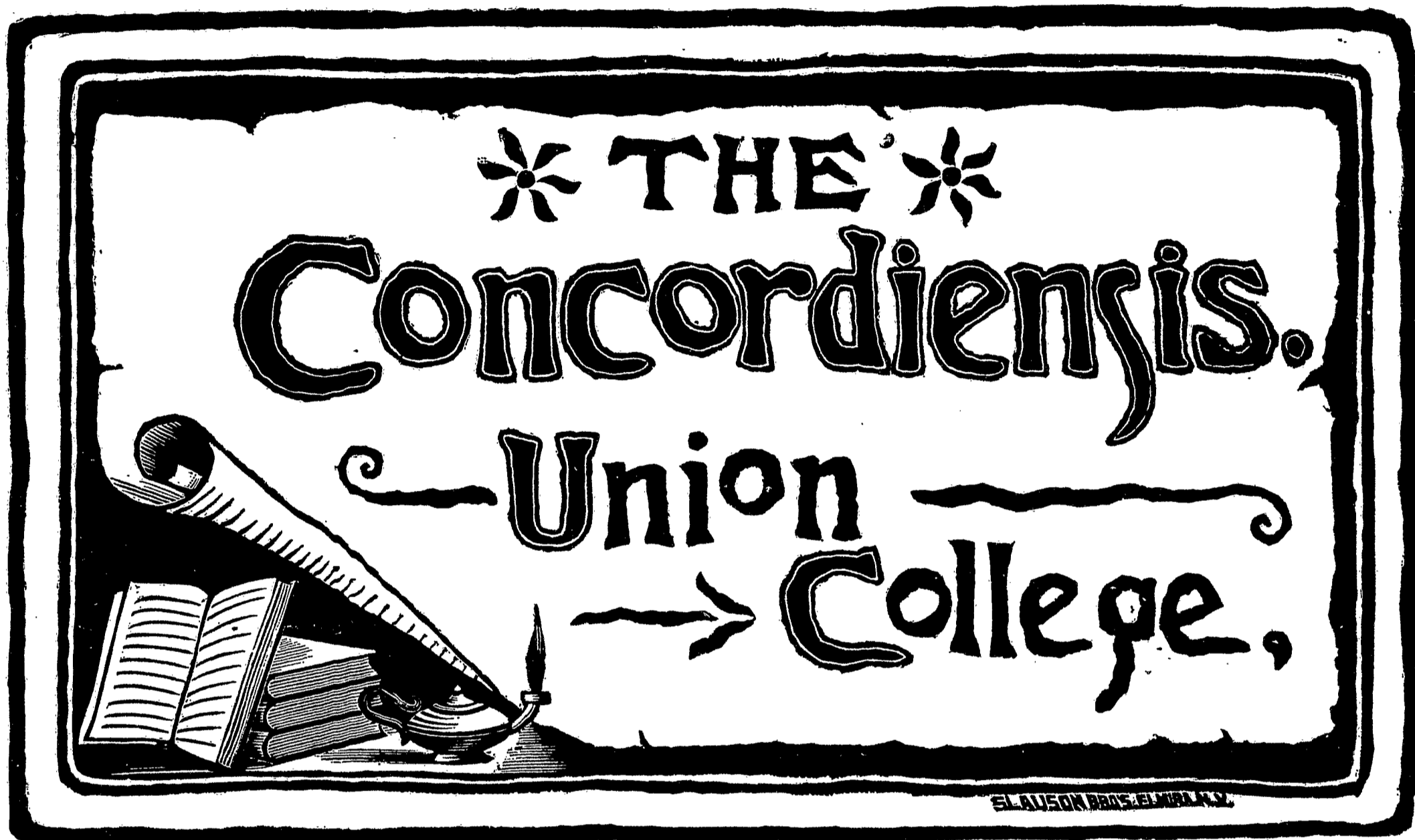


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SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

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ACCOUNTS of the different class suppers are given in other columns. They appear to have been very successful in every point but that of attendance. A class supper held by only fifty per cent of the class does not speak well for the spirit of that class; and it is difficult to understand why classes that promised so much and that have appeared to such advantage heretofore should not be equally enthusiastic in the matter of a supper. As these suppers are held generally in large places and are necessarily somewhat public, it should be our endeavor to make them representative in every particular.

