

THE

CONCORDIENSIS.

UNION COLLEGE,

SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

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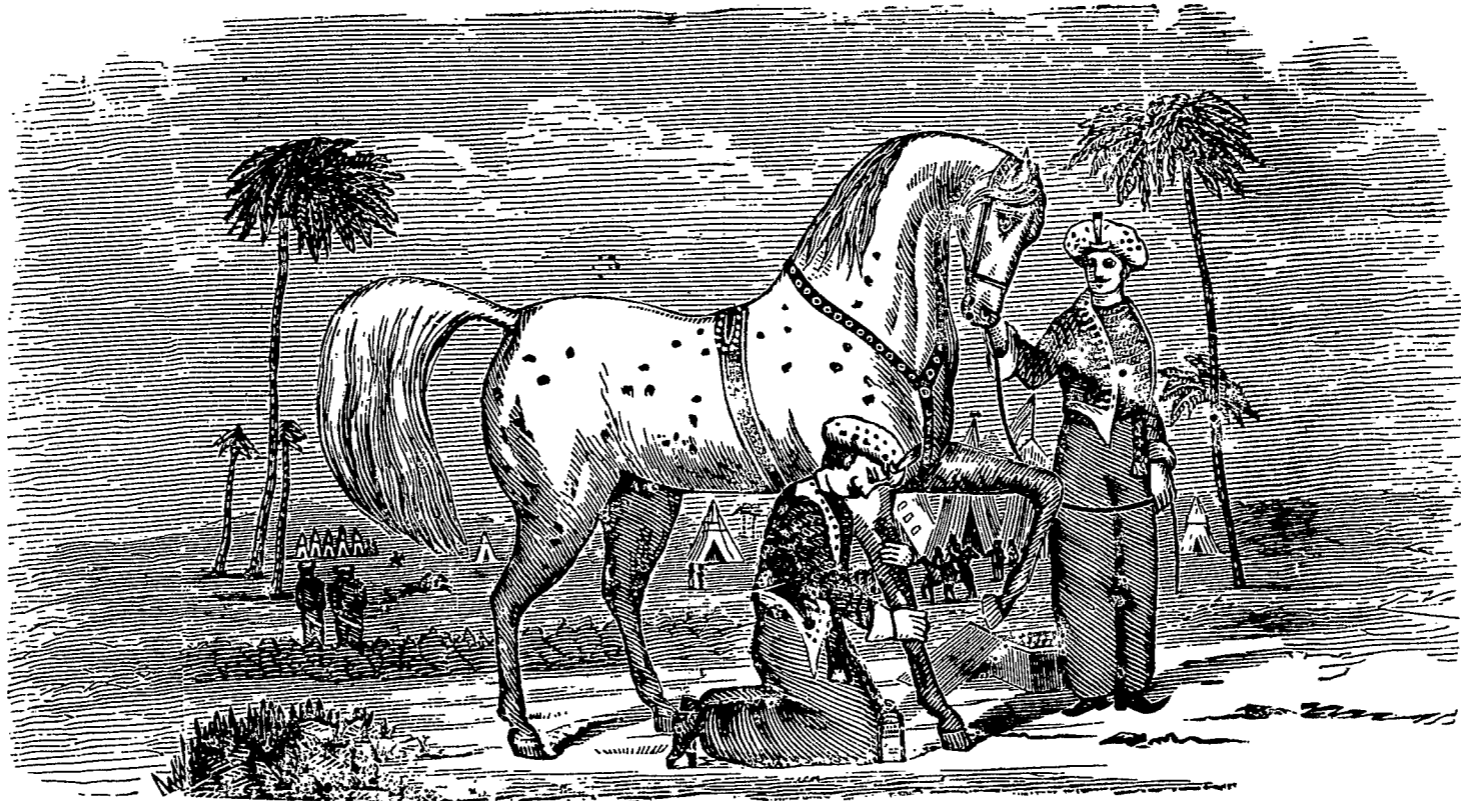


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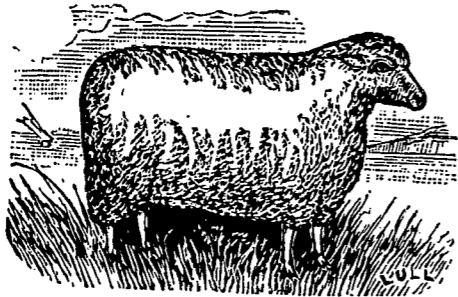
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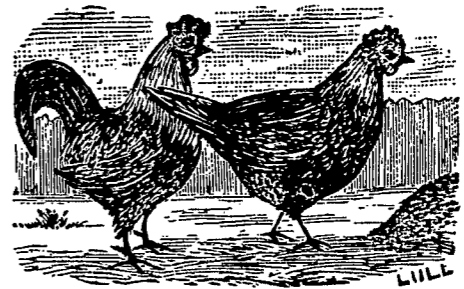
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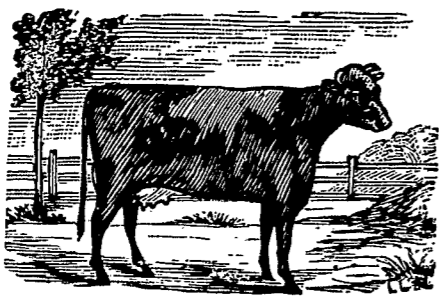


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VOL. X.

UNION COLLEGE, MAY 20, 1887.

No. 8.

Trailing Arbutus.

THE maples wave their beaded twigs,
Against the changing April skies,
Wherein alternate tears and smiles
Are wooing earth to life and joy ;
The builder's art the robin plies
While he with song the task beguiles.

The pussy willow's silvery tufts
Are nodding o'er the marshes' verge,
And near, the aspen's velvet fringe
Sways neith the starling's quick alight ;
The lengthening suns the hillsides urge
To take at once a greener tinge.

Now where the snow drifts late have lain,
And faded Autumn leaves still lie
The sweet Arbutus dimly feels,
New life awakening in her veins,
Stretches her leaves toward the sky,
The sunshine's kiss in flowers seals ;

White, where retreating Winter trod,
Pink, where Springtime's rosy feet
Stirred the dead leaves as on she passed,
Fair pledge, to an impatient world,
Of flowery dells with fragrance sweet
Of fields with blossoms sown broad-cast.

Thou Edelweiss of western Alps,
Close to our transient glacier's edge
I pluck thee, where thou bloom'st alone,
And like the Alpine suitor bold
Do take thee—my affection's pledge—
To her I hope to call my own.

And if my suit she doth accept,
Doth give me answering love for love,
She'll fasten thee within her zone,
Then breaks the Spring upon my life
And bright the heavens smile above—
Then will she sometime be my own.

The Mysterious Student.

