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NEW HAVEN, CONN., APRIL 8, 1897.

PROFESSOR WILLIAMS' PAPER.

Professor Williams has done a service to all Yale men in his presentation of the case of the four years' course at Sheffield Scientific School in his paper read before the Sigma Xi Society and reprinted in full in this issue of the Weekly. Temperate as it is, and judicial in tone, it carries with it, perhaps by reason of the very liberality of its spirit, a very strong impression in favor of the lengthening of the Scientific School course. The point of view is splendidly broad. We like that part of it in which the dignity of science is so well demonstrated, and that scholarly view of the power of science in the modern world. We do not remember to have seen any where as clear a statement of the character of the Scientific School as distinguished from the schools which are founded for the technical training of men. It is a paper worth the most careful attention.

BIDDING FOR THE RACE.

The negotiations for the place of the triangular race between Harvard, Cornell and Yale have taken an unfortunate turn. Two cities are bidding for the privilege of this athletic exhibition, presumably under the stimulus of those who have the placing of the exhibition in their hands. That must be the popular interpretation of it. The managers on the part of the different Universities are undoubtedly acting under a most laudable motive, namely, the desire to locate the race where it will be well rowed and where the burden of expense, which is always heavy, shall be least felt by the different organizations. We would not criticize what they have done in the matter, from the standpoint of the spirit in which they have acted, but the fact remains that the result has been unfortunate and that Yale, Harvard and Cornell are placed in a position of offering at auction the mercantile advantages of the athletic exhibition which they are ready to give.

It takes the sinews of war to conduct college athletics, but college athletics lose their charm altogether when they are affected by the mercantile spirit. The course of college athletics in recent years has been unconsciously in this direction. It is well to sacrifice something rather than to permit this tendency to grow any stronger.

STRAIGHT SUBJECTS FOR DEBATE.

They are still talking over the debate up at Harvard. Mr. Joseph Parker Warren has written a communication to the Crimson in which he tries to find the practical reasons for Harvard's defeat. He says very frankly, that however firmly Harvard may believe in her interpretation of the issue, it is not well for her to refuse to meet any construction offered, answering their opponents on their own ground, although still holding to her interpretation as the correct one.

Mr. Warren's second point is one that Harvard and Yale and every friend of debate will agree on without any question. He says that some means must be taken whereby the question at debate shall be made so clear that there shall be no chance for squabbling over the interpretation. Of course, the interpretation of a question is a very important point in the work of any debater or public speaker. At the same time, there is always enough to do when the issue is clear, and the debate is much more interesting when it is a square out-and-out fight.

Mr. Warren holds that in the four debates that he has heard in Sanders Theater, three have been impaired by a disagreement as to the subject. He suggests first the framing of the subject with the greatest degree possible of brevity and clearness. Then he suggests, if there is still the slightest possibility of disagreement, reference to a third party, if necessary, for a final declaration of the issue. After this interpretation has been made, no other construction should be allowed except by agreement on both sides.

We doubt very much if it is well to try to define quite as carefully as that. Get a good straightforward subject and any attempt to quibble will fail. The subjects have been carelessly worded. But this trouble will work itself out. Intercollegiate debate is still in its infancy and some things about it, some fundamental regulations of it, have yet to be learned. Of course, we are not quite as keen on this subject of interpretation as our friends at Harvard owing to the issue on Friday in which, as we believe, a matter-of-fact, straightforward interpretation won over a theoretical and academical treatment of a live subject. But that is not what we started to talk about. Yale is ready for any forward movement in this goodly academic rivalry.

HARVARD SPIRIT.

The talk which Mr. Theodore Roosevelt gave the Harvard men last Fall has not been forgotten up there, and there is many a sign of a revival of college enthusiasm and the awakening of a spirit which makes all college enterprises most successful. It is, of course, only a difference in conditions and environment that has made the most marked difference in this matter between Harvard and Yale.

