

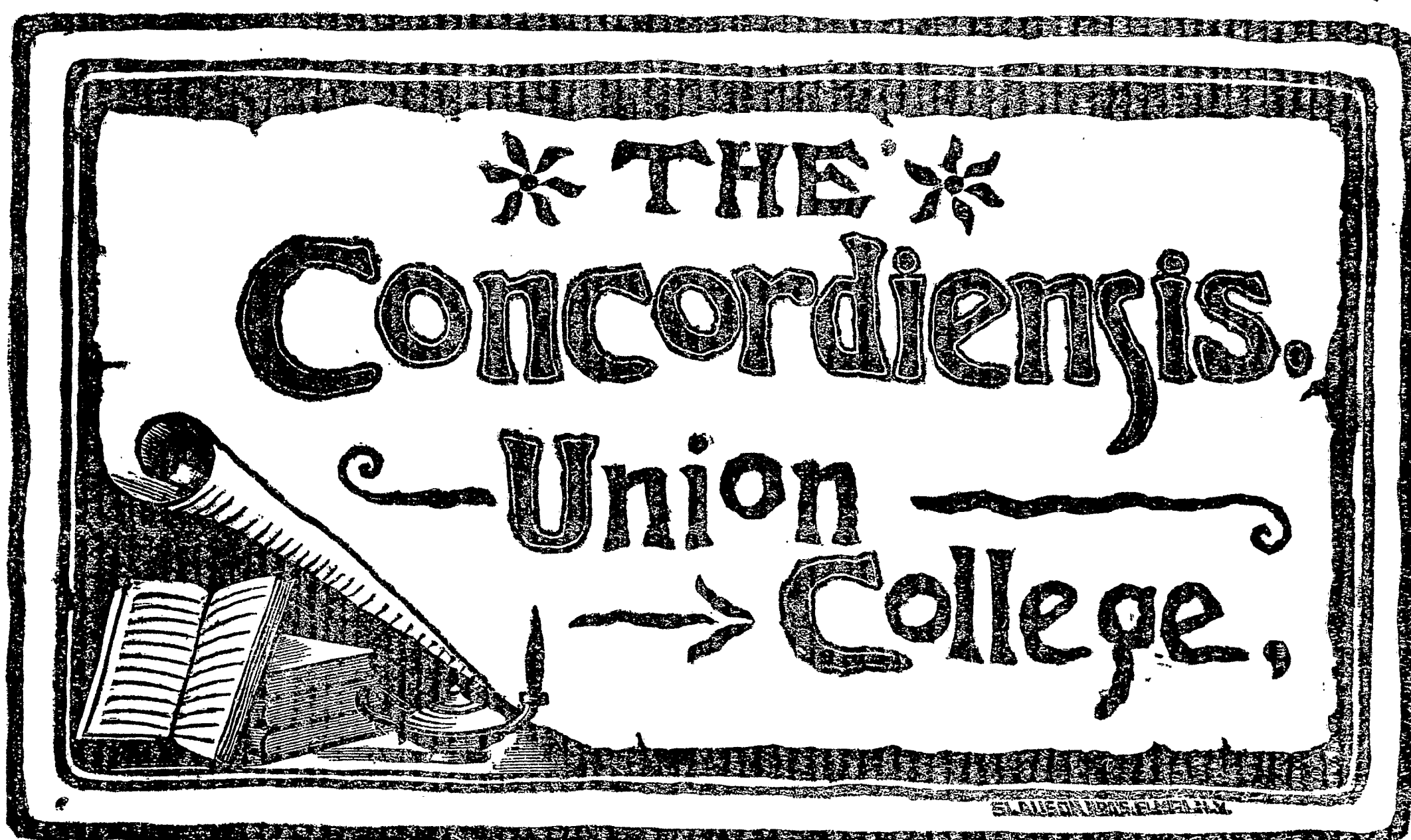
UNION COLLEGE
SCHENECTADY

Volume XV.

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Number 6.

JANUARY 2, 1892.



SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

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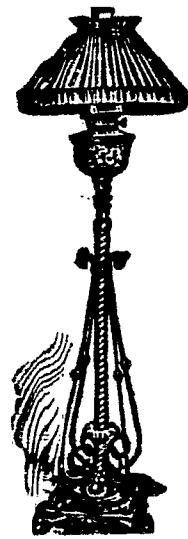
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# THE \* CONCORDIENSIS

VOL. XV.

UNION COLLEGE, JANUARY 2, 1892.