IT was during last Christmas vacation that I heard the tale that I am about to relate. I had accepted an invitation from my chum, Harry, to spend Christmas with him, my parents being in Florida for the winter. I must admit that I accepted his invitation the more readily when I learned that his sister Grace, would be home from boarding school during my stay, for I had seen her picture and was quite anxious to meet her. I found

her even more beautiful than her picture and was becoming, to say the least, very much interested, when one evening during the latter part of my visit we were sitting in the parlor chatting when her father entered and patting her gently on the cheek inquired what we were talking about so earnestly. Grace answered, "We were arguing the relative fidelity and constancy of the sexes, papa, each taking the part of his own sex, of course." The old gentleman looked as if he thought this rather a dangerous topic for us but he said ; "I have often wondered if any woman could be more constant than poor Donald Moore was to his *fiancée*, I believe that I have never told the story with all of its particulars to anyone for years, perhaps you would like to hear it." Of course Grace begged for the story, seconded but weakly I must confess by myself, for I rather resented the interruption. The old gentleman drew up an easy chair, sat down and gave himself up to reflection for a few moments and then began. It was when I was in college at Yale that the event or rather series of events happened.

When I returned at the beginning of Junior year I found that the room directly across the hall from mine had a new occupant, but I did not see the man until I had been back several days, then I met him in the hall. He was of magnificent build, tall, deep chested and muscular, with black curly hair and a black mustache, he was dressed not elegantly but very nicely and had the air of a perfect gentleman, but the strangest feature was his face. He could not have been

over twenty-three or four yet his face had that tense, hard expression that is seen on men of many more years, he passed me in silence and I thought rather avoided my glance. After that I made inquiries about him and found that he had come from some other college and had entered the Senior class; but further than that I could learn nothing. He seemed to avoid everyone, and had, it seemed, not even an acquaintance in college. He had been invited to try for positions on both crew and nine but had refused in a very few words. This would seem to indicate that he was what was called in those days a "dig," but I found that in his classes he merely kept a respectable standing. All this puzzled me and I determined to find out something about this strange man; so one evening, under the pretext of borrowing a book, I knocked at his door. "Come" he said shortly in a deep voice, and I entered. He was seated in an easy chair in front of the fireplace and seemed to be gazing at a painting of a very beautiful girl which hung above it. He roused himself and asked shortly what I wanted, seeming a little irritated at being disturbed in his reverie. I excused myself for disturbing him and asked for the book I wished. He said nothing but turned to a book case filled with a goodly array of volumes many of them expensive; and as he searched for the book in question I took opportunity to look about me. The room was furnished with only bare necessities with the exception of the painting, books, and a large cabinet which was closed, but I noticed with surprise a beautiful pair of dueling pistols upon the table. Everything while being plain was of the best and in very good taste. Yet upon the whole the room seemed more like the office of a man of business than a student's room. He handed me the book and remained standing. I

attempted to start a conversation but found that it would be useless, so I withdrew. When I returned the book he met me at the door and took it without a word. For several days after that I lost sight of him, in fact I was so busy that I had but little time for anything but work.

But one evening I put down my books and went out for a short walk, I turned the corner of the street and ran full into three or four half intoxicated roughs who immediately started a row, claiming that it was intentional, and things looked bad for me although I was a good man in my day (here the old gentleman's face flushed and I could see his hands clench) when before I knew what had happened, the Sphinx, as the mysterious student was called, was in the midst of them striking from the shoulder like a battering ram. One of the fellows ran but the others lay on their backs on the pavement. He turned to me and said simply, "I came in time, let us go" and led the way to our rooms. When we reached the hall-way he stopped and said "I have done you a favor, before many hours I will ask one of you, good night;" and he entered his room. I was too much disturbed by late events to sleep, so filling my pipe I sat down to think of this strange man whom I could hear pacing the floor of his room. I thought of his strange words but was startled and frightened by hearing the deep report of one of his short barreled pistols; I jumped to my feet and sprang to his door which was not fastened—a sight met my eyes that I will never forget. On his back with the hot blood spurting from his side where his clothing had been burned by the discharge of the weapon, lay "the Sphinx." He was not dead but his eyes were fast becoming glassy—their gaze riveted in perfect peace on the picture of the girl above his mantel. The old hard expression had passed away

and in its place was one of sweet contentment. I knelt at his side, "Minnie," he gasped, "I will meet ——" and all was over. As it happened we were alone in the building, every one else having gone out to attend a meeting of some kind. I left him just as he lay, only closing the black eyes; as I knew that an inquest would be held. As I passed by the table my eyes fell on a paper fastened to the lamp. It was addressed to me and read, "I am alone, you are the only friend within 100 miles of me, telegraph to my brother (giving his address). You doubtless would know my secret. That cabinet contains it. I hereby make you trustee of all my effects until my brother arrives. Do not fail to explore the cabinet, as I would not have you misunderstand me. The light has gone out of my life, I therefore lay it down. Farewell. DONALD MOORE."

Beside this note lay another to his brother, and the keys to his cabinet.

I will pass over the inquest and the great excitement caused by poor Donald's suicide.

The next afternoon in obedience to his wish I took the keys and opened the cabinet. In the lower part I found a collection of medals, cups and letters, several filled scrap books and other matter which I looked carefully over and replaced. I found by these that he had come from Columbia and that he must have been a leader in every sense of the word; his medals and cups spoke plainly of his athletic achievements, his letters and papers of his scholarly attainments, while his scrap-books showed that he must have been a great favorite of every one, moving in the best society, and prominent in college organizations. Why then did he leave all of this to become a recluse? I looked for a reply in the upper part of the cabinet, I opened one of the drawers and found a lady's glove, a miniture of the same girl whose pic-

ture I have described, and several trinkets, but in a small case lay a diamond ring with the initials D. M. to M. B. H. with the date, then the truth began to dawn upon me. I opened the next drawer, it contained a package of letters written in his bold hand addressed to "My Darling Minnie;" and also written in a feminine hand a package of letters around which hung a faint perfume, all these I perused and found that they were to have been married, but that at the last moment she was taken sick and died. Donald with a strong man's love had never recovered from the blow. You know the rest." Here the old gentleman paused and said simply: "That is all;" but I noticed that his voice was husky. I looked at Grace, her face was buried in her handkerchief she arose and left the room without a word. I arose and bade her father good night and retired.

I look back upon that scene now and think of the story of poor Donald and his great grief and thank God from my heart that I was not in his place. For my life is as happy as his was miserable.

Grace is now my wife.

G. C. B.

Wordsworth's Intimations of Immortality.

IT is not a little singular that the poet who sought his themes among the most commonplace objects of life, and rushed to ridiculous extremes of simplicity should also have touched the loftiest chords of poetic thought and melody. It appears almost impossible that such poems as the "Idiot Boy" and "Peter Gill" should have come from the pen that wrote the "Excursion." While it is true that Wordsworth wrote too much to always write well, yet a more satisfactory explanation for the production of those simple and often silly verses which mar his works will be found in the fact that

he had given himself up to the influence of the poetical reaction begun by Burns and Cowper. Poetry in the preceding age had followed classical models, had been artificial, had lost its charm and elevating influence over the common people. It treated subjects in which they were not interested and in language to which they were not accustomed. In Wordsworth's early poems the pendulum swung to the other extreme. He contended that poetic diction should be similar to that of prose, that poetic themes should be the objects which are the most common and familiar. He sought to teach and elevate by simple means, to interpret the wisdom and tenderness that are displayed in the matters of every day life, to soften the hard materialism of a lowly existence by weaving over its most homely object the web of his imagination. In striving to accomplish this James Russell Lowell says: "He sets tasks to his divine faculty which is much the same as trying to make Jove's eagle do the service of a clucking hen."

