

University Reporter.

STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA.

VOL. XIII.

IOWA CITY, IOWA, JUNE, 1881.

No. 10.

UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENTS.

BY T. S. PARVIN.

The question is asked, What is the number, in the series, of the present Commencement (1881)? To aid us in solving the problem, we first present some historical data.

The University was opened in all of its collegiate departments in September, 1856 (the Normal department having been opened the year preceding). In June, 1857, it held, what appears from the printed programme in my collection of "Programmes of Commencements, Societies, etc., 1855-78," the "First Annual Commencement," and annual Commencements have been held regularly since that date. Counting that in, the present Commencement of 1881 would be the *twenty-fifth*.

None of the succeeding programmes are numbered, till 1866, which is styled the ninth, while in the regular order it would have been the tenth. There was no one graduated in 1857, which we remember was the reason for excluding that year in the count. In 1858, and each subsequent year to 1863, and for many years later, classes were graduated from the Normal department, and from it alone, except the years 1858 and 1863, when one or more were graduated from the Collegiate department. By way of parenthesis, we may add the *first alumnus* of the University, Dexter Edson Smith, who received the degree of Bachelor of Science in 1858, visited the city this spring, after an absence of years, and as that omnipresent man of the press failed to note it, he went as he came, unheralded by the University folks, who should have noted the event in some way. In 1858 the University, except the Normal department, was closed for two years, and re-opened upon the present basis in 1860.

In numbering the annual Commencements, the following plans have been at times adopted, and then departed from:

1. Commencing with 1858, when the first class was graduated under the old regime, 1866, the first programme numbered was called the ninth.

2. Commencing in 1863, when the first Collegiate class was graduated under the present system, that of 1872 was correctly published as the tenth.

3. Commencing with 1861, the first Commencement under the present order of things, the programme of 1878 is numbered correctly eighteenth.

It may be, because "first love is the strongest," that we prefer the first of these methods which would make the present Commencement the twenty-fourth. This method was that in use prior to Dr. Thatcher's induction into the Presidency. He was inaugurated in 1871, and the following year consulted our collection aforesaid, and resolved to change the system and adopt that of the second method, counting from 1863, which would make this of 1881 the nineteenth.

In 1878, when Dr. Thatcher had retired from the Presidency, some one in preparing the programme of that year, named it the eighteenth, which counts, from 1861, the first Commencement upon the present basis. This would make the present Commencement the twenty-first. Our objection to this last number is two-fold. It goes back of 1863, when the first class was graduated from the Collegiate department as now constituted, and includes two years of Normal graduates, while it excludes those of that department for the years 1858-60 inclusive. The Normal department, in 1858, 1861, and 1863, the basis of these several methods, was a separate and distinct department of the University as much as is that of the Scientific and the Engineering of the present day.

To adopt any other year than 1858 would be to exclude a large number of classes and individuals from the "regular count," to

which they are as much entitled as those of the so-called Collegiate department, which has undergone so many mutations during these years, that it can no more maintain a distinct character than that of the Normal department. Wherefore, we answer the question by replying that the Commencement of 1881 is the TWENTY-FOURTH.

This will, it may be said, make the University appear five years older than it would under Dr. Thatcher's calculation. To which we remark, that, while maidens of an uncertain age may lawfully fall back in the table when the census or any other man comes around, it is not so becoming gentlemen in authority to deny their age, that they may appear younger than they really are.

COLLEGIATE DEPARTMENT.

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J. A. KERR, *Financial Agent.*

EDITORIAL AND PERSONAL.

JUDSON L. WICKS, '81. CALVIN FORNEY, '82.

LOCAL.

NORRIS BROWN, '83.

EXCHANGES.

ELLA HAM, '84.

THE elements of success in life are numerous. Among them, however, there are a few very prominent and remarkable ones. One of these is "cheek." We admit our indebtedness to slang for the use of this word, and plead, as an excuse, an utter necessity of using it. We have been unable to find another word in the English language which covers the same ground. Presumption, arrogance, conceitedness,—all have a similarity of meaning, but separately they will not suffice our purpose. As a side remark, let us here predict, that, in a few years, "cheek" will be recognized by the best lexicographers as pure English. But having apologized sufficiently, we trust, for the use of the word, let us turn to the dis-

cussion of it in some of its phases. Youth is more likely to be characterized by a preponderance of "cheek" than old age. Experience in life tends to restrain it within proper bounds. In such a state, it becomes less assuming, and more nearly corresponds to a true and just appreciation of self. As such it is commendable; when it exceeds its due limits, it is not. Like all other forces, it can run to excess, in which case it awakens our sense of disgust, as perhaps no other trait of human character. To a sensitive nature, no reproach is more bitter than that of displaying "cheek." Yet after all, it were better to have a too great endowment of it than to be deficient in it. Experience will check a superabundance of it, provided it be associated with genuine worth, whereas a deficiency of it bars its possessor frequently from success. He who is talented and cheeky will meet with success, though fate seems to conspire against him. He will meet with rebuffs, bitter and stinging, but this will only be the experience which will teach him to restrain his "cheek" within proper limits, and his genuine worth will rise up and bear him on to success. No, the greatest curse is not a superabundance of "cheek," but a want of enough of it. As a rule, he who does not possess this very valuable element of success, must labor on, with but little hope of attaining it. "Cheek," though luxuriant and abundant in a large class of society, is yet very difficult of cultivation in the unassuming and over-modest. Let the first class learn to restrain it, and may the latter labor assiduously to supply their deficiency, and they will find that it is a guiding and directing power steering them on to success. Genuine worth is the motive power—the massive engine moving the ship's machinery; "cheek" in its true sense, the steering power, the rudder.

