

HAMILTON LIFE.

The Weekly Publication of Hamilton College.

Vol. IV.

CLINTON, N. Y., SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 1902.

No. 13

Greeting.

"Time rolls his ceaseless course" and along its current man is wafted according to the inclination of the tide. Three weeks ago and more by a few days' anticipation was the thief of all to which it appertained. The prospect of departure to the field of old familiars quickened and depressed alternately with more or less degree of stress. To those who from these college halls went forth to revel in their initial recess, the outlook was one which no doubt surfeited expectancy. But all that is quartered with the hosts of past and the experiences which live alone as such. We trust that the vacation has been replete with interest and incident to every man and to his pleasurable satisfaction. Many of us have lolled and lounged as far as the effort of constraint may be concerned. Others have improved the opportunity to enhance their accommodation for a subsequent college term. But whatever we have done or dreamed we're here again in the reality of being.

'Tis sweetness to each and every one, but for some the savor is embittered. Time is the healer though and by co-operation with him all our woes may yet be turned to weal. We are here to face the same exactions and perhaps some added responsibilities in discharge of which we find unsavored satisfaction. But what cannot be eschewed must be embraced, and stoicism is the more secure refuge. Resignation with a purpose to bear and then surmount will work the work.

So here's a New Year's greeting to the sons of Hamilton. Let the future eclipse the past and present. Let achievement supplant the dream and the intention. Let ambition be the father of attainment and let no one be disconsolate or despond. To those of us who are compelled to meditate on and regret our chances unimproved and duties shirked or slighted; profit, by the tough tuition. Resolve that our consolation from now

on shall be that we have promoted our perfections and improved our imperfections for the better. Let the cost and the expense of our experiments lead us to more salutary and precautionary measures for our own dear comfort if naught else. Ply actively the spade and dig!

Those who have been recipients of forced favors must profit ultimately by the present. Though our proneness to immoderate views may cause us to resent, remember that in the calm beyond the storm and the dawn ahead of darkness is the choicest of the good philosophy of life. Extra hours imposed upon a man but attests his capacity to discharge. A compliment is often couched in paradox. By contrast and antithesis alone can we appreciate and differentiate. Above what's present gloom will shine with greater radiance, what ought to be, what might have been, and what by effort we can yet procure. "Some rise by sin and some by virtue fall." That is the mockery and irony of living. But the ladders all round up at the same point in the last event. So lets onward, "breast and back as either should be."

Why Is It?

There seems to be this term an unwanted delay in the return of those who should be here. Even those were present under duress at the required moment of the crisis and no sooner. To what we can ascribe this "tarrance" and reluctance is a conundrum demanding some solution. There are many forces which deter and stay the activities of going and returning, but how can these forces be so valid in the present instance? Some must have rusted in a vile repose. Others have been wheeled into a rut and have followed it to its terminus, perhaps. Some have returned with alacrity and have given even undue acceleration to their speed. Others hold their return in unexplained abey-

ance. Some resort here as to a haven, and others as to the high seas of distress. For the majority, however, the vacation was of ample length and surely fed to fatness the appetite for pastime. But the old hill is the true fold, aside from home, for all, and 'tis a pleasure that we journey but from home to home.

The Bell.

It had been the general belief that on our return the new or the repaired bell would peal its tones of joy to greet us from afar and consecrate the place of our abode. But, alas, "the best laid schemes of mice and men gang aft agley." Owing to some difficulty attributable to nobody, the new bell had not arrived on contract and the scheduled hour. "The lamb's tail in a fur cap" still wags but can not wake us. Its silenced tones could never rouse one within four walls. But we are assured that its substitute is sure to be provided and with that we are content, of course. We of course expect at least a half-holiday in recognition of the occasion when the day dawns for its installation.

The Posters.

In the columns of immediate past issues have appeared expressions of hope, trust and prophecy as to the virtues and excellences of the "Posters" to be. They now are; and they are good. It would be a task to judge the relative merits of the class "scurfs" and award the palm. From a literary standpoint they are perhaps on a par. The sophomores, as was expected, excelled as to the individuality of their publication, but the freshmen bested them in their double deal with poster and publication.

Wednesday morning there were many vouchers of freshman enterprise glued to tree and building. Posters representing a figure of a man with head and especially ears of the stubborn brute superimposed, were all to greet the eye.

On many a poster did the sophomoric eye dilate. They were too well posted to be detached, apparently. Too bad.

