

The Vidette - Reporter.

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

VOL. 28.

IOWA CITY, IOWA, TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 1896

NO. 40

Dr. Watson's Address.

Concluded from last issue.

"Even in the student mind I detect a tendency to rise above the seeking for education merely, merely something which it can use afterward, and a desire for culture, pure and simple, as the thing to be obtained, above the mere sordid and miserly attainment of isolated facts. Men are beginning to see that to be a specialist, and a specialist only, is to be a very narrow creature; that the world of scientific training and thinking, while more than important, even necessary, as a part of the mental horizon of the 20th century man, cannot wholly fill his mental vision, and that he is educated in the best sense of the word who has mental breadth, and the practical knowledge that science and her laboratories give, yet who at the same time, is trained to see and know the power and the beauties of the world of philosophic and poetic thought; a man, totus, totes, atque rotundus. As John Stuart Mill says: 'We need to know more than the one thing that is to be our principal occupation.' Education is not special training. The man who studies medicine alone will never be a broad-minded physician. The lawyer who knows only law will never be a learned and far-seeing jurist. The clergyman whose contact is only with the world where theology reigns supreme will never take the mental lead of man. There is no one study, which, followed to the exclusion of all others, does not narrow and pervert the mind, whether that study be scientific or classical; breeding in it a class of prejudices special to that pursuit, besides, as Mill says, 'a general prejudice common to all narrow specialties against large views from an incapacity to take it and appreciate the grounds of them.'

'And this fault of the tendency of the educative method of the immediate past, to magnify and overestimate the value of scientific training alone at the expense of the more rigid, and, at the same time, more aesthetic studies of the old-time curriculum, I believe we are recognizing to-day more and more, both as teacher and taught. I do not wonder that the editor of *Harper's Weekly* finds need to commend on the lamentation uttered by the overseers of Harvard College, the home of the elective in all its glory, over what they term 'the lamentable ignorance of English' found in college men, and men entering college, and to head an editorial on the fact that the use of pure, forcible English is the exception rather than the rule among our people, with the caption, 'The Unknown Tongue.' I believe it is true, and I believe that a one-sided educational system in the past is the cause of it. But it is also true that a fault acknowledged is half cured. I rejoice that here in our own University there has been set up the banner of the ancient and honorable society of Phi Beta Kappa, the old-time stalwart champion of the Classics and Belles Lettres, for I believe it is once a prophet and a herald of a need acknowledged and a want partly filled. I rejoice to see that the most forcible plea in the report

of the Board of Regents just issued, is for the fostering and enlargement of the Collegiate Department, acknowledged there to be, as it of most certain is, the soul that inspires the real life and body of the University. I rejoice to see signs of a decadence of that intense utilitarianism that has pervaded so largely the student body in the past, here as elsewhere, and a returning appreciation of culture for its own pure sake. Far would it be from me to under value the importance and the need of scientific work and scientific study for every graduate of the University. I have not done so by word; it is not my purpose so to lead your thought. But—we must have more. We need also the strong, permanent, purifying, elevating influence of classical and literary study. We need the study of grammar, and the forms of a perfect language to conserve and purify our own. We need the study of the Greek spirit, the great incentive to high creative effort in art, as embodied in the mother tongue of pure thought, born as it was in the morning of history when men saw face to face in the light of less conventional day. We need the delicate refinement of the Latin tongue, the language of law and history and universal empire, and the collective movements of men. With these we shall not only hand on to our successors our living language, richer, stronger, sweeter, and as pure as of old, but together with our more ample scientific training to broaden our intellectual horizon and make more keen our wits; we shall make them inheritors of an educative system that is neither an aesthetic fetter to thought, nor a utilitarian individualism; but rather a broad and lasting culture fitted for many ages to come, and,

"When old age shall this generation waste,
It shall remain, in midst of other woes
Than ours, a friend to man, to whom it saith,
'Beauty is truth, truth beauty—that is all
Ye know on earth, all ye need to know.'"
—Keats.

State Teachers Meeting.

The State Teachers' Association continued its 41st annual session last Wednesday, at Des Moines, and the meeting was a most interesting one.

