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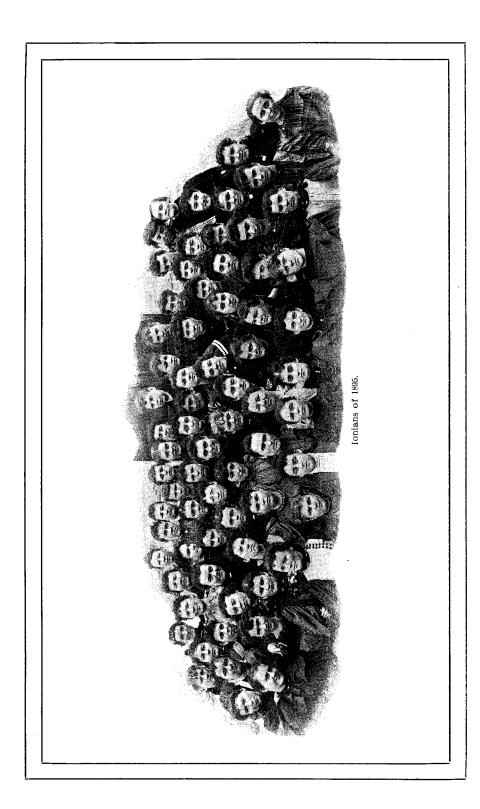
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Japan.

By Atsushi Miyawaki, '07.

For the last few years much has been said about Japan and its people, customs, government, religion, education, and so on. To say more about them is simply to repeat what has already been said, in different words—in this particular case, in poorer words. However, these poor words may be offset by the fact that they come from one who is a native of Japan.

There is perhaps no place better than the home. How humble and how desolated a home may be, it is the best spot in the world. It is but human nature to long for a home. So it is with a nation. The nation to which one belongs is the best nation for him. Naturally he longs for it and thinks it is the best. Germans believe Germany is the best nation in the world. So Americans think the United States of America is the best. Chinese never admit China is second to any nation. Japanese are also, like others, conceited and think Japan one of the best nations in the world. Japan may not be one of the best nations for anyone, but she is certainly a good country for Japanese to live in. There is no race hatred to contend with, like there is in some parts of America and in various other countries. To be sure, there were anti-foreign movements in Japan some half century ago, when Japan was first opened to the world. But this spirit has long ago passed away. Instead of hating the foreigners the Japanese respect them, if they are people from civilized nations, and welcome them. Some years ago they

used to call European people "hairy foreigners" or "monkey people," and Chinese, "pig tails." But such ways of calling foreigners have fortunately passed away. Of course it took a special effort on the part of the Japanese government to wipe out this anti-foreigner sentiment from the natives. The way the government accomplished this was through the agency of the public institutions. In Japan common school education is compulsory. Therefore it was comparatively an easy matter to induce younger generations to respect foreigners. In turn these vounger generations influenced older generations, with reasons. It is quite a distinct characteristic of the Japanese that they respect the teachers. How poor in wealth a teacher may be, he is always respected by the people in the community in which he is teaching. Therefore if he says a certain thing, and the pupils tell their parents, the parents usually accept it. provided there are reasons for believing it.

Some of the instructions that the writer received during his childhood in a humble Japanese village school were something like the following: "The colors of the faces or hair do not make any difference in human intellect and character. Black or white, yellow or red, whatever the color of a face or hair, what we are after is the intellect and character of a man. Do not be conceited and think that we are the best people in the world. Unless we have better intellect and higher moral character than the people of all other races in the world, we are not any better than any of them.

There is no man who is perfect. On the other hand, there is something worth while to copy after in everyone. There are some things to learn even from wild animals or plants. Therefore, do not cast any human being aside. Instead, strive to learn the best points in him. But never imitate a bad character. You must respect your superiors, but do not think whatever they do is all right. Always strive to uplift your moral character. It is the first of all things in the world. Moral character and intellect of our people measure the real strength of our nation. Our nation is one of the poorest nations in the value of gold. We do not have vast territories like other nations. We do not have as many people as other countries. The stature of our people is smaller than any other civilized nation. Therefore by the physical measurement our nation is the weakest nation in the world. But the value of the high moral character and intellect of any people is incalculable when considered by its worth in gold. If you young children grow up with higher morals and better intellect, our national strength will be such that the strongest nation in the world cannot disturb us with their material strength. But if you young children grow up with weak morals and poor intellects, the weakest nation in the world will sweep our country out of existence. Beware young children, it is threatening us now. As long as you have a race hatred in mind you cannot uplift your moral character and promote your intellect. Welcome foreign religions, study them and compare them with ours, and take the best from each. Welcome the foreigners, learn from them to better your intellect. As long as you have 'yamato damashii' in your mind a ground is well prepared; therefore, transplant the best foreign ideas, grow them with care and try to better them with skilful cultivation with

'yamato damashii.' Do not forget that above all nations is humanity,'' etc., etc. In Japanese common schools, among others, ethical instruction is given one hour every day to every class from the first to the eighth grades, usually by the principals of the schools.

It is understood in foreign countries, and Japanese themselves accept the view, that the Japanese have class distinctions and are very undemocrat-It was indeed true some years ago, but it is dying away very rapidly. At present there is almost no difference between the nobility and the common people. Common people have just as much chance to be in government offices, in business, or in the navy and army, as do the nobility. Especially in the government people have strong power. It is true that Japan is governed by a monarch, an Emperor, but in reality the people are the ones who run the government. The legislative body of Japan consists of the House of Peers and the House of Commons. House of Peers consists of delegates appointed by the Emperor from among the nobility and wealthier people. House of Commons consists of delegates elected by the people. House of Commons has the strongest power in the legislation. It is a frequent occurrence in Japan that the House of Commons is dissolved by the Emperor on account of disputes between the Imperial Cabinet and the House of Commons. But by reëlection most of the older delegates return to the House again, and they usually win the victory in legislation. In such case, the Cabinet officials usually tender their resignations to the Emperor. It is almost impossible to do anything against the sentiment of the people. If Cannon was a member of the Japanese legislative body he would long ago have been forced to resign. The only person who can move the sentiment of the people is the Emperor. If he orders a certain thing done the people will obey him without a word of dispute. This may seem strange to Americans, but it is not the least bit strange to Japanese people, because Japanese are taught to obey their superiors—the younger brother must obey his elder brothers and sisters: children must obey their parents; parents must obey their grandparents; soldiers must obey their officers; inferior officers must obey their superior officers. That is the only way a family can preserve peace and order. That is the only way the military machine will work smoothly. So with the nation—the people must obey the order of the superior, the Emperor. The Japanese nation is nothing but a vast family, the Emperor being the master of the family. In fact, if we trace the Japanese race back to its early history, it was originated from one or a very few families. Without taking traditional history into account, the Japanese Empire has existed for two thousand five hundred and sixty-nine years. During these years families were divided and sub-divided and multiplied to its present multitude. The Imperial family is the family directly descended from their original one. Therefore, the Imperial family is the head family of all the families in Japan, and the Emperor is the head of this head family, hence the head of all the people in Japan. For this reason, all Japanese love their Emperor and obey his orders without a word of protest. Like some rulers in various nations of the world, the Japanese Emperor is an absolute monarch. But he is not like some absolute monarchs in other nations. He is kind and thoughtful to the people. He loves his subjects like a thoughtful father loves his children. He never asks unreasonable things from the people. He is not despotic. He is always considerate of the welfare of the Japanese These things are true not only with the present Emperor, but were true with all the other one hundred and twenty emperors of past years, who were descendants of the one head family. All the Emperors have shown their fatherly love to their children, the people. In return they have received only love from the There were in times past people. many civil wars in Japan. But no one has yet tried to overthrow an Emperor. The wars were waged to get the Emperor on their own side. In this respect all Japanese civil wars of the past were different from the civil wars of all other nations. The present Emperor is one of the best Emperors of Japan, and among other things he lavs very strongly his stress upon the education of the Japanese people. One of the Imperial Decrees is as follows:

"Our ancestors founded the state on a deeply meditated plan, while their virtues were implanted with deep and far-spreading roots; and our subjects, loyal to their Soverign and dutiful to their parents, have all been as of one mind, and have thus in every successive age been able to bring to maturity the beauty of their character. Such is the essence and flower of our national polity, and such is verily the source from which our educational system takes its origin. You, our beloved subjects, ought to be dutiful to your parents, affectionate to your brothers, loving to your wives or husbands, and truthful to your friends. You must deport yourselves with humility and moderation; while in your relations with your fellow creatures you should practice an enlarged benevolence. You should develop your intellectual powers and ripen your moral capacity by acquiring knowledge and by learning some business pursuits. You should then proceed to promote the public interest and give extension to the affairs of the community, always respecting the constitution and obeying the laws of the country. In case emergency demands

it, you should courageously sacrifice yourselves to the public good, and thus offer every help for the maintenance of our dynasty, which will be eternal even as are the heavens and the earth. You will thus not only be our loyal and faithful subjects, but will serve to display the good character of your ancestors of old."

"These are the precepts which have been bequeathed to us by our ancestors, and it is the duty alike of their descendants and of their descendants' subjects to observe them. These precepts are sound, whether viewed in the light of the past or in that of the present, and are found to be correct, whether practiced at home or abroad. It is our wish that we, in common with yourselves, laying these precepts to our hearts, may equally attain to the same virtues."

