

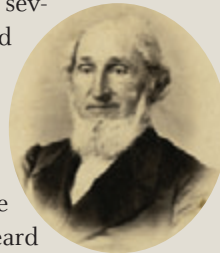
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A HISTORY OF GETTYSBURG COLLEGE

## The Runaway Rockaway

*Dr. Henry L. Baugher turns the tables on some practical jokers*

“Sometime during Dr. Henry L. Baugher’s administration (1850– 1868), he was the owner of a rockaway, a popular high-swung two-seated carriage, of several generations ago. It was kept in the carriage house south and west of his residence on the campus. Some students decided they would have a little fun at the expense of the Doctor. Unfortunately for them, but fortunately for him, they spoke of their plans within hearing of a citizen of the town. They were chuckling in advance over the chagrin that the worthy doctor would experience when he went to get his carriage to go driving. The person who heard it told Dr. Baugher of the trick that was planned. He secreted himself on the back seat with some of the curtains down and awaited their arrival. In due time they came. They backed the rockaway out of the shed, they took it out the college lane, up through the center of town and several miles out the Baltimore Pike.



“No doubt their conversation was not exactly such as it would have been had they known the President of the college was near. When they were about to leave it in the shadow of several trees, a little off from the main highway, the Doctor broke his silence. He told them he appreciated the ride they had given him in the cool night air and they had done very well to take him out there in such a short time and that if they pulled him back to town he would not say any more about it. They complied with his suggestion. It was said that they tried hard to recall all that they had said on the way out.”

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“On one occasion during Dr. Baugher’s administration a large farm wagon mysteriously appeared in one of the halls of ‘Old Dorm’ — today Penn Hall — during the night. The guilty parties covered up their tracks so well that an investigation extending over some days failed to reveal the identity of the perpetrators.

Several weeks later, when Mrs. Baugher’s washerwoman returned the family washing she inquired of Mrs. Baugher what would ‘take tar out.’ Mrs. Baugher suggested something that would remove it, then innocently inquired whether she had got some on her clothing. To this the washerwoman replied that several of the students, for whom she did washing, had some tar on their shirts. In response to an inquiry she told the wife of the president who they were, and meet discipline followed. They never learned how the Doctor found them out.”

From *A History of Gettysburg College, 1832–1932*, by Samuel G. Hefelbower