

Library Copy

THE Normal Pointer.

Stevens Point, Wis.



1896.

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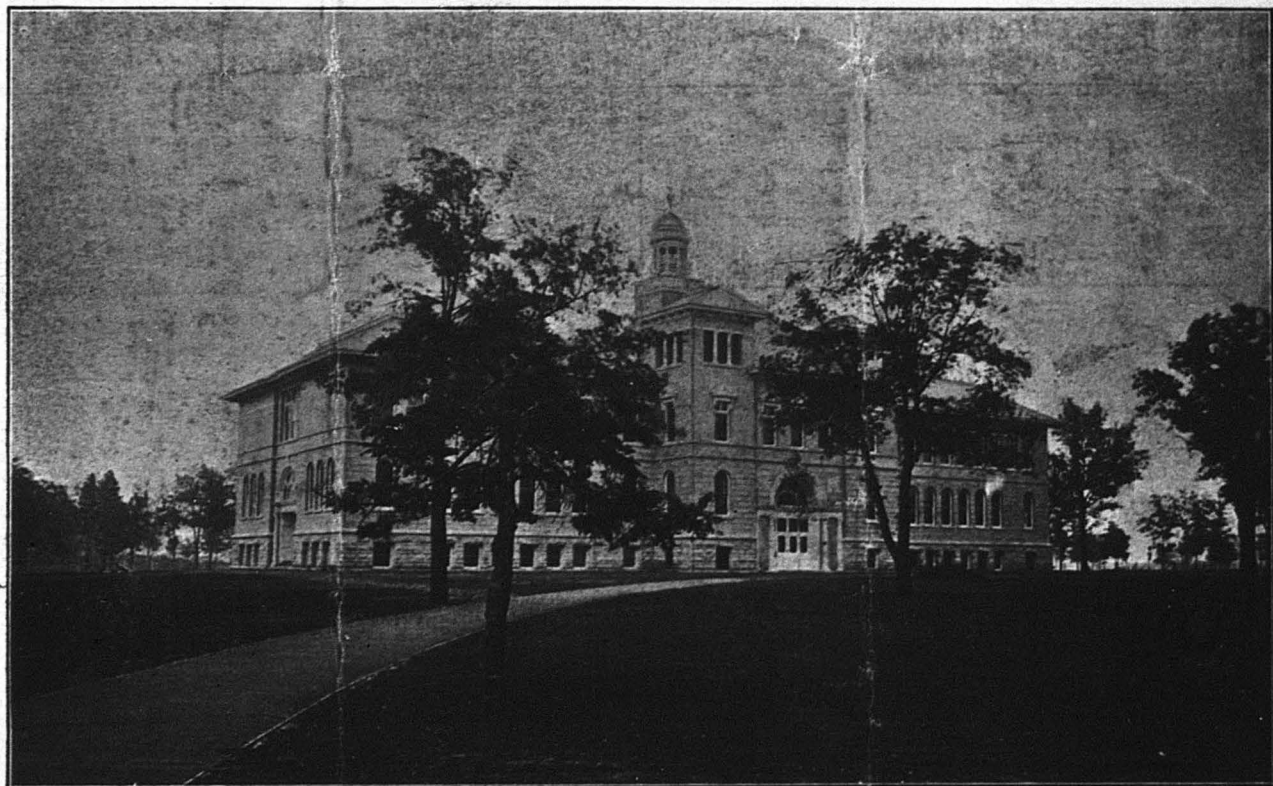
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THE NORMAL POINTER.

Volume I.

STEVENS POINT, WIS., JANUARY, 1896.

Number 2.

LITERARY.

SLEEP AND DEATH.

Softly the moon rises o'er the dark water,
Softly the evening star glows in the west;
Softly sweet sleep descends—Death's gentle daughter,
Gives to Earth's tired souls comfort and rest;
Over one sufferer tenderly lingers:
Hesitates, murmuring, "Which shall it be?"
Yields not the cup held so light in her fingers;
Whispers, "Wait weary one, Death comes to thee."
Dark is the form that she calls from the shadows.
Dark looks the draught that he pours where he
Pure is his breath as the scent of the meadows, [stands;
Soft as his daughter's the touch of his hands.
Gently above the poor sufferer bending,
Death to his lips holds the goblet, while Sleep
Turning from peace which she knows has no ending,
Stays that her wine-drinkers wake but to weep.

MAXWELL ALTON.

PANSIES—PURPLE AND GOLD.

"Well! by the two-headed Sphinx!"
Mr. Albert J. Burnley stood beside the hall table, and stared at a very unpretentious white box thereon, giving vent to his over-wrought feelings with a violence that betokened a serious situation.
Mr. Burnley, to begin with, was forgetful. He was fearfully absent-minded—always doing ridiculous things while his mind was away wool-gathering. Of late his mind had been in that condition more than ever, occupied, there need be no reserve in saying, by visions of a pink-tinted complexion and pansy-blue eyes.
Mr. Burnley was nothing if not sentimental: and an affaire d'amour like this could not be reasonably expected to render him less so. And now Mr. Burnley was strangely puzzled.
Unwilling to endure longer the suspense of an affection which he knew not whether to regard as reciprocated, he had cast about in his sentimental brain for an appropriate mode of settling this difficulty.
"Pansies!" thought he at last. "Pansies, of course! What are those lilies?"
"I send thee pansies—
Yellow as sunshine, purple as the night,
Flowers of remembrance."
"That's what I'll do!" by Hercules!"
Then began the formulation of the plan. It must be arranged to convey, by delicate insinuations, the question and the answer.