Educational institutions are free to all and very democratic. As has already been said, common school education in Japan is compulsory. Children of six to fifteen years of age must attend school. There are no exceptions allowed by the national laws. The common schools are divided into primal and higher common schools of four years each. Children of very poor families may be excused from further schooling after completion of four years work in the primal schools. Next to the common schools stand the middle schools for boys and girls. These middle schools are five years long, and pupils are admitted almost invariably by entrance exam-High schools of three inations. years duration admit the graduates of the middle schools by entrance examinations. The universities are the highest educational institutions in The graduates of the high schools are admitted only by severe entrance examinations. The universities are three years in duration. Besides these institutions, there are common normal schools of four year duration, to which graduates of common schools are admitted by severe entrance examinations. Students in common normal schools get board, rooms, clothing, text-books, other necessities, and a small amount of cash. Therefore, poor boys or girls who do not have any means to get further education than common school education, but have ambition and zeal, can enter these schools and become teachers in common schools. A limited number of bright graduates of common normal schools is admitted to high normal schools for further education. The graduates of high normal schools become teachers in middle and common normal schools. There are technical schools of various kinds, just as in America.

Agricultural education in Japan is Elementary agriculture is taught and practical work is given to the boys in the common schools: girls receive instruction in sewing and manners instead. There are various common agricultural schools of one to two years duration and agricultural institutes of three to twelve weeks duration. Secondary agricultural schools are divided into two classes. A and B. A class agricultural schools offer a three-year course, while B class agricultural schools offer a two-year course. To these secondary agricultural schools graduates of common schools are admitted. There are higher agricultural schools than those given. They are called high agricultural schools and offer three-year courses to the graduates of the middle schools, who are admitted by entrance examinations. The universities offer the highest agricultural education, the graduates of which receive a degree of "Nogakushi," meaning scholar in agricultural sciences.

Coëducation is not dreamed of in Japan. Boys have their own schools, so the girls have their own. The only schools where boys and girls go together are the common schools.

Even these schools sometimes are divided, especially in the larger towns or cities where they can afford to build separate buildings, buy separate equipment, and hire separate teachers.

The student life in the Japanese schools and universities is very democratic, simple, and joyful. There is no barbarous custom as student dueling like in German universities, nor is there a single fraternity. In most of the universities and schools, except the common schools, the students and pupils room in dormitories with very little expense, rich and poor alike. They enjoy the same meals, the same social life, and the same studies. These dormitories are supervised by faculties under strict rules, so to promote the moral character of the student and to discipline order, regularity, and promptness. All the student meetings are held in the dormitories, subject to inspection by the faculty members at any time. students are allowed to do anything they want on such occasions, provided they do not break the moral code. Drinking is strictly prohibited, even on such occasions. Japan cannot, like Kansas, be regarded as a strictly prohibition state, but she is a semi-prohibition country. The national laws prohibit a person under twenty-one years of age from drinking liquors and from smoking any kind of tobacco. Fortunately, there is no chewing tobacco in demand in Japan, hence it is not manufactured or sold in Japan. It is hoped that Japan will become an absolute prohibition country some time in the near future-before the United States is one, if possible.

Schools in Japan are in session five and a half days a week, instead of five full days like it is in the United States. The half-day comes on Saturday, and there is no school open on Sundays.

The most striking differences in the

educational systems in Japan and in the United States are, that in Japan ethical instruction and military drill play the most prominent part in Japanese education of young people. As has already been referred to before, ethical instruction is given to all children one hour every day in the common schools by the principals. Likewise in the middle schools, high schools and all other schools, especially in normal schools, ethical instruction is given, based upon the moral codes, set forth by Buddah, Christ, Confucius, and many other great men and women. Examinations are given to the pupils each term upon this subject and they are graded accordingly. Deportment of the pupils is also graded, just as well as any other subjects. In the higher colleges and universities this is not taught as a regular subject for a credit, except in certain courses. But students are summoned from time to time in assembly halls and the presidents of the colleges and universities give lectures upon the moral conduct of good citizenship. If any student shows moral misconduct he will be dismissed and there will invariably be a grand summon of student bodies by the president. Earnest appeal, advice and warning will be given by the president.

. The military drills are given to the boys in all schools at least four hours a week. No male pupils can get excused from military drill unless they are so badly crippled that it is absolutely impossible for them to drill. In the higher colleges and universities, however, military drills are not taught, except in military academies and in the university. The instruction in military drill is very much more severe in the higher schools than in the common schools. Especially is this true in the boys' normal schools, where it is almost as severe as in the regular military schools. The idea in teaching mili-

tary drill is not simply to teach the art and to give physical training, but its primary object is to make the boys orderly and prompt in their actions and to make them obey the order and respect their superiors.

Japan has one Emperor, but does not have so many kings, like Railroad King, Steel King, Sugar King, Oil King, etc. Railroads in Japan are mostly owned by the government, therefore there is no man who can control the rates. There is no Oil King in Japan, who controls the price of oil at his will. Even the Standard Oil Company cannot control Japanese oil. To be sure they tried it in Japan, but it did not work out. If there are any corporations which become too aggressive and monopolize the people's profit and control the prices, the government will soon take the matter up according to the people's sentiment and they will be under government control. The Japanese people do not eat very much meat, therefore there is no Beef King to obev. The chief diet consists of rice in place of bread and butter, fish or poultry products in place of beef, and vegetables of all sorts. The chief fruits in the southern part of Japan are persimmons and oranges. In the northern part they are apples and cherries.

One of the greatest misconceptions that American people have regarding Japan is the climatic condition. Generally speaking, American people think that Japan is a pretty warm country. On winter days this question is often asked of Japanese: "Does it get so cold as this in Japan?" When such a question is asked of the writer his answer is always, "Oh, yes." The next remark from the inquirer usually is, "Well, I thought Japan was a pretty warm country." The reasons why Americans in general have such an idea may be manifold. One of the reasons may be that a warm current sweeping

along the Pacific coast of North America is called the Japan Current. but this same current is not called by that name in Japan. It is called the Black Current, for the reason that where this current is running it is intensely blue, so that it almost appears to be black. This current sweeps the southwestern coast of the Japanese main island. But it turns to the northeast and reaches the northern part of the North American coast instead of the northern coast of Japan. Therefore, the northern part of Japan does not get the benefit of this current. Instead, it is under the influence of the cold Arctic Current. Another reason may be that Japan is often said to be a sun-rising and flowery nation.

Notwithstanding Japan is small it has a long strip of islands extending from north to south from almost the tropical to the arctic regions, and thus has great varieties of climate, tropical as well as arctic, hot and cold, warm and cool; also, it has almost everlasting spring weather the year round in some places. place where the writer was born belongs to the latter type. The winter is not very cold, though occasionally it snows. But the snow melts away almost instantaneously. Daffodils are blooming in the gardens from December to March. From the latter part of December to the middle of February beautiful plum blossoms may be seen everywhere and the sweet songs of the nightingale may be heard. There is a song of a little geisha in Kimono:

"The nightingale stepped in the sweet spring rain. The plum blossom odorous in the breeze of her wings,

Oh, how dear they play, she and he,
Even the little bird has her own mind

To fix her resting place.
I would be that nightingale,

Oh, would you that blossom be!"

The plum blossom is always associated with the nightingale, and when the Japanese think of the beauty of the plum blossom they at once think of the sweet songs of the nightingale. Once upon a time a plum tree in an Imperial garden had died and the Emperor ordered his men to plant another one in its place. His men found it and asked the owner to give it up for the Emperor. The owner finally consented for the sake of the Emperor and presented it with the following verses: (Brinkley's translation)

"Claimed for our sovereign's use, Blossoms I've loved so long. Can I in duty fail! But for the nightingale. Seeking her home of song, How shall I excuse!"

Piggott says in Garden of Japan:

"Home friends change and change, Years pass quickly by Scent of our ancient plum tree, Thou dost never die."
"Home friends are forgotten, Plum tree blossoms fair. Petals falling to the breeze. Leave their fragrance there.
"Cettria's fancy, too, Finds his cup of flowers. Seeks his peaceful hiding place In the plum's sweet bowers.
"Though the snow flakes hide And thy blossoms kill, He will sling, and I shall find Fragrance incense still."

Thus, the people of the writer's home place have enjoyment with flowers and songs of nightingales during leisure hours of winter days. The tea parties are in order here and there from day to day. Strange to say, when snow falls the people at home do not miss a chance to have a snowviewing party, together with a plumblossom party. When it snows, although it is not extremely cold it cannot be very warm. So they have a little hearth with a charcoal fire, in the middle of the parlor (there is no parlor like as in the American home), to keep the room warm, but they have the doors wide open to get the clear vision of the outside. The structure of a house at the writer's home is such that a house can be opened almost all around like an open shed. It can be closed almost air-tight when desired. So when all the doors of a room are taken away the room is open to the outside its full length without an inch of obstacle. The rooms are fixed in the same way. They are divided by sliding doors. When a big party is to be held and a large room is needed, the partition doors are all taken away and all the small rooms are consolidated to form a big assembly hall.

From March on, spring flowers are seen blooming in the garden, by the roadside, on the banks of rivers, on the hillside, in the meadows, on the mountains, in fact almost everywhere. Of all the beautiful spring flowers, the cherry blossoms, the spirit of Japan, are the most famous. They are the dearest flowers to the mind of Japanese people. The writer, having been in a foreign land without friends to visit or to be visited to comfort his lonesomeness, often dreams of home and a big cherry tree full of beautiful flowers in front of his father's house. Whenever he dreams how dear his mother was he is reminded how beautiful the blossoms were. Whenever he thinks of his father he recalls how proud he was to take cut blossoms to his uncle by father's request. Whenever he catches a vision of his little sister he is reminded how she and he played so innocently and carefree under the big cherry tree. How she laughed when a soft petal fell down on her face! The cherry blossoms are the emblem of the Japanese character. Doctor Nitobe writes:

"Isles of blest Japan!
Should your Yamato spirit
Strangers seek to scan,
Say—scenting morn's unlit air
Bless the cherry wild and fair!"

