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# The Concordiensis.

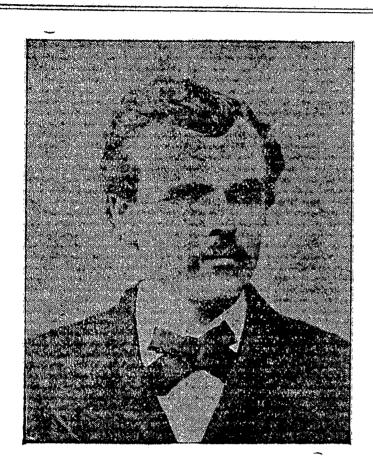


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Vol. XXII.

FEBRUARY 4, 1899.

No. 15.



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# The Concordiensis

Vol. XXII.

UNION COLLEGE, FEBRUARY 4, 1899.

No. 15.

#### Mr. Anderson on Art.

Mr. A. A. Anderson of New York city delivered a lecture in the chapel Friday afternoon, January 27, on the subject of, "Art." Mr. Anderson has travelled a great deal during his lifetime, having visited every part of this country and spent a number of years abroad in the study of his profession and in recreation. He is therefore well fitted to deal with his subject which he discussed in so delightful a manner as to firmly impress upon his hearers his intense love for the beautiful things of this world.

The lecture opened with a striking illustration of the origin of art. "Many thousands of years ago a prehistoric man set out from his cave to hunt. Coming to a bit of water, he suddenly stopped and looked anxiously ahead. In a moment there appeared from the forest in front of him an enormous tiger. The man was afraid, for he knew that a few moments would decide the question of his future existence. The tiger stopped, glanced ahead, bowed his head to the water, raised it, hesitated and passed on. The savage, trembling, sought his cave. There, with a rough piece of rock, he traced laboriously on a smooth one a drawing of the tiger." "I was not present at this meeting," said Mr. Anderson, "but nevertheless it really did happen. The sketch is very poor in fact, but, as a specimen of art exhibiting the dreaded powers of the tiger, it is fine. It is not an exact representation of the beast but is rather a copy of the impression which the animal left upon the mind of the frightened savage. It is to day preserved in a Paris museum and is the oldest specimen of art in the world."

Man first supplies the necessities of life; later, its luxuries. One of our early ancestors, in searching about for something more practical than his hand wherewith to drink, found a gourd and cut it, using it for his purpose.

When time became somewhat heavy on his hands, he decorated the gourd, cutting its exterior into pleasing forms. This action was art; the other was handicraft. Thus came the evolution of the modern cup and saucer. Likewise the savage's tent of skins has developed into the millionaire's palace of today. That noted example of beauty, the Boston public library, is but the highest point yet attained in that art originating in the simple carving of his treasured musket by the Puritan father.

"Art pursued for art's sake is debasing in its influence." The Japanese art of today is a striking instance of this statement. Ancient Japanese art consisted of the highest decorative art the world has ever known. The artist drew his impressions directly from nature. He went out into the woods and there made his sketching. At home he cast these impressions into bronze and returning to the forest clothed his work in the colors of nature. When this was finished, he hollowed the object out and presented it to his chief. After a time the foreign demand for oriental goods became so great as to cause each product to become merely a copy of another which preceded it. "Japanese art declined because in descended into mere craftmanship. As soon as art ceases to go to nature it ceases to exist."

"Art is an illusion within one, not a delusion. An artist wishes to make the same impression upon the looker-on as does nature itself."

Art had its real beginning in Egypt. Thence, crossing the Mediterranean and settling in Greece, Rome and Italy, we see its rapid development marked in the ruins of the Parthenon and the cities buried under the ashes of Vesuvius. It had its use and decline, but during the period of the Renaissance it burst forth in all its splendor throughout all Europe. Today it is sweeping on in a wonderful manner.

