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THE CENTENNIAL CLASS.—ACADEMIC COMMENCEMENT.

Oh! would that I could wield
The poet's magic power,
Could dip my pen in liquid light,
To paint the coming hour.
I'd tell how youths, and maidenly fair,
Possess'd of vigor's might,
Will rise with eloquence sublime,
To vindicate the right.
How she, from ancient lore will call
The thoughts to guide her mind,
Re-set them in rich garature,
More polished, more refined.
How he, with scientific eye,
Will scale the pathless height,
Where mind's elastic thought can soar,
With infinite delight,
Will rest awhile on burning Mars,
On Neptune's chilly breast,
Embracing intervening worlds,
The Comet's shining crest,
And garner, through ethereal fields,
Rich truths from Nature's plan,
Where words on words successive rise,
Beyond the view of man;
Theap gracefully descends the Earth,
Her treasures to unfold.
Explore her secret, hidden depths,
'Till naught is left untouched.
How every plant, each blade of grass,
The pebble by the strand,
Are links in the eternal chain,
Forged by Divine command.
(Thin wondrous architectual whole,
With plastic nature clad,
Evolves this all important truth,
The "underworld is mad.")
How in some minds poetic sparks,
The gentle muse's fan,
Then lure them up the sacred Mount,
Their mysteries to scan.
How other minds take other themes,
Each brilliant in display,
Each studded o'er with gems of thought,
At Wisdom's feet to lay.
Then how with proud but modest mien,
The exercises through,
These youths and maidens fair receive
The charts for merit due.
Then let me, ere the curtain falls,
For them a blessing shower.
Let not temptations round them throng,
Misfortunes o'er them wave.
Oh! guide and guard from every harm,
Protect them in thy might,
And steer, Oh! God! their youthful barque,
'Et her troubled seas aright.

LETTER FROM PROF. EGGLESTON.

HEIDELBERG, May 20, 1876.

DEAR FRIENDS: In writting this letter to my friends among the students of the State University, and particularly to those whom I know personally, I would have it understood that I think of every one individually, and address myself, mentally, to each one personally. The impossibility to find time to write to each one separately, must excuse me for writing to all collectively.

I think a few remarks about the German Universities will prove interesting to you. I have visited thus far five, but only of two or three can I speak en connaissance de cause, as the French say, or "from personal experience" as we say in America. These are the Universities of Berlin and of Heidelberg. Berlin represents the highest and severest form of German University Education. That form is becoming unpopular, and the effect is seen in the decrease of numbers. Among the universities that profit by the unpopularity of Berlin, the first is that of Leipzig which, as regards the total
attendance, ranks next to Berlin, the latter showing a
sum total of 4105 students for the Winter semester, the
former of 3032. In reality Leipzig has a higher num-
ber of "regular" students, i.e. such as have matricu-
lated, and study for a degree, Berlin showing a total
number of 2143 of such, while Leipzig presents the
almost incredible number of 2925 of regular students.
By the side of these two greatest universities, Heidel-
berg University appears small indeed. Last winter the
total number of its learners amounted to 488, which is
a severe falling off as compared with former years.
The fact is Heidelberg has ceased to be the fashionable
University, Leipzig having assumed that place. The
city of Leipzig is now one of the finest in Europe. It
compares favorably with Paris, and, being smaller, is
far more agreeable for a student and ordinary mortal,
than Paris. The opportunities for social and artistic en-
joyment are proportionately greater in Leipzig than in
any other city in Europe, perhaps with the exception
of Munich.

As I have gone into statistics thus far, I may as well
add a few more. The attendance of some of the lead-
ing Universities of Germany during last Winter semes-
ter was, in

Munich, - - 1232, with 116 professors and assistants.
Breslau, - - 1141, " 107 " " "
Wurzburg, - 1019, " 67 " " "
Gottingen, 1005, " 115 " " "
Halle, - - 888, " 96 " " "
Tubingen, - 830, " 84 " " "
Bonn, - - 736, " 100 " " "
Strassburg, - 707, " 90 " " "
Konigsberg, 615, " 83 " " "
Heidelberg, - 488, " 104 " " "
Erlangen, - 429, " 54 " " "
Jena, - - 459, " 73 " " "
Berlin, - - 4105, " 197 " " "
Leipzig, - 3032, " 156 " " "

The seven other strictly German universities have an
attendance of from 153 (Rostock), to 436 (Munster),
and of professors and assistants about the average of
those given above.

The entirely German, but politically Austrian, Uni-
versity of Vienna, had 3800 students and 238 professors
and assistants. It will be seen that there is about one
instructor for every 114 students, but this proportion is
only nominal (and not only on account of that half
student who, of course is nominal), because the assis-
tants as p Richard docent have but very few hearers, the
students crowding mostly to those professors who have
an established reputation, or whose lectures must be
heard. Thus, for instance, in law the regular professor
who reads (this is the German way of saying lectures,)
on the " Pandects" is sure to have his room crowded
no matter how dull he may be. The students that
don't like him will prefer to go to another university
rather than attend the same lectures, which they must
hear, with a young professor who has not yet established
his reputation. In this way there is often a great lack
of room in some lectures, and a great abundance in others.
In medicine and theology it is just so. It is a little dif-
ferent in the department of philosophy, that is those
branches not included in Medicine, Law and Theology.
The philosophical faculty is the largest, because almost
all other specialties are represented in it, particularly
the languages, the natural sciences, mathematics;
economical science and those branches that deal with
the mind etc.

At Heidelberg there are specialists who instruct in
most known languages. One professor lectures on Latin
grammar. The way he talks about Latin would be all
Greek, I fear, to a good many of our Seniors. University
grammar means something very different from
gymnasium or college grammar. Another professor
accepts Greek in the same way. There is a professor for
the English, one for the French, besides several assist-
ants, who teach these languages and also the Italian.
Then there is a very distinguished professor for Sanscrit,
Russian, Arabic and Syriac. In my opinion the most
distinguished of the professors of languages is profes-
sor Karl Bartsch, the principal professor of modern
languages, who is recognized to be the most learned
European scholar, as regards the older literatures of
France and Germany. I find his instruction exceedingly
valuable and interesting, and that is a great deal more
than I can say of a good many others, whose lectures I
attended long enough to find out that a week's solid
reading and study in my own room would give me more
light on the subject, than the monotonous and incredi-
ibly tiresome discourse of the professor. This lecturing
is a good deal of a humbug. It is, however, a necessary
humbug here, and no worse than a good deal of our
American text-book recitation. A live man will have
success with either system; but, in my opinion, neither
the one nor the other is the really proper way to advance
students. The personality and information of the pro-

fessor must be regarded as of the greatest importance.
This is not done by the mechanical text-book recitation;
but, on the other hand, the individuality and spontane-
ous efforts of the student are no less important things,
and these receive no proper attention by the lecture sys-
tem. I was pleased to learn that these views of mine,
which I have entertained a long time, are also those of
some of the most experienced instructors in Berlin and
here. In the college proper, i.e., in the German gym-
nasium, there is no lecturing at all; and the instruction
there, most of it being a happy medium between text-
book work and individual teaching, is perhaps the most
perfect that can be found anywhere. As all the students
of the university are graduates of the college, the lecture
system there has not quite as many bad effects as it must
necessary have with imperfectly prepared students.

Heidelberg ought to be a favorite place for students,
and I can scarcely account for the falling off of its num-
bers, unless it is caused by the greater rigor now ob-
erved in the examinations for graduation. Formerly a
good many doctors of laws; and philosophy were made here, of students and others coming from other countries, particularly England, on rather slight grounds. This has been changed. A rigid examination is required of all; and such an examination, before the entire faculty, and in public, is a trial but few care to undergo unless tolerably well prepared. The city is most beautifully situated, and just now presents a delightful aspect. It extends on a rather narrow strip of land, between the river Neckar and a chain of hills of considerable height. These hills rise immediately back of the last possible street of the town, and being clad with richest verdure of trees and shrubbery, form a most magnificent setting for the place. The chief attraction is the Schloss, an ancient castle in ruins, but otherwise well preserved, surrounded by one of the finest parks that can be seen, and from which fine foot-paths—part way even an excellently kept wagon road—lead up to the summits of the neighboring hills. The Schloss is regarded as the finest ruin in Europe, next to the Alhambra, so well known to the "Irving's" and others. Had I something of the magic power of Irving, I would try to give you an idea of this remarkable situation, but I'll rather not weary your patience by an attempt, that would, at best, give you a very distorted idea of the reality. In the Schloss park almost the first thing that struck me was a gigantic evergreen, that bore a familiar look. I stepped up to it to read the name, which is found on every tree there that is not absolutely common. I read: "Abies Balsam Fera, Nord-Amerika." That is our common balsam fir, of which there are so many, and one near Iowa City. I went a little farther, and this time I recognized at once the American tulip tree, "Liviodendron Tulipifera." I continued my walk, and, lo! "Acer saccharinum, Nord-Amerika," strikes my eye. Finally, a "Platanus occidentalis," that is, an American button-wood, invites my attention; and not far from it, at the entrance to the "concert place," a splendid specimen—one of the largest I have ever seen—of "Acer Dasy-carpus,"—our common white or soft maple—meets me, and makes me almost shout for joy. For, of all things, a soft maple; so much abused by some of my friends in America, would have been the last thing I could have expected to find here. I found many other specimens from America, before I left the park in order to ascend one of the highest hills—the "Königstuhl,"—the top of which I reached a little before sunset. There is a stone tower up there, some sixty feet high, with a staircase inside, built for the purposes of the trigonometrical survey, but now used extensively by tourists, as from its top one has a view of rare beauty across the hills and valleys, the shining river, the picturesque castle, the silent city, and to the far-off plain, and the mountain chain of Alsace.

