

# The Concordiensis.

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No. 6.

## THE CONCORDIENSIS,

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THE STUDENTS OF UNION UNIVERSITY.

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All communications should be addressed to P. O. Box 960. Articles requested from the Alumni.

TERMS.—One Dollar and a-half per year, in advance. Remit to the order of Business Manager.

*Entered at the Schenectady, N. Y., Post-Office as second-class matter.*

AN article has been going the rounds of the college press, to the effect that President Potter, of this institution, had resigned and accepted the position of president at Hobart. This is untrue. President Potter has not resigned. It is likely that the intelligence of his resigning would reach here as soon as some of the colleges in whose papers the statements alluded to were made. It is but right to state, however, that it is the general opinion at Hobart that the offer will not be refused. But this is but an opinion, as Pres. Potter has not, according to our knowledge, spoken decisively on the matter.

A COMMITTEE of the seniors from Hamilton made application on behalf of many of their classmates, for admission to this college. They waited on the dean of the faculty and presented the facts of the case. The matter was considered by the faculty and it was decided that the application should be refused. This is well. A college is not desirous of graduating men whom it did not educate. This and the fact that the men could not bring letters of honorable dismissal from Hamilton, made other action

than that which the faculty took impossible. Since this application has been refused, it is more than likely that a compromise will be effected between the Hamilton faculty and the men, and that most of the seniors will return to graduate.

THE faculty has done well in taking measures to compel the attendance of seniors at the meetings of the senate. Now if some way could be devised of making the silent members (a great majority) speak, it would be better. If silence is a sign of wisdom, the meetings of the senate are full of wisdom. Eighty-four was very desirous last year that a house of representatives should be established and went to a great deal of trouble to procure that end. But now that there is a senate the old zeal seems to have died out and it is found necessary to make compulsory the attendance of the class at the meetings. This should not be so. We have little enough work in this line and should avail ourselves as much as possible of all such opportunities. Brace up—give us some good debates on matters of interest and settle the affairs of the country. We have heard it suggested that there should be an evening session to discuss some important topic to which session the town should be invited. This is a good idea and calculated to revive the lost interest in the senate.

THE spirit of freedom and the rights of the ballot-box have so pervaded all our American institutions that even the colleges of our country guard the ballots in their class elections as jealously as if the result of a presidential campaign was at stake. This is especially true at Union. Class politics here are at a white heat, and embryo politicians are extravagant with midnight oil, if only a new scheme can be concocted. But let us be more explicit, let us glance at the positions held by the several classes.

The seniors, until recently, were afraid to attend a class meeting, lest one party should spring an election on the other. They were unable to have a meeting, even to make arrangements for a class supper, and

secured their annual spread only by going as the college senate and not as a class. But the good fellowship aroused by the senate banquet resulted in an election where no factional feeling appeared.

The junior class bravely defends a position similar to that of the seniors before their class election. After much wire-pulling, one faction secured an election which is not recognized by the other party. The annual supper was enjoyed by only half of the class.

The sophomore and freshman classes are not behind the times, and have promptly resolved themselves into bold and uncompromising politicians. They have been known to spend several hours fighting over an unimportant committee.

Now the question to be settled concerning all these undignified squabbles, is, whether or not it pays. The class offices do not confer lasting fame or lifelong honor. It is only necessary that somebody shall fill them, and, beyond this, there is nothing. As elections are now carried on, it is no honor to be elected, since the most unworthy men are often victorious, simply because their plans have been successful. Who can estimate the extent of the harm done by this state of affairs? Men whose natures are congenial and who would willingly become firm and lasting friends, are torn asunder. The happy college hours would be made still happier, and alumni would look back to student life with less regret if there were more equitable methods used in class politics.

Why then sever the bond of friendship and descend to the low tricks of the ward politician, simply to gratify a selfish ambition? That it would be hard work to restore order in this chaos of party strifes, is undeniable. But if all sides would drop wire-pulling and go to the meetings determined to act upon principles of justice, much of the difficulty and disgrace would be removed.

	<i>Ithaca.</i>	<i>Utica.</i>	<i>Geneva.</i>	<i>Rochester.</i>	<i>Schen'y.</i>
Cornell,		May 17,	May 24,	May 23,	May 16.
Hamilton,	May 20,		May 22,	May 21,	May 30.
Hobart,	May 3,	June 11,		May 30,	June 10.
Rochester,	May 10,	June 7,	May 17,		June 6.
Union,	May 8,	May 10,	May 7,	May 6,	

THE above is a schedule of games for the coming season of the New York State Inter-collegiate Base Ball League. It will be seen from an inspection of the schedule that it could hardly be more favorable to Union. Our nine will, in all probability, be in as good condition at the opening of the season as any nine in the league. In addition to this it is a fact that

during the last three years Union has done better away from home than at home. This is a singular fact, but nevertheless true; consequently we think it better for our chances that our first games should be away from home.

Pecuniarily there is hardly a doubt that it is better. The last part of the season is the exciting part and in this case will be the warmer and pleasanter part, hence larger crowds and more money.

The game with Hamilton on Decoration day will be in Troy, if possible, and the receipts will be divided between the visiting and home club; for all other games a guarantee of \$50 will be given. The game in Ithaca, May 8, was arranged with an eye to the fact that the Psi Upsilon fraternity will be in convention there at that time, thus many of our own college will get the benefit of the game and many from other colleges will see what Union can do in the base ball field.

A. H. K. JERVIS, B. B. D.

#### CLASS SUPPERS.

##### JUNIOR CLASS SUPPER.

THE class of '85 is a jolly one on all occasions and especially at a class supper. The supper was held at Sloan's Hotel, nine miles from Schenectady. The start was made from North College with the horses on a gallop, and the speed was continually increased until the sleigh was overturned in a monstrous snow bank. No one was injured. Only a short delay was necessitated and a few pairs of spectacles lost. Sloan's Hotel was reached at precisely eleven o'clock, the distance having been covered in twenty-eight minutes. Everything was ready, the fire was glowing in the fire-place, and the spacious parlors presented a comfortable appearance. At twelve the class sat down to a sumptuous feast, and satisfied the cravings of the inner man. Thirteen toasts were afterward announced and responded to. The ride home was slower and less eventful.

##### SOPHOMORE CLASS SUPPER.

THE class of '86 held their annual banquet at Wright's restaurant, Troy, and to say that it was a success would scarcely express it. Mr. Wright is a model host and enjoys the sport as much as the boys. The menu was excellent, and after indulging the inner man satisfactorily, the toast-master, L. W. Groat, in a short and appropriate speech, which will long be remembered by those who heard it, announced the toasts which were responded to in the following order: "Old Union," G. S. Dorwin; "Our Thoroughbreds,"

J. J. Franklin, Jr.; "Our Absent Classmates," H. J. Cole; "Our College Dudes," J. L. R. Pratt; "To 'Alex.' and 'Web.'" J. C. McIntyre, '87; "Ye Ver-ant Green," G. H. Case; "Le Jardin du College," G. R. F. Salisbury; "Our Faculty," L. C. Felthousen; "Ye Daughters of Eve," A. H. Jackson; "What was Seen by the Man in the Moon," E. W. Courtright; "Our M.C.'s," E. G. Hayes; "'86's Victories," F. E. Hamlin; "The Besieged City," E. C. Angle; "Our Past, Present and Future," Pres. F. W. Skinner. The toasts were well handled, especially those of Pratt, Hayes and Jackson, and, as a whole, the supper was a great success. Although the class has visited Wright's twice, they expressed a desire to meet him on their next "occasion."

## FRESHMAN CLASS SUPPER.

THE freshman banquet was held in Albany, at "The Windsor." Thirty of the class sat down at twelve o'clock to a very prettily laid table and began to enjoy themselves in a very hearty manner. Flanders, the president of the class, who has not been with them this term, was present. Also, Riley, who entered with the class but left soon after. The *menu*, though not elaborate, was very much enjoyed by the class. After satisfying the inner man, the toast-master, G. E. Wentworth, opened the speaking in a few happy remarks which were received by the fellows with great applause. The toasts were as follows: "Alma Mater," N. J. Gulick; "The Red-headed Schenectady Cop," G. D. Buel; "Facial Adipose Tissue, (cheek)," H. S. Estcourt; "Prospectus Freshmanorum," F. X. Ransdall; "Beacon of the Class Room," J. P. Johnson; "Faculty," E. D. Very; "The Bright-Eyed Maid," W. M. Campbell; "Ye 'Sophs,'" J. A. Long; "Motto," C. A. Marvin; "Tatersalls," J. T. W. Kartendrick; "The Dude," R. Furman; "Class of '87," G. L. Flanders. The toasts were short but full of humor and were greeted by frequent applause and shouting. They were drank, in deference to the total-abstinence members of the class, in cold water or coffee. During the evening, greetings came by telephone from the class of '84, at Amsterdam, which were received by the class with cheers, and the cry of '84 was given with a will. Impromptu speeches were made by a number.

