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Philip L. Thomson

Union College - Schenectady, NY

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FEBRUARY 21, 1900.

The... Concordiensis.

Published Weekly by the Students of Union College,
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Union University.

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During the past season eight members of the Union College class of '99 registered with us and we secured positions for four of them as follows:

- Snyder Gage, St. George's Hall, Summit, N. J.
- Robert Gambler, Lowville Academy, Lowville, N. Y.
- Geo. M. Wiley, Jr., High School, St. Johnsville, N. Y.
- Frank T. Wright, High School, Williamsburg, Mass.

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SATURDAY, FEB. 24, MATINEE 2 P. M.—
THEALBANY BANQUET.

North-eastern Alumni Gather at the Hotel Ten Eyck.

A goodly number of Old Union's sons gathered Friday evening at the Hotel Ten Eyck on the occasion of the eleventh annual reunion and banquet of the Union College Alumni Association of Northeastern New York. The attendance, the enthusiasm and the sentiments expressed all betoken an active interest among the members of the association for the welfare of the college. Alumni active in the walks of life partook of the bountiful fare, renewed old friendships and strengthened old ties. Prominent alumni addressed the gathering on topics of timely interest. The dinner tables were charmingly decorated with potted palms and plants. Holding's orchestra entertained the alumni and played the music for old college songs. The quartette, reinforced by the members of the '99 quartette, led the evening's singing.

The business meeting of the association was held early in the evening in the reading room. Edward P. White, '79, one of Amsterdam's successful young lawyers, was elected president; Dr. Andrew MacFarlane, '84, a clinical professor in the medical department, vice-president; and James N. Vander Veer, '99, chairman of the South College dormitory improvement committee, secretary and treasurer. The most important act of the meeting was the passage of a resolution approving the class of '99's plan for modernizing South College. Another resolution unanimously carried was one commending the college faculty for their efforts toward the betterment of the scholastic standing at Union. The first resolution is printed in full.

"Whereas, We learn that the class of '99 of Union College is making an earnest effort to raise $15,000 from the alumni and friends of the college for the purpose of repairing and modernizing the present South college dormitory; therefore be it

"Resolved, That we, the members of the Northeastern New York Alumni Association of Union College, do hereby congratulate the class for its interest in our alma mater; and further, we do hereby agree to aid and co-operate with it in its effort, to the best of our ability, toward the early accomplishment of the plan."

Following the business meeting, a sumptuous dinner was served in the banquet hall. At its conclusion President Rudd, acting as toastmaster, rose and rapped for attention. He said in part:

"The days of Union's strength are not numbered. They bring constantly and ever increasing evidences of renewed power, and in the present we can be as assured of the future as we are of the past. To our college we can wish for nothing better, than that in the circle of the colleges our fair mother may in the future shine as resplendent as she has in the past. 'By their fruits ye shall know them.'" One President of the United States, two Secretaries of State, two Justices of the United States Supreme Court, ten United States Senators, within the last ten years three Members of the Presidential Cabinet, two Speakers of the House of Representatives, one hundred and forty Members of the House of Representatives, thirty-six College Presidents, and one-fifth of the whole number of Judges elected to the bench of the Court of Appeals by the Supreme Court, in our state. These are on our roll."

Mr. Rudd paid a graceful compliment to Dr. Raymond in comparing him with Dr. Nott in regard to his youth, his call to the presidency of Union from an Albany Presbyterian pulpit and his hopeful, energetic struggle for the college's interests.
Dr. Raymond told of his hopes for Union's future while at the same time he skilfully directed the association's attention to Union's need of money. He humorously described his present failure in hunting for this much desired article but expressed encouraging hopes for the future. "Most colleges," said he, "are local institutions. Less than one-half the students of the country travel more than one hundred miles on their way to college. The college is an institution of the local constituency. If this part of the alumni does not help, what can be expected of the other part? Gentlemen, give us your words, your influence, your sons."

Homer Greene, '74, of Honesdale, Pa., author of the "Union Marching Song," talked about "The Average Alumnus." This individual, he claimed, is a type of ninety-five per cent. of college graduates. The average alumnus is the one who does the world's work manfully and whose name is rarely heard outside of the community. The college's real aim is not so much to turn out the distinguished graduate as to fit this average alumnus for the walks of life.

