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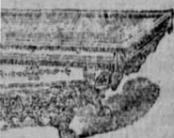
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VOL. II.

IOWA CITY, IOWA, SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 1881.

NO. 23

THE VIDETTE.

ISSUED

EVERY SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

During Collegiate Year, S. U. I.

R. E. HOWARD, }
A. T. HORTON, } Editors and Proprietors.

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THE VIDETTE, Iowa City, Iowa.

WHAT WE THINK.

OUR Home Oratorical Association is now fully under the control of the four literary societies, and we have reason to believe it will succeed much better than heretofore. There is a great deal of interest manifested among the students of all classes this year, and we predict the most spirited contest ever held in the University. We understand that students from all classes, except the Freshman, intend to enter, and give themselves the excellent practice of writing orations for close criticism. Of course the Seniors, in having more discipline, and more practice in writing, will have a great advantage over the under-graduates, but we should be glad to see even members from the Freshman class join the contest, and show the public that they are not afraid of Senior dignity. Writing orations for critical examination is much better practice than writing simply to please a less critical audience, such as usually attend our societies, and we hope to see at least a dozen students make the attempt, with the determination to succeed, if possible.

A WISE and judicious choice of books, and an extensive and careful reading of these books, is the best means by which we can obtain a thorough and practical knowledge of history. The best historical writers, at least those from whom we gain the most philosophical information, are those who did not attempt to confine themselves to historical facts, but to illustrate the broad basis of society in general as they found it. Such writers as Shakespeare, Dryden, or Johnson, in England; Moliere or Madam de Sevigne, in France; and Goethe or Schiller, in Germany, could not be received, at the time in which they wrote, as contributing materially to historical facts; and, yet if we read these authors at the present time, we will have a better knowledge of the inner life, and the manners and customs of their times, than would be possible to gain from an ordinary historical review. The amount of benefit to be derived from reading such authors as we have named, and many others which we might name, is almost invaluable to the student who wishes to become thoroughly posted in the events of history.

And yet we should not read such authors merely for pleasure or excitement, but for culture and discipline. We should cultivate in all our reading a critical mind, and endeavor to probe to the bottom of the whole scheme, and get the author's real meaning of every sentence. In this way we shall gain facts from fiction, which will serve as a storehouse from which to draw our grandest thoughts.

In the two society exhibitions, just passed, we have had occasion to hear the best talent the University contains, and it is interesting to listen to the different criticisms passed upon those students, thus exposed to the public. We have heard no one say that those who spoke at these exhibitions appeared to the best possible advantage upon the stage. The delivery of some was far better than that of others, but the chance for improvement is apparent in all, and we believe this chance should be offered to those students who are so desirous of cultivating their oratorical abilities. We are here for instruction in all those branches which shall conduce to our future prosperity. We shall probably all find our level some time, and settle down to that industry for which we are best fitted, but while we are getting an education; we should be enabled to test our powers as much as possible in every direction in which our minds incline. In order to do this to the best advantage, we must have instruction in the fundamental principles of those branches from which these powers are to be developed. Elocution is a study that has been much neglected in the University, which is a source of considerable embarrassment to many students who, with a little training in this particular, would rank high among the orators of our best Western colleges. Our students are soon to try their skill in the home oratorical contest, and, from this, one must represent the institution in the State contest. Now it is for the immediate interest of the University that her representative should be able to represent the State at the Inter-State contest, and we are satisfied that this would be possible if more attention were bestowed upon the study of elocution. This could easily be done and still maintain the regular course of study, for students anxious to avail themselves of this special training would be willing to devote extra time to this study. We believe such a course would not only aid the student in delivering his oration in a more pleasing style, but that it would encourage him to greater efforts in writing, and consequently to more thorough and systematic reading.

Dr. Collins will lecture, at Ham's Hall to-night, on temperance.

E. S. Lloyd has finished his school and returned to the city.

ARCHIBALD FORBES.