* * *

THE papers have lately had a great deal to say in regard to Bradley Martin of New York city, a graduate of Union in 1863. Mr. Martin is very wealthy and his family is said by *Frank Leslie's* to be the fourth in social position in New York. Recently we read of a ball given by this gentleman at the enormous expense of \$50,000; but we have failed to read of any donation from him to Union or to any other collegiate institution. If we are mistaken, we will gladly accept correction.

* * *

THE *Mail and Express* of February 19th contained a very able article upon the standard of oratory at the present day. It was inspired by the attitude of "Eli Perkins" upon that subject; and differed from him upon the ground that he himself uses the most consummate elocutionary art in advancing the idea that oratory is on the decline. The suggestion is also made that perhaps this idea is the hugest joke of all in that symposium of jokes and wisdom delivered by Mr. Landon.

* * *

THE CONCORDIENSIS regrets sincerely that "Eli Perkins" article will be delayed

a month on account of a southern trip taken by Mr. Landon. We have noticed, with pleasure, a great deal of inquiry and interest in this approaching article, and assure our readers that their disappointment is no more than our own. Mr. Landon assures us that it will be ready for our April number.

IN this number will be found an article of reminiscences, by the Rev. J. C. Cruikshank, '34, of Little Falls, N. J. Mr. Cruikshank is superintendent of public instruction in Passaic county, New Jersey. Besides being a graduate of Union, he is an alumnus of the Theological Seminary of Brunswick, N. J.

* * *

WE take great pleasure in illustrating this month the newly appointed minister to Russia; Charles Emory Smith, Union, '61. The excellent cut is obtained through the kindness of the *Journalist*, published at New York city. In the last number of the *Journalist*, a long and interesting sketch of Mr. Smith accompanied this likeness.

PATRONIZE THOSE WHO PATRONIZE US.

Literary.

Reminiscences of the Class Graduating at Union College, Schenectady, 1834.

The class was formed in the usual way. The writer joined it the third term of the sophomore year, and soon became familiar with college routine duties and studies. Once in June, at early dawn, the students were awakened by an announcement in the section hall that Gen. Scott and his command would breakfast at the Davis Hotel. The troops had been brought from New York by steamboat during the night to Albany and were hastened on to Schenectady by the railway cars. They were on their way to the Black Hawk Indian war.

The students rushed down to the hotel to see the "Hero of Chippeway," and his soldiers. They were soon off in canal boats, already waiting to take them to Buffalo as fast as horse speed could. Gen. Scott, his battles, and his troops, were subjects of conversation for days in college circles. The troops never reached their destination, and the soldier excitement passed away. College study and foot-ball were renewed with vigor, and all out-door exercises. The young men were orderly, played but few pranks, were bent on mental culture and a respectable class standing. There came hours of deep thought, anxiety at heart, and a sober expression on the face. The press, the country over, was an alarmist. "The Asiatic cholera is upon us. It will be here. It will be brought on by the great channel of commercial intercourse. The scourge of all lands. New York, inland cities and villages will be made desolate." How the New York papers were watched every evening and morning; it was a relief: No cholera yet. Human predictions are not always true. The cloud was not to hang over New York first, and pour its malignant contents on that great and wicked city.

