The Vidette-Reporter.

The Vidette-Reporter.  

EACH SATURDAY AFTERNOON,  

During College Year, A. M.  

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JOHN H. ROBINSON,  

Managing Editor.  

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Associate Editor.  

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VIDETTE-REPORTER,  

IOWA CITY, IOWA.  

In this issue of the VIDETTE-REPORTER will be found some special articles which we think will be of interest to all citizens of Iowa. The article by Prof. H. H. Searle, of the State Normal, is of special value to school men, and although some may disagree with him in a few points, all must admit that no man understands the relation of the common schools to the University better than H. H. Searle. The plan proposed by Dr. Gilman, Superintendent of the Hospital for the Insane, at Mt. Pleasant, and one of the best medical authorities known, is well worthy of the consideration of every man who is responsible for the welfare and happiness of the people. The extract from Judge Boardman's letter is reprinted at the request of a friend of the University.

These articles should be read to be appreciated. The names of their authors will be sufficient to insure a hearing. Read them.

AS OTHERS SEE US.

The following is an extract of a letter from Judge Boardman, of the New York Supreme Court, to President Schaeffer. It may also be remarked that Judge Boardman is a trustee of Cornell University and is thoroughly posted on the subject of what it costs to run a University. He says:

"I have received a copy of the Biennial Report of the State University of Iowa, which I have read through from cover to cover. I was greatly interested in all of the reports of the various schools in every direction, such as we are familiar with here. But you have much greater reason for urgent wants, since I judge your necessities are so much greater. Indeed it seems to me wonderful that you are able to do so much and, as I hear, so well with such inadequate means.

If the State of Iowa knew its greatest, noblest and best interests, if it could be made to realize the effects upon the future of your State and people, it would at once decide to appropriate a quarter of a million of dollars per annum, for not less than ten years, to your institution. With such support, the educational status of Iowa would go to the front of all the Western States, and you would become a worthy and welcome rival of our best Eastern Universities.

You own your scholars from the boundless West, and on their return to their homes, they would bring back the intelligence and refinement that these courses, and more lack in competent teachers, yet the growth and the development of the work done has proven as rapidly as a healthy state condition could permit, and to-day there are a great many high schools that are able to do fairly satisfactory preparatory work for the university,—more than are published in the accredited lists in the University Catalogue, since many of the high schools of small towns are doing work that is equivalent and often superior to that done in the larger high schools.

There is one tendency to-day, in the preparatory schools, that is objectionable, as it does not result in sending up students who are thoroughly grounded in the essentials, but does give them a smattering in a multitude of things. There are too many studies in the high school courses, and too little time devoted to the essential ones. We consider preparation for college, or for business, and the study of such, which proves that it would have been much better to have confined the time to a limited line of studies, such as are absolutely essential to a thorough elementary English education. This is notably true with the sciences which, as a rule, are hardly taught well enough to receive much credit at the University, and it is doubtless a fact that the members of the science faculty would prefer that the students who come to them without any of this text-book, unacquainted instruction, which actually hinders rather than aids the students in their work, since they labor under the impression that they are already quite well informed in these very science required by the collegiate courses. The preparatory relation demands of the high school thorough instruction in the sciences, Latin, English, History, and a few of the sciences, that are able to be well taught, as by thus doing educational progress would be rendered more effective, both for the common schools and the University.

This manifestation also places an obligation upon the common schools to furnish well prepared students. In fact, the common school has a much greater reason to criticize, as it is not aided to the degree that the original plan of the University required, or that the schools have a right to expect from so great and so powerful an educational institution. If the high schools are ever to do the kind of work that is to be desired in the courses required, they must be furnished teachers by the University to an extent far beyond the present, and to attempt to furnish teachers, without having a special department that is well supported and well equipped, will never bring many representatives of the schools to the University to go to prepare for this higher teaching. While the University has been successful in increasing the number from year to year, the didactic department has been constantly reduced, restricted and limited until it is becoming a shadow of what it was when the department had not better be abolished. It is kept in a condition that will never permit it to become either popular or large. The work to be done more to fill out some profession than to make the professional instruction either practical or very desirable. The University can well afford to take a hand in the work of preparing teachers of this high grade, and no other work should be more prominent or more active, as the State greatly needs the teachers, and the prosperity of the University depends upon the success of the educational work. Not only would the collegiate department profit by such improved reformation of the proposed professional work would be likewise benefited. A new system of the brightened men and women should be annually sent out specially prepared to take first rank as secondary teachers, and improvements should be held out to secure the patronage of this large class of students who expect to become teachers, but do not now enter the University as their special needs do not seem to be recognized.

