

The Vidette-Reporter.

VOL. XX.

IOWA CITY, IOWA, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1887.

NO. 4

The Vidette-Reporter

ISSUED

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During Collegiate Year S. U. I.

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R. C. CRAVEN, WM. DREW, JACOB CLOSZ,
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Those not receiving their papers regularly will please inform us, and they will be forwarded.

All communications should be addressed,

THE VIDETTE-REPORTER,

Iowa City, Iowa.

THE attempt will be made hereafter to have the VIDETTE-REPORTER printed, and in the post-office by Saturday noon.

IOWA Wesleyan University receives \$10,000 from citizens at Mt. Pleasant, which insures the erection of a greatly needed new building.

DR. L. J. BLAKE, of the Rose Polytechnic Institute of Terre Haute, Ind., has been secured to fill the vacant chair of Physics in the University of Kansas.

A SCHOLARSHIP of \$4000 has been given to Dartmouth on condition that no student who uses tobacco shall receive any assistance from such scholarship.

At a meeting of the classes of the Law department the other day, Mr. J. H. Randall was elected editor of the law column in this paper, and he will begin his duties next week.

THE following colleges have reported more than 1,000 students: Harvard, 1,690; Columbia, 1,489; University of Michigan, 1,475; Oberlin, 1,302; Yale, 1,134; North-Western, 1,100; University of Pennsylvania, 1,069.

PRESIDENT FAIRCHILD, of Oberlin College, is in his seventieth year, and desires to resign his position. The trustees urge him to remain, but in the event of his resignation will continue the payment to him during life, of his present salary.

THE Catholic University of America, incorporated in Washington, is established to give instruction in the following branches: Theology, Philosophy, Natural Science, Mathematics, History, Belles-Lettres, Ancient and Modern Languages, Law and Medicine.

The 14th annual contest between the seven representatives of the seven colleges in the Illinois State Oratorical Association was held at Jacksonville Friday evening Oct. 7th. The judges were Prel Angell of Ann Arbor, Prof. Ridpath of De Pauw University, and Judge McFadden of Quincy. Mr. J. V. Schaeffer of the Illinois State University was awarded first honors; and R. H. Acheson of Monmouth College, second. Knox College was badly "knocked", coming out sixth. Mr. Schaeffer's oration on "Landorism in America" will probably appear in our paper next week.

WE are pleased to have called out further thoughts upon our literary societies. The article published in this number contains ideas that are well worthy of consideration. We would call special attention to the point made, that while quality is desirable in literary work, quantity is not to be ignored. Our societies are not what they should be. They are not accomplishing the greatest good for the greatest number. They contain too many members who are willing to stand back and let others do all the work. The fact that they can do this is detrimental both to themselves and to their societies. Because our societies compare favorably with those of other colleges, is no reason why they should not be made more effective than they, at present, are. We would be pleased to hear from others, who have thoughts upon this subject.

THE VIDETTE REPORTER has the lively sympathy of the *Cornellian* in its controversy with the Board of Regents. As a general rule, constituted authority should be recognized and obeyed. But when it becomes apparent that constituted authority is abusing its power and the object for which it was created, severe criticism becomes justified. The refusal of the Board to settle honest indebtedness to the REPORTER on, in substance, the slight grounds of its criticism of their actions, is an index of narrow mindedness, an abridgment of the rights of the press, and an intolerable tyranny. —*Cornellian*.

We thank the *Cornellian* heartily, but it misapprehends somewhat. The Regents passed upon that thirty dollar matter and so did we, so there is at present no open controversy between us and the Regents.

Two of the old professors are just about to leave the city. Dr. Fellows attended the conference of his Church last week at Clinton, and was there appointed pastoral work at West Waterloo. He begins his labor there tomorrow. He will remove hence in the early part of the week. Last night a reception was tendered him and his excellent wife by the M. E. church and friends at the residence of Mr. J. W. Townsend. A large number were present. The professor

received from the church a fine gold watch, and from the Bible Class, of which he has been the teacher so long, a gold-headed cane. Mrs. Fellows was presented with a quantity of silverware. These marks of esteem and love have been well earned by constant, faithful work in the church, in educational circles, by the exertion of a strong and elevating influence in society, by numerous kindnesses and charities, and they will carry with them to Waterloo the best wishes of the friends they leave here. The professor goes from a field of excellent record to one where we trust his usefulness will be as great and the character of his work of the same degree of merit.

