

MR. BRYAN AND YALE.

What they Say About the Trouble on the Green.

"FOR THIS RELIEF, MUCH THANKS."
(Wichita (Kan.) Eagle.)

There is a conviction prevalent in the country, and which has been growing stronger year by year, that old historic Yale has degenerated into a school of snobs, sports and roughs. Coarse sons of coarser fathers, sons whose inherited brutality finds a shield in the money of the parents, are sent there by the hundreds for an educational veneer, for a gloss of that respectability which is supposed to be conferred by this school of once high character. Yale is crowded with that stamp of youth whose heredity is of the vulgar, is brutal, whose ambition is obtrusive display, and whose highest notion of an education is one constituted of an expertness at the gaming board, a conversancy with all the ins and outs of the low down and disreputable, the whole embellished by an acquired expertness with the boat oar and ball bat. What with no end of loud clothes, unlimited impudence and an inexhaustible money supply their success at Yale is assured. A few of them receive their graduation papers, more do not, but they all alike drift back to the opulence of their city homes, ninety-nine out of every hundred of them utter failures, to become either barnacles or society ulcers, wholly incompetent and unclean. A mob of this character and make-up of Yale students, at New Haven, on Thursday morning, attempted to break up a citizen's meeting which was being addressed by a candidate for the most honored, if not the most exalted position in the world of to-day. What with howls, cat-calls, screeches and roars Mr. Bryan could not be heard, finally, as we should judge from our telegraph reports, desisting and retiring in disgust. These proletary mushrooms and ignoble shoots of ignorance and money arrogance would have insulted a nation had they been equal to such a thing. There was a time in the history of that institution when these rowdies would have been made to answer for their outrage, but that was when Yale was governed by brains and exalted ideals, and not by servile cultivators of the brawn of the bruiser and of mammon.

THE ACTION HELD TO BE JUSTIFIABLE.
(N. Y. Sun, Gold.)

The students gathered in a strong force as was natural. Practically they were on their own ground. They expressed their feelings against repudiation with the vigor and vociferousness of youth and they had a right to do it. They ought to have done it, and the sentiment to which they gave utterance was honorable to them.

The boys made a great noise cheering for McKinley and yelling and jeering at repudiation so that Mr. Bryan could not be heard for several minutes. If they had applauded him incessantly for even a full half hour would there have been any complaint of their preventing him from starting out in his speech?

General Webb talks arrant nonsense, yet he is the President of an American college and an instructor of American youth. When Mr. Bryan began his speech he proceeded to insult the students by insulting their fathers. Would they have not been contemptible fellows if they had not resented his words with all the force of expression in language of which they were capable?

Treat such a man with respect! It would have been disgraceful to them if they had kept silent.

MR. BRYAN'S DELIBERATE LIE.
(New York Tribune, Gold.)

He was justifiably indignant at interruptions while he was speaking in New Haven, but that was not the spirit which prompted his assertion that students at Yale were spending the ill-gotten gains of their parents.

The deliberate lie as to nearly all of them had another motive. He meant to kindle the envy and jealousy of the unlettered by the suggestion that only the sons of swindlers could in these days get a liberal education. But in his presence at that moment, as in every other gathering of Yale students for half a century, there were young men who were supporting themselves by the most painful struggle in order to obtain an education, and others in great number whose parents were denying themselves the comforts of life in order to secure that crowning advantage for their sons.

MAY JUSTIFY MRS. POTEAT.
(New Haven Palladium, Gold.)

A few more outbreaks like that of yesterday and those who censured Mrs. Poteat for her sweeping denunciation of Yale last Fall may be inclined to think she had more ground for her onslaught than she was given credit for.

CARRIED TOO FAR.
(Chicago Evening Post.)

While it is doubtless true that the students acted without malice or any serious intention to interfere with the American right of free speech and free assembly, there are times and occasions when love of fun and mischief can be carried too far.

YALE COLLEGE KU-KLUX.
(Cincinnati Enquirer, Silver.)

