

# The Vidette - Reporter.

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

VOL. 31.

IOWA CITY IOWA, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1899.

NO. 60.

## EXPANSION.

CHANCELLOR M'CLAIN GIVES AN ELOQUENT ADDRESS AT DES MOINES.

The above caption was the subject of an oration delivered by Chancellor Emlin McClain before the students of Drake University and Des Moines College on Washington's birthday.

The speaker was introduced to the audience by Judge C. C. Cole, who referred with pride to the fact that the Chancellor had formerly been one of his students.

The speaker said that the constitution, the fundamental idea of the government, and Washington's farewell address, were in harmony with the theory of expansion. Washington derived his idea of government from that of England. Omitting the form of despotism he established the best government ever known, the prominent features of which are: the preservation of law and order, the fostering of material prosperity, the granting of the largest measure of individual liberty, and such measures of participation in local self-government as the people are capable of, consistent with public safety.

The Americans are as capable in affairs of government as any of the English-speaking people. Their failures in dealing with the negroes and Indians have been but sentimental mistakes. The right of the federal government to govern annexed territory has been clearly declared by the supreme court of United States. That one of the most important duties of the American citizens is to provide good home government, is true, but this duty would be stimulated by the efforts to establish and maintain good government for the annexed territory.

The world's history shows that the only people qualified to exercise that independent jurisdiction with reference to local affairs, which, by the United States constitution is given to the people, is the English speaking race. The very fact that the admission of such districts would be fraught with very considerable danger, tends materially to prevent the addition to the union of states formed from annexed territory occupied by English speaking people.

If we are to succeed we must meet the conditions which confront us with confidence and hope, trusting that our people will not prove themselves inferior to others of the English speaking race in their capacity to establish a stable government among themselves, or to govern alien races.

Let us then look forward to the solutions of the present problems with the courage and enthusiasm which will achieve success, if success is at all possible.

## Professional Women's League Meets

The second meeting of the Professional Women's League was held on Wednesday afternoon, at the home of Dr. Laura Bronson.

This organization, as before mentioned in these columns, is for the furthering of friendship and social ends among the professional women.

The Medical, Dental and Pharmaceutical departments had charge of

this meeting, and they made it a very enjoyable session.

Each member represented a book, and a prize was awarded to Miss Lillian Young for guessing the largest number of books represented.

The League was in turn entertained by an instrumental solo by Miss Fannie Parker-Anderson, and a declamation by Miss Maud Daly, "Aunt Polly's George Washington."

Rev. Elinor Gordon gave a very interesting discourse on the questions and difficulties now confronting professional women.

All then renewed their childhood's memory of George Washington by attempting, while blindfolded, to place a hatchet in the notched trunk of a cherry tree.

The entire time was very pleasantly spent. The roll has been increased to thirty-eight, and the members feel that the league is a decided success.

## Forum.

The following was the program given at the Forum last evening:

Speech..... Mr. Bittle  
"Postal Savings Bank."

Paper..... Mr. Underwood  
"Corporations."

Debate—"Resolved, that Congress should pass a law retiring the greenbacks."

Affirmed by Messrs. Baker and Holly.

Denied by Messrs. Landman and Letts.

Reading..... Mr. Tallman  
"The Puzzled Dutchman."

Extemporaneous..... Mr. Sargent  
"Requisites of a Successful Lawyer."

Each member helped to make the evening entertaining. Special mention should be made of the speech of Mr. Bittle, and the reading of Mr. Tallman.

## Notice.

Beginning Monday, February 27, the schedule for drill will be as follows:

Mondays—Co. B.  
Wednesdays—Co's. A. and D.

Fridays—Co's. C and Battery.

All absentees of Co's. A, C, and the Battery will make up drills with Co. B. All absentees of Co's. B and D will make up drills with Co. C.

G. S. SCHAEFFER,  
Commandant.

## Notice.

The Junior class sociable will occur in the Society Halls, Wednesday next. All members of the class are urged to be present. COMMITTEE.

## Notice.

Senior girls will please take notice that all orders for caps must be left at Coast & Easley by 5 p. m., Monday, February 27. CHAIRMAN.

Colorado College has decided to allow work done in the literary societies to be counted as an elective study.

By the gift of \$50,000 from Mr. James Stillman, of New York City, to cover the cost of land, and an infirmary for sick students, the immediate building of the Harvard Infirmary, which has been under discussion for several years, is at last assured.

## Freshman Zetagathian Program.

Armed and equipped with weighty arguments and smooth-flowing words, the Freshman Zetagathians appeared before the public last evening in their special Freshman blowout. On the whole the program rendered was good. The debate lacked somewhat of the usual rush and vim, and also of the originality in hunting out original arguments.

The program was prefaced by a lively selection of music on the piano by Miss Reno, which was much appreciated.

The declamation, "A One Day's Solitude," gave Mr. L. J. Tuttle the opportunity of displaying to good advantage a good delivery and a fine voice.

In "An Epoch of History," Mr. Mahaffey eulogized Andrew Jackson.