Prof Leonard in company with his son Frank has purchased the *Gazette* of Fort Wayne, Ind. They have already taken charge of the paper, although the professor will be detained here for a few weeks yet in settling up his father's estate. Frank left some days since for the new field. Prof Leonard is a man of wide intelligence, firm mental grasp, capable of forming very sound opinions and stating them with great perspicuity and force, a ready writer and a good business man. We are just inclined to suspect that his health is yet good enough, that his blood is yet young and strong and vigorous enough as to make it certain that he will conduct ably and most successfully a wide-awake, strong, influential daily journal in a city of 35,000 inhabitants. In his going away we shall lose a most worthy neighbor, citizen and man. And so, these two men are going off to useful and important fields of labor, and they will acquit themselves well. In the years of labor yet before them we trust they will deserve and receive from the world at large the evidences of approbation which have not as a rule been lacking in the past.

NOTICE.

On or before Friday, November 25th, each member of the Senior and of the Junior class will be required to present an original oration or essay upon one of the subjects named, or upon some other subject approved by the professor. Prof. Anderson will gladly meet students any morning between the hours of eleven and twelve.

1. The Socialism of Schiller and the Individualism of Goethe.
2. The Consistency of Mr. Gladstone in his Present Political Attitude.
3. Citizenship as a Right and as a Duty.
4. The Moral Influence of Addison's *Spectator*.
5. 'Read not books alone, but men'
6. Was McCaulay's Criticism of Croker Justifiable?
7. Literature Indicative of National Progress.
8. Shakespeare's Skill in the Delineation of Female Character.

9. George Elliot's Villains.
10. The Moral Aim of Mrs. Jackson's *Ramona*.
11. A Book Review.

M. B. A.

Miss Mira Troth slipped on the frosty walk Wednesday morning, and seriously injured her lame limb again, so that it is probable that she will be confined to the house, if not to her bed for some time. We most sincerely hope that no very permanent injury has been sustained. Miss Troth seems to be unlucky, this being the third or fourth time that she has suffered similarly. She has the warmest sympathy of all in this unfortunate accident.

Cards are out announcing the marriage of Erna D. Kent of Roscoe, Ill., to Victor G. Coe, to take place Thursday evening, Oct., 20th. Coe graduated with the class of '85, and is in successful law practice at Rock Rapids, this State. Well, we trust he is about to enter upon a happy and prosperous era, and we congratulate him.

From the Sunday's *State Register* we clip the following: The (Presidential) party dined this evening with Colonel Vilas, the present Chamberlain of the Wisconsin University, and wife. Evidently the present, should be and President, but the type-setter could not make it out, and another officer is added to the University.

The Seniors had a meeting Wednesday, and elected class officers. President, H. C. Gardner; Vice-President, R. C. Craven; Secretary, Miss Slotterbec; Treasurer, Julius Lischer. Somewhat was said about plug hats, head gear, etc., but nothing important was done in this direction.

Dr. Emory Miller, formerly pastor of the M. E. church here, has lately been stationed at Indianola. The students of Simpson College may well congratulate themselves, for they now have the rare privilege of listening to a sound, strong thinker and orator.

On Thursday evening last the students opened the winter season with a social hop at Ham's Hall. Sixteen couples were present and all reports show that the affair was a most enjoyable one. The usual custom of distributing programs during the evening was dispensed with, but we learn that they will be sent to each participant in the dance, as soon as they return from their overland tour.

The Senior and Junior classes of the Law department were invited out to Vice-Chancellor McClain's last night. The invitation was generally and heartily responded to. The Professor and his wife were very successful in making things pleasant for the classes and a good time was enjoyed. Pres. and Mrs. Schaeffer were present. We had hoped to get a fuller report.

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LITERARY DEPARTMENT

SOLILOQUY.

To study, or not to study—that is the question!
Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer
The pangs of boning for examinations,
Or to take horse against a sea of questions,
And, by riding, end them. To pony—to pass;
No more? and by ponying to say we end
The headaches, and the thousand ills
That study brings us? 'Tis a consummation
Devoutly to be wished! To pony—to pass;
To pass, and not to know? Aye, there's the rub;
For in our after lives what tests may come,
When we have shuffled off the college days,
Must give us pause.

There's the respect
That makes calamity so hard to study.
For who would bear to be pent up from foot-ball
And the thousand pleasures college life does
bring,
The stare of Profs at half-learned lessons;
The sneers of him who ponies, and the spurns
That patient merit of the unworthy takes,
When he himself might his ten plus get
With a bare pony?

Who would time and pleasure lose
To groan and sweat under a weary cramming;
But that the dread of something after college
life,
That active life of which we hear so much,
Whose paths we have not ventured—puzzles the
will
And makes us rather bear these ills we have,
That fly to others that we know not of?
Thus conscience doth make cowards of us all;
And thus our native hue of resolution
To fire our books and buy a few good nags
Is sicklied o'er with the pale cast of thought;
And enterprises of great pith and moment,
College tricks and schemes for fun,
With this regard their currents turn away,
And lose the name of action.

