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Lookout, Volume 7, Number 7, January 1903

A. W. Manchester

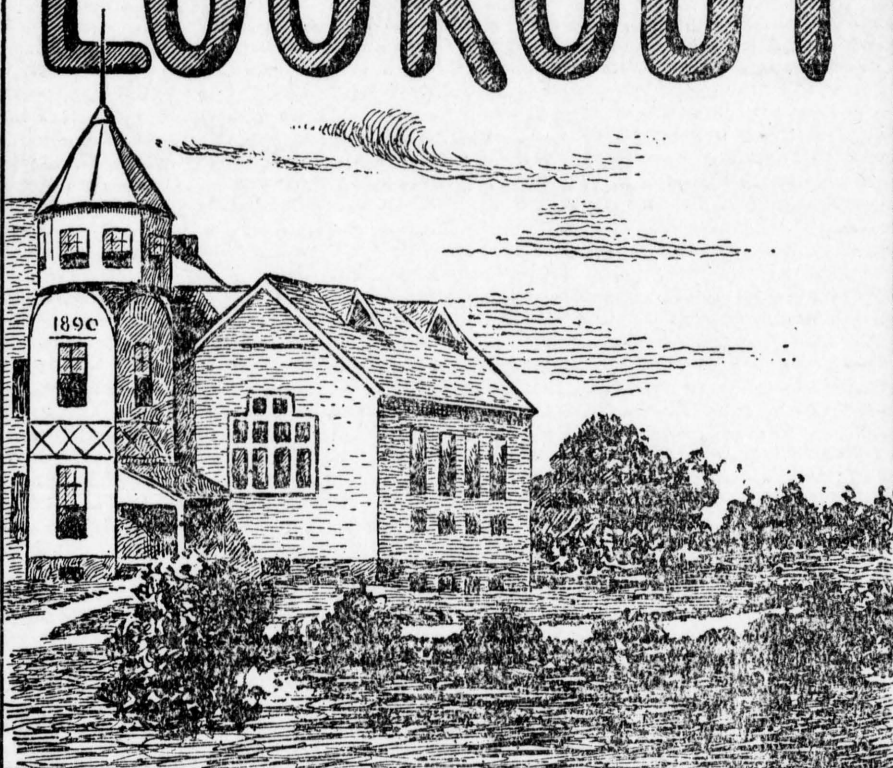
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THE

LOOKOUT



JANUARY, 1903.

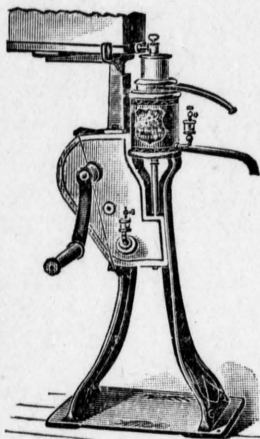
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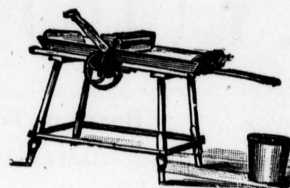
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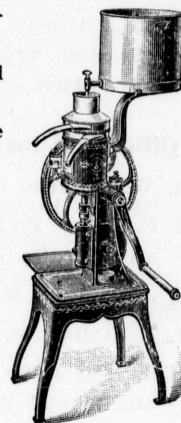
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C. A. C. LOOKOUT.

VOL. 7.

STORRS, CONN., JANUARY, 1903.

No 7.

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Entered as second class mail matter at the Eagleville Post Office.

Another holiday season is past. As usual, we have among us the after Christmas superabundance of varicolored neckties and the novel and charming display of useful and useless decorations for the rooms which the fancy of home folk pictures as bare as monastery cells. Especially affecting is the creation of the young lady, who by some subtle process of the mind has so associated herself with the flight of time, that after attaching a diminutive calendar to a card of melancholy hue and pasting above the calendar a perhaps not less melancholy photograph of herself, she presents it to her admiring friend.

But let us hope that these works of art and dispersers of gloom are not our only acquisitions. As we come back may we bring with us some of the inspiration and determination which a visit to those whose aims for us are so high always inspires. We are a long way farther upon our col-

lege course than we were at the opening of the fall term, and with the increased steadiness that comes from practice, we may well think this the right time to show our working ability.

Although we dislike to be continually harping upon one subject, the spirit moves us to say a few more words to the alumni. We need more alumni notes. We need to know what has become of many of our alumni and what is happening to them, especially to those who have been longest away from us. These things we have no way of learning save from the alumni themselves. If the members of each class will tell their class secretary when they are married or when their families are increased, or when they are promoted or when they change their occupations, or when they buy farms, or when they obtain offices, or when they are sick or injured, or

when any of the thousand and one other interesting events occur and, if the secretary will report all these things to us, the alumni column will become a source of pleasure to both its editor and its readers.

