

STATE COLLEGIAN

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THURSDAY, DEC. 19, 1907

EDITORIAL.

The following letter from a recent graduate expresses so clearly the general sentiment in regard to the late football season that we quote it in full.

“Great in Battle,
Greater in Victory,
Greatest in Defeat!”

“These are the stirring words emblazoned upon the statue of General Robert E. Lee, that magnificent American, who returned from Appomattox under the gloom of heart-breaking defeat to take up again, quietly and modestly, the life of a useful, conscientious, God-fearing American citizen. It is small wonder, then, that the South, as well as our entire Nation, looks upon such

a man with reverence and with adoration.

‘Of such stuff as this is made the spirit of our General Beaver and of Penn State, and in no way is it better shown than in loyalty to our athletic teams through victory and through defeat. Our varsity teams represent our college as a whole and it matters not whether our men in white and blue win or lose, they are ever “the best team of all,” in the hearts of our loyal alumni and undergraduates. Our football eleven has just passed through one of the most trying campaigns in all State’s athletic history. Our great victory over Cornell crippled two of our best regular men so that they could not play during the remainder of the season. Misfortunes have fallen thick and fast.

‘The final scores for the year are not in State’s favor, nevertheless the much greater victory of unconquered pluck, of steadfast manliness, and of unswerving loyalty rests with Capt. Burns and his men and with our thousand undergraduates and hundreds of alumni who stand dauntlessly by our colors through thick and thin.

‘In the years to come, we will not remember with such pride whether or not State won, as we will thrill with the memories of how we stood by our team when defeat was inevitable, showing to all the world that the stalwart spirit of Pennsylvania State rises above all defeat.’

The splendid victory of our debating team over Dickinson brings up once more a question that has been agitated for several years. A number of persons in both faculty

and student body have expressed a wish that some recognition might be made of the work of those who represent us in intercollegiate debates. These contests mean as much for the reputation of the college as an athletic contest and demand as much preparation as is required of our athletes. Debating at State is carried on at great personal sacrifice and has no reward but the satisfaction which comes of work well done. Two important reforms could easily be instituted for the proper recognition of this work and the encouragement of debating in general. In the first place, the college authorities should make more generous provision for an allowance of time for preparation and then the student body should recognize the efforts of their representatives by awarding some token which shall correspond to the “S” in athletics. Among the suggestions made on this point are buttons or watch fobs of special design. It is to be hoped that this matter may be taken up in earnest that the present unjust conditions may no longer obtain.

The Death of Prof. Butz.

No event in the history of the college has been a greater shock to us than the sad death of Prof. George C. Butz, early Saturday morning. He had been in poor health for over a year previous to his death, and had attended several sanitariums in the hope of improving his condition. He had just returned from a sanitarium in Battle Creek, Michigan, a few days ago, and though he was apparently somewhat improved in health, the doctors entertained little hope for his ultimate recovery. His death, therefore, while coming as a shock to many of his friends, was not entirely unexpected.