No. 6

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### WILLIAM BIRCH RANKINE.

The pleasure I take in responding to the request of the CONCORDIENSIS to tell what I know about William B. Rankine is more than equalled by the regret that so good a subject should have so poor a biographer.

Rankine is one of the most earnest and enthusiastic of the younger generation of the sons of "Old Union," of whose success the old college is justly proud, and on whose loyalty and devotion she confidently leans.

He was born in Owego, N. Y., on January 4th, 1858. His father, Rev. Dr. James Rankine, is a native of Scotland who came early to this country and received his college education at Union, graduating in 1846. The son attended Canandaigua Academy, and after graduating there went to Hobart College, of which his father was then president. Both father and son, however, recognized the greater advantages

afforded by the broader culture, the greater facilities and the larger classes of Union College, and there young Rankine went to graduate, entering the class of '77. Though entering so late in the course, he immediately took high rank in a class which was both large and distinguished for scholarship, and was one of the five Phi Beta Kappa men elected from the class.

The lot of the eleventh hour competitor for class honors is not generally a happy one, but Rankine so far overcame this prejudice that he became at once one of the most popular men in his class, and the affectionate "Billy" which attached itself to him by common consent in the college days he has never been able to outgrow.

Immediately after his graduation he entered upon the study of law, and was admitted to the bar in 1879. He then joined the innumerable throng of youthful practitioners in the City of New York. But the rule of the survival of the fittest soon asserted itself, and Rankine sprang almost immediately from the ranks, and into a successful and lucrative practice. Early in the 80's he formed with Robert W. Hawkesworth the law firm of Hawkesworth & Rankine, which did a large business up to the time of its dissolution in 1890. Previous to this date Rankine had become interested with his friend Francis Lynde Stetson, (Williams, '67) and some wealthy capitalists in a gigantic project for harnessing Niagara

Falls, and utilizing some of its wasted energy. A corporation was chartered for the purpose of generating power by the fall of water through a great tunnel, two miles long, sloping from a point under the Niagara River above the Falls to the level of the river below the Falls. This tunnel is now more than half completed.

The professional training and skill which originally commended the young lawyer to the promoters of this enterprize was soon found to be united with such a large measure of business capacity and administrative ability, that strong inducements were made to him to withdraw from the general practice of the law, and devote himself entirely to the interests of the various corporations operating at Niagara Falls. This he decided to do, and he is now one of the leading spirits of the great project of which the probabilities are so enormous. He is the counsel of the Niagara Falls Power Co. which has the charter for the tunnel, and Director, Secretary and Treasurer of the Cataract Construction Company, which is doing the work of excavation. He is also a director and the counsel of the Niagara Falls and Suspension Bridge Railway Company, and of the Cataract Bank at Niagara Falls. He has an office in this village and another in the Mills Building in Broad street, New York city.

But the numerous and pressing demands of Rankine's professional and business career were never allowed to interfere with the prior claims of Alma Mater, to whose interests and progress he has always been intensely devoted. He was among the first to perceive the necessity for an organization of the

New York alumni, upon the election of President Webster and the inauguration of the present regime of happy peace and assured prosperity. It was largely through his personal efforts, his wide acquaintance and his unremitting energy that the Union College Alumni Association of New York, which has the largest membership of any college association in the metropolis, was organized in December, 1888. He was elected Treasurer of the Association, and remained such for three years, until its success was assured, and he still takes the greatest interest in its annual meetings.

Next only to his loyalty to his friends, who are legion, and to his Alma Mater, is his devotion to his fraternity, the Alpha Delta Phi. He was long a member and the Secretary of the Executive Council of the fraternity, and is usually a delegate to its conventions. He was a member and officer of the Graduate Association in New York, which was last year merged into the Alpha Delta Phi Club, and was one of the incorporators of the latter. This is one of the largest, best housed and most successful of the New York fraternity clubs, although it has only celebrated the first anniversary of its organization.

Besides the Alpha Delta Phi Club, "Billy" is a member of the University, the Lawyers' and the Reform Clubs; of the Bar Association of New York City and of St. Andrew's Society.

Although living at the "Benedick," No. 80 Washington Square, Rankine is still a bachelor, a fact which in feminine circles discussed mournfully, and with unceasing wonder and regret.

'80.

# UNION COLLEGE.

Order of Recitations, Etc. Winter Term, 1892. Devotional Exercises in Chapel each College Day, 8 to 8:15 A. M.

