

# The Vidette - Reporter.

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## The Planet Mars.

A fair-sized, intelligent audience assembled in the auditorium of Close Hall, last Tuesday evening, to hear Professor Weld's highly entertaining and instructive lecture on the above subject.

To the philosophers of old, the speaker said, Earth was the center of the universe and about it revolved all the planets, moons, and stars; but since the Ptolemaic period astronomy has been studied in its true light, and advancement in this science has been steady and rapid. Of all the planets Mars is the one most analogous to ours. The atmospheres and physical conditions of the two planets, as well as the matter composing them, are evidently very similar, though Mars is much the smaller.

Instead of being the center of the elliptical orbit of Mars, the sun forms one of its foci, so that it at one point in its orbit is 164,000,000 miles distant from the sun. On this account, and also because of its greater orbit, its distance from Earth also varies from 35,500,000 to 247,000,000 miles. When nearest it is more than seventy times as bright as when most distant, and it is at these periods that Mars may be most advantageously observed. It is then in opposition—that is, Earth is directly between it and the sun—and these most favorable oppositions occur every fifteen years. Recent ones occurred in 1862, 1876, and 1892. Mars makes a complete circuit of its orbit every six hundred and eighty-seven days, and is in opposition with Earth, at different positions, every seven hundred and eighty days.

The axis of rotation of Mars is inclined to the vertical twenty-four degrees and fifty minutes, and the planet rotates once in twenty-four and two-thirds hours.

Mars is one-seventh as large as Earth, and one-ninth as heavy, as the matter composing the planet is but seventy-eight per cent as dense as that of our planet. Its power of gravitation is therefore relatively less, and a ten-pound ball would weigh only four pounds at the surface of Mars.

On account of the atmosphere about the planet only a very small part of it may be seen at one time, so the mapping of the entire body has been the work of many decades. The map at present shows the surface to be about equally divided between land and water, with no great expanse of either. A double network of canals has lately been discovered, leading to many strange theories regarding their origin and use.

Mars has two very curious moons—the inner one called Phobos, and the outer one Deimos. They both move in the same direction, but one rises in the east and sets in the west, and the other rises in the west and sets in the east. Deimos makes a revolution about the planet every thirty hours, remains visible at each point on the planet four hours, and goes through all its phases three distinct times between rising and setting, giving a veritable magic lantern exhibition. Phobos is swifter than her partner, and revolves about Mars every seven hours, making herself visible three times a day.

As to the question of the habitation of Mars, Professor Weld said nothing has yet been definitely determined, and all the theories advanced are mere conjectures. There is nothing to indicate to us that the planet has inhabitants, and with the present instruments and atmospheric conditions we shall never be able to determine the question; but, if the time ever comes when the secrets of Mars become open to our eyes as a book, we shall see more than we can possibly imagine, as the scope of the imagination is limited by our experience, and Mars contains things that we have never seen, or felt, or heard of, and consequently are unable to conceive.

The lecture was delivered in an easy manner and freely illustrated by the use of charts, and the hearty round of applause which greeted Professor Weld at the close proved that it had been truly appreciated by his audience.

## Iowa Geological Survey

A recent issue of the Des Moines *Leader* contained a lengthy sketch of the work which has been done and is being done at the present time by the Geological Survey. The third volume, constituting the second annual report of the survey, has just been published, and will be of great practical value. The survey now in progress is the third which has been attempted in this State, all previous ones being obliged to stop on account of a lack of appropriations. The earliest survey began in 1846 under the auspices of the United States land office. It was in charge of Dr. David Dale Owen. At the conclusion of this federal survey the Hall survey was organized, and Dr. James Hall was given charge of the work. His work was confined to eastern Iowa almost entirely. His reports were published in two volumes in 1858. In 1869 Dr. Chas. A. White, formerly Professor in Geology in the University, took charge of the work, but was obliged to give it up owing to lack of funds. The present geological survey was inaugurated in 1891-2. Under the present system the survey is conducted by a geological board, which elected Professor Calvin State geologist. Professor Nutting, who was at one time a member of the board, was succeeded by Professor L. W. Andrews, and he by Professor Norris, of Grinnell. Professor Calvin has continued to hold his office since the establishment of the board. The reports of this board contain many valuable papers, prepared by the different members. Of these papers the *Leader* has the following to say:

"These special papers will be the most interesting part of the whole report to the general reader. For instance not very long ago we were told that no chalk deposits existed in this section of the west, but Professor Calvin points out the existence of several deposits in Iowa, notably along the Sioux river, where it is twenty-five feet thick and made up of the calcareous skeletons of Foraminifera and Collolites, without the admixture of mechanical sediment, and as soft and white as can be obtained from the cliffs of southern England.