"A bunch of purple pansies—a bunch of yellow ones. Purple—the depth of passion; yellow—the golden promises of life if love is returned.

"Send me back my golden hopes if you can love me, that I may cherish them in my heart. If you cannot care for me, send me back the purple pledges of my passion, and keep my hopes to do with them as you will."

Pretty good! but, by Jove! I believe I can do better than that!

Yellow—the mint of riches in merely loving; purple—the royal treasures of love returned. Send back purple, or keep both.

Well, that's all right too. But how would it do to send only one bunch, and have her keep it, or send it back as she gages her feelings for me?

Shall it be purple? Yes, I guess so. No, yellow. Maybe I'd better make it purple? Hold on! I guess, after all, I'd better send both bunches. But—still—I don't know—"

After long and wearisome cogitations, Mr. Burnley, still undecided, and with a troubled frown upon his usually serene countenance, had gone to the florists, ordered his pansies sent to his rooms, and there had hastily made his decision, written his note, still in deep abstraction, and dispatched his box, wondering how long he should have to wait for a reply.

And now it had come. The box lay upon the hall table, in its depths a big bunch of yellow pansies. But Mr. Burnley's heart was sore perplexed. He looked down upon the flowers, already losing a little of their pristine freshness, and groaned aloud.

"Well, by the two-headed Sphinx!" he muttered, "here's a dickens of a mess! What in blazes did I tell her to do about sending 'em back?"

He sat down on the lowest step of the stairs and mopped his forehead.

"Did I send her two bunches? Yes, I must have. No, it was only one! Hang it! I'm pretty sure it was two!" A bright thought: "I'll go up stairs and see!"

He rushed to the writing desk in his sitting room—no pansies there.

"It must have been two, sure enough! But which one of those plans did I use? Let's see—golden hopes, was that it? Royal treasures—that must have been the one. What will she think if I don't come?—that is, if—if it was the golden hopes I used. Good gracious! I've got to know! I can't go and ask her what I sent. I wish I'd—"

Just then his sister tapped gently at the door, and entered, smiling, and looking as pretty as could be in a dainty house-dress, with a big bunch of purple pansies at the belt.

"Albert," she began—but he was clutching her, by

the shoulders and shouting in her ears like a mad man
 "Where in the name of Sappho did you get those flowers?"

"Why—why," she stammered, fearing that her brother had suddenly lost his senses entirely. "I was just going to tell you. I found them on your desk, after you went out; and I thought it was too bad for the poor things."

But Albert had rushed to the mirror at the other end of the room, and was excitedly smoothing his rumpled hair, and straightening his tie, muttering hilariously to himself: "Yes, yes, of course—remember now—bright little faces—tell secret of love—please send back—tell me same kind of secret—that's it—thought I'd remember it some time."

And then turning to his wondering sister, "Don't look so wild; explain some time; where's my hat?—Good-by!"

She heard the front door slam, and he was gone.

S. J. RAYMOND.

THE INFLUENCE OF LITTLE THINGS.

How many of us consider the little things that go toward making the sum total of human life? As we wend our way down town in the morning there are two gentlemen whom we almost daily meet. One of them invariably smiles and greets us with a cheery "Good-morning"; the other looks up with a frown, and if he speaks at all (and you are never quite sure that he will) the atmosphere becomes so chilly that we heartily wish that we had gone out of our way a block to avoid him. These men are on an equal footing in the business world, they are alike charitable and upright. It is only a little act of courtesy from the one and the lack of it from the other, yet it brightens or depresses every one whom they meet.

Let a student come into the school-room where all are busily engaged in work, he immediately falls into line and works with the rest. Suppose, however, the conditions are different and all are wasting time in merry-making; he knows that the success of his next recitation depends upon his looking up those references; but it is so much more pleasant to drift with the current. The references are neglected,—he fails in that recitation and has probably laid the foundation for a failure the next day; possibly by the next week he can not recover lost ground. If he has sufficient strength of will, he may yet succeed, but many a failure may be traced to as trifling a cause.

Here is Madge, the society girl, who wears more different gowns in a week than Jane or Susan can afford to have in a year. It is only a trifle, but Jane and Susan are envious and they in turn make their mothers unhappy because they can not afford to give their daughters such fine wearing apparel as Madge has. May we dismiss this thought by saying that it affects only the very young? Here is another girl who has just as many of the things that money brings, but with culture added. She dresses in quite good taste and has the admiration of all worthy people. The difference in dress is only a trifle in itself, but does it not after all show something of character?