The address of the Hon. Charles E. Patterson, '60, on "Students as Educators," created much thoughtful amusement. While not discrediting the value of the intellectual student life, Mr. Patterson sought to emphasize the value of that other part of it—the rubbing together of man with man.

Edward J. Maxwell, '64, entertained the banqueters with several pleasing reminiscences of old college days.

Dr. Perkins' address was entitled "—?—" but proved otherwise. Dr. Perkins, in part, speaking as a non-fraternity man, laid stress upon the leading part which the secret society plays in college life.

The addresses of Henry A. Powell, '73, on "The College Man as a Citizen," and Danforth E. Ainsworth, Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction, on "Governmental Suicide by Education," were cut short by those gentlemen by reason of the lateness of the hour. During the evening letters of regret were read from Hon. Daniel S. Lancon, '72, and Postmaster-General Charles Emory Smith, '61. John H. Cook, 1904, rendered an impersonation during the evening.

Those present were as follows:

H. T. E. Brower, '49; J. A. DeRemer, '57; C. E. Patterson, '60; Col. W. F. Fox, '60; J. L. Hill, '61; Prof. J. E. Sherwood, '62; Wm. Loucks, '66; J. N. Fiero, '67; E. D. Ronan, '67; R. B. Fish, '67; Dr. W. H. Murray, '67; Judge G. M. Ingallsbe, '68; W. J. Kline, '72; W. P. Rudd, '73; H. A. Powell, '73; Dr. J. Barker, '74; L. A. Serviss, '74; Homer Greene, '76; W. P. Newman, '76; J. J. O'Hara, '78; E. P. White, '79; Prof. J. Healy, '79; M. W. Vosburgh, '80; Dr. J. D. Craig, '80; Judge D. Muhlfelder, '80; Dr. W. M. White, '81; Prof. C. E. Franklin, '83; Dr. L. Van Auken, '84; Dr. A. MacFarlane, '84; Dr. J. M. Mosher, '86; E. C. Morgan, '86; A. H. Jackson, '86; J. C. Van Voast, '87; C. F. Bridge, '87; C. B. MacMurray, '87; E. M. Cameron, '87; Dr. H. A. Kurlt, '87; Prof. W. G. Furbeck, '87; E. C. Knickerbocker, Law '90; J. W. Ferguson, '91; A. J. Roy, '93; E. G. Conde, '93; R. F. Gilmour, '94; H. Pemberton, '95; W. R. Borst, '95; H. Robinson, '97; E. E. Draper, '97; W. E. Merriman, Jr., '98; M. G. Thomas, '98; H. Strong, '98; S. G. H. Turner, '98; J. H. Gutmann, '98; F. W. Hild, '98; D. J. Hoyt, '99; H. J. Hinman, '99; J. N. VanderVeer, '99; F. L. Greene, '99; G. M. Wiley, Jr., '99; L. T. Hubbard, 1900; L. F. G. Robinson, 1900; H. A. Barrett, '01; G. L. Shelley, '01; E. B. Slack, '01; P. L. Merriman, '01; Willis E. Merriman and John N. Robe.

The faculty representatives were: President Raymond, '75; Dr. William Wells, Dr. Maurice Perkins, Dr. T. W. Wright, Dr. S. G. Ashmore, Dr. E. E. Hale, Jr., Prof. A. H. Pepper, '87; Prof. J. L. Bennett, '90; Prof. H. Opdyke, H. T. Eddy, J. L. March, and L. Duncan.

Mary had a little lamp,
A jealous lamp, no doubt;
For soon as Mary's beau went in,
The lamp, you see, went out.
—Ex.
CONCERNING SOCIOLOGY.

A list of the books presented to the college library by the class of 1900 for use in the course in sociology may be found in another column. A mere glance at the list is sufficient to show the value of the acquisition and the importance of such literature to the work in sociology. In presenting the books, the class has followed the commendable precedents established by the two preceding graduating classes. Through their generosity, nearly a $100 worth of the very best books upon the subject has been added to the library in two years. This sum represents net library prices and is exclusive of costs for carriage. The books have been selected with care and with a view to their especial adaptability to the needs of the class, and the subjects and methods of the course.

