
STATE COLLEGIAN

Published on Thursday of each week during the college year in the interest of The Pennsylvania State College.

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EDITORIAL

The team representing State College in the semi-final for the Championship of the Inter-collegiate Debating League of Pennsylvania met the Dickinson team Friday evening Dec. 9th at Carlisle and were defeated. From the accounts at hand, State was never in it at any stage of the contest and the result was never in doubt after the first Dickinson man had spoken.

What was the cause? Why should State College, by far the largest in this League, be holding down the tail position. Why is it that State has not won an intercollegiate debate since 1899? These are questions brought to the fore again by the decisive result of this debate.

The answer can be found partly in that State College is not a classical institution, that it has no Department of Oratory, or Special Instructor in Elocution, and that it has no societies or debating clubs where such training can be had. It is argued then, naturally enough by the do-nothing class of students, if we can't hold up our end, let us get out of debating or at least engage in contests with colleges in our own class.

If we can't win let us withdraw from it and stick to things we can win, such as foot ball, basket ball, base ball, etc.

But wait a moment! Why should we not be as prominent in the intellectual contests as well as in those which require brute strength chiefly. Does not the technical man have as much use for debating as the man in the classical school? Most assuredly he does. The technical man of all others needs to be able to state matters clearly and distinctly and be able to express his opinion in clear, forcible language. Debating is the most valuable training there is for such work.

Then if you will grant that a technical student can make good use of debating ability, why in the name of all that's reasonable can't we get together and build up an organization and a system of debating that will give the men of this institution a suitable training in this work? State College is not through with this League yet. We are in it to win, and we're going to stay in it until we learn how to win. There will be a meeting of all students interested in debating on Thursday evening at seven o'clock, in room 367. If you want to see debating at State put on a thorough and systematic basis come out and help the good work along. "No more defeats" is the watchword:

Keep Up the Good Work.

The New England members of the Alumni Association met at the Burgerbran, Boston on the 2nd inst. At the informal meeting which followed the dinner, W. H. Walker '90, read letters from President Downing of the Association and Mr. J. F. Shields, '93, chairman of one of the important Committees. Plans for attending the coming jubilee at State were enthusiastically discussed.

Notice.

This will be the last issue of the "Collegian" this year. The next number will appear on Thursday Jan. 5th, 1905.

COLLEGE ORBIT.

The Carnegie Library at Bucknell is nearing completion.

Compulsory attendance at church has been abandoned at Wesleyan University.

The University of Texas has been honored with a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, the scholarship fraternity.

There is a movement on foot to unite the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Lawrence Scientific School of Harvard.

The total number of students at Harvard is four thousand and eighty-six, in comparison with four thousand two hundred and ninety-one of last year.

Yale Freshman physical measurements show the following averages: age, 18 years; weight, 136 pounds; height, 5 ft. 8 in; and from among 351, 141 smoke tobacco.

John D. Rockefeller has given to the Johns Hopkins Hospital of Baltimore, the sum of \$500,000. This amount has been gratefully accepted by the Board of Trustees of the institution.

Samuel Hess, a Senior in Lehigh University, and a son of ex-State Senator Jere S. Hess, of Hellertown, received injuries in a football game, from the effects of which he died at midnight.

In order to see the Michigan-Chicago game last Saturday, a number of students of the University of Chicago propose to rent a box car, paint it in Chicago colors and decorate it with Chicago banners and enter the Michigan College city in state.—Ex.