Normal schools will never be able to do this work of grade as their province is chiefly to fit persons for lower level equally as necessary work, and the State needs to give attention to this high grade work at the very place where she has already the best facilities, and where it can be done with the greatest profit and with the least expense. Teaching is as important as any professional department already maintained, and the University would have as many if not more professional representatives in it as have any of its present professional departments, and should bend its energies to recruiting the educational force by hundreds to whom she now does not afford opportunity, and the relations existing between the University and the common schools will not be the same or even similar in spirit of the times demands.
The Country Editor.

BY R. B. TRACY, '38.

Of the Morning Viced Herald.

The people of the United States should not sit with folded hands, sure of their banishment of all heresies, simply because they have strangled the doctrines of states' rights and infant damnation. There are many barren prejudices still clinging to the body politic. And among the mons-o'fer- born fictions of popular fancy, there is none monumental than the current picture of the editor of a country weekly. The so-called proletarian idea of this personage is more nearly correct than that of the so-called educated folk. The former knows him, the latter does not. In the conceptions of many intelligent people, a country editor is a wretched individual who scribbles and pulls a hand-press for his intellectual enjoyment, lives by patent medicine, takes the cabbages and turnips of the fond yeomen, and in some beclouded sleep in his sacks and wears a bowie in his boot.

The few people have been mistaken before. Such a personage did once exist. A few species still remain. The genus has entirely changed.

But a fragrant flower once ever obtain footing? First, by reason of the presence once of such a class of newspaper men. Second, by reason of the quips of the alleged "clan" of the daily who has continually injected elixir of life, vies syrinx of smart-Alexism, into what has been, successively, morbid, moribund, and morose.

"Oh, well," you say, "negations don't help: give us facts." So be it.

It is my judgment, gathered from many years' observation and some bitter experience in the profession, that no class of men have in their positions the opportunities for culture and growth which are afforded to country editors and country journalist. His avocation, if he be faithful, demands study, reading, quick observation, brightness and strength. Certain factors, a very few of the old-time editors and country journalist, have not it. The master of his space. He has no dictatorship. He is not compelled to write one way and think another. While he may occasionally turn out a part of the paper no more than the presses and the other machinery, the editor of the country paper is the impersonation, the life, the heart of the journal which bears his name. Talk about the independence of the metropolitan press, Bah! There is no such thing. Subsidized and fed by cliques and organizations, the proprietor of the great daily compels the whole tenor of the paper to be as the source of income demands and all editors and writers must write in that line. If the tariff is a tax to-day and the great daily changes hands to-night, to-morrow the tariff may be a protection, the old-time editors and country editor-proprietor, it is vastly different. He is his own manager. He is independent, can write as he pleases. It is the way to the prize pumpkin, if he choose. But he may not be so, also. Let him once take his stand for an ethical and cultural base for his journal, and the people will respect him and for it up to come in time. Having to read at least one hundred papers a week, he is compelled to be comprehensive, quick and discerning. His ideas naturally become clear-cut, and he grows and grows. And here is a proof. This is an evidence of right training by one's profession; and the occupation which gives one the best, broadest and most rapid growth is the best occupation. Observation will show anyone, who watches closely, that Journalism is a growth maker of the highest order. And in particular, the field of country journalism opens as the breasted offered to him. I make this statement advisedly for it is a prophetic scene. I said

something of the same sort last June to one of the classes of '38, and I laughed that I was endeavoring to embalm him. But it is a fact.

Why?

Because of primate facie conditions.