The satire on the freshman class was unique. In the form of a primer with progressive and consecutive lessons, it ran the lance through every deserving subject and coursed the gamut of satirical thought and its expression. It was titled the "Slimers' A-B-C Book." The embellishments executed by class talent were meritorious in the extreme. Being printed as it was on linen it must have itemized and aggregated a neat sum and expense.

The "scurf" on the sophomores purported to be the official publication of that class. Its columns were filled with the indited characteristic vainglory of first-year men. But the accounts of several demonstrations where the sophomores had fluked and fumbled was most opporune and happy. Scenes were well depicted, and for quality and quantity this effort is to be most generously lauded and commended.

In both there was a lack of insinuation to contrast with the bald and bold-faced statements. They were tirades and diatribes for certain. Some characteristics were highly along the lines of invective. This policy of class polemics is assuredly a creditable one and ought not to suffer desuetude. "Some see themselves as others see them," with perhaps exaggerated detail, feature and perspective. But with all the phases which may be designated reprehensible, the better ones and those which tend to the common advantage preponderate the "worser part." Some men can certainly profit by the perusal of these parchments. They mirror up their defects and their foibles and give them a chance to primp and perk.

The Book Store.

Query: Is the book vendor a speculator and does he vend for pleasure and profit? At other times this subject has arisen and suffered to subside. But now it looms up again, an ogre and a vital point. Are we supposed to chuck coin into the book store? It used to be the understanding that for his services as intermediate exchange the book seller received his room and rent thereof as his requital and that the price of books above the listed sale price was only such as to cover the expense of transfer and transportation. But this theory, if in practice, has lapsed and relapsed. We

are under a constraint to purchase our tomes of troubles at the college book store or else club together and instate ourselves as vendors. This, of course, inconveniences everyone. Perhaps it is on this theory that the bookseller assumes the totality of inconveniences that he charges in excess. That might be justifiable but it seems that some of the prices are exorbitant and arouse the imputation of usurious practice and extortion, (to accentuate the wrong). That is not admissible or permissible. The book store exercises a tyranny of price and purchase. If you need a book you must hie yourself to the store and then pay in cold cash the stipulated sum. Credit, though oft abused, has been discarded, and without the requisite coin in your hand you go sans leaf or cover. That does not comport with the interposed contention that the book store caters to the convenience of purchasers. No one objects to the making of a reasonable profit for the pains but we can't countenance some offices of the functionaries. This matter deserves a little attention. Men are not provided with cash at the time of crises and hence go without their books. When they receive their study stipend they go to purchase and are apprised of the unfortunate return to first sources of all unpurchased books. This is bad. The cords of sympathy between student and seller are untuned and even broken in this way. That redounds to the good repute of neither. Let reciprocity and discrimination have fair play and generous rein.

The Schedule.

If ever a schedule ought to be scored it is the one offered for this term. It presents a multitude of conflicts and "set over againsts" that would exasperate to violent expression, even so evenly tempered a man as Job purports to have been. Men, who in their attempts to put out the required number of hours to their satisfaction, have met flat failure. The schedule seems in its arrangement to consist with nothing, not even itself. Courses which have been opposed are now reconciled, and vice versa. No matter how you manipulate the offers they can not be resolved into desirable order. The chaos is inexplicable. Men are compelled to elect back for the sake of form. Men who have continued along one course are swerved aside and forced to drop the outlined policy of a

college course. Men are not allowed to take subjects in their own year and generation because they have not had work that is considered essential to the study of it; and yet are constrained to elect undesirable subjects in inferior courses. Men must take a one-hour subject which they detest in order to conform to the rules and regulations. Men with extra hours saddled on them must seek their sore when there is no salve. And to what end? What is the philosophy of the regime? Has it any? What does such an ordinance have for its sanction and its exoneration. Empty hours through the week offer spaces for subjects, which instead even of conflicting, are "set over against." Is the schedule for the student body or just to give some one the job of figuring out a code of inconveniences to these same students. Is the course merely nominally and titulary elective? We are told that if in the back fields of sophomore and junior years we can find sheaves to garner into our repugnant barn, we must load up and groan under the unwelcome burden. Where is the use, to say naught of the justice? How can we acquit the schedule so fraught with flaws as far as we can see? We can't. It may be order which we can not see, and harmony misunderstood by us, but to us it presents a chaos and a crowd of discords. It is to be regretted most bitterly by some of the seniors that they are unable to elect the English courses and certain others. Many have relied on completing the courses mapped out and continued thus far by them, but here at the last moment their intentions are thwarted, and their preferences are discounted. We fail to see the need of it. Six hours on certain days constitute a chore. The days even deserve some equity.