It is safe to assert that there are few communities where church going is as regular, rain or shine, hot or cold, as it is among our students. Perhaps the general public will not consider this conscientiousness in regard to church attendance as remarkably meritorious when it is learned that the conscience is assisted in performing its functions by the knowledge that failure to be at church entails a penalty of two hours of marching back and forth between the hitching-post and the flag pole, shouldering a musket. Nevertheless it seems as if this faithful performance of duty should be encouraged in some way. Therefore we respectfully suggest that when once more the streams of bounty come rolling our way, as a fitting sequel to the many recent improvements about the campus, a firm, hard walk be laid to the church doors. Perhaps, also, the establishment of a well lighted, strait and narrow way to the church would lessen the cares of the Lady Principal on stormy evenings.

Cæsar tells us that our German forefathers held their possessions in common. As civilization progressed this communism was apparently given up and individual ownership of property became customary. We, however, as we are often told, are not so different from our heathen ancestors as we are accustomed to think. Habits and customs persist even though they must change their form somewhat in order to

insure their existence. Thus it is that many traces of communism are still found among us, two thousand years since the time of which Cæsar writes.

When the property was divided among individuals, obviously one could not hold as many belongings as had the tribe. Thus, occasionally someone would own some implement that was needed by someone else who did not own a similar one. Under such circumstances, what was so convenient as to borrow the needed article? From these circumstances arose the habit of borrowing, which is still among us. Enough to fill volumes has been written about the evils of this practice by men who straightway went and borrowed stamps with which to send their productions to the publishers. Inveigh against it as we will, we all do it, for while most inconvenient for the lender it is extremely useful to the borrower.

Not the habit, however, but its result is the greater evil. There is considerable difficulty attached to the return of a borrowed article and gradually the practice leads to that greatest bane of school life—"swiping." We cannot express ourselves effectively in regard to this evil for about the things which we feel most deeply we are silent. We can only implore anyone, who saw those four pens, and pencils innumerable, take to themselves legs and walk away from the professor's desk, or anyone, who has seen any of the thousand and one missing articles upon their travels since they left the haunts of respectability, to hasten in pursuit and invite these wanderers to return to their former homes.

Professor—"Can you define space?"

Pupil—"I have it in my head but I can't exactly express it."—Ex.

Mid-Winter Meeting of the State Board of Agriculture.

The annual meeting of the State Board of Agriculture was held in the Town Hall at Norwich, December 9, 10 and 11. An extremely interesting program was provided. The courtesies of the city were extended, in the absence of Mayor Thayer, by the Hon. J. T. Fanning.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

Mr. Fanning said it was a pleasure and an honor to extend a welcome to men who are zealous in the effort to promote the public agricultural interests in this state, who are aiming to give a deserved dignity to the soil, and to secure a just reward for the diligence, the intelligence and the honesty of those who till it. His remarks showed that he is aware of the problems that confront the farmer, and that he appreciates, as do most intelligent citizens, the efforts which are being made to further agricultural education. "I believe," he said, "that the lot of the farmer is becoming more happy, as the business that he prosecutes is carried on more scientifically. . . . With the interest of the whole country," he continued, "centered in the progress of agriculture, with the appropriations made by our state for proper experimental work, with the extension of rural postal deliveries, and with your zeal and its continuance by your successors, the influence of successful husbandry will be increased and strengthened, and there will be an increase, too, in the influence and prosperity and happiness of all our citizens."

This address of welcome was responded to by Vice-President Seeley, who ex-

pressed regret that Governor McLean, President *ex officio* of the Board of Agriculture, could not be present. Vice-President Seeley was followed by Secretary Brown, who spoke in his usual happy vein, referring to a former visit at Norwich, during his military service, when the soldiers were welcomed by the mayor.

Pretty full accounts of the meetings appeared in different Norwich papers, the report in the *Norwich Courier* for Friday, December 12, being especially noteworthy.

COLLEGE SPEAKERS.

It is rare that so many representatives of the College are given prominent positions on the program as this year. President Stimson spoke in the morning of the first day on "Our Land-Grant College." Professor Stoneburn spoke in the afternoon on "The Farmer and the Hen," and Professor Clinton spoke the second evening on "A Balanced Ration for Plants: How to Get It." Many of the discussions were interesting and lively, but none were more so than those which followed the addresses of Professors Clinton and Stoneburn. It was their first appearance before that agricultural body, and they acquitted themselves with the highest credit to themselves and to the College. They were modest in their manner, thoroughly convincing in their argument, and both courteous and competent in their answers to questions. President Stimson had spoken twice before at the annual meetings of the Board.

"THE FARMER AND THE HEN."

Mr. Stoneburn showed the best of grounds for connecting the farmer with the hen in fact, as he had done in his subject. He did not urge upon the farmer the importance of embarking in all phases of the

poultry industry so much as in that of egg production. Of the one million, five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000.) paid annually by Connecticut for imported eggs, he thought it would be a great advantage to our farmers to secure a considerable share. He drew comparisons between the poultry and dairy industries which were decidedly favorable to poultry keeping. He held that a far higher relative return can be had from investments in poultry than from investments in dairying. He advocated: not fancy, but good blooded stock of the variety best liked by the individual farmer and best adapted to his locality; good care, houses kept at a temperature as nearly even as possible day and night; and a well diversified diet, including a constant supply of green food and fresh water. Incidentally, he spoke of the importance of poultry keeping as a separate, specialized industry; but his address had to do mainly with poultry keeping as a part of the work of the general farmer.

