

The Weekly Almanian

Vol. X.—No. 12.

Tuesday, January 9, 1917

Per Copy Five Cents

Men's Oratorical Contest a Big Success

WRIGHT Wins First Place; JOHNSON, Second; WARNER, Third

PRESIDENT CROOKS RECEIVES EXCEPTIONAL HONOR

Wooster Confers Honorary Degree of LL. D. Upon One of Her Sons of '99.

At the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the granting of the charter to the College of Wooster, three honorary degrees were conferred upon men of prominence in the educational, religious and literary worlds. Two of the recipients being from the United States and one from Canada. It is indeed a notable item that our president was so singularly honored on



PRES. H. M. CROOKS, LL. D.

such an occasion, and the remarkable advancement in his line of work, is the cause for being granted the degree of Doctor of Laws. The other two men who received honors were Rev. J. H. Jowett, pastor of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian church of New York City, who received the degree of LL. D., and Dr. James A. MacDonald, Editor of the "Toronto Globe" and a most noted lecturer, known all over the world. Dr. MacDonald had the degree of Litt. D. conferred. It is with great pleasure that the Almanian, on behalf of the faculty and students, extends heartiest congratulations to our splendid president.

LOCAL ORATORICAL CONTEST

The next issue of the Weekly Almanian will be an oratorical edition. The announcements of the winning orators are given on the top of the front page of this week's edition.

SCIENCE CLUB

Saturday evening, Professor West gave an interesting illustrated lecture on his trip to the west. He showed many slides of mountain scenery and of the fine schools in the western states.

Woman's
Oratorical Contest
College Chapel
Wednesday Evening
January 10, 1917
Everybody Out
Public Invited

FROM ONE WHO LISTENED

The Christmas vacation is past, but the influences and effects of the vacation will stay with us for some time.

Four people in the college seem to have suffered more from the strenuous strain than many others, judging from all appearances, and these are none other than the members of the quartette.

Their looks, however, must not be the testimony of their success, for they indeed belied the enthusiasm and eagerness with which the four men were met at every place. To be sure the quartette did not go as representatives from the college and yet we may well be proud that every member was a student here, for a success like the one they scored, could not help but boost the institution with which they are connected.

No one is exactly sure as to the happy inspiration which prompted the trip, but the welfare and the loyalty to their college back in Alma was made manifest at every performance, and if they had failed, which we may say with a vengeance they did not, no one would have felt it more keenly than the members of the quartette.

To tell anything specific of their work would take too long a time, and so, just to say they were greatly appreciated in every town where they stopped will have to suffice. Nor can one choose any individual from the group and say that he was the star, for each man did equally well his part. But the thing which really counted, was the way every man did his part with the rest, for the team work was splendid and this, in work of this type, is what counts more than the individual superiority. And so the four men representing the four classes in college, namely, Messrs. Robinson, Smith, Grimes and Sealey, will long be remembered as members of Alma's great quartette.

PROFESSOR VEATCH VISITS NEW YORK

Mr. Veatch has just returned from New York City where he spent ten days in the interest of the vocal department, consulting with and visiting lessons given by some of the most prominent teachers there, including Herbert Witherspoon, formerly of the Metropolitan Grand Opera company. While there, he took daily lessons with Percy Rector Stephens, who is said to be the greatest authority on the human voice in America, and who numbers among his pupils Paul Alt-house, Reinold Werrenroth, William and Elizabeth Wheeler, Lucy Warsh and Olive Kline, all of whom sing for the Victor Phonograph company. He was fortunate in being permitted to hear several of these artists take their lessons and to talk with them about vocal problems.

In addition to this work he attended nine performances of the Metropolitan Grand Opera company and concerts by Fritz Kreisler, violinist; Reinhold de Warlich, baritone; Alfonso Grien, baritone; May Peterson, soprano; New York Symphony orchestra and the People's Symphony orchestra.

ZETA SIGMA

At the last regular meeting of Zeta Sigma, the following men were elected:

President—Robert E. McAllister.
Vice-President—Earl Coleman.
Secretary—Malcolm Smith.
Treasurer—Stanley A. Warner.
First Critic—Chet Robinson.
Second Critic—Leland Fitch.
Almanian Reporter—"Stub" Warner.
Janitor—"Marlette" George Simenton.