*c—Classical; e—Engineer; s—Scientific; ls—Latin-Scientific.*

|              | 8:15 to 9:15 A. M.                                                                                                                                | 9:15 to 10:15 A. M.                                                                                                                                | 10:15 to 11:15 A. M.                                                                                                                                            | 11:15 A.M. to 12:15 P.M.                                                                                                                                                                             | 12:15 to 1:15 P. M.                                      | 2:15 to 4:15 P. M.                                                                                                    |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Mon.</b>  | Sen. Ethics<br>e Jun. H.Drainage&Plumb.<br>c Soph. Greek<br>se Soph. Calculus<br>se Fresh. French I<br>se Fresh. Algebra II                       | Sen. Elective Latin<br>Jun. Physics<br>c Soph. French<br>e Soph. Top. Drawing<br>c Fresh. Algebra<br>se Fresh. Trigonometry I                      | Sen. Astronomy<br>e Jun. Physiology<br>e Jun. German<br>c Soph. English<br>s Soph. German<br>c Fresh. Greek I<br>se Fresh. Trigonometry II<br>lse Fresh. German | Sen. Hist. Philosophy<br>e Sen. Strength of Materials<br>e Jun. German<br>se Jun. Chemistry<br>se Soph. English<br>c Fresh. Greek II<br>se Fresh. Algebra I<br>se Fresh. French II                   | c Fresh. Latin                                           | Chemical Laboratory<br>e Sen. Eng. Design<br>cs Jun. Logic<br>e Fresh. Drawing<br>Physical Culture I                  |
| <b>Tues.</b> | Sen. Ethics<br>s Jun. German<br>e Jun. H.Drainage&Plumb.<br>se Soph. Physiology<br>c Fresh. English<br>se Fresh. French I<br>se Fresh. Algebra II | Sen. Elective Latin<br>e Sen. Graphics<br>Jun. Physics<br>c Soph. French<br>e Soph. Desc. Geometry<br>c Fresh. Algebra<br>se Fresh. Trigonometry I | Sen. Astronomy<br>e Jun. Physiology<br>e Jun. German<br>c Soph. English<br>s Soph. German<br>c Fresh. Greek I<br>se Fresh. Trigonometry II<br>lse Fresh. German | Sen. Hist. Philosophy<br>e Sen. Strength of Materials<br>c Jun. German<br>se Jun. Chemistry<br>se Soph. English<br>c Fresh. Greek II<br>se Fresh. Algebra I<br>se Fresh. French II                   | c Soph. Latin                                            | Sen. Elective Greek<br>Chemical Laboratory<br>e Sen. Eng. Design<br>c Fresh. Drawing<br>Physical Culture I            |
| <b>Wed.</b>  | Sen. Ethics<br>s Jun. German<br>e Jun. Applied Mechanics<br>c Soph. Greek<br>c Fresh. English<br>se Fresh. French I<br>se Fresh. Algebra II       | Sen. Amer. Politics<br>e Sen. Graphics<br>Jun. Physics<br>e Soph. French<br>se Soph. Physiology<br>c Fresh. Algebra<br>se Fresh. Trigonometry I    | Sen. Astronomy<br>cs Jun. Logic<br>e Jun. German<br>s Soph. German<br>lse Fresh. German                                                                         | Sen. Anglo-Saxon<br>e Sen. Strength of Materials<br>e Jun. H.Drainage&Plumb.<br>c Soph. Latin<br>se Soph. Calculus<br>se Fresh. French II                                                            | c Jun. Physiology<br>c Fresh. Latin<br>se Fresh. English | Sen. Elective Greek<br>Chemical Laboratory<br>e Sen. Eng. Design<br>e Soph. Desc. Geometry<br>Physical Culture, I, II |
| <b>Thur.</b> | Sen. Ethics<br>s Jun. German<br>e Jun. Applied Mechanics<br>c Soph. Greek<br>c Fresh. English<br>se Fresh. French I<br>se Fresh. Algebra II       | Sen. Amer. Politics<br>e Sen. Graphics<br>Jun. Physics<br>c Soph. French<br>se Soph. Physiology                                                    | Sen. Astronomy<br>e Jun. Physiology<br>e Jun. German<br>s Soph. German<br>c Fresh. Greek I<br>lse Fresh. German                                                 | Sen. Hist. Philosophy<br>e Sen. Strength of Materials<br>e Jun. German<br>se Jun. Chemistry<br>c Soph. Latin<br>se Soph. Calculus<br>c Fresh. Greek II<br>se Fresh. Algebra I<br>se Fresh. French II | c Fresh. Latin<br>se Fresh. English                      | Chemical Laboratory<br>Physical Laboratory<br>Nat. Hist. Laboratory<br>e Soph. Desc. Geometry<br>Physical Culture II  |
| <b>Frid.</b> | Sen. Ethics<br>s Jun. German<br>e Jun. Applied Mechanics<br>c Soph. Greek<br>se Fresh. French I                                                   | Sen. Amer. Politics<br>e Sen. Graphics<br>Jun. Physics<br>e Soph. French<br>se Soph. Physiology<br>c Fresh. Algebra                                | cs Jun. Logic<br>e Jun. German<br>s Soph. German<br>c Fresh. Greek I<br>se Fresh. Algebra I<br>lse Fresh. German                                                | Sen. Anglo-Saxon<br>c Soph. Latin<br>se Soph. Calculus<br>c Fresh. Greek II<br>se Fresh. Algebra I<br>se Fresh. French II                                                                            | c Fresh. Latin<br>se Fresh. English                      | Chemical Laboratory<br>Physical Laboratory<br>Nat. Hist. Laboratory<br>e Soph. Desc. Geometry<br>Physical Culture II  |



