

Prof. Branch

HAMILTON LIFE.

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No. 16.

Inter-Class Debate.

The great inter-class debate is over. The night for it was favorable. The subject—Resolved that the people of the United States sympathize with the Boers—was a good one. The audience were expectant. The men were well prepared, and they acquitted themselves in a manner worthy of the theme and of the occasion. Where all did well, individual comparisons are uncalled for; but an analysis of the arguments, and an attempt at a critical estimation of the lines of attack and defence may not be inappropriate.

Mr. Stowell auspiciously opened the debate by insisting that the arguments should rest on ethical and legal grounds. He immediately, however, fell into a quagmire by defining sympathy as something that is involuntary. From this dangerous position his colleagues failed to extricate him, but luckily his opponents did not press him very hard. He thought England—if England is a civilizing power—should communicate her boasted civilization to the Boers. Some of his supporters expressed, at times, a similar opinion; although at other times they seemed to realize, we thought, that the Boers would not be civilized. And he concluded that England is responsible for the war, because she would not arbitrate the matters in dispute. This seemed to us a strong point; but it was answered perhaps fairly by the speakers on the negative, although not in such a manner as to convince an ardent opponent.

Mr. Miller began, on behalf of the negative, by defining national sympathy. This was good. But before the debate was over we could not help thinking that one of his able colleagues went far to make this definition of none effect by advocating sympathy with a brother, "right or wrong," merely because he is a brother. Mr. Miller's speech was clear, deliberate, logical and reason-

able; and, no doubt, to the legal mind, was of momentous weight. But to the mind of the poor layman, unlearned, in the intricacies of forensic disputation, and the exact niceties of international law, it did not seem so formidable. Nevertheless, the speakers on the affirmative did not attempt to reply to it, but whether through a feeling of inability, or a failure to perceive the dangerous force of it, we do not undertake to say.

The second speaker on the affirmative, Mr. Quinn, said some good things, and among them a few things that Mr. Stowell should have said. We thought, however, that some of his statements were slightly exaggerated, and had a vague feeling that his presentation of the opinions of Chamberlain and Lord Derby on the question was not quite fair to those gentlemen.

Mr. Moore then presented the claims of the outlanders. His quotation from the "Declaration of Independence" was effective. His "parallel case" was interesting, and doubtless would have been effective also had he had time to finish it. But Mr. Moore, like several other speakers, apparently had not realized the psychological fact that 5 minutes in an inter-class debate is not nearly so long as 5 minutes during a classroom lecture. Mr. Moore's argument was unanswerable, as his opponents evidently realized. In fact, we are inclined to think that Boer mis-government is the root of the whole trouble.

Mr. Redmond, the third speaker on the affirmative, tried a chance guess at the source of the previous speaker's information, and as a result lost some valuable time—except that his remarks took well with the house. He has evidently failed to realize the true character of President Kruger's mind, as well as of the Boer disposition, or he would not have seriously brought forward the proposed reduction of the franchise to 7 years—nor even to 5 years—as a sufficient remedy for the Outlanders' griev-

ances. And his question, "What has England done for Ireland? or for India?" although not without effect a generation ago, might well be answered now, if we have studied history aright, by the other question, "What has she not done for them?"

Mr. Sheppard turned aside from the discussion of the question of right to state reasons, based on expediency, why we should sympathize with the English. His reasons were good. But it seemed to us that both he and Mr. Lee prejudiced their case somewhat by making the gulf between the moral and the prudential aspects of the question too wide. We are inclined to agree with Mr. Stowell, that the question of debate was essentially the question of right. If this is so, prudential reasons had no proper place in the discussion, unless the question of right could not be satisfactorily determined.

Mr. Mintz, the last speaker on the affirmative, brought the debate back to the ethical question. He asserted that the Boers were legally right and morally justified in refusing the franchise to the Outlanders. On the contrary, it is our opinion, that they are legally unjustified and morally wrong in refusing the franchise to the Outlanders. We think that Mr. Moore demonstrated the first part of our statement; and we have a strong impression that Mr. Sheppard proved the second—the one that to us seems all important. The only possible ground which could justify the Boers in their oppressive treatment of the Outlanders is that such oppression would promote the higher interests of humanity. The rights of the nation are superior to those of the individual; and the rights of mankind are superior to those of the nation. Not what seems to promote the best interests of the Boers, but what really will promote the best interests of mankind is the ultimate ground of right, or at least, the truest criterion of right, on this question.