DEAN MITCHELL DELIVERS FINE OPENING ADDRESS

"Paracelsus" Taken as Subject for Interesting Discourse Given in Chapel.

The literary ability of Dean Mitchell has been common knowledge to us; but we have never had an opportunity to come to as full an appreciation of it as we did in chapel last Wednesday morning.

The thought of the address was impressive and well adapted to the time, but the address excelled as a literary theme. In a style that was lucid, concrete and impressive, Dean Mitchell developed his great theme, "The Redemptive Process as Set Forth in Great Literature."

Dante's "Divine Comedy," Goethe's "Faust" and Browning's "Paracelsus," all furnished capital material for the working out of the theme. No better material can be found anywhere for spiritual edification than in the great drama, "Paracelsus," which furnished the basis of the theme.

In "Paracelsus" we have a full orb'd man, with keen intellect, generous affections and an indomitable will. No doubt Browning regarded these as the qualities which make up completeness when they exist in the proper proportion. Thus, Browning presents Paracelsus in all his completeness, splendidly equipped with intellect, feeling and will, and to these too, he had manly beauty. And yet this splendidly equipped man failed and fell. And the task of the theme was to trace him to his fall, and then his rise, through suffering, by a slow and gradual process until at least, in death, he reached paradise.

In the first place, what was the cause of the fall of Paracelsus? Wherein is the germ of his failure? It is to be found chiefly in his disregard of the culture of the heart, in his deliberate attempt to crucify his affections. He has the mistaken idea that to cultivate his affections will interfere with his success in the pursuit of knowledge. He does not intend to disregard his affections for all time, but only during his search for knowledge. Alas! he does not know that he must use them or he will lose them.

"My own affections laid to rest awhile,
Will awaken purified, subdued alone
By all I have achieved."

And we hear no more of Paracelsus for nine years. Where he went we do not know. The great poet-artist does not tell. Browning is concerned only with his character—and he gives us a picture of that after nine years. Now he is not only a physical wreck, and near to death, but he is also mental wreck. His mind and memory are almost gone. So closely intertwined are the feeling and the intellect that the loss of one works the loss of the other. The intellect cannot say to the feeling, "I have no need for thee." And Paracelsus is at last coming to see it. He feels his failing mind and calls upon God in a passionate cry to save it. "God! Thou art mind unto the master-mind.

Mind should be precious. Spare my mind alone!
All else I will endure."

In this state of mind Paracelsus meets Aprilla, who is without knowledge or will. He has been as selfish in his way as Paracelsus. Paracelsus had reserved for himself knowledge, Aprilla feeling. Aprilla says, "I would love infinitely and be loved." "Poor slave," replied Paracelsus, (Continued on page four)

DR. POOLE, BOYS' SECRETARY OF SAGINAW, ADDRESSES Y. M. C. A.

The Y. M. C. A. meeting, held in the "Y" room on Sunday afternoon, was one of inspiration and desire on the part of all the members to rise above the criticism which has been so generously bestowed upon the organization. After song and prayer, President Robinson introduced Dr. Poole, Boys' secretary of Saginaw, to speak on the subject, "The Y. M. C. A. as a Life Work."

The choice of a life work is important, says Dr. Poole, because we do not want to make mistakes. We think of it early in life and every sane and sensible boy of seventeen ought to know his life work; but he may change it if he finds he is not fitted for that particular calling. A great responsibility rests on parents and teachers—to help the boy to know himself and to build on this. In knowing yourself consider the following: (1) Your impulses for work as a child; (2) the idea you have of earning a living; and (3) the joy that comes to you in the expression of yourself for the betterment of mankind. Every boy has a determination to be a big man and the only trouble may be that he becomes sidetracked. We use only one-tenth of the power within us, but the Y. M. C. A. is big enough to call out all the latent energy of any young man. It especially calls for the qualities of a teacher and of a business administrator. The Y. M. C. A. was formerly organized to band young men together for religious purposes only, but today we have five distinctive departments for expression:

1. Religious.
2. Physical, as necessary to bring out the religious.
3. Educational, to link these two and make up the perfect man.
4. The social, to offer an opportunity for social service.
5. The boys' department, for young boys.

