

Office Copy

THE

Normal Pointer.

Stevens Point, Wis.



1896.

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THE NORMAL POINTER.

Volume I.

STEVENS POINT, WIS., MARCH, 1896.

Number 4.

LITERARY.

LIVING.

Sing a song of ice and snow,
Sing a song of summer bloom;
Sing of morning's golden glow,
Sing of evening's gloom!
Sing of pleasure, sing of pain,
Of gaining love and giving;
Sing, oh, sing a merry strain
Of just the joy of living!

MAXWELL ALTON.

A TRIP THROUGH THE DELLS OF THE WISCONSIN.

One fresh June morning, as the sun was shedding its first gorgeous rays over the eastern hills, three carriages rolled away from Baraboo. From the merry peals of laughter, and the sound of happy voices, one might have guessed that the occupants of these vehicles were off for a day's pleasure. And from the band boxes and baskets which were visible, it was evident that a picnic was to be a part of their program. After a four hours' journey over sandy roads, the party arrived at a pretty little village known as Kilbourn, situated on the bank of the Wisconsin. It was then plainly to be seen that a trip up the river was the plan for the day: for with baskets and bundles in hand, they set out for the boat house. Upon reaching it, they descended several long flights of stairs and suddenly found themselves on the landing. In front of them, lying calmly at rest, were two pretty steamers.

The company boarded the larger boat, "The Dell Queen," and were soon comfortably seated. Promptly at nine o'clock, the whistle blew, and the boat began to move slowly and steadily up the river.

The sun was warm, but a cool breeze blew, and occasionally carried a fresh spray of water into the faces of the passengers. The river stretched out, blue and beautiful, before them. On the left there arose a high bank of stone, while on the right the bank was low, and over it could be seen the village. These sights were soon lost by a turn in the river, and the stream began to narrow. Suddenly, on both sides, great banks of solid stone loomed up, and the pleasure-seekers realized that they were then in the Dells of the Wisconsin.

Through these rocks the water has been rushing for centuries, and has formed niches, caves, and canyons; has cut pillars and shaped boulders to suit its fancy. In and out it has worked its way, leaving in places projecting ledges from which extend perpendicular

walls forty feet high. All along, the gray rocks are gracefully hung with hare-bells and ferns, and on their tops grow the stately pine trees.

Some distance up the Dells, the party's attention was called to an immense rock near the east bank. This proved the fact that Nature's inventions preceded those of man, for there was a steamboat made years ago, and more substantial than any of which Fulton ever dreamed. A little beyond this, came a succession of boulders of nearly equal size, all of which pointed up stream. These resemble in shape the hulls of ships, hence this spot is known as "The Navy Yard." Following this came "The Narrows." Here the whole river is forced into a channel scarcely forty feet wide, and through it the water rushes with great rapidity. It is said that the water here is never less than eighty feet deep. In high water seasons boats dare not venture through this channel. The Indians are fond of telling how their chief, the famous Black Hawk, when pursued by his enemies, jumped into the river at "The Narrows" and escaped on the opposite side.

As the river at that time was low, it was considered safe for the party to make the return trip, a distance of about five miles, in row boats; so the steamer proceeded to the head of the Dells. Having landed the company safely, the boat returned. The people then found themselves on a sandy shore, with a high cliff on the north and one on the south. From the landing, a shady path led the party to one of the most beautiful places to be found—"Witches' Gulch." As they proceeded up the path they noticed that the cliffs seemed to approach each other until they formed a narrow passage. Upon reaching this, the path leads over an elevated walk. All through the "Gulch," at the base of the rocks, are springs, and these are the source of a clear, shallow stream which flows through the "Gulch." Over this stream it has been necessary to build the elevated walk. Entering the passage, one can look up and see the cool, moss-covered rocks rising for sixty feet. The walls here are not perpendicular, but extend in a wave-like fashion, and for a long distance the rocks nearly meet over head, the path also being very narrow. As the party wended their way through this cool retreat, they spied a tumbler lying on a ledge, and there in the rock a little bowl has been worn. In this a little spring bubbles up clear and cold, and, filling the bowl, runs over into the stream below.

Further on, the path makes a sudden rise of nearly six feet, and there the water flows over, making a beautiful little fall. Steps have been built over this; and ascending these, the party found themselves in an opening of the cliffs. As it was cool and shady there, the baskets were opened, and lines of the poet expressed the sentiments of all:

"O! hour of all hours, the most bless'd upon earth,
Blessed hour of our dinners!"

The effect on one's appetite of a boat ride and the sight of lunch baskets, is wonderful!

After the feast was over, they strolled through a short hall, and found themselves in an opening at the head of the "Gulch." Here they sat and rested until the middle of the afternoon. They then retraced their steps through the "Gulch," admiring again its wonders. Upon reaching the landing they walked out on the pier which is built over the water, to the edge of the south cliff. From there they could see across and up the river. The river above is its usual width, with a low, sandy bank on the west. On the east the bank is high and rocky for some distance.

