. R., held a military service.

Lindenwood College

A Monthly Bulletin published by the College

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President - - - Col. James Gay Butler
Vice-President - - - Dr. J. L. Roemer
Sec'y and Treas. - - - George B. Cummings

FORM OF BEQUEST.

"I give and bequeath unto the Board of Trustees of Lindenwood Female College, a corporation, St. Charles, Mo., the sum of.....dollars, to be used in such manner for the benefit of the College as they may decide.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

(Cosmos-Monitor.)

In the death of Col. Butler St. Charles has lost a benefactor. He was a friend of St. Charles because he was a friend of Lindenwood. Lindenwood College owes much to the memory of its greatest benefactor and in his death the people join the mourners because a friend has passed away, but his name will live for ages as a man who did much for St. Charles. When Lindenwood was in need he came as a God-send and from his bounty he put the college on its feet—he built it up, and today all that Lindenwood is, all that it hopes to be, is through the generosity of Col. James Gay Butler.

(Globe-Democrat.)

A part of the benevolent wisdom of Col. James Gay Butler, whose death brings a sorrow to St. Louis, was his saying that a higher and finer intelligence is needed for the giving than for the making of money. The pith of that truth is in the fact that so much of evil grows out of ill-considered indiscriminate giving, while judicious giving, which enlarges opportunity for the deserving, helps the unfortunate and aids the distressed without impairment of their self-respect, can be made the most positive good in life. A very high order of intelligence is needed, accordingly, in dispensing philanthropy, to avoid doing evil and make sure of doing good.

Col. Butler was a philanthropist as practical as he was generous, and he was generous to the extent that, years ago, after his large fortune had been accumulated and safely invested, he resolved that, beyond the living ex-

penses of himself and family, all of his large annual income should be given for the promotion of good and worthy causes and the relief of deserving but unfortunate classes and individuals.

(Republic.)

Giving large sums of money for useful public purposes is a commendable habit with many American business men, and the public is duly grateful, but the habit has become so common as scarcely to confer distinction. It has also been the habit of some men who cannot be said to have commanded any considerable amount of affection or even of admiration as the result of their vast generosity.

In Col. James Gay Butler, whose long illness has ended in death, St. Louis possessed a well-beloved giver, and he would have been beloved had his gifts been few and small, for Col. Butler's heart and the service of his highly trained intelligence went with his gifts. The faculty of Lindenwood College, the Young Women's Christian Association, the members of the Provident Association, the management of the "Poor Man's Bank" and the blind of this city and State can testify that he was a worker as well as a giver in many good causes.

Though a man of large affairs and accustomed to the drive and push of business on a large scale, his work found no expression in his manner. He was an engaging, kindly man, whose great deeds of charity were the larger expression of what he felt toward all.

(Post-Dispatch.)

St. Louis loses a genial, original and lovable citizen in Col. James Gay Butler, who died Monday, at the ripe age of 76 years.

Highly successful in business, but not blessed with children, Col. Butler and his wife, who survives him, interested themselves in public work and especially in the education of the young and the relief of unmerited poverty and distress.

Among those things by which he will be remembered are his activities in smoke prevention. He contributed money generously to this cause. He was instrumental in relieving St. Louis, in a large measure, of the depredations of loan sharks, through the creation of

what is known as "The Poor Man's Bank." He was for years head of the Provident Association, and gave his personal attention to its affairs. He was president of the Missouri Association for the Blind, and gave his time and money for the success of the Saturday and Sunday Hospital Fund.

His gifts of over \$200,000 to Lindenwood College, and his gift of \$50,000 to the fund for the erection of the new Young Women's Christian Association home have made his memory one to be cherished by thousands of young women.

Col. Butler believed in the trusteeship of wealth by those who had it, for the public good. But he held that careless scattering of money was a false exhibition of charity. He expressed himself as willing to give away his entire fortune, but wisely, as an investment that would bring satisfaction to the giver by the knowledge that the gift had not been wasted or contributed to the weakening of character and citizenship. His ideal, in philanthropy, was to benefit the community, and to increase the opportunities of his fellow men and women in the strenuous game of life.

