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VERILY it is a year of progress. The latest movement is the organization of an Otterbein Oratorical Association. During the years that have passed since the old association disbanded there has been little to stimulate one to attain in oratory anything beyond an ordinary degree of excellence, and while the work done in the various societies has been of a very meritorious character, it has not at any time developed extraordinary literary ability. The Otterbein University Oratorical Association will in our judgment lend a new interest to the work done by the societies, and very much increase their efficiency. That these organizations are already strong is a matter of congratulation, but the past has clearly taught that in their strength lies the greatest opposition to any organization that seeks to deal with them jointly. We cannot ignore the society question if we would. It is a fixture. It must be recognized, studied, and controlled. This the new oratorical association has sought to do, with admirable success. What its broader results will be, what position we may occupy when compared with other colleges, the future alone can determine. Our keenest interest is local, and of its prospects we are most sanguine.

If grit, ginger and besom will make a baseball team our future is assured. Although the members of the team are not as yet all selected, Manager Stoughton and Captain Barnes are busy devising ways and means by which the team may be put on the best possible footing as soon as the season opens. A concert will be given within a few weeks, the proceeds of which will be used to purchase suits and other necessary paraphernalia. There should be five hundred tickets sold at least. A whole concert by local talent, choruses, quartets, and solos, baseball songs, bass hits, etc., who can afford to miss it? Don't go for mere charity, but go because you wish to enjoy a pleasant evening.

The day of prayer for colleges was, this year, one of universal interest. We think no one who was so fortunate as to attend the joint meeting of the Christian associations from 9:30 to 10:30 A.M. can ever quite forget the occasion. So earnest, so honest, so heartfelt each prayer and testimony seemed to be
that all participants were lifted to a higher plane of Christian living. This influence we would foster. Above the interest we hold for well trained athletes or brilliant orators, for exciting sports or spirited discussions, is an all-absorbing interest that centers in the man himself. Could we establish one motto for every woman and man in college we would take one of Secretary Gordon's frequent injunctions, "Live a clean, straight, right life for Jesus Christ." Full, clear, and concise, it touches all points of a well rounded life.

"Of making many books there is no end." So said the wise man nearly three thousand years ago. Did he have in mind the age in which we live? How true, at all events, it is to-day! And how quickly it has all been brought about! Not more than a quarter of a century ago books were expensive, a luxury in most houses, and consequently not found in large numbers. Now their cost is greatly reduced, and there are few homes in which books do not furnish the material for entertainment and growth. We are a book-loving and, to a large extent, a book-buying people. It is true, perhaps, that a few people spend for books more than their income and the sterner demands upon their purse will allow, but equally true is it that many are yet starving their minds and narrowing their lives, because of a false economy, or a wicked parsimony.

There is no pleasure more keen than the possession of a good book—the actual ownership of it. This was freshly illustrated on the occasion of a recent visit to a friend. With what pride and delight he pointed to his recent purchases, saying, as we took them up one by one, "That is a most delightful book"; "On that subject there is nothing more valuable than that"; "What meat there is in that!" and other exclamations equally suggestive. A good book is a priceless possession, a constant friend; and a beautiful book is a joy forever. All of us can own books, many of them, a large and well-selected library indeed, if we will. The foolish expenditure of money in tobacco and dress, in many of the so-called social demands made on young men, would, if invested in books, bring not only a larger and better respectability, but a thousand-fold more happiness. The young woman who is satisfied with fewer and less expensive ribbons and feathers than her gayer companion, and uses part of her pocket money to possess the good and beautiful in literature for her, growth and culture, will have an adornment that the world will appreciate and value. With a little economy and self-denial in matters of this kind, every young man and woman can, in a few years, possess a library of books. "Wear the old coat and buy the new book."

The interest manifested by the literary societies in their libraries is most commendable. But recently one of them has added a complete set of the Century Dictionary. This, with a copy of Webster and the published parts of Murray, possessed by the other society, furnishes the student with everything desirable in the way of critical and etymological apparatus. These libraries, to which all students have access, are growing rapidly; and in the make-up of each year's purchase, the needs of the student are considered and determine the selection. The college library is of slower growth, chiefly because of a lack of funds, but partly because of a lack of interest. An annual matriculation fee of one dollar from every student entering the University, set aside for the purpose, would make a handsome sum to use in the purchase of new books. The total annual growth in all the libraries connected with the College would not fall below six or seven hundred volumes.
It is with no little degree of pleasure that we announce to those of our readers who are interested in college athletics the completion of an organization known as "The Athletic League of Ohio Colleges," a report of which may be found in another column. This is exactly as it should be. In these days of heavily endowed colleges and universities, with their finely equipped gymnasia, well arranged ball grounds, fine water courses, and in fact every facility that nature has given or artifice can produce, the small college is far too likely to fail in receiving the patronage to which its merits justly entitle it. But while our means for the development of fancy gymnasts are not all we wish them to be, not all we trust they will be in the near future, the interest that makes such things possible is keen and lively.

Not to speak disparagingly of other departments of work connected with the college, no more attractive feature can be held up to young men contemplating a college course than the fact that our records in inter-collegiate athletics are among the best. The organization perfected at Akron is for Otterbein a decided advance. It must not be regarded in any sense as simply a boyish concern, without the foundation of sense. The goody-goody, chumpy sort of people may see no benefit in any organization that has for its object anything so heathenish as the development of a sound body, but we are glad to say that such people are not very numerous, and still less influential.

We shall look forward to the coming field day with a greater interest than has ever been shown before. To win this year, at home, means a chance to compete with the champions of five or more standard colleges of the State; and, while we are not so greedy as to desire everything, we trust no small degree of honor will fall to the tan and cardinal, for which the Athletic League of Ohio Colleges shall receive our unbounded praise.

