

The Vidette-Reporter

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

VOL. XXIV.

IOWA CITY, IOWA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1891.

NO. 23.

Literary Societies.

The Zets were greeted by a crowded house last night. Mr. Langenhorse delivered a very good declamation, and was followed by G. B. Riggs, whose oration "Science in a Furrow" showed considerable originality and investigation. Hornby and Elliott maintained that it "would not be practicable or advisable for the United States to establish a convict colony in Alaska." The question was strongly denied by Stevenson and Van Oosterhout. The judges decided in favor of the affirmative. P. A. McMillan gave in a neat speech his opinion on the result of the recent election. The program closed with a declamation by Geo. Fracker.

The Irving audiences are still growing in numbers. The program last evening was one of considerable interest. A speech by W. A. Lomas on "A Double or Single Standard of Value—Which?" showed more than an ordinary amount of study. His argument for a gold standard only was logical and lucid. The debate was upon the question: *Resolved*, That the independent voter is the ideal citizen. Affirmative, Woolston and Pierce; negative, Meyers and Beardsley. The speakers were all rather poorly prepared but the judges decided for the negative. The main argument of the affirmative was that purity in government demands independence in politics. The negative showed, however, that since by a natural law no great principle can be promoted without party organization, the *ideal* citizen would affiliate with a party and use his efforts for the education and betterment of that organization.

The Tabard.

The new club is called the "Tabard." Geo. C. Cook is President, Miss Frances Rogers, Secretary, and the other members are Miss Katharine Barber, Ward Bannister, Prof. Sampson and Mr. Stephenson. The first meeting was held last Wednesday, and two original stories were read. The six members voted to admit six more, and this second six will be announced next week. The object of the club is literary pleasure, not literary study, although the members expect to take a good deal of pains with the stories, poems, and essays, that they are preparins. The name of the society is taken, of course, from the Canterbury Tales, the Tabard being the inn at which assembled Chancer's story-telling pilgrims. White and black are the club's colors.

Oratorical Association.

The Oratorical Association of S. U. I. held its first meeting for the year in the Zetagathian hall, last evening. The Association was called to order by President, H. E. Kelly. Frank Nelson was appointed Secretary. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted. The committee to revise the constitution so as to make it conform to the constitution of the Northern Oratorical League, was unable to present a definite report. It is hoped, however, that the committee will be able to report at the next meeting. The following officers were elected: President, Mary Alford; Vice-President, Juha Rogers; Secretary, Fred Brasted; Corresponding Secretary, W. Tantlinger; Treasurer, W. W. Kay. The home oratorical contest will probably be held sometime in the latter part of February. Let orators come to the front and do their part to stimulate the oratorical spirit at S. U. I.

Seminary in Pedagogy.

The Seminary in Pedagogy held its regular meeting yesterday afternoon. Frank Nelson, '92, read a paper on "State Education," followed by a general discussion of the subject. D. T. Sollenbarger, '92, presented some very interesting figures in regard to the enrollment and attendance in our city schools. Each member of the Seminary is required to do original work and research. Professor McConnell has arranged the work in a very systematic manner, and at the close of the term each member will not only have secured material, but also embodied same in a thesis.

Y. M. C. A.

All men who are thinking of taking work in the gymnasium should begin very soon as the classes are progressing every week.

Plumbers and steam fitters are working night and day at the Y. M. C. A. building. Unless unlooked for delay is necessary the heating plant and bath rooms will be completed in about ten days.

The meetings Nov. 8 to 14 promise to be of unusual interest. Students should plan their work so as to attend. Program for the week is as follows: Sunday afternoon, 4 to 5 o'clock, the regular Y. M. and Y. W. C. A. meetings. Tuesday and Friday evenings, from 6:30 to 7:15, the young men and young women hold union prayer meetings. Other evenings during the week at the same hour, meetings for young men only will be held.

The Y. M. C. A. meeting at Iowa College last Sunday was led by Mr. Sikes, of the University of Minnesota foot ball team, and to-day Mr. M. H. Lyon, '92, goes to Grinnell to lead the young men's meeting to-morrow afternoon.

Chapel goers have been much pleased this week by the pointed comments of Dr. Watson, of the Episcopal Church. While the attendance has been very good, there are many more students who could with great profit attend the chapel exercises and hear the pastors of the city who, without compensation, so kindly give their services for the good of the University.

