The University Reporter.

Vol. V. IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY. No. 18.

IOWA CITY, IOWA.

JULY 1, 1873.

CLASS ODE OF '73.

I.

Farewell to all Subfreshmen,
We're going to abscond.
Ye Sophs and Fresh bring on your tears,
Ye Juniors don't despise.
By tricks and cheats, and many flunks,
The goal have we sever'd.
The years have pass'd, and we at last,
Our sheepskins have procur'd,
Our sheepskins have procur'd,
Our sheepskins have procur'd.
The race is run, the work is done,
Our sheepskins are procur'd.

II.

Good-bye old Mathew Maties,
Logic a fond adieu;
And of Porter's Mental Science,
Thanks, there's no more of you.
Old Dutch is laid upon the shelf,
And so are frowning Profs.
With purses too, have we got through,
And sold them to the Sophs,
And sold them to the Sophs,
And sold them to the Sophs.
We've put them by, without a sigh,
And sold them to the Sophs.

III.

O, we were all so humble,
When verdant fresh we came,
To Iowa's noblest college;
In search of learned fame;
But now we've reach'd the pinnacle,
There's nothing more to come.

With loudest lays we sound our praise,
For O, we think we're some,
For O, we think we're some,
For O, we think we're some.
Then swell the song, its notes prolong,
For O, we think we're some.

IV.

Senior "highs," and Junior sprees,
We always have ador'd;
With Chapel and Rhetoricals,
Too long have we been bor'd.
No more we'll burn the mid-night oil,
And rack the weary brain;
We've sold our lamps, and got the stamps,
To start off on the train,
To start off on the train,
To start off on the train.
We've packed each bud, prepar'd to scud,
Off on the morning train.

V.

It's fun to be a senior,
O, such a jolly hand,
A fine plug hat upon your head.
A cane within your hand;
To dangle bones, and tear out stiles,
Which ne'er we'll do again:
We're going to teach or else we'll preach,
To make the stamps roll in,
To make the stamps roll in,
To make the stamps roll in.
Then toll the bell, and bid farewell,
We're going to earn some tin.

A. OSCAR WILLIAMS.

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES, IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY.

ACADEMIC COMMENCEMENT.

On commencement day proper, the heat was not sufficiently great to evaporate the interest in the exercises, it only softened it down somewhat, for the attendance and the attention of citizens and strangers was as good as usual. The young ladies and gentlemen did not seem, however, to be conscious of any obstacle to the finest exercise of their memories, vocal organs, and rhetorical action. Still it was warm and the less interested were almost melted by the heat, if not moved by the torrents of eloquence that flowed in irresistible gushes. To properly characterize all the speakers and their orations would require more space than is at our disposal, and while we may truthfully say that the whole performance was excellent, fully equal, if not superior, to any similar commencement exercise, we feel that we would not be meeting the expectation of our readers, if we failed to indicate some of the features of the speeches. And yet we hesitate to enter upon this duty, because we cannot examine fully every address and present its peculiar merits and demerits; for each possessed some excellency, and we suppose no one will deny that there may have been some slight ground for adverse criticism in so long a list of speakers (19). The first speaker, Mr. Seerley, was very practical, presenting some powerful motives to self-culture. His excellent thoughts might, however, have been more forcible by the selection of a more appropriate title for his address; the idea "The Marble Waiteth," did not sufficiently suggest the active, earnest effort necessary to manly, noble development, and it was too poetical
for the matter of fact speaker and address. Mr. Guthrie in his oration very appropriately and eloquently established the fact that “Faith in Man” is an essential to comfort, prosperity and security; and while much may be found to impair it, there always is enough to guarantee its exercise. This was a timely theme. Mr. Sheldon, who followed him, was less happy in the selection of his subject, “The Unseen Battlefield,” and while he made no direct reference to inspired utterance, his argument went to prove “that he who ruleth his own spirit is better than he that taketh a city,” is as true now as ever it has been. Mr. Berryhill, in his oration, traced the progress of the change which led “From Monarchy to Republic” in our own country, which made it necessary for him to pass over some familiar ground, yet he succeeded in making the way attractive, and in impressing important historical facts on the minds of his hearers which should never be forgotten or under-valued. Mr. Osborn, in his oration on “Faith in Science,” made it appear that the teachings of the physical science no less than the revealed facts of the christian religion, demanded the exercise of faith in testimony, the reception of hypothesis upon which whole systems are erected, rest on testimony less clearly established than that which establishes our reception of the Bible. The speaker also showed that there need be no conflict between science and religion, and broader culture will remove all apparent antagonism. Mr. Forbes in speaking of the Moral Empire and tracing the progress of intellectual and moral forces, made some rather humiliating allusions to the evidences that have recently been unearthed, that there is still a sad lack of moral ballast in many national officials. Yet he took hopeful views, believing upon the whole that the moral empire was extending its sway, and will ultimately secure universal rule. So may it be. Miss Underwood in her address showed very forcibly the importance of individual “Reserve Power.” She emphasized the means of securing, as well as the many occasions for its exercise. She wasted no words in her address, which was eminently practical and pertinent. Mr. Hanna on “Independent Journalism” strongly presented a subject which is among the most important questions of the day, one destined to receive more attention than heretofore.