—F. H. Loomis, in *Pilead*

Below we present three specimens of the first Freshman essays, written on the topic, "The Leading Traits in the Character of George Washington, as Shown in some of the more Noteworthy Actions of his Life." We have made no changes in them. The time allowed for writing them was one hour. The topic assigned was unknown until that time; so that the work was extempore. We will let the reader judge for himself regarding their merits and demerits.

Perhaps the best known and most talked of incident of George Washington's early life, is the one known as the history of the "little hatchet." This certainly shows that Washington had a high regard for truth. However, we are told by ruthless destroyers of cherished ideals that this story is all a creation of some fertile mind, whose regard for truth was at the other extreme.

The story of Washington when somewhat older is a great deal better authenticated. It is about his wishing to be a sailor. His mother objected, but took no summary means of preventing his escape. He is said to have been on the ship, when the memory of his mother's grief at his departure, induced him to return. This seems to me one of the most pleasing traits of George Washington's life.

His bravery, as shown by him in the French and Indian War, and later in the Revolution, is one of Washington's striking characteristics. It was not the rash bravery of Benedict Arnold in the battle of Saratoga. It was a courage strengthened and tempered by his vast judgment—that judgment, which perhaps more than any other one thing,

gave us the right to say, "We the people of these United States."

His correct judgment is Washington's preeminent trait. It was as uninfluenced by prejudice, as a man's could well be. During his presidency, when waves of popular feeling for France, in France's approval for a republic, were dashing, we would almost expect from him some sympathy and support to those who had so nobly aided him. The sympathy he may have had, the support he did not give. And succeeding events have shown the wisdom of Washington's firm stand.

Washington's patriotism is shown throughout his life. One of the hardest things for a western candidate to understand, if he ever tries, is why Washington should prefer going back to his home in Mt. Vernon after the war, instead of becoming President.

I hardly think the Congressman would believe it, he would probably consider it a clever simulation. But I believe it, I believe that there are some men, Washington among them, whose love of home and a quiet life is even superior to their love of political honor. It may be, too that Washington was modest enough to doubt his ability to guide the newly launched, leaky, badly equipped "Ship of State."

However that may be, he has clearly demonstrated as statesman and president, what he had already proven as a general, his right to the name—"Father of his Country." ZOE WILLIAMS.

True judgment can not be passed on a man's public deeds alone. A man may be a great statesman and ruler, and yet be a tyrant at heart. Washington's abilities as a statesman and general are the traits in his character which are generally lauded. But behind these was no tyrant's heart. The famous "hatchet story" shows what a character he had begun as a boy to build, and he did not stop there. Honesty, kindness, unselfishness toward all, characterized his life. It was love for his country, love for his fellow men, which caused him to endure the privations of the army, and to finally lead his soldiers on to that glorious victory—the victory of independence.

And then when it was his to rule the country for whose independence he had fought, his integrity, unselfishness, and kindness still assert themselves. Not only was he characterized by kindness to his soldiers and subjects, but the same kindness and thoughtfulness was exhibited in his home life. Neither were his deeds of love confined to those who could return them; he was kind to animals of all descriptions.

His diplomatic abilities which were very great must not be underestimated. Of course his keen perception and wise planning did much for our country. But, so much time having elapsed, there is a tendency to exaggerate his abilities. In this day we hear nothing against him. He was an extraordinary man in all respects, but no one is perfect, and he was no more than a man. He probably felt as glad on being promoted as we would. But self-aggrandisement was

not one of his traits. In all his offices he did his best for all. He fully exemplifies the saying that "We live in deeds not years." LAURA CLARKE.

Perhaps the most prominent trait in the character of Washington was his high regard for honor and truthfulness. It comes to us that in his youth these were shown on more than one occasion.

The story of the apple tree illustrates very well the simplicity and honesty of his nature, and is, no doubt, but one occasion of many where these features of his nature came to the surface.

His parents were both noted on account of their culture and good morals, and it is likely that the young Washington inherited many of his noble traits from them. From youth to manhood his training was under the care and direction of his mother whose motto was "Truth." Here was formed a character which remained unchanged through

His determination to succeed in whatever he undertook was another of his strong traits. If he decided to do a thing he did it in spite of all opposition and failure, though his judgment was good, and he rarely undertook anything that was wrong. This trait, developed so strongly in his youth, became a part of his nature, and in after years it served a good purpose in enabling him to stand firm in the times of danger and discouragement.

Had it not been for Washington's firmness, there were many times during the Revolutionary war when the people would have given up all hope, and the government of Great Britain would have gained a power over the colonies which they could not have broken.

But there were weak places in Washington's character, though they are slight in comparison with his good traits. He frequently gave way to anger. On several occasions he so abused a gentleman for some slight offense that he was forced to acknowledge his error and ask pardon for his conduct. Yet he was "slow to anger" but terrible when once aroused.