The country editor of the past was a poor sort of a person in ability, utility and general erudition. The people of the States have tired of such editors and editing. They demand brains and vigor of the men who deal publiblum to them. They have no use for the old-time printer-editors. They want something better. And when the people want a thing and say so, they get it. So the old editor is dying and the late unlimied Wilbur F. Storey said of the Democratic party, "Let it die." With that death the new editor comes into being. He strides upon a field where he will not meet such educational opposition. He has a broad tradition to fight himself. In time, this tradition will be as largely occupied by others now are. But now is the time. And while all this applies to journalism in general, it is more appertaining to "rural journalism."

This is my point.

The editor of the country weekly has the heaven-born privilege of speaking to the man and mind without fear or favor. He is the master of his space. He has no dictation. He is not compelled to write one way and think another. While he may occasionally turn out a part of the paper no more than the presses and the other machinery, the editor of the country paper is the impersonation, the life, the heart of the journal which bears his name. Talk about the independence of the metropolitan press, Bah! There is no such thing. Subsidized and fed by cliques and organizations, the proprietor of the great daily compels the whole tenor of the paper to be as the source of income demands and all editors and writers must write in that line. If the tariff is a tax to-day and the great daily changes hands to-night, to-morrow the tariff may be a protection, the old-time editors and country editor-proprietor, it is vastly different. He is his own manager. He is independent, can write as he pleases. It is the way to the prize pumpkin, if he choose. But he may not be so, also. Let him once take his stand for an ethical and cultural base for his journal, and the people will respect him and for it up to come in time. Having to read at least one hundred papers a week, he is compelled to be comprehensive, quick and discerning. His ideas naturally become clear-cut, and he grows and grows. And here is a proof. This is an evidence of right training by one's profession; and the occupation which gives one the best, broadest and most rapid growth is the best occupation. Observation will show anyone, who watches closely, that Journalism is a growth maker of the highest order. And in particular, the field of country journalism opens as the breasted offered to him. I make this statement advisedly for it is a prophetic scene. I said

paper is being built on that basis. And the editor can make that page political, philosophical, literary or scientific and the he will meet much more success. Precisely, the reason he can read it and in time like it. True, appreciation in its best and warmest form is a growth, not an achievement, the ability and the awareness, worth, it will bring that also. When a Freshman at the University, a Senior gave me this advice: "Take all you can get and kick for more." And I think I can adapt it by adding: Then wait for time. It is a great thing. It is more powerful of itself than brain, and it will bring forth a reward to the country editor as well as to all other species of human strivers.

Then if a man wants to feel that he is a power, I know of no place where he can more readily find out his ability or lack of it. He has that opportunity to prove himself: a great force in moulding public opinion, and he has an opportunity to prove himself of soul and worth. To the man, who is a reader, intelligent, careful and watchful, conservative and yet direct, and there is always a sure movement of the people, it performs that grip nothing but yourself can destroy. You are the arbiter of your fate, you are the great wielder of opinions and men if you but watch and wait. I cannot conceive of a happier, more contented and more rewarding position than that occupied by some of the teachers of influence and force. And Iowa as they sit at their desks, knowing that as their little sheet, as precious to them as their heart's blood, goes out into its little community, it will be eagerly read, quoted, believed and glorified by hundreds of intelligent, progressive people. It is a triumph of brain, of heart and of real worth such as is not rarely in any other field, not excepting the ministry. And standing as the country weekly does next to the pulpit of the people, it performs, in the double office of hearing their complaints and voicing the remedy. The profession is one which stands upon its own merits, with no professing religious sanction or constraint. If it deserves to succeed, it will succeed. If it deserves to fail, it will fail. It has succeeded and has not failed. It must have deserved its success.

These are some of the triumphs of the profession, its bright side. Isn't it a darker one?

Oh, yes!

But what profession has not? In country journalism one meets sickening and heart-rending revolts, and blows in this sensitive region. Perhaps some can understand that to one who is in love with his editorial work, a slight or a snare at his paper is as crushing as that from which the child of one's dear ones is snatched. But my philosophy is to be silent. If the man is a bore, you care not for bores; if he is a lecturer you will never listen. Truth may seem to injure you and so may their misinterpretation and your independence, but these are only for the time. "Wait and trust to time," and
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5 Views.
THE VIDETTE-REPORTER.
Society Directory.

