The Vidette-Reporter.

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On Monday last Joseph Cook delivered

the first of this year's series of his "Bos-

ton Monday Lectures." The Prelbde—

on Wendell Phillips—by far the ablest review of the great reformer's life we

have yet seen. No student should fail to

read carefully and thoughtfully, each of these lectures.

AGAINST the Agricultural College we

have not a word to say, nor have we

ever had. Against the removal of Presi-

dent Welch even, we make no protest.

But it is our business, and the business of
every one, to ask all public officers to
deal honestly with all public servants,

and, if President Welch now states the

truth, those trustees who removed him

have disgraced themselves by one reason

they assigned for the act. One reason

given by them was his absence from the
college last year, and now the President

tells us two of the three gave their con-
sent to it before he left the college at all.

If he should be removed from the col-
ge to going elsewhere, it is plain that

these trustees should be removed from

their office for consenting to that absence

This is very plainly the view of the

Governor and of the graduates of the college, and we think our friends and sup-

The members of the Harvard Club of

Chicago, celebrated their tenth annual

reunion at the Grand Pacific last Satur-

day evening. The association numbers

about fifty alumni.

It must be extremely mortifying to the

present members of the Agricultural

College Board, among whom are Gov.

Kirkwood, Ministers Willard and Wright

and to have the Register say that "the oldest and

most prominent men in Iowa in the

State go on the University Board, and

other men as good will go on the College

Board when it shall be made of equal

rank and dignity."

PROF. CARL H. KUHLE gave one of his
delightful musical recitals Monday even-
ing at the home of Miss Alice Freeman.

The professor shows excellent taste in

the selections he chooses for his pro-

grammes, and his strict adherence to the

classical school is doing much for the

education of musical taste in Iowa City.

Among the many excellent features of

Monday evening's recital, we would es-

pecially like to mention the two waltzes

composed by the professor himself and

rendered by Miss Reno. The style of

these productions in very characteristic of

the professor; there is a waltz with

many of melody in every theme and a

stronger energy in the rhythm that cer-

tainly produces a charming effect upon

the listener. Miss Reno's rendition of the

waltz dedicates by her to the profes-

sor was particularly pleasing. Bohemian's

Moonlight Sonata rendered by Miss

Nell Cox was evidently the finest per-

formance of the evening, the delicate ex-

pression, strength and lightness of exeeu-

tion so seldom found united in a lady are

possessed in a remarkable degree by Miss

Cox. The light and correct touch with

which Miss Holecott was always notice-

able and high order of musical taste and talent. The evening's entertain-

ment passed only too quickly, and the large number of friends and ad-

mirers who were so fortunate as to be

present at the rehearsal felt that an

evening had been spent in as profitable

and pleasant a way as could be desired by a lover of music.

Editors Vidette-Reporter—

The discussion being carried on in

your columns regarding fraternities, shows

too much partisanship on both sides to

present a fair and impartial view of fra-

ternities as they exist in our University.

Will you allow one allied to another

party to give the results of his observa-
tions on the subject?

The first writer asserts that fraternities

are "a purely social nature," and W.

C. L. denies the assertion, but admits that

if they were to "try to be social, they

would be, no doubt, worse than they are.

Since then fraternities have made the

assertion— and upheld it with good reasoning, it remains for W.

C. L. to dispose of it, which I think he

fails to do.

He tries to show that they interfere in
government, but it seems to me he

fails to bring forward any good evidence
to show that they do. Let him ask any

old student and he will tell him, that be-

fore the fraternities were heard of in the

S. E. I., their literary societies were all

most rent in twain several times, so vi-

cious were their struggles; in fact one of

the present societies is the result of a

split in the other.

Does he charge this to fraternities?

And how about the literary work per-

formed by them, as compared to the

work of other men? We have never had a

four years acquaintance with the institu-

tions at such an interest was upon dis-

cussion and when the audiences were

as uniformly large and attentive, as

now, and see what a success, but friendly

Society of the two societies.

