

HARVARD LETTER.

A University Club—The Debate with Yale—Relative Strength of Harvard and Yale Elevens.

Cambridge, Oct. 18—With the influx of new students, which marks the opening of the college year, the question repeatedly arises "How can the newcomers be made to feel at home and the forming of college friendships be fostered?" This is a live question at Cambridge more than at New Haven, because of the more loosely organized college life.

During the past week the project of forming a University club, which was agitated a year or more ago and then temporarily dropped owing to unfavorable financial conditions, has been revived. The Harvard "Crimson" has taken up the subject and is seeking to arouse undergraduate opinion and secure an expression of interest which shall warrant the alumni who are behind the scheme, in urging it upon the consideration of the graduates and the Harvard clubs. It is believed that the opportunity for raising the needed funds is now more favorable. Moreover, it is proposed that the \$60,000 which has been raised for the erection of the Brooks House be diverted to a building for more general purposes. The Brooks house was to be erected at a cost of \$300,000, as a memorial to Phillips Brooks, to furnish a home for the religious societies of the University and a center for the religious activities of the undergraduate body. A fifth part of the desired amount was quickly raised, but the fund has not increased much in the interval which has elapsed since. It is now proposed that the original plan be merged in the broader project, and that a University Club building be erected which will house the religious societies, and at the same time furnish a home for the social life of the University. The plan of the promoters of the University Club was to model it upon the lines of Houston Hall at the University of Pennsylvania.

QUESTION FOR DEBATE.

The announcement of the question to be discussed at the annual Harvard-Yale debate, to be held at New Haven next December, has already started the interest in debating which this contest arouses. The question, as announced, reads: "Resolved, That the United States should annex the Hawaiian Islands." In view of the failure of the two debating teams to meet squarely on the issue last year, the wording of the question is being discussed with a view to avoiding any recurrence of misunderstanding. As the question is framed it would seem that there is room for the same double meaning which kept the two teams apart last winter. The question can be taken to contemplate a definite legislative act on the part of the Government at once, or the ultimate policy of the United States in relation to the Hawaiian Islands without regard to time. There should be no excuse for a failure to meet squarely on the issue this year. Yale proposes the question and her opponent will be entitled to any interpretation of the question which the wording will sustain.

THE WEEK IN FOOTBALL.

The Harvard football team has made a distinct advance over a week ago in perfecting its offense. The improvement has been along two lines, a greater dash and spirit in the play, and a better organized interference for the runners.

The work of the line has not shown much change except that the men have quickened the pace a little. Wheeler at left-tackle is still slower than the others, and in the West Point game on Saturday Donald, the other tackle, proved weak in defensive play. Doucette has returned to his place in the center.

Behind the line, the coaches have tried a new combination which thus far has been quite satisfactory. W. L. Garrison, Jr., has replaced Cochrane at quarter and Dibblee and Sawin are playing the half-back positions. Haughton is still retained at full, but is being pressed by Warren.

HARVARD STRONGER THAN YALE.

The showing of Yale in the game with the Newton Athletic Association

Saturday furnished an excellent opportunity for those familiar with Harvard's game to compare her eleven with that of Yale. The Yale team is not so far advanced as Harvard in any department of the game. Team play is noticeably less advanced, particularly in the line. The Yale players are exceedingly promising, but they are yet green in many points of the game. There ought to be a prompt response to the call for coaches to assist in the work at New Haven. Among the forwards, noticeably Cadwalader, there was a tendency to play too high and this enabled Newton to force the Yale line back repeatedly near the close of the first half. Harvard has more team play, keeps a stiffer line, makes better holes for the backs, and has much more effective interference than Yale. The Yale team surpasses only in its quicker play. The Yale men line up quicker, and the ball is put in play more rapidly. Similarly, the Yale forwards are quicker in breaking through. In punting there is little choice as to distance between the punting of Haughton and McBride. The latter is liable to punt to one side, but he sends a low twisting ball that is difficult to handle. As in other features of the game, Yale is quicker than Harvard in getting the ball away on a punt.

Harvard's superior team play is explained by the fact that the men have had the advantage of practice in previous years, and the line has played together without much change throughout the Fall. The time is growing short, however, for the Yale coaches to overcome the advantage of the Crimson in this respect.

J. WESTON ALLEN.

Yale Field Corporation Report.

The Yale Field Corporation Report to August 30, 1897, shows the financial condition to be as follows:

RECEIPTS.	
Cash on hand	\$ 86.42
Received from Financial Union	3,000.00
Received from loan.....	500.00
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	\$3,586.42
EXPENDITURES.	
Superintendent	\$600.00
General Expenses	949.02
Taxes	166.80
Water Rate	50.00
Insurance	262.50
Interest and Discount	483.02
Paid Loan	500.00
On new Real Estate.....	500.00
Sundries	2.00
Cash on hand	73.08

Debt statement.....\$3,586.42
Remainder due on Mortgage loan, \$8,000.00.

For this year the East stand and the new fence around the Field have already been finished and paid for. The stand on the West side, now under construction, will be finished on or before November 1st and the Northerly and Southerly stands, each to have a seating capacity of about 2,500, are contracted for and will be finished on or before the 15th of November. The total expenditure on improvements at the Field will amount to about \$20,000, and unless larger amounts are subscribed to meet these expenditures there will not be enough money in the treasury to accomplish the further improvements contemplated calling for about \$5,000.

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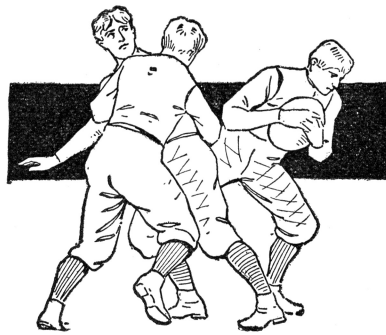
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