In the second week of July, after morning prayers, Dr. Nott informed the students that, with the exception of the seniors, they were dismissed. He wished them to leave that day and not to return until notified. He said that "yesterday, emigrants, who had come into the country by the way of Quebec, had come up the lake and shipped with their effects on canal boats, at Whitehall, for the Erie canal and the west, had been stopped at Mechanicsville, the cholera had broken out amongst them, and they had buried already several of their number; and that two companies of militia had been forwarded from Troy to prevent their pro-

ceeding any further." What, stop the cholera, at the point of the bayonet, or by shaking an old rusty blunderbuss at it? Poor fellows, hurried off without fitting conveniences, one-third of them, it was said, succumbed to the disease. This stupid effort to arrest the progress of the cholera came to an end, and the emigrants were allowed to go on their way. A sanitary commission, made up of guns and blunderbusses, had not been of much repute. The members of the class were called to return, October 1st, in numbers greatly diminished. But few joined the class until the senior year, when from the eastern colleges came eleven or fifteen, who wished to attend Dr. Nott's lectures on elocution. The number appeared respectable on graduating day, there were on roll sixty-six, but only thirty were in attendance. Twenty-five of the sixty-six entered the ministry. A classmate writes: "I was sent to the borders of civilization to fight the devil, the Indian and poverty."

Commencement day, 23d of July, 1834, was beautiful. The Reformed church was well filled. President Nott, venerable, the model college president, presided, surrounded on the stage by trustees and state officials, Gen. Wm. L. Marcy, Chancellor Walworth, Chief Justice Savage, Secretary of State John A. Dix, and others of note in the state and church. Orations were limited to eight minutes, no prompters allowed. A student from Schenectady was on the program to speak a poem, "Female Education." He came upon the stage beautifully attired. For three minutes he followed his prepared poem, then suddenly turning his back to the audience stood face to face with Dr. Nott; assuming a belligerent position, shaking his fist, he began to pour out volume after volume of vile epithets, accusing him and the faculty of being arbitrary, of oppression and severity in their government and

college exactions—a faculty of tyrants. In a high pitch of voice he shouted: “I will not take your diploma from your hands, I tear it in fragments, scatter them to the winds.” It was evident that he had not counted the cost of his tirade upon himself. His face burning with rage, striking his fists, as if insanity possessed him, and choked down by his high pitch of voice, he broke down, actually ran a half circle around the right side of the platform and *graduated* by a jump out of a rear window of the church.

J. C. CRUIKSHANK, '34.

GILLESPIE CLUB DEPARTMENT.

“Asphalt Pavements.”

It is a very remarkable fact, in the history of useful arts, that asphalt, which was so generally employed as a solid and durable cement in the earliest constructions on record, as in the walls of Babylon, should, for so many thousand years, have fallen well nigh into disuse among civilized nations. For there is no class of mineral substances so well fitted, as this bituminous matter by its plasticity, tenacity, adhesiveness to surfaces, impenetrability by water, and unchangeableness in the atmosphere, to enter into the composition of street pavements and many kinds of hydraulic work.

Bitumen combined with calcareous earth forms a compact, semi-elastic solid, which is not liable to suffer injury by the alternations of frost and thaw, which often disintegrates, in a few years, the hardest stones, nor can it be worn away by the attrition of the feet of men or animals, as readily as sandstone, flag and even granite.

Mineral asphalt is relatively a soft stone, which becomes more compact as the temperature diminishes; but yields under the influence of heat to such an extent that an exposure of a few days to the summer sun will cause it to crumble. This prop-

erty has indeed recommended the application of the compressed material to the making of pavements. Its use for this purpose seems to have been suggested by accident. When the mineral was first quarried, the pieces which fell along the roads from the wagons carrying it were ground up by the wheels and finally compressed again by the continual passage of the wagons over the dust, so as to form a kind of spontaneous pavement. A Swiss engineer, acting upon the suggestion of this incident, asphalted a part of the road between Travers and Pontarlier in a rough way, but with satisfactory results. The next year the inspector general of bridges and highways recommended asphalt as a mineral for pavements, in a report to the minister of public works, and the first asphalt pavement was laid in Paris in 1854.

The Trinidad asphalt now seems to be the best material for pavement purposes, as is already shown by its popular use in our large cities. This system of street pavement is controlled by three companies: Barber Asphalt Paving Company, Warren-Scharf Asphalt Company, and National Vulcanite Company. The first two mentioned companies' methods of making asphalt pavements are the same, while the latter only differs from the former in the percentage of asphalt, and coal-tar used in the composition. The vulcanite is cheaper as regards the laying of the pavement, but slightly more expensive to keep in repair.