These gifts were suggested by the insurmountable difficulties experienced in following the course in sociology properly without the "authorities" for the purposes of collateral reading. There were practically no books in the library on the subject from which assignments could be made to supplement the lectures. The nature and scope of the subject make the lecture and library methods the only methods that can be followed advantageously. This necessitates a large, well-chosen and well-balanced collection of books upon normal and pathological sociology. This want the senior classes have generously attempted to supply, until now we have built up a fairly good working library.

The scope of the subject is so vast and its treatment up to the present time so unsatisfactory that no satisfactory text-book has been evolved. The "doctors" are still disputing over every essential element connected with its treatment. The very fundamentals of the science are consequently in the air and it will take time for them to be shaken down sufficiently to admit of that orderly, scientific treatment that will make possible a satisfactory text-book. It is altogether intelligible that such should be the case; for, while none will deny the vital importance of the study, yet all will recognize that its very nature makes the establishment of bounds and limitations difficult. This is true in the early development of all sciences and one would naturally expect to find it even more obvious in the evolution of sociology. It may not be the all-inclusive science that some of its overzealous disciples would have it, but it is all-permeating. It treats of man in his relations to other men and these relations are innumerable in their variety, and boundless in their scope. For this reason, some German and French writers have gone so far as to call it the "science of sciences." Other scholarly writers have committed the opposite error of subordinating it in their classification of the sciences to the position of a mere branch of their own special subjects. Of these foreign thinkers, some fossilized theologians still make sociology subsidiary to natural theology; some biologists presume to identify it as one of the parts of their scientific leviathan; and there are not wanting those doctrinaire philosophers who spend their precious moments in vain attempts to ram it up into the narrow bore of their own departmental flintlocks. Against such minimizing of such an important science, we earnestly protest. Sociology depends upon these other sciences for many of its most important data just as they depend upon it, but to subordinate it to them is a clear case of extreme narrowness.

All that is asked for sociology is a normal independence—that its individuality be preserved. There are two sciences that everyone knows all about—economics and sociology—there may be a few things concerning chemistry and biology one does not "wot of," but the elements of the other two sciences just come to us intuitively like. There is nothing in the realm of economic thought but that is perfectly clear to Jean at first blush; and Jacques, on the other hand, knows as much about the care of dependents, defectives and delinquents as we would suppose him to know about the rotation of crops.

Yet this attitude on the part of the laity is not without its advantage to the science, and its disadvantages are due chiefly to the want of a proper nomenclature. It is a most hopeful sign of the times for it is evidence of the great inter-
est people in general are taking in the subject. They have made it their own science and their interest is a proof of its importance and a guarantee of its continued vitality. The study of sociology has been forced upon the colleges from without. The development of the science has been retarded from within. Its academic friends have fought over its metes and bounds until the world doubts it has any dimensions at all. Every text-book published upon the subject is nothing more than a lawyer's brief arguing certain views; or, a polemic characterized by special pleadings in favor of some pet theory. Every year sees the publication of new books purporting to be text-books in sociology. But they are not—they are better than text-books. They are scholarly contributions to the literature of the science. From the point of view of scholarship, a text-book is a very ordinary production. Except as to form and machinery, it should show a minimum amount of originality and a maximum amount of assimilation. The best text-book is the least original. It may lack in originality but it must show a high order of mechanical genius.

We do not attack the text-book but the poverty-stricken substitute for one. Where a good book can be had it is advantageous to use it, for it gives the treatment of the subject proper balance and prevents unbridled digression. When used in connection with the library method it is productive of the best results. No reputable college today follows the "one-book" method in sociology. The want of a satisfactory text-book is not without its advantages. The lecture takes its place as a guide and expositor. At the same time with a well stocked library in normal and pathological sociology, such the senior classes are contributing, we are able to follow strictly library methods. In this way the student is familiarized with the greatest thinkers the science has produced, and is himself taught to think.

F. R. JONES.

President Raymond gave an informal address at the Y. M. C. A. meeting Sunday afternoon.

THE HISTORY OF ALGEBRA.

