## Barnard College Girl Students Famous in the Role of Stage Heroes

the Barnard girl students, for the little stage in Brinckerhoff theater is the greatest social, political and economic factor college world possesses. The hero of the undergrad play is a power. Her popularity is such that she can obtain any class or college office for which she is eligible, and with proper advertising she can clear the class debts by a single per-

This importance of the drama in the college life is the result of a slow process of evolution and was not dreamed of by the few girls who years ago started the custom of giving plays. Rank necessity, the mother of so many inventions, was also responsible for this innovation.

The class of 1900, like most other classes before and after, ran into debt in its junior year when it published the year book, "The Mortarboard." Instead of levying a direct tax on the members of the class it was decided to give an original play and levy an indirect tax on the mothers and friends of the students. "At the Sign of the Cinch," by Ellinor Reilly, was produced in December, 1899. The class debt was more than cleared and the actors had so good a time that they voted right then and there to do it again.

Since this beginning, nine years ago. Barnard has seen more than thirty-twproductions, but instead of making mone-







CLOWN AND PONY CHORUS OF THE DIPPIDROME TRESHMAN SHOW, IN 1906,

the plays have become so elaborate that

play committees now consider themselves

fortunate if they manage to clear expenses.

In the spring of 1991 the Undergraduate

association decided to produce "She Stoopa

to Conquer." In the first interclass pro-

duction simplicity was strictly observed.

Costumes and scenery were hired, but they

were by no means elaborate, and the audience was very often called upon to fill in

But in spite of many defects in staging

this production was one of the most notable

ever seen at Barnard, for three of the most

famous "men" were in the cast. The part

of young Mariow was played by Romola

Lyon, '04, ever remembered for her im-

personation of young and dashing heroes.

Lizette Metcalf, '94, who was the best "old

man" in the history of dramatics at Bar-

nard, played the role of Sir Charles Mar-

low, and Anna Ware, '63, whose name is

perhaps written largest in the college an-

Not a trace of girlishness could be dis-

covered in Miss Ware's impersonation,

The scene at the tavern, in which Tony

still regarded as one of the greatest

"drinking scenes" ever presented on the

This performance was coached by Eu-

gene Sanger, who has since because as

cast, the greatest hit ever.

The success of "She Stoops to Conquer"

encouraged the individual classes and many

of the clubs to give plays, and in 1902 sev-

This show is always something more or

less original, because originality costs noth-

ing and makes the returns of the play so

much greater. In return for all that is

done for them the freshmen give a variety

go which it exhibits on this occasion.

up man was engaged.

centers in the male roies.

an the best astress in college.

scenic defects with imagination.

Tony Lumpkin.

Barnard stage.



THE BUTTERFLIES YNDERGRADUATE PLAY 1906.



PHOTOS. BY BYRON-MIK

BARRINGTON, VISCOUNT LITTERBY IN THE AMAZONS.



"OLD READS AND YOUNG HEARTS" UND

The scene at the tavern, in which long presides over the drinking bout, can still program was one of the sind hat some presides over the drinking bout, can still program was one of the sind hat some presides over the drinking bout, can still program was one of the sind hat some presides over the drinking bout, can still program was one of the sind hat some scene at the beginning of the third act was represented by study when a scene at the beginning of the third act was seen at the beginning o

## the Sunger, who has since beering as the performance was concluded by Eune Sunger, who has since beering as the performance was concluded by Eune Sunger, who has since beering as the performance was concluded by Eune Sunger, who has since beering as the performance was concluded by Eune Sunger, who has since beering as the performance was concluded by Eune Sunger, who has since beering as the performance was concluded by Eune Sunger, who has since beering as the performance was concluded by Eune Sunger, who has since beering as the performance was concluded by Eune Sunger, who has since beering as the performance was concluded by Eune Sunger, who has since beering as the performance was concluded by Eu Life and Travel on the Greatest of African Lakes

ball or the class day exercises. Each year when the curtain has dropped on the last speech the cast of each play has a supper party over which Mr. Sanger presides at one end, with a Tony Lumpkin, a Charles Surface or some such boon companion at the other The first course is always a 4911175 criticism of the performance. Some one white clothing and thin underwear, and fly with me to the has had particularly hearty applause. Mr. heart of the black continent for a trip over Sanger tells her why. Everybody gets the blaggest fresh water lake of the world. compliments except the audience. "Weren't they stupid not to see how We are on the little steamship Sybil far badly that second act was mauled-that out in Victoria Nyussa, with the mainland Eir Charles was fluffing dreadfully in nowhere in sight. The blue waters of the drawing room scene because Milady was lakiseenishdoon on all sides of us, as far in the dressing room admiring her makeup as some eyes can reach, and there are only instead of walting for her ous behind the islands in view. Some of the islands are high and rocky. Others are bordered with scenes?" is a sample of the communities Every year the conversations are about swamps and beds of papyrus, filled with the same; every year the actors declare strange birds and with huge black hippopothey will never have such a good time again, that it was the best play, the best

In Kavirondo Gulf.