## UNION COLLEGE SENATE.

THE U. C. Senate banquet was held at the Hotel Warner, Amsterdam, on Feb. 20th. The company which was billed to appear on that evening disbanded the day previous, probably from a wise knowledge of coming events. But there was an Old Folks'

concert in one of the churches, with all which the words "church concert" implies. Need more be said? Promptly at 12 M., thirty members of the Senate, with two guests (Garnsey and Ferguson), sat down and prepared to do justice to the supper provided. After the refreshments, both solid and liquid, had been thoroughly tested, the following toasts were announced by the toast-master, H. V. N. Philip:

History of the Alimentary Canal Co.—C. H. Hill.  
Our Professors—A. McFarlane, Jr.  
A Senior's Dream—J. J. Kemp.  
Our Missing Classmates—A. H. K. Jervis.  
Our Future—F. D. Hall.  
Old Dorp—C. B. Templeton.  
The Girls—R. R. Benedict.  
Our Athletes—G. F. Allison.  
Our Whips—Z. Clark.  
Our Musical Brethren—B. G. Chisolm.  
Alma Mater—J. Stoller.  
The Chapel Bell—E. S. Barney.  
Our Editors—D. Beekman.  
Class of '84—J. McEncroe, Pres't.

Among the speeches those of Kemp, Benedict and Beekman deserve especial mention, both for purity of thought and loftiness of style. After a love feast, in which vows of eternal friendship were interchanged, the gay Senators wended their way to the depot, well pleased with their entertainment.

## LOCALS.

THE juniors have commenced the subject of Electricity.

The number of P. M. Doty's hat store is not 36 State street, as we have advertised, but 136 State street.

All class suppers were held Wednesday, Feb. 20. College exercises were entirely suspended on the following Thursday.

Rev. Geo. Alexander spent a few days in town not long ago, the occasion being the installation of a minister in his old church here.

The freshmen saw the end of the book of algebra March 12th, and consequently are beginning to whisper among themselves about cremation.

Prof. Staley took the seniors to Albany recently to visit the Dudley Observatory. This is an annual custom highly appreciated by the students in Astronomy.

It is said that Dr. Coppee will occupy Dr. Potter's chair in the senior class next term, besides taking the juniors through the usual course of English literature.

The juniors under Prof. Foster finished "Heat" on the 9th. Electricity, Magnetism, etc., were then taken up, and will be pursued during the remainder of the term.

A tennis court has recently been established in the Gym. This affords an excellent sport during the winter months and is also a means of acquiring moderate exercise.

Prof. Ashmore has been giving the juniors an interesting course of lectures on the doctrines of ancient philosophy, as referred to in the *De Natura Deorum*, of Cicero.

Tutor Anable has not a very high opinion of the sophomore class. We understand that "Tute" says the class of '86 is the toughest class he has ever seen in college. Hard luck for '86!

A class in medical chemistry is to be formed next term. This will offer special advantages to those intending to pursue the study of medicine after the completion of their regular college course.

Edmunds, '86, leaves college at the end of this term. The boys in South college will miss the genial face of the "senator," but they will all unite in wishing him success in whatever enterprise he embarks.

I noticed that a large number of the students turned out a few Sundays ago to hear the Rev. Prof. Paxton, of Princeton Seminary. He preached a splendid sermon, which was heartily enjoyed by all who heard him.

The Y. M. C. A. here is to be congratulated upon the way in which they are now going at their work. On March 9 one student made a profession of religion. Evidently the visit of the general secretary has done them good.

Cremation is close at hand and the freshmen are undoubtedly preparing for it or thinking seriously of it. No threats have yet been heard from the sophs., but the freshmen should remember that "still water runs deep."

The forty-seventh annual convention of the Sigma Phi fraternity was held at the Carley house, Schenectady, Tuesday, March 4th. The tables were bountifully spread with provisions and all partook with evident relish.

Did you read of the class supper the freshmen didn't have at Cornell? That was about the most successful scheme ever worked in that line. Since that the freshmen have had a supper without interference from the "sophs."

By the way, have you noticed how diligent the sophomores are in their attendance at chapel and recitation. The chapel delegation not long ago consisted of two. One of the instructors thinks they are ahead of any class yet in that line.

At the state convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations, held in Buffalo, the University of New York, Cornell, Rochester, Adelbert, Troy Polytechnic and Union were represented. A reception was given the students at a private residence.

In consequence of the additional work imposed upon Prof. Lamoreaux by the absence of the President and the preparation of the general catalogue, only one declamation will be required this term. The professor has also been suffering from a slight attack of illness.

Prof. Wells gave recently a short lecture to the juniors on the "Lasker" question. He seemed to think that the action of Prince Bismarck was justifiable under the circumstances, and that it would appear so to Americans generally when the real facts in the case were properly understood.

Prof. Wells delivered a second lecture on Bermuda in the State-street Methodist church, March 7th. The lecture was very interesting and was listened to by a large audience. The professor has returned much improved in health and bearing the marks of Bermuda's climate upon his countenance.

The newspaper "fiends" who infested Baum's news-room so long were taken aback one evening, a short time ago, by the appearance of a notice stating that it was not a free reading-room. The proprietor's patience at times must have been sorely tried, and we wonder that the notice was not posted earlier.

Examinations will soon be upon us. Some of these will not be remarkable for easiness. "Tutor" has already signified his intention of giving the sophomores a written examination of three hours in English. Reviews have commenced and the back-sliders are making the best of their "last chance."

The sophomores, under Prof. Chaplin, are reviewing last term's work in analytical geometry along with the work of the present term. The examination will cover all the ground gone over during the two terms. Not few were the groans to which their feelings gave vent when this was announced in the class room.

The men in college evidently do not appreciate the work which the editors perform in order to make the paper presentable. If they did, they would be more prompt in paying up their subscriptions, and not give the editors the additional labor of hunting them up in order to dun them. See to it that you pay as soon as possible.

On Wednesday, Lieut. Hubble began a series of lectures to the freshmen, in the chapel, on military



topics, by one on Discipline. He read from a voluminous manuscript, and, much to the delight of the freshmen, omitted a great deal. On the whole it was a very interesting lecture, and they promise fair to continue so.

We stopped at Rochester several weeks ago and went to the University to see Prof. Webster. "Web." has not changed and is as much a favorite with the boys at Rochester as he is at Union. He wishes all the Union men to know that he will be happy to receive them at any time at 172 Monroe avenue, Rochester, N. Y.

Prof. Perkins has made it very interesting for the juniors in organic chemistry this term. One notable feature has been his course of lectures on the various organizations, accompanied throughout by practical illustrations. We think the lecture system might be applied successfully to other departments where older, but not necessarily better, methods are still adhered to.

The military department under Lieut. Hubble has made a decided advance. The Lieut. has made the interest in that department very great, and the work is done with a will. One hundred dollars was given by a gentleman to this department. It is to be used for prizes and ammunition. Thirty-five dollars is to be given in prizes to the three neatest men in their arms and accoutrements.

At a meeting of the senior class on Thursday, Mar. 13th, the following-named officers were elected by acclamation:

President — Pickens Neagle.  
Vice-President — Henry Z. Pratt.  
Secretary — Wm. N. P. Dailey.  
Treasurer — Harry C. Young.  
Grand Marshal — Cleveland C. Hale.  
Orator — William A. Moore.  
Historian — Dow Beekman.  
Poet — James J. Kemp.  
Prophet — F. Dixon Hall.  
Addresser — Daniel Naylor, Jr.  
Pipe Orator — James Stoller.  
Ivy Orator — Geo. F. Allison.  
Ivy Poet — Charles A. Kitts.

Students and faculty are regretting the prospective departure from Union College of Prof. Ira N. Hollis, U. S. N. He awaits only the detail by the Navy Department of a successor who may carry out his methods. During his three years of instruction here, his students from the three lower classes have made excellent progress in mechanical, topographical and architectural drawing, always from the model or original

object, and also in the study of materials and adjustment of parts in machinery. His plan for a mechanical laboratory has resulted in the nucleus of a collection of working models, and needs only college funds or private generosity to make it what it should be. Prof. Hollis has been just ten years in the United States service. He was graduated at the Annapolis Academy with the highest grade ever attained in that institution up to the present date. He will be stationed at the Morgan Iron Works in New York to inspect the construction of the "Chicago" and other government vessels. We wish him every success in his new field of labor.

