

The Vidette - Reporter.

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

VOL. 29.

IOWA CITY, IOWA, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1896

NO. 33.

Harvard's Explanation.

The Harvard Crimson has the following comment to make on their team's work for the past season:

"The foot ball team for the season just past has the poorest of any records, as far as scores can show, that have been made in recent years by Harvard elevens. The two most important games were lost, the team was beaten by the B. A. A. eleven and by the Graduates, and Cornell scored against it. Yet there is something beyond the scores to be considered. In the first halves of the Princeton game and the Pennsylvania game, the eleven played a game which none of the other college teams with better records could excel. But in both games Harvard was beaten fairly. The reason, which all agree was that Harvard players had not the physical endurance of their opponents. In both the Princeton and Pennsylvania games man after man was injured and the whole team fell off in its play in the second half. The reason for this lack of strength and endurance is what must be found out. Some believe that the training has been too hard and long. But it has been, in fact, lighter than in past years, and no heavier than the Princeton and Pennsylvania training this fall. The question of how long and how hard the training shall be can safely be left to the coaches, the trainer and the medical advisors. Others think the first eleven should have been chosen earlier, kept more distinct from the second eleven, and drilled for a longer time in team work. The evenness with which many of the candidates were matched and the many injuries to prominent players made the choice of the first eleven difficult; and while it does seem as if it would be better to choose a first eleven earlier and to give them constant care and training as a team, even at the expense of a possible minor mistake in the first choice, yet this question can also best be left to the trainers.

Many other ideas about the Harvard system of training have been held and many comments made. The often heard suggestion that the dampness and fogs arising from the marshes near the field had a bad effect on the players' health and strength, should be carefully considered and its truth or groundlessness determined. At Princeton a practice of strengthening the ankles and knees of each member of the eleven by adhesive plaster or elastic bands, even in ordinary daily practice, is very successful, and might well be tried here. It takes time and cannot of course wholly prevent sprains or wrenched knees, but it makes the chances of serious injury very small. Now, with the season's experiences and lessons fresh in mind, is the time to begin preparations for next year. If all men who expect to try for the team next year will exercise regularly and keep in good condition and training during the intervening time, there will be less likelihood that the team will fail from lack of mere physical strength and endurance."

From Distant Lands.

A recent issue of the Waterloo Times contained the following letter

from I. E. Munger and wife (formerly Miss Nellie Ankeny), which will be read with interest by their many friends:

"On S. S. City of Agra, off the coast of Portugal, Oct. 14, 1896—Dear Ones at Home: The journal letter that I wrote you on the steamship Pavonia has almost reached you and it is quite time to begin another.

"We cabled to Des Moines upon our arrival, with the understanding that they would telegraph you immediately, so you doubtless heard of our safe arrival on Tuesday, Oct. 6. Yes, there are several hours' difference in the time in England and America. We were amused in finding that the cablegram sent in the evening at 9 o'clock would reach New York at about 4 in the afternoon of the same day, or apparently before we sent it. Nellie's mother gave her the money to cable. We will also send word from Calcutta.

"I wrote you a letter on board this ship before sailing and a line to Earl. Liverpool was hardly out of our sight before quite a storm came up, and for two days it was very rough, so much so that Nellie and Mrs. Mason were the only ladies who pretended to come to meals. The others either ate nothing or took their meals in bed.

"We have been sailing along the coast of Portugal for a few days and have enjoyed seeing the mountains with an occasional village, and ships nearly always in sight, one time seeing eleven. Five in one day is all we ever saw before in the other trip, and then only one at a time. This morning about nine o'clock we passed the famous rock of Gibraltar, occupied by the British, the most wonderful natural defense in the world by which the English guard can completely control the Strait of Gibraltar, the entrance from the Atlantic into the Mediterranean.

"We are now speeding quietly along in the great Mediterranean sea, with Spain and her snow-capped Nevadas on the one side, and sunny Africa on the other. Darkest Africa, of which we have heard so much, with her two hundred millions of souls, a country into which we can drop all Europe and North America and then have some space left. It does not seem possible that we are so near this benighted land."

