

## YALE ALUMNI WEEKLY

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## THE ALUMNI, THE PRESIDENCY AND THE CORPORATION.

As the WEEKLY grows older and its constituency becomes better acquainted with it, new opportunities naturally arise for the use of its columns in the service of the University. In view of certain traditions, or we might say prejudices, in regard to the public treatment of certain subjects, it is just as well to reaffirm the WEEKLY's position in regard to news about Yale or views of Yale men. Just as much as it aims to be a fair reporter of Yale news, telling of things as they are, which are properly a part of the public record, so it tries to be a fair clearing-house for Yale views in so far as they may have current value. We wish to say this again just at this time when so many live topics are before Yale.

The Yale community, which extends all round the world, is not divided into parties, but is full of different opinions about men and things. As far as these opinions have value, we like to circulate them in the WEEKLY, but the circulation of them means absolutely nothing in regard to the WEEKLY's position towards them. So far as we think it best to take a position, we will take it in the editorial column. Our other columns are free for news and views. This week, for instance, we print a letter about the representation from the West on the Yale Corporation. It is printed because it seems to us an interesting contribution to the question of the election of members of the Corporation. It mentions names, but only because their discussion is necessary to illustrate ideas.

Just so in the presidential matter. It is the greatest question that has come to Yale. The WEEKLY is the means by which Yale men may talk to each other and to their officers, and by which their officers, if they wish, may talk to them. So what points are profitable for general discussion are entered upon here. Even more so than in the Corporation matter, do we desire to avoid the discussion of persons and so far we have been able to avoid it. We do not anticipate the necessity of changing this policy, but should it come, it would be only because it was necessary, in order for the free circulation of ideas.

But let us say one thing just as emphatically as we can. The WEEKLY is interested in no candidate for either the

Presidency or the Corporation. It is interested in the principles of choice and in gathering facts that may be of value in making a choice. For a long time we held our peace in regard to the Presidency, barring the reproduction of an occasional paper on the subject. The air was too thick, with more or less excited discussion, and the horizon was too black with candidates, to admit of a very helpful treatment. Excitement has given place to cool consideration; embarrassment over the great surprise and emergency has changed to a business-like consideration of the situation; men's minds have begun to clear in regard to certain necessary elements of a proper choice, and the list of candidates is assuming less formidable dimensions. If what the WEEKLY offers is of value in helping to a decision on this very great question, and if anything which has come to its possession, but cannot be put in print, shall be found of service, our object in canvassing the sentiment of the country in regard to the Presidency will be accomplished.

## HARVARD-YALE FIGURES.

The WEEKLY is very glad to print this week a letter from Professor Briggs of Harvard on the statistics of the Yale and Harvard education printed in the issue of March 1. If Dean Briggs thought it advisable to emphasize one or two points in regard to the makeup of these figures, it is certainly wise to bring out these points more clearly, for no one could read them more intelligently and more fairly than he. If the points which he has mentioned will help to a clearer understanding of them by the general reader, it will be satisfactory to the WEEKLY, whose one object in putting them out was to set forth facts of interest. The figures did not aim to show the amount of work done by the instructors, but the amount of instruction imbibed by the students. This is fairly indicated by the number of men in a course multiplied by the number of hours a week. It is not a perfect criterion, but to our mind the most available and reasonably fair. It is assumed that readers understand the fact that the Yale curriculum, by prescribing so much classical, mathematical and philosophical training, affects the size of the figures in these departments. It is very pleasant to find members of the Harvard Faculty treating such a statement in a Yale paper in exactly the spirit in which it is offered. Such men have doubtless never had any other attitude towards contributions emanating from another university. But the time has been when both at Harvard and at Yale, there were hundreds of men, and able men, too, who judged all things from the standpoint of their own universities, who considered the relations of universities as one against all others, and who would have found a partisans bias in a table comparing for the students of the universities, the proportion of those with red hair or blue eyes.

## CARELESSNESS.

The report of the meeting of the Alumni Funds directors in this issue is interesting for more than one reason. It not only shows, what ought not to be the case, that the fund is behind previous records at this time, but it brings up a point which every man meets who has done public work, even among those who are so directly and intensely interested as the Yale constituency. We refer to the pure carelessness in not responding to notices. One of two things is clearly the duty of the man who receives a re-

quest to help out a Yale project. If he is unwilling or unable to respond at all, he ought to say so at once. Such frank replies are always appreciated. If he feels unable to respond at once, but thinks he may be able later, it is his duty to intimate that and, if possible, to name some day when he will try to contribute. If he can subscribe just as well at the time of the receipt of his notice, as at any other time—which is generally the case—then his subscription should go at once. He gives twice who gives quickly. If the men who are asked to subscribe will only remember their own similar experience, they will not give any trouble on this score. If they have not done that kind of work, then they ought all the more keenly to appreciate the undesirability of adding to the burdens of those who are not only contributing such money as they may, but adding their own time and labor, simply to help things along.

