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# The Vidette-Reporter.

VOL. XVII.

IOWA CITY, IOWA, SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1885.

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PAY YOUR SUBSCRIPTION.

Quite a number of our subscribers are in arrears. Please remit promptly as we need the money to meet our obligations.

"THE HARVARD EXPERIMENT" is the heading under which Edward C. Towne, a man of high culture and well known in educational circles, takes Harvard and its President to task in the New York Tribune for the "new proposals" there and pertinently asks whether "President Eliot is making a university or spoiling a college." Mr. Towne makes the following direct statement (and how truth there is in it will be seen farther on): "Harvard is in part, and that in a large part, a failure as a university, and instead of aiming at direct cure of this failure, President Eliot is pushing a wholly Quixotic scheme for making the academic department a university, at the cost of disorganizing the college proper." Mr. Towne maintains, as all will admit that "the university proper embraces the academic department, the divinity school, the medical school, the scientific school and some other special courses of study. That Harvard is not making a success of all these departments, Mr. Towne sets forth very clearly; the divinity school is an almost complete failure, but as this might be hailed by some as a good omen, let us look a little more closely at her scientific school, and see what success she is meeting with in that direction. For although we may differ widely as to what constitutes the best system of education we will all unite in saying that each should be taught at its best. Harvard has been very profuse in her boastings about the "new departure" there and about science to which she claims to be giving great and increasing attention. Yale, on the other hand, while she has held fast to the "old sys-

tem," has given much attention to science also, although she has been considerably less verbose in that line than Harvard.

Mr. Towne compares the Scientific departments of these two representative institutions, and our readers will be interested to read his comparison in full: "At Yale, for example, the college, with its four classes, has 580 students, and there is by the side of the college the Sheffield Scientific School with 249 students. Harvard has in the college proper 936 students, and there is by its side the Lawrence Scientific School, which ought to have at this moment 400 students, to be as much a success as the Sheffield School at Yale. But the Lawrence School is a failure.

Last year with twenty-three professors, instructors, and assistants, it had a first year class of 5, a second year class of 2, a third year class of 4, and a fourth year class of 2, making thirteen in its four regular classes. There were thirteen more special students, making but twenty-six in all. This year the school counts twenty-eight in all; twenty-eight, when to make success equal to that of Yale there ought to be 400. It is this almost total failure of the Harvard Scientific School which has to no small extent occasioned the wild, and certainly desperate, proposal to let students who want science only or chiefly come in upon a regular college footing.

To judge from all experience that has been had thus far, the better class of students, whose aims are those of practical outfit or research, will continue to go to schools such as Sheffield, at Yale, and the Institute of Technology at Boston, and a poorer sort of students will come into Harvard College for an inferior course in science." So says Mr. Towne. The whole article is extremely interesting, and we hope to say something more on this subject in the future.

One of the last yet one of the most interesting autographs contributed to the Aldrich Collection is the one of Ella Wheeler Wilcox on the "Will," which by favor of Mrs. North we give to our readers to-day.

WILL.

There is no chance, no destiny, no fate,  
Can circumvent or hinder or control.  
The firm resolve of a determined soul.  
Gifts count for nothing—will alone is great.  
All things give way before it soon or late.  
What obstacles can stay the mighty force  
Of the sea seeking river in its course,  
Or cause the ascending orb of clay to wait.  
Let well born soul must win what it deserves.  
Test the fool prate of luck. The fortunate  
Is he whose earnest purpose never swerves,  
Whose slightest action or inaction serves  
The one great aim, why even Death stands still  
And waits an hour, sometimes for such a will.  
Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

On Monday Allin, Wilson & Co., will open a fine lot of Easter Cards. Call and see them.

A reasonably large house assembled in the Opera House last evening to listen to the annual declamatory contest of the two lower classes of the University. In opening Prof. Booth, remarking on the latitude allowed in the selection of pieces, called attention to the fact that the decision was not to be given on the character of the piece selected, but on the manner of its rendition. The exercises of the evening opened with an invocation by Rev. E. P. Smith. After music by the band, the four chosen speakers of the Freshman class rendered their selections as follows, music being interspersed: E. E. Dorr, "Extract from Phillip's Oration on Daniel O'Connell;" Miss Minnie Markham, "The Bell, Roland;" Miss Carrie Pennock, "The Ride of Jennie McNeill;" Powell Johnson, "The Creed of the Bells." Mr. B. D. Connelly opened the Sophomore contest with "Chatham's speech on the American War," followed by Miss Kate Hudson, "King Volmer and Elsie;" Fred Nye, "Ivry" and Miss May Williams, "Sister and I." While there may have been some surprises growing out of the result of the preliminary contest, the degree of proficiency attained by the declaimers last night goes far to establish the fact that the judges did not err in their decision. All of the speakers acquitted themselves well, and doubtless fully met the expectation of their friends. The judges, Mrs. Partridge, Mr. Valentine, and Mr. Jackson, decided in favor of Miss Williams and Mr. Dorr, and so far as we can learn, the decision gives general satisfaction. These contests are of great value as a stimulus to excellence in this line of work and all the effort put forth by those who have striven to excel, is well repaid in the discipline obtained. The music rendered by the band was excellent, and in all respects the contest was a success.