County Secretary Curtis gave three reasons why he liked county work.

1. Because of the class of people one gets acquainted with.
2. It demands personal growth.
3. Offers great opportunity for service.

"Grandpa" Angell, secretary of Ionia county, gave interesting statistics regarding the Y. M. C. A. work in the United States.

We should build up this organization in college, not seeking to get something of it alone, but to put something in. It is up to the fellows to get busy and start working.

A series of similar meetings are to follow. Come out and do your share.

ALPHA THETA

At the meeting of Alpha Theta the following officers were elected:

President, Anna Wave Coleman.
Vice-President, Elfleda Udelle.
Secretary, Catherine Goodwillie.
Correspondent, Gertrude Peters.
Treasurer, Mildred McConkey.
Sentinel, Ruth Boer.
Guide, Charlotte Hawes.
Almanian Reporter, Muriel Netzorg.
First Critic, Wilhelmine Ritter.
Second Critic, Bessie Creaser.

President Crooks is in Chicago, attending the annual meeting of the Association of American Colleges.

A neat twenty-four page College Bulletin containing several of the inaugural addresses, which were delivered at the inauguration of President Crooks. Friends, prospective students, alumni and students may obtain copies upon application at the president's office.

ADRIAN WAS HUMBBLED IN HARD FOUGHT GAME

Alma College Five Pulled First Game From the Fire in Last Couple Minutes.

The Adrian college basketball team, doped as one of the strongest quintets in the state college ranks this year, gave the Maroon and Cream team a terrific battle in the High school gymnasium last Friday evening, and it was not until the final two minutes that Alma finally secured a one point lead that brought in the opening game of the Michigan intercollegiate basketball season.

The victory for the Alma team stamps the local five as one of the best college teams in the state, and one that will be a big contender for the titular honors for the 1917 basketball season. And had only a few days' practice before the encounter with Adrian, owing to the holiday vacation, and the five were in far from good working order. The men were not in good condition and the teamwork of the locals somewhat crude, and it was only a strong determination to win, coupled with the old-time Alma fighting spirit that brought Alma to the front. The game, however, showed great possibilities—once Alma gets plenty of practice, conditioning and the coaching that Helmer will be able to give his men.

Adrian took the lead at the start of the game, and while Alma tied the count once, early in the first half, Adrian could not be shoved behind until the closing moments of the game. During the latter part of the first half, the visitors gradually increased their lead to five points, the score being 14 to 9 for Adrian when the half closed. Teachout, twice carried the ball down the floor, caught the Alma guards off their guard, and shot field baskets that enabled the visitors to assume their lead.

When the half ended, it seemed to the fans that the result could be nothing but an Adrian victory, as the visitors had been showing superior in every department during the fore part of the game.

Between halves, Coach Helmer shifted his men around, and sent Hoolihan into the game. With the second half Alma looked like a different team. It was as scrappy an aggregation as ever went onto a basketball court for Alma, and slowly, but none the less, surely, Alma pulled down the lead of the highly touted Adrian college five.

Gallagher shot a field basket, and then added a couple points more with fouls. Hoolihan shot a basket from near the center of the floor, putting Alma within striking distance of the visitors, and the fans went crazy with joy. Adrian added a couple of field baskets and pulled away slightly, but Gallagher came back with three more fouls, and Smith added a field basket, putting Alma one point in the lead. Grimm of Adrian made one last effort and connected for a basket, but Hoolihan again put Alma in the lead with a long field basket, and as the game was practically over, the visitors could not score again.

The work of Gallagher, Hoolihan and Smith was exceptionally good, and responsible for the Alma victory. Especially is this true of Gallagher, who scored 11 of Alma's 24 points.

Line-up and summary:
Alma—24. Pos. Adrian—23.
Gallagher.....R. F.....Beck
Smith.....L. F.....Teachout
Johnston, Richards..C.....Grimm
A. Foote, Johnston..L. G.....Hood
Hoolihan.....R. G.....Little

Field baskets—Teachout, 3; Grimm, 2; Beck, 2; Hood, 2; Gallagher, 3; Smith, 2; Hoolihan, 2; Johnston.
Fouls—Teachout, 5 out of 11; Richards, 3 out of 8; Gallagher, 5 out of 8.

