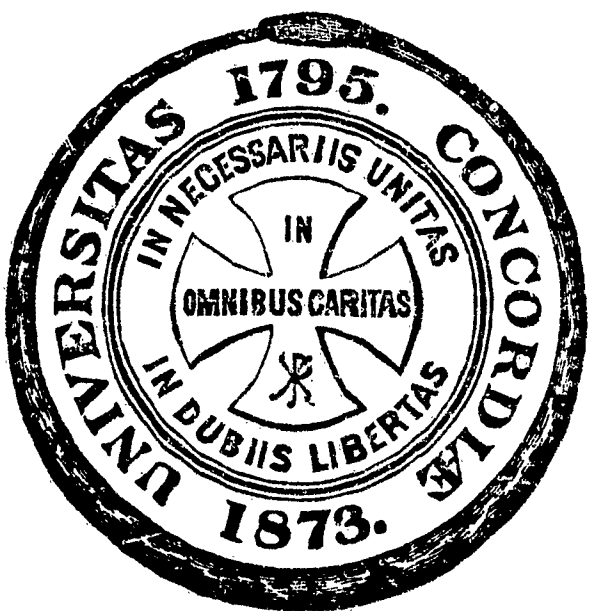


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PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE
STUDENTS OF UNION COLLEGE,
SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

VOL. XX.

FEBRUARY 20, 1897.

No. 19.

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The Lecture of Chester A. Holcombe.

Chester A. Holcombe, of the class of '61, who has been connected with the American legation in China for over twenty years, delivered an address on that great country to the students Friday afternoon, February 5. After referring to his own college days he said, it was absolutely impossible to describe so great a country in so short a time and he would only attempt to refute some of the erroneous ideas which exist concerning China.

In regard to the statement that the oldest university in the world is in Pekin, he said it was only a kind of civil service examination to which thousands of students flock yearly. Of these only about twelve hundred pass. This alone constitutes the oldest university. He said the government was little more of an absolute despotism than the United States. The emperor is nominally absolute, but takes little active part in the government. The affairs of government are administered by a privy council, and the provinces of which the empire is made up are governed by viceroys who are no more under the central government than our own states. He also said there was no trial by jury, and a Chinaman would probably be more willing to entrust his life to the tender mercies of one man than twelve.

Genuine democracy nowhere exists to a greater degree than in China. Public officials and their acts are fully discussed and criticised and the emperor is protected from criticism only because he is the head of the church, and as such he is held sacred. The people do not even talk of him with freedom. It is claimed that this stability of the Chinese government is due only to the fact that the system is paternal in form, and in that respect differs from all other nations. Filial piety is the fundamental idea in the Chinese system of government.

Prof. Ashmore's Lecture.

Professor Sidney G. Ashmore gave a very interesting lecture in the chapel last Friday Evening on "The Olympic Games," at which he was present in Athens last April. He said that people have ceased to be interested in only the literary side of Grecian history and that archæology is also demanding a great deal of attention from architects, engineers and students generally. Hence the accurate renewal of a custom of antiquity, which occupied an important position in ancient history, is of great educational value. Both because of the check given by their athletic nature to the influx of oriental luxury and because of the great concourse of people at Olympia every four years, for over 1000 years these games had great influence over the Greek mind. The modern games, however, were held at Athens because of the superior accommodations which were altogether lacking at Olympia. Greek scenery is essentially the same everywhere and there was therefore no objection to holding the games at Athens. The stadium was restored by the generosity of a Greek citizen, and in the presence of 70,000 people in gala attire the festival took place. Professor Ashmore gave a vivid description of the last day and the winning of the 25 mile race from Marathon to Athens by a native, Spiridion Louis. During the festival the Antigone of Sophocles was performed in a modern theatre by Greek actors. It is the desire of the Greeks to always celebrate the festival at Athens, but some of the international committee wish it to take place at Paris in 1900 and at New York in 1904. The question has not yet been decided.

At the conclusion of the lecture there was thrown upon a screen a number of magic lantern views, prepared by Ensign, '97, of the Acropolis and other places celebrated in Grecian history.

Last Sunday's Sermon.

In view of the many controversies now going on among religious thinkers whose views are diverse, President Raymond's discourse in the chapel last Sunday afternoon was especially noteworthy. The underlying vein of thought throughout the sermon was, that it is the spirit, rather than the word that we are to consider in the interpretation of the scriptures.

