

CHESTER TIMES – February 16, 1912

VILLANOVA COLLEGE RECEIVES BIG GIFT – Bernard Corr Presents \$100,000 to Delaware County Educational Institution for Erection of Memorial Building  
Alumni of Villanova College, having their 61<sup>st</sup> annual dinner at the Hotel Walton, Philadelphia last night, shouted with joy, when the toastmaster, the Rev. B.J. O'Donnell, announced that Bernard Corr a resident of Philadelphia, had presented to the college \$100,000, to be devoted to the erection of a building to be known by his name. This hall will contain a handsome chapel, which is expected will be one of the best examples of English abbey architecture in this country, and its other parts will in a measure replace St. Rita's Hall, destroyed by fire several weeks ago. The announcement of the gift was received with the utmost enthusiasm, the alumni indulging in cheer for the generous benefactor, who was himself present.

Father O'Donnell, in making known the gift, said:

“Bernard Corr, moved by the impulse of his generous and noble heart, and actuated by a desire to assist in the progress of Catholic education, has presented us with \$100,000 with which to establish the Bernard Corr Memorial Hall. This will effectually solve the problem which has been confronting us and render it possible for us to enjoy greater facilities in our college work. In making this magnificent gift, Mr. Corr shows himself true to the Irish and Catholic traditions of love and loyalty to religion and education, which he has received from a line of glorious ancestors, honored and illustrious alike in the ecclesiastical and in the civil history of Ireland.”

A PHILANTHROPIC FAMILY – Father O'Donnell then reviewed in brief the ancestry of the Corr family, pointing out the many deeds in which THE PROGENITORS OF THE American representative of the family had been concerned. Mr. Corr lives at 1304 North Broad Street, and recently presented to the diocese of Philadelphia a beautiful church in the northern section of Philadelphia. He also installed a \$10,000 pipe organ in the Church of the Gesu, at Seventeenth and Stiles Streets, Philadelphia.

The Very Rev. Martin J. Berghty, provincial of the Order of Augustinians accepted the Villanova gift, pointing out the threefold duties of the members of his order, teaching, preaching and general parochial work.

Villanova in the realm of medicine was reviewed by Dr. J. Chalmers DaCosta and many reminiscences of the seat of learning were given by J. Stanley Smith, president of the alumni. The college's activities in science, poetry and law were rehearsed respectively by the Rev. James J. Dean, Thomas A. Daly and Charles D. McAvoy, while the introductory address was made by the Rev. Edward G. Dohan president of Villanova.

Victor Herbert, the musical composer, who received a degree from the college last year, was one of the guests of honor, and he played the piano, while Armand Crabbe of the Chicago Grand Opera Company, and was heard in a song from Mr. Herbert's "Natoma" and in several other selections.

Regrets for their inability to attend were received from President Taft, Secretary of State Knox, Secretary of Commerce and Labor Nagel, and from many other persons of note.

There were about 200 present at the dinner.