"The Inner Life of a War Correspondent," by Archibald Forbes, last Wednesday night, was an interesting lecture. We do not consider Mr. Forbes an orator, and yet he told his history in plain and beautiful language, and in his modest and pleasing style succeeded in holding the close attention of the audience for nearly two hours. He is a man of wonderful experience in his profession. He told us how he was the first correspondent to enter Paris during that terrible siege of the commune; spoke of the desolation and misery of that queen city of the old world during these trying scenes, and pictured the benighted and panic-stricken populace, rich and poor, proud and humble, high and low, all mingled in one common crowd, roaming the dismal streets, of that beautiful city mad with hunger.

He then spoke of his experience in the war between Russia and Turkey; how he had watched all day with intense anxiety the doubtful conflict between the contending armies; seen the Russian ranks broken and scattered by the barbarous and bloodthirsty Turks, and then, in less than eighteen hours from the sickening scene of this horrible battle, with nothing but his faithful horses to speed him on, stood face to face with the terror-stricken Czar a hundred and fifty miles away, to tell the sad tale of Russians slaughtered and Turks victorious. In touching language, he spoke of a horrible thought that flashed across his mind as he stood there alone before that pale and trembling Emperor, whose ashy lips were white from fear of death on every hand. The Czar had dispatched his servant for paper, and there stood the war correspondent "alone in the august presence of the Czar of Russia." Forbes gazed into the haggard face of the Emperor, and read there this thought, expressed in foreboding signs of fear and anguish: "How easy it would be for you, bound by no laws of friendship, to kill me." He said, that the Czar, whose lips are now pale with death, instead of fear, was comparatively a good man, but weak and cowardly; that he was not to blame for the condition of his empire; but because of his weakness, he was unable to control such a desperate people; that his son who succeeds him is strong both physically and mentally, courageous, and possessed of an iron will, and that he will probably succeed much better than his father.

"Through what does the meridian pass?" said the Professor. "Through the observer," said the Junior.

Minnesota asks admission to the Inter-State Oratorical Association. We hope the association will act in her favor.

DR. COLLINS.

For three nights, Dr. A. N. Collins, of Davenport, has been presenting his views of the temperance question, which, though a hackneyed, is still an important one, in a novel and, withal, we may say, in a new style. His remarks are at all times pertinent, his criticisms correct, and his censure just, if, at times, severe. His more studied sentences are often-times delivered with real eloquence.

Tuesday night, he devoted the entire evening to an explanation, an extended and amplified definition of the word Temperance, bringing, as the result of much garnering among the thoughts of great men of history—the physiologists, philologists, the ancient and modern lexicographers—this one definition: Temperance, in its primary meaning, is total abstinence from all that is hurtful.

On Thursday evening, at the M. E. Church, which gave him a much more desirable room for speaking than the University Chapel, he spoke upon "Alcohol, its Nature and Effects." This second lecture was more marked for its evidence of the careful, painstaking investigator than for its direct appeals to the men "in their cups;" more physiological than exhortatory; more erudite than inspiring. He proved, from a scientific standpoint, the severe, the awful effects of alcohol upon the system, both in small and large quantities; and, with graphic power, told of holding in his hand, at a *post-mortem* examination, a head decapitated from the bloated body of a dead drunkard, and how he touched a lighted match to a fluid which surrounded and permeated the brain, and saw it burn, burn brightly with a blue flame! He did not believe there was much hope of saving a man from intemperance while there was alcohol left in his system. Intemperance, he held, is a disease, and should be treated as such.

Last night, he spoke upon the topic: "The Alcoholic Appetite." Aided by a copious vocabulary, occasional passages of eloquence, and the skillful use of that dangerous but wonderfully effective weapon, satire, he struck strong blows at the liquor dealers, the manufacturers, and the State that issues licenses, and depicted, with startling fidelity to truth, the insatiable cravings of that appetite that will become in man "stronger than reason, than conscience, than will, than the affections, than the obligations to God and the fear of an eternity of woe."

Dr. Collins is intensely in earnest. He is working hard; he is he is meeting with success; he will do much good in Iowa City.

W. V. Smith is now a short-hand reporter in Chicago.

We are indebted to Will S. Harwood for a report of Dr. Collins's temperance lectures.

FANTASTIC.

The goodly number that gathered in Ham's Hall, Thursday evening, to while away the hours with "joy unconfined," succeeded admirably, if a looker-on is any judge.

