

# The Vidette - Reporter.

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

VOL. 26.

IOWA CITY, IOWA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1893.

NO. 34.

## Our Pathological Laboratory.

Perhaps no department of our institution has had since its organization, so rapid and substantial a growth as that for the study of Pathology and Bacteriology, and certain it is that this department is destined to extend its influences, and to increase its importance far more rapidly in the future than it has in the past.

Up to March, 1891, the University had no such department and our Medical students had no opportunity of studying the pathological changes in tissue except that occasionally furnished by the professors of practice and of surgery.

The need of such a laboratory as that which forms the subject of this article, had long been recognized and at the March meeting of the Board of Regents in 1891, the chair was established and Dr. J. M. Parker, Jr., was elected professor in charge.

The west half of the second floor of the Medical building was devoted to this laboratory and a few microscopes of very inferior grade were secured. The greatest obstacle to the progress of the department was not so much the poor equipment of the laboratory as it was the want of pathological material of which to make a study.

Professor Parker, however, made the best of the conditions as he found them, and managed to accumulate some very good material during the year in which he occupied the chair. In June, 1893, Prof. Parker was forced to resign, because of ill health, which in the following August resulted in his death, and this chair, along with Histology was placed under the control of Prof. Samuel Calvin, with Mr. F. S. Aby as professor of Histology and associate, Dr. E. H. Williams as associate professor of Pathology.

During the following year the department was still hampered by want of material on which to work, although the profession of the state had by this time come to recognize its good work, and to send pathological specimens here for diagnosis. Professor Calvin added eight new improved Leitz Microscopes to the equipment and Mr. W. R. Whiteis was elected demonstrator in the laboratory.

In March, 1893, Dr. Williams resigned to enter private practice, and Professor Walter L. Bierring, the present incumbent of the chair, was elected full professor of Pathology. Dr. Bierring was in Europe at the time of his election, pursuing his studies in pathology, at Leipzig the great University of Germany and Austria. He returned the following September, after a stay of eighteen months, and brought with him the finest collection of pathological material ever received by a western university.

This material was collected from the hospitals and laboratories of the universities of Vienna, Paris and Heidelberg, and is carefully preserved in alcohol.

It consists in the first place, of specimens showing all the different pathological changes which take place in tissue, in the process of the various diseases, including specimens of all forms of tumors.

In this collection every organ which may be effected by disease is represented and each specimen is of sufficient size so that each medical student gets a permanent mount to take away with him at the close of his course.

Communication is kept up with the great Pathological Institute at Vienna, which facilitates the constant replenishing of stock material.

The student is required to mount specimens of this material and mount them precisely as is done in the histological laboratories, and then a careful microscopic study of the sections is made under the direct supervision of the professor and his demonstrators. Seven new microscopes have been added to the equipment this year and another demonstrator to the instructing force—Mr. L. W. Dean being elected to the position.

Besides the collection mentioned above from which the microscopic appearance of pathological tissues may be studied. Professor Bierring brought with him a large and well selected collection of museum specimens of congenital anomalies and deformities. These serving to illustrate the macroscopic appearance as others do the minute.

Modern scientific investigation has established the fact of the bacterial origin of the greater number of our infectious diseases and the study of these minute organisms, their growth and characteristics, has given rise to the science of Bacteriology.

This new science, coming as it properly does under the province of this chair, is taught with almost as much completeness here as in any laboratory in America. Students are taught how to make the various media in which these bacteria may be grown, to cultivate the organism and to isolate each variety of truly pathogenic germ and thus to obtain a "pure culture."

They are further taught to recognize each of these varieties under the microscope, the effect of their inoculation on animals and in short all the known facts pertaining to pathogenic microbes and their relation to the diseases of which they are the causative agents.

Additions to the laboratory equipment have been made slowly as opportunity was presented. The latest and perhaps the most valuable addition being that of a new apparatus for sterilizing. It is known as an autoclave, is identical in size, quality and make, with the sterilizers in use at the great Pasteur Laboratory in Paris, is manufactured in Paris by Wiesnegg, and was presented to the laboratory by Professor Littig, of the chair of Practice. It is indeed a thing of beauty and we are informed that it facilitates work in Bacteriology very greatly.

Professor Bierring will revisit the old world at the close of the present session in March to spend the summer in the Pasteur Laboratory and hospitals of Paris, and we hope to be able to record still more substantial growth in the department when he returns at the beginning of the next school year.

## Dental Department.

The common place every day occurrences of ordinary work in this department had quite a stir on Monday of this week,—two representatives of leading Dental Colleges of Chicago, Dr. Harlan and Dr. Gardner of the Chicago Dental College and Northwestern University School of Dentistry, respectively. The sight which met them in the clinic room, surely ought to gratify the members of any Dental Faculty. Some twenty-five fine operating chairs and as many beautiful cabinets are crowded into a room far too small for the needs of work. Imagine how like a bee hive such a room must appear with these chairs all filled with patients and more waiting their turn. These with the operators and demonstrators, present a scene of activity worthy any eastern college. After a thorough investigation of the methods in the operating room the visitors are invited to visit the laboratory where may be seen section I or II composed of about 50 members each. These students are engaged in making dentures of rubber and metal and making models of bridge and crown work. The instructors are particular and the work is all of the best. Whatever else may have impressed the visitors, they surely must have been impressed with the fact that the lack of adequate room is a serious drawback to the best interests of the department.

