

Office

THE

Normal Pointer.

Stevens Point, Wis.



1897.

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THE NORMAL POINTER.

Volume II.

STEVENS POINT, WIS., MARCH, 1897.

Number 7.

LITERARY.

OLD-TIME DAYS.

I can see the river gliding, as it used to long ago,
Round the shoulder of the meadow, where the thick-
set willows grow.

I can hear it purr and babble, in a gentle lullaby,
To a little barefoot dreamer gazing up into the sky.

Yonder lies the brown old farm house, crowned with
chimney huge and square,
And the barn beloved of swallows, with its weather-
cock in air;

I can hear the river ripple, blend with cow bells from
the hill,

And the far off clang and rumble of the log frame in
the mill.

How I loved to lie a-dreaming in the deep and quiet
grass

While I watched the ghosts of noonday through the
field of heaven pass!

I was happy—oh, so happy—while the purling of the
stream

Seemed to weave a little poem for the music of my
dream.

Oh, to taste once more the pleasures that I knew in
years gone by,

When my heart was full of sunshine as the summer
morning sky!

Oh, to feel that outdoor gladness when the days were
fresh and long,

And the bluebird climbed to heaven on the ladder of his
song!—Selected. J. B.

CHRONICLES OF THE NORMAL FORUM.

CHAP. II.

And it came to pass after the fame of the Normal athletes had spread abroad, that certain of the young men of the Normalites reasoned among themselves concerning those young men that are not swift of foot neither are valiant kickers.

And some said it is not meet that Normalites should glory in their strength alone, and others said, we have hearkened unto the wise men in the temple these many months and have kept silence before them all the days of our sojourn here, are we not wiser than we were in the days when we wandered in the desert; come, now, let us give attention to reading and to disputation and peradventure it shall come to pass that our mouths shall be filled with words also.

And the saying pleased the young men. So they agreed together concerning the matter and a new sect arose, even the sect of the Forumites.

And certain young men of the Normalites, even twenty of them, chose leaders from among their number.

And upon certain evenings, even upon the fifth day

of the week, they met together in the temple and hearkened unto the words of the speakers even such as had been chosen to seek out and to set in order many arguments.

Then was there great contention among the Forumites, for such was the custom in those days.

And on such occasions judges were chosen to hear the discussion and to decide wisely concerning the words of the speakers and of their weighty arguments.

And it came to pass that the Forumites grew in power and in wisdom, and the sound of their voices was like the music of rushing waters.

Then came there young men from among the Normalites and joined themselves unto the sect of the Forumites and there were added unto their number weekly of such as were chosen.

And of all the works of the Forumites and the actions of their mighty men are they not recorded in the book of the Forum, even all their doings are written down by Bever and Fernholz, chief scribes unto the sect of the Forumites, and remain there unto this day.

THE CHILD.

She was not like other children. This was due partly to inherited traits, and partly to a peculiar training. Her father was a quiet, practical, business man on six days of the week, but on Sunday he was a poet and a story-teller. On this day it was his habit to take the child to the woods, where he told her stories and rhymes of the bugs, ants and worms they found in the grass, and of the birds in their nests in the trees. She soon learned to know Sunday from other days, and when she awoke in the morning and heard the church bells ringing, she would laugh and clap her hands and say, "Papa's and Mary's day has come again."

As the child grew older she seemed to love the little crawling things best, and she never tired of the stories about the worms that could make little silk houses to go to sleep in while they were waiting for beautiful wings to grow. One day I noticed from my window that she had been sitting on the grass in the yard for more than half an hour without changing her position. This was a long time for her active little body to keep still, and I went out to see what she was doing. I found she had a caterpillar on a green leaf, whose movements she was watching with intense interest. As I drew near she looked up with a curious expression of perplexity on her face and said: "I thought, if I waited, he might begin the little house."

I had been in town all day. When I came home I found the child sitting on the sand-pile in the back yard, sobbing with that complete abandonment to grief so characteristic of children. Beside her, near a

sharp stone, lay the best doll. One-half of the face was gone, and the beautiful blue eyes that had always closed so promptly and obediently whenever she was put to bed and ordered to go to sleep, were lying together in the hollow in the back of her head. I sat down beside the child, and thought to comfort her in the usual way by the promise of another doll the next time I went to the city. She looked up at me with mingled indignation and surprise showing through the tears. "If I broke my head, would you love another little girl?"

* * * *

"If you'll come with me, I'll show you something you haven't seen," said the child one day, as she took hold of my hand and gently pulled in the direction she wished me to go.

I had no idea what she was going to do, but with the unquestioning confidence that children love to find in their elders, I followed her. We went into the kitchen, stopping just long enough to get a little bag of peanuts from the table drawer, and then out to the back porch, where, obedient to my instructions, I sat down on the lowest step, and prepared to keep quiet.

The child took a few steps down the walk and called softly: "Dickie, Dickie."

"We shall have to have patience," she said, in the quaint little old-fashioned way common to children who spend all their time with grown people!

"Dickie, Dickie," she called again.

At that moment I saw the tiny brown head of a small ground squirrel thrust up from a hole in the side-walk. He looked sharply around, spied me, and disappeared like a flash. The child stood motionless. In another instant he looked out again, this time a little farther, hesitated, withdrew, appeared again, looked at the child, and then came out and stood up on his hind legs with his bushy tail gracefully curled up over his back.

