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CLASS BIOGRAPHY.

THE TRIAD OF 1874.

On Wednesday, June 24th, the second class graduated from the Nebraska State University. This class, consisting of three members, was the first graduated in the regular Scientific course.

This event was a matter of great moment to all lovers of our noble Institution of learning. The hour when these young men departed from her fostering care, was one of deep interest and earnest solicitude, as well as pride, to their *alma mater* in her young maternity. An hour of joy and pride, because her progeny, rejoicing in the full vigor, elasticity, lofty aspiration, and hope of intelligent, cultured young manhood, were now about to enter the broad arena of life's contest, with the peculiar devices she had taught emblazoned upon their shields, as her representatives, to labor and achieve in her name.

Like as a fond mother watches with troubled eye the departure of the beloved son of whom she is most proud—her hearts dearest ideal—to assume his proper station among men, so this hour also, in some respects, was one of solicitude and anxiety. These young men would go forth empowered to affix the seal of their University to their every act in the field of letters. The cause of their brilliant achievements and their blunders, of their successes and failures, their future glorious fame or abhorred obloquy, would be traced by many, justly or unjustly, to the source of their intellectual culture—the teachings of the maternal halls.

After leaving the protecting shade of these walls, would they sink and quail beneath the fierce glare of the unsheltered meridian sun? Would they succumb to the noon-day heat of active life, though exposed to the blighting sirocco of unjust reproach, envenomed slander, and malicious persecution? Or would they stand firm in every scorching blast, true to the precepts of virtue justice and right, to uphold the standard of universal progress in religion, letters, science, and politics, against combined legions of fanatics, bigots and demagogues?

If they should enter the field of letters,

would they adorn every thought and line with the rich outpourings of true hearts, permeated with a desire to ameliorate the lot of their fellow men, and make the world purer and better? Or would they, as many literati and "makers of books" have already done, prostitute their genius and betray their generous Benefactress, by distilling moral and intellectual poison, and breathing forth pestilence to destroy the souls of men, and clog the arteries of progress?

If they should enter the pulpit, would they bear the standard of pure, unselfish religion, in the footsteps of their Redeemer, as a priceless offering to all conditions of men? Or would they wrap themselves in a cloak of bigotry and narrow illiberality and try to organize a monopoly—get up a "corner" on religion, founded on their own selfish dogmas and pet beliefs, and then nickname it *Christianity*?

If they become politicians, will they teach the world that the scientist, the man of culture, has a proper place in politics, and that he can enter and still be pure, honest and generous? Or would they become barnacles, feasting upon the nation's life, vile tricksters, and selfish, unprincipled demagogues, actuated by no emotion but personal greed, and possessing no nobler desire than thirst for power at any cost?

If they become statesmen, will they labor for the public good alone, and legislate with this great object in view? Or would they become "Salary-grabber," and slaves of "Credit Mobilier" monopolists?

And yet, however they depart from their teachings, whatever they do or become, in the eyes of the world, the University will be honored or dishonored—will rejoice or sorrow. But in this instance the hope that our Institution has sent forth a band of able representatives and noble champions, eclipses all fear or forebodings.

We now propose to write a short biographical sketch, giving the mental and physical characteristics and the attainments of each member of the class. Let no one hint, however, that we are actuated by a mercenary motive. We are painfully sensible that we are incompetent to the task, and that a severe or unjust criticism or a grave blunder on our part would be perilous, for who knows but that, when our time comes to step upon the stage, our advancement in public station may depend upon the patronage and favor of some one of these gentlemen that now bid us farewell, who shall then have assumed the insignia of honor, and put on the chaplet of fame?

FRANK P. HURD

was born in Jerseyville Illinois, Oct. 19, 1852, being now a little over twenty-one years of age. Mr. H. is of medium height slightly but compactly built, with sinews firmly knit, light complexion, light and curly hair. H. has a purely sanguine temperament. Accordingly, as we would naturally expect, he possesses an easy and agreeable manner, a disposition always sunny and pleasant, seldom disturbed by the frowning clouds of petulance or anger, without extreme provocation. He obtained his preparatory education at the Jefferson Liberal Institute, Jefferson Wisconsin. He removed to Nebraska in the summer of '71, and, at the opening of the University in the fall, entered the Scientific Department of the Institution, where he attended without interruption until he graduated.

In his career as a student H. manifested a greater versatility of taste in the dif-

ferent branches of the course than either of his classmates. He did not develop a decided preference for any particular department of science; but judging from the productions of his pen, and an intimate acquaintance with him, during the last year of his course, we are led to think that his taste naturally inclines to English Literature and Metaphysics. H. was an earnest and faithful member of the Adelpian Literary Society, of which he served as president one term.