A Proper Movement.

The following from the Washington Post presents a question that is of importance to educators:

"The Harvard Board of Overseers have for a number of years been endeavoring to devise some plan for raising the standard of requirements in English for matriculants at the college. It will be recalled that these guardians of that venerable seat of learning created a sensation—a very decided sensation—not long ago by printing the examination papers handed in by applicants for admission. Of course, the names were not given, but the board resolved to print such papers in the future with the name of the school at which each of the candidates received his training. This threat stirred up a great commotion, for the masters and other officials of some highly popular train-

ing schools knew that they could not afford such an advertisement, even though it did not cost them a cent.

"Several weeks ago the Overseers announced to all concerned that the day of tolerance of bad training in English had passed. It is, therefore, to be expected that an unusual number of applicants will be turned down at the next annual examination, and that there will be shaking up in schools that have been accustomed to send up boys for matriculation who were unable to write good English. And when the turning down begins, will other great institutions of learning open their doors in generous hospitality to the rejected? That is an interesting question. Could any university or college of high standing or high aims afford to make itself an asylum for such refugees? How long could any such institution command the respect of the judicious friends of education if it maintained a low standard as to English, no matter how high its standard might be in other respects?"

"We think this decision by the Harvard Board is an eminently proper movement, and we believe that, instead of offering a welcome to young men rejected at Cambridge for ignorance of English, the other leading institutions will raise their own standards. No young man is fitted for entrance upon a college course until he can read and write English grammatically. He need not be a model in style, but he ought to be able to do much better than the average product of schools that profess to fit students for college. The Hartford Courant heartily endorses the Harvard decision, and recommends Yale to follow the example thus set."

A Public Library.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors held last week, it was decided to formally open the Iowa City Public Library on January 1, 1897. It was also decided to purchase 1,300 volumes as a "starter." Of these 300 will be "juveniles" and the remaining thousand will deal with science, history, travel, art, sociology, etc., and will also include the standard works of fiction from the pens of both American and English authors.

The library will be supplied, also, with the leading magazines and other periodicals, and will always be found a pleasant and profitable expenditure of time to devote an hour or so to reading in the rooms on Iowa Avenue.

The board will feel grateful for all contributions of suitable books, and generous people can look over their libraries and make Christmas offerings that will please and edify the poor—and many other—readers of Iowa City for years to come. Librarian Howell will be at the library after December 15, to receive these gifts.

The hours of the library will be from 9:30 to 12; 1:30 to 5:30, and 7 to 10. Admission will be absolutely free to everybody. No matter whether one is a subscriber or not, he will be welcome. The subscribers have the privilege of voting at the annual business meetings, but that is their only advantage over non-subscribers.—Republican.

Claude Saner Concert.

The following is the program for the concert to be given by Claude Saner at the Presbyterian Church tomorrow evening. As the program shows it will be a rare treat:

PART I.

1. Organ, "Meditation," Capocci
Mr. Schlenker.
2. Violin Selected
Mr. Berryhill.
3. Vocal Selected
Master Saner.
4. Violin, Nocturne No. 7 Chopin
Mr. Van Steenderen.
5. Organ, Marche Funche Chopin
Mr. Schlenker.

PART II.

5. Organ, Symphony xii (two movements) Hayden
Dr. Gilchrist.
7. Vocal, Cujus Aniam Rossini
Master Saner.
8. Violin, duo Spohr
Messrs. Van Steenderen and Carmichael.
9. Vocal Selected
Master Saner.
10. Organ, "Fantastic" Bohner
Dr. Gilchrist.

This concert is for the benefit of the reading room at Close Hall.

An Important Meeting.

Mr. C. T. Studd, of Cambridge, England, who rendered such splendid services this last summer at the Knoxville and Northfield summer schools, and who has had such an influence upon the university life of Great Britain, was induced by some friends while here last summer to return to America this autumn and visit some of the leading college centers of this country. It is a rare privilege to any institution to hear Mr. Studd. This privilege is to be ours. Next Friday he comes to Iowa City to meet the young men. It is to be hoped that through his power as a profound yet simple teacher of spiritual truth that our young men may receive inspiration and courage to take hold more thoroughly of the problem of character-building here in our University. Further and more definite announcement will be made later.

