

HAMILTON LIFE.

The Weekly Publication of Hamilton College.

Vol. III.

CLINTON, N. Y., SATURDAY, JAN. 19, 1901.

No. 12.

The Mock Trial.

The mock trial of Jefferson Davis, defendant, against the People of the American Commonalty, to which the college and those affiliated with it have for the preceding weeks been looking forward with expectancy and anticipation, was held before the trial court at which Prex presided in judicial capacity.

The session was scheduled to be held punctually at 3:00 P. M., and at the stipulated hour "Hank" Keogh, in the role of court crier, announced that the assembled multitude having business before the court should draw nigh and have grievances heard, and if possible, redressed.

The jury of twelve "good men and true" was impanelled from the ranks of both faculty, seniors, and the junior class.

The court then entered upon a brief statement of the indictment, and immediately after its conclusion, Stowell opened the case for the prosecution. His exposé of the points which the people intended to prove, thereby convincing the jury of the complicity of the defendant in the perpetration of the wholesale murder on the persons of Federal soldiers incarcerated in Confederate prisons, was concise and masterly. His manner was ingratiating and insinuating, as was his speech incisive. (During the impassioned address of the prosecuting attorney, Mintz calmly agitates the atmosphere with a fan.)

As the people summon the first of the witnesses whom they have subpoenaed, the doubts entertained by some of the spectators as to the advantage and utility of MacLaughlin's presence, are immediately dispelled. It is his function to administer the oath to those who appear as witnesses.

Prior to the direct examination of witnesses, evidence in the form of certain sections of the constitution adopted by the States of Secession was submitted, referring to the duties and responsibilities devolvent on the executive of the government to whose conscientious execution he had pledged himself.

Attorney Mintz objects, and is overruled.

Catlin is the first witness summoned by the people. On direct examination Catlin testified that he had served as a lieutenant in the United States army. Interrogated by Attorney Triess, replied, that he had been captured at Gettysburg. Subsequent to capture was manded to confinement in Libby prison, commanded by Major Turner. He testified that rations issued to those confined consisted of a loaf of bread the size of a man's fist, composed of the ingredients sand and flour. The enrolled prisoners at Libby numbered 1200. Disease prevailed; no medical attendance was provided; no sanitary precautions taken. Quality of water and provisions was conducive to contagion and infection.

On cross-examination was elicited the fact, that altho he enlisted at Boston, Mass., he served in the 111th N. Y. Vol. Stated that he recognized the sand with which the cereal food was leavened, by experience. He had never been consigned to the hospital. He noticed instances of brutality practiced by the guards. Saw inmates shot for venturing too near the windows.

Sippell was the next witness called. On direct examination. Sippell testified that he was captured before Fredericksburg and subsequently confined at Salisbury in charge of Major Gee. Saw a letter written by President Davis

commending said commandant for services rendered. Had been deprived of food for six consecutive days. Considered the mortality due to insufficiency of food. Described the construction of the pen. Deaths resulted from exposure. Decribed the method of burial.

In reply to questions of Attorney Triess, Sippell testified that he was released on the 22d of February, 1865. Was transported from Salisbury to Goldsboro, and there exchanged.

On cross-examination, he said that he saw the trenches subsequent to his release.

Objection raised and sustained.

Testified that no sanitary precautions were adopted.

Jenks is sworn for the people. (At this juncture, the formality of swearing witnesses is dispensed with, owing to the proximity of dinner time.) Jenks' testimony substantially corroborates that offered by his predecessors, as to the unsanitary conditions existent, and the privations to which those incarcerated were subjected.

On cross-examination, evidence is extorted to the effect that organizations, protective in purpose, had been formed by the inmates. They would have resorted to violence if necessary. Prisoners were not habitually clean. Climate clement.

J. B. Millham was the next witness. He had acted in the official capacity of Assistant Adjutant in the Confederate army. Orders for the construction of Andersonville passed thru his office. Winder was appointed commandant. Order for temporary retirement of Winder because of practiced atrocities, also passed his hands. No cross-examination.

Stryker was next summoned. He testified that the supervision and in-

spection of the Federal prisons was assigned him. Wholesome food, adequate shelter, and pure water were provided to the inmates. Medical attendance was sufficient to care for the diseased. Treatment of prisoners was consistently considerate and humane. He acted according to instructions of Secretary of War.

On cross-examination gave testimony that the rations issued consisted of bacon, bread, beans and potatoes.

This concluded the evidence adduced by the prosecution and the people rest.

After the opening for the defense by Attorney Quinn, Attorney Mintz continues by the introduction of documentary proof that ample opportunity was afforded the Federal Government for exchange of prisoners, and strenuous attempts were made to insure the inmates of the prison pens considerate and humane treatment.

