

*The Crime of '76.*

During the fall term of 1876, several of the members of the old Palladian, together with members of the Adelpian, concluded that the time had come when University students proper should not associate with "preps." To carry this into effect, a new society was necessary. Finally several of the Palladians withdrew, and with others formed what was known as the "University Union Society," in which no "preps" were permitted to become members, and only those in and above the Freshman year. The draft from the Palladian was very large. Its very best members were lost. It did not affect the Adelpian, which was merged into the new society, and its identity lost, because most of its members were in the University proper. Things were getting desperate on the first floor in the old Palladian hall. As I now remember the number, sixteen of the members of the Palladian, in regular business meeting, after the literary program was finished on one Friday evening, were confronted with the very serious question, i. e., disband or take a step downward. Its really active and reliable members did not number twenty. Among those present, I remember Sam English, Ed Ewan, the two Brainard boys, A. W. Foote, A. U. Hancock, M. D. Polk, Frank Reyman, John Silvernail, Ed Unangst, J. H. Worley, A. R. Keim, B. B. Davis, the writer, and the one girl member, Miss Alice Morton. After a little preliminary talk, Mr. Worley took the floor and declared emphatically that the Palladian Society was founded upon principle, was a necessary part of the whole University, had come to stay, was democratic in its make-up, would take into its membership any man or woman having a good standing in any department of the University, and he for one was bitterly opposed to anything looking

towards lowering the standard or taking one step backward. He was followed in the same strain by all of the boys and the one girl member, now Mrs. W. A. Dillworth, who were present. I remember distinctly how positive Mrs. Dillworth was, insisting that the necessity of the hour was devotion to our motto and principles.

The University Union had tried hard to have the Palladian change the constitution so as to admit "preps" only, and then transfer each member to the new society, upon reaching the Freshman year. This was resented in no uncertain language.

The following morning it was noised about in University circles, that the old Palladian was in the field to fight for members, and if necessary, would invade the sacred precincts of the college classes proper, aye, if necessary, *make* the University Union change its terms of admission, and name, (all of which it was compelled to do within one year). The gamy nature of the Palladians won admiration. Its fight, when thought to be in the last ditch, and triumph, caused many new friends to espouse the cause.

Judge A. W. Field, Hon. W. A. McAllister, and C. E. Magoon, Esq., had left the Palladian, and joined the new Society. The environment was strange, as the Society consisted largely of those they had been fighting, and the surroundings were not agreeable. Not long after the Palladians took their firm stand, there was trouble on the third floor and a general row sprang up in the University Union. Field, McAllister and Magoon with others withdrew, and re-joined their first love. They were received with a great deal of demonstration, and one of the well remembered remarks was by Mr. Magoon, as follows;—"We are just like the man who had gone from Jerusalem to Jericho, and now again under the Sa-