He was not a studious man—that is in the sense in which we speak of studious men. He did not possess a large library as one would suppose, but, on the contrary, spent very little time with books, preferring to be on horseback looking after his interests on the farm. He was fond of all out-door sports but did not let them interfere with his business. In public service he was always occupied and gave his entire time and attention to the country.

He was kind-hearted, always moved by the sight of distress. In fact it would have been better for his finances if he had been more firm in this regard.

Washington's lofty moral principle, strength of will, peculiar power of fore-knowing events, combined with a peculiar disinterestedness, have placed him among the foremost of those whom history calls "great men." On account of his perseverance, honesty and ability, he justly deserves to be called "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen." WILL DUFFIELD.

A Glimpse of the Senior Character.

Walking along the street the other day, it chanced that we were compelled by the proximity of the speakers and the loudness of their conversation to overhear the following dialogue which we will reproduce as true to the original as possible.

Senior—(Gravely condescending.) A Freshman, I presume?

Freshman—(An irresistible smile tugging at the corners of his mouth.) Yes.

Sen.—(Philosophically.) There is a certain air of becoming modesty and due deference noticeable in some recruits to the ranks of learning which distinguishes them as Freshmen. I have been observing the demeanor and habits of these annual arrivals for several years, and the sum total of all my deductions and conclusions is, that they look, and are in very truth, decidedly fresh.

Fresh.—(Blushing beautifully.) Pardon me; but—

Sen.—(Gracefully tilting his plug sufficiently to expose a calm, broad brow whose pregnant contour disclosed the accumulated results of three years' classical study.) My own experience enables me to sympathize with you. I understand your feelings perfectly. As a Senior I should be false to myself were I in any way to disparage a Freshman. Far from it, you are a typical specimen of a good Freshman, and I am glad to see this. Green? Don't expect anything else. Right here permit a bit of sound advice! Don't try to be anything else; for in this very attempt to be what you are not, lies the disagreeable and ridiculous part of Freshmanism. A fish might as well try to live out of water, as a Freshman try to avoid freshness. It is his element—his environment. The harder he tries to appear ripe and mellow, the greener he becomes.

The fruits of such endeavors invariably remind me of a shriveled, dwarfed apple—a case of unsightly, wormeaten precocity. Why, in the very nature of things, a Freshman cannot be a Senior, not even a Sophomore. Greenness is his distinguishing, as modesty is his redeeming feature. The greenness is inevitable. With modesty it is a living promise of luxuriant growth and rich development, associated with which even chumpiness is freely pardoned. But assumption and precocity are deadly sins, beyond the hope of redemption and the power of mercy; all the avenues of toleration are barred against them; and a Freshman under their influence is by common consent "sat down on." This is as it should be. Let Freshmen still be fresh and green.

They turned a corner.

We parted. The Senior was softly whistling the air of "Oh, say to my love be true." The Fresh appeared to be doing his first original thinking as to the humiliations and privileges of his new relatives, while a perceptible tint of aureate seniorial was diffusing itself through his troubled cogitations.

It should be added, however, that this Freshman judiciously "spotted" our magnanimous Senior, and when the lat-

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ter attempted to involve the emerald in the toils of political wires during an ensuing campaign, his labors were rewarded by signal failure and bitter disappointment.

A little "gym,"
A broken limb,
A collar-bone or so,
Some little rings,
Then lofty springs—
Sprained ankle or a toe.
A sturdy bar,
An awful jar—
A flight into mid space;
A high trapeze
He then did seize;
'Tis done—he's run his race.
Ye Freshmen now
Take warning how
Like fate ye do not meet.
Sure as you do—
Believe me, too—
Your course you'll not complete.

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HESPERIAN SOCIETY.

ANNETTE SLOTTBERG.....President
KATE LEGLER.....Secretary
Sessions on alternate Saturday evenings.

ZETAGATHIAN SOCIETY.

C. R. ZIMMERMAN.....President
I. E. MUNGER.....Secretary
Sessions every Friday evening.

STUDENTS' CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

Prayer meetings every Tuesday noon in
President's recitation room. All
are cordially invited.

LOCALS.

Lee, Welch & Co.'s Bookstore.
Fish market, 123, Iowa Avenue.
Two Laws and a Medic.
Dress parade yesterday.
Are you going home to vote?
Foot ball is coming to the front.
The Irvings adjourned last night.
C. A. Burton, class 89, returned Thursday.
Fires are beginning to feel rather comfortable.
Don. D. Donnan has been in the city several days.
W. L. Anderson returned from Washington last Sunday.
Miss Sophy Hutchinson, is taking a post-graduate course.
Miss Eva Elliot is wielding the birch near the city this term.
Miss Eluvia Wright will spend Sunday at her home in Moline.
The Junior and Senior German classes recite together this term.
A large Freshman class is reported in the Dental Department this year.
The band returned from Chicago Wednesday, reporting a grand time.
[It was "order arms," and the foot of the Freshman covered too much space.
O. R. Young is in the service of the U. P. R. R. with headquarters at Dillon, Colo.
Rome S. Walker is in Rock Island to spend Sunday, and see his brother Walker M.
Prof. S. N. Fellows has received an appointment as pastor of the M. E. church at Waterloo, Iowa.
[C. H. Maxson has been appointed as a delegate to represent the University Y. M. C. A., in the State Convention to be held at Sioux City, Oct. 19-23.