# THE CONCORDIENSIS.

PUBLISHED SEMI-MONTHLY BY  
STUDENTS OF UNION COLLEGE.

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DAILY UNION PRINT, SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

## Editorial.

NOTHING shows more the increasing interest that the alumni are beginning to feel in the affairs of the college than the enthusiastic meeting in New York. They see that the dark days of the college are over and that an era of greater prosperity than ever experienced before lies before it. This was shown by the hopeful tone of all the addresses, but more especially by the generous proposals of Gen. Butterfield and Mr. Cullem. Gen. Butterfield's course of lectures, (of which more will be given elsewhere), is one of the best things that could have been devised for the college, and will supply what has heretofore been a blank in the curriculum. The men chosen to deliver the lectures are practical men in the various departments that they represent. This is

in harmony with the aim of the college which is to graduate practical men. And to see if this is accomplished it is only necessary to consider the great number of Union men who occupy leading positions in every department.

By Mr. Cullem's offer two new prizes are offered for the first and second best all-around-man in college. This meets the requirement for general prizes, since heretofore the prizes have been limited to some particular course or study.

But while thanking the alumni for their generosity, we must not forget our beloved president. He it was who opened the eyes of the alumni to the needs of the college and their interest is largely due to their confidence in his success in building up the college.

\* \*

THE college authorities have just had printed for distribution the Chancellor's address of last year. It is thus favorably commented upon by the *Mail and Express*: "His oration delivered at the last commencement of Union College, as Honorary Chancellor of the University for 1891, stamps him as an orator of the first rank. Its topic is "A Higher National Life." While eloquent in expression, it is full of practical wisdom and instruction to the young men just taking their start in professional and business life."

\* \*

THE annual catalogue of the College appeared just before the close of the last term. It shows by its careful neatness and accuracy great painstaking on the part of the compiler. There have been but few

changes except the part devoted to the Law school which has been entirely re-arranged. The reference calendar, which proved so serviceable in the last catalogue has been continued.

\* \*

WE are indebted to the kindness of the publishers of the University Magazine for the use of the cut of Rankine '77 which appears in this issue.

#### TO UNION.

Ye sons of Old Union,  
Come gather around,  
And join in the loud swelling strain.  
We'll sing of our Mater,  
With rollicking sound,  
Till the hills echo back our refrain.

#### CHORUS—

Let the groves on the Northward  
Resound with our song,  
And the brook murmur on neath the  
trees  
Past the spring with its crystal,  
Thence flowing along,  
At length reach the distant blue seas.

We'll sing to the Idol,  
Our tutelar God,  
Whose ugly old grin cheered our souls,  
When homesick and weary  
As Freshmen we stood,  
Never expecting to reach Senior goals.

Our rocky old terrace  
For ages has stood  
Oft the seat of our country's great men,  
Who smoking and singing  
In sweet brotherhood,  
Only names on the woodwork remain.

Then here's to Old Union  
Thy loved gray walls  
Gleam bright in the sun's morning rays,  
We'll never forget thee,  
Nor thy classic walls,  
Till numbred are our earthly days.