Augsbury is the first witness summoned by the defense. Witness testifies that he was a lieutenant in the Union army, was captured at the battle of the Wilderness and subsequently confined at Andersonville. In his opinion extraordinary mortality was a result of the inmates' unsusceptibility of acclimatization. Altho the medical attendance was inadequate, the sanitary conditions were as good as could be expected. Hospital was capacious enough to accommodate the prisoner patients. He was cognizant of instances when the guards had been removed for maltreatment of prisoners. He was deputed on committee to petition for exchange.

On cross-examination conducted by Attorney Drummond witness stated his inability to say whether his name or rank were asked on entrance into Andersonville. Stated that he was an officer and that others of his rank were in confinement with him. Attorney Drummond attempts to impeach the testimony of the witness by innuendo to the effect that his statements contradict the reports submitted by those in charge.

Speh is next called by the defense. On direct examination he testifies that he held rank of a captain in a Tennessee regiment (Confederate). Further tes-

tified that he was confined in a Federal military prison whose name had abandoned his memory. He stated that the supply of food was insufficient. (Objection overruled). That to his knowledge inmates had devoured roasted canines and felines (when opportunity was afforded). Said that he was an eye witness at the flogging of a fellow prisoner.

On cross-examination he testified that sheds plentifully supplied with apertures for ventilation were provided for the shelter of those confined. On being asked whether vegetables, including beans, were issued to the prisoners, he replied, "I never had a bean."

Lonsdale was the next witness. His testimony was to the effect that he had been a private in the confederate army and after capture had been confined in Elmira. He stated that hardtack and musty bread constituted the rations issued.

On cross-examination he expressed ignorance of the commandant's name. He stated that no persons were shot and no vegetables issued as provisions.

Redmond is called for the defense. He testified that he was a Union soldier and had been incarcerated in Salisbury pen. The duration of his confinement was eleven months. He stated that there was issued a sufficiency of rations to sustain existence, provided a man was not addicted to the use and application of hair oil. (This latter was a thrust at one of the prisoners confined at Salisbury, who testified for the prosecution.) Stated that rations could be procured for pecuniary consideration. Shelter was furnished, tho inadequate. Many inmates were compelled to burrow in the ground or endure exposure to the inclemencies of the weather.

The nature of Redmond's testimony in many instances was such as to induce Attorney Drummond to interrogate him as to his knowledge of the significance of an oath.

His succinct reply, replete with significance, was:

"I rode an artillery mule for four months."

Johnston, the final witness for the

defense, corroborated much of the preceding testimony being somewhat uncertain, however, on points of minor importance.

In rebuttal, both attorneys, Mintz and Drummond, submitted documentary evidence, which was assigned to the custody of Clerk McLaughlin.

Attorney Mintz then gave a resume of the salient points which the evidence and testimony adduced had uncontrovertibly proven, in that forceful delivery so characteristic of him, and which by the cogency of its argument carried conviction in its train. His time was abridged and this fact compelled him to give a briefer survey of the defense's argument than seemed requisite.

Attorney Drummond, for the prosecution, began with an encomium to the abilities of his opponent and then proceeded to expose the fallacies and flaws with which the chain of evidence presented by the defense was fraught. Owing to the plentitude of time afforded him he was enabled to sum up the case in full, concluding with a peroration the brilliancy of which should have taken the conjecturally intelligent jury by storm and secured a verdict for conviction. His eloquence was truly forensic.

But the jurymen, guided by the precedent established by similar bodies who have deemed it necessary to disagree, were unable to concur. When the ballot was cast, three of the votes demanded a conviction; the remaining nine advocated the acquittal of the prisoner at the bar.

The college, it may be said, attended in a body, a large representation from the faculty being also among the spectators. This burlesque trial was certainly an innovation, the repetition of which would greatly redound to the delectation of the men concerned and the college at large.

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Things to Commend.

- The general era of good feeling in college.
- The interest in Wednesday and Saturday noon rhetoricals.
- The action of the sophomore class in giving place to juniors for the mid-winter dance.
- The courtesy and fairness of the majority of professors.
- The good feeling in faculty meetings for last term.
- The plans for baseball in the spring.
- The excellent gymnasium work of Uncle John.
- Prof. Saunders' attitude toward student publications.
- The interesting recitations of "Bill Nye."
- The regularity in chapel attendance of "Prex," "Pills," "Mel," "Bib," "Little Greek," Lee and Andrews.
- The faithfulness of "Old Greek" in his "Alumniana."
- The sarcasm of "Square" for the suppression of forward freshmen.
- The jolly good nature of "Pete" Kelly and "Brick" Blake.
- The scurf posters for their respectable appearance.
- The college for its ability to throw bouque's at itself.

