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WEARING THE COLLEGE COLORS.

From now until the last Roman candle pops its last ball and sputters its last spark, in honor of the victors at the Yale-Harvard four-mile straightaway, the men of the colleges of America most in the eye of the people of America will be the college athletes. By the way these college students act will their colleges be judged. They themselves will be talked about and praised or condemned, according to their deserts, but that is not a fact to be considered publicly. Their personal reputations are their own concern.

The fact that they are always identified with the college whose colors they wear, so that what they do is spoken of and thought of as what their college does—this is of much consequence and is the concern of every college man. Jack Meanwell may play ball all the afternoons and Saturdays of his youth with the Redtowns (the same being a nine whose highest victories are scored against both those they play against, and the statutes and common law of the sport), and he may do exactly as he pleases and dares. If he decides to compromise between his silent monitor and the Bleachers, and accepts as germane only such arguments as he hears, that is exclusively, Jack Meanwell's business.

But when the name J. Meanwell appears in a batting list, headed by the name of a college, it all changes. Our young friend is still an American, but in the Redtown sense he is not free any more. When he put on the Redtown uniform he accepted the task of making as many runs as he could and keeping the other fellows from making them, by playing baseball and by such other possible means as seemed good to him. When his college put its colors on him, it gave him first of all a name to bear unstained, and that name one which was made clear and pure by the labors and lives of saints; which was glorified by the works of scholars; which was borne into all strenuous labors by men who toiled for the public good and often gave their lives for others, because their college, their nourishing mother, had taught them to reckon not what they gave to any high endeavor.

This is general and quite common-

place. It ought to be assumed and not need stating. But again and again, year in and year out, in the history of all college athletics, Yale not excepted, the fact has been altogether forgotten or ignored. Some of the best fellows the Lord ever made, their sense distorted by convention and their spirits untrained to conquer excitement by self-control, have worn the blue, and other glorious college colors, and acted while they wore it as though ideals were nothing as compared with what was shown at the finish line on the river, or the tape on the track, or on the score card when the last inning closed, or the whistle sounded the end of the game.

Let us take counsel with ourselves, gentlemen, as our Yale goes onto the track and the diamond and the river. If players, let us remember what it is to stand for Yale. If only spectators—students, graduates, members of the common brotherhood and so as deeply concerned as any,—let us not forget and be cowards, when rooters shout or many are excited and forget themselves and their college.

For ourselves, we will try to do our little part in reporting things as they are, and we much hope that it will be a very pleasant privilege instead of a disagreeable duty.

Corporation Nomination.

The following circular nominating Mr. F. S. Parker, Yale '73, to the Edward G. Mason vacancy in the Corporation has been sent to Prof. F. B. Dexter:

We, the undersigned alumni of Yale University, do hereby nominate Mr. Frederick S. Parker, of the Class of 1873, as a candidate for the office of Fellow of Yale University to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Edward G. Mason, Esq.:

Simeon B. Chittenden	.....1865
Joshua M. Fiero	.....1870
Albert B. Boardman	.....1873
William B. Hill	.....1881
F. H. Colton	.....1860
Walter S. Brewster	.....1889
Wm. B. Davenport	.....1867
David Stewart	.....1896
W. C. Beecher	.....1872
Almet F. Jenks	.....1875
Frederick Dwight	.....1894
Geo. C. Brainerd	.....1867
Arnold G. Dana	.....1883
William L. Newton	.....1893
Albert J. Shaw	.....1893
Arthur Mathewson	.....1858
Frederick A. Ward	.....1862
Chas. E. Bigelow	.....1873
Henry R. Dwight	.....1893
Thos. A. Perkins	.....1858
Alex. Cameron	.....1869
Clarence D. Ashley	.....1873
John Hill Morgan	.....1893
Henry F. Homes	.....1868
Philip Earl Dudley	.....1898
W. A. Taylor	.....1884
Charles N. Judson	.....1862

CURRENT YALE LITERATURE.

"Universities and their Sons."

If the publishers of "Universities and their Sons," the R. Herndon Company of Boston, can cover thoroughly, fairly and intelligently the field which they have entered, they will find no difficulty in establishing any claims which they may be disposed to make as to the value of their enterprise. Their scheme, in a word, is to show what University education is and what it is good for. They show what it is by describing the universities which they take up, in historical sketches and general descriptions of departments, of the officers and instructors, and of the different habits and characteristics. They propose to show what it is good for by giving biographical sketches of a selected company of graduates who are using their university education in business and in professional work.

