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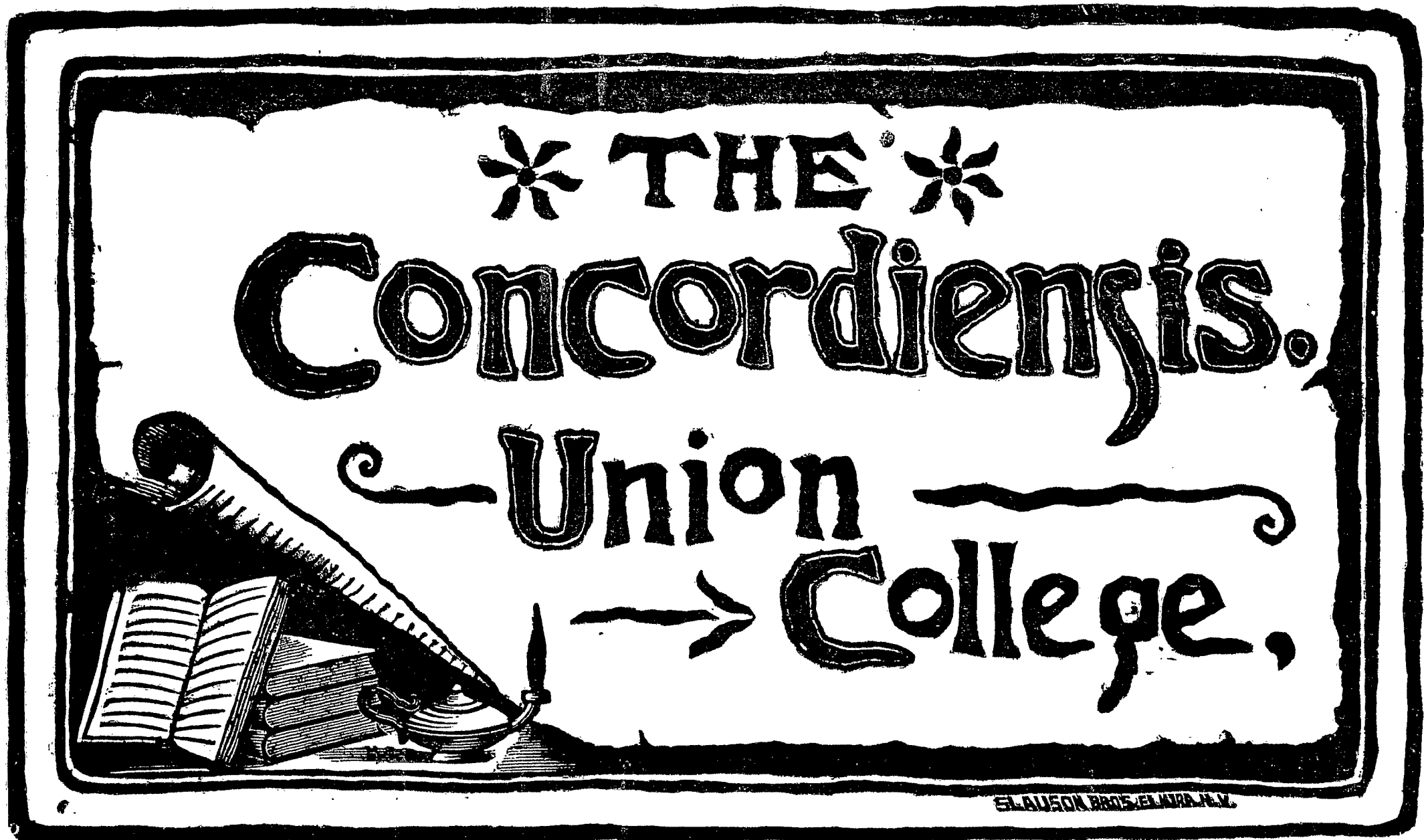
UNION COLLEGE
SCHENECTADY

Volume XV.

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Number 11.

MARCH 19, 1892.



SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

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# THE \* CONCORDIENSIS

VOL. XV.

