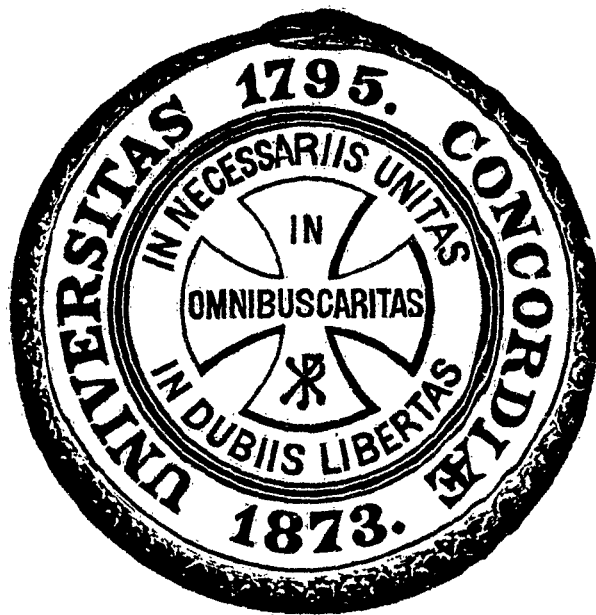


THE
CONCORDIENSIS

VOLUME XXXII

NUMBER 9



JANUARY 15, 1909

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
THE STUDENTS OF UNION UNIVERSITY

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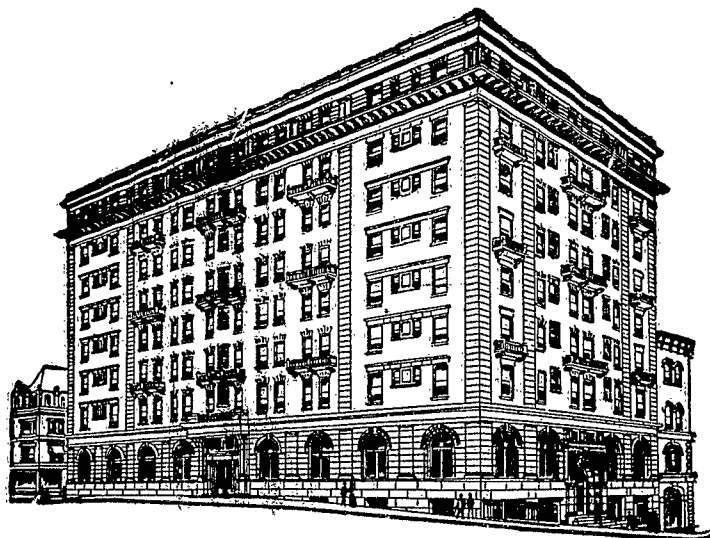
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THE CONCORDIENSIS

VOL. XXXII.

UNION COLLEGE, JANUARY 15, 1908

No. 9

MOSES VINEY.

Moses Viney, who for nearly seventy years has been a familiar figure about Union College, died at the Viney homestead on Lafayette Street 11 o'clock Sunday night. There is no one about whom more memories of bygone college days cling than about this faithful and devoted negro. It is with sorrow that the Alumni will read of the death of one who has seemed to them to be a part of old Union herself.

Moses, as he has been affectionately known, represented the now nearly extinct type of old school colored man, who as slaves had received their training during the ante-bellum days—a type that writers such as F. Hopkinson Smith recall in relating the quaint stories of their affection for and devotion to the old families of the South.

On March 10, 1817, Moses was born a slave in a cabin in Talbot County, Maryland. He was the oldest of a family of twenty-one children. His early life as a slave was not unhappy, but being of an ambitious temperament and possessed of more than ordinary native intelligence, he longed for freedom. His owner was a kind master, so Moses resolved that he would not endeavor to obtain his liberty as long as conditions remained unchanged. However, in anticipation of escape from bondage, he took it upon himself to feed the bloodhounds and to win their affection by kindness, thinking that in this way he might be able to elude the most dreaded of pursuers when the time for flight came.

It was in the capacity of butler that Moses one day overheard his master making arrangements to sell him, together with several of the other slaves. Final plans for escape were immediately made. With two companions, Moses set out on Easter morning, 1840, for the North.