It is a weak cause which does not bear discussion of the Yale College Ku-Klux. The speech which Mr. Bryan was not allowed to make—however able and eloquent it would have been—could not have done the cause of the people nearly as much good as will the shameful story of the "sound money" ruffianism which the educated, thoughtful and refined young sprigs of sham aristocracy at New Haven visited upon him.

FOR PROF. PHILLIPS AND THE FACULTY.
(Sacramento Bee, Silver.)

One can scarcely censure the Yale students for being hoodlums when the Faculty rather encourage them therein by looking upon their ungentlemanly and outrageous conduct, as a boyish prank to be laughed at. Instead of expelling every young man concerned in the assault upon free speech at the recent Bryan meeting at New Haven the Faculty rather encourage them therein, astonished that so much criticism should have been given to it. In fact, Professor Phillips publicly declares: "No one regrets more than I do, the demonstration made at the Bryan meeting, but it was done more to have a little fun with Bryan than for anything else, and he missed the opportunity of his life by not treating the matter as a good-natured attempt at 'jollyng.' By the utterances of a few pleasant and timely sentences he could easily have won over the boys."

The best way to have won over those "boys"—most of whom are probably old enough to vote—would have been by means of energetic exercise with baseball bats.

Bryan did not miss the opportunity of his life at New Haven, but that opportunity came to him unsought. The shameful manner in which a great American citizen, the chosen champion of the cause of the people was treated by a lot of young upstarts, whose only claim to consideration is the very unworthy one that their fathers happen to have money, has helped Bryan wonderfully, and has brought many and many a new recruit into his ranks. The additions to his vote which this result has made will be greatly increased when the people, thoroughly comprehend that the Faculty of Yale College do not consider the case one meriting the severest punishment of the guilty hoodlums, but rather one which should be laughed at, and which Bryan should regard as a good joke.

When a great college like Yale becomes not only the apologist for, but

even the champion of, disgraceful hoodlumism and brutal blackguardism, it is no wonder that thinking citizens pause and ask whether this country is drifting. When the Faculty of such an institution pats hoodlums on the back for grossly insulting the man who is fighting the moneyed trusts and Shylock syndicates of the land, it is no wonder that the people fear that this country is drifting into an imperialism of class and caste—an imperialism, not of birth, nor of brains, but of sordid cash, often ill-gotten—a catfish aristocracy, for the catfish is the prize hog of our rivers.

If the best that Yale can do is turn out braggarts and hoodlums to insult a man of far more worth to this country and to the cause of humanity, than all their fathers and all their father's descendants, then Yale should forever close her doors out of respect to decent American citizenship, and out of very shame for her own conduct.

"LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON."
(Richmond Dispatch, Gold.)

It is but a single step from the coercing of the vote of a workingman to silencing the man who is pleading his cause. In the absence of argument, force is the nearest weapon at hand. It was a case of like father, like son; they were carrying out the lesson of the home. The great conservative sentiment that stands between the two extremes of life in this country is quick to note an evil symptom in the lower classes, shall it be less on its guard against demonstration from above?

PRETTY BIT OF FICTION DISCUSSED.
(Springfield Daily Republican.)

It is hardly to be believed that the Yale rowdies had planned an abduction of Bryan, and the treating of the candidate to an old-fashioned hazing, while he was in New Haven. But since such a story has been told it may be remarked that both the country and Yale College are lucky in having the rowdism extend no further than it did. Had it been carried to the point suggested, we should not have cared to stake much either on McKinley's election or the rising fortunes of Yale in the immediate future.

CANNOT BE EXCUSED.
(Waterbury American, Gold.)

If these young men are to be excused for howling down a speaker who disagrees with them, on what ground can we protest against a rougher intolerance which vents itself in missiles? We know Yale's youth well enough to know that Mr. Bryan's cause was not aimed at especially, and that their attempts to "break up a show" are aimed impartially at Barnum's circus and Dr. Parkhurst's lecture.

