

A NOTABLE VICTORY.

[Continued from 1st page.]

tion of interpretation. Otherwise, Princeton failed to meet Yale's argument and Yale failed to meet Princeton's. The difference of interpretation had been to some extent foreseen; for each side was prepared to maintain its own against the other.

The real fight of the debate was a contest of skill in presenting an interpretation with plausibility. Yale had the advantage in being first in the field with her interpretation.

YALE'S INTERPRETATION.

Nathan Ayer Smyth, P. G., of Connecticut, was her first speaker. His speech was a clear analysis of the exact purpose of Yale's proposal. It was carefully arranged to lodge Yale's interpretation so firmly in the minds of the audience that any attempt on Princeton's part would seem like special pleading. Yale's proposal, he said, was to use the national party organizations as the machinery of nominations in city elections, but to refuse to give it support out of consideration for national party lines. The object of city elections is to get good men, not measures, and to do this the fight for good men must be made both in the primaries and at the polls. Choice should be based on the character of the nominees, not on the party of the candidate.

PRINCETON'S POSITION.

Howard Herr Yocum, '98, of Philadelphia, opened the debate for Princeton. He immediately attacked Yale's position on the ground that "choice" must include nomination as well as election. Therefore the affirmative must logically propose some new method of nomination, independent of the national party organization. They should advocate municipal parties. He then went on to argue that national parties are in the end more desirable than municipal parties. Mr. Yocum evidently had not anticipated the strength with which the affirmative's interpretation could be maintained, for he apparently failed to dislodge it from the minds of the audience. He spoke with much grace and finish, but lacked force.

John Kirkland Clark, '99, of New York, contained Yale's argument by showing that so long as national party lines were not disregarded, misgovernment and boss rule inevitably followed. His argument was lucid and well expressed.

William Magie Schulz, '99, of Pennsylvania, next took up the cudgels for Princeton. The arguments were now drifting far apart. He argued strongly against independent parties. Inasmuch as Yale did not support such parties, owing to the difference of interpretation, his argument did not meet any of Yale's points.

Charles Heitler Studinski, L. S., of Colorado, was Yale's closing speaker. He showed that independent voting had proved successful so far as tried. His speech produced a profound impression, for it was given with much genuine oratorical fire.

Matthew Lowrie, '98, of Pennsylvania, continued Princeton's argument against the advisability of independent parties. His delivery was good and his argument clear and effective.

THE REBUTTALS.

The rebuttals were as good as could be expected under the circumstances. Neither side would admit the other's interpretation, so neither could hit the opponent's points. The only live discussion was on the question of interpretation. Each speaker put in his word on this point. Princeton maintained that choice included nominations, and therefore the question meant the advisability of municipal parties. Yale maintained that the machinery by which a man was nominated was of no import. The real question was where in casting the ballot the choice is determined by considerations of national party lines, or solely on considerations of the character of the men. Yale was on the whole better prepared for this tilt. She presented the argument for her interpretation in a variety of ways while Princeton could only reiterate her one point. In other respects the rebuttals were all good. There was no hesitation, the English was unusually good for extemporaneous speaking; and the choice and arrangement of points excellent.

In general Yale was slightly superior to her opponents in almost every point. Her debaters spoke in better form, were more clear and practical in their argument, and worked together better. Their argument massed into one harmonious whole. Princeton men on the other hand were sometimes vague; their form was at times poor, and their argument seemed to overlap somewhat. Nevertheless, Yale's superiority, though marked, was not great. Her opponents accredited themselves excellently. It was a hard fought, well earned and creditable victory.

A BRILLIANT BANQUET.

The banquet given in the Princeton Inn immediately after the debate was the most brilliant ever held on such an occasion. Nearly a hundred guests were present, including many men of international reputations. The speeches were bright and inspiring. All the speakers expressed themselves as greatly gratified with the debate. It was to them not only an example of meritorious work done in the Universities, but an augury of good work to be done by college men in the larger arena of national life.

President Patton, acting as toastmaster, congratulated Yale on a hard fought fight fairly and well won. At the same time he expressed himself as proud of the excellent work done by Princeton's supporters.

Ex-President Cleveland was the first speaker called on. He expressed his sincere regret that Princeton had lost and promised that she would give Yale some hard fights in the future. He was proud, he said, of the work done by the Princeton men; and no less proud of the efforts of Yale—for they were sister Universities and contests such as these served not to drive them apart, but to draw them together. He spoke too of the usefulness of debating in preparing students for citizenship.

