

The Vidette - Reporter.

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

VOL. 31.

IOWA CITY, IOWA, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1898.

NO. 5.

DR. SCHAEFFER DEAD.

The President of the University Passed Away Friday Morning.

The students, members of the Faculty and citizens of Iowa City are saddened by the death of him who has been so long at the head of the University. For eleven years Dr. Schaeffer was connected with the institution, and his taking away is a misfortune such as we have never known in the history of the school. The suddenness of his death makes the loss even more keenly felt. The groups of students and citizens, and the passing of expressions of sympathy and regret, bespeak the deep respect and esteem with which the President was held.

HIS LIFE.

Charles Ashmead Schaeffer, the son of Rev. Dr. Schaeffer, was born in Pennsylvania in 1843. He attended the University of Pennsylvania, where he enrolled in the classical department, and received his degree of A. M. in 1861. He then entered the Lawrence Scientific School, at Harvard. He spent two years at that place. His excellent work while here won for him an enviable reputation among the professors. He next obtained a position as instructor in chemistry at Union College, New York. He remained here for two years, and then left for Europe to continue his studies along his special line. First, he took a course in chemistry at the University of Gottingen. This institution conferred upon him the doctor's degree. He then spent a year at Berlin, and several months at Paris. Upon his return home he accepted the chair of analytical chemistry at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. For eighteen years he held this position, and his reputation as a scholar was known throughout all of the schools in America. He was Vice-President of the University and Dean of the Faculty, in which offices he displayed the phenomenal executive ability which has since characterized his work.

HIS WORK AT S. U. I.

Dr. Schaeffer was elected President of the State University of Iowa by the Board of Regents, March 30, 1887, and was inaugurated in the following June. His work in the University is hardly appreciated until we reflect upon the growth that has attended it since he came here.

An extract from the State Press, printed at the time of Dr. Schaeffer's election, is worthy of copy: " * * He certainly has a decided executive gift, both as a presiding officer, as manager within the University, and in maintaining friendly relations with parties outside with whom he has to do. Professor Schaeffer is a man of fine presence and pleasing address. He is generally liked by the Faculty and students and the public."

The general prosperity of the state may partially account for the growth

of the University, but undoubtedly great credit is due to our late President, for the appropriations that have been received, the buildings that have been erected, and the general prosperity that have been visited upon the school. His task was hard indeed. The University was hampered in many departments by poor equipments.

great educational institutions of America."

A survey of the improvements that have been made during his administration will show his efficient work.

The enrollment in all departments in 1887 was 571, ten years later it was 1,331, or a gain of 230 per cent in a single decade. The total number of graduates in all departments prior to 1887 was 2,643. The number of degrees conferred during the next ten years by President Schaeffer was 2,404, or a number nearly equal to that conferred in the previous thirty years.

In 1887 there were 30 professors and 18 instructors in the different departments of the University. At present there are 45 professors and 56 instructors. There has been an increase of 6 professors and 21 instructors in the

an, Forum, and the Hammond Law Senate have been organized. The Debating League and S. U. I. Lecture Bureau have been formed.

In semi-literary work the Tabard, Polygon and Ivy Lane societies have grown up.

For special investigation and study, the Baconian, the Whitney Society, the Engineering Society, and the Political Science Club, hold regular meetings.

During these years the University has won victories in contests with other schools. In debate, its record has been phenomenal. In athletics it has won many a meet, and victories have been achieved on gridiron and diamond that rank S. U. I. with the Universities of the West when athletics are considered.

Dr. Schaeffer was especially interested in the training of students in forensic work, and last year offered the Twenty Dollar prize for efficiency in extemporaneous speaking.

This in brief is a record of the progress under his administration. The detailed supervision of the affairs of the six separate and distinct departments; keeping harmony between hundreds of students; overseeing the expenditure of thousands of dollars, this has been his mission. At present, surrounded on every side by lugubrious scenes and thoughts, it is impossible to measure his real worth. We all recognize the fact that the University has sustained a great loss, and that it will probably be a long time before another such a man is found to take the place of our late President.

