

## YALE ALUMNI WEEKLY

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NEW HAVEN, CONN., JULY 12, 1898.

Every Yale man who has information about other Yale men who have joined the Army or Navy, or may hereafter enlist, are urged to send it to us as promptly as possible, even during the next few weeks when the paper will not be issued. The "Weekly" is especially anxious to make its record of Yale men in the Army and Navy complete at the earliest possible moment and will attempt to cover the field quite thoroughly in the opening issue of the next year, for which it is none too early to provide. This office is the only place where these records are being gathered, and as the record is of great interest to all Yale men and of great credit to all Yale, we very strongly urge your co-operation in this task. Please do not hesitate to send anything about yourself as well as about others.

## THE NEXT WEEKLY.

With this Commencement issue, Volume VII of the YALE ALUMNI WEEKLY is brought to a close. The first paper of Volume VIII will be issued on or before September 15th, according to our custom, instituted last year. We intend another year to print again forty issues and it may be necessary to even increase this number. It is the hope of the WEEKLY that such efforts as have been made this year, to cover the news of Yale and Yale men, have met with the approval of its constituency, and that Yale men will continue in increasing measure to co-operate with the editors in developing the paper more and more rapidly towards the ideal of a publication, published and edited by Yale men in the interests of the University and of all its sons and friends.

## THIS YEAR'S COMMENCEMENT.

Commencement Day is described in general and in detail in other columns. If our reports have succeeded in giving an at all accurate picture of the day, the impression of it will be that of a day of peculiar interest and dignity and importance. In all the varied formalities as well as in the expressions of personal opinion in speeches, there was the grand theme of country. It is a lesson in the possibilities of Commencement. It shows what the season may be and may

mean, if its thought centers on some great theme. It is not enough that it shall be merely a time of congratulations and of merrymaking. We hope that there may always be plenty of material, as there has been in all Commencements of late, for congratulations, and we hope that Yale may never fail to supply her returning sons with the elixir of youth, even to the point of spiritual intoxication. But an institution like Yale comes out before her own sons and before the world in her best light and truest form when she rises to a subject higher than herself or her own interests.

This year she offered to her country her meed of praise and her full measure of devotion, and as a University hailed the Republic as that which rightly demanded her all and to which she would only too gladly give her all; and so Yale appeared in her best light as a pillar in the structure of the state and as an inexhaustible arsenal of the nation's best forces.

We shall not always be under such stress of national feeling. This war will cease. But there is always present some great issue in the fields of University service. Some great intellectual triumph, which has been accomplished for the benefit of all mankind, may be that to which Yale may attune all the exercises of her birthday celebration. It is an inexpressibly valuable thing to the young men who are sent out from here, that in the light of a great cause, to which she is unselfishly devoted, they should truly see the strength and the spirit of their nourishing mother.

## THE PROPOSED NEW MUSEUM BUILDING FOR YALE.

We present to our readers in the present number a portrait of Professor Marsh and, on another page, a view of the completed Peabody Museum with which his name will always be associated. Our issue of January 20th, 1898, contained the official announcement of Professor Marsh's important gift to Yale, which was received with great satisfaction by every friend of the University. The priceless scientific collections which he presented to his Alma Mater on the first day of the year were the most valuable single gift for science ever made to the University, and taken in connection with the fund previously secured by him from his uncle, Mr. George Peabody, placed this department of the University on a sure foundation, but still left the work to be crowned by some other friend of Yale.

One object Professor Marsh had in view in giving the results of his life work to Yale at that time was evident when the gift was made, and thus afforded an opportunity which should not be neglected. The vast collections which then became the property of Yale are only in small part open to the public or available for study, owing to the limited space in the present museum building, and must long remain so if dependence is placed alone upon the small reserve building fund left by Mr. Peabody. A sum equal to one-half the value of Professor Marsh's gift would now secure the main museum building, for which the site is waiting and the plans are already drawn. The collections given by Professor Marsh would fill this building, and all could be ready for the Yale bi-centennial in 1901.

