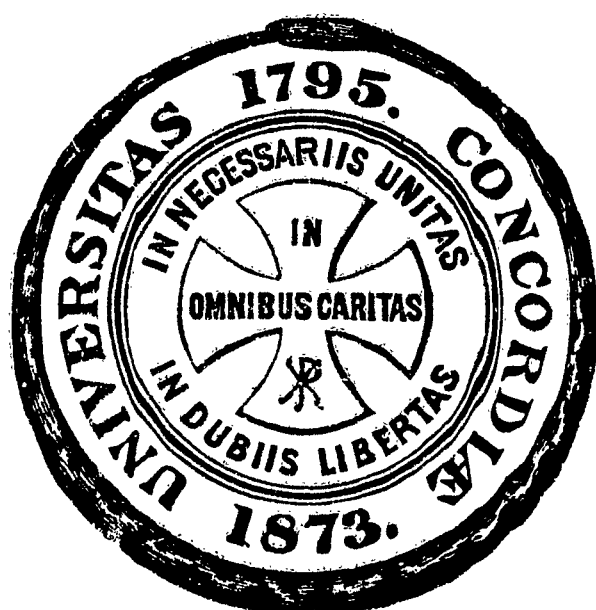


UNION COLLEGE
SCHENECTADY

The Concordiensis.



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

VOL. XXI.

MARCH 12, 1898.

No. 21.

UNION COLLEGE

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The Concordiensis

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UNION COLLEGE, MARCH 12, 1898.

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Contest of Orators.

The fifth annual contest of the New York State Inter-collegiate Oratorical League comprising Rochester, Syracuse and Union universities was held at the State street Methodist church last Thursday evening, before an appreciative audience. Syracuse has held the championship for the last two years, while Rochester and Union have been the victors one each. R. Harmon Potter, '95, won the prize for Union in 1895.

The exercises were opened by a banjo solo by Heermance, 1901, accompanied by M. Greene. Peter Nelson, '98, the president of the league, in a brief address outlined its aim and object and introduced the first speaker of the evening, Mr. Ira S. Wile, Rochester, '98, whose subject was "Liberty and Oratory."

The speaker maintained that the growth of freedom is seen in the development of oratory. He traced the progress of oratory from the time when Demosthenes aroused the Athenians by his eloquence, to Rome with Cicero as the exponent of liberty, to England with her Burke and Pitt, and lastly to America. He claimed that progress can be measured by oratory and instanced the Protestant Reformation under Luther, and the independence of the United States, influenced by the eloquence of the colonial orators. In reviewing the place of oratory in the world at the present time, he contrasted Russia and Turkey where liberty and eloquence are dead, to England and America, where the bar, the pulpit and the press ask for recognition in the promotion of freedom. He said that oratory cannot perish so long as a liberty-loving mortal shall live, that the decadence of oratory will mark the death of liberty. Mr. Wile had a clear, full voice, spoke with ease and marked distinctness, but his gestures were unnatural.

Mr. A. J. Neff, Syracuse, '98, was the next

speaker. His subject was "The Rock of Our Nation, George Washington." The speaker said that the attributes of Washington had influenced thousands and millions of lives, that before him the world had waited six thousand years to produce such a man, that a hundred years has hardly passed and history has yet to find a genius who is his equal. It might be said of him that he had no youth, but was born a man. His career as a warrior, a statesman and a man of noble character was enthusiastically treated. His courage and skill at the evacuation of Boston, at the crossing of the Delaware, and at Yorktown, and his great part in the guidance and development of the colonies was clearly and logically set forth. He contrasted the methods of Napoleon and Washington, and compared the proud bearing of the former in the time of victory, to the deep reverence of the latter, who stood as before the presence of his God and celebrated every victory with a prayer of thanksgiving.

His oration was excellent and showed much thought and study. His style of delivery was in marked contrast to the previous speaker. His sentences were hurried at times and his enunciation lacked perfect distinctness. He had an easy stage presence and his gestures were very effective.