CLASS DAY EXERCISES.

This part of the Commencement programme took place on Monday afternoon, June 20th. As usual a large audience was in attendance. At 3:45 sharp the procession, composed of the Senior class, left the University, headed by the band. The exercises began promptly at 4 o'clock. After music,

Charles F. Kuehne delivered the salutatory oration, a production evincing much care and good taste in its preparation. As evidence of its appreciation by the audience, Mr. Kuehne received a hearty applause and numerous bouquets. The next production was the "Class History," by Miss Sallie C. Ham. Miss Ham held the attention of the audience throughout her performance by the simple, clear, and interesting manner in which she recited those wonderful events which constitute the history of the Class of '81. Following Miss Ham, Mr. Cornish delivered an oration on "Ralph Waldo Emerson." It was the unanimous verdict of the audience that this production of Mr. Cornish was a masterpiece. It combined the results of philosophic thought and deep research, embellished by a beautiful style and forcible delivery.

The exercises were here interspersed by music, after which W. Scott Jordan took the floor, and advised the lower classes. This performance sparkled with wit and humor. Many interesting characteristics of student life were woven into it in a very interesting way. The lower classes having taken their advice to heart, the prophet, Saville Johnston, came before the audience and began to unveil the future of Class '81, as it will appear twenty years hence. It was perhaps the funniest part of the programme. Humor and wit ran throughout the whole of it. The valedictory was delivered by W. F. Skinner. It was his former oration on "Robert Burns," which has previously appeared in the city papers, and hence will need no comment. The class song was written by W. D. Dickinson, and the singing of this closed the exercises. The song stands on its own merits. Any one who has read the piece will concede that Mr. Dickinson has done his class a great favor.

SOCIETY COMMENCEMENT.

The Annual Commencement of the societies passed off very pleasantly, and was unusually good in every particular. Prof. Calvin, the presiding officer of the evening, introduced the first society the Hesperians, with their President, Miss Emma Wilson, who introduced the orator, Miss Mira Troth.

She at once enlisted the sympathy of the audience by her unassuming manner. Her subject, "Co-operation," was well handled, and her reference to the harmony of our Union was eloquent and earnest. The President then presented the diplomas to the graduates in a few well chosen remarks, and on behalf of the graduates, Miss Mary Noyes said that this bridge of sighs was one which it was hard to pass. After music, the President introduced the Zets' President, E. S. Quinton. Mr. Craven, the orator of the evening, spoke of the melancholy fate of the Arcadian exiles who were carried from their prosperous and happy homes to dwell in forests and lands unknown. He impressed the audience favorably, and left the floor with well merited applause. The President then bade the graduates God speed, and gave them their diplomas. Mr. Neill responded in a facetious and graceful speech, and the Zets had done their duty.

The Erodelphians were the next next society, presided over by Miss Mina Selby; Miss Carrie Hutchinson, the orator, delivered in a graphic manner "The Courage and Heroism of Joan of Arc, the Girl Martyr of Lorraine." Miss Hutchinson has a very pleasing delivery, and she spoke to an appreciative audience. It was a well written oration. Miss Selby then presented the diplomas, and, in a very neat and graceful speech, Miss Lucy Bixby responded for the graduates.

The Irvings next were introduced, and the President, W. H. Selleck, introduced Halleck W. Seaman. This gentleman is pre-eminently a practical man, and his subject, "Our Western Idea," was treated in a very practical and interesting manner. He analyzed the character of Western civilization, and showed how the West would take its place in America of to-morrow. Mr. Selleck then graduated the candidates in a skillful manner. J. Ed. Dodge made an excellent speech in reply, and the exercises closed.

This was the first of the Commencement exercises, and it showed a great degree of progress and development in our institution, especially in society work.

Send in your subscriptions.

THE BACCALAUREATE ADDRESS.

On Sunday, June 19th, the Opera House was crowded to its utmost by a large and intelligent audience, assembled for the purpose of listening to President Pickard's farewell address to the graduating classes of '81. The parquet was reserved for the Laws and Seniors. The Laws came in in procession, shortly before the exercises began. The Opera House was beautifully decorated on the occasion. Long festoons of oak leaves enclosed the parquet, hanging in graceful curves from the pillars supporting the gallery. On the stage a beautiful woodland scene was represented, and in the midst of the stage a lovely fountain played, covered by flowers of the most beautiful hue. In the religious ceremonies, preliminary to the discourse, the University Choir figured quite conspicuously. It was the unanimous sentiment of the audience that they sang beautifully. Their selections were well adapted to bring out the peculiar beauties of their separate voices. President Pickard's discourse was one which will be remembered by every graduate, and if its wise injunctions be obeyed, the classes of '81 will not only make themselves good citizens, but will make the world better for living in it. The theme of the discourse was "Christian Citizenship." It is impossible for us to give but a very imperfect skeleton of this able discourse. Citizenship implies the enjoyment of individual rights and Christianity has done much to secure these. The complexity of our government renders a high degree of intelligence on the part of the individual an absolute necessity. Monarchies are simple, republican forms of government, are complex. The intelligence of the individual embraces much,—a liberal education, a knowledge of the principles of government, and the rights of the individual. "The worth of the state is measured in the long run by the worth of the individuals composing it." The highest degree of intelligence is found in the man who recognizes the existence of higher powers and his own relation to them. Thus the fear and love of God figures highly in intelligence. The Russians have a saying, "God is high and the Czar is distant." The feeling of the want of any relation between himself and the highest religious and political power,