Perhaps no event of the week has occasioned so much speculation, especially in the circle of school politics, as the appearance of those flaming colors on Thursday morning indicating the existence of another Greek Fraternity in our midst. The appearance of a new Fraternity was entirely unlooked for, since for some time Frats and Barbs have been enjoying a period of unparalleled peace. But it seemed that the barbarian stronghold had been slowly undermined, and in a period of profound calm had opened its gates and thrown down its battlements. There was considerable speculation in regard to the character of the organization. By some it was termed "a genuine frat," by others an "anti-frat organization," while others generously and openly designated it as a "band of traitors. All day Thursday and Friday in the library and about the University the new frat was the chief theme of discussion. Here and there small knots

of aspiring college politicians would be seen, earnestly engaged in endeavoring to obtain a forecast of the future of college politics. By a preconcerted plan, the numerous bearers of the blue and gold entered the Opera House in a body last night. They were met by a hearty round of applause, which, of course, they greatly appreciated. After the exercises all the chosen assembled at Madam's, and after spending a pleasant hour voted the farce at an end, took off the colors and adjourned sine die, well satisfied with the success of their effort. They were, but are no more. The hearty welcome of some will long be remembered, while the silent reproach of others will be good naturedly forgotten.

The following extract from a letter will be of interest to Students of history:

I have just finished Professor Fiske's "American Political Ideas and recommend it for your purchase. The ease, force and general correctness with which he writes; the general accuracy of his statements, and his clear perception of the value of comparative historical investigation, all unite to render this small volume a very interesting and real addition to the intellectual wealth of the world. I think that you will get from it as from no other book, a clear perception of our political indebtedness to Rome, and of the world's present and prospective indebtedness to America. Prof. John Fiske delivered the three lectures contained in this volume at the Royal Institution of Great Britain in May 1880, under the title of "American Political Ideas viewed from the Standpoint of Universal History." He is so good a student and so pleased a lecturer, that any historical effort of his, has a special value. The lectures here presented, in addition to their immediate value as studies of American institutions, are of interest as bringing into relief the differences between institutions, which bear the same name in England and in America. (e. g. village, town, government, city.) H. H. Morgan.

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## Society Directory.

## ERODELPHIAN SOCIETY.

MYRA CALL.....President  
FANNY HAMMOND.....Secretary  
Sessions on alternate Saturday evenings.

## HESPERIAN SOCIETY.

ROSE ANKENY.....President  
LILLIAN COLE.....Secretary  
Sessions on alternate Saturday evenings.

## IRVING INSTITUTE.

C. W. WILCOX.....President  
A. B. NOBLE.....Secretary  
Sessions every Friday evening.

## ZETAGATHIAN SOCIETY.

F. E. POMEROY.....President  
A. T. HURILL.....Secretary  
Sessions every Friday evening.

## STUDENTS' CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

N. M. CAMPBELL.....President  
E. H. GRIFFIN.....Secretary  
Prayer meetings every Tuesday noon in  
President's recitation room. All  
are cordially invited.

## LOCAL.

Delta Upsilon.  
Congratulations!  
No Hall is wanted.  
"We will be friends."  
Who is H. O. Brown?  
Des Moines to the front.  
"Well its all right, but —"  
Evalyn Allen went home yesterday.  
"Glad you have come to your senses."  
Mina Selby, class '83, is spending vacation at home.  
Ask Blanding about his interview with the silent spiker.  
Great sensation—caused by one pin and two yards of ribbon.  
Lillian Johnson came down to see "Rebecca's Triumph."  
Ask Dickey if he has received an answer from headquarters.  
"This new movement will give a new cast to college politics."  
The next VIDETTE will not be published until after vacation, April 18th.

Lieut. Knower received the sad intelligence of the death of his father the first of the week.

It is rumored that one of the Professors is contemplating a trip to China in the not far distant future.

Some of Holbrook's friends are speculating as to whether that beard will be allowed to appear at the society anniversary.

W. L. Park has been elected business manager of the band, and in that capacity will accompany it on the journey south.

Prof. Parker went to Des Moines yesterday to attend a meeting of the Executive Committee Prisoner's Aid Association of Iowa.