Referee—Nevitt, Mt. Pleasant.
Timer and scorer—Dunham.

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NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY

- Rostand—"Les Romanesques."
- Sedaine—"Le Philosophe Sans Le Savoir."
- Delpit—"L'Age D'or De La Litterature Francaise."
- Moliere—"Tartuffe."
- Voltaire—"Zadig."
- Voltaire—"Merope."
- Fortier—"Litterature Francaise."
- Dumas—"Question D'Argent."
- Frazer—"Je Sais Un Conte."
- Jourdain—"French Classical Drama."
- Starch—"Educational Measurements."
- Dearborn—"How to Learn Easily."
- Freeman—"Experimental Education."
- Freeman—"The Teaching of Handwriting."
- Eddington—"Stellar Movements and the Structure of the Universe."
- Howell—"Text Book of Physiology."
- Bryce—"Holy Roman Empire."
- Herrick—"An Introduction to Neurology."
- Dewey—"Democracy and Education."
- Adams—"Advertising and Its Mental Laws."
- Herford—"The Age of Wordsworth."
- Cooper—"Methods and Aims in the Study of Literature."
- Hume—"Treatise of Human Nature."
- Aristotle—"Nicomachean Ethics."
- Hugo—"Preface du 'Cromwell.'"
- Cajori—"History of Elementary Mathematics."
- Needham and Loyd—"Life of Inland Waters."
- Rand—"The Classical Psychologists."
- Parsons—"Choosing a Vocation."
- Arnold—"Sea Beach at Ebb Tide."
- Andrews—"Life of Our Lord."
- McIlvaine & McAdam—"One Thousand and American Fungi."
- Corbin—"An American at Oxford."
- Schauffler—"Our American Holidays—Thanksgiving."
- Schauffler—"Our American Holidays—Christmas."
- Wheeler—"Ants."
- Puffer—"The Boy and His Gang."
- Puffer—"The Storytellers."
- Wright—"Faith Justified by Progress."
- Thorburn—"Mythical Interpretation of the Gospels."
- France—"Le Livre de Mon Ami."
- Lazare—"Les Plus Jolis Contes de Fees."
- Pailleron—"Le Monde ou L'on S'ennuie."

PUBLISHES NEW BOOK

The Rev. J. Norman King, a graduate of Alma college, class of 1905, now pastor of Olivet Presbyterian church at Lima, Ohio, is the author of a most excellent little book, entitled "What the Spirit Saith to the Churches." This is a study and practical application of the epistles to the seven churches of Roman Asia in the revelation of St. John. Mr. King believes this series of letters contains a vital message to the churches of every age. His aim is to recall the modern church to apostolic zeal in practical series. He emphasizes the importance of the church and endeavors to awaken interest and loyalty in church life by advocating the very highest ideals of the Christian life in every individual Christian. After the introduction and a chapter on "The Value of the Church," the author presents a series of chapters entitled respectively "The Fickle Lover," "Winning the Crown," "Faithfulness Minus Courage," "Limitations in Service," "Alive in Name Only," "The Open Door," "Lukewarm Religion" and "Our Obligation to the Church." Each of the apocalyptic churches is introduced with interesting notes from archaeology and history that recreate for the modern reader something of the ancient environment of each typical congregation. The exegesis, which is intentionally quite

practical, is discreet and reverent. It is no attempt to spell out history beforehand but an earnest endeavor to trace living lessons for today in the appreciative commendations and pointed rebukes directed by St. John to the Christian communities around him.

It is perhaps superfluous to add that the book is true to all the intellectual and ethical standards of historic Christianity. It will be interesting and helpful to all Christian workers as a very suggestive and practical devotional study. We are glad to endorse the recent commendation of it by the "Herald and Presbyter." The work is published as one of the volumes in the "Library of Religious Thought," Boston: Richard J. Badger. Toronto: The Copp Clark Co., Limited. \$1.25.

CHAS. D. BROKENSHIRE.

Editor's Note.—Alma may indeed be proud of the splendid work which is being done by her son, Mr. King, and it is with great pleasure that the Almanian congratulates him for his work. We wish him a continuous success both in his pastoral and literary fields.