The speaker clearly indicated the necessity of a great reform in journalism, both as to its intellectual and moral character. Mr. Johnson on “Facts and Fables,” spoke fluently and well, but left his hearers in some doubt as to the scope of his argument. His advocacy of fearless investigation must have found a hearty response in every genuine lover of truth. Mr. Glass, on “Characteristics of Greek Mind,” while laboring under the disadvantage arising from the fact that his subject is a hackneyed one, brought out some interesting facts and references, not so flattering to the exclusive claims of modern science and civilization, as we want to hear. Our greatest naturalist is willing to follow the lead of a Greek mind, and the speaker showed our obligations to Greek culture in the other departments of learning and art. Mr. White on “Truth an Element of Power,” defined the terms, and showed that in everything it must be the fundamental principle, and in its absence there is neither stability or force. Miss Kaufman on “Thought and its Power,” strongly set forth the fact that the material is subordinate to the intellectual power in man. The triumphs of mind over matter, the great benefits enjoyed and hoped for, are due to rightly directed thought. Mr. Williams took for his subject “Oratory,” giving its history, indicating its essential elements, and illustrating its practical applications. This production was most finely written, but was much marred in delivery by too great haste. Mr. Myers, on the “Founders of Modern Science,” spoke earnestly and well, yet seemed to have too restricted ideas of what science is and what may be regarded as demonstration. He seemed to feel that there is nothing definite, but facts relating to material substances, and that a large class of thinking men were as much opposed to real as to pseudo-sciences, and that there is a real conflict between the advocates of religion and the promoters of science. Miss Rogers had not only a poetical title for her address, but gave an interesting and poetical treatment of it, for she led her hearers from “Sunrise to Sunset” in her delineation of the life of man and nations. Mr. Ketner, on “New England and Our National Character,” claimed for the Pilgrims of New England their full meed of praise for all that is great and good in our national character and institutions. He spoke with warmth and truth of what New England has done in furnishing us with our school system, our collegiate system, and in furnishing us with men. Every nation makes its own destiny for well or woe. Those who lay a good foundation raise a noble superstructure. In this effort Mr. K. sustained his well-earned reputation as a finished and cultured speaker. The Valedictorial, Mr. Macy, took for his topic “Liberalism as the Centre of Modern Thought,” defining the term so as to wrest it from those who, under the claim of Liberalism, lay down the most illiberal dogmas by which they show that they have not learned the alphabet of true liberality, which is maintained without the sacrifice of truth, justice, and the lessons of history. After closing his splendid effort, Mr. M. spoke a few well chosen words of cheer and farewell to classmates, teachers, and friends. Dr. Thacher then, after a solemn and impressive address to the graduates, presented them with their diplomas. All but three of the class took the degree of A. B. The three took that of B. P. H.

The honorary degree of A. M. was given to Mr. J. C. Matthews of the class of ’70. L. L. D. was conferred upon A. S. Welch, President of the State Agricultural College. D. D. was conferred upon Rev. J. M. Osmond, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, of Iowa City. The degree of “Bachelor of Didactics” was conferred upon two gentlemen and seven ladies who had completed the Normal Course.

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**LAW DEPARTMENT.**

Tuesday, at 2 o'clock p.m., occurred the graduating exercises of the Law Class. After prayer by the President, B. S. Miller stepped forward and spoke with much earnestness upon the subject of “Perjury.” N. G. Isbell followed...
treatin the subject of “Modern Reform in Pleading” in a very appropriate manner. At first his voice was hardly strong enough to be heard in the back part of the room, but he finally gained the right pitch and secured earnest attention. “The Growth of Law,” by Emlen McClain, was next discussed in his characteristic, solemn and earnest manner of speaking. Music next arose with its voluptuous swell,” after which “German and American Criminal Procedure” was investigated and set forth by J. C. Mathews in a clear, earnest and animated speech. J. L. Carney argued in a forcible style the “Justice of Punishment.”