Glee Club.

The Glee Club is an assured thing. For several weeks now twenty young men have been meeting and rehearsing and getting into shape to do for our University what the Oberlin, Champaign, Madison, Ann Arbor, Beloit and Chicago clubs do for their institutions. There is a fine array of talent here. About one hundred men have undergone the test, and the sifting process has left those most suited to a given part for glee club work. A large amount of music has been secured, and every effort will be put forward to turn out a glee club which will be an honor to the University. A home concert toward the end of the winter term and a trip through the best of the Hawkeye cities is the goal for which the boys are working.

The University of Illinois recently laid the corner stone of a fine library hall. The new building will, when completed, have ample space for 150,000 volumes.

The Vidette-Reporter

Issued from The Republican Office on
Washington Street every
TUESDAY, THURSDAY AND SATURDAY
during the Collegiate Year at the
University of Iowa.

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TERMS:

Per year, \$1.25
If not paid before January 1, 1897, 1.50
Single Copy, .08

Office at the Republican Printing Company,
205 Washington street.

The paper will be sent to old subscribers
until ordered stopped and arrearages paid.

Copies for sale and subscriptions taken at
the book stores and at Wieneke's.

Address all communications to
THE VIDETTE-REPORTER,
Iowa City, Iowa.

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

In last Thursday's issue we set forth the need of a University song. We wish now to emphasize it. Our Glee Club is progressing finely, and still we have no S. U. I. song for them. If we watch the glee clubs which make their annual trips through the country, we find that they all have at least one song whose words and music express some degree of that deration, that loyalty, which draws them back to their old college home. Why can we not have a song of this kind? We have the talent to produce not only one but several. We should have songs set to time with a rather slow and measured movement, something the nature of hymns, and songs to tunes as "John Brown's Body." As concerted yelling will help our team on the foot ball field, so will the sound of several hundred voices blending and floating up in some rich University song be a source of inspiration to our representatives in the indoor contests. Would not our debaters and our orators throw themselves into the task of defeating their opponents with greater vim if they heard ringing in their ears the appealing melody of several hundred voices?

The above mentioned issues have already been answered by the production of one University song. As yet we can offer no definite plan of selecting the best productions, but we firmly believe that if we can once get the productions we can easily decide upon a plan for selecting the best. We will try to announce in a few days some definite plan. That matters not, however. Those of us who have any talent in this line of work should begin a song immediately. If it possesses merit the student body will not be long in adopting it. As stated above, one of our number has taken the initiative step. Let others make haste to follow.

President Charles F. Thwing, of Western Reserve College, has an able article in the November North American on "Influence of the College in American Life." The American college is characterized as "A mother of men rather than a nurse of scientists," for it has rendered a service of greater value in training men than in promoting scholarships. The ministry enrolls the largest proportion of college graduates. The large majority of the lawyers of the United States are not college-bred, but every Chief Justice of the United States except one has been a college graduate and more than two-thirds of the associate judges of the Supreme Court, and about two-thirds of the present Circuit Court judges have had the benefit derived from a collegiate course. The great influence of the college in the development of our educational system, in our political achievements, in keeping alive a broad and noble patriotism, in training men to live intellectual lives, and in promoting literature, is pointed out and proved by numerous historical examples.—U. of M. Daily.

The candidates for the Harvard crew are already rowing regularly under the direction of Mr. Lehman, the English coach. The men have recently been rowing in one of the old pairs which has been rigged with English locks and sides with no incline. They also rowed with new oars which have been made like the English oars, with narrow blades and greater leverage inboard. Davy, the boat builder, is building a shell which will embody Mr. Lehman's ideas. At present Mr. Lehman is paying special attention to the body work of the men. His stroke has a greater swing fore and aft, but with a shorter slide, and greater emphasis on the catch, than the Harvard stroke of last year. The oars also remain longer in the water, and the whole stroke is most powerful. The men are taking a great interest in the work and will work steadily from now on.—Ex.