Mr. Duncan gave his algebra classes a talk on the development of that branch of mathematics last Thursday morning. He said that the Greeks evolved the first algebraic principles, Archimedes propounding the problem of the cattle, which is still unsolved, though the estimated result would make a string of figures over two miles long. Another Greek, Diophantus, wrote a treatise on mathematics, the "Arithmeticos," and is called the "Father of Algebra." The Romans did not contribute anything original to the science, merely collecting the Greek writings. In Europe, during the middle ages, no advancement was made, but the Hindoos so far improved upon Grecian system, as to use the quantity zero, and negative quantities, expressed by a dot over the number. They also made use of indeterminate equations. The Arabs took their turn, translating the learning of the Hindoos into their own tongue. Very much of the nomenclature of modern algebra is derived from the Arabic, the name itself coming from "Al-jebr," the title of an Arabian work on the subject. During the Renaissance the Italians were the foremost algebraists, solving equations as high as the fourth degree. Abel, a Swede, showed that it was impossible to solve equations of any higher degree by algebraic methods. During the seventeenth century, the German and English mathematicians were the most active, inventing many symbols, and giving us the tables of logarithms, perfected by Briggs. Algebra as it is today, Mr. Duncan said, is principally based on the exhaustive studies of Euler, who was born in Switzerland, but afterward went to Russia as court mathematician, and of Newton, who invented the binomial theorem.

A religious mass meeting of the Young People's Societies of Christian Endeavor and kindred societies of the city, was held in the State Street Methodist Church Thursday evening. Among the speakers were Dean Ripton and the Rev. J. C. Russum, '77.
THE KIDNAPPING OF THE FRESHMEN OFFICERS.

Two as remarkable pieces of daring as the college has ever known were perpetrated prior to the 1903 banquet by a small band of sophomores upon the persons of two members of the former class,—Archibald A. Lee of Albany, and George C. Macfarlane of Towanda, Pa. These individuals were unfortunate enough to be officers of the banquet, the former expecting to act as toastmaster, while the latter is vice-president of the class. Lee was abducted Saturday evening from a place near his home in Albany, while Macfarlane was seized just above the blue gate on Union street early Sunday morning.

Attempts Friday to seize the freshman officers frightened W. J. Dickenson, the president, and A. A. Lee, the toastmaster, out of town. Accordingly Saturday afternoon two sets of sophomores left for Albany in search of the missing men. The first three men, Shaw, Cleveland and Dunning, joined by Wilson, ascertained Lee's whereabouts, devised a scheme for his capture, and waited with a hack upon the second party,—Stiles, Thebo and Finnegan—at the Union depot on the arrival of the six-thirty train. The six were driven quickly up Clinton avenue and into a dark place near it on Knox street. A plan had been devised to decoy the freshman from his home on Clinton avenue but this soon proved unnecessary, for scarcely a few moments elapsed when Lee walked into their hands from an errand at a nearby grocery store.

"Hello fellows," said he with open astonishment and then started to run. Not far, however, for he was quickly seized and hustled into the waiting carriage. Three men entered at the same time and the four were quickly driven over the viaduct. His situation and that of his captors from that time until Monday night was unknown except by a chosen few.

Macfarlane's capture took place early Sunday morning in a similar manner. Accompanied by another freshman on the way from the post-office he was surprised by six men in another hack, and hustled off.

THE FRESHMAN BANQUET.

A Successful Affair Held on Monday Evening.

The banquet of the Class of 1903 was finally celebrated at the Edison hotel on Monday evening, and despite the absence of the toastmaster, elsewhere explained, the affair passed off to the entire satisfaction of all present and to the credit of the committee of arrangements. An excellent menu was provided and was excellently served, so that by eleven o'clock the toasts began.

An unwary soph who ventured into the hotel corridor early in the evening was present at the banquet, but he did not partake of the viands. Seated upon a high chair to which he formed an attachment, he viewed the progress of the feast, and was finally released after half of the toasts were over.


The crowd dispersed at a late hour, the last sensation of the evening being the arrival of the relief expedition, who reported that they found the missing toastmaster and chairman barricaded in a country hotel, but that all attempts at rescue had proved in vain.

When a fellow gets a letter
From a maiden he divines,
Many a precious little secret
Written in between the lines.