Here is the one young man in a hundred who has a pleasing address and a polished manner; he has always been one of society's favorites; you have seen

him gradually drifting into bad company; you have felt that a helpful word of caution from somebody would set his feet in the right direction, but withhold the word. Why? Perhaps from lack of interest; perhaps from a pressure of duty or pleasure. It may be because you think you are not your brother's keeper, or possibly you have been doubtful of the effect, but what about the young man in the meantime? You have said nothing to him about bad associates; he thinks you do not know, in fact he thinks none of his respectable friends know what he is doing. One day he goes to his business and his employer says: "Your services are no longer required here; I cannot afford to keep a young man of your habits in my employ. It will ruin my business. Everybody knows what you are."

The young man realizes now that he has no friends and his reputation is gone. If he has spirit and pluck enough, he resolves that his life shall henceforth be above reproach, but people have grown distrustful of him. It is with difficulty he finds employment, for boys with better reputations than he has are daily asking for work. At last he finds some one who is willing to trust him, but the finger of suspicion is pointed at him. He may come out of this with experience that will be of lasting benefit; but if he does not, are you wholly irresponsible? As you daily or yearly or at the end of life, aye, or perhaps on the other shore balance your account, will the balance stand in your favor?

If we each realize the result of a kind word or helpful hand, should we be so chary with them? And now as we are beginning a new year, let us endeavor to make the lives of all with whom we come in contact better for our having touched them.

"These little things are small.

They may be nothing but they're all."

A. A.

THE GREAT MISUNDERSTOOD.

Mr. I. Zangwill, in a recent article in one of our popular magazines, calls his people—the race of Israel—"the great misunderstood of history," and truly they are deserving of the name. For two thousand years they have endured the buffetings and insults of the world, not only the ill-treatment of Christians, but of other religions as well, every race and nation seeming to share the scorn directed at this people—once the "peculiar people"—the chosen of the Lord.

Through the Dark Ages the Jew was despised, hunted, harried, tortured, and put to death, as if he were but little better than an animal, and indeed he was considered so. Driven from Spain, from England, from Russia, from one country after another, scorned, robbed, and butchered everywhere, these people have clung to their individuality with a tenacity little short of miraculous. Quick-witted, shrewd, industrious, persevering, "they have transformed," as Emma Lazarus says, "their very difficulties into instruments of power."

Forbidden to follow the trades of the agriculturist and artisan, they took the paths open to them and became the most powerful of brokers and money-changers, the most learned and skillful of physicians. Rejected by all society, they clung the more closely to one another, and fostered the spirit of Judaism which otherwise might have perished, never allowing themselves to be wholly conquered nor absorbed by any other nation.

Pushing themselves upward by the very force of their indomitable energy, they have in many instances won the recognition they deserve, though this recognition is reluctantly and grudgingly bestowed. All of Christendom, except Russia, has learned that the best way to solve the problem of the Jewish question is to admit the Jews to the rights of other human beings. Thus slowly but surely, the Jew has worked his way almost to his proper place; but, as was inevitable, he has suffered in the task.

Is he grasping, avaricious, deceitful? How could he be otherwise? What else could he be when his very existence depended upon his ability to extort with hard usury and untiring diplomacy the sequins of those about him, who thought it "no crime to rob a Jew?" The charges against him are, perhaps, not unfounded; but they are made without consideration or charity. His objectionable characteristics are the necessary result of the treatment of his fathers through successive generations; and it must take even the elastic nature of the Jew some little time to recover from centuries of oppression.

The Jews as a race were not originally, nor are they yet a rascally people as some would affirm. "No one who has met all sorts and conditions of men," says M. Bouchier Sanford, "can claim that objectionable manners are especially Jewish." The villainous Jew is no worse than the villainous Gentile. There is plenty of wickedness to be found in every nation. It is to the credit of the Hebrew people that they have preserved to a singular degree their purity and temperance; and it is to these causes that their survival may be ascribed.

Then, too, the Jews are unquestionably a people of extraordinary intelligence and power; that they exist to-day is also proof of that. Give a Jew an opportunity—only the merest apology for an opportunity—remove to only a slight degree the race prejudices with which he is hampered, and note the superiority of mind and marked ability which he displays. There are Disraeli, Mendelssohn, Heine, Meyerbeer, Josephus, Bernhardt, and many others of Jewish blood who in past or present times have distinguished themselves in politics, music, art, poetry, or the drama. Do they not prove that the despised race of Israel is equal, if not superior to the Christian nations?

No country need hesitate to welcome and protect a people of such energies and capabilities as the Jews. As they are admitted more and more into their rights as citizens and members of society, they exhibit less and less the offensive characteristics of the race.

The cultured Jew of to-day has lost many of these traits, and the succeeding generations will retain them to a still slighter degree. The time will come when the children of Abraham will be recognized according to their worth, and will take their stand side by side with the best of every nation. Religious differences forgotten and social prejudices suppressed, Jew and Gentile will march forward shoulder to shoulder, to greet the day that shall proclaim them kindred in the universal brotherhood of man.

