

Prof. Braundt

# HAMILTON LIFE.

Vol. II.

CLINTON, N. Y., SATURDAY, MAY 5, 1900

No. 25.

## Engage Uncle John!

"Life" wishes to advocate the retention of Uncle John as permanent gymnasium instructor and athletic trainer. We believe, too, that the college is heartily unanimous in the same desire. It is well known that nearly all track athletes are made in the gymnasium, and that they need consistent and competently directed training in preliminary work during the winter. Heretofore they have trained, but in a more or less irregular fashion, and according to the dictates of their individual will and experience. They need some one to oversee them, and to direct their efforts. No one is better fitted for this than Mr. Crossley. He is himself an expert in all branches of athletics, both out and indoor, and has made it his life work to instruct track athletes. Last year he coached our team to championship, and will do the same this season. We have proved his abilities to our own satisfaction. He would be a good man to take charge of the gymnasium work of the college. No better can be found. He is a man of education, and his moral influence upon the men of the college is good. Besides, no man we have ever had here has so endeared himself to all the boys. He understands us thoroughly, and knows what we can do, and should do. Sweetland himself is hardly more popular. So far as we know, not a man is there who isn't in favor of engaging Uncle John permanently. And we urge the attention of the faculty to this matter, confident that all could be arranged satisfactorily.

—:o:—

Advertise in the "Hamilton Life."

## Spelling Match.

College students are proverbially bad spellers. Their ability, or rather disability, in this direction has frequently been the theme of immeasured ridicule, and has often been pointed to as a specimen of the deplorable carelessness prevalent among disciples of the higher education.

A test was made last Wednesday in the chapel by President Stryker of the spelling ability of the two underclasses, and a new Webster's dictionary was offered to the student best standing the test. Fifty freshmen and thirty sophomores competed, and twenty of the former still held their ground when all of 1902 had completely succumbed. It was a good old-fashioned match without lace or starch, and brought up visions of the little country-school, the proud, rosy-cheeked school-master, the hosts of admiring visitors, and the trembling youngsters, struggling hard over the rocky road of words, tumbling now over giant boulders, and now tripping flat over the pebbles of monosyllables.

The list selected for this occasion was by no means an easy one. Polysyllabic monstrosities abounded. Every art and science yielded upon some of its word-treasures to assist in the slaughter. And what a slaughter it was! Eighty students lined up on both sides of the chapel, half a hundred freshmen, and thirty sophomores, each class striving for the glory of victory, and each man with his eye and his hope nailed to the big, brood, brand-new lexicon, innocently reposing on the table in front, and thoroughly un-

first shot, and found lodgement in the conscious of all the worry and trouble it was causing.

Ping! out of the cannon in the center, all primed and terrible, came the heart of the first victim. Then another and another, volley after volley poured incessantly, mercilessly forth, all shots winged with words nervously short or ponderously long, piercing man after man, mowing down line after line. It was terrible, this promiscuous carnage. When a hundred and twenty-eight shots had been spent, and eighty men lay fallen and prostrate, only one was left to tell the tale, to carry off the honors, and incidentally, the prize. That one, Schuyler of 1903.

—:o:—

## Third Term Senior.

This is popularly supposed to be a cinch. Do not allow anyone to fool you into thinking that way. No matter whether one carries extra hours or not, there is plenty of work left around for the ordinary man to do. Especially is this true if a man is lucky enough to get on prize debate, K. P., or to secure a commencement appointment. Dr. Terrett and Dr. Smyth have both given outside work, which seems somewhat of an imposition in that goal of a college man's ambition—that supposed Utopia "third term senior." Don't be fooled, we observe again. Like some other things and persons about this place, it is not so easy as it looks. It confirms well to the old saying of "little, but oh! my!"

—:o:—

Subscribe for the "Hamilton Life."

## Athletic Department.

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

### The Base Ball Schedule.

An unusually large number of games have been arranged for the base ball team this year. This was possible because there are several pitchers, a thing which has not been true during the past few years. There is a trip for the team up into the northern New England States, which will be a pleasure to them and a good advertisement for the college.

