

HAMILTON LIFE.

The Weekly Publication of Hamilton College.

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No. 20

Our Debate of Last Week.

These observations on the Columbia debate are written down here in the hope that they may be of interest and, perhaps, even of some value, to the rest of the fellows in college.

The Columbia method of debate is to learn the first speech as a whole, and to learn the rebuttal speech in "blocks." For instance, the debater thinks out ahead of time what will be the probable arguments of his opponent. He then composes arguments against them. His second speech is to be five minutes long, so he divides it into five parts and learns a minute speech for each part. Although the Philolexian won the debate by using this method, it seems to a Hamilton man to miss the entire point of debating.

After the debate was over one of the loyal Hamilton men of '03, who were there to hear it, said: "Our method is best in its theory, and yet I could not get up before a crowd and speak extemporaneously, any more than those Columbia men could." For a minute this speech surprised me, and then it came to me with great force that, after all, we get very little training in debate at Hamilton. At most, eight times in his whole course is all that the bashful man speaks, in debate, and then only before his class.

What the Hamilton debaters failed to do at Columbia was to clinch their points. Dr. Stryker has often complained of this in the debating of the present seniors, and it was the most evident fault in our debate in New York. Our proposition was that expansion will injure Russia at home and abroad. All our arguments proved it; but none of them showed the judge that it had been proved.

The judge was Prof. Hartwell of the Brooklyn High School, an Amherst man, and president of the high school debating league of Long Island. After the debate he told me that he was rather biased against Russia. He said he ren-

dered his decision on the arguments presented and refuted, not on the "manner" of presenting them. He complimented the Hamilton men warmly on the manner of their debating, saying that he thought it much superior to the other way and far more valuable as a drill for extemporaneous public speaking.

"What is Philolexian, anyway?" a dozen of the fellows have asked me. Philolexian is the oldest debating society in Columbia, composed of twenty bright young men who voluntarily assume the burden of debating outside of their college work. Nowhere will you find fellows more cordial and hospitable than they. By banqueting us and toasting us, they tried their best to draw the soreness out of the wound they had inflicted. At the banquet was the president of the Debate Council of Columbia University. He emphasized the difference between Philolexian and Columbia debaters. Philolexian chooses its team from twenty men. The Debate Council chooses from five thousand, including Philolexian. It is the Debate Council team with which Cornell debates at Columbia. That is the Columbia team. Now, this is not an argument against another debate with Philolexian. If we want practice in debate they can give it to us.

As individuals, we lost that debate. As the representatives of a system, we won. The credit is to the system, not to us. And there is nothing of egoism in it when we say that we were never more proud of Hamilton debating than we were that night. As we came down off the platform the '03 delegation, half a dozen men, whose faces lacked the store smile that marks the polite liar, congratulated us on our evident sincerity and on our informal and interesting manner of presenting our arguments. Five minutes later the judge, in pronouncing sentence against us, commended us for the same thing. So you see it was not the Hamilton debate ideal that was lacking; but only the men who failed to do it justice.

COLLINS, '04.

The Gymnastic Exhibition.

The "Gym." show was a great success. To say that it was better than last year seems like boasting, yet such was undoubtedly the consensus of opinion. Our fears as to whether we could draw a crowd again, the public showed very conclusively to be without foundation. The Majestic was packed by an interested, sympathetic and enthusiastic crowd when the curtain arose on the first number, "A Few Minutes of College Life and Song,"—a scene, by the way, very difficult to keep from falling flat, and whose well received excellence did great credit to all concerned. Several of the best liked college songs were sung, introducing "Louis" and "Dave" whose appearances were both good, and then the scene ended with "Carissima", all the college on the floor of the house standing.

The fifteen minutes' wrestling bout between Bramley and LeMunyan was one of the best numbers on the program. These men gave a remarkable exhibition of scientific wrestling and broke even with never a fall. They took the house by storm.

John Strickland followed quickly with one of his finished French-Canadian dialect narratives, which we have so much enjoyed this year. Then came the high jump in which Mann and Bagg divided honors. Earle Clark won out in the next exercise, the high dive, which seemed to please the house. The strong men came out before the drop to push the 100-lb. dumb-bell. A vast expenditure of muscle and nerve awarded Farrell the palm with fourteen successful trials. Rockwell, amid applause, muscled the weight three times with one hand.

The Mandolin Club kept up the pace with "Anona", plus several encores, and was followed by Mr. Elmer O. Hoffman who gave a very clever and graceful exhibition of Indian Club swinging. Then came the parallel bars, a vast improvement over last year's work. The Glee

Club sang "Eldorado," and as an encore, "Schneider's Band," their most effective selection. The always popular Roman Ladders came just before the intermission. The squad was well drilled and the act went off much smoother than it did last year.