Go to the Opera House to-night for a first-class shave and hair-cut.
The Seniors will appear in plug hats soon.
Dress parade was dispensed with yesterday.
Work is progressing rapidly in the Museum.
Officers of the Oratorical Association are soon to be elected.
See Pratt & Strub for umbrellas, gossamer, handkerchiefs and hosiery. Prices low.
It is thought by some that manual drill for an hour begins to get monotonous; not so for the new sargeant.
J. H. Liggett writes: "Until further notice please send my copy of V.-R. to general delivery, Rochester, N. Y."
The "Irvings" adjourned their session last evening. The "fresh" seem to exert a wonderful influence this year.
Anson, the Chicago base ball manager, was formerly an S. U. I. student. He played 1st base in the S. U. I. nine.
The Freshmen claim that they took the advice of the VIDETTE, and cleared the "calves" off the campus yesterday.
Students, patronize Waterman & Williams when wanting anything in the line of Dry Goods or Notions. 124 Clinton Street.
Frank Park has been heard from and expresses himself as well pleased with the University at Iowa City,—*Monmouth Collegian*.
Two laws and a "medic" did so much yelling over the Freshman sociable that the city authorities found it necessary to house it up.
Some of the Sophs are said to have taken cold at the corner of Clinton and Davenport while their would-be victim was responding to the toast—"The class of '90."
J. H. Trundy at Millett's dye works blocks and repairs hats. Silk hats a specialty.
Go to Cash & Hunt's meat market, opposite Opera House, for choice meats of all kinds.
Two Freshmen, while discussing the merits of their class, concluded that Mr. — was the best looking. The speakers belonged, of course, to the fair sex, and were—be it said to their credit—wholly unconscious of an audience.
The Golden Eagle shows the finest and largest stock of clothing and furnishing goods in the city. Call and see
The recourse to "stabbing" by students is perhaps due in a great measure to the fact that we often guess more truly than we know; and secondly to a lack of self-control, and judgment of human nature in teachers, which enables the pupil to parry the main blow, take the offensive, and by a skillful question "draw out" the teacher.
Guitars, violins, accordions, tambourines and musical instruments of all kinds just received at Louis & Greer's.

"My George, boys, they're coming."
"Get away from that window or I'll shoot."
Louis & Greer's new music store, Marquardt's old stand.
Mr. and Mrs. Dickey, after visiting St. Paul and Minneapolis, will make their home at Storm Lake, Iowa.
Mrs. Harriet Parker Campbell of Colorado Springs, Col. is visiting her parents and friends in the city.
Miss Lomie Dugan came in yesterday from Cedar Bluffs, where she has just closed her first term of school.
Cards are out for the marriage of Willis N. Baker, class '83, to Miss Nellie M. Norton, of Champton, Ill., Thursday, Oct. 20.
Some of the Freshmen concluded that they could make their toilet for last night's sociable better in the rooms of their neighbors.
This has been a week of class meetings. The quiet and cautious Freshmen, and the designing "Soph.," foretold what might be expected.
Students in need of Shoes can save from 25 cts. to \$1.00 per pair by buying from Furbish on the corner.
Walter M. Walker, '82, is in his second year of theological study at Morgan Park, Chicago, and preaching at Aledo, Ill, three out of every four Sundays.
A phenomenon yet to be realized:—A squad of Freshmen who can march within four feet of each other, without trampling indiscriminately on the other's feet.
Efforts are being made among the students to organize a dancing school. If the Freshmen would train their muscles preparatory to drill, there would be no necessity for the "awkward squad."
Hats! Hats! at the Golden Eagle.
The German class was entertained Thursday by the melodious notes supposed to have emanated from the laws. There was no harm intended, it was only "eloquution."
The Golden Eagle have the largest stock of Hats in the city to select from Prices much lower than you buy the same goods for elsewhere.
Mr. Will Dart spent a few days this week in Bedford, Taylor Co., where he acted as best man at the marriage of Miss Grace Thompson, formerly of '88 and Mr. James Dickey of '85.
We are requested to announce that the President of the University and Mrs. Schaeffer will be happy to receive the students of all departments, Wednesday evenings, at their house, No. 228 North Capitol St.
The Y. W. C. T. U. will have a pumpkin-pie sociable in the parlors of the Congregational church, Monday evening, from 6 to 10. This will be a very pleasant occasion, and every one who can should come out. All are most cordially invited.
Perfume, 50 new odors just received at Louis & Greer's.

