

The Vidette-Reporter

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

VOL. XXIV.

IOWA CITY, IOWA, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1892.

NO. 56.

Y. M. C. A. Convention.

The Y. M. C. A. State Convention is a meeting of delegates from both city and college associations. The members expected from each are about the same, but the delegates will be made up of men quite different in their lines of work. Among the delegates will be some of the leading business and professional men of the State. Take the men who compose the Board of Directors in all the city associations, and they represent the best business element. Among those who are to be present are D. F. Witter, attorney for the Iowa Loan and Trust Co., of Des Moines, Sidney Sinclair, of the Sinclair Packing House Co., of Cedar Rapids, A. P. Barker, Esq., a prominent attorney of Clinton, W. W. Wallace, a leading merchant of Council Bluffs, and many others prominent in business circles. These are mentioned simply to show that a Y. M. C. A. Convention is not simply a gathering of "boys," but that earnest and successful business men are interested in the work of saving young men.

All sessions of the convention are open to the public. Both citizens and students will be cordially welcomed. You can come and go at pleasure during the day sessions.

All evening meetings will open with a 20 minute song service, beginning promptly at 7:15 p. m. Don't miss the opening song service. It will be an inspiration to anyone.

Dr. Harsha, of Omaha, who delivers the opening address on Thursday evening, is yet a young man, but stands high among the clergy of Omaha. He will say something worth hearing, and Close Hall should be crowded.

At the Y. M. C. A. business meeting it was decided to hold the opening evening and all day sessions in Close Hall. Friday evening the addresses will be delivered in the M. E. Church, and Saturday evening at the Congregational Church.

An Able Address.

Dr. Waterman, of Kalamazoo, Mich., delivered a most interesting and practical address at Close Hall, Sunday afternoon. He selected for his subject the following, from the 15th chapter of Luke, and part of the 17th verse: "And when he came to himself." The speaker said in substance: The best time of the world is not the past; the golden age is in the future. The young men of to-day have a grand thing to work for. There is no congregation that gives such delight as young men met

for prayer and Christian work. Yet there is a class of men who ridicule the church-going people; they say it is weakness to pay any attention to religion; it displays a lack education, and as soon as you get to be a man in the fullest sense of the word, you will not go to church. But these men who talk thus adm it the perfectness of Christ; but because his followers are not perfect in every thing, they ridicule them and their religion. In answering these charges Dr. Waterman held that as Christ was a perfect man, just so much as you come up to him, by so much do you become a perfect man. And on the other hand, as far as you are removed from Christ by so far are you from being a perfect man. We are guests in God's family, but not all are his sons. To be a son of God one must be born of God. The man who works against God becomes a physical and mental wreck. We can not stand upon our own dignity; we must recognize God's power. When a man "comes to himself" he feels that there is a God. This teaches us that there is a God, and that religion is rational; when you begin to reason about God and a future life you become a rational being.

Man is composed of three parts: Animal, Intellect and Religion. Most men cultivate the body. A few others cultivate the mind. The man who stops here is but two-thirds of a man. But the question arises, how do I know I have a religious spirit? No man will deny that he has a religious element. History proves this to be true. Man is a religious being just as much as he is a physical being. No one can be a man who does not cultivate all his qualities. We can not expect to arrive at perfection of manhood unless we give attention to our religious nature. We must be rational men, and have the courage of our convictions.

A Jack Trust.

Erodelphian Hall was crowded Saturday evening with an appreciative audience to listen to the play given by the Freshman Erodelphians, "A Jack Trust." A well executed piano solo by Geneva Horne and a recitation, "Jimmy Brown's Steam Chair," by Mamie McQuire, opened the program. Then the curtains parted and disclosed the interior of a southern boarding house, with Miss Grace Birge impersonating Maria, the pert maid, who throughout the play calls out the admiration of the audience for her wit and good sense.