The cherry blossoms are almost everywhere in Japan. But those of Mount Yoshino are best known, as the following lines show:

"Beyond the mist I know not what;
But what I see is all the cherry blossoms."

The cherry season is a busy time for farmers, but no one fails to have a cherry-blossom party once every year. The parties are not held in the house, as the snow and plum-blossom parties are, but are held in the open air.

When the cherry blossoms are scattered away by a morning wind, beautiful iris blooms everywhere in the month of May. This flower is not so much appreciated as are the cherry blossoms, but it is, nevertheless, recognized to be one of the best flowers in Japan and its praises are sung by This flower and the peach blossoms, which are equally as famous as the plum blossoms, make the farewell to spring. The farewell presents are silk dresses for the young girls who were so helpful in raising the silk worms, spinning the cocoons and weaving the silk cloth at this time of the year. Then summer comes.

The summer at the writer's home place is not so extremely hot as one may think by judging from the warm winter. During the summer months winds blow from the north, bringing cool, pleasant breezes. Bathing in the salt and fresh waters is in order. In the field skylarks are peeping. In the forest, wisterias are blossoming and are very fragrant. In the meadow, lespedeza blossoms are blooming. The pheasants are hatching their young in the bushes. The water lilies float in the ponds. The boys find enjoyment in hunting for muscle shells on the shore, while out on the sea the fishermen catch fish in their nets by the hundreds. The children play on the cliffs with large fishing poles. At night the lightening bugs illuminate the entire village. It is one of the amusements of the children to catch them and cage them in a cage made from barley straw. Music from flutes made from bamboo trees is heard here and there until almost midnight. These flutes are played by young men of the village, mostly on the public road, at night, during this time of the Yonder school girls' sweet songs are heard, there school boys' military commands sound and resound, and here tender nurses' lullaby songs are sung. As the night deepens owls and tortoises send the children into their beds.

The days become cooler and the harvest time comes. Farmers are cheerful with the golden harvest of rice. The deer are found under the golden maple trees. Delicious pine mushrooms are beginning to grow under the shade of the pine trees. Pines, cedars and bamboos are green, but all others are getting golden, brown, and gray. Boys, get ready! The chestnut hunting season is here and the persimmons are ripe. Soon everything is dead. The field is gray, the forest is open, but see the garden. Nature does not disappoint the habitants. The chrysanthemums, the imperial emblem, are blooming in all their pride.

Such are the conditions at the writer's home place. But the place where he went for higher education is about fifteen hundred miles northeast of this place and is very cold in winter. The snow is much of the time about four feet deep on an average and lasts from the middle of November until the middle of March. But it is a steady cold during that time instead of being extremely cold one day and pretty warm another day, as the weather often is in Kansas. On the whole, the weather is very uniform. Skating, sleigh-riding, snow-ball fighting and hunting are sports among the younger people during the winter time at this place.

The scenery and plants here are very similar to those in America. When Americans visit this place they invariably say that they feel at home. The houses are built rather on the style of American houses. Here the most of American cereals, vegetables and fruits, except oranges which are raised in the extreme southern part of Japan where persimmons grow, are raised. The methods of farming are very similar to American methods. The most of the agricultural imple-

ments, imported from America, are used in this place.

So Japan is small, but has variety.

Some Impressions of Old Mexico.

By Willis W. McLean.

The first trip that many people make to Mexico is apt to be disappointing. From early childhood they have pictured Mexico as a country of tropical verdure, with damp forests filled with luxurious vegetation and inhabited by all sorts of savage beasts and venomous reptiles. But entering the country from El Paso one may ride for two days and nights to Mexico City, and from Laredo and Eagle Pass in a little less time, without seeing anything of the kind. True, here and there one may see cultivated fields of corn and cotton and even cattle by the thousands. Yet the general impression is one of a great, barren desert. Many people come to Mexico City and go back to the States, thinking that Mexico is an arid desert. Tell such people that there is good agricultural land in Mexico and they will laugh at you and say they have seen it all and they would not give five cents for the whole country. And they are dead wrong.

Quite true that much of the land they have seen is not the most favorable for agriculture. Rain is too infrequent and uncertain. Yet the land is naturally rich and a great deal of it can and will be brought under cultivation through irrigation. Here and there experiments are being made and the government has several immense irrigation projects under way. Canals are being dug from many of the big rivers, and where these are not available great reservoirs are being built to collect the rain that falls on the mountains and runs down the valleys in impetuous and useless torrents.

Grant that the above is true of the great central plateau of Mexico and that irrigation is the only solution,

yet there are still many thousands of acres of land as rich and as fertile as any on the globe and which need no irrigation. It is of this land that I wish to write.

Perhaps the best way to do this is to describe a three-weeks' trip that I took a year ago last summer. While recovering from an attack of typhoid fever at the American Hospital, I met a gentleman in exactly the same condition. After the nurses had wheeled us out upon the long sunny porch we used to fall into conversation upon various subjects. I learned that he was a University of Michigan and Columbia University graduate who was now interested in Mexican lands. He was expecting to look at some property as soon as he recovered sufficiently, and, upon his cordial invitation, I promised to accompany

So a few weeks afterwards we found ourselves on a sleeper bound for Vera Cruz. This is about an eighthours' run from Mexico City and the scenery is magnificent, although we saw little of it on this trip. The descent from an altitude of about 7500 feet to sea level takes but a few hours and often causes a ringing in the ears and other discomforts, but fortunately I was not affected, although many others complained.

Arriving on time at Vera Cruz the next morning, we went immediately to the hotel where we changed our clothes for some of lighter weight. Then came breakfast, to which we applied ourselves with two typical typhoid appetites. I might as well confess right here that we took these same appetites along with us for the entire trip. Vera Cruz is a thriving seaport of about thirty thousand inhabitants and is the principal port of entry from all European points and from New York by water; excellent steamer lines connect with all important ports. Formerly this city was the hot-bed of yellow fever, but with the

coming of paved streets and better sanitation this is becoming rarer all the time.

That afternoon we went aboard a Ward Line steamer bound for Progresso, Yucatan. This proved a very delightful experience of a day and a half duration. The weather was ideal and the waters of the Gulf as blue as the bluest, with an occasional sight of a porpoise or flying fish. After two pleasant nights and a day we arrived at Progresso, where we found awaiting us the gentleman whose land my friend was going to inspect. The former is a senator in the Mexican Congress and proved a pleasant companion. The first sight of Yucatan is not very encouraging. It looks forlorn and sandy, and much of it is just what your first impression would lead you to expect.

We were not to stay long at Progresso, however, and after baggage inspection we went to our train. On our way we saw immense warehouses with great bales of hemp made from the henequén. A few hours' through a more or less barren country brought us to Merida. The trip was sufficiently interesting, though, because of the henequén plantations through which we passed. Henequén resembles the century plant, and its value lies in the fact that from its leaves comes a fibre which makes excellent rope. Yucatan seems to be the natural home for henequen, its dry, sandy soil seeming to have just the elements necessary for its successful growth. In Yucatan one sees miles and miles of henequén fields, in the center of which are situated the home of the owner and the huts of the workmen.

One of the big surprises of the trip was Merida. I had expected to find a small town something like miserable, little Progresso. But instead here was a city of eighty thousand with the best paved streets I had ever seen, not excepting such cities as New York, Denver, or Los Angeles. The city is

the home of the rich henequén plantation owners whose beautiful homes of marble cost thousands of dollars. In parts of the city can be seen the native huts with bare floor, single roomed and covered with some kind of dried grass. Merida still has vellow fever. but nothing like it had formerly. We were told that many of the wealthy families had leprosy among their members. At any rate, we saw the beautiful home and grounds provided for such people, although there were no inmates at the time we were there. Merida possesses an excellent hotel. but its rates are high; for example, a piece of butter enough for one slice of bread costs fifteen cents.

Our stay here was very pleasant and lasted three or four days. Our next point was Campeche, about five hours distant from Merida. It was here that we were to take the steamer for Laguna. Campeche is an interesting little town surrounded by a wall built as a protection against privateers and buccaneers that infested these shores in the early days. The Bay of Campeche is shallow five miles from shore and steamers have to anchor at that distance. The bay contains a grass growth in which some of the finest fish on earth or water lurk. It is said that more varieties of fish are to be found in its waters than any other known place. I can testify that its fresh oysters, shrimp and pompano are the finest I have ever tasted.

A night's steamer run brought us to Laguna, situated on an island at the mouth of the bay, Laguna de Terminos. Here we found a river steamer awaiting us. We were soon headed for the Chumpan river fifteen miles across the shallow lagoon. Into this bay flow many navigable rivers which bring down mahogony and dye wood. Laguna is the principal market of this kind in the world.

The Chumpan river is about the size of the Kansas Blue along its last half

mile, but it maintains its width for a much longer distance. No river steamer has as yet ascended this river, owing to the oyster beds at its mouth which impede the channel. Our object was to visit the Hacienda "La Encantada" ("The Enchanted") bordering the Chumpan on both sides for thirty or forty miles and comprising some 75,000 acres of land. It was high tide and we decided to try the channel. It was an anxious moment but, guided by stakes placed to mark the channel and feeling our way carefully, we soon glided into the deep, slow-moving Chumpan and breathed a sigh of relief. To our right were the huts and plantation house belonging to a part of the hacienda. But our destination was higher up, so we did not stop. As we began the ascent we did not have to stretch our imaginations to make us think that we were really in the tropics, for a large alligater slid gently into the river and the vegetation on both banks was tropical. Here and there the dense growth was broken by beautiful meadows. We had something of the feeling of explorers who for the first time tread virgin soil or traverse unknown waters.