Sayings of Col. Butler.

One of his quoted sayings was that: "The world wants no more advice on how to make money. It has made too much for its peace of mind already. I would not tell a youth how to make money. I would tell him how to make himself, for he will need all the reserve of strong character and brain to dispose of his wealth, in the event of his financial success."

When he ceased bending his efforts to accumulation and turned his attention to distribution of wealth, he said: "I shall apply the same talents, granting that I have any, in the giving away of my money that I did in the making of it. The giving away of money requires much larger experience with men, a more exclusive sympathy, a finer ideal of service and a more splendid intelligence than the making of it."

He denied that he was a charity man in the sense of giving money. He invested it for the income of satisfaction that it would bring in the consciousness that he was benefiting his community, making it a more livable and happy place and increasing the opportunities of his "brothers in the game."

OUR FRIEND.

The inscription on the beautiful floral offering, placed prominently in front of the casket containing the mortal remains of Col. James Gay Butler gave expression to the sentiment of every Lindenwood girl. The two words, "Our Friend," were filled with sorrow and heartfelt appreciation.

Col. Butler was a personal friend, an interested friend of every girl who came to the College. He knew every student in person and in name and was constantly planning for their comfort and well-being while at the College. Scores of the students have sought his advice and followed his counsels after leaving. Nothing delighted him more than to be of service in any and every way he could help. The magnificent dormitories which he erected with every modern convenience are continued reminders that, though absent in the body, he is still "Our Friend."

APPRECIATION.

The following minute adopted at a meeting of the Board of Trustees when Col. Butler announced his purpose to build a memorial to the name of Dr. Niccolls is made public in this issue. It is a living witness to the affection of his fellow-members of the Board:

The Board of Trustees of Lindenwood College receive, with profound gratitude, the announcement of Col. James Gay Butler that he proposed erecting as a memorial to the Rev. Samuel Jack Niccolls, D. D., a handsome new dormitory to be known as Niccolls Memorial Hall.

The generosity of Col. Butler has been unstinted and the College owes its newness of life to his large gifts. His vision of what Lindenwood should be, his untiring efforts to realize the vision, his loyal and devoted interests call upon the Board to make a special minute of his gifts and commend most heartily his every effort to advance the interests of the College. We pledge him our loyal support and co-operation in bringing to pass his desire to make the College to the West what Wellesley is to the East. As the years come and go the name of Col. Butler will be indissolubly connected with Lindenwood and the countless numbers of the students who shall henceforth pass through its doors will be living monuments of his wisdom, consecration and munificence.



MRS. BUTLER.

In the great sorrow through which Mrs. Butler is passing there are hundreds of Lindenwood girls whose hearts go out to her in deepest sympathy. Owing to physical infirmities she was unable to visit the College. At times students went in to see her at her home in St. Louis. When she was able to receive them she delighted to manifest her interest, which was quite as strong as that of her beloved husband.

Every Lindenwood student knew her by name and the Colonel was constantly telling them of the great love she bore them. It was always a delight to hear the girls give him messages of love for his dear wife. In Margaret Hall, named after her, is a large picture that beams upon all in the intensity of life, and every one who visits the Conservatory of Music looks with admiration upon her kindly face. It is the most treasured picture at the College.

It will be gratifying to all the students to know that the kindly interest in her is deeply appreciated and that her message to all is one of love.

THE FUTURE OF LINDENWOOD.

When Col. Butler inaugurated the new regime for Lindenwood, it was his desire to go to greater achievements than had ever been known in the history of the College. He had fairly gotten started on his plans when his summons from earth came. Under his personal direction he went on with his plans for the physical equipment of the school.

Being a man of large affairs, he built

for a large future. During his life he saw the beginning of the fruits of his labor. Lindenwood owes it to him for laying the foundation for the best college for young women in the great West. Others must take up the work where he left off and develop the plans for the "Wellesley of the West." The future of Lindenwood, as judged by its past noble history of eighty-six years, and its present possibilities, is assured.

FUNERAL PRAYER.