His poems thus fall quite naturally into two classes, those in which he follows the dictates of the poetical revolution of which he had made himself the leader and defender, and those in which his genius weary of the pastoral reed puts the trumpet to his lips, and in which his eyes which have become dull by peering into the hidden wisdom and sentiment of material objects kindle with the divine fire. There is among his shorter poems no better examples of the latter class than the Ode to Immortality. This poem has been characterized by Emerson as "the high-water of English thought in the nineteenth century." It was composed partly in 1803 and partly in 1806 and was regarded by the author as one of the best of his productions. The mental mood out of which it grew, was substantially this: He looked

upon the, "dreamlike vividness and splendor which invests all objects of sight in childhood" as presumptive evidence of a prior state of existence, an existence traces of whose glory still linger about and tinge the experiences of early childhood. Immortality in the title of the poem means not only deathlessness, but also having had eternal existence prior to birth.

In seeking evidence of such an existence Wordsworth instead of advancing a philosophic argument which should support his position is loyal to his traditions, and appeals to the universal consciousness alone. He affirms that it is a shadowy notion, "an element in our instincts of immortality," and adds that while "the idea is not advanced in Revelation, there is nothing there to contradict it, and the fall of man presents an analogy in its favor."

The pre-natal existence of the soul was not a new idea with Wordsworth; it has been an ingredient of very many systems of philosophy and has entered into the creed of many religions. It may be interesting to trace the history of this idea through the various philosophic systems.

Five hundred years before the Christian era, Pythagoras taught that the soul descended from a higher world and inhabited the body as a temporary prison, from which, should it live worthily, it would be released to return whence it came. Should it live unworthily it would descend further into the bodies of brutes; and hence grew the doctrine of the transmigration of souls, which to-day is a part of the creed of many Asiatic religions.

The Pythagorean doctrine of the soul was elaborated by Plato. He claimed that the soul was indestructible, and by virtue of its rationality of a divine nature. While connected with the body it was subject to the conditions and impulses of sensuous life. It

still however retains its divine character, and hence the conflict between the lower and higher natures. While the soul rules and restrains the body, yet the body drags down the soul to a lower life and to forgetfulness of its high origin. The love of knowledge, the enthusiasm for the beautiful, the longing for an ideal existence, the constant endeavor of the spirit to rule the body, all, are indications of the divine origin of the soul, and promises of a future life in which these longings will be realized.

The soul which yields to the impulses of the body and becomes soiled by contact with the material world sinks continually into the bodies of the lower animals, unless released therefrom by a perfect life. It may by this means retrace its steps up through the lower animals to man, and by keeping its purity in each of its different bodies be released again to return to its first condition of perfect happiness.

The soul that lives worthily while within the body returns at death to a perfect condition of rest and enjoyment, then after a period of happiness, it takes up again its life in the body.

We note, too, in this another proof that "there is nothing new under the sun." The novel which has been most popular this year and has called forth most comment from the critics, has for the most striking feature in its plot a principal of the Platonic philosophy. It is altogether probable that Haggard is familiar with Plato, but it does not matter, the avidity with which the book has been read indicates that these thoughts concerning the human soul meet responsive thoughts in every mind. They are not the product of an individual fancy but are the common property of the race.

According to Aristotle the fourth faculty, reason, which constitutes the peculiarity of

the human soul, is not the product of the development of its other faculties, but is immaterial and self-subsistent. It came into the body from without and is of divine origin and separable from the body.

The Neo-Platonists compare the soul to a sunbeam which touches at once the earth and the sun. The soul whose original home is the ideal world, while not forsaking its former abode, has descended unwillingly into the sensuous life.

Since the Christian religion has influenced philosophy there has not been much attention given to this idea of the pre-natal existence of the soul, inasmuch as, a satisfactory explanation of its present existence is given in the character and power of God. It would also be difficult to harmonize the idea of a prior existence of the soul with the statements of Revelation. While, as Wordsworth says, there is nothing there which directly contradicts such a theory, yet it is incompatible with its doctrines, and the analogy which he claims we have in the fall of man does not seem to have any force whatever.

Apart from the sentiment of the poem, the melody and variety of its versification attracts and fascinates us. The alternation of long and short lines, the irregularity of rhyme and the interchange of feet give a delightful variety to the movement of the poem. The stanzas are of unequal length, each containing and elaborating but one prominent idea.

To those who are not familiar with the poem a few quotations will serve to indicate somewhat of the method in which the subject is treated. The following is the opening stanza :—

There was a time when meadow, grove and stream,
The earth, and every common sight,
To me did seem
Apparelled in celestial light,
The glory and the freshness of a dream.
It is not now as it hath been of yore ;
Turn wheresoe'er I may
By night or day
The things which I have seen I now can see no more.

The most famous passage in the poem, and one that states clearly the thought hinted at in the preceding stanzas is the fifth, part of which is here given. In its opening line we are reminded of Plato's assertion that all our knowledge is but a remembering, a recalling of what we knew in our former existence.

Our birth is but a sleep and a forgetting :
The soul that rises with us—our life's star—
Hath had elsewhere its setting,
And cometh from afar,
Not in entire forgetfulness,
And not in utter nakedness,
But trailing clouds of glory do we come
From God, who is our home,
Heaven lies about us in our infancy ;
Shades of the prison-house begin to close
Upon the growing boy.

While nearly all parts of the poem are equally good we cannot forbear quoting one passage which was lately criticised in a book brought by a lady in high social circles, as being wonderful alike for the consummate melody of its words, and its utter lack of ideas. This is the passage :

Hence in a season of calm weather,
Though inland far we be
Our souls have sight of that immortal sea,
Which hought us hither,
Can in a moment travel thither,
And see the children sport upon the shore,
And hear the mighty waters rolling evermore.

To say that the above lines are barren of thought, is to confess that one does not understand the object, and has not gotten into the spirit of the poem, and is consequently incapable of intelligent criticism.

Situation of Union College.

THE following description appeared in the *Parthenon* July, 1833:

The situation of Union College is most happily selected, and probably no institution of the kind in our country, receives greater beauty from the natural scenery which surrounds it. At present it consists of two buildings of brick, covered with plaster, and four stories high, each two hundred feet in length. Attached to each building, in the rear, is a colonnade of one hundred and sixty

feet, which contains the philosophical apparatus and recitation rooms of college. When the original plan is completed, the number of buildings will be seven—presenting a front of twelve hundred feet. Before the whole runs a beautiful Macadamised road for the distance of seventeen hundred and fifty feet, the lower side of which is supported by a wall eight feet in height. The buildings are situated upon a gentle eminence a short distance from the city of Schenectady, and overlook one of the most fertile and luxuriant valleys of our state, around which stretches a long line of hills, appearing as a natural safeguard to the pleasant and peaceful vale beneath.

