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THE PATH OF GREATNESS.

“THERE is no royal road to knowledge.” Likewise there is no path to greatness that can be marked off; that is to say, no man or men, no book or books can make us great. They may give us guidance along the path for a limited distance, but that is all. No hand can direct a certain path to knowledge or greatness: it is tortuous, serpentlike; it has as many different courses as there are ambitions to pursue it.

“Some men, ‘tis true, are born great.” These, on entrance to the world without a guide, without an escort, have invisibly journeyed along the path of greatness, and are even arrived at their journey’s end. Thus they seem not so much to have traveled the path of greatness as that greatness seems to have traveled their path. These must not envy, since they are born immortal; we cannot imitate, but must and should only love and praise and welcome as divine lights sent from heaven to guide us through the darkness, struggling on over the road to knowledge and to fame.

“Others achieve greatness.” Here must we pause and reflect, ponder and ponder again. For in this grand struggle we all and each combat with equal arms and like advantages. Every one of us is meant in the others who achieve greatness. We have all the tools and instruments in our hands ready for use, and the only question remains: will we use them, and use them properly? What a world of meaning in that word properly! It is with us whether with these ready tools we would carve an image of ourselves, lacking in none of the characteristics essential to greatness! Whether we would wield each tool to its greatest and best effect, slitting nor eye nor ear nor any limenset in the countenance of fame! Whether we would exercise all our talents, use all our tools, with great care that no one of them should become either dulled by over-use or yet rusted from want of it.

We need no tools or materials to construct the common air-castle—even the humblest is a competent architect for such; but we would materialize such structures in the air, and build in truth our earthly “Houses of Fame.” “Others achieve greatness.” How? By relying entirely upon the lights of other minds to dispel the utter darkness which envelops them. Or by a continual shrinking of arduous duties before them. Deferring them from day to day. Not so. They alone achieve greatness who, by that indomitable will and energy, which has the element, the essence of success in it, burst from the environs of darkness by their own efforts. They look to themselves for aid, and while gladly admitting the rays of great men’s mind, regard them not so much as guides but as friends; as indices pointing back to the long and rugged road from whence they came; as incentives to brave minds to overcome the obstacles of the path, suffer its hardships, and then enjoy the unfounded fruits which the great alone inherit.

O, rugged path of thorns and briars and dismal prospects, and endless windings! Too—too many stragglers on the eve of success, despairsing, fall by the wayside—unhappy, wretched, pitiable. Thus cannot thou not hold out for all the temptations of the rosy walks, mossy banks and silver streams which succeed the penetration and the journey of thy path, and await thy heroes.

Yes, to achieve greatness means the tracking along the winding, rugged, difficult path, accompanied by many a pang of disappointment, depression, gloom, the weariness of continuous unappreciated toil; of scorned talent and wounded pride, and oftentimes the alactness of utter despair.

But O successful ones, what countless joys are thine, what incomparable bliss! To wander among the walks in the realms of fame and greatness; to feel that you are a light for the elucidation of others, who would achieve greatness; to enjoy that very sense of earthly satisfaction and ambition; to stand upon the zenith of other’s hopes, and view them
from your dazzling height of glory and excellence. These must indeed be joys beyond compare with all others. Those obstacles overcome, this height attained, nor life nor death, nor even eternity can snatch away thy fame and greatness.

Then let us prepare for this alluring combat; seize and sharpen our tools and wits; let us study to learn; read to digest; listen to be convinced, and enter the struggle of life and for greatness to be successful.

S. O. L., 87.

RECOLLECTIONS OF A COUNTRY SCHOOL-MASTER.

I did not think I would ever be a schoolmaster. I had very limited advantages for an education myself, and I had been taught that he who undertook to mould the plastic minds of youth, incurred a feeling like a tremendous weight of the awful responsibility resting upon him. I had no such thing.

I had misgivings, it is true. The "trustees," who came for me to "keep their school," said that the big boys were troublesome—some of them absolutely bad, they had thrown my immediate predecessor out of doors, and other playful tricks were ascribed to them. The trustees advised me to commence by thrusting these boys.

This was many years ago. The years we are looking backward are short and few, but there are many of them, I know. There have been many and great changes in that time—that is some things are changed; but I imagine the average school board never changes, and the advice, and admonition they give the teacher now is of like value as that given me, and if teachers would regard it as I did, they would do well that is disregarded.

I did not thrash any of these boys. I think I might have found it difficult if I had undertaken it; but I saw no occasion for doing any thing of the kind. I found that I should need friends, I used these boys for friends, and they were stanch ones.

