

Closing Exercises.

OREGON STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, 1889-90.

[Reported for The Gazette.]

Sunday, June 22, 1890.

In accordance with previous appointment the Baccalaureate sermon, the first of commencement exercises, was delivered by Rev. E. J. Thompson in the college chapel at 11 a. m.

The stage decorations had been under the management of Geo. Cooté, and they rendered his excellent taste apparent.

The audience began to arrive before the stated time and soon filled the assembly hall to its utmost capacity. When the services commenced every nook and corner which gave a view of the stage was filled with people.

The services opened with the singing of the Doxology by choir and audience. Rev. Thompson then led in prayer, after which Rev. A. Rogers read a lesson from 96th Psalm and from Numbers, 13th. The choir then rendered "Zion, City of our God." The audience was again led in prayer by Rev. A. Rogers, after which Rev. Thompson arose and read the text, "But my servant Caleb, because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed me fully, him will I bring unto the land where into he went and his seed shall possess it," from Numbers 14:24.

The speaker compared the position of the class to that of a ship passing the mouth of a river, and being warned by the pilot to enter. If it passes, there is a lost opportunity. He said that the world's heroes are those who are searching for opportunities; all followers after truth are seeking to enter new fields of enterprise.

He asked, "What kind of men and women does the present age require?" "The ideal allures men onward," a revolution in the realm of opinion is passing on all around us. The tendency of the present age is materialistic. He discussed the question in this strain in an exhaustive manner and then passed on to the other, viz: "Who are they that are most likely to meet with success?" This was as thoroughly demonstrated as the other. He came to the conclusion that they are those who will make most of opportunities; that there are heights and depths no human mind can fathom; that education points through nature up to nature's God. At this point he turned aside in an address to the class of 1890. He bade them strive for character; told them the earth holds unexplored honors for them; that life's possibilities are all before them; and bade them go from those halls like men to win their triumphs in life. He reminded them that when they met others in the battle of life they should first know that they are right and then press forward. He closed the address with good wishes and a prophesy of future success.

The whole sermon was eloquent and instructive, and will long be remembered by visitors as well as by students. After another prayer and a song, "Onward Christian Soldiers," the congregation was dismissed by Rev. Rogers. The people presented a magnificent spectacle as they filed down the walk in front of the college on their way home. There were from 250 to 300 in number, the ladies in gay spring colors, and the gentlemen in their best. All seemed to take pride in the present flourishing condition of our college. The assembly would have done honor to many older institutions than ours. Members of the alumni from all parts of the country were in attendance.

June 23rd: The entertainment of the Dialectic society was one of the most important of the week. During the day the hall was beautifully decorated with floral tributes from the conservatory. Mr. Cooté, assisted by some of the cadets, placed the flowers so that they seemed to have grown where they stood. Long before the time for the exercises to begin crowds of people began to arrive from town and soon filled the hall. This being the first oratorical contest occurring in connection with the college it presented a new attraction.

When the time for beginning the exercises arrived, Miss Addie Bristow took her seat at the piano and began playing a march. Immediately the vice president of the Dialectic society, Mr. E. E. Wilson, entered the room

followed by the members who were on the program. As the strains of the well-executed music died away all the performers seated themselves on the rostrum and when the applause had ceased the president announced the first oration for the evening. It was on the subject "Ancient Monuments," by J. A. Jeffrey. It induced much favorable comment. The next part was a solo by Miss Sarah Harris which was creditably executed. Then came the second oration for the evening, which was on the subject, "The Influence of Agriculture," by M. O. Wilkins. This subject was well treated and the speaker liberally applauded. Miss Leon Louis then favored the audience with an instrumental solo which was highly appreciated, and called forth two handsome bouquets from the audience. The oration by Wm. Lampkin on the subject, "Between the Hills the Bright Rays of a Noonday's Sun Light up a Fertile Willamette," was lively and poetical, and received much applause. The instrumental duet by Miss Mattie Avery and Miss Anna Allen was also well received and liberally applauded. The final oration, by J. H. Starr, on "The Power of a Voice," was short and to the point and well appreciated by the audience. Geo. Paul, in the recitation, "A Convict's Soliloquy the Night before Execution," showed considerable dramatic power, and received a large share of applause. The judges of orations were Mr. Jos. Johnson, Dr. Lee and Mr. Roberts. Owing to some arrangements not being completed the prizes were not awarded that evening. The judges were not required to give their decision until the other arrangements are completed. The crowd went away well pleased with the program presented.

The success of this, the first contest of the kind in Corvallis shows much for the work of the Dialectic society during the past winter, and would seem to indicate for it a bright future.