is one great cause of the degradation of the Russian peasant. Jefferson recognized the importance of religion as an educator. Self-indulgence is the most dangerous foe to liberty, and this is a result of ignorance. Another important element of Christian citizenship is industry. The truly intelligent citizen recognizes no cast in labor. It matters little what kind of work you perform, but it matters much how well and thoroughly you do it. Extremely contemptible is the demagogue, who patronizes labor at the time of election. Christ dignified physical labor. "Devotion wins success." "Seest thou a man diligent in business, he shall stand before kings and not before mean men." Improve your opportunities. Time is more valuable to-day than at any other time. Courtesy recognizes the rights of others, and is highly essential to Christian citizenship. A good personal character is a better protection to our country, than forts and batteries. The world will be to you, graduates of '81, what you make it. Improve your opportunities. Stand firm for the right. Let your aims be those of your country, your God and truth. As a parting injunction, take Christ's words, "Render unto Cæsar the things that be Cæsar's, and unto God the things that be God's."

The choir then led the audience in singing the doxology, after which the benediction was pronounced by Rev. Craig.

PERSONALS.

Wm. W. Baldwin writes from Burlington.

L. J. Kasson is practicing law in Des Moines.

A. E. Hitchcock, Law, '81, is a prosperous lawyer in Mitchell, Dakota.

F. A. Vanderpoel, '80, keeps books in his father's woolen mills. A prospective Law of '82.

A. J. Craven will assume the management of THE REPORTER next year. We predict for him a success in the financial and business affairs of this journal, as he is a man of excellent parts.

James A. Miller has accepted a lucrative position as professor in a college in Idaho. He takes the position of President until another man can be found who will accept the place. Until further notice he signs himself "Yours respectfully, J. A. Miller, President."

LOCAL

Who did not enjoy the final examination in Physics?

In the Physics class there were just enough clouds to make a beautiful sunset.

The library will be open during the summer every Saturday morning from 10 to 11 o'clock.

The library and reading rooms will be open one hour each Saturday during the summer vacation.

The Hesperian Society graduated 3 members; the Zetagathian, 13; the Erodolphian, 3; the Irving Institute, 12.

Every Law student in Class '81 was awarded a sheepskin—a success rarely realized by any class of former years.

Soliloquy of an aspiring sergeant:

"O to be a captain, and with the captains stand;
A strap upon my shoulder, a sword within my hand."

Friday, June 17th, the University Battalion, led by the band, marched in review before Governor Gear and other officials of the State.

The Professors of the three languages, Latin, Greek, and German, both pleased and instructed their several classes by lecturing once or twice the last of the term.

Chas. Clark, of Class '84, had the pleasure, during Commencement week, of entertaining his sister, Miss Anna, of Independence, and Miss Grace Davis, of Oskaloosa.

The faculty is determined to put a stop to cheering in Chapel. Loud applause, they consider, is very disgraceful in the sight of Regents, Governors, and other illustrious men.

While the Cornell boys were in the city, they were neither obstreperous nor disorderly. We should be sorry to have the impression produced upon any one that they were drunk.

A petition originated at the last Junior meeting, and very generally signed by the students, has been presented to the Board of Regents. It requests the establishment of a permanent chair of elocution.

What a sad palor o'respreads the cheek of the departing Senior! Does it indicate a pain engendered by the pangs of separation,

or is it the manifestation of a weak heart within, made weak by the anticipation of an uncertain future?

A certain gay and festive Law from Springdale says that all his "mashes" sour shortly after they are made. This is an open violation of our temperance regulations which provide that no "sour mash" shall be made within the State.

The Junior class officers are as follows: President, William O. Payne; Vice-President, C. W. Helmick; Secretary, C. H. Brown; Treasurer, C. H. Forney; Captain—Sergeant-at-Arms, *ex-officio*—William C. Burton; Editor of THE REPORTER, W. H. Cobb.

For obvious reasons, our series of moral articles has not been continued this month. Arrangements have been made, however, with the next year's Senior editor, whereby we hope much more good may be done than any accomplished through the agency of our humble pen.

What social beings the Seniors are becoming! Three parties within a week suggests the thought that they have a keen appreciation of the sweetness of their liberty; for it is with glad rejoicing that they slip without the mental vineyard in which they have labored so long, to enjoy the sweet comforts of social intercourse.

Recent complications and confusion in the management of THE REPORTER sufficiently prove that there ought to be a reorganization of the paper. The whole concern is almost entirely unknown to those outside of the immediate circle of editors. The matter should be brought before the classes early in the year, and the entire system reorganized.