The Freshman Sociable.
Yesterday afternoon brought to a culmination the object of many long and sleepless nights to the "fresh," and numerous schemes and insinuations of the "soph." Thus arrived the day of the long precedented and never to be forgotten freshman sociable. It seems that the freshmen were rather overawed at the complex schemes of the sophs, but fear leads to caution and preparation, consequently sufficient means were taken to avert the coming catastrophe.
As the time of the event drew nearer President Schaeffer met with each class in turn. We do not know the result of the conference, but from the determination shown after drill by each side, we infer that it must have been a lecture on patriotism or some other stimulating subject.
Before drill, elated by the prospect of something interesting soon to come, all classes joined in a common cause, and sang "Saw my leg off" to the Medics," and "The Laws they go to the brewery," and lavished the entire store of pet epigrams on all the departments that happened to show up. By a very strenuous effort, mixed with a desire to please their superiors, the Sophs were enabled to keep the "kids with banners" away until after drill. Then the same old scene, familiar to all who have passed through this ordeal, was repeated.
The scene is too deep and pathetic to be presented by any but a poetic imagination. The campus is immediately covered by an indiscriminate complexity of fresh and sophs, each laboring to his utmost to accomplish the same unknown end. If one side happens to have a little stick the other side immediately wants it, and in three seconds there will be a large pile of fresh and sophs, tramping and tumbling over each other, as though there was some amusement in it. All this time each individual on each side is yelling to his utmost when they can catch enough breath, "'90 and '91." Of course the upper classmen do not lower their dignity by engaging in so childish a performance. They only use moral suasion to keep the wavering side in good spirits.
For a long time the result of the contest was uncertain. The fresh for a time seemed to get too scarce for a sympathetic observer, but it soon proved to be merely an illusion. Although the sophs as a class, and more especially a few individuals, made all possible exertion, the day was fairly and squarely won by the fresh. It is alleged that they got enough pieces from soph banners to keep their girls in kindling wood all winter.
Dazzled by such brilliant exploits, the freshmen even went so far, in order to satiate their thirst for vengeance, that after the sophs were no more, and after receiving an approving smile from their fair sympathizers, who lined the walks bordering the arena, they even attacked the juniors, because one of them happened to look like a soph, and had the movement not been stopped in the

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germ, would probably have rolled the seniors and even have turned their glance toward the new professors. In order to give the names of the fresh who did particular good work, it would be necessary to enumerate the entire freshman class, and space will not admit it.

After the fresh had won the victory, and dispersed to prepare for the events of the evening, a few remaining sophs strode around the campus and yelled "victory" like the rooster who crows when he knows his victorious adversary is shut up in the coop.

The strength of the sophs evidently lies in some other direction than physical exertion.

Although great preparations were made to keep the fresh from the sociable, what by crawling out the back windows, taking to the alleys, and getting to their sister fresh through the kitchen via back yard and wood shed, they all managed to reach their desired place.

The sociable was an entire success in every sense of the word, and the evening was a very enjoyable one to all. The toasts were given in a manner that showed that the intellect of '91 was not inferior to its physical strength.

At about nine o'clock supper was announced. Thirty-one couples filed into the dining hall, where two long boards were spread with a sumptuous feast. The frigid north and the sunny south provided ice and fruit; the luxuries of sea and land were represented in abundance while all the relishes of modern civilization with potent pungents cleared the track for appetite, which, however, scarcely needed an incentive, for many of the valiants had partaken of nothing but honor since half past five o'clock.

Tastefully prepared programs of the banquet exercises were found beside each plate. While all were busy discussing the delicacies, and events of the day, strains of modulated music by the Opera House Orchestra, came floating from an adjoining room.

Napkins were being folded, the music ceased, the murmur of conversation died away, a hush, and the toast-master, Mr. H. I. Clark, by a few well directed words of introduction, announced the first toast of the evening: "The girls of '91—The Rosebud Garden of Girls," to which Mr. A. J. Cox responded, extolling the beauty of the girls of '91, who are the inspiration of their protectors, and whose good judgment and moderation are exemplified by a single member who refused to vote for a man she had not seen. What shall be the excellence of the rosebuds when once full blown.

Miss M. B. Holmes then gracefully responded to the "Boys of '91—in bello, nostri defensores; in pace nostri amatores." The Boys have nobly won their spurs to-day... what may they not do in the future... may they be as successful in the battle of life as they have been to-day... first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of their countrymen.