Congratulations to C. H. Pomeroy, of Iowa and A. G. Greenlee, of Ohio on their inter-collegiate victories. We will see you later. *Coup d'Etat.*

It didn't work just as we expected, the "barbs" were aroused so we yanked off the colors." D. U's.

Hon. J. F. Duncombe of Fort Dodge, member of the Board of Regents, was in the city this week attending to business connected with the University.

The Freshies began the base ball season with a game Thursday. A general game will be played this afternoon, the weather permitting.

Mr. Gibbens and wife of Chillicothe, Ohio, are visiting with their sister Miss Anna Thomas. Mr. Gibbens is a graduate of class '77, and is now in charge of a pastorate at the above place.

Professor (to young lady student) "Your mark is very low and you have just passed." Young Lady—"Oh, I'm so glad." Professor (surprised) "Why?" Young Lady—"I do so love a tight squeeze." *Ec.*

Prof.—"How far is the foot advanced at the command *mark time*?" Student—"Fourteen inches." Prof.—"Well, that depends upon the size of the foot. That would be true in case the foot were twenty-eight inches long."

A partial list of the officers elected by Irving Institute for the next term was given last week. The other officers chosen were H. L. Spaulding, Vice-President; M. C. King, Corresponding Secretary; and Shell Burrows, Treasurer.

Quite a number of persons assembled on the campus yesterday, to witness the drill of the band and to listen to the open air concert.

A large force of men are employed on the new scientific building which will be completed sometime in the summer. When finished it will be one of the finest college buildings in the west.

The dusky aborigines who entertained the students with a slight exhibition of skill in archery at the front of the Central building, Wednesday, are Musquakies and hail from the vicinity of Tama City. Some three hundred of them constitute the tribe.

Mr. C. L. Gillis C.E '84, bade farewell friends in Iowa City on Wednesday morning last, and took the train for Grundy Center, Iowa, where he will enter the grocery business in partnership with Mr. H. King also of this place. The new firm will be an enterprising one. They have already purchased a large stock of goods and are deserving of a liberal patronage. We predict a prosperous business career.

President Pickard delivered a highly interesting lecture in Irving Hall Monday evening on "The First Administration." The lecture was given under the auspices of the ladies of the "Nineteenth Century Club and though not very extensively advertised, a full house assembled. Excellent music was furnished by members of the club and all present were well entertained.

The Juniors held a rousing and enthusiastic class meeting yesterday afternoon in the south building at which the fol-

lowing officers were elected: President J. F. Clarke, of Fairfield; Vice-President, C. E. Eggert, of Iowa City; Secretary, J. H. Kilmar, of Sigourney; Treasurer, C. L. Joy, of Sioux City; Sergeant at Arms, F. M. Fultz, of Wilton; First Chief Assistant Sergeant at Arms, J. L. Teeters, of West Liberty; Second Chief Assistant Sergeant at Arms, J. H. Liggett, of Des Moines.

Owing to the expected southern trip, the band boys of the Junior class will be prevented from participating in the Junior contest, unless it be held at an earlier date than was anticipated. Many members of the class, however, will be unable to enter if the time for preparation is shortened, and in order to settle the question, a meeting of the contestants will be held to-day.

The girls of the Hesperian Society wish to thank Miss Metha Helfritz for her labor and care in the position of instructor and general manager during the preparation of the drama, "Rebecca's Triumph." Whatever success the play may meet with is, in a great measure, due to Miss Helfritz' discretion and unceasing efforts.

ROSE B. ANKENY, President.  
LILLIAN COLE, Secretary.

ON Monday morning Prof. McBride told us what was in "the corner." He found there the exhibit of the French secular schools, which although it is in a corner, nevertheless occupies four times as much space as the Iowa exhibit. The Prof. spoke also of the Japan exhibit, showing the wonderful progress made in education by that people in the last twenty years, and concluded by saying that the whole Exhibition was an educational one and that every thing that can be done was seen there at its best.

## A \$20.00 BIBLE REWARD.

The publishers of *Rutledge's Monthly* offer twelve valuable rewards in their *Monthly* for April, among which is the following:

We will give \$20.00 to the person telling us in what book and chapter the shortest verse is to be found in the New Testament Scriptures (not the Revised edition,) by April 10th, 1885. Should two or more correct answers be received, the REWARD will be divided. The money will be forwarded to the winner April 15th, 1885. Persons trying for the reward must send 20 cents in silver or postal notes, (no postage stamps taken) with their answer, for which they will receive the *Monthly* for May, in which the name and address of the winner of the reward and the correct answer will be published, and in which several more valuable rewards will be offered. Address, RUTLEDGE PUBLISHING Co. Easton, Pa.