The child dropped a nut; the squirrel cracked it deftly, threw aside the shell, and deposited the kernels in the little pouches on either side of his mouth.

"Dickie has little pockets in his mouth," said the child, laughing softly, as she dropped another nut. And the little pockets grew more and more distended till the last nut was gone, and Dickie, apparently satisfied, disappeared into his hole. T. E. D.

UP GARRET.

"Such a store of treasure rare,
We were sure of finding there
Up garret!

In the sweet mysterious dusk
Redolent of mink and musk,
With the herbs strung overhead,
And the peppers stiff and red,
And half hidden by dangling corn
Grandpa's flask and powder horn!"

It is a place in which fancy can let itself loose. The rafters are old and brown with age and draped with thickly hung cobwebs. The dust of bygone years has been caught and held in silken meshes.

Here in the corner is an old, red chest. When the dusty lid is lifted what strange things are revealed! Garments of a past age, hats and coats of a quaint pattern, a faded gown, an old bonnet, old lace caps of the

hue of saffron, and children's clothing too, worn out in many places, torn, or outgrown. Why were these treasured? Because they have memories of the past clinging to them; some, bright and happy, others filled with sadness. The treasure-chest has its story to tell every time it is opened. The great triangular rent torn in the knee, the sleeveless apron, and the little hat and coat which belonged to the boy who died and who was the pet of the whole household. These garments can not be thrown away.

At the bottom of the chest and safely packed away there are some yellow letters, and in a faint blue envelope, a withered rose long lost to dew, drops out and crumbles into dust at my feet. I cannot help wondering who put the flower away so tenderly. Some one whose dear fingers have plucked their last earthly flowers but have gathered fadeless ones these many years in heaven. I shall never know the history of the faded and crumbled rose; fancy can read its silent but expressive language.

Here in another corner are dark old paintings faint and blurred, old dishes cracked and splashed with blue, newspapers half a century old, and piles of time-stained books; among them, a Town's Fourth Reader in the last stages of dilapidation. Close by is the spinning wheel, somebody's hands have worked. What a wonderful tale it could tell, if it could, of what the spinner thought as she turned the wheel, and of what hopes were put into every long, shining thread for those she loved!

Here by the gable window is a cradle. How many boys and girls have dreamed away the hours in it! Where are all its occupants to-day?

Near the cradle stands the old clock, large enough to hide in when playing hide-and-seek. The wheels have stopped, and it is done with time. This recalls me to myself. I have not heeded the passing hour because of the spell of wayward fancies brought to mind

"In the fragrant, spicy gloom
Of that dear old raftered room."

E. F. PRIEST.

THE OLD OAK DESK.

In the remotest corner of a dark basement, festooned by cobwebs and surrounded by old school furniture, the teacher's desk stands eloquently silent. A musty odor of the dead past comes from the long closed drawer in which were stored the compositions, copy books and intercepted love letters of many who to-day sit behind the accountant's desk, in the editor's chair, or in dingy offices. Often when weary and worn, their thoughts revert to the girls and boys who used to sit in front of the old desk. Again "bright eyes looked love to eyes which spoke again," when the teacher's eye was averted or looking for errors.

The teacher, a tall, slender, dark-eyed man, was full of enthusiasm, eager to make his school the best of the day. Though a genial companion, he was a terror to evil-doers. When a large boy refused to come up to his desk, daring him to come and take him, this teacher sprang, agile as a panther, from behind it, seized the offender, and brought him up standing in front of it. None ever waited for a second invitation after that; orders issued from behind that desk were obeyed.

Often while sitting there, a look of anguish would

pass over his face, and his thoughts would wander to the bed-side of one who longed for "school to let out." He was poorly paid, and his nights were spent in ministering to the wants and comforts of the loved one who was "slowly passing away." Years passed, but the teacher toiled patiently on, and much as the place had changed, from a small village to a city, the change wrought in the face and form of the once athletic teacher had been greater. In his dark eye, in his hollow cheek, well were the death signs read. At the head of his new school, with as many teachers under him as were employed in the whole town when he sat behind the old desk, he realized that the age had become progressive. Ideas once cherished are laid aside as a garment which have been outgrown; brawn no longer constitutes an important factor in the teacher's make-up. The orders he gives from his office are implicitly carried out. Words given, not blows—brain, not brawn.

His work is almost done, and he closes the door for the last time, but his influence for good will echo on through the corridors and arches of time forever.

His old desk which he had kept and used had more than served its day and generation and was crowded out by an improved patent one less cumbersome and more ornamented, if not more useful. Though silent, it teaches that all things are transitory; that what is heralded as new to-day is cast off to-morrow; but through all the changing scenes of time, the teacher's work remains the same "yesterday, to-day, and forever."

STUDENT.

THE INTER-NORMAL CONTEST.

The second annual meeting of the Inter-Normal Oratorical association was held at Oshkosh March 18 and 19, and was attended by a large delegation from our Normal school. Through the exceeding courtesy of J. A. Clock in connection with the Wisconsin Central railroad company very low rates were secured, thus enabling many to take the trip. About fifteen persons went down Thursday morning and nearly the same number in the afternoon, so that almost all of those who went had the good fortune to attend the reception given to the League, Thursday evening. This was one of the pleasantest features of the meeting, and there was not one person among the visiting delegations who was not enthusiastic in his praise of Oshkosh courtesy and cordiality.

