

THE

Normal Pointer.

Stevens Point, Wis.



1897.

CONTENTS.

LITERARY.

In the Twilight	Page 115
The Last Debate	" 115
A Trip to a Logging Camp.....	" 116
One of My Pupils	" 116
Literary Notes	" 117
Gems From Old Thinkers.....	" 117
EDITORIAL.....	" 118

LOCAL.

General.....	Page 119
Personal.....	" 119
ATHLETICS.....	" 121
EXCHANGES.....	" 122
MODEL SCHOOL.	
Siege of Troy.....	" 123

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THE NORMAL POINTER.

Volume II.

STEVENS POINT, WIS., JANUARY, 1897.

Number 5.

LITERARY.

IN THE TWILIGHT.

Over the dusky verge
Of the quiet sea,
Slowly I watch emerge
The silver rim
Of the crescent moon: pale, dim
The soft stars, one by one,
With holy gleen,
Steal out and light their lamps:
For day is done.

The tempests are asleep:
Only the balm
Of some cool evening wind
Ruffles the calm:
The listening ear of night
Can catch no sound,
Save when, in slumber bound,
Earth turns and sighs:
Peace rules the deep.

Aye, peace! across the dark
Star-paven sky
The night queen's silver bark
Goes gliding by:
With murmuring faint, the streams
Drowse as they flow
In their hid channels; slow
Down-drooping dews
Slide from the heavens, like gleams
Of love-born dream.

Frail breaths of violet,
Of roses fair,
Shy hints of mignonette,
Rise through the air
From unseen gardens, there—
Beneath my feet.
Ah me! how at their spell
Swift fancies rise!
What touching sympathies,
What golden memories!
And thoughts how sweet!

—SELECTED.

THE LAST DEBATE.

The meetings of the Literary society were held in the high school building in a room on the second floor well fitted for such use on account of its size, seats, and most important of all, its proud possession of a large chandelier hanging from the center of the ceiling and at least four neat appearing side-lamps, each one supplemented by a shining tin reflector. These lamps, as

well as the rest of the building, were cared for by the janitor, an accommodating sort of person, who made his living by sawing wood while he was free from janitor duty. His one failing was the love for the cup, which, however, he never allowed himself to indulge in during the school week, though he made up for lost time on Saturdays and Sundays.

Each morning during the winter he could be found down in the basement throwing wood into the huge furnaces that supplied the school with heat and fresh air. After school his sweeping and dusting was carried on with varying degrees of efficiency, sometimes occupying him an hour and a half, seldom more than two hours.

He was a friend alike to the teachers and students, his willingness endearing him to the former and his partial deafness to the latter. He was never very careful in his observations of what was going on in the halls and basement, and as he never reported what he neither saw nor heard, he was especially liked by the larger boys of the school.

These boys were the main stay of the Literary society and the grand debates they indulged in were a potent factor in developing lawyers, judges and political speakers. The greatest rivalry existed between these students and there were in the society two well defined factions.

Recognized as the leaders of one of these factions were two boys, just the opposite in most of their traits and well fitted to work together on any debate, as one was witty and fascinating in his speech and manners, and the other capable of getting to the bottom of a subject by hard study. Geo. F— had a reputation as a smooth talker wherever he was known. He had been a puzzle to every teacher whose recitations he had attended, and could do most anything and still argue himself out of the difficulty. Jack H— was well fitted to be an aide-de-camp to such a person. He was the leader of his class, well liked by the teachers, but happy only when he did not have to work too hard for his honors. He certainly must have inherited most of his abilities for he always had time to take part in all the tricks and jokes common to all well regulated high schools, and still retain his position at the head of his class. The faction headed by these two boys was fast gaining supremacy in the line of debating when the other side was greatly reinforced by the addition to their ranks of the new grammar school teacher, who had been induced to join the Literary society, supposedly for the purpose of strengthening it, but really for the purpose of aiding the other side.

Before his arrival honors had been easy, but when, at last, the program committee announced the event of the season in the form of a debate between the oldest boy in the school and the grammar school teacher on

one side, and George and Jack on the other, things began to look doubtful.

All would have gone well had the question been one on which George and Jack were already well read, but for some unknown reason the committee had chosen the momentous question of the stability of our government, and to prepare for that meant a great deal of hard work. To make matters worse, the republicans were trying to influence the election by an unusually large number of campaign speeches, all of which had to be attended to by those worthy students.

So when the day arrived on the evening of which the debate was to take place, but little preparation had been made. School closed in the afternoon and everyone hurried home to get ready for the event. Two boys alone remained. One was heard to remark to the other: "We must win some way. Let's stop the meeting."

So it was determined that there should be no meeting of the Literary society that night. For two boys to work out a plan for delaying the meeting was something heretofore unknown, but the determined way in which both tip-toed down into the basement and crawled behind the furnace was evidence of its success.

