

NEW YORK BANQUET.

President Dwight Speaks—Mr. Thacher's Suggestion—Yale and Harvard.

The largest dinner in the history of the Yale Alumni Association of New York was held last Friday night at Sherry's. The guests were seated at about thirty small tables, instead of being gathered at one long board, and if the success of the meeting can be attributed to this new program, the change has approved itself. A very large and joyous table was that occupied by the "Class of 1492," perhaps as vigorous, hearty and audible an organization as Yale possesses. The representation from the Class of '60, who gathered in force around one of these small tables, is referred to in the alumni notes column.

Thomas Thacher, President of the Association, was at the head of the table, and the guest of honor was Dr. Timothy Dwight, President of Yale. The Hon. Timothy L. Woodruff, Lieutenant-Governor of New York, was on the left of Mr. Thacher. At the guest table were also: Mr. Morris K. Jesup, '51 Hon.; Mr. Hart Lyman, '73; Mr. Manning C. Wells, '57; Prof. C. S. Hastings, Prof. Bernadotte Perin and Mr. Thomas Darling of the class of '26. The singing was a particularly good feature of the evening, and it was principally under the direction of Mr. Noah H. Swayne, '93.

Mr. Thacher's opening address touched on the athletic relations between Yale and Harvard, and he expressed his regret that there was no representative present from the Cambridge University. Yale could only express her feelings, therefore, through the medium of resolutions. He was very emphatic in his statement of Yale's readiness for a reconciliation.

An interesting part of Mr. Thacher's address was that in which he voiced the feeling of a very large number of alumni who regretted that they were not more closely connected with the College, and more perfectly informed of what was going on. On this point he spoke somewhat as follows: "We want closer bonds to unite us to the College. We don't want to criticise until we know; we don't want to criticise. We want to help in every way we can, and our pecuniary help is the least we have to offer."

President Dwight on being introduced was very heartily cheered. His speech dwelt principally on the growth of the College in the last ten years. He said that the funds of Yale were now twice as large as they were at the beginning of this period, and that more than half a million, already bequeathed to her from various persons, was awaiting her possession. He touched on the increase of membership of Yale in all departments in the last ten years, from 1,076 to 2,495, and the corresponding growth of her corps of instructors which now numbers 238.

THE PRESIDENT ON "YALE SPIRIT."
Speaking of the Yale spirit, the President said:

"It is a common habit for every graduate to think that the Yale spirit reached its height in the year that his class was graduated, and that immediately afterward it began to decline. I know I thought so in '49. And '53, whom I left as Freshmen, became imbued with the same idea four years later. I met only this evening a young man who was graduated last summer, and he confidentially bemoaned in my ear the decadence of the Yale spirit. I have no doubt that every member of the class of '97 is preparing to bewail the same thing next Summer. But I want to say that in my mind the Yale spirit is still the same as it was in '49. I had it then, and I've got it now. It was never in a better state of preservation than I found it in on January 2 last when I returned to this country from abroad. It pervades a larger number than formerly, that's all."

Other speeches were made by Lieut.-Gov. Woodruff, who responded to the toast "College Men in Politics," Professor Perrin, Mr. Lyman and Professor Hastings.

Letters of regret were read from Secretary of State Olney, Mr. Justice Brewer, Hon. Edward J. Phelps and the Hon. Thomas B. Reed.

All the speeches were, to a very large extent, informal in their nature, which prevents the Weekly from reproducing them more fully. It was

especially desired to reproduce one or two of the responses at some length, but this fact stood in the way. The meeting was especially arranged to give all a sense of perfect freedom and remove any uncomfortable formality which might follow the feeling that the speeches might be reproduced in the papers.

On the same evening as the dinner a secret session of the alumni was held at which the athletic situation was freely discussed, and the opinion of the New York graduates taken.

OBITUARY.

(Continued from third page.)

short life. It is not easy to realize that the battle is over for him and that he has left behind him so many who knew him as a boy and later as a man, and who are today wondering what fate it is that removes the strong and leaves the weak. It is indeed a sad occurrence, and further clouds the beginning of a new year."