The number of volumes in the University library, including law and medical works, is 15,758. The list of periodicals has been increased during this year; forty magazines and nineteen newspapers are regularly on file. The number of volumes drawn, for outside use, in 1879-80, was 10,577; for this year, 11,103. This is in addition to several thousands used only in the reading room. One hundred and thirty-five volumes were given to the library during the year.

With this issue closes another year of THE REPORTER'S existence. Of its success we will say nothing. We only wish to thank our numerous patrons for their kindness. The business men of Iowa City have kindly responded to our calls for advertising. You have our thanks, gentlemen, for your kindness. We wish again to say to the students of the University, "Patronize those who patronize us!"

The new catalogues came out the 13th. They are a model of fine workmanship, such as the *Republican* office always puts out. Great credit is due the *Republican* Company and the Superintendent for their untiring efforts to make the *Republican* job printing the best in the State; and every student, judging from society programmes, invitation cards, etc., will testify to their success.

The Senior class have been slighted all around. The *Republican* did not consider their orations worthy of publication, the *Vidette* gave them the "go-by," and the gentlemen who agreed to write up the exercises for THE REPORTER forgot their promises. The editors agreed to get up a full account of the exercises for THE REPORTER. Only one short report was made by any, except the Senior editor.

Last fall, when the change took place in the post-office, some of our students were severe in their criticisms of those connected with it. That those criticisms were the outgrowth of inexperience, is proven by the unprecedented satisfaction given at the present time. Mr. Ricord is a gentleman highly qualified, accommodating, and good-natured, and those connected with the office have the same characteristics.

Rumor says that the two stalwarts of the *Vidette* staff, the charter members, as it were, seriously contemplate a sojourn in Iowa City during vacation. Rumor also assigns different reasons for such a course of procedure; one is that they so thirst after knowledge that they are unable to leave the library; another, that there is a more subtle power at work—one that operates within them, having its headquarters in the region somewhere about the heart. This force has so much "actual energy" and so little "resistance" that its field of action is unlimited.

A letter addressed as follows arrived not long ago at the post-office:

GRIFFIN'S
WEDDING CARD DEPOT,
49 TEMPLE ST.,
BOSTON.

MR. CHAS. R. LEONARD,

IOWA CITY,

IOWA.

We don't know what it means, but it looks significant.

THE Seniors will not soon forget the many pleasant receptions which they have received within the last month. They will look back upon them in after years as some of the most enjoyable features of their college course. The first of these entertainments was given by President Pickard. The Doctor and his wife, certainly are able entertainers of company. None of that feeling of reserve and restraint was felt, which so often characterizes such entertainments. Every guest present, afterward expressed a hearty enjoyment of the occasion. The next party was given by Miss Lewis, at her residence, on Clinton street. Everything seemed to have conjured to make this a most pleasant occasion. Without, a more lovely sky scarce ever was seen. The combined light of the room and numerous Chinese lanterns, rendered the lawn almost as light as day. Everywhere, within and without, the hum of merriment and the joyous laugh were heard. It was not until a late hour that the party broke up, voting unanimously that they had had a delightful time. A week from this evening, Mr. Charles R. Leonard, gave his class a reception. The elegant parlors and beautiful lawn of the Professor, at an early hour, became the scene of unalloyed merriment and joyfulness. Croquet, hammocks, and all the furniture of the lawn, conduced to the pleasure of the guests. But this could not exceed in its power of awakening pleasant emotions the rich music within doors, for some of Iowa City's best musical talent was present. Everything was done by the hosts to make the occasion a pleasant one, and every one admits that they succeeded in an eminent degree. On Wednesday evening, the 15th, occurred the last of the Senior parties. On that evening Mr. Charles C. Clark received the Senior Class. Charlie's home is well adapted for such an entertainment. No

pains were spared to make things pleasant for the guests. Swings, hammocks, and teeters, were to be found on the lawn; cards, checkers and numerous other games within. It was not until a late hour that the guests took their leave, thanking the host and hostess for the very pleasant time they had had. It is by such numerous instances of kindness as these that Iowa City becomes dear to every student, and that in after years the mere mention of the name calls up the fondest recollections.

LAW DEPARTMENT.

MURATT W. HOPKINS, *Editor.*

'80. W. O. Finkbine, of Odebolt, is visiting in the city.

'81. Bruff has delivered himself of a temperance lecture. Success.

By an unanimous vote, the present class organization was made permanent.

'79. Ray Billingsley, of Vinton, is here visiting friends, and doing Commencement.

'79. J. E. McIntyre, of Colorado Springs, Colorado, was here during Commencement.

'80. Fred. Denkman, of Rock Island, Ill., is here taking in Commencement to his fullest capacity.

'81. Pollock has been honored by being selected to deliver the Alumni address at Cornell College.

'81. Hayslett will attend Cornell College next year, and perhaps complete the course of that institution.

M. T. Owens, '78, Arthur Springer, '77, and J. G. Berryhill, '76, were in the city during Commencement.

Mrs. Sweney, wife of Sweney of 1881, graced our class-room with her presence, while visiting her husband.

'79. John Campbell, of Colorado Springs, has been inspecting the present Law Class and visiting cousins (?) in the city.

'81. Pollock will start in a few weeks to Columbia City, Colorado, with the intention of making that place his permanent location.

The Class of '81 cannot begin to express their satisfaction of the selection of Professor Ross for Chancellor of the Law Department.

'70. Smith McPherson, now Attorney General of State, was one of the Examining Committee, and is now in attendance upon Commencement.

