LINDENWOOD COLLEGE FOR WOMEN.

Of the most valuable assets of the college is its history. Colonel and Mrs. Sibley, godly Presbyterians, in the late twenties of the last century, conceived the idea of a great girls' schools in the West, and after much prayer and thought upon the subject, bought a tract of one hundred and twenty acres of land on the bluffs of the Missouri near the St. Charles settlement, built a log cabin, and in 1831 opened up a private school for the training of young women. For seventy-four years, therefore, the school has been quietly working toward the end that they had in view. That its progress has been very slow, its friends concede. In 1856 the school was formally turned over to the Presbyterian Church, and was the property of the Presbytery of St. Louis for a time, but later became the property of the Synod, and so continued.

The school has a magnificent physical location, situated on a wooded bluff, beautifully shaded off in every direction. Its drainage is perfect, its beauty all that nature unadorned can make of it.

Lindenwood's strategic position is splendid. Outside the city of St. Charles the quiet and seclusion so necessary for the best forwarding of education is assured, whilst its nearness to the large city of St. Louis means placing at the disposal of its pupils all of the educational advantages which a great city affords. This also makes the school perfectly accessible to students from every part of the West, the territory to which it was intended to minister.

The school has a property conservatively valued at $75,000, comprehending a campus of thirty acres of ground, ample room for the building up of a great school, a splendid combination school and dormitory building, equipped with all modern appliances in the home and the school.

Lindenwood has the nucleus of a sufficient endowment. Messrs. Watson and Ridgely established productive foundations to the extent of $22,500. For all the
purposes of a woman's college in this Western territory for the next ten or twelve years, an endowment of $200,000 will be ample. It ought not be difficult, when the absolute need of a distinctively woman's college is presented to the rich members of our great Church, to make up the difference between this amount and the nucleus now possessed by Lindenwood. The school has a long list of alumnae, including some of the best women of this southwest territory. Lindenwood is a name that is synonymous with all that is good in female education, under the distinctive college rank, in all this southwest territory.

Such are the main assets of this old Presbyterian school. Its work is and always has been largely what is designated as Seminary. Through the agency of the splendid state universities of all this West, the co-education idea for distinctive college work early gained an advantageous position from which it will never be dislodged. These schools have amply supplied the needs of all of our Western girls desiring a strict college education. But the time has come when a large number of our best people turn fondly back to the old-time ideal of a woman's school for women. Lindenwood is shifting its position and preparing its foundations for a change to the college ideal. This will come slowly, and will take money for its accomplishment.

Lindenwood was founded to train Christian women for a Christian society, and to become Christian home-makers. It has been the settled policy of the Synod to adhere closely to this programme. It is not a professional school training of teachers, emancipators, doctors, lawyers or anything else than home-makers and society leaders in the true and best sense of that word, and not as ordinarily used. At the present, the most pressing needs of the institution are the following: A new dormitory, doubling the present capacity of the school; a music hall for the housing of its excellent school of music; a modern up-to-date school building apart from the home. When we get these we can shift for a time without the necessary two hundred thousand dollars for an endowment, though that must come in the near future, that we may fill the place we ought to fill in the education of women, in the section to which we minister.

The chief item of encouragement to us in this work is that our enrollment is gradually growing larger. It is only a matter of a short time now until we shall be compelled to have larger quarters. There seems to be a widening of the interest of the Presbyteries in the school as a part of the work of the Synod and a disposition to do something more than pass good resolutions for the synodical girls' college. Another great source of encouragement is the change in the drift of educational thought back to distinctive schools for our daughters, and a determination to make these schools as good as those for our sons.

G. F. A.