The college classification question was the all important topic. Professor Currier, as chairman of the committee on classification of Iowa colleges, submitted the report, which was signed by only four members of the original committee of eight, the other four not being in attendance. The following names were attached to the report: A. N. Currier, H. H. Freer, R. A. Harkness, C. S. Michener. The report on courses of study is in substance the same as last year. The following colleges were reported in the classification, four of which were not included last year:

State University of Iowa, Iowa City.
Iowa Wesleyan, Mount Pleasant.
Parsons, Fairfield.
Penn, Oskaloosa.
Tabor, Tabor.
Cornell, Mt. Vernon.
Iowa, Grinnell.
Simpson, Indianola.
Des Moines, Des Moines.
Upper Iowa, Algona.
Drake, Des Moines.

Coe, Cedar Rapids.
Luther, Decorah.
Agricultural, Ames.

The report says of the Agricultural College: "Though standing apart from the colleges and universities in requirements for admission, and differing largely in the scope and character of its course of study, yet possessing an extensive equipment and strong faculty and to the general approval as a state technical college, we recommend the admission of the Agricultural college to membership." After the long debate was over the report was adopted by a rising vote of 42 to 31.

The University Extension Round Table held an interesting meeting, at which Professor Nutting said: "The State University is doing considerable extension work, and any college that takes it up will meet with a hearty support."

The Iowa Society for Child Study held a meeting and elected its officers for the ensuing year. The attendance was about complete. Among those present were Professors Patrick, McConnell, Cramer and Gilbert, of Iowa City.

On Thursday the association closed its session. The meeting was pronounced a brilliant success by all, great good being accomplished in the many departments.

The election of officers for the general association was held, and Superintendent W. F. Cramer, of Iowa City, who has been chosen secretary for three years, will fill that position again the ensuing year.

President Schaeffer read an interesting paper entitled "How Far Should the College Determine the Course in the High School, and How Far Should the High School Determine the Course in the College?" In part he said:

"In the present condition of lack of uniformity it must be conceded that some high school courses are better than others, and if that is true what possible objection can there be to improving the poorer ones and making them as good as the best? In other words I plead with all my strength for uniformity in, and a classification of the high schools of the state. 'Order is heaven's first law.' The schools of the state take charge of our children at an early period of their lives, and to a large extent determine the character and attainment of the men and women of the next generation. Is it not our solemn duty to do the best that we can for them; to give them the very best instruction during their school days; to study our school system; to ascertain where it can be improved, and then as rapidly as possible to put the best methods into operation. I am aware that there is nothing new in these reflections; that all of this has been written and said time and again. But somehow we never seem to go any farther. There never seems to be any practical result of our discussions. To be sure there are, here and there, isolated examples of progress, but there is no general movement along the whole line.

"If it be granted that our school system as a whole is capable of being improved, where, and how, shall we

go about the work of putting better methods into operation? And on this point I venture to make a suggestion as to a plan of operations. Let us first determine the status of the high school, fixing definitely its beginning and its end, and prescribing the work which it must do in its two, three and four years as the case may be. This accomplished it follows that on the one hand the required work of the graded school is determined, since it must lead up to the high school; and on the other, that the standard required for college entrance is settled inasmuch as the college will gladly admit the high school graduate without exception, provided that all of the high schools are on a par with the best at the present time.

"Were this done; were the question of the status of the high school settled, and state uniformity insisted upon, I firmly believe that a great deal of new life would be put into the whole school system. But it is, of course, impossible for this association in convention assembled to undertake to settle any such questions of detail. I therefore beg leave to recommend that a committee be appointed by this association to consider this whole subject and to report a plan of operation at the next annual meeting, if in its judgment it deems it wise so to do. The committee would undoubtedly make an exhaustive investigation of what has been done in this general direction in some of the other states; it would determine whether it would be best to adopt a more complete system of state school supervision, by means of the amplification of the powers of the superintendent of public instruction, or whether, as in some states, the object would be better accomplished by the organization of a high school board or a board of education. The result of such an investigation would be to give us an understanding of the situation we to-day lack."