Local and Personal.

The University will have a loyal friend in the person of Senator Kelly, of Iowa county, who was re-elected last Tuesday.

Mr. Johns, of the Junior Law class, is preparing a city directory. This is what we have been in need of for a long time, and we trust both citizens and students will give him all aid and encouragement possible.

Miss Cornie Ingham, who was compelled by sickness to leave school last winter, is now at Council Bluffs visiting her sister, Mrs. Chas. Russell, '86, and is much improved in health. She expects to spend the winter in California and will return to S. U. I. next September.

The new tactics is not yet completed, but the "Army and Navy Journal" has issued advance sheets up to and including the "School of the Soldier." Major Read has supplied his captains with these, and on next Monday the new regulations will be introduced in the drill.

Over forty new books have just been received at the library, including a History of England, in six volumes, by Spencer Walpole, Life and Times of Machiavelli, in two volumes, by Villari, The Rights of Women, by Mary Woolstonecraft, and The Statesman's Year-book for 1891.

Dr. Dickinson, of the chair of Theory and Practice, has been connected with the school ever since its establishment. He was one of the prime movers in its organization, and it was largely through him that the hospital was made a reality. The first edition of Dr. Dickinson's valuable work on "Theory and Practice of Medicine" is almost exhausted. A new edition will soon appear, replete with new ideas, showing fully the progress in Medical Science in his school during the past few years.

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 article in last Thursday's VIDETTE in regard to doing something to secure our text-books at more reasonable prices seems to have met with universal approval among the students. It is but natural that it should. Most of the students at the University have to pay their own expenses and it certainly is to their interest not only to consider but to support any honest movement which will help them financially. It is admitted that if we could secure our text-books directly from the publishers we would save a great many dollars each term, and during four years the amount saved would be very large indeed. It is but right that the students should have a book association of some kind whereby they could protect their own interests. Many of the large institutions of the east have such associations, and why cannot we, with over 800 students every year.

We are pleased to note the great interest that is being taken by the students in athletics and gymnasium work. We are proud of the record our athletes are making, not only for themselves, but for S. U. I. However, it seems that athletics is all the go, and in this great rush we seem to forget that there will soon come a time when the State University will have to compete with the leading educational institutions in the west, not for athletic honors, but for oratorical fame. In view of this fact it would seem that our orators out to begin work immediately. Last year by this time it was generally known who the contestants would be; so far this year we have heard of but one or two, and even they seem to be doubtful of entering. Let it not be said that the oratorical spirit at S. U. I. is dying out; let not our University be poorly represented at the oratorical contest at Evanston next May. Good orators will be there and we must also have a good orator if we wish to stand any show. We have the

material. Let us cheer up our men, let us encourage them so that we may have a good home contest and from the grist secure an able representative. Athletics should not overshadow oratory. Our orators should begin work immediately. It takes time, study and hard thinking to write an oration that will win popular favor. It is to be hoped that our association may wake up and that our orators may realize the necessity of beginning to prepare for the contest at once. Then will S. U. I. add to her athletic victories the laurels of oratory. May it be thus.

Mrs. Rebecca Harris McClain, widow of the late Professor Wm. McClain, and mother of Chancellor Emlin McClain, of the Law Department, died at 11:40 o'clock, on Wednesday night, Nov. 4. Deceased was seventy-two years of age, and had been a resident of Iowa since 1885, and of Iowa City for twenty-five years. The funeral will take place at the family residence, 8 Bloomington street, this afternoon, at 2 o'clock.

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It is just twenty minutes of eight and I am sleeping peacefully. Suddenly there is a rap on the door, made by the other boys who have returned from breakfast and are on their way to recitations. I slowly rouse myself and reach under the pillow for my watch. As I notice the time my feelings burst out into words more violent than polite, for I have an eight o'clock recitation and must go without my breakfast. I mentally, and perhaps audibly, consign the next room boys to perdition. For how many times have I told them to awaken me as soon as they get up. But all this time I am hurriedly dressing and washing, with everything going wrong, of course. I break a shoe string and have to stop to put in a new one, if I have it. My neck-tie is obstinate, and finally, when ready to start, I can't find my hat or note-book. I manage to reach my recitation, minus a breakfast and with a temper absolutely gone, to find that I am just too late for roll call.

