

# HAMILTON LIFE.

*The Weekly Publication of Hamilton College.*

Vol. VI.

CLINTON, N. Y., SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 1904.

No. 24

## Another Desirable Custom.

The class of 1904 seems to have its heart set on reviving some old customs or establishing a few new ones. The class dinner on the night following Senior ball will probably be carried through and other classes will without doubt follow the example in after years. Considerable has been said for and against changing the date of Campus Day from Commencement Week to the afternoon preceding K. P. Whether anything will be done in this direction remains to be seen. And there is one other revival of which many in the College have been thinking, and which was contemplated by last year's graduates, namely, the custom of planting a class tree. To this practice we owe to a large extent the number and variety of beautiful trees on the Campus. Of necessity the axe has been rather freely used of late and many of the old monarchs have had to fall. If the departing classes would each year do their share, the ravages of time and storm could be fully counterbalanced. Besides, a few judicious plantings in the quadrangle back of the dormitories would add greatly to the beauty of this Campus. There is no danger of planting too many by the slow process of one a year.

But if this old custom can be called into existence again, let it be hoped that those who plant trees will not feel obliged to plant also a tombstone to memorize the spot. Some of the monuments that are now scattered around the Campus are as unsightly as they are useless. A simple little square of stone, not even big enough to hold the class motto, which no one is able to read, marked with the numbers of the class, would be sufficient. Here is a good opportunity for 1904 to credit itself with a revival and a reform.

Princeton is to have another dormitory. It will be built by the ten classes from '02 to '01. \$85,000 has already been pledged.

## Caps and Gowns.

It seems to the writer that caps and gowns are not worn here enough to compensate the wearers. Gowns cost from \$5. to \$10. each, and are hardly used a dozen times. Why would it not be a good idea for seniors to appear in them at every public function of the college during spring term? Last spring when the baseball team played Union, at Schenectady, the senior class of Union attended the game in a body, each man wearing his cap and gown. Why could not Hamilton introduce such a practice?

## The Senior Club.

On Monday evening the Senior Club resumed its meetings and was entertained by the Sig's. The first part of the evening was spent in playing whist. Strickland and Ehret were high men with an equal number of points to their credit. Refreshments followed cards and then the crowd gathered around the piano and sang lustily a program of popular and college songs. The remainder of the evening was given to the fire-place, before which each man settled himself and indulged in dreams and reminiscences. The next and last gathering of the Senior Club will be at Emerson Hall, and every man should be present.

## The Prohibition Exhibition.

In the Stone church next Friday at 8 o'clock will be held the fourth annual contest of the New York State Inter-collegiate Prohibition Association. There will be one speaker from each of the following colleges: Colgate, Cornell, Syracuse, Keuka, and Hamilton. Mr. Rockwell will sing a solo and a quartet will render some college songs. No admission is to be charged and everyone is welcome. Immediately after the contest the awards will be made. There is no reason why Hamilton should not secure the first award, though the competition will be close.

## More About the General Fund Surplus.

At the last meeting of the Advisory Board held in winter term, a discussion of considerable length took place over the disposition of the money which was made at the Gym. exhibition in Utica. No decision was reached in regard to the matter because it was thought best to delay all action until there was a larger number of the Board present. This money was made almost entirely through the efforts of the students and they should have the right to decide what use is to be made of the surplus. There were two views expressed at the meeting; one was to turn the money over to the football management and allow it to pay the outstanding bills, and the other was to place the money in the general fund and allow the management to borrow the money with the understanding that it should be paid back just as soon as possible. It was argued that the latter method was the one which had been followed heretofore and to depart from it would tend to make the managers more extravagant, since they would feel less responsibility if they knew there was an unlimited fund from which they could borrow without refunding. This seems plausible and there is undoubtedly considerable sound sense in it.

However, there is another side to the question. In the first place it is apparent that precedent is without value when the circumstances which establish it are changed. If part of this money should be given to the football management, all present bills could be paid and the manager would be able to start next year with a clean slate. As it is, he will have a debt staring him in the face all next season, and if by good luck he should happen to more than meet expenses, this surplus will all have to be turned over for the payment of an old debt. The question of the probable extravagance of managers, if they could

