ATHLETIC MANAGEMENTS.

NEW SYSTEM OF CONDUCTING ATHLETIC AFFAIRS AT MICHIGAN AND YALE.

At two great universities, Michigan and Yale, there is now being successfully attempted the establishment of athletic associations or organizations similar to those which have come into existence in the colleges and universities of Europe. The Michigan organization is under the general control of the regents, who have appropriated $1,200 for its support. The board of trustees of Yale has started a similar organization, under the direction of the president, secretary and treasurer. The men of both universities are looking forward to this new era with the greatest interest.
A New Oratorical League.

For some time past we have been hearing rumors of a new oratorical league in process of formation in the West. Reference to our exchanges has brought intelligence that several western state institutions are thrumming over themselves to get into it. The Vitalite of the University of South Dakota, devotes a heavy editorial to the project and hopes that all the universities who are "held will enter the league with enthusiasm and thus insure its success." The students at the University of South Dakota became quite enthusiastic over the matter themselves and held a big mass meeting of professors, students and alumni, with excursions rates on all railroads, at which it was decided to go into the new league with both feet. Reference to the exchange from the University of Kansas betrays a somewhat similar state of excitement. We presume that North Dakota and Missouri will all sink into the band wagon as soon as possible. We have not seen any account of Minnesota's being in haste to join the league. Minnesota already belongs to a very good sort of a league in its way, the Northern Oratorical. We are of the opinion that news from Minneapolis will be rather slow in coming.

The proposition that Iowa join the league was received by the Oratorical Association a week or so ago and referred to a committee which will probably report to-morrow. The proposition has not received much serious consideration at Iowa and can hardly be accepted. The primary purpose of the formation of this league as stated in the prospectus is to enable the Universities along the Missouri river to escape from being annually cheated in a financial way by the denominational schools which infest their respective districts. No such conditions exist here since the University of Iowa belongs to the Northern Oratorical League, and couldn't exist if Iowa belonged to the state oratorical association, because the members of this, with two possible exceptions, always treat the others fairly in every way at the contests. The primary motive of this League can not at all appeal to such institutions as Iowa and Minnesota.

Iowa is a member in good standing of the Northern Oratorical League and while she has never won first place, which has with few exceptions always gone to Michigan, she has several times attained mention among the three highest, and even last year when she received last in everything, stood next below Michigan. If there is any oratorical ability which we want to send forth to compete with other universities, the Northern Oratorical League offers the best instrument obtainable. There to win is highest honor, there to lose is no disgrace.

In the proposed league Iowa and Minnesota would be the largest institutions and the ones over which it would be a considerable honor for the others to win. Minnesota and Iowa would, in fact, leave everything to lose and nothing to gain in the proposed league.

The only way in which the Oratorical Association can hope to obtain a chair of oratory in this instruction is to do its best under present conditions. To withdraw from the Northern Oratorical League because there is no chair of oratory here that will enable students to compete with equally equal advantages with some of the other universities in the league would not be doing the best thing for our students, or for the University. To go before the regents asking for an appropriation for a chair of oratory and arguing its necessity from the fact that Iowa had withdrawn from the Northern Oratorical League and entered a minor association, would not greatly appeal to that body.

The proposed League has nothing for Iowa. Our best plan would be to do the best we can in the Northern Oratorical League with what advantages we have. And then, per chance, after we have de-manded of the local judges that they shall admire a practical, decent, conventional style of delivery, as above polished elocution or polished barrooming, we may send forth an orator who shall carry off the highest honors even as Long of Oberlin last year.

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