

# The Vidette-Reporter.

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NO. 12

## The Vidette-Reporter

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All communications should be addressed,

THE VIDETTE-REPORTER,  
Iowa City, Iowa.

The next number of our paper will make its appearance we presume on the 14th of January 1888.

WE ARE glad the most of the work of first term of 1887-88 is done. We are ready for a rest. For many years, we believe, our University has done good work. The present term has been a prosperous one, and there seems to be no lagging of University interest and life. We trust all have earned a pleasant, restful vacation, and hope all will experience one.

We have just seen a good sized pamphlet entitled "The Pickard Reception Memorial". It is a detailed account of the reception given to Dr. Pickard at Platteville, Wis. last summer by citizens of the place and by old pupils. Dr. Pickard was in early life the principal of an academy there for many years. They seem to have had a grand time and are not wanting in good words for their old teacher.

THE Museum will be thrown open to the public on the afternoons of Monday and Tuesday, the 19th and 20th, from two o'clock to half past four. For those who have not kept track of what all that sawing and hammering up there have meant, there awaits a pleasant surprise. The most attractive room to the casual observer is the one containing the Hornaday collection. The arrangement of the animals in the cases is very pleasing. One excellent feature is in the labeling. The common name is printed in large, bold type, so that it may be read without any difficulty. This makes the display much more intelligible to those who are familiar with the common name only.

ANY one who has tried both ways is aware that a great advantage can be attained in literary work by concentration of effort. For instance take declamation.

Our object in declaiming is to improve our delivery. If we go at it rightly it will do much towards giving us an easy, graceful bearing, correct ideas upon gesture and a natural, effective use of the voice. But to do this we must go at it rightly; and we feel very sure of our ground when we say that the right way and the only right way is by concentration. He who will put his energies upon one selection and work at that one, not until he has become wearied of it, but until work ceases to bring a return to him, will find that he has accomplished much more by that concentrated effort than he would have been able to do by merely committing and reciting a dozen declamations. The same thing may be said of oratorical work. A hastily and carelessly written oration is of little more value to its author than it is to other people. If, however, the oration has been carefully and faithfully composed it has conferred a lasting benefit upon its author, that is by no means proportional to the real merit of his production. But to prepare declamations and especially to write orations in this way means work; yes and of a more difficult kind than the student is likely to find any where in his college curriculum. It is a fact to be deplored no doubt, but a fact nevertheless that must be met, that the students, without some extra inducement, will seldom do this work. These inducements have been furnished in times past by declamatory and oratorical contests. We believe that the results of these contests have been very beneficial. We believe that the Junior contest can not have failed to have done much in the way of a preliminary preparation for a strong orator to send to the State contest. Now if our beliefs have, so far, been well founded, we will venture another one. It is this; that our Oratorical Association should establish a Junior contest and offer a prize to the winner. We see no reason why this may not be done. With the membership that the Association has, the expense will not be heavy. It can easily be made a side issue in the Association's work, and we believe that it will strengthen the prospects of successes in the contests for which the organization now exists. What think you?

OUR last considerable task this term is to present to our readers the final number of the VIDETTE REPORTER for 1887. The task is done. You have the paper. It was our privilege and pleasure a year ago to extend to our readers the compliments of the happy season then approaching. That season is again at hand and again we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We say this not as a nice formality, but with much heart. The Fourth of July is a state jubilee. Thanksgiving is a religious festival and is set apart for the

discharge of very just and grateful obligations calling for seriousness on the part of men and involving an audience of all Heaven. Christmas, secondarily now of the character of a religious season is primarily the heart's holiday and is cosmopolitan. It is called a celebration of the birth of Christ, and it is. It is also a celebration of the life of Christ, of the whole Christ. It commemorates the advent not of a God but of a God-like man into this world and is a rejoicing over the love and charity and in the love and charity which he made possible in human hearts; not divine love but divinely human love. Hence its character is social rather than religious. We recognize the Great Gift first heralded by God's angels and the brightly shining star, and we hear the voices chanting: "Peace on earth and good will toward men." The angels long ago went back to Heaven. The shining star soon faded out. The shepherds are dead. The offerings of the wise men are consumed. The cruel cross has rotted. A score of centuries have nearly rolled away; but the Gift remains; we still hear that heavenly song, and the world offers incense in purer hearts, purer purposes, and purer lives. The divine which Christ gave us is in a degree practical, has been appropriated by us, has been humanized. The blessed little charities which we shall bestow and receive are the tokens of the kind feeling and love for others which constitute the most amiable features of this higher and better life. It is a sign of the greatest influence of Christian teaching when Christian principles and precepts lose their distant and peculiarly sacred character and become social laws and usages not in reality less sacred because more common, and felt and cherished in the hearts of men. Christianity has operated and does operate powerfully on society, and through society on law. It is interesting to observe the increasing tendency of legislation in enlightened states to occupy itself with moral questions. Many portions of the Bible in changed language are on our statute books. Many more will be there. But we shall hope that Christianity will eventually effect a primarily social revolution that will only be reflected in statute laws. We believe that there are diversified but no indecorous manners among the residents of Heaven. The kingdom of God on earth will have come when the greater and minor truths of Christianity form a basis among men of sincere etiquette.