UNION COLLEGE, MARCH 19, 1892.

No. 11

## THE CONCORDIENSIS.

PUBLISHED SEMI-MONTHLY BY  
STUDENTS OF UNION COLLEGE.

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*Subscriptions are now due. All subscribers who have not yet paid their subscriptions will confer a favor upon the Management by doing so promptly.*

## Editorial.

THE spirit shown by the 28 men of the Fresman Class who have decided to have a cremation, is as truly commendable as the action of the majority of the class is worthy criticism. Their action in this matter preserves one of the oldest college customs and may tend to counteract the tendency that there seems to be to do away with customs without instituting new ones in their place. Last year the plug hat parade was abandoned, which we hope the 28 Freshmen will again revive. If this should continue there would be nothing left to bind the men together, no class rivalry and spirit which so readily becomes college spirit. We think the closest friendship of a college course are those formed between the member of a class that enters with earnestness into the observance of these customs. The men have a common interest, namely the honor of their class. Besides, in these contests for class supremacy they may acquire the love of fair play, and that the spirit of magnanimous generosity, which, when shown in the sterner conflicts of life will brand them as truly noble.

The Sophomores also have shown a manly spirit and an interest in the observance of college customs by their resolutions not to interfere with the Freshmen who cremate.

We think it behooves every man in college who has its welfare at heart to encourage any class or



portion of a class which attempts against odds, as these Freshmen have to keep customs alive.

\* \*

THIS is the last issue of the paper this term. When we next greet the students it will be as they are returning from their homes, refreshed and benefitted, we hope by their vacation. The term just closing is the one best suited to study, there are fewer distractions than in any other term, and consequently more ground is covered. That the term has been a prosperous one we may confidently say. There has been very little sickness among the students, none of a serious nature. The interest taken in athletics of all kinds is encouraging; the proceeds of the Minstrel show have furnished a good basis for base ball fund. Permission has been obtained to use the "Gym" as a cage; a coacher has also been secured for the team; the foot ball men have had regular practice; the Glee Club has been re-organized; the college orchestra has become more perfectly organized; a debating society has been started among the freshmen. These are a few of the things accomplished this term, and give good ground for expecting greater developments in the future.

Chapel orations for Feb. 26, were as follows: Hills, "Personal Observation the Way to Practical Knowledge;" Hunter, "Railroads and the Government;" Meserve, "The Effect of Oppression on Progress;" Orr, "Elizabeth and the English People;" Field, "Henry George's Theory of the Ownership of Land;" Fox, "Our Relation to Canada;" Glen, "The Government and Prohibition;" Hoxie, "Convict Labor."

#### THE COLLEGE LIFE OF SECRETARY SEWARD AT UNION.

In the fall of 1817, Wm. H. Seward, then a green looking country boy of 15, presented himself for admission to Union College. His examination was conducted by the Rev. Thomas McCauley, Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy. Seward's preparation for college was so thorough and abundant that he was able to pass the examinations for admission to the Junior Class.

His age, however, compelled him to enter the Sophomore class, as 16 years was the minimum at which men could be admitted to the Junior Class.

At the time of his Matriculation Union, under the wise and careful administration of Dr. Nott, had about reached the summit of prosperity and influence.

With one of the best faculties in America, and the excellent reputation Dr. Nott had established in the religious and political worlds, it drew men from Yale, Harvard and all the great eastern colleges, who came here, either to take a post graduate course or to enter one of the upper classes, and have the fame of being a Union man.

Seward, himself, said many years later, that the college discipline was based on the soundest and wisest principles. "There was an absence of anything inquisitorial or suspicious. Every young man had his appointed recitations and attendance at prayers, and demeanor was required that should not disturb the quiet or order of the institution."

Although well prepared for his college work, Seward found many things to trouble and vex him. When he rose to deliver the first

chapel oration, a ripple of laughter ran around the assembled students which developed into an uproar of merriment at his expense before he finished. The reason, as he found afterwards, was that he spoke with a very pronounced drawl, and his clothes were very ill-fitting, being the product of the tailor of his native village.