The asphalt pavement is not entirely without its defects: First it is liable to form “wave surfaces” (especially on grades), which are probably due to a lack of cohesion between the wearing surface and base. Secondly the formation of transverse cracks, which are more apt to occur on wide streets, and undoubtedly due to expansion and contraction caused by variation of temperature. Vulcanite is

also accompanied with its defects: First it is affected at a lower temperature than asphalt, and thus, during warm weather, it has a tendency to flow toward the gutter and gradually fill it up. Vulcanite is not so liable to "transverse cracks," or "wave surfaces," as the asphalt on account of its greater longitudinal strength, due to a closer union of the base and wearing surface. On the other hand, in making repairs, the surface of the asphalt can be easily removed and renewed, while with the vulcanite the "wearing surface" can not be separated from the base, and, in resurfacing, it is necessary to overlay the whole surface.

In laying an asphalt pavement, the street should be graded to a depth below the surface of the street on the center line, equal to the thickness of the pavement which is to be laid. The surface of the ground is then carefully rammed and rolled until it is perfectly smooth and crowned in the center. The curb-stones having been set at the proper depth, the foundation is now ready for its concrete base, which is usually about six inches thick.

The concrete is made by thoroughly mixing the cement (made with as little water as possible) with the broken stone upon a table. It is then spread upon the sub-grade and rammed until the surplus cement flows to the top. After the concrete has thoroughly dried it is next covered over with the wearing surface put on in two layers. The first layer, called the cushion coat, contains from two to four per cent more asphalt cement than the "surface coat" and is about one-half of an inch thick. Its purpose is to reduce the concussion.

The final or surface coat, two inches thick, is then put on and rolled until it hardens. It is not so flexible as the "cushion coat," but seems to be incapable of suffering abrasion in the most crowded thoroughfares.

F. L. COMSTOCK '90.

College News.

An Important Athletic Change.

An important athletic change was consummated at a recent college meeting, by the adoption of a plan whereby the office of base-ball director will hereafter be filled by a college election. The plan provides that a scorer shall be annually elected by the college, who shall succeed in the following year as manager of the nine. Through this plan it is hoped that the manager will be more familiar with the duties of that office and that greater opportunity will be given for the choice of the best man. Preston, '91, was elected to these offices.

The New Catalogue.

The new catalogue has at last appeared, and aside from being much handsomer and printed on heavier paper than heretofore, presents few changes. Several alterations are made in the curriculum, mainly in the senior work. Political economy will hereafter come third term senior, instead of second term junior. Astronomy, geology, and history of civilization are made required studies. The catalogue gives a classification of our magnificent collection of specimens in the Natural History Museum. The department of zoölogy has 15,164, geology has 2,384, and mineralogy 5,000; making a total of 22,548.

Freshman Class Supper.

The freshman class supper was held at the Windsor Hotel in Albany on Friday evening, February 7th. The committee in charge, Messrs. Lord, Tallman, and Thatcher, did everything in their power to make the first class supper of '93 a success, and such indeed it was. The class attended Jacob's Opera House in a body; at the conclusion of the play they

around Albany, but at the time appointed for the supper to begin every junior turned up all right, and for nearly four hours they discussed the elaborate *menu* which was placed before them. At no time was the musical talent of '91 neglected, and every one sang till he could sing no more. Although the songs of '91's freshman and sophomore years were acknowledged to be excellent still the song which appeared on their junior *menu* was the greatest favorite of the three, and its author may well be proud of it.

The Second Junior Hop.

The last dance of the season, no doubt, and the best dance of the season, so think the juniors at least. This was the "junior hop," which was given by '91, in Fuller's Hall on the evening of the 17th of last month. Every one seemed to realize that, as Lent was very near, there would probably not be another dance for a long time, and therefore the juniors received very few regrets to the large number of invitations which they sent out. Every one anticipated a good time and no one was disappointed. From half past eight in the evening until the small hours of Tuesday morning, the music was kept going almost continuously, and owing, no doubt, to the good floor management every dance passed off very smoothly. As the strains of the last waltz sounded through the room regrets were heard on every side, that the dance, like all things, must have an end. Many were the compliments which the juniors received, and the committee felt well repaid for the pains they had taken to make their dance a success.