The second part opened with the spectacular flying rings. In these we missed "Brick" Landers, '03, but the present incumbents of his position are very promising performers. Merrick sang "My Little Love" and "Good Night." The quartet of acrobats, "Uncle," Bristol, Sherman, '06, and Getman, did exceedingly well. The work elicited continuous applause, and especially was the audience pleased when "Uncle" did a trick just to show them he was right there.

"Louis" now brought out his stunt, and the house was perfectly willing to be paralyzed as long as he would consent to stay. "Louis" proved the maxim that "a little too much is just right." The Musical Story took as it has everywhere, and encores were again in order. The sparring, while perhaps not equal in science to professional "squared ring" performances, was sharp and scrappy. The spring board work went off in good shape and then before the Human Pyramids the Glee Club sang "Cheer, Boys, Cheer" and "Where, O Where, are the Pea-green Freshmen." The pyramids, notwithstanding some bad luck, were skillfully done and made a fitting climax to the performance.

The evening was a success athletically, musically and financially. The stunts, as a whole, were better than last year. The clubs did themselves credit in all their selections. And we can not forget that back of all, over all, and in fact almost all, was "Uncle John." It is to him that we owe the real success of the whole performance, and of his part he and we are justly proud. To the committee of arrangements belongs such a measure of praise as we who did not have their work to do cannot give them. Their leader was one who has served us before, indefatigably, earnestly, successfully, Robert R. Wicks. Would he were always with us.

The management estimates, on a conservative basis, that a sum of three hundred dollars net was cleared on the exhibition. Such a return seems almost to warrant even another repetition of the entertainment next year.

* Peru now has about 500 young men attending school or college in the United States.

The Senior Club.

The Senior Club met at the Theta Delt house last Monday evening and consequently has another good time to tabulate. Notwithstanding the blizzard which raged that night the attendance was large. The chief amusement during the early part of the evening was whist. Here the "sharks" were given a chance to play their best, being urged on by the thoughts of a "smoking set" offered for the highest score. Schermerhorn manipulated the cards most skillfully and consequently drew the highest record. His success was well rewarded by the corn cob pipe and the package of "growler" tobacco which he received. Refreshments were served and when the crowd had satisfied its hunger, Chauncey Tennant was enthroned on the table as judge and Monson was brought before the court for the alleged crime of stacking the cards. Although the prosecution was conducted most ably by Raymond C. White, still the efforts of Carr for his client convinced the judge that there was no case and the prisoner was discharged. Chauncey impressed all with his dignity and justice, yet the attorney for the prosecution lacked respect for the judge and was fined for contempt.

The men having charge of all arrangements for the banquet announced that it had been decided to hold this "feed" at the Butterfield Hotel a week from tonight. The committee had chosen the most witty and best orators of the club for the speechmaking. A great time is warranted which no member of the class should miss.

Y. M. C. A. Notes.

The annual election of officers of the association will be held this week. All dues should be in before the election. A collector in each crowd has been appointed to expedite payment. Members will kindly remit to him.

Dr. Wood conducted the 4 o'clock meeting last Sunday in a novel matter. Charles Wagner's book of essays on the Simple Life was the basis of the speaker's talk. Frequent extracts were read and commented upon.

Ferguson, '04, attended the Y. M. C. A. Bible conference at Syracuse, and remained over Sunday.

The music was good last Sunday at the afternoon meeting, but a violin or vocal solo would not come amiss occasionally.

The Whist Club.

The Junior Whist Club met with the Psi U's last week. The meeting was rather poorly attended, but this is accounted for by the fact that there was a basket-ball game on the Hill which was so late in starting that the meeting was over almost as soon as the game. Then too, many of the members were sick, so that there were left only seventeen men at the club. However, they had as good a time as ever, and judging from the noise they made coming up the Hill they must have received unusually good treatment. This week there was no meeting, but next week the club will meet with the gentlemen of Sigma Phi.

The 1904 Track Team.

All candidates for the track team met at Captain Wood's call after noon chapel Wednesday, and the prospects of the coming season were discussed. Although the team is greatly weakened, in places, by the graduation of 1903, still Captain Wood is confident of a good combination. There is an abundance of new material, which gives promise of developing into something good. The entire squad will begin work at once, so that they will all be in shape for hard, spring work. The men who are to take part in the various field events will go through their preliminary practice in the gymnasium, while the distance runners will take a cross-country run three times a week, just to convince themselves that they can still run. With the opening of spring term, providing the snow has left us, the work will be continued on the track.