April 25, University of Vermont at Clinton; April 28, Oneonta Normal at Clinton; May 2, College of the City of N. Y. at Clinton; May 5, Colgate University at Clinton; May 9, Cornell University at Ithaca; May 11, Hobart College at Geneva; May 15, University of Vermont at Burlington, Vt.; May 16, Norwich U. at Norwich, Vt.; May 17, Middlebury College at Middlebury, Vt.; May 19, Hobart College at Clinton; May 26, Middlebury College at Clinton; May 30, Colgate University at Hamilton; June 2, Toronto University at Clinton.

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### Hamilton 12; Oneonta Normal 5.

Hamilton played its second game on April 28th against Oneonta Normal. The game was lazy, and lacked interest throughout. The pitching of Riley for Oneonta was good. Hamilton seemed unable to get many hits from him. At the end of the first inning the score stood 7 to 2 in favor of the first inning. In the next eight innings each team made the same number of runs, although Hamilton's scores were scattered through several innings, while Oneonta made all of her runs in one inning. The game was not worth a

spectator's notice. There was no brilliant batting, no brilliant fielding, none of these exciting moments which are so attractive. The errors for Hamilton were not numerous, and yet some of our players were not above reproach. The batting of the home team showed their weakness. There was a failure to connect. If we can not hit pitchers such as this, we will feel strangely out of place when Cornell's twirlers send them over the base for us to taste. This is the weak point in the team, and every effort should be made to catch it up. Oneonta played very well for the team that it is. They held themselves down, and "did not go up in the air" at any time as much as we did in the fifth inning.

—o:o—

### Spring Field Day.

On May 8th, on Steuben Field, will be held spring field day. This is an event which should be of great interest to all men in college who care for track athletics, as participants or as outsiders. It will show how the team will do with N. Y. U. It is an indication of our strength. Besides this feature of this meet with ourselves, there is the old interclass rivalry for points. Especially do the freshmen and sophomores struggle against each other for first place in this yearly affair. The excitement is apt to be more intense than in the fall. Now, this year, the events will be well filled, and there will be many entries because there are many competitors. Now the work as it shows up in this exhibition is the basis on which men are picked for the track team. This makes it important for the candidates to do their best, and gives another reason why the day should be an interesting one. Now, fellows in the college will be there to yell and to encourage things along, and to make the team feel that they are back of them,

and to give the team a sample of the support which they may expect the following Saturday. This is another item which will be of interest to the spectators next Tuesday. It would be well did every one come early and stay late—every one who is possibly able to be on the hill that afternoon. Certainly, there is no college man who will think of missing the opportunity.

—o:o—

### Intercollegiate.

Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler places the expenditure for public schools in the United States at \$200,000,000, or \$2.67 per capita of population. In Great Britain, the expenditure is about \$58,000,000, or about \$1.68 per capita. In the German Empire it is over \$108,000,000, or more than \$2.00 per capita. The expenditure for common schools has nearly trebled since 1870, and during that period has grown from \$1.75 per capita to \$2.67, and from \$15.20 to \$18.86 for each pupil enrolled.

Rochester has been admitted as a member of the N. Y. S. F. A. A.

Prinstein, the remarkable Syracuse jumper, won the running-broad in the recent Philadelphia games, and established a new world's record of 24 feet 7¼ inches. This exceeds by 2¾ inches the record of Kreanzlein, the former champion.

California, Columbia and Cornell will hold a triple track meet in New York this spring.—Ex.

Harvard College has recently made an important innovation in appointing Mrs. W. P. Fleming as curator of astronomical photographs. Mrs. Fleming is the first woman who has ever held an official position in the University.—Ex.

A number of the leading universities have united in the effort to provide permanent endowment for the American Archaeological School at Athens.

M. Henri de Reginer, French poet

and writer, delivered a series of eight lectures on "French Modern Poetry" before the students of Harvard.—Ex.

By the recent action of the trustees of Columbia, Barnard College for women has been formally made a part of the University; the President of Columbia becoming ex-officio the President of Barnard. The new arrangement opens all the resources of the University to women graduate students.

Miss Mary E. Morley, a graduate of Brown, and late of the faculty of Wellesley College, has been selected as the successor of Mrs. Mead as President of Mt. Holyoke.