The first part of this scheme is not

new. More or less descriptive literature about the universities is constantly coming from the press. The second part of the scheme is decidedly novel and its development will be watched with a great deal of interest. The publishers say that in carrying out the second part of their work, "The Sons of Universities," they propose to take up "representative men in the affairs of life, rather than those who tower above their fellows in intellect and position, and have reaped their full reward of success and honors." They propose to give a place to those who are "actively, worthily and usefully filling a place in the world, it may be in some modest sphere, but having in them the elements and spirit of growth and advancement to higher place and power; and particularly to obtain and present the facts showing the connection between their university training and the positions they now occupy in the busy world outside." Of the alumni of Harvard, Yale, Princeton and Columbia, the institutions treated in this series, there are more than forty thousand living. The publishers admit that it is impossible to give biographical representation of a considerable portion of them in a work of this character, but they propose to pick out three or four thousand whom they think will best carry out the purpose which has already been stated, and concerning these they will give not only the biographical data, but the portraits, when they can secure them. In making their selection they say that they have relied mainly on the results of personal investigation made by their agents as to the standing and comparative influence of "university sons" in the respective communities where they reside.

This review began with an "if," because the scheme is so large and so untried. But one may safely say that, if the rest of the work is done as thoroughly and as ably as is the first volume, which is made up principally of the histories and the descriptive sketches of the four universities treated, then one may look for very interesting and valuable results. For this first volume is certainly well done. The list of editors already given in the preliminary notice of this book a few weeks ago is in itself a sufficient guarantee of the quality of these histories and sketches. With Harvard in the hands of Mr. William Roscoe Thayer, the editor of the Harvard Graduates' Magazine; Yale taken care of by Professor Charles Henry Smith; Dr. John DeWitt and Mr. Jesse Lynch Williams for the Princeton department, and with Professor J. Howard Van Amringe writing the story of Columbia, there is all the assurance one desires of thorough work. And one must admit that the biographical editors, on whose shoulders must rest the burden of that most interesting part of the work yet to come, are apparently chosen with quite the same skill. Charles E. L. Wingate, Harvard '83; Albert Lee, Yale '91; Jesse Lynch Williams, Princeton '92, and Henry G. Paine, Columbia '80, are the names in this row.

There has been a disposition to be suspicious of this biographical portion of the work, as putting it in a certain commercial way on a level with publication enterprises that are not in great favor among intelligent men. To inquiries by those who entertain this suspicious feeling, our reply has been that it is easy to see the grounds for it on general principles, but that an investigation of the character of the editors was all very much in favor of the book. All that can be said is that the publishers have apparently taken every measure possible to carry out successfully and creditably their large and unusual undertaking. When the rest of the volumes come, if they are not up to the plan published and emphasized at the inception of the work; if they are not true to the quality of the men whose names are used to float this work, it will be time to give it the condemnation which such a disappointment will deserve.

Until then it will certainly be in order to wait with a keen and hopeful expectation. When such men as have been mentioned, together with General Joshua L. Chamberlain, ex-President of Bowdoin College and ex-Governor of Maine, and William T. Harris, U. S. Commissioner of Education, are guiding this work, there is only one channel in which it ought to move. That the result of such a scheme would be valuable to the science of higher education and a valuable exposition of its real value, there is no doubt.

Yale has been given a very generous portion of the opening volume, taking more space than that of any other university, and all this space is well taken. Professor Smith has made the plan of the book to cover, first, the College under its different administrations; second, the different departments of the University; and third, the voluntary undergraduate activities. Of course, it is done in a scholarly and thorough manner, and with a fair spirit.

Under "Voluntary Undergraduate Activities" Professor Smith takes up: First, Religious Activities; second, Literary Activities; third, Athletic Activities; fourth, Social Activities. The first, "Religious Activities," is, as far as we know, the first complete history of the voluntary religious life of Yale; and it deals principally, as such a history should, with the very diverse interests and activities of the College Young Men's Christian Association.

Under "Literary Activities" a good deal of space is given to the history of debate and its revival in later times, which is treated quite exhaustively and very fairly. This chapter also includes a description of the various College publications.

Athletics are treated with a general history of each branch, which follows the broad outlines intelligently. Professor Smith's conclusion is that ath-

[Continued on 281st page.]

Yale Law School.

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