The Des Moines *Leader*, of recent date, contained the following: "Professor Thomas H. McBride, of the State University, succeeded in interesting a good many during his stay in the city in the subject of county parks. He argues in favor of these parks, alleging their necessity to the common people, for their recreation, for their education in esthetics, in forestry, to the cause of science for the preservation in the world of the largest possible number of nature's organic forms. In Iowa such parks are eminently practicable, he says. In almost every county there is some wooded, romantic, well-watered spot which might be reserved for the use and advantage of the whole people. The only trouble lies in the manner of control. Supposing such grounds open to the public, will a popular government such as ours suffice to keep them in order? This question in Massachusetts has been answered by the creation of park trustees specially empowered to receive and govern lands donated by citizens or purchased to be used as 'common.' It is desirable that some action be taken in Iowa before all the natural beauty of the state has by cultivation been swept away."

The Vidette-Reporter.

Issued from The Republican Office on
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University of Iowa.

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THE VIDETTE-REPORTER,
Iowa City, Iowa.

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

Some time ago it will be remembered that we made mention of the fact that our office had been removed from Close Hall to a room on Washington street. We do not now recall the statement for the purpose of correcting it, for the saddest feature of the announcement we have since ascertained was its truth. From our past experiences we judged that our stay in our new quarters would not be long enough to warrant the raising of an objection as to our location, but as time passes and we are still perched in our attic, we really feel justified in entering a complaint. We understand the conditions and appreciate fully the predicament in which the University is placed through lack of room, but nevertheless we cannot refrain from stating what is true, that the room now provided is practically of no use to us. In our opinion the rent paid for the room should secure a much better one. We trust it will be possible ere long to remedy the evil suffered through lack of room. If it is possible, however, we should be located in an office which could be utilized for our purpose even before the room, which all hope is to be provided for the University, is secured.

No doubt it is early in the season to prophesy what may be our success in athletics during the spring, but it is gratifying to note the interest which is being taken in schemes to place our association in good condition for its work. As demonstrated by last fall's field meet we have excellent material for a track team. All the records made at that time were exceedingly good, and especially was the showing of the new students excellent. It is recognized, though, that however good the material may be we cannot hope to do much without the advantage of training. It is fortunate, perhaps that we have had occasion to observe this fact in the past and are

now in condition to profit by experience. The steps now being taken toward raising funds are certainly commendable and will no doubt receive the support of the majority of students. The success of the entertainment held some time since for the benefit of the association leads us to hope that the coming one will be liberally patronized.

Medical Department.

J. C. Virtue, a recent graduate of the Collegiate Department, has entered the Medical Department.

Mr. Wm. Gilkes, M. '99, assisted Rev. Brown during last Sunday's services at the Baptist church.

Miss Lillian and Fred Harriman of Hampton, Ia., visited with their brother, Dr. Harriman, during the holidays.

Dr. McCleary, of the Board of Regents, and Senator Berry, of Warren county, were here from Indianola a couple of days last week, looking over the S. U. I. They were the guests of Dr. Schaeffer while in the city.

Efficacy of Antitoxin.—During the last thirty days thirty-five cases of diphtheria have been treated at the Cook county hospital, Chicago, and through the agency of antitoxin no fatalities have occurred. Besides this number three children afflicted with the disease in a malignant form were brought to the hospital in a dying condition. The remedy was administered almost without expectation of benefit. Two of the children have been discharged and the third is reported as certain of recovery. Not alone have the wards of the county been afflicted. Commissioner J. N. Cuning has been ill for the last ten days with the same affliction and credits his recovery to the administration of antitoxin.

The Queen of Portugal spends all her leisure time in the study of medicine. She hopes by this means to spur on the rather indolent Portugal ladies to higher living and greater interest in the practical problems of the day.

The Seniors had operative surgery last Thursday and Friday in the dissecting room. Dr. Middleton was assisted by Drs. Littig, Biering, Hutchinson, Harriman and Mullin. Most of the lectures to the Junior class were postponed on those days, and the members of the classes attended the operating by the Seniors.

Gen. O. O. Howard Jan. 15.