'79. Getty visited the class, not long ago, and was made smiling happy to look upon the Class of '81. He is not in the practice at present, but will enter soon.

'66. Thomas S. Wright beamed upon the class with a happy and much appreciated talk. He gave the class some good advice, and which, from necessity, most of the class will follow.

We are glad to say that we have Mr. Gesford's card, and it reads as follows: "Henry C. Gesford, LL.B., Attorney and Counsellor at Law, Napa, California. Will practice in all the courts of the State."

On Sunday afternoon, the Law Class, in company with the professors, marched down to the Opera House to hear the President's Baccalaureate address. It was through the kindness of the President that reserved seats awaited our arrival.

'70. W. Otis Crosby wishes the Class of '81, while on examination, the success of the Class of '70. And more, too, while he remembered how bountifully God had prospered the '70, his heart came out to us, and expressed his desire that with us the molder of fate would as kindly deal.

Last Saturday morning, Prof. Ross delivered to the class the closing lecture of a successful year's work. It is useless for us to try to add merit to it by any comments, but only to assure our dear professor, that the thoughts came straight home to the hearts of us all, and as we go out into the tempestuous world we will ever try to keep that lecture in sacred view.

Prof. Ross, on Thursday morning, at the time appointed for the examination to begin, astonished the class, as well as "gave away" the examining committee, by informing us that the committee was "not quite full," and hence the examination would of necessity be postponed. But when that committee did "fill up," they came at us in such a manner as to make us wish that they had remained "not quite full," and let that mean whatever it may.

We fully appreciate, and will still continue to appreciate, the kindness that prompted the members of the class to confer upon us the honors of Class Editor. Just how well and how faithfully we have executed that trust, is now of the past, and over our failures and weakness we kindly ask that brotherly hands will draw the veil of charity,—that robe which will convert our imperfect representation into a sweet remembrance of our earnestness to know and to do the right, and our perfect willingness to serve the Law Class of '81. The position of Class Editor forms a new link in the chain of friendship, by which we are bound one to the other, and our friendship for each and every member of the class is such a friendship as against which the statute of limitation will never begin to run.

Of course it is but natural that the Class of '81 should feel proud of the worthy reputation that it has attained. The most favorable report that the Examining Committee gave of it surely repays its members for the many hours of weary toil. The report is as follows:

To the Honorable the Supreme Court of Iowa, and the Faculty and Regents of the State University of Iowa:

The undersigned members of the Committee, duly appointed to make examination of the fitness and learning of the members of the Law Class, of the years 1880-81, beg leave to, and take great pleasure in reporting, that, on the 16th and 17th days of June, 1881, at their rooms in the University, examined each and all of the members of said class; that we found each and all of said members to possess the requisite learning for admission to practice law in the several courts of record, including the Supreme Court of Iowa. And we recommend that each and all of said members be graduated and admitted in the said courts aforesaid. Hereto annexed, find list of said members above referred to. Done at University, Iowa City, June 17, 1881.

E. McCLAIN, Chairman Committee.
SMITH McPHERSON.
L. W. CLAPP.
W. L. EATON.
W. B. HEPBURN.
C. H. LEWIS.
A. J. HIRSCHL.

We, the undersigned, members of the Law Class of 1873, Iowa State University, for the purpose of continuing our acquaintance, after leaving school, agree with each other that we will, during life, subscribe for and take regularly THE UNIVERSITY REPORTER, published by the Iowa State University, and that we will, at least once each year, report to the said paper, our business, occupation, and place of residence, and such other personal matters as will be of general interest to the members of the class:

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| * J. C. Matthews. | Thomas King. |
| E. McClain. | E. W. Weeks. |
| W. D. Burk. | Joe A. Edwards. |
| B. F. Harrington. | P. W. Burr. |
| James E. Hubbard. | L. W. Steele. |
| Samuel M. Hughes. | * Geo. Peter Russell. |
| W. W. Hale. | L. M. Fisher. |
| B. F. Rese. | Erastus W. Smith. |
| W. B. Anderson. | J. A. Everett. |
| T. F. Crane. | H. Jay Lauder. |
| M. S. Elwood. | H. Lacey. |
| James W. Crane. | J. B. Johnson. |
| R. T. Snediker. | A. J. Evans. |
| E. L. Kelly. | G. W. White. |
| W. A. Greer. | Lou Dyo Chambers. |
| Mary B. Hickey. | W. M. Grant. |
| F. Bishop Benton. | C. Treadwell. |
| Charles A. Berger. | T. W. P. Lee. |
| J. P. Conner. | J. C. Adams. |
| B. S. Baker. | H. G. Conner. |
| W. J. Jeffries. | W. F. Conklin. |
| J. M. Gilliland. | Austin Adams. |
| | * Geo. B. Oglevie. |

* Deceased.

LAW COMMENCEMENT.

The Law Commencement began on Monday evening, by the delivering of the Law oration by Chancellor Hammond. Promptly at the appointed hour the Law class formed in procession, headed by the University band, and marched to the Opera House. When President Pickard announced that the Law oration would be delivered, by a voice familiar to us all, and who needed no introduction, there arose such an applause as has seldom been heard. The Chancellor proceeded with his oration in his very excellent way; he showed so plainly the grand improvement of the law school system of study over that of office study; and he not only rejoiced that law schools now commanded such high esteem from the public, but he has his hopes founded upon the

future; that to secure the grand achievements desired as the result of the law school, the law school of the future must be as far superior to the law school of the present as the present is of the past.