A man just passed my window. Did I hear some one say chestnuts? No, he was not a chestnut man; he was a man with a saw; a stoop-shouldered, gray-haired, poorly dressed, over-worked man.

The deep interest I take in men of this class is truly wonderful. Is it, you ask, a far-reaching sympathy for humanity, a brother's feeling, which sinks into nothingness all distinctions of rank and race, and sees but billions of immortal souls prisoned on this dark, sinful star to toil in pain and suffering till death, with its heart-break, is almost welcome?

Or is it a passion for realism compelling the artist within me to draw into itself as sunlight drinketh dew, this world of love and hate, failure and success, littleness and overwhelming grandeur, and then to throw it forth as drama, epic, picture, a monument and deep record of soul and age, to all succeeding time?

Nay, an essay is due
And subjects are few
And that is why
I always try
To size up the man with his saw go-
ing by.

Entering the armory the other evening some few moments before the time for band practice, I began to talk in one corner of the room and was all unconscious for some time of that which was going on around me. Awakened, you might say, to consciousness, by the rapping of a baton on a music rack, I saw before me twenty-four young men, some rigged out in uniform and the rest in ordinary civilian's clothes. The greater part of them were seated on benches and chairs. In front of them stood the director pounding impatiently, but in vain, for attention. It was a hard job. They had played in bands too long.

The new man on the tuba, who has just returned from a season with a big band, is vigorously as well as pedantically blowing away for dear life. The reed section to a unit are mutilating some choice selections at a terrific rate, running their fingers up and down the keys at such a speed you stand in very awe that their hands were not all tangled up long ago into a *conglomeration* of knots. Each one is working out a strain of his own, and all together are producing one of the most excruciating medleys that ever played on the drum of human ear. The alto and cornet players drop their cigarettes long enough now and then to keep up their end of the beam and occasionally bring forth some very creditable bleats, while continual rattlings from the snare drum and an irregular boom! boom! on the big one contributes no small amount to the anger of the leader in his efforts to subdue the jargon of sounds.

Imagine these sounds floating through an atmosphere saturated with smoke from nearly a score of cigars and cigarettes and you will have some idea of the S. U. I. band as it is about to commence its practice.

My strike was unsuccessful. After waiting several days for an essay from my pen, the professor asked me to see him after class. I did so. He talked to me for a short time about the benefits of learning correct English composition and then casually remarked that a very poor essay was better than none at all. I decided to go to work on the old terms, and remembering my experience in the upper hall, resolved to write an essay on "the signs on the wall."

Near the east window are several interesting inscriptions. On the middle panel of the door opening into the American History room, written in Freshman characters, is the notice, "Prof. Perkin's boudiour 2 beers Bitte." Across the top of the door, in large letters, is written "_____ marker." How vividly this brings back the days when our present gallant adjutant was only a marker. On the last wall, encircled with a broad black band, we read, "Freitag, Nov. 11, '87, 11 a. m. Here Hangen die Anarchisten." Around this inscription and inside the band are the names, "Spies, Fielden, Parsons, Engel, Schwab." May not this be a silent testimonial of love, and may not this be an offering to their memory by some lowly follower. Next to this is a sign of a different nature. "German, Coldren, Boale, Prop. of Tell Tale, Oct. 19, '89." This the gravestone of *sub rosa* journalism will ever keep for posterity the names of the great pioneers in editorial work.

Passing over to the west end of the hall, two signs on the middle door will attract the notice. One is a drawing of a man running after a foot ball, and below the motto, "Foot Ball Fiend." The other reads, "English as She is Taught, Mr. S—." Just before we reach the door to Mr.

Neff's room is a German rendition of the popular rhyme, "The House That Jack Built." This rhyme is illustrated and the illustrations alone will repay one for the trouble in finding this gem. On the opposite wall are two of the finest productions. Bearing the stamp of Sophomore genius we find the sign, "Gehen sie zu dem Teufel," a brilliant conception and a masterful statement of a hackneyed idea. But the one that pleased me most and the one that shows the most poetic genius, I take the liberty to reproduce *verbatim*:

"Come one, come all,
Both great and small,
And watch the fools
Write their names on the wall."