Mr. C. H. Schroeder then responded eloquently to "The class of '91—last but

not least." The magnitude of the subject to great to be compassed... let us pledge ourselves that the class of '91 shall be a model to our successors, the envy of our predecessors, and the pride of the S. U. I.; may this our first social gathering be productive of many more to follow. Mr. W. D. Lovell then arose to "Our Partners in affliction—The new Professors": They too are Freshmen... let us cherish a kindly fellow-feeling for them and share with them our joys and sorrows.

Miss -Kittie Roney responded in rhymes to "Iowana—May her Shadow Never Grow less."

This valiant class of '91,
Will show the world what can be done.
Thy infant children pledged to thee
Shall bear thy light to every strand—
Proclaim thy name in every land.

Mr. W. S. Prouty arose amid cheers to estimate "The Member of the Class of '90—as he was and as he is." If any one could conceive of anything so infinitesimally small as a Soph he might speak about him... before Oct. 14th he bore the resemblance of a man great and formidable, but he proved to be only a Soph.

"Our future," was next discussed by Mr. B. L. Wick: We have kept the iron-clad rules advocated by the VIDETTE in showing respect to our superiors and keeping the calves off the campus... our future bright... we shall smile at difficulties... the literary and political worlds shall yield their fairest garlands to our girls, and envied laurels to our boys... our very names shall have an influence.

The last, and one of the best toasts of the evening, was that of Miss Edith Prouty: "Our Footprints and their Followers." The impressions she left were beautiful, and her manner was sufficiently happy to merit a host of followers. We refrain from a synopsis lest we should break the charm of her response.

All the speakers were repeatedly interrupted by rounds of applause.

Towards the close of the toasts, President and Mrs. Schaeffer entered the banquet hall and were greeted by hearty cheers. President Schaeffer was afterwards called upon, and in his usually pleasant and pointed manner, honored and delighted the class with a short address.

All the editors, except one, were present.

Mr. Craven being called upon responded in behalf of the staff, and Messrs. Closs and Patterson each expressed their appreciation of the honor conferred by a few appropriate remarks.

Then followed the dance which continued till the small hours of the morning dispelled the charms of Terpsichore, and thus ended the most memorable day of the class of '91.

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Irving's Sketch, "The Art of Book-Making."

Washington Irving in one of his racy, little sketches entitled "The Art of Book-Making," after lingering for a while in the British Museum, steals through a door, full of curiosity to learn into what it may open. His attention had been drawn to the door by persons dressed in black gowns occasionally passing back and forth through it who seemed to take no notice of anything about them, and had the air of being totally engrossed in the fulfillment of errands of a silent and mysterious nature.

The door being passed, he finds himself in a large room containing numberless shelves filled with old, musty books and manuscripts. In the chamber are several tables about which are seated a number of grave, ghost-like persons busily engaged in noting the contents of the volumes and parchments they have placed before them. Now and then, on the nod of one of these personages, a messenger presents himself who, after a whispered word or two, immediately disappears, and returns laden with books with which the solemn person who sent for them at once occupies himself. The scene reminds Irving of an old Arabian tale of a philosopher who was shut up in an enchanted library in the bosom of a mountain, absorbed in studying books of all sorts of dark knowledge; and he now concludes that he has happened upon a body of magi engaged in the study of the occult sciences.

He soon finds, however, that he is instead in the British Library, and that the strange beings whom he took for magi are authors in the very act of getting up books. They take from this book some, from another book some, pour in their own gossip or opinion, and our author falls into meditation, the burden of which is that after all perhaps this pilfering disposition is implanted in authors for wise purposes. It may be the way in which Providence has taken care that the seeds of knowledge and wisdom shall be preserved from age to age in spite of the inevitable decay of the works in which they were first produced.

While pursuing these fancies our author falls asleep, and his imagination conjures up a strange and interesting scene. The scribbling pilferers have changed into a ragged, thread-bare throng, and the books into garments of odd fashion with which they array themselves. No one pretends to clothe himself from any particular suit, but takes a sleeve from one, a cape from another, and so on until decked out.

In the midst of this a cry suddenly comes from every side of "thieves! thieves!" The old authors whose pictures hang on the walls of the room have turned to life, and descend from the canvass with fury in their eyes to claim their rifled property. There ensues a strife full of amusing incidents, one of which strikes the dreamer so ludicrously that he breaks into a fit of laughter, and wakes up to find the whole assemblage of bookworms gazing at him in astonishment.

Hereupon the librarian steps up to him and demands whether he has a card of admission. Irving finds that the library is a sort of hallowed, restricted spot, and that he has been an arrant poacher. Under these circumstances he takes refuge in a precipitate retreat for fear he may have the whole pack of authors let loose upon him.

The sketch is a charming one, and after reading it one feels as though he had just been entertained by a pleasant story from a near friend. It is also a clever satire upon literary little-brains and purloiners.