Seward was a careful and earnest student, and had a desire to get a better knowledge of some of his text books than he was able to, alone and unassisted. So it was his practice to go to the tutor during his study hours and receive help. This finally involved him in trouble with his class-mates. The boys in this especial recitation desired the tutor to give them shorter lessons and more, what, in this day, are called "bolts." Failing in this, they manifested their displeasure very much, as the men to-day do, when the faculty displease them; only in place of putting sulphur in a furnace, and exploding cannon crackers under recitation doors, they put asafætida on the heated wood stove and pulled the tutor's long hair when he was not looking.

Of course the guilty ones were discovered and punished. They suspected an informer, and as Seward had not joined in their protests against the lessons, and had been often seen going to this tutor's house, he was suspected, and until he could convince his class-mates otherwise, was in "very hot water."

During his first year occurred Seward's first and only act of insubordination to the college authorities. The tutor in Greek was Mr. Wayland, afterwards the Rev. Dr. Wayland, President of Brown University.

The class was so large that the tutor could hear only about one-third of the class in a recitation. As he always kept the same order in calling men up, the boys were in the habit of taking novels, etc., into the class-room to amuse them on the days they were not to recite. The next man to Seward was a dull, simple minded fellow, who depended on Seward to help him through. The tutor was desirous of breaking up so objectionable a practice as novel reading in his class-room, and so one day he deviated from his usual custom and called Seward's friend up, out of his turn. The fellow was totally unprepared and whispered to Seward, asking him what he should do. "Tell him you are not prepared," answered Seward. The fellow did so, but the tutor insisted. "Don't recite," cautioned Seward in an audible voice. The tutor was firm and the fellow was obliged to stumble through the best he could. "Mr. Seward, next," said the instructor. "I decline to recite," answered Seward. "What is the reason?" "I do not know that I am prepared." "I thought that you might assign that reason," said the tutor, "and therefore I have called you to recite to-day from the book, the very lesson which you recited yesterday from memory, without any book." "I shall not recite to-day," replied Seward, firmly. "Then, sir," said the instructor, "you will please leave the room."

That evening Seward was summoned to apologize to his teacher, which he refused to do. Thereupon he was suspended. After two weeks time he was summoned to Dr. Nott, who asked him why he was absent from college. Seward explained matters, after which the good doc-

tor said, "Why then don't you apologize, my son?" "I think that the tutor did me the first wrong and he ought to apologize the first," replied Seward. "If the tutor will apologize to you, will you apologize to him," asked the Doctor? "Ah, yes," answered Seward, "I am convinced I was wrong, but he was wrong before me."

"Well, my son, rejoined the Doctor, suppose that I should apologize to you for him, would you be willing to apologize to me for his benefit?" "Certainly."

Thereupon mutual apologies were exchanged, and after giving him some honest, manly advice, Doctor Nott reinstated Seward, and sent him back to work.

College honors in those days were awarded on very much the same basis as to-day, the highest grade for the course. Seward looked at first upon this system with much distrust, as he thought it involved a servile, unmanly compliance with the caprices of the faculty, that it destroyed the cordial sympathy and brotherly spirit which should exist among the men, and that by making them put all their energy and time in class-room work, it gave them a more contracted view of subjects of general interest.

He determined not to strive to excel, but an event occurred that changed his views and set him to working harder. That was the institution of a chapter at Union of the Phi Beta Kappa Society. Chapters were already in existence at Yale, Harvard, and Dartmouth, but Union's greatness decided them to institute the "Alpha of New York," at this institution. Accordingly a charter was granted in May, 1817, and men were elected on the basis

of scholarship at the close of the junior year. The membership of this society comprised then, as now, the greatest thinkers of the day, the great statesmen, and scholars and professional men of the highest rank. Desirous of connecting himself with an organization which could boast of such men as Dr. Nott, Chancellor Kent, and Governor Clinton, Seward applied himself with great diligence and untiring perseverance, and had the high honor when his junior year expired of being elected a Phi Beta Kappa man. Toward the close of the Junior year an event of great interest had occurred. Daniel D. Tompkins, of this State, then Vice-President of the U. S., was running for Governor against DeWitt Clinton, who was seeking re-election. "In swinging round the circle," Tompkins came to Schenectady and was tendered a reception by the students. Seward's home training had made him an ardent admirer of Tompkins, and to him was accorded the high honor of delivering the address of welcome, which he did in a manner highly creditable to himself and to his college.

