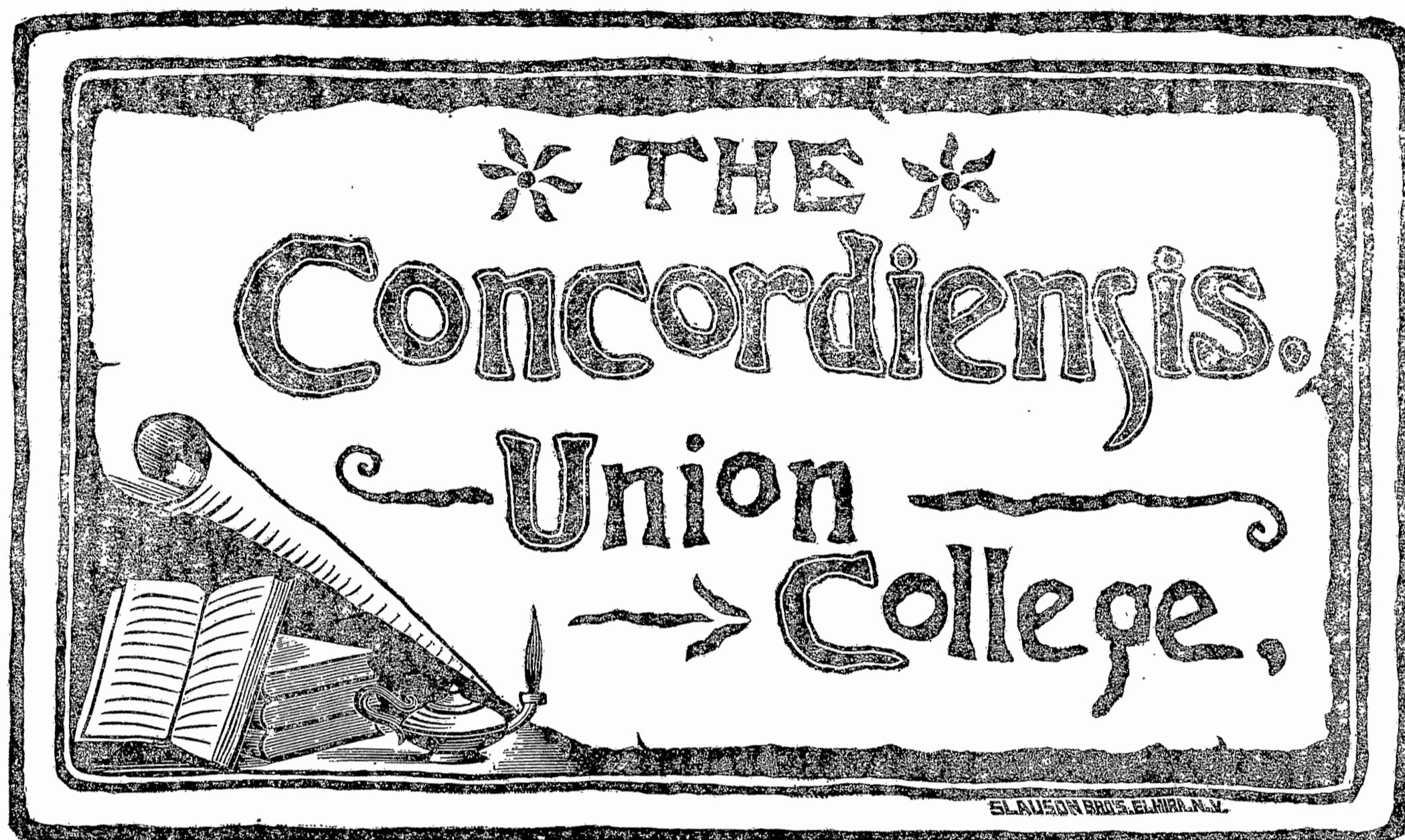


Volume XI.

Number 6.

FEBRUARY, 1888.



Schenectady, N. Y.

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THE IDOL.

# THE CONCORDIENSIS.

VOL. XI.

UNION COLLEGE, FEBRUARY, 1888.

NO. 6

## The Concordiensis,

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## Editorial.

It is with sincere sorrow that we chronicle the death of one who has been with us since the beginning of the year. To his society and to '91 we express most earnest condolence.

A disastrous fire completely destroyed this number of THE CONCORDIENSIS while on the press. New plates were at once ordered by telegraph and the number was again put in motion. We beg our readers to pardon the delay and make due allowance for the crudeness of the matter.

THE CONCORDIENSIS desires to make a grateful acknowledgment of the numerous kindly notices received at the hands of the collegiate press. While not reviewing in our columns our exchanges yet they are carefully read and their points are fully appreciated. Individually and collectively we thank you.

In the CONCORDIENSIS destroyed, the action of the trustees at their last meeting, and the subsequent action of the students, received editorial comment at considerable length. For an account of the mere facts we refer our readers to the local columns of this number and promise the reproduction of some interesting details in the editorials of the next number which is at present nearly ready for press.