After the oration, the Chancellor spoke to the class, and referring to the pleasures of the past thirteen years of his connection with the school, he said that twelve times he had been called upon to say a parting word to the classes, and without any sadness, only as one must know of so large a class many would no more meet, but that this, the thirteenth time, was with unspeakable sadness, as he felt that he, too, was going out from his work here with us.

After the Chancellor had finished his talk, Mr. Thomas S. Wright, '66, President of the Alumni Association, advanced to the front, and made full statements of what gave rise to the plan of securing and presenting to the Chancellor a fit token of our respect of him as an instructor as well as a scholar, and after having made such statements, he introduced Emlin McClain, '73, who, in well chosen words, in behalf of the Alumni of the Law Department, presented the Chancellor with an elegant gold watch and chain. It was a beautiful present—the best of man's handiwork—but it was not presented for its intrinsic worth or value, but it went to him as a present from our hearts freighted with our love and reverence.

The Chancellor was deeply moved, and responded in broken words, for his heart was too full of mingled joy and sadness.

Immediately after this, J. M. Helmick, '81, as a representative of the class, presented to the Board of Regents a handsome portrait of the Chancellor, the portrait being presented for the use of the Law Department. In a few fitting words, C. W. Slagel, on the part of the Regents, accepted the present.

After this, Mr. Baxter, President of the noble Class of '81, advanced and addressed Prof. Ross to the effect that in remembrance of his kindness to us, and wishing to show our high appreciation of his worthiness, that the Class of '81 would beg leave to present to him a cane that had been procured for the occasion, which would be a reminder—which would be *evidence* of the chain which would

in memory bind us to the pleasant past. The cane was an elegant gold-headed one, with an appropriate inscription from the Class of '81.

The Professor's feelings overcame him, as it was a complete surprise to him, but after an effort he made a gracious acceptance, thanking the class for the token of their esteem.

On Tuesday morning the class marched from the University building for the last time. At 9 o'clock promptly the exercises of the graduating class began by an invocation of the divine blessing by the Rev. Mr. Folsom. Next in order were the addresses, by ten members of the class. A list of the subjects of the productions, and orators, we will now give: "Law as a Science," James B. Bruff; "The Burden of Proof of Contributory Negligence," Robert M. Horner; "The Right to Break Law," William J. Taft; "Development of the Law," Scott M. Ladd; "The Judiciary in Government," Otto A. Byington; "The Origin of Right," James M. Nevin; "The American Constitution," Charles A. Pollock; "Primogeniture," Simon H. Snyder; "The Normans in England," J. Henry Sweney; "Law the Basis of Government," valedictory, Martin E. Rudolph.

When it came to the conferring of degrees, the Chancellor expressed much feeling, owing to the fact that he called the familiar roll for the last time. The class being so large that it was be impracticable to come upon the stage, four members were selected to represent the class in the receiving of the diplomas. The persons selected for the purpose were Mr. Gesford, of California; Mr. Hightower, of Georgia; Mr. Raymond, of New York; and our humble self, from the noble State of "Hoosierdom." The oath of the Supreme Court of the State was administered to the class by the Hon. Judge Day, of the Supreme Court, and the Federal oath was given to us by Chancellor Hammond.

After the conferring of degrees, Chancellor Hammond introduced to the audience Chancellor Ross, who was received with a hearty applause. Chancellor Ross proceeded at once to read the report of the committee on Prize Essays. The essay for which the

Chancellor's prize was awarded contained the motto "A Fool's Errand, by One of the Fools." This was a happy motto, and put the audience in a good humor to receive the name of the person, and when Simon Hanson Snyder was announced as the "fool" who won the prize, the Opera House rang with a deafening applause for the favorite of the class. Two of the State Bar prizes were awarded, the successful gentlemen being Nathaniel B. Raymond and Robert Hunter.

Messrs. Hayslett, Simpson, and Elliott, three very worthy members of the class, having not yet attained their years of majority—being infants, so to speak—could not receive their diplomas with the rest of us; but they know that they have most worthily earned them, and as soon as they turn the corner (as our professor says) the much-coveted diploma will be forwarded to their address by giving notice to the effect that the corner has been turned. Commencement is over, and the Class of '81 separate—many, many never to meet again; but may time deal gently and may God prosper each and every one, is the wish and prayer of THE REPORTER.

THE BOERS AND SOUTH AFRICA.

BY JAMES A. KERR.

There have been times in the history of nearly all nations, when force was law; times when desperadoes ran free and unmolested through the streets of cities and pillaged the homes of the high and low; times when innocent citizens dangled from gibbets, or were incarcerated in foul dungeons. France is not the only nation that has been scourged by a commune; Napoleon not the only General that ever swept the sin-cursed boulevards. Often, at the dead night, did the towers of Europe ring with the shrieks of the victims of secular and ecclesiastical tyranny. French fanaticism, and Spanish superstition, destroyed many a happy home, and extinguished the light on many an altar. But the dyke-bound Holland has long been the home of the free. When the rest of Europe drove out the goddess of liberty, and demolished her shrines, Holland maintained her altars. When a French despot attempted to trample out the last vestige of God-given brotherhood on the

continent, Holland yielded herself to the sea rather than the tyrant.