Seward had the same trouble to keep his expenses within his income that many fellows experience to-day. The ridicule which assailed him when he first entered college, caused him to become indebted to the tailors of Schenectady, for the purchase of more suitable clothing. His debts increased until at the beginning of his Senior year, they amounted to \$100, which his father refused to pay. Thereupon Seward resolved upon a bold stroke, which, if successful, would make him henceforth independent. A class-mate of his had secured a situation as principal of an Academy in Georgia, and was to



start about the beginning of the year (1819). Although within a few months of the time in which he was to graduate, Seward left college and accompanied his friend. He arrived at Savannah very nearly penniless, but made his way at once to Putman Co., where he had heard of an Academy to which a principal was wanted.

He made application at once, and although at this time but 17 years of age, his mature appearance, pleasing manners, and winning address, secured to him the situation at a salary of \$800 per annum.

The local papers, publishing accounts of the flattering prospects of the new Academy and of its Principal, Wm. H. Seward, of New York, he sent copies of the papers to his father. By this means, Seward Sr., learned of his whereabouts, and as Seward was a minor, the trustees received notice that if they hired him they would be prosecuted for harboring a runaway.

Although the trustees expressed perfect willingness to abide by their contract and run the risk of being prosecuted, Seward, on hearing of the deep sorrow with which his mother had been plunged, when she heard greatly exaggerated accounts of his conduct, desires to return home. He did so, after procuring a successor.

It was desired that he should return to college the next year. During the intervening months, he studied law.

When Seward returned to college, he found that a great change had taken place.

During the year that he was absent the Missouri Compromise had been debated, causing the feeling

between the Northern and Southern men of the college to run very high.

The two literary societies then in existence, were the Philomathean and Adelpic, between whom great rivalry had always existed.

Most of the Southerners had joined the Philomatheans, but this sectional feeling caused a split in that society, the Southerners seceding and taking the name of "Delphian Institute." The Adelpics rejoiced in the discomfiture of their old rivals, and sympathized with the seceders. This brought on a fierce dispute between them and the Philomatheans. Seward having been in the South was sought for to give his opinion as to the rights of the Southerners to secede. The Adelpics expected the decision because he belonged to that society, while the Philomatheans claimed it from his known independence and fairness. The latter society was not mistaken in their opinion of him, as he decided that the Southern men did wrong to secede and form a new society. This decision, of course, greatly angered his associates in the Adelpic Society, and a charge was trumped up against him and he was indicted and brought to trial with the intent of expelling him from that society. Seward appeared before them and defended his action in a speech of such eloquence and power, that he was unanimously acquitted, and as an atonement for the injustice of the trial, he was elected by the Adelpics as one of the class managers. At that time the college was entirely run by these literary societies, and they were powerful instrumentalities for good, until superceded by the Greek Letter Secret Societies.

In later years, speaking of the benefit he had received from them,

Seward said, "If I was required to say now from what part of my college education I derived the greatest advantage, I should say from the exercises of the Adelpic Society."

In July, 1820, Seward was graduated. His commencement was made noted because of the split in the class. The Philomathean and Adelpics composed of Northern men, now united against the Delphian Institute, made up of Southerners. The feeling was so great that the class separated on the stage, showing thus early that the elements of discord were already in existence, that forty years later plunged our country into a bloody civil war.

Such were some of Seward's experiences here at Union. Reading the story of his life, studying his noble character, and observing the part he took in the preservation of our country, every loyal son of old Union must feel themselves bound closer to an Alma Mater that has sent forth such men as Governor, Senator, Secretary, Wm. H. Seward.

JOHN VAN SCHAFCK, Jr.