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OUR INDEBTEDNESS.

The gymnasium exhibition was a great success, thanks to those men who unselfishly devoted so much of their time to perfecting the program, and also to the committee which is responsible for the financial success of the entertainment. We owe a large debt, too, to our friends of Clinton and Utica who so generously supported us. The crowds of people in attendance showed us plainly what a large number of friends we have in this vicinity who are interested in our life here on the Hill, and who wish us success in our ventures.

ONCE AGAIN.

The College has been visited again by that unseen and unwelcome thief. This time he collected forty-five dollars, not bad wages for a few minutes' work. The question is, who can it be? Some one familiar with the buildings and the habits of the students surely must be guilty. It would be impossible for a stranger to enter the dormitories without some one noticing him. That we should all exercise more caution in the care of our valuables is evident. Apparently it is very unsafe to leave money in an unlocked room. If the thief cannot be caught we must take all opportunity for theft from him. That such a state of affairs should exist on the Hill every student regrets, and we must all do our best to rid the College of such a contemptible villain.

THE COLGATE GAME.

The Colgate basket-ball game which was scheduled for this afternoon has been postponed till next Wednesday, on account of the game with Williams last night. This Colgate game com-

pletes our basket-ball season. It is our last chance of showing the men who have worked hard for Hamilton, that their efforts are appreciated. So far there have been but twenty to thirty fellows out to cheer the team at the games here on our home floor. It has been a disgrace to the College. Such a lack of spirit should shame us, but since we have persisted in this state, the conclusion must be that we have lost much of our traditional "spirit". Let's see if we can wake up just once more. Every man in College should be at that game Wednesday; if anyone "cuts" he shirks his duty.

THE INTERSCHOLASTIC MEET.

Now that the gymnasium exhibition is over our thoughts naturally turn to baseball and track athletics, together with our interscholastic field meet. This event is in some ways our most important activity of spring term, because at this time the College entertains a great number of prospective freshmen. For the past three years, last year especially, the meet has been very successful. This year should prove no exception, and for this desired end we must all work. Everything is to be gained by beginning our preparations now. A great many colleges throughout the state will hold interscholastic meets this year, and to secure the attendance of those schools which we most desire the soliciting for competitors must be started immediately. Most preparatory and high schools cannot participate in but one such meet consequently should we be slow in our plans other colleges will obtain the pick and we will be left with the residue. There are but three weeks left in this term, a very short time in which to open negotiations with a dozen schools. The committee who will have the program for this day in hand should be given the opportunity of completing the preliminary arrangements before the College closes for the Easter recess. Then, too, if the organization is perfected and plans are mapped out this term much can be accomplished during the vacation. Aided by our experience of last year, the interscholastic of 1904 should be a record breaker. We must all endeavor to gather together on the Hill the largest number of men possible. Then with the prize speaking contest, the field meet, the rousing dinner in the Hall of Commons in the evening, together with the beauties of spring on the Hill, we should be well rewarded for our efforts.

The Baseball Schedule.

The baseball manager has completed his schedule and it has been approved by the faculty. To the schedule as it stands now a game with the Auburn Seminary will be added. This game will be played some time during the latter part of April. As yet no definite arrangements have been made for a coach, but the management is trying to secure the services of Mr. Miran, who played on the Utica State League team last year, and who has been signed by the same team this year.

April 26—St Lawrence at Clinton.

April 30—Rome Free Academy at Clinton.

May 4—Utica or Potsdam at Clinton.

May 7—Union at Schenectady.

May 9—Hobart at Clinton.

May 13—Union at Clinton.

May 17—Rochester at Clinton.

May 24—Colgate at Clinton.

May 27—Hobart at Geneva.

May 28—Rochester at Rochester.

June 5—Colgate at Hamilton.

The Work of the Press Club.