We have no hesitancy in saying that such a league as the Union delegates suggest would, no doubt, be a great addition to inter-collegiate athletics, providing it could be made a success; but in our opinion the scheme would ignominiously fail. Union having played foot-ball during the fall with some degree of success is elated. She is wild with enthusiasm, and by methods of insufficient induction she endeavors to rope us in. We say, no. Rochester has as much as she can do to look after a ball nine, and everyone knows how much scraping and raking and pinching it takes to keep even that organization in existence. Foot-ball is for colleges where there are more men and more money. Let us stick to base-ball and make that a success.—*Rochester Campus*.

At Union there is no confliction of the two sports. Beginning and ending in the fall, foot-ball does not interfere in the slightest with the national game and furnishes a most healthful out-door game

that draws interest and brings many a subject to cultivation by the habit of life. man on the Campus who would otherwise be a stranger to out-door air. As to our provides, not only as to physical, but also "being wild with enthusiasm" we admit moral courage. In the first place a soldier the charge, but we are by no means unduly depends on no class of persons for his liveli- elated with our success. Nor do we desire hood, he has no clients or clientele to gain, to "rope in" anyone, that we may have the as a soldier of the government his salary pleasure of using a hard-earned knowl- comes to him direct and cannot be attached edge of the game. We have found foot- by legal process. He is thus placed in a ball to be practical and capable of support position to perform his duties without fear—full of sport and excitement and as such or favor in a pecuniary way—a strong recommend it to our sister colleges, hop- voucher that these duties will be done to ing to form a league and enjoy compan- the best of his ability. In the second place ionship and healthy rivalry in an acknowl- he enters the army "to obey all legal orders edged college sport. We say, yes. You of the officers placed over him." This must will find the task of keeping an eleven in be done unquestioningly and promptly, existence easier than you imagine.

### Literary.

#### MILITARY LIFE AND EDUCATION.

MR EDITOR:—Twelve hundred words would seem few to enter upon detailed differences between military and civil life, yet I can tell you in ten the special qualities a military life develops—"fearlessness in duty, self-control and correct exactness of speech." The reasons for this development are deducible from the positions and exigencies of the life. It is often claimed that the qualities of a true soldier are bred in the bone, and while I believe this to be very largely true I think even more than this—that the effect of early surroundings tends to encourage or to crush certain qualities necessary for a commander of men.

I should not select a young man whom I saw shirking in the foot-ball field and in the wildest flight of imagination conceive that he would ever become a leader or commander. You can train a man to exact- ness, I may almost say you can teach him truth, you cannot give him physical cour- age, that necessary corner stone, though I believe even that quality to be greatly

in such a way, that it is a pleasure to obey, or in a manner, the very tone of which arouses all the combativeness of the officer or soldier receiving it (especially if its immediate urgency or efficacy is not apparent). The *order* must be obeyed. It may affect our life or his life, or more than that, the lives of men under his command and care, but the order *must* be obeyed. Self-control is thereby developed, discipline is carried into every action of one's life and words are spared. Again: I have mentioned exactness of speech. So many times orders and reports in active service are necessarily verbal that it is of the highest importance some definite shape or number should be given to this—that the effect of early surroundings carry understanding and conviction to other minds by means of regularly established formulas.

If a scout reported that he had seen "a whole lot of Indians," or an officer on reconnaissance described a section of country as "quite a desert," could the general estimate his foes, or the immigrant the weary miles before him? This exactness is carried down from these more important matters to every detail of military life. Truth, not truth in a general way, but truth to the

exact shade must be spoken; and since mechanics of his weapons, and in the existing verbal orders and reports from both officers and men are received and transmitted unchanged in form, a man acquires great care in the use of words. The scathing criticism of the Commanding-General in a recent circular letter in regard to the state-ment of an officer made in print and which on investigation was not verified to that general's satisfaction, shows how strictly an officer is held accountable for each and all of his words. I venture to say that in the mess of my regiment no man will make a statement he is not prepared to "back up." He may be mistaken, but from his stand-point he will be quite sure he is right.

You can readily appreciate the effect of this required precision upon a man's entire life, and that it encourages the sense of personal responsibility and duty. The result is simple directness of speech and singleness of purpose—clear, straight, and fearless. The question is never "have you had time to do so and so?" but "have you done it?" The answer, "yes," or "no."

I do not pretend that given—a man—a military education will make a soldier of him any more than given—a man—legal training will make a lawyer of him; but the strong tendency and powerful pressure of the life is to bring out certain special virtues, and though the greatest of these is not "charity," the result is; the position held by the men-at-arms of all nations.

There is higher mental training in the science of the profession than is generally realized. In this day of inventive genius, the mechanical contrivance to instruments of war, it is not simply a profession of the lighter mould of accomplishments. A good commander is not only the man of natural parts, personal magnetism and phenomenal courage, but the man who must know as well the carrying power of his arms, the flatness of the trajectory and the

variety of knowledge is needed and called for. A note is kept at the War Department of the special aptitude and qualification of each officer outside of his strict military accomplishments. You can turn the pages of this record and find linguist, lawyer, doctor and inventor, names of many men valuable to the country in peace as well as war because of marked ability in special direction.