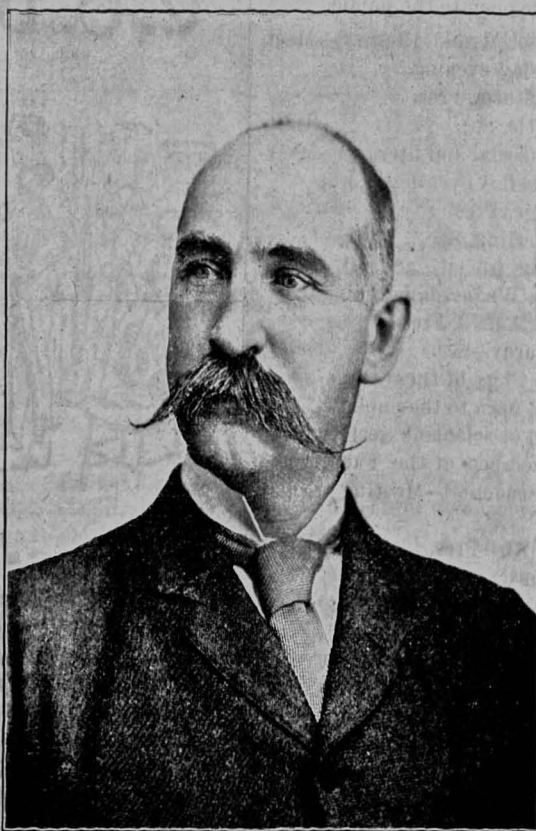
HIS SHORT ILLNESS.

President Schaeffer was about the duties of his office on Tuesday, September 13th, but felt unwell all that day. In the evening he was suddenly taken with great pains, and during the days following his condition often changed, but none considered him to be dangerously ill. The trouble was gastritis, with inflammation of the vicera adjacent to the stomach. The local physicians called to their aid eminent specialists from Chicago and Davenport. After spending Wednesday night at his bed side, they abandoned hope, and in the morning a dispatch was sent summoning the President's daughter, Mrs. Fuller, from her home in Washington (D. C.). He sank rapidly throughout the day, and by afternoon word was sent to the Faculty that the end was near, and at 3:45 o'clock in the morning of September 23, "God's finger touched him and he slept."

When the sad news became known the flag was raised at half-mast and all University exercises were suspended. All the buildings were draped. Telegrams were sent to the Governor and members of the Board of Regents, and Board of Control. The funeral will be in the Episcopal church Sunday at 3 o'clock.

Dr. Schaeffer leaves a wife and three children—Gertrude, George and Elizabeth, the latter now Mrs. Fuller.

The President was a member of the Episcopal Church, and a vestryman of the local church, and a member of the standing committee of the Diocese of Iowa. He was also trustee of Griswold College and St. Katherine's Seminary, of Davenport.



CHARLES ASHMEAD SCHAEFFER.

OBSTACLES CONFRONTING HIM.

The appropriations were far from adequate. The regular income was all too small. The situation of the school was in some respects unfortunate. Iowa City had a hard name in certain parts of the state, and parents hesitated to send their children to such a place. These were the conditions that confronted him. It was against such odds that he started out to place the University of Iowa on a equality with those of other states. In speaking of President Schaeffer, Secretary Haddock, who has been connected with S. U. I. for over thirty years, said: "He was the most successful business manager and educator the State University ever had, and to whose great business tact and genius the University owes much of its present high standing among the

Collegiate department alone.

Four buildings have been erected during the period. The Chemical Laboratory was built in '92, the Homeopathic Medical, and Dental Departments in '94, and the University Hospital in '97.

In 1887 all the work in the Natural Science department was carried on by Professors Calvin and Macbride, with no assistants. Now there are four professors and assistants to each. The collections and equipments in the laboratories have doubled and trebled in value.

In '87 the Bachelor degree was the highest conferred. Now the Master's degree in Arts and Sciences are annually given, and the Doctor's degree is offered.