Robertson, Briggs and Conant were the floor managers. The members of the committee were given in the November number of the CONCORDIENSIS.

A "Brace" in Athletics.

The athletic outlook at Union is very cheering to the heart of the man who has for four years never seen the same spirit and interest in these matters that is being now manifested. A look into the gymnasium reveals daily a large number of men actively engaged in general calisthenic training, while special work with reference to base-ball and foot-ball is being done by the numerous candidates for positions upon these teams. This is especially noticeable in regard to base-ball, every position having several competitors; while the number of embryo catchers and pitchers is surprising. It really looks as if everyone means business this spring. Manager Comstock expects to have the men go to a training table the first day of next spring term; his plan of selling season tickets to the games is meeting with general favor both in college and in the city, and it is safe to say that the students have never supported the team better, financially, than they are expected to do this spring. The college may confidently expect to have a team worthy of this support and one upon which it can depend. McDonald will be in the box, and his constant training and superb condition give assurance that we may expect telling work.

Nor is the athletic advance confined entirely to base-ball. It is extremely hopeful to notice that the foot-ball men are not making the customary delay—until fall—before getting down to work. Many of the men are earnestly training and practicing the special requirements of their positions. Van Valkenburg, weighing now 175, is working indefatigably and those who saw him go through Rochester's line last Thanksgiving can realize what a magnificent half-back Union will have in him next fall. The financial prospect for next year's team is being

already looked after by the manager, who is putting into successful operation a scheme for raising money from the alumni. As the amount given by the college has never been sufficient to properly equip and handle the team, he hopes in this manner to raise enough to supplement the subscriptions of the students.

Altogether it appears as if the athletic development of the college will go side by side with its academic and popular advancement.

The President to the Students.

ON March 1st a college meeting was called by President Webster on which occasion he made many pleasant and interesting remarks.

Among others, he congratulated the faculty (remarking that when he referred to the faculty he always included himself) on the excellent work that is being done and the interest manifest in college duties and thanked the students for the orderly manner in which they had conducted themselves. He remarked the new spirit with which the men have taken hold of their various enterprises this year as presaging the most favorable results. He congratulated the men on the revival of the two literary societies which once exerted so powerful an influence on the intellectual life of Union, as a most favorable sign of increased literary interest. He assured the students of his sympathy and hearty coöperation in all their enterprises. He declared himself decidedly in favor of all athletics; that while the all-important object of a man in college should be study, still he held that a legitimate amount of athletics was to be favored, and that men who were interested in foot-ball or base-ball or other forms of athletics should be encouraged. He assured the men that they might call on him for assistance in their various enterprises and he would do

all in his power to aid them. The gymnasium is now in excellent condition, but he said that if more apparatus should be needed at any time it would be furnished. Dr. Webster next stated that if at any time misunderstandings should arise with the faculty that all appeals, if made by representative persons, would receive a fair consideration by the faculty and that, while it would be folly for him to say that in all cases they would be favorably decided, still he assured the students, they would honorably dealt with. He said he believed in dealing with men as men, and that it was his opinion that men in college ought to have a voice in matters that concerned them. At the close of his remarks the president announced that next term he would give weekly lectures on subjects chosen from current topics of interest.

Dr. Webster's remarks elicited frequent and hearty applause from the students, who seemed to appreciate and favor all that he said.

PATRONIZE THOSE WHO PATRONIZE US.

Locals.

The Adelpic and Philomathean are both doing good work.

The foot-ball league has adopted a constitution and by-laws.

The base ball director has announced that all places in the team are open.

It is hoped that the new dirt courts will be ready for use at the beginning of next term.

Some of the freshmen have organized a class glee club and are practicing regularly.

The candidates for the foot-ball and base-ball teams are practicing daily in the "Gym." There appears to be much good material for both teams.