At 2 p. m. on Friday a business meeting was held at which officers of the League were elected for the ensuing year.

Later in the afternoon an art reception was given to the visiting delegation by Miss Magee, the director of the art department. The studio and rooms adjoining were beautifully decorated in the colors of the different Normals, one room being devoted to each school and being draped with its colors. Tea and cake were served by several young ladies. Acquaintances made the night before were renewed, and new ones made. Altogether, it was a most delightful affair and one thoroughly enjoyed by every one who attended.

In the evening the contest took place in the Normal auditorium. This is a very attractive room with handsome finishings and a beautifully decorated ceiling and

its beauty was enhanced by the artistic arrangement of palms upon the stage and the draping of the Oshkosh colors, yellow and white. The contestants sat in a semi circle upon the stage at the left of which sat also the president of the League, Charlton Beck of Platteville, and secretary Howard C. Lawton of Whitewater.

The first upon the program was a vocal solo by Prof. H. N. Goddard. Then came the first oration, "Charles Sumner," by Aug. Backhaus representing the Oshkosh Normal.

Great men, he said, make a great nation. It is by the noble character of her citizens that a country may be measured. America has no better representative among her great names than that of Charles Sumner, who so eloquently pleaded for humanity and did so much to liberate the African race from slavery. He was a brilliant society man, a scholar, a jurist, a statesman; next to Webster he was the greatest orator in the senate; his fidelity to the nation was unflinching; he was a modern Cato in a modern republic. Humanity will ever hold him in remembrance as the herald of a broader liberty.

The oration was delivered with ease and force and is deserving of much praise.

Thos. A. Stamp of Platteville Normal followed with an oration on "Science and Poetry," especially worthy of remark because of the beauty of its thought and diction. The gist of it we may give, but the charm of the language is lost in so brief a report: Nature is a unit. Though there seem to be two worlds—those of truth and imagination—there is really but one, for poetry and science are united. There can be no true distinction between the two for both are of nature, each forming half of the great whole. So far America has been too busy with the more practical side of life to pay much attention to poetry. But sooner or later her Shakespeare will come to voice the emotions of the American people.

After a piano solo by J. K. Weaver, our own representative, Andrew L. Larkin, delivered his oration on "Progress in Conflict." We of Stevens Point certainly felt as we listened to him that whatever the judges' decision might be we should have no reason to feel anything but proud of our orator. We do not wish to boast, but are satisfied that he reflected credit upon us and our school. The summary of his oration is as follows: We are close upon the expiration of another century—the most progressive century the world has ever seen. Standing upon the eminence we have attained let us cast a glance back over the world's history. The history of the ages has been a history of conflict. Consider this first in relation to the material progress of the race. Where man has had nothing to contend with he has remained a cipher. Where he has been obliged to battle with adverse circumstances he has constructed cities, banded the continent with bars of steel, tunneled the mountains, snatched the lightning from the clouds and sent its pulsings into every avenue of human life. What is true of the race is true of the individual. Our greatest advancement comes only through struggle. What is true materially is also true mentally and morally. But is progress not possible without conflict? If Socrates had refused to

(Continued on page 138)

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EDITORIAL.

The Pointer has lately lost another of its staff by the departure of its literary editor, who has decided to accept a position as teacher in one of the neighboring towns, and defer till a later date the completion of his Normal course. We are sorry thus to lose one of our most faithful workers, but extend to him our sincere good wishes, hoping that he will find his field of labor a pleasant one. As yet no steps have been taken to fill his place on the staff, but it will be necessary to do so immediately. We hope that some one may be chosen who will perform the tasks of his office as acceptably as the one from whose hands it has recently passed.

The Intelligence for March contains a valuable article on Grammar-grade History, by Prof. A. H. Sanford of our own Normal School. In it he sets forth some of the ideas which he so successfully carries out in his own classes, concerning the use of supplementary work. He shows how the "dry bones" of history may be imbued with life and spirit in the hands of a skilful teacher who knows where to go for supplementary work and how to present it to his pupils. The outline which Prof. Sanford gives for work on the "Early Migration Beyond the Alleghanies" will doubtless prove of great assistance to history teachers in the grammar grades.

We feel that an apology is due for the mixed condition of our printed matter in this issue. This has been unavoidable, since it was necessary to crowd the report of the oratorical contest into pages where it does not properly belong.

We heartily concur with what the Oshkosh Advance says about the indiscriminate clapping at rhetorical. Some people seem to exercise no judgment whatever in their applause and in most cases it is entirely too boisterous and childish.

Who knows the Senior yell? Rumor says that there is one, but nobody can be found who can give it in its entirety—not even the committee on yells.

INTER-NORMAL CONTEST—Continued.

drink the fatal draught and denied the truth of his teachings; if the Son of Man had preferred to renounce his heavenly birthright rather than die in the greatest agony on Mount Calvary, what would now be the state of civilization? It were vain to ask. Everywhere is the same old law, progress in conflict and it will not cease to operate till right shall take the place of wrong; till truth shall supplant error; till the nations shall be linked by common ties into a universal brotherhood and we are one people, obeying one law and worshipping one God.

