

# The Vidette - Reporter.

A Tri-weekly Newspaper Published by Students of the University of Iowa.

VOL. 26.

IOWA CITY, IOWA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1893.

NO. 19.

## Baconian.

Professor Patrick will read a paper on "Criminal Anthropology" at the next meeting of the Baconian Club, Friday, Nov. 3, at 7:30 p. m.

## Notice.

All the girls of the University are requested to meet at Close Hall, at two o'clock Saturday afternoon. A very important matter is to be discussed.

## "Savonarola."

Rev. Gunsaulus Delivers an Eloquent Eulogy Upon the Florentine Martyr.

The subject, "Savonarola" has formed the theme of innumerable discourses. It was of this that Dr. Gunsaulus spoke last evening, but the charm of his style and the originality of his treatment made it seem new. That the orator was thoroughly enamored of his hero was shown by the intense earnestness pervading the entire discourse. The title, "silver-tongued" has been applied to so many aspiring young orators that the designation has lost its vigor and meaning, but, coming beneath the charm of his mellifluous voice and the sway of the intense personality which moved at will the audience gathered to hear him, one cannot be denied the use of this expressive phrase.

"My hero may be studied in many lights, as a patriot, as a reformer, a martyr, and a saint. I should like to study this man with you as an orator. More than Demosthenes ever was to Athens was this heroic man to the city of his adoption. A patriot; he was Cromwell a century and a half before Cromwell laid the foundations of the English commonwealth. He was Washington three hundred years before he unsheathed his sword at Cambridge. His eloquence had conscience for its very being. The finest music from his soul rose from his sense of right. More like Wendell Phillips was he than like any other orator of ancient or modern times.

But a glance at this man as a reformer. He was the evangel of light and liberty in the 15th century. He knew the secret of reformation was to harmonize things about him until they conformed to the idea of right, which is the divine idea. Before Martin Luther came with his message to the world, this man, Jerome Savonarola, preached the doctrine of justification by faith. When Lorenzo de Medici lay dying, this monk, austere and stern, whispered in the ear of the wretched Prince the story of the infinite mercy and forgiveness" \* \* \*

I should like to have you think of Savonarola as a statesman, one who separated himself from the politicians of his time before he was out of his boyhood. The same thing that made him a reformer made him master of state-craft. He knew that statesmanship was the art, not of precipitating a revolution, but of avoiding one. All revolution is delayed evolution. He was the first Italian patriot. The plea which Mazzini framed, the spirit which Garibaldi gave to his divided land,

the task Cavour completed, all were incarnate in this hero of the fifteenth century.

For a study of Savonarola we must have as a background the maze of events of that dark and glorious time. The 15th century is the April of modern history. And of the century the year 1453 is matchless in its glory. For it was then that there occurred two events either of which is sufficient to mark a new era in the history of the life of humanity. One of them was entirely impersonal, the other entirely personal. Man and events, the soul and its circumstances, thought and things, these make civilization. The first of these two great events was the fall of Constantinople, the second was the birth of Jerome Savonarola.

The fall of the capital of the Eastern Empire marked a revolution greater than any mere change in military tactics. Out of that din and confusion there was hurled over into western Europe the representatives of the new chivalry. The old had gone forever, what was this new chivalry? The church ruled where the state had been supreme. The church was the center of the world. The Greek scholar was the new knight, and the new chivalry was the incarnation of the old Greek learning.

This was the age of the renaissance, which had already led men back to the old Rome. The era of free thought had already come, and the Greek scholar, banished by the fall of Constantinople, added to the thought of the time the genius of Greece; added the courage which had made Greek thought sublime in the ages that were passed. Into this turmoil Savonarola was born, and of it he became a part.

He was of aristocratic birth. Not the aristocracy of muscle, or of possessions, or of family. He was the aristocracy of brain, glorious in garret or hovel, the grandest in the world.—In him we wonder at his firm grasp upon facts; this was the basis of all his statesmanship and oratory, and reform.

The dream and the vision feed duty, and duty feeds the deed. And Savonarola was master of them all in the completeness of his life.

He was a rebel before he was out of his boyhood. This has its inconveniences. There is nothing so awkward to poor but respectable parents as to be the father and mother of a boy of genius. There are so many things which have to be explained away that can't be. Such was the dilemma of Mr. and Mrs. Savonarola. We cannot but pity them; but the world cannot get on without such rebels."

Most charming was the lecturer's reference to Savonarola's love story.—"This is the mark of genius, that it can fall more dismally into love than dullness ever can—and get out of it more rapidly.