J. A.

#### ALUMNI BANQUET.

The Union College Alumni Association of New York, held its annual meeting and banquet at the Hotel Brunswick, on the evening of Dec. 11. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Gen. Daniel Butterfield, '41; Vice-President, Edward Cary, '63; Secretary, Geo. F. Allison, '84; Treasurer, H. V. N. Philip, '84. In place of the members of the Executive Committee, whose terms expired this year, the following were elected: John L. Hill, '61; Samuel T. Benedict, '60, and Charles E. Sprague, '60.

After the meeting about one hundred of the Alumni sat down to their fourth annual banquet in the ball room of the Hotel Brunswick. The decorations of the hall consisted only of the college banners. On the tables were placed automatons arrayed in grotesque costumes, which during the intervals between the courses, performed some characteristic part. The music was furnished by Max Schwab's orchestra. The College Glee club which usually attends was not present.

At the table of honor were seated, the retiring president of the association, Mr. McElroy, '60, and Dr. Webster '68. On each side were seated Gen. Butterfield, '41, W. H. Moore, '44, the Rev. Dr. C. D. Nott, '54, Chester Halcombe, '61, Charles J. Noyes, '65, John H. Starin, the Rev. A. V. V. Raymond, '75, Silas B. Brownell, '52, L. Clark Seelye, '57, A. W. Gleason, '61, J. Newton Fiero, '67, and Warner Miller, '60.

At the lower tables were seated Col. Daniel Lamont, '72, the Rev. Dr. George Alexander, '66, the Rev. John C. Cruikshank, '34, Ward

McLeon, '43, C. W. Anable, '46, and others.

Many letters of regret were received, among them were letters from Joel T. Headley, '39, ex-Gov. A. H. Rice, of Mass., Edward Wemple, Jr., Judge Landon and "Eli Perkins."

At 9 o'clock the speech making began and Wm. H. McElroy delivered his last address as president of the Alumni. He spoke of the occasion, then of the favorable condition of the affairs of the college and the happy outlook for the future. He was followed by the new president of the Alumni, Gen. Butterfield, whose address was largely made up of the details of his magnificent scheme for a course of lectures. Dr. Webster then gave one of his interesting and encouraging talks. He told of the bad state of affairs that existed in the college when he assumed the presidency and of the more hopeful condition that had been brought about by the hearty co-operation of president, faculty, alumni and students.

He was followed by Henry J. Cullem, '60, of Brooklyn. Mr. Cullem said that he would give one gold medal of \$125 and one of \$75 for the next two years as special prizes for the first and second best all-around man in college.

The next speaker was the Rev. A. V. V. Raymond, who rose at the request of the chairman to acknowledge Mr. Cullem's generous gift. Dr. Raymond spoke about ten minutes and made one of his best speeches.

He was followed by Charles J. Noyes, an ex-speaker of the Massachusetts Legislature. President Seth Low of Columbia spoke of

American Universities in general, and the opportunities they afforded the student.

The last speaker was the Hon. Warner Miller who spoke chiefly of the benefits to be derived from a course of lectures such as that offered by Gen. Butterfield. Then the letters of regret were read, and the company separated.

#### THE BUTTERFIELD LECTURE COURSE.

These lectures are to be upon live practical subjects, and are to extend through a period of two years, beginning next September. Among the lecturers actually engaged, each of whom will talk upon some subject of which he is peculiarly qualified to speak, are Gen. Horace Porter, Gov. William McKinley, Senator Manderson of Neb., Hon. Warner Miller, Gen. Daniel E. Sickles, Hon. Charles A. Dana, Wm. H. McElroy, ex-Secretary Thomas F. Bayard, Andrew Carnegie, Chauncey M. Depew, ex-Gov. Alexander, H. Rice, Hon. John Wanamaker, Hon. Bourke Cockran, Prof. Rossiter, W. Raymond, Hon. John Jay Knox, Col. R. T. Auchmuty, Hon. Andrew D. White, President Seth Low, Hon. Frederic W. Seward, Albon Man, Gen. P. S. Michie and Major J. W. Klans of the West Point Academy; Montgomery Schuyler and General Butterfield himself. To these Gen. Butterfield intimated would be added Hon. Grover Cleveland, ex-Speaker Reid, Hon. John Sherman and others.

A full account of the course is contained in the circular soon to be sent out to the alumni.

'77. John A. Delhanty has been appointed Corporative Counsel for Albany.



### Locals.

A happy New Year!

Twelve weeks this term.

Prof. Hoffman and family spent the holidays in New York.

The Sophomores will give their soiree on the evening of Jan. 15.

The many friends of Cardonez '93, will be pleased to hear that he is well enough to be out again.

