

THE BOOK SHELF.

The R. Herndon Company, of Boston, Mass., have just completed arrangements for a book entitled "Universities and their Sons," which is far and away the most generously planned work of its kind yet put forth. The universities treated are to be Harvard, Yale, Princeton and Columbia.

The plan contemplates not only the historical sketch of each university, which will give not only the facts of its life, but its prevailing characteristics and its influence. This will be in the case of each institution a very complete and scholarly treatise. The work will then proceed from that to give the important facts in the lives of all of the graduates of each of the universities of whom biographical material can be secured. The living graduates of these four universities will be entered and their biographies and portraits printed, just as far as it is possible, by a most careful system of canvassing, to secure them. Of the graduates who are not living, the more prominent characters will be picked out and treated.

The editor-in-chief of this work is Gen. Joshua L. Chamberlain, LL. D., ex-President of Bowdoin College, and ex-Governor of Maine. The historians of each of the universities have been picked out, after consultation with the Presidents, and are as follows:

Of Harvard, Mr. Roscoe Thayer, Editor of the Harvard Graduates' Magazine; of Yale, Prof. Charles Henry Smith, of the History Department; of Princeton, Prof. John DeWitt; of Columbia, Dr. J. Howard Van Amringe, of the Mathematical Department of that University.

There is also an editor for each college in the Biographical Department, that is, the department of the biographies of the graduates, and the editor of each one of these is, of course, a graduate of the particular university. For Harvard, the editor is Hon. Charles E. L. Wingate, who is Managing Editor of the Boston Journal; for Yale, the Biographical Department will be in the hands of Mr. Albert Lee, editor of Harper's Round Table, who is also known to readers of the Weekly in his

conduct of the Book Shelf. This part of the work will be undertaken for Princeton by Mr. Jesse Lynch Williams, the author of Princeton Stories. Henry G. Paine, editor of Harper's Weekly, will handle the biographical work of Columbia.

The publishers seem to appreciate the size of the work which they have undertaken, for they expect to have five volumes, each volume to contain no less than 500 pages. Each volume will be royal octavo in size and printed in very clear type on heavy weight paper. The length of time necessary to compile the biographies is counted on as considerable, and it is not expected to finish the work inside of three years.

The first volume, however, which will be made up of the histories of the different universities, in the chronological order of their foundation, will be completed within the current year. After that the volumes will be issued as completed.

It will not be attempted to keep all the graduates of one college together, but the work will, of course, be systematically arranged and indexed.

The character of the men who have been secured to edit this volume is of the highest. It is an undertaking which would certainly fail if not kept up to a very high standard. On the basis which has been established for it, it would seem to promise a most interesting contribution to the historical and personal literature of our universities.

It is quite natural that the work should be published in very handsome form, and that the workmanship shall be as dignified as possible.

W.

Law School Change in Vacation.

The faculty of the Law School have voted that the terms of the Law Department of the University shall hereafter be absolutely coincident with those of the Academic and other departments. The year of the Law School has hitherto been one week shorter than those of the Sheffield School and Yale College, and the vacations have generally come at different times. This change will prove more convenient for many reasons, and is welcomed by every one, in spite of the fact that it shortens the summer vacation of the Law School by a week. The new rule will not go into effect until next Fall.

Fayerweather Will Case.

As The Weekly goes to press the following press report dated March 9, at Albany, regarding the Fayerweather will case is published in the New York Post: "The Court of Appeals to-day denied the motion of the next of kin of John B. Fayerweather, the late millionaire leather merchant of New York city, to amend the remittitur made in the decision of the case one month ago, by sending it back to the Judge before whom it was originally brought, to pass upon the validity of a certain release of rights made by the widow and next of kin to the executors under the will. The division of the estate, as ordered by the late decision of the court, stands, and the remittitur unamended must now be filed.

"The decision of the Court of Appeals of a month ago gave the estate covered by the 'deed of gift' to the twenty colleges named in the will. Then came the motion of the next of kin to refer back to the trial Judge the matter of the release of rights made by the widow and next of kin, which was decided to-day. Under this latest decision, unless new litigation should come up, the money will be divided among the colleges mentioned as soon as the necessary steps to do so can be taken."

The sum to be divided is \$3,000,000, and Yale's share is \$150,000.

"Lit" Board Organizes.

The election of officers of the '98 Board of Editors of the Yale Literary Magazine was held in the "Lit." office Friday, March 5. Franklin Atkins Lord, of Moorehead, Minn., was elected Chairman for the coming year. David deForest Burrell was chosen Financial Editor.

The different departments of the paper were assigned as follows: Editor's table, F. A. Lord; Portfolio, D. deF. Burrell; Notabilia, G. Morris; Memorabilia, A. D. Baldwin; Book notices, E. C. Streeter. The incoming Board will take control with the April number.

The following three couples will constitute the Yale Whist team to play with Harvard at Cambridge on April 10: Cameron, '99, and Bryant, '99, Sherwood, '99, and Cooke, '97, Beecher, '98, and Cameron, '99S.

A SHARP BATTLE.

(Continued from fifth page.)

should have acquired such a mastery of subtle wit and biting sarcasm; it is incredible that such wisdom, such "sprightliness," could be found in an infant prodigy. Surely he is old and experienced, he is venerable and wise, the weight of knowledge must lie heavy upon him, and we are fearful for only one thing, lest his gray hairs go down in sorrow to the grave before the world shall recognize his fame. A cup of sympathy then to The Chap-Book and him who writes the notes. Be of good cheer; through your influence the limitations of college magazines may yet be established; with your aid the classics may yet be brought into the college curriculum; Utopia is coming, you may yet behold it—Utopia, when no one but venerable and wise Chap-Book writers may express an opinion, and it shall be a sin for one to differ with another.

New Rule for Sophomores.

A rule has recently been passed by the Faculty by which the Sophomores who are members of the College Choir are allowed six extra cuts a term, provided these cuts are not taken in the shape of extra marks. In the case of Juniors and Seniors, who have the privilege of continuing service in the choir as a one-hour elective course, this allowance was not made.

Before this rule was passed the Sophomores received nothing for their services on the choir. Under the present regulations a penalty of two marks is imposed for absence from choir rehearsal.

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