The row-boats which had been brought up on the steamer were left at the pier, and in these the party embarked. As the current is swift through the Dells, the boats were allowed to drift until "Cold Water Canyon" was reached. There they were anchored, and the party began an exploration of the "Canyon." The walls here are high and are not widely separated. For some distance they gradually approach each other until the east wall turns abruptly and leaves a large open space. The walls at that season were green with mosses and ferns; and through the lower part of the "Canyon" flows a small stream. After following the path on farther, the cliffs again converge, and resemble very closely those of the "Gulch." In some places the walls so nearly meet that it is with difficulty one pushes himself through. Suddenly the walls seem to bulge on both sides and the cavity formed resembles a jug. This is designated "Devils' Jug." Many people have taken pleasure in carving their names there on the walls. Beyond the jug, the cliffs extend in close proximity, and were completely covered with mosses and ferns.

The "Gulch" and the "Canyon" are the most beautiful parts of the Dells and when the river is high the water rushes through these narrow channels with great velocity. Below the "Canyon" is "Artist's Glen," a quiet little nook with high rocks on both sides. Here Nature has festooned the walls with delicate vines, and has scattered flowers and leaves everywhere, and over it the foliage of the trees forms a kind of canopy.

The company took leave of the "Canyon" about six o'clock, and having visited the "Glen," they floated on through the Narrows past the "Navy Yard," exploring niches in the great walls, and finally visited "Boat Cave." This is large enough to admit two boats and is hardly four feet high. It has been said that the water in this cave will burn. Remembering this, and anxious to try the experiment, one of the gentlemen stirred the water vigorously, and then dropped a match into it. He was not rewarded for his trouble for his match went out.

The sun had set, and the new moon had risen, when the boats drifted out of the cave: and as they gently floated down the river in the pale moonlight it was with great satisfaction and a secret longing to come again, that the weary people took their last lingering look at the Dells.

MAME E. MYERS.

AN EXPERIENCE OF A COUNTRY STORE-KEEPER.

Some years ago, when I was a young man, I was engaged in store-keeping in a country village near the central part of the state; and as the business was not extensive, I kept my own books, and did the larger part of the work about the store.

One dark, misty evening, I was detained longer than usual over some accounts, and it was well on toward midnight before I was ready to go home. Every one had long since left the store, the houses in the little village were all dark and gloomy, and I was apparently as much alone as if I were in the midst of the Sahara. I stepped to the safe, which was near a window in the further corner of the room, to put away my money. All at once, the feeling came over me that I was observed: some one was watching me. I stopped in front of the safe and glanced nervously about me. By the two dim lights I had kept burning, the interior of the room could be seen with tolerable distinctness. The rows of tin dish pans, hung overhead, flashed back my image distorted out of all proportion; the mice scuttled among the barrels of sugar and molasses; the little girl in the advertisement of Bobbitt's Universal Soap Powder looked down at me in a friendly way from her position on the wall. Every thing was as quiet and undisturbed as usual; but still I felt—I knew—that human eyes were watching me. A cold shudder ran over me. I cast an apprehensive glance at the window near me, but my eyes met only the blank wall of darkness outside. I hastily thrust the money into the safe, closed the door, and turned with a ghastly feeling of terror toward my desk at the other end of the store. I dared not stay in the building, shadowed, as I needed no assurance that it was, by unscrupulous persons in whose hands my life would be as nothing. Still less dared I venture outside into what seemed to me certain death. So will nervous terror grow upon a man when once he has succumbed to it!

At last, in sheer desperation, I went to the case of pocket knives (for I had no weapon with me), selected the largest and sharpest, opened it, and clutching it with the grip of a man who expected to encounter death, blew out my lamps, and started for home through the murky night, so dark that I literally could not see my hand before me. A cold perspiration stood on my forehead as I left the steps of the store, for every moment I expected to be attacked. But nothing came. I reached home in safety, and sank exhausted into a chair, worn out with the strain on my nerves. I execrated myself for a consummate coward, and went disgusted to bed.

The next morning I went down to the store very early, and found, not much to my surprise, that the lock had been forced, the store entered and rifled, the safe blown open and the money taken. Outside the window I discovered on the damp ground the tracks of the men who had stood there with their eyes fastened upon me as I put the money in the safe.

Several weeks later they were detected, arrested and brought to trial, and confessed to having watched me that night, their first intention being to attack and stun or kill me: but on seeing that I was apparently unsuspecting, they had decided to let me go in peace.

MISS MURFREE'S BEST BOOK.

Have you read *The Prophet of the Great Smoky Mountains*? If not, do so at your earliest opportunity. It is worth your while. Miss Murfree has excelled herself in this picture of the narrow, half starved existence of the dwellers in the mountain regions of Tennessee. She has drawn with the fine hand of one who knows the pleasures, the hopes, the fears, the struggles that enter into their unsophisticated lives.

Her description of the mountain scenery is vivid in its imagery, and exquisite in touch. This little passage in portrayal of the dawn is worthy of a poet:

"The hour had not yet done with witchery. The rose-red cloud was in the east, and the wild red rose had burst its bud. A mocking bird sprang from its nest in a dog wood tree, with a scintillating wing and a soaring song, and a ray of sun-light like a magic wand fell athwart the landscape."