The slow movements of the janitor could be plainly heard as he finished sweeping the rooms above, one by one. At last he had finished all and with a final look at the furnace to see that all was well, hastened home to return later and light the lamps for the society.

Meanwhile the two boys were busy at work digging a hole in one corner of the basement. It was a simple matter to run upstairs, collect all the chimneys, and place them in the opening. And when the dirt was thrown over them a week's search could not have revealed their presence. The boys seemed perfectly happy as they crawled out through one of the windows and walked leisurely homeward, their minds unworried over the subject for debate.

The scheme would probably have succeeded if chimneys had not been so cheap, but as it was, when the debaters strolled down toward the school house about 7:30 to see how dark the building could look, they found it brightly lighted and a large audience assembled. It was too late to back out, so both entered the debate with a "trust-to-luck" determination to win yet. But debating without preparation is up hill work. Their chagrin at defeat was lessened, however, by their fortune in getting out of the other difficulty; for a rigid search was instigated for the parties who stole the chimneys. Here again the worthy janitor came to the rescue: when, on the second day after, the lost chimneys were found, neatly placed on one of the tables in the physics laboratory, it was hinted that the janitor had cleaned them there and then forgotten where he had left them. The fact that certain peculiar odors had been scented in the neighborhood of his breath for several days previous, settled the question.

He did not lose his position, however, and it was often noticed in the terms following that the janitor was always well spoken of by the leaders on the losing

side of the most interesting debate of the High School Literary society.

HUGH C. ALMY.

A TRIP TO A LOGGING CAMP.

It was a beautiful day in winter, when a party of eight started for a visit to a logging camp. We left on an early morning train, and after a ride of about an hour stopped at the station where two double sleighs were waiting to take us to the camp. The sleighing was good, and the sun was bright enough to keep us warm, so that our drive of seven miles seemed very short. We stopped three miles from the camp with friends who were going with us, and at eleven o'clock the three sleigh loads again started out. The road was narrow and winding, shut in on both sides by the thick pine woods, every branch of which was loaded with the soft white snow which had fallen the night before. Not a sound could we hear save that of our own sleigh-bells, and now and then a call from a distance to tell us of a load of logs which was coming through the woods. Soon we saw smoke from the chimney of a distant camp, and coming in sight of it we saw a house built of logs and standing alone in the midst of the thick woods. We went inside where about forty men were at dinner. They paid us no attention whatever, but quickly finished their meal, and were soon at work again. The table was now set for us, and it was very different from the ordinary dinner table. It was covered with oil cloth and set with tin plates and cups. But this was almost forgotten when we began eating, for I think you would rarely find a dinner so well cooked. After dinner we rested and looked about the camp a while. The walls were the same on the inside as on the outside of the building, with two or three small windows. In one end of the room was a large stove, and back of it on the wall the shelves where all the cooking utensils were kept. Two long wooden tables filled the centre of the room. These, the long benches each side of them, and in fact nearly all the other furnishings of the camp were made by the men in only a few days. These are not moved, but in every camp new ones are made. In the other part of the camp which was separated from this by a small space covered over with a roof, were the bunks along the sides of the room, leaving only a few feet between in the center of the room. It seemed to us that one must be very, very tired to sleep well there. After examining everything we started on our journey. We visited one more camp and reached our friend's house in time for a six o'clock dinner. Here we spent the evening with pictures, music and games, and started for our train at twelve o'clock. This drive of seven miles on a bright moon-light night ended one of the pleasantest days I have ever spent.

FLORENCE A. PRAY.

ONE OF MY PUPILS.

I saw him for the first time early one winter morning as I was coming up the path to the school-house. He seemed to be about seven years old, but I found afterwards that he was nearly eleven. He made an odd figure as he stood on the front steps with his hands buried deep in his trousers pockets, and his cap pulled down so low that only part of his nose and his mouth were visible. I don't believe he wore any thing that

was originally made for him. The coat came down to his ankles and must have belonged to his father. On one foot he wore a shoe that seemed to fit fairly well, and on the other a rubber so large that he had it tied to his foot with a rope. As I came up to him he raised his face to me, and I straight-way forgot the oddity of his appearance; for I only saw the thin, pale face, and the large, shining black eyes with their appealing look.

MARIE B. K. BERG.

LITERARY NOTES.

Gladstone's daughter writing of her father's habits, says: "He usually has three books on hand at once, of various degrees of solidity, the evening one probably being a novel. Aristotle, St. Augustine, Dante, and Bishop Butler are the authors who have most influenced him; so he has himself written. Once in bed, he never allows his mind to be charged with business of any kind, in consequence of which he sleeps the sound and healthy sleep of a child, from the moment his head is on the pillow until he is called the next morning. This absolute power over his thoughts, won by long and strict habits of self control, must be one of the principal causes of his freshness and youth. As an instance, he went home in the early morning after the defeat of the Home Rule bill of 1886, and slept as usual his eight hours."

