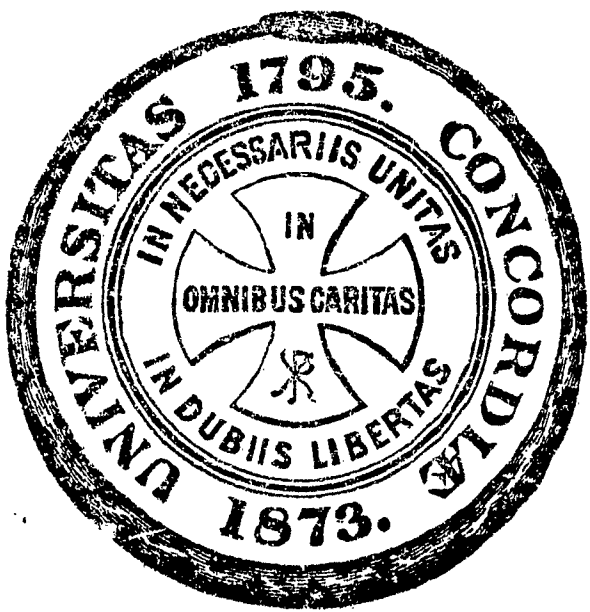


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UNION COLLEGE
SCHENECTADY

The Concordiensis.



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VOL. XXI.

NOVEMBER 12, 1897.

No. 8.

UNION COLLEGE

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UNION COLLEGE, NOVEMBER 12, 1897.

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GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS.

Eloquent Lecture by Dr. McElroy—Reminiscences by Professor Wells.

Last Friday afternoon a large and representative audience listened to one of the most interesting lectures heard in the chapel for some time. William H. McElroy, '60, introduced by President Raymond in a few well rounded sentences, spoke entertainingly on George William Curtis. He spoke in substance as follows:

Mr. President, Fellow Students, Ladies and Gentlemen:—

Emerson said that "when nature removes a great man we search the horizon for his equal." It is the fact that we should not look on him or his like that makes his loss so great. In George William Curtis was found that rare and stimulating light of an all embracing sympathy, a keen sense of justice, a love for the beautiful and a consuming passion for all things of truth and good report. Nature might well have stood and said, "This is a man." Those who knew him well give so good a report of him to their listeners that we may know that

"Stand where we may, night or day,

There was ne'er the like of him who passed away."

When I was a boy I told my mother that if ever I should be married and blessed with a boy I should call him after George William Curtis. When that time came I never thought of giving him any other name.

I shall speak of Curtis from several points of view. As a lecturer he was the bright, particular star of a brilliant platform. As a boy, living in Albany, I read a notice that he was to speak at the Lyceum on "Nile Notes." I knew that the Nile was a river in Africa, that Africa was a great, dark, almost unknown country, and expected to see in the lecturer a swarthy,

sunburned explorer, fierce and loud in manner, roughly dressed, perhaps wearing a fez and having a knife or two in his belt. Instead, I found a tall, slim, graceful young fellow, with sunny hair, blue eyes and a winning, unsophisticated smile. And his voice confirmed the impression conveyed by his gracious presence. It was rich, full, flexible and melodious.

Curtis was not in any way overshadowed by the many brilliant lecturers of his time. He lectured on a wide field of subjects—politics, literature, art, all admirably treated. He was critical, shrewd and incisive, yet through all he maintained that particular urbanity so strongly insisted upon by Matthew Arnold. His sentences had the finish of a Greek statue and this not at the expense of force; they were so finely compact, so full of illustrations of learning, wit, and a permeating humor that sparkled like a phosphorescent sea. Take this appropriate sentence, "There is a picture of Turner's in the Academy at Baltimore, a simple sketch, yet the very soul of Italy steals to you like a rich odor." And another from a lecture delivered at this old college with its terrace and brook, "Day by day, no matter where our hours may be, we have watched the passing stages of the year; day by day we have seen the advancing year increase and develop until now in the midst of golden grain the year stands out perfect in the midst of summer."