John Seydel has disposed of his interest in the Arcade rink to S. W. Fairall, who with his brother, W. W. Fairall, will manage it in the future. They are energetic and popular young gentlemen, and will make the Arcade all that could be desired as a place of amusement.

City Band at I X L to-night. A good time for all. Go and enjoy yourself.

Call and get Huckleberry Finn at Al-lin, Wilson & Co's., only \$1.65.

## LAW DEPARTMENT.

A. H. DENMAN, Editor.

Mr. Duncombe has been with us the past week. He is a different style of a lecturer from any we have had, but is very highly appreciated. His sentences are crisp and full of meat. With the aid of the printed briefs given us, we are enabled to follow him very satisfactorily, and have been moving over a great deal of ground in a very short time.

The general law class chose the following officers, who took their places as the foremost men of the Law Department with becoming modesty, short speeches, blushing faces and weak knees: Farrel, President; Blackwell, Vice-President; Gallagher, Secretary and B. F. Goode, Editor. A committee was appointed to confer with the Chancellor, and President Pickard to get the consent of the latter to allow the laws to choose a speaker for their commencement, instead of having the same man to deliver the annual address before both college and law graduating class, as heretofore, and chosen without any particular reference to the law students. The proposal met the unanimous approval of the house.

On Friday, March 20th, Judge Love delivered his last lecture to the present class, and he has now gone out from us to the relatives of the court room. He stuck to his work up to the last moment. He made no parting speech, his closing words were on the law of partnership. The class rather expected from him some words of a general nature, and we confess to a little disappointment at not hearing them. But yet on reflection we find ourselves fully satisfied and deeply impressed with the exhibition we saw of faithful conscientious discharge of duty, and with the high appreciation of the value of our time, which led our beloved and honored professor to cherish every moment of it for our instruction.

We have been under a great many teachers and some of them of wide reputation, but we know of none whose methods have proved more satisfactory to us than those of Judge Love. As a lecturer clearness of statement and copiousness of illustration are most prominent. He neither fell into the fault of a packed style on the one hand, nor rambling superficiality on the other, either of which makes a class room lecturer more or less worthless to his hearers. It was impossible to listen to Judge Love without getting fundamental ideas thoroughly worn or grooved into the mind by the force of his exceedingly apt illustrations, drawn from the stores of his learning, or from the rich fund of his ripe experience. He never wandered, but held to his thought with great tenacity, which the wide range of his learning and experience never tempted him to loosen. Even the humor with which he occasionally enlivened ups always had a direct bearing on his subject and served, not to divert, but to awaken the lagging attention of his class. He talked law and wasted no

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precious time in talking about the law. The requirements of a lecturer are very different from those of a text book writer. The lecturer should never be very dense. He must dwell upon the thoughts he lays down perhaps repeat them in different forms. If he defines, he must call special attention to the terms of his definition, and not trust to his hearers comprehending its scope, or its elements, from the mere enunciation of it. If the lecturer lays down a general principle or maxim, he must do so in a concrete way, by putting it before his hearers with apt illustration, rather than by simply leaving with them the bald, abstract statement. Judge Love fulfills the above requirements admirably. We trust very many classes yet to come will profit by his instruction, and that the bodily strength and sound active mind of our beloved professor may drive even the venerable old age which awaits him very far into the future.

The Law Department of the State University of Iowa is now established upon the basis of a two years course, of nine months each. As was expected by the Regents and faculty there has been a falling off in the attendance, but the fact that so many young men were at once ready to enter for a two years course, is a proof of the wisdom of the change. The course of study for the year 1885-6 will not be materially changed from that of the current year, though some of the junior subjects of study will occupy different places in the school year, there as set forth in the announcement for 1884-5 some subject will be substituted. Thus Judge Love will present evidence to both classes in the fall term, in lieu of contract, and the law of patents in the winter term in lieu of partnerships and agency, and will present Federal Practice in lieu of Bills and Notes. Judge Adams will present to both classes, in winter term, domestic relations, and Insurance, in lieu of Corporations, and Vendors and Purchasers. Prof. Mc Claine will present as Junior studies, for the first time, as special subjects, International Law, and Conflict of Law, and Chancellor Ross will conduct a senior review of the Law of Corporations, upon the basis of Boone on Corporations. Thus it will be seen that few if any subjects of study presented to both classes in 1884-5 will be repeated in 1885-6. It is believed that the six weeks instruction of two hours per day, upon the law of patents, and Federal Practice by Judge Love, will furnish an opportunity to lay foundations for acquiring a knowledge of these subjects, that should be traced by the student public. A circular of Information is now in preparation, which will be sent to any one deserving it.

## USE YOUR WITS.

In purchasing the best goods for the least money. For fine razors, scissors, amunition, and jack knives, go to Pryce's Hardware Store, cor. Dubuque and Washington Street.