About thirty miles up the river we reached our stopping place. found a substantial stone building with a row of native huts. Supper was ready and we were soon trying regular Mexican fare, but as this included several kinds of beef, chicken, venison, frijoles (beans), and tortillas (cakes made from ground corn), we had no difficulty in appeasing our appetites. This is a pretty good sample of all our meals. I had thought before going into the real tropics that we should be supplied with all kinds of fruits. But except at Merida we had little fruit and always several kinds of meat. In the hotels one sits down before several plates and as each course is served a plate is removed. Here is a sample of the order. First, cold turkey, then soup followed by fish; then came two or three kinds of beef varied by venison or chicken. The dessert was usually fruit, either fresh or canned. Black coffee finished the meal. Of course, the senator always had his wine.

But to return to La Encantada. The workmen are a simple-minded, courteous and picturesque folk. The dress of this class consists of two garments, shirt and pantaloons, made of white cotton. About twenty-five cents a day is their wage and they must buy their supplies from the hacendados storehouse. The peon soon gets in debt and he is not then allowed to leave the place unless someone pays this debt for him. Naturally he is generally a fixture. But he is well treated and seems to be happy and contented. This system is in vogue in most of the large haciendas.

After a good night's sleep we again went aboard our good little steamer and continued our trip up the river. We made various side trips of inspection, one, especially, to see a field of corn. Doubtless the method of planting corn in this section would scarcely meet with the approval of the corn experts at K. S. A. C. The underbrush is first burned, a man with a sharp stick goes along, punches a little hole in the ground, drops in the corn, covers it with his foot and trusts to Nature for the rest. Not a bit of cultivation is indulged in. Two and three crops can be raised in a year, as there is scarcely any distinction in the seasons for planting and harvest.

It was on this side trip through the damp forests that we really met the mosquito in his habitat. They came at us in swarms. It gave us little consolation to learn that it was not always thus and that in the three summer months mosquitoes were plentiful enough, but in the other months they were not bothersome. In all our trips we met this plague, and it was

the only disagreeable part of the trip. It was warm, even hot, in the day-time, but not unbearable, and many a Kansas day is hotter.

The next day the peons led several horses swimming behind their canoes. These latter are built out of the single trunks of trees. A little later we were taken over, and a five-mile horse-back ride took us to a little clearing where bananas and pineapples were growing. The pineapples are planted between the rows of bananas and the two make a very profitable return.

The next day a longer trip was made back to the mouth of the river. As the steamer had returned the day before, our baggage was taken down by canoes. The first part of our journey lay through the forests. A narrow road full of water in many places had to be followed, and as we splashed along clouds of mosquitoes arose, lighting on the horses and seeking any exposed spot that we had left unguarded. About half way to our destination the road came out upon higher ground, the trees became fewer in number, and we saw cattle here and there. Finally the trees disappeared and we came to a large open country. In the distance were hundreds of cattle. The fresh breezes from the Gulf cooled us off and we had a rest from mosquitoes. Entering a short strip of woods we again emerged into the open and found ourselves within a mile of our journey's end. To our right lay a large field of para grass—the alfalfa of the tropics. Cattle are put on this to fatten and it is claimed that it brings as good results as corn.

We had about finished our trip of inspection. A visit to a neighboring hacienda and we were ready for our homeward journey. My general impression of the land we had seen was very favorable. The soil is a rich black loam, in some places from ten to fifteen feet deep and wonderfully rich. And as far as I could learn the

same kind of land extended for miles and miles. The main industry of this bay region is the cutting and selling of dye wood, mahogany, and other valuable timber. Some cattle are raised—there were about 2000 on the hacienda we visited, but this is a mere handful to what could be supported. This section has wonderful opportunities for the cattle man. And not only this, but all kinds of tropical fruits such as bananas and pineapples may be grown with profit.

"But the climate must be unendurable," some one will say. Most people think that because Texas and our Southern States are hot that the heat increases in proportion as one goes south. They are surprised to learn that it is necessary to sleep with woolen blankets even in summer in a great part of Mexico. But in the "hot country" the climate is tropical. There are sections where it is unhealthful and unfit for white people, but in this particular section there is a constant breeze which renders it comfortable even in summer, and it is not only healthful but much to be preferred to our Southern States. The four months of summer are much pleasanter than they are in Texas, for example, and the other months are delightful. This is true of much of the fertile lands of the Isthmus of Tehauntepec. I know personally of several men who find the climate absolutely healthful and preferable to Mexico City, which is noted for a delightfully cool all-around-the-year climate.

One great drawback to this kind of land is that it is held in tracts all the way from 25,000 to 15,000,000 acres in size. The man without capital would have no chance to get hold of such land. Probably some such tracts could be bought for two or three dollars an acre. There are several colonist schemes where land is sold in smaller tracts. These in anything less than 5000-acre lots could be

bought from ten to twenty-five dollars an acre. No one should invest without carefully looking over the ground personally—it is not all good. The greatest drawback to colonists is the fact that they would be practically cut off from friends and the advantages of civilization. There would be new conditions to be learned, but with pluck and perseverance and the pioneer spirit, the colonist has opportunities to be found in no other part of the world.

Editor of The Alumnus:

I missed your invitation to discuss the question of the improvement of "Alumni Field" in the March issue, but perhaps I will not be too late if I submit a few words for publication in the May issue; that is, if my sentiments are not considered too radical for publication. I agree with the opinion expressed by Mr. Brown, that we should have an authoritative statement by the President or Board of Regents as to what will be the future attitude of the College towards athletics before we are asked for assistance. The statement by President Waters in the April issue is good and sensible as far as it goes, but it does not go far enough. The plans sent out by the committee in charge are such that no lover of genuine athletics could possibly support them or give them financial assistance, for they indicate that what in my opinion is the most corrupting influence that has crept into our colleges during the last century is to be continued and fostered at K. S. A. C., viz., the intercollegiate contests in football and baseball, with their hoodlum acting, yelling crowds, their enormous gate receipts, and the "favored few" who furnish the entertainment for the crowds.

The appointment of a physical director as suggested by President Waters will not solve the difficulty, although it is a step in the right di-

rection. We cannot have clean and sane athletics as long as the athletic standing of the institution is judged by the number of baseball and football games won by the college teams, for where winning athletics is the ideal, the tenure of office of the director and coaches depends upon their attainment of this ideal, and the result is that they pay little attention to the development of physical manhood in the student body. They pick their players from among the strongest and swiftest men available, and from among these already skilled in the game by long practice before coming to the institution, and having thus picked their men, the activities, money, energy, enthusiasm and time of the whole playing season are devoted to these few men who least need it in order that they may win games and thus attract large crowds to the grand stand. Yet the apologists for modern athletics are always prating about developing physical manhood and making weak students strong. I challenge them to produce a single student in the United States who has come to college physically weak, who has been given even a chance to become physically strong by engaging in either college football or college baseball, sentimental stories in magazines to the contrary notwithstanding; and I would almost repeat the challenge to produce a student who came unskilled, or with no knowledge whatever of the game, who has ever made the college team. Certainly the student enters a land of no hope if he enters college both physically weak and unskilled in the games.

Not only is all the attention lavished upon the physically strong, but comparatively few of these even are chosen to receive favors. Starting with football in the fall, eleven men are soon chosen to represent the college. Eleven more men are chosen as a second, or "scrub" team, against which the college "representatives"

practice, and with a few substitutes, totalling not more than thirty men in all, the athletic work is begun and carried on during the entire season. There is no chance for anybody else to play football, or even learn to play it. The "precious champion" and its "trainer," the scrub team, must have the gridiron every day together with the whole time and attention of coach and director to get ready for the "prize" contests that are to come. All others are soon given to understand that they are not wanted except as spectators. When the basket-ball season opens, often the players are selected from the late football team, and when the baseball season opens, the same sort of selection is repeated. The result is that a select few, some of them ofttimes imported from the village "loafers' club," receive all the benefits and pleasure from participation in these really splendid games, while the balance of the College is supposed to do the paying and yelling. In fact, the system absolutely discourages and prevents the physical development of practically the whole student body, and most certainly of all those who need such development. The advocates of the system do not dare come out in the open and present their real reasons for maintaining it, viz., as a source of advertisement and entertainment, and ofttimes of financial profit to the few who are on the "inside;" so they offer the excuse of developing physical manhood to prevent direct opposition from boards of regents and legislatures and to secure enough public support to give it respectability.

The present plans at K. S. A. C., as presented in the circular sent to me, provide for a continuance of this system and for placing it upon such a permanent footing that it will be practically impossible ever to overthrow it in the future, and for this reason I cannot see how any alumnus who loves athletic games and desires to

see them become really a part of our educational system instead of a circus adjunct to it, or who has any prophetic vision whatever, can give his support to them. Why are we asked to contribute \$5000 to build concrete fences eight feet high around the football and baseball fields? Of what possible aid to the development of physical manhood will these fences be? And why must we put \$10,000 more into a grand stand whose occupants will derive about as much physical culture from it as the circus goer derives from the boards upon which he sits to watch the trapeze performer? The place for all participators in athletic games and all benefitters from them is on the field and not in grand stands; and the player who cannot play his game as well and derive as much physical culture from it without an audience as with one is unworthy And to be worthy he the game. should get as much manly enjoyment out of a losing game as a winning one, though perhaps not such keen satisfaction.