Next to the pleasure derived in the reading of a book that is all our own is the one we experience in having access to a public library. Sometimes the presence of thousands of books overawes us and makes us feel keenly the truth so often brought to our notice, that life is too short to appropriate all its good things. A great library ought to be an inspiration. In one view it is a kind of literary workshop, a laboratory; in another, a place where we meet and hold silent converse with the choicest spirits of all nations and times. One of the hopeful signs of the times is that our public libraries are thronged with diligent investigators as well as with casual readers. The demand for books of history, travel, politics, language, general literature, and in the various departments of science, is increasing. There were fewer novels published last year than in 1890, but more books of theology and religion, literary history, the fine arts, and political and social science. The novel is widely read, but not so much for the story, as formerly, as for the features of civilization it discloses. The novel will always be new because the history of human lives is constantly changing. The public library contains the best in all these departments of human thoughts. What a world it is in itself! And yet it represents and preserves the achievements of all the past. Blessed is he who has access to a great library.

Mr. L. B. Mumma returned on the 20th inst. from his home at Dayton, Ohio, where he had been called by the death of his sister, Miss Clara Mumma. Miss Mumma was at one time a student here, and by her keen intellect, happy disposition, and earnest Christian womanhood drew around her an exceptionally large number of admiring friends. Her death is to be mourned by all who knew her. Mr. Mumma has the sympathy of all students in the loss he has been compelled to bear.
THE ATHLETIC LEAGUE OF OHIO COLLEGES.

In accordance with a previously arranged announcement, delegates from Wittenberg College, Ohio University, Marietta and Miami colleges, and Otterbein University met in Akron on the 18th inst., to consider the advisability of associating themselves in inter-collegiate athletics. The members representing the different colleges showed enthusiasm and determination worthy of the cause. An organization was effected under the name of The Athletic League of Ohio Colleges.

Though only five colleges at present are numbered in this League, members of other colleges who were present at the meeting declared themselves strongly in favor of the new organization, and it is but a question of time before this will be the strongest organization in the State for the promotion of college sports. Otterbein was represented in this meeting by Mr. M. B. Fanning, well known at home as an all-round bustle, as we feel assured he is to some extent abroad. He has the constitution of the new League nearly ready to be submitted to the colleges now composing the organization. Long life and a brilliant future to the Athletic League of Ohio Colleges.

The preparatory students held a social in the Philophronean Hall, Saturday evening, January 30th. The program of the evening, which was both literary and musical, was well executed. The “preps” have the grit and gumption to make succeed whatever they undertake.

The resident alumni and alumnae have long talked of effecting a local organization. This has at last been done with the following officers: President, A. B. Kohr, class ’70; vice-president, Mrs. T. J. Sanders, class ’77; secretary, Dr. A. W. Jones, class ’72, and treasurer, Miss Luella Fouts, class ’89. A committee to draft a constitution has been appointed to report on the evening of Feb. 22.

EXCHANGES.

The last number of the *Earlhamite* contains two very interesting articles on the subjects, “My Ideal Earlhamite—A Boy,” and “My Ideal Earlhamite—A Girl.” If all “college girls” would follow the rules given in the first, and all the boys avoid the rules given in the last, the true aim of education, viz., culture, would be attained by every person completing a college course.

The *Miami Student* is a very neat and well edited monthly, published by the students of Miami University. The general make-up is attractive and the matter which it contains is equal to the best college papers.

The class orator this year at Harvard is a Japanese. A negro filled that position last year. — *Ex.*

A miss is as good as a mile,
A kiss twice as good as a smile,
Not to miss any kiss,
But to kiss every miss
Will turn miles
Into smiles
And smiles into kisses
From misses.
For the maiden who'll smile
Is the miss worth the while
Of your walking a mile.
But the damsel you kiss
Is worth two of the miss
Who’s only as good as a mile.

We are glad to note that Miss Nellie Adams, a former member of the class of ’93, who is now attending the Ohio Wesleyan University, has been elected to the editorial staff of the *College Transcript*, a paper published by the senior class of the Ohio Wesleyan University. Miss Adams possesses a great deal of literary ability, and we are quite sure she will be an excellent editress.

A new institution, to be known as the School of American History and Institutions, is about to be established at the University of Pennsylvania. Its object is to make a distinctive American school, and teach everything that pertains to America in the way of history, literature, law, and lore of any kind. It offers eight separate courses, including those for lawyers, teachers, and journalists.
THE PRACTICAL VALUE OF A COLLEGIATE TRAINING IN ACTIVE BUSINESS-LIFE.

The practical value of a collegiate training in journalism, in the ministry, in pedagogics, in law, and in housewifery has already been set forth in the AEars. All these are specific fields of human activity. To consider the value of collegiate training in business is laid upon me. But business takes in the whole scope of human activity. We, however, take it that the managers of the AEars mean by the term "Business" only those occupations not classed under the head of professions, and yet not simply day laborers, nor mere mechanics, but that large class of citizens that join with their own labor the labor of others and give direction to the great business and industrial interests of the country, who, with the manual laborers and mechanics, are the producers and creators of the material wealth of the country.

Those who consider this training in relation to a specific profession have pretty clear sailing in an open sea, but along the undefinable lines of what may be considered business, to the exclusion of professions and occupations that the managers of AEars think are not to be included in the topic, there are reefs and rocks, Scylla and Charybdis, innumerable. Is college training of much practical value upon this turbulent sea of clashing interests and contending selfishness? The two colossal figures in our history are Washington and Lincoln; neither had a collegiate training. No college trained man in our country has climbed the ladder of fame higher than these. Horace Greeley has been as great as the greatest in journalism. Thomas Edison is the great inventor of modern times. Neither of these had collegiate training. A. T. Stewart was the prince of merchants in his day, and the elder Vanderbilt the lord of lords of the carriage trade, and yet without college training. General Grant and Henry Ward Beecher were conspicuous in their college careers — by their nearness to the foot of their respective classes. So in every calling of life are to be found those eminent in achievement who have not had the advantage of collegiate training. Many without this advantage are successfully contesting for the palm of primacy. The cases cited and hundreds of others that might with almost equal force be cited, prove, if they prove anything, that college training is not essential to the highest success.