The next day I explored the library. The experience in the Schloss park was repeated here. I found every American author I could think of, represented. I found every one of Henry C. Carey's works in the original, and several translations; some of Judge Story's works, (I believe they are all here,) even his lecture before the Phi Beta Kappa Society: Irving's works, Bryant's, etc.; all these in English. It seemed to me that there are as many English works in the Heidelberg University library as there are in L. S. U. library; and so of other languages, French, Italian, Spanish. The books are arranged with reference to subjects, not with reference to language, for here, as in every university, people think that a University library is mainly for such as know how to use it, and only secondarily for such as don't know yet what a university library is intended to be.

I must bring this to an abrupt close, as I find that I have already written an unmerrifully long letter.

Kindest regards to all my friends—male and female, old and young—and my best wishes for the welfare of our beloved institution, and all that are connected with it. From your sincere and faithful friend,

C. A. Eggert.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

From our Special Correspondent.

In obedience to an edict from the editorial sanctum of the Reporter, (and a no less authoritative mandate would warrant me in the undertaking,) I, shall try to write "a letter from Washington." From our nation's capital, from the seat of government, to which and from which are carried the sentient and motor nervous impulses of our political system; from perhaps the most beautiful city of the American continent, sleeping peacefully in the lap of its green hills, refreshing the eye and delighting the ear with the cool shade of its parks and the soothing plash of its fountains, while the white dome of the Capitol towers skyward from its midst; from the city whose name, first made illustrious by the Father of his country, is now, by his fame and its own, written on every page of our national annals. From such a city, and such surroundings, what can I say that shall not seem trite and inadequate?

We used to discuss in our literary society, the question whether the capitol should be removed to the Mississippi valley. If we had been able to see this city, adapted and devoted as it is to the purposes of the government, these massive buildings of granite, and ranging from the Ionic simplicity and massive grandeur of the Treasury, to the modern elegance and grace of the State Department building, the vast extent and almost incomprehensible intricacy of the machinery necessary for the government of forty millions of people, scattered over our broad territory; if we had seen and understood these things, we should have been content to leave the question of removal to a remote posterity. For us and our century the capital of our nation will be Washington. And this honor is enough to make it the most interesting city in our land. Others may press forward in rivalry for supremacy in population, commerce, wealth. Washington vies with none, but stands apart, unique and unapproachable. Along these streets
have walked the heroes and demi-gods of our nation, before they were transplanted from the common-place existence of our every-day world to the Olympian heights of history. In houses scattered here and there, some modest, some magnificent, lived and toiled those, the results of whose lives and labors are interwoven into the fabric of our government.

The first effect of acquaintance with these sights and surroundings is to produce disappointment; and so, too, with the men. We have invested them with heroic virtues and vices, and come to find that they eat, drink and sleep, talk, laugh, dress, and behave themselves like the rest of us poor mortals. When we find them with the same little blemishes and the same modest excellencies as common men, we are disenchanted, and tear them down from their high pedestal, and cast them in the dust. It is only on dispassionate reflection that we begin to discover their real, as distinct from their fictitious greatness.

And in truth we have as great and as good men as we ever had. There are no Websters, no Clayes; there is no more a Summer; but the great principles which called forth their oratory are set at rest. The questions now needing consideration are of a more practical, though no less vital character. To deal with these we have patient, conscientious, laborious, careful statesmen, 'in whose hands the fate of the government is still safe.

One suggestion more, and I am done. There is a wide spread opinion among the people that public officials are, as a rule, corrupt and inefficient. If this was merely the opinion entertained by one political party of the other, it would not be of so much importance, but the opinion is entertained by many people in regard to all public men. But it is a great injustice, a great mistake. There are sad instances of moral turpitude, of yielding to temptation; but if the best men from the best communities of our excellent State were selected to occupy our public positions, I doubt if they would prove on trial to be any more honest, any more laborious and painstaking, than are the present occupants of public offices. I think we should acknowledge this, and take courage. Neither in ability or integrity are our public men inferior to their predecessors. If the leaders seem less pre-eminent, it is because the average of their associates is higher, and acknowledged superiority is more difficult of attainment.

E. McC.

DARTMOUTH COLLEGE.—The graduating class numbers 69. The average expenses of each member for the whole course amounts to $1,950; the greatest amount expended by one man was $4,000, and the smallest $1,200. The average age of the seniors is 22 years and two months; oldest member, 50 years. Total earned by the members during college course, $37,229; most earned by one man, $1,200; 32 intend to study law, 10 will become teachers, 9 enter the university, 3 study medicine, 2 journalism.
proud of, much to criticise, much to improve. As members of the Alumni, we pledge ourselves, shoulder to shoulder, faithfully to labor for a realization of all the most hopeful may anticipate, or the most ardent desire.

With this number the present editorial corps lay aside the shears and pen, resign the tripod, and retire to the obscurity of private life. We do so with a profounder respect for the arduous labors performed by our predecessors, and a kindlier feeling of charity for their shortcomings, than we ever before entertained. As to the measure of success that has attended our labors, we leave others to judge. We entered upon the discharge of our duties with a firm resolve to perform them faithfully, and with a high ideal of what a college journal should be; and rather indistinct ideas of the methods, and difficulties of their realization. To edit a paper well requires the best thoughts and concentrated efforts of able minds. We have been able to devote to it only an hour now and then, snatched from our all-absorbing studies.

In our first editorial we expressed the hope that the different classes interested would constitute themselves contributors and correspondents, and permit us to devote our time and energies to the work of editing the paper. That hope has not been realized. Yet we firmly believe that it should be, and that the Reporter will never reach its zenith of perfection and power till it is.

To those who have on solicitation kindly contributed articles, we return hearty thanks.

To our subscribers and exchanges, who have so patiently borne with our mistakes, and ever mingled with their criticisms judicious praise, thanks; and to our worthy and efficient financial agent, who has so successfully and ably conducted that all-important department of our enterprise, and who, in our intercourse, has ever been the personification of courtesy, we render profound thanks.

Before making our final salam, we have the pleasure of introducing to the friends and patrons of the Reporter, as our successors, J. F. Clyde, '77, Minnie Leonard, '78, J. G. Henderson, '79, H. J. Bell, '80, and W. R. Letts, '81, to whose hands we confide its interests, trusting that they will more faithfully guard, and efficiently advance them, than we have been able to do.

Considerable complaint is made in several of our colleges, east and west, of the manner of assigning rooms. Nor are the grounds for complaint entirely imaginary. It seems that there is an assignment of rooms each year, and no remuneration is made to the previous occupant for any expense incurred in fitting up his room. Also, in some cases, no choice of room-mates is allowed; each must be content with the one assigned to him. We almost rejoice that our institution has made no provision for rooming students.

Commencement season is a time of peculiar interest to all students. To the under-graduate it is the close of his year's labor, a commencement of a season of rest and recreation, spent with loved ones among the old, familiar places. To the graduate it is the ending of long years of toilsome, wearisome, perplexing labor; the time when he is to receive the fitting crown of reward for all his industry, patience, and perseverance; and when, with his honors thick upon him, cheered by the presence of admiring relatives and friends, he is to pass from boyhood and the school of preparation into manhood and real life, with all its duties, labors, trials, defeats, and triumphs. No wonder that, to the thoughtful Senior, a feeling of anxious uncertainty, of self-distrust, and dread of the unknown future, is mingled with all the excitement, joy and enthusiasm of the occasion, and will not be allayed.

EXAMINATIONS.

The Academic examinations began about six weeks before the close of the term, and ended on Friday, the 16th, satisfactory alike to professor and student, showing conclusively that both had performed the duties and improved the opportunities of their respective stations.

The written examinations of the law class, on the work of the term, took place Wednesday and Thursday forenoons, and though thorough, were very fair, and satisfactorily passed by the class.