In a tribute to Curtis, Park Gordon says, it would be difficult to overestimate the popular favor these lectures inspired. The lecturer produced the impression that he was better than the best of his utterances. He commended heroes who were highest and best and all that was healthiest in life and beauty. He was the epitome of what was most inspiring in his discourse. To great men the prospect of a eulogy by Curtis furnished a solace to the inevitable hour. It is true, he was the thing he most

admired. He once delivered for charity's sake in Brooklyn his eulogy on Sir Philip Sidney. Dr. Chadwick, in seconding the vote of thanks to Curtis, said he had found it difficult to tell whether he was listening to a discourse on Sir Philip Sidney by George W. Curtis or to a discourse on Curtis by Sidney.

The books that came from his pen are not many. Chief of these are: "The Nile Notes of a Howadji," "The Howadji in Syria," "Prue and I," "Lotus-Eating" and "The Potiphar Papers." He wrote much for newspapers, Harper's Weekly and Harper's Monthly, on civil service reform and other prominent questions of the day. He had little time to pursue the normal bent of his nature, which would have made his fame chiefly a literary one. Thackeray pronounced him the most promising literary figure of his generation. His "Potiphar Papers" was a sharp satire on society and the "400" of the generation back of our own, yet it was satire within bounds. Ridicule is a legitimate weapon, yet nothing is legitimate which is inconsistent with charity.

As a public man, the rule of Curtis' life was, that it was sweeter to live for one's country than to die for it. His failure to write "The Life of Mahomed" was due to his consuming love for his country. His addresses on public questions such as labor and civil service reforms did more for the advancement of politics along wholesome lines than any other single influence of his generation. He maintained that whatever was dishonorable outside of politics was just as dishonorable in politics. When he undertook the carrying out of his plans for the attainment of higher ideals in politics he had a great mountain of political corruption before him. Both parties were champions of the spoils system. Political machines had to be smashed. Political sharpers had to be cured of "the convictions of a lifetime." The noble army of political sharks had to be put to rout. But Curtis possessed the noble mental as well as moral qualities so necessary for such an undertaking.

I presume the literary societies of the college are still flourishing and will suggest as the subject for their next debate, "Has any citizen any

right to keep out of politics?" Is not every citizen bound to render the commonwealth a direct service? The duties of citizenship are not transferable any more than those of husband, son or father. If popular government is to endure, then all people from the least to the greatest must help according to their ability.

Among his lectures Curtis delivered two at Union. One on "Patriotism" and one in 1877 on "Public Duty of Educated Men," in which he expressed the sentiment that the end of education was not a private one but rather a public advantage and that the best educated man was a servant of knowledge for the service of mankind.

The permanency of Curtis' writings is an open question. The reading public, like a traveller discarding all unnecessary luggage, leaves all but the masterpieces behind. "Nile Notes" and "Howadji in Syria" will never cease to attract until the sweet plant of sentiment perishes from the human heart. Among our literary autocrats we have Oliver Wendell Holmes the "Autocrat at the Breakfast Table" and Curtis the autocrat of the "Easy Chair Papers." In these Curtis treats of science, art, religion, society, fashions, politics, major and minor morals and all phases of human life as he saw it. Through all was to be seen his light yet firm touch, his admiration for all that was true, his scorn for evil, his sense of proportion and that catholicity which results from a cultured nature and a noble heart. The unequaled value attached to Curtis' writing is evidenced by the fact that at his death the "Easy Chair" department in Harpers' was discontinued and has not since been revived.

Women owe Curtis a great debt of gratitude, for he labored faithfully in their behalf as he understood their need. In a letter to a woman's suffrage convention he calls woman's suffrage the greatest question of the age, asks for fair play toward her and would open every opportunity and let women enter if she chooses. At a constitutional convention he proposed and advocated an amendment giving suffrage to women.