LEAFLETS OF EXPERIENCE.

The first, and perhaps the most potent influence, determining the career of our pupils, is our own conduct. We have little reason, and no right to expect

them to act better than we do. If we are hasty, violent, unreasonable, intemperate, or profane in our speech, we have every reason to expect they will be like us; if we are careless in our habits, or impure in our lives, they will be the same. Let it never pass out of our thought that our pupils are deriving a large and formative part of their education from the tone of our daily life.

Cultivate in your pupils, as far as possible, self-respect and self-government. In governing your school be dignified and gentlemanly in your deportment, thus silently and imperceptibly lifting your pupils to a higher manhood and womanhood. The teacher performs a truly noble work when he brings to the minds of the pupils the foundation of a sound moral character by teaching them to love virtue and hate vice; to fight bravely against temptation and exercise self-control; to overcome all obstacles and manfully to follow the path of rectitude in the midst of difficulties. The aim should be to so habituate pupils to self-control that they may be prepared wisely to direct their own conduct when all restraints and councils of home and school are withdrawn.

Use some striking anecdote as the basis of a moral lesson, in which the rule of human conduct is perceived. Select anecdotes and put them in a scrap book, you will then have a store on hand. E. F. PRIEST.

THE VIKINGS.*

The year one thousand A. D. was a very interesting year in history. The people of Europe thought that the world was coming to an end. Some of the people flocked to the churches and prayed, while others went to dances, sang, and made merry. The rich people gave away jewels and stores to the poor, and the poor people spent them foolishly. The rich people thought they would get to heaven if they did all they could for charity.

The year 1000 came to an end, but the end of the world did not come; and then the people all went to quarrelling to get back their property. While this was going on on land a different thing was going on at sea. A band of hardy seamen had sailed along the western coast of Europe. One day they started out on the stormy ocean in search of an unknown land.

These men had a very queer little craft. It was fifty feet long, and came up on both ends like a strung bow. On the outside was a row of brightly painted wooden shields, and between the shields were the thole-pins, which the oars passed through. At the head of this boat stood a fierce captain, who wore a coat of mail, and had long hair and a long sandy beard. On his head he wore a helmet that looked like a wolf's head with gaping jaws, which made him look fiercer than ever. At his side he carried a sword. The fiercest of his crew would not dare to disobey his commands.

The crew looked nearly as fierce as their captain, but instead of a coat of mail they wore home-spun woolen shirts. The crew and the captain were always ready to fight if they had to.

*This composition was written by Moritz Krembs, aged 10 years, as a language lesson, using history as a basis according to the recommendation of the famous Committee of Ten. The story of the Vikings was first told by Miss Quinn and then the pupils were required to reproduce on paper what he had learned in his best possible form. This is fifth grade work and this essay proves the plan is found to work admirably.

THE NORMAL POINTER.

JANUARY, 1896. L

Published monthly during the school year of ten months by the students of the State Normal School, Stevens Point, Wis.

Terms of Subscription—50 cents per year in advance.

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EDITORIAL.

Are you keeping up with the times ?

We beg leave to say to the students and friends of the school that any effort exerted on your part in the way of furnishing material for these columns will be looked upon with favor.

There is also another way of winning our good graces, and likewise, of helping this new enterprise of the school in a very material way. It is unnecessary to say that a sheet as large as the one comprised in the issue of this paper, can not be published without a considerable outlay of money. We might also say, it is not the intention of the school to make this paper a source of revenue, and all will be well content if it continue to be self supporting. With this thought in view we have placed the subscription price down to the lowest mark with the hope of enlarging the number of names on our list. It has been gratifying to meet such a hearty response from so many friends outside of the school; also from the majority of students.

We should, however, be gratified to find our subscription roll as full as the enrollment pages of our school; but as it is not, we must infer that some have, on account of some all-absorbing interest of school life, neglected the formality of handing their names to us. It has been rumored, however, that at the last issue, one or two of the thirty who have not subscribed found "blissful content" in devouring the contents of his neighbor's copy. We can imagine conditions where this would be perfectly legitimate; but in the majority of cases one must be as small as the price itself who would resort to such means. Do not do it! Get your information first-hand, if you are interested at ALL. Perhaps you, to whom this applies, will say it is not worth the price; and with becoming modesty, we admit it has not yet attained our ideal; but if you feel like being patriotic on a small scale, contribute your

mite, and we shall endeavor to increase its value accordingly.