Alumni Notes.

Thompson, L. '91, was last heard from in Illinois.

T. G. McDermott, '91, is traveling for a school supply house in Chicago.

Calkins and Hill, L. '91, are in partnership at a mining town in Montana.

Herbert Boies, L. '91, after a summer's rest, has gone into his brother's office at Waterloo.

Campbell, L. '88, has been moving westward and finally settled in Denver.

S. F. Sawyer, L. '91, has been shaking hands with his S. U. I. friends since Friday morning.

Chas. A. Clarke, '88, has a good position as City Pass, and Freight Agent of the Q. at Des Moines.

Jas. Hart, L. '91, who practiced for a time in Lincoln, Neb., has hung out his shingle at Mt. Pleasant, Iowa.

Chas. S. Grant, formerly Ph. '91, is now visiting his family at Ithaca, N. Y., but will return to Des Moines in December to continue in the drug business.

E. W. Smith, L. '74, of Callender & Smith, after many years of close attention to business in Des Moines, has taken a trip west and is now in Denver, Col. He will probably stay in the west all winter.

I. K. Wilson, who took the Junior law work in 1890, has been elected representative from Madison county by a large majority. Mr. Wilson is P. M. at Earlham and also editing the Earlham *Echo*.

Mr. Joseph Howe, '90, has been engaged to do engineering work on a new railroad in Louisiana. He left Iowa City Wednesday evening to enter upon his work, which is under the supervision of Prof. P. H. Philbrick, the predecessor of Prof. Jameson.

W. H. Bremner, '91, intends to organize an S. U. I. Alumni Association in the city of Chicago. Mr. Bremner has started on the right track. There should be such an association in every city in the west. In this way old S. U. I. people would be able to do themselves and the University a vast amount of good.

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Local and Personal.

The Executive Committee of the Board of Regents meets to-day.

John Lindsay has again entered the University as a special student.

President Schaeffer is at Perry attending a meeting of the Teachers' Round Table.

Mr. F. M. Schall, of the Muscatine high school, visited the Latin classes on Friday morning.

Miss Ratie Sherman closed her school at Solon last Friday and is home for a vacation of two weeks.

Hon. Horace Boies of Waterloo was re-elected President of the Board of Regents on last Tuesday.

The Executive Committee of the Board of Regents transacted routine business Wednesday afternoon.

The Juniors are going to organize a foot ball team and next week will challenge the team of any class in the University.

Mrs. Marcus Farwell, nee Lizzie Col-dren, who has been living in New Mex-ico for over a year, is now visiting at her Iowa City home.

About fifty students accompanied the foot ball team to Grinnell to-day. We hope they will be able to return with their colors flying. The result of the game will be posted in the post-office by six o'clock.

Arthur R. Gorrell, formerly '92, spent Friday at the S. U. I. on his way to Evanston to enter the Northwestern University Law School.

Lewis S. Foote, D. D. S., '91, is visit-ing the Dental School. He is practic-ing at Traer and says he is already more than paying expenses.

The Homeopathic Medical Depart-ment has an attendance 25 per cent larger than ever before. There are fifty-five students.

The regular work at the gymnasium will begin again next Monday. In-structor Kallenberg will be on hand and hopes to meet all the members of the different classes.

Carl A. Stutsman, of the Senior Law class, who has been at his home in Burlington for about three weeks, re-turned to the University last Thursday evening.

Dr. Gilchrist, of the chair of Surgery, is at present writing a series of articles on the Elements of Surgical Pathology, published in the Northwestern Journal of Homeopathy. These, when com-pleted, are to be printed in book form.

A case of cleft palate was brought to the Dental clinics yesterday. Dr. Hunt, Dean of the department, makes a specialty of such peculiar and difficult cases. Indeed the success of the de-partment is largely the result of Dr. Hunt's high standing in the profession.

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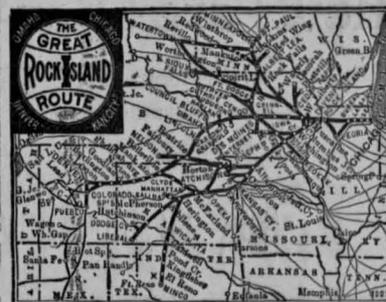
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