expect unrestricted aid from the general fund does not seem important, because every athletic manager has to consult the president of the Athletic Advisory Board before he can make any expenditures. He has no opportunity, therefore, of becoming extravagant. It is undoubtedly an advantage to have a general fund, but what is the use of keeping this fund in a chest where it can do no particular good? If no money can be removed from it and all that is borrowed has to be paid back, we will have in time a respectable fortune which will only draw interest, and of which the athletic teams will be allowed to make no use. To be sure a small sum is necessary for Interscholastic Day, but this is not large enough to be of importance in the present discussion. A far better use could be made of this in paying bills which were contracted honestly and through no fault of the managers. In this way all departments of athletics could, except in very unusual circumstances, be kept in a good financial condition, and besides, the actual amount of money belonging to the association would remain unchanged. And if by chance there should be some need of money for the payment of bills which do not come under any particular branch of athletics, a fair amount could be taken from each of the various athletic funds for that purpose. This, however, would hardly be necessary, since there is always some money which belongs properly to the general fund, and it is improbable that there would ever be an absolute lack of funds in this treasury. So far as we can see, there is no very strong argument for keeping this money in a separate place when outstanding debts are in existence. In this case it happens that the football department is the one which is in need of funds, but the arguments which have been given will apply to all departments of athletics.

#### Prof. Shepard's Lecture.

Last Wednesday afternoon Prof. Shepard gave the members of the Senior and Junior classes a very interesting and instructive lecture upon the history of cathedrals in Europe. He said in part, that the Christians had no official meeting places, before the time of Constantine, and that they had to hold their meetings by stealth and in secret places. After their gatherings became lawful, they found that the ancient heathen temples were of no use to them for

congregating, because these buildings were for the most part dedicated to the service of one god or goddess, whose statue stood in the centre of the structure, and left little space for the use of the people. There were at this time other buildings called basilicas which readily lent themselves to the use of the Christians. They were oblong in shape, with a semi-circular projection at the rear, called the apse. The main part of the building, called the nave, was divided into three aisles by rows of columns, while at the further end in front of the apse was a hall-like passage called the transept, running the entire width of the building. The apse was for the use of the bishop, the choir and priests used the transept, and the people stood in the nave. The main aisle was much higher than the side aisles. From the fifth century onward the entrance faced the west. These cathedrals were decorated with mosaics rather than with sculptured work. St. Paul's without the walls is of this style. The Byzantine type came later and started in Constantinople arose during the sixth century. Here the plan was of a Greek cross, rather than the oblong shape, or the Roman cross. The dome was also used extensively. St. Mark's is the best example of this style of architecture in Italy.

Then came the Romanesque architecture. This style of cathedrals also used the Roman cross for their ground plan. They also employed the dome and vault to avoid the wooden roofing, which had been heretofore used. St. Ambras at Milan is an example of this type.

The Gothic architecture followed, and this style of building Prof. Shepard will take up Wednesday afternoon.

#### Another Use for the Commons.

The Junior Whist Club banquet in Utica Thursday night brings to mind once more the regretted fact that our college gatherings are not all held here on the Hill. When the Hall of Commons was building it was the general idea that this building would be our college banqueting hall. But now that the Commons is completed and in full operation no change has been made in the situation. The cause for such a state of affairs is hard to explain. To be sure, Dr. Stryker announced a year ago that the Hall would be rented to parties desiring it for fifty dollars, but it is hard to believe that such an impossible price

would be expected from any class in college. Without doubt any small number of fellows could secure the Commons for a very nominal charge.

Then the question of catering also comes up. Without doubt the food served at the football dinner last fall was below standard, both in quality and quantity, but we must remember that this was our first attempt at such a "feed" and most of the objectionable features of this initial banquet can be excused on the grounds of inexperience. Then, too, the caterer evidently failed to appreciate the opportunity afforded by this meeting of the college. Now all these undesired details could be eradicated, and any club should be able to secure a simple, substantial menu at a small cost.

Just think over the advantages of such gatherings here in the Commons. There would be no tiresome rush for scheduled cars; no car fare to pay; no inconveniences of time and place; no return at midnight; and most important of all, no walk up the Hill at one a. m. The banquets could be scheduled at a convenient hour and every man with little trouble would be able to keep such an appointment. After eating, what could be more enjoyable than sitting by the fireplace for a good sing and smoke before breaking up? One more consideration. Such meetings would tend to acquaint the men down the hill, with the advantages of this Hall, and aid greatly in expediting the movement of centralization. The Hall of Commons is so convenient in every way for banqueting, that to continue such gatherings in Utica seems very undesirable.

#### A Shorter College Year.

There has been much fault found this year with the college calendar. Our college year began September 18th and ends June 30th. The question is: how can those men who have to earn money for their college education, secure summer positions when they cannot leave Clinton until July first?