The individuality of Curtis was admirable

and lovable. It is impossible to give a satisfactory account of his personality. It may be said that he never dared to be as gracious as he could. He was generous-hearted but not of the hale-fellow-well-met sort. All he said was stamped with distinction. It is difficult to realize that this man was a regular attendant at caucuses and a thorn in the side of the political boss. If he were asked why he did this I can hear him reply, "I believe in doing the duty nearest me and in so doing I am obeying the solemn admonition of Lincoln, 'See to it that this government for the people and by the people does not perish from the land.'"

George William Curtis was born in Providence, R. I., in 1824, and spent his youth in Jamaica Plains, then went into business in New York for a short time. When the Brookfarm project was launched he allied himself with it but after two years went to Europe, travelled, studied and wrote letters to the New York Sun for four years. In 1853 he became connected with Putnam's Magazine, which soon failed, and he spent the next 13 years in endeavors to repay the debts of the firm, although really under no obligations to do so. He made his entrance to politics in the campaign for Fremont for president in 1856. In 1857 he became editor of Harper's Weekly and held that position until his death in 1892. In 1867 he was made regent of the University of New York. He began his long fight for civil service reform in 1870 and in 1871 President Grant appointed him chairman of the civil service commission.

Such was George William Curtis,—a delightful person, a thoroughly manly man, a consummate orator and a useful helper of every good cause. Whatever good he ever said of another was equally true of himself. In his words at the grave Winthrop said, "We cannot think of him as dead; we never shall; when he went away he was alive, a light—immortal."

MY MEMORIES OF GEORGE W. CURTIS,

By PROF. WILLIAM WELLS.

The exceedingly interesting and very able lecture of our good friend and distinguished alumnus Mr. McElroy, awakened in my heart

some of the most pleasant memories of my student days, which have induced me to offer a few notes to The Concordiensis in regard to my own acquaintance and intercourse with him.

I first met him in the famous revolutionary year in Europe in '48, as a student in the University of Berlin. There were that year thirteen Americans all told in the city attending lectures at the famous school. About half of them were students in sincerity, and the others came to the lectures now and then. We soon divided into groups according to our tastes, and Mr. Curtis and myself found ourselves together at the lectures of the famous art critic of the period, the well known Dr. Wagner, and at the course of Physical Geography, by the celebrated Carl Ritter, and in the History of German Literature, by Doctor Kopke.

This similarity of taste brought us quite nearly together, and I thus learned to know him better than any other of the group. He was quiet and unassuming in his manners; genial, gentle and kind, but gave no indications of the marked talent which made him so famous in after life. He was remarkably pure in all his associations, and chose the intercourse of the refined society that was opened to him by the kindness of the American ambassador, rather than all the attractions that frequently drew away his fellow countrymen.

One day Mr. Curtis was missing from his usual work, and the question passed around, "Where is Curtis?" One who knew, replied that he had gone to Leipzig to hear the famous Swedish songstress Jenny Lind! This was a long and tedious journey in those days of the heavy, bungling diligence instead of the rapid rail. But as it was understood that Jenny Lind would not come to Berlin, he determined to hear her at this expense of time and discomfort in Leipzig.

But toward the close of the year the famous revolution of '48 broke out in Paris, and soon extended its influence all over Germany. The Berlin students had, or thought they had, many grievances, and applied to the authorities for the use of the Aula, or auditorium, of the university to discuss them. Their petition was not granted

and they called a meeting in a certain locality outside of the city limits.

In the meanwhile a great fermentation was going on in nearly all layers of society, and the agitators induced the government to put a certain portion of the garrison under arms against a possible outbreak.

One afternoon it was rumored that the students intended in the evening to march in a body to the royal square and make a demonstration before the palace. A company of dragoons was ordered out to be prepared for an emergency, and with the shades of evening the excitement grew intense. The American students all assembled at the embassy, hoping there to hear something, but the hours passed and no tidings came, when a few of us determined to go and see what was going on. Curtis declined to get any nearer the fray.