"It was very good fortune," says Mrs. Fields, "to be once in Rome with Mrs. Stowe, where she came unexpectedly face to face with an exhibition of the general feeling of reverence and gratitude towards herself. We had gone to the room of the Brothers Castellani, the workers in gold. Mrs. Stowe was full of enthusiasm, and we lingered long over the things which the brothers brought forward to show. Among them was the head of an Egyptian slave, carved in black onyx. While we were enjoying it, one of the brothers said to Mrs. Stowe, 'Madam, we know what you have been to the poor slave. We are ourselves but poor slaves still in Italy—you feel for us, will you keep this gem as a slight recognition of what you have done?' She took the jewel in silence, but her eyes were filled with tears, and it was impossible for her to speak."

Of the great classics Dante is perhaps least read and least known, since inherent difficulties of both language and poem are very troublesome to the translation. Prof. Norton has given a version of the great Florentine's manifold dream which is a triumph of simplicity and clearness. He has escaped the main difficulties by choosing prose as his medium which by his treatment not only makes the poem comprehensible, but is itself poetically beautiful in its combined grace and strength. Equipped with this book and Lowell's masterly essay upon Dante, any one may walk with the poet through the circles of his infinite imaginings, confident of a companionship always filled with profit and delight. A few cantos should be read in Longfellow's metrical translation, by way of comparison, and the chapter upon Dante in Mrs. Oliphant's, "Makers of Florence" will serve as a pleasant accompaniment.

The Rev. John J. Harvey was not a handsome man;

in fact, some people might even have called him plain. He was tall, but rather angular, and his clothes, always black and solemn as befitting his station, lacked that much-admired "hang," ample, yet caressing, so characteristic of the habiliments of urban society. His square straight shoulders were surmounted by a well-shaped head, in which the curly blond hair was always smoothly brushed. His nose was large, apparently to atone for a slight deficiency in the way of chin. A feeble moustache, of the same blond hue, as his hair, served only to accentuate the lines of his mouth already much too prominent because of the large upper lip. Yet behind his gold-rimmed glasses his blue eyes sent forth a kindly gleam, and under the sickly moustache his lips wore a smile that was very attractive. Though his parishioners may not have thought him handsome, they strongly resented any insinuation as to his being the contrary, and some were known to take the stand that "Parson Harvey" was "real good looking." Be that as it may, they loved him sincerely; and when he left them, to become a foreign missionary, they long lamented his departure, averring that "Parson Harvey was too nice a man to be wasted on them heathen Africans."

M. ASHMUN.

GEMS FROM OLD THINKERS.

The tongue is held in honor by such men as reckon words of more account than deeds.

—SOPHOCLES, B. C! 480.

They who wish good to their friends, for the friends' sake, are friends in the highest degree.

—ARISTOTLE, B. C. 384.

Knowledge is the food of the soul. Must they not be utterly unfortunate, whose souls are compelled to pass through life always hungering.

—PLATO, B. C. 427.

Men resemble the Gods in nothing so much as in doing good to their fellow creatures.

CICERO.

Love is the crowning grace of humanity, the holiest right of the soul, the golden link which binds us to duty and truth, the redeeming principle that chiefly reconciles the heart to life, and is prophetic of eternal good.

PETRARCH.

In a certain city not a thousand miles from Stevens Point, there is located a Normal School; this school has at its head a wide awake progressive faculty, the members of which never lose an opportunity to widen their information. It so happened that as two of them were passing by a meat market, one day, they glanced in at the open door and saw an animal covered with "black fur." They stepped inside to examine it more closely. Their exclamations of admiration and wonder were many. Finally, the obliging proprietor asked them if they wished to purchase anything? They thanked him, saying that they only wished to look at the bear. After some fifteen minutes had passed in speculations about the "bear," they were greatly amazed to learn that he had been killed on a farm a short distance from the city. As they were about to leave the shop the proprietor said: "Excuse me, ladies, that is a black CALF!" It is needless to say that the ladies did not advise their friends to go down to see the bear!

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EDITORIAL.

Our Local Editor's withdrawal from school is the occasion of not a little regret on the part of his friends—particularly the members of his class, and the editorial staff. Though the vacancy in the latter organization has, we think, been very happily filled, we are sorry to have lost him, and hope that when he returns next year, as he promises to do, The Pointer may be so fortunate as to have him restored, in one capacity or another, to its staff of editors.

Among the beatitudes most familiar to the readers of The Pointer is this one: Blessed are the people who help to make things go." A person who attends the Arena must be sympathetically inclined toward those who are not numbered among the BLESSED. The way in which the business meeting is carried on is not complimentary to the young ladies. We should be the last to admit that the young ladies are not perfectly capable of taking part in the meetings, for there are flourishing societies in other schools composed entirely of ladies. Why is it then? Perhaps because of indifference; perhaps because of timidity; be this as it may, we are missing an opportunity for training in parliamentary usage that we can not well afford to neglect. It does not matter if we do not aspire to be president of a club or society of any kind. In these days when women occupy so many important positions, in order to be considered intelligent, we should be able at least to stand on our feet and make a motion, or discuss a question. To do this requires practice. What if our motion is "out-of-order?" We will gain the experience which will be useful at other times and in other places where ignorance is less excusable. The calls upon our time for things that must be done leave little time for the things upon which per cents are not reckoned, hence too many of us neglect the literary work. But shall we be satisfied to do only the things we must? If we are not members of

the society, let us join; if we are, let us do our part to make the meetings what they should be,

LILLIAN ARNOTT.