In forensic lines the University has made great progress. The Philomathi-

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THE VIDETTE REPORTER,
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Our Loss.

Just as the University opens and the work of another year is begun, we are met by a loss—incalculable in its unexpectedness, inestimable in its greatness. We can hardly realize that he who was about his duties and greeting the students upon their return, less than two weeks ago, now lies in his eternal sleep.

It was known for several days that President Schaeffer was sick, but not until Thursday afternoon did the students and Faculty learn of his dangerous condition, and Friday morning they heard with saddening hearts that he had been called to rest. The flag which hung at half mast from the old Central Building but symbolized the drooping spirits of many friends.

When our library burned we could count the loss in numbers of volumes and their value in dollars and cents, but the taking away of our President inflicts upon us a misfortune, the full meaning of which we can at present neither realize nor comprehend.

The executive ability of Dr. Schaeffer and his untiring labors in behalf of the University are attested by its unprecedented growth and prosperity during the past eleven years. His work has been invaluable to the school, his name has been an honor to the state. As an officer he was faithful and conscientious, as a man he was esteemed and loved by all who knew him. We would that we could more fittingly show the value of his work in the past, and express more fully our recognition of the great loss that has befallen the University.

To the intimate friends and relatives we extend the heartfelt sympathy of the student body. Your loss is our loss.

Directory.

For the benefit of the new students, we publish a directory of the various organizations of the University and their officers:

Zetagathian Society—Friday evenings in South Hall.

J. W. Ham, President.
H. V. Wright, Secretary.

Irving Institute—Friday evenings in North Hall.

W. W. Loomis, Pres.
R. J. Springer, Sec.

Erodolphian Society—Alternate Saturday evenings in North Hall.

Luella Eustis, Pres.
Lulu Graff, Sec.

Hesperian Society—Alternate Saturday evenings in South Hall.

Georgia Adams, Pres.
Annie Gow, Sec.

Philomathian Society—Friday evenings in History Room.

E. E. Blythe, Pres.
Otto Brackett, Sec.

Forum (Law Society)—Friday evenings in English Room.

E. J. Piersol, Pres.
W. R. Holley, Sec.

The Hammond Law Senate—Friday evenings in Professor Loos' room.

T. P. Harrington, Pres.
Mina G. Talbott, Sec.

All programs of the above named societies are open to the public.

Tabard (social and literary)—Meetings Thursday evening.

Fred B. Sturm, Pres.
Mary Lytle, Sec.

Polygon (social and literary)—Meeting on Thursday evenings.

Edna Page, Pres.
Edith Sterling, Sec.

Ivy Lane (social and literary)—Meeting on Wednesday evenings.

Chas. McDonald, Pres.
Helen Hardy—Sec.

The meetings of these three societies are not open to the public.

Baconian (a scientific society composed of members of the Faculty and graduate students)—Meeting Friday evenings.

A. G. Smith—Pres.
G. L. Houser, Sec.

Die Germania (for German students)—Meets every week.

La Nouvelle Consette (for French students)—Meets every Wednesday afternoon.

The Engineering Society—for benefit of Engineering students.

Ridgway Club—Scientific.
Dalton Club—For students of Chemistry.

S. U. I. Glee Club—
Fred Bailey, Leader.

S. U. I. Mandolin Club—
E. H. Jayne, Leader.

S. U. I. Band—
O. A. Kuck, Director.

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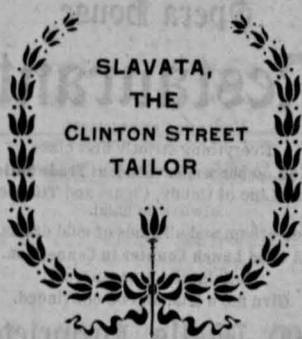
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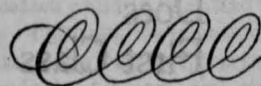
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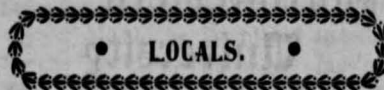
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FACT AND RUMOR.

