

# DORMITORY FOR WOMEN.

## COLBY UNIVERSITY.

WATERVILLE, MAINE, Apr. 26 1893.

Prof. Sturtevant -

Honored Sir -

That "woman question," old yet ever new, confronts you here in a still different phase. Put this into your waste-basket at once if you are one of the fast decreasing number who persist in the old-time belief that the cultivated, symmetrically-developed woman, like the poet, is always "born, not made." If, however, you are abreast of the times and believe that the woman of today needs and deserves a broadening and elevating education, please direct your thought toward Colby University, Waterville, Maine, and we will state facts briefly.

This college admitted women in 1871. At first there were few, but now the number has increased to sixty-five undergraduates, with every indication of a still greater increase. Three dwelling-houses, pitifully inconvenient and unsuitable, have been provided for the accommodation of these young women. These buildings are now filled to overflowing, "and still they come"—young women of all denominations and from all directions, knocking at the door of the college. Must they be refused because there is no room for them?

It is proposed to meet this urgent need by raising a fund of \$60,000, of which \$10,000 will be used as a permanent expense fund. A substantial, comfortable building is desired, to be erected on a finely located lot, already owned by the college.

Behind this movement is a committee appointed by the Trustees of the college, consisting of twenty-five influential and energetic Maine women. Support and encouragement are yours to give.

## Why give?

*I. It is a necessary object.* The necessity arises from the fact that such accommodations as are already furnished have proved insufficient. The buildings will now hold no more. Further, it is impossible to provide the care and supervision which ought to surround each young woman as she pursues her studies. Separated from so many of them, no matron can be assured that each one is properly attending to her health, her room and her various duties. The new building which is desired will bring the young women under the careful oversight of a matron, will avoid the necessity of walking some distance to meals in all weathers, as well as many other obvious inconveniences which arise from the use of several buildings, none of them designed for the purpose.

*II. It is a worthy object.* Ask the young woman at Colby, and she will tell you that she comes to Colby because nowhere can she find so broad and thorough an education for so small an amount of money. Look into her face, where are united courage and modesty, refined taste and clear common-sense, and be convinced that a gift to the promising young womanhood of today is an investment whose returns are as large as they are certain.

A most convincing proof of the need of a new dormitory is in the enthusiasm of the undergraduate women-students, who have pledged *one thousand dollars* toward the work. The Trustees also are coming to the front nobly. Will you prove yourself a friend of women's education? We need your help.

Yours sincerely,

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