The oral examination, by the committee appointed by the Supreme Court of the State, occupied Friday all day, and Saturday till noon. The committee consisted of Gov. S. J. Kirkwood, chairman; Messrs. J. Shane, C. H. Lewis, J. F. Duncombe, W. M. Grant, R. M. Haines, H. M. Remley, G. W. Ball, L. W. Ross, L. B. Patterson, J. S. Clark, who conducted the examination thoroughly and practically, on nearly all the topics passed over during the year. We were privately informed by one of the gentlemen—a member of this and of every preceding Board of Examiners since the department was organized—that the class, as a whole, passed a better examination than any preceding class.

THE CHANCELLOR'S CLOSING LECTURE.

Saturday, 4 P. M., the Law Class assembled in the law lecture room, to hear the report of the Board of Examiners, and the closing lecture of the course by the Chancellor. The committee, through their chairman, expressed their satisfaction with the very creditable examination passed by the class, and that the whole number of candidates for graduation would be recommended to the Regents for the degree of L.L. B. Farther, that the examiners found it impossible to determine the proper recipients of the Council Bluffs' bar prize of $40, to be awarded to the member who passed the best examination for the degree of L.L. B., several having passed equally well; they therefore placed the disposal of the prize in the hands of the class, and suggested that...
it be donated to the library of the department, which was done.

The Chancellor then fitly closed the series of eloquent and erudite lectures delivered during the year.

His closing remarks to the class were of rare beauty and eloquence, and so full of a father's love and anxiety for their future, and delivered with such earnestness and power that many eyes were suffused with tears, and all formed a noble resolution to follow the advice given, and emulate the example of the loved and honored speaker.

At the conclusion of the lecture, J. C. Matthews, Esq., presented the claims of the Law Alumni Association in a few forcible remarks, inviting the present class to attend its next regular session, and become members.

**Baccalaureate Address.**

On account of his severe and protracted illness, Dr. Thacher was unable to prepare and deliver the Baccalaureate Address, much to the regret of all. The Doctor, as a writer and speaker, has few equals in the State, and visitors, citizens, and students, were anticipating a rich treat. We trust rest during vacation may restore his health.

**Moot Court.**

As a larger number of the class than usual had proven themselves worthy of Commencement honors, the faculty concluded to revive this feature of the former law commencements, for some years abandoned. Eight gentlemen had been elected to argue two cases, as before the Supreme Court. Although the weather continued cold and rainy, 9 o'clock Monday morning found the law hall well filled by an attentive and appreciative audience, including many ladies, members of the board of regents, members of the city bar, alumni, &c.

The officers of the court were, Chancellor Hammond, Prof. Howe, and Hon. J. N. Rogers, judges; J. H. Mullin, sheriff, T. W. Parvin, clerk.

The first case called was:


(Burden of proof in cases of contributory negligence.)

*For Plaintiff,* W. W. Ranney and Euclid Sanders.

*For Defendant,* G. T. Kelley and B. W. Newberry.

The case was ably and eloquently argued on both sides, cases cited, principles laid down, and conclusions deduced, with a freedom and force that would be creditable to lawyers of many years' standing. At the conclusion of the argument Chancellor Hammond gave a brief resume of the law bearing upon the case, and judgment for the plaintiff.

After a short recess, the court was again called to order, for the trial of

**Law Docket No. 36.—**The Union National Bank of Chicago vs. Milton & Thompson.

(Presumption of notice by telegraph.)

*For Plaintiff and Appellee,—*J. E. Anderson and R. E. W. Spang.

*For Defendant and Appellee—*I. N. Flickinger and W. W. M. Giffin.

This case was equally well and ably argued with the preceding. On its submission, Rogers delivered the opinion in favor of the sufficiency of the notice. Court then adjourned. The exercises proved so pleasant and attractive we predict the moot court will be a feature of each succeeding Commencement.

**Law Class-Day.**

**Law Class-Day Exercises took place on Monday, June 19th.** Owing to the inclemency of the weather, the Class-Day exercises of the Law Department were conducted in the chapel hall, instead of on the campus, as is customary. The members of the class formed a procession in the central building, and at 5 o'clock proceeded to the chapel and took their places upon the rostrum.

The exercises were opened with music by the band, after which followed the class oration by A. T. Flickinger. His subject, "Criminal Law of the Past and Present," was well handled and presented in an earnest and interesting manner. His principal object seemed to be an attempt to show how those things, which we have been accustomed to regard as reforms in our criminal codes, were really the reverse. Mr. Flickinger's was decidedly the best performance of the evening.

The next production was a poem by G. A. McIntyre, after which was presented the class history by E. E. Alverson. This, though delivered in an inanimate style, was spicy, and characterized by a considerable vein of humor.

The Prophecy, by J. H. Mullin, was delivered in his characteristic manner. Music was next in order, after which followed an oration by J. M. Davis. Subject: "The decline of the Legal Philosophy of the Law."

Next were toasts, responded to as follows: "The Department of the University," by L. S. Nattger; "Our Profession—Its Genius, Learning and Eloquence, the Wonder of all Ages," by W. P. Hellings; "The Lawyer's Future," by C. W. Fillmore; "The Law Class of '76," by J. E. Morrison.

Hon. M. N. Johnson, on behalf of the class, then presented to the Janitor, Mr. Rappin, who has been a special favorite of the Law Class of '76, a silver headed cane.

The class ode was then sung by the entire class, showing each member to be proficient in music and vocal culture. The exercises, in general, were good and well appreciated, but we would suggest that they curtail each of their performances, if the exercises were to be repeated.

**Union Anniversary.**

The Union Anniversary of the literary societies occurred this year on Monday, instead of Friday as heretofore. Though the weather was cold and disagreeable, the chapel was densely crowded long before the exercises commenced. At 8:30 o'clock the exercises were opened by music, Hon. C. W. Sagle, of Fairfield, presiding. After a short prayer by Rev. W. B. Craig, and a second
piece of music, the literary exercises were opened by the

**ZETAGATHIAN SOCIETY.**

The oration in behalf of the society was delivered by W. P. Whipple, on the subject: Nobility of Character. Mr. Whipple’s production was well written, and was delivered in a clear, distinct manner, but he was often too deliberate to give the best effect to his piece.

Mr. Bentley, as presiding officer, in a few well chosen sentences, then presented the following gentlemen with the diplomas of the society: C. M. Ingraham, L. C. Johnson, W. T. Love, J. J. McConnell, W. P. McCready, J. H. Mullin, L. S. Naftsgar, J. W. Richards, and T. W. Parvin. Mr. W. P. McCready, in behalf of the graduates, then responded briefly and pointedly. After music followed the exercises of the

**ERODEPHIAN SOCIETY.**

The society oration was delivered by Miss Virginia J. Slagle, on “Savonarola,” an eloquent Italian monk. Miss Slagle’s graceful bearing, and clear, distinct enunciation, added much to the effect of a finely written oration. The strict attention during the delivery, and the applause at the close, showed the appreciation of the audience.

Miss Ida Osmond then presented the following ladies with diplomas: Lizzie S. Clark, Lucy D. Evans, Emma Hughes, Florence R. Kinney, Clara Remley, and Josephine V. Williams; prefacing the presentation with a happy, characteristic speech. The response was made by Miss Evans, in a pleasant, petite manner. After music followed the exercises of the

**IRVING INSTITUTE.**

The society oration being delivered by Ray Billingsley, on “National Pride.” Mr. Billingsley’s production showed long and careful preparation, and was delivered in an earnest, pleasant style.


The response for the graduates was made by H. J. Chambers, who has a fine appearance, good voice, and delivered a thoughtful production.

The exercises of the evening were closed by the

**HESPERIAN SOCIETY.**

The oration was delivered by Ella Hamilton, on the subject: “Our National Culture.” Miss Hamilton occupied an unfortunate position on the programme, the audience having become greatly wearied by the length of the exercises. Her production was well delivered, and displayed the most thought of any performance of the evening.

Miss Sadie Vaughan then presented diplomas to Louise McKenzie, Alice B. Cook, Laura Ensign, and Harriet Jackson. Miss Jackson next appeared, making a very appropriate response, delivered in a commendable manner. Each of the speakers, but more especially the ladies, received a large number of beautiful bouquets.

Considering the size of the audience, the order was excellent.

**LAW COMMENCEMENT.**

Beginning at 9 o’clock on Tuesday, June 20th, occurred the most interesting part of Commencement thus far—the graduation of the Law Class. President Thacher presided, introducing Chancellor Hammond as conductor of the proceedings. Gov. Kirkwood, the various faculties, and distinguished visitors, graced the platform, adding dignity to the occasion. The coolness of the morning was especially favorable to the speakers, and insured to the goodly number of attentive listeners a thorough enjoyment of the forenoon. Showers of bouquets following each speaker were additional proof of the interest and appreciation felt by all.