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GRACE McGEE, Secretary

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ZETAGATHAN SOCIETY
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A. J. LEAKE, Secretary

ALDINE SOCIETY
F. L. DOUGLAS, President
G. W. WARDWORTH, Secretary

STUDENTS’ CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

Society Directory.

Mr. Brunner, of Marshalltown, is visiting his son, Will, and his daughter Mrs. O. A. Bingston.

Misses Moore and Davis, and Messrs. W. F. McElroy, spent vacation at home in Springdale.

Richards went to Tipton last week to visit Boyd who is principal of the Mechanicsville schools.

Miss Sue Chase, of Clinton, spent Thanksgiving here visiting her brother, C. P. Chase, and friends.

Dora Gillihan, now teaching in the Maquoketa High School, spent Thanksgiving vacation with her friend, Ada Hutchison.

Walker, you ought to apply for a position on the sanitary commission. Your Sophomore German friends will be pleased to recommend you.

There was splendid skating above the last Saturday, and many of those who stayed here for Thanksgiving enjoyed the first skate of the season.

Ben Slumhauser earned fresh laurels by his rendition of "The Chariot Race" at a "Beau Fete" Recital at Grace Church, Burlington, last Wednesday evening.

M. L. Sears has kindly presented the Library with a year's subscription of "Public Opinion" and that popular journal will hereafter be found on our shelves.

Our Librarian informs us that the complete set of the Andover Review is now in the library and will be continued, also that the North American Review will be on file after Jan. 1st.

The numerous friends of Nell Wright were glad to welcome her back to Iowa City for a short visit during Thanksgiving holidays. While here she was the guest of Madie and Bessie Griffith.

Cars are out advertising the wedding of Frank L. Meser, formerly a member of class '84, College, to Miss L. Nora Scoogg, both of Madison, South Dakota. Frank is editor of the Madison Sentinel. Congratulations!

"Leaves have their time to fall," and judging this time to have passed, Jimmy & Co., have carefully raked them together and carted them off, thus returning to the campus its proverbial neatness.

Last Friday, Professor McBride delivered the address at the dedication of a new public school building at Belle- vue. For the particularities of the address we will have to wait a week, but we may rest assured that the Professor gave the people of Belleview a very racy report. The building is the result of the efforts and perseverance of the Principal, H. A. Hollister, of class ’88, and is one of the most complete public school buildings in the west. The citizens of Belleview appreciate Mr. Hollister’s efforts in getting the building and in giving them one of the best high school courses in the State.

A Wall From 7

EDITOR VIDE'r' T

A Wall From 7

EDITOR VIDE'r' T

The failure of Prof. Patrick to materialize after the Thanksgiving vacation is not a matter of surprise. It is no longer a mystery. Announcements were received yesterday of the marriage of George T. Patrick to Miss Maude Lyley. The ceremony took place on Thanksgiving day. Congratulations and best wishes.

Many, for various reasons, cannot take advantage, by living home, of the short Thanksgiving vacation, and are consequently left to their own ingenuity to devise some means of entertainment for themselves. The majority of the boarders at Mrs. Williams were among this number, and the places of those who did go home were, on Thanksgiving day, filled with a select few of invited guests. The house was darkened and the lighted, and the party was dressed in the costumes of "old time." Many celebrities reaching even so far back as Solomon, and down to the time of Benjamin (Butler) were there in some fashion or other. Virtues, such as Peace, Charity, Prudence, Patience, etc., were personified. The party was treated with a most elaborate dinner, during which the soft sweet strains of the music box could be faintly heard. After dinner the "Tom Tucker Band" struck up, and the remainder of the afternoon was spent in dancing, and other amusements.