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Fact and Rumor.
"Octave Thanet," Jan. 13.
Master Dan Clark, of Ogden, Ia., is visiting his brother Whit, '96.
R. L. Dunlap has returned from St. Louis where he spent his vacation.
Miss Harriman, a cousin of Dr. Harriman, has entered the University.
Miss Sherman, of Rockford College, visited the University the first of the term.
Miss Grace Bradshaw, of Cornell College, visited a few days with her cousin, Libbie Seymour.
J. K. Kirkland, L. '97, will not be in school until the spring term, being detained at home by the illness of his sister.
Dr. Richardson, H. M. '95, was married to Katherine Trine, of Iowa City, Dec. 24th. They will be at home in Lamont, Iowa, where the Doctor has a flourishing practice.
At the meeting of the Academy of Science in Des Moines last week, Professor B. Shimek presented some specimens of flowers from the willow, which showed the abnormal occurrence of both male and female parts in the same flower. He also read a paper on "A Theory of the Origin of Loess." "Professor Shimek," says the Des Moines Leader, "has come to the conclusion that this deposit is wind-laid rather than water-laid, as believed by a majority of American geologists. He presented a number of facts and strong arguments to sustain his view, and the subject provoked considerable discussion."—*Republican.*

CALL ON BLOOM & MAYER FOR CLOTHING AND HATS.

P. M. Mettlin, C. '98, who was called home soon after the beginning of the fall term, has again entered the University.

The following are the names of those who have matriculated in the Law Department this term:

- W. C. Dewel, C. '96.
- John W. Davis, Monroe, Ia.
- Edward J. Carroll, Clinton, Ia.
- Franklin F. Bates, Afton, Ia.
- Ida Jessup Ashcraft, Sigourney, Ia.
- Adolphus M. Ashcraft, Sigourney, Ia.
- Gay Halvorson, Crookston, Minn.
- Fred A. Harriman, Hampton, Ia.
- J. Webster Kinfinger, Dubuque, Ia.
- E. W. Seaman, C. '96.
- C. W. E. Snyder, Belle Plaine, Ia.
- Isaac W. Van Nice, Vinton, Ia.
- Charles H. Washburn, Buffalo, N.Y.

Homeopathic Department.

With the exception of A. S. Hayden, who, at this writing, has not returned, the Homeopathic students are back at work. Only a few remained to "hold the fort." It is well to make these annual holiday visits home, to the dear "parents," for it not only makes us all glad, but it is easier to explain the expense items to the Faculty at home, than it is to write to them about it.

But it should be remarked by all who need a "vacation," that Dr. Gilchrist held regular clinics and extra quizzes for those who remained. He is an ambitious, tireless worker, with a noble commendable pride in his profession, and an earnest desire to stimulate enthusiasm among his classes.

During the holidays Dr. E. E. Richardson, of Lamont, Ia., visited his Alma Mater, and took unto himself, (with the assistance of Rev. Dow) a better half, in the person of the beautiful and accomplished Miss Kate Trine. We extend the usual compliments and congratulations, with the added conviction that life will be bright and good and useful to this worthy couple.

O. A. Hansen, Sr., dispensed medicines (and hospital grace) in the absence of Dr. W. O. Seeman, house surgeon, on a visit to his brother, an M. D. in Dubuque.

F. B. Whitmore, of the International Medical Mission Institute, of Chicago, made his many friends in the University and city a short visit during the holidays. He is very enthusiastic over the new field of work.

The Hahnemannian Society is doing good work and its membership and officary deserve credit for zeal and efficiency.

Since writing the first paragraph we discovered that the "returns are not all in yet," so to speak, and hasten to correct before we are accused of telling a—mistake.

Notice.

There will be a meeting of the Y. M. C. A. Wednesday evening at 7 p. m. Important business.

R. L. EMERY, Pres.

Notice.

The regular business meeting of the Y. W. C. A. will be held at Close Hall Wednesday afternoon at 4:30. After the business meeting there will be an informal sociable and spread. Let every member be present and bring 10 cents.

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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, 9:00 p.m.
No. 34. Passg'r. for Riverside, What Cheer and Montezuma, arrives at 8:30 a.m. and leaves at - - - 9:10 a.m.
No. 37. Passenger arrives from Riverside and Muscatine - - - 10:35 p.m.
No. 40. Passenger arrives from Cedar Rapids and Clinton - - - 10:10 p.m.
No. 48. Freight for Riverside leaves 10:35 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.
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