A discussion next followed upon the “Congressional Control of Railroad Tariffs.” The affirmative was maintained by Miss Mary B. Hickey, the first lady graduate of the Law Department of the University. S. P. Russell advocated the negative side of the question in a very interesting speech. Music again interposed to add its cheer to the audience, after which W. M. Grant made a very animated and logical speech on the subject of “Taxation in Aid of Railroads.” He opposed, strongly, such an act of injustice.

“Our Jury System should be Abolished,” was advocated by the ever earnest and enthusiastic Joseph J. Fisher. L. M. Fisher, the last speaker, then gave “The Supremacy of the Law and Valedictory Addresses.” A fine speaker, well arranged production, excellently delivered. Especially were his farewell words to classmates and professors earnest and impressive. After music by the band, Prof. Hammond presented the class of fifty-four young men and one young lady to President Teacher to receive their diplomas from his hands. The President’s remarks being concluded, Hon. C. C. Cole, of the Supreme Court of the State, administered the Attorney’s oath to the graduates. Music closed the exercises, and the audience retired.

LITERARY SOCIETIES.

Friday evening, June the 30th, found the chapel crowded with an appreciative audience, to witness the anniversary exercises of the literary societies. To give a complete synopsis of each oration, and dwell upon the many good qualities of all, would require more time and space than is possible for us to employ. We will therefore give a programme of the occasion and offer a few general remarks.

ORDER OF EXERCISES.

INVOCATION.

Music.

HESPERIAN SOCIETY.

Society Address, "Iconoclasts."

M. LOUISA M’KENZIE.

Presentation of Diplomas by President,

ELLA A. HAMILTON.

Response from Graduates, “Beyond the Alps lies your Italy.”

HATTIE MINTHORN.

Music.

ZETAGATHIAN SOCIETY.

Society Address, "Toussaint L’Overture."

FRANK R. BRUSH.

Presentation of Diplomas by the President,

BERNARD M’PADDEN.

Response from Graduates, “The Zets.”

GEO. P. RUSSELL.

Music.

ERODELPHIAN SOCIETY.

Society Address, "The Idea of God the Law of Development."

MRS. J. G. MURPHY.

Presentation of Diplomas by the President,

FLORENCE KINNEY.

Response from Graduates, “Elements of Success.”

LOTTIE L. MORE.

Music.

IRVING INSTITUTE.

Society Address, “Our Present Outlook,”

HARMON HATT.

Presentation of Diplomas by the President,

A. B. BYRAM.

Response from Graduates, “The Laven of Life.”

H. H. SKEBBLEY.

Music.

The graduates from the several societies were: Hesperian, three; Zetagathian, eleven; Erodelphian, five; Irving Institute, eleven.

Perhaps no other exercises that we will be called upon to listen to during commencement will show so much of a sameness throughout as these society anniversaries. This is what can scarcely be helped, since each society has the same duties of farewell speeches, presentation of diplomas, etc., to perform. The greater skill is therefore needed to secure the interest and hold the attention of an audience accustomed to hearing so much in the literary line as those which assemble at our entertainments here. The speakers on this occasion seemed to have considered this point, and were as free from repetition as any similarly situated that have appeared before us in days past. Each one acquitted himself to his own and his society’s honor, and the hard-earned reputation of each society was fully sustained. With all due regard for those who have furnished us with music in the past, we will say that what we listened to on this occasion was the best that has ever been secured for the occasion of our Union Anniversary.

REUNION.