The proposition of twenty tennis courts is the only sensible one in the whole plan. If this feature could be enlarged and the grand stands and concrete fences done away with the proposition would be worthy the support of every alumnus. By all means let K. S. A. C. have an athletic field and not a circus tent or gladiatorial arena. Let her develop athletic games in which all can and will participate by doing away with gate receipts, reducing or abolishing intercollegiate games, and by so supervising the athletic fields that it will be impossible for a favored few to monopolize them. Instead of one baseball nine in a college such as K. S. A. C. there should be twenty or even forty, but no individual should be allowed to play in this game more than two or three times a week. A supervisor might so select the nines for each day's playing that they would

be reasonably evenly matched, and the season might well end with an intercollegiate game, the players to be selected from among the best material developed by the year's work. Then these players should not be allowed to represent the college again during their connection with it, thus giving others a chance and bringing new men into the game all the time, and incidentally doing away with importations from the aforesaid village loafers' club. Other games could be managed in the same way and a system of athletics thus developed that would give some real physical culture to those who need it and incidentally give lovers of games a chance to participate in them without spending enough time on them to become professionals. This is not intended to be a full discussion of the athletic question. It is simply a few "thinks" jotted down in a hurry, and the writer will be pleased if it gets printed and produces a response from R. W. CLOTHIER, '97. others.

The First Ionians.

By Fanny (Waugh) Davis, '91,

Miss President, Sister Ionians: At least that is the way we used to open our Ionic remarks in the days of old, of which I am urged to write. I was about to say "to tell all I know," but it would be so easy to do that, and will likely be so very evident that I have done that, that I choose the word "write" as less apt to give myself away in the beginning.

This is no easy task, as one may think, for when I count the years that have elapsed since that brave little band of girls started a society—the Ionian, "all their own"—it makes me feel so old and gray and sorry for myself to think my College days are so far behind me, that I would much rather sit down and weep a little than try to write anecdotes of those dear old days. Those of you whom kind fate has allowed to live under the shadows

of the beautiful ivy-covered College buildings, or who have been so favored as to be able to return often to them to renew your youth and friendships, cannot know how the rest of us have hoarded up the memories of the old days, having never made enough recent visits to disturb our peace of mind.

1887—think of it! So long ago that many of the present Ionians had not even yet made up their minds to come to this world to live. That was when the society was organized. There were six College buildings and two residences on the campus. Three of those buildings—the chemical laboratory, the carpenter shop, and the "Hort" hall—were miniatures of what have taken their places.

The Alpha Betas and Websterslucky dogs-had a society room all their own. But the Hamiltons and Ionians, being of more recent origin, had to use the old north corridor. Many and varied have been the uses of said corridor, but never has it been more uninviting and bare and draughty and full of unseasonable echoes than in those days. A small group of uncomfortable chairs on the east side of the room for members and chance visitors; a table and two chairs on the rostrum for the president and recording secretary; a cabinet organ-that was the furniture the room contained. The windows were fitted with blinds which rattled noisily in the never-ceasing Kansas wind. Wasn't it a charming place?

Before people became accustomed to having us around under foot, we were often disturbed at very inopportune times by students suddenly opening the doors—for it will be remembered that the corridors were really nothing but enlarged portions of the upper hall, though they could be closed off with doors. For the most part, the intruders would back out, after one hasty glance about; but one day two brave and valiant youths looked in at

the south door and said to each other: "Huh! Who's afraid of girls?" and then, grinning sheepishly, walked through. They were well encored, but failed to respond.

One time Professor Walters came in to visit us. He took a seat in the extreme back of the room and spent his entire time reading. I think every member who was that day present still holds a grudge against the Senior Professor for that ungallant deed. We may have been foolish or even stupid, but it was his duty as a member of the Faculty to encourage us by sitting up and looking intelligent. He should have had inspiration from within if he heard and saw nothing inspirational without.

It was while we still gathered in this corridor that Anna Fairchild, as music committee, got up that famous orchestra. It was composed of two or three jews-harps, three pairs of bones, two or three combs, a guitar, a banjo, a brass flageolet, and a cabinet organ. There may have been other stars in the galaxy, though I do not remember them. The orchestra gave a lengthy program of solos, duets, trios and so on, as well as full orchestral productions. There have been many more finished and musical performances since that day, but none have ever been more fun or better received.

There were twenty-three original members of the society, and Julia R. Pearce was our first president. She was later made president for a second term, the only person, I think, who has ever been accorded that honor. But no one will deny that she deserved it. It was during her first administration that the Hamiltons got smart at our expense. They had some kind of public stunt, and one of their funny men (of whom they always had a limitless supply) wrote a modern version of some musty old fable, the substance of which was that "Io. died of potassium and was turned into a beautiful white cow." We were warned to be careful in our chemical laboratory work lest we, too, have trouble with KI and the College unexpectedly have a whole herd of white cows on its hands. (They wouldn't mind it now, they'd take 'em to the International Stock Show and rake in the prizes!)

The second year it was decided to give the Hamiltons and Ionians a room in the third story for a society room. We were jubilant. By pooling our funds we bought a carpet which covered the entire floor; and by pooling our interest and enthusiasm we put it down ourselves. The Hamiltons owned one picture and their charter was framed, so our walls were covered with works of art! As the walls consisted mainly of dormer windows, a little art went a long way.

And what good times we did have up there under the roof, to be sure! There isn't an old Io. living who won't declare those were the best days the society has ever known. We may not have been as strong on parliamentary tactics as our brother Hamiltons prided themselves on being, but we learned much of good that has followed us through the years. We stored up a fund of happy memories upon which to draw in these later days when Fate keeps us far from our Alma Mater and some of us hardly ever see a sister Ionian, ancient or modern.

I must lay particular stress upon those words, "happy memories." I was a member of the society for four years and I cannot now recall any instance of hair pulling and tears, due to misunderstandings of society matters. And only one really warm presidential campaign comes back to me. I took too active a part in that to wish to discuss it here; but it was great fun!

During my last year in College the society numbered between sixty and seventy active members, and I think has always maintained the respect and support of Faculty and students which we worked so hard to earn in the days of our youth. Since some one else is to take up this story and finish it, I do not need to make any "closing remarks," but will say with Tiny Tim: "God bless us, every one."

The Ionians of the Present.

By Charlotte A. Morton, '08.

It is always hard to write of the present—that period which has over it neither the glamour of the past nor the veil of the future. The things nearest to us are hardest to appreciate. We think what we are doing now will not compare with the great deeds we plan for the future, yet when the future comes we will look back with pride to the achievements of our College days—probably with regret that we did not then appreciate their importance.

The President announces, "There will be a special meeting of the Ionian Society after chapel this morning," and while the orchestra plays though the Auditorium were on fire and the lives of the students depended on their getting out, the girls begin to gather in the pit, glad to get together again, and to call themselves "Ionians." Very likely this particular extra session is to soothe the fears of those anxious ones who have not yet been notified as to which of the many gallant Hamiltons will be their escorts to the Hamp.-Io. egg-roast, a comparatively recent event, occurring annually. They all know that in the end each Io. will be provided with a devoted Hamp, for at least one evening, sometimes many more; but this uncertainty is awful! One year so many Hamps, failed to get their courage screwed up to the point that two days before the egg-roast a special meeting of the Ionians was called, and the next day about half the society were wearing "red and yeller" bows of various sizes. This was an extreme but effective measure that has never been needed since.

This annual egg-roast began in the spring of 1904. One Saturday night some Ionian girls started out to hang May-baskets-to Hamiltons, of course -but soon found that all the Hamps. were attending their regular weekly meeting. Then they noticed a henhouse near by, with an unsuspecting old hen perched on the window-sill. What was more natural than that they should turn chicken thieves? the rag chewing of the Hamiltons was interrupted by a loud squawk, and in through the window flapped an old hen, decked out in Hamp, and Io. colors. She was captured, and sometime later the Ionians received an invitation saying that, whereas the Hamp, hen had laid eggs as innumerable as the sands of the sea, the Hamps, proposed an egg-roast, and asked the help of their sister Ios. to eat the eggs.

Time passed, and the hen died. But her memory is still green. She has become the symbol of the Hamilton society and usually figures prominently at intersociety oratorical contests.

Since there are now seven literary societies in the College, this contest is the principal event of the year, and each society spends much time, thought, and money, not only in preparing its contestant, but in getting ready some unique demonstration for the evening of the contest. The Auditorium is always crowded and the interest and rivalry are intense. Ionians have won three of these contests, which are given yearly. individual society plays, which used to be quite a feature of the College year, have been abolished on account of there being so many societies, and dramatic club organized, which gives one play a year.

The adverse conditions with which the early Ionians had to contend are found no longer; but an incentive to enthusiastic work is found in the competition between the societies and the great interest shown by both College and townspeople in all society events.

Loyalty and enthusiasm are still their chief characteristics, and these are the qualities that make the society worthy of the hard work of the past and that promise a bright future.

I go to prove my soul,
I see my way as birds their trackless way.
I shall arrive! What time, what circuit,
I ask not, but
In some good time—His good time—I shall
come:

He guides me and the bird. In His good time! -Robert Browning.

Letters from the Class of 1904—Concluded.

