THE

Normal Pointer.

Stevens Point, Wis.

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CONTENTS.

LITERARY.

Feb. 14 ..... Page 125
Chronicles of the Normal Forum ..... " 125
The Cave of the Winds ..... " 125
Among the Books ..... " 126
Flower Myths ..... " 127
The Old Mill ..... " 127
A Breakfast ..... " 127
Gathered Thoughts ..... " 127

EDITORIAL ..... Page 128

LOCAL.

General ..... " 129
Personal ..... " 130

ATHLETICS ..... " 131
EXCHANGES ..... " 132
MODEL SCHOOL ..... " 133

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THE NORMAL POINTER.

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LITERARY.

FEB. 14TH.

Heigh-ho! and were I but a poet, my dear,
I would write you a beautiful rhyme:
A gay little verse I would make you, my dear,
For the blessed Saint Valentine's time.

Heigh-ho! there'd be "loves" by the dozen, my dear,
Yes, and "Cupids" and "arrows" galore:
My hearts burning pain I would tell you, my dear,
And how much and how well I adore.

Heigh-ho! but you know I'm no poet, my dear:
I am practical down to my toes.
Come, sit by my side on the sofa, my dear,
And I'll whisper it to you in prose.

MAXWELL ALTON.

CHRONICLES OF THE NORMAL FORUM.

CHAP. I.

And it came to pass in the days of Grover, of the lineage of Cleveland, that a tribe of Normalites wandered in the desert: and as they journeyed they came even to the banks of a great river.

Then lifted they up their eyes and beheld a temple which the elders of the land had built there, and they were filled with wonder as they looked upon it.

And certain young men of the tribe said unto their brethren, let us encamp here for a season, even for the space of three years, and let us worship in this temple, and offer sacrifices even of all our substance, both of silver and of gold.

And the saying pleased the Normalites greatly: so they pitched their tents, and abode there as had been said.

And in those days it came to pass that certain wise doctors entered daily into the temple and taught the youths of the land.

Yea, they sought out and set in order many formulas, and revealed the relation of deep things, even of hidden things, and discussed the mysterious things that had not been revealed since the foundations of the world were laid.

Then did the Normalites dwell in the land, and did enter daily into the temple sitting at the feet of the wise men, both hearing and asking questions.

And the young men hearkened diligently unto the instruction of the wise men and hid their words in their hearts even until the days of examination.

And many of the proverbs of these wise men did the Normalites write in books that they might see them as they rose up and as they sat down.

Then did the young men increase in wisdom: and did answer many questions propounded by the wise men, even questions concerning books which were laid up in the temple.

Thus abode they in the temple by day both hearing and speaking, but when the even was come, they returned unto their tents, and did study from the going down of the sun even unto the dark hours of midnight.

Then did the Normalites dream dreams concerning the wisdom of the doctors, which was too wonderful for certain of the Normalites.

And on the morrow as they entered into the temple they asked the doctors concerning those things that are hard to understand, but the wise men laughed them to scorn, saying, put more oil in your lamps: for such is the law concerning Normalites.

And it came to pass in those days that certain sects arose among the Normalites, and certain of the men of great strength and skill said among themselves, much study is a weariness of the flesh and of the reading of many books there is no end, come, now, let us form a sect of the Athletes from our number. And the saying pleased them greatly. And all the men of valor were gathered together even of such as had skill to pitch curves and of those who could kick mightily.

And the sect of the Athletes did increase in numbers and in favor of the wise men of the temple.

Then did they make an agreement among themselves saying we will eat mightily of the flesh of the ox and drink the milk of the kine, but of the deadly pie, and the tempting cake we will not partake: neither shall the shears of the barber come upon our heads.

And the fame of the Normal athletes spread throughout all the land and to the distant provinces thereof, even to the borders of the territory of the Oshkoshites.

Then did certain of those barbarous tribes come up against the Normal athletes and did fight against them.

But the Athletes fought valiantly and did put the aliens to flight. Then was there great rejoicing throughout the camp of the Normalites and they blew the trumpet and shouted mightily.

Then did the fame of the Normalites continue to increase and to spread abroad upon the face of the earth until the dwellers in the utmost parts of the earth heard thereof, and young men came from the rolling tides of Green Bay and from the bank of the Father of Waters, and did join themselves unto the Normalites.

And in those days were the elders of the land troubled greatly for it came to pass that the temple could not contain the members of the tribe of Normalites.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

THE CAVE OF THE WINDS.

After the long walk through Williams' Canon, the beautiful scenery of which is almost indescribable, the entrance of the cave is reached by a long and tortuous

ascent; up the steps built on the side of the canon, and then up the mountain itself. On entering the cave travellers are met by guides who escort them through the dark recesses, first supplying them with lighted candles, which "make the darkness visible."

There is a large number of rooms, halls and passages in the cave, which are fancifully named—Cascade Hall, Diamond Hall, Hall of Beauty, Music Hall, Crystal Palace, The Bridal Chamber, Dante's Inferno, etc. Their walls are beautifully inlaid with stalactites, giving the appearance of sparkling icicles, flashing diamonds and lovely frost work. The ceiling and walls of the Crystal Palace are one mass of beautiful wax-work. Bunches of stalactites, large and small, hang from the ceiling and cover the sides. Hold the lights close to them and they sparkle and shine like icicles under the light of a winter's sun, and in the glow of magnesium lights which the guides occasionally burn, they are magnificent.