I agreed to teach the school, and began at once to cram for it. I read, not only the number of essays on the standard teacher, homilies on "how to teach," rules for the government of schools, and numberless other disquisitions of the theorists. I concluded wisely I had no use for them. I would be guided by circumstances as they arose. I had no difficulty in the management or discipline of the school. I had other things to annoy me. The "Board" had a duty to perform of course, and if they approved my methods they might be charged with neglecting their duties. How many young teachers would succeed in their first effort if some of the writers on "how to manage a school" would offer some valuable suggestions on "how to manage the school board." The school was all right. I had more difficulty in getting on smoothly with the "board," but I did that, and achieved a fair success. I am satisfied now as I look back that the scholars learned some and that I learned a good deal.

The school house was on the side of a wind swept hill, remote from any other buildings, very much in the country. There were forty scholars, varying in age from five to twenty-five years, and as I recall the terrible snow storms and low temperatures of that winter it is a marvel how punctual the attendance, and how little the tardiness; but they were country boys and girls, and snow storms had little terror for them.

I remember that the chief mechanical appliance we had for illustrating any of our work was a blackboard, for the blackboards would often allow us to get entirely out of wood, and we would be compelled to see some from the Virginia rail fence with which the grounds were inclosed.

We had fourteen weeks in the winter school and the teacher boarded round, a plan which I suppose is pretty generally dispensed with now; but it has its advantages. I said this was many years ago. Of course the forty scholars then in school, are today, (those who survive) all men and women, and I have a curious solicitude for all of them. Some have wandered out of my ken; but many of them I know, and know them to-day. We had a model boy I remember, always punctual, always ready with his lessons, and if any breach of decorum was committed he was sure to "tell" if he knew, or if he did not know he was ready with his suspicions of whom to charge it. He was too good for any use. He has spent quite a portion of his life (as a man) in jail, as a sneak thief, and as a wide awake rascal head, who was as likely to be late as on time, full of fun, no meanness, just fun, is a wealthy, influential, prosperous man. So I might follow the fortunes of many; but that is not my purpose. They are a fair average at least.

I taught that country school three winters in succession, and in my way all my own. I pleased myself, pleased the boys and girls, and managed the board. Sometimes, if you want, I will tell you how I taught the school.

OLD FASHIONED.

THE UNIVERSITY IN COURT.

W. E. M. subjoin an editorial of Dr. Smith's which appeared in the Standard of Dec. 4. Having been a trustee and a member of the Executive Committee for a number of years, he presents a resume of the subject far more complete and correct than any other we have seen:

"The arguments before Judge Blodgett, of the United States District Court, in this city, on the application of the Union Mutual Life Insurance Company, for foreclosure of the mortgage upon the property of the University of Chicago, held by the company were examined on Wednesday of last week. Bills have been filed, however, by the Astronomical Society, owning the Observatory and its apparatus, by the holders of scholarships and by the heirs of Judge Douglass, contesting the right to alienate the property; and the Douglass heirs claiming that in case of such alienation the property right revert to them, Judge Blodgett wishes to hear arguments on these several bills, so filed, before giving his decision. He is anxious that this should be soon, appreciating, as he said before adjourning the case, the very great importance of the issues involved, and the desire of surviving founders of the university and of those now bearing the burden of its administration amidst so many embarrassments, that the questions concerning its financial status, so long pending, may as speedily as possible be settled.

The argument of Mr. Leonard Sweet, the lawyer engaged by the company to conduct its own side of the case, was published at length in the Chicago Thursday morning papers. Such a publication is, we believe, unusual, the arguments made on either side being for the consideration of the Judge predominating, nor is the Judge supposed to act as a jury on the questions involved in any sense of the word. The publication of this argument looks very much like an attempt to prejudice the case in anticipation of any decision by the legal authority to whose hands the whole is committed, and to induce upon the university and its administration all the damage possible, whatever the decision may be. This motive becomes more apparent as the reader draws toward the conclusion of the document. Those who have shared, for years, perhaps, in the general high estimation of Mr. Sweet's character and standing as a lawyer and gentleman, must have read passages such as are there found with a good deal of surprise. After speaking of the university side of the case as an attempt at "repuilation"—with such unwarranted assumption we shall deal presently—and after censoring this attempt, as well he might, did such a thing exist, as a dishonest cast upon the memory of those trustees of the institution who are now dead, and upon the names of those who are still living, Mr. Sweet gives us these paragraphs:

"And yet this institution professes to stand for the great Baptist church of America! An ordinary unattached lawyer, who expects in the future, the suppressed soul of his deceased would not dare do such a thing! It is reserved for the elect, the philanthropic, the benevolent, to borrow other people's money to build the walls of their building, to roof it in from the storms of winter, to pay bills long past due for its construction, to secure that building from year to year, to send lamp-guards to light them at night, to build pavements and walk to walk over, and, lastly, to borrow $18000 to pay their own salaries, and then repudiate the debt, and still to believe that such election will not be contested. It is to be hoped when this President and these Professors teach moral philosophy and the evidences and principles of Christianity to those of our land, that they teach them in the books, keeping fair in the back-ground, and as possible wholly out of sight, their own personal example.