Will C. L. deny any of the above as-

sertions, and say that fraternities caused

the deterioration of the literary societies?

If W. C. L. knew that the cause of our

party has pursued has led to the com-

bination of the fraternities in society for

self defense? Before he and his party

began to exclude men, without re-

garded to their literary merit, was it

any uniformity among the fraternities.

In fact there were almost as many parties

as fraternities, and thus none of them

could exert any influence nor elect a

man without the aid of the non-frater-

nity men. Now if the fraternities have been

successful in the past in electing a

good many men to positions of honor,

what has enabled them to be thus

powerful? The support of non-frater-

nity men and why were they thus sup-

ported? Supposably on account of their

merit, or why would the neutral support

the fraternities in politics? If W.

C. L. would ask any candidate who

forced them into politics?

If W. C. L. would look about a little,

I think he could see that he is no more

a tool in the hands of some unc prac-

tical non-fraternity men who see that

by keeping up this anti-fraternity cry

they can keep the balance of power on

their side, and thus control elections,

this has been shown a number of times,

for example, when one of their party

allowed himself to be the candidate for

two honorary positions in the gift of the

society, whereas it has always been

customary to those honorus upon dif-

ferent individuals. Does W. C. L. think

his term of "trickster" applies to such?

He says, "merit and real worth often

show for rewards otherwise not."

I agree with him here, but think it is as

applicable to one side as to the other.

All have an equal chance in those coun-

tries which are decided by judges, but I

notice that the fraternity men have in

our University

This brings forth some very good argu-

ments, but also a good many which

facts will not bear him out in, while on

the other hand the editorial in reply,

fails in answering his arguments, as well

in advancing any new and strong ones.

He speaks of W. C. L. as one "whose

prejudices are more blind than we had

supposed," while the article written would

be enough to convince an average person

that W. C. L. is not the only unbiased

mind in college.

On the whole, we think W. C. L. has

been doped, and that he is making him-

self ridiculous, while the more shrewd

men of his party, "the ones more skilled

in the arts," as he terms it, "wear the

lamb's coat."

We do not care about discussing that

which we know nothing about; we have

refrained from mentioning ladies frater-

nities.

Hoping that the editors will treat W.

C. L. and all earnest men in the masses

in which they desire to be treated, and that W. C. L. will refuse to act the "cat's

paw," for his scholar companions, I

remain. Yours truly,— Asto-Four.

A private letter from Dartmouth college

to The Boston Transcript says:— We

heard Matthew Arnold here about a

week ago. There was a large audience

present. Nearly every one was satisfied.

A curious little incident happened after

the lecture. Prof. Parker gave him a re-

ception, and during a conversation Ar-

nold was told that this college was fond

of the education of the Indian, and that

there was one here at present. Mr.

Arnold expressed a desire to see him, as

he had never seen an Indian. So East-

man, who is a full-blooded Sioux, and

a faithful student of his master of his

master, he was summoned.

He came into the room, cool, col-

lected and master of the situation, whereas Mr. Arnold was completely non-

plussed. Whether his fancy had pictur-

ed a wild man, fierce with war paint and

tomahawk in hand, is not known; but at

all events he colored up like a boy, held

out his hand and staggered out—his

British egotism coming up unaware—

"Ah eh! ah you were there—you were

there. How did you like it?" (referring

to his lecture.) It was an amusing sight

to see the best representative of English
culture at a loss, and the young educated

Indian standing before him so calm,

collected and even so cool. I believe Arnold has, in some of his writings, doubted

whether the education of the Indian was

a success.

Those of our subscribers who have not

yet paid their subscription are earnestly

required to do so at once. The expense of

printing the Vidette-Reporter must

be met. We believe that the subscribers

will greatly oblige us by paying promptly

what they owe.

The Vidette-Reporter.

IOWA CITY, IOWA, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1884.

VOL. XVI.

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again.

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next week.
THE VIDETTE-REPORTER.

