

# The Vidette-Reporter

A Tri-weekly Newspaper Published by Students of the S. U. I.

VOL. XXIV.

IOWA CITY, IOWA, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1891.

NO. 20.

## Prof. Calvin's Discoveries.

Professor Calvin, during his absence in Buchanan County this week, made discoveries as to the succession of strata in that vicinity which will be of vast interest and importance to the scientific world. A geological survey of Iowa has never been systematically made, yet geologists of world-wide reputation, such as Whitfield, who made a personal survey of that territory, have misinterpreted the facts concerning the succession of strata in that County.

Professor Calvin, wishing to know the truth of the matter, made this personal investigation, and after a week's labor at his own expense and repaid only by his interest in the work, he has discovered the facts which will probably be made known to the scientific world in the next edition of the *Bulletin*. Not only was the important scientific discovery made, but lithographic limestone was also discovered in abundant quantities. This stone, which is used extensively in making colored drawings and maps, is almost all imported from Germany and the supply there is rapidly being exhausted. The discovery of this useful stone in Buchanan County will be of immeasurable value to that vicinity. Great credit is due to Professor Calvin for his personal sacrifices in the interest of science, and to Mr. Gilbert Houser, who also spared his time and money in this research.

## Notice.

If twelve or more students wish to join it, I will begin, about 1 November, a new course, English XX, founded upon one which has proved very successful at Harvard. The object of this course will be to train the members of it in preparing and conducting debates. It will meet fortnightly in the afternoon. Each exercise will take up two hours, of which one will be given to the four principal disputants, whose papers will have been prepared with the assistance of the instructor. The second hour will be taken up by five minute speeches from other members of the class. At the close of the exercise the instructor will sum up the arguments and criticise the speakers.

Students who care to join this class will be kind enough to report to me at once.

N. W. STEPHENSON.

Room 7.

## Y. M. C. A.

The Y. M. C. A. held its regular business meeting in Close Hall, Tuesday the 27th. There was a very good attendance and considerable business was

transacted. Interesting reports from the various committees were read.

President Lyon read a letter from the assistant state secretary of Missouri concerning the securing of our general secretary, Mr. Parsons, to assist the Y. M. C. A. of the Missouri State University for a month, either during the fall or winter, to secure a building fund. It was the sense of our association that, could the time be satisfactorily arranged, Mr. Parsons be allowed to go, provided also that they pay his expenses. We have been assisted in our work by those not directly connected with our association; as a result we have a magnificent building. And now, when the call comes from our sister state for help in this good work, we can not consistently refuse.

The matter of securing delegates to attend the Y. M. C. A. district convention at Mt. Vernon, Oct. 30, 31 and 32, was also considered. Several have already promised to go.

Our association has a bright outlook. And the effects of its good work have already been manifested, several having accepted the Christian faith in the last few of its Gospel meetings.

Several classes for Bible study have been organized. In fact, the work of the association is being pushed along all lines.

## English Seminary.

The English Seminary met Tuesday afternoon, the subject being Tennyson as a dramatist. A well written paper on "Beket" was read by Miss Julia Rogers, which was followed by an interesting discussion of the character of the great English Archbishop as shown in history and in this drama, also of the merits and demerits of the whole drama.

A short time was spent in a discussion of the "Vision of Sin."

## Notice.

English I. All members of the course must read as soon as possible the last three chapters of the last volume of Adams' History of the United States and also the first two chapters of the second volume of Richardson's American Literature.

N. W. STEPHENSON.

The article in the *Law Bulletin* on "Iowa Dower" by Judge Hayes, while most exhaustive is at the same time written in a manner pleasing and comprehensible to the non-professional reader. It is on a subject not treated elsewhere and is therefore of peculiar value. These are qualities that do not always obtain in this class of work and are duly appreciated.

## Local and Personal.

Mrs. Jessie Belle Woodside, formerly a student in the Medical Department, and a resident of India for three years, is visiting in town.

Larrabee, Pierce, Myers, Bailey and Holbrook went to Grinnell this morning to see the foot ball game between Minnesota and Iowa College. Holbrook will act as referee.

A party consisting of Prof. T. L. Neff, M. H. Lyon, H. F. Rall, C. C. Stover and several others left early this morning for Mt. Vernon to attend the district convention of the Y. M. C. A. They will be gone over Sunday.