The fact that some eminently successful men express regret that they had not the opportunity for college training is no proof that such training would have been helpful to them. It is doubtless a pardonable vanity on their part, flattering themselves that nature has endowed them more highly than she in fact has; making themselves believe that had they had the advantage of a college training their success would have been greater.

With nature's favored gifts, and placed in fortuitous environments most favorable to the development of mind and character, these men were brought up in nature's typical training school — with advantages superior, for disciplinary purposes, to any college curriculum, and hence their success. Let not the reader infer that it is the purpose of this paper to depreciate the value of collegiate training. Favorable circumstances, coupled with high natural endowments with which good fortune favors some, cannot be depended on for the masses. These typical schools are rare, and only a chosen few can be matriculated. There is no chance for a boy or girl of only average ability in these schools. Many of more favored talents are barred by untoward circumstances.

High schools and colleges must be provided to open the doors of opportunity to the many against whom they would otherwise be closed. The chances for enlarged success are unques-
tionably increased to those who avail themselves of the advantages of college training, no matter what vocation in life may be followed.

Young men and young women who neglect the opportunity open to them for college training in this day, hoping to attain a high success in some other way, a hundred chances to one will be left. The secret of success is to seek success where the chances for finding it are greatest. The study of averages will surely reveal the fact that the chances for success are overwhelmingly in favor of a mind disciplined in wisdom and understanding.

Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom. Yes, with all thou hast gotten, get understanding. Exalt her, and she shall promote thee:
She will bring thee to honor when thou dost embrace her.
She will give to thine head a chapter of grace:
A crown of beauty shall she deliver to thee.
Length of days is in her right hand;
In her left hand are riches and honor.
Her ways are ways of pleasantness,
And all her paths are peace.

A thorough knowledge of the arts and sciences, language and literature, and the discipline of mind and character attained in acquiring this knowledge help mightily to wisdom. The promise is to the man that gives himself to meditation upon nature's laws, that whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. The proper training in college is simply to discipline our young people to meditate upon the law of God in every realm of nature that they may prosper.

A. B. KOUR.

DANTE AND HIS IDEAL.

For nearly six centuries have been sung the praises of Dante, the famous Florentine poet. Despised, rejected by the people of his own native city at the time when he wrote his "mystic, unfathomable song," he has been honored ever since, and his name has proved to be a true prophecy concerning his works—Dante, the enduring one, and Alighieri, the wing-bearer.

His were the works of a man in the deepest gloom of life; of one who had given up the ways of the world, seeing nothing but pride, envy, and avarice in the hearts of all, even of his most intimate friends. Having built around himself a world of truth, he shows us in his songs the profound principle that it is through doubt alone that we arrive at truth.

Little of Dante's biography is known, except that he was born in the latter part of the thirteenth century, received an excellent education, and soon became a philosopher of no small reputation. Political questions also claimed his attention, to such an extent that he became seriously involved in the conflict between the Guelphs and Ghibellines, at that time opposing political parties of Florence. As a consequence of this he was banished from his native city, an event that proved as fortunate for us as was the imprisonment of John Bunyan three centuries later. For how frequently do we find that out of the depths of despair have come the noblest songs of triumph.

Dante, homeless and alone, brooding over the wickedness and avarice of his countrymen, naturally thought more and more of that other world of eternity, and felt that he must show his companions the Hell in which they were living, the Purgatory through which, as he believed, they might pass in order to reach the Paradise for which repentance would prepare them. Hence, he chose for his title, "The Divine Comedy," embracing his visionary journeys through the Inferno, the Purgatorio, and the Paradiso.

This theme was especially interesting to the people of those times, since they feared the coming of the end of the world at every fresh disaster. All Europe was in a barbarous condition. Society had become corrupt. Religion had lost its standard, and the people were eagerly looking for some one to picture to them the eternity just approaching. Consid-
erding all these things, the poet saw no way of
making his state strong and safe again but by
placing it under the rule of an emperor wise
and good, who should guide the nation, and a
pope loyal to his God, who should insure the
spiritual welfare of the people. Embodying
this idea in the mysticism common to the
times, he chose for his guides in his journey,
Virgil, the Latin poet who made the Roman
Empire so famous, and Beatrice, his own
early love. Virgil was to lead him in his
journey through the Inferno and Purgatory,
since, having been condemned to Inferno
himself, he could best show Dante the de-
parted glory and present punishment of his
avaricious countrymen; but Beatrice, as the
symbol of Divine Love and Revelation, should
unfold to him the glories of the stars and
heavenly spheres of Paradise.

The location given to the three parts of
the poem was in accordance with the common
belief that Satan, when hurled from heaven,
struck the ground at a point near Jerusalem,
and the earth, shrinking from the polluting
contact, made of itself a huge cavity known
as the sinners' abode. The earth displaced
formed, near by, the mountain of Purgatory,
upon the top of which the law of gravity was
suspended, that the spirits of the purified
might soar away to paradise.

On Good Friday of the year 1300, Dante
finds himself in a wilderness; otherwise speak-
ing, the Wilderness of Sin. Suddenly he
catches a glimpse of the Delectable Mountain,
and hurries forward joyfully, but is stopped
by three wild beasts, symbolical of the three
sins, Avarice, Pride, and Sensuality. Fright-
ened and almost giving up his purpose, he
hears a voice calling him, and soon recognizes
the poet, Virgil, whose works he had studied
and admired. Virgil tells him that these pas-
sions cannot be curbed until he has seen the
awfulness of sin and the blessedness of repent-
ance in a journey through hell and purgatory.
He has been sent to Dante's aid by Beatrice,
who now represents to him the Divine Mercy.
They approach the gate of the Inferno, and
are appalled by the inscription over the por-
tals:

"Abandon hope, all ye that enter here."