[Continued on page 4.]

Athletic Department.

R. S. C. DRUMMOND, - - - - - Editor
E. J. WARD, - - - - - Reporter

Waterville vs. Hamilton.

The basket ball team defeated the Waterville Y. M. C. A. aggregation last Saturday by a score of 77 to 11. Our team was crippled by the absence of Jesse Millham, and the Waterville boys, too, had come over minus the services of two of their best players. At no stage of the game did Waterville manage to hustle our team, being clearly outclassed from the start. They were true sportsmen, however, and put up a plucky fight.

The game was called shortly after three. The two Macs, Hunter, Dunn and Busch composed the Hamilton team, and no one had to retire. The Waterville players were evidently young and inexperienced. Morse, at center, put up a star game; and if he had had adequate support, the score would not have been so high. He gave Mac a good rub at center, and hustled every Hamilton man that he came up against. His alertness and agility called forth bursts of applause from the crowd, and several of the goals that he scored were very difficult. He did most of the scoring for his team, and if he had been more accustomed to the gym, it was plain that he would have succeeded oftener than he did, for his quickness in evading the Hamilton players made him many opportunities. One beautiful goal, from the centre of the floor, made under difficult circumstances, set the crowd wild. Everyone was sorry that he had to retire at the end of the first half, owing to weakness and over-exertion.

The rooters were disappointed at the low score made in the first half, and attributed the cause to the absence of Houghton, who on former occasions had inspired our braves to such mighty deeds. Both teams were pretty tired toward the last, however, and the play was slow. Tommy and Fritz had several fouls called on them, and one Waterville player was a frequent offender. Mott umpired with his usual decision and firmness, and gave satisfaction to everybody.

On the whole, the game was disap-

pointing to nobody except Manager Davenport. He announced that the association had made only forty cents on the game. The crowd was altogether too small. The college ought to turn out in greater force to any such contest. The Waterville team took their defeat cheerfully, and had only words of praise for their treatment at our hands. We must not forget either, to mention the fact that the public benefactors, Mott and Peet, gave another of their graphophone concerts between the halves.

—o:o—

The Game with Little Falls.

There is a certain dissatisfaction among some of the fellows about college on account of our defeat in basket ball at the hands of the Little Falls athletic club team. No one who understands basket ball and was present at the game entertains this feeling. MacLaughlin and his men fought against heavy odds, and deserve our heartiest praise that they were not more badly beaten.

A "Life" reporter in an interview with one of the Little Falls men, before the game, learned that the Little Falls team has the bulge over every team that comes to play them on their home floor. The truth of this statement was very apparent when we entered the hall. The light was very bad. Rafters crossed the room, so low, that none of the high passing in which our team excels could be used. The ceiling sloped so that there was scarcely two feet of space above the baskets. There were no backboards. The spectators' benches were the side-lines, and worst of all the Little Falls official did not seem to know the rules, and allowed a feeling of spite to pervade his decisions.

Before the game Captain Mac was told that the game would be played under '97 rules. He had been training his team according to this year's rules, and on this account was at great disadvantage. The main difference between the rules of the two years is, that under the old, dribbling is allowed, while it is prohibited under the new. The reason why dribbling is now barred is, that it makes the game very rough, as was evident in the fact that the Little Falls men wore foot ball trousers.

Again, the kickers say that fourteen

of our twenty points were made by free goals for fouls called upon our opponents. The reason for this is that the Little Falls coach and official claimed that a man was allowed to carry the ball three steps, while the rules say that he shall take not more than one step, and our officials were there to see that the rules were observed.

The Hamilton team, although they lost the game, won a deal of praise from their opponents on account of their gentlemanly playing, and from those in the audience who were of the female persuasion, on account of their fine appearance. So that on the whole we have reason to be proud of our "knights of the gym," even in their defeat.