Of all political controversies disturbing the peace of the world today, not one, doubtless, calls forth a deeper interest on the part of the American citizen than the final outcome of the boundary dispute between Great Britain and Venezuela. The circumstances giving rise to this question, are not the upshot of the moment, but the natural consequences of a loose system of diplomacy extending through many years; and the final outcome will, of necessity, involve a consideration of the historical features of the contested territory back to the period of discovery and colonization. In the old days of "might makes right," there is little doubt as to what the final result would have been; but now, according to the methods of the present day, when custom is so powerful a factor among nations, how much of their respective claims each country will be obliged to sacrifice is difficult to say. Resulting from an appeal, which the weaker one made to us, we have become directly interested in the manner that this shall end. The first questions that naturally arose in our minds were: Has there been injustice done, and have we a right to protest? Secondly; Does the Monroe Doctrine have a direct application here, or can it in any way be made to touch the case? The president, supported by many followers and, in fact, the greater number of common people, regardless of any party feeling, answered these in the affirmative. Yet it has been interesting to note the varying shades of opinion regarding the rights and duties of our government in bringing about a reconciliation. At one time war seemed at least possible; but, at present, the probability of a peaceful compromise being wrought by the Commissioners appointed by Pres. Cleveland, is very strong. On both sides of the Atlantic, people are eagerly awaiting the final result. It is of especial importance to us in that it will more clearly define the part that the doctrine advocated by Monroe, and since supported by his successors, is destined to play in our future relations with foreign powers.

In comparing the work of the year, thus far, with that of the previous year, one can not fail to note a deeper spirit of earnestness pervading the whole school. The acquaintance of a year, between teacher and student, has resulted in a better understanding of the requirements of each; and has given to the school, as a whole, a more settled aspect. The condition has not yet, however, reached the ideal. In all schools there may be found those who not only idle away their time, but even use it to their own detriment, and to the great inconvenience of their fellows. The number of such here is happily small. Yet there are doubtless many who, by a more careful use of their vacant periods in the day-time, might find it unnecessary to consume so much of the midnight oil, and still in the end bear away no less a portion from the laurel bough.

Four years of school life quickly pass away; they steal by, moment by moment, and are soon gone with all their opportunities, never to return.

It is "now or never" with us all. Since this is true, it should behoove us all to deal most considerately with the moments, the atoms of the years.

LOCAL.

GENERAL.

The exercises which marked the closing of school for the Xmas vacation were very much better than the average. The program was very long; and had it not been for the general excellency of the numbers, it would have been wearisome. The three model departments, assisted by some of the Normal students, each rendered a program under the direction of their respective model teachers. The music was produced through the kindly assistance of Miss Linton and her corps of practice teachers, and was one of the pleasant features of the entertainment. The primary school came first, and acquitted themselves in a manner that reflects very favorably on Miss Faddis's patience in drilling them. Her program was as follows:

Beautiful Christmas Time....Helen Gillett, Ruth Wadleigh, Gladys Martin, Millicent Olin, Ina Martin
 Christmas Secrets.....Beulah Lamp
 Christmas Coming.....Reginald Weller
 Visiting Santa Claus.....Pearl Hayner
 Sweetly Chime.....School
 Kris Kringle.....John Thiel
 Letter to Santa Claus.....Fred. Whiting
 Christmas Offerings.....Harlow Bennett, Karl Strophe,
 Newton Martin, Ruth Wadleigh, Gladys Park,
 Helen Gillett.
 The Air is Filled With Echoes.....School
 Merry Little Days.....Ina Martin, Alice Cook,
 Gladys Martin, Willie Clifford, Norma Stuart,
 Edith Eldridge, Kittie Townsend.

The Intermediate room presented the cantata of "The Gruff old Judge and Happy Santa Claus," which was a marked success. Besides the choruses rendered by the school, the following is the cast of characters:

Santa Claus, basso.....A. T. Pray
 Mrs. Fry, the house-keeper, soprano.
 Miss Louise Vosburgh
 Mrs. Manning, poor widow.....Anna Wright
 Judge Sterne, tenor.....Guy Blencoe
 Zeke, the servant.....Robbie Stewart
 Jamie, the widow's son.....Walker Sanborn
 Harry.....Roe Piffner
 Joe.....Moritz Krembs
 Bessie.....Mildred Parker
 Maggie.....Katherine Southwick
 Grace.....Jeanne Kirwan

They were aided in the production of the play by choruses from the Grammar and Intermediate rooms combined; also by the Normal Octet, and a solo by Miss Linton.

The Grammar department presented the pretty little fairy tale, "The Fairies' Happy Christmas Greeting." Those who took part were: Kenneth Pray, Mabel Whitrock, Myrtle Murray, Dolly Packard, Alice Gross, Mabel Pipe, Grace Walker, Tena Jacobs, Flora Tack, Mary Peickert, Jennie Lamp, Walter Murat, Ben Moran, Harold Week, Earl Rice, Evan Townsend, and Lelah Purdy.

Before the next issue of The Pointer comes out, there shall have been fought many battles with the pen. There is no time in the year when one feels the awful difference between "sink or swim" as he does during the week of semi-yearly examinations. The teacher's kindly "You ought to have considered this earlier in the term," does not come as a balm of Gilead to the

unfortunate that gets only 70 or 75 in the day of judgment. To idle away much valuable time every day causes the average student no remorse; but to lose the result of a whole term's work simply for the lack of five paltry units or less, that is,—well, it is no less than justice,—but he can not see it in that light, in his own case at least, because there was so much he DID know that the examination questions did not call for.