The alarm of "runaways" was inevitable. Bloodhounds were set upon the trail. They pursued the fugitives and finally ran them down. Recognizing

Moses as their keeper, the dogs rushed up to him with an affectionate greeting, and at his command returned to the plantation.

After many and varied experiences the fugitive slaves reached New York. From there they sailed up the Hudson to Troy. When they arrived at Schenectady, of the money furnished them by friends but twenty-five cents remained.

Moses was employed at several different things for a short time, and finally was engaged by Dr. Eliphalet Nott, President of Union College, as a coachman and messenger. His two companions also obtained employment in the vicinity. It was in the services of Dr. Nott that Moses became so popular. He came in contact with all the men, and his remarkable memory of their faces and names, years after, has always been a source of surprise to many Alumni. Moses often related incidents of college life in which the prominent sons of old Union figured conspicuously. Among them are President Chester A. Arthur and Frederick William Seward, son of Secretary of State Seward.

A short time after entering the employ of Dr. Nott, when Moses was driving past Given's Hotel (situated where the Edison Hotel is to-day), he saw his old master sitting within. Going immediately to Dr. Nott, he told him the circumstances, letting him know for the first time that he was a fugitive slave. Dr. Nott, as ever his friend and benefactor, agreed to pay the purchase price demanded by the slave owner and gave Moses the opportunity of refunding the amount in labor. In this way the slave earned his own freedom.

Moses remained a faithful and devoted servant of Dr. Nott until the death of the famous educator in 1866. During the last few years of President Nott's life he became so dependent upon his servant that Moses was in constant attendance, and even prepared his meals.

After the death of Mrs. Nott, some years later,

the horse and carriage formerly owned by her were given to Moses, and the ex-slave went into business for himself. He was in great demand by the Faculty and Alumni of the College, and in fact by all who were able to obtain his services. He was prompt, courteous and accommodating to the extreme. For many years his business flourished, but owing to his advanced age he was forced to retire about six years ago.

The personal interest shown in him by the late Mrs. A. V. V. Raymond, and her desire that he should still be identified with college tradition, were much appreciated by Moses. Great was his pleasure in looking forward to his part at the President's reception at Commencement. He presented a picturesque appearance as, with a courteous bow, he opened the door to the arriving guests and repeated to the newcomers, "Ladies to th' left, gen'lemen to th' right." It was a picture that will long be remembered by those who have watched for him from year to year.

With the exception of last year, Moses has been seen upon the campus each Commencement day for the past half century. To shake him by the hand and to have a word or two of conversation with him has been as much a pleasure for the Alumni as it has been to meet their classmates at the reunion. Last year, although Moses did not get to the campus, he spent a few moments at the Alumni dinner that was held in the Armory. His absence from future Commencement days will indeed be felt by the hundreds of Alumni who have known him personally and reminiscences of his life in connection with the College will be handed down for years to come.

In the latter years of his life Moses has been faithfully cared for by his sister, Miss Lela Viney. The other surviving members of his family are his niece, Mrs. Benefore Allen, and two grand-nieces.

T. Townsend, '11, has returned to Union, after spending the Fall term at Syracuse.

I. Bookstein, '12, has left college for the remainder of the year. In the Fall he will enter the law department of Union University.

ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDENT MOVEMENT TO SECURE A NEW GYMNASIUM FOR UNION COLLEGE.

1. An Executive Committee shall have general oversight and control of the student movement to secure a new gymnasium. The committee shall consist of Dr. Barnes, Prof. Garis, Prof. Opdyke, two seniors and two juniors. Seniors are to hold office until Commencement and are to be succeeded by two members of the next lower class but one, chosen not later than June 1st, these two members to be chosen by the student body on nomination by the Executive Committee. Except as above provided, vacancies shall be filled by a majority vote of the committee. The present seniors shall be Mr. C. Potter and Mr. Mead; the juniors, Mr. Ferguson and Mr. C. M. Cavert.
2. The Executive Committee shall have control of the collection and disbursement of all funds subscribed by the classes of 1909, 1910, 1911 and 1912, as well as the funds, if any, subscribed by the classes of 1913 and 1914.
3. The Executive Committee shall by a two-thirds vote of its members choose from its members a trustee who shall, under the direction of the committee, receive and care for the funds just mentioned, disbursing them only upon authorization by a majority of the committee—Prof. Opdyke.
4. The Executive Committee shall appoint sub-committees from the several classes to aid in collecting subscriptions; and to organize these committees, it shall appoint a special sub-committee—Messrs. Lewis, Streibert, J. B. Chapman, Mould, Foote, McIntosh, Kiessling, Starbuck, who shall in conjunction with the trustees, prepare proper forms of notes, after consultation with the collecting bank.
5. The Executive Committee shall immediately confer with the resident Trustees, Mr. E. W. Paige, Mr. E. W. Rice and Judge Strong, regarding the proper method for bringing the whole movement before the Board of Trustees of the College at their January meeting, with a view toward securing their favorable consideration and co-operation, and this committee shall also bring the matter