O, Thou, that hearest prayer, unto Thee must all flesh come. In weakness, Thou givest strength; in sorrow, Thou givest consolation; in the longing for the fullness of life Thou givest the secret of attainment. O Thou, God Omnipotent, Eternal, Unchangeable, we turn to Thee at this hour. In our weakness, when we stand helpless in the shadow of death, we need to hear Thy assuring voice, "Be still and know that I am God."

In our sorrow, when we would seek the comfort of a Father's assurance, we need to hear Thee say, "I will never fail nor forsake thee."

In the presence of the mystery of life we need to be upheld by One who is the Source of Life and knows its hidden secrets. And so we come to Thee, Thou who askest us to find in Thee One who supplies our every need and to whom we can look as a child and say, "Our Father."

Before us lies the silent form of a friend and benefactor to mankind; one who sought to honor Thee with his substance and to transmute the bounty, with which Thou hadst blessed him, into life. One who in his last conscious moments could say, "I have come to the end of my natural life, my work is finished here, I leave it to be blessed in its good and to have its imperfections overlooked."

We thank Thee, O God, for the spirit of life that wants to honor Thee and serve Thee by helping mankind in its need; that strives to leave this world the richer for having lived in it; that desires to worship by serving. Place largely before us the great pattern of Life who enunciated the principle of eternal life—not to be ministered unto, but to minister. Put it into our hearts that to find life is to lose it; that the triune laws of sacrifice, service

and love are the steps reaching unto the heart of heaven.

The history of the life of James Gay Butler is closed. Its story will not be fully known by any single mortal. Its pages are not open to us all. His benefactions, done so quietly, done so unselfishly, done by the spirit of consecration, will be known to many only in part. But before Thee is the whole volume. Thou who seest in secret will reward openly.

We thank Thee for that assurance that in thy presence every man shall have his praise of God. May his life as we know it only lead us to be faithful as we have opportunity, and cause us to seek the wisdom and guidance of God to be true stewards of all Thou dost commit to our care and keeping.

Our prayer ascends for the bereaved and sorrowing hearts. Give to each of them the garland for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness. Upon all who mourn for a friend, a companion, a helper in life's struggles from whom we must part for a time, may the benediction of God rest, and from this service in the presence of the dead may we go forth with larger visions of the possibilities of life and with the knowledge that obligation is the secret of making for life that now is and is to come.

And to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit will be the praise forever more.—Amen.

LETTERS OF SYMPATHY.

Many letters of sympathy were sent to the College. We regret that we cannot publish all of them.

The following was received from the Rev. Samuel B. Murray of Vandalia, Ill.:

"Will you accept my sympathy in the loss of Col. Butler. You personally, as well as the College, have suffered a great loss. I am hoping that his interest and influence will be perpetuated after his death. Lindenwood is doing a needed and a great work and I fully expect to see a great Woman's College there some day."

Another from Dr. John H. Miller, Stated Clerk of the Presbyterian Synod of Missouri, is as follows:

"The sorrow to which I hereby give expression over the death of Col. James Gay Butler is the feeling which is general in the Presbyterian Synod of Mis-

souri. He called forth the admiration and grateful thanks of our church in Missouri by his devotion to the highest interests of Lindenwood College. His memory will cling to Lindenwood as long as time shall last. He has been God's workman, and his labors have been bright with heaven's light. Thanks be to God for giving Lindenwood so great a friend."

CHICAGO CLUB.

The Lindenwood College Club of Chicago gave a luncheon at the Hotel La Salle on July the 25th.

A delightful three-course luncheon was served in the Rookwood Room, the tables being decorated with daisies, the gift of Miss Linneman, our honored guest.

We felt both proud of and encouraged by the fact that we had twenty (20) present—several former teachers and Lindenwood girls from 1879 to a year or two ago.

Plans were made for another luncheon in September, when we expect to arrange our winter's entertainment, and also some worth while work.

The success and enthusiasm of this, our first luncheon, is only a forerunner of the many meetings we shall have, and the things we shall do for Lindenwood and ourselves.

Faye Pratt Small, Sec.