The Yale-Annapolis boat race takes place to-day at Annapolis.

Bowdoin will have a new library. The gift is from Gen. Thomas H. Hubbard of New York City.

Wesleyan undergraduates are striving to abolish co-education at their college. The system has long been looked upon will ill-favor.

A new oratorical league is being formed to include Columbia, Syracuse and Wesleyan.

Michael Cudaby of Chicago has subscribed \$50,000 to the Catholic University of America, which is established in Washington, D. C.

The Cornell College of Forestry will construct a building on the Cornell Adirondack lands. This building will be used as a permanent home for the manager of the forest.

—o:0—

**A Pastoral.**

The ground is greening glad with grass,

The trees are shooting shoots—

Anon and in between anon the owls' hooting hoots,

Old Waddie, lies, and steams away,

Unconscious of the spring—

"He's just as good as dead," they say,

A funeral's just the thing.

(By Deke Taylor.)

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## CLINTON POST OFFICE.

Mails Open.--From Utica, 9:00 a. m., 1:00 p. m., 5:40 p. m. From Rome, 9:00 a. m., 5:30 p. m. From South, 11:40 a. m., 6:30 p. m.

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

There are two new things in especially to be noticed on the campus this term. Number one are the prominent "tawsels" on the mortar boards of the seniors. These are evident. They are new, original, decorative, lively and maroon. This is a precedent, oh! my! of the three underclasses. See that ye fail not to follow it. Number two. Two captured Spanish cannon frown across the campus from the sides of the flag pole. However, there is no danger, they are spiked. As an ornament and gong, they are a success. The only difficulties, we could suggest are mere possibilities—some morning they may be out of place. On the morning of September 19th next, they may be red, or green, or both.

—o:o—

We understand that the founders of the rule that no seniors will be candidates for graduation who enter third

term with a delinquent, got their idea from Harvard. This seems to be a little inconsistent, as Harvard through its President has been constantly assailing the policy of small colleges, showing that she does not think her policy the same as theirs. Now, this action of ours shows weakness on our part, or an attempt to conform to Harvard ideals. Again, in this specific case, the two men kept from taking their degree in June were flunked in a required subject. There are no required subjects, senior year in Harvard. How do you reconcile this, oh faculty? Do not quote us your authority as Harvard.

—o:o—

It has come to us through a reporter that a certain freshman last term, concluded that one of his exams was too long. So, correspondingly, did this wise young fool cut it short. By evolution, he discovered that he had already attained the mark necessary for passing, and so in his laziness, he left unanswered the last four questions. Now, these last four questions were such ones that this ambitious student could have answered them. The result of this was, the freshman flunked. He got a four hour dink. Now, I ask you kind readers, what do you think of that? For double seated, triple expansion, assmine inelia, that beats all. Yet, there have been men in Hamilton College who were not workers. You all doubtless, in some tense, know such. But this was an evidence of the 11th degree. This way is a past master. Many of you are then, who would gladly give up your noonday meals, could you rival him in this art, but men are born great and lazy, and some have P B K keys and dinks thrown in with their job. Our young friend is one of the latter persuasion. Born lazy the disk came easy—almost too easy—for an artistically lazy man. There may be points in this man's conduct worthy of emulation. We hope that you will find some, dear readers.

## Clark Prize.

We print a list of the Clark Prize orators, and the subject on which they wrote. Three men are chosen from one subject; two from another, and one from a third. There were between fifteen and twenty orations handed in this year for competition. This is an unusually large number for so small a class.

"The Legacy of Oliver Cromwell," F. F. Baker, B. T. Moore, W. R. Lee; "The Year 1848 in European History," H. C. Miller, R. H. Sheppard; "Henry Ward Beecher in Great Britain in 1863," C. H. Fisher.

—o:o—

Her voice is one of command,  
Her power is in full swing,  
Her jewels, though scarce, as pure,  
She has but a single ring.  
The fellows all jump at her call,  
To obey her they hasten pell-mell,  
But I dread the sound of her voice,  
For she is the college bell.

—Ex.

—o:o—

I got some cash from home last week,  
I know it can't be spent,  
The reason why is plain to all,  
For all men know,—it's Lent.