—o:o—

Basket ball has become quite interesting to the college. It is a new thing, but we do not think that its sole attraction rests in its novelty. It is a game requiring quickness, decision and a little activity. We have several players in college who have all these characteristics, and the college is proud of them, and the reputation they are making for us. Little Falls, one of the best teams in New York State, was only able to beat us by a small score, and they insisted that we play under rules of which we are ignorant. Utica and Waterville have fallen easy prey to our doughty little team. We certainly are pretty good. We expect to play Cornell. Now, fellows, all of you turn out to the game and give a few yells to cheer the team up, and make the team think that they are playing for you—that you stand back of them. By this, we will be able to defeat even Cornell.

—o:o—

An Old Custom.

Sometimes it is well to do away with old customs, but we have a custom that should be kept up. Many students have given utterance to this same idea. The old custom of ringing the chapel bell at 7 A. M. and at 9 P. M. should be kept up. It is one of the old-fashioned ideas of our ancestors, and it is well to observe it as we have done so far. Of late the bell ringers have not been regular about ringing the chapel bell at these hours. We miss the ringing. It is cheerful to hear in the midst of our toils the peal of the bell saying good night—

work hard. And in the morning when it tinkles gently in our ears, it seems very melodious, and sings a tune that tells us to turn over and get an hour more of sweet sleep. It is a pity to see such a custom go to the rear, where many a one has gone before it. It is not a hard job to ring these bells, and let us have them rung. Let us keep up the old custom as long as Hamilton College adorns this hillside.

—o:o—

This Winter.

A good substantial set up is offered by a large club of subscribers to any one who can find words strong enough to express what a mean winter this has been. No one, in the memory of the oldest student in Hamilton College, has ever seen it so sloppy under foot, and so gray and forlorn-looking over head. One day cold—too cold to snow, and the next morning we go to breakfast through a drizzling rain. It is something terrific—the changes which occur. It is weather that is full of colds and sore throats. There seems to be quite an epidemic of these around college, and you can trace the origin of them to the beastly changing weather.

—o:o—

A Joke on "Bib."

Bib's "smile benign" almost cracked itself into a laugh, last Friday, in the English lit. class when "Rick" told him that Rossetti's Blessed Damosel pictured in his mind a beautiful maiden leaning over the bar of heaven, with the golden hair a-hanging down her back.

—o:o—

A Drama in One Act.

Scene—Psychological Laboratory.

Characters: Psyche—Dr. Elkins.

Van—T. O. Vanamee.

Class—Students (?)

Psyche—"As I was saying, no one who has ever thought intelligently would ever believe"—

(Van rises up and ejects Bobby Mac-Duff through the opened door with a beautiful rise (kick), and then stalks back to his seat.)

Psyche—"Such an absurd ridiculous thing"—(Van engages in a fight with his nearest neighbor), "as that our thoughts are noticed and matter in."

(Van raises himself from his chair, shakes himself three times and sits down).

"Motion."

(Quick Curtain.)

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

One of the members of our staff, Campbell Hodges of the class of 1903, met with a severe accident while coasting the hill. He broke his leg in a severe way. He has been forced to go to a hospital in Utica, and will stay there some months before he will be able to be around again. "Life" regrets the absence of Hodges from college very much. We feel that the misfortune is partly ours, because we are deprived of his help, which was efficient and valuable. The whole college will unite with us when we say that we sympathize thoroughly with Hodges, and feel very sorry that he should be the victim of such an unfortunate accident.

—o:—

Next week comes the Sophomore Hop. Before another issue of "Life" comes out, the college will have had a surfeit of dancing. We will all be a little tired after the sophomore dances, too. This is the only bad feature of the week—that there is a natural tendency to evade the matter, and, for that reason the

faculty are somewhat down on the festivities, and do not cut us. They do not realize that the cruelty of making a sleepy semi-comatose student sit through a dreary lecture is a more exquisite torture than even the red Indians invented. They could but torture physically, but these professors by reason of their superior training are able to reach us more vitally and torture us with a mental torture. We ask justice, fairness and freedom from torture.