The gypsum deposits in the Ft. Dodge region are carefully mapped

and explained. The entire value of these deposits is estimated at many million dollars. In the production of gypsum Iowa ranks third among the states of the union, only Michigan and New York producing more.

The story of the hidden river channels of eastern Iowa reads like a romance of ancient times. Southeastern Iowa was over 400 feet higher than at present, and then the Mississippi had a different course from Monroe to the mouth of the Des Moines river. This early course has been carefully traced and the geologist of to-day sits upon the bank of the prehistoric stream and regards it with more interest than do other people the present river. The Des Moines and Skunk rivers have also in Southeastern Iowa deserted beds, which have been carefully outlined.

Another feature of the report is the account of the complete surveys of Lee and Des Moines counties with maps. It is the intention of Professor Calvin, if the survey is carried on, to make similar reports for each county in the state. When that is done the work of the geological survey will be completed."

## In'er-Collegiate Debates.

The following item is taken from the editorial columns of the *Scarlet and Black*, with the object of bringing the suggestion which it contains before our student body:

"In speaking of the local debating contest the VIDETTE-REPORTER says: 'We think it would be well if some means could be devised whereby we could have a greater number of inter-collegiate contests as they not only are a good advertisement to the University, but the contestants derive an immense amount of good in preparing themselves for the final contest.' Several years ago the Grinnell literary societies attempted to arrange for a debate between S. U. I. and I. C. and they are very likely still open to an agreement along this line."

Why would it not be a wise plan to make arrangements for an annual debating contest with Grinnell? She has ever proven worthy of our steel on the athletic field, and undoubtedly would be a doughty opponent in debate. True, we already have our annual debate,—that with Minnesota,—but that should not absorb all of our forensic talent. The four literary societies of the University—including those of the Law department—have perhaps a membership of about 200, and from this number we should be abundantly able to select even a half-dozen debating teams.

Let the number of such contests be increased, for by so doing we secure the benefit of debate to a much larger number. Furthermore, it would certainly arouse more interest among strong men who now feel disposed to act indifferently about our contests. Debaters cannot be expected to keep up an active, enthusiastic interest in contests in which they cannot ever hope to participate. If twelve men were to be chosen to represent our University each year instead of three this class of literary work would undoubtedly manifest much more interest in debating, and our contests

would receive more nearly than now the unanimous support of our students. Wisconsin University has four or five annual contests, and this fact to a large extent accounts for the great interest that is manifested there.

If Grinnell desires to meet us on the platform sometime next year, let our societies make arrangements for a contest if possible. It can result only in good.

## The Track Team.

We do well to take interest in our track team. The men are doing hard and good work every day. We may look forward to some very good records this spring, and expect at least one intercollegiate record to be broken.

If any less skilled timer than Moulton had told us that Crum made the 100 yards Thursday afternoon in less than ten seconds we might doubt his word. Ten second men are very scarce, but Crum's equals are scarce yet. He should be sent to New York May 24th in spite of a dozen State Meets.

Clark and Van Epps will have a hard fight for the half-mile run. Neither one has yet been pushed hard enough to do his best. The report is that they run together this afternoon. A better record may be expected.

Allison shows up well in the mile walk, and Miller in the high and broad jumps.

The hurdles are getting into shape. Robinson is working, and others too numerous to mention.

The Sophomore-Freshman Meet bids fair to be interesting. Both classes are working hard, and those who have watched the men at work predict a hotly contested struggle.

It is to be regretted that the track is so far from the University. To walk out is enough to cool one's ardor for track work, and the men deserve the hearty support of all who have true college spirit.