## Dramatic Club.

There are a few things in which our institution is behind other universities. Among these might be mentioned a Dramatic Club. This organization has recently made its appearance and if the work of its individual members is what it ought to be they can be no doubt but that great benefit can be derived from it. The Club at present contains about fourteen members. Short programs, consisting of dialogues monologues, etc., are prepared for each Tuesday evening. Criticisms are made for the selections, by the members. The work of preparing the programs is in charge of Mrs. Partridge who has very kindly offered her assistance to the members. After the club has become fully organized it is prepared to give a few public entertainments.

## Virgil Seminary.

The Virgil Seminary held its last meeting Monday evening. The first paper was read by Marion Davies, '96, on the Fourth Georgic of Virgil. An interesting sketch of the poem was given, criticisms were made and especially beautiful passages were cited. One point emphasized was that this Georgic shows very strongly Virgil's love for animal life and his sympathy with it.

The other paper was read by Inez Kelso, '94. It was a review of Funi-son's Master Virgil and had to do with the myths that grew up around the name of Virgil and around his writings during Mediaeval times. The probable sources of these myths pointed out and some of the reasons for their development. A number of the German myths were read and a brief outline of some others was

given. When the papers were finished Professor Currier sketched a number of short poems imputed to Virgil but which the best modern critics think he did not write.

After a short discussion of the best texts on Virgil to be used in private study or in school work the meeting closed. This seminary has undoubtedly been one of the most pleasant seminaries held during this term and one from which the members have derived a great deal of lasting benefit.

## English Literature Seminary.

At the meeting of this seminary Tuesday afternoon a paper on the ballad poetry of Scott was read by Stella Price, '94. She first gave a short sketch of Scott's life and then took up his ballads in detail.

When the paper was finished Professor Hale gave a short lecture on the metre of ballad poetry and on the metre in Scott's poems, Lay of the Last Minstrel, Marmion, and Lady of the Lake.

## College Notes.

Dartmouth's Dramatic Club will present the English comedy, "The Rivals," during the first of this season.

The Yale Boat Club's total expenditures for 1892 and 1893 were \$13,902 05.

The Senior classes at Yale, Harvard, Princeton, Amherst, Dartmouth, and Wellesley, have adopted the cap and gown.

The annual catalogue of Bowdoin, which was issued last week, showed an enrollment of 316 students, the largest in the history of the institution. Of the 219 in the Academic department, 47 are Seniors, 50 Sophomores, 66 Freshmen, and 5 specials.

The new horticultural hall of the University of Wisconsin will soon be ready for occupancy; complete it will cost \$40,000. Without the greenhouses, which will soon be added, it represents an outlay of about \$24,000.

University of Michigan has a Glee and Banjo Club.

The University of Pennsylvania received ten awards for its exhibits at the World's Fair.

Professor F. B. Tarbell, '73, of Chicago University, has an article on "Heresy in Athens in the Time of Plato," in the *New World* for December.

President Harper, of Chicago University, will deliver the address at the opening of the new library of Colorado College.

The receipts of the Springfield game were \$39,000 and the expenses \$12,000, leaving a balance of \$27,000 to be divided between Harvard and Yale.

According to the new catalogue of the University of Pennsylvania the total number of students exceeds 2,200, a gain of nearly 200 over last year.

During the foot-ball season of 1892-93 in Great Britain there were twenty-six deaths on the field, resulting from foot-ball accidents, thirty-nine broken legs, twelve broken arms, twenty-five broken collar bones, and seventy-five other injuries.

**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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class matter.

One of the best things offered to  
the students of the Collegiate De-  
partment is the work in the semina-  
ries conducted by several of the pro-  
fessors, each one along his own line of  
work. The hardest thing for most  
students to acquire is the ability to  
make original research in some chosen  
subject in a systematic and satisfac-  
tory way. We have been so accus-  
tomed during all our school life, from  
the primary schools to our college  
course, and often well through that,  
to look to the teachers for much guid-  
ance and assistance that we have not  
the faculty or the patience to depend  
upon ourselves. And nothing in the  
whole college curriculum will tend  
to overcome this fault more than  
seminary work. In this work the  
student is necessarily left more or  
less to himself and unless he exerts  
himself to find out all he can upon  
the subject assigned him he will soon  
rank very low in his respective sem-  
inary. Another good feature of the  
seminaries is that they take up some  
line of the work that cannot be taken  
up in the class-room for want of time  
and the work is so thoroughly done  
that the members gain a pretty defi-  
nite knowledge of some features of  
the vast subject in charge of their re-  
spective professor. It will well re-  
pay every student to do at least one  
year's work in some seminary during  
his college course and as much more  
work as time can be found for.

