

From: An Historical Sketch of the State Normal College at Albany, New York and a History of its Graduates for Fifty Years, 1844-1894 Albany, N.Y., Brandon Printing Co. Ltd with Annotations by the Alumni Association [1866

- N. Y.; Windham, Pa.; Litchfield, Pa.; Owego, N. Y.; and Scranton, Pa.; in last place ass't in U. S.; m. 1871; 1 daughter; husband a farmer; active in temp. and church work.
- Kate Stoneman, St. Normal Coll., Albany, N. Y. Taught 29 years. Taught, Glen's Falls Seminary 1 term; State Normal S. since 1866—all N. Y.; secured passage of bill granting right to women to practice law in New York State; and was admitted to the bar, 1886; first woman lawyer in New York State. resigned a.s.N.C. June 1906.
- Mary F. Swain, residence and history unknown.
- Mary I. Udell, Bethlehem Centre, N. Y. 1802. Taught 23 years. Taught, Van Wie's Point 6 yrs.; Cedar Hill 4 yrs.; as above, home school 3 yrs.; now in 30th yr. as Prin. P. S. at Delmar—all N. Y.; has devoted spare time to study and improvement; home address as above; address while in school, Delmar, N. Y. 1904 - P. F. D., Selkirk, N. Y.
- Isabel Vinc (David Callender), N. Y. city. Taught 3 years. Taught in P. S. No. 13, Albany; m. as above; 2 children.
- Mary L. Wheeler, residence unknown. Taught 12 years. Taught, Elmira, N. Y., 2 yrs.; Fort Wayne, Ind.; Cleveland, O.; last known, Prin. P. S. at Newark, Cal.
- Nathaniel S. Ackerly, LL. B., Northport, N. Y. 1804. Taught 1 1/2 years. Taught, Kingston, N. Y., 11-2 yrs. Prin. of a gr. sch.; grad. Albany Law S. 1868; has practiced as above since 1869; m. 1870, Mary M. Davis; 6 children living; one of first promoters of artificial cultivation of oysters; member of N. Y. St. Const. Conv. of 1894.
- Jacob F. Rhodes, St. John; Multnomah Co., Ore. Taught 18 yrs. Taught in Tompkins Co., N. Y., 16 terms, and graded S. in Pa. 1 yr.; his father's health was poor; he declined better positions, and taught in home dist.; went to Portland, Ore., 1881; clerk in O. R. and N. R. R. office 2 yrs.; east 1 yr.; taught in suburbs of Portland 6 yrs.; Prin. Portland Graded S. 3 yrs.; at present Prin. St. John's S., Portland. 1903 - Sunnville, W. Va.
- Delos Van Woert, Afton, N. Y. 1902. 1904 1906 Taught 4 1/2 years. Taught in dist. S. in Chenango Co., N. Y.; 1868 m. Esther P. Green; 1 child; 1895 a traveling salesman.
- * Seth S. Wood, 126 W. 61st st., N. Y. city. Taught 1 year. Taught 8 months; then, book agency; established "Wood's Household Magazine," which reached 150,000 circulation; sold it out to partner; established premium agency in connection with magazines, newspapers, etc.; manufactured fountain pens and IXL inks; devised the profit sharing project which has been chartered under laws of N. Y. State as the "Industrial Economists;" present occupation, ed., Pub. and Pres. of "Industrial Economists;" m. 1873, Mary M. Parker; 2 children; both died.