Dear Alumnus:

A diary of the last six years conceives a chronicle too extensive to be inviting, so with the editor's permission I will eliminate all history save that pertaining to a few evenings spent in Shakespearean playhouses. By calculation I find that one two-thousandth of the fifty thousand hours that have passed since graduation were so devoted — a fragment of time which by comparison seems so insignificant that it would require the establishment of an extensive brain index to locate the memory. Those hours, however, lie very near the surface of my mental cache. The grooves to those particular pigeonholes are so well worn that it is all too easy to slip past things of more immediate importance. In all they have meant more to me than an average six months of the same period.

I have often tried to determine why. No one could accuse me of being a Shakespearean crank. At least the English Department will testify that the handle was not working well in my senior year. As a student I read Shakespeare because our "Guide to Good Grammar" said he should be read. I duly admired whenever prompted by a foot-note or by the

professor, and as religiously forgot admiration, foot-note and professor as soon as the results were favorably posted in the Secretary's album.

With a play that I have never viewed upon the stage I am as indolent as ever. This is my clew to the difference between Shakespeare "in college" and "out." Our training began at the wrong end. We were too far removed from good theatres to get a proper setting for such study. Our conception was from the point of literature and not of drama. The great author wrote his plays to be acted and not to be read. Wonderful as is the literary merit of the written lines, they are far second to the unwritten spirit that can be revealed only upon the stage. Contrary to most others, the acting is the framework upon which the lines are hung. rather than the lines the skeleton for the acting. When I had seen the expression on Julia Marlow's face when she entered as Katherine, I had learned more of the "Taming of the Shrew" than if I had studied it a month, and this before a word was spoken. Richard Mansfield made a new Shylock of whom I had never even dreamed. Twelfth Night is not a particularly hilarious piece when read, yet I have seen an audience in New York City laugh to gasping soreness at the absurdities in its acting.

Nor is the evening's study ended with the lowering of the curtain. At home the neglected copy of the play is traced to some forgotten shelf and the scenes gone over one by one. Newly revealed interpretations are associated with the supposedly familiar text. Lines that before were known only from their beauty or thought now bear such a wealth of suggestion of the dramatic situations that we need no longer be told that the play is a masterpiece. Real foot-notes pregnant with meaning are penciled on the margin until the appearance of the volume is ruined forever. Such loss is not loss, for we had valued it too long for its appearance.

HARRY V. HARLAN, '04.

Garrison, Kan., May 2, 1910.

Dear Classmates:

I was duly served on January 10 with a notice from Mrs. H. V. Harlan, '04, that if anything had come into my life in the six years since our graduation that would be of interest to our classmates I was to report the same to the ALUMNUS for publication. While I have done nothing startling. nor established that bank account that I had planned when I graduated, yet I truly intended to answer the summons with a narrative of my meager accomplishments. However, I neglected doing so until inspired to action by letters from the '04's in the last two numbers of the ALUMNUS.

The first five years after graduation were spent on my father's farm, twelve miles north of Manhattan on the troublesome Blue. Three of these years were spent as a "hired man" and two as a "tennant." The last two years have been spent on a farm near the old home place. My brother, Harry W. Thompson, short-course student in '05-'06, and I are farming and are building up a fine herd of registered Duroc Jersey hogs. We now have a herd that is recognized as one of the best in the West, and I attribute our success, first, to my natural-born love for the work, and second, to my K. S. A. C. training. Yes I love the work and I love my hogs. That is why I can expect to succeed. We held our first "annual" sale in January, and it was pronounced by those in position to know as one of the best sales in the State. The first year in the business we sold three head for breeding purposes—this year we sold seventy-five. Please pardon this little "puff of wind" about the hogs, but I just can't help it.

The most important thing that has

come into my life, however, is a wife; and I can say from experience that that is the best pardnership deal a man can go into.

No. I haven't broken into politics yet, although I have held some smaller offices, such as three terms as president and two as secretary of a country literary society; one year secretary and treasurer of the State Duroc Jersey Breeders' Association; two years as president of the Epworth League and two years as steward in the church; three years as secretary of our Farmers' Institute; I am now on my second year as superintendent of our Sunday-school and also as president of our Farmers' Institute. So you see I have been kept quite busy aside from my farm work. I have also found time to travel through the "forest" of the M. W. A. and I have travelled through King Solomon's Temple in the A. F. & A. M.

I find life extremely pleasant, and while some days are bound to be cloudy I find that every cloud has a silver lining.

With best wishes to all, I am yours very truly,

CARL P. THOMPSON, '04.

Editor Alumnus:

Our section of the state affords such a good theme for a write-up that I can hardly refrain. Yet, as President Fairchild often said, "We must learn to do the thing that we do not want to do at a time when we do not want to do it."

The thing I wish to emphasize and feel in duty bound to write you about is concerning the Alumni Association. The ALUMNUS is the common ground on which we may all meet, mentally at least. Every effort should be put forth by us to assist the editor in obtaining material for "corn fed" numbers. We all feel that the bonds of union through our Alma Mater grow stronger as each alumnus grows older. There are many graduates before

and after my time with whom I feel acquainted, though I have never met them. By very little systematic effort we should be able to send you such a shower of news that you would feel as if you were gathering choice flowers from May meadows instead of being compelled to rustle for news. Suppose you divide those who have responded in any way into sections and tell us you would like something from us at stated intervals. Of course if anything special happens you would be notified whether in turn or not. It is up to the rank and file to help you make this paper the most effective means of bringing the alumni into closer union and making of it a real fraternity which we may all value highly.

Your papers are all very much appreciated. Very truly,

V. Maelzer, '97.

Goldburg, Idaho.

Editor Alumnus:

I have just been reading Mr. Hastings' problems in political economy in the March Alumnus, and as his Socratic arguments bring out only half the truth, I will respectfully propose a problem in potato growing to match his.

PROBLEM 1: Three men are growing potatoes and one man selling them. Each potato grower can raise 1600 bushels a year, but 1200 bushels will support one family. What is the price of potatoes? Answer: It makes no difference. Everybody has enough.

PROBLEM 2: The three potato growers go to an agricultural college and learn better methods of managing their land and their crops; they make large improvements in their potatoes; they invent a lot of labor-saving machinery; and by employing all these means one man is able to grow 4800 bushels of potatoes. What happens? Answer: Two potato growers have to move to town and make photographs and automobiles for the one

potato grower who is left. There is another solution possible: Two men may continue in the potato-growing line, in which case they need work only half time to support the three families; but in this case they must be content with a last year's automobile and fewer Edison records.

Brother Hastings from his demonstration concludes that "somebody must go to work." My logic proves, on the contrary, that someone is going to get a chance to loaf. Probably both of us are right; but I expect a majority of people to adopt my philosophy. It is more comfortable.

F. A. WAUGH, '91.

Dear Alumnus:

The executive committee of the Manhattan Alumni Association has set the date for the regular spring meeting on May 30. Election of officers for the ensuing year, and making arrangements for the exercises of Commencement time, will be the principal business to come before the meeting.

The committee has made arrangements to have a general good time in connection with this meeting, and the day being a holiday it is hoped all the members will avail themselves of the opportunity to participate. The plan is as follows:

That all alumni and their families meet on the College campus at 4 p. m. north of the Domestic Science and Art building. All the ladies who can do so are asked to bring baskets filled with good things to eat, which will be served all together about 6:30 o'clock. It is the intention to have an old-fashioned picnic supper, and preceding that a social visit, with games such as tennis, croquet and horseshoe pitching for those who desire.

Come out and bring the children and lets all join in having a rousing good time.

C. M. Breese, President. AMY ALLEN, Secretary.

The Printers Visit Topeka.

By Amy Allen, '04.

Superintendent Rickman is doing all in his power to broaden the view and heighten the ideals of the students taking the course in printing. For the past year there has been what may be termed a printing lecture course, Mr. Rickman arranging for prominent newspaper men of the State to come to the College and speak to the boys and girls of the printing course. But on Monday, May 9, another plan of Mr. Rickman's proved to be very profitable to the printers. An excursion through the homes of the Topeka Capital, State Journal, Hall Lithograph Co., The Kansas Farmer, and H. M. Ives & Sons, was the occasion, and the various phases of the printing business were thoroughly inspected and the details of the work explained in full. Through the courtesy of Mr. Capper, we lunched with him in his café, and were honored by having Mr. J. Will Kelley, Mr. Chas. Sessions, and Mr. T. A. McNeal as guests. All of these gave interesting after-dinner speeches, and then Mr. Rickman and Mr. Weaver in a few words expressed the appreciation of the party for the many courtesies extended to them throughout the day. Another kindness was extended by Mr. Capper when he presented the party to Governor Stubbs. We were cordially received and even invited to view his private office. And thus was spent one of those days the memory of which will linger long in the minds and hearts of all.

Alumni Ball Game.

On Commencement day at 4:15 o'clock the "old timers" will match their skill against Ahearn's Aggies and the usual crowd of "grads." will be there to cheer on the heroes of former days. The line-up for the alumni team is of course indefinite, as it depends altogether on how many "K" men drift back to their Alma

Mater Commencement week. There is every assurance, however, that Henry Sidorfsky, '03, veteran first baseman, will grace the diamond June 16, and when we name such probabilities as "Emil" Hess, "Bobby" Cassell, '07, Al. Cassell, '07, Fred Fockele, '01, Fred Dial, '97, Bea Cave, '08, Harry Porter, '07, "Ikey" Miller, '07, and Sol. Cunningham, '08, it looks as if "Mike" will need all his "Central Kansas League" players on that day.

Baseball.