The grounds attached and belonging to the institution, consist of about three hundred acres of cultivated land, enclosed and separated by a wall, the stone of which is wholly obtained from quarries within the enclosure. They are interspersed with meadows, nurseries, orchards and groves, and also with tasteful and extensive gardens, under the care and disposition of President and Professors, which are surrounded by fences of hedge, which serve the purposes of protection and add beauty to the gardens. Before the buildings, have been recently planted three groves of the locust tree, which in time will afford a delightful retreat by their verdure and possess a most luxuriant appearance. We can almost imagine, when these groves shall have obtained their full growth and luxuriance, a happy group, who will then fill the places which we do at present, reclining beneath the grateful shade which they will cast, in all the joy and contentment such scenes can impart. A short distance to the west, immediately in front of College, flows Mohawk river, a stream which is at present unnavigated, on account of the more convenient modes of transportation which this

section of county offers. With this stream is connected many romantic and interesting associations, most of which relate to those deeds of Indian valor or of Indian cruelty which distinguished those tribes who once dwelt upon its borders. On its eastern bank there stands a solitary and wide stretched tree, which is said to have sheltered a whole family from the ferocity of the Indians on the night of the burning of Schenectady. The tree is hollow, and the opening is large enough to admit a person, though he cannot be seen from without.

The city of Schenectady appears from the college hill to good advantage, and gives additional interest to the beauty of the prospect. In the rear of the college buildings, to the east, stretches a long and luxuriant wood, and in such a day as this, when Fahrenheit stands 80 above zero, may be seen through the trees many a group of students reclining upon nature's velvet, engaged apparently in the arduous task of unravelling the mysteries of some abstruse science—or, more likely in reading, and feeling too, the beauty of the sky, and the balm of a breeze, as described in some of our poetry. This wood stretches to the east a great distance, and in the summer days its cooling shade renders it a most delightful retreat from the scorching rays of a mid-day sun. A stream of cooling and glowing water winds its way through its bosom between its rocks and hills, at intervals widening and decreasing, and sometimes lost beneath its verdant carpet. It possesses many springs of cool and refreshing water, which can be raised to the height of seventy-five feet and could easily supply several fountains in front of college, which would give a new and beautiful addition to the grounds. There are also in the wood several sulphur springs, which possess many excellent medicinal qualities.

Such is an imperfect description of Union College. We fear that no one can conceive a correct idea of it from what we have written, and that the reader, if happily there be one, will have as just an impression of it, as before perusing this hasty sketch. To realize the beauty of the view which the college hill commands, and the peculiar adaptation of the situation for a college, it must be seen. There are many fine natural advantages possessed by it, which we have not enumerated. The scene which we are now gazing upon defies the power of pencil or pen. The valley, glowing with its summer fruitfulness—the river, which appears as a dimple upon its face—and the line of hills overlooking the scene, give to it a beauty which can hardly be surpassed. It is impossible to imagine a more beautiful sunset than that which gilds our evening sky. The "God of gladness" sheds no where his parting smile in a more gorgeous stream of glory than on the valley of the Mohawk. The heavens, to the meridian glow, with the brightness its fading beams impart, as over earth and on the wave is flung the dying effulgence.

A Query.

IF stars can clasp their myriad hands
Across the boundless fields of space,
And while in circling dance they sweep
Hold each the other in his peace:

If 'neath her lunar partner's smile
The earth's broad ocean-bosom heave,
And mighty forces, all unknown,
Through earth and heaven interweave:

If light can wing her groping flight
Down darkness' measureless abyss,
And bear to the most distant orb
A greeting in the sunbeam's kiss:

Why may not, then, a subtler force
Bind hearts that beat in unity
Of love, though they be parted far
By miles of land or leagues of sea?

Why may not sainted hands extend
Down from the spirit-world, and hold
Aloft the would-be murderer's knife,
And turn the miser from his gold?

LIBRARY NOTES.

All communications, inquiries, suggestions, &c., concerning this department, should be addressed to H. C. Mandeville, P. O. Box 410, and if of sufficient importance will be published or answered in these columns.

HISTORICAL.

WHEN Dominie Romeyn came to the village of "Schonectade" in the year 1784, to assume the pastorate of the Reformed church, he exerted his influence among his people and induced them to build a commodious academy building and commence therein the school which ten years later was chartered as Union college. In the resolutions passed in 1785, the citizens agreed to give this school their patronage and to furnish it with a library. Their contributions formed the nucleus of the present college library. The first record we have of this library is manuscript catalogue entitled "A Catalogue of Books Belonging to Union College" and dated October 30th, 1799. This catalogue shows the library then to have consisted of 151 titles, classified under History, Agriculture, Divinity, Natural Philosophy, Travels and Voyages, Biography, Law, Novels and Miscellaneous. Three novels composed the entire fiction of the library, viz.: Don Quixote, Caleb Williams and Cardinal D'Rebz. Under the head of history is found Buffon's Natural History, which would seem to indicate some little vagueness in the mind of the cataloger. Divinity leads in point of numbers, while law contains but six volumes. The next catalogue consists of alphabetical slips pasted in scrap-books; and covers in its latest pages, the earlier part of the society libraries as well as the regular college collection. Up to the year 1847, there was no regularly appointed librarian and in that year Johnathan Pierson assumed those duties in connection with his position as Adjunct Professor of Chemistry. From that

time until 1886, he continuously held the position in connection with his numerous college duties. Under his pains-taking and scholarly care, it steadily increased in size and took definite and intelligent classification. To Prof. Pearson the library owes its first organization and his able management secured its prosperity.

The books at this time were shelved above the college Chapel, where the museum now is. Among the principal additions made, were the purchase of the excellent Engineering and Scientific libraries of the late Prof. Gillespie containing some 1600 titles, and the Mathematical Library of John Patterson, of Albany. In 1877, Prof. M. Wendell Lamoreaux was made Assistant Librarian in connection with his professorship of English Composition and Declamation, and at the completion of Memorial Hall, the library now numbering 20,000 titles, was removed to its galleries. In 1884, it was again moved into the central portion of the Powers building which it now occupies. This building was constructed especially for library purposes and is well lighted, ventilated and entirely fire-proof. In the fall of 1886, the libraries of the Adelpic and Philomathean literary societies, consisting of about 5,000 volumes, were incorporated by the consent of those societies. In 1884, a complete card catalogue was begun, on the dictionary and analytical plan, which is now nearing completion. At the last meeting of the Trustees, Prof. Lamoroux was made Librarian and the library now numbering 30,000 volumes, is one of the most important departments of the college.

FROM HORATIO POTTER'S ADDRESS ON THE
LIBRARY.

YOUNG men in college will not write or think with any touch of elegance or refinement unless they have been good general readers, unless they have spent much time in the company of good authors. Now let us turn for a moment to the case of students who make up a large class of the undergraduates in many of our colleges and especially in rural colleges. Doubtless many students come from well-educated families, having the reading habits and liberal culture to which I have referred. But a large proportion of students come from families in which all these advantages have not been enjoyed. Perhaps the boy had not thought of a collegiate education, at all, until he came to the age of sixteen or seventeen. When admitted, being poorly prepared, he had to work hard to make out his daily tasks for the recitation room. Having previously acquired no taste for reading, and being tied as a slave to his dictionary and grammar, imagining that he has as much as he can do to maintain a decent standing in his classes in Latin and Greek and Mathematics, he has no thought for any liberal reading. His mind is likely to be hard and dry and mechanical, and utterly unproductive. His attempts at writing must be awkward for he has no store of thought within him, and no facility or elegance of expression from familiarity with good writers. Many such young minds have some very good qualities. They are earnest, diligent and often quick in their perceptions, and vigorous in a certain power of plain thinking. But *Commencement day*, which shows them at their best, often exposes the dryness, narrowness and sterility of their minds. They have no general literary culture. They are almost wholly ignorant of the rich treasures of English Literature.