1898, June.
1897-1907
position

1904 - Grey E

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1866 - Forty-third Class

FORTY-FOURTH TERM, ENDING JULY 12, 1866

- Ettie E. Bishop, Warsaw, N. Y. '04 Taught 15 years. Taught, Dolton, Ill., 11 yrs.; all of teaching in Cook county, Ill.; assistant and Prin.; resigned in 1884.
- Ella A. Blakeman (Geo. R. Hodgson) Taught 18 years. Taught, Greenbush 1 yr.; Leeds 1 yr.; 1st ass't dist. S. No. 1, Greenbush, 17 yrs.—all N. Y.; has sent numerous pupils to Normal S.; 10 have graduated; m. 1886; 2 sons; both in school.
- *Helen M. Bowen (Rev. Thomas Jones). Taught 3 years. Topelka, Kanshs. Taught, Auburn, N. Y., 1 yr.; Normal S., Whitewater, Wis., 1 yr.; Battle Creek, Mich., 1 yr.; m. 1870; died 1875, leaving 2 daughters.
- *Henrietta Boyce, Edgewater, N. J. Taught 23 years. Taught, Essex, N. Y., 1 yr.; Dover Plains, N. Y., 4 yrs.; Moore's Mills, N. Y., 1 yr.; P. S. as above 7 yrs.; Montclair, N. J., 5 yrs.; Bloomfield N. J., 1 yr.; Port Huron, Mich., 3 yrs.; Plainfield, N. J., 1 yr.; went to Asheville, N. C., in 1861; taught 1 yr. in Judson College, Hendersonville, N. C.; 1895 at Asheville, not teaching; died after a long illness, Jan. 15, 1903.

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Miss Stoneman Honored.

The Woman's Journal of Boston, has the following notice of Miss Stoneman: Miss Kate Stoneman, of the New York State Normal College, has received the degree of Bachelor of Laws from Union University. This degree is given by the University to those who have been admitted to the bar and have afterwards taken the prescribed course of study in the Albany Law School, a department of Union University. Miss Stoneman was the first woman in New York State to pass an examination for admission to the bar, May 6, 1886. When she afterward applied to the Supreme Court for admission she was refused on the ground of "no precedent." The New York Legislature was in session at the time, and before the close of the term of court, a bill to admit women to the practice of law had been passed in both branches and had been signed by the Governor and Secretary of State. On the last day of the sitting of the court, May twentieth, Miss Stoneman again presented her request, this time reinforced by the new law, was admitted, and "established precedent." The Constitution of 1894 incorporated the law, thus removing the danger of repeal.

Miss Stoneman prepared herself by the study of law in a law office, as the Albany Law School did not then admit women. Two years ago the door was opened and Miss Stoneman was the first woman student, as also the first woman to graduate and receive the degree LL. B. from Union University. During the time she has continued her work as teacher in the New York State Normal College, where she has been employed since 1866. Her work has for motive the advance and multiplication of opportunities for the higher education of the young women of the Empire State.

News

No. 16

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REACTION

Marks are out! There is the usual rush for envelopes of yellow cards, the usual slow turning away, the usual exclamation of surprise, joyous or otherwise. There are the usual reactions, the usual slightly complacent rejoicing about A's, the usual half-resentful gloom about E's, and all the grades and shadings between—quite as usual.

All quite as usual—but why? Why should an A demand self-complacency and an E resentment against the instructor, the course, the college, as a whole? If the instructor and the course, particularly the instructor, get the blame for all E's, why shouldn't they also get the praise for A's? Is it fair always to say, "He gave me an E," but "I got an A?" Of course not. But nearly everyone does it. After all, is "give," in third person the proper verb to connect with marks? "Giving" implies a donation, with no payment of any sort on the part of the recipient. Is that the way we got our marks? Do the instructors just hand us our marks, drawn from some grab-bag of letters from A to E inclusive? No. We get, usually, just about what we earn, not much more and not much less. Of course, no one wants to go around saying "I earned—" in front of every mark, even though it is true. But there is a need for some substitute for "He gave me." There is a lot to be said perhaps, for the slangy, but vivid "I pulled—." At least it uses a pronoun in the first person as the subject of a verb of action, which is what is needed.

However, whatever verb we use, let's remember that the one we really mean is "earn." Whether it's an A or an E, let's take the responsibility ourselves. If we want to be responsible for E's next June, now's the time to start. Do we?

S. B., '27.

SENIOR HOP

The senior class took action last Monday to make the Hop, scheduled for February 21, informal for both men and women. The gifts of the class to the College have also been voted upon, but they will be kept secret until Moving-Up Day. If proof were needed that the junior

AMONG THE LAWYERS

A graduate of State College and a former faculty member was the first woman lawyer in New York state, it was learned recently when the story of Miss Kate Stoneman, was made public. It required a special act of the New York state legislature to secure her admittance to the bar in 1886. Miss Stoneman had previously been graduated from State, then the State Normal school, and was for forty consecutive years a member of the faculty.