There are twenty-five men training for the base-ball team.

In lieu of a class poem, the senior class has decided to have each man write a four-line poem and have the collection read class night by Deane.

Inter-collegiate field-day, this year, will be held at Syracuse. This is intended as a trial for the permanent location of meetings of the association at Syracuse.

H. W. Preston, '91, has been elected president of the Inter-Collegiate Base-Ball Association for next year. Syracuse has the vice-president, and Hamilton has secretary.

The freshman class ball nine has challenged the freshman nine at Syracuse. The game will probably be played. It is stated that a game will also be played with the R. P. I. freshmen.

F. L. Carroll, '90, has been appointed by Union to meet with the delegates of the other colleges in the association at the next meeting of the base-ball league, in order to settle matters relating to last field-day.

At a recent meeting of the senior class the resignation of John Knox as poet and ivy poet was received. The only grove office now remaining filled is that of ivy orator. At this same meeting a tax of \$10 was voted upon each member of the class.

The classes for Bible study meet every Wednesday at five o'clock in Prof. Hoffman's room. For the past several weeks the subject for discussion has been "miracles." The meetings have been under the leadership of Prof. Hoffman and have been of intense interest.

The senior and junior chapel orations commenced February 28th, and will continue Fridays until the work is completed. The following had spoken up to March

7th: Seniors—Bennett, "The essential thing;" Brandmahl, "Danger of trusts;" Brown, "Strikes;" Carroll, "Law not a statute;" Clute, "True value of life;" Dean, "Relation of State and Church in the United States;" Fish, "Future of the Anglo-Saxon;" Harder, "The haste to be rich;" Hawkes, "Individual opinion." Juniors—Briggs, "Our American Republic;" Clements, "Critics and criticism;" Conant, "Should the Negro go?;" Ferguson, "Character of Jefferson Davis;" Lay, "Character of Rienzi."

The Schenectady Musical Society gave an invitation concert in the chapel on the evening of March 10th. A general invitation was extended to the students, a large number of whom attended and thoroughly enjoyed the classical program, printed below. Messrs. Meserve, Coons and Hills, all of '92, acted as ushers.

PROGRAM.

- MOSCHELES.—"Homage to Handel."
Misses Young and Van Voast.
- HERING.—"Moorland Ride."
Miss Hills, Mrs. Dillingham, Miss Pitkin.
- TEMPLE.—"An Old Garden."
Miss Hills.
- SCHUMANN.—"3d Movement from Sonata for piano-forte and violin," Op. 121.
Mrs. Brown and Mr. Strachan.
- COOMBS.—"The Journey is Long."
Miss Freeman.
- BRAGA.—"Angel's Serenade."
Miss Hills.
Violin Obligato, Mr. Strachan.
- SCHUMANN.—"Romance," F. sharp major, Op. 28.
Miss Quaife.
- SMART.—"Down in the Dewy Dell."
Miss Hills, Mrs. Dillingham, Miss Pitkin.
- RAFF.—"Cavatina."
HAUPTMAN.—"Allegro from Sonata," Op. 23.
Mr. Strachan

Prof. Loissette's Memory System is Creating greater interest than ever in all parts of the country, and persons wishing to improve their memory should send for his prospectus free, as advertised in another column.

An advisory board is to be formed at Amherst to have control of the athletics. It will consist of the professor of physical education, managers of the base-ball, football and general athletic teams, two members of the faculty and three alumni.

At a recent meeting of the Yale corporation it was formally voted to establish a department of music in the university, with Gustavus G. Stoeckel, for many years Yale's instructor of music, at its head. A fund of nearly \$300,000 has been placed at the disposal of the corporation with which to erect a suitable building and provide for the employment of several instructors.—*Mail and Express*.