In last week's issue of Life there appeared another criticism of the so-called Press Club. The fellows in college seem to have an erroneous idea of the object and powers of this club and it may not be amiss to state here the real facts so that hereafter we may be spared the trouble of reading the periodical "knocks" on this organization. As every one knows, this club was organized during the football season, when it was felt that Hamilton was not receiving sufficient recognition from the papers at large particularly the New York papers. Accordingly a meeting of the college body was held, in which a few chosen ones had greatness thrust upon them without any consideration of their own desires. This select body met almost immediately and a course of action was decided upon. This was to write up various things in and about college which would seem to be of interest to outsiders, descriptions of the new building, announcements of athletic games and results etc., and send them to the New York, Rochester, Buffalo and Syracuse papers, reinforced by a statement that our alumni found too little news of the college in these papers and that the new club was ready to supply them with all the material which they would publish. This policy was

actually carried out so far as it was possible, but all in vain. The reply came back that the members of the club could consider themselves correspondents if they so desired, but the papers reserved the right to publish what they considered to be of interest to their subscribers at large. This reply was anything but encouraging, but in spite of that accounts have been sent to the papers occasionally, and once at least an article was published in one of the New York papers, the Sun. This tells practically all that the Press Club has been able to do with the metropolitan papers. With the other papers there has not been much more success. In many cases no answer was received at all, and in others that the paper already had a correspondent in the field. However, it is not to be inferred that the college is receiving no recognition in the newspapers, for such is not the case. The old Press Club is doing its work nobly and receiving little praise. This club takes particular pains to keep in touch with many of the smaller city and town papers of those districts which have men in college here, by sending to them reports of the successes of these men here on the Hill. There is considerable of this kind of press work done, and we are undoubtedly reaping the benefits, though we are not always in a position to see them. We are well reported in the Utica papers. The men, however, who do this are not regular members of the new Press Club, though it is obvious that they ought to be if the college would consider an enlargement of the present club. This then is the situation, we are well represented in the smaller papers and also those of Utica and Syracuse, but in the New York papers we are unable to get our articles published. This is unfortunate, but we can not help it. If anyone thinks that he can succeed in getting anything published in these papers it is his duty to make the attempt.

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Sunday mail open from 12:00 to 1:00 p. m. Sunday mail closes at 5:20 p. m.

Mail leaves the Hill at the convenience of the Carrier, and comes up after the Carrier gets down.

F. E. PAYNE, P. M.

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Trains arrive at Clinton from Utica, 8:30 a. m., 12:40 p. m., 5:24 p. m., 11:50 p. m. From Rome, 8:20 a. m., 5:10 p. m. From South, 7:50 a. m., 11:20 a. m., 2:40 p. m., 6:25 p. m.

Local Notes.

—Hoffman, ex-'04, was on the Hill this week.

—Gentes, '06, will not return to college this term.

—Nasmith, Colgate '04, was on the Hill over Sunday.

—No college records were broken in the "Gym." show.

—Dean, '05, is expected back on the Hill in a short time.

—Scott, '07, is suffering with a severe attack of the grippe.

—The musical club trip for the Easter vacation has been given up.

—It is just about time for a snow-ball fight between the underclassmen.

—Rynd, '07, is confined in his room with a severe attack of bronchitis.

—Swetman, '07, who went home last week because of sickness, has returned.

—Humphrey, '05, was confined to his room several days last week with a cold.

—Edgerton, '05, has been compelled by ill health to drop out of college temporarily.

—Ferguson, '04, and MacLean, '06, attended a Bible Students' convention at Syracuse last week.

—LeMunyan, '06, received a cut on the head during basket-ball practice last Tuesday afternoon.

—The juniors have on their schedule of work this term one hour of Bible. Due to the kindness of the instructor in charge and the fact that the recitation immediately follows chapel, this period has been lengthened twenty minutes.

—This has been "Hamilton Week" in Utica, with the "Gym Show" and the Williams game as attractions.

—It isn't necessary to take a trip to get changes of climate. We have had about every degree of temperature during the last week.

—Jenks, '01, at present second lieutenant in the regular army and stationed at Fort Hamilton, spent Thursday and Friday on the Hill.

—Beach, who has been confined at his home in Brooklyn for the past few weeks by a severe attack of the grippe, has returned to college.

—Prof. Ibbotson apologized to the sophomores for cutting them last Saturday. It was hardly necessary; they knew how he felt about it.

—Now that the "show" is over and the basket-ball season practically ended fellows are beginning to realize that there are but two weeks before exams.

—The "Pedestrian Club," composed of Carter, Munger, Stowell and MacIntyre, will have its picture taken this afternoon for publication in the Hamiltonian.

—About forty men went to Utica last Saturday night to attend the entertainment given by the Colgate Glee and Instrumental Clubs. The concert was very good.

—Several of the fellows got left in Utica Monday night and did not get in Clinton until late the following morning. The trolley line was blocked and also the O. & W. railroad.

—The basket-ball game with Colgate, which was to be held in the Gym. tonight has been postponed until next Wednesday. Let's have a large crowd out for that game, fellows, as it is the last one of the season and the team will need the support of the whole college to help them in winning.