The music, furnished by Iowa City's unrivaled and incomparable orchestra, was, to say the least, exquisite. What will more quickly set in motion the musical chords of our nature than the quiet *pathos* of the bass viol, or the beautiful *symphonies* of the fife? He had no soul who was not stirred, from "top to foundation stone," by the sweet harmonies of the hour and the night. Yet, notwithstanding what we have said, it would certainly take one of no little power of discrimination, considering the somber and excessively modest evening (?) dress of the ladies, to say whether it was a dance or a first-class funeral we were invited to witness. It is not for us, however to criticize the dress of ladies. Considering the dancing and the music; the "funny" figures of the German; the agility of the young gentlemen; the total absence of the *excruciating* formality that usually mars the pleasure of such occasions, as well as the apparent enjoyment of the Law, who went immediately after supper and remained till the lights were put out; and considering the sublime happiness of "the two," we believe much credit is due to Mr. Kimball for the success of his endeavors to make the occasion pleasant to all.

The Iowa City Lyceum Course is said to be a failure, financially. With one exception, namely, the Chicago Church Chattering Concert Company, it has been a success otherwise, and we hope the energetic managers of the Course will not be discouraged.

Prof. Eggert responded to a call from his Sophomore German class, last Tuesday morning, and gave them a very interesting and instructive half-hour lecture on the social condition of Russia, and its connection with the assassination of the Czar. The Professor was taken entirely by surprise, and the manner in which he spoke showed that he is thoroughly posted in the events of Russian history.

The Oratorical Association met last Monday and confirmed the election of the following officers, chosen some time since by the different literary societies: President, Miss Lucy Bixby, Erodolphian; Vice-President, Miss Minnie Clark, Hesperian; Secretary, A. J. Craven, Zetagathian; Treasurer, H. W. Seeman, Irving Institute. The Association also instructed the Executive Committee to secure judges before the close of the present term of school, and to announce the contest one week previous to the State contest, which is held at Fayette, the second Wednesday in April. This will bring the home contest April 6th.

MATRIMONIAL CONSIDERATIONS.

BY OWEN MEREDITH.

Where mountains shut the silence up, a milk-white maiden stood:
Her face was like a light, and kindled all the solitude.
And while the wild, white mountain flowers turned passionately pale,
And while the chilly water ran reluctant to the vale,
And the bald eagle, near the sun, stood still on some tall peak,
That milk-white maiden to her own sweet face began to speak:—

"O face, sweet source of all my care,
Fair face (because I know the fair!)
If I knew thou shouldst be kist
By any husband, withered, old, and gray,
I would wander, mist-like, with the mist,
The monstrous mountain many a league away,

Until, in some abandoned place,
Where the starved wolf cracks the bones
Of perisht men, and the wind groans
For want of something to devour,
I should find, wild in the wind,
Among the blotch and mildewed stones,
The harsh-blowing absinth flower;
And pluck the stubborn root of it,
That from the bitter fruit of it
I might the blighting juice express;
Therewith to bathe thee, O my face, my face!

Till all thy beauty should be bitterness,
And each unloved caress
Burn on the old man's lip, which should embrace
Death on thy rosy portals, O my face!

"But if I knew, O my face, my face!
That thy lips should be kist by whom I would list,

I would glide, unespied, to a place, my face,
Where red roses, I know, ripely ripple and blow,
And white lilies grow more snowy than snow;

And all in the balmy evening light,
While the dew is new, and the stars but a few,

The roses so red, and the lilies so white,
I would pluck, with the sunset upon them, and press
From these flowers their sweetest sweetness,

To embalm thee, my face, till what he should embrace
Should be fairer than lilies and richer than roses;

So that when on thy lips my beloved one reposes,
A thousand summers of fragrant sighs
Might fan the faint fire of his soul's desire

With raptures pure as the rivers that rise
Among the valleys of Paradise."

SHEAR CUTS.

England has 1,300 colleges; the United States 358.

There are 830 students enrolled at Oberlin this year.

No more commencement exercises at Wellesley College.

Who was the most knowing of the heathen goddesses? Ino.

The Senior class at Cornell numbers nearly one hundred members.