—o:—

"Life" wishes to emphasize the fact that there are some vacant places on our staff, which are open to competition. Any freshman or sophomore wishing to secure such a place must do so from competitive trials. We invite contributions from all contestants. Such contributions will be fairly judged, and the standing of the competitor will be judged by his merits alone, excluding every other consideration. We have already received several articles, and have several other applicants, but we wish this matter to be fully understood by all of the underclassmen, that, if they have writing ability, they can secure a position on our staff.

—o:—

The dramatic club has decided not to make an appearance on the stage before February 24 at the earliest. The notice given to the members of the club was too short to enable them to work up their parts in the way they ought to do so. Mr. Taylor came to the decision that the wisest thing he could do was to make this postponement. But, fellows, the club is coming on sometime, and when it comes you must all go to see it and give it your financial support that way. Our reporter says that the show is going to be good. If so, it will do some helpful advertising for the college in the small neighboring towns. As long as it will help the college, you should help it help the college, because then you would be helping the college.

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[Continued from page 1.]

Mr. Lee, the last speaker on the negative, gave several good reasons why we should sympathize with the English, not the least important of which was the coalition of European powers against the Anglo-Saxons, although this coalition at present is probably not as for-

midable as it was a year or two ago.

In the rebuttal speeches, the men seemed to be in good condition to settle down to business, but the time was too short to admit of really effective work. The speakers on the affirmative, in particular, showed themselves good at repartee. The discussion as to which party began the war, was continued in the light of international law, with about equal laurels on each side. The English began the war by massing troops on the frontier; and the Boers began it by their active preparations for several years, and by being the first to assume the offensive. Mr. Stowell endeavored to prove that the Boers are a righteous and religious people, whereas we had supposed that their righteousness is mainly of that kind which consists in smiting "the Lord's enemies" and their own, "under the fifth rib," and Mr. Lee further confirmed us in this opinion. The last speaker on each side summoned up the arguments well, and concluded with an eloquent peroration.

On the whole, we should say, that the chief strength of the affirmative arguments lay in the emphasis given to the question of right; and that the chief defects arose from the failure to lay a proper foundation, and to construct a strong framework for their stately edifice. The chief defects in the negative arguments were a too wide separation of the ethical and the prudential sides of the question, and too little attention to details on the part of some of the speakers; while the chief merit lay in the systematic presentation of what seemed to us to be strong and convincing arguments. For we are still inclined to think that, after the clouds of war shall have cleared away, and mutual understandings shall have been acknowledged or forgotten, a new day will dawn for the people of South Africa. A bright future will unfold under a single government and a common law, that will grant equal rights, equal privileges, and equal opportunities to all, irrespective of race, or class, or creed. A united South Africa, dominated by Anglo-Saxon civilization, will make, on the whole, for the peace, progress, and happiness of mankind. And to constitute an integral part of this South Africa, sooner or later, is the manifest and inevitable destiny of the Transvaal.

Local Department.

H. MINTZ, - - - - - Editor.
J. P. TATE, - - - - - Reporter.

LOCALS.

Feb. 7. Prexy cuts. Pete Kelly discusses the English-Boer war at great length in north college. Pete has very firm convictions. No noon chapel, and the consequent rejoicing. Deke Taylor shaves and proceeds to look respectable. He and manager Hull go on a small trip, booking some dates for the dramatic club. We understand that the local opera house manager liked the spouts of the advance agents. A review in Pretty is averted by prompt action on the part of the municipal law class. Thompson appears with type written copies of the notes. Thompson is a public benefactor. Basket ball game at Little Falls. Clark, Ward, Durkee and Barnes with some other college enthusiasts are present. There was a dance after the game. Fritz Dunn says that there are a great many pretty girls in Little Falls. Fritz is enough of a connoisseur to know.

