Weaken the Bow of Home, while one exists.

The day on which I received your letter was my nineteenth

birth day, the first I ever spent away from my

birth place. It is the beginning of many a

future absence. My next birth day spent at Home

will be my twenty second (22--9).

I did not have much chance for reflection on that

Saturday, for that was the day of the "Great trek"

and I was a member of the Committee who were ap-

pointed to supervise. We contracted for about

eight hundred (800) melons at one hundred and forty

($140.50) dollars which money was collected from the

"Newies." It is a great festival day. Every body turns

out, with capacious bags. Here and there get all the melons he

can for it is a great game. Some getting forty, fifty

others, some at all with numberlessanned and tricks.

The Committee do not engage in the struggle but

have twenty of the largest placed in a separate

wagon I hauled to their Rooms. Next year our Committee

are entitled to a less number than the acting Com-

mittee. I continue to plan our number as long

as one are in college. So far thus it is a

position of profit as well as honor. I have one of

the favorite ones. I have been engaged on every Committee

our class has appointed yet; though the office itself is