"All the time I taught school," says Miss Stoneman, "but during the summer and at night and over week-ends I read law. After three years of this, when I became executrix of a relative's estate, I decided to take my bar examination, although I knew of one woman who had tried to take the examination and had failed."

What happened then is unique in the annals of the state. Miss Stoneman took her oral and written examinations and passed both creditably, but was refused admission to the bar because she was a woman by three Supreme Court justices who gave as their reasons:

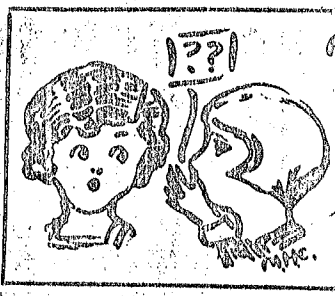
- "No precedent."
- "No English precedent."
- "No necessity."

"The New York state legislature was in session then under Governor Hill," says Miss Stoneman. "It was late, the latter part of June, and at any day the legislature, as well as the Supreme Court might adjourn. But suffrage workers and educators took up my cause and within a day a bill had been passed through both houses, with hardly a dissenting vote. That same afternoon we visited the governor and the secretary of state and they signed the bill. The next morning, on the day that the Supreme Court adjourned, I went before them, presented the signed bill and was duly admitted to the bar."

While Miss Stoneman was teaching she completed the three year course at the Albany Law school and received her degree of L.L.B.

REDUCTIONS IN THE CO-OP

The Co-op aims to make greatest reductions on supplies used in greatest quantities by the students. Stu-



Alpha Delta Omicron marriage of Edith Jer Robert Carpenter of Da lege.

Epsilon of Pi Alpha Mrs. L. Mayersohn, a gr Teacher Training School as an honorary member.

Caroline Ferris, '28, o spent the week-end with Latham, New York.

Dorothy Hoover, '28, c returned to Albany, l heavy snowfall in the no of the state was the cause

Dorothy Kniskern, '2 Hall, spent the week-en with friends.

Anne Cowan, '27, of Pa the week-end with frie York City.

Rev. Loyal A. Bigelow, veteran, member of the of State College, teacher for the blind at New Yo Nashville, Tennessee, and minister was killed on February 4, at Orlando, an auto. Mr. Bigelow w uncle of Mary Hitchcoc

Mildred Schmitter, '27 Mellon, '27, spent the w friends in Schenectady.

Gamma Kappa Phi wel Scholes, '27, into full mo

Miss Ada Marks, '28, i bany Hospital, where she undergone a minor opera

Marks is now on the road Miss Cobb left last

Syracuse, where she was meeting of the Normal Sch ians.

Miss Ethel DuBois, '2

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working in "dams" schools, and when
works. Tell you this because Susan B.
Anthony used to say, "She was quite
right." Women were considered to be
entirely out of their sphere in any other
occupation than that of home making.
And as very diligent occupation that
might be, but it most assuredly was
not all. To the professional women of
today the very essence of her existence
is a perfectly justifiable independence
without which she would be utterly at a
loss.

I came from Chautauque county and
was born within sight of the famous
grounds where the great Chautauque
plantation grew up. My people were
very liberal minded, and when I was
a young girl my ambition to graduate
from a normal school was not thwarted.
I came to Albany where I was first a
student and then a teacher in the old
State Normal school, which was then in
the building occupied now by the Chris-
tian Brothers academy.

I was after that began teaching
and became interested in suffrage.
At first a society, the Woman's Suffrage
Society of Albany, it was called.
This was the very wonderful organization
which is about to take form in Albany
at the present time. This Civic club
which the women of Albany are or-
ganizing, we hope our independence. We
did not become a part of the state or
national union, which at that time was just
coming into being. There were socialists
in New York and Illinois, as well
as in Kentucky, by James, and I think
others. We were urged to add
ourselves to become a part of the state
organization but although we sent our
delegates to their convention, and in
general subscribed to their platform,
we kept our own organization intact,
and retained our own policies, inde-
pendent of theirs.