Sectarian bigotry scattered the hardy peasantry of Europe to the shores of every continent and the islands of every sea. When Louis XIV., the popular destroyer of his country's liberties, revoked the edict of Nantes, thousands of French Huguenots fled to Holland, and from Holland to South Africa. On that distant shore they found the Dutch emigrants. The two are the ancestors of the Boers.

The destiny of some men seems to be misfortune; their lives are but a series of disasters. This was the fate of the Boers. They were born under an unlucky star. For in far-off Africa, a country without a history, but shrouded in legend vast and dark, even there the all-grasping, iron-fingered hands of despotism bore heavily upon them. For two centuries this staid, sober, God-fearing people submitted to exorbitant taxation and the insults of greedy collectors. At last, weary of oppression, they abandoned their beautiful farms, and in great wagons plodded through jungles, over mountains, across rivers, beyond English possessions, seeking a land where they could enjoy liberty and the right of self-government. For two years they wandered in their wilderness march. No pillar of fire nor fleeting cloud guided them; no manna fell from heaven; no childless priest, with mystic wand, smote rocks for water. Not a murmur was heard in their camp, not a longing for the flesh-pots of Egypt. Theirs was not an exodus of Hebrew infants, but of strong men, guided by a firmer faith than Israel, and nerved for fiercer conflict.

It was spring. time They stood on the heights of a long range of mountains, birds sang, the crystal torrent lent its music, the distant Indian sea yielded deep under tones. All nature seemed to welcome the wanderers. Below them lay the horizon-bounded plain; beneath the mountain's beauteous brow were uneven mounds, evidences of former habitations, "swept into wrecks by time's ungentle tide." They descended into the plain. The Zulus swept down from the jungles, long and bitter was the conflict.

It was summer. At the foot of the mountain stood a village, along the streets ran sparkling

water, above the dwellings towered the shady oak tree, far out on the plain arose the smoke from the cottage of the peasant.

It was autumn. On the heights of the mountains gleamed the bayonets of an army.

Quickly the Angelus sounded —

The peasants rushed in from the country;

While a regiment of English soldiery

Filed through the streets of the city.

It was midwinter. The republic of Natalia was no more. Their land was the land of the English, their liberty crushed by the tyrant. Again they entered the jungles, again they formed a republic, again they were robbed by the British.

This is a sad story. To Ireland, the poor wayward child of misfortune, the world extends its sympathy. But South Africa is another and greater Ireland. Already conflict has become chronic, opposition a habit, and friction a necessity. No great-souled O'Connell has told her sad story to the world. But the eloquent ruins of three republics, the grave-marked path of a nine hundred miles wilderness march, the knotted chins, the wrinkled brows, the saddened countenances of hundreds of fathers and mothers in the Transvaal to-day, make a more eloquent plea for liberty than Ireland's eloquent barrister.

By what argument does England defend misrule in South Africa? Behind what sophism does she hide her avarice? Necessity, the argument of tyrants and the creed of slaves, is her defense. For the sake of free trade and friendly intercourse; for the Christianization of Africa; for the poor heathen, lying along the banks of African rivers; for the good of the Boers themselves, —these are the reasons alleged by England for annexation. Is England so philanthropic? No. Her unsought guardianship has cursed more colonies than it ever benefited. Gold, gold that lured the avaricious Spaniard to Mexico, and introduced into Australia the curse of human slavery, the discovery of gold, together with a rapid increase in population —the rising of the star of state—these are the true causes of annexation.

Are my statements overdrawn? Read for yourselves the history of South Africa, and then tell me where is the limit of cruelty? Where the end of oppression? Where the reward of the nation that scourged Afghanis-

tan; demolished the homes of the Zulus; forced upon China a drug that is sapping her life currents; seized Ireland prosperous and happy, crushed her manufactories, drove flocks from hill and dale, cursed her rich soil, in two years sent as many million souls across the seas; the nation that three times annexed the hard-won territory of the Boers to her own possessions once, in violation of her most solemn declaration that they should be unmolested? What her reward? Why the just God who presides over the destinies of nations will dash her to pieces.

Do you ask what is South Africa, that she should demand her freedom? Long has she been known as the continent of darkness. Rome, astonished at the genius of Hannibal, awed by the splendor of Carthage, and baffled by the denseness of her jungles, called her the land of wonders. She is a land of wonders. Wonderful in productiveness, wonderful in natural advantages, wonderful in variation of climate, wonderful because what awed the ancients attracts the moderns.

Our own colonial history finds a living counterpart in South Africa. The arguments of our forefathers are their arguments. That freedom, moreover, whose sway we have prospered, will bless them. Freedom redeem the dark continent? Yes, "that freedom at whose voice Europe awoke from the sleep of ages," "whose magic touch kindled the rays of genius, the enthusiasm of poetry and the flame of eloquence;" that freedom at whose bidding timid sailors ventured beyond the western horizon and made the solitudes of a new world echo with the shouts of the liberated; that freedom, having once kindled her watch-fires along the shores of South Africa, will dispel the gloom of her darkened jungles, populate her vast plateaus, start the hum of industry along her streams, and proclaim to the world the birth of the United States of Africa.