They have never learned to love good reading. They know not what it is to be kindled with a glow of thought and feeling under the influence of poetry and oratory, historic fiction, literary biography, the finest of the old English gems from the essayists, the travellers, the historians. The danger is that if they leave college with no love of good reading, with only some cold mechanical instruction, they will go through life in the same state, with scarcely a touch of literary elegance, or enlargement of mind about them—no credit to their college or to the education of their country. *And what is the remedy?* It seems to me that if our men of wealth will give to Union College a good library, rich in literature, and provide for it fitting accommodation, suitable to the dignity of a college, and calculated to be inviting to the young men of the institution, it will not be difficult for the President of the college, and his associates, with their earnest interest in the object, to inspire the young men with a *love of good letters*, with a taste for the pleasures of literature; of course the students will never be allowed to sacrifice the necessary studies to their love of reading. The *prescribed studies* will be first of all enforced. But some little change and refreshment of mind in the way of good reading will keep them from idle and gross indulgences and send them back to their severest work with new zest and spirit, better satisfied with themselves and more eager for improvement in every way. I know no way in which our liberal minded, intelligent citizens of wealth can do so much to elevate the character of Union College and at the same time so much to elevate the character of the young men of our country, as enriching the library, and placing it in an imposing and inviting position. The Professors of the college will know how to do the rest!

THE CONCORDIENSIS.

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EDITORIAL.

THIS issue appears at a time when literary productions, and especially college papers, are not likely to receive the attention they deserve. The campus indeed is more attractive than our sanctum; yet the editors, either from habit or a feeling of duty and love for their work, have sought the latter to enjoy the pages of exchanges, and make these pages in some degree acceptable.

TO those who witnessed Field day exercises, the lack of training in several of the contests must have been evident. While we

rather admire the "gall" of men who enter without any training, still we think it is unfair to themselves, their class and their friends. Some men had been in training several weeks, working hard up to the appointed day; and it is a significant fact that every one of these men secured a medal. We do not like the idea of a man entering, getting his name upon the programme and then not appearing at the scratch. If he does not intend to compete he should not enter; and if he does enter he should be at the scratch if possible, as his failure to do so is an annoyance to the judges, and a disappointment to the spectators.

THE great variety of valuable prizes is a stimulus to the men in all the departments. While there are prizes for the encouragement of classical students, the prizes for oratory and essays are attainable by the scientifics also, and the engineers are rewarded for researches in electricity. The prize for the best extemporaneous speech causes development in a good direction; and the many competitors who throng the library are a proof of the good effects of all the prizes.

AMONG the few college customs that ought to be perpetuated is that of singing on the terrace in the warm evenings. With a view to this custom the "Terrace Song" was written; and it has in the past been the favorite college song. These gatherings on the terrace are the rare occasions when all the classes meet and have an opportunity of familiarizing themselves with the songs.

DURING the present term the lectures in chapel by Professor Wells have been a source of pleasure and profit to all the classes and many people from the city. Lit-

tle has ever been written about many of the places which the Professor visited, and his lectures contain much rare and valuable information. The benefits of travel depend not only upon careful observations, but also upon the point of view from which we observe. The Professor has shown us the South and Mexico as he saw them, and thus not only have we learned facts, but also how to profit by travel. It is too often the case that between a professor and the student there is fixed an impassable gulf, and that the latter learns of the former only by echoes; too often a college is entirely isolated from its town. But these lectures in chapel have been of a popular nature and appreciated by all.

COLLEGE spirit to many signifies a noise and class spirit a louder noise. While we believe that on certain occasions college spirit cannot be so well manifested in any other way as by a spirited yell or the chorus of a college song, still noise is not spirit. College spirit is an active interest in college matters; it may be shown in athletics; it may be shown in class affairs; it may, in a word, be shown in any college organization.

THE Joint debate, held in chapel May 7, was in all respects a success. Although the night was unpropitious, a large company was present from the city. How the debate compares in merits with those of other years we are unable to say; but both sides were carefully prepared, and presented in a plausible manner. Both societies have lately been doing good work; and the rivalry serves as a stimulus to each. It is believed that the under classes possess considerable argumentative ability; and many of their members have already shown an intense interest in debates, so that the prospect of the societies

is bright. It is sometimes said that it is hard to maintain a debating society when a large majority of the students are members of the fraternities. We know no reason for this assertion, as many of the most active and efficient members of the literary societies have been fraternity men, and as such is now the case. We hope that the closing public exercises of the literary societies will be a climax to the successful work of the year.

SCARCELY a man has spoken in Chapel upon a subject, however remotely related to our government in any of its phases, but seems to have felt it his imperative duty to score some kicks at the basis of our government, or to strike some blows at the heads of our departments, or to aim some thrusts at the vital principles of our institutions. Each speaker seems to feel it incumbent upon him to assume the position of critic, and with ruthless hand to lay bare the weakness of this political measure, or to undermine the structure of that governmental policy. One, assuming certainly an overwhelming appreciation of his own integrity and unselfishness, cries out indignantly against the astonishing corruption and self-seeking, manifest in all those connected with the administration of our government. Another, with touching pathos laments that statesmanship in America is a lost art, and points to Hamilton, Webster, and Stanton as representatives of a class now extinct. While yet a third, with a becoming seriousness discloses to us the giant evils that vampire-like are draining the very life of our national institutions. For all the evils, real or imaginary, that have been so graphically depicted, and which are so eminently calculated to appall the unsophisticated student of social science, no satisfactory remedies have been suggested. If any solution of "Our National Problem"

has been offered, or any scheme for meeting the "Coming Crisis" has been advanced, it has been couched in terms so general and vague, and has borne an appearance so altogether stereotyped and axiomatic as to be equally practicable in any specific case with the time-honored platitudes of Marcus Aurelius or the teachings of Confucius. Our government and its officers are public property, but there are better ways of showing our propriety in them than by seeking flaws in the one or vilifying the other. If we persist in thinking people rogues, as a rule, they will not disappoint us. It is easy to criticise, and not difficult to find ground for censuring almost any system into which human imperfections of necessity have entered; but unless we are convinced, and can convince others that we have something better to offer, let us not expend our energies in seeking to lessen public esteem in the existing system.

A WISE man has said "Histories make men wise," and the assertion has been generally accepted as true. Yet, strange though it may seem, no history whatever is included in our curriculum. The Historical Society that formerly did such efficient work, seems to be a thing of the past. Political economy occupies but a small part of the time it deserves. We believe that a department of History and Political Science is that which the college most needs, and hope that some of the classes now in college will get the benefits of such a department.

THE approaching Commencement bids fair to be an epoch in the history of Union. All feeling of factions having subsided, alumni from all parts of the country begin to manifest an intense interest in their Alma Mater, and to inquire into her needs.

Never before in her history have the scholarship and moral tone been so high, and these facts are making themselves known. These considerations together with the efforts put forth by Mr. Landon '86, will assure a large attendance at Commencement.