It was literally with feelings of joy and sorrow that the students received the announcement of the engagement of Miss Bertha Pitman to Prof. Frank Sharp. Miss Pitman has tendered her resignation, and will sever her connection with the department of languages at the end of this quarter. Mr. Sharp is one of the rising young professors in the University of Wisconsin, and is connected with the department of psychology. Miss Pitman, during the time she has been in the Normal, has made a very favorable impression on the students who have been so fortunate as to be enrolled in her classes. Her kindly sympathy with student life, and her interest in the progress of students individually, made her a general favorite, so that her departure from Room 24 will indeed be keenly felt.

At a meeting of the Press Association held Monday evening, Jan. 6, Mr. Hamilton tendered his resignation as editor-in-chief of The Pointer; and the same was accepted, since it was understood that it would be impossible to retain him on account of his contemplated withdrawal from school. The choice of his successor was obviously Mr. Andrew Larkin, he receiving the unanimous vote on the formal ballot. Mr. Larkin needs no introduction to students old or new, having, ever since the opening of this school, been closely identified with literary progress among the students; and now, occupying the seat of honor in the sanctum sanctorum of The Pointer, he will be in still closer relation to the literary efforts of the school.

During vacation two electric arc lights were placed, one at the west entrance on Reserve street, and one on the grounds in front, midway between the entrance and Main street. They are supported jointly by the school and by the city, and light up the grounds and building very beautifully at night. Within the building a plentiful supply of incandescent lights have been placed in the assembly room, gymnasium, library, drawing room, corridors, and such other rooms as are apt to be used in the evening. The fixtures were supplied by the Andrae & Sons Co., of Milwaukee; while the connecting was done by the Lighting Co. of this city.

New work tables have been placed in the zoology and physical laboratories, and new cases were procured for the exhibition and systematic preservation of the geological and ornithological collections. The former will be arranged along the east corridor of the third floor; while the latter, with the gay plumage of its contents, will serve to brighten and ornament the assembly room. The cabinet work was done by the North-western Furniture Co. of Milwaukee.

The second number of the new quarterly magazine, The American Historical Review, is among the recent arrivals in the reading room. Macmillan & Co., of New York and London, are the publishers; and in put-

ting forth this new historical periodical they have filled a long felt want among college and university professors, since it comes into a field hitherto unoccupied. Among the contributors is Prof. F. J. Turner of Madison, who is writing a series of articles on "Western State-Making During the Revolution."

On Wednesday evening Dec. 18, about forty-five of the young men and women enjoyed a pleasant dancing party in Slutts's hall. Claude Wright acted as the chief chef, directing the other young men who had been pressed into duty as waiters. This was the first dancing party which the students have had among themselves; but since that was such a pleasant event it is probable that there will be others before the year is over.

Before the next issue of The Pointer appears, new officers shall have been elected for the Arena and for the Athletic Association, since the constitutions of both societies provide that officers shall be elected at the first regular meeting held in each term.

During vacation a collection of about three hundred invertebrates was received from Boston, for the use of the zoology class. It contains many specimens of sponges, corals, starfish, sea urchins, crabs, devil fish, squids, sand-dollars, and barnacles.

The elementary students who entered the methods class in August will finish that study with this quarter. Those in the advanced course will drop methods, but continue ten weeks longer as practice teachers.

PERSONAL.

To cure a head-ache: Stick your head through the window and the pane will be gone.

Jesse Barker nursed a fractured shoulder during the holidays, and was happy accordingly.

Elmer Frohmader is again in school after a short absence enforced by a broken wrist.

Miss Kate Fulton is again in school after several months' teaching in a country school.

Pres. Pray delivered an address before a Farmers' Institute at Manawa, Thursday Jan. 9.

Miss Theresa Moran, who has been teaching near Dancy, has again taken up her studies.

Prof. Culver is to give a course of six lectures on Geology at Phillips, during the winter.

Mr. Hamilton spent a few days at St. Paul, Spooner, Hudson, and Cumberland during vacation.

Pres. and Mrs. Pray entertained the faculty and a few friends very pleasantly Tuesday evening.

John T. Clements spent his vacation renewing old acquaintances in Chicago, and seeing the sights.

The Pointer acknowledges a subscription and kind wishes from Miss Genevieve Lynn of Mt. Hope, Wis.

Miss Rhena Furro of Green Bay was the guest of her sister, Miss Mary Furro, during the first week of school.

Tuesday evening Jan. 7, Pres. Pray addressed The Portage County Farmers' Institute at Plover, on "The Common Schools."

Miss Linton, while on her return from Michigan,

stopped over several days in Chicago, where she visited the Cook County Normal, and other schools.

Miss Tanner's drawing classes have hung an attractive exhibit of their work from still life in charcoal, pen and ink, and pencil, besides a collection of mechanical drawings.

A Stevens Point Normal school student of Alma Center is keeping the road well beaten between that place and this city during his vacation. We don't blame him a single mite nor grain either.—Black River Falls correspondent of the Merrillon Leader.

Among the visitors of the month were Frank Benedict of Waupaca, C. D. Jones of Wausau, Miss McDonald of Milwaukee, Mrs. Southwick, Miss Sawyer, Miss Isabel Walker the physical trainer of the Whitewater Normal, and Dr. J. D. Brecky of Alma Center.