The Bridal Chamber is a pretty grotto that receives its name from the bride herself. Her figure, face and features are plainly marked, and she so closely resembles a human form that it is difficult to believe the formation to be a natural one.

Further along are Lot's wife and the three graces. These are stalagmites, larger and of a darker color than the stalactites.

Near by is Dante's Inferno. Millions of grotesque miniature figures are seen on a large wall which forms the background, and with the magnesium lights to set off the picture, the effect is a very good portrayal, natural instead of artificial.

As we follow our guides through the vast chambers and long halls deep in the bowels of the mountains, what conflicting emotions arise! Now we are grouped in silent wonder about some interesting feature of the cave, now we go in Indian file through some narrow passage-way, suddenly finding ourselves in what might have been a room of an enchanted palace. It would not be surprising to find the Sleeping Beauty here, and the creation of fairy tales ceases to be remarkable when we see how fertile imaginations may be aided by Nature. When we look at the bride and the three graces we are like children who demand a story; we wonder what spell is over them? who exerted it? and when they will be released?

These monuments of the past have stood through countless ages, all giving evidence of the glorious presence of God and His wonderful love to the children of men. The Cave of the Winds is truly a wonder of Nature, a revelation indeed—but only one of very many. "On such heights as this one sees clearly, and feels a million times more clearly than he sees, that this glorious world could never have been fashioned solely for the uses of our present helplessness. Deeper than the secret stores of gold and silver and gems with which these great untouched mountains are filled, there lies in them a secret, a prophecy of life to come, into which they shall enter, and of which we shall be triumphant possessors."

BELLE MITCHELL.

AMONG THE BOOKS.

A study of Faust, the greatest production of one of the greatest minds of the century, although difficult, from certain peculiarities of the drama, will well repay one in the contemplation of the enlarged view of human nature and the deep philosophy therein contained.

Prof. Calvin Thomas, of the University of Michigan, has undertaken the task of interpreting it to the American student. The introduction includes preliminary remarks upon Faust and the study of Faust, the data of the legend, preparatory experiences of Goethe, the genesis of the first part, the completed first part, and the principal characters. This edition of the text is prepared in the light of present Goethe scholarship; to contribute to the understanding of the poem rather than to inculcating any particular view regarding it. In the notes the editor has tried to observe the utmost brevity consistent with a satisfactory treatment of real difficulties. The work has been thoroughly done, with good judgment, and in the light of the best modern scholarship.

Francis H. Underwood, an intimate acquaintance of Lowell, for several years, has endeavored to give a picture of him under the title of The Poet and the Man. The aim of this book is to give in a brief compass the important incidents in the life of Lowell; to give some account of his works both in prose and poetry; and to present a picture of him as a man. He was a curiously complex character, and cannot be described by the customary phrases of biographers and critics. He has, therefore, been shown in different situations and moods, and his thoughts and his emotions connected with the ideas of his time. "The Recollections" do not pretend to cover Mr. Lowell's whole life, but they do belong to a most interesting period when his feelings were fresh and his creative powers, perhaps, in their fullest vigor

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In July 1881, there were discovered in the ancient city of Thebes, the mummies of Egypt's mightiest Pharaohs, among them that of Rameses the Great. There were also found seals, coins, statuetes, preserved food, and a few rolls of papyrus, some of the latter being of great value, curiously bound together, and notwithstanding the mould and mildew of ages upon them, as easily read as if written yesterday. A queer little book entitled "A Night with Rameses II" has been executed so cleverly, that the oxydized seal, suggestive of mould, antique coloring, and partially decayed and ragged-edged papyrus carry at once to the mind the possession of a veritable relic from the dawn of civilization.

Lovers of the artistic as well as of the sea will find many things to admire in the book entitled Drift for the Sea, by C. McKnight Smith. The pages are eight by fourteen inches, bringing in the narrow side, and the paper of the best—thick, smooth and white. The artist has displayed endless ingenuity in depicting phases of the sea, and in working into margins and borders the parts of a ship. This variety in design, and the soft blending of the colors are very pleasing to the eye and agreeable to the taste. The skilful pencil of the artist has also woven into the pages, in quaint and beautiful characters, quotations relating to the sea, from the poets and from the Bible. Every feauture from that "boundless mirror," from the tropics to the

icy regions, has been shown. The book will help to cultivate both the literary and the artistic taste.

E. F. PRIEST.

FLOWER MYTHS.

The story of the Red Rose of Lancaster and the White Rose of York, in the wars of the roses, is familiar to every student of English history.

The white rose was considered an emblem of the house of Stuart, and the Tenth of June, the birth-day of the Pretender, was styled White Rose Day. The Tudors, also, adopted the rose as their flower. Among the many legends attached to this flower is one that tells us that when the crown of thorns fell from the Saviour's head it blossomed into roses. Another says that once when a holy maiden had been doomed to die by fire, she prayed that the Lord would help her, and He, knowing her innocence, transformed the burning brands to red, and the unkindled ones to white roses. The Turks attribute the color of the red rose to the blood of Mohammed.

One of the prettiest legends relating to the white rose says, that after Eve had been driven from Paradise, as she was mourning over the barren earth, now being covered with falling snow, an angel who had been sent to console her caught one of the flakes, breathed upon it, and it fell to the ground a lovely rose.