The officers of the Irving Institute were unanimously elected by acclamation. John M. Grim, was elected President; R. C. Gibson, Vice-President; Carl Stutsman, Treasurer; Ira Orton, Rec. Secretary; Chas. Clark, Cor.; C. H. Maxson, Sergt. at arms.

A valuable lithological collection was presented to the museum by an eastern lady. Further particulars will be given hereafter.

The officers of the Hesperian society next term are Miss Kate Hudson, Pres.; Miss Minnie Howe, Vice-President; Miss Florence Erwin, Secretary; Miss Kate Legler, Sergeant-at-arms.

THE successful orator in the home contest of Drake University the other evening was Mr. F. A. Morgan, whose subject was "The Crucifixion of Christ." His younger brother took second honors.

The Zetegathian society will give their customary exhibition program this year. The members chosen are as follows: F. B. Tracy, Valedictorian; J. S. Nollen, Salutatory; Wm. Drew, Middle Oration; Debate, I. W. Bender; R. S. Walker, J. E. Patterson and W. A. De Bord, Declamations, D. I. Coon and J. S. Tuthill. This program will probably be given the latter part of next term.

The joint session of Irving and Erodelphian societies attracted a crowded house last night. The audience was not disappointed in its expectations. The scene from "Marie Stuart," in which the roles of the queens were admirably taken by the Misses Musser and Lay, was perhaps the best feature of the program. There was no ranting and raving, such as usually disgusts audiences in its rendition. This success is due mainly to Miss Lay's ability and skill as an elocutionist.

### Holiday Party.

The closing days of the present term were enlivened last evening by a very pleasant gathering at the "Hall of Bacon."

The young people of the city united with the students in making the party one of the most enjoyable events of the year. The elegant engravings, lately procured at an enormous expense by Mr. Ham, were shown to their best advantage by the brilliant illuminations from myriads of twinkling lights. The tuneful music furnished by the Opera House orchestra was highly appreciated by all. Dancing was indulged in until a late hour, when the crowd repaired en masse to the lunch counter, in default of a better place. It looked for a few minutes as if a famine were imminent in the immediate vicinity. But the proprietor rose nobly to the occasion, and furnished delicious viands for all.

Although the party was not a financial success, we are sorry to say, yet all united in pronouncing it a decided social success. We understand we are to have another party in the near future, under the same management, which will eclipse all their former efforts. Let the good work go on.

## LITERARY DEPARTMENT

## "HELEN."

(A SOPHOMORE ESSAY.)

About nine o'clock one March evening, my friend entered and handed me a letter. Weary with the tasks of the day, I turned from the open page before me with a sigh of relief as I recognized in the superscription the handwriting of a former pupil. As I broke the seal, there came a peculiar pleasure at the thought that I had a message from those and concerning those whom I had for a time tried to instruct,—into whose growing lives something of my own life had entered. How rapidly my thoughts went from the book on the table to the old schoolroom and the faces that used to present themselves before me! How the old associations crowded back upon my memory! How vivid the picture in my mind, and how closely was I drawn again to the boys and girls! How heartily did I sympathize with them in their efforts—in their failures and in their triumphs! I would read that I might confirm as a reality the vision of my fancy. The salutation—the same form that I had taught them—and then almost the very first sentence: "Have you heard?—Helen—our Helen is dead."—A sudden darkness closed around me, and then I seemed as if awakening from a painful dream. Was it morning! It must indeed be a dream! Yet the lamp was still burning, and I held the letter in my hand. The voice of my friend recalled me. I read the written words again: "You know how I loved her." "She was my best friend." "I do miss her so much." It was not a mistake. The words were there plainly written, and I, too, felt the intense sorrow of the writer. The remainder of the letter was scarcely glanced at. How earnestly I wished I might have seen her again. She came to my memory as I saw her last—strong, beautiful and happy. On her face was the bloom of perfect, joyous health. "I have said good bye once. Why did you meet me again?" she said half reproachfully as she passed. Again I remember her as the life and spirit of a light-hearted May-party, as we walked in the shadows of the trees on the bank of the stream searching for the wild dicentra and the nodding bell-flowers, gathering clusters of the modest bluebells and the delicate little pink anemones that filled all the woods. The white pond lillies had not yet opened, but their broad rounded leaves floated at anchor on the water, and just beneath the surface we could see the green buds reaching up to the sunlight. Our ears were filled with the music of singing birds. Hope was supreme, and the mind of each was filled with thoughts of life and action.

This scene with many others passed rapidly before me and ended in the cruel truth—Helen's voice would never be heard and her face would never be seen among her companions again. Her strong, tender sympathies and her ready kindness must become a memory only. So intelligent! So worthy to be loved!

Of all my pupils, none had promise of a fairer, happier future, and now her death seemed unspeakably sad. Death—remorseless and unrelenting—coming between us and our holiest friendships! Death! At all times most unwelcome and most hateful! Yet it does not come with such a shock in the activity of mid-summer and the heat of noon; nor yet when the autumn leaves are falling, and the evening shadows begin to deepen, for then we feel that the race is finished and the appointed time is near; but when the dewdrop still sparkles in the morning sun, and the violets are yet blue among the flowers of spring;—when the hand of lovely womanhood yet holds the white roses of youth,—death brings with it a fourfold sorrow.