"In conclusion, we beg leave most respectfully and kindly, to suggest that 'honesty is the best policy,' even in a Christian and the President of a college; and to ask for such a deed as will give to the complements a just esteem that will last.

"Now upon this it is to be said, in the first place, that the 'Professors of the university have no share whatsoever in the management of its finances, never take any part in its business, and no more do they have to do in any way of responsibility with the case now before Judge Blodgett, than a professor in Harvard or Yale.

"In the next place, the President of the university has acted, under the advice and with the co-operation of some of the most distinguished business men of Chicago, men whose names neither Mr. Sweet nor any other person would ever dare to couple with a charge of irregularity in any business matter whatever. In the third place, the charge of an attempt to 'repuilate' an honest debt, thus publicly made, is so much, not only in the face of repeated disclaimer on the part of President Anderson and his advisers, and of the trustees of the university, and of the great Baptist church of America, so far
as the Baptist church has anything at all to do with the matter; but in the face, also, of the position actually taken by the university lawyers themselves. In the fourth place, Mr. Swett’s allusion to points of theology upon which he differs from the members and teachers of this ‘Baptist church,’ is a piece of impertinent clap-trap on which one looks with some astonishment as coming from a gentleman of Mr. Swett’s character and standing. It looks as if the whole argument is published, for whatever purpose it may have been made, for the single purpose of exciting in the face of Mr. Swett’s fellow-citizens from whom he happens to differ upon a point in theology this outrageous insult, and at the same time to damage, if possible an institution founded with the noblest aims and the fruits of whose good work are ripening all over the West. The personal assault made in the paragraph may be of less public moment; yet Mr. Swett should know that the gentlemen whom he so assails are as incapable of any indignation in a matter of this kind, or any other, as he is himself, or any other member of the profession to which he belongs.

The attitude of the university in this case is to be estimated by the position taken by the able counsel to whose hands its interests so far were entrusted. These two gentlemen are Mr. George Driggs, the attorney of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, and Hon. Melville W. Fuller. They are well-known in Chicago as ranking with the best and ablest men in their profession. They have given their services gratuitously, not receiving a cent as pay. Mr. Driggs, though all the while under the pressure of a large business, has spent time and effort, having devoted three months of hard work to the case, collecting and sifting evidence and preparing the arguments, and studying with conscientious fidelity the questions involved, Mr. Fuller, though coming later into the case, laboring in it with like devotion, and with like cheerful endeavor to serve efficiently in a good cause.

Now, the position which these gentlemen have taken before the court is, in the first place, that in view of all the conditions under which the mortgage now upon the property of the university was made, it must be held that the trustees, in so encumbering the property, exceeded their proper powers as trustees. There is no question of integrity implied; the trustees believed themselves so empowered; yet it is claimed by the university counsel that in point of fact, in view of the conditions made in the gift by Judge Douglass, the trustees had no power to endanger the purpose of the gift—which was that the property should be used in all time to come for a university of learning—by subjecting it to any likelihood of alienation. But when seeking for the university, Messrs. Driggs and Fuller disclaim all desire to escape any just obligation in the case, whether legal or moral, and fully recognize the debt as one honorably contracted, and one that must be discharged. The amount of this debt, in view of all the circumstances, is the point upon which they chiefly insist.

At the time the present Board of Trustees and the present executive administration of the university came in charge, the university was really bankrupt. The present administration, and the present trustees, with the exception of two or three of the latter, had no share whatever in the management which had brought the university thus deeply in debt. They undertook the care of it with a view, if possible, to save it. They found a mortgage upon the property of $130,000. Of this sum $104,000 had been an actual loan by the company, the rest was secured interest. The interest upon the loan of $130,000 was at eight per cent. for five years, and to be made ten per cent. after the loan should become due, in both cases payable semi-annually. Of course interest notes were attached to the mortgage, and as these became due, if unpaid, they were made a part of the loan, at an interest of ten per cent. per annum. This interest produced thousands of dollars in debt on current expense account; considerable sums were due to professors on unpaid salaries; there were unpaid coal bills, and other bills. Meanwhile, the money, which had been lent to the university, steadily accruing had to be cared for. By dint of great exertion, of personal effort by the president such men would undertake, this floating indebtedness was paid off, the salaries of the professors and other officers were provided for, and the credit of the university in the community fully re-established. But while doing this the university could pay no interest; it could not meet the assessment by the city of $2,000 for street improvements and repairs; nor keep up the insurance on the building. These were cared for by the creditor—an arrangement which could not be helped. The tremendous strain during all President Anderson’s administration has been to keep the university on its feet. This has been done in a manner that reflects infinite credit upon those who have borne the burden and done the work.