Funny, too, in Greek and Latin,
How we meet with like designs,
Strange how many happy meanings
Oft are read between the lines. —Ex.
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In accordance with the sentiment of the student body, the list of unpaid football subscriptions is printed in another column. It is to be hoped that the new method of having the subscriptions made written obligations will cause a more thorough understanding between all parties. But the best method to raise money for athletics is to have subscriptions made at the opening of the season paid within a month. This will give the athletic board and the manager a safe estimate from which to work.

The members of the 1901 Garnet board are daily confronted by the query, When is the Garnet coming out? The majority of these questioners are ignorant of what such a "coming out" involves, and content themselves with simply posing as critics on the book, and critics in the hardest sense of the word. What the board desires is to render all criticism on the volume favorable. To do this requires, not a seeming interest in its publication and appearance, but a visible zeal in furnishing material for its literary side. This is the department in which all the students can work, and the only department wherein such work reveals itself. The board compliments these men who have done their share, and hopes that the whole student body will awaken to their sense of duty, and promote the Garnet's early appearance. A few more weeks are left. For the sake of convenience, all literary material suitably signed may be left at the college office to be collected by the editor.

It is a pleasure to record the fact that the present senior class has followed the excellent example set by its two predecessors, in presenting to the library a substantial addition to the sociological alcove. The system inaugurated three years ago at the suggestion and under the direction of Dr. Jones, is certainly one of great merit, and the result has been the building up of this department of the library, until now the sociological library in this college is equal of that in any institution of our size in the country, and, it may safely be added, of many institutions that boast of larger numbers. This splendid equipment has been brought about almost entirely by the students in three classes, aided by the instructor at the head of the department, who has selected the books with careful judgment so as to put to the best possible use the funds subscribed by the classes. The results of the system are most satisfactory and succeeding classes will do well to perpetuate the custom.

New York, Feb. 6, 1900.

Editors of the Concordiensis:

Gentlemen:—

Acting on your recent suggestion that subscribers to Concordiensis send their copies, after reading, to the academy where they prepared for college, I have sent several back numbers out, and shall send the current numbers to the Troy Conference Academy, Poultney, Vt. I have received from the principal an appreciative acknowledgement of the same. Should your suggestion be followed to any considerable extent, as I earnestly hope it may be,
your new class of readers will naturally be more or less in the editorial mind in the selection and preparation of reading matter. In this connection perhaps the enclosed clippings may interest you, either as appropriate selected matter, or as furnishing hints for editorials.

Very truly yours,

WARD McLEAN, '43.

P. S.—Since the above was written I have penned the enclosed two pages on "Debating." Do with it, and with the clippings as you please.

The article on "Debating" referred to, is printed on another page.—Ed.

ALUMNI NEWS.

Items of Interest Concerning Union's Graduates.

'46.—Abram Nellis, died from heart disease last week at Nelliston, Montgomery county. He founded Nelliston in 1800. After being graduated from Union Mr. Nellis was employed in the New York postoffice, and in President Harrison's administration he secured a postoffice for Nelliston and was himself appointed the first postmaster.

'67.—Dr. James Duane Featherstonhaugh delivered a geological talk on the "Mohawk Valley" before the Catholic Union at Cohoes, last week Tuesday evening. Dr. Featherstonhaugh is president of the Cohoes Public Improvement commission.

'95.—Rev. Harvey Clements has been installed as pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Gloversville.

'96.—Dr. Alva L. Peckham spent a few days in town last week.

'96.—Major Allen Twiford, is the Chicago representative of the dry goods commission house of Minot, Hooper & Co., New York.

'96.—William H. Hall, is a student at the McCormack Theological Seminary at Chicago. The past three years he has spent in Beirut, Syria, where he was professor of English in the American college.

'99.—G. Foote, has a position in Chicago with the Illinois Steel company.

THE GREEK LETTER SOCIETY.

A recent editorial in the Kennebec Journal made glad the heart of the college fraternities by its treatment of the following clipping:

Just what part the Greek-letter societies take in the education of the college student is something that has never yet been explained.—Philadelphia Ledger.