In that time there were but two gateways to fame and fortune—the army and the church. But the age of the warrior was fast passing, and the hero of our story turned to the church. The wrongs of the state he sees, for they are great. He sees things as they are, and loses faith; yet he

clings to the church, believes in the church. Lorenzo the Magnificent, dies, and anarchy invades the realm of Florence. Charles VIII., of France, enters the city. But now the city has a king; Savonarola is its ruler, and he rules by divine right. By the power of his speech he conquers the French king, and the city is again free. Now comes the time of Savonarola's greatest triumph. In his government of the city he anticipates our republic by three centuries. He instituted the town meeting, and his method of taxation placed the burdens upon the shoulders best able to bear them. But Florence grows tired of her Cromwell, Italy wearies of her Washington. Rome sees his power and he is called to the Vatican. But he refuses to go, and such a refusal means destruction.

The last scene of all. In the square of St. Marks' a bishop reads these words: 'Thee I now separate from the church militant and the church triumphant.' 'From the church militant, yes,' answers Savonarola, 'but from the church triumphant, that is not yours to do.' And before the sun went down the most eloquent voice in all Italy was silenced forever."

## From the Lecture Bureau.

Editor Vidette Reporter:

Through the columns of your paper the Lecture Bureau wishes to make to its patrons an explanation of the change recently made in the course of lectures which has been advertized and for which tickets have been sold.

During the season of 1892 and 1893 this Bureau had a great deal of annoyance from lecturers failing to keep their appointments and we resolved that when we arranged the course for this year we would have a good legal contract with each man on the list, or with his agent, and that we would hold every man to his contract. This resolve was strictly adhered to so far as it was in the power of the Bureau to do so, and never in the history of the organization were the prospects brighter for a complete course of lectures without a single disappointment than when we began the sale of our tickets this fall.

But all men are not honest and with those who are not a contract is no better pledge that they will not disappoint those with whom they deal than a verbal promise.

A few days before the lecture by Mr. Frank Beard was to have been given here we received word that he wanted to change the date. We answered that this could not be done whereupon he promptly telegraphed us to cancel the date. Saying further that he positively would not be here. This was Friday October 27th, and in order to make the disappointment to our patrons as light as we could we sent a man to Chicago by the night train to engage Dr. Gunsaulus if possible to come on and give us the lecture which he had promised us last year. Tuesday night October 31st was the only night of this week in which Dr. Gunsaulus could come and accordingly the engagement was made for that night. We sincerely hope that no more explanations will

be necessary but we believe that this plain statement of facts is due not only to the public but to ourselves.

S. U. I. LECTURE BUREAU.

## The Undergraduate Rule.

The Undergraduate Rule which caused so much talk in athletic circles last year has been condemned by its champion, Yale. *The Harvard Crimson* speaking editorially makes the following strong arraignment of the rule.

"The undergraduate rule made the college, not the university, the unit in athletics. It tended to break the bonds that existed between the different parts of the university; it ignored the fact of university development in this country and expected that Pennsylvania and Princeton and Harvard universities would be content to be represented by Pennsylvania and Princeton and Harvard colleges. It was evident also that the undergraduate rule meant curtailment of the possibilities of amateur sport, and that such a curtailment was unnecessary; a bona fide student—one doing some real work with some definite degree as his object—is to be welcomed, whether from college or professional school. Amateur sport wants only men above reproach, but it wants all these attainable."

## Exchanges.

Princeton college may institute a medical school this year.

Harvard reports 2,804 students; Pennsylvania, 1,950; Princeton, 1,134; Oberlin, 1,300; Cornell, 1,600; and Columbia, 1,552.

Cornell College complains of the way they were written up by the Cedar Rapids papers after their recent foot-ball game with Coe.

The Athletic Association of the University of Kansas cleared \$557.89 at the game with Baker. The price of admittance was 50 cents.

The *Unit*, of Iowa College, published an exclusively literary number last week. It cannot be denied that some of the best college poetry first appears at our sister institution.

Says the U. of K. *Courier*—"From the score of the Denver game with S. U. I., we need have little fear when we meet them in the championship game on Nov. 6"—He laughs best who laughs last.

At Kansas University some of the professors and town's people have organized a club for the purpose of considering questions of municipal government. The aim is practical as well as theoretical.

The *Nebraskan* speaks thus of the umpiring of Larrabee, S. U. I., '93: "Larrabee was umpire, and gave universal satisfaction." Its reference to the referee is not so pleasing—"for a 'yellow' job as referee give us that measly looking fellow from Crete."

Prof. Emerson, of Amherst college, who was so severely injured in a western railroad accident several weeks ago that his life was despaired of, has so far recovered that he has returned east. His shoulder is still stiff, but he hopes soon to resume his college duties.

**The Vidette-Reporter.**

Issued from the Republican Office on Washington street on every

TUESDAY, THURSDAY AND SATURDAY, during the Collegiate year at the University of Iowa.

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THE VIDETTE-REPORTER, Iowa City, Iowa.

Entered at the Iowa City Post Office as second class matter.