It should be added in simple justice, that so far as the assessments upon the university properly are concerned, for pavements, lump-pests, etc., of which Mr. Swett makes so much in his peripatetic way, the trustees were advised by their attorney at the time, Hon. Thomas Hoyne, that the university was not bound, under the charter, to pay such assessments, as being in the nature of taxes. The lawyers in the present case, on both sides, are agreed in saying that Mr. Hoyne, in this opinion, was mistaken; such improvements as connected with the property, being in the nature of ‘betterments.’ Whether mistaken, or not, those in charge considered themselves, in this view, as well as in view of the extraordinary pressure of other claims, justified in leaving such claims for adjustment in some other way.

Now, the one question before the court, and upon which the university asks for a legal decision, is the question how much, in view of all these circumstances the creditor may justly expect. The university lawyers argue, as we have said, after a most exhaustive examination of the matter, the actual amount of the loan at $104,000. At six per cent. for the whole period, they estimate the just indebtedness at the present time at $160,000. And that is the university case. In what sense is it ‘repudiation’? Some one may claim that the ‘great Baptist church of America’s’ creditor was paying the whole amount of the claim, put by the company lawyers at $300,000; all over the amount first named above being secured interest, with interest upon interest, piling up year by year, and with each year or half-year added to the principal to swell the amount. The great Baptist church of America may think that there is such a thing as justice even in a case like this, and may object to the exactions of Shylock, even though he calls himself by the name of a Life Insurance Company. They may think it better to yield the property, and re-establish the university elsewhere and under more favorable circumstances, than, while so many other interests are to be cared for, pay over a hundred thousand dollars of good money to satisfy an unjust claim. First, however, they and those generous and intelligent friends of education who, while not all of their faith, are still with them in this enterprise, would wish to know what an enlightened and just judge will say as to what is the amount of actual obligation, in view of all the circumstances of the case.

That is where the university now stands, and readers can judge for themselves how far the unfair and untruthful allegations of the company through their counsel, deserve the countenance of honest men and a discerning public.

To the Editors of The Volante:

I notice in the last Standard an article on Tax Volante, in which it praised the paper and deplored the “fact” that the cover should be disqualified for a tobacco advertisement. It seems to me that this publication is altogether too exaggerated. The Standard says it is too bad that the students should be exasperated to the point of temptation. But if a student uses tobacco he will continue to do so, whether he publishes advertisements of it or not. And if he does not use tobacco, why there are dozens of worse temptations on every hand.

Last year The Volante congratulated itself on the non-appearance of tobacco advertisements in its pages, while in the same issue approved the obscene advertisement of a fraudulent “medical” institution. Now, leaving the question of “evil influences,” which is patent to every body, entirely alone, how consistent was that! I have published The Volante myself, and for my part I preferred to print the advertisement of a reputable tobacco firm than of a religious book concern which was to poor to pay my bill. I do not mean to say that this continual whine about printing tobacco advertisements is hypocritical and disgusting to a fair-minded person. The publisher this year is to be commended for the fine appearance of the paper, and if he can get $29.00 for publishing that cigarette advertisement, why not let him alone in it?

T. M. H., ’85.

It is strange that some boys can not refrain from mischief until the opportunity for doing so is removed. Perhaps it is fun to meddle with the electric bell, but it is foolish fun, and the temptation of so-doing has been removed from one youth by severance of his connection with the college.

There will be quite a large class in practical chemistry next term. You may risk a Junior for getting easy studies.
THE VOLANTE.

EDITOR.

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David J. Lemke, '85.
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University of Chicago, December, 1884.

EDITORIAL.

We are nearing the end of our first term as college journalists, and we don't propose to apologize for what we haven't done. We know that it is customary to do so at this time of the year, to make many protestations of innocence of all blunders, and many promises of future greatness in a literary direction, but we are going to "keep out of the old rut," and continue to do the best we can without apologizing.

We do not consider that it has been our fault that our "college-grade" printer, (who knows it all), prints literary articles in the Exchanges column, editorials in the literary column, and local and alumni notes almost anywhere, in spite of all our protestations and entreaties. We are growing stoical and philosophical, and are beginning used to such trifling matters; but we do most confidentially affirm that, printer or no printer, we will talk and work until we can produce a Volante which cannot be improved.

Have a little patience with us, and remember that experience tends to perfection, and that we are experiencing, well, almost everything.

