

Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., June 17, 1892.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—No communications published unless accompanied by the real name of the writer.

THINGS ABOUT TOWN & COUNTY

—Mr. Robt. Cassidy, of Canton, Ohio, has been spending a few days in Bellefonte.

—Philipsburg has already raised nearly \$600, for her 4th of July demonstration. What is being done for ours?

—Mrs. General Hastings is at present enjoying the pleasure of a visit from Mrs. Col. Rogers and family of Philadelphia.

—Daniel Garman, Esq., of the Garman House has been enjoying a visit to his daughter and the beauties of Williamsport for the past few days.

—Esquire John H. Lever, of Stormstown, is said to be an aspirant for the distinction of being defeated, as Republican candidate for the Legislature this fall.

—Rev. Father Christy, of Lock Haven, entertained a large audience with an excellent sermon in the Catholic church in this place on Monday evening last.

—A moonlight picnic to the Park was given on Monday evening. Misses Stoddart, Henkle, of Philadelphia and Miss Harvey, of Lock Haven, were the honored visitors.

—A lively runaway excited High street on Tuesday morning. Wagner's Central City mill team caused the disturbance and a buggy standing in front of Powers, store was badly wrecked.

—We regret to learn of the death of Mr. John Beezer which occurred at his home up Spring Creek, yesterday, Thursday, morning. Mr. Beezer had been ill but a short time and his unexpected death will be a great shock to his family and many friends.

—The attendance at the Treasurer's land sales on Tuesday last was limited to a few interested speculators. The opportunities for making money by purchasing titles, for unknown lands, have about ceased, and the chap who invests in these is generally the one who gets left.

—Fourteen persons under the direction of one of the best engineers, are now engaged in surveying a route from Houtzdale to Altoona, and the report is current that the Beech Creek road is to be built from Philipsburg via Houtzdale to Altoona. Everybody hopes this is correct.—*Rafstman's Journal*.

—The carelessness of drivers caused two runaways in this place on Tuesday morning last, neither of which, luckily, caused any considerable damage. They were both the result of allowing teams to stand unhitched and what damage was done should be made good by the drivers whose negligence or carelessness caused them.

—Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Troxell, Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Russell, H. H. Pitcairn, Esq., Fredrick W. Culbertson Esq., Mr. H. O. Lantz, Mrs. Harrison, Miss Culbertson, Miss Mann and the Misses Wallace, of Lewisistown, formed a pleasant party at the College Commencement on Wednesday last. They spent a short time in Bellefonte and departed for their home on Thursday, highly delighted with the visit.

—Dr. Charles Bush, of Orbisonia, Huntingdon county, well known to many of our readers up Buffalo Run valley, was a welcome visitor to Bellefonte during the early part of the week. He is off for a short vacation, and tells us that he always enjoys a visit to his old home, more than to any other part of the country. His many friends hereabouts are glad to know that he is meeting with the most gratifying success.

—This is the way in which one of our exchanges talk of Miss Nolan, the bright young daughter of Mrs. Mary Nolan proprietor of the Mountain house, at Snow Shoe. "Miss Stela Nolan, of Snow Shoe, who graduated this week at Lutherville, (Md.) seminary, took second honors, and would have taken first honors had not sickness interfered with her preparations. Her essay was pronounced one of the finest pieces of composition ever read at the seminary. Miss Nolan is not only brilliant in mind but she is a very pretty young lady and very popular on account of her pleasant appearance."

—Mr. D. J. Gates, one of Half Moon's stanchest Democrats was in town on Monday and did not forget to call and pay his respects to the WATCHMAN office. Mr. Gates has kept himself busy the present season erecting barns. His latest job in this line being one for Capt. John A. Hunter, on his farm above Port Matilda. The "raising" was last Friday and was conducted in the good old fashioned way of asking everybody in the neighborhood and making a gala day of the matter. Over one hundred people were present, all of whom enjoyed a most bountiful dinner and supper, and the frame work of the barn went up from the foundation as if by magic.

Commencement at the State College.

Interesting Exercises—A Big Crowd and the Largest Class Ever Graduated at that Institution.