Students should not forget that there are yet many copies left of the *Hawkeye*, class of '92. If we believe in supporting the University we ought to show it by giving our support to every University movement.

The Y. W. C. A. meeting next Sunday will be led by Dr. Leora Johnson. Reports of the State Convention held at Mt. Pleasant will be given by the delegates. All young women are cordially invited to attend.

A rare specimen was brought into the herbarium last Monday by Dr. Pickard. It was a Japanese quince in fruit. The plant itself is common, though Professor McBride pronounced it the only fruiting specimen he had ever seen.

The democrats of the University yesterday came out with the following badge: "S. U. I. boys for Boies." A few hours afterwards republican students were wearing badges with this inscription: "S. U. I. men for Wheeler." Let the good work go on.

A large sized audience filled the South Hall last evening and listened to one of the best programs which has thus far this year been given by the Zetagathians. Mr. H. Keefe made his debut on the floor of the society with a well written oration on "Human Faces."

The Irving program was listened to by a large audience. Mr. F. W. Myers delivered one of his characteristic five minute speeches in the form of a rhythmic parody on current events. The question, *Resolved*, That the Republican party did wrong in making prohibition a party question, was affirmed by Noble and Campbell and denied by Heath and Sanford. The judges, Prof. Sampson, Mr. Stephenson, and Dr. Harriman decided the debate in the affirmative. The speech of J. R. Jaques on Von Moltke was well written and delivered.

# The Vidette-Reporter

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VIDETTE-REPORTER,  
Iowa City, Iowa

Entered at the Post Office at Iowa City as second class matter, Sept. 17, 1891.

The result of next Tuesday's election in Iowa, aside from political considerations, will be watched by the State University with a peculiar personal interest participated in by only State institutions. As Democrats or Republicans we look for the 24th General Assembly to be Democratic or Republican, but as S. U. I. men, we hope it will contain many of our alumni and outside friends. Several graduates we know are candidates, and we hope they will be elected.

The last Legislature was generous to us far beyond its predecessors; but of the coming Assembly we shall ask still more, and whether or not we shall get it will depend largely upon the individual men elected next week. If men should be chosen who are imbued with the foolish jealousy and hatred of the State University which characterizes some zealous friends of the denominational colleges (well exemplified in a recent mean editorial of a paper at Cornell College), our hopes for generous treatment will be meagre.

Fortunately there are but few such men who are candidates this year, and the chances are in favor of a decided improvement upon the change for the better that appeared two years ago in the make-up of the Legislature. Indeed, it seems that the people at large are awakening to a realization of their power for good in this University, and of the legislators elected next Tuesday there will be very few bearing that spirit of enmity toward S. U. I. so conspicuous in former years.

The *Law Bulletin*, of which the first number has just been issued, marks a new era in our University. As the prefatory note says, there will be further issues from time to time, the number of pages in each volume (one year) not to be less than one hundred. For years similar publications have been issued from the eastern schools and with admirable results. It is to be hoped that the first venture with us in this direc-

tion will not be the last. A journal devoted to political science, philosophy and history would, we feel assured, meet with support and fill a want. Not the least benefit derived would be the stimulus to original research and productions. The feeling that the child of his brain will never see the light of day has a depressing effect on the young enthusiast, while on the other hand the possibility of seeing his name in bold black type as a contributor to the magazines fills his soul with joy. By all means let the good work go on.

## The Beta Party.

Beta Theta Pi gave its opening party last evening in honor of its Freshmen. As usual it was a most pleasant event. The ladies present were the Misses Dey, Wales, Schaeffer, Clark, Louise Alford, Bacon, Morrow, Allie Close, Horne, Coldren and Maude Wales.

Last Wednesday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Lewis occurred the marriage of their daughter, Miss Winifred Lewis, '90, to Mr. Samuel P. Gilbert, '84, of Burlington. The ceremony was performed promptly at 7:30 in the presence of relatives and four or five intimate friends. Both the young people are graduates of the S. U. I. and count among the students hosts of friends whose wish is for their best happiness. They will go to Chicago and thence return to their home in Burlington where on Thursday next the father and mother of the groom give a large reception.