The importance of this new museum building both to Yale and to science was clearly stated in the last Report of the President of the University, and the following extract may be appropriately repeated here:

"The events of the past year bring forward again with greater emphasis the necessity of having the main build-

ing of the Museum erected without delay. The present wing, completed more than twenty years ago, has long been totally inadequate for the requirements of a modern museum. Not more than a quarter of the scientific collections now belonging to the University can be exhibited in the limited space allotted to them, while the remainder is neither open to the public, nor available for instruction. The work of original investigation, also, which should here find its home, is so restricted that little can be done with the rare and valuable collections long waiting to have the new facts they disclose placed on record. The instruction which should accompany such work, both to undergraduates, and especially to graduate students, is likewise so limited, that the whole University suffers, not from the embarrassment of riches at hand, but from mere lack of space to make the riches available. The scientific public outside of the University has also for a long period been deprived of the privilege of seeing the unique specimens described and here deposited, which in more fortunate museums would be given places of honor.

"In a great number of instances, eminent men, both from this country and Europe, have come here for the sole purpose of studying renowned type specimens, which the Curators of the Museum could only show them in store rooms, with much trouble and labor. Thus many specimens which bring honor to the University by their presence receive scant courtesy in the house of their friends, and both science and the University suffer therefrom. This state of things has reached its limit, and every friend of Yale should do his part in making the present condition a thing of the past.

"What is imperatively needed is the main Museum building, detailed plans of which have long been drawn and estimates of cost secured. The reserve building fund left by Mr. Peabody now amounts to over one hundred thousand dollars. To make this building fire-proof, and also large enough to contain the collections now crowded together in store rooms, and to place the important specimens on exhibition, would require about one hundred and fifty thousand dollars in addition to the sum just mentioned. If the work could be commenced soon, the whole could be ready for the Yale bi-centennial, and thus the University would have a Museum worthy of itself and of science."

## THE CRUISER SURPLUS.

Several suggestions have come in for the use of the Cruiser Fund surplus.

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Prof. FRANCIS WAYLAND,

Dean.

It is hoped that a number more may be received before the time comes for its final disposition.

In sending the last check for the Long Island Alumni Association, Mr. Sanford E. Cobb, Treasurer, suggested that it be made the nucleus for the fund for the new University Hall. He thinks that such a hall as this ought to be built by the alumni as a memorial to the Yale men who have served their country in the past, and that its existence would give lasting testimony to the spirit which has prompted the extremely generous response to the call for subscriptions for the Cruiser Yale. Mr. Cobb believes that the alumni could build such a hall, and that well-organized work would bring the funds from them.

As to the guns themselves, Mr. Warren G. Waterman, of the Class of Ninety-Two, suggests that these guns should be kept in service. He says that if the Yale goes out of commission, it is probable that some battle ship of the new navy will be named for the State of Connecticut, or that New Haven might receive the honor of naming a cruiser. In that case, Mr. Waterman says these guns might very properly continue in active service, and represent our alma mater on a war vessel named after her State or her city. As for the desirability of having some trophy here, Mr. Waterman thinks that the colors would be sufficient for that purpose.

These suggestions will properly come up for action at some future meeting, when the close or development of the war will enable the Committee to judge most wisely as to the proper use of the money, and as to any action that may be possible in regard to the gifts already made. However, one thing ought to be clear. Yale's gifts were made without reservation and no attempt will be made to disturb them in any use the Government may see fit to make. When the time comes, as it may, when either one of them is no longer actually serviceable, it will be proper to take some action in regard to it.

## DR. MCKINLEY OF YALE.

It is entirely superfluous to say anything of the spirit in which Yale welcomes President McKinley to the company of her sons. If you were in Battell Chapel on the morning of Wednesday, June 29, you can not be informed on the subject. If you were not there you will get some idea by talking with one who was there or by reading the description in another part of the paper. But after all you probably do not need to do any of these things. If you are a Yale man, you know how you feel yourself. We all feel the same way.

One collection of Yale athletes has put Yale under obligation more than once this last month. The issue at New York on Saturday gives another very welcome opportunity to express our appreciation, and, indeed, the appreciation of all Yale, of the way in which the Nine has conducted itself. It is very pleasant that players of such talent led by a captain of such worth, both as a Yale man and as a Yale athlete should accomplish so well what is set out for them.