—The amount of serious illness in college has been exceedingly large this winter. The cause of this may be found in the changeable weather and the strict rules of the faculty. No one takes the stand that there should not be rules to govern excused absences. But it is wrong that a fellow suffering from the grippe or bronchitis should be compelled to attend recitations in a blinding storm lest he lose his cuts for the following term. There are several cases where students have been in this way driven to class-room when they should have been under the doctor's care. No suspension of the rules is advocated, but considering the climatic conditions more leniency would be appreciated.

—We were all glad to see Nelse Drummond, '02, at the entertainment Wednesday night. Whenever and wherever Hamilton is doing anything Nelse is sure to be found if it is possible for him to get there.

—Hamilton stands fifth among the colleges of the United States in the percentage of successful men she has graduated. One man in twenty-five who is graduated from Hamilton becomes notable, while the general average of college men who attain success is only one in forty.

The Butinskies.

On Thursday evening of last week the Butinsky Club was entertained at dinner by Prof. and Mrs. Brandt. The affair was a most pleasant and hospitable one. After dinner, election of officers took place. The club consists of four members, all seniors: Brandt, Knox, Ehret and Carter. The election resulted as follows: Stuhlsinsky—Brandt; Verplat-zinsky—Carter; Peninsky—Ehret; Mon-insky—Knox. On Friday evening the club took dinner at the Butterfield, in Utica, and afterwards occupied a box at the Orpheum theatre.

Our Musical Clubs.

The Musical Clubs have voted to omit the Easter trip, so they made their last public appearance at the Gymnasium Exhibition in Utica, Wednesday night. Our musical organizations this year have been as good as the College has seen in several years. The Glee Club, notwithstanding the fact that 1903 took some of our best singers, has through the hard and conscientious work of all the men been a big success. The Mandolin Club retained all the men of last year, and consequently had but to put the finishing touch on its stunts.

One quality of both clubs which deserves the greatest praise of the College was the originality they displayed. This was especially noticed in the repertoire of the Mandolin Club. Wicks originated the musical story which met with so much success. Then too, all the numbers of the clubs seemed to have more snap and go throughout, than has before been evidenced in our musical department.

The management of the clubs was well looked after by Hotchkiss and Wright. Although but one trip was taken, still the three concerts given at Boonville, Lowville and Carthage, together with the two appearances here at home, made a full schedule.

The Senior Banquet.

On Saturday evening, March 12th, the class of 1904 will hold a banquet at the Butterfield Hotel in Utica. The committee of arrangements, consisting of Hutton, chairman, Brandt and Ehret, is doing its best to make the affair the most successful social event of 1904's college career. The following list of speakers will uphold the seniors' reputation in oratory: Carr, toastmaster, Carter, Collins, Evans, Bristol, Tennant, Strickland, Soper and W. F. Dowling. It is hoped that the entire class will attend the banquet. 1902 and 1903 have held most successful gatherings of this nature, and surely 1904 will not be behind its predecessors.

Among the Colleges.

Twenty-five or more students of Gettysburg College are said to have offered their services to Japan.

The schedule of rents for rooms in the dormitory of the Yale scientific school is rather high; it ranges from \$12 to \$14 per week.

It is officially announced that Johns Hopkins University lost but \$8,000 in the Baltimore fire, everything being covered by insurance.

Some of the students of the College of the City of New York, are preparing to indulge in a French debate. No doubt, it will be intensely interesting.

A new department has been added to the curriculum of the University of Chicago; it is the school for practical training in philanthropic and social work.

Manhattan College has sent its exhibit for the World's Fair to Syracuse, where it will be joined with the other exhibits of the University of the State of New York and sent to St. Louis.

The faculty of the University of California has entrusted the college property to the senior class and all contests between the lower classes are brought to the seniors and they decide them.

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More calls this year than ever before. Schools supplied with competent teachers free of cost. Address, with stamp, AMERICAN TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION, 1423 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa. 174 Randolph Building, Memphis, Tenn.

Basket ball will no longer hold a place, at Yale and Harvard. Perhaps the fact that their teams have not been especially fast this year accounts, in a measure, for it.

The governor of a western state is advocating the raising of money to erect a fitting memorial for the football heroes who have met death while nobly battling for their respective colleges.

Wanted

Special representative in this county and adjoining territories, to represent and advertise an old established business house of solid financial standing. Salary \$21 weekly, with expenses, paid each Monday by check direct from headquarters. Expenses advanced, position permanent. We furnish everything. Address, The Columbia, 630 Monon Building, Chicago, Ill. 4-2

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