THE Board of Aldermen of Boston has passed, by a vote of six to four, a resolution looking to the establishment of a free university in connection with the public school system. The resolution states that it would appear that the cost of such advanced grade would be less than \$100,000 annually; that its introduction is legally within the province of the Boston School Board, and that the highest education should be within the reach of all scholars of our public schools. The resolution provides that the School Board shall give hearings on the subject and report its recommendations to the aldermen.—*Ex.*

#### A WARNING.

In little bits she broke her heart,  
And, thoughtlessly, with lavish hand  
To every youth she tossed a part,  
Throughout Columbia's boundless land.

But with the fleeting years there came  
A man of means, fair looks, unwed:  
"To you I'll give my wealth, and name,  
And heart—and ask but yours," he said.

The fragments of her heart she tried  
To find in wildest haste—poor maid!  
But though she hunted far and wide,  
The bits were lost—she could not trade.

—*Harvard Advocate.*

#### TO ALL BASE BALL MEN.

The Base Ball Management desires to select at the *end of this term* (suits will be purchased at this time,) those men who will compose the team and substitutes. Those selected are expected to remain at the college during the Easter recess, to continue the training in the gymnasium, and to begin out door practice at the earliest possible moment. The management believes that the man who is willing to *work* will be of *greater value* at the end of the season than a better player who is disinclined to work. With that standard the following line of work has been laid out, *efficiency* and *faithfulness* in its execution will constitute the basis of the selection: Monday, practice any part of day, coacher generally; Wednesday, exercise with gymnasium class at 3:30 P. M. or 4:15 P. M.; Thursday, exercise with gymnasium class at 4:15 P. M.; Friday, practice any part of day. At 4:15 P. M. a mile run; Saturday, practice any part of day, coacher in afternoon. At 4:15 one mile run.

MANAGEMENT.

## Necrology.

'32. Ethan B. Crane, *K. A.*, died March 7, at his home in Brooklyn.

He was born at West Troy, N. Y., in 1811. After graduating from Union, he entered Andover Theological Seminary and subsequently entered the ministry of the Congregational Church. He was a pastor for about 50 years, 20 of which was passed as pastor in Saybrook.

### HENRY JAMES CULLEN, Jr.

Once more Union is called upon to mourn the loss of one of her most loyal sons, one who was ever ready to aid his Alma Mater, not only with his purse, but also by personal work.

Henry James Cullen, Jr., died on March 7, at his home, No. 23 Pierripont St., Brooklyn, N. Y. Mr. Cullen has been ill for some time, so much so that his friends were not greatly surprised to hear of his death, although they did not expect that he would be taken off quite so suddenly. He was the son of Dr. Henry J. Cullen, and the brother of Judge Edgar M. Cullen, of the Supreme Court.

Mr. Cullen graduated from Union in the class of '60, and then studied law for several years in Brooklyn, until he entered into partnership with John P. McGowan.

In 1873 he formed with General Wingate, the firm of Wingate & Cullen of which he remained a member until the time of his death. He occupied a very prominent position at the Brooklyn bar, and his counsels had great weight.

During the war Mr. Cullen enlisted in the Twenty-third Regiment, and took part in the campaign in Pennsylvania. When General John B. Woodward commanded the

Second Division of the National Guard he appointed Mr. Cullen a colonel on his staff. He married Miss Mary Baxter, daughter of Archibald Baxter, a merchant of New York City, about eighteen years ago. His wife survives him.

Mr. Cullen has always been prominent in politics, and has filled several important positions. He served as an assemblyman for a Brooklyn district and from 1871 to 1881 was public administrator of Brooklyn. He was a trustee of the People's Trust Co., of Brooklyn, and a director in the New York and New Jersey Telephone Co., the Brooklyn Heights Railway Co., and the Broadway and Forty-second Street Railway Company. He was also counsel to the Brooklyn "L" road Company. His name was on the rolls of the Manhattan Club, and also all the principal clubs in Brooklyn. He was also a member of Grace Church on the Heights. Mr. Cullen was a member of the Sigma Phi Society, and was noted for the loyalty he displayed, even in a society, the members of which are noted for their loyalty. Associated with him in the society were such men as Bradley Martin, Hon. Edwin Einstein, Douglas Campbell, and Professor Elias Peissner. Such associations undoubtedly helped to fit him for those high positions which he subsequently filled.