How delightful it is! We are right on eral precedents were established which the equator, but the air is as cool as Ohlo have now grown into customs. Each class in June or as our great lakes in midentertainment and the sophomores give ship at Port Florence the natives were give a show to meet the expenses of the by a gang of blacks clad only in breech- it up and spread it over the United States within 500 feet of the altitude of the Great from them as we Americans are different sengers. The Uganda railway brought us right down to the lake, and naked porters carried our luggage on board. We remem ber how the blacks sang as they worked, and how beautifully we could see every show at the beginning of the second term. play of their muscles as they carried the They are supposed to give an original production, because this is their first oppor- freight to the ship.

We were all afternoon coasting the Guif turity to appear in public and every class of Kavirondo before we entered the lake is judged by the amount of eleverness and proper, and our way was in and out of In 1902 "The Rivals" was produced, but volcanic hills for a distance of forty-six by this time the Undergraduate association miles. The gulf is over forty miles long was beginning to feel the burden of an es. and fourteen miles wide, and it is lined tablished reputation. Scenery was pur, with great hills all the way. Some of the chaned so that the committee would not peaks kiss the sky, some are rounded and have to depend on sets that were for hire, some cone-shaped, but all are volcanic. and besides the coach a professional make- This is especially so at the south. At the north the country is lower and its hills

Romola Lyon was again the leading man, are spotted with straw villages. Captain Absolute, and the part of Bob The gulf has many islands. It narrows Acres was so charmingly acted by Annie as it goes inland and it is also narrow at Fisher, '05, that everybody knew who would the entrance, where there are islands of be the college "man" when the older stars curious shape forming a great chain which had graduated. The parts of Mrs. Mala- seems to shut out the lake. Our first night prop and Lydia Languish were well filled was spent in front of Lusinga island, which Alfoe Corey and May Johnson, but only is about six hours from Port Fiorence, it the most remarkable girl acting is ever being unsafe to travel in many parts of able to compete with the interest that these little known waters by night.

The only notable instance in which the hereine completely overshadowed all the But before I go farther, let me tell you men in the play was in the following year, something about this mighty African lake. when the class of 1906 broke away from Sitting at home in far-off America, with custom and gave as its freshman play an the snow in the air and all the surroundcluborate production of "The Adventure lugs of modern civilization about you, it Ursula." Blanche Marks, who is hard to realize just where and just what played the Lady, did such fine work in the it is. The flat maps give one but little part that ahe won immediate recognition idea of the actual conditions. Lake Victoria lies in the heart of east-central Africa. their sophomore year the 1906 people Along the line of the equator on which we made another hit, this time by entertaining now are, it is 700 miles or about as far from the incoming class with an original malo- New York to Toledo, to the Indian ocean. drama entitled "Alloe, the Mystery." The Going westward along the same line it is

(Copyright, 1908, by Frank G. Carpenter.) over twice as far to the Atlantic. It is or dropping it into New England it would. As to the depth of the lake its bottom are other tribes with other strange cus-N LAKE VICTORIA. - (Special only a few miles to the north of us that drown the states of Massachusetts. New has not been carefully surveyed, but there toms, and the whole lake is surrounded Correspondence of The Bee.)- the Nile flows out on its way down to the Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island and are places which measure 600 feet. This by a depen or more different peoples, each Get out your straw hats and Mediterranean sea, and by its windings Connecticut. It is three-fourths the size of is about three times the depth of Lake Eric, differing from the others in appearance pith helmets, pack up your the distance is almost 4,000 miles. It is over Kentucky, Virginia or Ohio and is more but not nearly so deep as Lakes Superior, and in their various grades of civilization. 2,500 miles in a straight line southeast to than half as large as all of our great lakes Huron and Michigan. This lake has a the Cape of Good Hope and just 584 miles combined. It is three times as big as Lake mighty volume of water, and its surface by the Ugada railway to Mombasa, where Eric, and if one could put Lake Eric and risez forty or fifty inches during some entered this part of Africa. I am only Lake Huron into one body they would cover years. The volume is so deep that a dam few hundred miles from the headwaters about the same surface. This lake is twice might be placed at the source of the Nile of the Congo and from the southern shores as big as Tanganyika although it is only and give water for irrigation for vast of Lake Victoria I could reach Tanganyka half as long, and it has three times the territories along the course of the river, by a march of less than 30 miles, and mid- area of Lake Chad, which lies away off to which are now undreamed of. As to this now see used by the natives. They consist signed to Romola Lyon, but she broke her way on that lake get into a branch of the the northwest, above the French Congo, matter, however, I will write in the future. Congo and float down to the sea.