But this is merely the introduction to the
tumult within, which the poet thus vividly
describes:

"Various tongues,
Horrible languages, outcries of woe,
Accents of anger, voices deep and hoarse,
With hands together smote that swell'd the sounds,
Made up a tumult that forever whirls
Round through that air with solid darkness stained,
Like to the sand that in the whirlwind flies."

They pass on through the various circles of
the horrible pit, often meeting old friends,
who talk concerning their punishment. The
poet evidently had no respect for the theory
that the wicked will suffer only mental punish-
ment after leaving this world; for, in addition
to sighs, he tortures them with cruel winds,
rains, rivers of boiling blood, serpents, and
gorgons.

Finally Dante, often overcome with grief
on account of the misery of his countrymen,
and as often sustained by his leader, emerges
from the gloom and hides with joy the blessed
mountain of Purgatory. It is Easter
morn-
ing, and Hope is reflected with every ray of
brightness; for the condemned souls here are
happy in their punishment, trusting in the
promise that sometime, when they have per-
fected repentance and left their sin and misery
behind, they will reach the summit of the
mountain, the earthly Paradise.

It is in the purgatories, principally, that we
may discern Dante's psychology. He firmly
believed that we have but one soul, combining
all the mental, physical, and spiritual powers
into one individual activity. The Platonic
view, which holds that we have several souls,
is proved false by the fact that when a pleas-
ant or painful sensation takes possession of
consciousness all other presentation is cut off,
or but faintly noticed. In this state the soul loses consciousness of self, feeling only the sense impression. That he believed in the immortality of the soul cannot be doubted; for he placed in one of the lowest circles of the Inferno Epicurus and all his followers, who said that the soul died with the body. It being Dante’s desire to be free from this earthly existence, it is not so strange that he should thus defend immortality, declaring that the soul was from God and that it was a sin to believe it ever perishable.

After leaving purgatory he is taken up by Beatrice into the heavens of the stars, where is paradise. Here he beholds that vast company from every nation, tribe, and tongue, who have been purified and now stand before the throne. Awed in their presence, the poet becomes as a little child and listens while Beatrice speaks.

Love is the beginning, the middle, and the end of paradise. Love and peace are the will of God. And here Beatrice, beloved by Dante as a modest, pure maiden on earth, becomes to him the glorious symbol of divine love. She talks to him of the nature of the world, the origin of evil and of truth until he believes it possible for all men to know truth and to reach a clearer perception of truth through doubt. She rebukes him for having been led astray, thus missing the true light. He enters paradise with her, humbled by the thought that he has been untrue. For, when on earth she was taken from him, he sought another lady upon whom to bestow his affections, and loved and served her faithfully. This one was a queen indeed, for her name was Philosophy. But she proved a painful companion for Dante. He continually sought peace and happiness, but was never satisfied. It was then that he became a statesman and politician — then that he sought through speculation only to arrive at the eternal truth; and now Beatrice tells him how human reason cannot lead where revelation is the only way.

“The chosen race and its destiny."

[Oration delivered at the Philomathal installation, January 15, 1892.]

The Jewish nation needs no introduction to an intelligent people. At the very mention of their name there flashes before our mind a picture of them in their most familiar form — perchance as a wandering peddler or beggar; or it may be in one of the higher walks of life—a shrewd merchant or financier. Who can give them a passing thought without recalling some of their vital characteristics — either the romance of their history, or the important part they have played in the world’s great drama? The more closely we examine them, the more wonderful appear their comparison with other nations.

Nearly four thousand years ago they became a distinct people; a time when Rome was
hardly yet in embryo, and Grecian civilization a thing undreamed of. What wonders have been accomplished since that period! To this chosen people were given the fundamental principles of law; from among them arose the greatest kings, the grandest poets, and the most sublime prophets the world has ever seen; and to culminate this illustrious roll was Christ, the only perfect realization of a perfect man.

In the meantime, Egypt has decayed, Greece has passed into oblivion, and the Romans, once their conquerors, have long since been forgotten. Yet, although scattered and without a land, the Jewish nation is as distinct to-day as it was in the days of Solomon. By the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy, we find them in the four corners of the earth. Some are in our own country, many are in England, but the greater part of them may be found in Russia, the darkest and most cruel of so-called civilized countries. However dark Russia itself may appear, the condition of the five million destitute Jews within its borders cannot but send a thrill of horror throughout the civilized world. For the last ten years the atrocities toward them have been steadily increasing. First, the law is against them, restricting their natural rights, and they are prohibited titles to real estate—they who were Russia's original inhabitants. A step further, and we see thousands exiled, marching away, 'mid the dismal clank of chains, to the barren, ice-bound plains of Siberia, many with no other crime than that of being Jews. Still farther, and the Czar, not content with his already far-famed cruelties, has climaxed his efforts by beginning the expulsion of the entire five millions. This, then, is the dark picture of the Hebrew in Russia.

What they will do, where they will go, and what will eventually become of them, form the great Jewish question which is now troubling the minds of the world's greatest statesmen. Europe will not keep them, America does not want them, and Asia is already filled to overflowing. How much more intricate does the problem become when we remember that the Jew of which we are treating is not an educated or even an industrious one, but a representation of the lowest class of society, in other words, a pauper.

It would be useless to enumerate all the plans proposed for their relief, for the fallacies are only too evident. However, there are two which, perhaps, deserve a passing notice; the one to return them to Palestine, the land of their forefathers, the other, to colonize them in South America. At first thought, the former scheme may appear feasible, but when we remember that the Jews have no civil right to the land, when we consider that it would require the expulsion of the present inhabitants who have held this territory for centuries, and when we find that the Jews themselves are unwilling to go, are not the fallacies of this plan self-evident?