To the Musical Clubs.

We are glad to see and hear the musical clubs at work and labor in earnest. We commend the spirit of those who follow such a leader of such enterprise. There's no reason why Hamilton can not give birth to as harmonious a band of minstrels as any other institution of similar size. There's no reason why we can't turn out a better one, and we will. Practice is the prerequisite. We have confidence in the clubs and trust their eventual success implicitly. Those of us who heard the concert given by the Yale club had our ideas lightened and

bolstered up. We can turn out a club that, though of course not equalling the ones of the large universities, will compare, not to our discredit and chagrin, with theirs. Get stunts, stunts, stunts. They pepper and salt the whole performance, and cover a multitude of piebald imperfections along other lines.

—It is said that of our many authors, not a few have no claim to an alma mater. Cooper entered Yale and was expelled. Bryant spent one year at Williams. Most of our prominent American authors of today were not college-bred men.

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Hamilton Life.

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Subscription price, \$1.75 a year. Single copies 5 cents each. Advertising rates given on application to the Business Manager.

ONCE more the college has re-assembled and commenced its work. Again our attention is called to the dispensation of justice by the authorities in the matter of over cutting. It is not our wish nor is it our purpose to appear unreasonable or exorbitant in our requests in this matter. We believe that deliberate and malicious disregard for the rules and admonitions made by that body should be summarily reprimanded. The man who heedlessly takes more than his allowance in absences, should be dealt with according to the law. We fully feel the necessity of law in this matter and believe in carrying it out. But there is a higher law than that of statute. The law of equity and justice should supercede all. Is this the case in Hamilton? Does a man receive punishment in accordance with his merit, or do the potentates of this college wield their powers unnecessarily harshly and many times with inequity? The experiences of the students vociferate an affirmative reply to the latter. When a student has been confined to his bed with sickness for two or three weeks and has been compelled to over-cut, (often not more than once or twice,) upon resuming his studies, frequently in a partially recovered condition, unable to grapple with a heavy load at first, and far behind in his work, just at a time when lenient treatment is most desired and essential to his full and rapid recovery, the poor fellow finds that his load has been increased, extra work has been thrust upon him, and above all, he is notified that he must attend every morning chapel, every noon chapel and every recitation for the next three months. The philosophical analysis of

such justice is beyond our comprehension. The injuriousness and injustice of such punishment is unquestionable. It has been said that college is not intended for a hospital for the frail and sickly. This is true. But it is also as true that our best students, mentally and physically, are not invulnerable to illness at times. We all must succumb to it occasionally.

But the inequity does not cease here. The penalties suffered are not proportionally dealt out to the offenders. Where one man is deprived of all his cuts for the ensuing term, and is given three extra hours work for over-cutting once or twice, another man for the same offense is either merely deprived of his allowance for the following term, or is allowed to get off scott free.

We feel that such injustice should not be passed unnoticed. These cases are being repeated term after term, and our plans for reform have sounded each time upon unheeding ears. The powers seem immovable in their rulings, yet we feel that justice must eventually be secured and the present system abolished or remodeled.

It is the aim of all colleges and schools today to furnish their many advantages to the public at the lowest possible expense, in order that every young man or woman, whatever their condition, may enjoy the privilege of higher education. Hamilton, although not endowed as heavily as many other colleges, nevertheless proportionately affords, with its numerous scholarships and prizes, a remarkable opportunity to needy students. There is, however, an inconsistency in the actions of our faculty which is extremely provoking to all of us. We refer to the constant and seemingly needless change of text books. It does seem strange that books cannot be found for many departments suitable for more than one year's teaching. Cannot the experienced professors tell by personal study whether a text book is fitting for his classes without making a year's trial of the same? Many of us depend on our mercantile abilities in selling our old books for securing the requisite cash to purchase new ones. But now we are forced to accumulate in our libraries miscellaneous and decrepit text books, which certainly, if they are not fit to study, are by no means worth keeping on the shelf.

Of course we recognize the fact that advancement in the various sciences and

branches of learning requires text books which will be "up to the times." But this is not the reason why some of our books are changed, at least it is not a sufficient reason for the changes. A new editor's work appears which seems for the time being to be better than the one in hand and consequently we buy the new book as an experiment; and experiment at our expense is not what we are here for. The change in the rhetoric, for instance, this year, has necessitated the freshmen purchasing a book worth one dollar and a half; while the sophomores have on their hands books in good condition which, however, they have no use for. We do not believe that there has been sufficient advance in the science of rhetoric to justify such a change.