THE PONS BROOKS COMET.

PROF. R. E. LEONARD.

This is the compound name of the comet that has for the past three weeks been a noticeable feature in our evening sky. The name is given in honor of the two astronomers by whom it was discovered. They were not observing together when they first saw it. Indeed one of them died before the other was born. More than two generations of men came upon the stage, performed their part and went to their long home, between the first discovery and the second. Pons was a French astronomer, living at Marseilles, and his first observation of the comet was made in July, 1812. Prof. Brooks is the astronomer of the Red House Observatory, at Plattsburg, New York, and his first glimpse of it was obtained on the 15th of September, 1812, it was within less than seventy million miles of the sun. In 1847 it was more than thirty thousand million miles from it. The orbit of the earth may be represented on the same scale by an ellipse ten inches long and three inches broad. It will show us nearly the proportions of its orbit, and we may mark the place of the sun in this orbit by a dot, one-fourth of an inch from the end of work in which they have been seen, revolving in orbits requiring from three to seven or eight centuries to describe. It was from a second of 0.884 that for example will not be back in this part of our system for eighty four hundred years and forty years. Another one will require more than ten thousand years to make its round. Another still another of four hundred thousand years, and the second comet of 1894 will be two and three-quarter million years in completing its circuit about the sun. Of these not even the last will at its farthest reach be a sixth of an inch, much less the wide space that separates us from the nearest fixed star.

If we represent the orbit of this last in the same scale used for the Pons Brooks comet we shall have to draw an ellipse five feet wide and more than a thousand feet long. The place of the sun in this orbit will be less than one third of an inch from one end. Long before the next return of this comet the men who discovered it and even the nations to whom it belonged will be dead and forgotten.

What an immense empire is subject to the sun's control! But yet other comets have been, and although whose path is so long that in the time they live in sight no certain evidence could be afforded that they ever return. A few certainly will be seen here no more, their incoming and outgoing course showing that they were moving with a velocity which the sun cannot at all times attract alone, was not given them. They have had relationships and experiences outside the sun's empire — his attraction has been but a very harmful incident in their influence. The study of these subjects has led many of our best astronomers to the somewhat startling conclusion that the comet did not originally belong to our solar system — that even those that now revolve in short orbits about the sun are not his native born, but only naturalized citizens of his empire. The happy confirmation afforded to their calculations by the return of the Pons Brooks comet will tend to increase this confidence in the reliability of their work, and to stimulate still further that wonderful activity which has made the last half of this century the golden age in the history of astronomy.

The Chauteaqua.

In this last half of the nineteenth century, but a few months pass over the nation's head without the effect of some grand inspiring thought; now of a poem bearing the marks that will wield a wide influence for purity and truth; now of a useful invention, to which the skilled brain of scientist or machinist, has given birth.

These, and all, are looked upon as signs of progress, advancement in civilization.

But that which wins for itself largest recognition in the world, is not the quickly conceived and executed work of a day. It is the slow, steadily advancing achievement of years.

Such has the Chauteaqua Literary and Scientific Circle been, rightly called by Joseph Cook. "The Outdoor University of America." 

Does not that organization which at its outset comprised only a handful of enthusiastic, broad minded people as founders and which now carols 20,000 men and women from all classes of society, deserve our attention? Is it not true that no more an enterprise should be brought to the notice of those thoughtful people and received his generous support.

For this support he need give only words.

That man who does not appreciate his worth is not worthy of him.

If he appreciates them he must well know what a lack of them would be.

Yet how many persons are there to whom circumstances have barred the college door?

Persons full of ambition richly endowed with nature, from those that the skilled had been given birth; now of his history of astronomy.

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Mr. Roy K. Mathews and Mrs. Mathews see Elsa Pierce up from Davenport to attend the J. C. reception.

The Betas were joyfully entertained last Saturday evening at the home of the brother Marvin Dye. Assessments of a most pleasant nature were indulged in and all passed off merrily.