(Lord Jack Townley has sought seclusion in the boarding house of Miss

Eulia Otis, a relic of "befo' de wah," from the several love affairs in which he has become involved. He is followed, however, by two of the ladies to whom he has made love at various times and is tormented for several days by the continual efforts of these ladies to see him alone, and also by the reproaches of Miss Eulia herself, to whom he has made love in lieu of paying his board. Finally, after the formation of the "Jack Trust," Old Mrs. Boothby, the aged and eccentric boarder who was supposed to be deaf and dumb, reveals herself as the charming wife of Lord Jack.)

Grace Birge as the saucy Maria, and Jessie Whinnery as the maiden landlady, carried out their parts exceedingly well, as did also George Clark in the roll of the English exquisite, Lord Jack. Clem. Ashley, as Clarinda De Courcey, a witty and spirited young lady, and Louise Alford as Jennie Patie, who could forgive seventy times seven, showed considerable skill by their natural rendering of their parts.

Old Mrs. Boothby, afterwards Lord Jack's pretty wife, was well impersonated by Ida Hadlock. The program was completed by two pretty piano solos by Norma Garwood and Bessie Bowman. The proceeds amounted to \$35.25, which the society gives to the Russian fund.

Program and Judges.

The oratorical contestants met yesterday, and drew places on the program as follows: 1 Rutledge, 2 Fuller, 3 Kaye, 4 Stowe, 5 Beardsley, 6 Chantland. The following gentlemen will be invited to act as judges on delivery: Judge L. G. Kinne, of Toledo, Hon. R. G. Cousins, of Tipton, and Father Smythe, of Iowa City.

Ann Arbor's base ball team has been granted a leave of absence for five days, and will make an eastern trip.

Ex-President White, of Cornell University, is delivering a course of lectures at Leland Stanford Jr. University.

Bancroft's Works complete, in thirty-nine volumes, have been secured for the library. A number of the volumes have already arrived, and have been placed in the history seminary room.

A telegram received here yesterday morning conveyed the sad intelligence that M. L. McEniry, formerly a member of the class of '92, and Medical class of '92, died at the Presbyterian Hospital, in Chicago, on Sunday last. He was a member of the senior class of Rush Medical College, at the time of his death.

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VIDETTE-REPORTER,
Iowa City, Iowa

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To say that oratory is dying out is to say that the element of emotion in the human soul is dying out. Newspapers and magazines can no more take the place of true oratory than love-letters can take the place of the soul expressing eye or the impassionate charms of the human voice in lovers. Ever since the mother of humanity was beguiled by the subtle voice of the serpent and the first man was tempted by a woman's persuading words, through all the long ages of history has the element of direct personal appeal been the most powerful agent to the spiritual elevation of mankind. The speeches of Henry Clay and the sermons of Henry Ward Beecher are scarcely readable in cold type, but the same words when sent forth in the ringing tones of an enchanted human voice and embellished by the physical personality of genius, have moved whole generations to action. If college oratory is losing its hold on the college it is because it is no longer true oratory. From the time the college contest oration became an aggregation of pretty but empty sentences that boast the glory of historical facts and heroes,—from the time it became a mere means to the end of graceful gesture or silly elocutionism,—it has been self-doomed.

But wherever in college there is a man earnest and sincere, who has convictions which he feels bound to express, and which are of that kind that their most effective expression is that of the public speaker, that man will find a way to say what he wants to, whether there is an oratorical contest or not. If the contest opens an easy way of escape to his thoughts, then he will use that way. And in just so far does the contest fill a proper place in college life. The fact, though, is that the oratorical contest has come to be a mere means by which to bid for the approval of an audience by a be-

labored climax or peroration constructed, entirely for effect, out of ancient abstract ideas that have never been disputed, and appeal to no sentiment or emotion in the audience except a love of what is old and sure, voiced in round syllables and well balanced sentences. Oratory left the American college long ago; and now its shadow, which lay over us for a time, is following in its traces. The explanation of the failure of the college in the art of oratory, is another question, and we may discuss it at another time.