First Woman in Public Life

I remember very clearly, in the first
place, I have any sort of public office
in the state department. She was
Miss Mary Hood, whose name I
remember very clearly. Her name was
throughout the state as being
the first woman to obtain a position
in the state. Mrs. Helen M. Tennes
was the first woman of the state board
of health. She was one of the
first members of the state depart-
ment. I think in those pioneer women
who not only obtained the positions,
but also courage and ability to take
them. I believe we sur-
vived a great debt of gratitude
to the women who actually blazed
the way for us. And better things
constantly come to women.
Countrymen men who could
not be frightened out of their boots
were suspicious of a woman
in a public office. In industry we
were not so much interested in women
as we are now. It was a matter of
surprise to the men of the time
that women were providing for the
family. New York is the

Husted was speaker for a good many
years, and during his time, we were
most fortunate in having an ardent
supporter. He was anxious to see suf-
frage who out, and he made extra pro-
visions for our comfort, and helped us
in every way he could. And every year
a suffrage bill, granting equal franchise
to women was introduced in the legis-
lature. And every year it was defeated.
"Suffrage work? Yes, I consider that
I have done my bit, and yet it was
only just a bit. Our society organized
about forty years ago, has existed
without a break until the present day.
I think I see its real mission in the civ-
il club that the women of Albany are now
forming. It is the greatest satisfaction
that can be realized to see the reality
of the work.

Miss Stoneman Modest.

Which brings us to the point that
Miss Stoneman is very modest about
her own part in the entire proceedings.
She tells sparingly of her own career,
with the exception of the fact that she
studied law while teaching at the nor-
mal school. She was in the office of
W. W. Frothingham, who had rooms
in the old state bank building. She
studied law there, and afterward went
to the Albany Law school where she
obtained her degree of bachelor of laws.
"I cannot quite realize that this is
the same world then and now. Every-
thing seems to have changed so very
materially. I feel the complete revolu-
tion myself and I know the younger
generations feel it by the very look
in their faces. It is as though the
minds of the universe had been taken
out to sea, and had imbibed some new
forms, which have universally taken
root. But I enjoy it with the rest of
mankind, and glory in the fact, that
while I cannot take an active part in
things now, I am able to appreciate
what the changes are, and can still
respond to them."

Miss Stoneman is a believer in the
logic of prohibition, rather than the
letter of it. She says that the very
fact that men are retaining home, who
have been kept clean and without the
temptation to evil, which accompanies
alcoholic drinks, with drinking a very
small amount, is sufficient to convince the
most prejudiced mind that the saloon
must go.

"It is not for myself that I want pro-
hibition, nor for the men and women of
tomorrow, but rather for the
sons of women who have striven all
their lives to keep their boys from the
evil influences which surround the pub-
lic houses where liquor is sold. There
lies the danger, I believe."

Miss Stoneman was called in Albany
during the last election, when women
for the first time voted. She passed
the registration days last fall sitting in
the inspection of the polls where women
were welcomed, her brothers including
the southern part of the city. She has
been a potent influence in the suffrage
organization from the time of its first
connection with the state organization,
when it resolved itself into a suffrage
party to the day the suffrage was ob-
tained.

On Peace is it early,
What party do you belong to?

was the natural question Miss Stone-
man was asked, as she sat talking over
the changes and political upheavals of
her lifetime.

"I have not as yet been able to find
my party," Miss Stoneman said, smil-
ing. "Since the Republican party in
Washington has refused to grant me
the federal amendment, I cannot grant
them my support. And since the state
Democratic party has made prohibition
an antagonistic party issue, I cannot
conscientiously look to it for guidance.
So you see I am on the fence. If I
were younger, I should most certainly
take an active part in politics, and un-
doubtedly I should join one or other of
the parties, for active work is the only
way to counteract the ill of any polit-
ical organization. Staying in the out-
side will never do."

"There is just one thing which I
perhaps has been left out of the general
discussion of suffrage. That is the
place of the militants. For they ap-
pear to have a place. I was impressed
with the real value of their work when
I knew that they had dropped all the
fight to go to France where they were
practically the first women on the
ground to help. They had had sufficient
conviction in their beliefs to be willing to
contribute their whole lives, and whether
or not they were misguided to the
general fashion in which they went
about it, they had the courage of their
convictions, and they have gained the
respect of the world by their quiet
patriotism."

Interested in every new development
in the progress of current events, Miss
Stoneman believes that a league of na-
tions, which she says must come will
grow out of the peace conference.