We soon reached the palace square and found there a quiet, curious crowd, with no intent to do any violence. Presently we saw a company of dragoons defile up a side street and form a sort of crescent around us, with the crowd hemmed in by the houses at its back. Presently the commanding officer gave the order to charge, to our dismay. As he approached with drawn sabre, I was right at the front, and rushed out to him to appeal to let us go, as we were simply quiet lookers-on with no evil intent. But he aimed a blow at me which turned up a portion of my scalp and hurled me to the ground. In a flash I saw that my only chance of escape was to dart under his horse and get within the lines, which I safely did, and thus escaped. The wound bled profusely, and an examination proved that a deflection of half an inch would have sent his weapon into my skull. As it was I have carried the scar through life.

Mr. Curtis a few years ago, when revolution was rife in Germany, again alluded in his "Easy Chair" to the manner, etc. of a fellow American student in that fray, whose blood was the only pure republican fluid that baptised the conflict. But the vile outrage of that needless attack on quiet, inoffensive men, was the spark in the powder that started the great revolution. In a few days the university was closed, and the

professors and students were scattered to the winds. I was sent as special messenger from our American embassy to the newly assembled parliament in Frankfort-on-the-Main, with the offer on the part of our embassy to acknowledge the new rebel government there being established.

I saw no more of Curtis and did not know which way he had gone. In a few years I came home, and not long afterwards received the appointment of a professor of modern languages in Genesee college, the forerunner of Syracuse university. I had read the "Nile Notes" and the story of the "Howadji," and knew that their author had become a prominent lecturer in the country. But, in "George Wm. Curtis," I never recognized our "Curtis" of Berlin. Indeed I never knew his baptismal name, for we always called him simply "Curtis."

In said institution the "boys" were getting up a course of popular lectures, and they came to me for advice as to their choice. Among others they suggested Mr. George Wm. Curtis—I said I knew nothing of him but his reputation as an interesting lecturer and author of the above books, but thought it would be well to have him in the course. It was the custom of the "boys" when the lecturer arrived, to ask me to go with them to the hotel and call upon and welcome him. And so this time shortly after his arrival I called at the hotel and knocked at his door, and in a moment it was opened and we stood face to face with one another. I recognized him immediately as my old friend, and involuntarily exclaimed: "Why Curtis, is this you." In an instant he knew me, and in turn exclaimed: "Why Wells! what in the world are you doing here?" And thus shouting and gesticulating the "boys" thought that we had gone mad about something.

Suffice it to say that in a few minutes he and his baggage were on their way to my house. When I introduced him in the evening, and told the strange story of early acquaintance and our meeting the "boys" went wild.

After the lecture we talked nearly all night about the scenes and events of other days, and all the time it was and ever has been a sort of

dream to me that the noble and famous George Wm. Curtis was the pure, and genial, and quiet and unassuming "Curtis" of other days.

I need hardly say that after that strange meeting and recognition I watched his course with pride and pleasure, and most heartily endorse the magnificent eulogy and story so grandly given by our good friend and honorable and honored alumnus, McElroy.

First Quad Dance.

The first Quad dance of the season was held at Yates' boat house, Friday evening, November 5. The excellent music furnished by Zita of Albany was enjoyed by about thirty couples. Refreshments were served during the intermission by Doberman, the caterer. Dancing continued until after three. The occasion will long be remembered as one of the most enjoyable hops ever held in Schenectady.

Among the guests present from out of town were:

Mrs. Loomis and Miss Haviland, of Glens Falls; Miss Waite, of Sandy Hill; Miss Wise, of New York; Miss Harwood, of Raleigh, N. C.; and Mrs. H. L. B. Ryder, of Poughkeepsie, formerly of this city.

Another of these delightful dances will be held in the near future.

Garnet Prize.

The '99 Garnet board will present two prizes to the amount of \$5 each to the two undergraduates of Union college who submit the best literary matter—quantity and quality being considered—for publication in the Garnet.

The signature (fictitious) and the writers real name must be enclosed in a sealed envelope; the signature being placed on the outside. The competition will close Friday, Jan. 7, 1898.

Those who intend to compete are requested to hand their names to Mr. Harold J. Hinman the literary editor, before Saturday, Nov. 20, 1897.

