

# The Vidette - Reporter.

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

VOL. 28.

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NO. 44

## Baconian.

The large and varied audience was at first disappointed when it was announced that Dr. Andrews, the essayist of the evening, had substituted another subject for the one previously announced on "The Dynamics of Chemical Processes." His substituted essay on "Porcelain" was, however, highly interesting and instructive.

The history of porcelain dates back to about 200 B. C., and its discovery is one of the many made by the Chinese. The early porcelain was unglazed and not till after the 10th century was color placed beneath the glaze.

During the 16th century porcelain manufacture was introduced into Japan, and by the 18th century Japanese ware surpassed the Chinese, and is now in some respects the best in the world. Since the early day the porcelain industry in China has shared in the general degeneration of all Chinese arts.

True, hard porcelain was independently discovered by Frederick Boettger, Meissner, Saxony. The secret soon spread, and the first porcelain factory in the occident was erected at Berlin in 1751.

There are three chief constituents in porcelain; clay, silica, and feldspar, with lime gypsum, borax and others as secondary. All true clays, when finely divided and moistened, are plastic and tenacious. Kaolin is a true clay, chemically an acid, ortho-silicate of aluminum, usually mixed with a varying amount of silica and silicates. The fusibility of a clay is determined by the presence of magnesia, lime, potash and oxide of lime. A decrease in the amount of alumina also increases the fusibility.

The varieties of porcelain can not be marked off by hard and fast lines, as there are infinite degrees of gradation from a common chimney brick to the finest ware. We recognize four general divisions: (a) Porcelain, (b) stone-ware, (c) majolica-ware, (d) common pottery; (a) is again divided into (1) true or hard porcelain, (2) soft or English and French porcelain, (3) Parian or statuary porcelain, without glaze, semi-hard, and used for statuettes in imitation of Parian marble.

True or hard porcelain has a sonorous, metallic ring, and contains a large amount of alumina. The soft porcelain is more like a glass, and is made of silica, lime and alkalis, with a very little clay. The soft is inferior in toughness, but is more transparent. By the French and English porcelain is not meant all porcelain made in those countries, but merely one special kind wherever it may be made.

Stone-ware is represented by wedgewood-ware, being heavy, very opaque, and inferior in sonorosity, usually glazed with an alkaline silicate.

Majolica ware is porous and opaque, and grades from expensive ware to ordinary china.

Common pottery is represented by terra cotta, porous throughout, with or without lead glaze.

In making the true or hard porcelain, two or more kinds of clay, the silica and feldspar, are brought to fine state of division, then moistened and kneaded by machinery until the mass

is plastic and homogenous. The mixture is then allowed to ferment for several months. If not already present, organic matter is added. This fermentation makes the mass more tenacious and also acts chemically in converting the oxide of iron present to the sulphide, and this in turn is oxidized by the air to the sulphate which is removed by washing after the fermentation is complete. The mass is then ready for the potter's wheel, or if the article to be made is of an irregular shape moulds are used instead.

The article is now subjected to the raw baking at a dull red heat. After the raw baking the article is dipped into the glazing material, which is of the same material as the article itself, with more silica, and is prepared in a creamy form.

In the final heating the article, with an even coat of glazing, is placed in an infusible cup so as to be protected from smoke and the direct flame. Utmost care is exercised as to temperature by means of test pieces.

Three days are required to heat up one of these furnaces, ten hours for baking and three days again for cooling down the furnace.

In case the porcelain is to be colored the color may be placed under or over the glaze, but more coloring is over than under. Very few colors will stand the high heat. Oxides of cobalt, copper and lead are mostly used as colors.

Specimens of the different kinds of porcelain were then presented for inspection. After five minutes' colloquium, the paper of the evening was discussed by the Club.

Dr. Biering gave a voluntary report on the cultivation and recognition of diphtheria bacillus in a media of blood serum.

Professor McBride reported on some peculiar variations in hickory.

The paper of Friday evening will be given by Dr. Gilchrist on "The Genesis and Classification of Tumors."