Mr. Geo. F. McClelland spoke in a masterly manner upon the Lawyer’s Obligations, showing a full realization of the responsibilities and duties of the lawyer to himself and to the world. He stated that every man entering active life assumes an infinite number of obligations, many common to all, others pertaining to particular occupations. The office of the legal profession is to determine the relative rights of individuals. The lawyer’s obligations are: to himself, to make a thorough preparation; to his profession, for an honest and liberal practice, to encourage a thorough preparation by each member, to inculcate a love for truth and justice, and to shun down every attempt to degrade his noble calling to a mere means of making money, or gaining office; to his client, to counsel, champion and defend liberty or property; to society, to support every wise public enterprise, jealously conserve every public interest, and create a spirit of reverence for law; to the state, to watch, check, and divert every dangerous innovation, and adopt every wise, well weighed improvement in its laws. His experience teaches that, as but the crystalized public sentiment, it must follow, never leading in social reformation. His is a life of grave responsibilities and small reward; but to him who holds that life noblest which best advances the interests of humanity, and that the consciousness of labor well performed, duty faithfully discharged, is its own rich reward, there is none nobler, more useful or respected.

Mr. E. U. Cook came second, with an oration of an historical character, upon Feudal Law. The earnestness of delivery with which he commenced was not well sustained. He gave an account of the rise and growth of the feudal system, which sprang from the ruins of the Roman empire, and which, before the close of the eleventh century had been adopted over nearly all Europe. He spoke of the relation of king and vassal, and how, upon the death of the latter, his family would most frequently occupy the land which he held of the king, whence arose the idea of inheritance of property. The eldest son, being best qualified for military service, generally came into possession of the estate, hence the English law of primogeniture. The power of the lord in feudal times resembles the power of eminent domain in our country. The feudists did not make their law obligatory upon the conquered Roman provinces. Hence there must have been in the same country two entirely different legal systems. The one refined and polished by all that Roman skill and learning would ren-
under it; the other as rude and barbarous as themselves.

Mr. Palmer Trimble’s oration upon The Legislator was well worthy of commendation, its excellence of thought, beauty of style, and power of expression, surpassing the style of its delivery. He referred to inspiration, fable, and history, and all unifying to invest the law-maker with attributes, and to award him honors seldom vouchsafed to other benefactors of mankind. The true lawyer does not seek for fame by thinking at laws he does not understand; but master of the science of human government, he is infused with its principles and philosophy, familiar with its details, and contributes his power and learning to its progress and perfection. Only at rare intervals does he appear upon the stage of action, when his appearance marks an era in the progress of his country and mankind. We might almost say that Greece had but one Solon, the Roman state but one Numa, the empire but one Justinian, and England but one Alfred. Other men in seclusion framed systems of law beautiful in theory, but useless or absurd in practice, because based upon circumstances which had no existence.

Mr. Charles M. Ingraham followed, treating of Religion in Our Organic Law. His was a successful speech upon the claims of church and state. A brief summary is as follows: Rooted deep in man’s nobler nature is the love of truth. Whether appealing a manly action, a noble life, or essaying the problem of his ultimate destiny, as well as in science and government and religion, the motive that impels to study and investigation is love of truth. The question of the true form of government has concerned the mind of man ever since its necessity has been demonstrated. Throughout our constitution the subject of religion is studiously avoided, or absence of restriction in regard to it insisted upon. What then of this so-called defect in our organic law? The error arises from a false understanding of the doctrine of state personality. Could the absurd conclusion be accepted that our constitution should be a religious as well as political organism, it would perhaps follow that the state is bound to so model its organic law that the theory of a personal God should be recognized, the fundamental doctrines of religion incorporated, and the duty of religious worship enjoined upon the citizen. In addition to the fallacy of this argument, observation and study show that religion is not one of the proper ends of civil government.

Mr. Adelbert L. Hudson, next on the programme, displayed eloquentary talent, as well as excellence of thought, in his treatment of the Influence of the Legal Profession in America. Our leading statesmen have been, almost without exception, members of the legal profession. Their labors upon the bench have been of no less vital importance. Our judiciary has preserved the life and strength of our government, and upheld the supremacy of our national constitution. The legal profession forms an important element in society. The reputation of lawyers for dishonesty is undeserved. Lawyers are men, and mean men make mean lawyers, but law offers no peculiar premium for meanness. He who has devoted years of labor to the study of law, must have gained therefrom a reverence for its majesty which forbids him to violate it in letter or spirit. The legal professors of America are preparing the American bar for thorough and effective labor, laying deep and firm foundations of legal knowledge, and are weaving web, warp, and woof of legal practice—golden threads of true and genuine manhood.

Next came W. H. Fannon, subject: Legislative Control of Corporate Wealth, in which he showed his usual sober and clearness of expression. Of the various causes which have had an influence in promoting the material growth of this nation, there is, perhaps, nothing that has contributed more—nothing that has had a greater influence on the system of corporate wealth. The influence of corporations is greater in this country to-day than that ever exhibited by nobleman or feudal baron. It is said that no measure is able to pass the legislature of New Jersey, without the consent of the Camden and Amboy railroad corporation. The question is, where is the remedy? Charles Francis Adams, Jr., recently said that the government must either monopolize the corporations, or be monopolized by them. But is there not some middle ground; some remedy that will preserve the beneficial results of corporations, and at the same time aver the assumption of a power by the general government which must necessarily tend toward centralization and despotism? There is such a remedy, and it consists in an adequate legislative control of corporate wealth. Of course this idea has met with serious opposition. It has been argued that such control of corporate property is unnecessary, unconstitutional, and impractical, but these objections are all unsubstantial.

Following this, Mr. James G. Berryhill spoke well and earnestly upon The Right of Property. The law contemplates man as a social being, endowed with rights, and subject to obligations. What relation does the right of property sustain to that of life? Life is natural and inviolable, and without property existence would be impossible. If property were transmitted to future generations devested of the power of alienation, the consequences would be destructive. The consolidation of property in England furnishes a marked proof of such rules of distribution. In anticipation of these evils is reflected the wisdom of the founders of our government. They legislated not for the present alone. They designed a government, which, founded upon public consent, time itself would not destroy.

Mr. George F. Henry next occupied the rostrum, whose subject was: The Safety of the People the Supreme Law. This oration was fine in thought, but slightly marred by an unpleasantness of voice. The revelations of science have proved, beyond a reasonable doubt, that in the formation of the Universe certain powerful and immutable agencies were employed as instruments of the Creator’s will, governing and controlling inanimate matter, and by their irresistible force moulding it into its beautiful and varying forms. Amidst these natural forces the thoughtful man perceives one supreme law, subordinate to the Creator’s will. “By its influence, the elements composing the grand fabric were drawn together, and by its agency all matter is retained in one vast, majestic system.” Likewise, in the system of our government, a creation of man’s intellect, one prominent law is recognized, and its subtile influence is everywhere exerted. It was the influence of this law that gave strength and success to the Revolutionary arms, and that same law was crystallized in the Federal Constitution. In whatever branch of law we look, that can be called distinctively American, we see the effect of its influence. The most important branches of the eminent domain of the government—taxation, and the right to take private property for public uses are restricted by the constitution, the better to secure the safety of the people.

Then followed the administering of the oath by Judge Adams, of the Supreme Court, and the conferring of
degrees upon each member of the large class, who were as follows:

Emmett E. Alverson, Marengo; John F. Anderson, Lake Mills; James G. Berryhill, Iowa City; Melville E. Blake, Morning Sun; Oliver C. Case, Chillicothe, Ohio; Frank A. Charles, Iowa City; Eli U. Cook, Spiceland, Ind.; Frank Dana, Nevada; Isaac Morgan Davis, Crawfordsville, Ind.; William H. Fannon, Decorah; Charles Wesley Fillmore, Buchanan county; Albert T. Fickinger, Winthrop; Isaac N. Fickinger, Winthrop; William W. Giffen, Crete, Neb.; William H. Gray, Columbus City; James Sinton Hall, Des Moines; Jas. H. Haughey, Osage; William P. Hollings, Oskaloosa; Nathaniel T. Hellyer, Guthrie Center; George F. Henry, Davenport; Adelbert L. Hudson, Mason City; Jas. A. Hutton, Scott Grove; Joseph McDowell Ingalls, Iowa City; Charles Modiset Ingraham, Coshocton, Ohio; George R. Morrison, Springfield, Mo.; James E. Morrison, Ft. Madison; Joseph Henry Mullin, Iowa City; Levi S. Natzger, Albany, Ills.; Byron W. Newberry, Strawberry Point; Theodore Olafson, Davenport; Alonzo C. Parker, Buffalo Grove; Theodore W. Parvin, Iowa City; William Lowry Peart, Osceola, Pa.; Samuel J. Pritchard, Camanche; John W. Raffensperger, Victor; William W. Ramney, Lassing; John Scott-Milford; Euclid Sanders, Iowa City; Rynard E. W. Spargur, Montgomery county; Thomas F. C. James, Plattsburgh, Mo.; Martin N. Johnson, Decorah; Geo. T. Kelley, Harrison county; Jacob W. Lamb, Toledo; William T. Love, Keokuk; Robert Lucas, Lucas tp.; William T. Lytle, Oskaloosa; George F. McClelland, Stanwood; Willis P. McCravy, Ft. Madison; George A. McIntyre, Allison; John Meredith, Lynnville; Henry K. Stahl, Newton; John P. Swisher, Western; Albert Nelson Todd, Quasqueton; Palmer Trimble, Bloomfield; Ezra B. Tucker, Sylvania, Wis.; Anthony Van Wagenen, Washington; Martin F. Wiedemann, Davenport; W. W. Dodge, Burlington.