One of the strongest, as well as the most pathetic, points in the story is the mountain preacher's combat with his religious doubts, imagining, in the simplicity of his ignorance, that he is the only one who has ever experienced their horrors. With infinite anguish of soul he wrestles with his skepticism, his heart wrung with pain, "and the devil all the time a-huntin' of him like a partridge on the mounting."

His rude eloquence is touching as he humbly confesses his defection to his horror stricken congregation, and it mounts almost to grandeur in its untutored dignity as he denounces the conspirators, in whose crime he is forced to be a partner.

"Listen ter me," he said, with that enthusiasm kindling in his eyes which they honored sometimes as the light of religion, and sometimes reviled as frenzy. "Ye'll repent o' yer deeds this night! An' the jedg-mint o' the Lord 'll foller ye! Yer father's gray hairs will go down in sorer ter the grave, but his mind will die before his body. An' some o' you-uns will languish in jail, an' know the despair o' the bars. An' he that is bravest 'mongst ye will mark how his shadder dogs him. An' ye will strike yer hands tergether an' say 'That the day hed never dawned, that the night had never kem fer we-uns!' An' ye'll wisht ye had died afore! An' but for the coward in the blood ye would take yer own life then! An' ye'll look at the grave before ye, an' hope ez it all ends thar!"

His heroic self-sacrifice at the last awakens in one's soul a new admiration for the man's character, developed as it is through prayer, struggle and solitary vigils in the mountain fastnesses.

All this, with the "love affair" woven into the story, the petty political scheming, the ingenuity of the "moon-shiners" in eluding the dreaded raiders, makes the book an interesting one, and well worth reading.

A WEEK OF SUSPENSE.

About a month after leaving home to attend school at X—. I received a letter containing the startling news that one of our family circle had mysteriously disappeared. One evening after supper he had started out with the ostensible purpose of making a call; and as he often returned after all the rest were asleep, no anxiety was felt at his non-appearance, although the family retired an hour later than usual. But on the

following morning when he failed to take his accustomed place at breakfast, they were somewhat alarmed; and my father, on finishing his coffee, went to the room of the delinquent one to see if he were ill. Imagine the consternation when it was found that the room was empty and had not been occupied the night before!

Thinking that he must have been detained at one of the neighbors, my brothers were sent to make inquiries while the rest set about their usual duties. At noon they returned, having heard nothing of the missing one.

Sad, indeed, was the party that gathered around the dinner table. Instead of eating, plans were perfected for a more extended search, which began that very hour and lasted three days. The whole neighborhood was in commotion, and all assisted in the search, which proved a fruitless one.

As I could do nothing to assist, my parents thought it best for me to remain where I was. I attended school to take up my time; but my thoughts were ever upon our loss. I could neither study nor sleep, and became fairly wild.

After a week of agonizing suspense, I decided to disobey my parents and take the noon train for home. Just as I had come to this decision a message containing the following was handed to me: "Hurra! the old yellow cat has come back!" ELIZABETH JONES.

THE LEGEND OF THE LIVE OAK.

Among the many beautiful trees which adorned my uncle's Southern home was a magnificent live oak, draped with clinging Spanish moss. It was not, however, for its beauty or dignity that it was especially noticeable, as there were many other fine trees on the place. What made it interesting was a curious formation of two of the largest branches which had grown into a perfect circle. On inquiry one is told an old Indian legend concerning that circle. The story runs that once many years ago there lived here a mighty chief of a great tribe, who tho' very wealthy, valued his daughter, Majella, above all his other possessions. She was most beautiful, and had many suitors; but the one whom she preferred was scorned by her haughty father. When he sought the hand of the maiden in marriage, the chief was exceeding wroth, and pointing to the live oak which stood near, swore a mighty oath that when the branches of the tree were united into a perfect ring then, and then only, might he claim Majella's hand. The lovers were in despair; but that night there came a terrible tempest, and when the morning dawned the branches of the great tree were in some mysterious way formed into a perfect ring. The old chief could not disregard this manifestation of the Great Spirit, and reluctantly consented to the union. The legend tells no more; but it is supposed that Majella and the brave lived happily ever after, as the fairy stories say.

L. D. Daddain

THE DIFFERENCE.

I showed my love my fond, true heart,
And asked if she'd be mine,
Till death's sharp dart should both us part—
She answered me, "Ach, nein!"

I showed my love my new bank-book—
Ah! then I touched her soul!
She drooped her head and softly said,
"Ach, lieber Freund, ja wohl!"

Florence Curran

THE NORMAL POINTER.

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EDITORIAL.

The age of illustration is now with us, and we must illustrate if we expect to hold the attention of young and old. If it is true that the light which enters the eye photographs on the retina the image which it receives and so conveys the image by molecular action to the brain, then we can readily understand that illustrations reaching the brain through the eye actually afford a physical basis for perception and memory. This view of the relation of the image on the retina to the acquisition of knowledge explains the value of the stereopticon and its pictures to the work of mental furnishing.