The subject and text of the sermon was the quotation from Matthew 5:17, "Think not that I am come to destroy the law or the prophets. I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill."

The belief that any man's teachings are destructive, has always been enough to stir up opposition, for destruction expresses man's profoundest thought of evil; and to struggle against it is the law of self-preservation. But nevertheless this opposition to supposed destructive influences has written the saddest pages of history. It crucified Christ and poisoned Socrates and burnt Latimer and inspired the Inquisition and is to-day the constraining power in every heresy trial.

On general principles we are all suspicious of any influence that attacks or seems to attack existing beliefs and practices. Whatever comes to us with the sanction of the past is held sacred. Indeed we may say that scorn of the past goes far to prove ones utter untrustworthiness as a leader of thought in his own times. We see Christ therefore asserting his faith in the law and the prophets. Nevertheless he was opposed as hostile to the law and as a destructive force in Jewish life. This, because he brought out the deeper meaning of historic truths and revealed the spirit of every commandment. And since Judaism was devoted to the letter, Christ's teachings were regarded as revolutionary; destructive and destructive only, because there is no greater antagonism known upon earth, than that, which exists between the letter and the spirit. The teaching of Christ freed the pre-existing scriptures from the literalness which had been the limitation of the past and the bondage of the present.

To-day we are moving in the midst of a confused mass of material laid at our feet by tireless research. Every idea that has been of service in any generation is demanding new expression in larger form to-day; and every conception, however great or beneficial in the past, is revealing its insufficiency. What can all this mean but that the fullness of times is again come and the spirit of Christ is moving toward the fulfillment of the law and the prophets. It is for us to listen as that spirit speaks, to follow where that spirit leads, believing that he comes not to destroy but to fulfill.

Mr. S. M. Sayford.

Mr. S. M. Sayford who has devoted about seven years in working amongst the students of our leading American colleges will be at Union, Feb. 23d to 28th. The purpose of Mr. Sayford's work is to promote purity of thought and conversation; to raise the standard of Christian living; to win students for Christ, and to lead college men to put the same enthusiasm into their Christian work that they put into their social organizations. It is usual to hold daily meetings, but his greatest work consists in his personal interviews with young men. The fact that he has been warmly welcomed by both students and professors in such institutions as Yale, Princeton, Cornell, Brown, Williams and scores of other colleges is sufficient proof of the practicability of his work. Among the students of these institutions, fully 20,000 have covenanted for a higher type of Christian life. The time for Mr. Sayford's first meeting will be arranged later.

The Beta Theta Pi's Entertained.

Miss May Clare tendered a reception to the members of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity and their lady friends at her home on Union street, Monday evening, February 15. Among those present were the Misses Campbell, Frame, Pilling, Clute, Teller, Palmer, Swits, Ostrom, Perry, Alexander, White and Freeman.

Senior Class Banquet.

The fourth annual banquet of the class of '97 was held at Hotel Edison, Wednesday evening, February 17.

The members of the class of '97 have always found great pleasure in these annual gatherings around the banquet board, and Wednesday evening especially there was a flow of soul and spirit such as would gratify the most enthusiastic collegian. The speech of the toastmaster, the response to the toasts and the many impromptu speeches, which were made during the evening, expressed class friendship and college spirit in the superlative degree.

Lack of space forbids a detailed account of the elegant speeches, any one of which would deserve a column abstract.

The toast list was as follows:

- HUBBELL ROBINSON, Toastmaster.
- ALMA MATER, . . . R. D. FULLER.
"For many a day as thy walls grow gray
May they ring with thy children's chorus."
- FACULTY, . . . M. J. MULTER.
"So teach us to number our days, that
we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."
- MUSICAL ASSOCIATION, . . . H. C. TODD.
"The man that hath no music in himself,
Nor is not moved with concord of sweet sounds,
Is fit for treasons, stratagems and spoils."
- THE LADIES, . . . H. A. FREY.
"If ladies be but young and fair
They have the gift to know it."
- THE FOOT BALL SEASON, PAUL CANFIELD.
"Infernal noise! war seemed a civil game,
To this uproar; horrid confusion heaped
Upon confusion rose."
- COLLEGE JOURNALISM, F. P. PALMER.
"Here shall the Press the People's rights maintain,
Unawed by influence and unbribed by gain."
- BASE BALL PROSPECTS, G. E. WILLIAMS.
"With prospects all so bright,
'T were folly to despair."
- OUR BANQUET, . . . E. E. DRAPER.
"The shortest way to reach men's hearts I find,
Lies through their mouths or I mistake mankind."
- THE FUTURE OF ATHLETICS, A. H. BIRCH.
"These are the times that try men's souls."
- PROPHECY, . . . H. H. BROWN.
"The best prophets of the future is the past."