## Medical Department.

J. H. Mettlin, M. '97, had a pleasant visit from his brother, of Omaha, over Sunday.

Miss C. I. Peterson, M. '87, has been confined to her room for several days on account of illness.

W. E. Kephart, M. '97, is still confined to his room on account of illness but is improving slowly.

Dr. Guthrie has now completed his very interesting and instructive course of lectures in Obstetrics, and from now on till the end of the term Dr. Shrader lectures to the Senior and Junior classes instead. Dr. Guthrie will lecture on "Diseases of Children."

The classes in Histology under Dr. Whiteis are now busy reviewing their year's work.

Professor Rockwood will from now on till end of the school year give the Junior class a special quiz in Chemistry every Wednesday evening at 7 o'clock. Quizzes are coming on with double force as a reminder that only a few more weeks till the end of Medical school year examinations.

The Iowa Legislature is now fully

organized, and no doubt ere long we will hear of large sums of money being asked for by every institution that has its partial or total support by the state. The demands will be many, and the claims will be set forth with different force, according to who are asking. No doubt those that can present their claims the strongest and rustle the hardest will receive the most favorable recognition. It seems to us, however, that no claim can be stronger, nor could any demand be greater, than the needs of the S. U. I. just now, and no time nor energy should be spared to secure a handsome appropriation from the 26th General Assembly.

The hospital is sadly needed, and we do not want to wait two or four years longer, but hope that the nail is hit squarely on the head and the \$50,000 coming forth for a new hospital ready for use next fall. We think that the claims of the Medical Department were fairly and plainly set forth by President Schaeffer in his last report. The outlook is very favorable, judging from the many good reports brought back by the students who made it a special point to talk the matter over with the legislators of their home districts.

Following is the report of the Regents in regard to a Medical and Surgical hospital, in part:

"Surely this cannot fail of recognition as a state need in the minds of all who are keenly alive to the wants of poor and distressed humanity. In our last Biennial Report the matter was so well stated that we can do only good service by reiterating what was then said:

"One of the urgent needs of the University is a hospital building. From the inception of the Medical Department of the University, in 1869, to the present time, hospital facilities have been meager; and, owing to inadequate appropriations by the state, the Board of Regents have found it to be impossible to provide facilities commensurate with the growth and importance of the Medical Department. For more than twenty years the state has been inviting students to come to this school of medicine, instead of seeking such schools in other states; and yet it has neglected to provide such ample hospital facilities as other state schools of medicine furnish for their students. Our only recourse is to the General Assembly, and to that body again this Board presents the case. An ample and well conducted state hospital in close connection with any other state institution on beneficence. In the state there are always hundreds of indigent people who are suffering for medical and surgical treatment, but who are unable to buy it. To such the duty of the state is as plain, as urgent, as it is in the case of the deaf, the dumb, the blind or idiotic. For such the demand for hospital facilities is of prime and economical importance. To heal the indigent or the well provided sick, to place them on their feet again, to restore them to a condition of usefulness to the family community and state, is the province of the hospital herein sought for. In a hospital operated in connection with the Medi-

cal Department of the State University, abundant clinical patients are thus provided, and while the sick are being healed, the blind made to see, the lame restored to usefulness, the student is being instructed in the art of medicine and surgery. The Medical school and hospital are inseparable where the best educational results are sought.

\* \* \* \* \*

"For this building the sum of \$50,000 is recommended, which at present would afford administrative and ward buildings for 104 patients. The University owns and controls a handsome site for such building, central and very convenient in location—a sunny spot that could not be well improved. This plan could be enlarged later so as to double the number of beds at an additional cost of about \$25,000, the administrative and general buildings being provided for in first estimate."

"[The Medical Department, it might be proper to add, has had no appropriation, so far as building or room is concerned, since the year 1881, when the Legislature elected that year made an appropriation for its present building]"

## The Debate.

To-morrow night the Chicago debate will occur at the Opera House. Everything promises a well fought battle, and we sincerely hope that victory may at last perch upon our banners. But no matter how that may be decided, we hope every student who possibly can will attend. As an act of courtesy we owe it not only to our guests and opponents in the debate, but to our men, to furnish a good sized audience. The admission fee is small and cannot pay the entire expense of the contest unless there be a full house. We urge it upon all to be present. Entertainments for other purposes have been liberally patronized and we do not believe a more just cause for patronage could be presented than the one now set forth.

