

Of the State Historical Society, Dr. Carpenter was a prominent and active member. He was elected into its executive board in Jan., 1854; was librarian for the year 1855; wrote for several years the reports on the art gallery acquisitions, and continued a member of the executive committee until his death, excepting the brief period of his absence from Madison. I frequently heard him speak, with pride, of the growth and increasing usefulness of the Library of this Society; and I doubt whether any other man, excepting Mr. Draper, and Mr. Durrie, was as thoroughly posted as he in regard to all the books found in this Library.

In addition to his regular duties at the University, and the extensive literary pursuits already mentioned, Dr. Carpenter found time to respond to numerous calls throughout the State as a popular lecturer, and to engage in frequent pulpit services. He took a prominent part in the proceedings of the State Educational Association, acted on the State board of examiners, on the Madison board of education, visited the normal schools, etc.; and had the rare faculty of being able to do all these things well.

On the 14th of May, 1856, he married Miss Frances Catherine Curtiss, in whom he found a loving and trusting wife, a woman who entered with great zeal into all his work, rejoicing with him in his successes, and taking her full share of the burden in times of adversity. They had no children, and she is now left alone to mourn the loss of a devoted and faithful husband.

About a week before Thanksgiving day, the University faculty, with their ladies, were gathered at Dr. Carpenter's cheerful and hospitable house, where they spent a most delightful evening. How little did we think that many of us then bade good-bye for the last time! On the 28th of November—Thanksgiving day—having already been informed of the death of his nephew, he received a dispatch that his brother, Dr. Calvin Carpenter, of Geneva, N. Y., was very ill. On the next train he left Madison, and reached Geneva just in time to receive a fraternal blessing from his brother, who died immediately after his arrival. A day or two later, Mrs. Carpenter, the professor's wife, who remained at their home in this city, received a letter from her husband, saying that he would not be able to return as soon as he had antici-