The whole range of scientific research can be illustrated by the lantern, or stereopticon with its appliances. There is no reason why even in grammar schools the wonderful results of research may not be shown to the average pupils, thus awakening the dormant curiosity which will make study an ardent pursuit of knowledge instead of a dreary task. A most important light is now thrown on related studies by the use of the stereopticon. Suppose that a class have before them a photograph of some city in India where one can see in the street a religious procession, and along the sides of the street the mingled architecture of ancient temples and modern edifices. Along the walls of the gardens are the overhanging branches of the Indian foliage, and the animal life of India is represented by here and there an elephant or a monkey, and the strange types of race, and the stranger customs of dress engage the wondering attention of the pupils. Here we have not a mere lesson in geography, but history as well. The total effect of the scene is many sided, and fastens itself on the memory without the labored task of learning by rote a bald statement of the fact that such and such a city is the capital of a certain district.

Even a small lantern with a small stock of well selected views is a paying investment in the hands of the teacher who delights to see his pupils charmed with fresh acquisitions not acquired by painful effort.

E. F. P.

One of the best opportunities for development incidental to the school, but one that is oftenest overlooked, or allowed to pass unimproved, is found in the Arena. It is needless to refer to the individual benefits to be derived from this society. We all know how valuable it is to be able to express our thoughts before an audience: and we all realize that, in a Republic, a knowledge of parliamentary law is almost indispensable. And yet on comparing the number of students present at the meetings of the Arena with the number of students in the school, or even with the number belonging to the society, we find that many are allowing this excellent advantage to drift by. We undoubtedly have one of the pleasantest and best lighted rooms in the state in which to hold our meetings, and everything that such a society requires is provided for us. It only remains for us to take up the work, and make it tell for good in the future. This is what many of the students are doing. We have had this year a series of excellent literary programs presented very creditably by the members, and though the work has been done by a few, these few have received the benefit of it. By the efforts of the new Executive Committee, we have already enjoyed two very interesting and instructive programs during the present term, and judging by these, the advantages to be derived from the society will increase in the future. As was said from the rostrum once this year, "The work of a literary society, faithfully performed, is equal in value to any study in the course," and the student who takes advantage of it gets just so much more out of his Normal course than the one who fails to seize the opportunity here presented.

H. S. P.

THE NEW EDUCATION.

The city of Chicago is agitated by a question of vital importance to every person who is interested in the subject of public education. The occasion of it is the offer made by the Cook Co. Commissioners to give to the city of Chicago the Cook County Normal School, with certain lands. The reason for this offer is that the school is no longer profitable to Cook Co., owing to its decrease in size caused by annexation of suburbs to the city. It is a question of the adoption of the new education or the retention of the old. It is of national importance, Chicago being merely the storm center.

The struggle in Chicago is between the conservative element—the school-men, the old-fashioned pedagogues—and the parents who see that "the common schools lack common sense, and that the public schools lack public spirit." Last September a committee which appealed to the editors of some of the dailies for support of the Normal were told that they could not afford to advocate it as none except professional men cared about the schools. Now every newspaper in the city regularly devotes space to school news. This looks hopeful for it indicates an awakening of interest in the subject: and that all the intelligence in the city

will be brought to bear upon the question. But the question arises: Will the Normal, if accepted, conform to the city school system, or will the city schools be remodelled on the new system? The Normal, entrenched behind the best intelligence throughout the land, is not likely to yield; and the friends of the old system have much at stake in the outcome. Its acceptance means that Chicago has determined to educate her children according to the new ideals; its rejection, that she has determined to stand by the old.

According to the old system, it is assumed that the essential foundation of good citizenship is the ability to read, write, and cipher. This assumption is made in face of the fact that very few of the inmates of our jails, and houses of correction are without these accomplishments.

Nothing, perhaps, can equal a good home in the influences which make good citizenship; but the nearest approach to a good home is a good school. This is pretty clearly shown by a record of ten thousand children educated in the kindergartens of San Francisco, which may be found in *The Arena* for March, page 615.

Here proof is given that the three R's do not form the basis of good citizenship; but rather that the education which must commence at a very tender age, must commence with matter adapted to the ability of the child. This the Normal system does in the model departments; and the same principle lies at the bottom of instruction throughout the entire course—the principle of good citizenship, the new education.

C. J. E. H.

LOCAL.

GENERAL.

The officers who have been elected to govern the destinies of the Arena for the rest of this year are Allan Pray, president; Elmer Frohmader, vice president; Miss Mabel McKee, secretary; Hugh Ahmy, treasurer; James Phillips, Belle McGregor and Florence Pray, executive committee. In order to inspire the members to better work it has been determined in a measure to reorganize the society. Names have hitherto been added to the roll when the persons themselves had little intention of helping to sustain the society by their own efforts when placed upon the program by the executive committee. It is felt that the society is now in a position to select those whom it wishes as members instead of going about begging for new recruits. Consequently a new pledge of membership has been incorporated into the constitution by which every member affirms his willingness to do whatever work is requested of him by the executive committee unless excused by the society. Should a member refuse to appear two or more consecutive times when his name is placed on programs, he, on motion, may be expelled from the society by a two-third vote. A new register of members has been made out to which the secretary has transferred all names of students no longer in attendance, but to which all present students must affix their own signatures after taking the pledge of membership

It is to be hoped that the society will continue to grow in usefulness and power in response to the increased earnestness on the part of a few. It is not so much in numbers that growth is required as in definiteness of purpose.