"To my mind, the most interesting
thing concerning the league of na-
tions," she said, "is the part of 'glor-
ious spring Russia,' as some of us called
it, there for those first few weeks of
its freedom. Russia was the birth-
place of the suggestion that there be
a real league of nations, and it was
the first of the supposed late czar of
Russia who proposed a league, which
would preclude the possibility of more
war in Germany's opinion. That fact
is forgotten, just as the czar himself is
forgotten, but the idea is alive and about
to be realized in actual fact."

"Prohibition, strange to say was first
put into practice in Russia. That coun-
try where turmoil and strife have re-

ruled from the very beginning of
her rule. In the case of Russia
revolutionary changes have been
introduced and introduced in
its belief in prohibition.

As for the league of nations, it
comes as the first of two things
to be realized in the world, and the
realization that the league of nations
is within my grasp of the future, I
whether or not it can be sufficient
thought that I have heard and seen
part in a century of progress, and
purchased by the great world in which
the Christians of the world were
established.



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whose hair has the natural glow
and luster of youth—avail your-
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\$225 OBTAINED BY VASSAR ALUMNAE

Card Party Brings \$150 and Seventy-five Dollars Are Pledged.

MUSICAL CLUB TO MEET

Japan of Arch Club to Give Card Party and Dance Tuesday, February 18.

More than \$150 was realized at the card party given for the benefit of the Vassar college emergency fund by the Albany branch of Vassar alumnae yesterday afternoon. In addition, \$75 was pledged to the fund. The card party took place in the homes of four of the members of the Albany branch. Guests from Schenectady, Troy and Albany attended. Bridge and five hundred were in play from 2:30 to 4:10 o'clock, when tea was served. Prizes were given at each table. The hostesses included Miss Henrietta Gibson, Miss Ruth Leonard, Miss Marguerite Clark and Mrs. William G. Van Loan. The assisting hostesses were Miss Ruth Childs, Miss Ruth Stevens, Mrs. Ira Schenker, Miss Mildred Gould, Mrs. Charles E. Wilson, Miss

MISS KATE STONEMAN, LAWYER AND PIONEER IN WOMEN'S CRUSADES



MISS STONEMAN PIONEER LAWYER

First Woman in Profession Recalls Long Fight for Suffrage.

FRIEND OF J. W. WASTED

Pay High Tribute to "The Eagle of Westchester" Who as Speaker Advocated Causes.

By GERALDINE WILSON

Living history is embodied in the person of Miss Kate Stoneman. Her personality enters into the life of a large extent. Miss Kate Stoneman, Albany's first woman lawyer, is the first woman to be admitted to the Albany county bar in the city of Albany who really has lived history. She has been living during all the best part of the world's development. She has been an active factor in the history of the world.

Perhaps the best example of the intellectual woman of the world is Miss Kate Stoneman. She is a woman who has been a pioneer in the world of law. She has been a pioneer in the world of law. She has been a pioneer in the world of law.

The White Shop

Mrs. R. J. Schoonmaker



SPECIALS
Monday and Tuesday Mornings
PHILIPPINE UNDERWEAR \$1.95, \$2.50 and \$2.95
SILK HOSE (All Shades), \$1.00
Silk Petticoats, Brassieres, Hosiery, Novelty Neckwear.
61 COLUMBIA ST. Main 832
Crummey Bldg.

Corset Shop

We are showing all the latest models in Spring Corsets and Brassieres.