Mr. Cullen's last gift to his Alma Mater was his gift of two prizes, of one hundred and twenty-five dollars and seventy-five dollars, respectively, in connection with the Butterfield Lecture course. He will long be remembered for his generosity, noble nature, and many other good qualities which so endeared him to his many friends.



### Locals.

About 25 of the Freshmen have resolved to have a cremation Friday night, March 25.

Prof. Ashmore has arrived in Liverpool, and was much benefitted by the voyage.

Dr. Webster is expected back some time next week. His health has been much improved by his journey.

Prof. Truax has started on a trip to the Bermudas for his health. He expects to return by the beginning of the term.

The attraction at the Centre Street Opera House for next week is, Kate Claxton, in the "Two Orphans," Tuesday, March 22.

Prof. Cole will hold a preliminary examination in English at 12:15 on Friday. All who have over four absences are expected to take it.

The Athletic Advisory Board has appointed the following committee

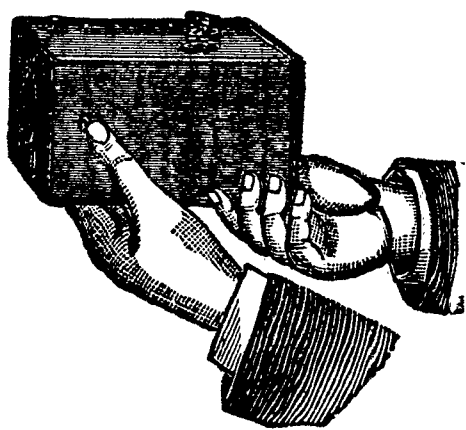
to make arrangements for a University Field Day: Daley '92, Fox and McAlpine '93.

Prof Wells will sail for this country March 19. He expects to be here at the opening of the term when he will begin a course of lectures on the Orient.

The list of electives for next term is as follows: Seniors, Anglo-Saxon, Physical Laboratory, Chemical Laboratory, Natural History Laboratory, Field Geology, Higher Mathematics, History of Philosophy, International Law. Juniors, Greek, Latin, Chemistry, Minerology, Botony, Biology.

The chapel orations for March 11, were as follows: Prest, "The Childrens Crusade;" Wemple, "Progress;" Whipple, "The College Man in Politics." Juniors: Lippencott, "Triumphant Democracy;" McAlpine, "The Grand Old Man;" Merchant, "The Work of Columbus." Parent, "Decision;" Sanders, "Gen. Balma-ceda."

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SCHENECTADY, N. Y.



Wescott '95 has been initiated into Delta Upsilon.

The Sophomores have passed the following resolutions not to interfere with the Freshmen who take part in cremation :

WHEREAS some brave members of the Freshman Class have decided to hold a "Cremation," and

WHEREAS the said courageous gentlemen have most humbly requested the—Class of '94—to abstain from molesting them while performing the last sad rites of their deceased friend, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we, the Sophomore Class, will not disturb these brave youths during their midnight obsequies, and therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Class of '94 do most heartily commend the valor of the—mighty 28—and moreover, be it

*Resolved*, That this Class do advise and direct the Class of '95 to exercise

the same clemency and pity which they now beseech from us toward the Class of '96, in order that this grand old custom may not die out by reason of the temerity of the Frosh.

A. F. Clark has been secured to coach the base ball team. Mr. Clark is a graduate of Williams, in the Class of '89. He was for four years, captain and manager of his college team. Last year he played on the New Yorks.

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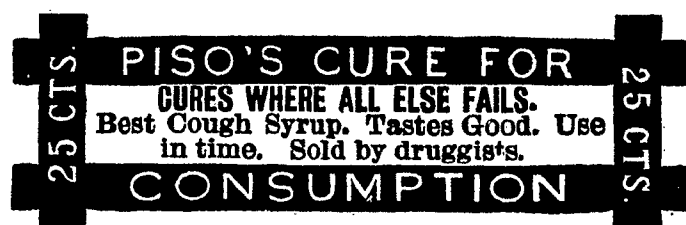
## "YALE MIXTURE."