We do not give this criticism at the complaint of a few, but it has been prompted by the more general criticism which has been expressed by a large number of the college body. We hope that it will therefore be received and noted by the faculty.

"EVERYTHING comes to him who waits and hustles while he waits." We see the manifesto of this truth in the final assurance of the erection of the "Commons," for the construction of which we have all yearned. It has been the subject of much conjecture, this "Commons Hall." To many of us it appeared a lost and ruined venture, and the preparations seemed to have no more than a foundation. It was of course appreciated that the "purse controlled the policy" here as in all enterprises, but we were cynical as to the power of the purse to guide and to secure. Our needs here certainly transcended our tangible powers to procure, but progress once arrested does not necessarily remain to atrophy. If it is true that progress has many a receding wave, then it of course is possible that the pools may some time stagnate. It was officially announced on Wednesday that the funds were floated and aflow, wherewith the work would be resumed in a confederate season. It has not as yet transpired who the benefactor and the donor is or are, but all in good time. His loyal philanthropy will receive its meed, he may be sure. Here's to the alumnus who has come to the rescue. That which but pended now impends and is even imminent. Cheer up, thou inner and æsthetic man!

THE dances for the present term have suffered an untoward prospect in some respects. The days of lean "Lent" have been preferred against our preference and this fact necessitates an expeditious arrangement and preparation for the festivities. As Lent commences on the 12th of February the dances will have to be held immediately after the first of the month. On this account it behooves the juniors and their representative committee to lope along and tarry not. We must have as capital a revelry as that of the preceding year, which certainly set a noble precedent and one which should be emulated to the equal of it. The time is short and the demands as great as of former seasons. Let there be a co-ordinate energy on the part of those in charge. The college is in support of them *en masse* and want only the opportunity to improve. Sail in; you're sure of success. We've got to have it. These functions redound to our undying credit and advancement. They conduce to the increase of our prestige and its maintenance as much as any other agencies or instruments. As is our anticipation so let its appointment be.

THE indoor exhibition is on foot. Those of us who were so fortunate as to be spectators to the one of last year, can vouch for the similar merit of the one or ones to be this year. Uncle John is here, and that's the tale unfolded and retailed. This demonstration will not conflict in any vital way with basketball; that's assured. The gymnastics and acrobatics will be as good, if not better, than ever. We must also see that the affair is a financial success. So every man lend his little to the common contribution and outdo last year.

FROM interviews with responsible and representatives Colgate men, it is to be inferred that Colgate has virtually accepted our challenge to a debate. The only decision pending now is as to the time and other incidents. It rejoices us to see that our rivalry and competition with Colgate has expanded and invaded the forensic field. That is what we want and need and so does Colgate.


—Following the suspension of the University of Pennsylvania basket ball five by the A. A. U. comes the suspension also of the Yale five and Columbia team for playing with unregistered teams.

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F. S. CHILD, JR., Editor.

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.

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.

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. PAVNE, P. M.

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

College Notes.

—The *Hamiltonian* Board seems busy.
—Hebrew seems in disfavor first and afterward.

—"Doctor" Andrews is spending a few days on the hill.

—Dr. Terrett's courses seem more popular than ever.

—Collins' explanation of "palmer" did not seem to suit "Bib".

—About forty sophomores have elected Latin for winter term.

—"Windy" gave the sophomores quite a lengthy talk Thursday.

—Just look at the Spanish class! Composed exclusively of Don Quixotes.

—Prof. Saunders is open to congratulations for a bouncing baby girl.

—For the first time this year there were no markers in Wednesday Chapel.

—"Shorty" Holbrook is visiting the hill for purposes of pleasure and of profit.

—It is expected that the new sweaters for the football team will put in an appearance soon.

—A large number from the hill attended the dance at "Society Hall" Thursday night.

—Theatre going seems to be in high esteem on the hill. The crowds sortie from the hilltop every night.

—The sophomore poster, if it did nothing else, named freshman Dean. He will, without doubt, be known hereafter as "Co-Ed."

—The college is relieved to learn that Youker, '03, is on the high road to recovery and will soon resume his work upon the hill.

—Yesterday the Glee Club took a trip to Rome where they expect to rival and outvie the harmonies wrought by Nero's liar of a lyre. We trust that they required no claque as he did.

—Signor having at last discovered one of his many errors, has so far reformed as to elect "Bill Nye," and that's quite an improvement to a badly impaired intention.

