Death of Henry W. Spradley.

It becomes our sad duty this week to chronicle the death of one who, for many years, labored in a domestic capacity in our college home. The subject of this obituary, Henry W. Spradley, was born in Frederick county, Virginia, June 6, 1830. His parents were slaves and very early in life his services were demanded on the farm. He was soon afterwards sold into slavery to James Jones, who lived in a neighboring locality in the same county. In 1858 he was married to Miss Jenima Williams, whose master was Col. John McGill, a rich land owner and one of the ablest lawyers of the Frederick county bar. A few years later, when the Civil War was in progress, he was sent from place to place to minister to the wounded soldiers of the Confederate army, many of whom were cared for in the district in which he lived. Shortly after the battle of Gettysburg, in 1863, he enlisted in Company G, 24th Regiment, U. S. colored troops, and served to the close of the war. He then went to Greensville, Maryland, where he remained but a short time, after which he came to Carlisle.

He worked in this locality as a stone mason until 1879, when under the administration of Pres. McCanley, he was called into the employ of the college as janitor of the Dickinson Grammar School, the building now used for the Law School. He was soon afterward given charge of West College, which position he held until January last, when he was taken ill with rheumatism, which resulted in his death last Friday night at half past ten o’clock.

He united with the church 41 years ago, and during his residence in Carlisle was a faithful member of the West Street A. M. E. Church. For several years he was the Superintendent of the Sabbath School work and served in many official capacities in the church of his choice.

He is survived by his wife and three children: William S., who has charge of the private car of the manager of the New York and Hudson River Railroad; Mrs. Elizabeth Bowman and Shirley A. Spradley, who reside in Carlisle.

"Uncle Henry" Spradley, as he was familiarly called, during the eighteen years of his life spent as a servant of the college, was known and came in contact with many men of distinction, who, as members of the Faculty, were prominent in educational circles. He was intimately associated, in dormitory life, with the students of this institution for nearly a score of years, and thus his natural good temper was given a broad sphere for its life and action. He was, under all circumstances, thoroughly honest, and was noted for the regularity with which he performed all his duties. He was a man of ceaseless activity and unremitting energy, and by his death, the college has lost the services of one whose fidelity to every good interest is rarely equalled.

While humble and modest, he was enthusiastic for anything that would promote the interests of the students whom he loved to serve. His patience was seen in his every dealing, and the cheerful spirit in which he worked, even under the most trying circumstances, was one of his many admirable qualities. The death of Henry Spradley removes one who was identified with the college before any of the members of the present faculty came to Dickinson, and every commencement season it was his pleasure to greet many of the Alumni body.

The funeral took place on Monday afternoon at 2 o’clock, and the services were conducted in Boom Hall. His pastor, Rev. J. W. Holland, preached a fitting sermon, followed by several short addresses.

As a representative of the Faculty, Dr. Whiting spoke of his intimate relations with the deceased. He said he was glad for the opportunity to pay tribute to the integrity of the life of "Uncle Henry" Spradley. He referred to his fidelity to duty, in the face of peculiarly harrassing circumstances, as one of his striking characteristics. He was gentle, sympathetic and kind, and was a great man in the sense that he was good. He said that the faculty had implicit confidence in the faithful ness with which he discharged any duty given him.

The college quartette then sang in most impressive manner the hymn entitled "Safe in the Arms of Jesus." C. Oscar Ford, of the class of ’98, in behalf of the students of the college, paid the last tribute of respect to the deceased. In a few well-chosen remarks he referred to his many kind services to the students who were, from time to time, confined to their rooms by sickness; to his cheerful disposition and conscientious life which was an encouragement to the men in the college, and to the general pleasant relations existing between the old colored janitor and the generations of boys who have left the college doors.

The funeral was very largely attended and the floral offerings tendered by the church and college were beautiful and expressive.

We are pained at the thought that we have been compelled to bid farewell to the old freedman, but surely it is an easy task when we think that he was a "ripe sheaf" ready for the Great Reaper."

Base-Ball.

DICKINSON VS. INDIANS.

Dickinson played her first game of the season with the Indians on the Athletic Field Saturday afternoon. The day was not favorable to good ball playing; being cold and damp; the diamond also was wet and slippery. Notwithstanding this the team played an exceptionally good fielding game. The new men showed up well, Jones playing a very fine game at first. Hindenberger did not have many chances at third, and though he missed one, has the movements of a good fielder. The old men played up to their usual form, and when the men had a little more experience playing together there is no reason why they should not play first class ball.

The hitting, however, was very weak on Saturday, Runkle being the only man to secure a hit off Jamison. Just why the men were unable to bat is hard to say. Jamison has great speed and pitched a fine game, yet more men should have made hits. It is to be hoped that the players have more ability in this line than was shown Saturday, for if not, our chances of winning games are not very bright.

Williams pitched a great game and really deserved to win. When a pitcher holds an opposing team down to three hits scattered through nine innings he has certainly done more that his share toward winning the game. However, luck seemed to be with the Indians and they scored three runs to our one. A brief account of the game follows:

The game opened with Dickinson at bat. Runkle the first man up was an easy out at first; Devall waited and took first base on four balls; West the next man up was given the signal to bunt; he made two unsuccessful attempts and then tried to hit. The ball went to short stop and the Indians executed a