The Volante has not followed the example of many of the college journals and expressed itself on the subject of politics. It has devoted its columns to other matters, knowing that college topics and affairs are the best subjects for editorials in college journals. But now that the election has been definitely settled and the electors have given their votes, and there is no longer any discussion or dispute over the result, the Volante wishes to say a few words on the subject. Many of us are greatly disappointed over the result, and are inclined to feel a little discouraged over the prospect of a four years' reign of the Democrats, but we are to have time to study the condition of the country, and to consider just what a Democratic administration is. This year a number of the students voted, and four years from now, almost every young man now in college will be able to cast his vote, and take his share in the public affairs. For this reason the Volante urges every one to consider carefully the political situation during the next four years, to form his opinion and give his allegiance to the political organization which seems to him the best, the most in accordance with the spirit of the Constitution.

"The Scholar in Politics," finds a fit field for his energy, his learning, his talents, his eloquence. This year has seen prominent literary and scientific men, ministers, teachers, professors, scholars, and laboring in the political field, and four years from now, we hope the number of these educated politicians will be more than doubled.

There is need of the services of every one in our national affairs. The young men in college, who will in four years be ready to take their place in the line of workers, should be thoroughly informed as to the importance of their power, should be perfectly familiar with the manner and methods of the great political parties, and should be sure they are deciding for the right. Our country needs more educated men to take part in her national affairs; let each student feel the importance of the help which he individually can give her.

Perhaps we may be pardoned for mentioning it to the faculty, but it is our opinion that if so many students were not admitted with "no questions asked" to their former colleges the standing, perhaps there might be less wire-cutting and oyster-pepper-burning in these halls. Preps we know are young, and apt to play very smart tricks, but there is a set of city-bred preps here at present that have no right to be here, either mentally or morally. They are exceedingly smart and very funny, and will, no doubt, some day astonish the world with their freaks of genius; but we fear that unless they do something more noble and manly than they have shown them selves capable of doing here, we fear that distinction will be confined to stone-breaking. We like to see fine boys, but don't be candies or idiots, and if you can't come to a realizing sense of the situation and behave a few minutes, and the Faculty will not expect you, the students who value peace and admire common-sense, will organize a vigilance committee for the purpose of exterminating you. A word to the wise is sufficient; and we trust that these few words to you who are not wise, will also be sufficient.

Talk about the power of the press! Why, in our last issue we called attention to the fact that the young men not residing in the building ought to have a room set apart for a wardrobe, and the room was forthcoming—even before the Volante left the printer's hands! This is what we call expediency, to say the least. Perhaps we had better suggest that the debt be paid off—but we won't, for fear it will be paid before this gets into print.

MORE LITERATURE.

To the Editor of the Volante:

Ever since you stated that the columns of the Volante were open to the students for the expression of their views on college topics, as well as for literary articles, I have determined to express my views on the subject of the study of literature in the University. During the last year, and especially during the last few months, I have been more and more convinced of the deficiency of our course in this department. Of course this is but the individual decision of a very unimportant individual, but nevertheless it may do no harm, and perhaps may do a little good if I state my reasons for believing thus, and suggest a plan which occurred to me the other day.

The classical student, after completing his course in Latin and Greek, has a very meagre, and yet in some respects a satisfactory knowledge of the famous ancient authors, and has formed an idea of their individual style, which is more or less accurate. Our course here in French and German has been so arranged that by the time we have finished our essays and lectures, we have a general idea of the literature of France and Germany. But one term of English Literature hardly enables the busy student, who has been "putting off" reading and studying English authors, to gain a very good idea of the periods and characteristics of our English literature. And as to the great army of authors in Italy, Spain, Russia, and China, we hardly know who they are, when they lived, or what they wrote. After we have completed our course, (the query now comes to us), what clear idea will we have of the literature of the world! How will we be able to compare and contrast the great writers of all times and all countries, when we are hard at work amid the cares of the busy world! We need a term of Comparative or Universal Literature. To me, this is the only great defect in our course here. Naturally in this busy city we do not have very much time for reading, and the ideas we form in the class rooms are, perhaps, the only ones we may have of the subjects we consider. No student intends to neglect his literary pursuits after graduation, but it is too often the case that he does, and then his only lament is, "I wish I had given attention to those things when I was in college!" Our earliest impressions are always our strongest, and if we could only form more lasting impressions when we are in college, how greatly the whole course and enjoyment of our life might be changed.