"A BALANCED RATION FOR PLANTS."

Professor Charles D. Woods, Director of the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station, had spoken in the afternoon of Wednesday, on "Cattle Foods," and had placed in the hands of his audience sheets giving balanced rations for dairy cows and a table showing the different forms of cattle food.

Professor Clinton's address following that of the afternoon was most interesting. "Many people," he argued, "fully realize the importance of a balanced ration for animals and of a well diversified diet for men, but in their treatment of plants do not seem to know or to think of the well established feeding principles which apply to

them. Nevertheless," he said, "it is just as important that a plant be properly fed as that a suitable diet be supplied animals and men. The problem of the farmer," he maintained, "is proper co-operation with nature." Where this co-operation is lacking, the logical result is bound to be, sooner or later, an abandoned farm. The fact, he said, that some Connecticut farms are selling for little money cannot be disputed; but this is owing to the care of these farms and not to the soil itself. Owing to the great diversities of soil on Connecticut farms, it is difficult to lay down rules for a balanced ration for plants; but by studying plants and their general feeding principles, by close observation of his crops and by varying his treatment of his plants from year to year, each farmer may learn what are the elements lacking in his soil, and thus discover what should be supplied that each plant grown on his farm may be provided a perfect ration. If, for example, nitrogen is lacking, nitrogen must be supplied. Commercial nitrogen is very expensive for general use; but by sowing clover and plowing it under, an increasing supply can be economically secured from the air. It cannot be too clearly recognized, Professor Clinton argued, that, however abundant certain elements of a plant ration may be, the lack of a single, essential element may spoil a crop; just as the supplying of such an element at slight expense may sometimes secure an abundant harvest.

In discussing the different fertilizing elements, Professor Clinton went over ground which is familiar, of course, to students in the College, but which, judging from the interest of his auditors, was new to many present. And the fact that his

subject needed emphasis appeared both from the discussion which immediately followed his address and from the fact that Director Saunders of the Dominion Experimental Farms, Ottawa, Canada, had chosen as the subject of his address the next morning "Practical Methods for Maintaining the Fertility of the Soil."

There can be small doubt that a practical panacea for most of the ills of Connecticut farms can be found in proper tillage. The clear and convincing argument of Professor Clinton, as to the importance of proper plant feeding for crop production, will be no small contribution to a better general understanding in this state of the value of scientific agriculture.

"OUR LAND-GRANT COLLEGE."

President Stimson, in speaking upon "Our Land-Grant College," gave our institution a well defined setting amongst the other Colleges. From the fact that there are sixty-five so-called Land-Grant Colleges in the United States, it is evident, he said, that there must be more than one in certain of the states and territories. In fact there are two, at least, in several states in the South, part of the income from the federal funds going to colored institutions and part to white. In the North, Massachusetts may be taken as a different example. The Morrill fund, given "for the further support of the Land-Grant Colleges," is divided between the Institute of Technology in Boston and the Massachusetts Agricultural College at Amherst. As a matter of public interest it should be remembered that the Land-Grant and Morrill funds were designed for the promotion of education in agriculture, the mechanic arts, and such other elements of a liberal

and practical education as are most valuable in any of the several "pursuits and professions of life."

The Connecticut Agricultural College is the sole representative in this state, President Stimson reminded his hearers, of our national Land-Grant college movement; and as a beneficiary of the Morrill Act of 1890, our college, though in a small state, receives as much income as the colleges in the largest states of the Union. As a Land-Grant college, it is providing a well diversified education. It is best equipped for instruction in scientific and practical agriculture; but it is also paying attention to the other subjects which are properly demanded of it, for it is giving education in general science, in languages, in business subjects, in mechanical work and in civil engineering. This institution is not seeking to become "another university;" rather, it is seeking to become a more and more patient, more and more immediately helpful hand-maiden of the industries.

The inside of the front cover of the little Winter-School booklet, copies of which were presented to those who were at the meeting, throws into clear relief, President Stimson said, the various activities of the College and calls attention to the organization of its courses of study.

The College, in its strictly collegiate department, gives three courses of study that lead to the degree, bachelor of science. These courses are open to graduates of high schools. In its secondary courses of study, open to graduates of common schools, scientific and practical education is being provided for those who cannot hope to secure, or do not care to get, a college degree. Besides, there are short winter courses, varying in length from

twelve weeks to ten days. These secondary and short courses are for working people who desire to improve their general intelligence or their industrial position, or both. And there is a Summer School for teachers and others in nature study and country life.