properly before the Trustees' Committee on Plant.

6. In so far as such activities may be favorably regarded by the Trustees of the College, the Executive Committee shall also appoint the following sub-committees.

A. A committee to secure preliminary plans and estimates as directed by the Executive Committee—Prof. McComber, Prof. Garis, Messrs. C. Potter, Shutler, Brunet and Streibert and Mr. Frank Cooper, '93.

B. A committee to devise means to secure subscriptions from the Alumni and others—Prof. Barnes, Messrs. Theodore B. Brown, Lewis C. Potter, Mead, Chapman, with the assistance of the Press Club.

C. A committee to co-operate with the committee just named, by visiting and interviewing Alumni personally—Messrs. C. Potter and Mead.

7. The Executive Committee may enlarge, or may reduce, the membership of the sub-committees, by a majority vote, or by a unanimous vote, respectively, of its own members.

8. From time to time, upon call of the Executive Committee, the said committees and the members of the sub-committees shall meet together for conference. At such conferences and at all meetings of the Executive Committee, the President or Dean of the College shall be invited to be present.

9. The sub-committees shall report to the Executive Committee.

10. Two-thirds of any committee shall constitute a quorum; and except as herein otherwise provided, a majority vote of all the members of any committee shall be necessary to decide any question.

11. These articles may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Executive Committee, provided such vote be ratified by the student body.

The basket ball team leaves Friday to play Hamilton that night at Clinton and Cornell the next night at Ithaca.

Dr. Cady delivered another of his series of lectures last Friday afternoon. The lecture was a transitional one in the series.

THE NEW "GYM" DURING THE HOLIDAYS.

The committee in charge of the new gymnasium, after a conference with the resident members of the Board of Trustees, requested Prof. Opdyke and Mr. Mead of the senior class to go to New York and confer with some of the trustees there. Prof. Opdyke and Mr. Mead were able to get in touch with several of the trustees, including Dr. Alexander and Treasurer Bailey. All those interviewed expressed their pleasure at the spirit which the undergraduates had shown, but none of them would make any definite statement as to the probable attitude of the board, as the matter had not been considered at a regular meeting. The committee is now expecting to bring their plans before the Board of Trustees at the meeting on January 26 in an endeavor to secure the co-operation of the board.

During the Christmas recess several up-to-date gymnasia were visited, among them the gymnasium at Syracuse, the one at Williams, and the one at the C. C. N. Y. Although these are larger than the proposed Union "gym," yet they have many features which could well be adapted to Union's needs.

The registration figures for the winter term show the following results when compared to the number in college at the close of last term: Seniors, all back; the juniors lost one; the sophomore loss of one is countebalanced by a gain of one; six freshmen who went home for the holidays have failed to appear thus far.

COLLEGE BRIEFS.

Prof. Bennett spoke on the study of Greek at the meeting of the Classical Department of the State Teachers' Association at Syracuse during the holidays.

Prof. Knapp of Barnard College delivered a lecture on the Roman stage in the chapel last Tuesday evening. It was very instructive and enjoyable.

Dr. Stoller delivered a lecture on "Earthquakes in the Mohawk Valley" in the city a few days ago.

F. Wright has returned to college to complete his course.

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College has reopened
The New Term. for the second term and
with very bright pros-
pects in all branches. The number of men
who have not returned is very small and
many good averages are reported by all
classes. Our prospects have never been
brighter in athletics than now. The bas-
ket ball team is developing into fine form
under the coaching of Tilden, and Dr.
Mac is welding the track material into a
team worthy of her Alma Mater. Our
new gym seems to need only a matter of
time to become a reality and our new
engineering building is already under
way. These advantages have mostly been
brought about by the loyalty and enthus-
iasm of the undergraduate body. Some-
times it is the case that without very
great stimuli enthusiasm will die out and
no more will be heard of it. We hope that
such will not prove the case in our college
and that this spirit may exert itself as
never before for Old Union.