It is sometimes stated in the public press and I am sorry to say, in the halls of Congress, that "ours is not a military nation." In the sense that France or Prussia is so, it is not: Why? The history of the country gives the answer: *It has not been thought necessary.* In the four great wars our country has waged in its hundred years of life it has been considered needless to support a large standing army, obliging every able bodied citizen to perform years of service in the young manhood of his life because its *spirit* and its *inheritance* is

The constitution of what other country on the face of God's earth contains the words "The right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed?" A right they have constantly exercised. When Henry Ward Beecher told the English people, in 1863, that the North had a million of men in arms and "every man of them a volunteer" he was not believed.

Not even then, did they realize that it was the spirit of the American people that they had never been able to conquer; that the graft had borne fairer fruit than the parent tree. Such, nevertheless, was the fact, and the best blood of our country was being poured out with a reckless generosity unparalleled in the history of nations.

The spirit of that brotherhood-in-arms, the courage to which we owe our present

exists

to-day as strongly as ever. I saw representatives of three Grand Army posts gathered together on a bleak winter's day in Albany to escort the body of a comrade they had never personally known. He had come there on duty, sickened and died, far from his relatives, friends and brother officers. He had been tended faithfully through his sudden and fatal illness by the doctor (a soldier, if ever there lived one, prompt, able and fearless), and by the sergeant serving under him.

When that sergeant of the "Grand Army" reported to his Post a comrade absent—dead—a hundred men came together from their offices, their factories, and their shops and marched quietly, silently, reverently, an honored guard for a member of that army, every man of whom was "a volunteer." Again I realized, as often before, how strong and how tenacious was the memory of a soldier comrade. It is the worth cultivation, the spirit which caused those men to volunteer, which kept them together through four years of suffering and hardship and keeps them still. Congress voiced the will of the people when it decreed that our brothers and sons shall have military knowledge as well as its spirit, that they may avoid in a future crisis, the terrible and often needless sacra-

day, nor is there any nation so rich and populous, that despising it, can rest gathered together on a bleak winter's day cure." There are six thousand college men age of this training; the country recognizing its need, is preparing six thousand young men qualified to lead, and it is not going too far to believe that in a national emergency—a country's necessity, we could have to-day an army of THREE millions of men and, "every man of them a volunteer."

H. H. BENHAM.

#### POLITICS AND POLITICAL PARTIES.

##### ART. I.—WHY COLLEGE MEN SHOULD BE DEMOCRATS.

I have been invited to present such reasons as occur to me why college men in the United States should be members of the Democratic party, rather than of any other political organization. I do not aim to give such arguments as may be addressed to all men alike. I desire simply to appeal to college men.

And first, that I may not be misunderstood, it may not be improper to explain what I mean by the word "should," as its spirit, that they may avoid in a future crisis, the terrible and often needless sacra-

Many men regard politics as a mere fice of life caused by the lack of such knowledge twenty years ago.

Many men regard politics as a mere matter of expediency ; and political opinions,

as notions to be adopted or discarded

willingly, but intelligently, the people ask and the government provides an opportunity for military training in our schools and colleges—for while peace is kept by war or the power for war, we must have young men with such knowledge of the science of war that they may be as valuable leaders. "Too late to whet the sword when the trumpet sounds to draw it."

men ; and this fact leads to the formation of different sects and parties. Now inas-

"Military virtue is not the growth of a

much as any departure from the code of private social conduct which we have formulated for ourselves, we term immoral; so it seem to me that any inconsistancy between our practices and the political principles which we have found to be correct, we should similarly term immoral and sedulously guard against. I believe it to be the business of political science to seek those principles, and endeavor to carry them out. In other words, I believe with Dr. Lieber, in a science of political ethics ; and I use the word "should" as conveying a moral meaning, and not as a notion of expediency. College men, than, should be Democrats, if at all, because the principles of the Democratic party are in accord with the instruction and influence of colleges and of college life.

I cannot describe the instruction received in college otherwise than as conservative in character. While the early part of the curriculum is mainly devoted to such studies and subjects as train and discipline the mind, and not at all to those in which there may be the dogmatical inculcation of principles about which men differ, yet the entire tendency of the course is such as to give a certain *deliberateness* of mind—to teach caution in theory and prudence in practice; to impart such a method as compels us to forge our chains of thought link by link, and to enable us, when necessary, to retrace our steps. In a word, the instruction afforded by colleges is essentially conservative.

And not only in the general way described, may this tendency be detected ; it may be observed, also, in the particular subjects of instruction which usually engage the attention of upper-classmen. In the examination of ethical, metaphysical, and even purely scientific questions, we are constrained to stop at every step, and take our "bearings" by reference to first principles.

All the influences of the college, moreover, are in precisely the same direction. Colleges are notoriously conservative institutions, presenting and preserving what is well established and worthy of imitation, rather than what is visionary or chimerical.