Once more I read: "It may not be right, but I can not help thinking that the Providence is unkind that has taken Helen from us.—And her father! He is heartbroken! You would scarcely know him!" Yes, my grieving friend, you can not help thinking so, for life is sweet to the young, and you look at the future with the eyes of youth; but from the summit of the years, age may perchance look down and see a different vision. Life at best has enough of sorrow, and few to whom is given the allotted three score years and ten can say: I have used them wisely. I have spent them well. Who then may question the decree of the Infinite!

To us there remains the hope that Helen is not lost, but that beyond the limits of time, the friend's esteem and the father's love may find a higher, more perfect fulfillment. M.

## A FRESHMAN EXERCISE.

H. FRANK RALL.

"Little Jacky Horner sat in the corner, eating his Christmas pie,

He put in his thumb and pulled out a plum, and said, 'what a good boy am I.'"

There are many of these old English nursery rhymes, which have come down from times long past, have amused our elders as children, and have in turn been taught to us. And we remember how the simple rhymes of "Little Jacky Horner," "Hickory Dickory Dock," and others, have amused us by their pleasing rhyme and very simplicity. And yet, as we may find sermons in stones, books in running brooks, and good in everything, thus even these simple ditties have in them some truth for the seeking mind. Little Jacky Horner is not the only person who has sat in the corner extracting plums from a Christmas pie, or who has made that modest declaration, "What a good boy am I." The politician of to-day hunts up his war record of perhaps thirty day's service at the close of the war, appears before the public modestly announced as a hero of '61, receives his office, and extracting gubernatorial, senatorial, or official plum, breaks forth in triumphant strains "What a good boy am I."

Then there is that loyal party man who has voted, fought and intrigued for his party since last it was in power. But now it is again victorious, and he takes

his seat in some comfortable governmental office, and, feasting on the rich plums of perhaps a presidential post-office, declares in tones not to be contradicted, "What a good boy am I."

But there is the man also, who has received his plum-pudding for some task done, and, though he retire selfishly to some corner, still has merited it. But the impression made by a good deed done, is easily effaced by too much prating of it. Modesty is ever lauded as a virtue; egotism, though not a vice, yet is a flaw in many an otherwise noble character. Cicero would have been much more highly esteemed for his disclosure of the conspiracy of Catiline, and his other great services to Rome, had he not been forever occupied in keeping this before the Roman people. For as often as he received honors, consular or senatorial, he must exclaim, as he extracted his official plums, like Jacky Horner after him, "What a good boy am I."

The following is an extract from "Hugo's Shakespeare," Book II, Chapter I. It is a fair example of the style and worth of this much prized work:

For our part, we think that the strict duty of science is to test all phenomena. Science is ignorant, and has no right to laugh; a savant who laughs at the possible, is very near being an idiot. The unexpected ought always to be expected by science. Her duty is to stop it in its course and search it, rejecting the chimerical, establishing the real. Science has but the right to put a *visa* on facts; she should verify and distinguish. All human knowledge is but picking and culling. The circumstance that the false is mingled with the true, furnishes no excuse for rejecting the whole mass. When was the tare an excuse for refusing the corn? Hoe out the weed of error, but reap the fact, and place it beside others. Science is the sheaf of facts.

The mission of science is to study and sound everything. All of us, according to our degree, are the creditors of investigation; we are its debtors also. It is due to us, and we owe it to others. To evade a phenomenon, to refuse to pay it that attention to which it has a right, to bow it out, to show it the door, to turn our back on it laughing, is to make truth a bankrupt, and to leave the signature of science to be protested. The phenomenon of the tripod of old, and of the table of to-day, is entitled, like anything else, to investigation. Physical science will gain by it, without doubt. Let us add, that to abandon phenomena to credulity, is to commit treason against human reason.

Homer affirms that the tripods of Delphi walked of their own accord; and he explains the fact (Book XVIII of the "Iliad") by saying that Vulcan forged invisible wheels for them. The explanation does not much simplify the phenomenon. Plato relates that the statues of Dædalus gesticulated in the darkness, had wills of their own, and resisted their master, and that he was obliged to tie them up, so that they might not walk off. Strange dogs at the end of a chain! Fléchier mentions, on page 52 of his "History of Theodosius,"—

referring to the great conspiracy of the magicians of the fourth century against the emperor,—a tipping table, of which we shall perhaps speak elsewhere, in order to say what Fléchier, did not say, and seemed not to know. This table was covered with a round plating of several metals, "ex diversis metallicis materiis fabricata," like the copper and zinc plates employed at present in biological investigation. So it appears that this phenomenon, always rejected and always reappearing, is not an affair of yesterday.

Besides, whatever credulity has said or thought about it, this phenomenon of the tripods and tables is without any connection with the inspiration of the poets—an inspiration entirely direct. This is the point at which we have been aiming. The sibyl has a tripod, the poet none, the poet is himself a tripod, the tripod of divinity itself. God has not made this marvelous distillery of thought,—the brain of man—in order to make no use of it. The man of genius has need of no apparatus but his brain; through it his every thought must pass. Thought ascends, and buds from the brain, as the fruit from the root. Thought is the resultant of man; the root plunges into the earth, the brain into God—that is to say, into the Infinite.