Mary Culver, Mrs. William M. Groff and Miss Helen James. Prizes were awarded to the following: Mrs. F. W. Kye, Mrs. M. J. Jarrowater, Miss Helen Brookstein, Mrs. Harry Gillette, Mrs. Robert White, Miss Helen Moore, Miss Charlotte Hogoboom, Miss Harry Hastings, Miss Helen Kohn, Miss Helen McCard, Miss Hamilton, Miss Root, Mrs. Jacob J. Lochner, Mrs. William E. Conklin, Miss Ellen Finley, Mrs. Henry Melver, Miss Jean Hawkins and Miss Helen Wambaugh. Mrs. William G. Van Loan's guests included Mrs. William Morgan Groff, Miss Josephina Mann, Miss Hamilton, Miss Jean Hopkins, Miss Bill Clement, Mrs. Thomas C. Stowell, Mrs. Benson H. Paul, Miss Helen Wambaugh, Miss Nollan, Miss Stuart, Miss Longworth, Miss Moore, Miss Ellen Finley, Mrs. Harry W. Hastings, Miss Florence Tower, Mrs. William Whitfield, Mrs. Elizabeth Grumney, Mrs. Hydon, Mrs. J. Bartlett Hydon, Mrs. George W. McEwan, Mrs. Henry Melver, Mrs. Paul Wadsworth, Mrs. Harry Weatherhead, Mrs. Jacob J. Lochner, Mrs. C. W. Wolfe, Mrs. Charles Blakesley, Miss Helen Kohn, Mrs. Howard Hall, Mrs. Howard Hall, Mrs. John C. Cook, Miss Josephine Cullis, Miss Wilfred Boyce, Miss Helen McCard, Miss Gladys Abbott, Miss Muench, Miss Hiss, Miss Robinson, Miss Root, Miss Helen James of Troy, Mrs. Frank H. Deal, Mrs. Albert Cox, Mrs. William D. Conklin, Miss Katharine McCormick and Miss Florence Barnum.

Miss Ruth Leonard entertained the following guests: Mrs. Charles Wilcox, Mrs. Harry Gillette, Mrs. George Cronwell, Mrs. Jermain Porter, Miss Mary Culver, Miss Helen Brookstein, Miss Katharine Joggard, Miss Grace Wingate, Miss Theodora Smith, Mrs. Harry Winter, Mrs. Robert White, Mrs. Mary Brown, Mrs. Eugene Porter, Miss Jessie De Teer, Miss Florence Nichols, Miss Mary Pound, Miss Helen Moore, Miss Helen Dearynter, Miss Charlotte Hogoboom, Miss Bill Leonard, Miss Ellen Smith, Mrs. M. J. Jarrowater, Mrs. A. M. Smith, Mrs. R. W. Jouglin, Mrs. F. W. Kye and Mrs. W. J. Leonard. Miss Marguerite Clark entertained the following guests: Miss Mary Danaher, Miss Helen James, Mrs. Charles E. Wilson, Mrs. William G. Van Loan, Mrs. Harry Hastings, Mrs. Harry Melver, Mrs. Paul Wadsworth, Mrs. Harry Weatherhead, Mrs. Jacob J. Lochner, Mrs. C. W. Wolfe, Mrs. Charles Blakesley, Miss Helen Kohn, Mrs. Howard Hall, Mrs. Howard Hall, Mrs. John C. Cook, Miss Josephine Cullis, Miss Wilfred Boyce, Miss Helen McCard, Miss Gladys Abbott, Miss Muench, Miss Hiss, Miss Robinson, Miss Root, Miss Helen James of Troy, Mrs. Frank H. Deal, Mrs. Albert Cox, Mrs. William D. Conklin, Miss Katharine McCormick and Miss Florence Barnum.

day evening, "The Modern Trend and Its Relation to Music," will be illustrated at the piano by Miss Frances De Villa-Ball.

Albany Choral Society.

A rehearsal of the Albany Choral Society will take place Tuesday evening at 7:45 o'clock in St. John's Lutheran church, Frederick W. Kerny will direct "The Call to Freedom" and "Out of Darkness."

Call for Garments.

It is the desire of the committee in charge of the distribution of yarn at the Navy League that active operations close this month. It is earnestly requested by Miss Nanette Aker, in charge of headquarters in the temporary city hall, that all unknit garments or yarn be returned not later than February 20.

Infant Welfare Station.

Miss Sarah Louise Tutts, registered nurse in charge of the infant welfare station in the south and west ends, conducted under the direction of the Central Christian Mothers Union, Mrs. Frederick D. Bidwell, president, makes the following report for the week:

Two clinics, thirty-three babies treated; six new babies enrolled; visitor, Mrs. Frederick D. Bidwell, Miss Louisa Trask.

The usual clinic will take place in the West Albany station Thursday afternoon. The Infant Welfare League, which also is under Miss Tutts' direction, met in school 14 Wednesday. Demonstrations in the care and preparation of food were features of the meeting.

Theosophical Society to Meet.

"The Esotericism of a World Religion" will be the subject of the lecture in the room of the Theosophical Society, 31 North Pearl street, this evening at 8:15 o'clock. The lecture is open to the public. A. and P. Warrington of Westchester, N. Y., will be the speaker.