A shameful example of a Senior's heartless conduct toward a verdant and unsuspecting Junior was brought to our notice some time ago. But lest any one should jump at conclusions we hasten to correct any idea that the occurrence took place in this school; far from it; here a Senior would scorn so low an act. In the northern part of the State, however, near the border line, there is a school where the Seniors are not such as ours, and here the evil deed was perpetrated. It seems that the Juniors in the school had, according to the common custom, selected a goodly motto, by contemplation of which, to stimulate themselves to even greater achievements than those that Juniors are wont to accomplish. This motto was, in good plain English, "Something Ahead!" The haughty Juniors, however, were not content with this, but desired a more impressive form of expression. One of them accordingly, in not too public a manner, requested a learned, but as it afterward transpired, unprincipled, Senior to translate it into German; which the Senior obligingly did. The motto was unanimously adopted by the guileless Juniors, and at the earliest opportunity displayed before their sage superiors. What was their amazement and dismay to find that instead of being awed into silence, the Seniors laughed them to scorn with many a gibe and jeer! And, as you may well imagine, great was their righteous wrath toward the obliging student of German when they discovered his scurvy trick, for this was his translation—"Etwas ein Kopf!"

In The Century for January 1897, there is a story by Hamlin Garland which every one should read. It appeals to every person in whose breast there beats a human heart, for the story is so thoroughly human, so essentially true to life that it cannot but arouse responsive emotions in all readers. But only those who know something of the life in the country towns of Wisconsin can truly appreciate the delicate, subtle, exquisite touches of realism—"veritism" Mr. Garland chooses to call it—that make "A Woman of Modern Tyre," a story to be revelled in. It is this very localism that many of Mr. Garland's critics inveigh against, with some justice, perhaps; but, we of Wisconsin, have no complaint to make. We recognize the types we see in the story, we have seen them daily in the flesh; we know how pitifully true to actual conditions are those described; we know the hopeless stagnation of the existence to which Albert Lohr was fated. It is all life to us, the more so as we realize that things could not have been any different in the end than as the story shows them.

It is gratifying to those interested in our school to note the readiness with which our students are employed as teachers, and the high degree of success that seems to be theirs in the discharge of their duties.

We regret The Neenah Argosy's unfortunate experience with prize stories, but a moral might be drawn therefrom.

The struggles of the Seniors over their pin and yell are really pathetic.

LOCAL.

GENERAL.

The holiday vacation has come and gone. A majority of the students who spent their vacation out of the city have returned in the best of health and good spirits. Work in all departments was resumed on Tuesday, Jan. 5th. There seems to be even greater earnestness in study than before vacation, but it is impossible to decide whether this is due to New Year's resolutions, or to the near approach of quarterly examinations.

The Seniors miss three of their numbers since the holidays. Mr. Phillips has accepted a position as first assistant in the Eau Claire High School. He will teach German and Latin. Doubtless, he will do good work in this department as he has made languages his specialty for several years. Miss Nettie Stewart is teaching in the 4th grade in one of the schools of Madison. Mr. Almy who has so ably filled the position of Local Editor of The Normal Pointer, has a school in Neillsville.

Pres. Pray, Professors Collins, Culver, Sanford, Spaulding and Swift, Mesdames Elliot and Bradford, and Misses Faddis, Linton, Quinn, Stewart and Tanner, attended the State Teachers' Convention at Milwaukee Dec. 29-30. Miss Linton read a paper before the convention entitled "Why Children should Learn to Read Music."

On the last morning before the holidays, the school was pleasantly surprised by a musical program prepared by Misses Linton, Vosburgh, Kuhl and Furro. Several numbers were presented by the model school. An octette of young ladies from the eighth grade, and a sextette of intermediate pupils rendered pleasing selections. Mrs. Spaulding and Miss Curran, and Misses Gross and Corcoran, appeared in piano duets. Mrs. Hunter closed the program by a vocal solo, "O! Holy Night!"

Room 30 has seen many animals slain lately in the interest of science. The Zoology classes spent hours searching for the amoeba with little result except the cultivation of a patient spirit; but, as they advanced in the animal kingdom, material became more abundant. They have persevered in their pursuit of scientific knowledge until now the Batrachia no longer disturb the recitations by their melancholy croaking "All, all are gone!" The Testudinata will soon be sacrificed, and then naught will be left but the sleepy opossum. Soon the classes will go forth in a scientific spirit to search for cats. All lawful means are to be employed to procure one; but it is reported that, in case of failure, the members of the Psychology class—none of whom have a conscience—will aid their fellow students by resorting to questionable means to gain that sought-for prize.