The third speaker was William Dewey Loucks, Union, 1900, who had selected for his oration, "Napoleon Bonaparte." In the introduction the speaker described in an effective manner the death scene of the great Napoleon on the lonely isle of St. Helena, contrasting the scene within, to a great storm that was raging on the sea without. He then rapidly reviewed the career of the man through all the tides of fortune to his final exile. Power was his aim, his dream, his destiny. Entire Europe was baffled by his genius. His divorce from Josephine, the speaker said, could not be justified.

The one blot on his escutcheon was inordinate ambition; he sacrificed everything to this aim. He was the father of France; the soldiers worshipped him, the peasants adored him. Napoleon was selfish and unscrupulous, but his love of patriotism places him among the world's great men. Mr. Loucks had a graceful presence, a clear, strong voice and an effective delivery. His gesture were animated and expressive.

The judges, Rev. E. G. Seldon, D. D., of Albany, Rev. W. H. Waygood and Mr. H. C. Levins of this city, were out nearly fifteen minutes before they arrived at a decision. On their return, Rev. Mr. Seldon, in behalf of the committee, awarded the prize, a gold key, to Mr. Loucks. The decision was not unanimous. The exercises were brought to a close by the singing of the "Union Victory Song," by the students in the audience.

The officers of the league under whose charge the contest was held were: President, Peter Nelson, Union, '98; vice-president, Ira S. Wile, Rochester, '98; secretary and treasurer, Malcolm G. Thomas, Union, '98; executive committee, Wm. L. Fisher, '98; J. C. Jessup, Rochester, '99; W. H. Michell, Syracuse, '99. The committee of arrangements consisted of Peter Nelson, M. G. Thomas and W. L. Fisher.

A meeting of the executive committee was held Thursday afternoon, and the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Burt Meet, Rochester; vice-president, H. A. O'Day, Syracuse; secretary and treasurer, J. L. Broughton, Rochester; executive committee, W. G. Parkes, Rochester; C. L. Palmer, Syracuse, and one representative from Union to be selected. The sixth annual contest will be held at Rochester in March, 1899.

Sage Chapel at Cornell is to be torn down and rebuilt on an enlarged plan.

The Pennsylvania Intercollegiate Oratorical Union held its sixth annual contest last night at Easton. Seven colleges were represented, Lehigh, Lafayette, Swarthmore, Franklin and Marshall, Ursinus, Muhlenbarg and Gettysburg.

Mr. A. Hound Barks a little.

Editor Concordiensis:

In no department of college life are students quicker to recognize the presence of a new and active element than in the department of athletics. And when that element takes on a human form and shows itself capable of making sacrifices to a cause—when in short, the name of that element is John W. H. Pollard, it is only sightless ingratitude that fails to respond. Sightless ingratitude is not a characteristic of Union college students; and now we have a faultless pair of premises and the conclusion is that all men of Union college will respond to his call.

It is a strange thing indeed to hear the appeal for money in a moderate amount as though men did not recognize that every dollar put into the athletic treasury quickens much more than a dollar's worth the whole healthful activity of the college. Such a penny-wise and pound-foolish doctrine goes a vast way in keeping from men the fruits of education; yet we can understand the motive. But the motive is not so plain that keeps men in their rooms on a clear bright day, when the athletic instructor has made preparations for a good run across country, or when twenty or thirty men are out on a hare and hounds chase. In the past few years as many as forty men have come out for a single run and the number was thought extraordinary. But considering that running is the most beneficial form of exercise, and is the beginning of most of the training for the track team, it seems strange that out of over two hundred men only a tenth find it possible to get out at any one time, and that a fifth is considered an extraordinary number. It would be more sane to think that a half should take part in the sport at a given time. This sounds big, but it certainly is reasonable. After deducting those whose engagements conflict with the hour of the run, and those who are physically unable, it is hard to believe that there are less than a hundred men left. What keeps these men in? Laziness, lack of interest in their own health—these are probably the principal reasons. The remedy is a good stirring up from their active friends. If there is nothing like taking time by the forelock, there is also nothing like taking opportunity by the tail. This opportunity offers a good long tail—long enough to be grasped by every man interested in his own health. And the brains of this tail are constantly at work. Think over the matter seriously and see if you are willing to help Prof. Pollard by helping yourself. We must realize the necessity of keeping the fire burning on his altar if we are to have a common spirit in our institution's athletics.