Bigger Than Lake Superior.

have traveled over most of the great lakes of the world. I know those tami, whose bobbing heads may be fre- of our own country well and likewise those Nyanga at the north. quently seen as they swim about near the of Europe and South America. I have cloths, and that out of respect to the pas- it would cover the whole of South Carolina, Salt Lake.

on the southern edge of the Sahara Lake Victoria, is almost quadrilateral in shape. tween high hills. Nyassa is long and nar- gion was one of the blackest parts of the used more or less all around the lake. The is not attractive she made her usual hit. row, and so are Lake Rudolf and Albert African continent. Blavery was common

crossed Lake Titleaca, which lies two and Lake Superior than any of the other great 18%, when Speke discovered the southern ever and is seldom fitted with sails. It is actors that Sheridan's "Critic" with its one-half miles above the sea on the top bodies of fresh water. It lies in the high- shores; and we had no idea of its extent easily capsized in a storm, at which time pretty eighteenth century costumes was of the Andes and have seen the Dead sea, lands, and might be said to be on the until our own Henry M. Stanley went the boatmen often jump outside and hold chosen in 1906. which is a quarter of a miles below the roof of the African continent as Superior around the lake in 1875. As it is now, about onto the rim of the boat to keep from sinklevel of the ocean, on the edge of the is on the eastern roof of the North Ameri- the only inhabitants are these queer tribes ing until the storm is over. Holy land. Omitting the Cuspian sea, Vic- can continent. Lake Victoria is how- of African natives, who in certain regions freshmen. The summer, save that the invigorating exone toria Nyanga is the biggest lake of the ever, more than six times as high up in are still warring with one another. I have called the Lady Alice. He started at Spoke that no one has yet been discovered who seniors give a play, the juniors give an of those regions is absent. Where we took world. It is the largest body of fresh water the air as Lake Superior and more than discribed the naked Kavirondo and some of a show. Later in the year the juniors also going stark naked, and our boat was loaded about 1,000 square miles. If you could pick it is about 4,000 feet above the sea, and is Nyanza are natives who are as different points at which I shall call farther on in the men in their high stocks and frock

In Black Africa. everywhere and cannibalism rife. No one the Japanese and Chinese. On the south

Navigating Lake Victoria in 1908. No European boat had ever been seen on this lake until Stanley came, and he was told that the lake was so large that it would take several years to go around it. Before that the boats were such as we of boards sewed together with fiber of the ankle and the part had to be given to a raphia palm, and can only be kept from tall freshman. When Miss Lyon recovered sinking by industrious bailing. I saw many she took the part of the deceliful brother Tanganyika is a long narrow trough be- Until within the past few years this re- of them at Port Florence, and they are average boat is twenty-five or more feet long, three feet wide and two feet deep. Victoria Nyanza is more like our own knew there was a lake here at all until It is made without nails or any iron what- modern plays are so unpopular with the

little steamers, belonging to the British, on come to life.

The next two steamers are the Sybil and in modern clothes. Winnifred, each of about 600 tons, and the other is the Sir Clement Hill, which has The Sybil and Winnifred are sister ships. They make regular trips around the lake, in connection with the Uganda railway. the voyage from port to port requiring about ten days. It is upon the Sybil that I am writing this letter.

I wish I could show you this little African steamer. If it could be taken up and transported to one of our American place; for the ship is just about the same at ye Black Friers and ye Globe." as some used on our lakes. The differ- The story of Barnard dramatics is not ment. The Sybil moves by a screw. It this latitude and one must protect head even when indoors if the roof is not

As to first-class passengers we have

whenever he appeared and when he was killed in the last act a thunder of applause was heard in the gallery, where the sophomores who were not on the stage had placed theoreties. Throughout the performance the actors were liberally pelted with cabbages and onloss-in short, the audience, as it often does at Barnard, had "the best time ever."

In the following spring the undergraduate association decided that something very ambitious would have to be produced if these miner performances were to be excelled. Accordingly, the play committee chose "The School for Scandal," bought a lot of new scenery and repainted some of the old sets that were getting too familiar.