The Arena has accepted a challenge to debate with the Literary Society of the Superior Normal. Each society will be represented by three of its best debaters. The debate will take place some time in May. The subject has not yet been decided upon.

The young ladies have formed two teams to play in-

door tennis under the guidance of Professor Culver. They will meet Saturday afternoons. Teams for basket and battle ball will be organized soon.

The four Latin classes had a competitive test in the conjugation of Latin verbs, lately. The beginning class stood highest. Constant endeavor, hard study, and excellent instruction enables one to outstrip all others—the Horace class included.

The Board of Examiners will be here about the 19th, to examine those who expect to finish either course. A class of eight will take the examination for certificates from the Elementary Course. Mr. Phillips is expected to be present to take the examination for a diploma of the complete course. Miss Stewart will take her examination in Madison.

A new magazine, The Psychological Review, has been received in the library. It is published bi-monthly, and edited by J. Mark Baldwin and J. McKeen Cattell.

Travelling libraries have aroused much interest and done good work in the farm houses and schools in country districts. Miss Tanner is the originator of a plan which will assist and extend the work of the libraries. For a long time Miss Tanner has been preparing libraries of pictures which are nearly ready to be sent out. Reproductions of the works of great masters, sketches and pictures by the best artists of the present day, are collected and mounted on grey bristol board. This color is chosen because it looks well on any wall. In a pocket on the back of each of these is a large card telling about the picture and its artist. Some of these will be sent to the country and distributed to the different families. They are allowed to keep a picture for a week, and then to exchange it for another. The school house will also receive its share. By these pictures an appreciation of the best in art will be awakened, and an interest in the events connected with the pictures leading on to a study of the literature and history of the times of the artist. Some pictures will be presented to the schools near Stevens Point. A library is being collected for the use of the Normal students, and one will be begun soon for the Public Library. Too much cannot be said in favor of Miss Tanner's plan. Many who have spent some time in country schools and farm houses, will realize how their aesthetic sense and love of art has been dwarfed by cheerless surroundings, and will gladly welcome a change for the better.

A new rule in regard to text books is being enforced. The student who defaces a rented book by pencil mark or otherwise, is required to purchase the book. The school is not desirous of collecting the autographs or caricatures of its students, nor of having original aids to translation in the German and Latin books.

The Psychology club had an interesting meeting lately. The subject was "Self-Consciousness," and was well discussed by Miss Berg.

PERSONAL.

Miss Hattie Long spent her vacation at Winona.

A number of new maps have been received in Room 28.

The Forum is making a study of Russia, and Russian Nihilism.

Miss Melissa Durkee and James Paulson have withdrawn to teach.

Miss Matie Patch has withdrawn from school on account of ill health.

The Arena devoted one meeting to a discussion of the President's message.

Professor Sylvester is at present in Rome where he will remain for some time.

The Octette rendered one of their pleasing selections at morning exercises lately.

Miss McClellan, of Phillips, recently spent a week with her friend Miss Smith.

Frank Springer, who attended the Normal last year, is teaching school near Almond.

Professor McCaskill will deliver a lecture on "Evolution" before the Forum soon.

Mr. Price, one of the Seniors, recently had the misfortune to cut his hand quite badly.

Prof. Livingston, of Sparta, one of the Board of Visitors, spent a few days in school lately.

Miss Elizabeth Stevens will recuperate after the examinations at the home of her sister in Appleton.

Etta Frost, Lottie Horan, Nolia Onan, Thomas Hannifin, and J. W. Gardner, have recently entered school.

Some of the students recently saw an illustration of the fact that "the wicked stand (?) in slippery places."

Miss Montgomery spent several days in Chicago the first of the month, going down to attend her brother's wedding.

Classes have been formed to practice drills and fancy steps for the Gymnasium exhibition to be given in February.

Mr. Beck has been absent for several days on account of the illness of Mrs. Beck, who is now somewhat improved.

A strange fact in Biblical history brought out recently by a Senior—"Nebuchadnezzar was changed into an ox."

Would it not be well for those who sit in the northwest corner of the Assembly Room to re-organize the A. W. P. L. S. ?

Miss Sutherland, of Eau Claire, has returned to school after an absence of several weeks caused by the serious illness of her sister.

An open question—"Why does the beginning German class fail to appreciate Mark Twain's trials in learning the German language?"

Mr. William Hawley Smith will deliver a lecture here Feb. 18th. He will be remembered as the author of "The Evolution of Dodd."

Prof. G. E. Culver served on the examining board for State Teachers' certificates during the vacation, taking Professor Sylvester's place.

Many of the students availed themselves of the opportunity of hearing Booker T. Washington on "How to Solve the Negro Problem?"

Mr. Webb of the Junior class has not returned since the holidays.