In fact, it was so good that we feel justified in quoting it in substance:

"It is certain that this vicious little squib was written by an editor who was never fortunate enough to belong to a college fraternity. He simply doesn't know what he is talking about. To those who know anything about colleges and college fraternities, no explanation of the important part they play in education is necessary. Other persons need hardly be considered in this connection. Some few colleges, years ago, with a conservatism verging on bigotry, refused to allow the introduction of Greek-letter fraternities. Such a regulation could never be passed today, and we have no hesitation in declaring that every educator of note in the country recognizes the worth and importance of college fraternities. No figures can measure the important part they play in the development and training of the college man. Their literary, social and fraternal sides supplement the work of the class-room and laboratory with a helpful influence that is extremely potent. Their ideals are the highest, and the lessons they teach are remembered much longer than Latin verbs or chemical formulae. Their secret features are as necessary as to the Masonic and other great orders, and are no more used to cover abuses or questionable practices.

"To the small college they mean more than to the large universities, but at no institution except Harvard have they been a failure. In no secret organizations that exist are the bonds of brotherhood so close and so lasting as in these fraternities, and the loyalty of their alumni is the best proof of the good that they do for their members. The fraternities help and strengthen the colleges. The intercollegiate feature of the fraternities does much to give the undergraduates a broader view of the educational world, and to soften the rivalries that inevitable exist between neighboring colleges that compete in athletic contests.

"Many thousand college graduates will assure you that above all else in their undergraduate life they cherish the memory of the associations and influence and training of their fraternity.
Ask President Hyde of Bowdoin, or Tucker of Dartmouth, or Hadley of Yale, or Schurman of Cornell, or Low of Columbia, or Harper of Chicago, or Harris of Amherst, or any of a hundred other college presidents, what the Greek-letter fraternities in their institutions mean to undergraduates and alumni, and what part they play in the training of young men. Some of them are fraternity men and some are not, but their testimony would be a unit in harmony with the ideas we have here expressed, and they would laugh to scorn the dyspeptic croaker who penned the paragraph quoted from the Philadelphia Ledger."—Bowdoin Orient.

ANTI-HAZING LEGISLATION.

Assemblyman Larzelere has introduced a bill into the legislature with the purpose in view of doing away in its entirety of the practice of hazing. Mr. Larzelere claims that hazing has recently been carried on in New York state colleges to an alarming extent. The bill provides that if death ensues as a result of hazing, the person or persons found guilty shall be held for manslaughter in the second degree and on conviction shall be punished accordingly. In any other case the penalty will be a fine of not less than $50 nor more than $500, or by imprisonment in a county jail or penitentiary for not less than three months nor more than one year, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

The total registration in the ten leading American Universities has been calculated by the Harvard Graduates Magazine to be 25,394 students, the registration of the individual universities being as follows: Harvard, 5,250; Michigan, 3,346; Columbia, 3,083; Yale, 2,688; Pennsylvania, 2,651; Cornell, 2,645; Wisconsin, 2,025; Chicago, 1,680; Princeton, 1,194 and Johns Hopkins, 632. Two of these universities, Yale and Pennsylvania, have a smaller registration this year than last—Yale having 20 students less and Pennsylvania 78. The increase at Columbia over last year's enrollment is 246; at Michigan, 242; at Cornell, 203; at Harvard, 199; at Wisconsin, 199; at Princeton, 95; at Chicago, 32; and at Johns Hopkins, 5.—The Princetonian.

CAMPUS NOTES.

Live Topics Discussed by the Students.

Dr. Truax will speak at the vesper service Sunday afternoon.

Gordon, '03, and Bishop, '03, spent Saturday and Sunday at the latter's home in Oneonta.

Prof. Perkins will address the People's Forum in Trades' Assembly hall next Sunday on "Civil Service Reform."

S. S. Read, 1900, will lead the Y. M. C. A. next Tuesday evening. Subject, "A Strenuous Life Exemplified."

Boorn, 1900, returned to college Monday, after having spent four or five days with his parents at Schenevus.

Samuel B. Howe, Jr., a son of Prof. Samuel B. Howe, '62, the local Superintendent of Schools, has entered the class of '03.

Dr. F. R. Jones addressed the Teachers' Club of this city at its last meeting. His subject was, "The School from the Standpoint of Sociology."

Prof. Howard Opdyke attended the annual banquet of the Williams College alumni association, which was held at the Ten Eyck in Albany, Wednesday evening.