Concerning the fleur-de-lis in the arms of France, the name is said, by some, to be a corruption of Flowers-de-Louis, supposed to be derived from Louis III., A. D., 1137, who charged the escutcheon of France with these flowers.

Another legend says that after a battle once fought by the Crusaders, their white banner was found to be covered with this flower.

In ancient times, the fleur-de-lis was sacred to the Virgin, and an old writer tells us that there was once an ignorant knight who could only remember the words Ave Maria, in the prayer to the Virgin. But, though ignorant, he was a very good man, and these words were always upon his lips. At last he died, and was buried in the chapel yard near the convent, and not long after, from his grave sprang a fleur-de-lis, which bore upon its petals the words of his prayer, in letters of gold. The curious monks opened the grave and found that the roots of the plant rested upon the good knight's lips.

These are only a few of the myths that time has crystalized around what may be called national flowers.

STUDENT.

THE OLD MILL.

It was only a small, unpretentious picture which hung in the Drawing Room, and yet I have often wondered to how many tired students it has brought rest. What was there about it which day after day arrested the careless glances which were cast about the room? There were no brilliant colors, no sign of life, in fact nothing about it which seemed to say "Look!" and yet we did look. Two little words selected from this broad language of ours seem to characterize the whole scene—rest and quiet. It was a picture of an old mill site. The little old mill, which was once filled with busy people, and from which the whirr of the machinery could be heard for a long distance, is now silent and deserted. It nestles among the foliage content to let the birds build their nests under the eaves and in the branches of the neighboring trees. The pond which once furnished the power to move the heavy machinery is undisturbed by a single ripple. Its smooth surface reflects the old mill and the waving boughs of the trees along its banks, as if inviting us to come and sit on the grassy bank, still fresh from the morning dew, and enjoy the scene from there. In the distance, on the purple hills stretching far to the right and left and just beyond the mill, is a field of ripe grain which tells us of the busy work only to make us appreciate more the quietness of this secluded spot. Above all, Heaven has stretched a canopy of blue hidden here and there with drifting white clouds. Rest—rest—rest—is the only conception which the picture would seem to have us carry away.

EDITH HAMACKER.

A BREAKFAST.

While at home last vacation, I was invited by a friend of mine—a freight conductor—to take a ride with him over the road. His train left so very early in the morning that I did not take breakfast at home, thinking I could do so at some place along the line. However, I was destined to disappointment and surprise. We had not gone very far when I noticed my friend cutting slices from a large piece of bacon and putting them in a long-handled frying pan. After he had cut six or eight thin slices he began to prepare a plate of potatoes in the same manner. I thought I had divined the cause of all this: and so I had—he was preparing his breakfast. He thrust each pan into the fire. In less than two minutes both were ready. The coffee was steaming on the stove—and such black coffee! His table was in one corner of the caboose. On this he placed the the steaming food, and asked me to "fall to!" I did so rather reluctantly, for I had some doubt about my enjoyment of the breakfast. Suffice it to say, I never enjoyed a meal as I did that one; and if I am ever asked again to eat breakfast in a dirty old caboose, I shall do so with pleasure.

RAY A. LOVE.

GATHERED THOUGHTS.

Fine thoughts are wealth, for the right use of which men are and ought to be accountable.—BAILEY.

The pleasantest things in the world are pleasant thoughts, and the great art in life is to have as many of them as possible.—BOVEE.

Thought is parent of the deed.—CARLYLE.

Thought is deeper than all speech;
Feeling deeper than all thought;
Souls to soul can never teach
What unto themselves was taught.

—CRANCH.

Think all you speak; but speak not all you think;
Thoughts are your own; your words are so no more.
Where wisdom steers, wind cannot make you sink;
Lips never err, where she does keep the door.

DELAUNE.

THE NORMAL POINTER.

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EDITORIAL.

Isn't it about time for the Juniors to entertain themselves again?

The students of the Art department will find on the library shelves a set of books which will prove very interesting and profitable to them in their work. This is the four-volume dictionary of painters and paintings—a work by Champlin, supposed to be the very best authority on these subjects. The illustrations are very fine, most of them being reproductions of famous paintings. Look the books over, whether you are an art student or not.

Below is a good thing from the High School Recorder, Ellsworth, Wis. It applies beautifully to The Normal Pointer; except, perhaps, that the figures given ought to be raised to higher denominations:

"Every month some body comes and asks us "When will The Recorder be out?" This grows rather tiresome after a few years, so we will answer that question now, once for all. We are out now—about $10.00. If you don't pay that subscription, we shall be out more yet, and soon shan't be able to be out at all!"

Delinquent subscribers please take notice.

The friends of the school are anxiously awaiting the decision of the Legislature with regard to the recent appropriation bill. We know that we need the money, whether the Legislature knows it or not. Those who sit two in a seat in the assembly room know it, as well as those who are crowded for room in the drawing department. The teachers know it when they and their classes are shifted about from one place to another, in the effort to provide places for the increasing number of students.

We must have more seating room, a greater number of recitation rooms, and better provision in the wardrobes and dressing rooms. When people come to a chool like this they expect to and must be provided for. Certainly our pressing needs must soon be recognized by those in authority.

