

AGAINST HIGHER TARIFF.

Yale's Earnest Petition—Losses Under Proposed Bill.

A protest against the Dingley Tariff bill has been sent to the House of Representatives, signed by President Dwight and fifty or sixty other members of the University Faculty, submitting considerations why books, philosophical apparatus, etc., should not be removed from the free list of imports. It is considered by the University Faculty that the passage of the Dingley Tariff bill would cause considerable additional expenditure to the various departments of the University. It has been possible to obtain approximate figures in the matter from the Academic and Scientific Department.

In speaking of the losses to the University, that would result from the passing of the proposed Dingley bill, Prof. Van Name of the University Library said that last year books were imported which under these regulations would have been dutiable to the amount of \$4,000. He added that every year the tariff in consequence of this bill would amount to at least \$2,500.

In regard to the losses to the Scientific School in consequence of the proposed duty on philosophical apparatus, the following figures have been obtained from reliable sources. The average amount of imported apparatus per annum to the Biological Department is \$2,800; to the Chemical Department, \$800, and to the Department of Physics, \$1,000. The tariff on these goods, according to the provisions of this bill, would amount to \$720, \$320 and \$400 respectively. It is also to be expected that home manufacturers would raise their price on goods sold the School, being protected by the Dingley bill, and the loss in this direction is estimated at \$600 per annum. The total increment in the annual running expenses of the Scientific School would, therefore, be \$2,040, and this amount would continually increase as the attendance at the School grew larger, and more apparatus became necessary to furnish a full equipment.

THE PROTEST.

To the House of Representatives of the United States:

The undersigned, the President and members of the several faculties of Yale University, respectfully submit to your honorable body the following considerations against the proposed removal from the free list of books, philosophical apparatus, etc., specially imported for the use of colleges, public libraries, and other incorporated institutions (paragraphs 413, 585):

(1.) Such action would be at variance with the uniform policy of the government in the past. Under every tariff act, from 1789 to 1894, books for such use have been admitted free. The same is true of philosophical apparatus, with a single exception. A small duty was imposed in 1864, during the stress of war, and removed in the first general revision after its close. There would be, we submit, just ground for surprise, were this time-honored policy to be reversed now, at a time when our industries, already revolutionized by the recent discoveries and new applications of science, must look to her aid for further development.

(2.) The government is now paying to the colleges for agriculture and in the mechanic arts, established in the several states under the land grants of 1862, annuities which are to be perpetual and amount in the aggregate to \$1,000,000 a year. We find it impossible to reconcile with this praiseworthy patronage of higher education the indirect tax, which the proposed legislation would impose both on the institutions of the government's own creation and those established by the free gifts of generous friends of learning.

(3.) Upon our free public libraries, already among the most valuable of our educational agencies, and rapidly growing in numbers and usefulness, the in-

creased cost of necessary books would be a serious burden. It would abridge to that extent their capacity to serve the public.

(4.) Within the present generation our public libraries have received, in gifts for buildings and endowments, not less than \$25,000,000—in the State of Massachusetts alone \$6,000,000. Still larger have been the gifts to our institutions of higher education. Anything which should tend to check the flow and dry up the sources of these gifts would bring serious loss to the country, which is the common beneficiary of these most beneficent charities. We are not without apprehension that the proposed legislation would have this effect.

(5.) Any possible benefit which could accrue to the Treasury from the duties on books, etc., now exempted, would, in the judgment of your petitioners, be far outweighed by the injury inflicted on the cause of education.

For these reasons we respectfully ask that the provision contained in paragraphs 413 and 585 of the present law may be left undisturbed.

Ready for the Harvard Debate.

The annual Yale-Harvard debate will be held at Sanders' Theater, Cambridge, on Friday evening, March 26. The question is: "Resolved, That the United States should adopt definitely the single gold standard and should decline to enter a bimetallic league, even if Great Britain, France and Germany should be willing to enter such a league." Harvard has the affirmative side of the question and Yale the negative. Harvard will be represented by G. H. Dorr, '97; F. Dobyns, '98, and S. R. Wrightington, '97, and Yale by C. H. Studinski, '97; C. U. Clark, '97, and C. S. Macfarland, '97 T. S. The alternate for Harvard is W. H. Conroy, Jr., '99, and for Yale E. H. Hume, '97, and F. P. Garvan, '97. Governor Roger Wolcott will be the presiding officer, and the judges will be Professor D. R. Dewey, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Professor F. H. Giddings, of Columbia University, and Judge E. A. Aldrich, of the United States Court.

The Yale speakers will leave for Boston on the 2:33 train Thursday, and will stop at Young's Hotel in that city. They will be accompanied by a small contingent of students. After the debate a dinner will be given in their honor by the Harvard team, at Young's.

The Ten Eyck Speakers.

The following speakers have been chosen to contest for the Ten Eyck Prize at the annual Junior Exhibition:

Robert Woodrow Archbald, of Lancaster, Pa. Subject, "English Admirals of the Eighteenth Century," Preparatory School, School of the Lackawanna, Scranton, Pa.

Arthur Douglass Baldwin of Maul, Hawaii. Subject, "The Opening Up of South Africa." Preparatory School, Hotchkiss.

Samuel Eliot Bassett of Wilton, Conn. Subject, "Sectionalism in American Politics." Preparatory School, Hopkins Grammar School, New Haven, Conn.

Louis Samter Levy of St. Louis, Mo. Subject, "Sectionalism in American Politics." Preparatory School, Smith Academy, St. Louis, Mo.