We are sorry to announce that there will be no account of the Collegiate Commencement in this issue. We supposed it was written up until too late to remedy the matter. The oration on the Boers, was put in too "fill up" in the absence of anything better.

Send in your subscription.

COMMENCEMENT VISITORS.

Belle M. Gilerest, B.Ph., '80.

Charley Jack, B.Ph., '75, lawyer, Burlington.

Eli C. Ogg, A.B., '78, attorney at law, Newton.

W. M. Welch, A.B., '80, teaching at Preston.

Fred Bond, B.S., '80, "Amber Sugar," Tiffin, Iowa.

J. F. Clyde, A.B., '77, teaching at St. Ansgar.

James G. Dougherty, B.Ph., '79, druggist, Muscatine.

I. S. Gilliland, B.Ph., '79, at home, Pacific City.

Ida K. Osmond, A.B., '79, teaching, Rock Island.

Harriet J. Parker, A.B., '79, instructor in University.

O. C. Scott, A.B., '78, Principal of Schools, Tipton.

Ray Billingsly, A.B., '77, *Legal Gentleman*, at Vinton.

F. B. Cowgill, B.Ph., '78, minister, Plainview, Minn.

Lewis C. Johnson, B.Ph., '76, LL.B., '77, lawyer at Decorah.

John Hamilton, A.B., '77, M.A., '80, *Bloomfield Republican*.

Florence E. Clark, B.Ph., '79, teaches next year in Moline, Ill.

Chas. N. Hunt, B.Ph., '80, will be in the Law department next year.

Mrs. P. J. Farnsworth and daughter are here visiting our Rarus.

Brother and sister of D. M. Reynolds, *Law*, are here to see Dan graduate.

E. B. Butler, A.B., '78, "Master's Oration" this year, teaches at Algona.

Emerson M. Hough, B.Ph., '80, railroad engineering, western part of the State.

T. S. Wright, LL.B., '65, member of first Law Class, practicing in Des Moines.

W. D. Burk, a former student of the University, now practicing law at Muscatine.

Emil McClain, LL.B., '73, author of "Annotated Code," attorney at Des Moines.

E. Joel's mother, Mrs. Cornish, is here. She may well feel proud of her son's effort on Class day.

The father of Saville Johnson was here to hear his son prophesy for the future of his classmates.

Mrs. P. W. Reeder, mother of Geo. K., the valedictorian of the present class, is here to hear her son speak.

The following are visitors from various parts of the country:

John Campbell, Colorado Springs, Col.

J. E. McIntyre, Colorado Springs, Col.

Virginia Slagle Berryhill, Des Moines.

James G. Berryhill, Des Moines.

Hattie Dennis, Tipton.

M. S. Owens, Waterloo.

Fred Denkman, Rock Island.

John N. Neiman, Tipton.

J. B. Monlux, Oskaloosa.

J. A. Pickler, Muscatine.

L. S. Hanna, Clarinda.

W. Scott Fegan, Burlington.

H. F. Geisler, Wilton.

Mr. Phillips, Des Moines.

W. O. Crosby, Centerville.

John J. Jones, Jr., Millersburg.

Francis E. Nipher, St. Louis, Mo.

John D. Glass.

Alice R. Glass.

Harry C. Truesdale, Rock Island.

Arthur Springer, Columbus Junction.

Will A. Meese, Moline, Ill.

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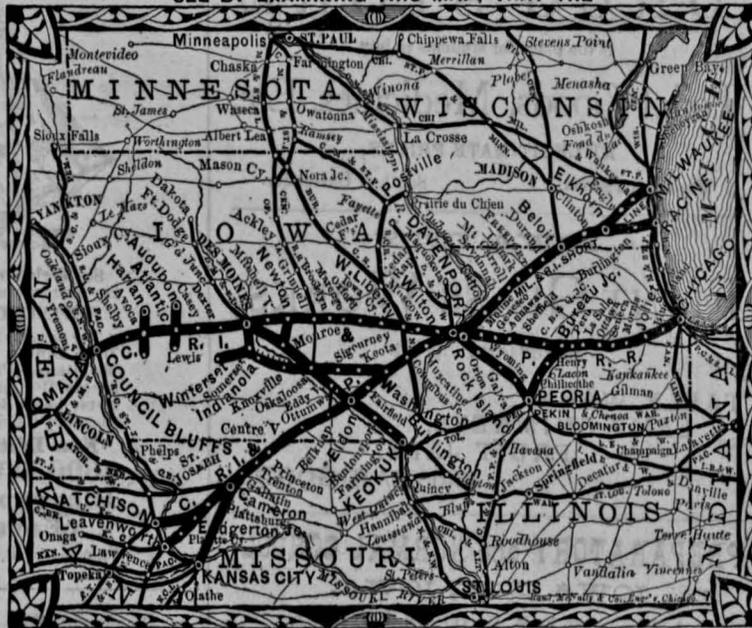
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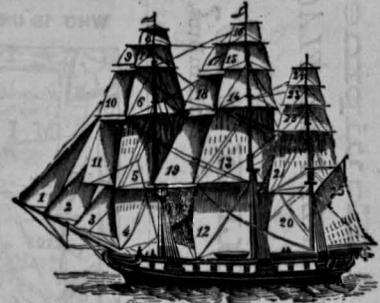
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