We have in our mathematical course an extra term's work which is optional to a majority of the students, but which is greatly enjoyed by those who take it. How much more important is it that we have extra work in Literature, which could be optional too. This year an advanced class in German was formed, and has been of great benefit and enjoyment to those who have joined it. Why can we not have an advanced class in literature? Would not Prof. Butler be willing to conduct such a class? Could we not have one during the second and third terms of the year, reading, studying and discussing during that time the great authors of all ages, for the purpose of comparing the dramatics, the epic poets, the lyric poets, the novelists, historians and the orators? To my mind the benefit and pleasure derived from such a class would be incalculable. Besides strengthening our ideas and giving us information, it would make us, by the recitations and informal talks it occasioned, to clearly, briefly and gracefully express our thoughts.

Mr. Editor, I wish you could grant us this favor, that it were in your power to introduce such a class;
but at least you can ‘let us speak for ourselves’ to the Faculty through the columns of The Volante. To them we can only wish that they will see fit to arrange for us a higher, a more complete and general course in Literature. Even though it was an "extra" to many of us, it would still be enjoyable and profitable.

T. F. S.

COLLEGE JOURNALISM IN THE UNIVERSITY.

In looking over an old file of the Volante, we found an article on our college papers which is probably the only extract record of their history. To perpetuate this, with some corrections, and to bring it down to date is the object of this article.

THE INDEX UNIVERSITY was the first venture of the students into the domain of journalism. The date of its first appearance is unknown, but was probably in '85 or '86, after which time it appeared for several years as an annual, combining the functions of a catalogue and a repository for the more ambitious efforts of its managers. Among its editors were W. O. Taylor, now pastor of the Central Baptist Church of this city, and Rev. J. M. Coon, of the correspondence staff of the Standard. In January, 1886, it was changed into a monthly magazine. It seems to have been chiefly noted for its inordinate dryness and submission to the Faculty. In 1870 it was evidently approaching its end. Editors and publishers were changed at nearly every issue, and finally, in June of that year, it succumbed before a new rival, the College Times. One of its last editors was N. E. Wood, now of the Memorial Baptist Church, and A. F. Burbank, now one of our most celebrated evangelists, was a publisher.

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THE VOLANTE.

THE VOLANTE, who have attained eminence in the journalistic profession, and who, perhaps, owed their choice of a vocation in life to their work on The Volante.

T. B. W., '86

LOCALS.

Just now is the season for birthdays.

Who? That other? I can smell it yet.

Why don't we have a social at the end of the term?

On account of ill health, Mr. J. W. Millard, '89, has left for Canada, his old home.

For the past month everyone has been looking anxiously for the decision of the 'suit.'

The Volante expects Christmas presents from the students and Faculty. There is a great deal in expecting.

Miss Mary W. Thomas, of the Junior class has been ill for two months, and is still unable to attend her duties.

The literary societies are having the parlor pianos repaired at an expense of $80.00. It is said to be a first-class piano.

In beautiful accord to the suggestion in our last issue, a room has been provided in which gentlemen may dispose of hats, overcoats, etc.

The third-year class has lately indulged in a new "Association" foot-ball, and every afternoon brings a crowd of kickers on the campus.

'88, Miss Jessie E. Morgan is enjoying herself very much at Wellesley, so she writes to her friends here, and finds college life very pleasant there.

The condition marks are

got some too.

(These blanks will be filled out after the 19th.)

Dr. Anderson preached both the morning and evening services in the First Baptist Church, December 7th, while Dr. Hoxton was absent at Boston.

During the past month, many of the students and professors attended the Stoddard Lectures, and enjoyed the rare treat which the lecturer furnished.

It is expected that both our Y. M. C. A., and Y. W. C. A., will send delegates to the State Convention to be held at Bloomington, Ill., in January next.

We were glad to see Mr. George Walsh, Thanksgiving week at the University. His health has improved very much during his travels this fall, and he seems to be rather enjoying his new mode of life.

There is no doubt that greenness exists among some of the Preps. Recently when one was invited to a Thanksgiving dinner and a finger-bowl was brought to him he said, "No, thanks; I don't feel thirsty."

Among our students we have three of the officers of the Hermes Bicycle Club, Noger, Resh, and Vice President, H. H. Hogg, '84; Secretary and Treasurer, F. J. Tountuttle, '88; Librarian, R. M. Schofield, '88.

Miss Fanny R. Hart, a student in the University the last three years, has left as probably for ever. She will spend the winter visiting and travelling in the South, and will doubtless visit the "World's Fair," at New Orleans.

On Friday, December 5th, Elisabeth Faulkner gave the second chapel service, an essay on the "Effect of the Restoration on English Literature." Mr. C. J. Everett will deliver the third, subject, "Marcus Aurelius."

On Wednesday, November 26th, Elbridge R. Anderson delivered the first chapel service, an essay on "The bustle which he treated in a clear, earnest, energetic manner. His delivery was poor, needing the prompter's assistance. Otherwise, his oration was excellent.