But what has this to do with the Democratic party ? Everything. The Democratic party is the conservative party of the country. It is considered so not only by writers and theorists but also by practical men. It has ever been the ready champion of those rights of the states (commonly called State rights) which the fathers and founders of the Republic recognized, and sought to keep intact. It believes that the government is the best in which the least government is done; that is to say, that one in which there is the least amount of unnatural, unnecessary, and radical regulation (the theory of *laissez faire*). It is, with reference to the interpretation of our constitution, a "strict construction" party; that is to say, inasmuch as the United States were formed by the union of independent sovereign states, which surrendered certain privileges to the general government (enunciated and embodied in the constitution) and retained such powers of state as were not thus given up. It believes in a strict and somewhat literal construction of those privileges, and is hostile to an hazardous or experimental extension or amplification of them. In brief the Democratic party is conservative; and college men will naturally and consistently be Democrats as a class if they are guided by the teachings and tendencies of college life. If they are not, it is a reflection upon the utility of college discipline.

This reasoning, which some may criticise as too general and *a priori*, will be found amply sustained by facts. College men will discover that the specific econ-

omic notions unfolded in the text-books they study, and the lectures they hear, are the identical political principles which the Democratic party is struggling to put into practical operation to-day. Such a notion is that of free trade. Hardly a respectable political economist can be found, to write a text-book fit for our common country by one who advocates a general theory of protection; and the Democratic party, in opposition to other parties, stands firmly upon a tariff for revenue only, which is designated, in the parlance of politics, as free trade. It teaches and contends that government has no right to tax the people, whether directly or indirectly, except for the purpose of raising revenue sufficient for its own proper existence. The primary purpose of the tariff is not, as leading Republicans have asserted, to protect our manufacturing interests. Such an idea is in laughable contradiction to the *dictum* of Herbert Spencer that in the form. They may, perhaps, do for the development of institutions, "Egoism must precede Altruism, and the more familiar phrase that "self-preservation is the first law of nature."

And another lesson that we learn here, drawn from the philosophy of history, will serve further to illustrate and enforce some of the views already expressed. The history and example of England and of ancient Rome show how the amalgamation of races, not too dissimilar, produces physical and political powers; while the adverse fate of nations, unmixed with other people, as for instance, the Jews and the Irish, points to the frequent fact. The Democratic party, by its opposition to the alien and sedition laws, and always in Congress and elsewhere, have recognized this truth, and favored the free emigration of foreigners who desired to become our fellow citizens, deeming it an advantage to us, as well as hospitable and just to them.

If we are faithful to the instruction of colleges we will follow in the same path. It is true conservatism to adhere to notions which we believe, or in which we have into practical operation to-day. Such a notion is that of free trade. Hardly a respectable political economist can be found, to write a text-book fit for our common country by one who advocates a general theory of protection; and the Democratic party, in opposition to other parties, stands firmly upon a tariff for revenue only, which is designated, in the parlance of politics, as free trade. It teaches and contends that in every other country, the Democratic party is composed of two elements—the rich and educated, and the poor and uneducated. I am a firm believer in the theory that when, in the evolution of an institution, a government, or of a party, certain men are needed, they will come forward and do their work. There is work in the idea of self-preservation which is in the form. They may, perhaps, do for the development of institutions, "Egoism must precede Altruism, and the more familiar phrase that "self-preservation is the first law of nature."

That when, in the evolution of an institution, a government, or of a party, certain men are needed, they will come forward and do their work. There is work in the idea of self-preservation which is in the form. They may, perhaps, do for the development of institutions, "Egoism must precede Altruism, and the more familiar phrase that "self-preservation is the first law of nature."

I hope and trust that I shall have the pleasure of seeing my college associates, and college men generally, performing valiant service for the only *national* party in this country—a party, which has consistently included all classes of the people, and represented all sections of the country—*a party*, which has tried; a party whose influence was sufficient to thwart the aristocratic plans of Hamilton; a party which has probably prevented the issue of patents of nobility and the erection of a presidency for life; a party which is at war with the Republicans and other parties on substantially every question which has been stated in this article; a party, which has acquired for the United States every scrap of territory (except Alaska)

that has been annexed from the foundation of the government; a party, the purity of whose principles has been so sternly tested; the *only* party, on either continent, which has ever been able to sustain itself a quarter of a century out of power.

JOHN M. CANTWELL, '88.

Labor party claim are the common inheritance of all the people. To parcel out three opportunities or any of them in such a way as to put them beyond the control of the people as a body, is something which the government never has done and never could have done. These natural opportunities are the heritage of all the people and their exclusive ownership by individuals can be tolerated only so long as it does not jeopardise the general welfare. The value of these opportunities is caused by the growth and prosperity of the people, and the revenue from them is ever increasing as the need for public revenue increases.

Debate upon senate bill No. 4 introduced by Senator Winans, of South Carolina, entitled: "An act to regulate the collection of revenue for the use of Territories of the United States."

Mr. Scofield, of Penna., spoke as follows:

Mr. President.—I am aware that a great prejudice exists in this body against the provisions of the bill, and I am also aware that a powerful class who have lived or hope to live by public plunder, will spare no effort to secure its defeat. But on account of the relief which this bill will afford to the great majority of the citizens of the Territories and on behalf of the justice and freedom which it will secure to all, I am induced to give some reasons why it should become a law.