Those who imagine (there are such witness Forbes) that a poem like "Le Medicin de son Honneur" or "King Lear" can be dictated by a tripod or a table, err in a strange fashion; these works are the works of man. God has no need to make a piece of wood aid Shakespeare or Calderon.

Then let us set aside the tripod. Poetry is the poet's own. Let us be respectful before the possibility of which no one knows the limit. Let us be attentive and serious before the extrahuman, out of which we come, and which awaits us; but let us not degrade, the great workers of the world by hypotheses of a mysterious assistance is not necessary; let us leave to the brain that which belongs to it, and agree that the productions of genius are a superhuman offspring of man.

The Agricultural College has had its home oratorical contest. Sherman Yates, with an oration on The Field of Ice, took first honors. W. H. Wright, on The Ransom of the Masses, came out second. The *Aurora* speaks in this way: We can truly say that in our opinion it was the best home contest we have ever listened to. Nearly all of the speakers surpassed the highest expectations of their friends. We had excellent judges, who were given plenty of time to examine the orations and mark them on thought and composition, before they were delivered; and as a consequence, their decision gave almost universal satisfaction. Our college can congratulate itself on being well represented at the state contest this year, and may dare hope for representation at the inter-state contest.

The *Scientific American*, referred to in another column, under the heading of "Patents" is the very best publication in this country for those interested in science, engineering, mechanics, inventions, etc.

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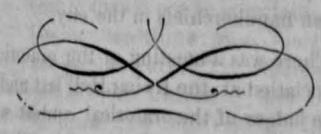


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## Society Directory.

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MORRIS EVANS.....Secretary  
Sessions every Friday evening.

### ERODELPHIAN SOCIETY.

NAN SHEPHERD.....President  
ESTHER GREEN.....Secretary  
Sessions on alternate Saturday evenings.

### 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.

We are out Tuesday.

I. V. Huffman is in school again.

"It seems to me that Mr. Cloz is pretty close," etc.

Everything has been examination and election this week.

Zimmerman has at last failed with that enterprise on his upper lip.

The Zets will have their new carpet down before their next meeting.

The excellent skating above the dam has been appreciated by many.

Who ever witnessed a more pleasant winter than we have had so far?

Dr. Fellows writes that he is enjoying his work at Waterloo very much.

John Kilman has changed his headquarters from Sigourney to Marion.

We have not heard yet of any provision for reduced rates before the 24th inst.

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.

A fine invoice of oil paintings at moderate prices, just received at Lee's Pioneer Bookstore.

Miss Mary Kelley, who was a guest of Miss Nellie Harney, has returned to her home at Kinross.

We advise all our readers to call on Lee, Welch & Co., 24 Clinton St., for their Xmas goods.

What will the "Freshies" and "Medics" do now? No more "Kickapoo" nor "Sagwa." No more auction.

You can always find the best styles and double the stock of any other house in the city at Furbish's.

Go to the Opera House to-night for a first-class shave and hair-cut.

Lischer and Pickett distinguished themselves as speakers at the late Sons of Veterans' meeting in this city.

Professor and Mrs Currier gave a reception Monday evening to the members of the faculty and a few friends.

Ladies will find a choice assortment of corsage bouquets at the University book store, Lee, Welch & Co.

Keep a watch on Lee, Welch & Co's. windows for the finest display of holiday goods over shown in the city.

A large number of students enjoyed a very pleasant evening at the reception of the President last Wednesday evening.

Prayer books, Bibles, hymnals; the largest assortment at lowest prices, Lee's Pioneer Bookstore, 117 Washington street.

Old students will be interested in learning that the entire stock of Allin, Wilson & Co., was recently disposed of at auction.

Misses Mamie and Jessie Peck, of Davenport, have been the guests this week of Mrs. Dr. Hill. They returned to Davenport Thursday.

Toys, books, games, in fact everything suitable for your children's Xmas to be found at Lee's Pioneer Bookstore, 117 Washington St.

All of the Mikado seats down stairs were sold on Wednesday. This is the quickest sale on record in the history of this opera house.

The Chemistry professor, in order to save the fair members of his class further embarrassment, warned them the other day to beware of H<sub>2</sub> S, as it precipitates face powder black.

We understand that Prof. Calvin is to have large editorial interest in the *American Geologist*, a paper to appear in January, published at Minneapolis.

The cases at the museum are nearly completed, presenting a very handsome appearance. The museum will undoubtedly be open to the public next week.

We have had our last drill and tactics for this term. There will be no drill the first week, next term; but both sections in tactics will recite the first Thursday of the term.

The girls in the chemistry class assert that some people positively make them very weary. All in the collegiate department seem to be exempted from the force of this statement.

The Erodelpians the other day elected the following officers: President, Miss Rankin; Vice-President, Miss Graves; Secretary, Miss Lalor; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Humphreys; Treasurer, Miss Elliott.

Married, at Oakland, California, Nov. 30, Mr. Verni Mills and Miss Ella Barclay. Mr. Mills was for two years a member of the present senior class. Miss Barclay was a student of music here, during the year '85 and '86.

Fish market, 123, Iowa Avenue.

The best gift for your children is a good book. Lee's Pioneer Bookstore has over two thousand different books to select from, prices ranging from 5cts. upwards. Remember the old stand, 117 Washington street.