Junior Hops.

The junior hop committee met at the Psi Upsilon house last Friday afternoon to discuss a scheme for the conduct of a series of first-class successful college dances. Various plans were carefully considered from every standpoint.

The committee at length decided to give hops instead of a promenade, the number depending upon the patronage received. The first dance will be held Friday evening, Dec. 3, at Yates' boat house.

No invitations will be issued as they are considered an unnecessary and useless expense. The price of admission will be \$1.50 for each dance, no season tickets will be issued. Light refreshments will be served and conveyance to and from the boat house will be furnished by the committee. The committee is making every effort to make the dances a success and expect the general support of every man in college.

The dances are in charge of George C. Foote, Leroy T. Bradford, Frank H. Fisk, Jr., F. Roy Champion, Havilah Beardsley, Frederick Miles, Arthur B. Lawrence, Wesley R. Nellis, Daniel J. Hoyt, George M. Wiley and George W. Featherstonehaugh, 1900.

Those Will Make Music.

Weekly rehearsals are being held by the musical organizations and the clubs this year bid fair to far surpass those of previous seasons. Manager Sinclair and the various leaders have been untiring in their efforts, and excellent results have been accomplished. The music is all new and extremely catchy. At a competitive rehearsal last Monday evening the following personnel of the clubs was decided upon:

Banjo club—Clarence D. Stewart, 1900, leader; Heermance, '1901, Hinman, '99, Bender, 1900, Kline, 1900, Haggart, '98, Pike, 1900, James S. Stewart, 1900.

Mandolin and Guitar club—Harry J. McClure, leader; Mark, '99, Clem James Bradford, '98, Gutman, '98, Heermance, 1901, Haggart, '98, Pike, 1900, J. Stewart, 1900.

THE CONCORDIENSIS.

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NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.

All copy intended for insertion in the Concordiensis must be in the hands of the editor by WEDNESDAY noon.

THE matter of Saturday recitations is beginning to receive some attention from faculty and students. That the question deserves careful consideration goes without saying. Within the last week or so petitions have been presented to the faculty for decrease of work. And certain of the older members of the august body will tell you such petitions belong to the perennials blooming once to thrice each year. And students will tell you the shrub would not bloom were it fertilized with less work. And the aforesaid members will point to the fact that the work is not in excess of that required by other colleges. Upon which the student may say, if he so desires, that Union men

perform in five days what the other fellow does in six. What then?

We are tempted to believe that no petition for decrease of work, a few exceptions admitted, was ever presented to the faculty without cause. As the case often stands, the average student must choose between sufficient exercise and first grades. We suppose first grades are good things or they wouldn't exist. Any one will tell you sufficient exercise is desirable. The average student has a right to expect a fair share of both, and he should at least be afforded an opportunity for getting that share. In several cases four-hour recitation days follow five-hour days or vice versa. Such days mean at least ten or twelve hours of sustained mental effort. It may not be known to the faculty, but there are students in this college whose working day regularly means fifteen and even sixteen hours. And these are not all stage men either. Is it necessary to say that under such circumstances poor recitations are not always a sign of disinterest or carelessness?

It is suggested that a few hours of recitation carried over to Saturday morning would relieve the congestion of other days and alleviate the complaint generally.

LAST Thursday night while the freshmen were holding their banquet, it is understood that several sophomores made bold to seize upon several members of the class of 1901 who had remained away from the banquet, and "set them up." The action was unquestionably one that would not be countenanced by the whole class. It was probably somewhat humorous but it was scarcely valiant. And it was less graceful because the season for such little festivities has long been past. To the members of 1901 the incident should suggest an absolute reform along these lines—that next year there be no "setting-up." The present freshman class has proven its ability to care for itself, and the proof needs no such addition as the "setting-up" of 1902. They have shown ample courage and strength in this superannuated and outworn practice, and to them should be the right and the honor of its final abolishment.