The debate of the evening was upon the question, "Resolved, that the government land-grants to railroads were not to the best interests of this country."

In opening the debate, R. C. Williamson made a spirited attack upon the land-grants, holding that they were unnecessary, and a source of corruption. He was followed by J. W. McBurney, who dealt with the increased prices and development of the country through railroads.

J. W. Morse, in continuing the debate, insisted that the argument should be confined to the question. His entire appearance is deserving of great praise, his rebuttal work being especially good.

Richard McCabe quoted authorities to prove that individual enterprise alone would not have built the railroads. His work was in every way strong and characteristic of a fine debate.

F. H. Randall made one of the finest speeches of the evening. His rebuttal was of a high order.

Vern Plum endeavored to refute some of the affirmative's arguments, and continued the argument that railroads had bettered communication.

Messrs. McCabe and Morse closed for their respective sides.

The oration, "Whitman and Oregon," by H. G. Bartlett, contained excellent thought and composition.

The judges decided in favor of the affirmative.

Mr. Tullis' admirable bone selection amused the audience for a short time.

## Irving.

In spite of the fact that the Zetagathians gave their Freshman special on the same evening, a good sized audience listened to the following program at Irving:

Music..... Mr. Tullis  
Bone Solo.

Recitation..... C. W. Russell  
"The Madman."

Speech..... F. A. Williams  
"At the Exposition."

Debate—"Resolved, that the United States should retain the Philippine Islands under the open-door policy."

Affirmed by W. J. Springer and L. E. Switzer.

Denied by J. S. Nelson and M. L. Curtis.

Decided two for the negative.

Oration..... S. S. Stockwell  
"Two Heroes."

Declamation..... C. R. Garrett  
"Patriotism."

Music..... Miss Reno  
Piano Solo.

The program was on the whole very well prepared.

The oration by Mr. Stockwell was the treat of the evening. The beauty of the language with which he expresses his every thought, mark him at once as one of the prettiest writers in the University. His delivery is not of the spread-eagle style, but rather is made all the more impressive by its modesty.

The piano solo made a very beautiful closing number.

Professor B. F. Shambaugh has commenced a series of lectures extending over a period of two or three weeks, upon the "History and Principles of Roman Law." These lectures are intended for the class in Politics I, which meets the Professor on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at 8 o'clock.

Simpson College won first place in the State Oratorical Contest at Mount Vernon. Mr. S. M. Holladay, with an oration "Twentieth Century Politics," was given the first honors by the judges on thought and composition and on delivery. Second place was given to W. A. North, of Des Moines College, and third to H. S. Vincent, of Coe College.

The editorial which appeared in the VIDETTE-REPORTER of Feb. 4th on "Professor or 'Mr.'" has attracted no little attention among the college papers. The Nebraskan says: "In a late issue of the VIDETTE-REPORTER published at the University of Iowa, the following editorial appeared under the head of 'Professor' or 'Mr.'" The Nebraskan considers it of sufficient worth to publish it in full.

The "Origin of the name Iowa" is an interesting paper by Professor B. F. Shambaugh in the latest issue of the Annals of Iowa. The name Iowa was first applied to the Iowa District, then to the Territory, and later, to the State of Iowa. The Professor traces the origin of the name as applied to the District, and finds in the words of an early chronicler, that "from the extent and beauty of the Iowa River, which runs centrally through the District, and gives character to most of it, the name of that stream being both euphonic and appropriate, has been given to the District itself."

The students of Cornell University have contributed about \$600 for the support of the track team.

Harvard has recently received an endowment establishing a professorship in hygiene, the income from which will ultimately provide a salary higher than is now paid to any professor in the university.

Princeton has made several changes in her system of selecting Varsity debaters. The most important is that hereafter all judges of preliminary debates will be Faculty members. Three alternates will be chosen for the final debate, instead of one, as before, and these men will form a team to practice against the regular speakers.

## The Vidette - Reporter

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### The Judging of Debates.

Just what shall be the points upon which a debate shall be judged, is a question which is agitated not only in our own University, but elsewhere. In three of the late issues of the VIDETTE-REPORTER we have published extracts from discussions that have been carried on in the columns of The Ariel, the official paper of the University of Minnesota. The points presented by the disputants are full of interest.

The plan presented by two contributors is a novel one. They would have the debate take place on neutral ground—the Iowa-Minnesota debate, for example, to be held in Nebraska or Wisconsin, for example. The debaters are to present their arguments to the audience. The audience will then be allowed to determine by a majority vote which side has won the decision.

This plan has several features to commend it, besides its novelty, and might prove successful, did it not so conflict with the eternal fitness of things. Debaters on class and society debates could not spare the time or money necessary to the proposed migrations. Even in the case of interstate debates, frailties in the human nature of even college men are such that abuses would be likely to arise if such a practice were initiated.