Iowa college wishes to obtain steam heating apparatus for its buildings.

According to Richard Grant White, "hug" is a word that embraces a great deal.

It is said that tobacco-smoke kills moths. Colleges are never troubled with moths.

What is the difference between the north and south poles? All the difference in the world.

There was a fair maiden at Vassar, In German no one could surpass her; She danced it so well and talked it so ill That the Faculty had to unclass her.

In the present Congress, 34 out of 77 Senators, and 128 out of 293 Representatives, are college graduates.

The new style of spring bonnets is fifteen cents worth of "bonnet," and fifteen dollars worth of trimmings.

Noah was the first man who strictly observed Lent. He lived on water forty days and forty nights.—*Ex.*

Men do not sit down on the ice merely to warm it nor to attract attention. They do it because they want to think.

G. A. Hickok, '84, fills his position as editor of the *Odebolt Reporter* with the dignity and ease of a veteran quill-driver.

The entire Senior class of Madison University has left the institution because of the difficulty in regard to their studies.

The State of Michigan has appropriated \$100,000 for the erection of a fire-proof library building for its university at Ann Arbor.

The Irish University bill provides that the honors and degrees of the new Irish University shall be open to women as well as men.

He kissed her fan, and then said he, "This fan when'er you ply it,
Will waft a kiss from you to me."
She blushed and said she'd try it.

"Oh, dear! I wish I was dead," exclaimed a neglected maiden. She had heard that matches were made in heaven. She was misinformed. Matches are made in another place.

Professor to student in chemistry: "Mr. D., what can you say of Hydrocyanic acid?" "It is extremely poisonous. One drop on the end of a dog's tail will kill a man in a minute."

A young man in a music shop was lately overpowered by a fastidious young lady who wanted to purchase "Mr. Hood's-a-song of the-a-gentleman's under garment!" The man is still alive.

The editor wrote: "An evening with Saturn," and it came out in the paper, "An evening with Satan." It was mighty rough, but the foreman said it was the work of the "devil," and it looked that way.—*Ex.*

(A Stella Blasbleu has just been relating some astounding astronomical facts and figures). A Dullston Slowman (never went in for that sort of thing, you know): I see how one can find out how large and how far the stars are, but, by Jove! I don't quite see how they ever found out their names.—*Columbia Spectator.*

"Men jump at conclusions," says a proverb. So do dogs. We saw a dog jump at the conclusion of a cat which was sticking through the opening of a partly closed door, and it created more disturbance than a church scandal.—*Ex.*

He blushed a fiery red,
Her heart went pit-a-pat;
She gently hung her head,
And looked down at the mat.
He trembled in his speech;
He rose from where he sat,
And shouted with a screech,
You're sitting on my hat!"

Prof. in Senior Greek was discussing the meaning of the letter *Sigma*: "Sigma has two meanings; one signifying siss (a sound), the other, from the Greek word, meaning curl." "You see," he observed further, "sis and curl are closely connected."

They were passing each other on the road to the post-office; one said: "Good-morning, Bill!" Just then Bill left the slippery sidewalk to fulfill an engagement in the gutter, and these were his last words as he disappeared under the troubled waters: "You lie!"

Ponies to left of them,
Ponies to right of them,
Ponies in front of them,
Fluttered and rustled.

Tutors to left of them,
Tutors to right of them,
Tutors behind them,
Nervously bustled.

Stormed at with look and yell,
Boldly they cribbed and well,
When, oh! a paper fell!
Out they were hustled.

—*C. C., N. Y. Free Press.*

LOCAL ITEMS.

The snow is going (coming) rapidly.

One week's vacation, beginning March 29th.

The Laws' programme was rather artistic.

"Sugar cane grows in Georgia," says the Junior.

"I should emphasize," is the latest among the Freshmen ladies.

At the eleventh hour, the boys are all working hard for the contest.

The dance at Ham's Hall, last Thursday night, was not very largely attended.

Prof. Eggert was unable to meet his classes yesterday morning, on account of illness.

Shricker is improving rapidly, and thinks he will be able to be in school again next term.

Miss Laura Shipman has returned from Irving, where she has been making a short visit.