The first dance of the Northwestern series took place at Ham's Hall on Wednesday evening. A large and select crowd were out, making the party a complete success in every particular.

The Keynote of the 9th says, "Miss Hope Glenn has returned to Europe to do important engagements. She will return in the spring. Miss Nilsson has offered her the use of her residence in London, which she has accepted."

On Wednesday Prof. Leonard received intelligence that his beloved and celebrated Leon, had died suddenly at Burlington. In consequence of this sad event the Professor was absent from the University the remainder of the week.

The Emerson Parlor Opera Company consists of "Walter Emerson, cornetist; Chas. L. Higgins, violinist; Lizzie Higgins, pianist; Lizzie Runals, soprano; Lem. H. Wiley, cornetist. This company will give one of their unparalleled concerts one week from tonight.

The G. A. R. boys of the city have engaged the Emerson Grand Concert Company and they will soon upon the stage the famous war songs and bugle calls, arranged by the celebrated composer, D. W. Reeves, entitled "War Memories, A Day in Camp in 1862." Walter Emerson is admired by all musicians to be America's greatest living cornetist.

Gilmore, the great band-master, says of Walter Emerson, the cornetist: "He is the most brilliant performer of his age, and surpasses all other cornet players." Mr. Emerson was the soloist in Gilmore's band on its trip to Europe a few years ago, and in this language Gilmore himself, from the moment we landed on English soil until we left Germany, Emerson never failed to win the greatest applause from the greatest critics.

Last Saturday the T. S. Corals gave another of their pleasant receptions, always so eagerly expected, so greatly enjoyed. From three to eight the L. C.'s joined Miss Hattie Cochran at her elegant home on Clinton St. and gave a most cordial welcome to their many friends. As this society comprises so many popular young ladies it is not surprising that the number of their friends assembled on this occasion was great, just enough so as to have a merry time. After some time spent in conversation, adjournment to the dining-room, where delicious refreshments were served, was in order. All spent a most enjoyable time and it was the unanimous opinion that the L. C.'s are the best of entertainers.

Mr. Mr. Edward G. Hulme and Mrs. Hulme left Wednesday evening for St. Louis to attend the J. C. reception.

The Hoytville—A popular domestic journal for American homes, will be sent for one year free to every lady who will send us the names and address of ten married ladies and this copy of this publication be sent to the friends of the deceased, and also published in the Hoytville-Reporter.

The Housewife—A popular domestic journal for American homes, will be sent for one year free to every lady who will send us the names and address of ten married ladies and this copy of this publication be sent to the friends of the deceased, and also published in the Hoytville-Reporter.

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THE VIDETTE-REPORTER.

EDWIN MURRAY, Editor.

Short-Hand Column

Chairmen of the Department of Engineering at the University of Pennsylvania have expressed the opinion that the employment of stenographers is not confined to the legal or commercial fields, but that it islargely employed in the fields of education, science, and medicine. The employment of stenographers in these fields is increasing rapidly, and the demand for stenographers is expected to continue to grow. The employment of stenographers in the fields of education, science, and medicine is expected to continue to grow.
LAW DEPARTMENT.

Mr. Thomas returned this week. Welcome.

There is a strong movement favorable to locating the supreme court at Des Moines.

Mr. Graham has gone home on account of sickness. He expects to be back for the spring term.

A. G. Schults gave an exhaustive analysis of the case reported in the 10 Us. 672, on Tuesday morning.

The State Senate passed a bill to increase the salaries of circuit judges by $2,500 to $3,000.

Miss Kamanits presented the case reported in the 20 Wis. 590, in a very able manner on Monday morning.

L. B. Nimmock's room was entered on Saturday evening and the notes of the trial escaped with his plunder.

Recitations for Monday: Examples concluded, from 9 to 10 a. m., Chancellor Ellsworth; "Remedies in Equity," Judge Love.

Friday, February 26th, the Mormon Convention will be discussed in the House of Delegates. It is one of the great problems of the time.