Mr. George Swigart, a member of the class of '87 last year, dropped in among his host of friends this week. It looks familiar to see Swigart's beaming countenance among the boys once more. He leaves the city to-day.

We see in the *Iowa Normal Monthly* for December a short sketch of Orion C. Scott, at present superintendent of the Oskaloosa schools. Mr. Scott graduated from the University with the class of 1878. He is highly praised as an educator.

Students of the University and their friends will find C. L. Mozier's 125 Washington street, the best place to buy supplies in his line. His stock represents the novelties as they appear in market is large and varied, and his prices are always popular.

It has been suggested that we amend the University constitution, if there is one, and close school Fridays, instead of holding over until the next Tuesday. It would undoubtedly be a wise plan for the faculty to lay the matter before the students to decide.

W. B. Allison writes to our librarian saying: "I have yours of the 5th inst. and will take pleasure in sending you the the Daily Congressional Record as requested." So this record will hereafter be on file in our library, and Mrs. North should be thanked for obtaining it.

Now that the walks are so icy again, one appreciates the convenience and safety of the plank steps on the stone ones in front of the central building and of the south hall. One can begin the descent without fear and trembling and exceeding great carefulness.

The program for next term is very nicely arranged. On account of increase in number of studies, however, unfavorable hours of recitation seem unavoidable. We hope it will not be necessary to keep that arrangement long. It is a great strain upon the conscience to slight dinner.

Messrs Bollinger and Lischer have received a challenge from a Davenport editor and Davenport attorney to a public debate in one of the halls of that city upon the question as to whether the recommendations of Pres. Cleveland as contained in his last message should be carried out. We understand our boys have accepted.

Miss Groneweg, one of our fair freshmen representatives was unfortunate enough to be subjected to an ice bath, while skating above the dam last Friday Oh! that we might have been the happy rescuer, and then if necessary, be consigned to the briny deep. We are glad to hear that the accident was attended with no serious results.

Mr. Chairman.

Peck surveyed a dam for Secretary Haddock this week.

See the silk wear Henrietta cloths for 90cts. at Horne's.

Cloaks must go at Horne's if low prices will sell them.

Those pretty, long pocket-books and hand-satchels at Louis & Greer's.

The realistic reading, successfully conducted by Miss Barnard, was simply "killing."

D. A. Swindler class '87 was in the city this week. He stopped over on his way to Ill.

It pays to trade at Horne's where you can find anything you want and so cheap.

A number of the students will stay over here until Saturday in order to take advantage of the reduced rates.

Miss Mable Berry of Iowa City presented to the museum a number of bird skins. They will soon be mounted.

Mr. Fred Cochran gave to the museum a fine specimen of a short eared owl. It is the only owl of that kind in the museum.

Remember, Horne is showing novelties in handkerchiefs, mufflers, lace scarfs, fascinators, toboggans and muffs, not to be found elsewhere.

We heard a "medic" say in a very dejected tone: He wished Clapp would hurry up and quiz him, so he could get the "flunk" off his mind.

Diamonds, Pearl Opera Glasses, Music, Musical Instruments of all kinds, and elegant Perfumes at Louis & Greer's, Druggists and Jewelers.

The gentleman who thought he beheld J. Ellen Foster in reality at the Erodelpian program last Sat. evening is hereby notified of his mistake.

Some of the seniors seem to be unable to keep track of their plug hats. Jim, we are sorry you had to take her home with out that sign of dignity.

The greatest display of holiday goods at Lee's Pioneer Bookstore, that will quote your prices, call and see. James Lee's 117 Washington street.

Remember Horne is headquarters for fine novelties for the holidays. We carry the finest line of fine imported linen handkerchiefs in the city.

There was a meeting of the oratorical associated at the Irving Hall last night. The judges of the oratorical contest will be elected by the contestants Jan. 6th '88.

One of the Senior orations after being corrected by Professor Anderson, was put into the hands of Miss Lay. In showing the senior his faults (if they ever have any), she could not see the justice of the criticism of the Professor when he wrote the word "hash" at the end, although the oration was considerably broken up; that was too severe a criticism. On taking the oration to headquarters the word was deciphered as "haste."

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Bohemian cut glass bottles, the finest made, diamonds and all kinds of jewelry, elegant plush goods, and everything in the drug and jewelry lines suitable for the holiday trade, at Louis & Greer's.

Curtain program at the Hesperian Hall to night. Jeane Ingelow's, Songs of Seven. One of the living and attractive features will be the Humanophone, the only living instrument known to be in existence. A phenomenon rare and attractive.

The officers of the Zetazagnian society are: H. C. Gardner, President; J. S. Nollen, Vice-President; J. T. Bailey, Secretary; C. A. Lichty, Treasurer; G. S. Coon, Corresponding Secretary; C. R. Zimmerman and Will Duffield, Sergeants-at-arms.

Horne is slaughtering cloaks, and don't buy a garment until you see our reduced prices. We must close out every garment for what it will bring in order to make room for our new stock of carpets to be displayed in our new cloak room in the spring.

Owing to the unprecedented sale of Mikado seats, and at the urgent request of many citizens, the Mikado will be repeated on Tuesday evening, Dec. 20th, with same cast of characters and at the same popular prices; 50cts for parquette and dress circle, 35 cents for the gallery. No gallery seats reserved for either night.