The president recently purchased an American eagle from Henry Brown of Knowlton. The bird was shot in the woods thereabout, and the school was only too glad to get hold of this specimen, which was a very fine one. It has been sent to Prof. Kunlein of Milton to be mounted.

A loan collection of oils and water colors will probably be exhibited here before very long. The pictures will come from Chicago, and are brought here for the especial benefit of the drawing classes; but will doubtless furnish much pleasure to the other students, and to persons outside of the school.

Miss Emma J. Haney, who was the Supervisor of Practice during a part of last year, has left the sanitarium and is now at her home in Seneca Falls, N. Y. She has improved but very slightly since leaving here, but finds home life more agreeable than the sanitarium, where there was always more or less noise. Her illness is caused by a derangement of the pneumo-gastric nerve.

Jay S. Hamilton '96, has decided not to finish this year; but has accepted the principalship of the village schools at Spooner, Wis. Mr. Hamilton has taught in the same school before, and of course is thoroughly familiar with his position. This change in his plans necessitated his resignation as editor-in-chief of The Pointer, a condition very much regretted by his co-editors, and by the students in general.

Prof. Edgar James Swift has been engaged to fill the vacancy caused by Miss Pitman's resignation. Mr. Swift is a graduate of Amherst, '86. For a time he taught Latin in the Lake Forest University; and later traveled and studied in Germany. Recently he has spent some little time traveling in the west, coming here from California. He comes very highly recommended. Mr. Swift arrived in the city Thursday Jan. 17th.

Mrs. Bradford and Willie spent their vacation at their old home in Kenosha; Miss Linton at Otsego, Mich.; Miss Quinn and Miss Faddis at home in Chicago; Miss Pitman at Madison; Miss Tanner at Berlin; Mrs. Elliott at Muskegon, Mich.; Miss Montgomery at St. Paul; Miss Patterson at St. Paul and River Falls. Pres. Pray, Professors Sanford, Sylvester, and Collins attended the convention at Milwaukee; as did also some of the lady teachers whose homes were near that city.

ATHLETIC.

ECHOES OF THE GRIDIRON.

There are full many colleges
Renowned for football fame;
But where is there a better team
Than Stevens Point can claim?

At end, Tom Johnson plays a game
That makes the oval spin,
And at the interference formed,
He hurls himself with vim.

And Lees, at tackle, plays his part—
With movement sure and strong.—
To whom in all the worthy line
Can honor more belong?

The sturdy Paral guards the left;—
He's always in the "push;"
And if they throw him from his feet,
They'll have to mass the rush.

Our center, Gardner, does not bend
To player strong nor bold;
But keeps his head, and well supports
The PURPLE AND THE GOLD.

To guard the danger from the right,
The giant Bruemmer takes his stand,
And, as the game is moving on,
He ropes in honor, hand o'er hand.

As gridiron shakes with combat fierce,
And men are sifted through,
Our tackle, Manz, still plunges on,
With victory in view.

To Thoms, our stalwart right end man,
Belongs a goodly share
Of laurels won on bloody field,
While cheering rent the air.

The quarter, Everts, sure at pass,
Makes many worthy plays;
His eye is ever on the game
And on its every phase.

In Blencoe, captain of the team,
We find a player strong and fleet,
He tackles sure, runs low and hard,
And seldom knows defeat.

When left half, Miller, takes the ball,
The play is sure to go,
For football field was ne'er too long
To puzzle rushing Joe.

For full back we have Hamilton,
A smasher of the line,
In whom the virtues of the field
Most happily combine.

And now the score of worthy "subs"
On whom my pen would dwell;—
But they, themselves, in '96,
The tale in deeds will tell.

Then "Razzle Dazzle Bish Boom Bah"

For the team of '95.

They played a clean and honest game—
Long may their work survive!

X. Y. Z.

THE ANTHROPOMETRIC SYSTEM.

Under the untiring efforts of Miss Crawford and Prof. Sylvester the anthropometric system of the Stevens Point Normal has attained a very commendable station, under which more than one crooked spine and undeveloped muscle has been given the correct exercise for its proper growth.

Early in the fall of '94 the bodily measurements of all the students of the Normal and model rooms were taken, and according to the bodily defects found, each student was given a special line of work, in connection with the regular gymnasium exercises, to develop weak muscles and overcome the tendency towards improper developments.

In the spring of '95 after the special gymnasium work had been carried through the winter, the measurements were again taken, and great changes for the better were noted throughout. The change being the most noticeable among the model room students, all of whom were growing rapidly.

No further measurements were taken until recently, when the arrival of new apparatus made it possible to take the strength tests.

Among the newly arrived material is a manumometer, for testing the strength of the fore-arm; a dynamometer, for testing the strength of the chest, back, and legs; and the pull and push up, for measuring the strength of the upper arm.