A HOUND.

Annual Meeting of College Athletes.

The annual meeting of the Inter-collegiate Association of Amateur Athletics of America, was held last Saturday afternoon at the Fifth Avenue hotel, New York. The meeting was an important one as several amendments to the constitution were presented and adopted. Manager Orrin G. Cox was Union's representative and other delegates were present from Amherst, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Fordham, Georgetown, Haverford, Harvard, Holy Cross, Lafayette, New York, Pennsylvania, Princeton, Rutgers, Stevens, Swarthmore, Syracuse, Wesleyan, and Yale.

The following amendments to the constitution were then adopted: To increase the membership of the Advisory committee; to make the bicycle meet on a separate basis from the regular track meet, the place of holding the bicycle meet to be at the discretion of the executive committee; to make the scoring in the bicycle races, five points for the college or university winning the greatest number of points in the races, three points for the second college, two for the third and one for the fourth; that after February 26, 1898, no person be allowed to contest in any meet of the association who has eaten at a training table where he has not paid for the food as much as it would cost him away from the training table; regulating the scoring in the track meets, the points to be six, three, two and one, for the first, second, third and fourth places, respectively.

Two new colleges, on application, were admitted to the league. They were Bowdoin and Johns Hopkins. The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows: President, I. N. Swift, Yale; secretary, Ernest M. Bull, Cornell; treasurer, B. S. Barringer, New York University; honorary vice-presidents, S. J. McPartland, Fordham, and J. D. Clark, Lafayette; executive committee, E. D. McVitty, Princeton; J. D. Winsor, Jr., Pennsylvania; B. H. Hayes, Harvard, and J. T. Williams Columbia.

Syracuse has received a football challenge from the Tuscarora Indians of the Niagara reservation.

Hare and Hounds.

The first hare and hounds chase of the season was held last Saturday morning. The start was made from the gym. at 10:53, and the run was over a three mile cross-country course.

The hares were given $2\frac{1}{2}$ min. start, and covered the distance in $25\frac{1}{2}$ min. Although the hounds lost the "scent" twice during the run, they covered the course in 31 min. The time made by both the hares and hounds was very creditable, since the fields and roads were in bad condition due to the recent thaws.

Throughout the run the hounds were well bunched. As they came across the campus on the finish, however, Vrooman, '98, Shelley, 1901, and Broughton, 1900, gradually drew ahead of the others, and finished in the order named. The remainder of the pack remained bunched till the run ended. Gutman, '98, and Hartnagel, '98, were the hares.

The following men represented the hounds: Price, '99, leader; Closs, '98, whipper-in; Andrews, '98, Hover, '98, Noel, '98, Vrooman, '98, Strong, '99, Broughton, 1900, Dunham, 1900, Burton, 1901, Shelley, 1901, Slack, 1901, Wight, 1901.

The next run will take place on Saturday, March 19.

Minor Topics.

W. L. Fisher delivered a lecture in the First M. E. Church of Amsterdam on Tuesday evening. His subject was, "The Evolution of the Coral and the Starfish."

A. B. Andrews, '98, is attending the annual district reunion of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity at Stevens Institute, Hoboken, N. J.

Dr. Irwin, a member of the board of trustees, has returned to America after an absence of five years. After remaining a few months in his native land he will return and reside in Italy.

The annual commencement of the School of Pharmacy will be held next Tuesday evening.

Dr. Raymond was absent last week, and will be part of this week, on business connected with the college.

THE CONCORDIENSIS.