AS our next issue will be the Commencement number, the Library notes will be omitted. These notes have been of great practical benefit, and it is hoped they will be continued next year.

Field Day.

THE spring meeting of the U. C. A. A., was held Thursday, May 6, 1887. The day was all that could be desired and there were many spectators present. The only drawback was the condition of the track. The officers of the course were as follows: Judges, W. L. Pierson, M. D., Prof. J. R. Truax. Time-keepers, Messrs. T. Low Barhydt and Chas. W. Vanderveer. Scorer, Geo. C. Baker, '88. Starter, Mr. Everett Smith. Referee, Lieut. Benham. The committee of arrangements consisted of Hawkes, '87, Redfield, '87, Little, '88, Nolan, '89 and Mosher, '90. The first event, the 100 yards handicap, was won by Culver, '89, in 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ s., Hawkes, '87, second. The slow time was due to a poor start and to the winner being "pocketed" for the first fifty yards. In the half mile run Dillingham, '88, kept close to his only opponent, Ashton, '87, until the home stretch was reached. Then the men spurted and made a very pretty finish in the following order: 1st, Ashton, '87, 2m. 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ s., Dillingham 2nd. Hunsicker, '89 won the polo vault, clearing 7 6-10f. After a false start, the contestants in the bicycle race were under way. This being Towne's first appearance on a wheel in a year he gave up the race and Bates wheeled in in 2m. 17 $\frac{1}{4}$ s. Dillingham, '88 made

17ft. 7 5-10in. in the running broad jump. Barclay walked the mile against time (8m. 20s., the college record) and succeeded in making 8m. 43 $\frac{3}{4}$ s. Hunsicker, '89 secured another medal when he threw the base ball 296 7-10ft. In throwing the hammer, Hawkes, '87 was first, 68 2-10ft. Although Pickford, '90 had 12 yards handicap in the 220 yard dash, Culver, '89 succeeded in reaching the tape first in 25 $\frac{3}{4}$ s. Little, '88 won the standing broad jump, making 8 1.5-10ft. '89 won the relay race in 1m. 55 $\frac{1}{2}$ s. The consolation race was won by Pickford '90 in 12 $\frac{3}{4}$ s. The sophomores picked up a team for the tug of war on the field, instead of having a trained team, as they should have done, and were pulled out of their holes by the freshmen in 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ seconds. The following events were omitted: Second and final heats of the 100 yds. handicap and the three-legged race.

G. C. B.

The Alumni of the Northwest.

THE Union college Alumni association of the northwest, is a very large organization, and its members are greatly interested in the welfare of the college. They met at a dinner at the Hotel Richlieu in Chicago, Ill., last evening. There were a great many gentlemen present and the occasion was unusually enjoyable. Union college itself was represented by Mr. William P. Landon, a son of President Landon. The following telegram was sent to President Landon.

CHICAGO, Ill., May 4, 1887.

Hon. Judson S. Landon, President, of Union College:—The alumni of Union college of the northwest now assembled at the Hotel Richlieu in Chicago, send kindest greeting to their grand old Alma Mater, God her.

WILLIAM H. KING, President.

Judge Landon telegraphed in return :

SCHENECTADY, May 4, 1887.

William H. King. LL. D., President Union College, Alumni Association of the northwest, Hotel Richlieu, Chicago, Ill.:—Union college to her children in the northwest, greeting. Thanks my children for meeting in the name and for love of Alma Mater. She is proud of you. May you live long and prosper. Be good, for greatness you do not lack.

By order of Alma Mater.

J. S. LANDON, President.

Senior Dance.

THE senior class gave an informal dance at Arcade hall on the evening of May 6th. It was thoroughly enjoyed by all, and voted an entire success. There were sixty couples present. The hall was prettily draped with the class colors; tennis nets, with '87 upon them, were stretched from wall to wall, while pictures and other decorations helped to make a most tasteful effect. Bernardi furnished the music and Reeves the refreshments. The committee who had the dance in charge were: A. L. Bennet, chairman; C. H. Ashton, C. F. Bridge, H. McMillen, K. Radliff, F. X. Ransdell and N. M. Redfield. The floor managers were N. M. Redfield, C. F. Bridge and K. Radliff.

Base Ball.

THE following is the schedule of games formally arranged and adopted by the Inter-Collegiate League:

Rochester at Syracuse May 25th, 10 A. M.; at Hobart May 28th, at Hamilton May 3d, at Union June 4th.

Union at Hobart May 17th, at Hamilton May 18th, at Syracuse May 19th, at Rochester May 20th.

Hobart at Rochester May 11th, at Syracuse May 18th, at Hamilton May 20th, at Union May 21st.

Hamilton at Union May 30th, at Syracuse June 1st, at Rochester June 13th, at Hobart June 15th.

Syracuse at Rochester May 13th, at Union May 28th, at Hamilton June 4th, at Hobart June 11th.

The games on our campus will therefore be :

With Hobart May 21st, with Syracuse May 28th, with Hamilton May 30th, with Rochester June 4th.

Edison nine vs. Union May 11, 1887:

UNION.	A. B.	R.	1 B.	T. B.	P. O.	A.	E.
DePuy, 1 b.....	5	1	3	4	9	0	0
Mosher, 3 b.....	5	0	0	0	1	1	3
Hunsicker, l. f.....	5	0	1	1	0	0	1
McDonald, r. f. & s. s.	4	0	2	2	1	0	0
Little, r. f. & s. s.....	4	0	0	0	0	2	3
Pierson, 2 b.....	4	2	2	2	4	2	1
Athey, c. f.....	4	1	1	1	0	0	1
Reinhart, c.....	4	1	2	4	11	1	0
Johnson, p.....	4	0	1	1	1	12	0
Total.....	39	5	12	15	27	17	9
EDISON.	A. B.	R.	1 B.	T. B.	P. O.	A.	E.
Leavett, l. f.....	6	3	3	3	1	0	0
Hathaway, s. s.....	6	3	4	6	2	3	1
Cleary, c.....	6	3	1	1	9	1	1
Mountain, 3 b.....	6	2	4	4	0	3	1
Sullivan, p.....	6	1	0	0	1	10	1
Green, 2 b.....	6	0	4	4	2	1	1
Dorn, 1 b.....	6	0	2	2	12	0	1
Reilly, c. f.....	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wright, r. f.....	5	1	1	1	0	0	0
Total.....	52	13	19	21	88	18	6

R. P. I. vs. Union April 30, 1887:

UNION	A. B.	R.	1 B.	P. O.	A.	E.
Begley, s. s.....	6	1	2	3	3	2
Mosher, 3 b.....	5	1	2	3	1	1
Hunsicker, l. f.....	6	3	3	3	0	1
DeLong, c. f.....	6	1	2	0	0	1
McDonald, 2 b.....	6	3	4	1	0	1
Pierson, r. f.....	5	4	1	0	0	1
DePuy, 1 b.....	6	2	3	4	0	0
Reinhart, c.....	6	1	2	12	2	1
Johnson, p.....	5	2	1	1	15	2
Total.....	51	18	20	27	21	10

R. P. I.	A. B.	R.	1 B.	P. O.	A.	E.
Genebra, 3 b. & p.....	6	2	2	0	4	3
Rockwood, l. f.....	6	2	2	1	1	0
P. Aguilera, c.....	6	1	0	11	1	2
Warren, 2 b.....	5	2	4	4	1	2
E. Aguilera, s. s.....	6	3	2	1	7	0
Shields, 3 b. & p.....	5	1	2	0	7	5
Schultz, r. f.....	5	2	2	0	0	0
Arosemena, c. f.....	5	1	2	0	0	0
Thomas, 1 b.....	5	2	2	9	0	4
Total.....	50	16	18	26*	21	19

*DeLong hit by batted ball.