THE VIDETTE firm has a pair of boxing gloves. Look out for black eyes and blue noses.

Miss Mary Shipman, of West Liberty, is visiting her cousin, Miss Laura Shipman, of this city.

The Sophomore Zoology class spent a pleasant hour in the cabinet Wednesday afternoon with Professors Calvin and McBride.

There is more slang in Wallenstein's Lager than the average Soph. can readily "get on to."

Prof. T. H. McBride was ordained an Elder at the Presbyterian church, last Sunday morning.

Is there no way of prohibiting the Laws from tearing up the floor from the center hall for kindling?

Three of our young ladies, much esteemed in society circles, have "sworn off" dancing till next June.

Mr. Ebersole, who was once a Professor in the University, has been elected Mayor of Toledo, Iowa.

Swift and Whitney, Agricultural College '81, will enter the University next term and graduate with class '82.

"No, I can't dance this week, and H— don't care to dance either, so we are going in the gallery to look on."

The judges for the home oratorical contest are: Emory Miller, Mrs. Deats, and Dr. Gillette; Milton Remley, referee.

The schedules are already made out for our next term's work, which show an increase of elective studies in nearly all classes.

Mr. A. N. Dodge was in the city the first of the week visiting his brother, J. E. Dodge. He returned home Monday evening.

Dan Stapleton will take C. A. Star's place as traveling salesman for Marquardt's jewelry-store, Mr. Star going into business at Des Moines.

That long row of ducks exhibited on Prof. Calvin's table in the Zoology class yesterday morning, made the boys think of vacation and hunting.

A number of the boys will drop out of the Sophomore class next term; but nearly all will return again in the fall, and lose nothing in the course.

Mr. Townsend is turning out some of the finest cabinets in the city. If you want first-class work done with dispatch, call at Townsend's gallery.

Mr. Levi Leonard left last Tuesday for Cheyenne, Wyoming Territory, on a surveying tour. He will go thence to Utah and Montana Territory.

Miss Hattie Dennis, class '80, has been in the city the past week, visiting her many friends. Her smiling face is always welcome at the University.

Gould wants you to come to his Dining Hall to-morrow, after church, and get a piece of that turkey, served by one of the best professional cooks in the city.

The following officers were elected last night at the Irving Institute for the Spring term: President, E. J. Cornish; Vice-President, C. L. Day; Recording Secretary, C. R. Leonard; Corresponding Secretary, Judd Wicks; Treasurer, J. E. Dodge.

SOCIETY DIRECTORY.

HESPERIAN SOCIETY.

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Vice President—MAX ROBINSON.
Recording Secretary—MYRA TROTH.
Cor. Secretary—LYDE CAMERON.
Treasurer—ELLA BRAY.

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PRICES,

Prof. Fellows was called to Cedar Rapids, Thursday, by the State Superintendent, on educational business. Wouldn't it be a pity if he would get snowed in again? Our Law editor went to the office Thursday night, and has therefore been unable to furnish any locals concerning the Law class this week. His column will appear next week as usual.

A gifted Senior made up his mind in the morning that he would enter the oratorical contest, got out his lessons after dinner, and then wrote his oration before supper. He will probably "get there."

Professor Fellows will preach at the Congregational church tomorrow morning, taking up a line of argument on the evidences of Christianity different from that pursued in our text-book on that subject.

Review is passing off quietly, and in most cases, satisfactorily. There is not the same disposition to cram for examinations as under the old marking system, but a more uniform habit of study during the term.

"Yes," said the Professor to the young lady reading Wallenstein, "the students of Germany wear uniforms, not with red and blue stripes on their pants as you wear—eh! eh! I mean as the gentlemen wear."

We understand that one of the students of the University is writing a book. If he is rich he can probably pay some one to read it.—Republican.

We wonder who that student is. We speak for a copy when it is finished, anyhow, without pay.

It will pay you to spend an hour at Townsend's photographic parlors, looking at his beautiful chromos, steel engravings, and oil-paintings, and then to sit for a dozen of those cabinets which he guarantees will look as natural as life.

Le Grand Byington is determined to have the last word with us. He sends us another letter this week, which, however, contains nothing but what we trust we have made clear to our readers. We are not inclined to carry the discussion farther.