We are informed that Miss Barnes of the law class has gone home, having been admitted to practice in Iowa, after an examination at Washington.

The State Lawyer publishes the memorial to Congress passed by the House of Delegates on Friday evening and makes it the subject of an editorial on Free Trade.

W. J. Moshabr of the law class of '81 has just been appointed to the office of County Judge at Otoe, Nebraska. He was a faithful law student and already his merits have gained recognition.

Orrin Robertson of the class of 1889 sends us the initial number of the Desmoines Register published at McKeeny, Texas. The subscribers in the Desmoines Recorder will advocate free-schools and the elevation of all classes of society.

A bill has been introduced into the Iowa Legislature, by Senator Bethel of Lee county, relating to superior courts in cities and towns, lest, to make judgments in such courts liens on real estate, 2nd, to pay jurors in such courts in the trial of civil causes, two dollars per day.

Peck's Bad Boy figured as the dark horse in the Republican National Convention held by the Summer Literary Society on Thursday evening, to congratulate him on the head of the ticket and rally to his support was carried unanimously. Duffy was made the nominee for Vice-President, without a dissenting vote.


C. S. Anderson read an opinion on a legal question raised by demurrer in 2nd division of court, to a petition as to the validity of a parole agreement to pay the debts of another. Held, That when the promise to pay the debts of another arises out of some new and original consideration moving between the new contracting parties in which the promisor surrenders his own interest thereby, it is not within the statute of Frauds, but perfectly valid and binding.

Judge Taylor of the Mississippi River Commission, says: The knowledge of Short-hand has been worth thousands of dollars to me, and I would not part with it for any consideration. The opinion of Judges Love, Adams, McCravy, Wright, Gohl, Kirkwood, Hon. J. F. Dun- na, and others, Clark, have already been published in these columns. A more immediate indocentum, however, for law students to acquire Short-hand was in the hands of Judge Love yesterday.

The judge said that the student of law who is master of this system can always find employment as secretary in the office of some able lawyer. Here he has the finest opportunity for continuing his law study at the same time earning an honest salary.

A short time ago three members of the House of Representatives to Des Moines. The court was in session at the time — one of them was admitted, after an examination. Last week three others went up to Matzgo. The fates were not propitious — at any rate the certificates of admission are not on exhibition. They have received many congratulations, since their return, from their friends who doubtless go on the principle that "What ought to be, is." On Thursday morning the admiring followers, they are called to yield as graceful as possible, but by the plan proposed.

We regret our inability to give the speeches, but owing to their brevity and the benefit of the revolution: They said with the quiet quaker, in the morning: The men of this age.

The Iowa City Press has the following, evidently written by its editor while in Des Moines: "Iowa City remembers Jacob W. Bopp, who, at the last con- currently, sent out the blood and thunder reports of an anticipated riot, and who later went out as Chairman Donnan's adjutant with Sherman, in the joint debate. He is the biggest man in the third house, has more influence, can get more favors than ex-governors, sen- ators and congressmen. For all this, he is as modest as ever. Mr. Bopp is correspondent for a large number of daily and weekly papers, has a large staff of assistants, and sends out splendid letters. This is the secret of his power; he can make a member very small or very large without transgressing propriety, and every member is aware of the fact. If I had an innocent little bill to lobby for, I would get Mr. Bopp on the right side of it. But he is very courteous and gentlemanly, and I do not think that he takes any undue advantage of his influence with the legislative body."
LOVE FOR LITERATURE A PERPETUAL BLESSING.

Perhaps the want of a literature marks the greatest difference between a savage and a civilized nation.