Every one must have observed during the last decade the increasing frequency of donations for the aid and establishment of public libraries. The files of the Library Journal show columns of brief references to such gifts, and scattered through the daily papers are many similar records, frequently accompanied by plans and elevations of library buildings. Certainly there are fewer nobler objects upon which to expend one’s surplus or testamentary funds. Chicago is now rejoicing over her benefaction of. gift of this character, a bequest of $2,000,000 from Mr. John Crear, for a free public library upon the south side, a part of the income of which will be devoted to Chicago North division. We see in a recent issue of the Trenton Republican, of Missouri, an account of the presenta-

Trenton Republican, of Missouri, an account of the presentation of the building, and the establishment of a public library. This generous gift comes from a former citizen of the town, Mr. Edward Norris, now of St. Paul, who will upon the completion of the building, further endow it with the sum of $20,000 as a fund for the support of the library. Judge Norris is a relative of the Peet family, of Trenton, members of which are well-known students of the University. We hope that some of our favorite sons may find its way to the endowment of libraries in their towns and villages, and that, as is said to be the case when some favor is served, they may be lucky to serve another better. It would be very satisfying to find the matter of more interest to them.

One of these

All the Best

Fine Tailor Made Dress and Business suits and Finest Tailor Made Students' Uniforms at Lowest Prices at Bloom and Mayer's.
A Wait From The Old Stone House.

EDITOR VIDETTE-REPORTER: — In your paper you say: "How about the oratorical business this year?" An examination of the field enables the writer to say we will have a contest this year, but the number entering seems to be smaller than ever. Now, we ask why? To answer this we ask another question: What encouragement is there in the University for working in this line? It is only with the greatest difficulty such work can be done. Many of the best writers seem to have no time to spare. Those who have time, and will to write, will find the professor in English ready and willing to assist them in their compositions. The difficulty comes in training for delivery. By reason of the limitation of the Board of Regents, our teacher in elocution is employed for only three hours a day. In these three hours she must have the rehearsals and recitations of the lower classes, and also some attention to the law classes. As a consequence she has no time to train us even for literary society work, let alone anything like a contest. For such training she must be paid by the student, and justly so. This expense of a nature rather heavy is imposed upon the ambitious but inexperienced aspirants for oratorical honors. Add to this the pleasant prospect of not being granted leave of absence to attend the state contest, in event of winning here, and you have a most effective quietus put upon us.

The policy announced in February, as remembered by the writer, was that the leaves of absence granted for this purpose were to be the last, according to the decision of the "trust" formed for the purpose of suppressing interscience conventions, canton in games, etc. In the light of these facts is there any inspiration to work? In other schools the matter of oratory and literary work is greatly encouraged and fostered. Formerly, in this institution, when its oratorical representatives met those of other colleges and vanquished them, our professor in elocution, without money and without price, urged, persuaded and compelled the performance of such work, and thereby brought about the glorious results of those days. What we need is a revival of this work, and instead of movements to squelch intercollege intercourse, we want more freedom granted in that direction. We should have an elocution teacher for more than three hours a day, not merely for the purpose of encouraging us in oratorical work, but mainly for the reason that we need training for literary society work, which will give the institution a better standing all round. It would be very satisfactory if a solution can be offered to the difficulty, for it is certain more interest will be taken in the matter if more encouragement is given.

ONE FROM THE OLD STONE HOUSE.

If you want to see something handsomely done in the way of paste, steel engravings, and all kinds of pictures, for Christmas presents, call at the Opera block. Also something new in the line of pictures; Madonna, with the celebrant of Charlie Talier, Bedford, Mass. My goods are all new and of latest style. Call soon and make your Christmas selection, before it is too late.

A. B. Cane.

ATTEND THE IOWA CITY COMMERCIAL COLLEGE - and - SCHOOL OF SHORT-HAND.

Young ladies and gentlemen thoroughly fitted for good paying positions and for active business lives supplied with stenographers, bookkeepers and clerks. Our graduates are very successful in securing good positions. We have elegant new rooms and all modern conveniences. Many of the students have come here to school who have been taken aboard by public and have secured good situations. Trial lessons free.

Evening classes begin Sept. 30. Call or write for full information.

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Give us a call.
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J. MOLER,
Of the Law Department, will see this space to advertise his store.

Boerner Brothers,
PHARMACISTS & PERFUMERS.
Specialty: Fine Goods.
114 Washington St., - - - Iowa City.

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Ladies and Gentlemen will find in our place an ex-
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Shoes. We make prices low. Students please note this and come and see our goods.

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The Golden Eagle
ONE PRICE CLOTHING HOUSE.