Mr. Samuel Lanning and Miss Clara Pattee were married at the residence of the bride's uncle, Secretary Samuel J. Kirkwood, of this city, last Wednesday. The young couple are much respected in the social circles of Iowa City, and they have the best wishes of a host of friends for a prosperous and happy life. May no cloud dim their bright star of hope.

Iowa City may well be proud of her old time-honored citizen, who, as Governor, so faithfully conducted the affairs of this State during the war; who, as Senator, so ably represented the interests of the State in Congress, and whom, as if placing a garland upon his noble brow, wrinkled with age, Garfield has now honored with the high position of Secretary of the Interior.

The Freshmen Ladies Conversational Club met at the residence of Miss Cochran last Saturday afternoon, with Miss Marie Congdon as President. The main question under discussion was "Presidents," which was handled as follows: Manner of Election, Miss Bray; Necessary Qualifications, Miss Belle Andrews; Appearance, Duties and Responsibilities, Miss Ella Ham. The question, "Should women become presiding officers?" was discussed by Miss Rynearson. Then followed a general discussion of the above topics by Misses Rankin, Cochran, Green, and others. Fifteen minutes were then devoted to conversation and the news of the week. Lunch was then served, which of course was enjoyed by all, after which the club adjourned to meet next Saturday at the residence of Miss Congdon.

Go to George Fink's for your tobacco and cigars.

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I.
The editor sat in his soft wooden chair,
A-clipping and pasting away;
His eyes they blazed up with a wild,
glaring glare,
The glare of his old pipe of clay.

II.
He clipped and he cut, and he cut and
he clipped,
An editaire gorgeous was he;
And frequently out of a bottle he sipped
A compound much stronger than tea.

III.
A Sophomore poet came in through the
door,
With manuscripts tied up with string;
"I've wrote," murmured he to the man
made of gore,
"A six volumned poem on Spring."

IV.
A flash of bright light, then the pro-
foundest hush,
No breeze moved a rock with its breath;
That man made of gore, with his pasting
pot brush,
Had tickled the poet to death.

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Berlin, Law, '80, is professor of
Mathematics in Lafayette College,
Pa.

The weather would not permit
a very large attendance at our
society halls last night.

The Irvings had a feast at
Madame Noel's, last night, after
the election of officers.

Professor Eggert lectured to the
Freshman German class, one day
last week, on Schiller.

We are going to George Fink's,
because there is where we get the
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We hope the rest of our subscri-
bers will pay their subscription be-
fore the close of the term.

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We were about to write a poem
on the "Beautiful Mud," but, alas!
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frames, steel engravings, oil-paint-
ings, chromos, views, &c., &c.

Ed. Wolf, a former student of the
University, has bought an interest
in a stove-mill, at Fort Madison.

Professor Eggert will have a
lengthy article on the assassination
of the Czar of Russia in the next
issue of the Reporter.

The ladies of the Freshman
class are taking the right view of
what constitutes accomplishments,
in organizing a conversation club.

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The Zets "roped in" four of
the best men of the Freshman
class last week. They are Wells,
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We wrote something last week
concerning the senior member of
the firm, Maggie Mitchell, and
seats at the Opera House, but the
senior intercepted it.

George Fink at Pickering's old
stand. Remember him, boys,
when you want your cigars.

In the declamatory contest which
took place last night at Hull's
Academy, Mr. Esweyler came out
first best and S. H. McClure
second best. The Judges were
Miss Sarah Loughridge, Miss
Hattie Parker, and Prof. L. M.
Hastings. The votes stood as
follows: First best, Esweyler,
two votes; Miss Hull, one vote;
second best, McClure, two votes;
E. Sangster, one vote.

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stand he is soon to locate in Den-
ver, Col., where he hopes to find
the climate more healthful. Mr.
Ady is a young gentleman of ex-
cellent business qualities, and tem-
perate habits. During the three
years he has lived in this city, he
has made many warm friends who
regret to learn that he cannot re-
main here. He has become a
favorite in the social circles of the
city, and his smiling face and
genial manners will be missed by
all who knew him. May health,
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Ady, is the wish of THE VIDETTE.

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