K. S. A. C. 7, Manhattan League 5.

K. S. A. C. 4, Ottawa 1.

K. S. A. C. 2, State Normal 1.

K. S. A. C. 1, Manhattan League 2.

K. S. A. C. 3, Univ. of Arkansas 4.*

K. S. A. C. 3, Drury 2.*

K. S. A. C. 7. Haskell 6.*

K. S. A. C. 3, Washburn 4.

K. S. A. C. 6, Tarkio 2.

K. S. A. C. 17, William Jewell 2.

K. S. A. C. 6, Neb. Wesleyan 4.*

K. S. A. C. 5, Cotner 4.*

K. S. A. C. 9, Univ. of Nebraska 2.*

The Commencement Concert.

Present indications are that Commencement, 1910, will be the most lavish in entertainment of any which has yet passed over the College. The Choral Union Concert on June 13 will be the big event of Commencement week. Instead of the usual student recital there will be given this year a grand concert, the magnificence of which Manhattan has never yet known.

The chief attraction will be the Hinshaw Grand Opera Quartet of Chicago, two members of which, Mrs. Iva Hinshaw and Mr. William Wade Hinshaw, sang in the spring concert last year and greatly delighted those who heard them. Mr. Hinshaw has recently contracted with the Metropolitan Opera Company, of New York City, to sing leading baritone roles in German, French, and Italian opera,

^{*}Away from home.

thereby holding a place among the greatest singers in the world. It is unnecessary to say that the privilege of hearing him next June is a rare one.

The Hinshaws will appear in two concerts. In the afternoon they will give a matinee concert lasting an hour and a half, in which they will sing in costume. This program, it is certain, will do more to secure a full house for the evening concert than all the advance advertising that may be made.

The students in the Department of Music and the church choirs compose a big chorus which, with the soloists, will give the grand concert in the evening. The program will be in two parts. The Quintette and Finale of the third act of Flotow's "Martha" will be sung by the soloists, assisted by the chorus. The Sextette from "Lucia Di Lammermoor," by Donizetti, will be rendered in the same way. There will be solos from "Il Trovatore" and possibly the "Anvil Chorus." The College orchestra will contribute something especially fine to the program.

For six months the Choral Union has been working hard upon "The Holy City," by Gaul, and rehearsals will continue until the date of the concert. This splendid oratorio will be sung by the chorus and the four soloists, as the second half of the program.

The women of Manhattan are proving themselves in accord with the project. It is the plan to have one hundred patronesses of the concert who will agree to be responsible for the disposal of five tickets each. They have responded readily and the list is practically completed. Tickets are on sale at seventy-five cents for each concert or one dollar for both concerts. They may be obtained by addressing Prof. L. H. Beall, at the College.

The success of this concert will mean much to the College. It will fill

a want for better music and it will insure more of it in the future. Viewing the matter from a more mercenary basis, it will give to Manhattan and the College the most desirable kind of advertising. Every student and every alumnus who can possibly do so should give his heartiest support, which is nothing more nor less than his presence at the concert.

Commencement Concert, June 13, '10.

PROGRAM FOR MATINEE.
Part I.
Overture "Egmont"
Quartette from Rigeletto
Polonaise from Mignon
Home to our Mountains (Il Trovatore) Verdi MRS. DOWNING, MR. HUGHES
On the Sea
Duet, Tower Scene (Misereri) (Il Trovatore)
Toreador Song (Carmen)
Selection "Martha"
PART II.

Part II.

ORCHESTRA
"Oh! May Heaven Above Forgive Thee" (Martha)
Drinking Song from Martha
Operatic Aria
Sextette from Lucia di Lammermoor
The Holy City

CHORUS.

I would . . . earnestly advise them for their good to order this paper to be punctually served up and to be looked upon as a part of the tea equipage.—Addison, in Spectator.

HINSHAW GRAND OPERA QUARTET AND

Y. M. C. A. Banquet,

The tenth annual banquet of the Y. M. C. A. was held in the Y. M. C. A. gymnasium, Tuesday evening, May 10. Four hundred fifty men were present and many others were turned away because of lack of room. The spirit of good fellowship prevailed in abundant measure and the results of the evening were most encouraging to all those who have the welfare of the Y. M. C. A. at heart. Following the dinner Pres. Henry J. Waters introduced each speaker with a novel and entertaining little speech. The program follows:

"The Foreign Mission as a Career for College Men"..... State Sec. C. W. Whitehair

"The Need of Y.M. C. A. Work Among the Young Men of To-day"...Gov. W.R. Stubbs

Open House at the Y. M. C. A.

The Y. M. C. A. has instituted a series of open house entertainments, at which the ladies of the College and city will be received and shown everything of interest about the building. "Open house" is held on Saturday evenings and will probably occur as often as once a month. The guests are met at the door and conducted to the reception room, where some form of informal entertainment is provided. Later they are taken on a tour of the building, which includes, first, the "dens" of the young men. There are eighteen of these rooms each occupied by two men, and a few doors are left open for inspection. The necessary furnishings are provided by the Association, but the rooms are usually embellished to suit the taste of the occupants, and some of them are luxurious with divans, pillows, easy chairs, and pretty hangings. Everywhere, college pennants flourish, and occasionally there is something especially individual, as, for instance, a large and magnificent collection of girls' handkerchiefs! The guests are next conducted to the gymnasium, where most of them have been before to witness basket-ball games. After that comes the kitchen and dining-room. This part of the establishment has no connection with the Y. M. C. A. proper. A students' boarding club, consisting largely of outsiders, has leased the two rooms for its headquarters. This completes the round of the building, and the guests return to the reception-room where they are served with punch and piano music before going home.

Wichita Alumni Reunion.

The Wichita Alumni Association entertained the College debating team at a four-course dinner in the Chamber of Commerce, the evening of April 14, before the debate with Fairmount College. Covers were laid for twenty-two. The alumni, after the banquet, accompanied the team to Fairmount, where they sang "Alma Mater" and gave the College yell with true K. S. A. C. enthusiasm. The next morning Mr. M. J. Spaulding, '96, accompanied the team about town on a sight-seeing expedition.

That man is blest
Who does his best
And leaves the rest.
Then do not worry.
—Charles F. Deems.

A "Deutsches Fest" program will be given on the evening of June 1 by students and instructors in the German Department, and others. Professor Roberts, of the Botanical Department, will be the chief speaker of the evening. His topic is "Dies und Das in Deutschland." There will be several musical numbers and readings, and the concluding number will be the one-act German comedy, "Einer muss heiraten."

¶ EDITORIAL ¶

Another graduating class is about to take its place among the alumni. The four years of preparation in the enchanted realm that lies within the College gates have ended, and now there opens the life in this world of work and stern reality. Yet the hopes and dreams that have been inspired through these four years have not ended. Instead, they are now to find food upon which to thrive and mature into that which makes for the best manhood and womanhood. To the class of 1910 we extend our heartiest greeting and welcome.

This is our last word to the alumni before Commencement and we take this opportunity to urge you to forget your troubles for a short time and renew old days at the College. Above all, do not forget the business meeting on Wednesday afternoon, when the new constitution for the Alumni Association will come up for action. The committee is at work upon the constitution and expects to have it entirely in shape by that time. Here is an opportunity to form a strong organization which shall be a real power instead of a weak makeshift, and the alumni should come to the meeting willing to lay aside all personal prejudices for the sake of working together in harmony for a common good. The committee has carefully considered its action and the new constitution will be the product of the best judgment of its members.

The association will have to look for new headquarters this year, and as yet, no place has been selected. It will probably be in Anderson Hall, however, and you can't miss it. Come in and register and meet the classmates you have perhaps not seen since you graduated.

In another part of the magazine we are publishing a letter from Prof. R. W. Clothier, '97, of the University of Arizona. The Students' Herald has already printed portions of this letter, accompanied by a few words of comment, slightly tinged with ridicule. They made no attempt to answer Mr. Clothier's charges against modern athletics, perhaps considering it unnecessary in the light of overwhelming popular sentiment. The great majority of people, it is safe to say, will take exactly this attitude in regard to Mr. Clothier's article. Others, while agreeing with him in part, will feel that his view is too radical, and a few, who go by the common appellation of "crank," will sustain his point of view. We believe that the dangers which he suggests are real and that they should not be ignored but met fairly and squarely if we would foster the cleanest and best in athletics. We believe that any real lover of athletics found in any of the three groups of persons before mentioned, who will lay aside popular prejudice, will agree with this. It is the part of wisdom to examine both sides of a question and we shall therefore be glad if more of the alumni will express themselves, upon this, at present, all absorbing topic.

Later: We learn that the *Herald* has arranged to publish an article soon, answering the chief points in Mr. Clothier's article.

In the June issue will appear another of Professor Roberts' interesting articles on European cities.

We regret that the program for Commencement week is not completed in time for publication in this issue.

Local Notes.

The College tennis team was defeated on May 12 in a match with Baker University. The scores in the doubles were: 6-4, 6-3, 6-2, Baker.

The annual inspection of the Cadet Corps was held on April 19 and was conducted by Captain B. T. Simmons, general staff, U. S. A., of Washington, D. C.

The Students' Coöperative Association is planning to remodel the east front of its dining-hall by adding large plate glass windows and fitting that room for a store room.

The court between the shops and foundry is being cleaned up, cement walks are being put down, and bluegrass will be planted. Some flower beds may also find a place there soon.

—Herald.

The Domestic Science and Art Departments are preparing a bulletin devoted to the work of the department, taking it up fully, in detail. It will be illustrated with photographs by Doctor Orr.