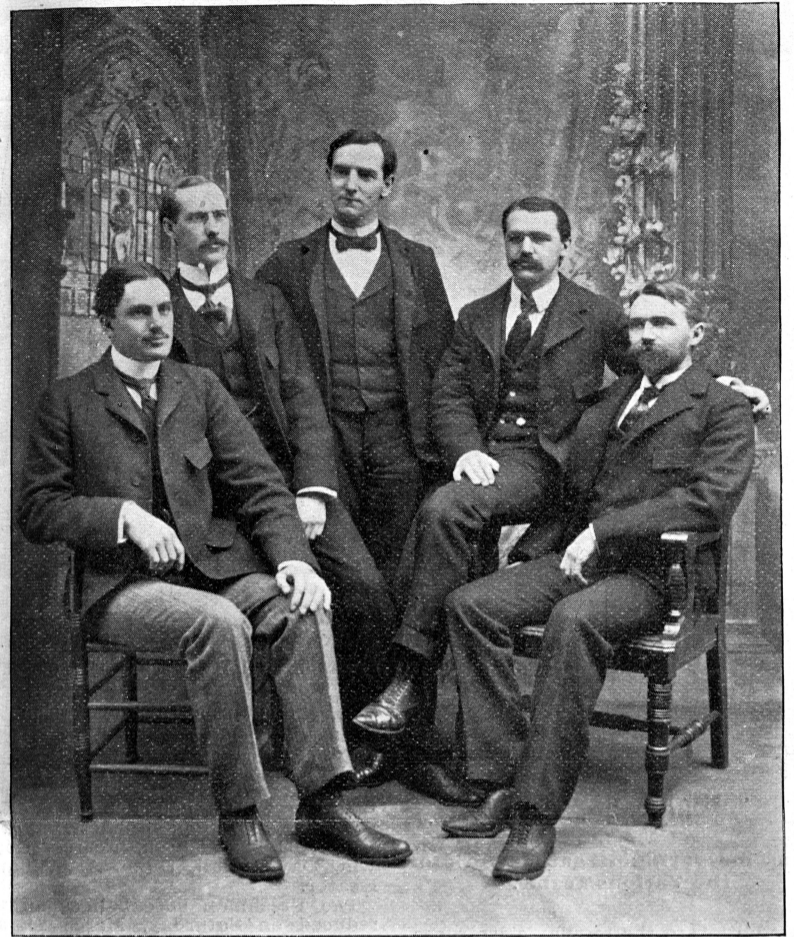
Robert Kimball Richardson, of New Britain, Conn. Subject, "Joan of Arc." Preparatory School, Hotchkiss.

George Minot Ripley of St. Louis, Mo. Subject, "Joan of Arc." Preparatory School, Smith Academy, St. Louis, Mo.

Edward Clark Streeter of Chicago, Ill. Subject, "Heinrich Heine." Preparatory School, Harvard School, Chicago, Ill.

Henry Burt Wright, of New Haven, Conn. Subject, "Armenia." Preparatory School, Hillhouse High School, New Haven, Conn.

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(From advance sheets of The Pot-pourri. See page five.)

INADEQUATE FORCE.

Mr. Chamberlain Speaks Further of the English Department.

To the Editor of the Yale Alumni Weekly, Sir:

It is not easy, for me at least, to understand some of the positions of Professor Beers. So far as I can make out, he is not consistent even with himself. For example, he begins by saying that the force that will be in the service of the English Department next year is sufficient to do all the work needed. He even goes so far as to suggest that both he and Professor Cook might be transferred to the Sanford and Lampson chairs, and the present chairs in English be left vacant. A little later he says the rhetorical instruction is inadequate in amount, and this is due to the physical work involved in instructing twelve hundred men. He further says that every student ought to write ten or twenty themes yearly. He would thus require the Department to examine either twelve thousand or twenty-four thousand themes annually.

What can he mean by saying this can all be done by a force of eight men? Presumably, the work would not be diminished, if English were not required in the first two college years, unless no electives were offered in those years. Does Professor Beers go this length? Does he really mean he would not only have no entrance requirement in English, but would absolutely deny Yale students all possibility of instruction in English until they reach Junior and Senior years? This certainly seems to be what he says or means, else how is he going to release himself and Mr.

Cook so that they may fill the Sanford and Lampson chairs? I will not take space to comment on such a proposition, beyond saying, once for all, that it is monstrous and absurd beyond description; and I do not dare to charge it on Professor Beers, though he seems to say and imply it distinctly. But eight men to twenty-four thousand themes! Three thousand themes apiece! About twenty themes a day for every scholastic day of the year! Professor Beers says the burden of theme-reading is too much for silver-tongued orators. I say such theme-reading, in addition to the other necessary work, is too much for any eight men alive.

A COMPARISON WITH HARVARD.

Professor Beers seems to demonstrate, therefore—what any one, it seems to me, could have seen at a distance—that the present force is totally unequal to the work needed to be done, if, as he correctly observes, "the work, to be of much effect, must be individual." Look at Harvard, where five years ago they had twenty instructors in English and with difficulty were able to meet the demands of a body of students not much, if any, larger than Yale has today. The English Department at Yale plainly needs more men in every possible view of its wants. Four professors and at least ten assistants could hardly do the work that is urgently needed to-day.

Again, Professor Beers, though declaring that Yale has long ceased to give instruction in public speaking, a moment later puts rhetoric, which he defines as the "art of spoken and written expression," as one of the three main branches of "instruction in English." I suppose of course he means English at Yale.

There seems to lurk in the several references made by Professor Beers to the graduates, a tone of condescension, a suggestion that we are suffering from

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