It seems that an
Mr. Mould's Letter. editorial in our is-
sue of December 4
aroused some comment. From a letter re-
ceived from Mr. Mould, which is pub-
lished in this issue, we could draw the
conclusion that the editorial was very un-
fair. In truth if considered as personal
we would heartily agree with Mr. Mould,
but as the "Junior" referred to in the
first part of the editorial paragraph could
not possibly have come under the latter
criticism, we think that the editorial was
perfectly right. Our position is that
studies and college activities should be
all blended into an harmonious whole.
Mr. Mould thinks otherwise and would
have a man come to college for the study
of books alone and have no social inter-
course with the other men, except per-

haps in the class room, thus, to our mind, taking away the contact of men with men and making us all selfish, each looking out for his own interests. We agree with Mr. Mould in some of his points, but such bitter invective was entirely uncalled for and is hardly in keeping with Mr. Mould as we know him in the class room.

ALUMNI NOTES.

1908.—At a beautifully appointed small breakfast at 12 o'clock to-day, Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Henley at their home, 441 Kirkwood Boulevard, Davenport, formally announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Louise, to Mr. John Jacob Vrooman of Schenectady, N. Y. The announcement will be greeted with happy good wishes from the many tri-city friends of the bride-elect who is a prominent younger member of the leading social set of Davenport. Miss Henley was graduated from St. Katharine's school and prepared for Wellesley. A young woman of delightful personality, her charm of manner has endeared her to a wide circle of friends in the three cities. Mr. Vrooman is a son of William C. Vrooman, a member of the oldest wholesale hardware firm of Schenectady, J. V. Vrooman's Sons. The young people met in Tuscon, Arizona, two years ago, where both were attending the Territorial University and where Mr. Vrooman was studying mining engineering. He followed that profession in Mexico until several months ago, when he was made assistant manager of the Henley ranch in Northern Missouri and there the young people will make their future home. The wedding will take place during the coming year. Mr. Vrooman is spending the holidays in Davenport.

1856—George Washington Hough, A. M., LL. D., director of Dearborn Observatory and professor of astronomy at Northwestern University, died suddenly at his home in Evanston, Ill., on January 1. He was at one time assistant astronomer at Cincinnati Observatory. Later he occupied the position as astronomer and director at Dudley Observatory in Albany.

From Dudley Observatory he accepted the po-

sition as professor of astronomy at Chicago University and director of Dearborn Observatory.

He discovered more than 600 new double stars and made a systematic study of the planet Jupiter.

He invented many instruments pertaining to astronomy, meteorology and physics.

He was the author of the "Annals of Dudley Observatory" and the "Annual Reports of the Chicago Astronomical Society," also of numerous publications in scientific journals. z z z z z z

1861—Ex-Representative Charles N. Gillet died suddenly at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Catherine M. Wales in New York on the night of January 1. Mr. Gillet was born on November 29, 1840, in Addison, N. Y. From 1861 to 1863 he served as private and later as adjutant of the Eighty-sixth N. Y. Volunteers. He was discharged in 1863 for disabilities received. He returned to Addison, where after recovering his health he engaged in various business enterprises. He was a member of Congress from 1893 to 1903, representing the 29th N. Y. district and from 1903 to 1905 he represented the 33rd N. Y. district in the same capacity.

THE UNION COLLEGE CUP.

The Union College Alumni Association of Western New York at a recent banquet decided to offer a Union College cup for hockey for local High School teams, provided a league should be formed. Representatives from Technical, Masten Park and Lafayette High Schools met the cup committee at the University Club and the league was practically launched. While Central High was not represented, a message was received that the school desired to compete in the race.

The cup will be awarded to the school which wins it three times. The plan for this year calls for one game for each school with each other school. The following provisional schedule has been arranged:

Jan. 9.—Technical vs. Central.

Jan. 16—Central vs. Masten.

Jan. 23—Masten vs. Lafayette.

Jan. 30—Lafayette vs. Technical.

Feb. 6—Central vs. Lafayette.

Feb. 13—Technical vs. Masten.

A FAULT.