Wednesday evening, February 26, Prof. Perry of Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, lectured in the assembly room, on the ruins of ancient Egypt, to an audience of nearly six hundred persons, largely composed of students of the Normal and public schools. Prof. Perry recently spent a year traveling in the Nile valley, and having taken a camera with him, he was able to bring back many beautiful photographs. These he has had prepared for the stereopticon and when presented on the screen they were a very important factor in the interest which his talk awakened. He described many customs of the modern Egyptians which he observed in his travels, but by comparing the realities of the present day with the scenes portrayed on the ancient temples and tombs we find them to have been but little modified. Thursday morning Mr. Perry was present at the opening exercises and gave the students a fifteen minute talk on the influence of drawing in the common schools.

The local oratorical contest to decide who shall represent this school at the Inter-Normal Oratorical Contest to be held at Whitewater, May 15, will be given in the assembly room, April 24. This will be the second Friday evening after the spring recess. Four or five have already decided to enter but many more should do so. The greater opposition that the winner of the home contest has, the better prepared will he be to meet his rivals in the final struggle. As the expense of sending the delegates devolves upon each school, it will be necessary to provide a small admission fee for the local contest. In estimating the merits of the oration the written oration will count sixty per cent., and the delivery and expression forty per cent. The judges for the Whitewater contest will probably be the three following well known educators: Hon. W. J. Turner of Milwaukee, Prof. J. J. Blaisdell of Beloit College, and Prof. D. B. Frankenberger, Professor of Elocution at the University of Wisconsin.

The net proceeds that resulted from the entertainment, "Living Pictures" has been invested in a full size bust of Hermes by Praxiteles and in a relief cast of a Madonna and child for the primary room. The proceeds from the Perry lecture, about \$40, will probably be spent in the purchase of a collection of photographs of European works of art. A small sum from the reading room fund will probably be devoted to securing something in plaster to decorate the library.

Friday evening, March 6, the question as to whether or no the Monroe Doctrine applies to the Venezuelan controversy was debated in the Arena. The affirmative was argued by O'Brien and Manz and the negative by Clements and Grimm. The affirmative won. The other numbers on the program for that evening were an instrumental solo by Miss Kuhl, a reading by Mr. Everts, and a song by the male quartette.

A new cess pool has been built out on the northeast corner of the square and connected with the sewage system of the building. Several times during the

winter the sewage has overflowed onto the basement floor, which necessitated the shutting off of the bathrooms. The new sump is eighteen feet wide and twenty deep, and is calculated to be sufficient to dispose of all water. It will cost about \$600.

PERSONAL.

Miss Rose Appleton has withdrawn to teach.

Over the telephone: "May I see the President a minute?"

Regent and Mrs. Raymond entertained the faculty Friday Feb. 28.

In room 21: "Lend me your ruler. Want to make a free hand drawing."

Pres. Pray was a judge at the Inter-collegiate Oratorical contest at Ripon, Friday.

A convincing reason: "AM is less than AB, because AB is greater than AM."

Miss Elizabeth Gardiner of Spencer was compelled to withdraw on account of her health.

Student—"I can't make pie."

Prof.—"Put a roof over two posts."

John O. Hill has withdrawn, and is now teaching school in the town of Phillips, Price Co.

In the gym: "Turn your toes down, or you'll be turning them up the first thing you know."

The Culver boys, who have been having the scarlet fever, have recovered sufficiently to be out again.

Prof. Sanford delivered an address before the teachers' institute at Marshfield Friday evening, Feb. 28.

Frank Salter, who has been teaching a district school near Chippewa Falls, has again resumed his studies.

During the month Prof. Sylvester has conducted institutes at Plainfield, Centralia, Marshfield, and Viroqua.

Extra copies of The Normal Pointer may be had of French, Campbell & Co., or at Vosburgh's News Agency.

Tom R. Johnson was called to his home at Black River Falls, Monday Mar. 9, by the serious illness of his mother.

Pres. Pray visited the Oshkosh Normal Friday of last week and also attended a meeting of the Regents held at the same place.

Miss McDonald of Green Bay and Mrs. Ethel Rood are taking the course in vocal music under Miss Linton as special students.

The recently enrolled students are C. J. Drury of Kewaunee; John M. Gage of Packwaukee; and Ida Gustaferson of Plover.

During the month a small collection of about forty specimens of birds and small mammals were purchased from Mr. J. M. Hollister of this city.

Prof. R. B. Dudgeon, superintendent of the Madison schools, visited the class rooms as an official guest Wednesday and Thursday of last week.

One morning recently Miss Katherine Rood favored the students with a piano solo, and receiving their hearty applause, responded with an encore.

If you need a supply of shirts for spring, don't forget that F. A. Wier has an elegant line of colored bosoms,

negligees, soft fronts, and unlaundered, from 50c up.

Monday of last week the schools of Grand Rapids were dismissed and the corps of teachers, numbering ten in all, came up to visit the public schools and the Normal.

Prof. Culver finished his course of lectures on geology at the Normal Friday evening, February 28. He also finished his course on the same subject at Phillips, March 13.

A human skeleton, a very much enlarged model of the exterior and interior ear, and a plaster cast of the brain are among the new curios in the biological laboratory.