The latter project, of South American colonization, has already been abandoned, for its people are unwilling to sell, and still more because the Jews, ignorant of agriculture, would soon die of starvation, or fall back once more upon the world for support.

But let us view the situation from another standpoint. It is surely evident from what has been said, that no one country wants them; therefore, no single nation can dispose of them and thus solve the Jewish question. Whatever definite result is attained must be reached by some harmonious exertion of many nations.

If this then is the only solution, what nation shall make the start, what people initiate this philanthropic movement? France is allied with Russia, and we cannot expect it from her. Germany, with unfriendly Russia on the one hand and hostile France on the other, is powerless. But why confine ourselves to the European powers? If we would cross the
broad Atlantic would we not find a suitable factor in the United States? It is not entirely an Eastern question. Has not our great American nation, though scarce an hundred years old, passed all seclusion? Backed by an annual foreign trade of nearly $2,000,000,000, have we not an established position throughout the world?

To add weight to these arguments, with our country's millions of unoccupied acres, sought by the overflow of the world, we can be charged with no covetous aspirations, and our advances can be ascribed to no motive of selfishness. But then on the other hand we have merely to glance at the attitude in which we are regarded in Europe to see only too plainly that the United States would be the last nation to secure international co-operation. Every American crime or oppression is magnified a hundred times by the European powers till we are regarded as a nation of tyrants. Could our government then, unbacked by any strong moral influence, negro emancipation excepted, intercede in Europe in behalf of a suffering people? Consider what a parallel case we have right in our midst. Can any true American read of the cruelties recorded in "A Century of Dishonor," without a blush of shame for our government?

If our nation has been undisturbed in the midst of its atrocities toward the negro and the Indian, we have surely no civil right to interfere with the affairs of other nations and thus break the principles and violate the spirit of the great "Monroe Doctrine," the unwritten law of America and Europe as well.

The question is now put to the civilized world as a whole, "Shall this remnant of the chosen people be left to ignominiously perish, or shall they be relieved? If so, how?" Surely if it is a question unsolved by the greatest statesmen, an answer cannot be expected from any to whom it is merely a passing thought. If this momentous issue must be settled by human aid, what method would be grander, what way more feasible, what plan more satisfactory than an international convention, solicited by private individuals, for the avowed purpose of helping the oppressed Jews. Let it be a meeting in which authorized delegates from every country shall participate. Then no single nation could condemn the decision of such a representative body. In the principles of this gathering we would find the culmination of the highest expectations of earthly government.

Let us therefore look forward to a time when justice will be done, and the houses of Judah and Israel shall be once more perfect. Then with glad and truthful heart can the world well sing:

"Thrice happy nation, favorite of heaven,
Selected from the kingdoms of the earth
To be His chosen race, ordained to spread
His glory through remotest realms, and teach
The Gentile world Jehovah's awful name."

T. G. McFadden.

OHIO Y. M. C. A.

The quarter-centennial meeting of the Young Men's Christian Associations of Ohio was a wonderful and inspiring gathering; a fitting climax to twenty-five years of fruitful work, and a hopeful prophecy of larger usefulness in the twenty-five years coming. The Convention convened at Akron, on Thursday, the 11th instant, and continued through the following Sabbath. Five hundred and fifty delegates were in attendance. The first Convention held at Columbus, in 1867, numbered sixty-three. The president of that gathering, H. Thane Miller, of Cincinnati, was likewise chosen president of the Akron meeting. This made the twelfth time Mr. Miller had occupied the chair of the Ohio Convention. He is truly a grand old man—one whose presence and words were a veritable benediction to the younger men in the assembly.
Special features of the convention were the opening address by Dr. C. F. Thwing, of Adelbert, on “Qualifying for Acceptable Christian Service;” the address of Dr. W. G. Ballantine, of Oberlin, on “Young Men as a Factor in Christian Work;” a paper on “Soul Winning,” by S. A. Jennings, of Mansfield; another on “Our Obligation to Young Men in Mission Lands,” by Secretary H. K. Caskey, of Youngstown; a pleasant description of “A Week in Our Association Building,” by E. L. Shuey, of Dayton; a discussion of “The Value of the Physical Department,” by H. G. Hodge, of Springfield, and a series of powerful and spiritual Bible readings on prayer.

The reports of the college associations this year were said by Prof. Shuey, chairman of the college committee, to have been the best set of reports ever presented in an Ohio Convention. They showed progress and development in every line, especially in matters spiritual. One out of every five unconverted men in Ohio colleges the past year has been brought to Christ. This, says Secretary J. C. White, is, considering the circumstances involved, the best record of Christian work ever made by the college students of any State.

The college conferences, held late Friday and Saturday afternoons, were especially helpful. Free, open discussions of vital topics, a few pointed talks, scores of excellent suggestions scattered through all, made the sessions highly profitable. Akron ladies kindly served lunch on both evenings, and the student boys enjoyed a very lively time supping together.

The presence of J. C. White, of Wooster, ’90, a secretary of the International Committee, was no small addition to the Convention. Mr. White is thoroughly Christian and thoroughly student—eloquent, enthusiastic, convincing. At the public college session, Saturday night, after some stirring talks by Geyer, of Delaware; Wood, of Oberlin, and Mueller, lately of Heidelberg, now of Cincinnati, White delivered a magnificent address on “Some Features of the Inter-collegiate Movement.” Sunday night at the platform meeting in the First Methodist Church, White spoke again on missions—an inspiring appeal.

We are proud of White as a Buckeye student.