The taxes of the territories are now levied upon both personal and real estate. Under the latter head are included improvements and land values. The bill before the senate proposes to diminish gradually the tax upon personal property and improvements, and gradually to increase the tax upon land-values, recognizing the latter as a fund created by the people and as the natural and legitimate source of the public revenue. The reasons for this change are many, but most important is the justice of the proposed tax.

The soil, the rivers, the water power, the mineral wealth, the rain and sunshine of a country constitute the natural opportunities for the production of wealth, which opportunities we of the

This revenue is justly the people's, and why the revenue which belongs to the people, should be given to some individuals and some of the private property of all citizens taken to make it good, is beyond my comprehension.

I think I hear some gentleman murmur "confiscation." That same gentleman, if I mistake not, voted to take in taxes a part of the profits from oleomargarine, which is justly the private property of individuals. If that be not confiscation, how is it confiscation to take for the use of the people a part of the revenue from what is justly and necessarily the property of the people? But it is because this bill will put an end to confiscation that I favor it. It will put an end to the confiscation of the people's revenue by some individuals, and to the confiscation of citizens' incomes by the people.

Moreover, this tax is the only method, under our civilization, of assisting the common interest of the people in the natural opportunities of the country. That they have such common interest, needs no argument.

I have yet to hear it explained, upon the floor of the senate, how the rights to life or liberty or the pursuit of happiness is secured, if the right of any of the people to their labor to those natural forces by

which alone life can be sustained, is denied or abridged. The people cannot work the land in common, the government cannot act as universal landlord, but in the single tax upon land-values we have a means of asserting, with the utmost justice and precision, the undeniable right of all men to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Absolute possession of the land must be secured to the individual uses, but absolute ownership must be asserted on behalf of the rightful owner—the whole people.

The land values measure with exactness the values of the natural opportunities to which they apply. By using the revenue from these values for the general good, the rights of all men will be guarded, the holding of no man will be disturbed, confiscation will be prevented, and immeasurable prosperity will result to the whole country.

The secret of the distress in Pennsylvania, of which you have heard in the report of the Special Committee, is the monopoly which the coal companies have of the land. Destroy that monopoly by asserting the common interest of the people of Pennsylvania in the land-values of the state, and thousands of dollars stand ready for investment in houses which will be rented at reasonable rates. Destroy that monopoly and thousands of dollars stand ready to open up new mines, to give employment to the thousands of men now idle, and to supply the consumer at reasonable prices. Destroy the same kind of monopoly in the territories, and the miner who has, by extraordinary exertion, managed to get out west, will not find himself still at the mercy of the same system, will not be compelled to pay \$30 per month for a five-hundred-dollar house, and to live miles from his place of work because Yankees are holding the intervening lots for a raise, will not be made to pay taxes to take the place

of the peoples' rightful revenue, and will not be forced to learn, by the sharp competition for work, that the mechanic, no less than the farmer, is robbed when the people are robbed.

The single tax will greatly simplify government in the Territories. There is no other tax which can be collected with so little time and cost and with so great justice and certainty. It will, we hope, prepare the way for the assumption by the people of those necessary monopolies, the railroad and the telegraph. I have heard it sneered at the United Labor Party that it has no definite aim, no stopping point short of Socialism. It claims that government should control all those industries which are in this nature monopolies, and that all taxes should be abolished, save the single tax upon land-values. What could be more precise ? I call upon Repub-

licans to point out a line so clear and sharp between this policy of protection and absolute non-intercourse; and upon Democrats to show so clear and logical a stopping point between this policy of tariff and absolute free-trade. And, now, unless the gentlemen can show to the satisfaction of this body and of the American people that all men have not an equal interest in the natural opportunities of the country, unless they can show that sunshine and rain and soil and coal fields can justly be held in absolute ownership as well as absolute possession by individuals, unless they can prove that the present generation has a right to determine the distribution of the natural forces to all future generations, it is their duty to support this bill. And I warn them that in adhering to the present system which fosters monopoly and hampers industry, they are undermining their own party foundations of past achievements and ambiguous promises, and preparing the way for the speedy triumph of the principles of equal justice and freedom upheld by the United Labor Party.

**"DIFFERENT YOU KNOW."**

Her skirts were displaced a little,  
And an ankle divinely sweet  
From under her silks and laces  
Half rougishly seemed to peep;  
I own I was gazing upon it,  
Who wouldn't if in my place,  
Anthony Comstock, I doubt not,  
Would relent in just such a case;  
But she held a different opinion,  
And seizing her skirts with a frown,  
Clear to the tips of her slippers  
She carefully pulled them down.  
That she was enraged it was certain,  
And doubtless she called me a brute,  
She'd forgotten the tintypes she gave me  
Of herself in a bathing suit.

G. C. B.

**College News.**

—The Sopomores have resumed their recitations in military tactics, a compromise having been affected. They have an hour off from descriptive geometry.