LIKE THROWING TORPEDOES AT ELEPHANTS.
(New Haven Leader, Gold.)

If the misguided action of some young enthusiasts, who were not all Yale men, had been premeditated, the affair would have been deserving of more than a rebuke and condemnation. But we cannot believe that it was a premeditated act directly against Mr. Bryan. The impulses of a college Freshman are at times wonderful things. It seems to us that the spirit of devilry that spontaneously found utterance yesterday was the same that imbued the students who threw torpedoes at the Barnum elephants some years ago, thoughtlessly oblivious to the serious consequences that might follow. Both were boyish freaks, admittedly in bad taste, it is true, but we do not think that yesterday's freak was a malicious one.

To be sure there was more of mischief than of malice in Thursday's performance. The Yale men cheered and jeered at Mr. Bryan much as they are accustomed to do when a strolling player is giving an exhibition of his powers upon the Campus. It is plain

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that they did not appreciate the fact that Mr. Bryan represented a large number of American people, and that while Yale men generally believe his doctrines to be entirely heretical, he is entitled to a respectful hearing.

It is not that Yale men do not appreciate the generous treatment of opponents. No one who has witnessed an athletic contest at Yale Field can fail to notice how pluck and skill is impartially applauded and how the faintest cheer of joy at the advancement of a Yale man is hissed down, if the advance be occasioned through the blunder or injury of an opponent.

The discourtesy to Mr. Bryan was occasioned only through thoughtlessness, but it is a pity the young men did not pause and reflect, before bringing dishonor upon themselves and upon Yale.

OUT FOR A LARK.
(Cleveland Plain Dealer, Gold.)

The students were out for a lark to see Bryan. Their exuberance of spirits got the better of them, and no one regretted the result of their hilarity more than the students themselves; many of whom are only eighteen to twenty years old.

Candidate Bryan, who is a "boy" orator himself, and was once a college student, realized the situation and seemed to keep his composure under the trying circumstances.

Opening Meeting of the Yale Union.

The first meeting of the Yale Union for the present year was held last Friday evening in Union Hall. The features of the evening were addresses by prominent members of the University Faculty on the subject of "Debating" and the value of such an organization as the Yale Union. The attendance at the meeting was good, considering the other events, which occurred the same evening and also called for attendance of the undergraduates.

The first speaker was Dr. Reynolds, who was received with enthusiasm, his assistance to the debaters last year being remembered and appreciated. He emphasized the idea that in inter-collegiate debates the object should not be to down someone but to give a good exhibition of argumentative debate and oratory. At the same time, every effort must be made to win.

Prof. W. G. Sumner spoke of the great value of oratory, which he defined as the power to "electrify" an audience, and mentioned the Chicago speech of Hon. W. J. Bryan as an example of his power, which cannot be despised no matter upon which side of a question it is used. Oratory, in its correct sense, is of value to man in every profession. Debating is a battle of arguments dressed in oratory and delivered extemporaneously.

Prof. A. M. Wheeler closed the list of speakers. He spoke of oratory as the power to put ideas simply, clearly and forcibly, in the best form for the ordinary audience to hear. Correct modulation of the voice, graceful appearance and gestures are important features in the making of a true orator.

Sophomore German Committee.

A meeting of the Sophomore class was held in Alumni Hall last Tuesday evening to elect a Sophomore German Committee. G. Parker, '98, presided, and on the informal ballot the following men were nominated: Griswold, 129; Wright, 91; Warren, 72; Cheney, 58; Powers, 63; Noble, 47; Darlington, 45; Chambers, 39; Day, 38; Brayton, 37. On the final ballot the following men were elected: William Edward Schenck Griswold, of Erie, Pa., 175; Harold Clark Cheney, of New Haven, 134; Thew Wright, of Buffalo, N. Y., 121; Henry Wick Chambers, of Cleveland, O., 111; Charles Alonzo Powers, of Cleveland, O., 110.