It is a heavy hand, and the inability of every subject to be gained current interest. It is the ideal type of woman. Adam created judgment. It is a sphere in the world. It is a sphere in the world. It is a sphere in the world.

Three Graces to Meet.

The three Graces will meet in the third greatest room of the city, and it is a very interesting one. It is a very interesting one. It is a very interesting one.

Miss Stoneman says, "There were seven occupations open to women at that time. They were connected with the home. They were connected with the home. They were connected with the home."

Kate Stoneman, State's First Portia, Dead in Albany at 84

Normal School Teacher Forty Years, Won Way to Bar Despite Three Jurists.

BLAZED TRAIL FOR WOMEN

Noted as Suffrage Leader, Came From Chautauqua in '64; Funeral Tomorrow.

Miss Kate Stoneman, eighty-four, first woman attorney in the state and first woman to receive a degree from the Albany Law school, died Tuesday at her home, 134 South Swan street, it was announced yesterday. For almost forty years she was a teacher in the State Normal school, now the State College for Teachers. She also was pioneer worker for women's suffrage.

The funeral will be conducted in Tebbutt's undertaking room's tomorrow morning, the Rev. William Herman Hopkins of First Presbyterian church, officiating. Burial will be in the Albany Rural cemetery.

Miss Stoneman was born at Lakewood, Chautauqua county, April 1, 1841, daughter of pioneers who settled in western New York when the country was a comparative wilderness. She became widely known as a suffrage worker and frequently appeared before the legislature and governors to urge passage of laws that would permit women to vote.

Came to Albany in 1864. Miss Stoneman came to Albany in 1864. She entered the State Normal school that year and through friends obtained a position as copyist for Joel Tiffany, state reporter for the court of appeals.

While in normal school she retained



MISS KATE STONEMAN.

this position, and her avid reading, which had been pronounced even in childhood, was guided into legal channels. When graduated she taught for a while at Glens Falls and then returned to Albany to teach penmanship, drawing and geography in the normal school. She retired after the old school building in Willett street burned, almost twenty years ago.

Soon after returning to Albany a great-aunt at Troy died and left Miss Stoneman a large estate. In settling the estate, of which she was named executrix, Miss Stoneman again was thrown into contact with legal procedure. She

was advised by W. W. Frothingham, who placed his law library at her disposal. She read law, in addition to her teaching for two years when her friends suggested she take the bar examinations.

Three supreme court justices, however, said it would be impossible for her to be admitted to the bar as there was no precedent for such action and furthermore, there was no call for women attorneys. However, she took the examination in 1886 and passed.

The legislature then was in session and a bill was introduced making it possible for women to become members of the bar. It passed with scant opposition. David B. Hill was governor, and as trouble was expected in procuring his signature Miss Stoneman, accompanied by representatives of the city, county, state and press, visited the Governor.

Governor Hill signed the bill and later that year, before the jurists who had said it would be impossible, Miss Stoneman became a member of the bar. The jurists were Learned, Bookes and Alton B. Parker.

Hill's Graceful Tribute.

A new day had dawned for women in professional life and Miss Stoneman was literally showered with congratulations from all parts of the state. The next year in an address before the annual meeting of the state bar association Governor Hill said:

Later, when the Albany Law school began to award the degree of LL.B. Miss Stoneman was the first to be so honored. In addition to her teaching several years she maintained an office, where she not only practiced, but also was a consultant.

In her suffrage work Miss Stoneman was associated with such women as Dr. Mary Walker, Lillie Devereaux Blake and May Seymour of Utica. For several years she had been in poor health and seldom left her South Swan street home. She was known in Albany as one of the best informed women of current events.

Miss Stoneman was the sister of the late General George Stoneman, one time governor of California, and of the late Judge John T. Stoneman of Cedar Rapids, Ia. She is survived by several nieces and nephews. Two nieces, Mrs. Henry R. Ford of Buffalo, and Miss Alice Williams of East Aurora, are in Albany for the funeral.

Kate Stoneham

Teacher of Geography, Drawing, &
Penmanship from Aug 28, 1866.

Later taught drawing and school law.

Died sometime between April &
July 1885, at Albany, N.Y.

2-13-85