## Wisconsin University.

The Wisconsin Assembly passed unanimously the bill appropriating \$360,000 for the State University for general running expenses and improvements. The joint Committee on Claims has reported for passage a substitute bill to provide a library building on the lower campus of the university grounds for the State Historical Society, to cost \$180,000. The plan is to construct part of the originally devised joint library building under the pending measure and the rest of the building under appropriation of the next Legislature. The joint Committee on Claims has cut down the bill to appropriate various sums to the state charitable and penal institutions to \$785,000 and recommended it for passage. This includes a new school building for the Blind Institution at Janesville, improvements on other buildings at the different institutions, and an electric light plant for the state prison at Waupun.

The basket ball game between Cedar Rapids and Iowa City, last evening, resulted in a score of 9 to 3 goals in favor of Iowa City.



Iowa City Station as follows:  
Trains for Cedar Rapids, Davenport, leaves - 7:15 a.m.  
Trains for Cedar Rapids, Cedar Falls & Waverly, 12:05 p.m.  
Trains for Cedar Rapids, 3:00 p.m.  
Trains for Elmira, Cedar Rapids, Liberty, 6:32 p.m.  
Trains for Cedar Rapids, and St. Paul; also for Burlington, 9:30 p.m.  
Trains for Riverside, Whatonetzuma, arrives at leaves at 9:25 a.m.  
Trains arrive from Riverside, 10:50 p.m.  
Trains arrive from Clinton, 10:30 p.m.  
Trains for Riverside leaves 10:50 a.m.  
Trains for Burlington and Des Moines, 4:00 p.m.  
Trains from Clinton, Cedar Rapids, Davenport arrives 7:30 p.m.  
Trains for Muscatine and Des Moines, 5:25 p.m.  
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The *Washington Press*, in commenting upon Mr. Depew's address at Chicago, makes the following startling announcement concerning a college education:

"An active, incisive, apprehensive, absorbing brain does not need to go to college. It is in school with his own thoughts and reading. Look where you may, in all lines of activity, you'll find the potent men not college-bred as often as you'll find alumni, if not oftener. As Edison, Cleveland, and hundreds of other men not to be named, who are at the top in law, in railroading, in manufacturing, in medicine, in art, in commerce, in politics, in banking, in mining, in journalism, in literature, etc. Look right around in your own town and in towns where you are well acquainted, and keep tab on the forceful men therein and see how many are college graduates. We believe a young man of good parts and high aims and patience and perseverance can get a better education in his library or den between whiles of his work than any modern college, devoted to rowing and foot ball, can give him. The strongest, ablest men in Iowa to-day were not college-bred, and are probably what they are because they didn't fool away five or six years at college or university, to be warped by the fads of thin, dyspeptic pedants in professional chairs. Usually, we notice, it takes a man ten or twenty years to throw off that influence, and get the kinks out of him, so that, recovering his elasticity and originality, he can take his own natural gait and be himself."

We occasionally hear such remarks as the above made, but it is rarely that they find their way in print. The majority of our newspaper writers have succeeded in lifting themselves out of the old rut of conservatism and have long ago ceased to cherish that ancient and foggy idea that a college education is undesirable for a young man. The able editor who wrote the above article has seen fit to draw his conclusions without regard to any logical principles upon which to base his reasoning. He has cited to us a few instances of men who

were not college men, who have attained eminent positions in the world, but he says nothing of that innumerable throng of humanity who have never seen the inside of a college and whose success in life has been far below the average. Nor on the other hand does he consider for a moment the fact that the majority of instructors in our public schools are college graduates. He fails to mention the great advancement which is being made in law, medicine, and every other profession, due largely to the fact that many of our professional men are being prepared with a college education. Such conclusions as he has drawn are not only false but they are misleading. If he desires to prove to the world that the majority of the successful men are those who have never had a college education why doesn't he usher forth some statistics to prove his statements? Let him compare the successful college men of to-day with the successful men who have not had these opportunities and then give us a statement of the facts as he finds them. We can't measure the influence and usefulness of men by considering the high pinnacles of fame which a few of them have reached any more than we can measure the level of the sea by the crest of its waves. Who knows but that the men whom he has referred to would have been much greater had they been afforded a college education? The editor of the *Washington Press* nor no one else will ever be able to tell us this. It is true that there are men who are capable of self-education to a considerable extent. Experience has shown this to be true, but has experience not also shown us that not one man in a hundred has the will and determination to develop, unaided, the ability which he may possess? It is a statement which the most credulous have almost ceased to believe, that a person can obtain as good an education in his own room during spare hours as he can in a university with its libraries and laboratories. It is not a question of where *can* he learn the most but where *will* he learn the most. It is true that athletics is reaching a prominent position in our colleges to-day, and the final results of this are yet to be seen. No one, however who considers the question carefully will say that because these tendencies do appear threatening that a college education as a rule is not an opportunity for which we all should seek. What ever may be the conditions which may exist in our colleges let us not abandon our college training simply because these conditions appear threatening. The college exists preeminent to any tendency to which the students may be addicted. Therefore, if necessary, let us restrict the tendencies rather than abandon the college, for if we but look around us to-day we will find that it is college men who form that great current of human thought which underlies the stability of every country.