The usual reunion, social, walk-around, and generator of nonsense, took place on Wednesday evening in the chapel. The room was very much crowded, and everybody tried to enjoy themselves. The heat was intense, so that the yard became quite a place of resort. The usual farewells were uttered, and many parted, to meet no more, those with whom the happiest hours of their lives had been spent. Parted in a hasty, seemingly heartless manner; but what sort of a place is a crowded room for the display of emotions, the purest and most sacred? How much better the feeling left by a few moments of private conversation ere separation.
The lecture on Tuesday the 24th, delivered by Dr. Henry A. Nelson of Cincinnati, was one of the best we have ever heard at the University. After making some remarks of an introductory nature, he proceeded to answer the question “How shall eloquence be made to exist in the man?” The sentiment uttered by Webster, that “true eloquence must exist in the man, in the subject and in the occasion,” was dilated upon and exemplified in a most pleasing and instructive manner. “Education in its broadest sense is the development of the highest elements of manhood.” Then came an enumeration of the elements of manhood necessary to eloquence. Treating first part of the bodily powers that go to make up an orator, especially the organs of speech, etc. “One of the defects of our present thought is the depreciation of all forms of study which are not immediate in their effects.” Here he spoke with excellent effect upon the importance of classical study, not in terms of bigoted denunciation of all other departments of knowledge; which we are often called upon to hear, but classical study in connection with mathematics, philosophy and scientific branches generally. “The orator can not be made by rhetorical training only.” There must be some natural adaptation. “Oratory is an element in man to which every oration was full of gems of thought and expression.” There is no knowledge which can be used for the development of the powers of the mind, which cannot be used with profit by the orator, but “in order to secure the best results of oratory, the time must be improved; simple lapse of time will not do it.”

The speaker then considered the moral elements of manhood as characterizing the orator. He first spoke of honesty, by which he meant “downright sincerity,” believing with Cicero and Quintillian that the orator must be an upright man. The habit often practiced by young men in debating societies, of dividing upon a question without regard to their own conscientious opinions upon the same, he condemned as being productive, not of good results, but of the worse. Instead of strengthening the power of genuine effective oratory, it debases and renders it less capable of being successfully employed, when an occasion offers itself for displaying real eloquence. Courage was also shown to be a strong and powerful element of true eloquence—the boldness of thought that will enable the orator to assert and maintain the truth, regardless of what the press or the popular mind may say. We are unable to give further comments upon the lecture. Those who failed to hear it cannot estimate their loss. Especially are we sorry that so many of the students were absent.

President Thacher, in the name of the board of regents and the faculty, returned to Mr. Nelson their profoundest thanks for his eloquent and able address, after which the audience was dismissed by music.

The Baccalaureate sermon by Dr. Thacher was delivered on Sunday at 5 o’clock p. m. Notwithstanding the fall of a heavy rain shower and the threatening aspect of the weather, the chapel was filled at the appointed time with a large audience. Prayer was offered by the Rev. Dr. Pearre of the Christian Church. The President took the 27th verse of the 1st chapter of James as his text, dividing his remarks into three principal divisions. 1st, What is Religion? 2d, remarks on the religious faculty; 3d, religion a necessary element in the highest type of man. It would be impossible to give in these crowded columns a synopsis of such a discourse that would even approximate its merit. The crowded house, and the close attention manifested, both speak of the estimation citizens, students, and friends of learning, have of the Doctor’s ability as a thinker and speaker. The sermon was one of those only the few can equal and the limited number an excel. The farewell words were strikingly impressive. Language seemed scarcely competent to convey the feeling of the speaker for the welfare of those about to take a final departure.

The Alumni Address on Monday evening, by Mr. Wright, by all who heard it is spoken of as a most excellent, thoughtful performance. His subject was “Luck,” and we consider ourselves extremely out of luck that we did not hear it.

CLASS DAY.

Wednesday evening a little before five o’clock, the people from all over town could be seen hurrying to the class day exercises of the Academic class of ’73. Promptly at the appointed time the exercises were begun by an oration on “Why do we study?” by Miss Lou Kaufman. This oration was full of gems of thought and expression and one which no analysis or synopsis could do justice to. The Poem was by L. S. Hanna, and displayed not only poetic genius, but also keen satire and versatile power of description. His profane and dedication of invocations were exceptionally good. Mr. Johnson, the historian of the class, then presented a mass of facts so true and yet so new that even the members of the class were astonished. Sheepskins already had been procured, so that he had no hesitation and very little delicacy in describing the cheats and frauds practiced upon unsuspecting Professors and Tutors. Full and free confession of past misdeeds was made, advice was given to future classes and apologies were made for their probable short comings. Next the prophet, Wm. Osmond, proceeded in a summary manner to dispose of the different members of the class to the infinite disgust of the majority. Too many of the hits in the prophecy could only be understood by those who were well acquainted with the members of the class. Herrmann Ruppin, the janitor of the University who has so long and so faithfully served us, was then brought forward and on behalf of the class. George Guthrie presented him a golden key as token, &c. Mr. R. made a brief reply, thanking the class and expressing his astonishment that the green and awkward youths whom he remembered as coming here four years ago could have turned out such gentlemen and scholars. This closed the exercises, which are universally acknowledged to be the best class day exercises ever heard in the University.
On Saturday evening the Law Class held their Class Day in front of the central building. The known and acknowledged ability of the class could not fail to draw a large crowd. Their programme of exercises is as follows:

Valedictory, W. D. Berk.