Suppose you wish to change to a tobacco whose purity is beyond suspicion, which will prove less irritable to the nerves, whose flavor and fragrance are more inviting. What would you choose? Careful analysis shows that Blackwell's Durham Long Cut contains only a trace of nicotine and the nitrates. As these are what make tobaccos irritable, you can avoid them by resorting to the Durham Long Cut.

#### WHAT HAPPENETH IN THE COLLEGE WORLD.

**H**ARVARD.—The university nine will be strong in every position except behind the bat.

Wendell Phillips graduated in 1831.

The bicycle club will shortly hold an open race meeting. The new bicycle track is said by experts to be one of the fastest in the country. The tug-of-war team for Mott Haven will be chosen from two teams which show superiority in the preliminary contest.

Permission has been granted to play professional nines.

The number of students is 1,522.

**YALE.**—Knee breeches were all the rage at the promenade given by '85.

The glee club has received \$1,200 from the railroad company for the damages received in the late accident.

The base ball season will open about April 3d by a game with the champion Athletics of the American Association.

There is a movement on foot to start an illustrated humorous paper like the Harvard *Lampoon*.

**DARTMOUTH.**—There is a project on hand to form a minstrel troupe in the college.

The suppers of all the classes have been held.

Mr. Cable's reading from his works was thoroughly enjoyed by the large audience gathered to hear him.

The *Dartmouth* says Mr. Cable's voice is very flexible and of much power, his dialect under perfect control, and in itself very amusing. When you add to the above rather remarkable abilities of the actor, Mr. Cable's success is plainly understood.

The nine still continue to do good work in the gym, under the coaching of Corcoran of the Chicagos.

WILLIAMS.—The joint debate between the two literary societies took place in the latter part of February.

The question, Resolved, that Congress should pass a national divorce law to supersede the existing state divorce laws. The decision was for the negative.

A few of the freshmen have been greatly excited lately over their "chess tournament." It is safer than poker.—*Athenaeum*.

A beautiful belle from the North Adams stage, not long since, hailed some one in the audience with "Hello, Baldy!" Murder will out.—*Athenaeum*.

AMHERST.—The vital statistics of the senior class have been taken.

The Choral Society has over one hundred and fifty members.

The Glee Club has been unfortunate at every concert. Bad weather was encountered on each occasion.

COLUMBIA.—The finances of the boat club are in good condition.

The list of thesis subjects for the seniors has been published. Some of them are: The Tariff, The Greek Question, The Certainty of a Future Life, Private Poverty, Money, etc.

#### EVERYWHERE.

Ward, of New York, goes to Princeton two days in the week to coach the nine.

Dr. Mark Hopkins reached his eighty-third birthday on Feb. 4th.

There are one hundred and ninety college papers in the United States.

Oxford students have just brought out the "Merchant of Venice."

Five Chinese princes have been admitted to West Point and five to Annapolis.

Cornell students have been having lively times with their class suppers. The sophs waylaid and ate up '87's supper, which had been prepared by Teale, of Rochester, at considerable expense.

The University of Michigan is to build a gym. for young ladies.

A Glee Club has been formed at Vassar.

## Albany Law School.

### AMERICA'S GREATEST ADVOCATE.

THE fame of the illustrious subject of this sketch must ever rest more upon the testimony of his contemporaries than upon any manuscript that he has left us, for the reason that he seldom spoke from notes and rarely preserved that which he did commit to paper. But from the testimony thus adduced, it cannot be doubted that Rufus Choate was the greatest advocate ever produced on American soil.

Rufus Choate was born in Essex, Mass., on the 1st of October, 1799, and continued to reside there until 1815, with but poor educational advantages, though displaying a great love for books. At the age of sixteen years he entered Dartmouth College and at once took a leading position in his class, which he maintained throughout his course, graduating in 1819. During his course there, the celebrated Dartmouth College case was before the courts, and Mr. Choate became deeply interested in the result and was very enthusiastic over the argument of Webster in the Supreme Court of the United States, and this circumstance undoubtedly had much to do in directing the attention of Mr. Choate to the study of law.

For a year after his graduation, he acted as tutor at the college and then entered Harvard Law School. After remaining a few months at Harvard, he removed to Washington and entered the office of William Wirt, who was then Attorney-General of the United States, and one of the greatest lawyers of his time. During his residence in Washington he was a close observer of public men and affairs, and spent much of his time in pouring over the volumes of the congressional library.

From Washington he returned to Massachusetts and entered the office of Judge Cummins at Salem, and in 1825 was admitted to the bar of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts.

His first office was opened at Danvers, and there he experienced the hard beginning that is the lot of all young attorneys. Indeed, so despondent of success was he, that he frequently thought seriously of abandoning his profession and turning his attention to some more certain means of attaining a livelihood. He did not, however, waste his time, but devoted the otherwise idle hours to that careful study and profound research which so well fitted him for the responsibilities which after years was to place upon him. At

length the sure reward of industry and perseverance crowned his efforts and he gradually rose to a high position in the community where he resided.

In the meantime, in 1825, he had taken unto himself a wife, and in this alliance he seems to have been particularly fortunate. The lady was Miss Helen Olcott of Hanover, N. H., and was possessed of great intelligence and discretion, and it was largely through the influence which she exerted over him that Mr. Choate was encouraged to proceed in that path which led him to the height of professional ambition.

His vigor, assiduity and zeal in all that he undertook soon brought him a lucrative practice, and when, in 1828, he removed to Salem, his reputation had preceded him, and he was soon the acknowledged leader of that eminent bar.

From the beginning, Mr. Choate is said to have given the same close attention to the most petty cases that he did to the more important, and used them as a means of perfecting himself in his style of conducting a case.

In 1830 he was elected a representative in congress and was re-elected in 1833, but resigned his seat in 1834, removed to Boston and resumed the practice of law. In 1841 he was elected United States Senator in place of Daniel Webster, who had been appointed Secretary of State by President Harrison. He retired from the senate in 1845 and resumed the practice of law at Boston. He was at one time offered the Attorney-Generalship of the United States, and at another time, a seat on the supreme bench of Massachusetts, but he declined both of these positions.

In the early part of 1859 his constitution gave out under the great strain to which it was subjected, and he was at last persuaded to visit Europe, if possible, to recuperate. But he grew rapidly worse on the voyage out and was landed at Halifax, where he died on the 13th of July, 1859.

Mr. Choate made oratory a life study, and attained a style clearly his own. He clothed it in such an imagery and wealth of words that his rivals were prone to deny his power until they learned it to their sorrow. He was not merely eloquent when he spoke on themes that were calculated of themselves to touch the feelings or stir the passions of his auditors, but his genius enabled him to interest and fascinate his hearers, even while discussing the driest and most unpromising subjects. The record of his zeal, power and success, attest the justice of the claim that he was the greatest of American advocates.

#### THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.

IN the November number of this paper there appeared an article entitled "The Alumni Association," which was written by a prominent member of the association, and gives full information of the organization and its first banquet. The association holds a banquet annually, and members of the graduating class who become members at the time of graduation are allowed to participate. In this way the necessity of a class supper is obviated, and at much less cost the student has the privilege not only of banqueting with but becoming acquainted with members of the alumni of the school who stand in the foremost rank of the legal profession. The cost of joining the association is but one dollar and it is hoped that every member of the class of '84 will have his name upon the roll.

All who will be entitled to graduate in May will be allowed to join at once and are requested to do so as it would be a matter of convenience to the secretary of the association whose services are gratuitous. The constitution may be signed and membership secured at the office of the secretary, Chas. H. Mills, Esq., No. 74 State street.

The following is the constitution of the Albany Law School Alumni:

##### NAME.

This Association shall be known as the Albany Law School Alumni.

##### MEETINGS.

The Annual Meeting shall be held at the Albany Law School on the Commencement Day of each year.

##### MEMBERSHIP.

1. All former members of the Albany Law School, now present, shall be enrolled as members upon paying an assessment of One Dollar, and signing the Constitution.

2. Any attendant or graduate of the Albany Law School shall be eligible to membership. Members shall only be elected at the Annual Meeting and shall receive the votes of two-thirds of all members present, and shall pay the same assessment, and sign the Constitution.

3. The Annual Dues of each member shall be One Dollar. Any member failing to pay the same, may by a majority vote of the members present at any meeting, be dropped from the roll.

##### OFFICERS.

The Officers shall be a President, ten Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and an Executive Committee of three, which officers shall be elected at the Annual Meeting.

##### INCOME AND PAYMENTS.

The income arising from such Assessments and Annual Dues shall be applied to pay the necessary expenses of the Association, under the direction of the Executive Committee.