We have the longest college year of any eastern college. Yet the proportion of men here at Hamilton who are putting themselves through college, is very large. If we investigate we will find that Syracuse closes about June 10th, Columbia and Princeton at the same time, Yale somewhat later, and Cornell the middle of June. By closing the early part of June these colleges do not cut short their work, but they do shorten the Easter vacation. There is no need of two weeks vacation at Easter time. If this vacation were cut down one week and spring term also shortened, our college year would be much more satisfactory.

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## LIFE BOARD ELECTIONS.

In a few weeks the elections to the LIFE board will occur. Hitherto it has been the custom to elect five or six new men from the freshman class, basing eligibility to the Board, on the amount of work done by the various competitors. This year the same rule will govern the elections, and the men who have contributed articles will be taken on. Thus far few men have shown the required interest, consequently if no more freshmen write for LIFE, the Board will be compelled to cut down the number of '07 representatives. It is not too late to begin now. Any man who desires a place on the Board, although he has till now neglected this opportunity, still has a chance to succeed. The training that a student gets on any of the college publications is of great value to him, therefore this part of his college course should not be neglected.

## A NEW LECTURE COURSE.

Wednesday afternoon in Language Hall Prof. Shepard gave a very interesting and instructive lecture to the two upper classes. All who had the privilege of attending enjoyed his talk very much. Such instruction is a new departure here at Hamilton, but certainly very desirable. It suggests a series of similar lectures by the different members of the faculty on subjects to which special research has been devoted. There are many matters of interest in science and the other branches of learning constantly arising, which the student body would like to learn more about. Such a course of voluntary instruction would be well attended, and as much benefit would be derived from it as from the present required or elective courses. Should the

faculty consider such an addition to the curriculum of the college, the student body would gain much.

## GOOD ATTENDANCE DESIRED.

As noted in another column of LIFE, the Intercollegiate Prohibition Contest takes place Friday night at the Stone church. This is the first contest of the kind ever held at Clinton, and for this reason the college body should see that the attendance is large. We will have with us during this convention a number of students from various colleges throughout the state, most of whom have never visited Clinton before, therefore we should show them what Hamilton is, and also make it evident that we, as a college, are interested in their visit. This we can do by attending this contest in a body. The exercises will be instructive and interesting, so every man will gain something and lose nothing by being present. Since it is a prize contest we should be there to encourage our representative who will compete with four other speakers. Whatever aid we can give him by our presence should be cheerfully contributed. If he wins, the honor will be our own as much as his.

## CONDUCT TOWARD VISITORS.

It is to be regretted that the fellows in the dormitories have forgotten how to comport themselves when strangers appear on the campus. With the opening of spring term the usual visitors have begun to flock hither on pleasant Sunday afternoons, and they have been greeted in the usual way. Some of them are unwelcome and their visits should be discouraged, but the boisterous "heads out" method is neither efficient nor proper. Such attention is no discouragement to those who come here to seek notice. Polite indifference would be the surest method and there are many more objections to this unseemly custom. We will keep away all visitors who come here to see the college during the spring. We are glad enough to see a few people from the outside world, and are only destroying our own pleasure by this free and indiscriminate conversation carried on from the windows of North and South. Further, such a reception does not give our visitors a very exalted opinion of Hamilton. A mother or father, for instance, observing such conduct, would not be imbued with a sudden desire to send their son here. There is no telling how far an evil report may go, nor how

much harm it will do. A good report cannot go too far, and no matter what kind of people spread it abroad, it is sure to do some good. Hereafter let all visitors form their own opinion of this place without any assistance from the windows.

## The Freshman Frolic.

The freshman class has decided to hold the annual Freshman Frolic in Society Hall, on the evening of June 8. This date has proved advantageous during the last few years, not only because of the fine weather, which may be hoped for at that time, but also because it gives those who have friends on the Hill for the K. P. exhibition an opportunity to entertain them more fully by a pleasant dance. A committee has been appointed to take the matter in charge, and further announcement will appear later.

## The Baseball Schedule.

During the past week, Manager Paton gave out the completed baseball schedule for this spring. It promises eight home games and only five games off the campus. Such an arrangement is very satisfactory to the College, especially to those students who cannot follow the team on its trips. The first game of the season, with Utica Free Academy, was to have taken place Wednesday afternoon, but the weather was much too cold and the field was in terrible condition. If things brighten up we will see Auburn Theological Seminary here Saturday. The following schedule will be published throughout the season and the scores inserted as fast as the games are played:

April 20—Utica Free Academy at Clinton. (Cancelled.)