Dean Ripton appeared in chapel last week for the first time since his recent illness.

Sophomore's Soiree.

Amid beautiful surroundings and brilliant lights, to the enchanting strains of sweet music, there gathered last night in the Van Curler Opera House a company of fair women and black-coated men, to enjoy the annual Sophomore Soiree. And it was a success financially, as well as socially. From the time the orchestra began to play until the coming of daylight and the departure of the guests, there was nothing to mar the harmony of the occasion, and the Sophomores have reason to be proud.

There were few attempts at decoration but the orchestra, Elgie's of Albany, was half hidden behind a bower of ferns. The boxes were occupied by members and friends of the Chi Psi, Beta Theta Pi, and Phi Gamma Delta fraternities. The floor was better than last year. There was a large attendance, both from out of town and from this city, and over fifty students were present. During the intermission refreshments were served by Colburn of Albany.

Those That Didn't Go.

No weepin' does us fellers, cuz,
We couldn't jine the dance;
Fer sakes alive, we'll pinch and strive
In larnin' to advance.

An' then, by gum, a time 'll come,
When we'll surprise you chaps;
Fer us as digged while others jigged,
Will snake the shoulder straps.

So go an' dance, an' primp an' prance,
You've got your place to fill;
We'll light our pipe, break into type,
An git thar, won't we Bill?

—'98.

The Princeton base ball team will make a southern trip this spring playing at Baltimore the University of Virginia and the University of North Carolina.

The University Glee Club of New York City, composed of college graduates, will give its second concert on April 29, in the Madison Square Garden Concert Hall.

THE CONCORDIENSIS.

PUBLISHED EVERY WEEK DURING THE COLLEGE YEAR.
BY THE STUDENTS OF UNION COLLEGE.

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THE NEW singing books which have recently been presented to the college, by a friend who does not wish to have his name mentioned, will fill a long felt want. A large number of students enjoy singing and now that books have been supplied they will be able to assist to better advantage in the chapel services.

We all appreciate the gift and most sincerely thank the donor who, even though his name was not mentioned, is known by a large number of us.

WE WISH to call attention editorially to the fact that, notwithstanding the very liberal proposition of the athletic board, many students refused to subscribe to the athletic fund. It is absolutely necessary that the money be raised before the athletic board will allow the manager to continue negotiations with other colleges. We are inclined to think that many of those who have not yet subscribed could add something to the fund. Because one does not feel able to contribute as generously as his neighbor is no excuse for him to refuse to contribute at all.

THE REPORT of the college meeting held last Friday morning which appears elsewhere in this paper shows it to have been one of the most important college meetings held this term.

The student body subjected themselves to considerable criticism by various members of the faculty for holding the meeting the entire hour. The business transacted, however, was of sufficient importance to warrant them in doing as they did. It cannot be justly said that these meetings are purely undergraduate affairs. It is of importance to the entire college that such matters as bring the undergraduate body in contact with the general public should be carefully considered and nothing done or left undone which would tend to reflect upon the good name of the institution.

A large sum of money was raised for the purpose of equipping and maintaining a base ball team in the spring, and liquidating the outstanding indebtedness of the athletic association.

Quarter Day Exercises.

THE MORNING SERVICES IN THE CHAPEL.

The services held in the chapel Thursday morning were most enjoyable. At 10:30 o'clock the students and a number of the Schenectady towns-people assembled to listen to the extremely interesting addresses which were the features of the service.

President Raymond, after reading from the scriptures and delivering a prayer, entered upon a detailed account of the founding of Union College. His historical summary was supplemented by a reading of the charter granted to Union College by the legislature of the state of New York in 1795.