Essays, declamations and orations are being assigned right and left by the rhetorical department, and daily the number increases of those who "groan and sweat under a weary load." In the same proportion increases the number of those who ask, with Hamlet, why they should not their "quietus make with a bare bodkin?" Many are withheld from this rash deed only by the fear of getting into a place where rhetoricals come oftener than they do here. They have a haunting apprehension that the delivering of orations is one of the tortures reserved in the next world for those who have the weakness to succumb to the grind of school work in this. Others regard a present evil as worse than a possible one, and as the days for rhetoricals approach, their stiffened remains are found in out-of-the-way corners of the building. Occasionally in the rigid hand of a particularly emaciated body is found a note addressed to some trusty comrade, in purport something like the (revised) words of the old song:

"If you live to return, you may tell them all at home,
That I'm lying in a Normal student's grave."

Pathetic, isn't it?

Relent, O stony-hearted teachers! Relent!

The faculty of Harvard have united in an expression of strong disapproval of "cribbing" and other unfair means employed to obtain credits. These practices have become so common in the school that it was necessary to take some action concerning them and it has been decided to deal most severely with every one guilty of offenses of this kind.

The faculty of the school in question assert that "no matter how hard-worked he is, no matter what his temptation is, no matter what the circumstances are, the student who takes credit for work not honestly done, is, for the time being, a liar," and should be treated as such.

But resolutions and regulations against these dishonest practices can do but little good, as long as the attitude of the students toward them remains unchanged. And wherever there is a body of students there are those (sometimes, unfortunately, not the minority) who are willing to degrade their moral nature by stealing credits. Even Normal schools are not exempt nor can we expect them to be, as long as human nature is human nature. But isn't it rather beneath the dignity of one who has attained the position of senior or junior in a Normal or any other school, to hand in "free hand" drawings made with ruler and T square, or examination papers deliberately copied from a note book? To some this seems like a small matter, not worthy of much consideration. Others, though acknowledging that they do not think it right, cry in self defense, "Well, dozens do it, and I don't stand any chance with them unless I do it, too!" Perhaps there is some truth in what they say. At any rate, it seems as if some of us (if the coat fits, put it on) ought to call a halt, and ask ourselves if these little, cowardly, underhanded tricks to obtain good standings are really going to pay "in the long run." Wouldn't it be more profitable if we could arrange our studies on the principle of less cheating and more hard work?

LOCAL.

GENERAL.

The Arena recently held an interesting meeting. The condition of the poorer classes was the general topic for consideration. After a program consisting of music, recitations and essays, the question "Resolved, That environment has more influence upon the individual than education," was to have been discussed, but the debaters invited Professor Swift, who is well acquainted with that and all kindred questions, to talk instead. In a pleasing address, short but pointed, he did much to reveal the conditions which exist in the slums, and the difficulties under which education is carried on. The program was closed by the Critic's Report given by Miss Smith.

A class in advanced Music has recently been formed for those who desire to study that subject longer than two quarters. A new piano has been purchased for use in the Music Room.

Reports of attendance during the first term have been received from the different Normal Schools in the State. Stevens Point ranks third in number of students, having a total attendance of 469. Oshkosh has 758; and Platteville 656. Whitewater 426; River Falls 403; and Superior 377.

There are two classes in Professional Reviews this quarter. One class is studying Grammar; the other, Geography. Both classes number over thirty.

The Psychology club recently held their last meeting, as it had been agreed to disband when the study was dropped. Different members led each meeting, giving first a talk or paper upon the subject, and then leading the open discussion. Much benefit was derived from this informal way of making a further study of some psychological subjects. Among the different subjects discussed were The Stream of Thought, Illusions, Self Consciousness, The Automaton Theory, and The Freedom of the Will.

The mid-winter graduating exercises were held Friday, January 24th. Mr. James E. Phillips opened the program with an essay entitled "Are we represented in Congress?" His thoughts on the subject were very good and disclosed many forcible truths. Mr. James E. Mudrock followed with an interesting and instructive essay on "Apperception." Mr. Priest then told of the great influence which a teacher of strong moral character may exert over his pupils. A well written essay on the present and past state of Cuban affairs, was read by Mr. Boles. Mr. John Lees then showed the ideas of Lowell on Government in an essay which revealed much reading and careful preparation. Miss Ruth Roberts presented an entertaining essay on "Immigration." Miss Francis Parkhill closed the literary program with a well worded essay on the history and development of Slang. Hon J. Q. Emery delivered a short address on the power and influence that a teacher may have. Pres. Pray followed with words full of inspiration and encouragement to the school. The musical features of the program were a solo by Miss Miller, a duet by Miss Linton and Mrs. Hunter, and a solo entitled "Home," by Allan T. Pray. All were well rendered, and called forth hearty applause from the audience. Certificates from the elementary course were granted to all who read their essays, and to Miss Brickels, who was excused on account of illness. Miss Nettie Stewart, of Madison, was unable to be present, but will take the examination at the office of Supt. Emery. The majority of the graduates will remain in school the rest of the year. Miss Roberts, however, has accepted a position in a first primary at Marinette. She is greatly missed by her school mates, but there is some comfort in the assurance that she will return soon and resume her studies.