The orator from Milwaukee Normal then appeared, delivering a carefully prepared and excellently worded address on "Music, Emotions and History." He showed their intimate relations to one another, citing instances to illustrate the way in which music, through its influence on emotions, has turned the current of history. Too often we undervalue the emotions. History is ruled by feelings. The crusades, the prowess of Cromwell's army, Napoleon's successes, our own great revolution, are all examples of this. Even in our civil war we find the same condition. It was music and emotion that carried the day.

A vocal solo by Miss Bessie Lou Daggett was highly appreciated by the audience. An enthusiastic encore was responded to, after which W. H. Kelly of White-water gave an oration on "Bismarck and German Unity." The excellence of the address was, in the minds of most people, somewhat impaired by Mr. Kelley's imperfect memorizing; the fact that he was prompted appears to some to be a hard fact to overlook. These people are doubtless unreasonable, however. "History," said Mr. Kelley, "crystallizes in the statesmanship of one great man. So with Bismarck. The history of Germany during the last quarter-century has been the history of him. From the time of Charlemagne Germany was without national life and character. She needed a master. When she could wait no longer he appeared. Since then, Bismarck has practically ruled Germany. Though savoring of despotism and absolutism, this rule has probably been the best possible under the circumstances. It has made Bismarck the idol of the Germans and the creator of modern Germany."

The last to appear was Edwin A. Snow, coming in the name of "Our Baby Sister," the Superior Normal. The little lady may well be pardoned some pride in her orator's abilities, as they are undoubtedly very great. He is a magnetic speaker, holding the attention of his audience throughout his address, and carrying it with him from point to point by the persuasive power of his eloquence. His oration on "The Obligations of Culture," showed much careful study and clear, deep thinking along many lines. The substance of it is: We are living at a tremendous pace. The advancement of the age may be compared to the dashing of an engine down an unobstructed track. A cool head is needed to guide the engine. So the world needs culture and conservatism to guide its progress. Culture owes a debt to humanity—to exert its highest influence for good. The history of politics in this country is henceforth to be the history of the struggle of class against class. The employer can solve the labor prob-

lems if he wishes. As a man of culture he has obligations which he must discharge. By co-operation and profit-sharing he can, to an infinite degree, better the condition of his employers. Evil conditions will exist as long as the cultured classes allow them. The world wants men of education and breadth of thought. Religion must consist of action, not dogma, reason, not blind faith. Christian doing should be exalted above believing. We shall make no mistake in trusting our country to men who answer to these requirements. Our country will be saved from evil through the obligations of culture.

The program was closed by a duet by Miss Blanche Vieux and Mr. Heman Powers; then followed a season of suspense while the judges on delivery were preparing their decisions.

The judges on thought and composition were:

Hon. T. W. Haight, Waukesha, Wis.; Hon. Michael Kirwan, Manitowoc, Wis.; Prof. H. M. Whitney, Beloit, Wis.

The judges on delivery:

Rev. John Faville, Appleton, Wis.; Prof. Hubbell, Beaver Dam, Wis.; Hon. Solon W. Pierce, Friendship, Wis.

The decision rendered gave W. H. Kelly of White-water first place and A. L. Larkin second. This decision has been very generally disapproved, but perhaps the less said about it the better. It is certainly to be deplored that hard feelings should have arisen among the Normal schools and it is to be hoped that the affair will go no further but find a speedy and amicable conclusion.

Later.—Mr. Larkin has received a letter from the president of the Inter-State League saying that it is established beyond doubt that he has won first in the contest.

LOCAL.

GENERAL.

An incident which occurred in Psychology class has been commemorated in verse (?) by two students who evidently have poets' souls though not the gift of rhyming. The revised edition is given:

Ode On the Death of a Pet Spider.

RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED TO PROF. SWIFT.

I.

In Room Tea down below,
Ran a spider to and fro,
Shrieked the girls "Oh, oh, oh!"
(But they said it very low.)

II.

Soon the Prof. said "Kill that, do!"
It disturbs my classes so!"
Cried the ladies, "No, no, no!"
But the men said, "Ho, ho, ho!"

III.

Then the curly-headed boy
To relieve the girls so coy,
Takes a tooth-pick from his pocket
And begins to hit and knock it.

IV.

Leaning forward in his chair,
Frightened look upon his face,
Teeth are grimly set the while as
He the tiny spider slays.

V.

But the maidens scorn the gallant
By whose hand the blow was driven,
And they talk about the spider
And the life so freely given.

VI.

Now with accents mild and tender,
Daily on the spot they render
Tribute from their hearts so rent
O'er the slaughtered innocent.

VII.

Lonely now the class-room seemeth,
As we gather day by day,
For no spiders come to visit—
Let us hope that soon they may!

VIII.

Now our knight doth sadly grumble,
That in verse his deed is told,
But he is not quite so humble
As before his fame was doled.

The Second Annual Oratorical Contest was held at the Normal March 2nd. The program was opened by a piano duet by Misses Kuhl and Collins. After which the first oration on the program—entitled Modern Philanthropy—was delivered by M. Nellie Hart. She showed that the old saying, "The poor ye have always with you," was true even to the present day. Something more than food and shelter is needed to uplift suffering humanity. Personal sympathy does more to aid the down-fallen than anything else. Miss Addams of Hull House, was shown to be an example of one "who shows people how to live by living with them." Mr. Polley followed with an oration on John Marshall the Expounder of the Constitution. He pictured the difficulties which confronted the founders of the Constitution, and how such a man as John Marshall was needed. "The ship of state was launched by many, the chart of its course was marked by Hamilton, but the head that directed, the hand that guided it on its dangerous journey was that of John Marshall."