Speaking of the teaching force, President Stimson explained that excellent instructors have been secured—good, practical men of proved ability have been sought out—to take positions as specialists in the several departments. And, further, he showed that the spirit of the Land-Grant College movement is embodied fully by the College, in that it provides its instruction at the lowest possible cost to the students, thus enabling a boy or girl in the most modest circumstances to get an excellent education.

Thus, President Stimson urged his audience to see that every effort has been exerted to make the instruction of the institution at once attractive, accessible and efficient.

What the future of the College will be, that is, what elements of its education will in future be most prominent, will necessarily depend, he said, upon the relative demand for the different branches of education provided by its several departments. So far the demand for agricultural education has been the strongest. And all lovers of rural life and all believers in the dignity and importance of agriculture in this state should see to it that this demand be increased and not diminished. Citizens of the state, especially farmers, should take greater pains to visit the College and keep themselves informed regarding its work and equipment. Support should be given it adequate to its needs and sufficient to put

it on a par in its facilities for instruction with the older agricultural colleges. And information regarding the courses or study it is offering should be spread broadcast throughout the length and breadth of the state by all who value thrift, skill and intelligence among rural people.

THE COLLEGE EXHIBIT.

The College made an interesting exhibit at the convention. Professor Gulley took down a large variety of fruit, a considerable number of specimens being from the summer fruit put in one of our new cold storage rooms immediately upon being picked. Professor Gulley was asked to say a few words, and called special attention to certain of the specimens he had brought. He expressed the opinion that cold storage will be an important future feature in fruit production. His table attracted much notice, and during his stay he had an opportunity to answer many questions relative to varieties of fruit and details of fruit growing. His exhibit of a vine showing a crop of tomatoes on the top and a crop of potatoes on the bottom excited much interest, and was looked upon as a great curiosity.

The veterinary exhibit taken down by Dr. Lehnert also attracted a great deal of attention. One man asked, in all earnestness, if doctors had got so they could doctor horses now, and was surprised to find that there is a distinct profession devoted to the art of healing animals.

Professor Beach sent down some samples of "sanitary milk."

THE FULL OFFICIAL REPORT.

The attention of this report has been devoted almost exclusively to the part taken in the convention by the College and its

officers. It would be interesting to give a full account of the exhibits of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, which were most attractive and valuable, and to give a digest of all of the other addresses. The limits of this paper, however, forbid a more extended account than that which has already been given. It must suffice to remind the readers of THE LOOKOUT that an official stenographer is always present at the meetings of the State Board of Agriculture, that a full report of all addresses and discussions is printed each year, and that the report of the convention for this year may be had by applying to Col. James F. Brown, Secretary, North Stonington, Connecticut.

Fire at Poultry Department.

Storrs has again been visited by fire—this time attended by a considerable loss of life. We hasten to assure our readers, however, that the aforesaid loss of life was confined to the fowls reared so carefully by Professor Stoneburn. The waste of poultry extended to the number of about a hundred. The poultry house was of course entirely consumed, and on the spot where the cockerel was wont to crow his loudest and his proudest, only charred embers remain to tell the story of the sad—we may even say, the fowl tragedy. The loss is not great, but it enforces anew the need of better fire protection for our buildings and their valuable contents.

The poultry house can be easily and cheaply rebuilt, and if the story of the incubator men is credible, the contents may be renewed with little difficulty. Not so with the main building or the fine library and excellent museum it houses.

College Notes.

The rhetorical have been held for once upon the dates scheduled in the catalogue. This fact is to be set down to the credit of Miss Geer, who is in charge of the preparation for these interesting occasions. The freshmen appeared November 14th, the sophomores November 25th, and the juniors December 12th. A scattering trail of delinquents followed at chapel, until the tale was complete. These were followed by the usual senior addresses, beginning December 17th.

At last, under the care of Mr. Fitts, the printing office has resumed activity. The programmes of recent college performances have been printed, and well printed on our own press. This is as it should be. The office was left in bad condition by the last manager and to put it in working order has been a very considerable task. We are heartily glad that Mr. Fitts has undertaken the task, and only regret that there was not force enough among the students to set the office in order.

The C. S. C. initiated Messrs. Welton, Graff, Risley and Patterson Saturday evening, December 20. The initiation was followed by festivities in the nature of a Christmas celebration.

The Eclectics have moved into their new quarters in the Valentine House. The new club room is one of the rooms formerly occupied by Prof. Knowles.

It is a handicap to the usefulness and the development of our literary societies that no proper quarters have been provided for them. So far, they have maintained a sort of peripatetic existence, find-

ing such quarters as were for the moment available. We hope that the next plans adopted for building will include rooms that may be used as a permanent home for these deserving societies.

A time-honored rebuke to a form of vandalism, not unknown at Storrs, recurs as worth quoting for the benefit of a few—we hope a very few—of our students:

“Fools’ names, as well as faces,
Are always seen in public places.”

Once more the H_2O appears in a solid form, and the merry couples glide over the crystalline molecules, in the glitter of the moonlight. Mr. Ernest Davis Proudman, perhaps because of his native air of dignity, seems to be the favorite chaperon on these occasions.