President Raymond was followed by Dr. Wells who, to use his own word, gave to those present some very interesting "gossip." His description of the conditions attending his first view of Union College provoked considerable laughter. All of Dr. Wells' references to the men and events of his acquaintance were of the greatest interest to those present. A hearty college cheer for "Billy" followed his remarks.

Dr. Perkins spoke about some of Union's loyal sons. His first remarks were concerning Dr. Raymond, in which he paid a graceful compliment to our esteemed president. Dr.

Perkins' stories and anecdotes were particularly fascinating. The closest attention was paid to all of Dr. Perkins' remarks and every one regretted that they could not hear him longer.

Dr. Ripton's speech was omitted on account of the lateness of the hour.

The speeches and college songs together with the fact that the entertainers were directly connected with the college, all combined to make the exercises of such interest that they will long be remembered by every person present.

ALLISON-FOOTE DEBATE.

The third annual debate between the Philomathean and Adelpic societies took place at the First Presbyterian church, Thursday evening. Pres. A. V. V. Raymond presided, assisted by A. M. Blodgett, '97, and R. D. Fuller, '97, presidents of the societies. The College Glee and Mandolin-clubs rendered several selections.

The question for debate was: Resolved, "That a wise policy for the United States precludes territorial acquisition." The affirmative was supported by Hotaling, '97, Swann, '98, and Cullen, '98, of the Adelpic society, and the negative by Reed, '98, Brown, '97, and Holcombe, '98, of the Philomatheans.

The debate throughout was interesting. The question showed careful study and preparation. Each speaker was allowed eight minutes, and five minutes for summing up. The committee of award consisted of Chief Justice Charles Andrews, and Justices Samuel Edwards and Judson S. Landon. After a selection by the Mandolin club, Chief Justice Andrews announced the awards. Prize of \$50 to the Philomathean society and \$50 individual prize to Francis Cullen, '98.

To Start a New Winter Resort.

The Hon. John H. Starin, a trustee of Union University, and Robert C. Alexander, '80, both of New York, have recently purchased an island of 6,000 acres near Charleston, S. C., and intend to fit it up as a winter resort. The island was used during the war by the government for storing ammunition and supplies. Since purchasing the property, the owners have been offered an advance of \$30,000.

College Notes.

The North Dakota legislature wants to make foot ball playing a misdemeanor.

The Senior class at Lehigh has decided to wear caps and gowns after Easter.

Dartmouth is trying to arrange for a joint Glee, Banjo and Mandolin club with Columbia.

The Mott Haven games will be held on Saturday, May 29th, and the inter-collegiate bicycle meet on the previous Wednesday.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians has voted \$50,000 to Washington University to endow a chair of Celtic languages and literature.

There were fifty candidates in a recent preliminary debate, held at Williams College, in preparation for the annual debate with Dartmouth.—*Ex.*

The office of United States District Judge in Maine, from September 26, 1789, to the present day, has been filled continuously by Harvard graduates except for three years.

Bowdoin is trying an interesting experiment in the department of Latin and Greek. Tutors regularly meet the backward men, thus supplementing the work of the professors.

Statistics from sixty-seven colleges in thirty-seven states show that foot ball students stand one-half per cent. higher in their studies than the average of the whole college.—*O. S. U. Lantern.*

The Phi Beta Kappa society at Yale has arranged for lectures by Laurence Hutton, the literary critic; Wm. T. Harris, United States Commissioner of Education, and President Thwing of Western Reserve University.

The committee on track athletics of the University of Pennsylvania has announced the grouping of universities, colleges and schools for the annual relay races at Franklin Field, April 23. According to the schedule, Cornell is to meet Columbia, and Lehigh Lafayette.

The standard of scholarship acquired for admission to Phi Beta Kappa at Yale has been raised, the new arrangement first taking effect with the class of 1900. The new average required is 3.30, in place of 3.15, on a basis of 4, which governs all grading at Yale.—*Ex.*

Personals.

Brown, 1900, is confined to his room by illness.

Jennings, ex-'98, visited friends on the hill recently.

Canfield, '97, spent a few days in New York last week.

Featherstonhaugh, 1900, is confined at his home by illness.

Sophomore orations for this term are due Friday, Feb. 26.

Wentworth Tucker, '99, spent a portion of last week in New York.

Chas. H. Kilpatrick, ex-'98, visited friends on the hill several days last week.

Andrews, '98, has been confined to his room in North college several days by illness.