November 26th, Lincoln G. Cote gave a very pleasant birthday party at his home on Michigan Avenue. About sixty people were present, among them a number of the University boys and girls. A very enjoyable evening was spent in conversation, singing, reading, and dancing.

The Prep Debating Society, is the name of a new organization composed of twenty-five active members who hold forth with closed doors in the parlor. The meetings are open only to visitors on the first Friday of each month. This we consider a good plan to have a third society, as long as it does not
conflict with the workings of the standard societies, Tri Kappa and Atheneum.

—December 4th a number of the Phi Psi "boys" with their ladies, attended a reception in Rounton, given by the Ill. Alpha chapter of Phi Kappa Psi. About seventy-five were present, and a pleasant evening was passed by all. An elaborate banquet was furnished by the boys and everything was very much enjoyed.

—In view of a decision given in the contest between Tri Kappa and the E. O. W. Club, last year, the former society recently tendered a challenge for a second contest, but inasmuch as the E. O. W. club wished to have all points conceded them, they did not accept the challenge. Tri Kappa wishes ever to maintain a proper dignity, and is ready for a contest on fair and equal terms.

—The maligning attack upon Dr. Anderson, the faculty and the Baptist denomination by a professed gentlemanly lawyer and his hired publication, received the censure of all fair-minded men when Dr. Anderson's reply had been read. Some of our city papers endeavor to enhance their reputation by publishing whatever they can that is detrimental to the institutions of learning in and about our city, but undoubtedly they do themselves more harm than good.

—Despite the bad weather, quite an audience listened to the interesting program of Tri Kappa Gentlemen's meeting, on Saturday, December 6. There was no lack of failure in the program, and the participants uniformly did credit to themselves and society. The following was the order of the parts:

**Music:**
- University Quartette

**Delegation:**
- "Revelle" 

**Address:**
- H. E. Thime

**Music:**
- University Quartette

**Resolution:**
- "Examples for Ireland" by T. B. Collins

**Essay:**
- "African and Modern Customs" by S. A. Perrine

**Musical:**
- University Quartette

**Debate:**
- "The Negro Question"


Decided in favor of the latter. The society has been doing good work this term. A decided improvement is taking place in the character of the program that are presented.

A large audience assembled on the evening of Friday, December 6th, to listen to the productions of the Alumni of Atheneum. Owing to the exceedingly inclement weather, two of the participants, Miss Florence Holbrook and Mr. Harley B. Mitchell were unable to be present. The music was furnished in a most charming manner by Mrs. E. R. Tolman, and was thoroughly appreciated. Dr. N. E. Wood then favored the audience with one of his characteristic, happy addresses, recalling many incidents, amusing and instructive, of olden days in Atheneum, and mentioning his interesting relations with Tri Kappa. He urged upon the members the necessity of thorough preparation for society work, and we trust that his remarks will be taken home by our society members.

Miss Grace Reed's Paper was heartily enjoyed, being, as it was, a compendium of history, philosophy, poetry and the drama. Her historical drama, entitled, "La Belle Americaine," elicited frequent applause. Her tragic rendering of the piece added much to its native humor.

The debate on the subject, "Resolved, that the Republican Party received a merited defeat in the last campaign," was too long, but good withal. Mr. Purcell took the part of the magnumwse and succeeded in making a very strong case, albeit he had to talk to a strong Republican house. Mr. Tolman averred, that he was no politician and then proceeded to prove it by not disproving several very glaring mis-statements made by Mr. Purcell. If we were to criticize the debate we should say that it was rather on the question, "Resolved, that James G. Blaine is a blackleg," than on the question at issue.

**ALUMNI NOTES.**

John M. Hanson and Hiram Hopkins are taking a medical course at Rush.

81. Wm. H. Morse is in the law office of Shaw & Gray, Minneapolis, Minn.

81. Orr P. Seward expects to settle soon in the West for the practice of law.

81. H. C. Van Schuack has been selected Admiral of the Farragut fleet.

81. Geo. Wright, formerly of 83, is responsible for nine and a half pounds of infamy.

82. Prof. F. L. Anderson is to emigrate to the state of matrimony during the holidays.

Omer R. Short, '88, is one of their right hand men, and is reaping the shedels plentifully.

83. Misses Cooley and Haigh were among the attendants at Atheneum's Alumni meeting.

82. F. H. Clark, who has been dangerously ill for six weeks with typhoid fever, is able to be about again.

83. Lu Weisenbeken, of the law firm of Carter & Weisenbeken, holds forth at rooms 46-48, 163 LaSalle street.

76. Florence M. Holbrook now has the entire charge of the Department of Latin at the Oakland High School.

82. Ed. Stone is now First Traveling Auditor for one of the North-Western roads, with headquarters in Minneapolis.

81-83. We noticed Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Gardner at the Atheneum Alumni meeting. Mr. Gardner starts for New Mexico soon.