Editor of Concordiensis:

I desire to express some thoughts that were called forth by the reading of an article in the issue of December 4, entitled "A Fault."

I think it is to be regretted that such ideas as that article contains ever found expression in a college publication. It appealed to me as the plea of the demagogue for the abolition of our standard of scholarship; as an abusive attack upon those men in Union College who know the real purpose of attending college and who attend for that purpose. If I can gather any meaning from words, I get the impression from that article that the man whose business is study is a persona non grata in Union College.

Union College exists for the purpose of education. You cannot deny that. You may treat the fact to all the sneering you like, but the fact remains. And the good of the college is the success it achieves in carrying out its purpose.

The article in question states: "Now it is evident that there are some fellows that never think of the good of the college." I dare say it is. But I rather think the writer had in mind those students whose business at Union is to acquire education. I should say that they who never think of the good of the college are the ones who are not making education their serious purpose. The article claims that "they are here just to get all they can out of the place without rendering anything in return that is of any advantage." I deny it. Those men on whom this article casts a slur are the very ones who make the return to the college, both now and later in the world, that is of utmost advantage to Union.

The article says: "They are here to get all they can out of the courses offered." I am glad of it. What reasonable motive can a man have for taking a course if not to get all he can out of it? Why do you suppose courses are ever given in college? Every man should get everything there is to be had in every course he takes, or else make a business of staying away. One of the symptoms of the disease we hear of, called Americanitis, is

satisfaction with things half done, with half truths, with half lights or side lights. I fancy it is not hard to point out some chronic cases. It is better for such men to go to sleep. Psychology teaches that sleep is the original and normal condition. O that such men were normal! Truly their last state is worse than the first.

"Their main ambition is to graduate with as high honors as possible." Why not? What other ambition should be the main ambition? If I gather the meaning from this quotation, it is that the culprits under condemnation are striving for honor merely for the sake of honor. I charge that this is false. I wonder if the author of the article has really taken the trouble to become acquainted with the men well enough to know their real purpose? Their purpose is to work; and to do work well. If honors come, they come as a reward. But I say that these men, and I know intimately a majority of them, are guided by the sense of duty, and a deep realization of the value of opportunity.

There are men in Union College who have never known the experience of writing home to father for money. There are men who know not what it is to receive an allowance. There are men in Union College because of the self-denial of a mother at home, through the vision of whose toiling hands and aching heart, and through the power of whose prayers they are applying themselves diligently to their work, that they may show by their deeds their appreciation of what it all means to them. Are they to be condemned for it? There are men here who have no resources but themselves. They know what it costs them

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to be here. Are they to be blamed for striving to get full value?

"They never indulge in any of the college activities." I say that this charge cannot be supported. Maybe they do not take part in everything, but do you not suppose there is a reason? They "are unusually found glued to their books." Better so, than to be blown by the winds of folly and caprice down town to the "Crown" or across Nott Terrace to the "Empire." "When every man should be up and doing for his Alma Mater," if the writer should take the trouble to look around he will find out that the poor criminals are generally on hand.

"Such men have no Alma Mater, however much and loudly they may claim her after they have graduated." They who talk the loudest are not the ones who deliver the goods. The men whom this article knocks generally do no boasting about their college in after life in the world. By the quietness of their conduct, by the faithfulness with which their lives are lived, by their work done nobly and well, they bring everlasting honor to their Alma Mater, Old Union.

"Attend the Y. M. C. A. meetings, the debating clubs." They must be worth while attending or the article would not urge attendance. I have taken the pains to observe who attends such functions. You will generally find these same "selfish" "egotists" there, and those who criticize conspicuous by their absence.

The fault found with men crossing the football field is just, but the connection between this and the rest of the article seems pretty clearly to be an attack on some particular individual. I consider this unfortunate. The whole article is illogical and a discredit to the college.

It is high time that matters of scholarship were considered first. In an article by Dr. Hale in the Concordy published January 21, 1908, we find these words: "What is a student to do to-day?"

* * * Suppose he should resolve to learn something, to educate himself, to develop his powers and to be and to be known to be himself rather than a member of any university, college, class, fraternity, association or anything else.

Then we might see whether our colleges or universities could give him what he wants. Then they would really be tested, and so would he." To be diligent in the pursuit of studies is charged with being "a fault." Then there are some of us in Union College who are glad to be at fault.