A little boy when questioned as to the difference between electricity and lightning said;

"One you pay for—the other you don't." We may never have the opportunity of seeing great specimens of art in foreign lands but we can see what is better still—nature itself. "A botanist is not necessarily a lover of flowers. It is not necessary for us to have a knowledge of botany or other kindred sciences to appreciate nature. A savage is unmindful to his surroundings however beautiful. Knowledge comes not from the number of books we read but from what we get out of them. The same thing is true regarding nature."

It is on the young men and women of the present that the future of our native land depends. If advances in culture and civilization are to be made, they must be preceded and accompanied by research of our youth into those studies whose influences are so broadening—literature, poetry and art.

Said Mr. Anderson in closing: "Nature is the source of all true art. To this nature I commend you. Go to her. Look at her, not only with your eyes but with your soul and some day you can truthfully say—'It's a very pretty world."

#### 6he Day of Prayer.

On Thursday, Jan. 26, the regular college work was suspended, in order to observe the day of prayer for colleges; accordingly, devotional exercises were held in the college chapel at half past ten.

The service was conducted by Dr. Raymond assisted by Rev. Dr. Pendleton of this city. The speaker was Rev. William Force Whitaker, pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Albany.

The chapel was well filled with students, members of the faculty and invited guests from the city who listened to a fine and highly intellectual discourse appropriate to the occasion. Music was furnished by a quartet composed of Greene, '99, Wiley, '99, Eames, '99, and Barrett, '01.

Dr. Raymond in introducing the speaker referred to Dr. Whitaker's church as having special interest and connection with Union as it

was from this church that Dr. Nott was called to the presidency of Union college.

Dr. Whitaker took his text from the sixty-fifth Psalm, second verse, "O thou that hearest prayer unto thee shall all flesh come." He first showed the effect of the two uses of muscles, one for the external effect and the other for internal. So prayer may have two effects; on the inner life of man and on his external power.

Old scientists said that prayer was good spiritual gymnastics, but belief in its utility was absurd.

Later it was thought that prayer and nature were inconsistant, for when prayer asks for anything contrary to the laws of nature it goes beyond the realm of possibility, but the scriptures affirm that natural law is God's law.

People are apt to overlook some phenomana for we find every day a vast amount of facts with which physical laws have little or nothing to do. The will of man is free and is constantly utilizing and controling the laws of nature. Man's free will is the starting place of all events, and it has been that will which has set in motion the machinery which has brought about all the campaigns, battles, defeats and victories in the world's history. On the decision of one man's choice has depended the outcome of great undertakings. A whole chain of events may have its beginning in one man's will. It was owing to the decision of one man that Fort Sumter was fired on and the great civil war begun.

God's will is the real source not only in matter and space, but also in the lives of all men.

If there is a God and if his will is able to alter nature's law we need only add that element of benevolence in God to substantiate the fact that the will of God must adapt human things to the best interests for the good of his children.

Know God. Or what will be our destiny if we do not follow out the teachings of the Old and New Testaments and make use of prayer? If we do not use prayer how much better are we than the other living beings?

Man is a small speck compared with the great laws of the universe, but his soul like the carrier pigeon finds itself in the midst of the greatest elements of the universe, but as when it has the instinct of prayer it easily surpasses all elements, so without it the elements will surely triumph. "O thou that hearest prayer unto thee shall all flesh come." have will rece who

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#### The Soiree.

When the next issue of the Concordiensis will have made its appearance the Sophomore Soiree will be a thing of the past, except for the pleasant recollection of it left in the memory of those who were fortunate enough to attend.

There is no doubt in the minds of those who have attended this dance in previous years that it is the crowning event of the social season and on this account every fellow in college who possibly can, ought to make every effort to support this function and get his friends interested in it.

Although some, pessimistically inclined, affirm that Memorial Hall can not be heated, several of the older and more experienced professors say that it has been done before now and that there is no reason why it can not be made warm enough for this occasion.