It is the

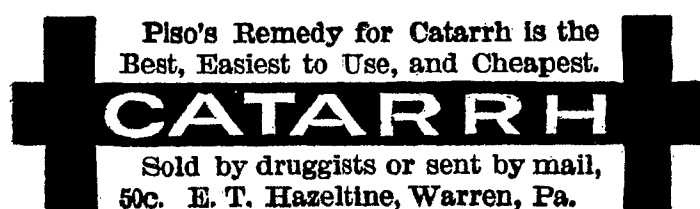
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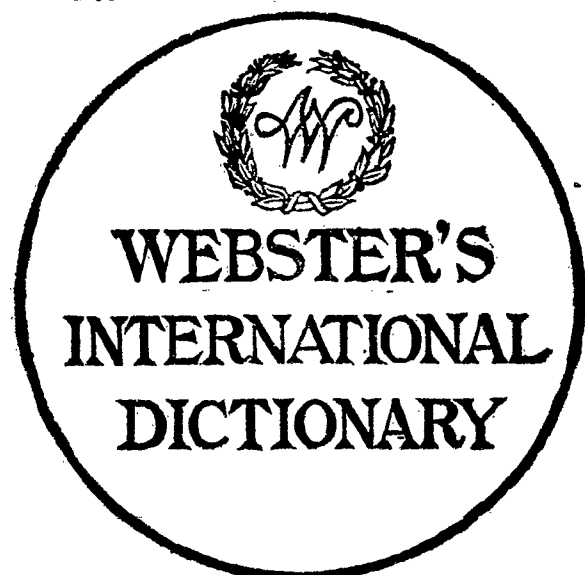
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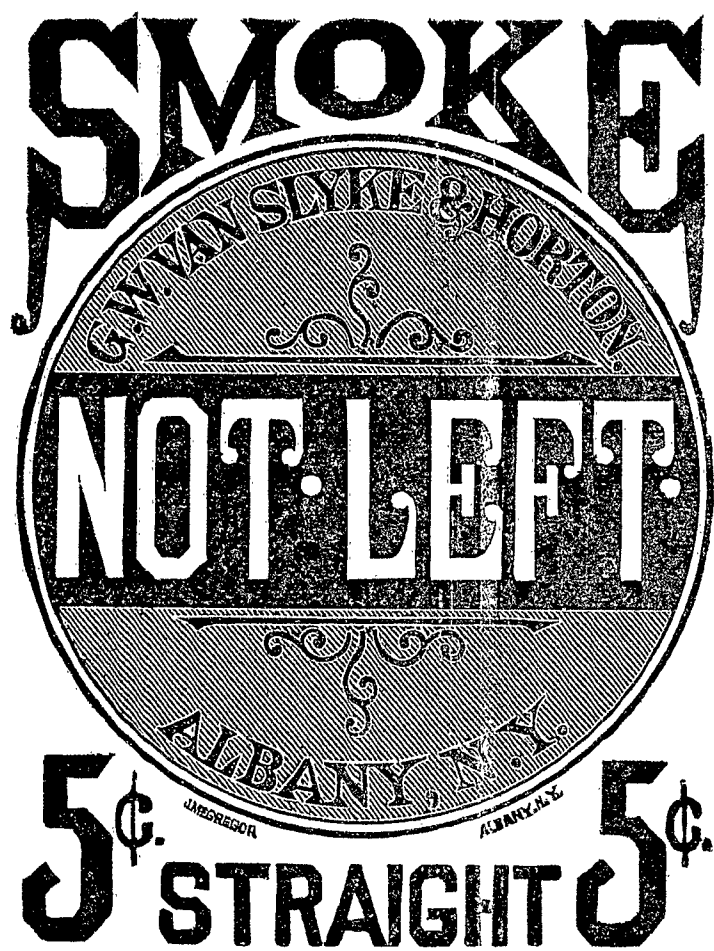