All the Latest Novelties in Fall and Winter Woolens are now being exhibited by
Bloom and Mayer.
Mr. Fleming’s brother paid him a short visit last week.

Wanted—An occupant for the chair next to me in the grammar class—W. Anderson.

Attend the Alumni program next Friday evening at 8 o’clock sharp in the Athenian hall.

Prof. — Where do you find that verb “Pupil.” Why it’s indicative mode present tense, subjunctive.

Ten new students entered the Academy this week, for reviews, preparatory or more advanced work the next term.

The Virgil class finished the second book Friday morning and will begin the review of the rate of one hundred lines a day.

Of some our young men missed their overcoats, hats and mufflers the other day when they started home. Probably some tramps thought it was getting cold enough for such wraps, so helped themselves.

Miss Isid Clever will leave Iowa City for her home in Niles, Iowa, Monday morning. We are sorry to say that she has been compelled to leave her school work on account of poor health. She hopes to be able to return at the beginning of the winter term.

Miss Carrie Clark has been obliged to suspend her attendance at the Dental Art, because of her recent illness. For three weeks, on account of a broken arm, which was occasioned by a fall she received during her vacation. She will probably be unable to use it for several weeks.

It was a merry band of boys and girls, that gathered at the home of Prof. Hubbard, last evening. Far from home, and lonely, with the thoughts of reunion, in which we could not participate, the kind invitation from our teacher was gratefully received, and bidding “dull care be gone,” we spent a delightful evening.

At last reluctantly bidding “good night” and longing to say “we'll not go home till morning.”

The committee on “Ways and Means” for the Academy societies are happy to announce to the students and friends of the Academy that Mrs. Tripp has consented to give three lectures of literary character, the subjects to be announced later. This assures the success of our enterprise, for those who have the pleasure of hearing Mrs. Tripp’s former lecture will gladly avail themselves of the opportunity of listening to her lectures. We earnestly request the patronage of all who are interested in literary work, feeling assured that they will both be entertained and profited by the Academy lectures. The admission to each lecture is 15 cents.

If your feet are cold run on FURNESS on the Corner and buy a pair of the best Alaska moccasins manufactured in the U.S.

THE LAW DEPARTMENT

F. E. HILLARD, Senior. (S. P. Sawyer, Junior Editors.

What appears to pester “Dog”?

He has not been across the river for some time. Can it be possible that he has soured on her?

Prof. Littig gave the Senior Dents a quiz on Monday morning, and expressed himself as well pleased and surprised with the promptness with which answers were given.

Our genial demonstrator, Dr. Breene, has been on the sick list for nearly two weeks. It affords us pleasure to learn that he is improving, and will be found at his post of duty soon.

Hubbard—not old mother, but our very own Hubbard—has been sick, and confined to his room, for several days this week. Wonder if writing an essay has had anything to do with it.

Good little Morton has been laid up for a week with an injured knee. He is now moving about with the aid of a cane, and his gentle voice is heard muttering up promptly at last, just the same as old.

On next Tuesday night the Dents give a dance. All members of the dance committee are cordially invited to attend at the Society meeting. Boys, you are expected to be there, accompanied by your Sunday girl.

Prof. Hunt’s course of lectures on “The Principles of Artistic Use” have been so well received, that additional lectures are given in the morning and evening. There were too many students to attend to all the lectures, and it was decided that two sets of lectures were given.

Two Dental Society meetings since the last issue of the Vidette.

One week ago last Tuesday Drs. Dorman, Gin, Dingley, Davol, Milson, and Darrow, gave lectures on topics relative to our profession. They were all highly entertaining, and elicited a great deal of discussion.

A very pleasant affair took place the evening before Prof. Patrick left us. Our senior class purchased a very handsome gold-headed cane, and upon the conclusion of his lecture, his correspondent, who had been selected for the purpose, presented it to him, in the name of the class. It was so unexpected, that, for a few moments, Prof. Patrick, usually so very fluent, was completely upset, but soon recovering, expressed his appreciation of the gift and of the motives which prompted the presentation. He went on to say that he shall depart for St. Gallen, where he will spend two months with Prof. Cochran and the Drs. Baird, before starting for home at Belleville, Ill., to attend the lectures.

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