A speech recently delivered by George William Curtis before the alumni of Brown, is attracting a great deal of attention. Comparing the colleges of to-day with those of a century ago, he said: "When our oldest university was founded, it was to equip men for the ministry. To-day, however, we require of a college that it shall equip and thoroughly train American citizens. We demand that the head of a college shall not only be a student, shall not only be a scholar, but that he shall be a man of affairs; a man of tact; a man fully alive with the modern spirit and the best spirit of his own time; of catholic sympathy; of not only a knowledge of men, but especially of that myriad mind and that strange and subtle nature which the young man possesses, and that upon all occasions and everywhere he shall fitly and with dignity represent the greatest force in all civilized power."

They are With Us.

In response to the two prizes offered last term for the best Williams songs only a few were sent. It has been decided to hold open the offer till June 1, and all wishing to compete should send in their productions before that date.—*Williams Weekly*.

Necrology.

'22. Dr. James R. Boyd, the author of the well-known "Boyd's Rhetoric," died lately at his home in Geneva.

'24. Jacob M. Schemerhorn died in Syracuse, Feb. 23, 1890. He was born in Schenectady, Nov. 12, 1804, of one of the oldest branches of the Schemerhorn family which came to this country in 1638. Mr. Schemerhorn graduated from Union in the class of '24. In 1828, he moved to Rochester. For some time he was a lawyer, afterward president of Monroe County Bank, a position which he held for five years. He was identified with the brick Presbyterian church, to which he was warmly attached. In 1841 he settled in Homer, N. Y., where he continued to live until the time of his death. He was president of the Syracuse and Binghamton road. He always took an interest in all charitable enterprises and even after he retired from active business life he kept informed on everything relating to it. He was married in 1841, to Miss Louisa A. Barber, daughter of the late Jedediah Barber, of Homer, N. Y. His wife and two sons, George J. and J. Maus Schemerhorn, of New York, and his two daughters, Mrs. Lewis B. Henry, of East Orange, N. J., and Mrs. John W. Fisher, of Philadelphia, survive him.

'42. The Rev. James Wells Coe, a distinguished clergyman, died at Danville, Ill., recently. He was born in Johnstown, N. Y., and graduated from Union in 1842. He was 86 years old at the time of his death.

'45. Edward S. Foot recently fell from a balcony at Hancock, N. Y., and broke his neck.

'66. Lamott W. Rhoades, died at Crystal Spring, Colorado. He has been district attorney of Rensselaer county, member of the assembly, and was alumni trustee of Union from '81-'85. He was a Φ B. K.

Exchanges.

The *Pulse* is the best of our western exchanges. Its columns often contain verse of marked quality.

The CONCORDIENSIS feels highly gratified by the generous comments of its exchanges concerning the song prize lately offered, and concerning other features of the paper.

Speaking of songs, we feel that we must give evidence of our appreciation of the lyrical department of the *Brunonian*. Every issue of this excellent paper is replete with verse of surprising quality. It is hard to understand why we and so many of our sister colleges seem to be so deficient in this poetical ability.

Boxing is the title of an article by Prof. A. Austen, in the *March Outing*. Prof. Austen treats his subject with the sure touch of an expert in the manly exercise that he justly holds to be an art worthy not only of the athlete's interest and consideration, but of those of all men who believe in a normal, healthy development of good sinews. This paper is well illustrated by instantaneous photographs, showing many of the positions assumed in boxing.

The *Columbia Spectator* bemoans the slim English course attached to the institution; saying that the entrance requirements of that course are below those of most preparatory schools; and claiming that Columbia's English course is a farce up to senior year. By the way—the *Spectator* is about our ideal of a college paper.

The *McMicken Review* says: The review of Mr. Bellamy's book, "Looking Backward," in the CONCORDIENSIS is a very able one. The writer must have a very fair knowledge of the social question. We would hesitate, though, before we would include Mr. Bellamy among the

"greatest benefactors of the race."
"Looking Backward" is not a "vision," but a dream, and it can pretend to nothing more.

Reviews.