After the conferring of degrees, Hon. J. N. Rogers, chairman of the committee on prizes, reported that they had awarded the prize offered by the Burlington bar to W. W. Dodge; the one offered by the Davenport bar divided between C. M. Ingraham and W. W. Ramney; that offered by the Dubuque bar to William P. Hollings; the prize offered by the Keokuk bar also to William P. Hollings. The chancellor's was awarded to L. N. Fickinger. The following gentlemen composed the committee: J. N. Rogers, O. P. Shiras, P. T. Lomax, L. W. Ross, G. J. Boal.

Mr. W. M. Lytle closed the exercises of the forenoon with an oration upon the subject: Law, the Handmaiden of Social Progress. His final address was as follows:

Classmates: To-day we cross the threshold, and enter upon roads that diverge. This completes a difficult task. You go to a profession that has occupied some of the best intellects, and to a life of toil. You are to guard and protect the highest interests of the State, as well as those of private persons. You are to shield and defend innocence; to prosecute and punish guilt.

As your duties pertain to all social relations, so should your knowledge be thorough, broad, and ample. Energy, integrity, and industry lead along the highway to distinction.

Let us emulate the lives of the eminent gentlemen who have so endear themselves to us as teachers; and may we not hope that the opportunities we have here enjoyed for reading and reflection, together with the advantages of mutual intercourse with the students and faculties of the other departments of the University, have tended to complete our characters, to obliterate any mean and narrow prejudices, and to fill us with a desire for a higher and better life, and for broader and deeper culture.

To the professors of the Law Faculty, our thanks are due. Be assured, gentlemen, that we have appreciated the kindness, sympathy, and patient care, that has marked your instruction; and that we have noted the ability and clearness with which you have presented the most intricate subjects. We regard it as no mean honor to have for our predecessors eminent lawyers, whose zeal, industry, and moral character make their lives fit models for imitation by the young. And if I do not express entire satisfaction with your work as instructors, and profound admiration for you as scholars and thinkers, and deep gratitude for the benefits you have conferred upon us, I fail to utter sentiments that are universal in this class. You have opened before us broad fields of knowledge in the study of law; and, should success attend our professional lives, we will gratefully remember that with you were sown the seeds that ripened into our harvest. The year spent under your instruction has been, not only one of profit, but genuine pleasure.

That you may live to see the return of many occasions like this, and to send out waves of influence to elevate and ennoble the profession of law—and that the Law Department of the University may pass through a well spent youth to vigorous manhood, without being fated for old age or decay, is the best wish of the class of 1876.

To faculty, students, regents, citizens and class mates—adieu!

Law oration, by Hon. J. M. Woolworth, Omaha, Neb.

The University had been fortunate in securing the services of a gentleman of such eminent scholarship and ability. A pleasant evening followed a pleasant day—cool, for the season of the year, yet comfortable; overcoats and umbrellas, that had been in such constant demand for days preceding, were laid aside. This, and the reputation of the speaker, brought out a large audience. The rostrum was occupied by the board of regents, faculties of the different departments, law examiners, and many distinguished visitors. Chancellor Hammond presided, and introduced the speaker, of whose eloquent and instructive remarks we can give but the briefest outline:

All law is evolved from the actual life of a people, grows with their growth, strengthens with their strength, and is destroyed with their death. Like custom, it arises from two sources, their morality and institutions.

Let a certain moral fact find lodgment in the minds of people, and, whether it be right or wrong, its course of development will be, first: a moral abstract, then an accepted fact, by the few; then a still, small voice, of uncertain tenor, taking hold of the many; then, aided by present events, it conquers all, and is made a law. As
an illustration, he briefly traced the history of slavery
in the United States.

He then considered the remaining source of law. The
laws of Englishmen are a direct outgrowth of their civil
institutions. Illustrated by a comparison of their laws
and institutions, during the four periods of their history
from the pre-feudal to the present.

He closed with a few earnest and eloquent remarks to
the graduating class, on their future course, and the kind
and value of the studies claiming their attention. If
they wished to be lawyers, they must not waste their
time in society, in speculation, or even in the study of
polite literature, but employ it in severe study of the
subjects he had merely touched upon. It would help
them, not so much to gain clients, win verdicts, and re-
ceive fees, as to dispense with arbitrary rules, to reason
like lawyers, to love the science, and to appreciate jus-
tice among men.

The lecture was a rare treat, highly appreciated by a
very attentive audience. The Law Class very earnestly
desire its publication.

THE UNIVERSITY ORATION, BY PRESIDENT WELCH, OF THE
STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

The sky had at last cleared up, the sun shone forth in
his accustomed splendor. The Alumni were well repre-
sented in the city, and all things in connection with the
University began to wear their old-fashioned Commence-
ment air. The forenoon of Wednesday, the 21st, had
been set apart for the University oration. At the ap-
pointed time, a very appreciative, though not large,
audience gathered in the chapel, to listen to one of the
finest orations we ever heard, here or elsewhere, upon
the subject, "The English Language as a Disciplin-
ary Study." We regret very much that we have not
the oration, as no synopsis can do it justice. The speak-
er disclaimed any intent to understate the classical or
scientific courses of study, but as all knowledge was
embodied in no one department, but all departments
were necessary to the finished scholar; and, as language
was the medium by which all were developed, acquired,
and preserved, he would especially urge its study. Edu-
cation is the systematic intensifying of natural activi-
ties. This cannot be carried beyond the most rudimen-
tary stage. Without language, ideas are as evanescent
and feeble as a breath upon the polished steel. Their
retention depends upon constant repetition, and a word,
as a nail, to secure them. Classification impossible
without generic terms; every idea draws much of its
vitality from its name. Whoever attains to general
scholarship in the tongue he speaks, will gain equal
strength and vigor in all the forms of thought. All the
wealth of science is bequeathed to us through words.
Readings of personal experience utterly insignificant,
but how expanded when we add to them the experience
of the whole world! Questions, germane to subject,
were, how, where, and when, to study the language.
Time to acquire power of correct expression precedes
the period at which may begin formal study of its struc-
ture; hard to rectify errors acquired from early asso-
ciates. English grammar, a barren field, consisting of
rules and distinctions not based on actual use of lan-
guage. The want of inflections makes ours a grammar-
less tongue. In rhetorical force, incomparably rich and
pure, superior to all other languages, due to its being a
conglomeration of all the available material from all
languages; furnishes a fitting vehicle for the expression
of all passions and feelings. Study should be so pur-
sued as to show origin, source, and reason of its
strength; called attention to the comparative vigor and
power of long and short words, showing the superiority
of the Saxon over the Latin; also in its great wealth of
words combining sense and sound—Byron's address to
the ocean, and description of a storm among the moun-
tains, marked examples. Should study the origin of
words to understand their meaning. Language is an
invaluable field for the study of thought itself. Self-in
spection is perplexing, and hard in figure as in fact.
Not so to study the wealth of thought, feeling, and
emotion wrapped up in words, into which every passion,
feeling, and desire has been transfused and petrified.
Study in this light, Shakespear is more valuable than
all the metaphysical works, from Porter back to Plato.
What, then, is the value of our language, and what the
interest that should be taken in it.

At the close of the address, President Thacher ten-
dered the thanks of University and audience to Presi-
dent Welch, for his learned, able, and instructive ad-
dress, and the audience were dismissed.

THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.

The Alumni Association met, for the transaction of
business, Wednesday afternoon, 2 p. m. Quite a large
number present. President W. Lytle presiding. Sec-
retary, M. Remley.

After roll call, the minutes of last meeting were read
and approved. A short recess was taken, to allow per-
sons so desiring to sign the constitution, and to pay dues
to the Treasurer.

The next order of business was the election of officers,
which resulted as follows: President, Prof. T. M. Wit-
er, of Muscatine; Vice-Presidents, Rev. Granger Smith,
Des Moines; Mrs. Kate Conard, San Francisco; Miss
Nellie Scales, Iowa City; Secretary, Milton Remley,
Iowa City; Treasurer, R. H. Allin, Iowa City.

Next in order was the election of poet and orator for
the Alumni literary entertainment next Commencement.
Result of election was: Orator, J. S. Clark, Des
Moines; Poet, Mrs. W. B. Craig, Iowa City.

The Executive Committee for the coming year con-
sists of Prof. Witter, Rev. W. B. Craig, and Mrs. J.
W. Stirling.