The members of the committee have worked faithfully and are giving their whole time and energy to make the affair a success, and the students ought to appreciate their efforts by supporting the dance in every way possible.

The class of 1801, in holding its soiree in the Round Building, is following the example of nearly every college in this section in holding the college dances on the college grounds. This plan is an innovation at Union and ought not keep anyone away. On the contrary, it ought to bring out a great many more fellows than usual

Gioscia will furnish the music and this fact alone speaks for the success of the dance.

Owen of Utica will furnish the refreshments, and from the satisfaction he gave at last year's Senior ball we know that he will be appreciated.

The patronesses of the dance will be: Mrs. A. V. V. Raymond, Mrs. O. H. Landreth, Mrs. J. H. Stoller, Mrs. J. R. Truax, Mrs. T. W. Wright, Mrs. A. J. Dillingham, Mrs. Benj. H. Ripton, Mrs. J. W. H. Pollard, Mrs. Chas. S. Prosser, Mrs. S. G. Ashmore, Mrs. J. W. Smitley, Mrs. I. Price, Mrs. J. W. Veeder, Mrs. C. C. Brown, Mrs. Alex. J. Thomson, Mrs. J. W. Strain, Mrs. Wm. Vrooman, Mrs. B. C. Sloan, Mrs. D. W. Watkins, Mrs. C. F. Lewis, Mrs. M. Perkins, Mrs. Edw. E. Hale, jr., Mrs. W. G. Carey, Mrs. H. F. F. Erben, Mrs. Geo. W. Featherstonhaugh, Mrs. C. O. Yates and Mrs. Wm. Wells.

#### With the Minstrels.

The enthusiasm and earnestness in the formation of the troupe knows no lagging. For the past week, the committee chosen for this pnrpose have made strenuous efforts to induce all students with any degree of entertaining power, to join in the work. It is the intention to have a chorus of about forty, and fully that number have responded. Some of the students are at work writing jokes, farces and anything that will make the affair original and successful. At a meeting held Wednesday night, the following officers and chairmen were announced: President of executive committee, Prof. Opdyke; secretary, Prof. Pollard; chairman of music committee, Heermance; chairman of jokes committee, Minken; chairman press committee, Thomson; business manager, VanderVeer; assistant business manager, H. J. Brown; stage manager, Prof. Pollard; assistant stage manager, Van Vlack; property men, Thomson and Ripley.

#### Albany Concert.

On Saturday evening the College Musical association will give a concert in Odd Fellows' Hall, Albany. A number of ladies, well known in Albany society, have consented to act as patronesses, and an unusually long list of prominent Albany alumni compose the committee of arrangements. Every student from Albany should attend the concert and do his utmost to advertise it. Let every man urge his Albany friends to attend and thus assist a worthy cause.

#### Married.

On Thursday, January 26, occurred the marriage of Norman L. Bates, '88, to Miss Florence M. Morley of Sodus Centre. The following Saturday Mr. and Mrs. Bates left for the Bermudas where they will remain several months. Mr. Bates is largely interested with his uncle in real estate enterprises at Oswego, N. Y. His bride is well known in Oswego society, where she been a prominent figure in recent social events.

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EVERYONE should do his utmost toward making the minstrels a success. Prof. Pollard has taken a great deal of interest in the enterprise and everyone should lend a helping hand. Any one who can do an act of any kind, or has any talent in any line that would work into an affair of this kind, should not hesitate to speak of it at once; the more novelties that can be brought out the better. Inasmuch as this is a college organization and the proceeds are to be devoted to athletics, every fellow ought to be willing to push the thing along.

EVERY day or so we read that a large bequest has been made to this or that college or university, and we naturally wonder why such a piece of good fortune has seldom fallen to the lot of dear "Old Union." Union, in the early part of the century, one of the most famous of the American colleges, and as well equipped as the best of them, has not been able to keep pace with the others, which have grown into large and prosperous in-

stitutions from the proceeds of endowment after endowment. No one reason can explain why Union has received so few money gifts, while colleges on every side have been improving their facilities and erecting new buildings through the generosity of some friend or alumnus, nor is it our intention to attempt to discuss the matter.