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This bakery is the oldest and most reliable in town. Our readers will find here the largest assortment of cakes, pies, bread and confectionery. Fine bread and wedding cakes a specialty. *Reduced bread rates to clubs.* Cor. Market and Linn streets. A fine assortment of candies just received.

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Correspondence with a gentleman of good moral character, must be good looking and well educated, (don't have to be rich) by a young lady who has lately moved to Iowa City; she is a graduate from one of the finest schools in the east, a handsome blonde of medium height, with a fortune of \$40,000 well invested; *object matrimony*, with only this one condition, the accepted one must buy the wedding suit, trunk and whole outfit of Sawyer, the clothier, as she is satisfied he keeps the most stylish, and best fitting clothing in Iowa City.

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Charles A. Schaeffer,
PRESIDENT

Our Literary Societies.

In pursuance of an article in a recent issue, concerning the introduction of essays into our literary programs, it would perhaps be well to notice other changes with reference to the societies, that might very profitably be made. In the first place, so large memberships are open to objection. A society having enrolled from fifty to fifty-five members, cannot afford to each the advantages for literary culture which one much smaller could offer. At the very best, each member can appear only once in five or six weeks, while as a matter of fact, a large proportion of them do not appear more than three times a year. Such meagre work evidently is practically useless since in this, as in other departments of education, it is the frequent continual effort which accomplishes profitable results. Not only is there no growth, but by the long intermission, enthusiasm is lost, and when the time does come for the performance of a duty, it is done with reluctance.

Another noticeable defect is the irregularity of appearance on the program. While all our work in the class-room is carried on with perfect order, in matters pertaining to the acquisition of literary ability, we are totally without system. We may appear two nights in succession and not take part again for a term. The literary element of education is far too important to be dealt with in this desultory manner. There should be a rule making performance regular and obligatory. With such a system the work would take on the nature of a study; we would become accustomed to it and would not dread it; but from the consciousness of marked advancement, would become more enthusiastic in its continuation. We should have quantity as well as quality in literary work. When we go into such professions as the law, politics, or journalism, it is not he who, in the quiet of his study, by long and persevering labor, can produce a neat oration, who will best succeed; but rather he who, by force of continued systematic training, has acquired a versatility and a readiness for immediate action. It is not our purpose to discourage careful, elaborate composition, but we shall hardly be contradicted when we say that if at graduation we sum up our literary work and find it to be contained in a few orations, we have not received a full share of the benefit of our literary course.

Again, it is strange to think with what tenacity we cling to one form of program. It seems to have almost become traditionally sacred, and any violation of it is considered a striking feat of originality. This should not be. There are numerous ways in which the program could be profitably varied, not only for the purpose of giving diversity to the work, but also that it might be of greater interest to the audience and might occasionally please them with an agreeable surprise.

By gradually reducing the enrollment to thirty-five or forty carefully selected members—new societies may be formed if all can not be accommodated—by establishing a system of frequent and regular participation, and by diversifying the programs as much as possible, it seems indeed probable that the societies might be improved.

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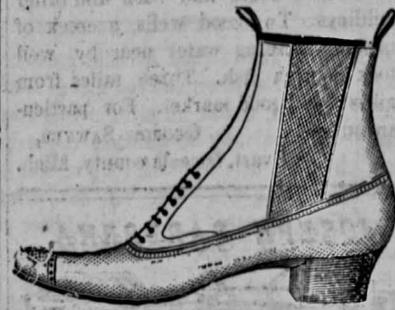
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The Freshmen showed their foresight by inviting the VIDETTE editors to their banquet, but of course we are entirely unprejudiced.

The father of Prof. Leonard, who had been in for a long time with pneumonia died Wednesday evening at the home of his son in this city. The remains were interred at Kossuth.

Bureau Co., Ill., has taken two, at least of the public school superintendents from the University, Geo. L. Leslie, '82, is in Sheffield, and Frank S. Aby, formerly of '88, is at Neponset.

The request to Juniors and Seniors to be prepared with orations by November 25th is heartily endorsed by all. We are not happy for a moment unless hard at work.

Miss Laura Clark has gone as a delegate to the State Convention of the "Young Peoples' Society of Christian Endeavor" held this week at Waterloo. She will visit her sister at Clarksville before returning.

When a student puts an alarm clock under his pillow and then fails to answer it certainly shows too close intellectual application. We would be sorry to have any of class '89 ruin themselves studying.

It is almost incredible that after the extensive preparations made for last evening that no Freshmen were captured by the Sophs. Many narrow escapes are related. It is decidedly more interesting to look on at a Soph-Fresh scuffle than it is to participate, although at times the desire is almost uncontrollable.

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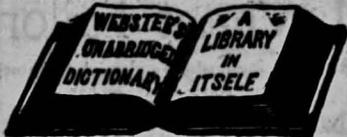
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