Feb. 8. Dave Macnaughton spends the day playing songs on the phonograph. He ought to get an honor in that course. Dramatic club rehearsal and basket ball game in the evening. A cold sloppy day again. Wm. G. Decker appears with his lamp untrimmed. They burned too late the night before is our natural supposition. Hank Miller gives a dress rehearsal of his debate. Stowell appears in dressing gown and slippers. He says he does not feel comfortable in evening clothes. We recommend that he wear them at dinner a few nights to get the stiffness out.

Feb. 9. Dick Drummond for once answers one of Psyche's questions. He slung a little English and puzzled the professor. That man Drummond is quite deep (?). They say that Ratsey Fisher is sore on Pretty yet about that economic history. G. T. White is re-seen on the campus. Philosopher Catlin disturbs the philosophy class by his noise in coming up the stairs. How could such small feet make such a noise. David Macnaughton renders a little song, "I wonder why." It was really entertaining. Ask anyone in north college, if

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you don't believe it. Dramatic club rehearsal. Deke springs two new (?) jokes. Shep makes another blob. Esty grows terrified at the prospect of the interclass debate. Whist club at Theta Delt House. Dunn is tried and condemned. Drummond brothers receive a box from home, and with it allay the hunger pangs of Hull and others.

Feb. 10. Dramatic club rehearsal at 6:30 at Sigma Phi Hall. Deke Taylor was there with both feet. Several members have supper at Bill Howard's. Cut in noon chapel. Gibbons takes photograph of the Theta Delt crowd, and of the Hamiltonian board. Rick is on time for a wonder. Basket ball game between Waterville and Hamilton, score 77-11. Everybody goes to see a "Scrap of Paper" presented by the Waterville Dramatic Club, and falls in love with the star. Many of the college fellows stayed to the dance afterward. On good authority we have it that Shorty Holbrook was there. There seemed to be quite an "era of good feeling" among the fellows. 'Twas a repetition of the old saying, "Everything was lovely, and the goose hung high." Shep, Stowell and Bill Decker are out rather late. Busch and Peet are growing quite good mustaches.

Feb. 11. The usual attendance of unwilling worshipers at Sunday chapel. The Rev. Mr. Halsey, Secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, preached in the chapel on the education derived from the study of missions. The sermon was much enjoyed. Dr. Terrett gave another of his lectures at 12 o'clock in Silliman Hall. Freak Hull and Deke Taylor are very sore at having to make a long trip to come to chapel. Deke has his lamp untrimmed. They, also, looked as if they had boined too late the night before. Dick Drummond and MacLaughlin write long essays for Bib.

Feb. 12. Prexy has not come back yet, and Bill Nye runs chapel. Review in physics and municipal law. The review in physics is all fired, hard, as Decker says. The dramatic club rehearses as usual. Henry Hull swore another long blue oath. There is a basket ball game between the juniors and freshmen. They say it was a good hot game, although the juniors won by a score of 20-11. The juniors and freshmen seem to have all the basket ball players in their two

classes. Augsbury and Tate have a queer experience after practice. Dunn and Hatch complain because Ward does not give them a fair show in Latin, seeing that they are trying for a Hawley; he does not call on them enough. Hadlock cuts gym. Deke has an entirely new joke.

Feb. 13. A sloppy, low down day. Johnson and Hull try to have a small scrap, arising out of a young row between the juniors and seniors after morning chapel. Bib runs chapel, and does it pretty well, although the college starts in to shake him up at first. Dick Drummond shoots off some of his attempts at humor. At morning chapel the sophomores post a paper forbidding the freshmen to smoke pipes on the campus, which the freshmen take down without hindrance while coming out. Bill Nye cuts his senior and junior divisions. Nels Drummond does well this morning: he rises at 10:10. Rick gives Elkin a definition of soul, having carefully pipped the same. Charles Seiter does not take to philosophy favorably. Dramatic club rehearsal at 12 o'clock in the gym. There is no use of talking, Deke Taylor has a genius for humor. He says some very funny things, once upon a time. Sippell and Dick go down to see Sykes with their usual fear and trembling.

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Junior Whist Club.