The proposition of one contributor, who would allow for "defects of speech and similar handicaps, as some very good arguments are often lost by the inability of the speaker to make them clear," is ridiculous on its face. The purpose of all debates being to encourage ability in debating, the speaker who can best present the best argument is necessarily the best debater. With our system of marking equally on argument and presentation, the

question would not require discussion. The giving of consolation votes by judges is certainly a most reprehensible practice. Judges are chosen to decide for the side which they believe in the right, not in the wrong, which has won, not lost.

All the contributors seem to be unanimous that the judge should leave out all personal bias when judging a debate. The debaters are not required to remove doubts and convictions in the minds of the judge. The judge should be perfectly neutral on the question while passing upon the debate. To require one side of the question to remove the doubts that may exist in the mind of a judge, is to pit the affirmative or the negative against the judge, not against each other.

The side which makes the best argument before the judges should receive the decision. Only by this will the ideal of these contests be kept in view, namely, the encouragement of skill in debating. True, when the choice of sides on a question lays with one set of debaters, they will choose the side which they consider the stronger, and they do so because that side will give them the greatest opportunities for the display of their ability in argument, arrangement, rhetorical ability, and rebuttal.

If any emphasis further than this is to be laid on the stronger side of the question, an undue part of the debate will lie in the fortuitous choice of sides. The debaters will go on the platform with the chances of the debate hanging greatly in favor of one side or the other before a word is spoken by either, instead of being, as they should be, exactly even before the judges.

The judge ought to compare the speakers on each side as they progress in debate. At the close of the debate the results should be summed up, and the side having the preponderating margin should receive the decision of the judge. This, we believe, is the correct view to be taken of the judging of debates. It keeps steadily in mind the purposes of college debates. It is the view that has obtained, we lieve, with the soundest of our University judges.

Certainly the question is one of importance. The Debating League should speedily adopt some course in reference to it.

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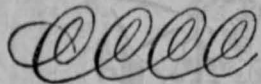
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**FACT AND RUMOR.**

Professor Veblen is out of town.

Stork, C. '02, has been sick this  
week.

Rankin, C. '01, again appears at  
classes.

Wagner Ladies' Quartet to-night at  
Clouse Hall.

C.C. Converse, C. '01, is again able  
to attend classes.

Professor Nutting lectured at Solon  
Thursday evening.

Phi Psi will give an informal party  
next Friday evening.

Miss Bishop, of Cedar Falls, is visit-  
ing Miss Tuttle, C. '02.

Mr. Rowman gave the Physics class  
an examination Friday.

Walter Evans, of Williamsburg,  
visited E. Yates, Friday.

The Iowa-Wisconsin debate is to be  
held in Milwaukee, March 31.

Professor Wilcox will lecture in  
Cedar Rapids Monday evening.

McFerrin, C. '02, was initiated into  
the Philomathian Society last night.

Goldsmith, '02, after several weeks'  
absence, has returned to his work in  
the University.

J. W. Morse and F. M. Randall were  
elected Freshman debaters by the  
Zets last evening.

Edson, L. '99, is entertaining his  
brother, a graduate of I. A. C. Mr.  
Edson expects to enter the Law de-  
partment next September.

Mr. Gallaway, civil engineer '98, of  
Ames, and Mr. Gordon, civil engineer  
'96, of Cornell, N. Y., visited the En-  
gineering department this week.

LATEST STYLE HATS AND FURNISHING GOODS AT BLOOM & MAYERS.

Professor B. F. Shambaugh went to Burlington, Friday evening, where he delivered a lecture.

The Oratorical Association met last evening and partially adopted the revised constitution.

Erickson, L. '99, is more jovial than ever the last few days. He is enjoying a visit from his brother.

The Wagner Ladies' Quartet will sing at the morning service in the Presbyterian church to-morrow.

Assistant Professor Wickham had charge of the Zoology class, Friday, in the absence of Professor Nutting.

Professor Macbride lectured on Public Parks before the Contemporary Club at Davenport Thursday night.

Assistant Professor Bohumil Shimiek will lecture at the Unitarian Church, Sunday evening. He will take, for his theme, the life of Louis Kossuth.

Messrs. Albert, C. '00, Dickinson, C. '99, Edson, L. '99, Goodenough, Phar. '00, Letts, L. '99, and Free, M. '02, attended the State Oratorical Contest at Cornell College, Thursday evening.

The Sunday evening lecture in the Congregational church will be given by Professor W. C. Wilcox, on the subject: "The Words of Nehemiah, the Son of Hachaliah." All students are cordially invited.

Ivy Lane met with Miss Cushing, Thursday evening, and the following officers were elected for the remainder of the school year: President, F. C. Drake; Secretary, Esther Swisher; Treasurer, Kate Close.

President Currier, to whom was referred for adjudication the oration lately protested on the ground of plagiarism, has decided that the charge is not substantiated. The oration will therefore be allowed to contest, as before, for a place on the local Oratorical Contest, to be held in about three weeks.

William H. Edwards, of Lisle, N. Y., has been elected captain of the Princeton foot ball team.

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The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers, that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials. Address, F. J. CHENEY & Co., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, 75c. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

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