

YALE ALUMNI WEEKLY.

Published every Thursday during the College Terms and conducted by a Graduate Editor and Associate Editor, and Assistants from the Board of Editors of the

YALE DAILY NEWS.

SUBSCRIPTION, - \$2.50 PER YEAR.
Foreign Postage, 35 cents per year.

PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

Checks, drafts and orders should be made payable to the Yale Alumni Weekly.

All correspondence should be addressed, Yale Alumni Weekly, New Haven, Conn.

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Entered as second class matter at New Haven P. O.

NEW HAVEN, CONN., NOVEMBER 25, 1896.

THE ALLOTMENT OF SEATS.

It is a work of supererogation to elaborate the premise of this contribution, which is, that form the standpoint of the students and graduates of the competing colleges, the facilities for seeing the great football contest of the year are absolutely inadequate. But when this is said, it ought also to be said that, given the conditions as they exist to-day, the Football Management of Yale attended to the wants of the students and the graduates of this University, in a most commendable way. The system for the recording of applications and the delivery of tickets was better than ever, and the spirit which animated the allotment was one of fair and impartial treatment.

To illustrate this last point, it would do no harm to go into detail somewhat. The Football Association management decided, when the plans were first made for the game, that every opportunity should be given to the individual applicant, whether he were a student or a graduate. For that reason a resolution was made and adhered to, to refuse requests for applications for seats for any particular association or club of college men until the time, if it ever came, when all the individual applications had been filled. It was further decided to allow no special list of favored men, with the exception of the immediate members of the football family, by which we mean the members of the eleven, and perhaps of the second eleven, (who take all the hard knocks and none of the glory of the year,) the coaches, who give up their time out of love of Yale, and such graduates as have worked in making preparations for this game and who render special assistance to the Association.

Besides this, it was determined to establish a precedent, whereby it would be sure that a Yale man would, at some time in his course, have a chance to see the game from a good position, and even have the luxury of attending with one or two friends, or better. On this ruling, it was decided to give the applications of the

Senior classes of the Academic and Scientific departments the next chances at seats, after the football list referred to had been fitted out.

By this, one should not understand that to each applicant was given the very best seats left on the grounds at that time, but he was given accommodations of some kind and fairly good ones. To be sure of getting something, as the sequel showed, was an important privilege thus secured for the Senior.

There were then left the undergraduate applications and the applications from the graduates. It is not to be forgotten, by the way, that, in the assignment of seats to the different names, the method was by lot; a number being drawn and the applicant whose name, in the registry list answered to that number, being then allotted the seats.

The assignment was, therefore, purely by lot. The next class of applications that were acted upon were those from subscribers to the Yale Alumni Weekly, the management ruling, generously and, as we believe, fairly, that among the alumni it was natural to infer that those, who were most interested in the University and to whom therefore the favors of a university affair should be given, were those who have shown their interest by keeping closest in touch with the affairs of the University. The management of the Weekly, regretting as it did that anyone on its list was disappointed, still felt it a cause for congratulation that every subscriber, who followed instructions and filed his application in time, not only received seats but good seats, either in the covered stand or open stand. Confession must be made that, as much as we would liked to have had our readers receive exactly what they wanted, we did not feel that it was cause for the greatest sorrow that some should have been in the open stand. It was quite impossible for the management to use up every foot of covered space before going beyond our list.

After this all the graduates and undergraduates were attended to as far as possible; but it is already known that at the end the Management was four hundred seats short and a hundred or more students failed absolutely to get any seats. This was the result, after the Association had made every effort to buy up any seats in sight that were not held at too high a figure.

Here is met the first mistake—namely, in the general allotment of seats. It is now clearly seen by those who controlled the ticket supply, that not a single opportunity should have been given to outside parties to secure tickets until every bona fide Yale and Princeton applicant had been supplied. And yet, as it was, Yale was allowed over five thousand out of the thirteen or fourteen thousand seats at the Field, a much larger number than ever before distributed at New Haven.

The point may be raised whether, in the future, it will not be necessary to announce that no one can be supplied with seats until every undergraduate, who wishes to go to the game has at least one ticket. It is very much the desire of the undergraduates to give every opportunity to the graduates to attend these great athletic events, and a point has always been strained in their favor, when it came to distribution. The graduates certainly ought to have every opportunity to go, and yet it is hard to contend that any-

body should take precedence over the students of the undergraduate departments of the University.

But, after all is said, this fact remains. The New York game on Manhattan Field is an altogether unsatisfactory exhibition. If Yale and Princeton must meet on midway neutral grounds, let some place be chosen, corresponding to Hamden Park, Springfield, especially constructed for this purpose, with ample accommodations and situated somewhere else than in New York. It is hard to make it a genuine Yale-Princeton affair in the metropolis. It would be very pleasant if everyone, who wanted to see the game could do so, but in the absence of an amphitheater seating one hundred thousand or so, it is best to make sure that those most interested and properly interested should have the chance.

Other details of change of plans, such as restricting the applications to two seats, will probably be suggested by this year's experience. But let us begin next year, by all means, with good grounds.

LAST SATURDAY'S GAME.

To the players who won on Manhattan Field last Saturday, and to the University which they represented, the Weekly offers its sincerest congratulations. They outdid their opponents, they offered an unusually strong football game, considered from any standpoint, and they deserved their success. The story of it is told elsewhere, and need not be dwelt on or analyzed here.

As for Yale, it is not a time to be cast down. One of her alumni or friends could not have used his eyes fairly at that struggle without being proud of an institution which sent its men into action with the spirit which animated the hard fighters of the eleven of the Blue. No one knows who has not been through it—and very few have been through it—what it means for football players of Yale to find the score hopelessly against them. To fight on, then, harder yet, against a superior foe, flushed with victory, is not easy.

As commendable as the actual fight on the field, is the spirit in which both players and students of Yale accepted the disappointing issue. The eleven acknowledge the victory of better men. The University accords high credit to those who fought so well for her against hopeless odds. There is no less genuine admiration and warm regard for the Captain, for those who worked so well with him, and for those who worked through the fall to bring forth the best Yale could produce.

To players of both elevens grateful acknowledgment is due that the game was kept so free from everything that tends to lower the sport and to bring it into disrepute.

The news of Yale's score at New York, when displayed in the field at Philadelphia, brought nine long 'rahs with a "Yale" at their end, from the Harvard men there. This expression of good will, though not given undue significance, has been thoroughly appreciated here.

It has been necessary, in order to print the addresses of the Class of 1896 in this crowded issue, to omit the column of alumni notes.

In the College Pulpit.

The schedule of preachers for the present fall term has been announced as follows:

November 29—Rev. H. M. Curtis, D. D., of Cincinnati.

December 6—Rev. A. H. Merriam, of Hartford.

December 13—Rev. J. H. Twichell, of Hartford.

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Catalogue on Application.

Meeting of New York Alumni.

A meeting of the Yale Alumni of New York City was held at Sherry's on Friday evening, November 20. A large number from outside of the city were present as well as nearly all alumni resident at New York.

Addresses were made by Professor T. R. Lounsbury, '59, of New Haven, Rev. Dr. Henry A. Stimson, '65, of New York, and Professor Theodore S. Woolsey of New Haven.

Later in the evening a supper was served, at which S. B. Thorne, '96, made a few remarks on the prospects of the football eleven and their work during the season. Howard H. Knapp '82, also was called upon to speak and made a humorous address. Shortly after supper was over the meeting broke up.

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