It scarcely seems possible that the hand of time has scored another year never to be lived again, since last we endeavored to give our readers a *resume* of the joyous half-week at State College which annually graduates a class which has struggled with the vicissitudes of a student life for four years, yet such is the case. What is the retrospect?

We have neither time nor inclination to recount the past scenes of pleasure or sorrow that may have characterized the life of so many young men at this institution and our purpose now is to report solely of those four days of consummation. The four days in which the Senior must say his last "farewells" to associations which bind him to his *alma mater*. The four days into which, the Junior, Sophomore, Freshman and verdant Prep, alike rush with all the abandonment of youth. They are summed up and in the composite form we term them commencement. A misnomer surely.

This year has been one of surprises to the alumnus of the Pennsylvania State College and when the graduate of the '60s and '70s returns to look over the scenes which have haunted his memory ever since he laid down the hoe and quit the potato patch for the more real walks of life, he finds the place only by inquiry. Surely the bustling, busy institution, with its beautiful campus dotted with scientific laboratories, cottages, etc., looming up before him cannot be the place he left such a short time ago. One glance at the old main building relieves all doubt, however, and he is at home, but the scenes, so effectually traced on his mind while following the plow and striving to eke out an agricultural education, with which he deemed himself fit to be president of this great country, are all changed. The "Farmer's High School" has evolved into a typical 19th century college, an institution whose Alladin like growth makes his very soul burst forth in an ejaculation of wonderment. Time has wrought many changes, but as long as the cycle continues, this seven story pile of stones will stand a given sentinel to mark its progress and preserve one landmark on the campus which can ever be held dear by those who knew the spot it is.

1st. 100 Yards Dash.—Won by F. Mattern '94, in 11 2-5 seconds. C. K. Cartwright '95, being second.

2nd. Half Mile Run.—Won by John White '94, in 2 min. 14½ sec. C. E. Scott '95 second.

3rd. Throwing the Hammer.—Won by B. F. Fisher, Prep. distance 81 ft. 2 in.; Cartwright '95 second; C. H. Hile '92, third.

4th. Mile Walk.—Won with ease by H. Brown '94, in 8 min. 56½ sec.; H. E. Dunkle '93 second.

5th.—120 Yards Hurdle Race.—Won by C. E. Aull '92, in 18 4-5 sec.; Cartwright '95 second. In this race the winner broke the College record and won a gold medal.

6th. Running High Jump.—Won by J. J. Connally, Prep. in 5 ft. 8½ in.; C. E. Aull '92 and C. Atherton '92 tie for second. College record was broken in this event also.

7th. Running Broad Jump.—Won by C. E. Aull '92, distance 17 ft. 5½ in.; G. L. Price '95 second.

8th 220 Yards Dash.—Won by C. K. Cartwright '95, in 25½ sec.; Aull '92, second. Cartwright took a gold medal for breaking the College record in this event.

9th. Mile Run.—Won by C. E. Scott, '95, under protest for fouling, 6 min. 15½ sec.; T. Rutherford '95 second.

Sunday morning dawned bright and clear. Jupiter Pluvius seemed to have forgotten the rain with which he has been daily visiting this section for a month previous to this day, but suffice to say that the fondest dreams of the "bud" who wanted to display the work of some modiste had been realized it could not be prettier. The campus stretches out before us and the velvety sward and labyrinth walks invite us to stir the lazy bones and saunter toward the chapel.

THE BACCALAUREATE SERMON.

It is 10-30. The bell has rung and we find ourselves stuffed in, with the rest of humanity, eager to hear the Rev. Dr. McConnell, of St. Stephen's, in Philadelphia, deliver the "crowning" sermon.

The most expressive term we can conjure for it, is a treat and even that is mild. After the Senior class attired in cap and gown, had taken its place the eminent divine began the discourse the like of which has never been heard before at this place. Dr. McConnell took as his text, part of the nineteenth verse of the Twentieth Chapter of St. Luke, "And the Chief Priests and the Scribes the same hour sought to lay hands on him, but they feared the people."