R. P. I. vs. Union May 14, 1887:

R. P. I.	A. B.	R.	1 B.	T. B.	P. O.	A.
Genebra, 2 b.....	7	2	4	2	3	2
Rockwood, l. f.....	7	6	6	2	1	0
P. Aguilera, c.....	7	5	7	4	8	2
Warren, 1 b.....	7	2	4	1	7	0
E. Aguilera, s. s.....	7	1	4	3	1	2
Shields, p.....	5	1	3	1	0	3
Lockhart, r. f.....	7	0	1	1	1	0
Grosfleck, c. f.....	6	2	4	0	1	0
Gardner, 3 b.....	7	4	5	1	2	1
Total.....	60	23	38	15	24	10
UNION.	A. B.	R.	1 B.	T. B.	P. O.	A.
Mosher, 3 b.....	8	3	5	3	4	1
Marvin, 2 b.....	8	3	4	4	4	4
*Hathaway, s. s.....	8	6	7	1	1	2
Reinhart, c.....	8	4	6	5	10	3
Hunsicker, l. f.....	8	4	5	3	0	0
DePuy, 1 b.....	8	2	3	1	7	1
Pierson, r. f.....	8	5	4	3	0	0
McDonald, p.....	8	5	6	5	1	1
Athey, c. f.....	8	3	3	1	0	1
Total.....	72	35	43	26	27	13

*As Mr. Johnson did not play Mr. Hathaway, an amateur from Schenectady, played short stop.

Of the class games played thus far the following are the scores :

'89 vs. '90.	
'89.....	7
'90.....	8
'88 vs. '90.	
'88.....	10
'90.....	6
'87 vs. '90.	
'87.....	7
'90.....	8
'88 vs. '89.	
'88.....	3
'89.....	6

LOCAL.

MISPLACED CONFIDENCE.

Four little maids before me I see,
That is, their pictures, I mean;
Two are brunettes, the others blonds,
Smiling with faces serene.

"Say little maids can I trust you?"
Pouting each answers back:
"When in the past did we fail you,
That now you should confidence lack?"

I smile to think that I doubted,
But across the table I see
My ivories gently meander.—
Four aces were too much for me.

G. C. B.

League games !

Who will get the cup ?

Are you on the stage ?

Seniors finish work Friday, 27 inst.

Commencement occurs Wednesday, June 22.

Dr. Darling lectures to the seniors twice a week on Christian Evidences.

During the present term Professor Wells is giving three public lectures a week in Chapel.

Prof.—“There is a comical side to the matter: What the power of woman is, is an unknown factor.”

A foot ball director and treasurer have been elected and a captain has already been chosen and has the team in training for next year.

Ashton, '87 and Dillingham, '88 are to be sent to Syracuse to compete in the Intercollegiate Field Day ; both will run the half mile, and Dillingham has entered the jumps.

Just before the game, May 14th, a gentleman from R. P. I., happening to see 16 to 18 written on the door of Memorial hall, quickly drew a handkerchief from his pocket (not to wipe away tears) and instantly ascended the steps. After doing considerable rubbing and scrubbing on the 16 with his handkerchief he abandoned the undertaking, feeling like Lady Macbeth, “Yet here's a spot.”

The Sophomores say that if the class of '89 decides to wear high hats on grand marshal night the hats will be imported from Schenectady, the Antique Union Hat Company having submitted the cheapest, as well as the most grotesque hat.—*Troy Polytechnic.*

The profit of advertising in the *Concordiensis* is evident, the cheapness of the hat has induced a class in a neighboring Institute to adopt it and enticed them to Schenectady for the purchase.

Winans, '89, has been elected President of the Philomathean society ; Blessing, Vice-President ; Nolan, Secretary ; Executive committee, Cole '88, Lewis '88 and Hanson '89. Miller '87, is valedictorian.

For the first time in several years both literary societies are having full meetings during spring term. No doubt this interest has been increased by the Joint debate, held in the Chapel, Saturday, May 7. The question was

Resolved, “That the student should be allowed to select at least one-fourth of the work of his college course.” The Philomathean had the affirmative, the Adelpic the negative. Cole, Miller and Lewis represented the former and Jaycox, Johnson and Ransdell the latter. Question decided in favor of the affirmative.

Seniors who delivered orations in Chapel, Friday May 13th:

Ashton—Disadvantages of Universal Suffrage.

Bennett—Leaves from a Senior's Note Book.

Bridge—Henry George and his Scheme for the Nationalization of Land.

Buell—Trifles.

Gulick—Whom Shall we Imitate.

Hawkes—A Social Question.

Huyck—Is Prohibition Advisable?

Johnson—Why Not be a Mugwump?

Furbeck, '87, was slightly injured while umpiring the Edison game.

If this issue appears late, it is because part of it has passed through the flames.

Personal.

✓39—Mr. W. J. Blake, is editor of the *Putnam County Republican*; he is also author of *History of Putnam County*.

'66—Mr. Monroe M. Cady, of Iowa, paid the city and his Alma Mater a visit a few days ago.

- ✓'80—J. V. N. Pruyn, Jr., is practicing law in Albany.
- '84—Dr. J. A. Heatley has opened an office on Centre street.
- ✓—Phillip has been admitted to the bar.
- ✓—E. H. Adriance has accepted a call from a church in Minneapolis, Minn.
- ✓'85—E. H. Fowler and M. M. Sweetland, were lately admitted to the bar. Mr. Sweetland is spending a few weeks in town.
- ✓'88—Brennan has been appointed resident physician at the Albany Homoeopathic hospital.
- ✓ MARRIED—'77—April 27, 1887, O. H. Rogers, of New York to Miss Helen L. Carley, of Schenectady.
- ✓'78—May 10, 1887, Dr. Chas. M. Culver to Miss Jessie Munsell, both of Albany.
- '86—H. J. Cole to Miss Gravlin of Albany.

Necrology.

- ✓'24—Alexander H. Dana, died at Mountclair, N. J., April 27, 1887. Mr. Dana was born in Oswego, July 4, 1807, studied law in New York city and began practicing before he was 21. He was the head of the firm Dana, Woodruff & Leonard until 1854, when he took offices with Clarkson N. Potter. Mr. Dana wrote the law articles for the first edition of Appleton's New American Encyclopedia, and was the author of "Enigmas of Life, Death and the Future State" and "Ethical and Physiological Inquiries."
- ✓'26—Wm. K. Thorn died in New York city, May 11, aged 80 years. Mr. Thorn, was son-in-law of Commodore Vanderbilt.
- ✓'85—Richard W. Franklin, died at Penn Yan, April 20, 1887. Mr. Franklin had been extensively engaged in manufactur-

ing grape baskets. He was one of the most prominent young men in the village of Penn Yan, and was highly esteemed by all who knew him.