—Dr. Lawrence P. Hickok, ex-president of Union college, recently celebrated his eighty-ninth birthday. He is now engaged upon a new book, entitled "Reason and Revelation."

—The following subjects for commencement prizes have been announced: Ingaham essay, (1) The Characteristics of the Elizabethan Drama; (2) The Literary Genius of Thomas De Quincy. Clark essay, (1) Swift, Addison and Steele as Humorists; (2) John Ruskin as a master of English prose style. Veeder extempore speaking, Protection v. Free Trade.

—A mock court-martial, taking the place of three regular lectures in military tactics, was held three weeks ago by the sophomore cadet company. The court was convened by Lieutenant Benham, and proceeded to try Private Stewart upon the charge of desertion. The court consisted of the following seven men chosen from

the company: Captain Baker '88, president of the court, Lieutenant Mosher and Privates Brandmahl, Schwilk, Kemp, Brown and Baker, all of '90. Sergeant Carroll '90 acted as Judge Advocate, and Privates DePuy and Hawkes '90 carried the defense. The witnesses were chosen from the company. The hearing of the evidence lasted three hours, after which the case was summed up for the prosecution by Carroll, and for the defense by Hawkes. The vote of the court was as follows: for conviction—Privates Kemp, Schwilk, Brandmahl and Brown, and for acquittal—Captain Baker, Lieut. Mosher and Private Baker. At the close of the trial Lieutenant Benham approved the decision of the court and complimented the counsel on both sides for their well-sustained and ingenious arguments. The trial was of great benefit to the company in teaching practically the methods of military law.

—The following is a list of the chapel orations delivered Friday, February 17th: Seniors—Barrally, "Importance of Reading;" Bates, "Conditions of Success;" Blessing, "Working and Shirking;" Cantwell, "Bismarck;" Coburn, "New Demands for Liberty." Juniors—Barstow, "Criticism and Creation;" Cameron, "Education a Source of Discontent;" Carroll, "Eccentric People;" Connover, "Roumania;" Culver, "Should Labor be Educated?" Friday, Feb. 24, Seniors—Cole, "Character versus the Pursuit of Wealth;" Cummings, "The Influence of Books;" Davis, Electricity and the Execution of Criminals;" DeLong, "The Railroad Problem;" Gilmour, "Consequences of War." Juniors—Dean, "The Relation of the Anglo-Saxon Race to the World's Future;" Dorlan, "Realism and Fiction;" Fairgreave, "The French as Colonizers;" Furman, "Single-charge of Aim;" Hanson, "American Journalism."

—At the beginning of the present term there was a desire on the part of most of the engineers to revive the Gillespie Club. Prof. Brown therefore called a meeting of all those interested and it was decided to start the club again. The following officers were elected: President, Scofield '88; vice president, Flanagan '89; secretary, Prof. Brown; treasurer, Barrally '88; curator, Preston '91. Literary committee, Barrally '88, Conover '89, Baker '90. Library committee, Barrally '88, Snow '89, Brown '90. A committee was appointed to look up the matter of rooms. The second room of the engineering department was finally selected as the best room available, and has been fitted up for the use of the club. The object of the society is to promote the study of engineering and its kindred scientific studies. The funds which are not needed for the expenses of the society are to be devoted to the purchase of periodicals and books for a library. Papers on engineering subjects are read by members at each meeting, after which general discussion of the subjects under consideration is invited. In this way every member receives the advantage of the reading and study of each individual member and therefore derives great benefit from the meetings. The activity and zeal of the members assures its success and also its permanent continuance as a part of the institution.

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#### CHAPEL ORATIONS.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 2d.

Seniors—Kennedy, "Political Corruption;" King, "The Ballot in its relation to Labor;" Lewis, "The American Citizen;" Little, "Temperance;" McIntyre, "The Force of Habit." Seniors—Harder, "The Political Situation in Europe;" Nolan, "George Eliot;" Snow, "The Right to

Private Property."

FRIDAY, MARCH 9th.

Seniors—Mandeville, "Civil Service;" Scofield, "An Extradition Treaty with Canada;" Stevenson, "Civil Liberty;" Towne, "Is Poetry Dead?" Winne, "The Possible versus the Actual." Juniors—Turnbull, "Our Future, Westward;" Voorhees, "Capital Punishment;" Washburne, "American Citizenship;" Whalen, "Taxation."

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#### SENATE PROCEEDINGS.

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The senate met Jan. 18th with Vice President Lewis in the chair. A messenger from the house of representatives reported the house in session and ready for the transaction of business. Senator Cummings reported 15 copies of Roberts' Rules of Order ordered. Senator Schofield presented bill No. 3 entitled "An act to regulate the coinage of silver dollars and the issue of silver certificates." Referred to the committee on finance. Senator Little introduced bill No. 4, entitled "An act for the promotion of education." Referred to committee on education. Motion passed that a senator failing to be sworn in within two weeks be stricken from the senate committees. Moved by Senator Little that an assistant clerk be elected. Adjourned.