Alexander Duncanson, Famous Alma Athlete, Married to a Mt. Pleasant Lady.

Saturday, at noon, the wedding ceremony of two of Mt. Pleasant's popular young people was solemnized, Miss Ruth Van Leuven and Mr. Alexander J. Duncanson were the ones made happy on this occasion.

The ceremony was at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elton J. Van Leuven, before the immediate families of the bride and groom. Rev. R. H. Bradfield of Lapeer, Michigan, a personal friend of the groom, was the officiating minister.

The bride and groom were attended by Mr. Clarence Goodrich of Ithaca as groomsman, and Miss Edith Mansell as bridesmaid.

The bride was gowned in white charmeuse and carried a bouquet. Simplicity marked the affair throughout. The decorations in the living room in which the ceremony took place were in pink and green and in the dining room Christmas colors were in evidence.

The bride has always lived in Mt. Pleasant and is admired by all who know her. She is accomplished in music and possesses much dramatic ability, but her chief charm lies in a sweet and agreeable personality which makes friends for her wherever she may be. She is a graduate of the city schools and of the Normal and attended the Oberlin Conservatory of Music last year.

Mr. Duncanson (commonly known to his many friends as "Sandy") is principal of the Mt. Pleasant city schools.—Mt. Pleasant Times, December 28.

Mr. Duncanson graduated from Alma college with the class of 1910. During his college career at Alma he proved to be the best twirler that the Maroon and Cream ever had. Later he attended Columbia University and has since taught at Ithaca and Mt. Pleasant. He is located at Mt. Pleasant at the present time.

Miss Emma Swigart '09 Married in Alma to Dr. Barker of London, Canada.

At the home of Raymond and Miss Edna Swigart, on State street, on Wednesday, January 3rd, occurred the marriage of their sister, Emma Martha, to Ernest Franklin Barker of London, Ontario, Canada.

The ceremony was performed at noon by Rev. W. H. Mason, D. D., in the presence of members of the immediate families. The bride wore a gown of white embroidery and Irish lace, and carried a bouquet of white roses and lilies-of-the-valley.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Barker of Rochester, New York. He is a graduate of the University of Rochester, and received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Michigan in 1915. He is now professor of physics at Western University, London, Ontario. The bride is the daughter of the late John T. Swigart, and has lived in Alma since childhood. She is a graduate of Alma college—the class of 1909—and later received her Master's degree from the University of Michigan. The only out of town guests were Miss Edith Barker of Rochester, New York, and Miss Agnes Hope of St. Johns, Michigan. Dr. and Mrs. Barker left on the afternoon train for a short wedding trip, after which they will be at home in London, Ontario, Canada.

PHI PHI ALPHA

At the last regular meeting of the society, held December 18th, the following officers were elected for this term:

- President, Carl Titus.
- Vice-President, Ray Beshgetoor.
- Secretary, Emberson Ardis.
- Treasurer, Thomas Jackson.
- First Critic, Lewis Sarvis.
- Second Critic, Melvin Vender.

A member of that high profession whose aim is to clean up things, was chosen for the honored position of janitor. The lucky man is Homer Grimes.

Victor Harris was taken into the society.

FROEBEL SOCIETY.

The Froebel society met on Monday, Dec. 18, for the last time before Christmas. After a short business meeting there was a very informal Froebel party, which was jolly and complete in keeping with the prevailing Christmas spirit. Some of the girls made Christmas stockings for the kindergarten tree, others were busy with their more important personal gifts. Coffee and doughnuts, which everyone seemed to enjoy, were served by the refreshment committee. After this the meeting was adjourned with the Froebel prayer and song.

A yardmaster was interviewing applicants for the post of driver of a motor-bus, and among the volunteers was an Irishman.

"Can you drive a car?" asked the yardmaster.

"Can Oi drive a car!" repeated the Irishman, scornfully.

"Well, suppose you run the bus into the shed."

Pat climbed on to the trembling vehicle. He looked around, spat on his hand, grabbed the biggest lever, and pulled it for all he was worth. Zip she went into the shed. Pat saw trouble ahead, and, guessing what happen, reversed the liver. Out she went—in again—out again.