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BY THE STUDENTS OF UNION COLLEGE.

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UNFAVORABLE CRITICISM OF THIS PAPER BY NON-SUBSCRIBERS IS NOT SOLICITED BY THE EDITORS.

NO ONE, of sound mind, could have heard the oratorical contest of last week and then truthfully have stated that in his belief oratory in our American colleges is on the decline. For when three small colleges, popularly designated "minor," can turn out such able exponents of eloquence, it can be taken as nothing less than a bang-up, *bona fide* sign of the times. We congratulate Union's representative, for success over such competitors as our friends from Rochester and Syracuse proved themselves to be, is no small achievement.

THE baseball aspirants who fail to show up for practice when requested to do so by Captain Smith should feel ashamed of themselves. The reputation of their alma mater is at stake, and yet they do not seem to possess enough love for her to

overcome a trifle of inertia. They'll be sorry some day. Just as we are sorry, those of us who are grown up, that we did not run our mother's errands with a better grace when we were little. Boys will be boys. That is why the world grants a special meed of appreciation to boys that are men.

This ability to overcome inertia is one of the things that differentiate a man from a lump of clay. We all know what these lumps of clay are. We see them every day. They're not so attractive.

WHILE the representative of St. Lawrence university, who did us the honor of a visit last Tuesday, presented several good reasons from a St. Lawrence standpoint why the institution represented by him should be admitted to the league, we feel constrained to say that those reasons were scarcely weighty from any other standpoint. It may be held by some that altruistic motives should induce Union to vote for the admission of St. Lawrence. But the altruism that would possibly benefit one institution to the probable injury of the league is rather far-fetched. St. Lawrence frankly confesses she does not contemplate holding up her end in football and baseball if admitted to the league.

Anyway, since she is seeking fast company among college men, she might accept the invitation to join hands with Syracuse and Buffalo.

IF an individual of rather low standards, were suddenly to discover that his welfare should demand a decided elevation of those standards and should resolve on said elevation, and then should further resolve, say, to publish said resolutions in the public prints,—in all probability he would be looked upon as more or less of an ass. Especially would he be so considered, and rightfully so, if his bulling of standards, so to speak, was but a very little share in a general and well-defined tendency.

For the past three or four years there has been scarcely a college of any prominence in the United States that has not made a decisive forward stride in the matter of requirements both for admission

and for graduation. There are some that have been a trifle dilatory perhaps, but then there are always laggards; and these have been inconsiderable when compared to the great number that have made real progress.

But lo, behold the ardor with which several colleges that have finally concluded to join the movement rush into type and declare their goodness. Of course, their renaissance does make good "news"—strange happenings of whatever nature always do. But do not the methods of these inveterate self-advertisers resemble those employed by peddlers of quack panaceas? Are they in nice keeping with collegiate dignity? Are they not rather Gothic?

Prof. Van Schaicke Caused It.

Prof. John Van Schaicke, '94, of the College of Emporia, Kansas, recently made bold to write to ex-President Cleveland asking him for a likeness. The good Grover acquiesced and in an autograph letter accompanying the photograph said among other things, "I must confess that a Kansas college is a queer place for my picture, since I am such a heretic, mildly stated, to Kansas ideas on political questions." Western newspapers commented freely on the incident. The Hutchinson News said, "Grover Cleveland said recently to the College of Emporia that he did not know what in the world they wanted to do with one of his pictures. This is the first time in 79 years that we have been able to agree with Grover." The Kansas City Star made the matter a subject for a big leader. According to the Lawrence Journal, "Grover Cleveland sent his picture the other day to the College of Emporia and with it a letter saying that he did not know what on earth they wanted of it. This opinion of Grover's will be echoed by nine out of every ten Kansas men." The Ottawa (Kan.) Herald suggested that "the most appropriate place that they knew of for the picture was in Prof. Dycke's museum of antiquities in the State university." Such is fame.

A Centennial Gift.

Among the many good things perpetrated at the centennial celebration, was the establishment of a Library Alcove by the class of '82.