P. S.—Oh, yes! He has too.

To be let to the highest bidder—The contract for the Senior yell. To be constructed without rhyme or reason. The committee reserve the right to reject any or all bids.

Miss Marion Maxfield and Joseph Baker, both of whom have been teaching in Auburn, Wis., visited former school-mates lately. Their schools are closed at present, because of an epidemic of measles.

Among the more recent visitors are Professor Simonds of the High School; Dr. Creighton of St. Pauls M. E. church; Miss Furro of Green Bay; Mr. Virum, Misses Krum, Dille and Eiche; Mrs. Maxfield and Miss Doty, city.

Three former "Normalites" spent their vacation in this city: Miss Ethel Barker, who teaches at Pennington, Wis.; Miss Bremmer, a teacher in one of the schools of Sheboygan; and Miss Mame Collins, who teaches near Glidden, Wis.

Would that the Normal Students had formed, or would form a resolution to pay their debts this month! The Pointer wishes to carry on its business on the silver half-dollar basis, but it will be impossible to do this unless its debtors—settle forthwith.

Miss Stewart was called to Elkhorn, a few days since, by the serious illness of her mother, who at last reports, was no better. During Miss Stewart's absence, Professor Spaulding taught the Horace and Caesar classes, Mr. Larkin the Virgil, and Miss McDill the beginning class in Latin.

The Second Quarter ends Jan. 22nd. The third quarter begins Jan. 25th. Many new classes will be formed. German and Latin classes and General History will continue until the end of the year. Psychology, which will be finished in five weeks, will be followed by History of Education which is a fifteen weeks study.

Professor McCaskill has recently received a calendar from his friend Dr. Wheel. It is no ordinary calendar decorated with water colors, or with verses on the seasons, but portrays on its pages skeletons in the scenes of every-day life. The facial expression of some of these is wonderful to behold. Joy and sorrow, youth and old age are seen on their countenances; or, rather, on the frame-work of their faces.

It is not often that a Normal Professor is caught napping. The students have always supposed that their teachers were above all "weariness of the flesh" in their zeal to acquire and impart knowledge; but the illusion has been broken. Several of the Seniors happening to enter a recitation room, one afternoon about four o'clock, were happily surprised by the sight of their worthy Professor enjoying the "heavy honey-dews of slumber." He was reclining gracefully upon a recitation seat, a German dictionary under his head, and an interesting (?) magazine open in his hand. Suddenly he awoke, and taking in the situation at a glance, exclaimed, in consternation, "Did I snore?" As to that, opinions differ. Great influence has been brought to bear upon the Professor, but he refuses to disclose the name of the article which produced such deep slumber. He says it was caused by his clear conscience, which he advises all who are troubled by insomnia, to cultivate.

ATHLETIC.

Secretary Bradford of the Athletic association is in receipt of the following communication from the secretary of the Lawrence University Athletic association:

Secretary Athletic Association, Stevens Point Normal, Stevens Point, Wis.—Dear Sir: I have been instructed, as secretary of the Lawrence University Athletic association, to enter into correspondence with your association in reference to a Field Day to be held between our two colleges either in May or June, dates and arrangements to be made later. Will you please bring the matter before your association and let me know as soon as possible how they feel regarding it?

Yours respectfully,

ALLEN H. JAMES,
Sec'y L. U. Athletic Ass'n.

This is the first communication, relating to the Field contests, that has been received this season. The last contest between our school and Lawrence University was held in Stevens Point two years ago, and if one is arranged for this year it will no doubt be held at Appleton. A return date will doubtless be arranged for with the Oshkosh Normal, at Oshkosh, as the contest with that school last year was held in our city. We hear, besides this, that Winona Normal is trying to arrange for a trip and would like to meet our track team, if possible. This presents a possibility of three Field Days in one season, more than it seems advisable to undertake. The matter will be acted upon, however, by the athletic association, and the date or dates set for some time in May.

In view of the fact that training for the Field Day events has begun and all authorities upon athletics are being read in connection with the training, a list of some of the best books upon athletics in the library will aid some in their work. Following are some of the best works:

Track Athletics in Detail.
Athletes' Guide.
Amateur Athletic Union of the U. S.
College Sports.
True Story Book.
Boys' Book of Sports.
College Athletics—National Ed. Ass'n.

Of these the Athlete's Guide, Spaulding's Handbook, and Track Athletics in Detail, a collection of articles upon training and the like by the editor of the Athletic Department of Harper's Round Table, are probably the best. The latter is illustrated by instantaneous photographs of the athletes in action and gives a very clear view of the correct and incorrect positions in the different events.

Just before the holidays an entertainment was given for the benefit of the A. A., an interesting feature of which was the exhibition of Mrs. Jarley's wax works. Miss Kate Smith taking the part of Mrs. Jarley. A number very highly appreciated was the reading by Mrs. Bradford as were also the solo by Miss Linton, and the club swinging by Mr. Will Bradford. The net receipts will go a long way toward settling the bills of the association.