Intercollegiate Notes.

- The Smith College seniors have chosen for their commencement play, Shakespeare's "Taming of the Shrew."
- Hon. Andrew D. White has been elected an honorary member of the Berlin Academy of Science.
- Columbia won the ninth annual chess tournament between Harvard, Yale, Princeton and Columbia; Harvard and Princeton tied for second, and Yale was lost.
- A new dormitory is to be built at the University of Pennsylvania. It is to have a war tower in memory of her students who lost their lives in the Spanish war.
- The colleges and universities of the United States numbering over 400, have a combined attendance of nearly 200,000
- 1,218 students, representing 76 tribes, attend the Carlisle Indian School.

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STAFF OF LIFE.

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H. MINTZ, News Editor.
J. E. JOHNSTON, Associate Editor.
N. L. DRUMMOND, Associate Editor.
J. W. VAN ALLEN, Business Manager.

Reportorial:

F. S. CHILD, JR. F. A. GRANT,
G. E. MILLER, D. K. PEET.

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LIFE is sorry to learn that the sophomore class has not been able to get up enough enthusiasm to have its annual dance during the week chosen for the junior "prom." A sophomore "hop" would have filled the week properly. It is too bad that we can not have the chance to try the experiment of combining the autumn dance with the winter dance, for there is every consideration to be urged in favor of the scheme, and success would mean much for us. The winter week is the best time in the whole year to devote to the college social functions, as the absence of any serious duty in the line of athletics admits of complete attention to frivolity. We are sorry that the scheme has failed. LIFE urged it long and earnestly, recognizing that success would add to our social prestige, and that this is all good advertising. We give our guests good times here, and we have as swell and neat parties and balls as any college in the land. The more and better we give, the more and better we are known. While all this is frivolity in a sense—and doubtless it does seem so to some of the faculty—still it does us as students lots of good, and it is effective and legitimate advertising of the college.

As things stand now, the junior class will give its promenade on February fourteenth. Two other nights of that week, probably the two preceding the grand event, will be given over to fraternity parties. We understand that at least four fraternities have decided definitely to give parties. It behooves us all to pitch in and give our friends the time of their lives.

Let us have no discord and conflict of interests, but let us be one big crowd determined to have one great and glorious time for three nights and then to settle down to work again.

THERE comes up again for remark the old abuse of swiping sleds. It is simply intolerable that affairs should go on all winter as they have begun. Sleds have been taken from the hill without the consent and knowledge of the owners, to be found at the foot of the hill, perhaps, or often never to reappear. It is provoking beyond endurance. We dislike to accuse college men of indulging in the practice. If any man in college is capable and guilty of perpetrating this dispicable trick, he ought to receive such social and physical treatment as will make him remember his fault for many a day. But we hope that no one who calls himself a Hamilton student is guilty of this meanness. It must be the work of others; and the only remedy we can suggest is that the college join in the good work of detecting the offenders. The college sleds are easily recognizable and whenever anyone not a college man is seen sliding down the hill upon one of these sleds, we recommend that he be forcibly admonished that his course will profit him nothing. This thing must stop.

Reading Room.

Tho we have alluded to it frequently and sought to correct the end, the fact yet remains that the reading rooms are most shabbily and disgracefully treated by the students. Not a day passes in which magazines are not missing, papers and periodicals not mutilated, items not clipped, and in which there is not large room for criticism in the treatment of reading matter. The comics, which constitute the largest source of student happiness, which, of all periodicals, are most innocent of vice or fault, and which ought to be treated most tenderly, are in truth the most abused, every day clipped, clubbed, rent into shapeless masses beneath the vandal hands of unthinking students. All these periodicals are supposed to be retained

by the college library as a portion of its contents; yet to say nothing of their preservation, most of the papers are beaten into insensibility and uselessness long before they have been handled by half the student body. Why not observe more care in their treatment? It will not diminish your enjoyment to finger the pages a little more tenderly and to use them as if you were not the only or the last reader. A little more respect for the rights of others ought to be the motto burned into every chair and table and blazoned upon every wall of the reading room.

About Things in General.

—The Junior Whist Club met Thursday night at the D. K. E. House.

—Church and Bishop have decided to take elaborate notes in "Pretty."

—We would seriously advise N. Drummond and J. Van Allen to use better judgment in the matter of selecting theatricals.

—D. R. Campbell is still sick at his home in Johnstown. Was the vacation too much for you, Dan?

