

The following correspondence with Public Television -in New York
WNET-entitled

Stand Columbia;

July 23, 2007
Thirteen/WNET 450
West 33rd Street New
York, NY 10001

Dear WNET;

I have always presumed your accuracy in watching your
programming over the years. And I have been grateful for it.

The other morning while on my rowing machine, I had occasion to
watch “Hudson River Journeys”, which I had inadvertently taped.

During the introduction which told how the Hudson had been given
many names, it was noted that it was the name “The Lordly Hudson” that
best described it, and had been bestowed upon it by Paul Goodman, a
poet in the mid-twentieth century.

I almost fell off my rowing machine!!

Having entered Columbia in the fall of 1950, and having joined the Glee Club, I had to learn the Columbia University alma mater. I clearly remembered, having learned by heart, the words “**The Lordly Hudson**” as part of that song. The song had clearly predated my arrival at Columbia, and had been sung as long as anyone remembered, applying to the great river Hudson which I crossed every school day since I was 8 years old.

I contacted the archives at my alma mater and they affirmed that the last verse of the alma mater, **Stand, Columbia!** included “*the Lordly Hudson*”;

Our Alma Mater Follows;

Stand, Columbia!

Mother, stayed on Rock eternal
Crowned and set upon a height
Glorified by Light supernal In thy
radiance we see Light Torch thy
children's lamps to kindle Beacon
star to cheer and guide

Stand, Columbia! Alma Mater--
Through the storms of Time
abide Stand, Columbia! Alma
Mater-Through the storms of
Time abide.

Mighty patriots, warriors, sages,
Thou hast borne, a shining band;
Teach thy sons in future ages Still
to love their native land. Thron'd
upon the hill where heroes

Fought for liberty, and died.

Stand, Columbia! Alma Mater--
Through the storms of Time abide
Stand, Columbia! Alma Mater--
Through the storms of Time
abide.

**Honor, love, and veneration
Crown forevermore thy brow!
Many a grateful generation
Hail thee as we hail thee now.
Till *the lordly Hudson* seaward
Cease to roll his heaving tide-**

**Stand, Columbia! Alma Mater--
Through the storms of Time abide
Stand, Columbia! Alma Mater--
Through the storms of Time abide.**

The author of the ode was **Mr. Gilbert Oakley Ward**. He wrote it in **April 1902**. And deserves to be correctly credited for doing so. In memoriam, he is owed an apology.

The music is from Haydn, and oddly enough for a young man who was destined to be a rabbi, I proudly sang my Columbia alma mater, whose melody was that of “Deutschland Ueber Alles”.

Sincerely,

Jack H Bloom PhD