Kate I. Smith's oration, on "A Needed Reform," dealt with the education of the deaf mutes. She showed that if they were taught the sign method they were practically shut off from the world, for but few understand it. By instructing them in the oral method they are placed on nearly an equal footing with their hearing and speaking brethren, and would not be thus isolated. Then followed the oration which was considered best by the judges, "Progress in Conflict," delivered by A. L. Larkin. History shows that the keynote of all progress is conflict. This is true in all forms of life from the lowest to the highest. Perfection can only be reached through the greatest conflict. The lower forms of conflict are ever superseded by the higher. War is already numbered among the arts that are past. But conflict will not be laid aside, it will only take another form.

Maud I. Brewster followed with an oration on "Early Abolitionists." She traced the growth of the Anti-Slavery movement from the earliest times until the spirit in which they were regarded changed from abuse, and until they became recognized as one of the leading forces against slavery. Miss Brewster brought home to our minds this forcible truth, that whenever you find a few strong, earnest men pledged to an idea, you meet the beginning of a revolution. Mr. Wright delivered a strong oration in favor of Labor Organizations. He showed that these do not generate or uphold strikes, but that conciliation and arbitration are the watch-words of their unions. The working man can only maintain his rights against organized capital by organizing his own forces. The next oration was on "Permanent Democracy," by Harry J. Mortenson. He compared our democracy to those of ancient Greece and Rome, and showed how their downfall was caused by a failure to grasp the true relationship between the individual and the state. The three principal elements necessary for the maintenance of a true democracy are public opinion, education and patriotism. Education increases truth, and patriotism unites more closely God and man. Bereft of patriotism the heart of the nation becomes cold, sordid and cruel. Mr. Harrison closed the program with an oration on the Revolution in Cuba. He showed that the Cuban revolution is somewhat similar to the revolution by which America gained her independence. It is useless to counsel peace when there is no peace. A Kosciusko may land on Cuba's shores, a LaFayette may prove a host. The judges on thought and composition were Prof. H. A. Simonds, Rev. J. R. Creighton, and Prof. Doty of Wau-paca. The judges on delivery were Rev. A. S. Badger, W. F. Owen and D. E. Frost. A. L. Larkin won first place, with Harry Mortenson as a close second. The orations were all of a high order, and the delivery was especially good. Both Mr. Larkin and Mr. Mortenson will represent the school at the Inter-Normal Oratorical Contest to be held at Oshkosh March 19th, Mr. Larkin to deliver the oration, and Mr. Mortenson to go as alternate. Whether the purple and gold are led to victory or not, we may feel sure that those whom we have sent to represent us will do us honor among our sister Normals.

The Arena and Forum met in debate on March 12. The subject for discussion was: "Resolved, That the cabinet system as exemplified in the English government is preferable to the committee system of congress, provided that the monarchical form of government be not considered." The Forum took the negative side and was represented by Messrs. Boles, Polley and Harrison, the Arena by Messrs. Pray, Mutch and Mud-rock. The arguments on both sides were apt and well presented. The judges decided that the negative presented the strongest points and thus "Fickle Fortune perched on the banner of the Forum."

A club for the further study of music has been formed which meets Saturday afternoon. Our school has attained a high degree of proficiency in music under the efficient leadership of Miss Linton and a higher degree will be the result of this extra study. The first recital was held March 13 and was highly enjoyed by all who were present. Among those who appeared on the pro-

gram were Misses Curran, Miller, Furro, Pray, Collins and Kuhl, Messrs. Pray, Fruit and Barker.

Traveling pictures have met with great success wherever they have been sent. More are being prepared all the time but the work is somewhat hampered by lack of material. If our friends will kindly assist us by sending to Miss Tanner what pictures they may have or can collect, these will be thankfully received, well taken care of and devoted to a good cause. "Blessed are those who help to make things go."

Miss Barnes of Missouri, state secretary Y. W. C. A., was at the school this month with the view of establishing a society in the school. The constitution has not met with favor, however, as it discriminates between sects, and on this account does not seem fitted to such a school as a Normal. Probably an organization, somewhat similar, but with no such discriminating lines, will be perfected.

A new magazine, The Journal of School Geography, has been received in the library. The January number is the first one issued. It has an interesting subject with which to deal, and may be of great value to those interested in the subject.

Rhetoricals are now held regularly every Wednesday afternoon. The lower classes deliver recitations, the Juniors essays and the Seniors orations. Those who appeared in the oratorical contest were excused from rhetoricals this quarter.

The advanced Physiology class has been engaged in putting up tissues for future use. They have just finished putting up the striated muscle of frog, and have some fine specimens. Some are in glycerine, and others in balsam.

Seen on an examination paper—"The Trojans were a set of people who were always getting into a fuss with somebody else."

Pupil—How much of a person would you call a person's feet?

Prof.—It depends upon their size.

PERSONAL.