The chief mover in this praiseworthy effort was Prof. A. S. Wright, the head of the Modern Language department of the Case School of Applied Science in Cleveland, Ohio. A goodly number of his class-mates assisted him in making the movement and the alcove was soon started by a very valuable gift of German works, including the leading classics and lexicographers.

A very valuable addition has recently been made, and already graces the alcove. As we glance over them we perceive a large collection of the best classics in a compact form, known as "Meyer's Universum," also several of the best histories of the entire German literature, and some of the most noted lexicographers. The popular epics and heroic poetry, the songs of the people and the heroes, and indeed the whole interesting story of the development of the German nation.

The poets, the preachers and the teachers of the Fatherland are not forgotten, while the thrilling story of the struggles of Germany with contending nations is given in poetry and prose. Scarcely a single epoch of German development passes unnoticed.

The alcove thus supplies a great want on the part of scholars of history and poetry, and is a credit to the class that is supplying it.

The example is an excellent one, and it would be well if other classes would wheel into line in the matter of class alcoves in the library.

Alumni Notes.

Albert Cox, '95, was recently elected president of the Troy Academy Athletic Association.

Robert C. Alexander, '80, editor of the Mail and Express, will this week begin an extended trip through the southern States. He may visit Cuba before returning.

Mr. Fisher Speaks for St. Lawrence.

A special college meeting was held Tuesday at 12.45 at which Chas. E. Fisher, representing St. Lawrence University, requested that St. Lawrence might become a member of the athletic union now existing between Hamilton, Hobart and Union. Mr. Fisher made the same request at the committee meeting held last week in Bagg's hotel at Utica. None of the institutions returned a positive answer although it is understood that Hamilton and Hobart favor the admission.

Mr. Fisher said that they were not so anxious to form a union which included baseball and football as track athletics, since they did not feel as confident to cope with the members of the present union anywhere but on the track. However, they would not refuse to form a union, if it should be desirable, on this account. Should such a union be formed St. Lawrence could not guarantee return games this season.

No action will be taken on the matter until Monday morning at college meeting. In the meantime the pros and cons are being thoroughly discussed by the students.

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In Memory of W. P. Smith.

The freshman class at a recent meeting adopted the following resolutions in memory of the late William Pardee Smith:

WHEREAS, It has pleased God to take from our midst, William Pardee Smith who passed away on the 15th day of February, 1898, and that

WHEREAS, By his sterling qualities and strength of character, he has claimed our greatest love and admiration in life, and in his death we have experienced a deep sorrow, therefore be it

Resolved, That we, as a class, realizing the great loss which we have suffered, offer these words of condolence to and unite our grief with the bereaved parent of the deceased whose death has cost us a brother and him a loved one, and it is further

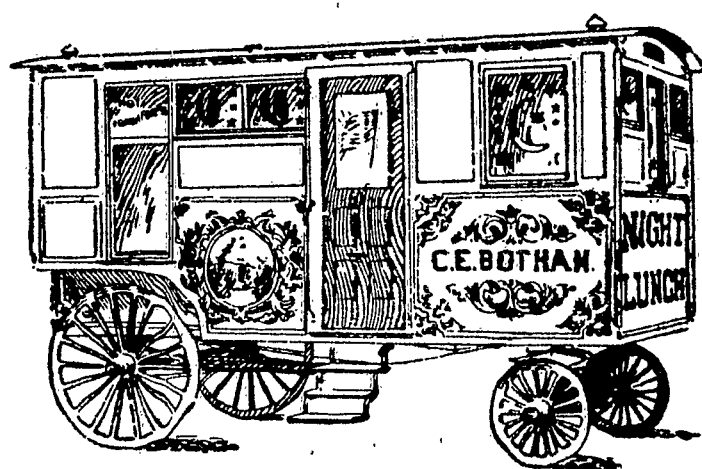
Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the bereaved father and that a copy be inserted in the Concordiensis.

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