He stated that priest corresponded to those who had massed great wealth while the scribes were those of great learning. The theme of his discourse was the perils which education creates to one's religion, perils which are real. Thence he proceeded to show how these perils come to exist, how each item of knowledge gained, recrystallizes all knowledge previously acquired, and finally gave reasons for believing that the religion of the world remains unharmed. He advised those who met the doubts and dangers which learning bring, not to resort to the reading of so called champions of religion and reconcilers of science and religion, but to find refuge in Christianity itself. Throughout his remarks he dwelt upon the rapid and great progress in the diffusion of knowledge, as the characteristic of this century. "In this, the nineteenth century," said he, "there are but two classes, all men are believers either in Christianity or Atheism."

The sermon over, the rest of the day was spent in a quiet and fitting manner, many associations and friendships being renewed.

MONDAY.

Most of the morning was spent in visiting the various Departments and no-

ting changes that had been made since last we brought our pad and pencil up here for work, but the afternoon proved the most enjoyable we have spent for many a day. It was the occasion of the Inter-Class Athletic sport and Beaverfield was respondent with silken class banners and College colors. All the outing suits that could be found were hauled out for the sports and a prettier sight one seldom witnesses. Classmen were there with their girls, all eager to applaud the success of favorites and cheer their athletes on to victory.

The contest was for points which were to score for the silver cup offered by the class '92. Class feeling ran high. In fact it grew so hot that several contestants disqualify themselves for the sole purpose of helping a class mate on to an un-won victory.

The officers of the day were: Referee—Dr. H. T. Fernald; Starter—E. J. Haley; Clerk of the Course—Dr. W. Frear; Ass't Clerk of the Course—Mr. M. J. Thompson; Chief Marshall—Mr. J. F. Shields; Ass't Marshalls—H. H. Herr, J. M. Snall, J. M. Brewer, G. K. Spence, C. W. Burkett; Time Keepers—James Hughes, G. M. Downing, G. W. Hoskins; Track Judges—Dr. G. Pond, Prof. E. E. Sparks, Prof. H. J. Waters; Judge of Walking—Mr. G. W. Hoskins; Announcer—Mr. Dunham Barton; Measurers—Mr. J. P. Jackson, Mr. Phil Foster, Mr. A. C. Read.

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The contest was a success in every sense of the word. The events were all exciting and everything passed off without a twitch, outside several disqualifications and protests. '92 retained the cup with 56 point against '95's 48.

THE JUNIOR ORATORICAL CONTEST.

The seating capacity of the pretty little chapel was taxed to its utmost with relatives and admirers of the Juniors who were to compete for the prize offered for the best delivery of the best oration. And no one seemed to notice the intense heat so great was the interest in the contest. For years the evening on which the Juniors entertain the visitors to commencement has been the most delightful, to those who have been fortunate enough to secure seats. The work of the performers this year was no less brilliant than that of preceding contestants and, when the judges retired to decide which one had excelled there were few minds in the audience which had arrived at a decision as to which one really had acquitted himself most creditably.

Stopper & Fiske's orchestra opened the evening with a choice overture after which President Atherton announced the first orator on the program. Hayes Waiter Mattern, of Warrior's Mark, responded with the theme "The Beauties of Country Life." His delivery

was very creditable indeed and aside from several inconsistent paragraphs his production evidenced much time and thought. George R. Weiland, of State College, followed with a most able and strongly argumentative oration on "The Silver Question." Mr. Weiland, though a radical free trader, is pronounced against free coinage and the points he used to substantiate his position would have been very convincing had he not have quoted from Carnegie's flimsy article on the A. B. C. of money which appeared in a recent number of the *North American Review*. His delivery was forcible, his enunciation all that could have been desired and his style invigorating. In fact so well was his effort received that prolonged applause followed his retirement. John Murphy Small, of Harrisburg, was the next orator and the manner in which he handled "A Plea for the Criminal" showed that his soul had been in the work. His ideas were slightly à la Bellamy, but perhaps practicable. Then Fred F. Weld, of Sugar Grove, treated the audience to a nice little talk on "Over the Alps lies Italy." He was followed by Roy Briscoe Mattern, of Milesburg, whose flowery flights and tributes to the inviolability of American womanhood captivated the audience and won the prize for "The American Home." John Grier Walsh, of West Chester, was the last speaker and after his entertaining production the audience adjourned to the cooler retreats of the campus and village.