## BOOKS AND PERIODICALS.

The unprecedented success of the *Century* magazine since the commencement of the publication of the "War Articles" has taxed the capacity of the publishers to keep the supply up to the demand. Of the March number, 225,000 scarcely sufficed to meet the demand, and the April edition will be fully as large and detained publication for several days on this account.

In the April number is a striking paper by Admiral David D. Porter on "The Opening of the Lower Mississippi." The article is accompanied by portraits of Admirals Farragut and Porter, Captain Bailey, General Butler, General Lovell, the Confederate commander, and other participants in the conflict. Maps, plans and pictures of incidents add additional value and interest to the paper.

George W. Cable, in a brief article, gives a vivid description of "New Orleans before the Capture" from personal observation.

Theodore Roosevelt, the New York reformer, gives an inside view of "State Legislation."

Mr. Cable's late article, "The Freedman's Case in Equity," has called forth a reply by Henry W. Grady, of the *Atlanta Constitution*. In his article, "In Plain Black and White" he denies that Cable is a representative of the South. Mr. Cable will undoubtedly reply through the *Century*.

"A Florentine Mosaic," Mr. Howell's second illustrated paper on Florence, is the opening article in the magazine, a reproduction of Mr. Pennell's etching of the Ponte Vecchio being the frontispiece.

Eugene V. Smalley, who has contributed several articles on "The New Northwest," describes his journey from "Puget Sound to the Upper Columbia."

Dr. Edward Eggleston, who has contributed several articles on "Colonial History," adds another dealing with domestic life and especially with house decoration, styles of dress and personal ornament.

The serial stories of James and Howells continue, and a short story is contributed by Colonel Richard Malcom Johnston, entitled "The Meditations of Mr. Archie Kittrell."

The other departments are up to the usual standard of *Century* excellence.

Prof. A. S. Welch, of the Iowa Agricultural College, sends us a report on the "Organization and Management of seven Agricultural Schools in Germany, Belgium and England." Prof. Welch spent some time in Europe with especial view of examining into the workings of the representative Agricultural Schools to be found there, and judging from his report he succeeded in getting into the inside of them. The trip was made at the request of Hon. George B. Loring, U. S. Commissioner of Agriculture. Two schools in Prussia, one in Bavaria, two in Belgium, and two in England comprise the list examined. Of those in England the "Royal Agricultural College" near Cirencester was established in 1845, and has an attendance of less than 100 students. The "College of Agriculture" at Downton was established in 1880, and labors under the disadvantage of being a new institution.

*St. Nicholas* for April opens with a frontispiece illustration, by W. St. John Harper, of "The Gilded Boy," a true story of a Florentine pageant in 1492. In the "Historic Girls" series E. S. Brooks tells the story of the girlhood of "Zenobia of Palmyra," as based on information recently brought to light by Eastern scholars, which is timely, in so far as it shows a prototype of the events of to-day—a mighty European power humbled and held at bay by the Arabs of many centuries ago. Coming to more modern days, there is a sketch of Bach, which forms the first of a series of brief biographies, by Agatha Tunis, of the great musicians "From Bach to Wagner."

Lieut. Schwatka tells, in "Children of the Cold," of some of the popular games of the Eskimo; while Charles Barnard, in "The Boys' Club," relates how some little New York savages, that have been caught and tamed, amuse themselves in a fine club-house.

Another "Ready for Business," paper discusses the chances for young men in the field of practical chemistry; and E. P. Roe, in an interesting installment of "Driven Back to Eden," contributes some sound and timely advice to young tillers of the soil.

"Among the Law-makers" contains an amusing chapter on the pranks of the Senate-pages, appropriate to the month ushered in by April Fool's Day; and J. T. Trowbridge's serial, "His One Fault," goes brightly on. Of the many other features of the number, a few are: a beautiful double-page picture called "Easter Morning," the story of a mining camp pussy, entitled "The Conscientious Cat"; a poem by Celia Thaxter; one by Margaret Johnston, illustrated by Jessie McDermott; and another, called "Who's Afraid in the Dark?" with a full-page picture by R. B. Birch.

The *Current* has secured the services of Professor David Swing as a special editorial contributor. Its thousands of readers and his innumerable admirers will certainly be highly gratified with this arrangement, which is a permanent one. An eloquent pulpit orator who has accomplished a grand work for the cause to which he has devoted his unswerving energies; a brilliant essayist whose writings have been read with eager interest in all lands; a profound scholar whose well-poised intellectually has, for a quarter of a century, won for him the widest international recognition; a high-minded, liberal-spirited citizen, who has been second to none in the building up of the great Northwest; a valiant apostle of all good doctrines—he has the strongest hold upon the affections and the surest claims upon the respect of his fellow-men. It will be remembered that heretofore, Professor Swing confined his

public editorial expressions to the late *Alliance* and, latterly, to *The Weekly Magazine*. Hereafter those expressions will be found exclusively and each week in *The Current*, with an additional paper devoted to a special topic.

