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THE CORNELL SUN,
Ithaca, N. Y.

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If the lesson had not been annually repeated since the Woodford Prize Contest was inaugurated, we would say that last evening should show the importance of a different method of managing such affairs. Each contest has seen Library Hall crowded, not with students, but with town's people, and numbers from the University turned from the door at an hour much preceding the beginning of the exercises. At the courses of lectures delivered during the past year—lectures which drew out only a part of the students and few outsiders—a method of seating was employed which recognized the right of the students to a comfortable position. This plan worked so admirably that it is almost impossible to imagine why it should have been abandoned for one that virtually shuts out from attendance upon the most important event of the college year, a large part of those for whom it is primarily intended.

It is not with any wish of depriving town-people of the University exercises that we discuss this matter but simply to show the injustice of the present method. It would be equally as sensible for the students as a body to fill one of Ithaca's churches to the exclusion of those by whom the services were held. An inspection of the audience that last evening crowded Library Hall, showed many boys and persons who could have no interest in the ora-

tions but came merely because it was a free show. This distinction could soon be drawn by means of the attention which was given to the speakers. We urge, as we have so often urged before, that, at such times the students be given the preference and then if there is not sufficient room for the rest of the applicants for admission let the number be limited by tickets.

The Woodford Oratorical Contest.

The oratorical event of the college year has come and is past. In most of its details it was but a repetition of previous contests, and like them it passed off pleasantly and almost without incident.

Library Hall, where the exercises were held, began, immediately after the opening of the doors, to be filled with an interested audience. By a quarter past seven o'clock it was very difficult to obtain a seat and before the clock marked the half hour the aisles had been filled with chairs. Of the audience more than half were from the town, and the greater part of the students were either forced into back seats or obliged to stand. A small portion of the body of the house was reserved for members of the Faculty and friends of the Contestants. The following gentlemen acted as ushers: J. A. Woodard '82 and C. I. Avery, C. R. Browning, E. F. Cushing, Jno. A. Dix and W. B. Ruggles of '83.

As usual the spectators, tired of delay, amused themselves by vigorous applause at the entrance of every well-known person. This was brought to an end at eight o'clock by Professor Shackford who, in the absence of President White, presided over the Contest, and announced the speakers.

The orations were given in the following order:

The Conservation of Human Effort—Miss E. V. Van Pelt.

Tolerance as the "Perfect Flower of an Advanced Civilization"—H. M. Streeter.

Antigone and Cordelia as Tragic Heroines—F. R. Luckey.

The Conservation of Human Effort—I. P. Smith.

Samuel Adams and the Political Life of his Time—C. P. Bacon.

Tolerance as the "Perfect Flower of an Advanced Civilization"—R. C. Horr.

The orations, as a whole, were considered by many to be inferior to those of last year, while many persons claimed that they fully equalled their predecessors. Perhaps the most notable criticism that would suggest itself is upon the delivery and gestures, which were in all the orations more or less faulty. Many beautiful illustrations were employed, and a more than ordinary familiarity with history was evinced. The average length of the orations was nineteen minutes.

At ten o'clock, the exercises having been completed, the Committee of Award, consisting of Professors Corson, Crane, Hale, Hewett, Oliver, Tyler and H. S. White, retired for consultation, and, after an absence of forty-five minutes, returned with their decision, which divided the prize between Messrs. C. P. Bacon and F. R. Luckey. For some reason the usual honorable mention was omitted. After the extending of hearty congratulations to all the participants the audience dispersed.

Communications.

[The editors of the Sun cannot be held responsible for any sentiments expressed in articles under this head.]

To the Editors of the Sun:

The Chess and Whist Club is on its last legs. On Monday evening next is to be held a meeting in the club room to decide its fate. Enough have signed the constitution to assure its financial success provided they would pay their fees, but for some reason or other they have neglected this part of the programme. If sufficient support for the future needs of the club is not assured at the next meeting it will immediately shut up shop. There is a small debt for which the executive committee is personally responsible and this must be paid at all events. Those who have signed the constitution, and thereby expressed their willingness to contribute to the support of the club will undoubtedly have an opportunity to aid in liquidating the debt. It never would have been incurred had they not promised the club their support, and it

is only fair that they should bear part of the burden. A good, full meeting will insure the future continuance and success of the club. Let every one who takes any interest in Whist or Chess be on hand on Monday night and aid in giving the organization a good start. If this cannot be, there should at least be enough to give the dead body a respectable burial in some place other than the Potter's field.

A MEMBER.

"Corinne."

A fine audience assembled at the Opera House last night to see and hear the great Child Artiste, Corinne, and they were amply repaid for being there. Much has been said of the wonderful abilities of this little artiste and her supporting company, and we can heartily endorse all the excellent opinions that have been given of her and them. To be brief—she is a wonder. She assumes the most difficult roles and acts her part to perfection, captivating her audience from her very first appearance upon the stage. The company in both dramatic and musical ability is excellent. At the Matinee a grand double bill will be given, introducing the prominent features of "H. M. S. Pinafore," with Corinne in her great rôle of "Little Buttercup," in costume; songs by the Captain, Dick Deadeye, and the grand choruses. Corinne is the first Child Artiste who ever played the part of "Buttercup," she now having rendered the role over five hundred times. At night "The Mascotte" will be given, with Corinne as "Bettina," the "Mascot." The press has been very lavish in their praise of the performance of "The Mascotte" by the Corinne Merrie Makers. It must be born in mind that the Merrie Makers is not a company of Juveniles, but all are adults, some of whom have excellent reputations.

Sunbeams.

- Did you bet on the wrong man?
- Jubilee-Singers this evening at Library Hall.
- Little Corinne this evening at the Opera House.
- Several graduates were present at the contest last evening.
- Several of last night's floral offerings have been placed in Wallace's window.

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—Suppose one or both of the successful speakers last evening decide to take the medal.

—E. C. Van Kirk, for some time past the deputy in the Ithaca Post Office was yesterday appointed to the head of that office.

—After the committee had been gone a half an hour some small boys in the gallery evinced a desire to sing "We won't go home till morning."

—The floral display at the Woodford was of the usual excellence. Instead of perishable flowers the Irving Literary Society remembered its representative with a handsome set of books.

—Professor Hewett's lecture yesterday morning on the life of Goethe contained reminiscences of the great writer from men now living who were intimate with the poet, and was very interesting throughout.

—A Freshman who had read the recent burlesque "proclamation," in which students are required to secure rooms east of the University, wrote to a lawyer of his acquaintance to learn if it was constitutional.

—At the lecture upon Advanced Political Economy yesterday one of the visitors was a little dog belonging to one of the professors. As usual in such cases, the behavior of the dog was better than that of any one else in the room.

—To his class in American History, on Wednesday, Professor Tyler outlined the work for next term. It will consist of recitations supplemented with the work of the "Seminary" which has proved so successful this year in the classes for special work.

—Miss Ackley has just received a large assortment of writing blocks that are something new and useful. They are suitable for both pen and pencil and at prices to suit each and every one. Call and examine the stock, if you wish to get complete satisfaction.

—Yesterday the first of the orations not entered for competition, were read before the Senior Class. They were those of Miss Grant upon Ex-Communication in the Middle Ages; A. K. Hiscock, The Importance to a Nation of the Individual Fame of its Scholars and Literary Men; W. A. Kent, Changes in the Ideals of Greatness and Heroism; J. A. Reed, Yorktown and Gettysburg, and F. D. White, Changes in the Ideals of Greatness and Heroism.

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