The moon's rise proved one of the most glorious sights that it has ever been our lot to witness. The full red orb slowly ascending from the southeastern heavens was watched by nearly every visitor of the place and when it shone forth in all its effulgent glory those who have never seen a full moon-tide at this charming place realized what a truly favored spot it is.

TUESDAY.

The busiest day of the week was ushered in by the sun, and as it peeped out from behind the pines of old Nittany, "early birds" look askance at the first rays that were chasing the mists of night before them in a manner that clearly proclaimed their intent upon making sweltering humanity even more cognizant of their presence than they were the day before, when thermometers registered 96° in the shade. Tuesday was the busiest day for the following reasons:

At 8-30 the annual meeting of the Alumni association was held. At 9-45 the cannons boomed out the gubernatorial salute of seventeen guns. At 10 the Trustees met. And at 12 m. the Alumni dinner was served.

Just 256 covers had been laid in the Armory and when the Honorable Francis Jordan, of Harrisburg, and the President of the College headed the column toward the tables the orchestra broke out in the "High School Cadets' March." It was truly a grand sight to see how nicely everything was carried out. Caterer Achenthal had surpassed all former affairs and the dainty menus lying at each place were but a glimpse into the collation that was waiting. After a short prayer the dinner began. Everything done to music, with a most entrancing effect. The last course was served all too soon for when the rap of the toast master called those whose longing eyes were still lingering over the dainty dishes to order, we distinctly heard sighs of regret.

The flow of wit that followed in tart after dinner speeches by Hon. John A. Woodward, of Howard, Capt. Samuel R. Dowling, of West Chester, J. A. Robb, of Pittsburgh, Cyrus Gordon, Esq., of Clearfield, W. B. N. Hawk, of Johnstown, Hiram Young and J. Frank Shields who responded to the toast proposed to the class of '92, in a very bazaar vein, suffices for those mortals whose appetites could not be satisfied in this hour and a half allowed for that purpose.

After dinner the Delegates and Alumni retired to the chapel to elect trustees with the result that the following gentlemen will succeed themselves on the board. Hon. Geo. W. Hood, Indiana; Andrew Carnegie, Esq., Pittsburgh; H. V. White, Esq., Bloomsburg; Joel A. Herr, Esq., Cedar Springs, and Cyrus Gordon, Esq., of Clearfield.

At 3 o'clock Lieut. S. O. Wolf, 4th Inf., U. S. A., formed a parade of the cadet corps and marched in review.

Notwithstanding the sun's awful heat and the fact that the tactics have been changed recently the students made a very presentable appearance. The different maneuvers were executed with precision and the manual was like clock work.

HENSEL'S "IDEAL IN ORATORY."

Hon. William U. Hensel, Attorney General of the Commonwealth, elected the "Ideal in Oratory" as the subject of a most brilliant discourse before the Alumni Association. For years this event has been a regular "sell" to those who attended, but Tuesday night it was the exception, and those who had the pleasure of hearing the bright Lancaster attorney in his clean cut talk, realized the strength of the mind that is watching over the Keystone's legal interests. Mr. Hensel, unlike Daniel

Dougherty, when talking on the same subject, did not take the line many supposed he would when they learned his subject, but starting with the inception of public institutions for instruction, in the State, he led his hearers on through the various departments, scientific and otherwise to the gist of his theme. Then with the force of a logician he impressed on the audience the real value of oratory. Not stopping to air his views at what special qualifications were requisite to the art, he spoke of its value. It is worth to those who cultivated "Oratorical powers," said he, "are as much commodities to be disposed of at the highest price, as are anything man produces or conceives." The audience followed the line of his thought with expectancy and when he had finished all were sorrow that he had been so soon done.

THE BEGINNING OF THE END.

As for weather, commencement day was but a repetition of its three predecessors, the heat had no diminuting effect on the crowd, however, and when the bells sounded the half hour past ten o'clock through the corridors of the main building every seat in the chapel and every square inch of its standing capacity was occupied by fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers, friends, sweethearts of the graduates. The exercises were very pretty, though sad the thought for those who in cap and gown awaited the last adieu from their loved instructors.

The following is the list of orators with their subjects: Oration, "Law as the means of Social Improvement," Raphael Kessler; Oration, "Mongolian Immigration," Willis McKee; Oration