It is with extreme pleasure that we present to our readers this week the article by Professor William Wells, suggested by Dr. McElroy's lecture on George William Curtis. Few men are now living who were better acquainted with the youth and manhood of the great poet-author than our own revered professor—none perhaps who were so intimately connected with Curtis during his student days in Berlin.

And speaking of the lecture, we wish to express the indebtedness of the undergraduates and friends of the college to Dr. McElroy. The discourse was a rare literary treat and was thoroughly appreciated. We trust that others of our alumni who have attained high places in the outer world will find opportunity to return to their alma mater on visits of education and inspiration. Such visits are often the best form of endowment.

UNION was one of the first colleges in the country to abolish the custom of Thanksgiving day football games, and no consideration should tempt the students now to disregard the precedent. But few colleges, and they can scarcely be called the best, continue the practice, and even they are contemplating its discontinuance. In the annual proclamation of the President of the United States, Thanksgiving day is especially set forth as a day for devotional exercises. If the colleges of our country do not heed such proclamations in letter and in spirit, who under the sun will? Individual students may go out and play football or anything else they may see fit to amuse themselves with, but the football team, the 'varsity, is a college institution and subject, in such matters, to college ruling.

THE '99 Garnet board has set a commendable example of enterprize by offering two prizes to be given the two students submitting the best literary matter for the annual. No one should feel that someone else has a sure thing in the matter of these prizes. Every student with a grain of ability should try for them.

Necrology.

General James C. Duane, ⁴¹'44, died Monday morning at his home in New York. His death was due to apoplexy, and was entirely unexpected. James Chatham Duane was born in Schenectady, June 30, 1824. He graduated from Union in 1844 and then entered West Point, graduating in 1848. From then until 1854 he served with the engineer corps, and was later an instructor at West Point.

When the war broke out, Major Duane took an active part at once and was engaged in engineering work. He organized the equipage for for the Army of the Potomac, directed the bridging of that river at Harper's Ferry, and commanded the engineer battallion at the siege of Yorktown. In 1864 he was breveted colonel of engineers, and at the close of the war was breveted brigadier general. For the next three years he was in charge of the construction of the fort at Willet's Point, and in 1867 was appointed lieutenant colonel in the regular army. Afterwards he was superintendent of fortifications on the coasts of Maine and New Hampshire, lighthouse engineer of the eastern coast, member of various engineering boards, and president of the board of United States Engineers in New York City. In 1883 he was appointed colonel, and in 1886 chief of engineers with the rank of brigadier general.

On his retirement in 1888, Mayor Hewitt of New York appointed him a member of the aqueduct commission, of which he was elected president, and he held that office until his death.

He is survived by his wife, who was a daughter of General Brewster, U. S. A., and by two sons. Gen. Duane was the author of the "Manual for Engineer Troops." He was also one of the founders of the Chi Psi fraternity.

December Parthenon.

In the December Parthenon the question "What is Theosophy?" will be answered by a well known author and essayist who has made Theosophy his chief study for many years. This issue will also contain a series of vignettes of Oxford life by Doctor Truax.

Freshman Banquet.

The freshman class held their first banquet last Wednesday evening, at Hotel Vendome, in this city. Much credit is due the committee and the class for the successful and able manner in which the affair was conducted. The evening was spent in merriment. College songs and class yells were frequently given, and many good stories were told. The menu was well prepared and ample justice was done to it by all present. The class and its invited guests, 60 in all, marched to the dining hall in a body and at precisely 10 o'clock toastmaster Heermance declared the banquet opened. After the delicious eatables had been partaken of the following list of toasts were given:

TOASTS.

TOASTMASTER, . CLAYTON J. HEERMANCE.

President's Welcome, . Richard F. Warner

"A good digestion to you all; and once more
I shower a welcome on you; welcome all."

1901, . McNabb, 1901

"We'll shine in more substantial honours
And to be noble we'll be good."

The Press and the College, W. F. Sheehan, 1901

"The press is either the vehicle of usefulness
or of mischief."

Our Alma Mater, . R. H. Nevins, 1901

"As down in the sunless retreats of the Ocean
Sweet flowers are springing no mortal can see,
So deep in my soul the still prayer of devotion,
Unheard by the World, rises silent to Thee."