We are glad to be occasionally able to present articles from the pen of Miss Mary G. Crocker, of Fort Sally, Dakota, formerly of '95.

78. H. E. Fuller is now pleasantly situated as pastor of the Baptist Church at Marion, Iowa, one of the prettiest little cities in the State.

80. We notice from his business card that W. H. Aspl is now a member of the firm of F. & W. H. Aspl, brick manufacturers. They are doing a thriving business.

88. Rev. L. T. Bush and wife were recently presented by their church with a handsome silver tea set. Mr. Bush is entering upon the sixth year of his pastorate at WeekGan, Ill.

Frank S. Cheney, formerly of '84, is pursuing a straight scientific course at Denison and will graduate with 88. "Frankie" wears a plug hat and a mustache, and intends to be an M. D.

81. Wm. M. Egg, General Secretary of the Burlington (36) Y. M. C. A., sends us a letter with notes to alumni. We hope all other alumni will send us notes of importance as may fall under their observation.

78. Geo. C. Ingham will be retained as assistant States Attorney by Mr. Grimnell for a few months, after which, in company with Luther Laffin Mills, he will open an office under the firm name of Mills & Ingham, for general law practice.

Hartland Law, formerly of '96, we believe, has moved upon us the other day, just from San Francisco. He has come East to be married on December 8th, to Miss Ada Ward, a Chicago lady. He reports the firm of Law, King & Law, of which H. S. King, formerly of '84, is senior member, as in a highly prosperous condition.

87. NORTHEAST, Minn., Nov. 24, 1884.

Publisher of The Volante, Chicago:

Dear Sirs—Hereinewith find draft for $10.00, my subscription for The Volante for another year. I am a little tardy in this, I know, but not from lack of appreciation of your paper, for I feel that we ought to give you a hearty support. The familiar appearance of the paper and its contents, awaken memories of years past which are always pleasant, and The Volante is always a welcome guest.

Yours etc.,

F. W. WELLS

78. Rev. Elida Anderson, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Rockford, Ill, had the courage to stand by his convictions and vote for St. John. In- sulting letters were consequently written him by members of his congregation, and finally, in order to prevent a split in the church, he was compelled to offer his resignation. If anything like this had oc- curred in the North, what a howl would have gone up from the "freedom of speech and of ballot" Republics of the North.

**FRATERNITY NOTES.**

Cooley and Collins were run in to Psi U. on Monday night, Dec. 6th.

Through the kindness of Mr. W. H. Aspl, '80, the Phi Psi now enjoy a fine piano in their hall.

The Zeta Psi have established a new chapter at the Case School of Applied Science at Cleveland. The oldest American college fraternity is Phi Beta Kappa. It was founded at the Old William and Mary College in December of 1776, by Thomas Jefferson. The next oldest is Kappa Alpha, founded in 1852, at Union College. The next, Mr. R. S. Motl, '81, and Prof. F. L. Anderson, '82, have established two annual prizes of fifteen and ten dollars respectively, for excellence in essay writing in the local chapters of Phi Kappa Psi. The
THE VOLANTE.

Successful contestants this year were D. J. Lingle and T. R. Weddel.

EXCHANGES.

$1,000,000 has just been given by Charles L. Colby to establish a new university at Milwaukee, Wis.

We quote the above from a number of our exchanges, not because we think it an article of news but because it is a curiosity.

We remember to have heard once of a principle of mechanics which declared that "a body once set in motion tends to move on indefinitely." We believe that kithenic this law has been purely theoretical, but judging from appearances we have at last discovered in this defunct and long-ago exploded scheme a practical exemplification thereof. Something which shall live to see even Hope die of old age, eternal Hope, which, we are told, shall

"over the hills smile,
And light her torch at nature's funeral pile."

Now, we do not like Mechanics, we never did believe half that it said, and after all the lorum it gave us, we do not intend to let it have the satisfaction of seeing its most doubtful truths thus vindicated.

So, "war to the knife" is our motto. And let no one dare hereafter to make this censored statement. If any one does we will inform the authorities and have such offenders convicted of grave-obliging, for such, we think, the box defines the digging up and pardoning of a corpse buried a year and a half ago. Please let it rest in peace.

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V V Very soft. . . . (R B).
V Soft. . . . (H No. 3).
M Soft Medium. (H 8 and No. 2).
M E Med. Medium Back. . . (F 1).
M Med. Medium. (H and No 5).
H Med. Hard. . . . (H H).
H Hard. . . . (H H H and No. 4).
V Very hard. . . . (H H H H and No. 5).
V V Very, very hard. . . (H H H H H).

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