## Basket Ball Game.

The basket ball game between the University of Chicago and S. U. I. Y. M. C. A. teams will be an interesting game and will be hotly contested. The Chicagoans are excellent players and are coming down to "do up" Iowa, but the charge will be met squarely and in earnest. The game will begin promptly at 7:30 on Saturday evening, at the armory, and everyone come and bring your friends. The Butterworth who through some misunderstanding was thought to be the one of Yale fame, is of the same name only, and will act as an official for Chicago.

The team chosen to represent Iowa in the Iowa-Chicago basket ball game is as follows: Cerny and Hutchinson, forwards; Bailey, center; Howell and Freeman, guards; Miller and Donohoe, subs. The contest occurs next Saturday evening at the Armory. Although basket ball is not very generally played in our school, there are, nevertheless, many admirers of the game who are interested in the coming contest. A great deal of expense is incurred by the game, and every one who can should attend.

## The Vidette-Reporter.

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second class matter.

The season is now at hand when the candidates for the base ball team should begin regular work, if we intend to retain the silver bat in our possession. But before regular work can be begun it is necessary that the management for the coming season should be organized. As it is at present the team is without a captain or manager, and the prospects from a financial standpoint are very poor, although there is an abundance of good material in the University from which to form a winning team.

Last year's team met with very good success in the number of games won, but the opening of the present season finds us with no suits on hand and with a considerable deficit in the treasury. The manager has resigned, and the Advisory Board has failed to ratify the team's choice for captain. We believe that no better man can be found for the position of captain than Brownlie, D. '97, and think that if the Athletic Association would take steps for raising the indebtedness and would elect a good business manager, our chances for victory and the silver bat will be unsurpassed. If the University is to retain her interest in athletics we must put a winning base ball team in the field next spring, and to do this it is essential that a good captain and manager be selected to begin work at once.

### Erodelphian.

The Erodelphian program of last Saturday evening, the first one of this term, was shorter than usual. The numbers were all, however, very good.

Miss Lulu Holson introduced the president for the winter term, Miss Clem Otto, who briefly thanked the society for conferring this honor upon her.

Lulu Graff opened the program with a piano solo. The selection was well rendered and merited the encore which it received.

"The Ruggles' Dinner Party" was

the subject of a declamation by May Henry. Miss Henry always speaks well, and her pleasing rendering of this selection proved her ability to bring out humorous situations.

The oration, "Worth of Ideals," by Bertha Blum, was full of beautiful thoughts. From her easy delivery one would have supposed her to be one of Erodelphian's experienced speakers rather than one of the new girls.

Ethel Charlton's declamation concerned another part of the history of the Ruggles family. In contrast to Miss Henry's piece, hers presented a pathetic scene—the death of Carol.

The debate, "Resolved that America has no right to interfere in the boundary dispute between Great Britain and Venezuela," was affirmed by Ethel Perkins and Mary Lytle, and denied by Ethel Seeds and Alta Jones.

The speakers for the affirmative argued that Great Britain and Venezuela were able to take care of themselves, had not even asked the United States for assistance, and that if she interfered when she had no right, war would follow.

Their opponents held that where a strong nation was opposing a weaker it was our duty to protect the one in distress; also that if we did not stand up for our rights, European powers would divide South America among themselves as they did Africa.

The decision was given in favor of the negative.

### The Philomathean Society.

Our young but growing literary society is gradually carving its way to distinction. It held its first session of this winter term last Friday evening, an interesting program was carried out. It seemed as if the holiday pastimes and the kind Xmas reminders had restored to the minds of the speakers the vigor and vim that is only natural to the S. U. I. student.

The program was opened by a speech, well-delivered and witty, by Mr. Peterson. He spoke on the "Past, Present and Future."

The debate, arguing the question that President Cleveland's war message was justifiable from an European standpoint, was well handled and interesting to say the least.