The Junior Whist Club met last week at the Theta Delta Chi House, Mac and Sippell entertaining in elegant shape. Dunn came in very, very late; and under the club rule which provides that any member who is unnecessarily tardy shall be fined a set-up to the members, he was formally tried, after the usual number of hands had been played, and the bountiful luncheon disposed of, as only the class of 1901 can dispose of anything in the line of eatables. The trial was the noteworthy feature of the evening. Hull was appointed judge, Abe Macardell court crier, and Speh, Hicok and Sippell bailiffs. It will be noted that none of these men had yet set up the class. Dick and Esty were appointed prosecuting attorneys, while Rick undertook the defense. The defendant was formally arraigned under an indictment. He announced himself

ready for trial. The trial panel contained the names of Augsbury, Davenport, Quinn, Johnson, MacLaughlin. Attorney Drummond examined the jurors, asking them only two questions: "You don't know anything about this case, do you?" and "Have you already set up this Whist Club?" The answer in every case to the first question was "No," and to the second "Yes." Dick announced himself as satisfied with the jury. Rick decided that he didn't want to challenge any of them either. The prosecuting attorney then made an impressive opening, and called the first witness, Thomas McLaughlin, whom the efficient marshal of the club, Jim Catlin, and his assistant, Jim McKee, had dragged from his couch. The witness, under skillful questioning, testified that he had seen the defendant at Houghton at a time when he should have been at the session of the whist club. The attorney for the defense had no questions to ask. The next witness was Harper, 1903. Judge Hull administered the oath in person, ending the formula with the impressive phrase, "So help you that red book." Attorney Stowell questioned this witness long and searchingly, laying special stress upon the nature and solemnity of the oath. The testimony of this witness was substantially the same as that of Thomas. Here the prosecution rested its case. Rick produced one witness for the defense, Skinner. He testified to nothing in particular, and the prosecution attacked his credibility by showing that he had passed but one math examination during his course. The defense rested, and Rick made a brief plea for mercy. Dick addressed the jury at length, dwelling upon the conclusive character of the testimony adduced, and exhorting the jury to do their duty to themselves and to their fellow-members. This speech had a visible effect upon the jurors.

The court then rose and said: "The judge will now charge the jury." At this, some of the jurymen yelled "How much?" and the rest sheltered themselves behind sofa pillows and chairs, in anticipation of the threatened attack. After enjoining order in the court room and the jury box, the court continued: "It is your duty, gentlemen of the jury, to decide upon the evidence presented as to the guilt or innocence of this defend-

ant. If you find him guilty, you are to bring in a verdict to that effect. The Mosaic law saith that 'the word of two freshmen is true, inasmuch as they have not yet arrived at the point where they know how to lie.' You shall duly consider this, gentlemen. You may retire."

Jim Catlin, marshal, kept watch over the jury with pointed gun, and foiled the efforts of would-be corruptors. Meanwhile the court commanded the crier to bring him a cigarette. The crier announced that none could be found. The court: "Very well, but don't let it occur again." At this point, the prosecuting attorneys asked for some water, and the judge sent bailiff Hicok after some. The attorneys asked that the court order a bailiff to pour it out for them. The court ordered bailiff Spohr so to do. He objected. Judge Hull thereupon fined him one set-up for contempt of court. The jury then came in, and announced the verdict: "Guilty; the penalty to be one five cent set up all around." The court: "The jury has exceeded its province. Its duty was to decide the questions of fact." He then, upon motion, pronounced judgment, the one the jury had recommended. Hull then entered his final order, fining everybody who hadn't yet set up the class, including himself, one set-up, for contempt of court. The crowd broke up in the best of humor, especially in view of the big set-up on the morrow. All united in singing the class ditty, "Stars of the Summer Night," as a farewell, and then departed for their downy cots.

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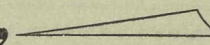
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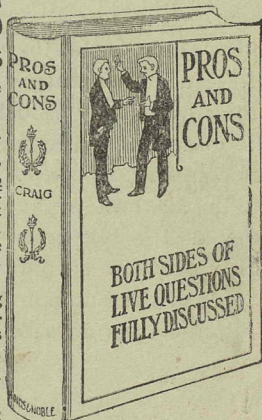
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