Special announcement.—The reserve sale for Tuesday night's performance will open on Tuesday morning at 8 o'clock at Fink's store.

THERE is one question continually before the literary societies, which seems rather difficult of solution. How can we reduce our music expenses? It may appear to an out side observer to be of little importance, but when we take into consideration the fact, that the societies are compelled to pay from \$2.50 to 6.00 a night for music the matter presents its serious aspect. How the custom commenced of paying for music at the societies, it is impossible to say. But that it should not be is certain. The societies often throw open their halls to the public, gratis. The different departments of the University, and the people of Iowa, City are cordially invited to attend. But if in turn we ask the favor from them of a piece of music, it is from one to three dollars.

We do not believe there is another place in the state, where open literary societies are compelled to pay for music. If the societies should become beneficial to themselves merely, and have only closed sessions the music could be easily dispensed with. We would like to have this matter given careful consideration by the societies, and have some method adopted of reducing this expense.

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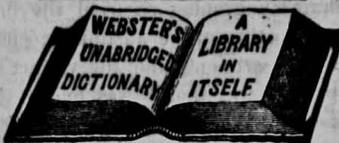
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## LAW DEPARTMENT.

J. H. RANDALL, Editor.

Enter the conflict Monday afternoon, boys, to win.

The department extends to the Faculty a wish for a pleasant holiday vacation.

N. L. Harkness, L. L. B '87, writes encouragingly from Webster, Dak. where he is located. He says business prospects there are first class and that social advantages cannot be excelled.

Chancellor Love has just closed a three weeks' course of lectures on the law of patents, and any one acquainted with him need not be told that they were of great worth to the department.

In three days more the fall term of the department will be at a close, and the work accomplished has met with satisfaction from all. This being the last issue of this paper for the year, and the last one in which your present editor will be connected, it is his wish to extend thanks to the department, and also the members of the editorial staff, for the manner in which he has been received and treated by both, and can insure to his successor pleasant work and associations during his term.

*Railway Influence in the U. S.:* It was predicted in the early days of the anti-slavery struggle that with its emancipation other freedom would follow, and that the aristocratic spirit in all its manifestations would be purged out of the country, but these inspiring prophecies have not been fulfilled. Slavery indeed has been abolished, at least so far as the legislature could take away the power of the master, but the freedmen have not yet been emancipated from the thralldom imposed by property and intelligence upon the helplessness of poverty and ignorance. The spirit of aristocracy has not been purged out of the community in either section of the Union but has simply taken refuge in other forms, and is still putting forth the full measure of its evil power. While the chattel slavery of the South is at an end, the animating principle of the old slave masters still finds manifold expression. It reveals itself in industrial servitude which borrows its life from the alliance of concentrated capital with labor-saving machinery.

Its maxim is that the chief end of government is the protection of property which is easily translated into the kindred maxim that capital should own labor. Its root is pure cupidity, and if left to itself it degenerates into a system of robbery with conscience and humanity turned adrift. Commercial feudalism is another form of aristocratic rule. It wields its power through the machinery of great corporations which are practically endowed with life officers and hereditary succession. They control the makers and expounders of our laws and are steadily advancing along their chosen line of march toward absolute supremacy. The system of agricultural serfdom which we call monopoly is not less hostile to the life of free institutions. It has recently added to its triumphs in the

purchase, by foreign monopolists, of millions of acres of land which should long since have been devoted by law to actual settlement and tillage, while its power is constantly on the increase through the manipulation of great estates. When we add to these forms of slavery the startling debasement of our political system through the corrupt use of money which foreshadows the political serfdom of the people we cannot fail to see that the realization of the above prophecies of a democratic millenium must be postponed to some indefinite time in the distant future, and that it can only become possible by the ceaseless vigilance of the people.

These observations will serve as an introduction to the subject. The power of our great railroad corporations over the government which created them and endowed them with lands, the policy of stimulating the construction of railways by grants of public domain had its beginning in 1850 in the grant then made to the Illinois Central R. R. The act gave every alternate section of land for six sections in width on each side of the road and branches. Then a grant in 1862 gave the Union Pacific ten sections in width each side. The grant to the California & Oregon R. R. was twenty alternate sections each side. At this the people became so thoroughly aroused that congress was forced to call a halt but it was not until more than two hundred thousand acres of the peoples patrimony had been appropriated.

The administration of land grants is committed to the general land office under the supervision of the Secretary of the Interior, and the manner in which the work has been performed for a third of a century under every administration of the government, shows how easy it has been for the companies controlling these grants to appropriate to their own use, under the forms of law, but contrary to its letter and spirit, immense tracts of land. For an example look to the language of the act of 1850. It will be seen by this language that indemnity is only awarded where the United States at the date of the definite location of the road, "have sold any part thereby granted or that the right of preemption has attached to the same." In those cases other lands are given in lieu of such of the granted lands as the United States have disposed of prior to such location. Lands disposed of before the grant was made, certainly were not granted by it and could not be the subject of indemnity, but the land department from the beginning has held different.

This construction of the law is an absurdity and can only be accounted for by the presence and influence of the railroad companies. Their view of the law has been received without question.