The Association has never been in as good condition,
financially, as at present, thanks to the faithful and effi-
cient management of the retiring officers.

The annual meeting of the Alumni Association oc-
curred June 21st, in the chapel. At an early hour the hall
was comfortably filled, and at 8 1-2 o'clock, p. m., the
President, Wm. Lytle, introduced Wm. Hoffman, Esq.,
of Muscatine, as orator of the evening. His subject, "The Relation of Literature to Politics," was a well-written article, and delivered in an earnest, forcible manner. A synopsis of it is as follows:

The literature of a people affect the character, as well as the form of government. If the literature be pure, the politics are pure; but if it be corrupt, official circles are contaminated. Illustrated the influence of literature by references to that of the restoration of the Greek and Roman Republics, and that of the Jewish theocracy. The literature of a people is an exponent of its inner life. Our Republic, combining the good qualities of all nations, may develop a literature which shall far excel any the world has known. The newspapers and periodicals wield an incalculable influence in American politics, necessarily reflecting the public sentiment of their readers, and are entitled to a national recognition for their aid in furthering its progress. The continued existence of our Republic is based upon the progressive intelligence of its citizens. The nation should improve every facility to enhance that intelligence, and should exert fostering care over rising talent. Our civil service is debased to the support of partizans and corruptionists; far better, if, as in foreign nations, it afforded a means of support to over-worked, ill-paid authors and professional men. It is the duty of our literary and educated men and women to take a greater interest in the politics of the nation, and become leaders in the political parties of the day, using their influence to further the success of the best men and measures. Modern inventions counteract the dangerous influences resulting from our great extent of territory, and variety of climate. With the intimate connection of all parts of the nation; with every facility afforded for freedom of thought and liberty of expression; with an abiding faith in the American Republic; with a strong confidence in the integrity of her people; with a firm conviction of our destiny as a nation; with a steadfast reliance upon our educational institutions; with the crowning hope of an immortal religion, let us highly resolve that our best efforts shall be given to advance her intellectual condition, and to develop an ideal literature in an ideal republic.

After music by the band, the audience was favored with the elegant poem, given by Mrs. W. H. Emery, of Iowa City. This production was rich in thought, beautiful in meter, and decidedly interesting to the audience, as indicated by the shower of bouquets at its close.

The Alumni banquet and reunion was then announced to take place immediately, in the halls of the literary societies, to which the Alumni and invited guests immediately repaired. After some time very pleasantly spent in social converse, they adjourned to the beautifully decorated rooms below. After doing ample justice to the refreshments, President Lytle announced the following toasts:

"The Iowa State University, in 1848—1876—1906." Responded to by J. A. Pickler.

"The Faculties of the University; they command our highest respect, and deserve our warmest support." Response by Rev. W. B. Craig.

"The State University and the People." Response by Prof. T. S. Parvin.

"The Teachers sent out by the University; May they continue in their noble work." Response by Miss Molly McCowen.

"Our Literary Societies." Responded to by George F. McClellan.

"The Ladies of the University." Response by Hon. M. N. Johnson.

"The Law Department of the University." Response by J. S. Clark, Esq.

"The Board of Regents." Response by Hon. C. W. Slagle.

With the exception that some of the responses were too long, all were entertaining, some happy, and others suggestive of earnest thought. After a short time spent in conversation, the guests dispersed.

ACADEMIC COMMENCEMENT.

Thursday, the 29th, had been set apart for the Commencement Exercises of the Academic graduating class.

The morning was bright and fair, a slight breeze stirred the luxuriant foliage of the trees in the beautiful campus, as the audience began to gather. Everything suggested a hot day, and vividly called to mind the repeated occasions, during the decade just closed, that we had attended similar exercises, listened to the earnest, fervid thoughts of hopeful, enthusiastic young men and women, who, with high hopes and firm resolves, eagerly longed for the fray, never doubting but that life would wear the roseate tints in which their imagination painted it; and that vice would wither, and virtue blossom, in their presence as in that of an angel of light; hoard the President’s words of caution and encouragement, and finally bade them farewell. Now where are they? Scattered to every State of the Union, to every continent of the globe, yet redeeming by earnest, noble lives, the promises their words and actions made us; a few, weared with the strife, rest peacefully in the presence of their God. Ah, well! may those who, to-day, tread in their foot-prints, follow the noble example thus set them.

By 9 A. M., the procession had formed in the following order:

1. University Regents.
2. Academic Faculty and Instructors.
3. Members of other Faculties, and distinguished visitors.
4. Alumni.
5. Graduating Class.

And were under way for the chapel. Arriving there, all were comfortably seated in reserved seats, when the hall was rapidly filled by the waiting crowds. It was, in fact, the first old-fashioned audience of the season. President Thacher, though quite infirm, was able to preside over the exercises, supported on either hand by the Governor, members of the Board of Regents, of the Faculty, and many distinguished visitors.

The exercises were opened by music; then prayer by Rev. Ingalls; music. Then the President introduced as the first speaker, Mr. O. H. Brainerd, whose subject was Popular Leadership. The development of national character, and the reputation of our Government depend upon the institutions which the people found and foster, and upon the men which they place in charge of the affairs of the nation. Noble-hearted, high-minded,
Mr. H. P. Skiles followed, speaking of INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM; treating, 1st, of a comparison of the brave, physical, and the courageous moral training, necessary to the throwing off the superstitions beliefs which so long restrained the free exercise of the human intellect. Of the gradual emancipation and progress of the freedom of the human intellect, and its status at the present time. Mr. Skiles was cool and collected, his articulation distinct; his delivery was worthy of a better production.

The next speaker was Miss Josephine V. Williams, Subject: DEFEAT THE STEPPING-STONE TO VICTORY. Defeat is an important element to success. It secures a result which no other influence possibly can. She illustrated her thought by a vivid comparison, between a sturdy oak, grown on a rocky cliff, and one raised in a hot-house. Those who have had trials and difficulties to overcome, and defeats and failures to endure, are stronger to bear them in the future. Defeat is only a means of spurring men on to greater exertions, and a grander and nobler victory. Then in the conflict of life let us not despair because we are at first unsuccessful, but press onward in the struggle until final success shall crown our efforts, to be a success always that defeat is only the stepping-stone to the grandest and most sublime victory. The lady’s gestures were graceful and appropriate. An otherwise fine delivery of an excellent production was marred by a slight tone.

Mr. L. C. Johnson’s subject was, LABOR AND ITS TRIUMPHS. “The gods sell us all good things for our labors.” Man lives by the sweat of his brow. Brutes live by the spontaneous products of the earth. By labor, the barren desert has been made to blossom like the rose, the earth to yield up her hidden treasures, and the ancient sunbeams, embalmed and buried in its coal-fields, have been made the servants of man. Inventions, the offspring of labor, have revolutionized the world, paved the way for liberty and action, harnessed the powers of nature, and taught them to work. The scholars of the age have not received their knowledge by some mysterious caprice, but by diligent labor. Labor is the parent of all progress. That of the past has made the present what it is, and the labors of the present will determine the future. The goddess of victory is too just of her laurels to permit the brightest of them to be plucked by idle hands. Mr. Johnson’s production, as the synopsis indicates, was full of fine thought, in that respect one of the best; but it failed of its proper effect through poor delivery.

Mr. J. M. Kelley spoke upon that practical subject—

"THE SCHOLAR IN POLITICS." The history of every nation shows that no less of wisdom and foresight are necessary for the maintenance of a government than are required for its establishment. Wild caprice, or superstitious credence, too often forms the basis of political action. The growth of a government is gradual, and its cultivation is the grandest and noblest work of man. He referred to this nation as the guiding star in the cause of civil and religious liberty. Hence the reins of government should be held by real and true statesmen, who, by position and creative action, will build, if possible, a more solid superstructure, for a broader and higher development of American civilization. The gentleman’s animation was a perfect surprise to all his friends.

Music, followed by Miss Clara Remley; subject, WISDOM IS OFF-TIMES NEARER WHEN WE STOOP THAN WHEN WE STAND. From time immemorial, man has had an eager desire for wisdom, and he alone of all God’s creatures is capable of acquiring it. The human heart is inspired by an innate love of knowledge, else the dawn of learning had never appeared. The ancients soared high to reach wisdom, and though in many things they failed to find it, the modern scientist has only to stoop to possess himself of the prize. Men oft-times attempt such heights, that they, by neglecting the gems of truth about them, fall ingloriously, “Like an idiot gazing on a brook; Fasten in the mood; At glory grasp, and sink in infancy.”

Miss Remley has a sweet, womanly voice, well modulated, and delivered a finished production.