Superintendent Rickman has purchased a new Gordon jobber for his pressroom. The machine is expected in a few days and it will relieve to some extent the congestion in the pressroom caused by the number of students who are taking presswork. It will be driven individually by motor, as are the two already installed.—Students' Herald.

Especially elaborate preparations are being made for the Junior-Senior reception on May 28. This year the old custom of a reception to the juniors by the seniors has been omitted, and in so doing the two classes are establishing a precedent which they expect the coming classes to follow. This year the reception will be held in the two reading rooms in Fairchild Hall and the banquet will be served in the Women's Gymnasium. Hall's orchestra, of Topeka, will be engaged for the evening.

At a joint meeting of the committees on missions of the Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A., recently held, it was voted that the two organizations should support a missionary in the field. The present plan is to support Mr. Willis T. McLean, former general secretary of the College Y. M. C. A., in his work in Mexico. It is hoped that a thousand dollars may be raised for this purpose.

President Waters, Director Webster and Superintendent Miller have invited the farmers of all western Kansas to visit the big experiment station farm at Fort Hays, on June 7 and 8. The program will consist in inspection of the farm, addresses, and explanation of experiments. It will be much the same as the State Farmers' Institute which is held in Manhattan during the holidays, each year. The Hays Experiment Station is the largest in the world—nearly four thousand acres and about half of that in cultivation.

The College, through the Extension Department, is asking every county high-school in the State to include in its curriculum a course in agriculture, manual training, and home economics, for the benefit of those who do not expect to enter college. Superintendent Miller, of the Extension Department, estimates that less than three per cent of the boys and girls who enter highschool go on to college, and he concludes that it is unjust, that they should be required to take college preparatory training. It will be required that each high-school lease a few acres of ground to be used for demonstrative farming, and it is expected that the land will yield a profit to the school. Each high school will secure a graduate of some technical school for an instructor, and his work will be done under the direction of the Extension Department. The chief aim will be to educate boys and girls for the farm and the home.



PERSONAL



Charles J. Boyle, '09, is a farmer at Spivey, Kan.

A. L. Schill, '09, is conducting a nursery at Wichita, Kan.

Minnie Schorer, '09, lives with her parents in Turlock, Calif.

Eugene M. Ruede, '09, will graduate this year from Armour Institute.

Mrs. Etta (Ridenour) Plowman, '96, is visiting relatives in Manhattan.

Guy Rexroad, '09, follows the occupation of machinist at Darlow, Kan.

Elizabeth Morwick, '09, has spent the year at her home in Eskridge, Kan.

Florence Carpenter, '09, has spent the year at her home at Woodsdale, Kan.

Harry Hamler, '09, is a motorman for the Manhattan Street Railway Company.

Lulu M. Porter, '09, is assistant principal of the high school in Coquille, Ore.

W. L. Davis, '07, graduated this spring from the Kansas City Veterinary College.

J. E. Martin, '09, teaches chemistry and physics in the high school in Mitchell, S. D.

R. M. Newland, '06, has written asking to have his ALUMNUS sent to Colon, Panama.

John W. Norlin, '09, is employed as a clerk in a general store at McCracken, Kan.

Mrs. Eva (Alspaugh) Zercher, '08, writes to the Secretary's office that she has moved from Laredo, Tex., to Tyler, Tex.

L. W. Waldraven, '00, of Winkler, Kan., paid a visit to the College on May 16 and made his donation to the athletic field fund.

Jesse T. Hirst, '09, is in the employ of the Curtis Steam Turbine Company at Fall River. Mass.

Alberta Wenkheimer, '09, is instructor in mathematics in the high school at Clay Center, Kan.

Mrs. Adelle (Blachly) Freeman, '01, of Tucson, Ariz., expects to spend Commencement in Manhattan.

J. L. Stingley, '94, and Mrs. Stingley, of Wichita, will come to Manhattan for Commencement.

Harold A. Spilman, '03, announces his change of address from Opon, Cebu, to Ginatilan, Cebu, P. I.

Leaffa L. Randall, '09, is supervisor of domestic science in the grade schools of Oklahoma City, Okla.

F. W. Wilson, '05, and Mrs. Wilson, living in Phænix, Ariz., announce the birth of a son on May 13.

F. W. Haselwood, '01, and wife, Maud (Zimmerman) Haselwood, '02, have moved from Oakland, Cal., to Berkeley, Cal. Their street address is 1624 Bonita Avenue.

Prof. F. C. Sears, '92, is acting head of the division of horticulture in the Massachusetts Agricultural College, during the absence of Prof. F. A. Waugh, '91, in Europe.

Prof. R. H. Brown, '98, and Mrs. Brown (Cora E. Ewalt, '98) will spend the summer in Boston, Mass. They expect to occupy the home of Boston relatives who are going to spend the summer in California.

Edith Holmberg, '08, visited relatives in Manhattan for a week in April. Miss Holmberg is just completing a very interesting and profitable year as teacher of domestic science and art in the Renville (Minn.) High School.

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Calvin K. Turner, a student in the eighties, died on May 11 at his home near Maple Hill, Kan.

Fred V. Dial, '97, and Katherine (Cooper) Dial, '08, are the parents of a son born in April.

Sergeant Edward Claren, retired, of Philadelphia, Pa., has been chosen as an assistant in the Military Department.

Tillie Trunk, '08, has finished her country school near Manhattan and has gone to her home in Oklahoma City, where she will spend the summer.

Dr. R. F. Bourne, '03, of the Kansas City Veterinary College, with his wife and little son, Richard Mason, is spending his vacation with relatives at Delphos, Kan.

E. J. Evans, '06, and wife, Florence (Sweet) Evans, '07, of El Paso, Texas, are visiting Mrs. Evans' parents in Manhattan. It is probable that they will not return to El Paso.

Mrs. Hattie (Gale) Sanders, '89, who spent the winter in Florida with her husband, W. H. Sanders, '90, has returned to Manhattan to be with her children, who are in College.

Elizabeth Cecila is the name of the daughter born on April 9 to Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Moody, of South Pasadena, Cal. Mrs. Moody was, before her marriage, Elenore Perkins, '00.

Nannie Carnahan, senior student, and Lloyd Cole, also a student, were married on May 2 at the home of Miss Carnahan's parents in Manhattan. They left the following day for their new home in Platte, S. D.

F. A. Marlatt, '87, of Manhattan, went to Washington, D. C., the first of the month for a visit to his brother, Charles L. Marlatt, '84. His mother, who has been visiting in Washington for a number of weeks, will accompany him home.

The marriage of Harry C. Turner, '01, and Miss Esta Harman took place on May 24, at the home of the bride's parents at Whitewater, Kan. They went at once to Fort Bayard, N. M., where Mr. Turner is planting assistant in charge of the Government Forest Planting Station. Miss Harman is a niece of the Harmans, '93 and '95.

Grant Arbuthnot, of Cuba, an old K. S. A. C. boy and a frequent visitor at Manhattan, owns an elevator at Cuba to which a peculiar accident recently happened. There was some grain in the building which was wet and spoiled, fermentation caused the generation of alcoholic gases, which collected in the building, a lantern ignited the gas, and the roof of the elevator was blown partly off.—Manhattan Republic.

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John B. Brown, '87, has been transferred from Fort Shaw, Mont., to Muskogee, Okla.

Otto Hanson, '05, writes to have his address changed from Wichita to Marquette, Kan.

Mrs. Lena (Finley) Mason, '05, of Cawker City, Kan., is spending a month with her parents in Manhattan.

F. A. Kiene Jr., '06, has resigned his position with the Coffeyville *News* to accept a better one with the Fort Scott Sorghum Syrup Company, of Fort Scott, Kan. His work will consist in experiments in the growing of cane.

Mrs. Ben Mudge is expected to visit Manhattan relatives this summer. Ben writes that the hunting up in Canada is good and that he is ambitious to kill a moose some of these days.—Manhattan Republic. Both Mr. and Mrs. Mudge are former College students.

Those members of the class of 1895 who live in Manhattan were entertained, the evening of May 2, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. O. H. Halstead. Progressive conversation furnished the amusement and Mrs. George A. Dean delighted the guests with two vocal solos. In the course of the evening a delicately appointed luncheon was served by the hostess. The "'95-ers" present, including honorary

members, were: Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Barnett, Dean and Mrs. E. H. Webster, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. A. Dean, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. C. Wheeler, Mr. and Mrs. C. V. Holsinger, Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Limbocker, Mr. and Mrs. D. T. Davies, Mr. and Mrs. I. A. Robertson, and Miss Ada Rice.

The various student organizations are showing their interest in the new athletic field in a very substantial way. The Dramatic Club, hoping to clear over a hundred dollars on the play, "Half-back Sandy," had promised to give ninety per cent of the proceeds. They were disappointed, however, in the amount of receipts, but at once decided to give the whole amount and enough more from the treasury to make one hundred dollars. The Webster Society was the next to come forward, giving its share of the lecture course proceeds for the current year. It is expected that some of the other societies may follow its example. The senior class is working hard to secure a pledge of twenty-five dollars from each member, to be paid on or before January 1, 1911. Four hundred dollars was promised at the start and, with something like one hundred fifty seniors to be solicited, the amount will probably be considerably larger. At last account, the alumni contributions had reached \$107.50.

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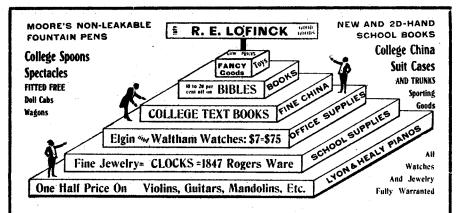
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