The subjects for Freshman essays have been posted and the essays are due February 26.

Dr. and Mrs. Raymond gave a reception to the Senior class last Friday from 4 to 6 o'clock.

N. V. V. Franchot, '71, Mayor of Olean, N. Y., and a trustee of the college was in town last week.

The state of Illinois is taxed to the amount of \$80,000 for the maintenance of the State University.

Rev. Clinton W. Clowe, '93, of Gansevoort, occupied the pulpit of Mont Pleasant Chapel last Sunday.

The annual meeting of the Inter-collegiate Athletic Association will be held in New York, February 27.

Several students tried the civil service examinations, held in Albany last Saturday, for examiner in English.

The North college boys gave Instructor Lynes a reception one night last week in which George Washington played a prominent part.

Theodore Roosevelt, New York's Police Commissioner, recently spoke at Princeton on "An Object Lesson in Municipal Reform."

Sherwood, '99, who has been ill with pneumonia at the Psi Upsilon house is recovering and will soon leave for California to spend the remainder of the winter.

At a special college meeting Tuesday morning Birch, '97, Sheehan, '98, and Champion, '99, were appointed to wait on the faculty and secure Charter day as a holiday.

The Shakespeare club, an established student organization, is on the eve of a series of meetings for the reading of Anthony and Cleopatra and the discussion of the art and philosophy of that play.

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Preliminary Oratorical Contest.

The preliminary contest to select Union's candidate in the Intercollegiate Oratorical Contest was held in the college chapel on Tuesday evening Feb. 16. Nine speakers of exceptional ability presented themselves. An interesting contest followed which resulted in the selection of W. Dewey Loucks, 1900, as Union's candidate. His oration was entitled "Abraham Lincoln." Orrin G. Cox, '98, was chosen as alternate.

The other speakers were McMahon, '99, Furbeck, '97, Blodgett, '97, Hubbard, '99, Putnam, '98, Reed, '98 and Read, 1900.

The judges were Professor Patterson and Instructors Opdyke and Bennett.

The Intercollegiate Oratorical Contest this year will be held at Syracuse during March between Union, Syracuse and Rochester Universities. Peter Nelson, '98, represents Union on the committee of arrangements.

Spring Athletics.

The athletic board held a meeting Wednesday evening, Feb. 17, to plan the work for the coming spring. There is still an indebtedness for the football reason to be settled and after a little discussion it was decided to include this in the budget for the coming season. The board adjourned for a week and in the mean time the student body was asked to raise a subscription of at least six hundred dollars. The matter was presented at a college meeting held the Friday morning following and much enthusiasm was displayed. Many of the fellows responded liberally and although over a third of the students were absent nearly four hundred twenty-five dollars were raised. The local alumni and the faculty are willing to help, but are waiting to see how the students will respond. Those who were not present at the meeting will be seen and it is hoped that the balance will be secured.

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Courses in English Conducted by Dr. Truax.

In the department of English language and literature Dr. Truax is giving to the Seniors an elective course in English philology, and to the Juniors an elective course in Anglo-Saxon.

He is lecturing to the Juniors on the Origin and Development of English Prose Fiction, and directing special reading of particular novelists. He is also lecturing to the Juniors on Poetry and reading with them a number of representative short non-dramatic poems from Milton to Tennyson.

With the same class he is conducting a course in the English Essayists, from Bacon to Carlyle.

At the opening of the term Dr. Truax lectured to the Sophomores on the Meaning of English Literature and the Literature of the Old and Early English Period, preparatory to the study of Chaucer, which the class is now pursuing with Mr. Edwards as instructor.

President Raymond attended an alumni banquet in Boston last week.