Ex-Assemblyman J. B. Miller of Alma Center, visited his daughter Miss Olive, March 7th.

Emily Spalenka has returned to school after teaching a successful term of school in Almond.

Miss Frances Parkhill spent Washington's Birth day with her sister, Mrs. Rennie, in Grand Rapids.

J. D. Beck has returned to school after an absence of several weeks caused by the illness of his father, who at last reports was much better.

Miss Warren and Miss Tanner attended the State Library Association at Milwaukee lately. Miss Tanner spoke on travelling pictures and their connection with travelling libraries.

Prof. and Mrs. V. E. McCaskill went to Oshkosh, as delegates to the state convention of the Epworth League. The Professor read a paper entitled "Literary Work and How to do It."

Many friends will regret to hear that E. F. Priest intends to withdraw from school at the end of this quarter. He has attended school here since the fall of '95, and has acceptably filled the position of Literary Editor of The Pointer this year.

ATHLETIC.

On Friday, Feb. 26, was held the second of the Athletic association entertainments. This entertainment was in the nature of a mid-winter contest and was held in the gymnasium of the school. The program as carried out was as follows:

Music—Instrumental.....	Miss Curran
Music.....	Male Quartette
Indian Clubs.....	Young Men
Dumb Bell Drill.....	Intermediate Girls
Music.....	Male Quartette
Wand Drill.....	Young Ladies

This program was followed by the athletic events, four in number, namely, the bar vault, standing high jump, running high jump and standing broad jump. Beach carried off honors in every event, taking first in the bar vault and running high, second in the standing broad and being tied for first by Bard in the standing high jump. The result of the different events is as follows:

BAR VAULT.

1st—Beach.....	6 ft. 10 in.
2d—Ohde.....	6 ft. 9 in.
3d—Bard.....	6 ft. 8 in.

STANDING HIGH JUMP.

1st { Bard }	4 ft. 6 in.
2d { Beach }	4 ft. 8 in.

RUNNING HIGH JUMP.

1st—Beach.....	5 ft. 2 in.
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STANDING BROAD JUMP.

1st—Bard.....	10 ft. 8 in.
2d—Beach.....	10 ft. 1 in.
3d—Bradford.....	9 ft. 9 in.

Other contestants who did good work were Roseberry, Culver, Mortensen, Clark, Gesell.

During the events the 7th and 8th grade boys did some very pretty pretty hurdling, which relieved the monotony of the contests. To Miss Crawford much credit is due for the degree of perfection attained by the young ladies in the ward and dumb bell drills and both Miss Crawford and Mr. Bradford deserve praise for the drilling of the Indian club swingers. Just before the entertainment began Miss Crawford had the misfortune to slip on the stairs and sprain her ankle, but very pluckily went through the drills, although the pain in her ankle was very great. She was confined to her room the next day but is now able to be out and again at her work.

Leslie's Weekly of March 18 contains a picture of and an article on Harvard's strong man. To Arthur Lovering, class of '97, belongs this honor of being the strongest college student in America. This was determined a few days ago by Dr. D. A. Sargent, whose system of physical measurement has gained such a world wide reputation. Dr. Sargent made his measurements at the Hemenway gymnasium in the presence of a throng of athletes, and found that Lovering beat Klein, who then held the record as the strongest college man by 181 points. Lovering is only 21 years old and the measurements are considered the more remarkable on that account. He has never engaged ex-

tensively in athletics but will go into training in a few days with the 'varsity crew. Captain Goodrich says he should make a great oarsman. Lovering's measurements, as compared with those of Klein, who previously held the record, are as follows:

	Lovering centimeters	Klein centimeters
Girth of chest.....	93	108
Girth of chest full.....	102	109
Girth of waist.....	72	77
Girth of hips.....	89	95
Girth of thigh, right.....	53.5	58
Girth of thigh, left.....	52	58
Girth of calf, right.....	36.5	39
Girth of calf, left.....	35.5	39
Girth of upper arm, right.....	36	36
Girth of upper arm, left.....	33	34
Girth of forearm, right.....	30	32.5
Girth of forearm, left.....	28.5	30.5

The comparison of the strength test proper follows and is given in kilos:

Strength of lungs.....	37	81
Strength of back.....	410	370
Strength of legs.....	465	760
Strength of upper arms.....	383	227.2
Strength of forearm.....	165	171
Totals.....	1,660	1,529.2

W. A. Atkinson, who last fall left Beloit College to enter the University of Wisconsin and at the same time to accept a position upon the eleven, has returned to Beloit College. He had been elected captain of the U. W. eleven and his resignation and return is a surprise to many. It is said he will not take an active part in athletics from this time on. There is rejoicing at Beloit but wailing and gnashing of teeth at U. W.

The visiting students were tendered a reception at the Oshkosh Normal on Thursday, March 18. A very good program was carried out by the resident and visiting students. Mr. John Lees represented our athletic association at the reception and gave a short talk on Inter-Normal athletics. Besides Mr. Lees there were about ten Normal students present from here.

The Yale Juniors who sent to pugilist Corbett a Yale flag and a letter extending the wishes of Yale students for his victory over Fitzsimmons, were summoned before the dean of the faculty and called to account for their actions. They have declared a willingness to retract all phrases which include Yale in the extending of good wishes.