April 23—Auburn Theological Seminary at Clinton.

April 26—St. Lawrence University at Clinton.

April 30—Rome Free Academy at Clinton.

May 2—Rochester at Clinton.

May 7—Union at Schenectady.

May 9—Hobart at Clinton.

May 13—Union at Clinton.

May 24—Colgate at Clinton.

May 27—Hobart at Geneva.

May 28—Rochester at Rochester.

June 4—Colgate at Hamilton.

Princeton has organized a water polo team and a coach has been engaged.

**Phi Beta Kappa Elections.**

Five Phi Beta Kappa men were chosen yesterday. The fortunate men were Abbott, Ferguson, Schermerhorn, M. White and Wicks.

**Commencement Speakers.**

Yesterday morning Dr. Stryker announced that T. D. Beckwith had been awarded the Root Fellowship. At the same time the Commencement speakers were announced. They include the following men: Abbott, Bastian, Beckwith, Brandt, Carr, Evans, Ferguson, Lown, Monson, Schermerhorn, Toll, M. White, Wicks, Wills, Wisewell.

**The Whist Club Banquet.**

The Junior Whist Club ended its career Thursday evening with a farewell banquet at the Butterfield in Utica, followed by a theater party at the Majestic. Shortly before six o'clock twenty-one men gathered at the hotel and soon were seated at the table ready to enjoy themselves. The time for eating was necessarily short and for this reason the committee had considered it advisable to omit all toasts. However, the occasion was not entirely destitute of effort in this direction, for Frank Beach announced that he had written some appropriate poetry, and after more or less excitement, he was forced to read his production. That Frank is a poet, every man in the Whist Club will now admit. His composition consisted of "cracks" aimed at fellows whom Beach imagined he had seen during a journey through Hades, Purgatory and Heaven under the guidance of Merrick. His remarks were original and very entertaining, especially to the fellows whose future was foretold. After the banquet all adjourned to the Majestic, where "Du Barry" was much enjoyed.

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E. C. McINTYRE, Editor.

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Mails Close—For Utica, 7:30 a. m., 11:00 a. m., 6:00 p. m. For Rome, 11:00 a. m., 6:00 p. m. For South, 8:15 a. m., 12:25 p. m.

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.

LIFE is entered at the Clinton Post Office as second-class matter.

### New York, Ontario & Western R. R.

Trains leave Clinton for Utica, 7:50 a. m., 11:20 a. m., 2:40 p. m., 6:25 p. m. For Rome, 11:30 a. m., 6:30 p. m. For South, 8:30 a. m., 12:40 p. m., 5:24 p. m., 11:50 p. m.

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.

- Root, '05, is in New York.
- Sicard, '06, visited Hobart last week.
- Johnston, '01, was on the Hill Monday.
- Love, '05, and Love, '07, have not returned this term.
- Edward S. Foster, '92, has been on the Hill this week.
- The Seniors appeared in caps and gowns last Sunday.
- H. H. Getman, of the class of '79, is on the Hill visiting his son.
- Stowell, '05, injured a finger during baseball practice Tuesday.
- Prof. White started a spring cleaning in chapel last Wednesday.
- Track work has been almost discontinued because of the weather.
- Dr. Root and "Uncle John" are the latest boarders at the Commons.
- The Sophomores have begun their course in debate under Dr. Stryker.
- Schermerhorn, '04, who has been ill at his home in Warsaw, is improving.
- Sisson, '04, has been engaged as principal of the High School at Vernon.
- Sherman, ex-'04, has returned from California and expects to graduate with 1905.
- The Wednesday and Saturday baseball games were cancelled because of the snow.
- "Junior Whist" had a banquet in Utica at the Butterfield on Thursday evening and afterwards went to the Majestic to see Mrs. Leslie Carter in "Du Barry."

—Coach Miran is working hard with the baseball men despite the inclement weather.

—Keith, '03, is, at present, traveling in Italy. He expects to return home in early summer.

—Bates, '95, of New York City, was on the Hill last Wednesday. He is to preach in chapel May 22.

—Roosa, '06, will not be able to run on the track team this spring. This loss will be sorely felt.

—Those taking systematic botany and surveying are particularly enjoying this "spring" weather.

—Charles S. Coxe, son of the Hon. Alfred Coxe of the Federal Court, visited on the Hill last week.

—Dr. Stryker announces that the class of '08 will number 60. Let's make it 75 on interscholastic day.