The boys accredited themselves well, and their example will no doubt lead to the continuance of the practice from year to year. Considerable credit is due to Profs. Lake and Washburn for the hearty support they have given the society during the past year. The prizes consisting of \$10, \$5 and \$3 were supplied by them personally. Work of this kind should be encouraged by all friends of education. A number of visitors from other sections were in attendance.

Tuesday, June 24.

Owing to the threatening weather there were not more than a hundred people on the grounds during the first part of the afternoon exercises.

The match game of baseball between the Philomath and Corvallis teams, began about 1 o'clock and continued until nearly 5 o'clock. The score stood 19 to 12 in favor of Corvallis. This is a very good showing and the boys were all satisfied and separated in the best of humor.

At 2 o'clock the choir, consisting of students, headed by Prof. Bereltd, appeared on the balcony in front of the college and gave a song. The loud, clear voices, so carefully trained by the professor, could be distinctly heard in all parts of the grounds.

Games of various kinds, including archery, aerial, and ground croquet, were in progress in different parts of the campus. Prizes were given to the winners of the games.

Promptly at 6:30 o'clock the audience, which had now grown larger, repaired to the mechanical hall, west of the college building, to witness the planting of the class ivy. All the class took part in the planting and it was soon completed. The "Ivy Song" was then rendered by the class, after which Miss May Warren stepped upon the platform and recited Mrs. Hemans' beautiful poem on the ivy. It was very appropriate to the occasion. Wm. A. Lampkin then read an original poem on the class ivy, which was very good and showed considerable talent. The ivy oration by A. S. Addison, referred to the ivy as the symbol of high endeavor and noble aim. It was delivered with ease and without notes.

Prof. Washburn, who was conducting the exercises, then announced that the next thing would be drill on the lawn. The cadets hurried over, took arms, and "fell in." They first marched off south of the college and were formed into dress parade. They then resumed a "close order" and were taken through battalion drill by Col. J. D. Letcher. The field evolutions were executed with a precision that a regular military school would not need be ashamed of. At the close of the drill

hour the battalion was marched up to the south side of the college where the adjutant took charge and proposed three cheers for Col. Letcher. The hearty good will with which it was responded to may assure the colonel that the training he has given them will not soon be forgotten. Cheers were also given to Adjutant Wilson and Captains Addison and Wells.

A large audience had by this time arrived, as the threatening aspect of the weather was changed. A balloon was sent up from the east, or front of the college. It arose to a considerable height, and taking the current of the sea breeze started for Tangent. As soon as it began to grow dark, the college building was illuminated throughout. Chinese lanterns were also hung around on the lawn and furnished an abundance of light. Viewed from the east end of the walk the illuminated building and grounds presented a grand appearance. When the fire works were exhibited the whole grounds were lighted by many colored rays. During the entire evening the ladies of the Hesperian society and of the W. C. T. U. had refreshments on the lawn, where many social dishes were indulged in.

It was nearly ten o'clock when the merry throng retired, well satisfied with the exercises. Members of the board of regents were present.

June 25th. On Wednesday, June 25th, the time for the graduating exercises, the weather was fine. The college building was decorated on the outside with the "colors" and the large flag floated from the top staff of the building. The hall was more crowded than on previous occasions, standing room being at a premium. At 1:30 o'clock the faculty, followed by the graduating class, marched in and took their positions on the rostrum. Some of the board were already in their places and more kept arriving for some time.

The exercises were opened with prayer by the chaplain, Rev. Satchell, after which the band played a selection. Miss May Warren was then introduced, and in a well chosen speech welcomed the board, the faculty and the visitors. She then read an essay on the subject "The Influence of Alfred the Great on Literature," which was well discussed and showed considerable acquaintance with literature. After music by the band Mr. Boyd Hamilton was introduced and acquitted himself in an excellent manner in an oration on the subject, "The Permanence of the Past." There was another selection of music, when Mr. A. S. Addison was introduced with the subject, "Relation of Agriculture to Other Industries." He made a good demonstration of the real relation of the different industries to each other. The next event of importance on the program was the valedictory by Mr. C. O. Wells. He gave a graceful salute to the board of regents, paid respectful tribute to the ability and honor of the faculty, and lastly bade a touching good-bye to his classmates. After music by the band Prof. Condit, of Albany, conferred the degrees on the members of the class. He also made some remarks filled with sound advice and genial feeling. In the absence of Rev. T. L. Elliot, Mr. Wilson, of this place, made the regular address. He read a letter from Rev. Elliot, explaining why that gentleman did not come, and also giving some good advice to the class.

The full list of the class is, Miss May Warren B. S., C. O. Wells B. S., W. Boyd Hamilton B. S., and A. S. Addison B. S. Members of the board present were, Grand Master Hays, Hons. E. B. McElroy, Shipley, Emmett, Grim. Hon. R. S. Strahn, Rev. J. R. N. Bell, Pres. Condit, and many other distinguished visitors, whose names could not be secured, were also in attendance.