Prof. J. N. Wilkinson, supervisor of practice in the State Normal at Emporia, Kansas, who is making a tour of inspection of the Wisconsin Normals, was a visitor Thursday.

Practice teacher on dia critical marks: "This mark is called the caret."

Bright boy: "Why didn't they call it turnip?"

Pres. Chalmers of the Platteville Normal spent February 19, visiting the school and in a speech delivered to the students at morning exercises, he paid a high tribute to the Bible as a literary production.

At different times of late Geo. Patch has kindly brought some of his works in pastel to hang in the different rooms of the building. Mr. Patch is an amateur artist of marked ability and has painted several very good pieces.

F. A. Wier has received his spring line of neck ties, and the boys say its the only real swell line in the city. There are certainly some very neat effects in De Joinvilles. Tecks, club ties, 4-in-hands, and Kenton bows for that new collar; and the latest novelty, an adjustable band bow in all colors. Prices from 15c to \$1.00.

Miss Anna Wright spent several days in Madison during February, in attendance at the District Convention of the Epworth League, as a delegate from the local society of the M. E. church. This was the first time she failed to respond to roll call on account of absence or tardiness since the school first opened in '94.

The bi-weekly rhetoricals given on Wednesday afternoons are a pleasant and profitable interruption to the week's hard work that most of the students thoroughly appreciate. Wednesday, March 4, the following young women and men appeared: Misses Lewis, Ashmun, Appleton, Hart, Jones, Heidka, Meehan, and Burns; and Messrs. M. O. Hill, J. D. Beck, L. S. Everts, H. S. Perry, and A. L. Larkin. A solo was sung by Miss Linton and several songs were rendered by the school in chorus.

A long and interesting article written by Prof. Sylvester, on the anthropometric system of the school, recently appeared in The Milwaukee Sentinel. Several cuts made from photographs taken by Mr. Sylvester were reproduced, showing very clearly the tendency which improperly adjusted seats and desks have to deform the pupils who sit in them. Spinal curvature is almost sure to develop in the quiet, low spirited child who does not take enough rollicking, vigorous out door exercise to shake off the evil effects of the faulty seat.

ATHLETIC.

BATTLEBALL.

4. Battleball is at present creating an unusual amount of interest; the principal source of excitement being the determination of the '96 students to defeat those who entered in '95.

Early in the season the first years picked from among their number seven of the most promising men and organized a team which by steady practice became very skilled in the game, and after thoroughly defeating any other team the first year students could organize, they looked for new worlds to conquer.

A challenge was then proffered one of the second year sevens which materialized in two well fought contests, yet both decided victories for the first year team. The spirit of superiority now ran high among the thus far ever victorious firsts, and deeming themselves invincible, they challenged any team the second year students could organize.

Of course the second years were now on their reputation since two successive games had been lost by one of the second year teams. Getting together seven men, who it was thought would put up a strong contest, they met the worthy firsts and for the first time that team got a taste of the defeat they had before been so graciously dealing out to their opponents. As one game is not a deciding point a date was immediately set for the second, but again the firsts were doomed and the score of games stood—two to the credit of the first and two in favor of the second year.

The teams line up as follows: First year, Alban, Horton, Miller, Almy, Gunderson, Beach, Manz. Second year, Thoms, Dowsett, Blencoe, Everts, Lees, Peterson, Springer.

Although the total score of games is equal, the firsts have been unable thus far to defeat the team now representing the second year, and while the superiority of the second year is not absolute, yet the latest organized team has no game against its record.

The strength of the first year team lies principally in throwing, while the seconds are especially strong in blocking.

PROSPECTS OF SPRING ATHLETICS.

The Athletic Association held a meeting Wednesday, February 26, for the purpose of considering some of the preparatory details of spring athletics. At this meeting John Lees and H. S. Perry were elected respectively managers of the baseball and football departments.

Last spring the association was unable to organize a satisfactory baseball team from the material the association afforded, although some weak attempts were made in that line, but this spring's prospects are very promising as many of the students who entered during the winter will prove a valuable aid, both on the diamond and in the track athletics. Both of the teams will be reorganized as soon as active practice makes a choice of the many applicants possible. Many of the surrounding schools have already been corresponded with and while as yet no definite date has been fixed

upon, many possible arrangements are now under consideration.

The track team of this spring also promises to do some very fair work, for the experience of last year coupled with the number of new competitors has awakened unusual interest in that line. With one exception the old team is all in school and that weakness will doubtless be overbalanced by better work along other lines.

The executive committee is now at work making arrangements for a home field contest, which will probably materialize about the middle of May, and present the following contests: standing and running broad and high jumps, hop step and jump, pole vault, the 100, 220, 440 yard, half, and mile runs, 120 yard hurdle, mile walk, hammer-throw, shot-put, and bicycle races. With these contests in view many of the young men are at present carrying on a system of light training, taking the proper exercise in the gymnasium, and only wait for a little bare ground to do outdoor work.