The following squib in some way found its way into the editor's hands, and to be sure that would-be players of the great game might be worried as to the bad effects, it is reproduced here with apologies to the composer:

When a young man from the rural districts
To a college in town would go,
He should beware of the game called foot-ball—
'Cause it has bad effects you know.
And when he goes home in vacation,
Is asked to loosen the soil round the corn,
He'll find the sport differs from foot-ball
As played from the side lines—with a horn.

To those who discountenance the manly game of foot ball this clipping from The Chicago Inter Ocean may be of interest as affording proof upon their side of the question:

President Harper, in his address at chapel exercises yesterday morning, declared that the records on the examiner's books for the past quarter showed conclusively that Athletics interfered seriously with the student's University work, and that hereafter the rule prohibiting any student, behind in his studies, from participating in athletic sports would be rigidly enforced.

"At the last convocation exercises," said Dr. Harper, "I made the announcement that only one out of our twenty representatives on the athletic field had failed to come up to the standard in his class-room work. I made the statement with a good deal of pride, as there had been a great deal said upon the subject lately, and I had hoped all fall at the end of the term to be able to show by the records that a man at the University of Chicago could engage in athletic contests and keep up his studies, and do both well. Instead of this, I find by the complete records from the examiner's office, which have just been handed in, that so large a number of the members of the foot ball team have failed that I am compelled to state directly the opposite of what I had wished, and say that athletics do disturb a man's University work.

"However, I wish to call attention again to the recent action of the faculty along this line, and say that no man who has an unsatisfied condition against his name, will be allowed to play foot ball or base ball, nor will be permitted to join any organization representing or bearing the name of the University."

This announcement, together with the statement that the rule would be rigidly adhered to, created quite a stir among the students, as its enforcement will probably weaken the base ball and the track teams materially.

A project that is giving rise to much discussion in Athletic circles is the plan of Dr. Harper and architect Cobb, for building a huge glass pavilion many acres in extent, in which base ball, foot ball, and similar games may be carried on during the winter season. As yet no definite steps have been taken, and it is possible that funds cannot be raised for the purpose; but the idea is an interesting one, and if it were carried into effect would form a prominent land-mark in the progress of Athletics.

The mid-winter Athletic Contest to be held next month in the gymnasium, will doubtless be very entertaining to those interested in in-door sports, as the training has been carried on for some time, and both the young men and the young ladies of the Athletic Associations will take part.

EXCHANGES.

The Wisconsin Times comes to us in a new and improved form.

The U. S. is the only country in the world that spends more on Education than on war equipments.

Downer College received a medal from the authorities of the Columbian Exposition for its display of school work.

Greater proficiency in the use of English, as to syntax and spelling, is hereafter to be required for admission to Harvard.

\$100,000 has been raised as an endowment fund for Lawrence University. Four new professorships are secured thereby.

Calcutta, India, is a great educational center. It has 20 colleges with 3000 students, and 40 high schools with 2000 students.

The world is moving. You can either move with it, or sit on the corner and watch the procession as it passes by.—UNIVERSITY COURANT.

A Russian College has recently been opened in Minneapolis. The dedication exercises were conducted by Bishop Nicholas of the Greek church.

One of the requirements of one seeking college honors at Amherst is that his college expenses during the previous year have not exceeded \$510.

Among new live exchanges which we welcome are The High School Recorder of Ellsworth, Wis., the Chester Academy Record, of Chester, Pa.

In Germany one man in 213 goes to college; in Scotland one in 520; in the U. S. one in 2000; and in England one in 5000.—COLLEGE DAYS.

The Normal Badger for Dec. contains a brief pedagogic history of the faculty of that institution. Each department shows careful, painstaking work.

Princeton, Harvard, Cornell, Columbia, Leland Stanford, Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin universities publish daily papers.—THE MACALESTER ECHO.

Cambridge university has passed a statute by which it may deprive a graduate of his degree and the privileges of the university in case of misconduct.

—EXCHANGE.

Pres. Harper of the Chicago U is very fond of music, and is an accomplished musician. Notwithstanding the great amount of work he performs he still finds time for music.

Supt. J. A. McDowell of Millersburgh, Ohio, was elected to congress in November. Mr. McDowell is a teacher of long experience, and has the honor of representing Pres. McKinley's district.

The last number of The Janesville Vedette offers appropriate criticisms upon Wisconsin school exchanges. It contains cuts of its churches and school buildings. It is a well gotten up high school paper.

Mr. Alexander MacDowell has, within the last year, been called to accept the professorship of music in Columbia University, N. Y. He obtained his musical education chiefly in France and Germany.

The trustees of Cornell have decided to establish a college of architecture, offering a degree of Bachelor of Architecture at the end of a four years' course, a degree not hitherto conferred in America.—EXCHANGE.

The Century for January contains an article on Helen Keller that is well worth reading. She has accomplished more than many who can both hear and see. There are in the U. S., to-day, 89 schools for the deaf and 9000 pupils in attendance.