NEW STUDENTS.

The great question which now arises in the minds of many of the new students is "How are they to be received when they arrive?"

The Registrar, Miss Olive A. Rauch, should be informed as to train and time of arriving. Our chaperons with the College colors, yellow and white, will be at all of the depots to meet the students and render needful assistance. Students coming from the West and Southwest will be met in Kansas City by Miss Helen Jenkins on Monday, September 18th, and the entire party will come in a special car over the Wabash railroad to St. Charles, leaving Kansas City at 10:00 p. m. Miss Jenkins will have headquarters at the Baltimore Hotel, where all may be cared for until train time. Those wishing to be met in Kansas City should inform Miss Jenkins

as to train and time of arrival. Letters to Miss Jenkins should be sent care Baltimore Hotel, Kansas City, Mo.

Those coming by way of St. Louis will be met at Union Station and can come to St. Charles by railroad or street cars. At St. Charles our chaperons are at the depots for every incoming train on the Wabash and M., K. & T.

Parents need have no fear that their daughters will not be properly met and chaperoned to the College.

The College dormitories are open September 16th to any who may wish to come a few days in advance of the opening of school.

IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY OF LATIN.

Cora M. Porterfield.

Formerly, at this time of year, young people prepared to enter school and college to take up the work prescribed by teachers and fixed courses of study. Today parents and pupils are busy selecting from optional course for even the first year of high school. And the principle upon which choice is usually made is that of the so-called practical. Consequently Latin being "dead," is rejected or, if chosen, perhaps because a teacher advises it or someone else takes it, the subject is begun with the false notion that it is over-hard or useless so that success in it is forestalled by this prejudice.

Much, to be sure, might be said to show that Latin should be studied, but there is no room for the arguments here. We pass over, therefore, the fact that Latin lives in our daily speech and reading matter (of the words in our dictionary over half are Latin words) that French, Italian, Spanish are but modern Latin, that Latin forms the foundation for the study of all grammar and languages, that much of our civilization, political and otherwise, comes from the Greeks and Romans, and that we can understand the thoughts and doings of a people better if we know their language, that Latin is essential for study in many fields, e. g. law, medicine, and that there is cultural value in this work and that one important side of education is the cultural; for an education based entirely upon the strictly "practical" would soon reduce to little more than the Three R's and these in small doses.

But Latin does have, even in the common interpretation of the word, a most practical

value for those who may teach in high schools. Now, even a "practical" training should prepare for not one need only but for general and emergency needs as well. Only the other day a capable young woman secured a good position to teach domestic science and then found that she must do some work in Latin also, for which she is not prepared. Hers is the experience of many whom we might cite.

It is, of course, impossible for entering high school pupils or even those in college to know positively what will be of use to them later, but so long as Latin is demanded in our schools, so long is it of practical value to those who may be called upon to teach it. Even though, as in no other subject, school boards may allow one to teach to the limit or even beyond one's own study of Latin, yet, if a subject is to be taught, it should be well taught and prospective or possible high school teachers should prepare by taking even more Latin than that of the high school curriculum.

ART DEPARTMENT.

In the Art Department of Lindenwood College we are offering, besides our regular course in Fine Arts, a special course in Normal Art, which fits pupils for teaching Art as taught in our up-to-date Public and High Schools.

Our Ceramic Department has brought forth most artistic results proven by the beautiful exhibitions given by this class. We include in our courses Basketry, Leather Work, Stenciling, Bookbinding, etc.; also special classes in History of Art, House Furnishing and Costume Design, all of which brings our department in close touch with the practical as well as the beautiful in Art.

We provide thorough and systematic courses in Fine and Applied Arts with a two-fold object in view, to prepare those who wish to become artists and teachers for such work and to teach home makers how to apply the artistic and beautiful in a practical way in their homes.

Our aim is not only to create beautiful things, but also to develop the power of observation and a taste for the beautiful to be applied to those things which surround us in every-day life so as to obtain harmony and beauty in the ordinary things of life.

We strive to foster the expression and appreciation of Art as a means of general culture and the application of Art in a practical way.