Then the yardmaster yelled: "I thought you said you could run a motor-car?"

But Pat had an answer ready: "Oi had it in three times. Why didn't you shut the door?"

—Tit-Bits.

ONE WAY OUT

"They're shooting the old flag full of holes, Sam. Aren't you ever going to do anything about it?"

"Certainly. I'll have congress abolish the flag."

—Life.

Mail your subscription to

Lee Maltby

Alma, Mich.

GENESTA

THEATRE

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 10

Billie Burke in "Gloria's Romance," and "Behind the Lines," a Blue Bird war drama.

THURSDAY, JAN. 11

Extra special—the first of the Ella Wheeler Wilcox dramatized poems, "Lais When Young," also Clara Kimball Young in "The Dark Silence."

FRIDAY, JAN. 12

"The Upheavel," Metro, and "Secret of Submarine."

SATURDAY, JAN. 13

Robert Mantell and Genevieve Hamper in "The Spider and the Fly," Fox Feature, also Mutt and Jeff comedy.

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The Idlehour

Week Beginning January 8, 1917

WEDNESDAY

Lillian Gish in "An Innocent Magdalene," and two-reel Keystone comedy, "His First False Step."

THURSDAY

Marie Doro in "The Morals of Marcus," and Helen Holmes in "The Girl and the Game."

FRIDAY

Blanch Sweet in "The Rag-muffin."

SATURDAY

Norman Talmadge in "Children in the House," also two-reel Keystone comedy, "The Lion and the Girl."

SUNDAY

Vitagraph Blue Ribbon special—Robert Edeson in "The Cave Man."

Good Music Every Night.

Alumni Round Table

Where we are and what we are doing

ALUMNUS ON THE BORDER

Rev. P. J. Allured Tells of Some Experiences.

I left Friday on the Santa Fe and spent a half a day on Saturday in Kansas City. Reached Chanute, Kansas, that night where I had a good time over Sunday with Rev. and Mrs. Wilson (they were the ones who paid my salary on the mission field).

The great state of Kansas, neat, clean, progressively prosperous, but oh! so monotonous and unpicturesque. They have just what Kwangtung hasn't and vice versa.

Another day and a half brought me to San Antonio, the sacred old city of Texas, and perhaps the wickedest too. Right in the middle of the city are the ruins, partially reconstructed, of the old Alamo. I have now been in and around and caught some of the spirit of the place, as if the very walls and cells had been charged with the courage and valor of those daring defenders as they gave up their lives one by one for their country. And now all who come in contact with them seem to become electrified with something of that same spirit, and the nerve boost that I received there during that silent hour when I went the rounds mark another climb into a greater manhood.

Now I've only a few moments to tell you of my work. Instead of sending me out on the actual border, I was appointed to the main camp just outside of San Antonio—"Camp Wilson." There are now about 15,000 men here not including the regulars at Fort Sam Houston nearby. Fine Y. M. C. A. buildings are serving this encampment and they are certainly kept busy.

I am religious work director at building No. 1, and am one of four who work together at the same building. We are situated between the First Missouri and Second West Virginia regiments so I am having a fine chance to get in with the boys of the south, and they are an interesting and responsive and appreciative lot of fellows too.

I am eating at the West Virginia officers' mess, in a rough shack on picnic style table and benches. But the fare is good and the company congenial though most of the table conversation is military "shop talk" which I can't get on at all.

We four sleep in an upper room over the office with camp cots, box furniture, "rough house," suit cases for bureaus, etc. But as long as we know that it is only temporary there is a charm to it all.

The temperature is very mild and June like, but once in a while comes a chilly north wind which they call a "Norther." One struck here the second night after I arrived and I wished that I was back home in my warm Michigan bed.

The building is in use from early morning until ten o'clock in the evening so there is no let up, not even on Sunday. The average attendance is about 2,000 and the building is crowded every evening for what ever we give them—music, lecture, religious service, or movies. The writing tables are filled nearly all the time. The Sunday before Christmas there were nearly 1,600 letters written. You can imagine that the office man is glad to be relieved after four straight hours of passing out paper, envelopes, postal cards and stamps, magazines and library books, weighing all sorts of mail matter to determine postage and policing the building through it all.