## THE NEXT ADMINISTRATION.

The first of a series of papers on the problems before the next administration at Yale is published in this week's issue of the paper. As to the value of the writer's contribution, we will let our readers judge.

These papers are written with appreciation of what has been thus far given to Yale and done for Yale in the administration now closing. They recognize its very strong points, and if they indicate what is yet to be done, it is only by way of showing to what opportunities and necessities the broad path of progress has led.

## Bequest to Yale.

According to the press reports, Herbert Stewart, formerly of New London, who died in New York on March 4, left to the Sheffield Scientific School a bequest of about \$40,000 to be used for a scholarship, and about \$60,000 more, provisionally. The income of the fund is to be used for the education of poor young men born in New London and Waterford, Conn. The President when seen on Tuesday had received no official notification.

The intercollegiate shoot between Yale, Princeton, Harvard, and Pennsylvania is scheduled to take place on May 6th at Philadelphia.

O. M. Johnson, 1900 and J. M. Hopkins, 1900 have been awarded the contract for publishing the Yale Banner for 1899, their bid being \$600.

The Yale Literary Magazine will hold its sixty-third annual banquet at the Tontine, Tuesday evening, March 21st.

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## LYMAN BEECHER LECTURES.

Dr. John Brown, of Bedford, for  
Next Year—Prof. Smith.

Prof. George Adam Smith, of the Free Church Theological College, Glasgow, is expected to give the first lecture of his course at the Divinity School on the afternoon of April 6th. His special subject is "The Preaching of the Old Testament." The design of the course is to consider the question how the Old Testament is to be handled by the preacher, in the present state of Biblical Criticism. Among the special topics to be considered are the history of the Old Testament canon, the authorship of the books comprised in it, and the subject of inspiration as related to them.

The course promises to be one of remarkable attractiveness and value. No theme could be more timely. Prof. Smith is one of the foremost of the Old Testament critical scholars. His writings on the Prophets are readable and inspiring, as well as erudite. He blends a devout spirit with thorough and courageous scholarship. During the past year he has been engaged in the preparation of the biography of his friend, Henry Drummond, which has lately been published.

The lecturer on the Lyman Beecher foundation for the next academic year (1899-1900), is to be the Rev. John Brown, D.D., of Bedford, England. Dr. Brown is an eminent Congregational divine. He received from Yale in 1887, the degree of D.D. He is a successor of John Bunyan in the pastoral office at Bedford. Among his literary productions are the "Life of Bunyan," a work of great interest and value, his volume on the "Pilgrim Fathers of New England and their Puritan Successors," and his recent work on "Apostolic Succession." Dr. Brown, besides being an eloquent preacher and an excellent speaker out of the pulpit, is justly esteemed in Great Britain for his uncommon literary ability, and accomplishments.

## Prof. Ladd's Trip Abroad.

As briefly stated in the issue of last week, Professor George T. Ladd, head of the Department of Philosophy, will not resume his College duties next Fall, but plans to spend the coming year abroad. The object of his trip will be twofold—to deliver several lectures in Japan and India and later to spend some months in travel.

He expects to leave San Francisco about the middle of August for Japan. There he will first deliver a course of lectures of two or three weeks, at the Imperial University, on Philosophy and afterwards will lecture in other places in Japan, probably spending a few weeks at Kioto. He will go from there to India and will deliver a three-weeks' course of lectures in each of the three "Presidency cities" of India, Calcutta, Madras and Bombay. Leaving India about the middle of March he may visit Ceylon, although that is not, as yet, definitely decided. The remainder of the year will be spent in travel, visiting Egypt and afterwards attending the International Congress of Psychologists at Paris in the Summer of nineteen hundred. He expects to take up his College duties again the Fall of that year.

## To Steer the Crew.

In response to Captain Allen's call for coxswains for both the University and Freshman crews, the following men have reported: J. M. Walton, '99 S.; H. C. Neal, 1901; G. P. Chittenden, 1901; A. P. Wright, 1901; C. Potter, 1901; A. B. Arnold, 1902; M. K. Armstrong, 1901 S.; A. B. Clark, 1902; P. D. Clark, 1902; R. O. Clock, 1901 S.; W. E. Davis, 1902; E. Fitzgerald, 1902; H. A. Fuller, 1901 S.; H. W. Knox, 1902; W. B. Luther, 1902; M. A. Stern, 1902; R. Sturges, 1902.

## Yale Law School.

For circulars and other information apply to

Prof. FRANCIS WAYLAND,

Dean.