THE ENGLISH COMMENDED.

President W. L. Wilson of Washington and Lee University and a member of Mr. Cleveland's cabinet, was the next to speak. As one of the judges he expressed his gratification with the quality of the English used in the debate. Our government, he said, was one of public discussion. Such discussion as these debates, carried on on a high plane of earnest thought and mutual courtesy, argued well for the country's future.

Mr. Everett P. Wheeler of New York, one of the judges, commented on the value of cultivating the power of speech. He talked freely of the value of independent movements in political life and closed with a reference to the prominent part which Yale and Princeton graduates had always played in public life.

Hon. J. H. Eckels, ex-Comptroller of the Treasury, commented on the fact that the independent vote is an outgrowth of the college influence. He deplored the evils existing in our government which make independent voting necessary.

Prof. W. L. Phelps responded for Yale. He thanked Princeton for the courteous treatment Yale had received at her hands. He dwelt on the value of debating as training not only for the professional man, but for men in every walk in life. Speaking of Princeton and Yale, he said, that they were both alike in trying to keep up the old college idea in the new university development. That idea is that men are to be educated, not instructed. The aim is to turn out, not a small band of specialists, but a large body of men willing and able to stand shoulder to shoulder in the battles of citizenship. He said, too, that intercollegiate debating was not merely mental gymnastics. It was pre-eminently a fight; and a fight for victory. Yale was pleased with her victory. Yet defeat was no disgrace. Princeton had made a splendid fight. And above all she had on this occasion as well as last Fall given an example of the way to take defeat in a manly spirit, which Yale would never forget.

Prof. Woodrow Wilson of Princeton said that victory is one of the prizes for which debaters strive and congratulated Yale on winning.

Mr. James W. Alexander of the Princeton Board of Trustees referred to the newspaper war over Yale's English Department. He said that the same loyalty which would prevent a man from discussing his mother's failings in public should prevent him from attacking faults in his alma mater in the newspapers. Such attacks may be of

value in their place; but their place is not in the public press, where an invidious public may see and glut over them. His remarks were received with great applause.

Prof. Jameson of Brown, one of the judges, responded for that University.

THE YALE FRENCH CLUB.

Professor deSumichrast of Harvard Lectures Before It—A Fore-runner of Good.

The first formal meeting of the French Club of Yale was held last Friday evening. The Club has a room in Berkeley, and a charming one, and latter day posters create an atmosphere this is quite Parisian. Moreover there are illustrated papers, newspapers and a growing library. In a word the Yale undergraduate has finally a place where he can catch a whiff of the Parisian air.

Mr. Livermore, '98, President of the Club, called the meeting to order and presented Professor deSumichrast of Harvard. The address was on Guy de Maupassant. Prof. deSumichrast is a very lively speaker and his gestures are most graceful and oftentimes decidedly humorous. His portrayal of Maupassant set forth that writer as a keen observer of all types, as an artist, as a pessimist, a man for whom patriotism seemed narrow, a hater of God. One third of Maupassant's work Prof. deSumichrast described as immoral, but the remainder, by virtue of its artistic quality, by its strength, will hold a high place in literature and the best part of Maupassant will live.

The address, which was in French, was followed with the utmost interest and finished amidst hearty applause. The coming of Prof. deSumichrast to Yale will be hailed joyfully as a fore-runner of that larger spirit of cosmopolitanism which seems at last to be invading our universities, and we know that this is but the beginning. University is a big word, suggestive of a desire for the universal. There is no surer sign of this new desire than that the students themselves should seek to know what the thinking world is thinking, and whether those thoughts come from Germany or France. There is every reason to hope that as time goes on we shall hear the best men of these countries in their original tongue.

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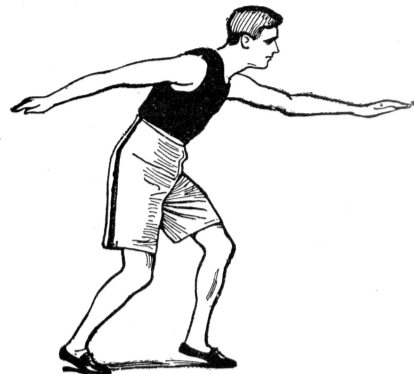
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