During the first years of his course, as he himself confesses, he did not take a very active part in the discussions, and other literary exercises of his society; but during his *senior* year he more clearly realized the importance of this kind of mental training and earnestly improved every opportunity of speaking and writing. As a consequence, he made surprising progress. The style of his productions is decidedly philosophic and general. The several orations which he delivered during his last year evinced a considerable power of generalization and abstract thought. His productions show more rhetorical and real literary characteristics than those of his classmates.

As a friend H. was generous, Frank, and true-hearted. As a member of society, his genial disposition, agreeable manners, and unflinching good nature made him universally loved and respected.

(In fact, just between you and me, Reader, in a strictly confidential manner, which you must solemnly promise not to mention, I will just hint that Frank was a special favorite with the girls, who doted upon the "curly-headed" youth, and we are prone to believe that he reciprocated to a considerable extent.)

In regard to the future vocation H. has chosen we cannot speak with certainty, but, for the time being, he has once or twice hinted that he intended to don the granger's checkered "warmus," and ruralize for a time.

URIAH H. MALICK

was born near Van Wert, Ohio, March 10, 1851, being now a little over twenty-three years of age. M. is somewhat above the medium height, rather heavily formed and strongly built, with light complexion, and curly light brown hair.

M. has rather a mixed temperament. We would classify it as bilious, sanguine approaching slightly to the lymphatic. Accordingly we find him more reserved and taciturn in his manner than Mr. Hurd. Yet we must not, as might be expected from an *extreme* bilious temperament, infer that Mr. M. is a morose, or unsocial being. On the contrary he loves society, enjoys vivacity, and is an exceedingly agreeable social companion, though not given to lengthy speeches, and is seldom guilty of perpetrating pretty compliments and fashionable nothings.

M. obtained his preparatory education at his native place—Van Wert—from which place, a number of years since, he removed to the broad prairies of Nebraska, then wild and sparsely settled, but exhaustless in resource, and offering a vast field for labor and usefulness, to a young man of aspiration and talent. M. wisely determined to fit himself to take advantage of these propitious circumstances, and with this object in view, entered the University at its first opening, where he remained until he graduated.

M. is peculiarly a scientific scholar. His whole mind seems to be bent in that direction, and he has never shown much taste or predilection for language or clas-

sic literature. M.'s special forte is mathematics. In this he excels, standing at the head of his class, and we believe, taking the lead in this department of science of all students that have yet entered our University.

As would be expected from what we have said, his literary productions have all been upon scientific questions.

Like Mr. Hurd, as well as Stevenson, M. until within the last year of his course did not engage very extensively in the various exercises of his literary society—the Adelpian. But during the senior year, he produced several good orations, and published one or two excellent papers in the HESPERIAN STUDENT, in which considerable originality and breadth of thought were apparent.

M. has chosen the profession of Civil Engineering for his life work. We not only think that he has chosen a vocation for which he is eminently qualified, but one that offers many rich inducements to the western man. We have no fears, but that the near future will reveal him wearing the laurels of a faithful workman's merit and success.

WALLACE M. STEVENSON,

the junior member of the class, is a native of the Old Keystone State. (We do not mean to insinuate that he is a Pennsylvania Dutchman—Steve is very sensitive on that point.)

S. was born in the town of Mount Pleasant, Wayne county, Penn., April 8, 1853, from whence, at the age of seven, he removed with his parents to Nebraska City. In the latter city has been his home ever since. He entered the Scientific Department of the University at its opening. S. is rather tall, slender, and slightly built, dark complexion, hazel eyes, dark-brown hair almost black. His temperament is rather of a mixed character—bilious-nervous.

During his course in college S. has been a diligent student. It was his misfortune to possess a weak constitution, so that he frequently brought sickness upon himself, by over-taxing his energies in study. S. is one of that class of students whose whole soul is imbued with a love of learning, who studies to gain knowledge for itself alone, and not for a *diploma*, or other transient honors. During the greater part of his sojourn in the University S. evinced rather a reserved disposition, indeed was thought to be a little bashful and diffident in his manners.

*This idea, however, we have reason to believe is erroneous. In fact it was founded upon the notion of certain young ladies, who imagined S. to be rather coy, and wanting the requisite assurance in their bewitching presence. But, by diligent research among old and new records and various musty documents published in the HESPERIAN STUDENT, and divers incidents handed down by tradition, we have concluded that whatever bashfulness he may have manifested was unnatural; for we hear from good authority, that in the extreme latter end of his course he was discovered gallanting numerous fair damsels, oft times and in divers places, in the most approved modern style. But, as the astute Josephus would observe, let every man form his own opinion as to this matter, but as for us we opine that S. loveth the girls "just tolerably well."

S. was universally loved and respected by the faculty and his fellow students. His scrupulous care in his habits, and his candor and frankness in his dealing with others, were matters of frequent remark and the cause of constant praise and admiration.

In his studies S. also showed a versatility of taste. He was fond of the natural