Owing to the illness of Prof. Ashmore no examinations in Latin were held at the end of last term.

The hop given by the Juniors Dec. 11, was well attended, and was by far the best of those already given.

'93's *Garnet* board are busily at work and expect to publish their *Garnet* about the beginning of spring term.

Prof. Charles C. Brown read a paper on "Rivers as Sources of Water Supply," before the Schenectady Technical Society recently.

The president of the Senior class has made the following appointments of committees: Ball committee, Meserve, Daley, Conant; on invitations, Prest, Hills, Dougan.

In our last issue it was stated that the Phi Delta Theta Fraternity had granted a charter to applicants at Princeton. It should have been that a charter was granted for an alumni chapter.

At the meeting of the New York State Intercollegiate Foot Ball Association held recently the pennant was awarded to Colgate. They were also allowed the protested games. The constitution of the Association was amended so as to state definitely that university does not include preparatory school.

The Philomathean Literary Society has organized for the winter with the following officers: President, Lippincott, '93; Vice-President, Merchant, '93; Treasurer, Tallman, '93. Two meetings have been held already.

The list of attractions at the Centre Street Opera House is as follows: Jan. 9th, "The Great Metropolis;" Jan. 14, The Pearl of Pekin Opera Company. This company has fifty people in it, and a grand production may be expected.

On Monday in examination week a general college meeting was called by the president. Dr. Webster spoke about the successful work of the term, the extreme good fortune of the college in securing the Butterfield Course of Lectures, and finally expressed his regret that certain slight disturbances had occurred during his absence.

On Dec. 4th, the New York Beta Chapter of Phi Delta Theta, held its eighth anniversary banquet. The following literary programme was rendered at the fraternity's rooms on lower State street: President's address, T. H. Reddish; History of the Chapter, L. McClintock; Poem, A. Dougall; Oration, R. A. Lansing; Prophecy, F. J. Wagner. After the exercises were completed, they partook of an elaborate menu. After the menu had been partaken of, Toastmaster Reddish arose and announced the following toasts: Our Eminent Men, Prof. C. C. Brown; Our Alumni, J. C. Knox, '90; Phis at the Bar, G. C. Stewart, '90; Fraternity Spirit, F. W. Brown, '90; The Sword and Shield, A. R. Conover, '89; Our Undergraduates, W. L. Lawton, '94; The Ladies, A. Dougall, '92; Our Initiates, C. H. Greene, '95.



### Personals.

'49. Major General Daniel Butterfield and Mrs. Butterfield entertained a large company at their home on Fifth Avenue, Saturday, Dec. 26.

'52, '58 and '61. The Rev. Jas. Demarest, L. P. Norton and Daniel Leech were present at the O. A. X. convention held in New York recently.

'61. The Hon. Charles E. Smith, Minister to Russia, was one of the speakers at a meeting held in St. Petersburg for the purpose of organizing an International Sailors' Society.

'69. Martin Schenck, O. A. X., who was recently elected State Engineer and Surveyor is the subject of quite an extended biography in the O. A. X. *Shield* for December.

'84. James G. Greene, was one of the lawyers for the defence on the

Tice trial recently held in Rochester. Mr. Greene summed up for the defence, and although it was his maiden speech in the Oyer and Terminer he acquitted himself in such a way as to win the highest compliments from his hearers.

'86. Wm. P. Landon, A. T., occupied the pulpit of the First Reformed Church in this city, Dec. 27.

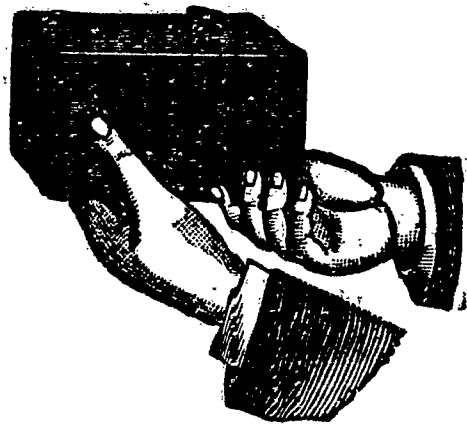
'89. Nelson M. Wait, A. P., was in the city for the holidays.

'89. Max Smith, A. T., of New York, spent the holidays with his parents in this city.