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DEBATING NEWS.

ALLISON-FOOTE DEBATE, JAN. 18.

At this time of the year the interest in debating always centers around the annual Allison-Foote debate. This year the members of both the Philomathean and Adelpic Societies are showing unusual enthusiasm in the contest which occurs in the college chapel on Monday night, Jan. 18th.

The subject for the debate as submitted by the Philomathean Society is: Resolved, That the policy of free trade would serve the interests of the United States better than the policy of protection. The Adelpic Society has chosen to defend the negative side of the question.

Both societies have held several preliminary try-outs and as a result of these the following men

have been chosen to represent their respective societies in the coming debate. For the Adelpics, first speaker, Wachter, '09; second speaker, Wilson, '09; third speaker, Mould, '09, with Dunn, '12, as alternate; for the Philomatheans, first speaker, Bartlett, '10; second speaker, R. J. Ury, '09; third speaker, Cohen, '11, with Potter, '12, as alternate.

The speakers will be limited to eight minutes each on the opening argument, and to six minutes each on the rebuttal.

The persons who will act as judges have been chosen, but their names will not be announced until the night of the debate.

COLLEGE MEETING.

At the college meeting on Monday noon Streibert read the "Articles of Organization of the Student Movement to Secure a New Gymnasium for Union College." The articles were accepted as read.

Prof. Opdyke spoke of the progress of this movement.

Wachter again called the attention of the student body to the matter of organizing a Dramatic Club.

Meade, '09, suggested that the undergraduates all help to get the hockey rink in condition. Motion made and carried that J. J. McCormick be placed in charge of the rink.

Brown, '09, gave out announcements for basketball practice.

Chapman, '09, speaking in connection with the Dramatic Club, urged the fellows not to be too hasty in their action in regard to this club. He said the fellows should think it over, for, if we decide to have one, we wish to have one that will prove a success.

Streibert gave notice of the Mandolin Club rehearsal and requested all interested to appear with their instruments.

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BASKETBALL.

The basketball team has been hard at work for some time now, and it is hoped that this will result in a strong team. Practice is held four days a week, two in the gym and two in the Armory.

No games have as yet been played, and the first one is with Hamilton at Clinton on Friday of this week. Since we have had a basketball team here we have never beaten Hamilton and the team is doing some hard training in hopes of changing the record.

The team for this trip is composed of the following men: Starbuck, W. Brown, Charest, Anderson, Clowe, Coward and Smith.

The schedule for the entire season, as adopted by the Athletic Council, is as follows:

Jan. 15—Hamilton at Clinton.

Jan. 16—Cornell at Ithaca.

Jan. 23—Rochester at Schenectady.

Jan. 29—N. Y. U. at Schenectady.

Feb. 12—Hobart at Geneva.

Feb. 13—Rochester at Rochester.

Feb. 17—Hamilton at Schenectady.

Feb. 26—N. Y. U. at New York.

Feb. 27—Rutgers at New Brunswick.

March 12—Hobart at Schenectady.

HOCKEY.

As the result of renewed interest in hockey at Union, a team has been organized and will play several games during the winter. There will be no intercollegiate games played, but the team, under the name of the Union College hockey team, has entered a league in the city consisting of six other teams. The champion team of the league will be awarded a silver cup as a prize.

The first practice was held on Wednesday and was on the rink of the Locomotive Club.

The first game is with the Locomotive Club at their rink this week Saturday afternoon.

The old men that are out for the team are McCormick, Burley, Kriegsman, Walser and Brainard. Among the freshmen are Fairbairn and Dennis, who will probably make the team.

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CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

Last Sunday, the tenth of January, the College Christian Association united with the city Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. in a Chautauqua vespers service. The meeting was held in the First Reformed Church at 4 o'clock. Bishop Vincent addressed the congregation and described most interestingly the Chautauqua movement. Last Tuesday evening Walser, '10, spoke on "The Awakening of China," at the weekly college prayer meeting. Next Sunday afternoon the usual 5 o'clock vesper service will be held in Silliman Hall, at which Prof. Hoffman will speak on "Religion and Health." Van Deusen, '10, will lead the prayer meeting on the nineteenth.