How can any tract of land, after being once legally appropriated, and becoming thus severed from the public mass, by any subsequent law or grant be included therein? This is the main question and has been repeatedly answered by the land department that it could be so included. But in 1875 came an adverse decision to the railroads which was to the effect that only the lands held absolutely

by the United States was subject to survey, and that railroad grants were only applicable to these and indemnity was not due for land conveyed before the grant, which were within the limits of the grant.

Although it is now more than twelve years since this decision, the railroads have not lost an acre of land which has been illegally awarded to them as indemnity. Thus, these wrongs are allowed to continue, and a recital of them would take columns. All that can be said is that there is want of a thorough reorganization of the machinery and working force of the department. Congress must strike at the very root of this evil and cannot strike too vigorously or too soon. The mischief to be remedied involves the very existence of republican government. The commercial greed of great corporations reinforced by great landed estates threatens the subjugation of the people, and the people must organize for the work of self protection.

"ANONYMOUS"

Thursday evening occurred the first public meeting of the Justinian Society of the department, and the verdict of all present was that it was one of the best ever witnessed in the halls. The following program was rendered without a fault: "Rocking on the Billows," by Junior Law quartette composed of J. E. Lewis, S. W. Searles, H. B. Heberling and H. Quickenden. Declamation, "What we may," by J. C. Conn. Piano duet, by Misses Stover and Lloyd. Declamation, by G. Van Anken. Five minute speech, by E. Novak. Declamation, by J. P. Laffy. Vocal duet, by Mr. Heberling and Miss Cutler. Then followed the debate, Resolved, that superstition has been of greater detriment to the Christian religion than skepticism, which was affirmed by C. J. Searles and E. L. Stover, and denied by H. Quickenden and J. E. Williams. The debate was ably argued by both sides, but decided for the affirmative. After the debate followed an oration by H. Hoffman, a declamation by S. Beebe, and the program was then concluded by the quartette with a song entitled "Drifting with the Tide." Success to the society must follow this their first undertaking.

## Farm for Sale.

I have a good farm of 80 acres in Osceola Co., Mich., which I offer for sale, or will exchange for a farm in Iowa. 45 acres are improved. The rest is timber. Good frame house and barn and other buildings. Two good wells, a creek of constant running water near by well stocked with fish. Three miles from railroad and good market. For particulars address

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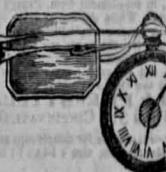
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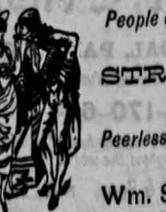
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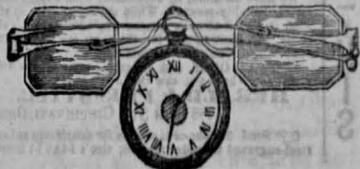
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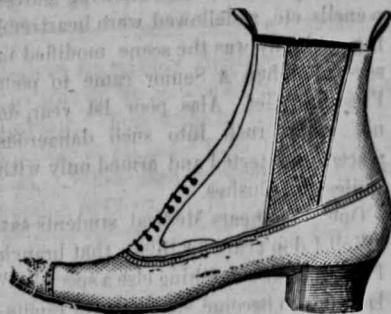
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## MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

A. L. HAGEBOECK, J. H. SINNETT, Editors.

### CONTRIBUTION.

We've studied hard, an endless toil  
To keep our record straight,  
For this we've burned the midnight oil,  
And struggled hard with fate.

With the multiple names in Anatomy,  
We've laden our hearts and brains  
O'er Physiology, Practice and Chemistry,  
We've suffered untold pains.

And surgery deeds of the medic's life,  
We've borne more pain fourfold  
Than could possibly have been our lot  
If we never had been "told."

Dr. and Mrs. R. W. Hill gave a reception in honor of the Misses Peck of Dayton, on Tuesday eve.

It is rumored that Aldrich has bought a nice present. He is now looking for a girl on whom to bestow it. Applicants can leave their names at this office.

Several of the noted beauties from the Short Hand department paid us a visit during the week, and it is needless to say received the usual reception from the boys. Come again!

A set of teeth recently disappeared from the dissecting room, but was afterwards discovered in the possession of a "Dent" who was in the act of mailing it to his intended mother-in-law.

The fact that a Medical student gains in physical strength, as well as mental, during his sojourn here was well illustrated the other day by the ease with which a Senior downed the champion of the "first years" in a friendly contest.

Hereby due notice is given to persons desiring to make happy the editors of this department by the presentation of Xmas presents; that all such must be handed in on or before July 4, 1888. However, unavoidable delays will be excused.

The word anatomy is derived from two Greek spatters and three Polynogs which, when translated, signify "up through" and "to cut," so that anatomy, actually when translated from the original Wappy-jawed Greek, means "to cut up through." That is no doubt the reason why the medical student proceeds to cut up through the entire course.—Bill Nye.

Meeting of entire Medical class after clinic. Object, "to discuss banquet, and elect VIDETTE editor" appeared on the blackboard of the old hospital last Saturday. Mr. Mathews said that he knew nothing of the call nor of the individual who put it on the blackboard. And as it seemed nobody knew anything of it because the writer did not respond to the call for explanation, upon motion meeting adjourned.