**Foot-Ball in the East.**

Apropos of the discussion in the  
east in regard to altering foot-ball as  
it is now played, President Angell has  
the following to say: "The faculty as  
a body has not yet considered it, and  
while we think some modifications  
should be made, it is not probable  
that we will take any formal action  
this year. The game has not been  
developed to the same extent in the  
west as it has in the east. The fact  
that a great many students have  
been injured is not the only thing

against the game in the east, but  
there is a strong feeling against the  
gambling and intemperance that is  
indulged in at the big games. Here  
in the west it is different, although  
even here there is a feeling on the  
part of parents and others that the  
game should be modified.—U. of M.  
Daily.

**Review of Reviews.**

The December Review of Reviews  
is an excellent number. Besides the  
"Progress of the World" articles  
which every student no matter how  
busy, should read there is "A Talk  
to Young Men on Education" which  
might well be read by old as well as  
young. Then there are six character  
sketches, of which that of Carter  
Harrison is probably of the most in-  
terest to us. It is cold and critical,  
bearing the stamp of having evident-  
ly been written before his assassina-  
tion, but it is the better for that, a  
tragic death often serves to a mantle  
to the victims weaknesses. The pro-  
grams for "Some Prospective Pilgrim-  
ages" is also given. These were first  
proposed by Mr. Stead in the October  
number and have awakened much in-  
terest. The "California Midwinter  
International Exposition" is also well  
written up. But what is probably  
the most noteworthy article in the  
number is a review of Stead's new  
Christmas story "Two and Two Make  
Four" in which he describes the  
greatness of his ideal daily newspa-  
per, which one are informed will be  
launched in the course of six or eight  
months in London.

There are nine Harvard, six Yale  
and six Princeton alumni in the grad-  
uate department at Johns Hopkins.

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#### Fact and Rumor.

Inez Kelso, '94, and Rita Stewart, '97, are on the sick list.

The *Unit* published an exclusively literary number last week.

Dr. Egge did not meet his classes Tuesday on account of sickness.

The November *Aurora* is devoted to the commencement exercises I. A. C.

The *Ellsworth Student* Iowa Falls, is the latest addition to our exchange list.

The members of the Greek letter fraternities in the colleges number 77,000.

The Junior Annual Board had its picture taken Tuesday afternoon at Coover's.

A lectureship fund of \$2,000 has recently been established in the Columbia Law School.

The Freshman Quartette has been somewhat demoralized by the ravages of la grippe.

Melville Sears, '91, of Omaha has offered a prize for the best essay on an economic subject.

Yale has scored 330 points in nine games this season, and Harvard 386 points in 10 games.

The classes in French did not recite Tuesday, as Mr. Walker was not able to hear them.

The Juniors complain much of the four hours military duty to be required of them next term.

Dartmouth, by defeating Amherst, won the New England inter-collegiate foot-ball championship.

President Gates of Iowa College has an article in the *Young Men's Era* of Dec. 7 on "The Ideal and the Actual in Foot-Ball."

LATEST STYLE HATS AND FURNISHING GOODS AT BLOOM & MAYER'S.

It is rumored that a chapter of the Sigma Nu is soon to be organized by students of the University.

The students of University of Wisconsin are offered three prizes for the best original college songs.

Kallenberg, '95, has an article in the *Young Men's Era* of Dec. 7, on "The Student Volunteer and Physical Training."

F. W. Booth has returned to work after a few days' sojourn at his home in Marion, where he had been ordered by his physician.

Where are our poets? O come forth, ye I. S. N. S. muses and sing these colleges. At first sing some of your common poems.—*Normal Eye*.

Whether or not the members of the graduating class shall wear the regulation Oxford cap and gown is being warmly discussed at the State Normal.

Thirteen championship foot-ball games have been played between Harvard and Princeton, Princeton winning 8 and Harvard 4, one being a tie.

E. S. Morrison and H. E. Abbott, of Dartmouth, have been awarded the prizes offered by the *Engineering News* for the best graduating thesis by a student of any engineering or technical school in the United States.

The members of the Harvard base ball team, who played in either the Yale or Princeton games have each been presented with solid silver cups, inscribed "1893, Base Ball Championship Harvard, Yale, Princeton."

The Y. M. C. A. of Iowa Wesleyan are trying to secure a building for their exclusive use. Two years ago \$5,000 was subscribed at least \$10,000 more is needed. Any person giving \$5,000 or more will have the privilege of raising the building.

**Notice to Subscribers.**

By mistake in mailing Tuesday, back numbers were sent to several of our subscribers. If those parties will notify us either by mail or by leaving their names at our office in the Central Building we will be pleased to correct the mistake,

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