President Stimson, Professors Clinton and Stoneburn delivered addresses at the meeting of the State Board of Agriculture at Norwich, December 10th.

An Officer—“I was born with two eyes and one tongue so that I could see twice as much as I could say.”

The commandants’ opinion of the freshmen does not seem to be complimentary to the latter, if judged by his recent remark on the occasion of some noisy demonstration in the second dining-room. “I knew there was a pig-pen here, but I didn’t suppose there was a whole menagerie.”

Mrs. Manwaring and Miss Garrigus were guests of H. L. Garrigus for two weeks between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Our military uniforms consists of Lieut. Boots, Q.-M. Stocking, Sergt. Shurt. The

corps may be seen leggin’ it across the campus, after which, naturally the private pants.

There will be an entertainment consisting of moving pictures and graphophone selections at the College Hall, January 30th. The entertainment will be given in aid of the Athletic Association.

Dr. C. to Miss C.—“How do we make vinegar?”

Miss C.—“Put some water in a molasses barrel—but that’s the girl’s kind.”

“Of all the sad words of tongue or pen,
The saddest are these, ‘I’ve flunked again.’”

Among the most graceful objects that adorn the lake during the skating season is Dewell on runners.

Mr. E. R. Bennet, a graduate of the Michigan Agricultural College and recently inspector of orchards in that state, will have charge of all experiment station work in horticulture and gardening. After January 1st, his home office will be on the second floor of the Experiment Station building.

Prof. Clinton spoke on “Soil Management in the Care of Orchards” at the meeting of the Pomological Society held at North Woodstock, December 20th. He will speak at the meeting of the Dairymen’s Association at Hartford, on “Some Tillage Experiments and the Lessons they Teach.”

A meeting of the Trustees was held at the College, December 24th. All the trustees, excepting three, Messrs. Simonds, Jenkins and Henry, were present.

The following jingle is somewhat belated for the present season, and, accord-

ing to the prognostications of the experts will be inapplicable next year:

The day is gone, the work is done,
The grim professor smokes his pipe;
But the student's work is just begun,
For the peaches are getting ripe.

Athletic Notes.

BASKET BALL.

Varsity, 47. Agricolae, 8.

In place of the scheduled game with W. H. S. for Friday the 19th, the Agricolae, a chosen team from the "Old Dorm," played the team representing the College and incidently the "New Dorm." The game was exceedingly exciting and carried one back to the days of the Roman arena. The score was 47 to 8.

Varsity.	Line Up.	Agricolae.
Averill.....	center	Miller
Manchester...	right forward ...	Shurtleff
Pierpont..	left forward	Rosenfield, Garlick
Koenig, Comstock..	right guard...	Welton
Crowell.....	left guard	Dewell

Twenty-minute halves.

Ford, timekeeper. Blakeslee, referee. Downing and Snow, umpires. Baskets—Varsity: Averill 8; Manchester 5; Pierpont 5; Comstock 2; Crowell 2; Koenig 1.

Agricolae—Rosenfield 2; Shurtleff 1.

Baskets on fouls—Rosenfield 2; Averill 1.

Girls' Basket Ball.

Putnam High School vs. C. A. C.

The girls played their first basket ball game of the season on Saturday afternoon, December 16th, and defeated the Putnam High School by a score of 20 to 4.

In spite of the blizzard there was a good crowd out and as enthusiastic a one as has ever gathered in College Hall. The rooters reigned supreme; good round cheering, impromptu yells and an occasional song kept the ball a-flying and braced the girls to some pretty interesting work.

Putnam was younger and lighter than our team but had one or two snappy players.

The first half of the game everything went our way; Connecticut shot seven baskets, Putnam none at all. In the second half, however, some swift plays were got in and our girls were kept pretty busy, Putnam making a good showing with about five minutes of excellent team work, which placed two baskets to its credit.

Storrs raised its score from 14 to 20.

Fifteen-minute halves were played, no fouls were called and the game was a thoroughly enjoyable one.

Following is the Connecticut line up:

Miss Monteith, center.

Miss Conger, right forward.

Miss Dimock, left forward.

Miss Donovan, Miss Clark, right guard.

Miss Waters, left guard.

Referee—Mr. Crowell.

Umpires—Mr. Whitney and Mr. Rosenfeld.

Alumni Notes.

Ex. '95 and '96. A son has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Eddy, of Simsbury, Conn.

'95. Mr. William A. Stocking is going to give a short address on "The Germicidal Properties of Milk," at the meeting of the American Bacteriologists, Washington, D. C.

'01. It is with pleasure that we announce the marriage of Mr. Charles W. Fairchild to Miss Edith Nichols, at her home in Nichols.

Mr. F. W. Pratt has left his position in the Electric Company, and is going into the piano key business. His address is 150 Ontario Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

Mr. F. H. Plumb is expected to spend part of his Christmas vacation with his friend, J. H. Blakslee, at the College.