Harvard is not content with talking about and hoping for a change, but is doing things which will insure it. In other words, she is making the conditions of college life more and more favorable for the development of the college spirit. Witness the great dinner which the Juniors held at the Vendome last week. There were no less than 230 members of the class present and they talked right at each other in the most frank way and showed a lot of class and college spirit. Mr. Fletcher Dohyns, for instance, stirred up plenty of enthusiasm by a call on the class to work together more enthusiastically and unselfishly for the success of debate.

If Harvard develops herself along this line, her power in all intercollegiate rivalry will be remarkably increased.

There are seven Yale men on the Faculty of the Chautauqua School of Physical Education which opens July 5th.

YALE AND NEW HAVEN.

An Indifferent Attitude on the Part of the University.

Walter Allen, '63, in an address on "The Public High School in a Free State," delivered in the United Church on Sunday evening, March 28, made some remarks on the position of Yale in New Haven. He said in part:

"While we are proud of the University which gives our city world-wide distinction and honor, it ought not to absorb too large a share of the generous regard of the citizens, to the detriment of the city's own educational institutions, like the high schools and the public library. It is a question whether our own people would not be better off, if these proper objects of our nurture were not so completely overshadowed by the University in the esteem of the classes, which give direction and impulse to the thought of the people in educational matters. The University itself has no such intimate organic relation with the system of public education as enables it to exercise the great influence, that is exercised as a constant factor by the State Universities in the West. It holds somewhat aloof from the life of the people of Connecticut and there are signs that it does not enjoy the popular regard and sympathy that it once had, while, perhaps, it acquires for its uses a larger share of the money of citizens who have money to give away. The College Library is not the people's library. The College Museum is not the people's museum. The College Art School is not the people's gallery. The schools which appear to enjoy the most favor of the University authorities are not the public schools."

Freshman Athletic Reform.

A great deal of attention is being given this year to the problem of making the Freshman Athletic organizations self-supporting. In previous years the managements of the Freshman teams, most especially of the crew, have usually finished the season with a considerable deficit in their accounts. These debts have usually been left until Junior year, when they were paid off by the surplus of the Promenade Committee, and this custom has naturally caused a lack of responsibility in the classes for supporting their organizations.

Two remedies have been proposed. One is to place the management of the Freshman teams in the hands of some competent upper-class man, who by his additional experience would be better fitted to bring the organizations out ahead. The second plan is to hold the Freshman managers personally responsible for all debts incurred by them, and thus impress upon the classes the responsibility of their position. The first method has not been received with much favor. It has been tried at Princeton with success, but at Yale it is thought that to take the managements out of the hands of the Freshmen would simply defeat the end in view and would decrease rather than increase the interest in the organizations. As for the second method, it is evidently unfair to make an individual responsible for debts that properly belong to the whole class.

This year, the Faculty has discussed the advisability of making a rule that the Freshman crew cannot compete with other colleges, unless, at a certain date in advance, it can show enough money pledged to guarantee its financial success. So far no rule has been made, but it is probable that in the near future some action will be taken to place the responsibility where it belongs, and to avoid the misappropriation of funds subscribed to the Junior Promenade.

In the College Pulpit.

- The preachers in Battell Chapel for the remaining Sundays of the year are:
- April 11.—Rev. C. R. Lamson, D. D., Hartford, Conn.
 - May 2.—Rev. Charles Cuthbert Hall, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 - May 9.—Rev. S. E. Herrick, D. D., Boston.
 - May 23.—Rev. W. R. Richards, D. D., Plainfield, N. J.
 - May 30.—Rev. A. J. Lyman, D. D., Brooklyn.
 - June 6.—Rev. J. W. Cooper, D. D., New Britain.
 - June 13.—Rev. George Alexander, D. D., New York.
 - June 20.—Bishop John H. Vincent, Buffalo.
 - June 27.—Baccalaureate Sermon, by President Dwight.



In spite of reports to the contrary, it has been definitely ascertained that no date for the Yale-Harvard football game has yet been settled upon. It is improbable that any definite result of the negotiations will be reached before next term.

The Yale Golf Club will have a team match with the Staten Island Cricket Club golf team at Livingston, Staten Island, on Saturday, May 1st. There will be eight players on each side.

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