Friends of Our College Days, J. H. Clements, 1901

"The friendships of the world are oft
Confederacies in vice, or leagues of pleasure;
Our's has severest virtue for its basis
And such a friendship ends not but with life."

Our Lady Friends, . Porter Lee Merriman, 1901

"And when a lady's in the case,
You know all other things give place."

Reminiscence, . Charles J. Vrooman, '98

"When to the sessions of sweet silent thought,
I summon up remembrance of things past,
I sigh the lack of many a thing I sought,
And with old woes new wail my dear time's waste."

"Dorp," . S. G. H. Turner, '98

"In the desert a fountain is springing,
In the wide waste there still is a tree,
And a bird in the solitude singing,
Which speaks of my spirit of thee."

The gentlemen assigned toasts, as well as others, whom Toastmaster Heermance called upon did credit to both themselves and college. Many good points and suggestions for the advancement of our Alma Mater were made, and from the spirit manifested, they had good effect upon the students. The banquet was closed with a series of college songs and yells and all present voted the class of 1901 royal entertainers.

The Illiterate Collegian.

Of course colleges cannot expect to pay much attention to the insignificant questions of technical workmanship which are of such great importance in a printing office. Nevertheless, there is not a college in the country, with all their elaborate systems of courses in rhetoric and literature that does not give its degree every year to young men who cannot spell, or rather who do spell common English words in a novel and startling manner, who are ignorant of the ordinary rules of punctuation and cannot produce a page of legible manuscript, or write an ordinary letter of friendship or business without errors that we usually associate with the very young or the entirely uneducated. This may be the fault of the English language; it may be the fault of the preparatory schools, or it may be the fault of the colleges. It is a fact, and while it remains a fact there will seem to the outsider a trace of the farcical in conventions of teachers of literature and rhetoric and in elaborate reports on college requirements which do not include what every newspaper requires of its reporters and compositors. We do not presume to give advice on the subject of the study of English, but one question suggests itself to us: Why do so large a proportion of Englishmen write correctly and intelligently? Why is a letter from an English schoolboy usually workmanlike and creditable? Is it because he does not study literature or is the early drill more thorough?—*Hartford Courant*.

Ayrault, 1900, is rapidly convalescing.

Faculty Acquisition.

Professor Lynes will hereafter devote his entire time to the management of the library and has given up his classes in the department of history and sociology. This will enable him to continue more effectively his work of rearranging and re-cataloguing the steadily increasing number of books.

The place made vacant by Mr. Lynes will be filled by Dr. Robertson Jones of Johns Hopkins university. Concerning Dr. Jones, Dean Rip-ton has given out the following announcement:

Professor Robertson Jones, A. M., Ph. D., was prepared at Cambridge High school and entered Western Maryland college in 1889. He took his bachelor's degree from that institution in 1892, and his master's degree in 1895. In 1892 he entered the department of history and political science at the Johns Hopkins university. After spending two years in graduate work at the university he was given a year's leave of absence to study at the Hartford School of Sociology. He accepted the position of assistant superintendent of the Hartford Charity organization under Dr. D. J. Green. In 1895 he returned to Johns Hopkins university, where he was appointed university scholar in history. The following spring he took the degree of doctor of philosophy in history, economics and sociology. During the academic year, 1896-97, he filled the position of instructor in history at the Western Maryland college, taking the place of the professor of history who was absent in Europe.

During the past summer vacation he was in England, Scotland and Wales, collecting material for a monograph on "Higher Popular Education in Great Britain," which is being written by Prof. Herbert B. Adams, of Johns Hopkins university. While abroad Dr. Jones spent a month at the University of Oxford during the summer meeting of the University Extension students. He spent, likewise, nearly a month in London studying different sociological and educational subjects. In the early part of October he returned to Baltimore to assist Professor Adams in writing reports upon certain

educational topics published by the United States Bureau of Education. At the same time he was appointed to give part of the courses regularly offered by Dr. Hollander, associate professor in economics at the university, who had gone abroad as secretary of the Special Bi-metallic commission. Dr. Jones is a fellow by courtesy of the Johns Hopkins university and a member of the chapter of the Phi Beta Kappa society of that institution. His thesis, entitled "History of Taxation in Connecticut (1636-1776)," was published in the Johns Hopkins University Studies. He is a son of the Rev. John Bayley Jones of Philadelphia and a native of Maryland.