But of this we are sure; there is no institution more generous in scholarships, more liberal in the exercise of authority, more attentive to high standards of education, broader in sentiment or that has graduated more men who have exerted greater influence in the state, than the college in the valley of the Mohawk. There is something in the surroundings that fills the soul with inspiration, which only the cold winter nights in the sections can dispel, and even then, only until the fragrance of the garden and the gurgling of the brook bring it back again with double meaning.

That definition of a college, which, years ago, Mark Hopkins said consisted of a log with himself at one end and a student at the other, is now obsolete. A college must have more than fine surroundings. Camping out, with all its inconveniences, is all right for recreation, but business cannot be well conducted without proper facilities.

Some time ago, President Raymond delivered an able address at the alumni banquet in New York, and during his remarks presented his ideal of what a college ought to be. There is not an alumnus of Union College who would not like to see that ideal realized. And there is no reason why it should not be realized. The trustees are about to dispose of some of the college property in order to make improvements. And now that they have manifested a desire to do something, every alumnus who can afford to do so, should be willing to do his share toward swelling the fund. There are many successful alumni who owe their college course to the generosity of the college, and they especially ought to contribute something. Suppose fifty alumni contributed five thousand each. That two hundred and fifty thousand would make the dormitories habitable, or erect some new buildings. We hope that the action of the trustees will be the means of putting in motion forces that have long been latent, and which will be directed to some definite end.

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#### Grustees' Meeting.

The semi-annual meeting of the board of trustees of Union college was held last week at Albany. The meeting was a full one and much business was transacted. The trustees were reticent about talking for publication but President Raymond gave out a very important piece of news. He said that the meeting was an encouraging one in every respect and further stated that a committee was appointed to consider the sale of part of the college property in this city as repeated offers have been made the college to this effect. The committee is to investigate the question immediately and report at a meeting of the trustees to be held in New York on February 28.

The committee appointed by the trustees consist of the resident trustees, Judge J. S. Landon and John A. DeRemer.

Mr. DeRemer said that the sale of no particular portion of the grounds had been discussed, and that the committee's duty would simply be to prepare a map of the grounds and submit it at the next meeting when perhaps action will be taken.

#### Personals.

Guy Vrooman, '98, of Middleburgh, is in town.

Orson C. Richards, '95, spent last week on the hill.

Merriman, '98, spent last Sunday with friends on the hill.

George R. Donnan, '71, of Troy, was in the city Tuesday.

Frederick B. Richards, '88, made a short visit with college friends last week.

Warner, 1901, has been confined to his room for the past week on account of illness.

Mr. Clarence T. Lansing, of Gloversville, visited friends at the college last Tuesday.

John Crapo Merchant, '98, of Nassau, N. Y., has been visiting Schenectady friends the past week.

The freshman class under the direction of Prof. Pollard, enjoyed skating on the river Tuesday.

A convention of the Y. M. C. A. will be held at Albany, Feb. 3—5, at which Union will be represented.

E. Grant Blessing, ex-'94, of Slingerlands, N. Y., spent a few days with Phi Delta Theta friends last week.

James Wingate, '97, who was secretary of the Teachers' Institute held last week was the guest of fraternity friends while in the city.

Roger Duncan Sinclair, '98, has resigned his position with the General Electric Company and is now on the staff of The Daily Union.

An invitation is extended to all the students to join the class in Missions, under the direction of Wright, '99, in the college Y. M. C. A. rooms in South College.

The engagement of Gifford Morgan, ex-'97, to Miss Fannie R. Baldwin of Orange, N. J., has been announced. The wedding will take place February 20.