During the past year nearly all the departments of the Normal have been over-crowded. The Preparatory and 8th A classes have been sitting in recitation rooms instead of Assembly Hall. Many Normal students are sitting two in a single seat. Some of the young ladies have had to hang their wraps in lockers in the main hall, because their dressing room was so crowded. Often the chairs in the library and reading room are all occupied and standing room is scarcely available. These, and many other facts, all point to the same conclusion—that we must have more room. To meet these requirements, Senator Phillips has introduced a bill No. 72 S., which has been read twice, and referred to the committee on education. The text of the bill is as follows:

Section 1. There is hereby appropriated to the normal school fund income out of any money in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of three thousand dollars for the purchase of additional grounds for the Stevens Point Normal School, and the sum of thirty thousand dollars for the purpose of building an addition to the Stevens Point Normal School.

Section 2. For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act, the secretary of state and state treasurer, with the consent and approval of the governor, are hereby authorized and empowered to transfer from the trust funds of the state to the general fund, the sum of thirty-three thousand dollars, to be returned to the trust funds from the general fund income for the fiscal year ending on the 30th day of September, 1898.

Section 3 This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

All students and others interested in the school should urge its adoption by the legislature, and secure the aid of their friends in bringing the legislature to see and recognize our needs.

A convention of county superintendents was held at the Normal Feb. 3d and 4th. There were ten superintendents present, four of whom were ladies. The convention was presided over by Superintendent Emery. Various matters pertaining to their duties were discussed, and among other things, it was agreed that the tax of $1.00 levied upon those who take the county examinations should be abolished and the sum of $10,000 should be appropriated by the state to pay the expenses of holding institutes. Miss Tanner addressed the convention and awakened its interest in her travelling pictures, which she carefully explained and showed to them. The faculty tendered the convention a reception Friday evening, the students being also invited to be present. A few musical selections were rendered and witty speeches made by Prof. E. J. Swift, A. J. Cheney and T. B. Todd. Chocolate and wafers were

served. The gymnasium was prettily decorated with purple and gold.

The Normal Forum has challenged the Arena and the challenge has been accepted. Those who will represent the Forum are Chas. E. Boles, T. B. Polley and Wm. Harrison. The Arena has chosen Allan T. Pray, Mr. Mutch and Mr. Mudrock for its debaters. The debate will probably come off within a month and is expected to be very interesting.

One morning Miss Stewart pleasingly entertained the school by reading extracts from Prof. Sylvester's letters to his many friends here. His first letter was written from New York and contained a description of Wall street and Trinity church. He left New York for Gibraltar in the steamer Werra Dec. 9 and arrived there after a nine days' voyage. From Gibraltar he writes, "It rained, thundered and lightened during our stay of six hours at Gibraltar. A few of us landed and after an hour's walk we were caught in a drenching rain which lasted till we went on board. But we saw the great rock, quaint houses, narrow streets and were just in the midst of beautiful gardens when the rain drove us in. We saw geraniums and heliotrope blossoming in the open air in great hedges." He wrote next from Naples. Then from Rome: "I am beginning to feel acquainted with this wonderful old city, with its beauty and its ugliness, with its strange, exciting history. Rome is all that I ever dreamt it to be." Professor Sylvester intends to visit Greece, Egypt and Palestine, returning by way of London.

Later—Word has been received that Prof. Sylvester has landed at New York, having cut short his stay in Europe because of ill-health. He expects to spend some time with his sister in Yonkers, N. Y.

Library rules have been posted on the bulletin board. One of them, that every student is expected to use the library, seems needless. Can it be possible that there is a Normal student who does not use the library? If there is such a one he must be "novi generis" and not an ordinary Normal student.

Several of the Seniors have become so deeply engrossed in their studies that even in the performing of other tasks their attention wanders, in meditation deep from the work on hand. In sawing they look not where the saw saweth, in nailing they watch not where the nail naileth, until lo, and behold, the tender flesh is pierced and a pleasurable pain riseth into the focus of consciousness.

The advanced Latin class, which now numbers seven, has begun the study of Cicero's "De Senectute."

PERSONAL.

Miss Carrie Heidka, of Clintonville, has returned to school.

Miss Georgia Miller has entered to take a special course in music.

Miss La Rue has withdrawn on account of the serious illness of her mother.

President Pray and Mrs. Bradford conducted an institute at Merrill recently.

Prof.—"Blushing is no sign that the heart is affected—that is physiologically speaking."

H. S. Perry, '96, principal of the Amherst schools, visited E. I. Scott, January 30 and 31st.

George Packard was called home by the illness of his father. He expects to return for the fourth quarter.

Miss May Pier has returned to school after an absence of several weeks, caused by trouble with her eyes.

Mrs. Bradford, Prof. Spaulding and Miss Warren, are members of a committee to choose books for the city library.

Miss Linton has been absent from school for some time on account of illness. Her classes are taken by some of the students.

Miss Latham and Miss Eckels, both of whom have been teaching in this county, will soon enter school for a fifteen weeks course.

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ATHLETIC.

THE ATHLETIC EDITOR'S DILEMMA.

The editors upon the staff
  Are hasting to and fro,
To gather news and notes and rhymes,
  To make the paper "go;"
With wise and haughty mein they sit
  And scribble half the day—
But the poor athletic editor—
  What does he find to say?

The poet finds no lack of themes,
  But woos the ardent muse
As well in winter's frosty air
  As in the summer dews;
The literary pages fill
  In quite the average way—
But the poor athletic editor
  What SHALL he find to say?