—Ex.

—o:o—

That she's pretty as a picture,  
I will wager all my pelf,  
Though, of course, she's not as pretty  
As the photo of herself.

—N. Y. World.

—o:o—

## The Forlorn Lover.

Hank Miller is a pretty boy (?)  
His legs are long and slender—  
There is a girl in Utica,  
To whom his very tender.  
Last night I saw this fickle maid,  
She was with another fellow—  
And the part of Hank that tender was,  
Has now turned hard and yellow.

(By Deke Taylor.)

Local Department.

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

LOCALS.

April 25. Hammer and shot men take a slump.

April 26. Junior Greek class take great amusement in certain passages they have to read.

April 27. H. C. Goodwin, ex-1901, visits the hill. Members of the photography class secure views down town especially at Houghton, D. K. E. banquet at the "Wirth."

April 28. Base ball game. Houghton attends. A large bunch play nigger baby in front of North. Esty gets down and is burned in fine shape. Everyone, especially Esty and Dick Drummond was glad that our game with the Oneonta Normal was enough of an attraction to draw Houghton to the top of College Hill. A goodly number of singers headed by El Capitan serenade Houghton. 1901 Hamiltonian comes out.

April 29. Good sermon by Prex. Several Houghton Damsels attend chapel, and visit the cemetery—escorted.

April 30. Junior class sings its usual ditty before entering Psychy's sacred domain. Bartholomew is still searching for his lost melodeon. Earl, Captain of the Utica team, was out, and aids Ellis in coaching the team. Mintz and Drummond engage Elkin in a profound and learned discussion upon the element of fear in religion.

May 1. Deke addressed "Nick" in a rather affectionate manner in Y. M. C. A. Skinner passes hat in chapel. Freak Hull makes his debut on the athletic field. The neighboring towns of Clinton must be losing their attractiveness when Freak can spend an afternoon on the campus.

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### Commencement Appointments

The following men, being the first third of the class of 1900, received appointments of commencement stage: Seth Bud, C. R. Clark, W. G. Decker, G. H. Eggleston, A. C. Higgins, W. R. Lee, J. B. MacHarg, R. H. Sheppard, H. D. Spencer, R. S. Waddell.

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### Senior Class Officers.

#### CAMPUS DAY.

President, I. W. Henderson; Orator, F. F. Baker; Poet, J. B. MacHarg; 1901 response, J. Sweet; 1902 response, J. W. Van Allen; 1903 response, P. Harper; Day Orator, E. J. Graham.

Class Day—President, C. R. Clark; Orator, H. C. Miller; Poet, J. B. Sheppard; Historian, B. N. Holbrook; Prophet, W. F. Bacon.

Presentation Committee—H. E. Taylor, K. G. Henry, W. Higgins.

Executive Committee—R. S. Cookinham, W. G. Decker, W. R. Lee, R. H. Sheppard, R. S. Waddell, H. D. Spencer, A. W. Mason.

Invitation Committee—G. H. Eggleston, W. S. Jones, J. E. Parmichael.

Class Photographer—Geo. Thompson.

Permanent Class Secretary—R. S. Cookinham.

Senior Ball Committee—S. Buth, C. H. Fisher, F. M. M. Hull, D. M. MacNaughton, B. J. Moore, F. M. Weston, G. T. White.

—:o:—

### The Vital Study of Literature.

The long-continued, laborious dissection of literary master-pieces, either in the ancient or modern languages, was a phase of education which sprang up toward the middle of this century, but which already seems to be passing away except for purposes of purely philological research. Mr. Winiam Norman Guthrie, who writes in "The Sewanee Review" (April), is one of those who disbelieve in this view of literary study. Literature can not be taught, he says. It is not a science, but the "collective

name for masterpieces of literary art." He writes:

"The teaching required is a personal preparation for enjoyment. The understanding of a poem, as a piece of writing, versifying, thinking, feeling, is not identical with the enjoyment of it, and its *raison d'etre* is not the former, but the latter. The latter does imply the former; and yet is it not true that the former (the understanding) is not to be got so much from a vivisection of the poem, sure to become an autopsy before the student knows it, as from the proper education of the student in certain elementary arts and sciences, or more probably by his lessons in life's school of experience? For one who gets a love of Milton's epic from parsing a speech of Satan, there are thousands who ever after secretly congratulate themselves that they do not write like Milton. Fortunately for them, his fame is such that they may safely neglect to read his works. Dore will suffice—and the school memories of syntactic involution! Besides, well-bred people never discuss the classics—only writings warranted ephemeral and interesting! It is not that adults lack time, 'habits of study,' or capacity for continuous attention, for self-compulsion. No. They cheerfully labor at their callings in and out of season. They will acquire a science or an art as a personal accomplishment. But then a definite use is in view: an increase of power, a display of personal excellence. Why is literature so rarely the diversion of the busy man's leisure hours—his opiate, his stimulant, his food of the spirit? Those of us who know what literature has been to leaders of men in the past; how, directly or indirectly, from it the preserver and transmitter of our racial achievement, all of character almost and conduct derive; those of us who have, not merely professionally as teachers, critics, litterateurs, but personally as men and women, drunk freely of those waters of life and been refreshed, intoxicated—nay, renewed—as tho indeed they were love philters drawn from the fount of eternal youth—how can we help lamenting that so many about us refuse to drink with us to their health and our happiness? How can we not wish to do something to cure their self-complacent, wilful illiteracy? And

who is to blame for the disease, if such it be? Who, if not the teacher, the critic, the litterateur? Their sins of commission and their sins of omission are indeed grievous. What was done at school for the adult of to-day? What were his text-books?—Is their memory fragrant? And since he has been out of school what book about English literature has been put into his hands, which, vitally interesting in its conception and execution, showed to him the value of the subject?"

Indeed, it is just here, says Mr. Guthrie, that the student is most irritated. "Manuals of Literature," however erudite and meritorious, give only Pisgah sights of the Promised Land. They are histories of literary production, graveyards and tombstones rather than histories of literature in a true sense. What the ordinary unpedantical man wants is "vital criticism," says the writer, "based on principles for which the justification is in me."

"But what are, in the opinion of the writer of this paper, these principles, and where are they to be studied? Manifestly at the book-shop, the newsstand, the office of the public library. Observe how mankind selects among books of contemporary authorship, for which no ancient fame imposes artificial reverence. Every one has noticed that the book of which but a few years ago, perhaps, several hundred thousand copies were sold is never to-day in demand. No one speaks of it; no one insists that you must read it. Everybody seems to have forgotten that it was once on every table, in every mouth. How is this? My book-seller tells me that more recent books have taken the popular fancy. So I discover at once the law of death. Other things being equal, the newest novel is the best. Old books are good, not because of their age, but in spite of it. Their survival is a proof that new books are not their equals in some important respects; for only if the old gives what the new can not supply does it continue to find readers. The greater the output of novels the higher the mortality rate. A work of fiction which in these days of excessive production and publication retains a respectable body of readers is not without peculiar merit. Then I understand why the classics are probably great. If they are not now mere fossils stored in glass cases of scholarly museums, if they are really living creatures still, great and wonderful must be, indeed, in them the spirit of life."

### Do you ever write?

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You never saw such a hulla-ba-loo.  
CHORUS. — U-pi-dee-i-dee-i-da! etc.

Her voice is clear as a soaring lark's,  
And her wit is like those trolley-car sparks!  
When 'cross a muddy street she flits,  
The boys all have conniption fits!

The turn of her head turns all ours, too,  
There's always a strife to sit in her pew;  
'Tis enough to make a parson drunk,  
To hear her sing old co-ca-che-lunk!

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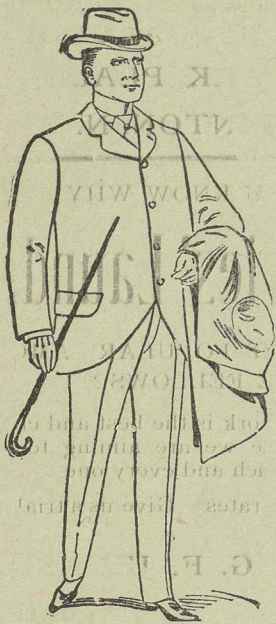
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