The College World.

THE Yale law school is the only one in the whole country having a four years course.—Carey, '85, of Harvard, now taking a post-graduate course there, has recently given \$25,000 for the purpose of erecting swimming baths in connection with the Hemenway gymnasium.—Oliver Wendell Holmes, during his late tour in Europe, received honorary degrees from the Universities of Cambridge, Oxford, Edinburgh and Dublin.—The edition of the first number of the new Williams *Weekly* was about 1,000 copies.—Five Williams seniors will send essays on protection to the Protection Tariff League.—The Wesleyan Glee Club has given forty-six concerts since last June.—*Ex.*—Amherst has thirty-six alumni in Congregational Seminaries, Yale and Oberlin each twenty-one, and Dartmouth twelve.—*Ex.*—The oldest University in the world is the University of Paris, which was founded in 1200. The next oldest is the University of Oxford, founded also in 1200. The University of Valencia, in Spain, founded in 1209, is third in chronological order.—*Ex.*—The subject for a late debate at the University of Arkansas was: "Is the smile of a young lady brighter than sunshine?"—The Vassar girls are trying to introduce the Oxford cap and gown.—*Ex.*—The colleges of the United States contain 18,000 female students.—*Ex.*—A new gymnasium is soon to be erected at Vassar at a cost of twenty thousand dollars.—*Ex.*—Madison college prohibits marriage during the college course.—*Ex.* So does Union.—A member of the Junior class at the University of Michigan is 65 years old.—*Ex.*

THE CONCORDIENSIS.

NOTICES.

Frank Burton, of Gloversville, N. Y., kindly sends us the following:—Any one desiring back numbers of *The Concordiensis* for the purpose of keeping complete files, can obtain of me free upon request any of the following: viz., Nov. '81, Jan. '82, March '82, April '82, May '82, Jan. '83, May '83, Oct. '83, July '84, Oct. '84, Dec. '84 or Jan. '85. I also have a *Garnet* of 1880, which may be had upon application."

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THAT enterprising magazine "Outing" seems to have outdone itself in the April number. Mr. Thomas Stevens' correspondence is unusually interesting; the description of a carnival at Cologne is flowing over with humor; and the number is filled with numerous interesting sketches that render it an unusually welcome guest to the lover of sports and pastimes.

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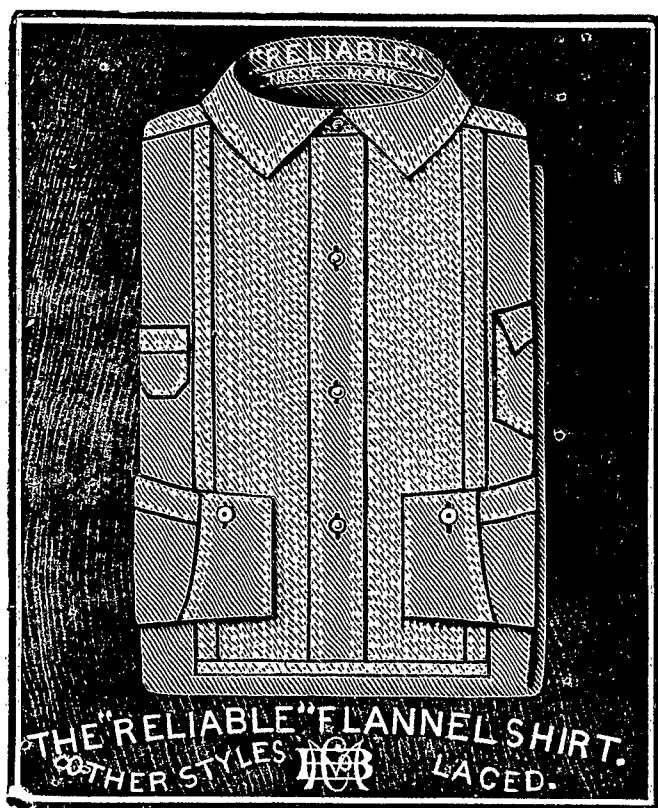
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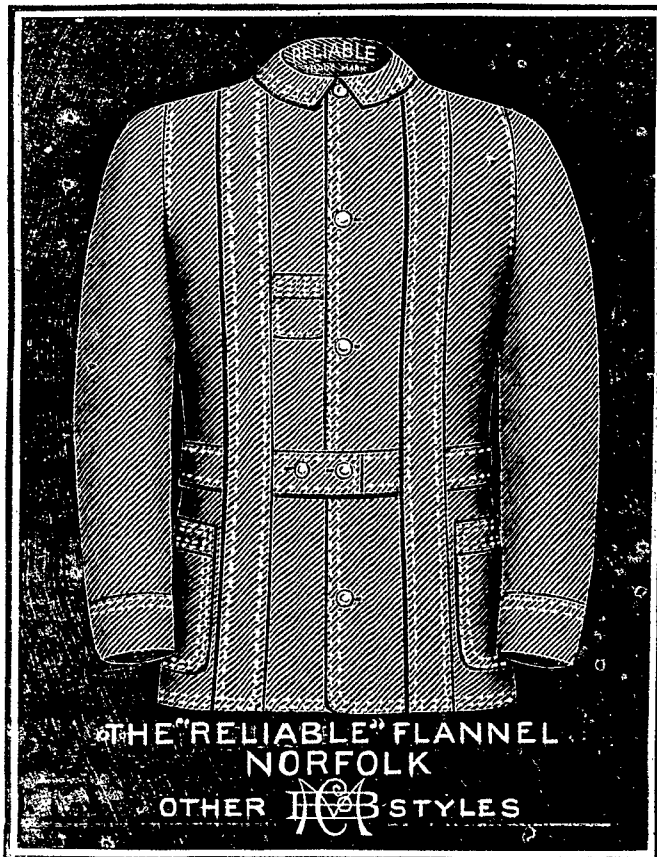
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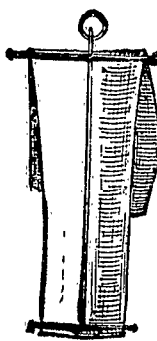
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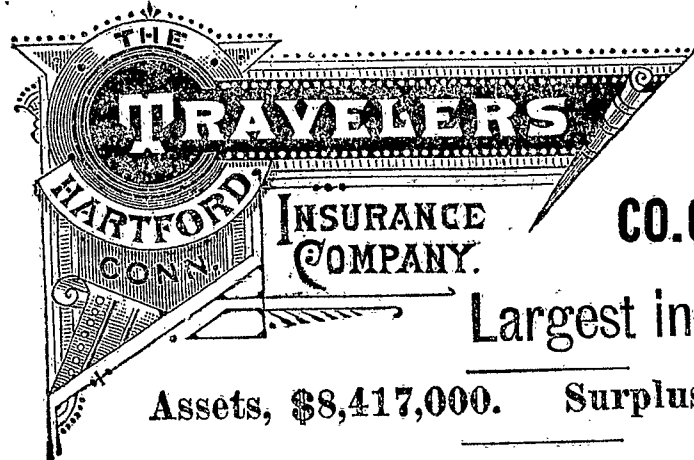
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