The "local" editor, of course,
  For copy need not sigh,
For people kindly, every day,
  Get sick, get well, or die,
Or make a visit, break a leg,
  Or hold a party gay—
But the poor athletic editor—
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The foot-ball season long ago
  Was closed with shout and gore;
Its phases all were written up
  And vict'ries gloated o'er.
Athletic notes have all been gleaned
  From Europe to Cathay—
The editor is in despair—
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He racks his brain and tears his hair,
  And threatens to resign;
He vainly dips his pen in ink—
  He cannot write a line!
But still he keeps his courage up,
  And thinks of lovely May
When base ball games and Field Days come—
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  In making ready for the press,
There is a corner to be filled—
  An inch or two, say, more or less.
In such a case, copy short,
  It's handy to have about
Some fellow who can write a verse
  Like this, to fill the column out. —Ex.

served. The gymnasium was prettily decorated with purple and gold.

The Normal Forum has challenged the Arena and the challenge has been accepted. Those who will represent the Forum are Chas. E. Boles, T. B. Polley and Wm. Harrison. The Arena has chosen Allan T. Pray, Mr. Mutch and Mr. Mudrock for its debaters. The debate will probably come off within a month and is expected to be very interesting.

One morning Miss Stewart pleasingly entertained the school by reading extracts from Prof. Sylvester's letters to his many friends here. His first letter was written from New York and contained a description of Wall street and Trinity church. He left New York for Gibraltar in the steamer Werra Dec. 9 and arrived there after a nine days' voyage. From Gibraltar he writes, "It rained, thundered and lightened during our stay of six hours at Gibraltar. A few of us landed and after an hour's walk we were caught in a drenching rain which lasted till we went on board. But we saw the great rock, quaint houses, narrow streets and were just in the midst of beautiful gardens when the rain drove us in. We saw geraniums and heliotrope blossoming in the open air in great hedges." He wrote next from Naples. Then from Rome: "I am beginning to feel acquainted with this wonderful old city, with its beauty and its ugliness, with its strange, exciting history. Rome is all that I ever dreamt it to be." Professor Sylvester intends to visit Greece, Egypt and Palestine, returning by way of London.

Later—Word has been received that Prof. Sylvester has landed at New York, having cut short his stay in Europe because of ill-health. He expects to spend some time with his sister in Yonkers, N. Y.

Library rules have been posted on the bulletin board. One of them, that every student is expected to use the library, seems needless. Can it be possible that there is a Normal student who does not use the library? If there is such a one he must be "novi generis" and not an ordinary Normal student.

Several of the Seniors have become so deeply engrossed in their studies that even in the performing of other tasks their attention wanders, in meditation deep from the work on hand. In sawing they look not where the saw saweth, in nailing they watch not where the nail naileth, until lo, and behold, the tender flesh is pierced and a pleasurable pain riseth into the focus of consciousness.

The advanced Latin class, which now numbers seven, has begun the study of Cicero's "De Senectute."

PERSONAL.

Miss Carrie Heidka, of Clintonville, has returned to school.

Miss Georgia Miller has entered to take a special course in music.

Miss La Rue has withdrawn on account of the serious illness of her mother.

President Pray and Mrs. Bradford conducted an institute at Merrill recently.

Prof.—"Blushing is no sign that the heart is affected—that is physiologically speaking."

H. S. Perry, '96, principal of the Amherst schools, visited E. I. Scott, January 30 and 31st.

George Packard was called home by the illness of his father. He expects to return for the fourth quarter.

Miss May Pier has returned to school after an absence of several weeks, caused by trouble with her eyes.

Mrs. Bradford, Prof. Spaulding and Miss Warren, are members of a committee to choose books for the city library.

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EXCHANGES.

The Ephor shows a decided improvement since November.

Among the new high school exchanges we welcome "The New Era," of Manitowoc.

The January number of The Carroll Echo is a credit to the Junior class, being entirely due to their efforts.

The Upper Peninsula of Michigan will ask the Legislature for an appropriation for a new normal school.

The school board of Detroit recently introduced a volume of selected Bible readings for use in the schools.

Japan has decided to devote a large portion of her spoils in the late war to the maintainance of her schools. —Ex.

An exchange is not thrown into the waste-basket until we have gleaned at least one new idea from it. Some exchanges are never thrown away. —Ex.

Bowdoin College claims to produce more eminent men in proportion to the number of her graduates than any other college in America.—EXCHANGE.

The University of Michigan holds the world's commencement record. At the graduating exercises of last June seven hundred fifty-five degrees were conferred. —Ex.

In the Superior city schools tests of hearing and sight have been made showing that from 20 to 39 per cent. of the pupils in the grades are defective either in vision or hearing.

In Kansas twenty county superintendents are women, and in two cities all the officers, including the mayor and chief of police, are women. In Wisconsin 13 county supt's. are women.

Freshman—I wonder if the professor meant anything by giving me a ticket to his lecture on "Fools?"
Senior.—"Why?"
Freshmen—It read on the ticket "Admit One."
—Ex.

Teacher (in philosophy).—"Now, Johnny, how many senses have you?"
Johnny (very promptly).—"Five!"
Teacher.—"Correct. Now what are they?"
Johnny.—"All pennies!" —Ex.

Henry Barnard is 87 years old. He is easily the most eminent living educator. He has been honored by many governments and institutions. Nearly fifty years ago he was honored with the degree of L.L. D. by Yale, Union and Harvard. JOURNAL OF ED.