A. B. Williams, L. '99, has returned. Oct. 7th is the date fixed for the Fall Field Meet.

Ben Swisher and Rush White went to Cornell Friday.

Wilson, Junior Law, went to Mt. Vernon last evening.

Willoughby, L. '99, returned to the University yesterday.

A son has been born to Professor and Mrs. A. V. Sims.

The foot ball team practiced this morning at 6 o'clock.

Cantwell, M. '01, spends Sunday at his home in Davenport.

H. G. Plum leaves for Columbia University to-morrow evening.

The tennis tournament has been postponed until further notice.

McCarthy and Hospers have been elected to membership to Irving Institute.

Out of respect to our departed President the foot ball men did not practice yesterday.

A. L. Rule, L. '00, was formerly battalion adjutant of the second battalion of the 52d Iowa.

E. P. Bettenga, C. '97, is located at Holstein, Iowa, as principal of the schools at that place.

All members of the Law department will meet at the Central steps to-morrow at 2:00 p. m.

The formation of the Y. M. C. A. Bible classes on Mission Study and Apostolic History has been postponed until further notice.

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F. A. Johnson, D. '98, is also located at Holstein. He is kept busy with his increasing practice there.

The foot ball team, assisted by Mrs. Ridgeway, will arrange the decorations at the Episcopal church Sunday.

None of the forensic societies presented programs last evening, but several held short business meetings.

Physical Instructor Bailey, of the Y. M. C. A. will form evening classes as soon as a sufficient number desire them.

Dean Currier requests that all the Freshmen meet and march together with the other classes in the procession to-morrow.

Laurence, D.ex-'98, who has been located at Armstrong, Ia., for the past year, has returned to take up work in the Senior class.

As soon as the Hand Book is out the President of the Athletic Union will publish the amounts contributed to athletic by each class.

Wheatre and Nervig, of the Medical department, and Mosier and Coy, Freshmen Colleates, drove to Cornell yesterday morning.

The Irvings have elected W. C. Barclay and M. V. Boddy to places upon the Minnesota debate, vacancies having been made by the absence from school of Mr. Curtis and Mr. Chamberlain.

Attention Students!

The following arrangements have been made by the committees in charge of the funeral of President Schaeffer. There will be no procession from the house to the church. All those who desire to march to the cemetery will assemble at the Episcopal Church a little before 3 o'clock—the hour for the ceremonies. The battalion will lead the procession, followed by the classes of the various departments in the order given in the catalogue.

The President of the Senior class in each department will act as marshal for all the classes of that department.

The classes will form at their respective buildings and march to the church. The order there formed will be as follows:

- Battalion.
- Collegiate students.
- Law students.
- Medical students.
- Homeopathic students.
- Dental students.
- Pharmaceutical students.
- Hearse.
- Mourners.
- Faculty.
- Citizens, etc.

If possible, all students should wear the colors of their department, to avoid confusion in forming the procession.

Collegiates Notice.

All students of the Collegiate department will assemble at the Central Building to-morrow, at 2:15, to march in a body to the church.

CLASS PRESIDENTS.

Notice.

The Y. M. C. A. men's meeting for Sunday afternoon is postponed.

Battalion Attention!

It is requested that all members of the Battalion appear in uniform at the Armory, Sunday afternoon, at 2:15. As far as possible last year's officers will have charge. Lieutenant Ely is in town and will probably be in command.




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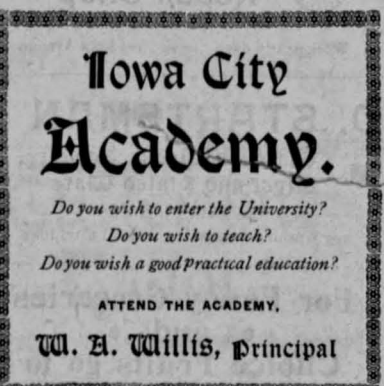
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