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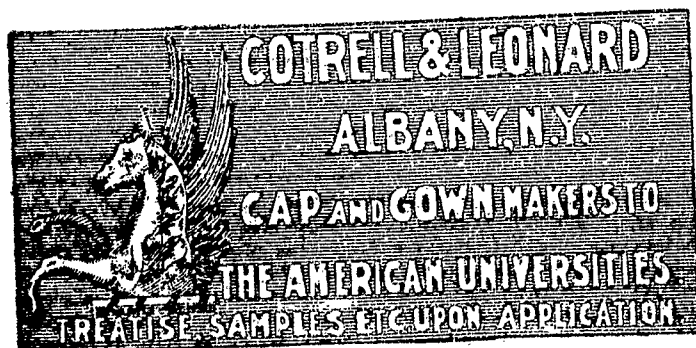
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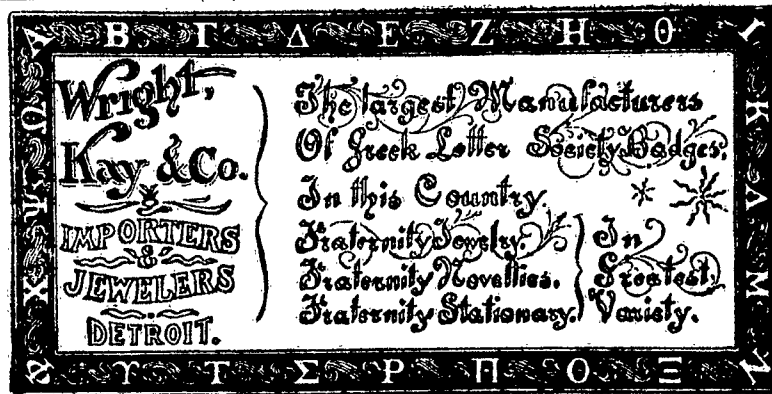
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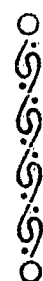
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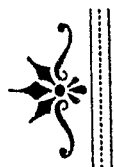
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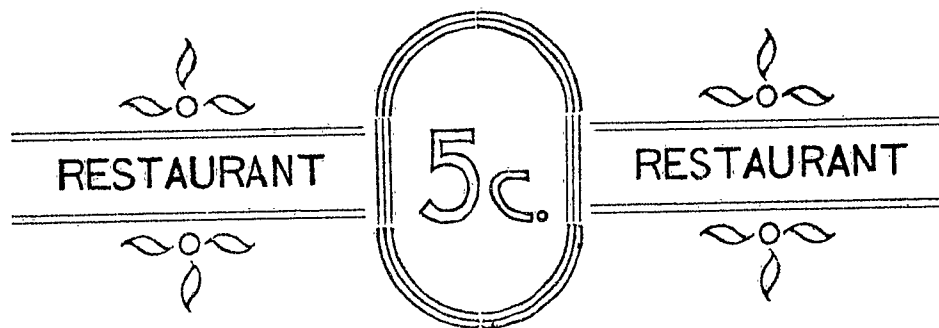
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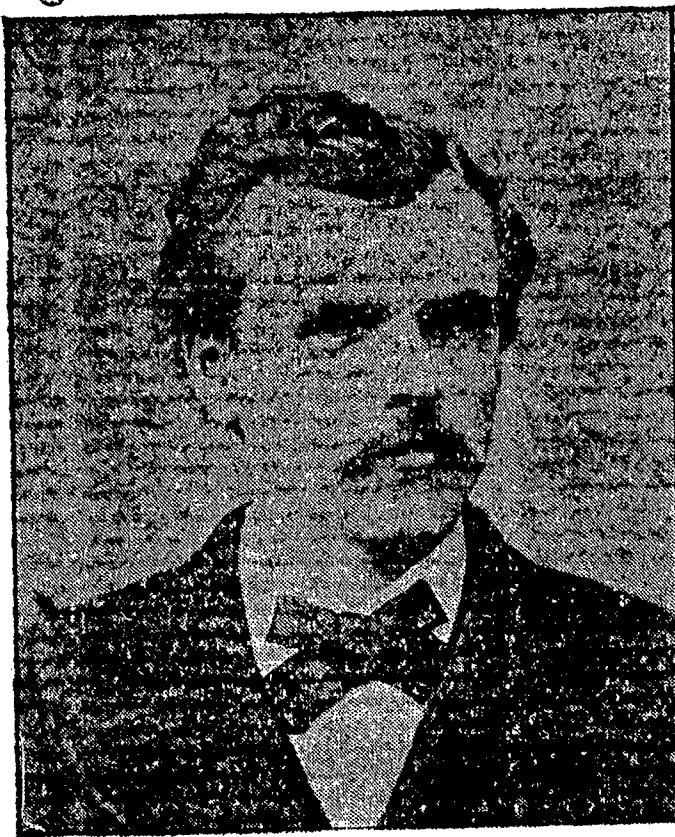
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