After the exercises Pres. Arnold invited the visitors to look about the college and grounds. A considerable number accepted the invitation. Among other things they were shown the drawing work in Prof. Hull's department, that gentleman conducting them around. The mechanical hall was visited, and all saw for themselves that there is really a great amount of practical work being done. At the foreing house nearly all varieties of flowers generally cultivated were displayed showing how thoroughly the work in that department has been done. The people found all the faculty and the janitor ready and willing to show them all there was to be seen.

The alumni were called to order at 8 o'clock by Prof. Yates, president.

The program commenced with a prayer by Rev. W. C. Crawford. The alumni, at the request of the president, arose, while Prof. Lake in a brief but touching speech commended to their care the class of 1890. Prof. Yates received them in a no less kindly manner. W. Boyd Hamilton, in behalf of the class of 1890, responded to the welcome of Prof. Yates in an effective manner. The alumni were then seated together. The program was then continued by an instrumental duet by Mrs. Ida B. Callahan, class of '81, and Miss Eda Jacobs, class of '82. Miss Nettie Spencer, class of '82 gave a good solo. Miss Diana Newton, class of '86, read an essay on the subject, "Effect of Trashy Literature," which showed a good understanding of literature. J. H. Collins, class of '88, read an original poem on "School Life," which was well received by the audience. J. Fred Yates, class of '85, read an oration which was well written and to the point. The annals, by Mrs. Ida B. Callahan, class of '81, were humorous as well as being a good history of the alumni. She gave some personal anecdote concerning most of them. The solo by Mrs. Jessie Lesh, of the class of '81, was rendered in a clear voice which was distinctly heard in all parts of the hall. Throughout, the exercises were highly interesting. Every performer was cheered by the audience.

After the alumni programme was finished the president kindly gave the floor to the Dialectic society for a few minutes. Prof. Lake arose and explained that, as the prize contest had not been settled on account of an accidental misunderstanding between the contestants, and as the rumors concerning the society action in the matter were false, the prizes would be distributed according to arrangements. The decisions were as follows: First medal, \$10, W. A. Lampkin; second medal, \$5, J. A. Jeffrey; third medal, \$3, John H. Starr. The medals were presented by Miss Lou Stewart in a suitable and graceful manner which made them doubly acceptable.

The alumni then repaired to the supper room to spend a few happy hours before retiring. The names of all the members would be too much for a report like this. They come from all walks of life, and are a class that honor their alma-mater, as well as their state. Their entertainment closes the most brilliant and enjoyable commencement the Oregon Agricultural College ever had. With their ranks growing larger every year they will soon be a power in the state.

The interest the people have taken in this commencement shows a sentiment in favor of practical education. So long as the college can make as fine a showing as this has been in every way, there will not be lacking the sentiment to sustain it. If the increase in students is in as great a ratio next year as it has been this, the large classrooms will be filled to their utmost.

The efficient management of Prof's Washburn, Lake and Snell have especially contributed to the pleasure of the week's exercises. Both the faculty and the occasion will long be remembered by every student and visitor.

DIED.
HILLMAN—In this city on Friday, June 20, 1890, of consumption, Mrs. Hanna B. Hillman.
The remains were buried in the Newton cemetery five miles west of Corvallis last Monday. She leaves two children, father, mother and two brothers to mourn her death.

MARRIED.
FOSTER-MERCER—On Sunday, June 24, 1890, at the residence of the bride's parents on Beaver Creek, this county, J. A. Foster and Laura Mercer.
PARK-CONNER—By Rev. James C. Kezzel at the residence of the bride's parents near Philomath on Wednesday, June 25, 1890, Wm. Parks and Edith Conner. All of Benton county.

McELROY-JOHNSON—In Salem, on Tuesday evening, June 24, 1890, at the residence of the bride's parents, Willie E. McElroy and Rose E. Johnson, Rev. J. B. Johnson officiating.
Mr. McElroy is the son of Prof. E. B. McElroy, superintendent of public instruction and is a Benton county boy, having spent the larger portion of his boyhood days in this county. Miss Johnson is one of Salem's most popular young ladies. After the wedding Mr. and Mrs. McElroy took the train for Albany and Corvallis, at which places they will remain on visits to friends.

NOTICE.
SEAL OF OREGON,)
COUNTY OF BENTON,)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO ALL persons that John Stroud, who is an infant and is legally bound to me as an apprentice, has left my residence in said county. I desire that he may be sent back to me. I shall not pay any bills he may make for board or lodging.
GEORGE TAYLOR.
Dated June 25, 1890.

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