## SHORT-HAND COLUMN.

ELDON MORAN, Editor.

Mae Libby is visiting in the city.

Two applications to furnish Stenographers this week.

Laura Kimball spends Sunday at her home in Mitchellville.

Kittie Humphrey has enrolled for full course in the two arts.

The teacher of Short-hand in Coe College is spending a few days here.

Ethel Van Fossen, who attended the Summer Term, is now the Stenographer for the Fargo Insurance Co., Fargo, D. T.

Michener, the veteran Stenographer for the Circuit Court, has spent several days dictating the Moulton attachment suit to Miss Hutchinson and her assistants.

We are often urged to teach evening. A night class will be started this coming week. Persons interested should call Tuesday evening. Class must number ten at least.

Emma Sheetz, a former student at the School, was given a situation as Stenographic Secretary for a law firm on Thursday. The employment was made through the Reporter's Bureau.

A special class of twelve for beginning students will be organized Monday, April 6th. Those entering will be prepared to fill situations the first of September. Several have enrolled.

Warner Lovell, of Milan, Mo., although but seventeen, has by means of instruction by mail, become thoroughly proficient in both Stenography and Type-writing. This week he sent to the School the original notes and transcript of a lawsuit, which he reported for his employers.

New enrollments in the department of Postal Instruction are: B. W. Waggoner, editor *Register*, Clinton, Ill.; J. H. Karston, editor *De Hope*, Holland, Mich.; Isaiah Reid, editor *Highway*, Nevada, Iowa; W. W. Haskell, editor *Quiz*, Ord, Neb.; D. Lee Sanborn, editor *Cleaver and Standard*, Harrison, Mich.; Fred. A. Aldrich, editor *Globe*, Flint, Mich.; Mr. Barnes, editor *Free Press*, Sandwich, Ill.; R. A. Marvin, editor *Telephone*, Reading, Mich.; A. Houtkamp, editor *Commercial*, Sanga-tuck, Mich.; Editor *Tribune*, St. Louis, Mo.; Jos. Bobleter, editor *Review*, New Ulm, Minn.; R. C. Mitchell, editor *Tribune*, Duluth, Minn.; E. J. Baldwin, editor *Dispatch*, Moline, Ill.; Laris Johnson, Cordova, Ill.; Minnie Reid, Nevada, Iowa; Wm. E. Whitney, Assistant in Industrial School, Eldora, Iowa; Florence A. Harsh, Clyde, Iowa; J. B. Lambe, Otter Creek, Iowa; Geo. H. Watt, Milan, Mo. "A."

Lost—A bunch of keys. Address, Box 1281.

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THE NOBBIEST STOCK OF CLOTHING AT THE GOLDEN EAGLE CLOTHING HOUSE.

Custom made student's uniforms always in stock at the lowest prices

## EDMUNDO D' AMICIS.

One of the most interesting branches of our literature is that devoted to travel. When this department was first introduced to the public, as comparatively few could indulge in travel, it was seized as a means of information on foreign countries; so that writers had the opportunity of exaggerating and coloring the facts about strange nations, to suit themselves,—the reading public being unable to correct them. But in these days, so generally are the advantages of travel enjoyed, not only must a writer be strictly accurate, but he must clothe his narrative in the most fascinating style to secure it public favor. Indeed so many are the works in nearly every country, that to-day great talent is required to write travels that will be well received, and such talent Signor d' Amicis possesses in a high degree.

This accomplished Italian was born in 1846 in Oneglia, a dirty but picturesque little village near Geneva to which town his family belong. His education began at Cuneo, was continued in Turin and was completed at a military academy at Modena. In 1865 he came out as a sub-lieutenant and served in the campaign of '66. In 1867 he became editor of a military journal at Florence and while so connected brought out his famous *Bozzetti Militari*,—one of the most fascinating descriptions of a young soldier's life ever written. In 1870, when the unity of Italy was accomplished, and his services were no longer needed, he turned his whole attention to literary work to which his tastes naturally directed him. While a boy at school he had written some poems, and even sent a copy to Italy's esteemed poet, Manzoni, who replied very courteously by letter. Eight years later when in the same town with the poet this letter served as an introduction to obtain an interview, and, on coming into the presence of the aged bard, the young man burst into tears—so great was his agitation. Again and again in his books he refers with love and veneration to this poet.