##### PRIZES.

Prizes may be offered for Essays on Legal Subjects, to be

competed for by members of the Association. The Question and the Subject to be written upon shall be decided upon by the President and Executive Committee.

#### RULES OF ORDER.

The Executive Committee shall at the next Annual Meeting report Rules of Order.

#### AMENDMENTS.

This Constitution may be amended at any Annual Meeting. All amendments shall receive the votes of two-thirds of all the members present.

#### THE SET-UP.

IN deference to an old custom, and to show their appreciation of the honors conferred, the recently elected class officers, after their induction into office, on the evening of the 25th, invited the class to partake of a banquet at the restaurant of Kearney & Best, on Broadway. Accordingly, at about nine o'clock the class was formed in line by Marshal Gould and marched down to the restaurant. The feast provided was highly satisfactory to all who partook, and the remarks of approbation lavished upon the proprietors were not few.

After satisfying the inner man, different members of the class were called upon for speeches, and this entertainment was kept up until nearly every member of the class had had his say. The speeches as a whole were excellent, many abounding with wit, humor and good sense combined. The merry party dispersed about midnight, well satisfied with what they had done, both as to their choice of men to fill the various offices, and as to the manner in which they had disposed of the various eatables and drinkables.

OF the numerous clubs organized at the beginning of the year only two survive. This is to be regretted, as good clubs, properly conducted, would certainly be of great benefit to the students. It is here, in the presence of fellow students, that we should make the first efforts and try to learn to stand alone, to think on our feet, and say what we mean. It is a popular notion that it is a large part of a lawyer's business to make speeches and that they are always ready. In after life we will be frequently called upon to speak, and if we can do so creditably it will help us out of many a difficulty. But there must be a beginning and the first effort is seldom a success. The greatest orators of all times have been those who labored under the greatest disadvantages in beginning, and all have had their moments of disappointment and chagrin. If then we are able to wear off the early embarrassment before being called to more trying places in the world, we will have a great advantage.

ON Monday, March 10th, President Davidson called a meeting of the class for the purpose of discussing the advisability of holding Class Day exercises. After some discussion the subject was referred to the executive committee, who were instructed to investigate and report at an early date. Messrs. Lane and Rutherford resigned as members of the executive committee and the president was authorized to fill the vacancies. The subject of a class picture was discussed, and Messrs. Tripp, Ballard and Garland were appointed a committee to take charge of the matter and see what arrangements could be made. The meeting then adjourned.

#### DOINGS OF THE EUREKA CLUB.

ON February 6th, Chief Judge Spalding presiding, the case of Bander vs. Gale was argued by Counselor McMahon for plaintiff, and Counselor Simonds for defendant. The opinion was delivered by Counselor Weeks and sustained by the court.

In the case of Boshart vs. Plumb, Counselor Ballard appeared for the plaintiff and Counselor Rutherford for the defendant. Mr. Simonds gave an opinion in favor of plaintiff which was sustained.

In executive session a resolution was offered changing the name of the club from that of Eureka to "Edwards Club," in honor of the late Judge Edwards, dean of the law school. Under the rules, the resolution was laid on the table for one week.

On the 13th of February, Chief Justice Sullivan presiding, the cause of Quincy vs. Phillips was argued by Messrs. Garland and Gifford, and an opinion given for the defendant.

In the case of Munson vs. Kline, Messrs. Mudge and Ashton appeared respectively for plaintiff and defendant. A verdict was given for plaintiff.

The resolution offered at the previous meeting, in relation to changing the name of the club, was taken up and adopted, and the club will hereafter be known as the Edwards Club.

After the reading of a biographical sketch of the late Matt Carpenter of Michigan, by J. H. Davidson, the club was adjourned to the first Wednesday in March.

#### BRIEFS.

#### THIRD TERM.

Winter has set in.

At the examination held under the direction of the General Term of the Supreme Court in January, a class of twenty-seven young men were admitted to the



bar. Among them were Messrs. Gifford, Kimball, McNamara, Mudge, Strevell, and F. E. Smith of this institution.

It is hardly probable that the "Salvation Army" will take up quarters in Albany this year, as the Medical College has already closed.

Prof. Smith has recovered from his recent illness, and is again in his place at the school, dispensing the daily installments of brain food.

The subjects now under consideration, are bailments and criminal law. Lectures on the former by Prof. Smith; on the latter by Prof. Brown.

The class has received two additions this term, in the persons of Mr. Davis of Warren County, this State, and Mr. Love of Vermont. To these gentlemen we extend a hearty welcome.

The various clubs have held meetings for election of officers, and in each case re-elected the officers who served last term. Mr. A. Newcomb was elected to fill a vacancy in the office of sheriff of the Sickles Moot Court Club.

In the last chapter of the "History of the Albany Law School," it was stated that the course at the school was one year. The course covers a period of two years, but students are allowed to graduate if they have, previous to entering the school, studied one year in an office.

On the 22d of February, Mrs. J. Ellen Foster, the lady lawyer of Iowa, and the mother of our esteemed classmate, W. H. Foster, delivered a lecture before the school, on "Constitutional Prohibition." The lecture was an excellent one, commanded careful attention and left a deep impression.

At the opening of the new term, we missed the faces of Messrs. Lubeck, Steck and Banks. Mr. Lubeck completed his course here last term and received his diploma. Mr. Steck has gone to Texas on a visit. Mr. Banks has returned to his home in Maine. These gentlemen were among the most genial and esteemed members of their class and are greatly missed.

A ludicrous instance of punning upon a name once took place in a judicial court of New York, which is thus told: Counsel had been questioning a certain witness named Gunn, and in closing, he said to him, "Mr. Gunn, you can now go off." The judge on the bench, seeing the pun, gravely added, "Sir, you are discharged." Of course an explosion in court immediately ensued.

## Albany Medical College.

THE eleventh annual meeting of our Alumni Association took place March 5th at the Medical College. The day was a propitious one and the attendance large. The usual reception was held in the library during the forenoon and a part of the afternoon—sandwiches, coffee and the like constituting the bill of fare. At a little after three o'clock "the old triangle" announced that the time for the formal exercises was at hand, and presently Alumni Hall found itself unable to accommodate all with seats who wished to attend.

The acting president, Dr. F. S. Greene of Coxsackie, called the meeting to order, and after the transaction of some routine business, including an address of welcome to the alumni by Professor Perkins, the eulogies upon the late president, Jacob S. Mosher, were made the special order of the day, Dr. David Murray speaking of him as an educator, St. Clair McKelway, Esq., as a citizen, and Professor Samuel B. Ward, M. D., as a physician. But few men have ever been more kindly or more deservedly remembered than Dr. Mosher was on this occasion. In the course of his address, Dr. Murray said: "For myself, I have met few men, who, in force or quality of thought, were his superiors. That great mass of brain, sixty-four ounces, was not given to him for nothing. Many of you know how shrewd and penetrating was his mental insight; how keen was his scent in tracing a fallacy; how dextrously, when a clever adversary was forcing him into a false position, he could double on his pursuer and make good his escape. It was this quick wit, this nimble dialectic skill, which rendered him the most delightful companion in an intellectual symposium. It was, when the cares of his profession were laid aside, when the worries and disappointments of life, and sometimes its appointments, too, were forgotten, and he could settle down with congenial spirits for free and unrestrained discourse—it was then that Dr. Mosher was seen at his best. It was then that you began to learn something of the resources of his mind and the treasures which he had gathered from books and men. You would wonder how and when he had found so many rare and forgotten books, and still more, that he had found time to cull so much of their contents. It was then that you discovered unexpected works of sunshine and shadow in his character; his love of the woods, his passionate enjoyment of the sea, his fine and appreciative taste in art, his

reverence for the good, his disdain of conventionalities, his noble fidelity to friends and truth and manhood."

Dr. Murray closed his address with the following touching words: "Who will forget that morning in August when the news was spread through the street that Dr. Mosher was dead? It was like the cry that went up in Egypt when in every house the first-born was found dead. The workmen at the Capitol heard it and the busy din of hammers was still. The merchant heard it on the street and hurried to his home to impart the sad intelligence. Telephone and telegraph caught up the sound and carried it from house to house, from city to city, and from the homes of rich and poor, from the highest to the lowest, in the city and in the wilderness, one universal wail of sorrow went up.