#### WHAT A LIBERAL EDUCATION IS.

President Gilman, of Johns Hopkins University, told several hundred students recently what he thought about a liberal education. After quoting a number of utterances of Professor Goodwin, General Walker, Dr. Jordan and others, who

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seem to hold the idea that liberal education is only comparative, and that it may be acquired as well in a technical or scientific school as in a collegiate course, Dr. Gilman went on to say that men did not deny the good of a liberal education, but that when it was put in the shape of "an education in the liberal arts and sciences," men differed as to which were the liberal arts and sciences.

"Recalists are in favor of the study of nature; the humanists of man; the scientists, of science," said the president; "but, in the language of Matthew Arnold, 'the idea of liberal training is to bring us to a knowledge of ourselves and the world, and there in its beginnings it should be general.' Therefore I hold that as great an amount of liberal education as possible should be gotten between the work of the school boy and the work of the professional man, by means of a broad

collegiate training. The powers of a man of liberal education must be attention, concentration and analysis. He must have the power to arrange it, as well as to retain this knowledge, and be able to express it for the benefit of others. And the culmination of all these powers is his good judgment. His knowledge should consist of the workings of body and mind, a knowledge of not only his own tongue, its history and capabilities, but of least two others; and with scientific knowledge should be combined a knowledge of the literature of the world, together with universal history and political economy. The means to these ends are mathematics, languages, ancient and modern; history and political science, in all their phases; philosophy and physical culture, to insure the possibility of the acquisition of this knowledge. These should be the groundwork of a modern liberal education."—*Ex.*