Under the instruction of Prof. Culver the Young Ladies' Tennis club is becoming proficient in serving and returning and with the first good tennis weather we expect to see the courts besieged by the club. The young men will meet and organize in the near future and get ready for the coming season.

Casper Whitney, athletic editor of Harper's Weekly, has been recently married to a Miss Chase of Chicago. Undoubtedly the athletic news of the Weekly will increase in interest.

The Macalester Echo of St. Paul, Minn., will confer a favor upon the staff of the Pointer by giving credit for all extracts made from its columns and printed in the Echo.

EXCHANGES.

Wellesly is to have a new \$100,000 chapel.

The February Kodak shows a decided improvement over previous issues.

The University of Virginia gives no holidays during the college year.—Ex.

The thirteen fraternities at Cornell own \$665,000 in real estate and buildings.

The N. W. T. A. holds its regular annual meeting in Eau Claire the last week in March.

The smallest university in the world is in Africa and has five students and fifteen instructors.

The Lake Breeze comes to us in a new and improved form. It is an excellent high school paper.

There are eleven daily newspapers in China, nine printed in Chinese, one in English and one in French.

We heartily approve of the sentiment expressed in the Normal Advance on applause during rhetorical exercises.

The pedagogue keeps school till the heated term comes on and then he keeps cool somewhere else.—H. S. Junto.

The chapel services at Cornell are so interesting that seats have to be reserved for students on account of the large attendance.

Vice President Hobart recently gave \$5,000 to Rutgers college at New Brunswick, N. J. Hobart is a graduate of Rutgers.

The February number of the Normal Badger contains an interesting article on "Formalism in Teaching" by W. J. Brier.

The first treatise on the subject of algebra in any European language is believed to have been made by Lucca Paccoli in 1494.

Girard College in Philadelphia is the richest in this country, having over eleven and a quarter millions of endowment.—The Lake Breeze.

The management of the Badger, which has been in the hands of the athletic club, is soon to be transferred to the literary society of the River Falls Normal.

The University of Paris has over 7,000 students, and no classes, no athletics, no commencement day, no college periodicals, no glee clubs and no fraternities.

The senior class of Lawrence University has decided to begin the publication of a Lawrence University annual. Arrangements are being made for the '97 issue.

The Student of Marinette, is an up-to-date high school paper with an attractive cover and good print, and is deserving of further mention because of its literary merit.

The Interstate Oratorical association to which Minnesota belongs is the largest organization of the kind in the U. S. The interstate contest will be held at Columbus, Mo., next year.

It is predicted by President Elliott of Howard, that in time the college fraternities will cause American universities to be broken up into colleges as now in England.—Macalester Echo.

The National Editorial association had its beginning forty years ago, though it did not assume its present name until thirteen years later. The association has held thirty-four meetings.

The oldest university in the world is Elazhar, meaning "The Splendid," situated at Cairo. It is the greatest Mohammedan school, and has a clear record dating from 975.—The Normal Advance.

The Carroll Echo of Waukesha for February is called the "Middle Class Number." It contains an original poem "To the Middlers," several Middle Class Essays and an editorial on the Middle Class.

The Normal Advance contains an interesting article on the Origin and Development of Literary Work in Wisconsin Normal Schools by Miss Rose C. Swart, who has given twenty-five years of service to the Qshkosh Normal.

We are pleased to acknowledge the receipt of "The Southern Letter" published at Tuskegee, Ala., of which Booker T. Washington is editor. On the first page are given cuts of the classes in brick masonry and mechanical drawing.

The board of education of the public schools of St. Paul has established a school for backward pupils. This was done upon recommendation of the city superintendent of St. Paul, Mr. Curtis, who considers it a great injustice to progressive pupils to be held back by a few dull ones.

Mrs. Grover Cleveland with several of her classmates is to make a present of a beautiful stained-glass window to Wellesly College, where she was formerly a student. Mrs. Cleveland, assisted by John LaFarge, has designed the whole window, selecting as the main feature a large figure of a young woman.

The great Yerkes telescope of the observatory of Chicago situated at Lake Geneva, Wis., is, after three years' labor, completed. Prof. Clark of Cambridge had charge of the furnishing of the lenses, which consumed so long a time. They are the largest in the world and their cost is estimated at \$100,000.—Normal Badger.

Gems from the Psychology class:
A general notion is a concept.
He sold general notions.
He sold concepts.

Hard things are not easily broken.
Latin is hard.
Latin is not easily broken.

MODEL SCHOOL.

SEVENTH GRADE.

It was the first day of our summer vacation, in the year 1895. Three boys besides myself were gathered in the front yard of my home. We all wanted to talk, for we had something interesting to talk about. We had planned about two weeks before vacation, to go camping, and now gathered to talk about it. Our parents had given us permission to go for a week or two, and we set about getting ready.

"The first thing," said one boy, "is to get the tent." So we all set off to the mill to get some stout canvas. Then we got the tent-poles and staves for holding the tent down. After we had put these into the boat we went up to the house, to get an axe, which is very useful in going camping, and the camp-irons, kettle, provisions and other necessary things, and piled them in the boat. Then we pushed off, and began to row for the camp-ground.