"Could it be true? He, the strong, active and untiring man! Was it not but yesterday that we saw him in the midst of his work, busy with head and hand? He had planned for himself what was the greatest pleasure of his yearly routine of life. Much as he loved his work, his profession and his studies, no man enjoyed more than he that recreation which labor earns for itself and deserves. The refreshing shade of the woods, the cool sound of the plashing oar, the distant baying of the hounds, beckoned him away from the hot and dusty town. Dear friends waited and watched for his coming. He had put his house in order. With tender solicitude for those to whom he was both mother and father, he had arranged for his children's vacation. He had given thought and care to every public trust. He had put his patients into careful and skilful hands. He had spent many hours of the night in writing needful letters. Even a poor girl preparing to sail for Germany, who might want for friends, was not forgotten, and his last letter was one to the captain of the steamer asking for her kindness and consideration on her voyage. At last everything was ready. He put aside his finished tasks and sought the repose which his protracted labors made welcome. And it came. The weary man found rest—sweet, unbroken, peaceful rest. Without a struggle, without a moment of interval, he "passed from the repose of sleep into the repose of death." The heart which had battled with an unseen and mysterious malady, surrendered and ceased to beat. The busy brain at last found rest. A great and manly soul, scarred with the conflicts of life, but hopeful and courageous, tender and true, finished its earthly probation."

Mr. McKelway said, among many other things: "I

write this estimate of a dead friend to fulfill a promise to a committee of the alumni of this college. The request honors the love which it is known he and I had for one another. The test laid upon me to do justice to the civic and social sides of the man who is gone must be measured by the spirit in which I shall try to meet it. Older and abler than I must be any one who can meet more than the spirit of that test successfully. \* \* \* I have said he was *rarely* self-deceived. That means that he sometimes *was*. Two things made this now and then possible. The first was his zeal for the exploration of causes, taking the form of a passion for theories. Those theories were occasionally more plausible than correct, and always positively assumed, in either case, and resolutely held to, until their untenability was perceived. He then at once made, however, the very discovery of their untenability a means of instant, well-nigh imperceptible retreat to safe ground where he would smile on you with a blandness that was irresistibly winning. He was capable of error. He was incapable of being cornered. He did not make, lawyer like, the worse appear the better reason; he flanked the worse reason and got abreast of the better reason with a readiness that was more attractive and rapid than the mental process of any other man of all that I have ever known could be said to be. The second cause of his capability of erring was the fact that he ate more mental food than he could assimilate. He was a physician, a surgeon, a botanist, a chemist, a sanitarian, a lecturer, a registrar, a clinical teacher, a debater, an essayist, an art collector, a bibliophile, a hunter, a fisher, a marksman, a microscopist, an instructor of youth, a medical editor, a cataloguist, a proof reader, a machinist, an engineer, a navigator, a club man, a pharmacist, an annalist, an historian, a critic, a mathematician, a linguist, a play-goer, a carpenter, a horticulturist, a trustee in many institutions, a politician, a successful candidate for honored positions which he well administered, an ornithologist, a member of many associations, a correspondent with many savants, a traveller, the confidant and associate of statesmen, theologians, authors, journalists, bankers and scientists, a photographer, an electrician, a mental expert, a wit, a philosopher, a man of affairs, and a man of society, an after-dinner speaker, and, in the better sense of the word, a Bohemian. \* \* \* In each of these departments he was alert, sincere and suggestive. In none was he *pre*-eminent. In none was he a pretender or a sciolist. In some he was eminent. In all he was respectably effective."

In order that the reader may get an adequate idea regarding the positions of trust and honor which Dr. Mosher held during his brief career, we quote the following from the address of Professor Ward: "Graduating from this college in 1863, he served in the year following as volunteer surgeon in the army before Petersburg. He was afterwards made assistant medical director for the State of New York. He was also military superintendent and surgeon in charge of the State Hospital for disabled soldiers in this city, until it was closed. In 1869 he was appointed Surgeon General of the State by Governor Hoffman, and served as such until 1873. From 1870 to 1876 he held the position of deputy health officer of the port of New York. His connection with the Albany Hospital ran through several years, and was varied and valuable in character. The same was true of St. Peter's Hospital: his membership of the medical staff of these two institutions making large drafts on his time. From 1863 to 1870 he was Professor of Chemistry in the Albany Academy. His relations to this college are well known to you all. He was at first Professor of Chemistry and Medical Jurisprudence, afterwards of the Theory and Practice of Medicine, and was for a long time the Registrar and Librarian. \* \* \* He was a member of the Albany County Medical Society, and had been its president. Having served as delegate to, he had become a permanent member of, the Medical Society of the State. He was a fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine. He had been a delegate to the American Medical Association. He was a member of the body that drafted the law under which the National Board of Health came into existence. He was chairman of the Board of Health of this city. He was professor in the Albany College of Pharmacy, and president of the faculty. And, lastly, he was President, at the time of his death, of this Alumni Association—this last fact causing this session to be made one of honor to his memory."

After a vote of thanks being tendered the speakers by the association, routine business was again taken up, in the transaction of which "the award of prizes" is of the most interest to us. We copy from the *Argus* of March 6th:

"Dr. L. Hale, from the committee on the alumni prizes, reported that three essays had been received in competition for the MacNaughton memorial prize of \$100 for the best essay on "The effect of climate in the treatment of Pulmonary tuberculosis." No award was made. The prize of \$300, offered by Dr. Albert

Van Derveer, for the best essay on "Colles fracture," was awarded to Dr. Clinton B. Herrick of Troy, for an elaborate paper, accompanied by specimens."

It is worthy of note that Dr. Herrick chose the word "Concordiensis" as the motto which should accompany his essay and specimens; also, that the specimens are very valuable and will be placed in the College Museum by Prof. Van Derveer.

The following is a list of the officers for the ensuing year: President, Dr. Horace T. Hanks of New York, '61; Vice-presidents, Drs. G. M. Teeple of Bridgeport, Ct., '49, Edwin Barnes of Pleasant Plains, '65, A. B. Burger of Mechanicville, '66, E. S. Allbee of Bellows Falls, '70, W. A. Hall of Fulton, '75; Secretary, Dr. Willis G. Tucker of Albany, '70; Treasurer, Dr. G. L. Ullman of Albany, '71; Historian, Dr. Jno. Ben. Stonehouse of Albany, '71; Executive Committee, Drs. Albert Van Derveer, '63, Lorenzo Hale, '68, M. J. Lewi, '77, and C. B. Herrick, '80.

#### VALEDICTORY.

ROBERT BABCOCK, A. B., M. D., VALEDICTORIAN.

[We had hoped to publish this address in full, but find our space too limited, hence we give only the valedictory proper.—ED.]

#### *Undergraduates of the Albany Medical College:*

FROM this time on, our association with you as students is at an end. Pleasant indeed will be the memory of our repeated meetings in the classroom. Never again will we all assemble to listen to the instructions of our kind professors; but now it remains for you to notice where we have failed, and to profit by that knowledge.

Each year there is more to grasp and more to digest. Each year some new theory or discovery is made known, and it becomes your duty as well as ours to become cognizant of it. Your three years' curriculum will afford you more instruction than training, and it is only the combination of the two elements that makes a complete education. The studies of the medical student are so crowded with matters new and strange to him, and embrace subjects of such a varied character and so infinite in number, that the mind can afford but little activity to any faculty, save that of memory. Soon, alma mater will set you adrift to complete your evolution alone. She will dub you "Practitioner of Medicine," when yet you have the most to learn. All that we can say: make the most of your advantages, and may success crown all your efforts.

Professors and officers of the Albany Medical Col-



lege, it has devolved on me to extend to you our heartfelt gratitude for the kind manner and earnest effort which you have displayed in imparting to us your thoughts and knowledge of the science of medicine and surgery. We, perhaps, as yet, cannot realize the many obstacles which an instructor of this profession has to encounter. Imposed upon and misrepresented as we are by those beings who practice quackery, and are dishonest to the very core. Knowing that the weakness and credulity of some men is such that they will employ an old woman, a witch or an impostor, before a learned physician, how much more ought we to appreciate your endeavors to direct us in the only true way by which we can practice the unprotected science of medicine, and fit ourselves for the proper discharge of our duties. If, at times, we have failed to act with proper decorum in the class room, believe us, it was not with the intention to show any disrespect toward you or the subject under discussion. Rest assured that every member of the class of '84 sadly realizes the great loss to this college just prior to this session; deprived as you were of a man holding the position in all your minds and hearts which we might all chose as our goal and endeavor to reach; an instructor than whom there was no one more enthusiastic, a physician than whom there was no one more conscientious, a friend than whom there was no one more true; we, the students of the class of '84, join with you in the college's loss, and thank you for filling that vacancy so acceptably.

Arguing upon general principles, when a faculty as a whole is a poor one, the college suffers; when a very indifferent one, and deficient in their profession, the school is ruined. A faculty, for its own protection and perpetuation, must of necessity have good men, and these must be in the majority. We are glad that this body appreciates the importance of securing the best obtainable talent, and it is a source of gratification that your efforts have been crowned with success.