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**College Word Pictures.**

When first I came to college, a callow Freshman, I did what my thoughtful mother told me to do, I hunted up "some nice boy for a room-mate." It was to keep me from being homesick, you know, and as the nice boy was to be an upper classman, he would teach me habits of orderliness and set me a model of diligent study. I won't say how much of the latter my accomplished room-mate taught me, but as for orderliness, I learned a great deal from him; he was a horrible example. We had one study table, our common possession. He had the top, and I could put my things under it if I liked. On that table he kept everything that didn't belong there. His collars generally surrounded his ink-stand, and his brush and comb found a nook in the squat and hollow column of his cuffs. The chintz cover was hid by a chaotic mass of books, newspapers, cracker boxes, letters, magazines, photographs and slippers. His Horace supported his shaving glass and his razor was a book-mark in the half uncut novel he was reading. He kept his place in the Bible with a broken shoe-string, and his clothes brush was a paper weight. The lamp was up to its waist in this disorder, and it was only because it was my light, too, that it was not hid under a bushel of disjointed chaos. The rest of the room was quite as tidy as the table.

It lasted one term, and since then I have been hermit. I am willing to chum with a room, but never again—I have sworn it—will I room with a chum.

I have never been accused of being either bright or studious. Probably that accounts for the interest which I take in that class of students. There is a smart boy in one of my classes. He is a very smart boy. In the the class room he sits slightly forward in his chair to show the professor that he is ready to recite at any time. One hand nervously clasps the arm of his chair, the other is clinched in a desperate attempt—single handed—to support his leaning tower of thought. His lips are slightly parted and a smile of conscious worth hovers about the corners of his mouth. When not instructing the class his round-eyed gaze is downward bent making deep scientific researches in the floor. When called upon he rises like a colossus, gives a contemptuous glance around the class, by a look reassures the professor that he has not called in vain, and then pours forth a perfect flood of wisdom. However, he is always ready to allow the professor a free discussion of the finer points with him. Sometimes he employs the whole hour in this way to his own eminent satisfaction. He is a very smart boy and we all look up to him and point with pride to him when sounding the praises of our University.

Drifting down the river the other day, dragging my oars in the water and watching the sparkle of the drops splashed into the sunlight, I was attracted by the many colors in the water.

First it seemed all blue, as if the reflection of a clear sky, but in a moment the blue had deepened and only a cloud of black was in its place. A sudden thunder shower was my first thought, and I was preparing to start home when a most exquisite change came over the whole scene.

Bursting through the black came rays of red like those of the setting sun, rolling back the dull shades and in their place revealing such a harmony of red and blue as seemed to irradiate the whole sky and reflect its glory upon the entire landscape. The water, stirred by a passing breeze, was tinged to the smallest ripple with its splendor; the air was fairly radiant with color; the bare earth was no longer bleak and brown, but was suffused with the celestial shower. It seemed to me that Iris coming down to release poor Dido's struggling soul, must have come in just such a mist.

For a moment only it lasted, then faded, little by little. The hills, now fairly ablaze with their many hues touched by such rays of light, first sink into shadow, the air becomes colorless, the water mirrors only the trees overhanging the banks, the sky, too, at last loses all its brilliancy, and white, fleecy clouds float lazily over the spot where for the moment this dream-like glory has entranced us.

I took a walk up the river yesterday, my regular Sabbath day's journey. As I went along I noticed an odd piece of driftwood close to the bank, and using my cane I fished it out to examine it. It was just a piece of cast-off shingle which someone, as idle as myself, had taken the pains to whittle. The corners were rounded, and beneath the thick slime which covered it, I detected some rude lettering. I was at once interested, and by scraping it with my knife I was enabled to make out the inscription. It was the word "Annie" cut in rude letters. The n's were of unequal size and the A was slightly inclined to be tipsy. "All the world loves a lover" I thought and commenced to speculate as to how and when the carving was done. Plainly it was the work of painstaking though unskillful hands. Perhaps she was with him, and as they sat together, he lazily cut out the name of his beloved, while she looked on and smiled. Or was he alone, thinking of her, and in excess of love, he had carved the name which was ever in his mind? Or, could it be that the fair one did not smile at all, and that some disappointed lover had written here her name and then committed it to the river to be borne into the ocean of despair? This last thought was so disquieting that I was about to throw my find back into the stream, when I felt a roughness on

the under side, which I had not yet examined. Surely here must be the solution of my romance. With almost feverish haste I scraped away the scum and then with difficulty made out the inscription. The other name was "Rooney".