We had selected a point of land in the south-east corner of a large island, and felt that we had got a good spot. It was shaded by a few trees, and was on the side of a small hill, which gently slopes down to the water. When we had arrived at the grounds we began to put up the tent. We set up the ridge pole and threw the canvas over it. After we had tied the sides down, and fixed the bedding and other things in the tent, we had a very cozy and comfortable camp.

Then we set up the camp-irons and lit a fire under the iron kettle, for it was getting near dinner time, and we were very hungry. The kettle was soon steaming and we made our tea, and baked the potatoes on the hot embers of the fire. The potatoes were excellent, and the tea was fairly good, not perfect, for you see, we were only boys, and not very good tea-makers. After dinner two of the boys proposed going to the spring for fresh water, and I, taking the chance, slipped into the boat, and began to row for home, which I reached in a short time. I had seen a battered stove lying near one of the sheds and I saw that to get this would be a great improvement on the cookery. The stove had not entirely gone to pieces, and I managed to get it into the boat, and then I set out for the camp which I reached after a hard pull. I found the boys all busy, one was preparing wood for the fire, and the others were heaping brush against the bottom of the tent, so that the mosquitoes would not trouble us so much.

They were pleased with the stove and helped me get it out of the boat and put it together, and then we built a small fire so as to keep it heated for supper.

Two of the boys went swimming and did not return till supper time.

As the mosquitoes were beginning to gather, we built a smudge, and were not bothered so much all night. We lit the lantern which hung from the ridge pole, and lay on the cots to read and tell stories. Finally, one boy yawned, and that meant sleep, so we all turned in. I woke at about four in the morning, and seeing that the rest of the camp was not awake, I descended the bank, built a fire in the stove, and got breakfast. I had just finished and was walking up to the tent to wake the boys, when one of them stuck his head out to see if it was morning, and then the rest followed.

We passed the time like this for three or four days, but the fifth night while we were telling stories and enjoying ourselves in the tent, we heard a patter of rain on the canvas, and this patter was followed by a general pour. We put on coats and hats, and threw large felts over the tent, and were safe from the rain.

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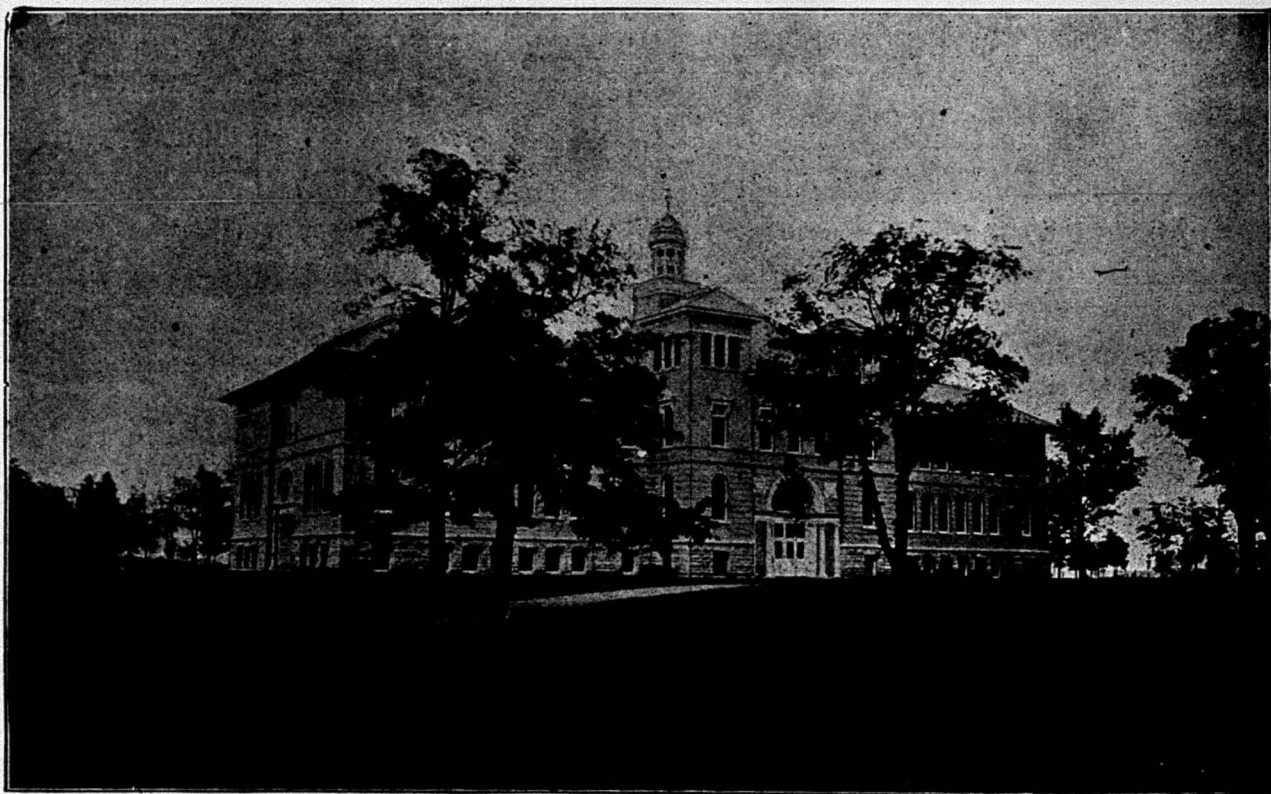
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