Signor d' Amicis's present home is at Turin where he lives with his much beloved mother. But his passions for traveling is continually drawing him away, over the well worn routes, or to some obscure and little, heard-of corner. His education, well informed mind, fine appreciation and judgment in art, with his poetic nature, combine to especially qualify him for a most delightful writer of travel. His style is vivid, bright, and varied with pathos and humor; and over all is cast the glamour of poetry. He is most happy in descriptions, although so charming in each style he chooses that it is somewhat difficult to determine his best. Ever since his publication of "London" he has received the favor and flattery of the literary world, notwithstanding some illnatured and severe reviews of critics. He opens his heart to the public, and the public warmly responds with sympathy. Following "London" in rapid succession were published *Spain*, *Holland*, *Constantinople*, *Morocco* and lastly *Paris*.

His *Spain* is one of the best books in

that romantic country, as he views the people, their legends and customs with sympathizing Italian eyes. So comically, yet naturally, he describes the young American, his stage coach companion, traveling to heal his broken heart and so ready to tell his trouble that we cannot feel at all provoked. He thoroughly understands the political sentiments of the Spaniards, and states them clearly in describing the entrance of king Amadeus, the "poor child," into Savagossa. Spanish pride could scarcely brook the thought of a foreign king; yet when they saw Amadeus and his liberal, kindly disposition towards them, much of their bitter feelings vanished. The dignity and nobleness of character of the king and queen, and their simple mode of life are plainly pictured. At Burgos he takes us to the noted cathedral where, after exhibiting its relics and beauties, he shows us the famous Christ that bled every Friday, till we too feel sickened at the horrid sight. To lead us from such high and serious subjects to the shops on the street is readily and easily accomplished by him. In the College of Santa Cruz at Valladolid, we are introduced to the strange figures used in the Passion Play, with their queer costumes. At Madrid we meet the man with the lantern who carries the door keys to let in belated people; we attend the opera, visit art galleries and cathedrals. But the most striking features are the bull and cock fights. In these descriptions d'Amicis seems to have used for ink a liquid of fire that burns the words into your eyes and mind. We turn away from the sickening picture, but its horribleness seems to penetrate our eyelids and force us to read on. Never before has the hideousness of the institution been so vividly presented to us, and the mad fascination it exercises over the people. "He who is short of money begins to lay aside so that he may secure a fine place in the circus on that day." Children are bribed to good behavior by the promise of going. And on the eventful day, high and low, in their finest apparel, rush to procure their seats. Fifty and even eighty francs are paid for a seat. The circus holds ten thousand people, and the open space for the arena is very large. The terrible mangling of the horses, and the extreme danger and often dreadful wounds of the fighters, and at the same time the intense, disgusting enthusiasm and excitement of the people is, as it were, immediately before you. On after thought one wonders how d'Amicis was able to infuse into written words such intense excitement. Scarcely less horrible are the cock fights. The fiendish fury of the combat, the disgust one feels at men who can sit and bet on such proceedings, is inexpressible. When the beaten cock, eyeless, with no flesh and little skin on his neck and body, still resists spasmodically the piercing blows of his opponent, one feels his revulsion is complete, and desires to draw the veil.

Many authors, and notably Irving, have written about Granada and the Alhambra. But nowhere have we seen such a clear, practical, and poetical des-

cription as d'Amicis gives us. The Court of Lions may serve as an example.

"It is a court not larger than a large ball-room, rectangular in form, with walls as high as the Andalusian houses. All around runs a light portico upheld by slender columns of white marble, grouped in symmetrical disorder, two by two and three by three, almost without any pedestal, so that they seem like the trunks of trees placed on the ground. They are finished with variegated capitals, tall and slender, in shape of pilasters, over which curve little arches of graceful form which rather than leaning, seem to be suspended over the columns in the shape of curtains, that sustain the columns themselves like ribbons and waving garlands. From the middle of the shortest sides advance two groups of columns which form two species of square temples, of nine arches each, surmounted by so many colored cupola. The walls of these little temples and the interior of the portico are a real lace work of stucco, embroideries, and hems, cut and pierced from one side to the other, and transparent as net-work, changing in design at every step. Sometimes they end in cirrups, in festoons, sometimes in ribbons waving around the arches, in kinds of stalactites, fringes, trinkets, and bows which seem to oscillate and mingle at the slightest breath of air. Large Arabic inscriptions run along the four walls over the arches, around the capitals, and on the walls of the little temples. In the center of the court rises a great marble basin, upheld by twelve lions, and surrounded by a little paved canal, from which start four other conduits and run around the entire building. Behind the two small temples and in the middle of the other two sides, open halls and suites of halls, with large open doors that allow one to see the dark terminus against which the little white columns gleam as they would do before the mouth of a grotto. At every step one takes in the court, that forest of columns seems to move and change place, to form again in another way; behind one column which seems alone, two, three, or a row will spring out; others separate, unite, and separate again. To look from the end of one of those rooms everything seems changed; the arches appear very distant, the columns out of place, the little temples of another form; one sees through walls and new arches and columns appearing here illuminated by the sun, there in the shade, beyond scarcely visible in the dim light which falls through the interstices of the stucco; further on they are lost in the darkness."