—Prex and Stowell spoke Friday evening at an alumni banquet in New York city.

—Who was fooled on a Shakespearean recital? Ask Warren Mac!

—Will some kind friend inform Prex that Robert G. Ingersoll has already shuffled off this mortal coil? His announcement in chapel that the renowned "Bob" was to give a recital at Houghton has created considerable amusement about college.

—Stiles created a laugh in chapel Wednesday by pointing at Van Allen for an example of Ireland. Evidently he mistook John's visage for the face of a "Mick."

—Catlin swore at the mock trial that he joined the 111th N. Y. Vol, at Boston, Mass.

—Bishop is afraid that Psyche will be unable to return this term.

—A debate with Colgate is being talked somewhat.

—"Pretty" springs "*a priori*" in the junior economics, and Slaughter produces a dictionary.

—The *Hamiltonian* Board have not yet ordered their yearly supply of pistols for self-protection. Some queries about the date of the book's appearance have already been put forth and undoubtedly this will hasten the demand for the firearms.

—On the evening of Dec. 31st, the alumni and undergraduates of Binghamton enjoyed a banquet given in honor of President Stryker. About 25 men were present. The banquet was given under the auspices of the alumni association of Binghamton of which the Hon. David H. Carver, '71, is president. Walter M. Hand, '72, was toastmaster. The following toasts were given: Dr. M. W. Stryker, '72, "Hamilton College"; Major C. H. Hitchcock, '79, "Hamilton Men in War"; T. J. Mangan, '94, "Hamilton Men at the Bar"; Hon. J. H. Roberts, '86, "Hamilton Men in Politics"; Harry Mintz, '01, "The Undergraduates." The next morning, New Year's morning, Dr. Stryker spoke in the opera house to an audience of 3000 people. It was a new century meeting and was given under the auspices of a ministerial association. Dr. Stryker was just the man for the time and place. Enthusiasm lacked in nothing. It is safe to say that our Prexy will always receive a hearty welcome from this city of whose alumni and undergraduates we are all justly proud.

"Whys," With Malice Toward None.

—Why don't "Pretty" Smyth cease to talk about men when they are not present to hear it?

—Why don't we have a book store in the Library, where books may be purchased at cost?

—Why should the man who keeps the book store charge a commission on his books when he already gets his pay in room rent?

—Why don't "Bib" pass around his questions instead of having a few men recite?

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

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. PAYNE, P. M.

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

College Notes.

—Campbell, '02, is confined to his bed with jaundice.

—The freshman posters seemed to be rather of a fizzle.

—Evans, '04, has been elected captain of his class basket ball team.

—The Glee, Mandolin and Dramatic Clubs will begin active work at once.

—Last night the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity gave an informal reception.

—Inman, '04, points to Alpha Delta Phi Hall and inquires the name of the building.

—During Christmas vacation the Delta Upsilon house was wired for electric lighting.

—About fifty students returned to the hill a day early to square accounts with various professors.

—It looks as tho the mandolin club would not materialize; the glee club, however, is getting along.

—Dr. Stryker attended and addressed an alumni meeting of Hamilton men in Binghamton during the vacation.

—We certainly ought to have electric lights along the hill, in harmony with the progressive movement in the fraternity houses.

—The junior "prom." will be held on Feb. 14. The sophs have decided not to combine with the juniors to give a joint dance.

—The sophomores have begun "gym." work. "Tommie" MacLaughlin and Jesse Millham are acting as "Uncle" John's assistants.

—Several fellows attended the dance at the old Universalist Church, Wednesday night. The dance was under the auspices of the Episcopal Church.

—Dr. Stryker and Dr. Terrett have been laid up with the grip. Following the fashion set by the leaders many of the students have succumbed to the disease.

—The damage account on the last term bill for Hallowe'en escapades was smaller than most had expected. The faculty have, it seems, not allowed the town's people to impose this year, as has been usual heretofore.

—"Bib." is calling the roll of the Elizabethan Drama class to ascertain what members desire to purchase copies of Shakespeare. Stryker answers to his name, "None, thank you; I think papa has a copy."

—Capt. Stowell, of the football team, has been invited for the team to address the alumni at the Hamilton banquet at the Savoy, New York city, this week. Hawley and Millham will go down to lead the singing.

—The sophomore hop, which has always been given during February in previous years, will this year be substituted by a junior prom. The prom. can no longer be given in fall term on account of the absorbing interest in football at that time.

—It is announced definitely that Hon. Robert L. Drummond, of Auburn, N. Y., will deliver his address on his personal experiences as a prisoner of war in the Confederate prisons, in the College Chapel on the evening of February twenty-second.