On Monday, Jan. 11, at Ithaca, a bronze tablet was erected in honor of Ezra Cornell, the founder of Cornell University. The tablet was presented by the DeWitt Historical Society of Ithaca and contained the inscription:

"On this site lived and died Ezra Cornell, 1807-74, member of the Assembly, Senator, philanthropist, benefactor of the city of Ithaca, whose citizens rear this token in grateful appreciation."

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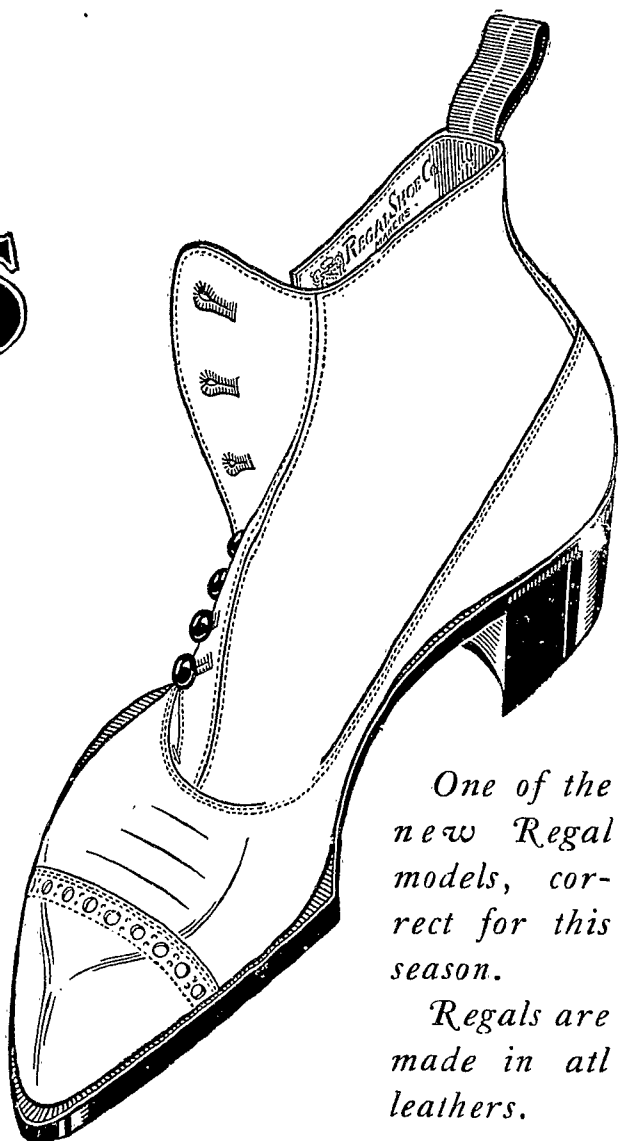
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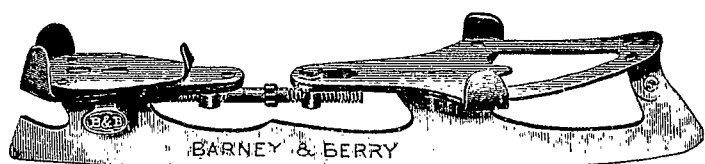
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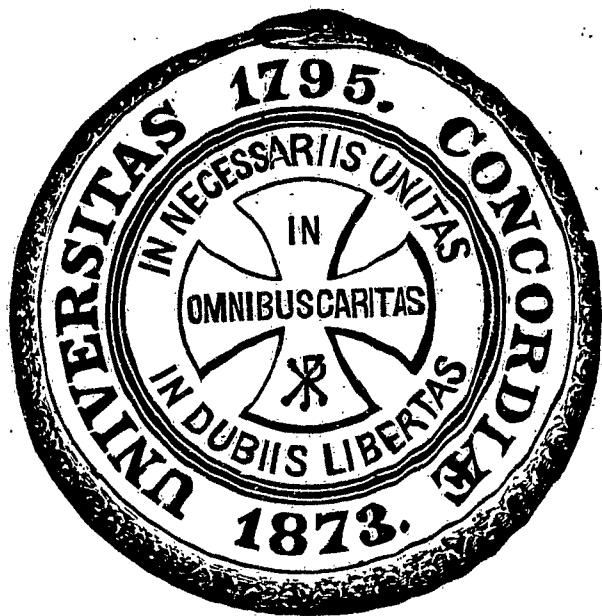
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