Classmates of the class of '84, to-night we have had bestowed on us the long coveted parchment. We are now bound to our alma mater by a tie which never breaks, and we have a work to perform in order to add to her reputation as an institution of medicine.

But we are happy to say that a new era is commencing to dawn on the science of medicine. The time will soon be past when any man can be bolstered up into scientific greatness, and held there by friendly stays and props. The time will soon be past when the professional standing of any man will be solely or chiefly estimated by the carriages he drives, the dress

of the patients that crowd his waiting rooms, or even by his mere mechanical skill. The time is already past when any man can hope to rise to be authority in any department of medical science through any royal road of social influence, political manipulation, or even of personal charms. Those who are to be the leaders and guides of medical science for the coming generation must earn their position by persistent, original investigation, and by faithfully recording their experience in the permanent literature of the day. It is the pen and not the lancet, the scholar and not the mechanic, that is to guide and shape the scientific future of America.

We cannot give up "book learning," but must rather keep on with our systematic study, and require knowledge not only of new facts, but of new views, as well. The reign of alma mater is beneficent. She has given us far more than we can repay. Consequently we have a duty before us. We must so perform that duty, the foundation of which she has laid. We must so acquit ourselves that our associates cannot scoff at us. We must always be so faithful to her and our fellow men that she will be proud to say, *Illi mei liberi sunt.*

#### GIVEN—A QUESTION, TO FIND ITS SOLUTION.

W. B. MELICK, A. B. M. D., ESSAYIST.

There was never probably a time in the world's history, when competition in any calling or pursuit was so fierce and strong as now; never a time when success in more than a moderate degree demanded for its attainment such a union of physical and intellectual qualities of alertness, prudence, persistence, boldness and decision, as in this latter half of the nineteenth century. Men can no longer go at one leap into eminent positions. "The world," says Emerson, "is no longer clay but rather iron in the hands of its workers, and men have got to hammer out a position for themselves by steady and rugged blows." The path of success, never a "primrose path of dalliance," is steeper and thornier than ever, and Carlyle is right when he says that "the race of life has become intense; the runners are treading upon each other's heels. Woe be to him who stops to tie his shoe strings."

To a young man just crossing the threshold of student life and stepping out into the world of actual experience and stern reality, the prospect may indeed seem dark and dispiriting. As he looks around in the great beehive of society, the feeling arises that there is



surely no place for him. Every department in the great workshop seems filled with a complement of hands and even if a vacant place for him could be found, a skilled workman has anticipated him. If I only could have lived a little earlier or a little later in the world's history, he thinks, I could have "got on" without difficulty, but not now. Success, always a coy maiden, is now made more coquettish by crowds of wooers, harder than ever to win, and what hope is there for me?

How can I gain success? How can I best accomplish my life work? These are questions which all of us no doubt have put to ourselves more often than once. We cannot answer them in full. Time alone can solve the problem. A man, starting out in life, has been compared to a ship of war leaving port under sealed orders. He knows not but as the ways of Providence disclose to what ports he must go, or over what seas he must sail. The dangers of the voyage, the sunken reefs or the stormy capes, are unknown. No man has sailed over exactly the same route that another has traversed. Like Coleridge's mariner he is the first that ever "burst into that lonely sea."

But though we cannot answer these questions in full, yet perhaps by studying and comparing the methods and principles which have controlled those men of the past, and which are now controlling the men of the busy present, who have gained distinction, renown and success, we may find some clue which will help us toward our desired end and solve the question. Read the lives of such men as Newton, Dalton the chemist, Young the philosopher, Carlyle, Stevenson, Watt, Joseph Humè the surgeon, John Hunter, Herbert Spencer, and what will you find as the loadstone which has brought them to their desired positions. Sifting the grain and blowing away the chaff of minor circumstances, we believe the grand underlying principle is found in the words, "singleness of purpose." Having found out their work they pursued it with steadfastness and concentration of energy.

"How shall I succeed," asks the young man of to-day. We reply—Having found your work, stick to it. The first condition of success to-day when so many things are clamoring for attention, is concentration, to bend all the energies to one point, and to go directly to that point, looking neither to the right nor to the left. It has been aptly remarked that a great deal of the wisdom of a man is shown in leaving things unknown, and a great deal of his practical

sense in leaving things undone. The day of universal scholars is past if it ever did exist. The range of human knowledge has increased so enormously that no brain can grapple with it, and the man who would know one thing well must have the courage to be ignorant of a thousand others. As with knowledge so with work; the man who would get along must single out his specialty and into that pour the whole stream of his activity, all the energies of his hand, eye, tongue and brain. "Broad culture, many sidedness," says an acute writer, "are beautiful things to contemplate, but it is the narrow edged man, the man of single and intense purpose who steel their souls against all things else that accomplish the hard work of the world, and who are in demand when hard work is to be done." In proportion, we repeat, as a man gives his attention to one subject will he succeed, and it may be asserted that every great man has become great, only by confining his powers to one particular channel. Example after example could be brought forward to prove this assertion if proof were necessary to so palpable a fact. If we think of Harvey it is as the discoverer of the circulation of the blood, of Jenner as identified with the introduction of vaccination, of Chas. Bell as disclosing to us the whole mechanism of the nervous system. If we think of Watt, Stephenson, Arkwright Palissy, the steam engine, the locomotive, the spinning wheel, the discovery of enamel, instantly spring to our minds. Each is known by his own trade mark.

Examples of versatile men on close examination will often be found to be deceptive. Take Lord Lytton for instance. It is said, and truly, that he attained eminence as a novelist, a dramatist and a poet; that he wrote admirable essays and a historical work of considerable merit. It must be observed, however, that his eminence was achieved in a single department—Literature. Though intimately associated with the political workings of the times, as a politician he accomplished nothing. In like manner, Michael Angelo was a great sculptor and painter, but both sculpture and painting are branches of the same art. It is true that Leonardo DeVinci was poet and musician as well as painter; but to how few are his sonnets known, while how lasting is his fame preserved in his "Last Supper." Still, we do not deny that a few men have distinguished themselves by the vast scope of their attainments. Bacon seems to have absorbed the whole field of knowledge. Cicero was master of logic, ethics, astronomy, natural philosophy, besides being well versed in geometry, music, and all the other fine

arts. Danta was steeped in all the attainments of his age, while in politics he played a prominent part. Such men, though, are rare prodigies and in fact may be said to be prodigies simply by their rarity.

But you say, "Show me a successful man and I will show you a thousand who are disappointed." Yes, you are right, but why? Were the "fates" against them? Had they no control over their own actions? Talk with your bankrupt men of business, your men of mediocrity of talent and attainment, and you will find that they will all say—"Alas, circumstances were against me; I am the victim of ill luck." We tell you they are not. They are the victims of themselves and of the tendencies of the times. Not content with their work, off they go at a tangent to something else; their vagrant fancies make excursions in so many directions that they never get a step in advance until they at last aptly illustrate that homely saying, "Jack of all trades and master of none." "Mental dissipation," or the "art" of expanding intellectual energies on a distracting multiplicity of objects, instead of confining them to one subject, making all others subservient will we think be found as the true cause of so many failures of life. Most men run uncertainly if they have two goals, and our present age especially seems to have fallen into this great evil. The world is full of business and professional men who can do many things, but do no one thing well. Universality is the *ignis fatuus* which has allured and is alluring to ruin many a promising mind. Think for a moment of the number of business men with whom you are personally acquainted who are living examples of the truth of this assertion. Not content with their legitimate branch and into that pouring their energies and money, they must be running railroads, dabbling in stocks, overseeing a mine here, be investing in this or that concern there. When such men fail is it not the common assent that they had "too many irons in the fire?"

Not only does this desultoriness apply to individuals, but also enters in a certain degree into the tendencies of the age. Take our schools, for instance. Do not their curriculums include as many branches of study as would occupy an average life time in only a cursory survey? Greek and Latin, French and German, mathematics, astronomy, botany, music, painting, multifarious English branches, ancient and modern history, physical science, all are spread before astonished school children as daily food. The wonder is how one poor head can carry such a burden of knowledge, or rather such would be the wonder if it

were not obvious to every observer that the scholar gets no more than an inkling of all the sciences and languages. His time is divided among so many subjects that patient and exhaustive inquiry is impossible, and the gold leaf is extended over so wide a space that it becomes almost too thin to hide the barrenness beneath. This evil extends further and pervades the scholarship of our colleges and professional schools. There the ambition of young men is not to dive deeply, but to skim the widest possible surface. The mind flutters from one topic to another and takes hold of none, hence it lives in an atmosphere of dissipation which rapidly consumes its energies and exhausts its freshness.