Otterbein, we believe, gained a blessing from this meeting through her delegates. The delegation was composed of Knotz, Mumma, Blagg, Barnes, Fanning, Streich, J. B. Bovey, Shank, C. B. Stoner, Miller, Hippard, and Best. We had also the pleasure of being represented on the floor of the Convention for longer or shorter time by President Sanders, Dr. Garst, and Dr. Swain.

THE MAN UP A TREE.

There seems to be a little mud around the foot of my tree these days. Westerville people will certainly begin to talk about paving the streets very soon. Of course no one is expected to talk of paving streets when the weather is fine. You don’t need any pavement then, and so there is no use talking about it. But whenever the mud is hub deep—more or less—down the center of College Avenue then certainly it is the height of propriety to talk of the need of paving bricks. So I am waiting for this highly delectable chorus to begin.

**

“Treat the students like men and women.” That’s the way they say they do up at Ann Arbor. So they don’t compel them to attend chapel exercises. I knew some people once who were compelled to attend prayers and didn’t lose any of their manliness, and others who lost no womanliness. Can’t see for the life of me where there is anything damaging to manhood in being under the law of a community of which one voluntarily makes himself a member. Latterly, however, our own faculty has practically made chapel attendance voluntary. Just about as well, it
appears. About as many attend as before. Little better order maybe. Looked at all around, worship is, I suppose, the freer the truer—if chapel service is worship at all. Who’ll tell me?

**

He of the sable mantle and visage grim has been warded from our school mercifully now several years. Let us be devoutly grateful. But within the present month the awful ghostly sword has fallen very near—fearfully near two of our senior class. There are love bands which did go out through the earth, and are now stretched to reach into heaven. Affliction sore. Our sympathies are poor, shallow wells, but their best streams flow past the feet of our sister and our brother. And there are other wells whose waters are exhaustless, free, and quenching to the saddest thirst.

**

The new scheme for the State Oratorical Association is good. It is righteous and just. It is fair to all the colleges in the State. “To a Man Up a Tree” it looks as if the colleges composing the association at present deserve congratulation for the fairness and liberality which they show in the matter of reorganization. The only thing that anybody is kicking about down this way is that the new arrangement is not put in force this year, as it seems to me it could easily be. However, you don’t look a gift horse in the mouth, do you? Well, we’ll “bide a wee,” and when we do get a chance at the persimmon we’ll have a pole ready to knock it. Just watch us.

**

By the way, have you heard of the Athletic League of Ohio Colleges? Something new? Of course we’re the people you want to strike when you’re looking for something new. We always have it on hand or on foot. We stretch out our best hand to you, sister colleges of the league. We’re in it with you to boom sensible athletics in this State as they have never been boomed before. It is in our power to make the league the first amateur athletic organization in Ohio. Do it, won’t we?

**

Twenty-six speeches, five minutes each, five or six musics, presentation of twenty-six diplomas, etc.—that’s about the program you may expect for commencement. Prepare for it, dear brother prep.

**

Playing tricks is rare fun. Why, certainly, who don’t enjoy it? But the thing might be carried too far. It’s going a good deal too far when a green man just coming into school is deviled half to death before he gets onto college ways well enough to take care of himself. If you do that kind of business, it looks to a “Man up a Tree” like you are mean. In fact you are mean. Get off your tricks on a man who can pay you back. The fellow who has pleasure in joking a green man deserves to have his head broke. Just stand under the tree half a minute, and I’ll drop a dead limb on you.

**

Some people give a black eye to the coeducational idea—or try to—by talking about how boys and girls in college together fall so madly, desperately, and foolishly in love, and how many silly and idiotic doings they commit on that account. Upon deep reflection I am able to recall some instances of such things in college life that I have seen—no personal experience, thank you. But if I am rightly informed, people do the same way outside of college—maybe worse. They sometimes get married too. Also they occasionally get divorced. But name me a divorce from a marriage from a college courtship. Just please cite me to an unhappy wedded life between persons who learned their love in college. Can’t do it, can you? Reflect on that. If
your son or daughter should do nothing better—nor worse—than find a helpmate in college, the education would pay.

**

** BASEBALL next spring. Bruised shins, broken fingers, and glory. We are going to have the greatest ball team that ever stepped on Otterbein diamond. We warn all comers against it. It will sweep from the face of the earth any team that may oppose it. The pennant of the Ohio League must fly right royally over Otterbein's towers on commencement day. And there's where she'll be, too.

**

** And the baseball concert—you'll take your best girl out to that. Everlasting traitor to Otterbein's highest glory if you don't. Dear girls, here's a chance to show your loyalty. If there is any fellow who don't attend this concert with some one of you, just taboo and boycott—appropriate word—him forever and a day.

**

HENRY WATTERSON. If he half equals his reputation, he'll shut up the kicking about the low grade of the Citizens' Lecture Course entertainments. So may he do.

Y. P. S. C. E. JOINT MEETING.

The three Christian Endeavor societies and the Epworth League of town, in connection with the Christian Endeavor Society of Central College, held a joint meeting in the college chapel January 31. No program had been prepared; hence, no one felt the restraint of form or custom. The hour was spent in lively spiritual songs, prayers, and testimonies. About four hundred young people were present. No doubt the unreserved exchange of ideas, sympathies, and fellowship will bear its fruitage in fuller and sweeter lives, and greater activity in the service of the Master.

MRS. EMMA BENDER KUMLER, class '85, died at her home in Trenton, Mo., February 5, 1892. In the Ægis of last month her serious illness was announced, but there was hope for her final recovery. She passed away, however, and the Alummal Association has had during the current year its second loss by death.

Immediately after her graduation, Mrs. Kumler accepted a position as teacher of languages in the West Virginia Academy at Buckhannon, where she remained one year. In the fall of '87, she was married to Mr. F. A. Z. Kumler, also of class '85, and president of Avalon College, Mo. To this place they at once removed, and from that time until her death, she was an untiring teacher and helper in the work of the college.