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 Bloom & Mayer's.

One hundred dozen mens' laundered  
 negligee shirts, in all the newest  
 patterns; 50 cents this week only.—  
 The Golden Eagle.

Lapham's Rival Pen of which we  
 have sold about a thousand are re-  
 duced in price from \$2.50 to \$1.25  
**LEE & RIES.**

We are sole agents for the Dunlap  
 hat, the best in the world.—Coast &  
 Easley.

Fifty cents—your choice of the lat-  
 est novelties in neckwear at Bloom &  
 Mayer's.

Ladies Mackintoshes at Pratt &  
 Strub's.

You can always find just what you  
 want at Bloom & Mayer's.

We have all the latest patterns in  
 percale shirts from \$1.00 up.—Coast &  
 Easley.

Beautiful spring capes at Pratt &  
 Strub's.

Mr. Malone, of Stone's School of Cut-  
 ters, guarantees a perfect fit; 111  
 Washington street, up-stairs.

**Fact and Rumor.**

Maud Gray and Cora Dorcas will  
 spend Sunday in Tipton.

J. C. France, L '96, is having a  
 slight attack of the measles.

Carl Stemple, '96, was initiated into  
 Germania, Wednesday evening.

Margaret Van Metre will spend  
 Easter at her home in Waterloo.

Dr. Frank Carroll, '94, of Cedar Rap-  
 ids, paid a flying visit to the city Fri-  
 day.

Owing to the crowded condition of  
 the Botany classes a 10 o'clock division  
 has been organized.

The Delta Gammas entertained the  
 Pi Beta Phis in their hall at 24 N.  
 Clinton this afternoon.

Cassie Watkins White, ex-'96, who  
 is now living in Des Moines, visited  
 friends in the city Wednesday and  
 Thursday.

Cards are out announcing the mar-  
 riage of Dr. E. E. Munger, M. '94, to  
 Miss Edith Johnston, of Waterloo,  
 Iowa, on April 10th. Since his gradu-  
 ation Dr. Munger has been in part-  
 nership with Dr. Chase, of Waterloo,  
 Iowa, and has had most flattering suc-  
 cess in that city. Miss Johnston is  
 among Waterloo's most sweetest sing-  
 ers. The young couple will make  
 their future home in Spencer, Iowa,  
 where Dr. Munger has entered into a  
 new partnership with one of the suc-  
 cessful physicians of that city.

LATEST STYLE HATS AND FURNISHING GOODS AT BLOOM & MAYERS.



A. W. Hamann is now a member of Polygon.

Capt. Rowell, of Co. "M" I. N. G., went to Tipton this morning, where he will remain about a week getting his company ready for inspection.

C. C. Michener stopped at Iowa City, Friday, on his way home, where he will spend a short time before he enters upon his work for the International Committee of the Y. M. C. A.

The geological expedition to the Black Hills has been postponed until next year. Professor Calvin thought it best to take this action, owing to the fact that part of the summer vacation will be taken up with other work, and he will therefore be unable this year to devote to the expedition as much time as would be desirable, in order to derive the best results. The success of the expedition is already practically assured.

**Foot Ball at Harvard.**

The Board of Overseers of Harvard after considerable discussion, resolved that the abolition of foot ball at that institution rests with the Athletic Committee. This committee are in favor of continuing the game next year, and as they have full power to act the game will not be abolished. A strong effort will be made to eliminate as much of the roughness of the game as possible. The boys will also be obliged to confine the game to college grounds. There is considerable joy among the students over the final decision.