#### College Notes.

Nebraska State University has recently added a law department to its curriculum.

Two volumes of poems written by John Ruskin between the ages of 7 and 26 have been published at London.

Prince Krapotkin, the noted nihilist, meditates visiting America this winter and delivering lectures on prisons, socialism and kindred topics.

This year's senior class at Harvard numbers sixteen less than last year's, but altogether there is a gain of 361 in the University. There are now 2,613 students registered there.

Professor Eben Norton Horsford, of Cambridge, says that for six years he has abandoned all other work, and devoted himself exclusively to trying to find out who were the first discoverers of this country. He is now confident that the Northmen made their first landing on Cape Cod.

The only negro in the next Congress will be H. P. Cheatham, of North Carolina, now entering his second term. He is about 35 years old and is a college graduate. Excepting Robert Elliott, of South Carolina, he is said to be the best educated negro who has sat in the lower house.

#### The Local Stage.

The only theatrical event of the week past was the presentation of the "Bohemian Girl" by the Andrews Opera Company. This troupe made a fine impression here last year in "Erminie," and it was not surprising, therefore, that on this occasion they were greeted with a full house. The simple plot of the "Bohemian Girl" is known to most everyone—a band of gypsies kidnap the little daughter of a Bohemian Count and she leads a gypsy life for sixteen years. During this time she develops into a lovely girl and loves and is loved by a discharged army officer who has joined the wandering band.

The restoration of the lost child to her father is followed by the culmination of the story in the marriage of the lovers. In the title role appeared Miss Letitia Fritch, whose singing and acting was exquisite. Mr. Fred Allen's baritone was also especially fine. Mr. George Andrews has a fine bass voice which is under exact control. Mr. E. M. Andrews as "Devilshoof" has not the chance to display his talents, which are adapted to comedy, in the Bohemian Girl, as we have seen them shown in the comic opera. The other members of the company performed well, but these four were the life of the opera. The chorus though gave them good support.

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### Local and Personal.

The Phi Delt's initiated John P. Minchen Thursday evening.

What has become of our Saturday morning debating clubs?

Miss Clara Sawyer, of Muscatine, is visiting Miss Ada Hutchinson.

Miss Jessie A. Peck, special student in 1889-90, spent Friday in the city.

Some beautiful forms of Plasmodeum are on exhibition in the Herbarium.

Miss Blanche Eckert, '95 of Cornell College, is visiting Louise Butler, '95.

Miss Blanche Eckert, '95, of Cornell College, is visiting Miss Louise Butler, '95.

Miss Sophia Moore is in Rock Island attending the wedding of her cousin, Miss Wilcox.

Miss Bella Andrews, of Anamosa, spent a day this week with Miss Theresa Peet, '95.

J. E. Conner, A. B. '91, has filed with the librarian his bibliography of the oldest books in the Library.

Senator J. J. Mosnat, LL B, '75, S. U. I., of Belle Plaine, is in the city visiting friends and his Alma Mater.

Geo. W. Stiles, '92, has returned from an extensive trip through the South. He attended the National Convention of Phi Delta Theta at Atlanta, Ga., as a delegate from S. U. I.

The Pharmacy Junior Class passed resolutions appreciative of Mr. Shimek's work in botany in their behalf.

The Chicago *Daily News* for next Saturday will contain a cut and write-up of the S. U. I. foot ball team.

All students are cordially invited to attend the Gospel meeting in Close Hall Sunday afternoon at 4 p. m.

*The Alumnus* is the name of a paper soon to be published by the Alumni Association of Augustana College.

A banquet and reception will be given at the St. James, Monday evening, in honor of the Minnesota foot ball team.

Miss Lizzie Moore received the painful news of the death of her mother, and left Thursday for her home at Tip-ton.

Seven prairie dogs, the only specimens in the museum, have just been received of C. L. Smith, '91, from Cedar Rapids, Neb.

The medical faculty has granted a holiday for Monday and Tuesday in order to enable the students to go home and vote.

Colonel Wilson, commandant U. S. Naval Academy, in his last report suggests that the Academy observatory be utilized in connection with a post-graduate course for young officers in the practical determination of time, latitude, longitude and the meridian.

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