At a meeting Jan. 25th senate bill No. 3 was reported favorably, and bill No. 4 adversely. Senator Lewis introduced bill No. 5, "An act to increase pensions." Under special order it was moved to give the president of the United States the privilege of discussion and voting on all resolutions that would not come before him officially. Referred. Adjourned.

At a meeting Feb. 1st senate bill No. 1 was reported favorably and put on general calendar. Bill No. 5 was reported adversely

and the report accepted. The clerk was instructed to post notice inviting Juniors, Sophomores and Freshmen who wished to become members of the senate, to hand their names to the clerk. Senate bill entitled "An act to regulate the coinage of silver dollars" was taken up in committee of the whole. Committee rose and senate adjourned.

Feb. 8th. The privileges of the house were extended to the president who was present. Roe, '91, was elected assistant clerk. Third reading of bill No. 3 was ordered. Bills were presented by Senators Schofield and Winans and received their first and second readings. Adjourned.

#### NO PRESIDENT ELECTED.

The trustees of the Union College, held their semi-annual meeting at Albany, January 25, 1887. It was confidently expected that they would then give to the college what is known to be its greatest need—that is a President. After a long, and secret meeting they adjourned, "folded their tents like Arabs and as silently stole away." Neither the name of Prof. Webster, nor of any other candidate was even brought up for action.

When the news reached Schenectady and the students learned that their hopes had been useless, that the accustomed farce had only been reenacted, they immediately held a general indignation meeting. A committee was sent to learn what causes had produced the non-action of the trustees. Their report was received, several speeches followed and the spirit of the meeting was finally formulated in the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, The trustees of Union College have made no satisfactory explanation of their failure to elect a president for the College; and

WHEREAS, We the undergraduate students believe it to be necessary for the best interests and the continued existence of the College, that a president be immediately elected, be it therefore,

*Resolved*, That unless a president shall have been

elected before the end of the present term, we, the undergraduate students shall feel it due our own interests to withdraw all loyalty and allegiance to the College and transfer our interests elsewhere. That these resolutions be transcribed by the Secretary of the senior class and transmitted to each member of the board of trustees.

In the evening the students turned out with drum corps, paraded the streets, and burned the trustees in effigy. The transparencies had the following inscriptions:

"We want a president," "We have waited four years," "Now or Never."

The public press in general supported the action of the students. The New York *Commercial Advertiser* saying "It is not to be wondered at that the students are indignant." Replies have been received from a few of the trustees of no very complementary character.

#### CLASS SUPPERS.

##### SENIOR CLASS.

The Senior class of Union college paid a visit to Saratoga yesterday afternoon and evening, finishing up their excursion with their annual banquet last night at the Worden hotel. A number who came in the afternoon went up to the toboggan slide, saw the sights about town, and welcomed the remaining contingent of their fellows at the station on the evening train. The class cheer, "Rah-rah-rah U-N-I-O-N. Hika, hika, hika '88," was a feature of their frolics. The refreshments prepared by Chemist Delaney at the Worden were of a cheering character, and the boys were soon congregated at a Broadway fancy store, where they purchased a large plaster cast of a female bust and another part of the female anatomy which, whether in nature or plaster, is best adapted for the display of stockings, and their freaks were tolerated by the citizens good, naturally, as they should have been. They were a fine lot of fellows, and made the Worden parlors gay with their fun and

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music throughout the evening, until the call to the banquet board at 11 P. M.

The table was prettily and artistically arranged. The plaster bust, placed in the center of the board, was decked in a *de-collete* vest and a "Tam O'Shanter" hat, and was the recipient of the toast, "Our Girls." The banquet was arranged by Messrs. Richards, Cantwell and King.

#### THE TOASTS.

The following toasts in their order were announced by Toastmaster Davis:

A President for Union, T. W. Barrally.

"The bearings of this observation lays in the application on it."—Dickens.

Our frolics, E. P. Towne.

"Let these describe the undescribable."—Byron.

Nos Absenes, Edward McEncroe.

"To know, to esteem, to love and then to part, Makes up Life's tale to many a feeling heart."—Coleridge.

Sifters and Sifterines, J. M. Cantwell.

"The oldest sins in the newest kind of ways."—King Henry IV.

Ten years hence, P. H. Cole.

"We know what we are, but know not what we may be."—Hamlet.

Girls, A. J. Dillingham.

"Beautiful Tyrant! Friend Angelical."—Romeo and Juliet.

The Four Seasons of Our College Life, H. C. Mandeville.

"Thou Wert a Beautiful Thought and Softly Bodied Forth."—Byron.

N. S., C. W. Blessing.

"A College phrase to Cure the Dumps," Jonathan Swift.

The Dean and his Statellites, S. W. Little.

"Great contest follows and much learned dust."—Cowper.

Base Ball, N. L. Bates.

"But where are the nine?"

The Senate, L. M. King.

"The child is father to the man."—Wadsworth.

'88, J. M. DeLong.

"The true, the beautiful and the good."—Hoffman.

—*Saratogian, Feb. 5.*

The Seniors can look back to their last class supper, and recall nothing but a host of happy memories.