'02. James B. Twing, who is prospering as organizer for the Home Correspondence School, spent a few days with us recently.

Stephen M. Crowell has filed an application for a position as student assistant with the Forestry Department, Bureau of Agriculture.

A. B. Clark has returned home to spend Christmas.

Harvey and Lamson have returned to their respective homes for the Christmas vacation.

'02. G. H. Hollister intends to remain at the College over Christmas.

Ex. '03. Miss Ada M. Storrs is spending Christmas at her home on Spring Hill.

Ex. '04. Miss Grace E. Koons is spending her vacation with her parents at the College.

Ex. '04. Mr. Edward H. Moriarity expects to spend the Christmas vacation hunting caribou around Lake Edward, nearly one hundred and eighty miles north of Quebec.

R. W. Dallas has changed his address to Colinga, Fresno Co., Cal.

The Military Ball will be given on Friday evening, January 16th, and all the alumni and their friends are cordially invited to be present.

'98. As we go to press we learn that the family of Prof. H. L. Garrigus has been augmented by the birth of a son. May he be "a chip of the old block."

Exchanges.

We find that we are severely criticized by some of our exchanges for using this column as a place in which to print jokes taken from other publications. Our reason for following this course is a simple one.

Obviously an exchange column must have some connection with exchanges. Space forbids the quotation of the more serious articles and, as most of our readers have no opportunity to read these exchanges, it seems absurd to say that a given magazine contains an interesting article on a given subject. Equally useless would be the publication of school notes referring to people and happenings of whom we have never heard. The only things, then, that remained for us to use have come under the head of jokes and these we have faithfully endeavored to employ, even though they might savor of the chestnut.

If others find it profitable to devote whole columns to the purpose of improving their contemporaries by letting them see themselves as others see them, well and good; we have not yet reached that state of self-sacrificing generosity.

"Do cigarettes hurt a boys' brain?"

Doctor—"Oh, no! Boys with brains don't smoke them."—Ex.

The more a woman gives a man a piece of

her mind, the less peace of mind has the man.—Norwalk Hour.

FOOTBALL.

First is a signal, then a thud,
Then your face is in the mud,
Someone's jumping on your back,
Then your ribs begin to crack.
Hear a whistle. "Down." That's all.
It's lots of fun to play football.—Ex.

Any member of the College wishing to read the exchanges can find them in the library.

Positions in the Department of Agriculture.

From time to time, as vacancies occur, or when the Civil Service Commission desires to establish a register of men available to fill certain government positions; it sends out notifications of the examination for the position to be filled, or the register to be established. Such notifications of examinations for positions in agriculture, horticulture, dairying, and kindred subjects are frequently posted on our bulletin board.

I think that it would well repay any student in this College who looks forward to life and its opportunities to investigate the requirements of government employment.

To one who wishes to devote his life to scientific investigation there is a large field in the Agricultural Department and Experiment Stations of the United States. This department of the government is growing in importance as the country becomes more thickly settled and farming from necessity becomes intensive.

The problem of soil, which deals with geological formation, chemical and physi-

cal structure, improvement, drainage, irrigation and ridding land of alkali; the introduction of special crops, such as the sugar beet and Sumatra tobacco; the improvement of live stock and their protection from disease; and the introduction and propagation of new varieties of fruit and grain, are some of the problems dealt with by the Agricultural Department.

It is hardly necessary to say that this work requires expert knowledge and technical skill which is hardly supplied by our agricultural colleges.

Much information can be found in the manual of examinations for classified civil service which can be obtained by applying to the U. S. Civil Service Commission.

In this manual are found questions on various subjects and requirements of candidates. For the student it is a valuable aid in study if rightly used.

We all acknowledge the value of an ideal to shape life and character.

Suppose the student to be studying for a government position, would it not promote scholarship? It would add zest to his labor; instead of looking upon each lesson as a task to be accomplished so that he might pass the college requirements, he would have a higher object in view—his life work. Instead of drudgery his lesson would become a pleasure; for that for which we really care is always a pleasure. It would promote scholarship, because the student would not confine himself entirely to his textbook; which, although good in itself, does not treat some subjects fully enough, hence he would have to study other books treating the subject more thoroughly. Instead of scattering his energies he would concentrate, and having

an object in view he would be incited to master his subject.

Specialists in agricultural work are not only demanded by the government, but are sought by corporations as well as individuals who have need of expert knowledge along agricultural lines. It is said that the Department of Agriculture loses some of its best men because their knowledge commands a higher price than the government can pay.

H. D. EDMOND,

Fifth year B. S.

Athletics.

One of the greatest evils of athletics comes through the spirit that one must win at any cost—that defeat is an unspeakable disgrace.

Pick out the man that goes into a game with this fairly fixed in mind; he is generally as unfair in all his proceedings in life. There is another man that will, through his weak control of self and thoughtlessness, enter this class almost as soon as the referee's whistle has blown to start the play. With one or two of these characters engaged in a matched game there is sure to be dissatisfaction on one or both sides.