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 Examinations begin Tuesday, Dec. 15.
 The Zets initiated Geestman Friday night.
 The authors of the Handbook report progress.
 The Kappas had their pictures taken Saturday.
 Heps sat for their picture for the Annual yesterday.
 The Hawkeye Board had their picture taken last week.
 Miss Dorcas' many friends are glad to see her about again.
 Claude Saner at the Presbyterian church to-morrow night.
 Wm. A. Graham recently made a business trip to Cedar Rapids.
 Mr. F. M. Powell, of Glenwood, Ia., visited classes Monday morning.
 Hobbs and Roach have a new hour for callers—3 o'clock in the morning.
 Miss Dilts, who has been visiting Cora Dorcas, returned home yesterday.
 Examination schedules are out and may be obtained at Professor Loos' office.
 Philomatheans meet at Werts' studio Wednesday at 12:30 for Annual picture.
 The local alumni association will hold a social in the society halls to-night.
 I. J. Hamiel, L. '95, and wife, visited Iowa City friends the latter part of last week. Mr. Hamiel is County Clerk-elect of Cedar County.

CALL ON BLOOM & MAYER FOR CLOTHING AND HATS.

The Pi Kappa Psi initiated Wm. A. Kauffman, '98, and J. Alexander, '00, Friday night.

The editorial staff of the QUILL expects to have their picture taken for the Annual next Friday.

Gideon W. Woodward, '86, and wife, are missionaries under the Indian Alliance, at Ahmedabad, India.

A Paisley, '97, returned Sunday night from the National Convention of Phi Delta Theta, at Philadelphia.

The trusses supporting the auditorium floor of Close Hall have been undergoing repairs the past week or two.

Lieutenant Vogdes will soon finish his lectures to the commissioned officers of the battalion on U. S. A. Regulations.

G. N. Bauer addressed the young men's meeting, Sunday afternoon, in a very interesting manner upon the subject "Doubt."

Owing to trouble in securing the Armory the foot ball party has been postponed until the first Friday evening of next term.

Chancellor and Mrs. McClain entertained the Beta Theta Pi's yesterday afternoon. The reception was given in honor of Dr. F. W. Gunsaulus, who is a member of the Beta fraternity.

Professor Wilcox lectured at Waverly last Friday night in the University Extension Course. His subject was "What Rome Means"—and it is a subject upon which long study and research have made it possible to dilate exhaustively.

Iowa's boy soprano sings here Dec. 9. The Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. have at last made arrangements with Claude Saner, the 12-year old singer, who has captivated audiences in all the larger cities and recently set Chicago in a whirl.

The second lecture in the course, given by Dr. F. W. Gunsaulus, was a treat and the Opera House was packed. His subject was "A Chapter in the History of American Liberty," instead of "Savonarola," which had been previously announced.

The Riverside Magazine has a very interesting four column article, entitled "An Evening with Octave Thanet." It is by Mrs. Isadore Baker of Iowa City, and pleasingly describes the reading given by Miss French for the benefit of the S. U. I. Athletic Association last year.

Notice.

All members of the regular foot ball team and all subs are requested to meet in Professor Loos' room in the Central building, at 3:30 o'clock on Friday, December 11, to elect the captain of next year's team. According to custom, those entitled to vote at this election are only those who have been taken with the team on some trip this fall.

GEO. M. PRICE, Mgr.

Four-fifths of the students of Cornell come from the public schools. The average age of students entering Cornell is twenty years, eight months, while that of the student entering the College of Law is twenty-one years, six and three-quarter months, or two years older than the average age of those entering the College of Civil Engineering. The above figures have been prepared by President Shurman.—Ex.

The first Carlisle Indian team was organized three years ago, with no coach and trainer.



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The Lec

The Opera Tuesday evening assembled to greet the S. U. I. Chancery speaker, who is the His

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