But the work which I am paid for mainly is to organize and maintain Bible classes and be general pastor to the two regiments, counteracting in every way possible the personal work of the devil who has so many of these men just where he wants them in order to begin his destructive work on body, mind and soul. And we are winning out too. One hundred men are starting out now (among those who lately arrived from another camp where there was no Y. M. C. A.) as members of the Bible classes. Every day men are deciding for the Christian life and signing pledges against various forms of sin. This is a great work and I am proud to have a hand in it.

Now I have written much more than I intended and yet I have told you only the main things and nothing about the soldier life and the interesting details of our work. That must wait until another time.

MEETING WITH FINE SUCCESS

December 26, 1916.

Editor of the Almanian,
Alma Michigan.

Dear Sir:—

I have woefully neglected my duty in keeping track of Alma, but I have been pretty busy since I left there. Now that I am settled and at work, I want you to send me the Almanian, and you will find a check enclosed for the subscription price. Please send me any important back numbers that you may have on hand. I am anxious to know just how things are coming along and will try to keep in touch with my old college hereafter.

I am enclosing a clipping from the Greeley Daily Tribune-Republican that tells something of the success of our Every Member Canvass.

It reads as follows:

"Enthusiasm and satisfaction were much in evidence last night at the Park Congregational church, when the 'Every Member' canvassing committees assembled to hear the consolidated report covering its recent efforts to put the church organization on a sound business basis, financially.

"Messrs. Demorest, Hays and Kittle served the oyster stew which preceded the brief business session, during the course of which, each team submitted a report of its activities, the experiences being wittily told and affording rare entertainment for all.

"As a result of the marked success, which attained this initial trial of the plan proposed by Rev. E. A. Thompson, the church now has definitely pledged for the ensuing year, almost \$4,800, with a few of the canvassers yet to report and it is expected that the total figure will easily meet the entire budget of \$5,065.

"The pledges for 1917 amount to \$2,000 more than the pledges for 1916, and the subscriptions for church benevolences have been more than tripled. The deficit for the current year's expenses has been wiped out and the trustees now feel confident of being able to conduct the church's affairs during the next year, with the same system that prevails in any modern mercantile establishment or bank.

"One of the features of special interest is the fact that a third of the subscribers are new, in the sense that they have never heretofore assumed a definite share of the church expenses, and the majority of the others have increased their contributions.

"Tributes to the ability, energy and tact of Rev. Thompson were paid by the men last night, while he, in turn, modestly ascribes the success of the plan to the loyal co-operation of the canvassing committeemen."

This is a flourishing little city of about 10,000, with the Colorado State Teachers' college located here. They have a yearly enrollment of nearly 2,000, counting summer school and all. Nearly twenty of the faculty members are members of my congregation. We are enjoying our work very much among these delightful people.

Very sincerely yours,

E. A. THOMPSON, '13.

ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED

Prof. and Mrs. Albert P. Cook announce the engagement of their daughter, Ruth M., to Mr. Carroll C. Hyde of Addison, Michigan. Mr. Hyde is a student in the medical department of the University of Michigan. Both young people were graduated from Alma in '14, and were very popular while in college.

AN ENGAGEMENT

Mr. and Mrs. Francis King announce the engagement of their daughter, Francis, to Howell Lewis Heid of Grand Rapids, Michigan, formerly of Baltimore, Maryland.

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FINE OPENING ADDRESS

(Continued from page one.) "has he too missed life's end and learned the cause?"

"I never engaged to root up love so frail.

I left them out; yet now 'tis very plain.

Some soft spots had their birth in me at first,

If not love, say like love; there was a time when yet this wolfish hunger after knowledge

Set not remorselessly love's claim aside.

This heart was human once, or why Emsdell, recall, now and Warzburg which the Mayne

Forsakes her course to fold as with an arm."

Paracelsus has come to himself, he sees his condition; he appreciates his loss, and in this he may be said to have attained an end. His course has changed, but yet he has to undergo the consequence of his error and his sin. This process is not instantaneous, it is long. "The descent to avarice is easy," says Vergil, "but to get back again, this is labor, this is toil."