These tests, coupled with the measurements already taken, will show very definitely what part of the body needs developing, and exercise will be handed out accordingly. Most of the students are fast realizing the great benefits of the anthropometric system, if carefully attended to; and will doubtless look back with many thanks, to the system that did so much to overcome some bodily defect which might otherwise have hindered them through life.

In the recent strength tests taken by Prof. Sylvester, the following five persons lifted the greatest number of pounds: Mathe, 1990; Blencoe, 1729; Beck, 1617; Phillips, 1555; and Johnson, 1541. The above figures give the sum total in pounds lifted by the forearm, upper arm, back, chest, and legs—all of which tests were made on instruments especially adapted for such work.

Noting the accidents which have occurred in this school in connection with athletic sports, we find: Two months' foot ball,—broken cheek-bone; two weeks' tobogganing,—fractured knee; miscellaneous—fractured shoulder. And yet people will talk of the unlimited dangers of foot-ball.

Prof. J. E. Raycroft of the University of Chicago, who coached our football team early in the fall, has just recovered from a very serious attack of pneumonia.

Who knows but that the Stevens Point Normal may be represented in the Olympic games to be held at Athens in 1900.

EXCHANGES.

The Williams Catalogue of '95-'96 shows a total of 355 pupils, of whom 112 are freshmen.

The largest woman's college in the world is Smith College, which has an attendance of 875 this year.

The "Wants" of the Eau Claire High School pupils remind us of O. W. Holmes's poem, "Contentment."

The University of Chicago has the largest graduate school in America. The students are 1,587 in number.

In the Welch universities the recitations are carried on in English, although Welsh is the language of the students.

Thirty young ladies were enrolled at Beloit College in December—a large number for the first term of co-education.

Of the five recently appointed Venezuelan Commissioners, three are graduates of Yale, and one of Columbia.

The plan of student self-government worked so successfully at Rutgers last year that it will be tried again this year.

When you make your will, don't forget to bequeath your brain (if you are both educated and moral) to the Cornell Brain Association.

Of the 451 colleges and universities in the United States, 310 are co-educational. This is an increase of 3 per cent in the last two years.

The Chicago Club at Princeton has voted to send a book of Princeton views, and also "Princeton Stories" to all preparatory schools in Illinois.

Lawrence has a glee club composed of sixteen young men under the leadership of Prof. Heard. Their first concert was given at Menasha, Dec. 11.

We can now boast of a State song, entitled "The Badger Song." It was written by Eben B. Rexford, and set to music by Dr. J. M. Stillman of Milton.

Stanford University will have, when the Stanford estate is settled, an income three times as large as that of Harvard. It is the richest university in America.

The High School of Moline, Ill., is now carrying on High School extension through various clubs and lecture courses. Thus far they are very successful.

The University of Michigan is to build a Woman's Gymnasium that will cost \$50,000. It will contain reading, waiting, reception, and gymnasium rooms.

Why might not Parson Davies and John L. Sullivan be protected by the United States in setting up a prize fighting arena in Texas, on the ground that an individ-

ual state has no power under the Constitution to control ex-sports?—*Egis*.

The Daily Cardinal, of January 8th, says that the cost per graduate from the advanced course of the normals of Wisconsin is \$2,287.35; while from the University of Wisconsin, it is but \$1,789.70.

"A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush,"

Is one of the old time chants;

But to-day, it is thought, one hand in the dough
Is worth two feet in the dance."

By act of the last legislature, Wisconsin now recognizes manual training as a part of the work of the free high schools; and hereafter the state will contribute \$250 a year to high schools which maintain a manual training department.

The Glee and Mandolin Clubs of the University of Chicago, made their third annual trip during the holiday vacation. In the eleven days they gave ten concerts, and were greeted with crowded houses at every place except Milwaukee and Oshkosh.

The Milwaukee and Downer colleges, which united at the beginning of the school year, have an attendance of 166 pupils. The trustees are trying to secure the donation of a site on which to erect a new college building that will accommodate a larger number of students.

Among the 83 students at the dairy farm of the U. W. is a negro who is but 17 years of age, and has graduated from two Southern schools. He is a protegee of Booker T. Washington; and when his course here is completed, he will return to the Tuskegee Negro School and give instruction in dairying.

The following statistics are taken from The Minerva, published annually by the German government, giving the number of students at the ten leading universities in the world:

Paris	11,010
Berlin	8,652
Vienna	6,714
Madrid	5,829
Naples	5,040
Moscow	4,118
Budapest	3,892
Munich	3,561
Athens	3,331
Harvard	3,290

What is said of our paper: "No. 1, Vol. 1, of The Normal Pointer, published by the students of the Stevens Point Normal School, has been received. The Pointer will be issued monthly, and is equal to any school or college paper in the North-west, and greatly superior to many of them."—*Rice Lake Times*.

"Number One, Volume One, of The Normal Pointer made its appearance to-day. It is a model of the printer's art, and contains literary articles which would brighten the pages of a more pretentious publication."—*Stevens Point Journal*.

"The Normal Pointer is the name of a new handsome monthly journal issued by students of the Stevens Point Normal School."—*Vernon County Censor*.

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