These men tend to lower the moral standard of athletics. There is often a standard held by players and people of a community which, if analyzed from an ethical standpoint, would be as bad as stealing and lying. "All's fair in love and war," seems to be their motto. With this low standard of athletics a mimic warfare is only too often the result. Morals seem to be lacking entirely. Someone will say that the rules, if properly enforced, will control a player. But will they? A player on one team has noticed that his opponents have

no substitutes and sees that if he can in any way get an opponent disqualified from the game the game is won.

It is often said that athletics are a great test for a young man and this test often proves too great for his character.

Athletics should cultivate the spirit that fair play comes first—defeat or victory afterwards. Then, if victorious, we can congratulate ourselves on winning because of superior clean work; if defeated, we can comfort ourselves with the thought that we did our best, and were beaten fairly.

Failure is as necessary as success. "We fall to rise, and are baffled to fight better." The elements of athletics that bring out love of honor, courage and fair play should eliminate those which encourage brutality and unfairness.

S. M. CROWELL,

Fifth year B. S.

The "Early Risers."

Oh, say can you see by the dorm's
dawning light
Why so hard they pursue the
work of last night;
We speak of that building the
noted "old dorm,"
The home of the culprit, and a
place for reform.

The college spirit among the students is improving. It must be. We can note it on every side. If this is not so then why do we see the bright rays of the student's lamp streaming forth and piercing the shadows of the distant dawn. It means that the student has risen before the sun and is earnestly and laboriously preparing his neglected lessons for the swiftly approaching day. Time after time the student may be found arrayed in all the

extra clothing that he can procure, to all appearances faithfully studying.

The question naturally arises why does he do this? Why does he abandon his comfortable cot at such an unearthly hour in the early morn?

The problem is easily solved. While all this is happening, up stairs in that far famed little third story, comes the sound of distant rumbling thunder. It is simply the troubled slumber of the inmates, for this is the home of the freshman.

It is this class that is accountable for such actions on the part of the "early risers." It was these youngsters that filled the "dorm" with weird cries and heart-rendering yells. Holding reign supreme they make it very difficult for the upper classmen to study. It is for this reason that the seemingly industrious and diligent student may be found at his post any where from four to six o'clock every morning, studying.

This cruel and relentless condition of affairs does not exist in the new dormitory. And why should this be so? Is it due to the proximity of our worthy commandant, or out of respect to Grove Cottage? Perhaps it is the example set by the upper classmen that explains the difficulty.

H. S. COMSTOCK, 1904.

"Storrs Slang."

I suppose that every section has its slang, but I doubt if any part of the country is as rich in this commodity as Storrs.

The freshman is surprised, nay, even amazed, at the expressions which he hears the more experienced upper classmen use. When he is asked if he has had his room "shacked" yet he is in doubt as to what kind of a beast shack is. After this mystery

has been explained to him he is dismayed once more to hear one man tell how he "shacked" all around the campus after his trunk, but finally he gets thus through his abnormally thick cranium, only to doubt his hearing when he asked if he has received a bid to the first reception. He is left to figure out the meaning of this himself which he does after several hours' work. So ends his first day and lesson but there is more to follow.

He is awakened about six twenty-nine in morning by the gentle voice of a senior in the lower hall, inviting his room-mate to get up for his midnight lunch. The innocent one accepts the good advice and does likewise, finding new cause for surprise at the morning meal.

After supper he wanders into his friend's room to become better acquainted with College language. His purpose is fulfilled when he is informed that the door works better on the outside as it is time to go to plugging.

R. T. D., 1904.

A New England Forest Fire.

It is a warm, bright day in April, when the shimmering waves of heat half hide the plowman on the distant hillside as he wrestles with the plow handles, ever jumping and twisting like things alive as the point finds its way among the ever present New England stones, and the first dust of the season is stirred by the feet of the horses in the road.

As it draws toward night, in the forest, down by the railroad track, smoke appears and floats lazily up into the air. Slowly the volume of smoke grows larger.

In the dusk, the boys coming home, tired from the long day's work, notice the bright

flames just appearing on the crest of the hill and they are tired no longer. Seizing hoes, shovels, wet bags, anything likely to be handy, they call together all the available help and start on a run for the scene of action. It is a free race to be the first there and but a few moments elapse before the foremost comes to the crest of a little rise of ground and sees the flames, burning low and steady in the underbrush a little way in front of him. He slackens his pace and waits for his companions to join him, for there is something awe inspiring in the widespread line of brightness gleaming amidst the growing darkness. 'Tis but a momentary feeling of the powerlessness of man in the presence of the great forces of nature, however, and quickly the whole force sets to work to check the disastrous conflagrations.

The only way to stop the fire is by back-firing in such a way that it will come to a place which has been burned over and must stop because of lack of combustible material. So along a narrow wood road little fires are started and spread by dragging burning branches through the leaves beside the path. Others stay behind to see that the starting fires, easily held in check, do not spread across the path.