Prof. Ashmore gave an interesting illustrated lecture on the Roman Forum to the members of the two lower classes last Thursday evening. A number of upper classmen and members of the faculty also attended, and the address was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

At a recent meeting of the Garnet board, it was decided to strengthen its editorial staff by the addition of another member, the representative of the new Medical fraternity Nu Sigma Nu. This action will undoubtedly be a decided step toward strengthening the bond of union between the departments of the university. Nu Sigma Nu has a record that embraces zeal, as is evidenced by the manner in which their representative, Leland O. White, has entered upon his work.
CONCERNING DEBATING.

A marked improvement in the skill of college debaters has followed the revival of interest in the subject of student debating. This has been due in a large measure to the inauguration of intercollegiate debates. The outside competition has intensified that between the different organizations within the college. An effective stimulant is the *eclat* which victory gives to the institution and the societies (both debating and Greek Letter) to which the victors belong. This *eclat* is shared by the visitors personally, and, in some degree, by their friends and acquaintances at home.

The increasing desire for opportunity to practice, in addition to that furnished by the library facilities has led to debates both within and between the respective organizations and classes.

Thus a general debating proficiency has developed and the opportunity has increased for the selection of a team of special promise to represent the institution. When such a team has been selected and has received the special training which has been provided for it, the entire college body feels that it has substantial ground for hopes of victory in any intercollegiate tourney to which it may be committed.

As an illustration of the trainer's work, it has been said of one who holds a very prominent place that "he is a clever strategist. He urges a team to pick out some position and maintain that one line of argument, letting other points take care of themselves. Under his training men are taught to ignore any point of their opponents which they cannot effectively refute. His two great points are the importance of sticking to facts, and the use of as few words as possible in stating what one has to say."

Of the strategic feature of this coach's training, it may be said that his aim seems to be not so much to discover and exhibit the right and wrong of a given question as to show that his men are more skillful debaters than their opponents. The training of an advocate is important, though he may often think it to be his duty to make "the worse appear the better reason." But of higher importance is the training of a statesman or jurist who seeks to lay open and illuminate a subject without bias, leading the thought of his hearers to determine in which of two directions before them the finger of wisdom is pointing.

Can a debate be conducted from this standpoint? Certainly; if the question be properly selected and the debaters choose sides according to their convictions; which, however, should be held subject to change or modification, according as new light may be brought to bear.

Ward McLean, '43.

GIFTS OF 1900 TO THE LIBRARY.

Peschel—Races of Man.
Haddon—Study of Man.
Wilson—Drunkenness.
Mitchell—Drink Question.
Goddard—Genesis and Exodus of Poverty.
Wright—Practical Sociology.
Ratzel—History of Mankind, 3 vols.
Giddings—Principles of Sociology; and Theory of Socialization.
Mattheson—Social Teachings of Jesus.
Fowle—Poor Law.
Hull House Papers.
Ely—Social Aspects of Christianity; and Philanthropy and Social Progress.
Spencer—Study of Sociology.
Ripley—Races of Europe, 2 vols.
Morrison—Juvenile Offender.

PRAISE FOR '99's SOUTH COLLEGE PROJECT.

The following is a clipping taken from a communication which appeared in a recent number of "The Varsity" a weekly publication at the University of Toronto, Canada. The communication deals with a proposed improvement in the dormitory system of the institution, and it is interesting for its appropriate reference to conditions as they exist at Union.

"Failing government aid, we must turn to the alumni; amongst them are many distinguished men, who, if they were given a definite statement as to where the money is to go, would surely help us out. It is interesting to note in this connection that the class of '99 at Union College, a small American college, about which I can speak from personal knowledge, expects to raise $15,000 in one year to refit their dormitories. Something is wrong with the graduates of Toronto if they cannot do as well."
FOOTBALL MANAGER'S REPORT.

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$39 00 $39 00

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$27 00

$95 00

The intercollegiate chess tournament at New York was won by Harvard; Columbia, Yale and Princeton finishing next in order. Pennsylvania won the triangular tournament with Cornell and Brown.

The New York alumni of Harvard have given $2,500 to complete the necessary $27,500, the cost of a splendid, new boat house that is now being put up at Harvard. The building is well under way and now with the necessary funds will be completed by February as was originally intended.

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