Mr. Fitz opened the debate with a well-prepared argument, outlining the Monroe doctrine and its succeeding history, and presenting his side in such a clear light as to make his opponent's work hard to upset his plea.

The negative side was brought forward by Mr. Grimes who, in an able manner proved, to the apparent satisfaction of the audience, that the Monroe doctrine was not as yet a part of established international law.

Mr. Clay took up the justice of the United States in compelling Great Britain to arbitrate the Venezuela frontier question.

The next speaker on the negative, Mr. Briggs, argued his side with a vigor and vivacity that caused the affirmative to wish for one more chance.

On account of the Iowa-Chicago debate the next program will be given a week from Friday.

It has been announced in the Chicago papers that Frank C. Lowden, a graduate of the Law Department, and the one who delivered the annual address last year before the Law graduates, is about to marry Miss Pullman, the daughter of the multimillionaire manufacturer.

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**Fact and Rumor.**

Hagemann, L. '96, is suffering with the grippe.

President Schaeffer was in Davenport yesterday.

Decker and Miller went to Davenport Wednesday.

Dolly Wickersham, C. '99, is wearing a Pi Phi pledge pin.

Stull, '98, is still unable to attend classes, but is improving.

Pearl Marble, H. M. '98, is suffering from sciatic rheumatism.

Swisher, C. '98, is now able to resume his University work.

Baptista Kirby has been absent several days on account of illness.

Illness has prevented Jean Bishop from returning thus far this term.

Mr. Cantwell enjoyed a brief visit from his mother, Tuesday morning.

Miss Nellie Curran, of Kansas City, is visiting with F. E. Thompson, L. '96.

Florence Ady, C. '99, has returned after a two months' visit in the south.

Simmons, '97, has just returned, illness having prevented an earlier arrival.

Professor Patrick will lecture on "Psychology" at Waterloo Friday evening.

Miss Leah Mills, D. '96, has been unable to attend lectures owing to a severe cold.

Miss Nellie Sheldon is unable to study this week on account of trouble with her eyes.

John Crum has returned to his home in Bedford, Ia., after several days visiting with friends.

Gilke, C. '99, was slightly indisposed the last two days.

Holt C. '99, is suffering from the grippe and is unable to attend classes.

General Oliver Otis Howard visited the University with President Schaefer, Wednesday morning

Lieutenant Vogdes and several officers of the battalion called on Gen. Howard yesterday afternoon.

Gen. Howard attended chapel and visited classes Wednesday. He also favored the Laws with a speech.

Professor Weld will deliver the first of a series of lectures on "Astronomy" at Cedar Rapids Friday evening.

Sophomore Politics was postponed Wednesday because of Professor Loos' absence on an University Extension lecture.

W. J. Tapper, Phar. '96, was called to Monona, Ia., last Thursday, as an important witness in a law suit. He returned Monday night.

The Y. W. C. A's. gave an informal reception at Close Hall, Wednesday afternoon, in honor of Miss Simms. All report a very enjoyable time.

Professor L. G. Weld will deliver a lecture on "Astronomy" in Cedar Rapids Friday evening. This is one of the University Extension lectures.

The students are generally availing themselves of the opportunity to enjoy the ice. The river between the bridges is crowded almost every day.

Dr. Ludwig Simon, C. '91, sails for Munich next Saturday, to study in the hospital there. Dr. Simon is a graduate of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, at New York City.

Timothy Harriman, of Hampton, Ia., arrived here yesterday, stopping off on his way to New York City, to visit his brother Fred, L. '97. He expects to stay until to-morrow night.

Sigworth, '99, who has been taking a special preparatory course for the study of medicine, is now a full fledged "Medic," having entered the Medical Department at the beginning of this term.

A large number of Freshmen enjoyed the lecture given Saturday morning by Lieutenant Vogdes, explaining the action of the rifle. The lecture was very instructive and the Freshmen decidedly edified.

The Pi Phi had an enjoyable spread Tuesday evening at the home of Mabel Foster, marred only for a few minutes by the sudden conflagration of a large shade, which, but for the presence of mind of Miss Clyde Cobb, who grasped the burning shade and carried it out, might have resulted in a serious fire.

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