Mark Twain's (Samuel L. Clemens) latest work, "A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court," is the story of the adventures of a mechanical genius, who, in a delirium caused by a shop broil, is transported backward thirteen centuries. Arriving at King Arthur's court, his immensely superior abilities and knowledge of future events and the civilization of future ages brings about a prompt recognition of his superior powers and his installation as the king's right-hand man. His lack of noble lineage, however, prevents the assumption of any title otherwise than that of The Boss, which he regards as much more satisfactory and distinguishing than any title of nobility. He seeks to bring about a nineteenth century civilization in Britain; and in consequence comes into a great deal of opposition with the enchanter Merlin, in which, however, the scientific skill of The Boss invariably wins. Much of the ludicrousness of the work lies in the descriptions of these mental battles.

The chief idea of the story seems to be the portrayal of the doctrines of feudalism, the divine right of kings, and the claims of a titled nobility in as ridiculous a light as Mark Twain's powerful satire is capable. But the humor, though irresistible, does not constitute even the greater part of the excellence of the work. Here we find the culmination of the quiet scorn and beautiful pathos so characteristic of the "Prince and the Pauper." Here we find his hatred of injustice and love of equality freely expressed. Though purporting to be but a portrayal of chivalry in the time

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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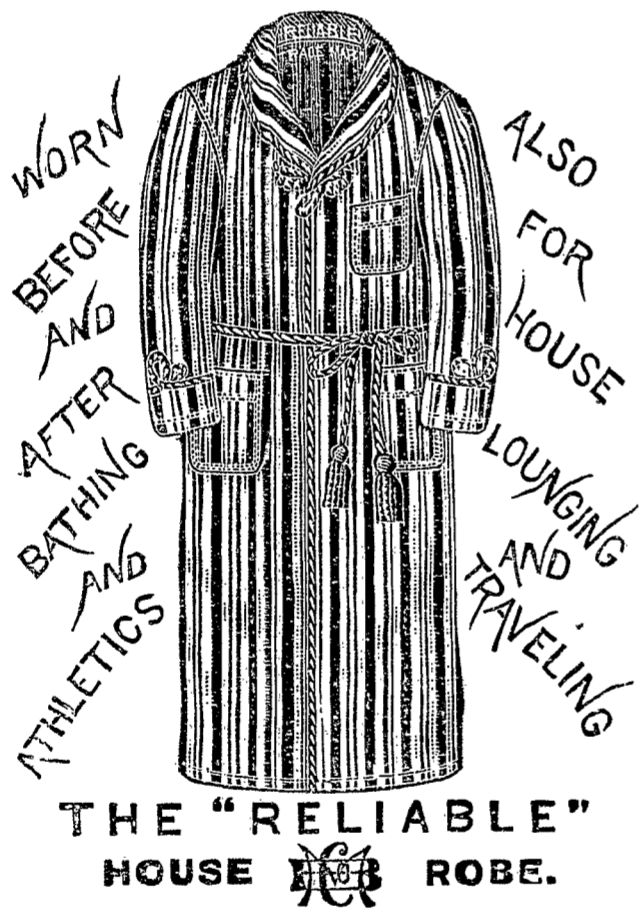
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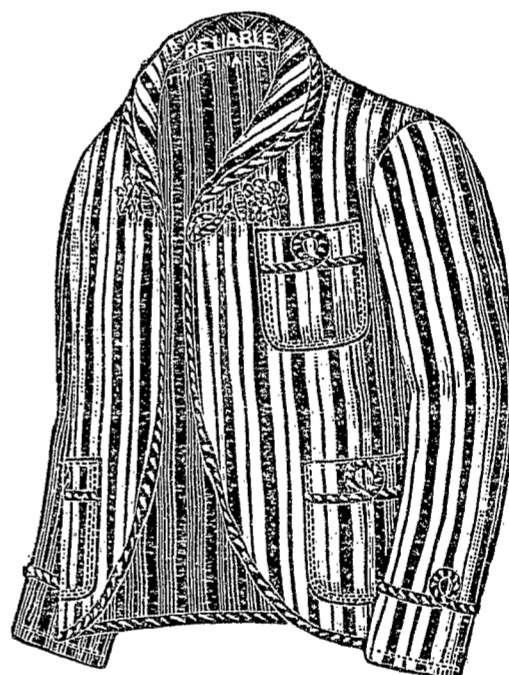
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