—"Uncle John" has been putting the track in condition. Already it shows a marked improvement.

—Work is being pushed on the new baseball diamond, which ought to be ready by next Saturday.

—Uncle John's swimming class is making rapid progress, or, as Uncle says, "strokes toward success."

—The baseball squad has been very good so far this year. Don't let the cold weather freeze up the enthusiasm.

—The new baseball uniforms are very attractive, and it is to be hoped that they may soon appear on the diamond.

—There must have been something wrong with the Freshman who mistook Watson, '06, for Schermerhorn, '04.

—Drummond and Murdock have issued invitations for a "Scarlet Tea" to be held in their rooms this afternoon.

—The vicissitudes of this climate were shown on Wednesday afternoon, when both sleds and bicycles were used on the Hill.

—"Peter" accounts for the cold weather by saying that the north pole has gone on a "jag" and wandered into Central New York.

—We all appreciate the exchanges placed in the Y. M. C. A. lounging room, but isn't it nearly time that some new ones appeared?

—Beach, '05, gave a very pleasant reception in his room in North college last Saturday. The affair was in honor of Miss Daniels.

—The Senior Class banner has been placed in the chapel. A really handsome banner: black field with a red bar running diagonally across the center and gold numerals on the bar.

—After many stormy meetings the Sophomore class has succeeded in obtaining a set-up from Nellis and Stryker for favors shown these gentlemen in the past. Madame Kelly must be loyally supported.

—At a meeting of the members of the basket-ball team, held during review week of last term, Thomas M. Sherman, '06, was unanimously elected captain for the season '04-'05. He is a good player, steady and consistent, and has the confidence of both team and college.

—The Prohibition Club met at the Delta Upsilon house on Monday evening and after having a very pleasant social time, elected the following officers for the ensuing year: President, Weber, '05; Vice-President, McLean, '06; Secretary and Treasurer, Melrose, '06.

—The dual track meet with Union has been scheduled for May 25 at Albany. All those who are not on the team should make arrangements to accompany it on this trip. If cheering will win a football game it will certainly contribute much toward the success of a track meet.

—In these days before the track management has secured a rubber, the candidates for the team would greatly appreciate the efforts of any public spirited individual who may desire to help the team along by muscular aid. A few volunteer rubbers in the Gym, each day would greatly improve our chances of having a successful season.

—"The better the day the better the deed," says the proverb. We are glad to see that the management has scheduled the second Colgate game for Sunday, June fifth. Have it right after chapel when we can have a full attendance, including Dr. Stryker and the rest of the faculty. As it might be a long draw out affair, it might be well to bring a light lunch.

—Seldom indeed have spring athletics at this College met with so many and such severe hindrances and misfortunes. A wet and useless baseball diamond and no straightaway running track. Surely the gods are not with us. But there is a tradition among Hamilton men, that the more adverse the circumstances the better the men respond to the call to duty. Let us show that this is neither a tradition nor a myth, but a plain, every-day fact.

Hereafter all students of Williams College, holding scholarships, will be obliged to room in the college dormitories.

**Y. M. C. A. Notes.**

The afternoon meeting tomorrow will be conducted by Mr. Corbin, traveling secretary of the Student Volunteer Movement. Opportunities will be offered for students to interview the secretary.

Preparations are on foot for sending a large delegation from Hamilton to the Northfield Conference this year. Those students who are interested may obtain information from the president of the association, the official circulars describing the program, speakers and special features of the conference.

Last Sunday's song service at the 4 o'clock meeting was a success for which much credit is due to the music committee. The hearty response of the college, demonstrated by the exceptionally large attendance, proved that the experiment is worthy of repetition.

All Association dues for the past year not yet paid are earnestly solicited !!

The chairmen of the standing committees of the Y. M. C. A. have been selected by President Day, and are as follows: Bible Study, J. J. Weber, '05; Missionary, R. M. McLean, '06; Religious Meetings, R. H. Thompson, '06; Membership, H. L. Stowell, '05; Finance, A. J. Schwab, '05; Music, A. H. Merrick, '05; Social,

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For information apply to the Secretary of Columbia University, New York, N. Y.

G. C. Kingsley, '05; Neighborhood Work J. A. Melrose, '06. The cabinet met after the meeting last Sunday and partially mapped out the policy and work for the ensuing year. It expects to meet with Secretary Corbin and receive suggestions from him regarding methods of work.

The last month's report of the Yale dining hall shows that it has paid expenses for the first time. The problem of expense of this hall, which has so long puzzled the university, has been solved.

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