Out West.

There is an eccentric individual down in Waco, Texas, who is a modern Thersitis. He rails at everybody and everything, and his paper, *The Iconoclast*, is fitly named. He recently overstepped the mark by assailing the management and students of Baylor university, and the latter, to the number of 200, called upon, maltreated and forced a retraction from him at the point of a gun.—Ex.

To work one's way through college is no great accomplishment—in a story; but life and fiction do not always correspond, as we are told by one contributor to the *Brown Magazine*. "If some farmer's son, with a constitution equal to that of his father's best draught-horse, has worked his way through college on crackers and milk, and he is still living to tell the tale, it is no guarantee that some weak-chested individual, with one lung gone and the other going can do the same. This is the mistake that some physical wrecks are making. Their ambition is commendable; their effort is deplorable." It is well to be thus reminded that the question has two sides; but that does not alter the fact that necessarily, and properly, its decision must rest with the person chiefly concerned. Perhaps the poor student feels that in going to college he makes the best possible use of his "one lung." —*Youth's Companion*.

Minor Topics.

Brown, '99, spent last week at his home in Hudson.

\$400,000,000 is expended annually in the United States for education.

W. J. Kline, '72, editor of the *Amsterdam Democrat* was in this city last Sunday.

Doctor Perkins has recovered from his recent illness and has resumed class-room work.

The Greek letter fraternities of the United States have a membership of about 100,000.

Wilson, '99, has been kept from football practice this week by an attack of rheumatism.

Ohio has the largest number of college students, 24,000, one-third of whom are women.

A large number of students have subscribed for Union flags to be made by White & Co. of Schenectady.

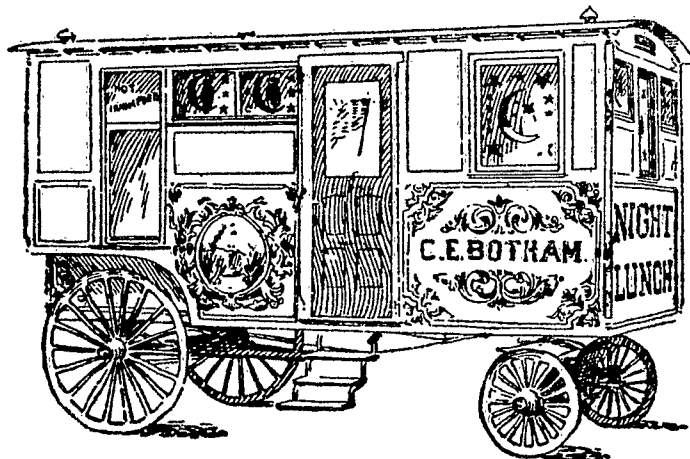
Dr. Tyler's class in biology is required to write an essay on the origin of species as part of the work for this term.

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The junior class in Latin were treated to a very instructive reading on the customs of the ancient Romans by Prof. Ashmore last Thursday.

Dr. McKenzie's junior French class is at present enjoying a series of lectures on the French drama. The doctor's extensive European tours have made him familiar with his subject.

The *University Herald* published by the students of Syracuse university comments most favorably on the conduct of Union's eleven in the recent football game with that university.

Frank Holleran, '95, was married last Monday to Miss Mary Todd of Schenectady. They will reside at Newport. Mr. Holleran was captain of the track athletic team during his junior year.

Dow Vroman, '87, is the democratic member of assembly-elect from the first district of Niagara county. Mr. Vroman has previously served his county as district attorney. He is a brother of Guy Vroman, '98.

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