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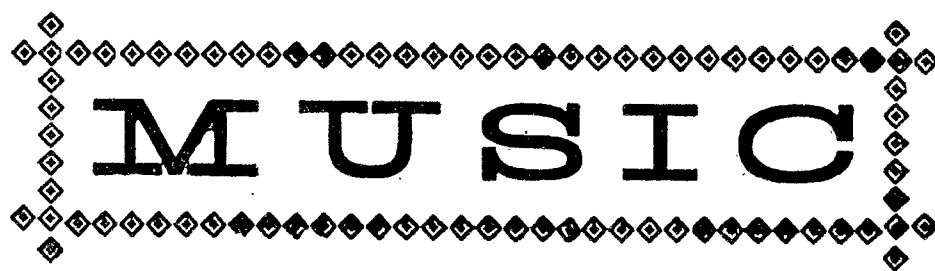
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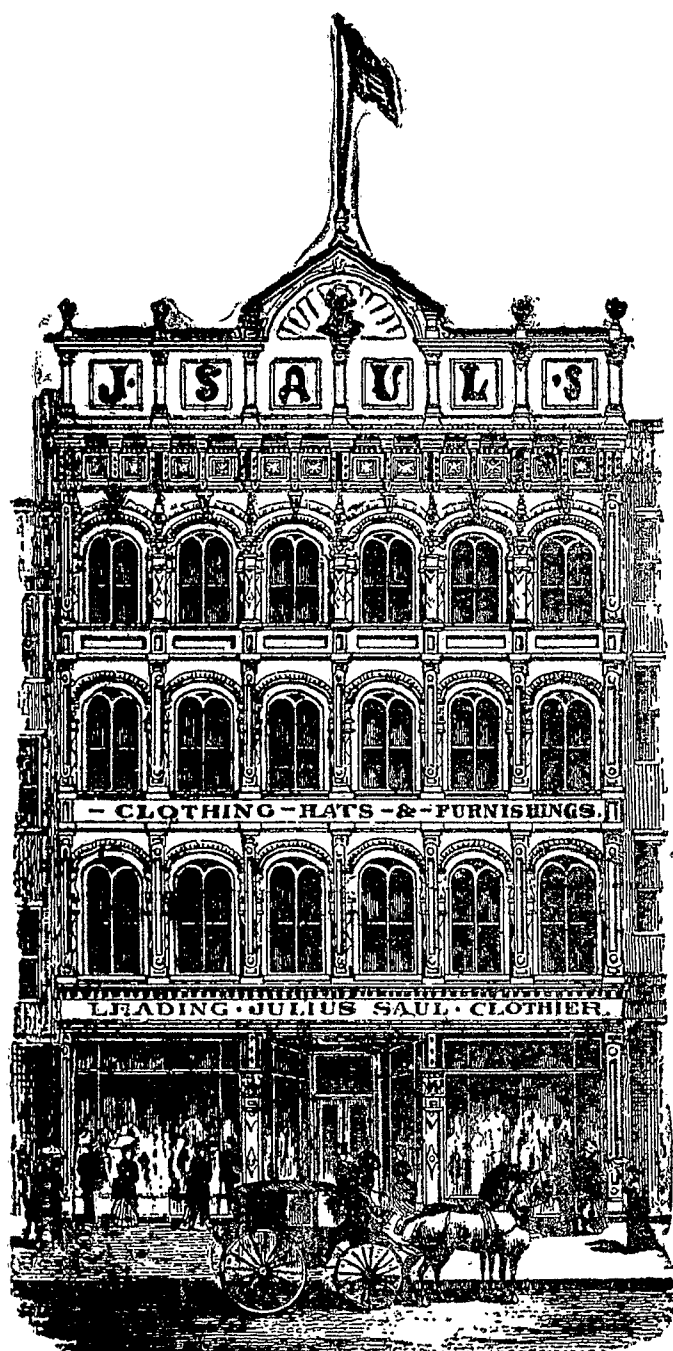


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