The President then introduced Mr. J. J. McConnell, whose subject was “THE GROWTH OF CHARACTER.” Society, to the view of the observer, is an ever changing scene. Its movements are governed by the character of its constituent members. The influences that mold human character are, first: the native powers of the mind, and the external influences which are brought to bear upon the individual. There are some minds which rise superior to external influences; others are plastic in the mould of circumstances, and are fashioned as it may direct. Those who make it their highest duty to purify the social atmosphere in which they move, are the exponents of the noble philanthropy. When the individual recognizes the fact that he has in himself and surroundings the elements out of which he must form his character, and shall cause the varying factors to work in harmony and in due proportion, he will have made an advance on the course that leads to the true goal of human ambition—the perfection of human character. A fair production, well delivered.

Miss Lucy Evans followed with “LIFTING THE VEIL.” She beautifully pictured the condition of the earth before light appeared; then portrayed the long ages of sin and ignorance, till the peerless form of intellect threw off the death-shade and grave-clothes, and ascended to the glorious resurrection of that lustre, which irradiates the horizon of our day. Without the intervention of a miracle, we see the veil of darkness lifted, and a flood of splendor bursting the gloom; but the soul of man, regardless of the present, feasts itself on the hope of enjoyments which it has never yet possessed; it will lift the veil of the future, and penetrate the depth and strength of the ocean of eternity—an ocean so vast that none but the Omniscient can fathom it, so boundless that none but the Infinite mind can comprehend its
Music. Mr. H. J. Chambers closed the exercises with an oration upon "BONDAGE TO BOOKS." When the poet Eschylus wished to represent a finely cultured man, it is said that he executed the picture of a field, not harrowed and hacked indifferently on the surface, but a deeply ploughed field, and therefore richly productive; and that, presenting it in the theatre to the gaze of the multitude, they simultaneously turned to Aristides, as the one to whom the picture was exactly adapted. That great man had made books servants, not masters; he had used them, used them right, and not used them exclusively. It is a notorious fact that men read too much, and reflect too little; they have mistaken learning for wisdom. That mind can have no strength that always follows along the track of borrowed ideas. What makes the brawny muscle is the clash of steel; what makes strong minds is the clash of ideas. Error is the enemy of truth, but is not without avail, in case it elicits a new mind call for new truth. The clash of idea is the clash of steel; what concealed, which must be productive of evil. The only solution of this gloom is to go on from truth to truth, till earth shall be wrapped in the gloom of despotism. When the poet Aeschylus represented the earth, he cloaked it in imperial grandeur, and landed on the golden ocean, and adored the sun. Not till her thought, her mind, in conscience; free to hold all truths as truths of infinite wisdom; free to acknowledge no master save the Creator of the Universe. She closed with a beautiful tribute to America, as the home of liberty and the asylum of the oppressed. Miss Clark's manner was simple and collected, her thoughts connected and finely expressed.

Miss Laura Ensign's subject was, "FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT." Light is one of heaven's free and priceless gifts, enriching all alike, and exciting a smile from the highest to the lowest. Knowledge is light to the intellectual world, and transforms the gloom of ignorance and barbarism to the clearness of intelligence and civilization. Early knowledge culminated in philosophical investigations. Since then, art and science, the poet, sculptor, and painter, have all performed their part, in dispelling mental darkness. Religion was also a primitive and powerful agent; the germ of truth was early imparted, but its growth was mostly confined to Judaism. The surrounding world wandered in spiritual gloom, but the light imparted by advancing knowledge exposed the foolishness of heathenism; and when these beliefs—the christian system—was perfected, philosophy, science, art, and religion, were then united in dispelling mental darkness. The union still continues, and the results are multiplying with succeeding centuries. The speaker has an earnest, simple style of delivery, that makes her thought the prominent feature, and a production suited to such a delivery.

Next in order came Julian Richards, whose subject was, A FACTOR IN CIVILIZATION. ...
within her walls a race of slaves—slaves to an idea. The Roman citizen dared not say, I am a man. Perhaps no idea has ever obtained such credence, lived so long, or exercised so fatal an influence, intellectually, as that of "Woman's inferiority." It has been to her a blighting bondage, superadded to all the oppression she has patiently braved, or heroically combattted. In common with man, the most lamentable feature of slavery, in any form, is its power to bind its victims, and becloud their judgment. The Roman citizen boasted of his land, and did not know that he was a slave. And woman, proud of her advancement during the last century, cannot see that a power, mighty in its very tyranny, still enchains her faculties, and lowers the dignity of her womanhood. A superior production, well delivered; this and the preceding divide the honors thus far.

Mr. A. D. Draper, inspired by the occasion, had taken "CENTENNIAL." Westward, the star of empire takes its way, The four first acts are already passed; A fifth shall close the drama with the day, Time's noblest offering is the last. Thus prophesied Berkeley. 1776 ushered in the fifth act of the drama, America the stage, liberty and oppression the contestants; liberty triumphant, and colonial independence is achieved. The questions, what gave us our independence, and what has been the influence fo our independence, crowd upon our attention! To the first, we answer liberty; to the second, the declaration of American independence is the magna charta of the world. We, as a nation, must live to convince other nations that the reform they strive after is attainable. The world for this example turns to us. Heaven's best hest are upon us; let us be true to our own trusts. The gentleman hardly sustained his reputation as a writer; and his delivery, though excellent, is by far too studied.

Mrs. Cook had selected, OBSCURE EPOCHS. Were the solecism of history to please, we might allow the so-called important periods to pass unnoticed. Changes in popular sentiment are like the approach of a great tidal wave of the ocean. He who would look to the tide to carry his vessel into the harbor, must calculate its velocity and force in mid-ocean; so if we would desire benefit from any historic movement, it can only be done by the most careful study of its producing causes. To the superficial student, the Elizabethan age was a perfect surprise. There was naught to foretoken that great outburst of genius and culture, yet a series of general causes can be traced, which rendered this preparatory period one of the most prolific in the history of the English nation. We have fallen upon quiet times; and yet, who shall dare to call these times unimportant. Beneath the surface, unusual elements are shaping and maturing a new destiny, and have already set in motion another vast under-current of that outflowing stream, which is fast bearing man to the final destiny of the race. Mrs. Cook fully sustained the fine reputation she has established by her society work, both as a writer and speaker.

The valedictorian, R. W. Byington, was now introduced, who had taken as his subject, the MORAL HERO. The wearied audience forgot the heat and their fatigue, in listening to his fine periods, enforced by a splendid delivery. We omit any synopsis of his oration, in the desire to give his valedictory in full, considering it the finest we ever heard.

GENTLEMEN OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS.—The closing scenes of another year again call together the officers, students, and friends of this University. Among all, to you we accord pre-eminence. The University, head and heart of our educational system, is the child of the State, and you the legal guardians of her interests. It is, gentlemen, but simple justice, to say that you have well and ably defended those interests in the past; and surely the future will witness a continuation of your good services in her behalf. The result of your labors is this great and vigorous institution, destined, as we believe, to a proud position among the sister institutions of the land. Deeply grateful for your wise direction of her affairs, we congratulate you on the success attending your efforts heretofore, and feel assured that, in the future as in the past, your watchful care over her interests will not cease, nor your solicitude for her welfare in the least abate.

MR. PRESIDENT, AND GENTLEMEN OF THE FACULTY.—The relations so long and pleasantly subsisting between us, as pupils and teachers, must soon cease to exist; and, on the eve of separation, it is, of all duties, the most pleasing to recall the many instances of your kind attention, and, with heart-felt thanks, to assure you of our present and future high respect and esteem. We go forth from your immediate tutelage, but be certain the lessons you have impressed upon our minds and hearts will not be soon forgotten. While acquitting ourselves under your direction, that store of knowledge and discipline of mind, so necessary for a useful and effective career, we have also been taught to admire and emulate, in your daily intercourse with us, those elements of character constituting the nobler manhood.

To you, fellow-students in the University, whose names and faces are to us familiar as household words—whose tasks and pleasures we have so long shared—in all your future efforts you have the renewed assurance of our most cordial good wishes for your abundant success.

And to you, ladies and gentlemen of Iowa City, we render grateful thanks for the uniform kindness and genial courtesy we have ever experienced at your hands, making our school-days, in your beautiful and favored city, among the happiest of our lives.

To you, my class-mates, a parting word. As a class, we meet perhaps for the last time. Together we have labored in the acquisition of knowledge, and together secured a maturer discipline. Our long and intimate association has fostered a lasting friendship, based upon our mutual esteem. Our school-life nears its close. New duties, on a broader field of action, demand our attention. And as we now go forth to engage in the responsible duties of life, let us simply resolve to do with all our might whatsoever our hands find to do, and thus well employ the talent committed to our charge.

But a single duty remains: In behalf of the present graduating class, to you, our esteemed President and gentlemen of the Board of Regents; to you, gentlemen of the Faculty, friends and counselors of our school-days; to you, fellow-students of the University; to you, citizens and friends—to one and all, farewell!