In the face of the lecture listened to last Tuesday evening, comment upon the conduct of the Lecture Bureau in changing its schedule at the eleventh hour, seems scarcely necessary. But from some remarks overheard at the time of the change, the conclusion was arrived at that the students making these remarks were either unreasonable or did not understand the situation.

That the Bureau failed to secure the man promised on this date, when the course tickets were on sale, was no fault of the Bureau, and no reasonable person will condemn the organization when he understand the effort made by it to fulfill all agreements.

No doubt with many of us the first feeling was a feeling of disappointment that we were not to hear the man of "chalk talk" fame, but "fair exchange is no robbery" and surely none who heard Gunsaulus can feel that they were robbed in anyway. Then if full value was received for the money given, and we believe a great deal more was received, why find fault with the Lecture Bureau and say hard things of an organization that is bringing to us the advantages it is bringing.

We are sorry to see this spirit of unkind and unreasonable criticism of the Bureau manifest among some students, as if the Bureau itself were an organization outside and beyond the student body which, no matter how we treated it, would continue to furnish us the very best lecture privileges which we might take advantage of whenever we were in the humor to do so.

It would seem needless to remind anyone that this is not the case, but that the Bureau is an organization of the students for the students and unless heartily supported by the students, cannot hope to continue its existence very long.

We are all proud of the S. U. I. lecture course and in our inmost hearts desire to see it perpetuated from year to year. Then let us lay aside all petty fault findings when things do not exactly suit us individually, and give to it our hearty support and encouragement. We cannot afford to do without it, we can afford to help it thrive, because by so doing we help ourselves to secure privileges we cannot otherwise hope to enjoy.

**The New Hand-book.**

There are two errors in the new hand-book which the committee regret and which they are not willing should pass without an explanation. The first of these is the printing of the names of last years officers of the Law Literary Society instead of the new officers. This arose from using the old hand-book for copy, and a failure on the part of the committee to read proof from corrected copy. The second error is in the position of the write ups of the Fraternities and the Oratorical Association, which should have come under the head of University Organizations. The error arose from exactly the same cause as in the first instance.

It is to be regretted that any students name and address should be omitted, but each department was given abundant opportunity to become completely represented.

We wish to acknowledge our thanks to Mr. E. E. Munger, of the Medical Department and to Mr. E. A. Sprakes, of the Dental Department. The registry of these departments would have been practically nil but for the personal efforts of these gentlemen.

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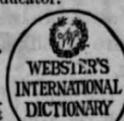
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**Fact and Rumor.**

Fordyce, D. '93, is visiting in Iowa City.

F. B. Blair, L., '93, is now located at Sheridan, Wyoming.

Dr. Gunsaulus left Tuesday night after the lecture for Chicago.

The University Battalion will probably be formed Friday or Monday.

Miss Sanford, from Tipton, visited with Mary Holt, '95, last Monday.

Rev. Charles E. Perkins is conducting the chapel exercises this week.

Louise Middleton of Eavenport, spent Tuesday with her friends at S. U. I.

Fordyce, D. '93, now practising at Blockton, Iowa, is in the city for a short visit.

Prof ssor Nutting gave the zoology class a special talk on nematocysts, Tuesday morning.

There will be a foot-ball game between the Sophomore and Freshmen teams Saturday at 2:30.

The Harvard-Brown foot-ball game last Saturday resulted 58-0 in Harvard's favor. At one time in the first half Brown forced Harvard to the 8 yard line.

The Saturday's foot-ball game between Michigan and Minnesota gave to the latter 34 points against the formers 20. The score does not speak well for either team.

Owing to various reasons the Sophomore-Freshman Field Day meet which was to have been held November 4th, has been postponed indefinitely. It is the general understanding, however, that a Field Meet between the two classes is to be held next spring.

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The last Omaha Bee has an extended write up of our foot-ball team from manager to substitutes. The week before the same paper gave the Nebraska team a similar notice.

The Y. M. C. A. held a reception to the Faculty of S. U. I. and the business men of Iowa City last Monday evening. The tables were set in the gymnasium, and an enjoyable time was had.

Professor Patrick has completed his preliminary lectures to the psychology class and they will now take up the systematic study of psychology proper, beginning with the consideration of sensations.

The foot ball game between the Junior Collegiates and the Junior Laws Saturday afternoon resulted in a score of 10-0 in favor of the Laws. The teams played well and were pretty evenly matched, though the Laws had the heavier line.

At the meeting of the Virgil Seminary, Monday evening, Inez F. Kelso, '94, read a paper on the 5th book of the Aeneid, and Redelia Gilchrist read one on the sixth book. The beliefs of the Greeks and Romans in a blind, unyielding power, ulterior to every other power, and called by them the Fates, was discussed, and the religion of the Romans as shadowed forth in the sixth book was considered at some length.

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