Here the process of redemption begins. Paracelsus has become conscious of his error, and of the waste of his powers, and desires to retrieve his loss. He addresses himself to the task with something of his old-time energy. Like Faust, and like David of old, his restless nature keeps him on the move. He is anxious to retrieve his lost affections—to love and be loved.

"Love me henceforth, Aprilla," he says, "while I learn to love; and merciful God, forgive us both!"

Paracelsus becomes a teacher in the University of Basel. But he finds that he cannot teach as he would like. He has lost one of the essential elements of the teacher, viz., sympathy.

In his search for enjoyment he finds that he must begin at the bottom, with the pleasures of the senses rather than the pleasures of the mind—with low enjoyments. And yet this no fanciful case—no more creation of the poet's brain. Browning is interpreting life for us. The case is typical and true of every soul that allows himself to sink into degradation and sin.

At every stage Paracelsus realizes his condition. He appreciates his loss. Of course this is necessary to his progress. Some milestones have already been passed, some height have been attained; but well may we yet tremble to survey the growing labors of the lengthened way. We note a further gain, a little of his former love of nature, but his appreciation is not yet great, however, Festus calls his attention to the beauty of the early morning.

"Best open the casement: see The night late strewn with clouds and flying stars,

Is blank and motionless: how peacefully sleeps

The tree-tops together like an asp, The wind slips whispering from bough to bough."

Paracelsus is impatient, and without much appreciation. But Festus, hopeful that his friend will yet regain his lost appreciation, makes answer: "So you shall gaze—

Those happy times will come again." But Paracelsus discouraged, and despairing rejoins:

"Gone, gone, those pleasant times." Festus, ever ready with words of comfort and encouragement, suggests a life after death—that joys await him in another world. But Paracelsus is not yet willing to accept this truth. He finds it out for himself later how-

ever—comes to a knowledge of it not through instruction, but through experience and through suffering—not physical but inward suffering. At present with so much bitterness still in his soul, so much of the vile that he has not been purged away, he says, "Another world? No. No."

And so Paracelsus struggles on. It is a dreary round of hope and despair. The consequences of his sin have become so rooted in the fibers of his being that it is almost impossible to eradicate them. He is gradually gaining, but oh! how long the road, and how rough and steep. To follow the whole course, to give a full exposition of the redemptive process would be impossible in a brief description like this. He never rids himself entirely of the consequences of his error, but he struggles on in daylight and in darkness—in the thickest darkness till dangers trouble, night is over and the star of peace returns.

At last, he comes to a consciousness of immortality. Festus is in sorrow—then reveals his grief to Paracelsus. Festus' wife, Michal, has died, but Paracelsus does not know this, and thinks he is grieving because of his love for him.

"Have you felt sorrow, Festus?" "Tis because you love me. Sorrow and sweet Michal yours. Well thought on: never let her know this last dull winding-up of all; these miscreants dared. Insult me—me she loved—so grief her not!"

Your ill success can little grieve her now. And Paracelsus realizes she is dead, and tells Festus as if it were a discovery he had just made that life is immortal. And indeed it was a discovery for him. He had just awakened to a consciousness of it. He discovered it in his own soul. And in my judgment, this is the strangest proof of immortality.

This thought was a sudden discovery of Paracelsus, and he tells it to his friend as a great joy. He could not realize it until he himself became conscious of his own immortality. Though Festus knew it all the while it would have been idle to have told Paracelsus. He had to come to a consciousness of it through his own inner processes. Browning is so sure of immortality that he doesn't argue it. He is conscious of it. We might dispute the argument, we can't dispute the consciousness of it.—From Editor's Notes.

COME OUT FOR COURSE GAMES

Come not out in mournful numbers, Basketball's no ladies' game, For the guard is dead who slumbers, With a center on his frame. Lives of classmates all remind us, We can play school games, by heck, And departing leave behind us Footprints on a rival's neck.

—Exchange.

"Rastus," said the judge, "you say that you entered the hen-house, and then, deciding to resist temptation, left it. Is that right?"

"Dat's about it, Judge."

"Well, how about the two hens that were missing?"

"Ah tells you, Jedge, Ah took dem. Ah reckoned dat Ah was 'titled to dat many fo' leavin' the rest."

New York Times.

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