But it may be asked, would not concentration upon one object have a tendency towards dwarfing a man's faculties, and so be as bad as the present condition of affairs? "Is not," asks an energetic writer, "the weaver in many cases but an animated shuttle, the seamstress a living needle, the laborer a spade that eats and sleeps? Does not the clergyman too often get a "white cloth" ideal of the world with some twists of dyspepsia in it; does not the lawyer become often a mere bundle of precepts, the physician an animated medicine case?" Truly, every profession and the world at large contains such dwarfed specimens of humanity, but success is purchased too dearly if to attain it a man must be a mere factor of society, a cog in some great machine bound to follow the revolution of the wheel. We have as much pity for the man of one idea as anyone, but because we urge men to be men of one *aim*, we do not urge them to be men of one *idea*. In sticking to one thing, we do not mean that a man should be a mere lawyer, a mere doctor, a mere merchant or mechanic, and nothing else. The concentration of energy and talent upon the object which is most important for us to secure implies no absolute disregard of every other. Because a traveller presses forward towards the desired haven and refuses to wander from the direct path, it by no means implies that he shall have "no eyes for the blossoms that shine by the wayside," "no ear for the music of the brook through the bracken." Nothing is more beautiful than to see a man wear his profession, art or trade, in an easy unconscious way. Wearing it as a soldier wears his sword which, once laid aside the accomplished warrior gives no hint of having ever worn but which at any moment can be buckled on and the enemy can be met.

The question has been asked "How shall I succeed?" The answer given, having found your work

give it your time and attention, the whole force of your mind and talent. Many of you no doubt have visited some large factory in our city and there seen a machine intended to operate upon cold iron. With all the tranquil ease of a common printing press it exerts a force equal to a thousand tons, while each pressure of the ram expels large cubes out of the solid bar, with as much facility as one can break glass or earthenware. It will drive its steel finger through iron two inches thick without the slightest jar or failure in the regularity of its action. What is the secret of this prodigious and constant power? It lies in the accumulated force of the balance wheel, which performing hundreds of revolutions in a minute, bears with crushing momentum upon the steel punch. So concentration of purpose is the balance wheel of human life, crushing all obstacles, removing all doubts and fears, and surely and steadily leading to the goal success, to the acquisition of a sound mind in a sound body, to the complete culture of man's whole nature.

#### COMMENCEMENT.

THE exercises took place at Music Hall. The audience was a very large—many being obliged to stand—and an appreciative one. Hon. Henry R. Pierson, LL.D., addressed the graduating class in a very happy manner. Prizes were awarded as follows: To J. B. Craig, \$50, for best senior examination; to W. B. Melick, 2d, a pocket case of surgical instruments for second best, and to C. W. Geel and Charles F. Wolff \$30 and \$20, respectively, for first and second best junior examinations. For best report of surgical clinics, W. F. Robinson and E. L. Angus received each a pocket case of surgical instruments, which were the prizes offered by Profs. Van Derveer and Ward; for best report of eye and ear clinic, J. M. Falk received a Loring opthalmoscope, offered as a prize by Prof. Merrill. The curators complimented the following essays: "The Germ Theory," by E. F. Bronk, "Modern Clinical Research," by J. B. Craig, and "Nitrogen Compounds," by W. G. Hubbard. The Hospital appointments are: St. Peter's—Drs. J. A. Flynn, J. V. Hennessy and W. B. Melick, 2d; City Hospital—Drs. R. Babcock and J. W. King.

#### COMMENCEMENT NOTES.

PROFESSOR J. M. BIGELOW intends moving into the office, No. 3 Lancaster St., formerly occupied by Professor Mosher. We understand he is to erect a new building on the corner of Hudson Ave. and South Pearl St., where his office now is.

A very handsome meershaum pipe, cigar holder and a pound of the best tobacco was presented to James Boom, the janitor, by the graduating class on the night of commencement, as a farewell gift.

The following gentlemen of the graduating class were formerly members of Union College: J. P. Craig, A. B., F. S. Bloss, A. B., W. C. Marselius, A. B., E. N. Wright and C. F. Timmerman.

The catalogue of '84 and '85 will style Albert Van Derveer, M.D., Ph.D., Professor of Surgery and Clinical Surgery; Samuel B. Ward, M.D., Ph.D., Professor of Pathology, Practice, Clinical Medicine and Hygiene; Samuel R. Morrow, M.D., Lecturer Adjunct to the Chair of Surgery.

Hon. Henry R. Pierson thinks the present graduating class "about as good and not much worse than the former graduating classes. Your diplomas are signed by the members of the faculty, all the way from Dr. Van Derveer down to Harry Hun," gained the applause of '84.

Resolutions of thanks were tendered Dr. John Swinburne, by the graduating class, for the kindness received from him during their course in the A. M. C. and the very interesting and instructive surgical clinics which they have been allowed to attend while here. Similar resolutions were also tendered Professor Merrill for his opthalmoscopic class held during the term.

FATHER TIME, in his steady onward march, has again shifted the scenes of the daily occupations of our medical school. Another commencement has come and gone and the medical students of yesterday, those of the class of '84, have blossomed into medical doctors to-day. And yet, while the comforting and probably honorable degree of M. D. may be affixed to our individual names, it is to be hoped that the proud name of medical student may be *the* honorable rank accorded to each in the several paths of our chosen profession.

Some, no doubt, will practice for the love of the science, will endeavor to be of some service to the cause in which they have enlisted and have it for their purpose to aid and relieve humanity as opportunity presents. Some may pursue the profession for pecuniary interests solely; some for an occupation and business merely. The duties and responsibilities of a doctor must not be too lightly esteemed; his life, if he is an earnest and conscientious man, must be a busy one, a laborious one, a tedious one and thankless one. Still, with all its varying phases and changing condi-



tions there are many elements of encouragement and many bright promises for faithful endeavor.

'Eighty-four leaves the college with pleasant recollections. With all the many pleasant hours we have spent in college, with all the trouble and anxiety which we have undergone, we have but kind feelings for all with whom we have mingled during the three long years of our college course. We shall never meet again as students and professors and look with joy when the hour shall come to leave the lecture room. Yet all this only brings to our mind the thought—were we as ready to learn as our professors were to teach. But it is past and gone, and we can only add, as we pass out into active life, may our future be passed as pleasantly as the three years while in A. M. C.? But we hope it will not seem presumption on our part to add, were the professors to hold more quizzes, more clinics, also give the standing of each student on monthly examinations and thus save them the "terrible stage of persecution" at the end, which they are required to pass through, which is worse than purgatory itself, and abolish the examination by the curators, all would unite in saying a good work has been done.

WELL, it is nearly finished! Our work on THE CONCORDIENSIS, as editors of its medical department, representing the classes of '84, '85 and '86, is quite at an end. As to whether or not that work has been well done is not for us to say. We stand by the record; yes, though it is true that some things have crept into our department which were better left out, though we may have slighted some things or overlooked them altogether which should have received greater prominence; still, we stand by the record! We say this, feeling quite keenly that we might have done better had we been wiser. How many others have had the same experience, when it was too everlastingly late to make due reparation! If at any time our productions have not been polished, learned or profound, it has been because we ourselves were not polished, learned or profound, for we have given them our very best effort. We have had some valuable literary aid from various members of the different classes; Mr. McFarlane, the managing editor, has been both courteous and kind to us. For all this we can only give these gentlemen our honest thanks. As to whether or not this relationship between the different departments of the University can be continued, it is not our fortune to know. To us ('85) it has been both pleasant and profitable—not financially,

but otherwise. However, we are not a candidate for reëlection. That we have had many more readers than subscribers, we are well aware, and, for the benefit of those who *may* follow us, we will say that the mere reading of a college paper does not give it support; it must be subscribed to as well, and one copy should not be made to answer for more than thirteen students, for so much handling is liable to soil it and render it unfit for binding.

## Albany College of Pharmacy.

### ALUMNI MEETING.

THE annual meeting of the alumni association of the College of Pharmacy was held Tuesday afternoon, Feb. 26, at 3 o'clock. About thirty graduates were present. After the transaction of the regular business of the meeting, the election of officers for the ensuing year was held. The following was the ticket elected: President, Leonard H. Wheeler; first vice-president, Orel T. Larkin; second vice-president, George Boucher; secretary, Frank M. Clement; treasurer, Frank J. Smith; historian, Frank Richardson; executive committee, Frank Warren, Louis Sautter, Jr., Albert R. Griffith.