The savage nation has its system of government, its religion, its method of warfare, but has no books, no literature. A native from the jungles of Africa, suddenly transplanted to one of our great cities, would comprehend the missal of our public institutions, our churches, our museums, our art galleries, our legislative assemblies, our army and navy, but he would fail utterly to understand the use of our great public libraries. As the possession of a literature distinguishes the civilized nation from the savage, so the love of literature distinguishes the intellectual and cultured from the rude and ignorant. What a narrow and meager life that man who has no resources outside of himself and his daily toll, who confines his thoughts entirely to the present, and to his own little walled sphere of labor. If he had a love for literature, what a field for pleasure and profit would open up before him. Then he would become acquainted with the world, and the unfolding of the ages, and in all ages of the world, and in all countries, and in all departments of science and art, could trace the history of the human race.

"Could rest from the toiled ocean—and his might would be filled with music—And as lightly steal away."

Every one cannot travel, yet he who loves literature may visit all countries and climes, behold the most beautiful and sublime scenery, become acquainted with all nations, observe the customs and manners of their people, see their home life, upon their machinery of state, watch the conduct of their rulers, in short, acquire a more intimate knowledge of the nations than any traveler could in a lifetime.

One living far from the active world would naturally lead a narrow and secluded life; he who lives in the busy mart and comes in contact with many talking thousands, sees more of humanity and has a broader view of life; but the man who loves literature takes a still more extended view. He communis with the best and greatest men, from Homer, Dante, Shakespeare, Goethe, down to the present day. Takes note of all that is going on in the world, sympathizes with the misfortunes in Africa, the sufferers in Ireland, takes an interest in: Nihilists of Russia, since how the broadest minds of the century are viewing the vital questions of the age, looks at the depths of the sea, the surface of the moon, and the spots on the sun through the eyes of the scientist, becomes a man of a liberal mind, in sympathy with the world, a true cosmopolitan.

In our daily life, we are continually thrown into contact with all classes of individuals, we are obliged to form opinions which are sometimes disagreeable. It is surely a blessing, then, to be able to choose our companions, to associate with those only, whom we love and admire. This we may do in the field of literature.

How grand a work is being carried on by the literary circles recently organized, throughout the country. They are a much needed blessing to the women who are wearing out their lives and crushing their youth in treads-mill toil, since they awaken a love for literature which shall enable them to brighten their lives, and enliven and enoble their minds, lifting them out of the dull routine of daily labor, and opening to them new avenues of study and thought. It is indeed a great blessing to students that their whole college course is a training, calculated to awaken and inspire a love for, and interest in literature. There are many studies which will be laid aside, perhaps forgotten, but if they have been proselyted by their training, the love for literature will remain, which shall inspire them to make new researches, keep abreast with popular thought, and enable them to have a pleasant, profitable and peaceful occupation.

So many of our pleasures and enjoyments are soon exhausted, and cast aside. With what pleasure, then, do we have a love for literature, with what care should we seek to cultivate it, for that purpose a never-ending, never-cloying pleasure, a perpetual blessing.

Blessed is the man who is endowed with a love for good literature! How it enables him to forget his sorrows and trials, his toils and troubles, to rise above those into a purer atmosphere from which he returns refreshed and strengthened for his daily warfare. How new visions are brought to the imagination, deep imprints stirred, lofty aspirations aroused, contracted and prejudiced minds expanded and enlightened, and lives made more useful and noble through its beneficent influence.

What a solace to the isolated, lying weak and hopeless, shut off from all contact with the busy world. What a comfort to the aged, whose employments and pleasure, one by one, are swept away by steadily advancing decrepitude.

Through all the changing scenes of life, from childhood to old age, in sickness and in health, in peace and in war, in strength and in weakness, to all classes and in all conditions a love for literature is a perpetual blessing.

CRANWE HISTORY—The School Herald questions and answers on the history of 1822-83 fill a 52-page extra, illustrated by maps of the Egyptian and American wars, the United States weather service, and the site of the Greely Arctic expedition; also by portraits of Gladstone, Parnell, Khedive Tawfi and and Amir Pasha, King Cetewayo, Jules Ferry, Prince Napoleon, and the late Counte de Chambord. As a manual for class use in social science, it is a brief record of the events of the period, this compilation is invaluable, and every teacher or student of the history of our day and generation should have it.

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