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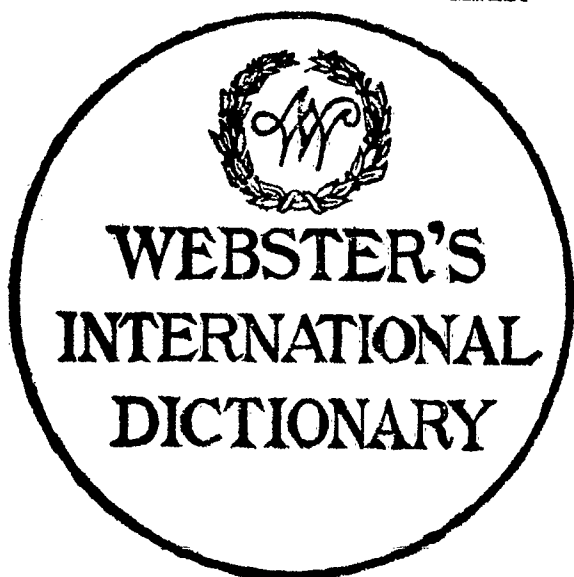
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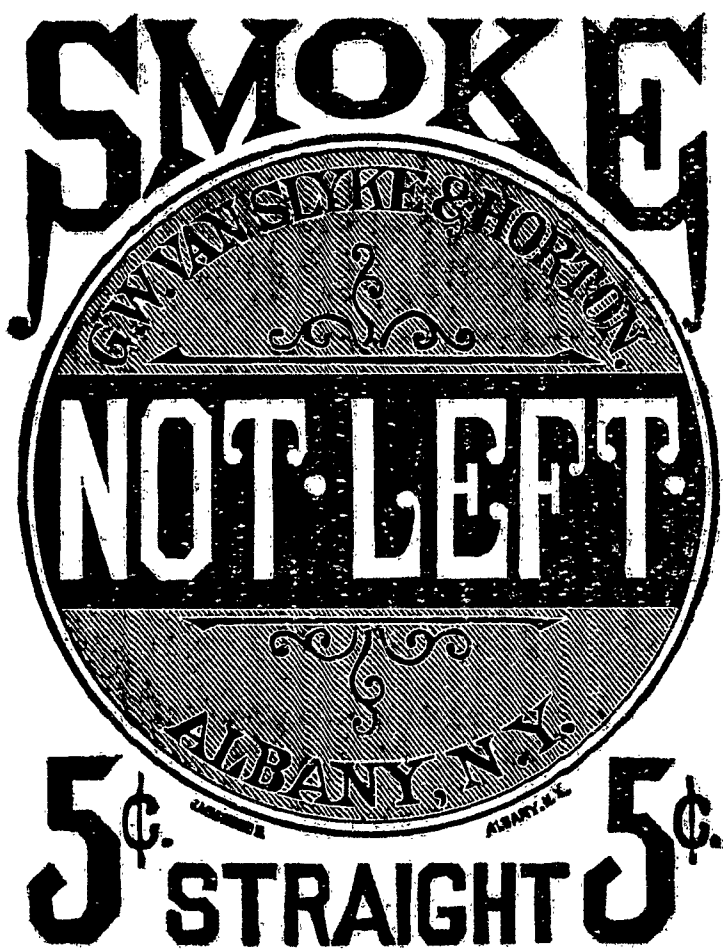
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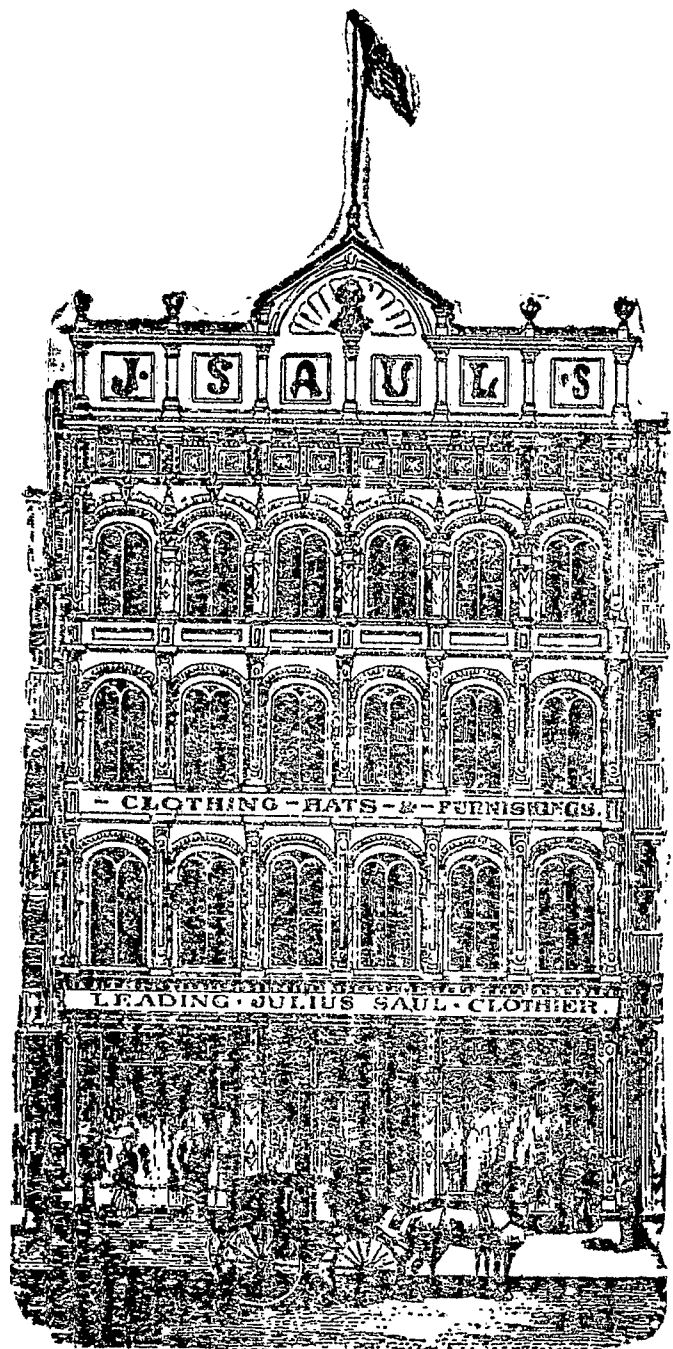
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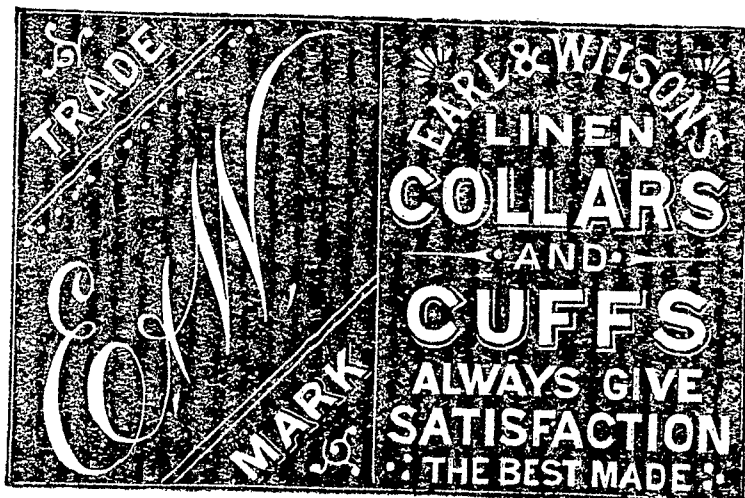
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