At length the fire is almost surrounded; but a narrow place remains to be burned. The last flames are lighted. Suddenly the wind rises. One strong blast. The men try to fight the quick coming flames but the heat and choking smoke drive them back and the surging flames leap over the path.

Now the work must be done all over again. The weary boys and the neighbors who come in to help work steadily on. At last the fire is conquered. The long lines

of destruction come together with a rush. The wind seems to come from every side. The flames mount up higher and higher to the very tops of the trees. Then quickly they die down, down, and are gone. Only here and there an ember glows amid the blackness.

The fire is over and the workers, confused by the sudden blackness, make their way slowly out of the woods, bumping here and there against a tree or receiving a stinging blow in the face from a low hanging branch. The hungry boys eat their long delayed supper and go to bed, only to dream of fires unending, while their fathers see visions of long continued and fruitless attempts to obtain reparation from the railroad company.

About Reading.

Advice about reading is a habit of mankind as old, doubtless, as the making of books. I do not know that this advice has been of much value to those for whose benefit it was bestowed; but I assume that it tended toward the improvement of him who gave it, wherefore this writing may be of some use. I am moved to the consideration of the matter by my observation of the readers as they sit in the library. If that observation is correct, most of the reading done by the students is desultory—of a sort that can hardly be classed as reading at all. One comes into the library, and saunters easily to the alcove containing the fiction, and after spending a considerable time in selection takes down a volume and begins an hour's reading. Even at this, the so-called standard fiction is rarely chosen. No great benefit, I fancy, comes from such

reading. One rarely sees the dust disturbed in the very excellent, though limited section devoted to biography; yet there is little reading that is better than biography. It is noted, too, that relatively little careful reading is done along the lines of the class-room work. This appears to be a deliberate turning away from the best opportunity for culture given by the college, as well as the best means for forming sensible habits in the matter of reading. Yet the class-room exercises constantly suggest systematic reading, as a complement to class-room work. I doubt whether much can be gained in organized information by desultory reading, and I am sure that nothing is gained in that way, in mental power.

Newspapers must be read; they have a steady clientele of readers, but my observation shows that the editorial columns are pretty severely let alone. The interest in papers, like the *Hartford Courant* and the *Hartford Times* seems to be largely in the local items. Yet both these journals are ably conducted, and the editorial articles in both are, in general sound, and written in excellent style.

It would seem that the student should hasten to organize his reading on some comprehensible plan, and that he should at once acquaint himself with the resources of our library.

"Did that stuff revive you?" asked the doctor of his patient.

"Revive me! Doc? Good heavens, three doses of that medicine would resuscitate the dead languages."—Ex.



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Leave Eagleville at 6.25 a. m., 9.10 a. m., 3.26 p. m. and 6.24 p. m.

During the recent vacation one of our seniors, finding time hanging heavy upon his hands, determined to go hunting. He relates one perilous adventure as follows: "When I had gone a little way I saw a rabbit coming straight toward me. Raising my rifle and taking careful aim, I fired, but entirely missed the animal. I reloaded and taking even more careful aim I fired again, succeeding in hitting the rabbit in exactly the same spot as the first time."

Storrs Verse and Nonsense.

ENGLISH AS SHE IS SPELLED.

I.

Amina Adela Leclerc
Sat pensively combing her here,
While the man in the moon
Ate his fish with a spoon,
And winked with a jovial erc.

II.

A young and most promising Sioux
Though red was surprisingly blioux;
And alarmed at the sight,
"Perhaps I'll turn white,—
And then," said he, "What'll I dioux?"

So he started at length for Carlisle,
And when he had been there awhisle,
The poker he played,
And the punts that he mayed
Would have caused his old grand-dad to
smisle.

This column seems to be running altogether to limericks; just wherein the charm of this particular form of verse lies, we do not pretend to say. It appears to have a powerful attraction for some of our valued contributors, and we therefore print it in the hope that they will reform. Meanwhile, we have a liking for macaronics as a fit expression for nonsense, and the exigencies of Storrs life have stimulated the following outburst.

DOCTORIBUSQUE CANIBUS.

Habet Doctor parvam pup;—
Tollit saepe eam up
Dans ses bras;
Vibrat ergo canis tail
Vibrat semper sine fail;
Ne c'est pas?

Hoch der Doktor, felix Mann!
"Spiel mit pup so veil ich kann—
Pauvre p'tite!"
Nido dormi quom 'tis dark;
Canis felix, run and bark
Assez vite.

Y.

A dog in the town of Cologne
Absent-mindedly snapped at a bogne,
But the misguided brute
Had grabbed his own foot,
So the bone that he snapped was his ogne.
—Philadelphia Press.

Then raised he a pitiful mogne;—
In a fit very nearly was throgne,
And remarked with a sigh
As a tear dimmed his eigh,
"In the future I'll leave it alogne."
So this moral is beautifully shogne—
(May the seed upon good ground be sogne),
In reaching for feet
You must be most discreet
And be sure onto whom they have grogne.

Z.



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