JAMES M. CLAGETT, '84

James Milton Clagett, '84, died at his home in New York City January 7, 1897. He had enjoyed his usual good health until a week previous to his death, when he was taken ill with an acute attack of neuralgia in the face which resulted fatally. Mr. Clagett was born near Nashua, N. H. He prepared for college at Lawrence Academy, Groton, Mass., and entered Yale in the Fall of 1880, graduating with the class of '84.

In the following September he organized the Maple Grove Academy at Eatontown, N. J., and conducted it for several years. In 1889 he went to New York and taught in the public schools, at the same time taking lectures for two terms in the Columbia Law School. At the time of his death he was about to complete his legal studies and enter upon the practice of that profession for which his talents peculiarly fitted him.

Mr. Clagett was never married. He funeral and interment occurred at Hollis, N. H., the home of his parents.

DECIVS L. PIERSON, '94.

It was possible to insert in the last Weekly only a very brief mention of the death of Decius Latimer Pierson, '94, son of Stephen C. Pierson, '64. His death occurred on the morning of January 19th at Simsbury and resulted from appendicitis complicated with Bright's disease.

He was taken suddenly ill there the previous Saturday night where he had gone to spend Sunday. He was operated on there by Dr. Storrs, Sunday. All seemed to be going well when the complication arose from which he died on Tuesday morning.

Since graduation Mr. Pierson has been connected with the Actuarial Department of the Travelers' Insurance Company of Hartford. He was a young man of much promise, straightforward, manly, courteous and above all conscientious. He was much loved by his classmates. Everyone who came in contact with him was impressed by his generous spirit and will grieve to hear of his death, just when he was well started on his life's work.

The funeral services of Decius Latimer Pierson were held at Weatogue, Conn., on Friday, January 22d. The following Yale men were pall bearers: A. P. Bartlett, '94; J. C. Brown, '94; G. F. Dominick, Jr., '94; T. Eaton, '94; H. L. Eno, '94; A. Phelps, '94, and John B. Solley, Jr., '94. Other college men who were present were: W. S. Beard, E. M. Day, R. R. Lounsbury, C. M. Loveland, F. T. Parsons, W. H. Sallmon, O. S. Seymour and W. R. Wright. Mr. W. H. Sallmon took part in the service and paid a high tribute to the unselfish Christian spirit and other manly traits of Mr. Pierson. Mr. T. B. Solley, Jr., sang a solo during the service. A meeting of those members of the Class of Ninety-four who were able to be present was held in the Ninety-four room, Dwight Hall, on Friday evening, January 22d. As a result of the meeting, the following resolutions were adopted:

Yale University, January 22, 1897. Whereas, It has pleased our Heavenly Father, in His infinite wisdom, to remove from us our beloved friend and classmate, Decius Latimer Pierson; and

Whereas, We mourn the loss of a true friend, an unselfish and large-hearted character, an ardent and sincere Christian, one who by his sterling qualities of mind and heart endeared himself to us all; be it

Resolved, That we, his classmates, express to his bereaved family our sincere sympathy in this time of affliction; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these Resolutions be spread upon the minute-book of the Class Secretary, forwarded to each member of the Class of '94, and inserted in the college papers.

WILLIAM HENRY SALLMON,
RALPH REED LOUNSBURY,
THEODORE EATON,
Committee.

Fayerweather Will Case.

The decision in the Fayerweather will case, which has been contested in the courts for nearly four years, was filed last week in the New York Court of Appeals and demands that the residuary estate amounting to \$3,000,000 be divided among twenty institutions, of which Yale is one. According to this decision each of the following colleges should receive the sum of \$150,000: Amherst, Bowdoin, Dartmouth, Williams, Columbia, Hamilton, Lafayette, Lincoln, Maryville, Marietta, Adelbert, Wabash, Park, Wesleyan University, the University of Rochester, Cornell, University of Virginia, Hampton, the Union Theological Seminary and Yale.

It has been later announced that this decision of the Court of Appeals may not be final as further legal proceedings have been instituted involving the disposition of the residuary estate.

By the direct provisions of the will itself, Yale College was bequeathed \$200,000 and the Scientific School \$100,000. About 90 per cent. of this amount has already been received by the University authorities.

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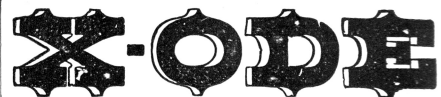
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