PRESENTATIONS.
Ladies' Men, B. F. Reed, L. C. Hendershoot.
Business Man, J. W. Cone, A. W. Hager.
Ugly Man, F. B. Benton, N. Harpole.

Where all did so well it is difficult to select the best, but to our mind Mr. Lauder, Mr. Burr and Mr. Berk seemed to wear the honors of the occasion. The presentations were quite amusing; to the ladies' man a handsome bouquet, to the business man an immense tin pen mounted on a broom stick, to the ugly man a mirror, and to the infant of 6 ft. 3 in. a bottle of milk. The exercises were perhaps a trifle too long, and this, together with the threatening weather, tended to thin the ranks of spectators; the performance closed. After the close the boys with the band serenaded Chancellor Hammond, and then proceeded to their usual rendezvous a little farther on.

PROF. PINKHAM is intending to visit England this summer.

E. E. Fitch will be the next Financial Agent of the Reporter.

JUDGE MOTT, of Indianola, has been elected to a chair in the Law Department.

J. C. Matthews, Class '70, has been chosen Assistant Professor in German.

The Board of Regents has made a general cutting-down of appropriations for special objects.

JUDGE COLE, of the Law Department, celebrated his silver wedding on the eve of June 26th.

Professor Currier, and a party of tourists from the University, will visit Colorado this summer.

The newly elected corps of editors of the Reporter have not quite mapped out their course yet.

PROF. PHILLIBUCK, of Michigan University, has been elected to fill the chair of Civil Engineering.

The University boys beat the Modocs of Fairfield, on the Base Ball field to the tune of 26 to 6. 'Twas ever thus.

All strangers who spent commencement week at the St. James Hotel, speak in the highest terms of that most excellent hotel.

The students who will remain in town during the summer vacation, will try to run a literary society. Our experience is that literary societies in warm weather are apt to prove a consummate bore.

To the sincere regret of every one, Dr. C. A. White has concluded to go to Bowdoin College in Maine. His successor has not yet been elected.

G. F. PARKER, M. R. King, and quite a number of the former students were here during Commencement week reporting exercises for papers of the State.

The new Reporter editors who have thus far been elected are: F. E. Brush, Senior Class; T. W. Graydon, Junior Class; A. D. Draper, Sophomore Class; and C. C. Ziegler, Freshman Class.

A burlesque programme of the graduating exercises of the Law Department was quite widely circulated. Everything witty was so obscured by blasphemy and blackguardism as to be entirely invisible.

Only two members of the Board of Regents were present at the commencement of the Academies. The Republican State Convention held at Des Moines on the same day will, no doubt, to a considerable degree, account for this.

From the new Catalogue we glean the following facts: There are in the different departments, Academic, 594; Law, 85; Medical, 70; Total 549. These students are divided among eighteen states and territories, and foreign countries.

The Fairfield band furnished us most of the noise during our Commencement Week. This is not intended as a slur on the Fairfield band, but on brass bands in general. They gave us as good as they had, and we have no reason to complain of them.

We learn that Mr. McClain is making arrangements for a fine suit of rooms for the accommodation of his Iowa City Academy, to supply the place of those burned on the 28th of April. This institution has sent many excellent students to the University, and we cheerfully recommend it to the confidence of the public.

In closing our career, we feel obliged to return thanks to the Republican Printing Co., of Des Moines, for their uniform courtesy and kindness in all their communication with us. Under their skillful workmanship, the Reporter has received not a few compliments on account of its beautiful typographical appearance.

The commencement hop on Tuesday evening was a grand success. Although the weather was extremely warm for such gymnastic exercise as the dance affords, the vigorous use of that indispensable wind instrument called a fan, had the effect of moderating the temperature several degrees. It is needless for us to particularize upon the beauties of the costumes worn by the "fair" on this occasion. All were most tastefully and handsomely adorned. The supper was prepared by Mr. Pendleton, and showed forth to a good advantage his ability to please and satisfy the refined and cultured taste of the University's pleasure loving students. This is the first genuine ball that the University students, proper, have ever given, and whether such a custom shall become permanent or not, depends largely upon their own efforts in that direction and the good or bad results of the same.
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