The first of the lectures on "World-Making" will be delivered at Close Hall next Monday evening. It is proposed to have one lecture every Monday evening. The course tickets are only one dollar. These lectures have been favorably received at Davenport, and the students and citizens of Iowa City ought to be thankful for the privilege which is now extended to them. Close Hall auditorium should be filled every Monday evening. If we believe in University Extension let us show the faith that is within us by supporting this excellent movement right here at home.

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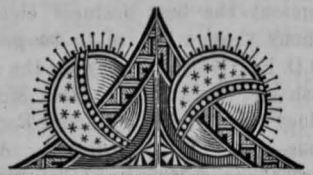
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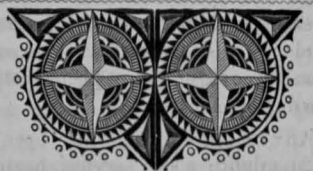
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Local and Personal.

Victor Littig, '95, is again seen in the class room.

O. W. Clark, '94, is seriously ill with pneumonia.

Howard North is spending a few days in Des Moines.

Professor Call was unable to meet her classes yesterday.

The University of Wisconsin shows an enrollment of 1,061.

Prof. Calvin did not meet his classes in Physiology yesterday.

Merrill Gilmore, '95, was initiated into Beta Theta Pi last night.

Professor Currier conducted chapel exercises yesterday morning.

Laura Clarke, '92, who has been ill for some time is slowly recovering.

Mrs. Haddock is able to be at her desk in the Secretary's office again.

B. W. Fordyce, D. '92, is confined to his home with scarlet fever.

C. W. McElderry, '94, has been called to Chicago by the serious illness of a sister.

Miss Kuhnen, of Davenport, is visiting for the week with Miss Elizabeth Schaeffer.

Wm. Larrabee, Jr., '93, has returned to the University, after a week's visit at home.

Arch Hershire, of Iowa City, formerly '94, has been confined to his room for some time.

The great temperance lecturer, Baine, will speak at the Opera House, 10 March.

Prof. Loos delivered the fourth lecture of his course at Quincy, Ill., last Saturday.

Frances Mills, '94, left yesterday for Columbus Junction, where she has a position as teacher.

Maggie Foulke, '95, has been obliged to leave school for her home in Nebraska on account of sickness.

Mrs. North left Friday morning for Des Moines, where she will spend a few days visiting with relatives.

Bert Jerrel, of the Homeopathic Medical Department, returned to his home in Mt. Pleasant last week.

Harriet B. Speer left last week for her home in Arkansas, being compelled to leave school on account of sickness.

The Hesperian Society has adjourned its open session for next Saturday evening on account of the Y. M. C. A. Convention.

Irving and Zetagathian societies will not hold their regular meetings next Friday evening, the 19th, on account of the Y. M. C. A. Convention.

An effort is being made in the University of Minnesota to secure the extension of library hours until 6 o'clock. This will certainly be an excellent departure and one which would be heartily welcomed in this University.

Reception to Students.

To the Students of the State University of Iowa:

President and Mrs. Schaeffer, in behalf of the Iowa Women's Auxiliary to the Red Cross, request the pleasure of your company at a reception in aid of the Russian famine sufferers, Saturday evening, February the twentieth, from eight to eleven o'clock. Admission, twenty-five cents.

Coast & Easley have secured the contract for furnishing the gymnasium uniforms over all competitors. Be sure and call and have your measure taken.

Max O'Rell.

Seats are now on sale for Max O'Rell and are going rapidly. Secure your seat at once if you wish to hear the greatest lecturer on the platform. His success everywhere is astonishing. His second engagement in St. Paul netted him \$1,160. Over 400 people were turned away. His lecture sparkles with wit and brilliancy. It is a rare opportunity for Iowa City and the students and should not be missed. If you want to go you must get your seat at once.

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W. E. Blake, L. '88, now of Burlington and president of the State Y. M. C. A., will be here in attendance at the State Convention this week.

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