About a year ago the college was removed from Avalon to Trenton, and while President Kumler was busy with the plans and erection of the new college building, Mrs. Kumler, to a large extent, assumed executive control of the school, and with marked success. She was a woman of fine presence, an attractive and lovable disposition, and an intellectual grasp that eminently fitted her for the great work she was called to do. No life could be more earnest or active than was hers; and while the years given her were not many, they were crowded full of being and doing for others. Life's work well done.

Her remains were brought to Westerville, the home of her parents, for burial. The funeral services were held in the college chapel at two o'clock, February 10. College exercises being suspended during the afternoon. Prayer was offered by the college pastor, Rev. R. L. Swain, the sermon was preached by Dr. Garet, a beautiful memorial was read by Dr. Thompson, and a closing prayer by Rev. T. H. Kohr, pastor of the Presbyterian church. The Philalethean and Philomathean societies attended in a body. President Kumler and the family of her father, Rev. D. Bender, have the sympathy of a very large circle of friends.

The funeral of Mrs. Emma Bender Kumler brought to Westerville quite a number of graduates and former students: Miss Juan R. Kumler, class '63, and Mrs. Mira Kumler Baird, class '67, both sisters of President Kumler; Supt. Bonebrake, of Mt. Vernon, class '82, and his wife, class '84; Rev. and Mrs. H. Stauffer, of Columbus, the former for many years a classmate of Mrs. Kumler.
MEMORIAL.

At a called session of the Philalethean Literary Society the following resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, We have been sincerely grieved because of the death of Mrs. Emma Bender Kummer, an honored sister of our society, one who has been a companion of our privileges and adversities, and has oftentimes by the memory of her example been a source of help and strength to us; therefore,

Resolved, That in this sad affliction we recognize the interference of our Heavenly Father, that he doeth all things well, and that the bonds which have been so sweetly united here have not been severed, but more firmly strengthened in a heavenly inheritance.

Resolved, That notwithstanding the failure of the human heart to express the sympathy which it would like to bestow on the afflicted friends of this dear sister, we would assure them that we realize how keenly they feel this first loss from their family, and we extend our deepest sympathy to the friends, and especially the two sisters, who as loyal active members of Philalethea, have become very dear to us.

Resolved, That we fondly cherish the memory of this one whose kindness and amiability have been felt not only by her society, but by other friends as well.

Resolved, That we strive to imitate the noble example she has left us, and attain that perfection which she now enjoys.

M Vyrtle Miller,
GENEVA CORNELL,
EVA SOLEDAY,
Committee.

WHEREAS, We, the members of the Otterbein Philalethean Society, have learned with deep regret of the decease of our beloved sister, Miss Clara V. Mumma, of Dayton, Ohio, whose graces so endeared her to all her associates, and loving, loyal interest in her chosen society was often expressed by her even in the midst of physical weakness and suffering; therefore,

Resolved, That we recognize with tender appreciation her faithfulness and loyalty as a member of this society, and the cheerful service she rendered in that capacity.

Resolved, That we hereby express our profound sorrow and sense of loss; that we sorely lament the fact that so beautiful and promising a life should be cut off thus in the bloom of young womanhood; that we tender our sincere condolences to all the bereaved relatives, and that realizing the inadequacy of words to convey to them our heartfelt sympathy, we silently turn with them in this extremity to our great Source of comfort and consolation, our Heavenly Father, whom our deceased sister loved so devotedly, served so faithfully, and honored so truly.

Resolved, That we cherish the memory of her pure life and noble character as a precious heritage, and that we strive to emulate her many virtues.

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of the society as a permanent testimonial; that a copy of them be sent the bereaved family, and that they be published in the Public Opinion and Otterbein Alum.

LELA GUTTNER,
VERNA FOWLER,
ELIZABETH THOMPSON,
Committee.

GETTING IN IT.

The annual oratorical contest was held at Akron on Thursday evening, the 18th instant. It was a spirited contest. Mr. George Geyer, '92, of Ohio Wesleyan, was winner of first place. His success affords us pleasure, and we congratulate Mr. Geyer and his school. We are hoping that, for Ohio's sake, he may capture the interstate. Mr. Lybarger, of Buchtel, came in second; Mr. Johnson, of Ohio State, third, and Miss McVey, of Ohio, fourth. This latter result is quite a notable victory, since, for some years, Ohio had been persistently hunting the last end of each contest. After all Ohio's men had failed, her women took up the gauntlet, and Miss McVey nicely vindicated the reputation of their college.

According to appointment, Messrs. Blagg and Fanning were present at the contest to present Otterbein's application for admission to the association. These gentlemen did admirable hustling, and spread Otterbein's name in every direction. When the application came up in business session, courteous opportunity was given for a presentation of Otterbein's claims by Mr. Blagg. Both our representatives speak in highest terms of the kind favors shown them at this meeting. A like application from Hiram was also filed by representatives of that school.

After discussion, it was agreed by the Association that a serious obstacle to the admission of any other colleges lay in the already great length of the contest program. The Akron contest lasted from eight o'clock till twenty minutes to twelve. In view of this a motion for reorganization on a new plan was carried. This plan, first proposed by Mr. Geyer, in brief, provides for the admission to the Association of all the first grade colleges in the State. The winning oration at any local contest is to be submitted in manuscript to a board of judges on thought and composition. The seven marked highest on this judgment
are to be entitled to compete in oratory in the State contest. This plan in outline was submitted to the executive committee with instructions to conform the constitution with it. The revised constitution will be adopted next year, and the contest of 1894 will be conducted on the new basis. At that time Otterbein hopes to take one of the first three places.

This arrangement is not just what we were wanting, for we desired to be “in it” next year. However, the justice of the new scheme is evident, and we are so well satisfied that it will work when once put in motion, that we can afford to wait upon deliberate methods of inaugurating it. The liberality of the Association in thus broadening its field, is worthy of hearty commendation.