Blanche Marks was cast for Lady Tearle. Lizette Metcalf took the part of Sir Peter and many of the critics who saw the performance declared that the Barnard girls aid much better work than the professtonals who happened to he playing the same parts not far away from the little college theater. The stage was a bit small for the drawing room scenes, as the college architects seemed to have designed the Brinckerhoff theater for oratorical contests rather than for plays, but the drinking and asked Dean Gill where her students learned such things.

When the curtain rose on the scene a set of bibulous men were discovered in various states of sobriety, or lack of it. There was a sound of many voices, as when a room of people are having a heated discussion, and the air was thick with smoke, which the coach had created by madly smoking one cigar after another between the acts. Everybody swore lustily, glasses clinked merrily and frequently, and the toast to Maria and all the other maidens was drunk bottom up every time. The scene ended when the half tipsy assembly recled out to leave Charles Surface alone with his disguised uncle.

The part of Charles was originally as-Joseph Surface, and though the character In 1906 "The Butterflies," with Annie Fisher as the new star, was produced, but

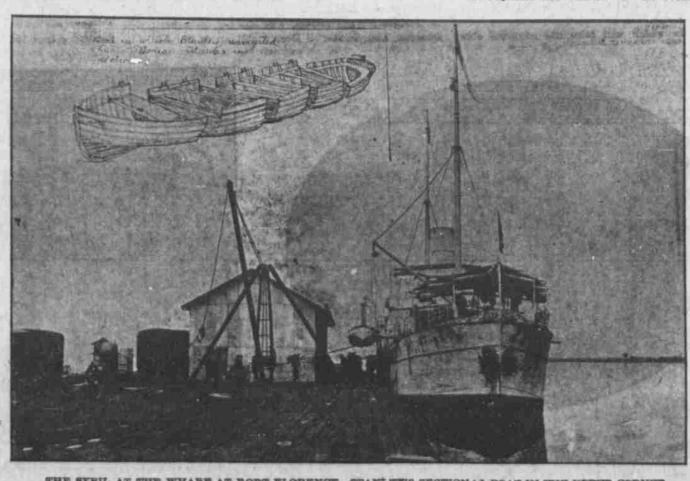
The last undergrad play, "Old Heads and Young Hearts," had four leading parts, Stanley made a big rowboat, which he and the action of the play was so confused gulf and by using a sail gradually made understood what it was all about. The these journeys. At present there are four coats looked like pictures of the old beaus

Lake Victoria. One of these is the Sir The "man of the hour" at Barnard was William McKinnon, which was brought up discovered when the sophomores last year from the ocean in pieces before the Uganda produced "The Amazons." Florence Wyeth, railway was built and here put together, who played the part of Barrington, Vis-It is still in commission and is used by the count Litterby, was pronounced the only British officials as a sort of dispatch boat. Barnard actor who could look like a man

This year the class of 1909 set aside tradition and gave a play "If I Were King," 800 tons and which was launched last year. instead of some original show. Miss Wyeth, who played Francois Villon, once more proved herself a good actor of masculine roles, but her laurels were shared by Jessie Cochran as Huguette du Hamel.

Just at present the Barnard stars are hard at work on a production of "The Taming of the Shrew." This play was produced four years ago by the class of 1996 as its sophomore show with the Elizabethan or Erie, it would not seem much out of setting "as acted by his majesties servants

ences lie in the people and the manage. complete without a word about the productions which the girls write, stage and act has a smoke stack in the center and two entirely without professional assistance. masts before and behind with a lifeboat. The best of these was the ministrel show on deck. It has about a dozen cabins with given by the class of 1907 in its juntor year, a dark little dining saloon in the rear, and the "Dippidrome," which the class of The cabins are lighted by electricity and 1909 produced two years ago. The "Dipple each has an electric fan. Back of the drome" had two marvellous clowns, whose dining saloon is a ledge up under the port names were Silvers and Vaseline, and inholes where the second class passengers numerable choruses that took off the The top deck has a double awn- college life. Of these the most suppostive ing of canvas to protect us from the one was "The Pony Charus," wich was tropical sun, and at midday we are ad- made up of several girls wearing about vised to keep our hats on while sitting their necks on pieces of cardboard the under it. The sun's rays are strong in names of handy literal translations of his Horace, Plate and Livy. Then these little "ponies" sang a song of how they trotted their way through college, much to the amusement of the Latin and Greek professors who were sitting in the front row.



THE STELL AT THE WHARF AT PORT FLORENCE—STANLET'S SECTIONAL BOAT IN THE UPPER CORNER.