Special gymnastic exercises, consisting of rope vaulting, club swinging, and dumb bell practice, are at present progressing in preparation for an exhibition to be held some time during the month of April. In this entertainment the young ladies, as well as the young men will participate; the former making light gymnastics a specialty, while the young men will turn their special attention to heavy work. The entertainment will present class work in wand, dumb-bell, and club movements, while individual action will be given scope in the different contests programed, which will consist of standing and running jumps, parallel and horizontal bar vaults, and other lines not yet definitely decided upon. It is probable that vocal and instrumental selections will also aid in completing the program, at any rate the classes will work to time of music.

Handball has recently been introduced in the gymnasium and bids fair to become very popular. Two adjoining courts are chalked upon the floor, one side of the foremost adjoining the wall. Equipped with a tennis ball, each player takes a position in one of the two courts. The occupant of the court nearest the wall, who is known as a server, bounds the ball upon the floor and strikes it with the palm of his hand in such a manner that it will rebound into his opponent's court. The point of the game is now to cause the ball with each rebound to fall somewhere within the double court, each player striking in turn, the one first failing, losing both the point and the next serve.

Why is it that a great number of the students, who are firm believers in athletics and have at times tasted training themselves, shrink from those short pleasant walks recommended by the science teachers? Yet who could expect a person treating such a giant subject as evolution or dealing out millions of years as if they were but so many seconds, to have a clear conception of the endurance of a petty mortal.

Every Saturday afternoon the Normal gymnasium is the scene of various athletic feats performed by students who take this means of ridding themselves of their surplus energy.

EXCHANGES.

A foolish virgin—a bloomer girl with no oil in the lamp of her bicycle.

For fifty years no smoker has graduated from Harvard with the honors of his class.

Hereafter degrees will be given to women students at the University of Pennsylvania.

The doors of the River Falls Normal School are now opened on Saturdays from 9 to 12 a. m.

An Englishman, upon hearing the cackling in a poultry yard, exclaimed: "Oh! this is really hen-chanting!"

The literary society of River Falls will hold their preliminary oratorical contest the first Friday of next term.

Harvard has the largest attendance of any college in America; and the University of Paris, of any college in the world.

The first college paper printed in the United States was at Dartmouth College, with Daniel Webster as editor-in-chief.—COOPER COURIER.

The report of the Princeton foot ball management for the past season shows expenses aggregating \$19,785.64, and receipts amounting to \$26,579.81.

The girls of the Eau Claire High School are now taking a course in the Swedish system of physical culture. Prof. Swanbeck of Stolls college is the instructor.

A great number of foreign women, principally American and English, are studying at the University of Gottingen. At some lectures the women outnumber the men.

Prof. Charles E. Hite of the University of Pennsylvania is to conduct, in June, another Labrador expedition, of which a number of college students will be members.—THE MAROON.

A visiting committee has been formed at the University of Chicago for the purpose of looking up the young ladies of that institution who are ill, and informing them of their work in the class room.

John D. Rockefeller has given to the University of Chicago \$7,000,000. Stephen Girard gave \$8,000,000 to Girard College, Pa. Leland Stanford donated to the Leland Stanford Jr. University \$5,000,000.

One third of the University students of Europe die prematurely from the effects of bad habits acquired at school; one third die from lack of exercise; and one third govern Europe.—THE CRESCENT

The new official catalogue of all the living graduates of Yale, just published, shows a total number of 8,800, divided as follows: Academic, 5,292; Scientific School,

1,624; Law School, 922; Divinity School, 137; Medical School, 425.

The Greek government has granted the American school at Athens the privilege of excavating the site of Corinth; thus placing the school on the same level with the French, English, and German antiquarians.

Casper Whitney thinks that the grounds and buildings of the University of Wisconsin are the most beautifully located of any he has seen. He says, also, that the gymnasium, for practical purposes, is the best in the country.

President Andrews of Brown, in an annual report, says: "For those in perfect health, and trained to it, football is safer than either yachting, or gunning. Rowing appears to be many times as fatal; so is base ball; even tennis is worse."

The Physical Culture Department of the University of Chicago is soon to be the owner of a unique collection of works on athletics. The library was the property of Mr. Harry D. Wright, deceased, formerly President of the Philadelphia League Team.

Delegates from Michigan, Minnesota, Illinois, Wisconsin, Chicago, Purdue, and North-western met at the Palmer House in February, and adopted rules for the better regulation of athletics in western colleges. These rules will not go into effect until Oct. 1, 1896.

In the high schools throughout the Badger state only three have teachers of physical culture who are hired and paid by their respective districts. The instructors are Miss Edna Dunning, Green Bay; Mr. Otto Mueller, La Crosse; and Mr. J. Rettech, Madison.

—THE KODAK.

Several new exchanges containing much of merit have been received this month. Among them are The Review, Baraboo; The Chronicle, Brooklyn, N.Y.; High School Junto, Easton, Pa.; The Carroll Echo, Waukesha, Wis.; Mankatonian, Mankato, Minn.; and The Students Journal, Reedsburg.

The government of Japan recognizes but one University as such, this being called the Imperial University. It has a faculty of one hundred and twenty-five members, and about eight hundred students. Nearly all instruction is given by lectures; and the standing is determined by final examinations which are made more severe than in American Universities.