—More men are needed at basket ball practice. When practice is appointed for seven o'clock, the men should be on hand. We can't have a winning team unless we give the 'Varsity some practice. We mustn't allow our basket ball department to fall short of our football record.

—Nelson L. Drummond, left end of the team of 1900, was elected at a meeting of the team held last term, captain of the team of 1901. He has

played regular on the 'Varsity for two years, was substitute his freshman year, and played on the Auburn High School team before entering college.

—Wednesday afternoon a mock trial was held in the chapel. Jefferson Davis was accused of conspiring to kill the prisoners at Andersonville. The case was ably prosecuted by Attorneys Drummond, Stowell and Triess. The lawyers for defendant was the firm of Mintz, Churchill & Quinn. The jury returned a verdict of not guilty.

The Majestic Case.

In the recent incident of the arraignment of one of our students for alleged disturbance of a play in one of the Utica theatres we see the evidence of the vindictive and jealous spirit with which a certain element always regards the person and acts of the college man. The old-time feud between town and gown, famed in song and story, will never die out. The "mucker" element of a college town always has been, and always will be, at continual war with the students of the institution. No instances need be cited to support this statement; everyone knows enough of them from personal experience. It is a war of class. Even at this late day and in this very town of Clinton it is not infrequent that a college man is insulted by some "mucker", drunk or sober, not because he is at fault necessarily, but because this ancient and natural hatred will in certain circumstances express itself.

The particular instance that calls forth this article fairly allows this assertion; that the office of the theatre, he who caused the whole difficulty, having lived for a long time and until recently in the town of Clinton, imbibed this jealousy and dislike for college students and was only anxious to "get back at them," to show them that here was a place and time when he was just as good as they were and a little better; that he had power which they had not and that he would "show them a few things." He knew that these men were Hamilton students and he seized the slight excuse offered him to

get revenge for some fancied wrong, perhaps, or at least to assert over them his circumstantial power and superiority.

There seems to be no doubt that the play was rotten, and of such a nature as to justify any unfavorable comment whatever. It seems undisputed, also, that criticism, more or less audible and noticeable, was being passed upon the play from all portions of the house; but the house officer thought that here was a good chance to administer a knock-out to the students, and with great eagerness and satisfaction over the opportunity he proceeded to get in his work, regardless of the fact that they were not the only nor the worst offenders, if that word be used. It was simply a manifestation of that mucker, anti-college spirit that we have mentioned; and we take the bold ground that our students may have been somewhat indiscreet, but that they were brutally insulted and abused and were treated in a manner that is without justification.

Of course, it may be urged, the testimony of the orchestra convicts the men; but the orchestra is in a position to hear everything that is said in the house; from the front row they can hear a whisper; and it stands to reason that the musicians cannot, nor should they be expected to, locate groups or individuals who are talking. And the testimony of those spectators who sat some distance away, men who have no possible interest in the case, establishes conclusively that the group of students in question created no disturbance. We consider the affair an outrage, altho, as we say, it is possible that our fellows were somewhat indiscreet and hot-headed.

The whole affair, however, is unfortunate, and tends, by reason of the natural comment upon and exaggeration of the incident in the city of Utica, to redound to the injury of our college in that town, which has always been noted for its indifference as regards our merits, high standing and achievements, and on the other hand is always prone to magnify an individual fault into a collective characteristic. Not that Hamilton College hasn't good

and loyal friends in Utica; but this is true in general and everyone knows it.

Again, there is a useful lesson in the incident. Not only the friends of the college and of college men, but also the enemies thereof, admit that the college man should be possessed of greater advantages, better ideas, better standards of conduct and morality, than the ordinary man. The mucker's hatred is envy and jealousy. He knows he is not on a level, intrinsically, with his college brother and it makes him sore. Our friends know what we should be, and expect more of us than if we were not college men. Accordingly, we should endeavor to satisfy our friends and confound our enemies. With our supposed and actual superiority, however, we should not arrogate to ourselves an unseemly and undue importance. We are bound to fraternize, because there is a sympathy and community of ideas and interests among college men; but that is no cause for rudeness, for lack of consideration, or for big-head attempts to "run things." Let us be what our exceptional education and environment has fitted us for and requires us to be, and then we can make no mistake. And at all events, let us remember that upon our conduct depends the name and reputation of our beloved college, and that by us will she be judged.

—The Ohio Wesleyan and Western Reserve Universities will debate the subject, "Resolved, That the municipal ownership and operation of street railways is inexpedient."

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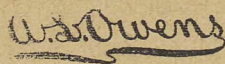
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