Music. Then came the Master's Oration, by Rev. R. C. Glass, of Le Mars, a member of Class '73, who delivered a production well worthy of the occasion and audience, but which our limited space forbids any attempt to report. Showers of bouquets followed each speaker, on retiring from the stage, the ladies being almost literally buried beneath them.
Music. Followed by the conferring of degrees by the President, who, in a few well-chosen, forceful remarks, gave the young ladies and gentlemen caution, counsel, and a blessing, and then placed in their hands the parchment evidences of their industry and uprightness.

The degree of A. B. was conferred upon the following persons:


The degree of Ph. upon R. W. Byington, Alice B. Cook, Lucy D. Evans, Emma Hughes, Harriet Jackson, J. M. Kelley, Florence M. Kinney, Josephine V. Williams.

Of Civil Engineer upon Oliver H. Buckman, John F. Polley, Cassius C. Vanarsdel.


After which Mr. B. F. Hoyt was invited to step upon the rostrum, and receive the "class prize," offered to the one who should undergo the best examination in physical science. The committee, consisting of Messrs. Boal and Calvin, awarded him the first and second prizes, amounting to $100.

Then another piece of music, and the Commencement of '76 had closed. God speed those that has introduced to the world, in noble callings and virtuous lives. Farewell!

THE LAW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Held its regular session on Tuesday, at 2 p. m. The President being absent, H. Remley was elected President pro tem. After roll call and reading of minutes, the Association proceeded to the election of officers, with the following result:

President—J. S. Clark, Des Moines.

Vice President—M. N. Johnson, Decorah.

Secretary—J. W. Cone, Iowa City.

Treasurer—G. W. Ball, Iowa City.

Resolutions were adopted providing for literary exercises by the Association next year.

A committee was appointed, consisting of Messrs. Swisher, Mathews and Ball, to report as to details.

Adjoined to meet Wednesday, at 5 p.m.

On Wednesday the Association was called to order by Pres. Clark.

Committee reported in favor of a law oration, and a discussion of some legal topic, open to all members of the Association, led by two chief disputants. Report adopted.

Next in order was the elections of persons to fill the programme. The following named gentlemen were selected: Address, ——— Blake, Esq., Burlington. Chief Disputants, Ed. Sears, H. Remley.

Constitution was amended so as to reduce initiation fee to 50 cents. Finances were reported in good condition. Association adjourned.

UNIVERSITY PRIZES.

During the Academic year of 1875-6 the following prizes have been awarded by the Chair of English Literature, for greatest excellence in composition, oratory and declamation:

The Early English Text Society's prize to R. M. Gosborn, of Winterset, for the best examination in Chaucer, and the best essay on the life and times of that poet.

For the best Senior Thesis, a prize of $20, to M. Louise McKenzie, of Hampton.

For the best Junior oration, a prize of $15, to Virginia J. Single, of Fairfield.

For the second best Junior oration, a prize of $10, to J. Campbell, of Oseola.

Two prizes of $10 each, one to S. L. Moser, of Hamilton, the other to R. M. Gosborn, of Winterset, for the best Junior Theses.

For the best work on the part of Sophomores in the preparation of themes, a prize of $10 to each of the following gentlemen: William D. Evans, of Stellapolis; George T. Patrick, of Lyons; and Albion N. Fellows, of Iowa City.

For the best Sophomore oration, a prize of $10, to Scott S. Gillespie, of Pedee. For second best declamation, a prize of $5, to Ada S. Kelly, of Washington.

For the most satisfactory work on the part of Freshmen in the preparation of themes, a prize of $10 to each of the following persons: Georgie M. Countryman, Effie S. Richards, D. C. Chase, F. B. Cowgill, and W. H. Cottrell.

OFFICERS OF SOCIETIES FOR FALL TERM.

ZETACATHIAN.—J. W. Conley, President; L. W. Clapp, Vice President; W. T. Love, Recording Secretary; W. A. Pottle, Corresponding Secretary; S. L. Moser, Treasurer: ——— Green, Sergeant at Arms.

IRVING INSTITUTE.—J. J. Hamilton, President; J. Campbell, Vice-President; D. B. Ellis, Recording Secretary; Ray Billingsley, Corresponding Secretary; T. G. Henderson, Treasurer.

ERODEPHIAN.—Lou. Hughes, President; Effie Richards, Vice-President; Georgie Countryman, Recording Secretary; Minnie Leonard, Corresponding Secretary; Hattie J. Dennis, Treasurer.

HESPERIAN.—Emma McKenzie, President; Minnie Kimball, Vice-President; Mary Johnson, Recording Secretary; Ada Knight, Corresponding Secretary; Ella Hamilton, Treasurer; Rosa Cowgill, Financial Secretary.

PHILOMATHEAN.—W. R. Letts, President; C. F. Peterson, Vice-President; F. A. Vanderpool, Recording Secretary; O. P. Myers, Corresponding Secretary; F. O. Parvin, Treasurer; C. C. Clark, Sergeant at Arms.

SYMPHONIAN.—E. E. Gibbens, President; T. C. Cole, Vice-President; W. F. Crowley, Corresponding Secretary; J. A. Moon, Recording Secretary; O. A. Byington, Treasurer; R. Pritchard, Usher.
The Board of Regents, at their various meetings during the Commencement season, transacted a variety of business, some of which may be of interest to our readers. With reference to the Academic Department, they re-employed as instructors Messrs Scefield, Apter, Longridge, and Mr. Mathews. The services of the latter are extended to four hours on a salary of $1,000.

A resolution was passed requiring more hours labor of the professors.

A resolution passed contemplating a further reduction in salaries, but not to take effect this year.

Provisions were made for building a stone walk from the central building to the street, and for various repairs.

Medical Department.—The Board established a Homeopathic department, finding it impracticable to combine both schools of medicine in one department, and appointed a committee to report the names of proper persons to fill the chairs, and time and place of opening, &c., &c. No more room was assigned the Department.

Law Department.—Made provisions for a second year's course to be marked out by the Law Faculty. The matriculation fee to be $25. No additional degree to be conferred. Judge Dillon was elected a full Professor to fill the chair of Federal Law and Medical Jurisprudence. Provisions were made for a course of lectures by members of the supreme court, if practicable.

In General.—A resolution passed providing that all programmes of exercises in connection with the University be uniform in size and texture, for greater convenience in preservation; that the societies be requested to conform to the same.

Profs. Leonard, Fellows, Hammond and Clapp constituted a historical committee of the Faculty to collect and procure every article and document of interest in the history of the University not otherwise a matter of record, and report to a committee of Regents consisting of Messrs Richardson and Campbell, who have power to bind or print at their discretion, an annual report to be made to the Board. All documents to be filed with the Secretary.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE LAW CLASS.

Whereas, Hon. John N. Rogers, of Davenport, has delivered a course of lectures before the Law Class of the State University, on "Rights of Property as Affected by Constitutional Law," and

Whereas, We, the members of said class are greatly indebted to him for his friendly services in our behalf, therefore be it

Resolved, That we extend our thanks to Mr. Rogers and assure him of our appreciation of his disinterested labors; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be presented to Mr. Rogers, and also a copy be sent to the city papers and the University Reporter for publication.

Geo. F. Henry, Wm. P. Hellings, Committee.

Iowa City, Ia., June 6, 1876.

PERSONAL.

The following Alumni and students were present during Commencement:

S. Hanna, Red Oak.
W. H. Hanna, Exira.
C. B. Jack, Osceola.
J. S. Clark, Des Moines.
J. T. Bean, of Marengo.
Homer Seerley, Osceola.
Miss Jennie Lyon, Carroll.
W. H. Forbes, Burlington.
Jefferson Williams, Shelby.
B. F. Garetzine, Muscatine.
D. M. Anderson, California.
Miss Mollie McConan, Waterloo.
J. W. Trewyn, of Council Bluffs.
H. H. Hiatt and wife, Springdale.
J. Eickler and wife, of Muscatine.
Rev. Ed. B. Cousins, of Clarence.
Howard Remley and wife, Anamosa.
Mrs. Leonard, see Kinkade, Winterset.
Rev. R. C. Glass and wife, of LeMars.
Prof. F. E. Nipher, Washington University.
Rev. Byron and wife, of the Northwestern Theological Seminary.
H. P. Dillon, Law '75, has gone to Europe.
75. John J. Seerley will enter the Law Department next year.
73. Homer H. Seerley was in the city during commencement.
Miss Nora Stark, Des Moines, spent a few days in the city last week.
75. A. A. Guthrie has been re-elected Superintendent of the Iowa City schools.
75. Lizzie L. Clark will teach in the High School at West Liberty, next year.

To those of our readers who may be in quest of a school where they may be thoroughly fitted for the University or for business, we most heartily recommend the Iowa City Academy and Commercial Colleges. These schools are under the personal supervision of Prof. McClain, one of the oldest and most experienced educators in the State, and afford every facility for academic and commercial training. The popularity these schools have enjoyed in the past is abundant testimony of their efficiency. Those desirous of more complete information respecting the Academy and College will be furnished by addressing Prof. Wm. McClain.

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