The Macalester Echo of St. Paul, Minn., is a most excellent college paper. The December No. contains a cut of the senior class together with a spicy description of the members individually and collectively. The exchange column is exceptionally good.

The late General Francis A. Walker was fairly loaded with academic honors. The degree of LL.D., came to him from Amherst, Columbia College, and the Universities of Yale, Harvard, St. Andrew's and Edinburgh. He received the degree of Ph. D. at Yale in 1875.

To the credit of Wisconsin teachers it may be said that their State Association was the first to give a "library section" a permanent place on its program. The National Ed. Association will have a similar section for the first time at its meeting in Milwaukee next July.

The students of the University of Wisconsin recently enjoyed the very unusual pleasure of hearing brief addresses from eleven university presidents in one day. These gentlemen represented Universities as far east as Ohio, as far west and north as Minnesota, as far south as Kansas.

New Year Resolutions.

Algebra: Be positive. Know when to eliminate yourself.

Grammar: Conjugate LIVE in the active voice.

Geometry: Rub off your angles.

History: Consider your constitution.

Physics: Imitate the thermometer in responsiveness, but avoid a vacuum at the top.

Trigonometry: Avoid going off on tangents.

Rhetoric: Work and happiness are often synonymous.

Psychology: Remember there was once a time when you were not wise.

Music: "There can be no concert in two when there is no concert in one."—EMERSON

Gymnastics: Marking time is not progress.—THE KODAK.

MODEL SCHOOL.

SIEGE OF TROY.

Once upon a time there lived in Troia, or Troy, a king who had fifty sons, and as many daughters. One of his sons, whose name was Paris, was very handsome, but lacked braveness, and did not take any active part in war. Venus, the goddess of love, promised that she would secure for him the most beautiful wife in the world, who at that time was known to be Helen, the wife of Menelaus. He accordingly prepared for a journey into Greece, for that was the home of Helen, and arriving at the home of Menelaus, was greeted with kindness and entertained in the most hospitable manner. This, however, did not change or interfere in the least with the purpose of Paris, who was planning an escape of Helen and himself. Meanwhile, Helen, having been charmed by Venus, was very much pleased with Paris, and when he revealed his plan of elopement to her, she did not hesitate a moment, but prepared her jewels and precious stones and other treasures, and during an absence of Menelaus, they quietly slipped away. This carrying off of Helen to Troy by Paris brought on a war, which dragged on for ten long years.

Previous to the marriage of Helen to Menelaus, her father thought that there would be trouble, for Helen had many suitors, and following the advice of the cunning Ulysses, he asked all the princes of Greece to take an oath, to help the husband of Helen, if he should get into trouble about her. As we already know, the elopement of Helen brought on the war, and accordingly preparations were made for battle. All the heroes and princes were to take part in the battle, but there were some of the best that refused to do so. Ulysses refused, not because he didn't have courage, or lacked braveness, for he was one of the bravest of heroes among the Greeks, but having a wife and a baby, which he dearly loved, could not bear the thought of separating from them. He therefore pretended to be insane, and yoking up a donkey and an ox together, went to plow on the sea-shore. The messengers suspected that something was wrong, and so one of them took the baby of Ulysses from the arms of the nurse, and laid it in a furrow, before the team, saying to himself that if Ulysses was really insane, as he pretended to be, he would not take any notice of the baby, but go on with his plowing; but as Ulysses picked up the baby and kissed it, he proved that he was entirely sane. The mother of Achilles, thought of the danger that could befall her son, and so refused to have him go, and dressing him up in a female's attire, sent him to the king's palace, where he was to act as a maid. Two messengers, disguised as peddlars, each bearing a satchel, in which they had their goods and wares, came along, and asked the maids of the palace to examine their goods. One satchel contained fancy goods, such as maidens loved to see, while the other contained swords and helmets. While the other maidens were admiring the beautiful ribbons, Achilles, without taking any notice of the fancy things, jumped to examine the swords and helmets. The interest which he took in

this war-like display, betrayed him, for it was evident that ribbons, laces, and other such things, would be more beautiful to a maiden's eye, and have more interest for her, than a sword or a helmet.

Preparations for the war were made. Perhaps one of the most important incidents of the siege of Troy was the death of the brave Achilles, which was a great loss to the Greeks. Before this he was in his tent, raging over the death of his most beloved friend Patroclus, and vowing vengeance to his enemy, Hector, for killing him.

Some of the best heroes of Troy were killed by Achilles, but the time of his death was not far off. When in battle he was struck by an arrow of Paris, which, with the help of Apollo, was made to inflict a mortal wound. He knew that nothing could save him, and he died among piles of enemies, which had been struck down by his hand. A contest arose for the body of Achilles, which after a hard battle, was won by the Greeks. Funeral games were played, and hymns were sung, and, Thetis the mother of Achilles, gave some of the most beautiful gifts as prizes. His armor was given to Ulysses who was decided to be the most worthy of it.

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