Mr. Henry Kitchell Webster, A. B., who was last year instructor in English at Union, visited friends on the hill last week. Mr. Webster is now located at Chicago, where he is engaged in literary work.

Gen. Daniel Butterfield, '49, is at the head of a committee of New Yorkers which will, in the near future, make the presentation of a sword to Commodore John W. Philip, commandant of the Brooklyn Navy Yard and captain of the Texas in the fight at Santiago.

Last Thursday evening, the college quartette, consisting of F. L. Greene, '99, H. A. Barrett, 1901, G. M. Wiley, Jr., '99, and R. M. Eames, '99, assisted by J. H. Cook, 1901, reader and impersonator, gave a successful concert in the Emanual Baptist Church at Albany.

The Central New York Methodist conference has arranged plans to collect two million dollars as an endowment fund for Syracuse University and institutions of learning in that vicinity.

#### Intercollegiate.

Colorado college has decided to allow work done in the literary societies, to be counted as an elective study.

The amateur rowing association of England has decided that no more international races will be rowed at Henley.

The new walk in the Pennsylvania campus has been called Osgood Lane walk, in honor of the Cuban hero and athlete.

A class has been organized at Johns Hopkins University for the purpose of co-operative study of current congressional history.

In Germany one man in 223 goes to college; in Scotland, one in 520; in the United States, one in 2,000, and in England, one in 5,000.

A new regulation has been passed at Columbia requiring football and crew men to make a total strength test of 700 or over. Baseball and men on class teams must make 600 points and men in track athletics, lacrosse and tennis 500 points.

The plan of continuous session, degrees being granted without ceremony when a certain amount of work is completed, is gaining favor in America. The University of West Virginia will adopt the plan after next June.

The Yale Glee and Banjo Clubs have given to the treasurer at Yale University the sum of \$860, taken from the receipts of their concerts during the season of '97-98, to be used in assisting needy and deserving students. The total receipts of the clubs for the last year were \$30,335.90.

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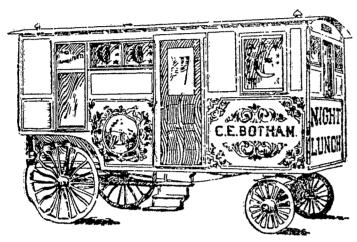
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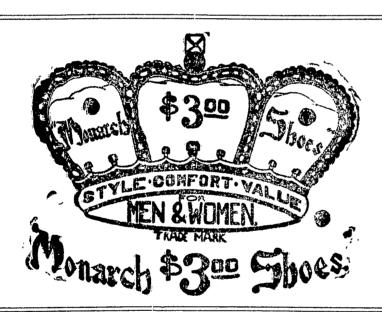
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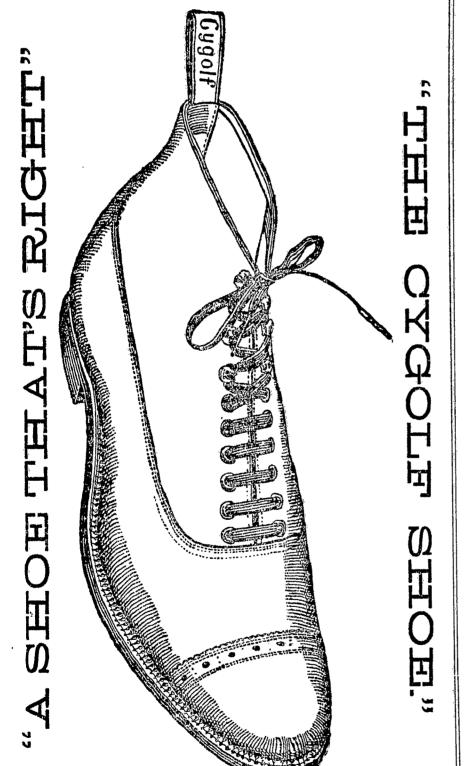
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