It was just as the bell was tolling the hour. The class were resuming their places in the west amphitheater, when some still remaining behind, as is

always the case in our school, were horrified to see the youthful form of one of our beauties step up, with a brazen face flushed with expectation to our fair visitors, and begin an unlimited conflagration. Such expressions, and chewing gloves pencils, etc., as followed, were heartrending, and only was the scene modified in severity when a Senior came to poor Freshies relief. Alas poor 1st year, do not again rush into such dangerous places unprotected and armed only with smiles and blushes.

One often hears Medical students say "Well I don't care for this or that branch I am to make something else a specialty." In order to become specialists of reputation several other things besides natural inclination are necessary. There must be a firm foundation built of general education, and on this must be placed the basement of thorough medical training ere the attempt be made. Specialism is the greatest factor for advancement of science, but without sound generalization it becomes bigotry. To be a great surgeon without knowing more than most physicians about medicine is impossible, for unless proper attention is paid to the influence of disease, calculations as to surgical pathology are of little value. A great specialist is like a great cathedral—viewed from afar the tower distracts our attention from the building, but when carefully observed we find the building itself exceeding all ordinary structures in size and beauty.

At the Faculty meeting Thursday several important actions were taken. President Schaeffer was selected to deliver the commencement address to the class. The examination committee will be formed as usual and a valedictorian has not yet been appointed. An innovation and an improvement on the old plan would be to have a class history given by a representative of the graduates instead of a valedictory address. It would certainly be of greater interest, and we believe of greater value than the usual oration, since it could strike home, be of personal character, and let the young M. D's. feel their fellowship more closely.

**SOUND BLINDNESS.** Color blindness has become a familiar topic. There are many people who have perfect vision, but cannot tell one color from another; then there are degrees of color blindness, some can tell green and yellow but cannot tell red from blue. Lately the attention has been called to the sense of hearing. It is discovered that some people who can hear perfectly well cannot distinguish certain sounds. Instead of naming this *sound deafness* it is called *sound blindness*. This accounts for the want of "a musical ear" and for the difficulty that some people have in pronunciation and in spelling, and acquiring other languages. Many people can understand simple music, and enjoy it, but no cultivation will make them appreciate an opera. There are people that can distinguish the least variation in certain sounds, so as to recognize people by their footsteps, yet cannot discriminate

between the notes of music. There are children in school who spell all words with little difficulty, while others never acquire the art. It probably proceeds from inability to catch, or to hear certain sounds. Animals have this peculiarity, while some sounds are distinct to the dog which are indistinct to the human ear, to other sounds they are quite insensible. Some dogs seem to appreciate music, to others it is, as to some people, mere noise. Some people have a memory of sound and can recall any note of music. Others have a memory of sounds that are not musical; they can imitate voices, and a variation of sounds, they must do this to be ventriloquists.

Sound blindness is a new field for investigation, and will explain many of the peculiarities of people and remove some of the difficulties of education.

### The Century Magazine.

With the November, 1887, issue *The Century* commences its thirty-fifth volume with a regular circulation of almost 250,000. The War Papers and the Life of Lincoln increased its monthly edition by 100,000. The latter history having recounted the events of Lincoln's early years, and given the necessary survey of the political condition of the country, reaches a new period, with which his secretaries were most intimately acquainted. Under the caption

#### Lincoln In The War,

the writers now enter on the more important part of their narrative, viz.: the early years of the war and President Lincoln's part therein.

#### Kennan on Siberia.

Except the Life of Lincoln and the War Articles, no more important series has ever been undertaken by *The Century* than this of Mr. Kennan's. With the previous preparation of four years' travel and study in Russia and Siberia, the author undertook a journey of 15,000 miles for the special investigation here required. An introduction from the Russian Minister of the Interior admitted him to the principal mines and prisons, where he became acquainted with some three hundred State exiles,—Liberals, Nihilists, and others,—and the series will be a startling as well as accurate revelation of the exile system. The many illustrations by the artist and photographer, Mr. George A. Frost, who accompanied the author, will add greatly to the value of the articles.

#### A Novel by Eggleston

with illustrations, will run through the year. Shorter novels will follow by Cable and Stockton. Shorter fictions will appear every month.

#### Miscellaneous Features

will comprise several illustrated articles on Ireland, by Charles De Kay; papers touching the field of the Sunday-School Lessons, illustrated by E. L. Wilson; Wild Western life, by Theodore Roosevelt; the English Cathedrals, by Mrs. Van Rensselaer, with illustrations by Pennell; Dr. Buckley's valuable papers on Dreams, Spiritualism, and Clairvoyance; essays in criticism, art, travel, and biography; poems; cartoons; etc.

By a special offer the numbers for the past year (containing the Lincoln history) may be secured with the year's subscription from November, 1887, twenty-four issues in all, for \$6.00, or, with the last year's numbers handsomely bound, \$7.50.

Published by *The Century Co.*, 83 East 17th Street, New York.

### WANTED.

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.

Students are warned against going home for the holidays without taking something with them from the University Book Store of Lee, Welch & Co.

When you want a good cigar, fine tobacco, the best spectacles, pocket knives, scissors, razors, opera glasses, fountain pen, or anything else in the notion line, you can get the best and cheapest in the city at Fink's Bazar.

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