**Challenge Accepted.**

The Sophomores accept the challenge of the Junior class and furthermore challenge any class team in the University to a game of base ball on any grounds and at any time.

**Junior Challenge Accepted.**

It is with a barrel of confidence that we, the class of '95 do hereby accept the challenge of the class of '96, to a game of base ball, hoping to give you one continuous round of delirious enjoyment. Winner to pay the water carrier.

W. L. CONVERSE, Capt.  
W. L. MASON, Mgr.

**Deafness Cannot be Cured**

by local application, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube gets inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and the tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars, free. F. J. CHENEY & Co., Toledo, O.

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This cigarette is made from the brightest, most delicately flavored and highest cost Gold Leaf grown in Virginia. This is the Old and Original Brand of Straight Cut Cigarettes, and was brought out by us in the year 1875.

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No strain on buttons or waistband!  
No baggy pants! They are never pulled up from the shoe.

No straps in view when worn with full dress or negligee.

Perfect ease to every part of the body, because they give with every motion, the pulleys working on cables that are preserved from wear. Last for years.

Worn by the best dressed men in America.

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**LEAVING TIME**  
**OF TRAINS**  
**CENTRAL TIME**

Trains leave Iowa City Station as follows:  
No. 35. Passenger for Cedar Rapids, Clinton and Davenport, leaves 7:15 a.m.  
No. 3. Passenger for Cedar Rapids, Waterloo, Cedar Falls & Waverly, 12:05 p.m.  
No. 49. Freight for Cedar Rapids, 3:00 p.m.  
No. 39. Passenger for Elmira, Cedar Rapids and West Liberty, 6:32 p.m.  
No. 41. Passenger for Cedar Rapids, Minneapolis and St. Paul; also for Columbus Junction & Burlington, 9:30 p.m.  
No. 34. Passenger for Riverside, What Cheer and Montezuma, arrives at 8:40 a.m. and leaves at 9:25 a.m.  
No. 37. Passenger arrives from Riverside and Muscatine, 10:50 p.m.  
No. 40. Passenger arrives from Cedar Rapids and Clinton, 10:30 p.m.  
No. 48. Freight for Riverside leaves 10:50 a.m.  
No. 4. Passenger for Burlington and St. Louis leaves 4:00 p.m.  
No. 38. Passenger from Clinton, Cedar Rapids and Davenport arrives 7:30 p.m.  
No. 36. Passenger for Muscatine and Riverside leaves 5:25 p.m.  
Direct connections are made at all junction points.  
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The benefactions which leges have received within generation have frequently form of new buildings, and aspects of Harvard, Yale, and the University of vania, have been completely Unfortunately, most of the chitecture may be termed s Each building is put up slight respect for its neighbor is costly, one inexpensive; this style, one in that; one and one in stone; one extreme rich in its ornamental symmetry of classical architecture, wanting, and the beauty adaptation is not often visible, the College street New Haven, the campus ton, and separate structure law school at Cambridge and vard Memorial Gateway, a able. Columbia now has a tunity to construct its groungs on a plan well thought the plans of "the White C commission of qualified arch the library building, of beautiful designs have b public, can be constructed, ter of academic life, and if surrounded with the sy halls that have been project can collegiate architecture a great advance, and the c York will have a group of as worthy of our metropol in Vienna are worthy of capital, and as those in Ath constructed by wealthy r are worthy of that city.

The devotion to athletic late years by the historic seaboard has undoub moted manliness. Gymnas fields, boats, later hours better food and better s rangements have improved que of students. But close are already lamenting th gymnastics, literary con scholastic exercises are u by the undergraduate of th excessive excitements of i ate games have already a hostility of public opinio some existing usages will ly be modified before long petuate what is good and that which is objectionab lies, is the problem that no both faculties and student

There is one aspect of o universities which is only inside and that is the god subsists between the stu their instructors. Far gre arity is now allowed than been permitted in former this familiarity does not tempt. On the contrary, genuine respect and affect word "tutor" carried with gone by the idea of night the modern word "advise with it the idea of a friend Weekly.

Professor Hollis, of the Scientific school, at Harv sity, has devised a machin ately testing the energy e oarsmen.