For the Foot Ball Team:

We take great pleasure in making the acquaintance of Vol. I.; No. 1 of The Normal Pointer, from the Normal School, Stevens Point, Wis. With the editor-in-chief, the athletic editor, and the business manager, all members of the last season's football team, it certainly ought to prosper; and if rushing will enable them to reach the goal of success among the journals representing institutions of learning, they will certainly make a touch down and kick goal in the first half, and finally be in the lead when time is called in the last half.

—THE EAU CLAIRE KODAK.

MODEL SCHOOL.

NOTE.—These stories were told by the teachers to pupils of the Third and Fourth Grades as a language lesson, and afterwards reproduced,—first orally, and then in this form:

THE WONDERFUL WEAVER.

Once upon a time the people thought that there was a beautiful girl who could weave anything. Her name was Arachne. Men came from all parts of the world to see the things that she wove.

One day as she sat in the sun and spun some one said: "Who taught you to spin?"

"No one taught me," she said.

"Perhaps Athena, the queen of the air, taught you," said the person.

"Bah!" said Arachne.

Then she looked up and in the door saw a woman. The woman said "I am Athena, the queen of the air, and I have heard your boast. Do you still mean to say that you can weave better than I?"

Arachne's face grew pale, and she said "Yes."

"Then," said Athena, "in three days from now you shall weave on your loom and I on mine. If you have the prettiest work I will never use loom or spindle or distaff again as long as the world shall last. And if mine is best you shall never spin or weave again as long as you live. The whole world shall come and see us, and great Jupiter who sits up among the clouds shall be the judge. Do you agree to this?"

"I agree," said Arachne.

When the people saw what a beautiful thing she had made, they said, "No wonder the girl boasted of herself." And Jupiter himself nodded.

Then Athena took the white tent of the summer clouds and the colors of the flowers and began to weave.

Athena's work was best; and when Arachne saw it she put her face in her hands and wept and wept, and said "Oh! how can I live? how can I live?"

When Athena saw the poor maiden she took pity on her. She touched her with her spear which she some times carried with her, and changed Arachne into a spider which ran and made a web in a shady place in the grass.

RUTH WADLEIGH, Third Grade.

THE LITTLE FAIRY.

There is a little fairy, she lives in a little glass tube, and she has two stories to her house, and a little round ball below which is her basement. When it is very cold she runs way down in her basement and looks very warm and cosy. People come out and look at her very often, and the further down she goes the more they look at her. And when she is way down in her basement people will come and look at her crossly and say, "Freezing!" "Twenty below!" And little boys and girls will come out all bundled up, and make snow men and snow balls, and have a jolly time, and do not mind the cold one bit. But when Spring and Summer come, she creeps slowly up, and keeps climbing until she reaches the second story. Then workmen go past with umbrellas over their heads and wipe their faces with their handkerchiefs. And people look

at her and say "Ninety!" or "Ninety-five!" Women and children sit round fanning and wearing their coolest dresses. Now we call this little fairy "Quick-silver," but her right name is "Mercury." And now I shall leave it to you who this little fairy is.

MARION VOSBURGH, Fourth Grade.

FIRST GRADE.

The children were asked to tell what they liked to do most. The following are the answers found on some of their papers:

I like to play best with my fire engine: and I like to help my mamma. I like to play catch.

LAWRENCE PARK.

I like to play with my Brownies.

JAMIE CONGDON.

I like to play with dolls. I like to help my mamma and papa. I like to play ball with my brother.

NORMA STUART.

I like to skate best of all.

CONOVER MCDILL.

I like to whirl around.

BEULAH LAMP.

I like to go in the gymnasium. I like to play with the battle ball. I like to swing on the rings.

FRANK KELLY.

I like to dress my dolls. I have four dolls,—Ina and May and China doll, and Eskimo doll.

I like to help mamma, too. She is better.

INA MARTIN.

I like to sew best of anything.

GLADYS PARK.

I like to skate because I can go fast and race other boys.

And sometimes I go up to my grandma's house.

NEWTON MARTIN.

I like to play house and play with my doll. Because it is nice to play house, and doll.

OLIVE KING.

I like to help mamma.

EDITH ELDREDGE.

I like to play battle ball and play house and paint.

RUTH WADLEIGH.

I like to do dishes because I can have fun.

HELEN GILLET.

I like to play ball and fire.

SAM. WADLEIGH.

I like to play with Alfred's ducks.

HAROLD LITTLE.

ANSWERS TO CONUNDRUMS IN FEBRUARY NUMBER.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. Car nation. | 2. Cow slip. | 3. Curr ant. |
| 4. Dande lion. | 5. Goose berry. | 6. Tu lips. |
| 7. Haw thorn. | 8. Morning glory. | 9. Li lac. |
| 10. Mari gold. | 11. Honey suckle. | 12. Snap dragon. |
| 13. Fox glove. | 14. Mush room. | 15. Beech. |
| 16. Hem lock. | 17. Bur dock. | |

The following named pupils gave the first correct answers:

GRAMMAR DEPARTMENT—Mabel Whitrock, Harold Week.

INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENT—George Atwell, Margaret Southwick.

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT—Harlo Bennett, Ruth Wadleigh.

Willie Leonard of the Intermediate Department deserves mention, for although he had one wrong answer, his report was the first handed in.



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Chocolate Creams, very good, - 15c
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