In Holland he discourses pleasantly on the art and literature of the country, but especially interested in the dykes, the patient resistance of the people to old ocean's attacks, the land they have made, and their devotion to their country and the Prince of Orange. The cleanliness of the people, the love of the men for tobacco, and their unresponsive and, to him, strange manners, somewhat astonish him.

But more interesting than "Holland," both because of the unfrequented place and the historical and legendary romance of the people, is Morocco. On this trip

d'Amicis accompanied the Italian legation from Tangiers to Fez. While Tangiers and the journey to Fez have many fine descriptions, yet space permits us to be content with one or two. Of Fez itself he says, "The first impression is that of an immense city fallen into decrepitude and slowly decaying. Tall houses, which seemed formed of houses piled one upon the other, are falling to pieces, cracked from roof to base, propped up on every side, with no opening save some loop hole in the shape of a cross; long stretches of street flanked by two high bare walls like the walls of a fortress; streets running up hill and down, encumbered with stones and ruins of fallen buildings, twisting and turning at every thirty paces; every now and then a long covered passage, dark as a cellar, where you have to feel your way; blind alleys, recesses, dens full of bones, dead animals, and heaps of putrid matter,—the whole steeped in a dim and melancholy twilight."

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ACADEMY COLUMN.

GUIDO H. STEMPEL, Editor.

H. W. Vandyke returned home, Baxter, Iowa, Thursday, to be with us again next fall.

J. H. Lloyd, having finished the preparatory course, returned to his home, Charles City, Iowa, yesterday.

Miss Lizzie Kile, who has been teaching, during the winter, in Benton Co., was visiting academy friends last week.

"See that my grave's kept clean, boys!" were McLaughlin's last words as his airy form glided from our view last Saturday.

The Athenian Society held a sociable last Friday evening as a wind-up for the term, and a very pleasant time was had by all present.

Examinations to the right of them, examinations to the left of them, examinations in front of them, and who will care for the 'demics now.

Vacation? You bet, and won't we have a jolly time; Brode Davis will study(!), Billy Davis will ride the horses, Edgar Baker will "knock around," all at their homes, Lewis, Iowa; Smith will press brick for the corporation of Cedar Rapids; Marechal will sojourn in Dubuque; Bender has gone to the country—purpose unknown; ye editor will essay streaming salt on ducks' tails in his native swamp. And the girls? O, they'll wait till the heroes return, keeping their memories green, meanwhile.

The Athenian and Spartan Societies turned out in full force last Friday evening to hear their respective representatives affirm and deny the expediency of popular education by the government. Partisan spirit ran high and the hall almost continually resounded with applause of one side of the house or the other. The question was well handled on both sides, and at the close of the debate, anxiously was the report of the judges, Miss Lillian Cole, F.M. Shrope and J. B. Wyant, awaited. And mightily did the Spartans yell when they learned that they had out argued their elder brother, the Athenian Society.

Class "B" in elocution held its last critical last Monday evening and rendered to their friends a very pleasant program. The first part of the program consisted of the ever popular "Songs of Seven," five of which were recited by five young ladies in a neat and fitting manner. The second part of the program was made up of humorous selections, which "brought down the house." We must especially mention Mr. Kaye's rendition of "The Major's Mechanical Cradle." The "B" class shows a great improvement and a willingness for a greater improvement in the near future.

The Spartans, believing that the truth must out, prepared a special programme for last Tuesday evening and welcomed

all their friends to a literary feast. The Spartan society was organized at the beginning of the winter term, and was intended for those who did not wish to appear at once before a public. Many heroes went in, but they were not such when they appeared for the first time before an audience last Tuesday evening. The Spartan society has been doing most excellent work as a training school for literary fledgelings. The Debate "Resolved, that England will likely sink into decay as did the nations of Antiquity" was handled in a manner, which would have been an honor to older heads. F. Newell presented a very spirited description of Sioux Indian customs as he had himself seen them. F. Hamilton pronounced the validictory, a work of which we cannot speak to highly. We may only hope that the Spartan society may move on in the march of progress.

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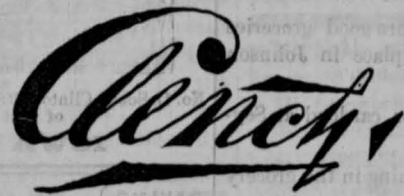
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