**PERSONAL.**

There will be a class in Hebrew conducted during the spring term.

The Otterbein Quartette gave a concert at Maple Grove on the 10th inst.

The Students’ Volunteer Band has recently been increased to eleven members.

Mr. E. M. Best, of Centerburg, was recently the guest of his brother, N. R. Best, ’92.

Mrs. C. H. Lyon, of Dayton, O., spent several days in Westerville visiting her daughter.

Mr. J. O. Gross left Otterbein University for his home at Dayton, O., a few weeks ago.

Mr. E. S. Barnard was recently chosen to represent Otterbein University in the “College Man.”

Rev. A. E. Davis, pastor of the United Brethren Church at Columbus, was at prayers the 27th ult.

Mr. G. P. Maxwell, P. B., class ’87, was in town the 11th, attending the funeral of Mrs. Emma B. Kumler.

Mr. A. T. Howard, ’94, addressed the Young People’s Society of Christian Endeavor at Central College the 7th.

Miss Flora Speer, ’92, was recently called to her home at Waterloo, Ind., owing to the severe illness of her father.

Mr. W. Dennis, formerly a student of Otterbein University, spent Sunday, the 7th, in Westerville, visiting friends.

Mr. E. E. Lollar, class ’93, who went home at the end of the fall term and did not expect to get back again, returned the 23d ult.

Rev. R. L. Swain’s Bible class, which last term met on Monday evenings, has changed its hour of meeting to Saturday at 1:00 P. M.

Mr. J. E. Leas left Westerville a few weeks ago for his home in West Manchester, Ohio. He was suffering severely from an attack of fever.

Miss Maud Kunkle, of Galion, Ohio, spent several days in Westerville visiting Misses Bessie Kumler and Kittie Cover and other friends.

Miss Alice Bender, who had been with her sister, Mrs. F. A. Z. Kumler, at Trenton, Mo., for about six months, returned to her home the 5th inst.

The Cleiorhetean and the Philalethean Literary societies dispensed with their regular sessions January 28th, it being the Day of Prayer for colleges.

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As a result of Mrs. Stone's lectures a Good Templars' lodge has been organized. Many students have already shown their heroism and ridden the goat.

Misses Mamie McGuire and Hallie Hicks, of Centerburg, were the guests of N. R. Best on the 6th. They attended the Senior Public Rhetorical in the evening.

In the absence of Rev. Swain, who was attending the Young Men's Christian Association Convention at Akron, the 14th, Prof. W. J. Zuck conducted the chapel services.

Messrs. W. Campbell, M. N. Miller and Miss Bertha Ginn, of Galena, O., were the guests of Mr. G. L. Stoughton Saturday, the 6th. They attended the Senior Public Rhetorical in the evening.

Miss Flora Leas left Westerville a few weeks ago for her home in West Manchester, Ohio. Miss Flo was sick for several days here and her physician thought it would be best for her to go home.

We are glad to note the return of Mr. Bert and Miss Maud Bradrick to school again, as they were compelled to stay away three weeks, their house having been quarantined on account of scarlet fever.

At a recent meeting of the official board G. L. Stoughton was elected manager and J. A. Barnes captain of the baseball team. Under the care and instruction of these gentlemen we feel that success must follow.

Mr. L. B. Mumma, '92, while attending the Young Men's Christian Association convention at Akron, received a telegram concerning the very severe illness of his sister. Though all possible speed was made he failed to reach her before her death.

At almost any hour of the day, one walking along the street cannot help but meet the smiling countenance of Mr. Will Whitney, who has recently become the proud possessor of a new cushion-tire Victor wheel. We wish you success, William.

Recently two of our sophomore boys wishing to take some exercise walked to Galena in one hour and twenty minutes. After a five minutes rest they started for home, making it in one hour and twenty-seven minutes. The distance is seven miles.

Messrs. W. E. Bovey and J. R. King, formerly pastors of the United Brethren church at Columbus, went to that city on the 12th inst. to attend a "crazy supper," given under the auspices of the ladies of the United Brethren church. They report a good supper and lots of fun.

At a recent meeting of the Athletic Club the following officers were chosen for the ensuing year: J. A. Barnes was elected president; E. Barnard, secretary; S. C. Markley, treasurer. Messrs. Hippard, Koepke, Barnard, and B. Fanning were elected as members of the official board.

On the 8th inst., Prof. Scott, instead of having the regular lesson in sophomore Latin, gave an hour's lecture on Dr. Schlieman. The lecture was both interesting and profitable, and was heartily appreciated by the entire class. The class has expressed a desire to hear more such lectures.

The Third Division of the Senior Class came before the public Saturday, February 6. This was the largest division of the class, there being ten speakers. Although the program was long, yet the productions were of such a character as to prevent the uneasiness usually prevalent on such occasions.

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Train 5, (Cleveland Express) leaves Orrville at 7:15 A. M., connecting with P., Ft. W. & C. No. 32 from the West, Akron 8:10 A. M., arriving at Cleveland at 10:10 A. M. No. 4 returning, leaves Cleveland at 3:25 P. M., arriving at Akron 5:05 P. M., Orrville at 5:55 P. M., making direct connection with P., Ft. W. & C. No. 3 for Wooster, Shreve, and all points west.

Trains 27 and 28 have through Pullman sleepers between Cleveland, Akron, Columbus, and Cincinnati.

Trains 7 and 8, known as the Brink Haven and Columbus accommodations, leave Brink Haven at 6:05 A. M., arriving at Columbus at 8:35 A. M., leave Columbus at 4:30 P. M., arriving at Brink Haven at 7:50 P. M.

Trains 2 and 3 make connection with P., Ft. W. & C. trains to and from all points east and west via Orrville.

No. 38 makes close connections at Columbus with P., C. & St. L. for Chicago and points west.

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