The Williams Weekly says: "The game of Canadian hockey has made rapid strides toward popularity in this country during the last two years. Brown, Yale and Harvard have taken up the sport, and it has quite a following in the smaller colleges also."

Dr. W. L. Phelps of Yale University, instituted a course in modern fiction, but it proved too popular, and the powers that be have decided to discontinue it. Professors of Greek, Latin and Ancient English Literature, could not hold the students in competition with Dr. Phelps and a course that included the works of Rudyard Kipling, Tolstoi, Stevenson, Howells and Marion Crawford.

We shall look eagerly through the February number of The Oracle to see if it is up to its usual standard. We do not doubt that it will be however. We clip the following from the January number: "Following the fashion of the times The Oracle staff will take a vacation next month, and hand over the scissors and the pen to the young women of the university. The entire production of the February number will be from the brains of the gentler sex."

Famous February Birth-days:
Feb. 5, 1811—Horace Greeley.
" 7, 1812—Charles Dickens.
" 11, 1847—Thomas A. Edison.
" 12, 1809—Abraham Lincoln.
" 15, 1564—Galileo.
" 19, 1473—Copernicus.
" 22, 1819—Jas. Russell Lowell.
" 26, 1802—Victor Hugo,
" 27, 1807—Henry W. Longfellow.

We are in receipt of the current number of "Success," published by the Wisconsin Business University, of La Crosse, and note that it is the intention of the University to offer a special summer school for teachers. The proposed course is very thorough and the rates of tuition no higher than charged by the ordinary summer schools conducted under the supervision of County Superintendents. Some of the very best specialists in the profession will be engaged as teachers. If the summer school is as intensely practical as the regular courses of the University, no teacher or would-be teacher can make a better investment of time and money than to attend.

Puer et puella
Ambulant together.
Magna sub umbrella
Vocam de the weather.
Very slippery via,
Pedes slid from under,
Triste, triste blunder!
Cadit on the ground,
Sees a lot of stellæ.
Adolescens hastens
To aid his puella,
"Fustice!" exclamat,
"Relinque me alone!
Nunquam dici mihi
Till you for this atone!"
Non dintius do they
Ambulant together,
Nunquam speak as they pass by
Non etiam de the weather.

ACADEMY EDUCATOR.

MODEL SCHOOL.

The following letter appears rather late in the season, owing to the lack of space in our last issue;

FIFTH GRADE,

Stevens Point, Wis., Jan. 6, 1897.

DEAR MISS QUINN:—

I had a very nice vacation. Before Christmas I went up town and bought all my Christmas presents.

Christmas Eve I went to see the Christmas tree at the church. Santa Claus could not be present, because he had fallen down a long flight of stairs, and then besides, he had lost all of his rein-deer. He sent Mrs. Santa Claus, though, and she rode a wheel. She said it was real good riding, but she bumped into a little boy when she was coming up to the church, and lost her glasses, so she did not have any glasses to wear.

She said that she did not live at the North Pole, but at the South Pole.

She also said that all the toys we get for Christmas are made out of the ice-bergs. When she went away she gave out a few bags of candy and gave me one of them.

Then I went home and hung up my stocking and went to bed. I was awake nearly all night thinking of what I would get for Christmas. In the morning I got up quite early and looked at my presents. I do not know which I like best because I think they are all nice. The rest of the time I had a very nice time playing with the things I got for Christmas. Hoping that you enjoyed your vacation, too, I am,

Your loving KATHERINE SOUTHWICK.

I. PRIMARY.

Stevens Point, Wis.
February 8, 1897.

DEAR BELVA:

I will tell you why we like to have Valentine's day come. There was once a very nice man. And his name was Valentine. He was a bishop. And was kind to every body, and did all he could for them: And then they bound him with chains and took him prisoner. And they bound him so tight that he died. After that they wanted to do something to remember him by. So they called his birthday by his own name, Valentine. They did not know sure that his birthday came on the 14 of February. But they wanted to honor him in some way. So they did it this way, by giving gifts and having nice times. After that they went to the window on this day. And the first one they saw would be their Valentine for the rest of the year. Miss Faddis is our teacher. And we have some very pretty paper that we are going to make into Valentines. I have some very pretty verses. I will tell you one. It is this:

"Now, among the boughs,
Mate the gentle birds:
Now the time has come
For love, and tender words,
Such words I sent to thee,
Such ones send, love, to me.

Those horrid Valentines are made up by horrid people.

From your loving friend, INA MARTIN.
8 yrs old.

FOR FINE SUITS AND LOW PRICES GO TO

KRUTZA THE TAILOR

424 Main St. 2d Floor.

Normal Trade Solicited.

Webster's International Dictionary

The One Great Standard Authority,

So writes Hon. D. J. Brewer, Justice U. S. Supreme Court.

Successor of the "Unabridged."

The Standard
of the U. S. Gov't Printing Office, the U. S. Supreme Court, all the State Supreme Courts, and of nearly all the Schoolbooks.

Warmly Commended
by College Presidents, State Superintendents of Schools, and other Educators almost without number.

THE BEST FOR PRACTICAL USE.

It is easy to find the word wanted.
It is easy to ascertain the pronunciation.
It is easy to trace the growth of a word.
It is easy to learn what a word means.

William R. Harper, Ph.D., D.D., President University of Chicago, says:—A copy of Webster's International Dictionary always lies on my table and I find myself constantly referring to it. My satisfaction in using it constantly increases. It is thoroughly reliable and full of just the information one wishes to secure.—April 7, 1896.