#### JUNIOR CLASS.

Friday night, Feb. 3, is one that the Juniors will ever remember with a great

deal of pleasure. That was the night set apart for their class supper, and the Troy House, Troy, had been decided upon as the place of their feast. Long before the time announced for the banquet the class was on hand and the fellows proceeded in various ways to enjoy themselves. Most of them attended the theatre filling the boxes, and for applause their class cry answered every purpose. About twelve o'clock they all assembled at the scene of the evening's festivities. The elaborate supper and the tasty manner in which it was served deserved great praise, and the class fully appreciated it. After the discussion of the menu, the toasts occupied their attention until nearly morning. Toast-master Culver called for responses to the following:

"Junior Year," C. L. Barstow; "Union's President," A. R. Conover; "The Dear Girls," D. S. Voorhees; "Our Dutch Class," J. L. Whalen; "The Absent Ones," C. F. Shaw; "Foot-Ball," N. W. Waite, jr.; "Our Past Deeds," C. H. Flanagan; "'89's Garnet," M. Nolan; "Our Social Career," L. L. Cameron; "Glorious '89," J. H. Hanson."

The responses to the toasts were far from being dry and were enjoyed by all. The manner in which the toastmaster disposed of his duties was particularly pleasing to the class. It was nearly four o'clock before the class broke up, and when they did disband it was with the feeling that a more enjoyable time had never been spent together. During the evening congratulations were received from '88, who were holding their supper at Saratoga. A great part of the success of the occasion was due to the labors of the committee which comprised: C. W. Culver, J. L. Whalen, C. H. Flanagan, N. W. Wait, Jr.

#### FRESHMEN.

Feb. 2d, 1888.—The sky cloudless, the day perfect, the occasion one of particular interest to the Freshmen, inasmuch as on that day occurred his first class supper.

This took place in Albany at the Hotel Windsor. Freshmen suppers are usually considered as an event in a man's career at college, and '91's was by no means an exception to the rule. On the afternoon of the day in question the class had assembled at the station, and as it thundered the "iron horse" from the west there greeted his ears the major strains of '91's resonant yell—"Rah—rah—rah,—wah—hoo—wah,—Union '91,—'rah—rah—rah.

The carnival held in Albany that day lent additional pleasure to the occasion. The toasts were well responded to, and the accompanying sentiments *a propos*, reflecting credit upon Toastmaster J. W. Ferguson. The following toasts were given:

"Class of '91," Pres. H. Conant; "Union's Coming (?) President," A. D. Hull; "Our Christmas Vacation," J. H. Drury; "Bolts," A. B. C. Little; "Our June Cremation," T. H. Robertson; "Our Crones," J. W. Mairs; "Sifters of '91," L. E. Roe; "Our Host," F. Cooper; "Our Junior Friends," J. E. Dewey, jr.; "The Midnight Manual," J. Smiley; "Our Fair Ones," M. G. Barney.

### Personals.

'61—R. T. Turner was the owner of the *Tidings* block destroyed by the recent fire in Elmira. He is in partnership with another Union man in the practice of law, R. C. VanDuzer, '67.

'72—A. C. Boynton is the fastest mail clerk in the Erie service and an oarsman of note. (Address, Elmira, N. Y.)

'83—R. W. Dent was admitted to the bar in Albany, Feb. 10th.

'83—H. F. DePuy, formerly Professor of Mathematics at Union, is now in the employ of the Westinghouse Company, Pittsburgh, Pa.

'84—Rev. C. E. Fay has resigned his Albany pastorate and now fills the pulpit of the First Presbyterian church, Unadilla, N. Y.

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### Necrology.

'30.—Ex-Judge Yost died at Fort Plain, Feb. 9th, aged 77 years. He was a prominent Republican from the organization of the party. Was state senator in 1854, and county judge 1863-67.

'91.—John W. Mairs, aged 22, died Feb. 20th, of typhoid pneumonia.

#### RESOLUTIONS.

WHEREAS, In view of the loss we have sustained by the decease of our friend and class-mate, John W. Mairs, and of the still heavier loss sustained by those who were nearest and dearest to him; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That it is but a just tribute to the memory of the departed to say that in regretting his removal from our midst we mourn for one who was, in every way, worthy of our respect and regard.

*Resolved*, That we sincerely condole with the parents of the deceased on the dispensation with which it has pleased Divine Providence to afflict them, and commend them for consolation to Him who orders all things for the best, and whose chastisements are meant in mercy.

*Resolved*, That this heartfelt testimonial of our sympathy and sorrow be forwarded to the parents of our departed classmate, and be published in the daily papers of this city.

For the class of Ninety-One.

FRANK COOPER,  
MORTIMER G. BARNEY,  
HENRY W. PRESTON,  
Committee.

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### Books and Magazines.

The *Railroad and Engineering Journal*, published monthly at 45 Broadway, New York, contains much necessary and useful information for students of engineering. The continued articles on "Principles of Railroad Location" and "Catechism of the Locomotive" should be read by all interested in railroad work. The other articles are more than usually interesting, and cover well the field of civil engineering.

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