—Prof. Robinson "horsed" "Capt." Davis quite a little about a book which was written by an A. S. Davis, of Harvard, who showed an extensive knowledge of Latin.

—Prex interviews a few members of the college Thursday morning after chapel, and in the course of his remarks announces that one over-cut, be that over-cut what it may and for whatever reason taken, is sufficient reason for expulsion from college. These are truly troublesome times.

—Now begins the hue and cry against the incumbents on the *Hamiltonian* Board. The hackneyed, threadbare, hair-brained, trite, old interrogative is on every stooping tongue. The lips seem to love it. Every functionary is accosted with the inevitable question. To be sure the paths of glory lead to more than one grave, and they always yawn. They say "there are no pit-falls in the path of duty," but there's many a scandal and many a hole; they can rest assured of that. Such offices either develop a cynic and a pessimist, or they perfect that choicest of all rare virtues, patience. Here we feel the truth of the adage, that "Patience is a word meant for hearts of burden and not birds of prey." The members of the board need to fortify themselves with all weapons of defense from tongue to toughened toe. Let both fly at the proper juncture. It's the only policy to pursue. Give the more inquisitive an opportunity to expedite the publication of the annual and that will sprinkle a most cooling patience on their inflamed distemper. Recrimination is effective, especially in this material way.

—In the recent amateur athletic championships at the Sportsman's Show in Philadelphia, the world's record for 220 yards over ten high hurdles was broken both by Tewksbury and Baird, of University of Pennsylvania.

Basket-ball.

The basket-ball season has virtually commenced and will soon be in the fever of its tilt. Class games have been scheduled and inter-class competition should be tense, since only by carrying this rivalry into effect can we effectuate our end. The team has before it a prodigious schedule and to play it the representatives of the college in this branch of our athletic curriculum must be tried and veteran men. Their abilities must be thoroughly disciplined. This is only gotten by a participation of every possible candidate for the team. Let each class get its team in trim and then play with the zest of zealots. This is what does and achieves. We know it and so let's act as to our lights. We have an efficient and capable manager; a discriminating one. We have an unexcelled captain to general the team and its manœuvres. Give them both materials to work with; either flesh, spirit or lucre, and listing to the inevitable stand sponsors for success.

The Advent of Civilization Again.

With gratitude we observe the willingness of the trolley company to accommodate and appoint the convenience of the passenger traffic. Inasmuch as the 11 o'clock car by waiting for the theatre habitues thwarted the intentions of the more importunate, the company graciously formulated a new schedule and ran a car out from Utica at 12 o'clock. This is the present regime. No more difficulty for either passenger of haste, hunger or histrionic appetite. The convenience of the car line in general was never more recognized or appreciated than on our return this term. There was no sprinting from the Empire State; no sprinting anywhere, but a deep abiding content and confidence in the fact that every hour meant an opportunity to reach the bourne of destination. O gratitude, thy name is Hamilton College!

Junior Checker Club.

The formation of a Junior Checker Club has been proposed for winter term. Winter term is long and as a rule uneventful. Vacant evenings are to be found in every week. One of these vacancies could be filled and an evening whiled away over the board in a manner such as would afford amusement for all.

Everyone can play checkers and derive pleasure from the game. Of course this should not interfere with the Whist Club, but a conflict could easily be avoided. One evening per week could be given over to the Whist Club and Checker Club respectively without requiring a very great sacrifice on the part of anyone. A Junior Checker Club, if inaugurated, would become a permanent fixture. It would be a move in the right direction and should meet with approval. Why not set it agoing?

Intercollegiate Notes.

—Harvard and Yale will compete in a fencing match sometime in March.

—Dr. Butler was elected President of Columbia University at the trustees' meeting January 6.

—Arrangements are making for a monster indoor athletic meet between Cornell, Pennsylvania and Columbia some time in March.

—Football earned the total sum of \$21,508.52 for Yale University during the season just closed. In baseball that institution had a balance of more than \$3000.

—A valuable gift to the botanical department of Columbia has been given by Ralph Shainwald, who recently brought back from the polar regions a large number of Arctic flowers and plants.

From the Room Below.

"Woe to him that rises early,"
Clearly states the Holy Writ,
Yet the bohnner, disregarding,
Lately early has the fit.
Five a. m. will find him grinding,—
Now, what good will come of it?

Some there are in old North College
Who adopt another plan
Which conforms to Scrip ure doctrine,
Also to the laws of man;
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