WE are pleased to be able to give our readers the following valedictory, delivered on commencement evening by Mr. Frank Richardson:

*Gentlemen of the Faculty and Ladies and Gentlemen:*

We have gathered this evening to take part in the third annual commencement of the Albany College of Pharmacy, and those who have followed the college in its course will note with pleasure the increase in attendance which is evidence of its extending popularity. And it is needless to say that the establishment of this college has filled a want long felt in this section. The success which has attended its growth is largely due to the untiring efforts of the gentlemen who compose the faculty, who, by their devoted attention, their zeal in the work, and their uniform kindness, have won for themselves the lasting regard of each and every student. Under their careful guidance we have been enabled to overcome obstacles that to our unpracticed eyes seemed almost insurmountable. We have been led to drink at the fountain of their knowledge, and by so doing have been refreshed and encouraged to proceed on the long and rugged road that leads to wisdom. The one aim of the faculty has been to give us the benefit of their long years of experience, to



make for us a firm foundation on which we are to rear a superstructure, the character of which will be dependent on the individual endeavors of each of us. And now, gentlemen, as we are about to sever the bonds that have so long bound us to you, in behalf of the class of '84, I extend to you hearty thanks for your earnest labors for our advancement, and it is our sincere wish that you may long direct the course of instruction in the several branches you so ably represent, and that the Albany College of Pharmacy, under your careful guidance, may hold a front rank among the teaching colleges of pharmacy.

*Classmates:* Although we have finished our course here, we must not consider ourselves finished pharmacists and lay aside our books as useful for reference only, but rather have them as every day companions, not only that we may advance ourselves, but that we may also worthily represent our alma mater.

Continual advance is being made in pharmacy and its allied branches, and if we would be successful, it is necessary to keep abreast of the progress of the day. This can be accomplished only by continued and well directed study, for

"Errors, like straws, upon the surface flow,  
He who would search for pearls must dive below."

Here we have been taught to apply our minds to study, to systematize our work and thus be enabled to accomplish the best results. Here we have acquired a love of knowledge and investigation of the wonders of nature that should follow us through life and make us aspire to do our mite towards the advancement of pharmaceutical knowledge.

The age of ignorance and superstition has passed, and an era of education and enlightenment has dawned. "We are," says a recent writer, "in the midst of a revolution in pharmacy that will either sink us to the level of irresponsible distributors of poisonous and dangerous elements, or lift us in public estimation to the position we richly deserve through education, liability and responsibility." The time is soon coming when the people will come to their senses and demand that none but graduates of pharmacy or registered pharmacists shall be entitled to practice their profession on humanity.

As we pause and look back on the busy months we have passed here as fellow students, many pleasant memories rise to our minds and we are loth to think that to-morrow we go forth to new fields, perhaps never to meet again.

"Let by-gones be by-gones, they foolishly say,  
And bid me be wise and forget them,

But old recollections are active to-day  
And I can do naught but regret them.  
Though the present be pleasant and joyous and gay,  
And promising well for the morrow,  
I love to look back on the months passed away,  
Embalming my by-gones in sorrow."

This evening marks a turning point, and to-morrow we go forth to battle with the unknown. "The world is all before us, where to choose our place of labor, and Providence our guide." May our guide prove an kindly one and lead where we may labor most effectually for the good of the profession and our own honor and prosperity.

In conclusion I would express to the class my appreciation of the honor conferred in choosing me as your representative this evening. And in the future when my thoughts revert to the happy days spent here, the words of Moore will rise to mind:

"No, never shall my soul forget,  
The friends I found so cordial hearted.  
Dear shall be the day we met,  
And dear the day we parted."

THE third annual commencement exercises of the Albany College of Pharmacy were held Feb. 26, in Alumni Hall of the Medical College. The following was the programme of exercises:

Music.

Prayer—Rev. Wm. S. Smart.

Address by the President of the faculty, Prof. A. B. Husted, M. D.

Music.

Conferring degrees by the President, Joseph W. Russell, Esq.

Music.

Address to the graduates—Edward P. Waterbury, Ph. D., President State Normal School.

Music.

Valedictory—Frank Richardson.

Music.

Presentation of prizes by the secretary of the faculty.

Music.

The hall was filled to overflowing before the hour of eight had arrived, and many were unable to gain admission. Prof. Husted's address was full of sound common sense, which will always be remembered by the graduating class. The degree of Ph. G. was then conferred upon the following members of the graduating class: George W. Burr, Frank M. Clement, Edward J. Griffith, Jurian W. Jones, Orrel T. Larkin, Frederick Neudorf, Jr., Josiah Pardee, Frank Richardson, William T. Stafford, De Baum Van Aken, and Frank B. Warren. Two members of the class are obliged to wait until they have completed their term of apprenticeship before they can receive their diplomas.

After some very pleasing music by the orchestra, Prof. Waterbury delivered the address to the graduating class. It proved an entertaining and instructive discourse. The speaker paid a touching tribute to the late Dr. Mosher, whom every one remembers with love and respect.

At the close of the address Prof. Waterbury was greeted with hearty applause. Mr. Frank Richardson delivered the valedictory, which will be found in another column. The look of anxiety deepened upon the usually cheerful faces of the graduates as the time for the presentation of prizes approached. The presentation was gracefully done by Prof. Tucker, secretary of the faculty. The following prizes were awarded: To Frank Richardson, \$50, for passing the best final examination in all branches; to G. V. Dillenbeck, a prize of \$30, for the best graduating thesis; to Richard H. Roth, a prize of \$20, for the greatest proficiency in the laboratory course; to Frederick Neudorf, a prescription balance and weights, for passing the best examination in pharmacy, and to W. T. H. Tipping, a prize of \$25 for passing the best general examination at the close of the junior year.

After conferring the degree of Ph. G. upon A. B. Huested and Louis Sautter, the exercises of the third annual commencement of the Albany College of Pharmacy were brought to a close by the benediction delivered by Dr. Dean, of All Saints' Cathedral.

#### BANQUET.

AT the close of the exercises at Alumni Hall, the members of the association, with the faculty and invited guests, proceeded to the Delavan House, where a sumptuous feast awaited them. The room was decorated in a most exquisite manner, and a glance (only a single glance) at the table was as beneficial to one's stomach as "getting away" with a regular College of Pharmacy boarding house dinner. But alas! the glance did n't satisfy *all*. At the head of the table were seated Mr. Waterbury, Prof. Tucker and Mr. Estcourt (Mr. E. never gets left when there is an alumni supper).

The three classes were represented at the supper. The only member of the class of '82 being Mr. Phillips, who was very quiet, but kept the waiter very busy. The bill of fare was rather powerful and many of the boys were turning them (the bill of fare card) inside out, looking for the skeleton and cross-bones after having read on the first page "Poisson." But the "mildest" thing on the programme was Mr. Wheeler and his Roman punch. Mr. Larkin remarked

that it was nothing more than C12, H22, O11 and a little molasses, and further remarked that he did n't fear drinking his but had no more room for it, and asked the waiter to stand it aside until the morning. Well, the wants of the inner man having been satisfied, the next in order (with the aid of black coffee and cigars) were toasts, speeches, etc. The speeches and toasts were all "impromptu," with the exception of the one given by Mr. Vedder. Dr. Bigelow, in a smiling manner, delivered a few remarks, which was well received. The most eloquent speech of the evening was that delivered by Mr. Phillips, '82. He stately and serenely was the shining star; he shone so brightly that a hack was the only being which could possibly convey him to the depot. He was seen several times during the course of the evening passing "shekels" into the waiter's coat pocket, and after each one of Mr. P.'s donations the servant in attendance was noticed returning with a fresh bottle. The other donations of this section were Warner, Benjamin, and Sautter, Jr. Toasts were given by Dr. Huested, Mr. Chas. H. Gaus, Mr. L. Sautter, and last, with a few very encouraging words, from Prof. Tucker, whose toast are always appreciated, the assemblage adjourned to meet again in one year.

The Inter-Collegiate Athletic Association held its annual business meeting at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York, Saturday afternoon, Feb. 23. Delegates were present from twelve colleges. Several amendments were made to the association constitution, the list of events for the next meeting was adopted, the time of the next games named for May, and the place to be decided by the executive committee. The resolutions recently adopted by Harvard, Princeton, and other colleges, laying restrictions upon the actions of the athletic, foot ball, base ball, and other associations, were, after reports from the delegates expressive of the opinions of the students of their respective colleges upon the subject, unanimously rejected. The delegates were requested to lay the action of the association before the different faculties and endeavor to secure the rejection of the resolutions in question. The petition of Union College for re-instatement was unanimously granted, the name of Brown College was dropped from the list, and officers were chosen for the ensuing year. Messrs. G. F. Allison, '84, and J. Z. R. Rratt, '86, were the delegates from Union.

The Williams students have had three attempts at cane rushes. Now a policeman patrols the grounds until the fellows are in the arms of Morpheus.