Specimen pages sent on application to
G. & C. MERRIAM CO., Publishers, Springfield, Mass., U.S.A.

Don't Experiment. Get the best in the first p'ace.

The Century Double-feed Fountain Pen—Warranted

Commended by Normal users.
FRANK PARAL, Agent.

Chased, long or short, $2.00.
Gold Mounted, - - $3.00.
Spiral, black or mottled, $2.50
Hexigon, " " " $2.50

Centuury Fountain Pen Co., Whitewater, Wis.

STATE NORMAL SCHOOL.

STEVENS POINT, WIS.

New, Well Equipped, Apparatus, Library Gymnasium,

ALL MODERN AIDS.

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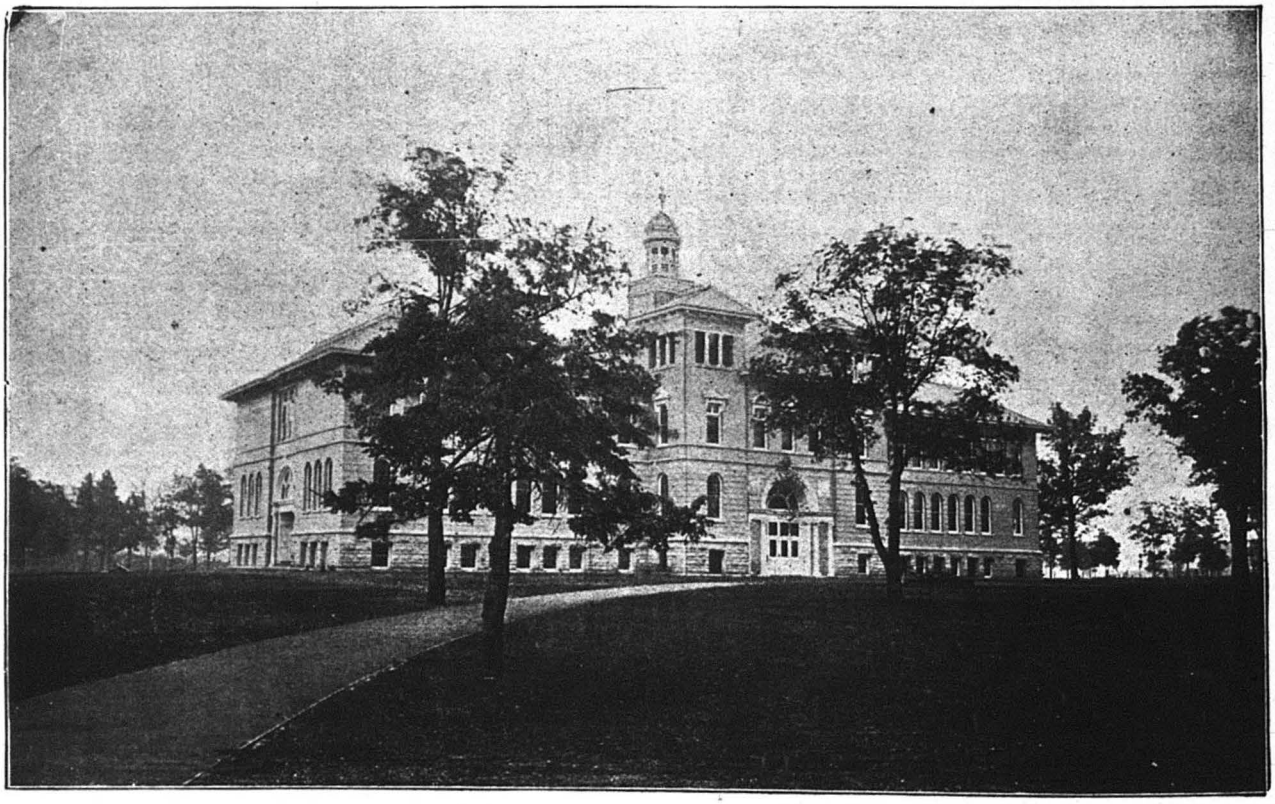

Advance Course, two years, for HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES and OTHER competent students.

Elementary Course, two years, for those holding certificates or passing entrance examinations.

Common School Course, (one year,) for special benefit of those who must teach soon.

Preparatory Course, furnishing excellent preparation in all the common branches. These classes are taught by regular Normal teachers.

Diploma, equivalent to LIFE STATE CERTIFICATE.

Elementary Certificate, equivalent to LIMITED STATE CERTIFICATE, for six years.

Selection of Studies permitted to teachers, under favorable conditions.

Third Quarter, begins January 25, 1897.

Fourth Quarter begins April 12, 1897.

New Classes formed at those dates in nearly every subject in the course of study except Latin, German, and some advanced science studies.

Board $2.50 to $3.00 per week; all school charges about $1.25 per quarter (ten weeks). No tuition fees in Normal classes for those expecting to teach. Tuition 40 cents per week or less in preparatory grades.

Write for circulars, or BETTER STILL, ask definite questions about any phase of the school work, and get an immediate personal reply.

Address the President,

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Stevens Point, Wis.

D. N. ALCORN, M. D.

Specialties: Diseases and Operations of the

EYE, EAR, NOSE AND THROAT.

Glasses ground to order to correct astigmatism, weak eyes, etc
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