

E. Kennedy

The High School Register.

Vol. I.

OMAHA HIGH SCHOOL, JANUARY 21, 1887.

No. 4

NOTES.

—Frosted ears are quite common just now.

—The gymnasium is very cold, but that does not keep the boys out.

—Quite a number of new scholars have entered the school since the holidays.

—The singing classes are doing much better since they received their books, but there is still room for improvement.

—The building has been supplied with the Harden Hand Grenade fire extinguishers. Each room has three of them.

—School gossip is entirely on the subject of coasting and sleigh rides. The scholars seem to be enjoying themselves at the sport.

—The boys of the primary grades find great fun in making immense snow balls, and then set them rolling down the hill until they smash to pieces against the stone wall.

—Dogs frequently find their way into the building, and sometimes create a sensation. One little poodle, particularly, raised his voice against the friendly demonstrations of the scholars.

—The manual training lesson was omitted one day last week, as the room was too cold. It is in the north end of the building, and the wind whistles around it in a way that scares all the heat out of it.

—Overcoats and mufflers are being stolen from the halls and cloak rooms. This might be remedied by providing a cloak room for the Ninth grade boys, and putting locks on the doors of all the cloak rooms.

—Company B meets on Wednesdays. The boys try to make up for what they lack in size by excellence in drilling. Some of them creep into the special drill squads of Company A, and thus improve themselves greatly.

—The Ninth grade girls are good at the piano, but no girl seems to know more than one piece. A person can tell who is at the piano by the piece played. But the pianist is changed often, which gives a good variety of selections.

—The zoology class is very small, but when the scholars have to choose between zoology and commercial arithmetic, the zoology stands a poor show. This looks like a business community.

—The High School building is situated on a hill where it is exposed to the cold winds from every direction, and as a consequence, it is very difficult to keep it heated satisfactorily. During the recent cold weather, the temperature in some of the recitation rooms has been so low that the classes would either adjourn to some other room or postpone the recitations.

—At a meeting of the Military Association, held last week, it was decided to establish an awkward squad, and all members who continually misbehave and are inattentive, will be ordered to report after school every Wednesday, and will be drilled until every thought of doing otherwise than their duty is drilled out of them. There are only a few who thus annoy the others, and it hoped that the awkward squad can soon be abolished.

—A new method of calling the roll is now in operation in the Ninth Grade. All seats are numbered and if a seat is vacant the number is taken, which corresponds to a scholar's number in the roll book. The old way was to have each scholar call out his or her number, beginning with "one." There are about 180 pupils in the Ninth Grade, and the scholars were sometimes delayed until 2:15 and 2:20. The new system requires very little time and gives much better satisfaction to both scholars and teachers.

—In a month or two the spring season will be along, and the ball field will be covered by busy athletes. When that time arrives every young person should begin to pass many hours out of doors, with gun, bat or racket. For the boys, a well planned athletic association extends its benefits, and base-ball, football and cricket may be expected to occupy much time and attention. But unfortunately, there are many pupils in the school, whose ill developed frames suggest that their possessors take but little wholesome exercise. Such ones often complain that they do not enjoy

field sports of any kind. But the experience of most players has been that any out of door game must be well learned to be appreciated. The gain in health, and consequently in scholarship, will more than repay one who takes exercise in the open air.

—Doubtless everyone will be surprised to hear that a new chemical compound and the coming substitute for gun powder has lately been discovered by one of our school fellows. About two weeks ago one of the chemical students, being in an experimental mood, started out to discover a new substance that would revolutionize the world. After placing a piece of rock in a test tube, he poured over this some hydrochloric acid and then some nitric acid. The nature of the substance obtained seemed so harmless that some sulphuric acid was added. Alas! the spotted clothes and stained hands! An explosive it was indeed, and the inventor only has become acquainted with its terrible results. Mourning that only sufficient quantity for one test was made, he left the laboratory, a sadder but a wiser man.

Gymnasium Meeting.

The members of the Gymnasium Association held a meeting in the Eleventh Grade room, on Wednesday of last week. The principal object was the election of officers. Durnall was re-elected president, Arthur Knight elected vice-president, vice Herbert Rogers' term expired, Seth Rhodes, elected secretary and treasurer vice Charley Meyers' term expired. After considerable debate two suspended members were re-instated. It was decided to purchase a pair of fencing foils and masks. The meeting then adjourned. The attendance was very small, and the Ninth grade boys were in the majority and as a result Ninth grade officers, excepting Durnall, were elected. The boys seemed to realize that the president's chair had the right occupant, and so continued Mr. Durnall in office. Charley Myers filled the office of secretary satisfactorily, but the first year boys wanted one of their own number in that office. The new officers are all good ones.

The Register.

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THE Lawrence, Massachusetts, *High School Bulletin*, contains the following very good advice: "A good disputant never loses his temper. If one person beats another in argument, it is no proof that the second person is right because he threatens to whip the good disputant. Also, after one person has spoken his view of the question, it is no argument of the other to try to make fun of the honest opinion of the first. Both these cases show that the mean person has not the sense to argue decently, and so takes these means to overcome the other person. Also, in argument or debate, it is not fair for the stronger (perhaps only in position,) to give his version of an affair or question and then forbid the other person speaking on his own side. Intimidation is unlawful and wrong. No honest, fair-minded person will take advantage of a weaker person. Everybody should, in argument as well as in everything else, use measures 'visible to the naked eye.'"

THE success of the High School Military Company has been much impaired by the insubordination of some of its members. Inattention and carelessness were bad enough, but wilful disobedience is worse. None of these evils would have any place in the organization if the studied bad conduct of a few did not influence many well-meaning members. But fortunately provision has been made for the expulsion of objectionable persons from the company. The members may, by ballot, eject from the organization any whose presence is not desirable. This rule will be rigorously enforced, should occasion require. The membership is even now too large, so that a little weeding out would not be without advantage. We trust, however, that the good sense of the cadets will

lead them to avoid, for the future, all conduct unworthy of disciplined troops. Moreover the drills ought to be better attended. The blunders of those who are often absent derange almost every movement attempted. In uniformity lies the value of military exercise. Such uniformity can only be obtained by the strictest attention and most regular attendance of every member belonging to the organization. Without discipline the High School Battalion can never become worthy of the name, and while a single set of four remains in that body, discipline must and shall be maintained.

Cricketing Averages.

We publish the batting averages of the High School Cricket Club. The averages were computed for a period extending from September to December, 1886. They also include two matches with the Omaha eleven, played before the 1st of September. Two matches were played whose scores were lost. In neither of these did any High School player bat even fairly well. As to the averages, they include every game in which eight men a side fielded, except two matches, which were rejected because the ball was so bad that good playing was impossible. Among the figures one game is included that might have been thrown out for a similar reason, had not the statement been made beforehand that it should be counted in the averages. In one of the matches rejected the captain of the eleven had made above fifty runs, in the one retained he scored nothing. This statement is made to show that strict impartiality has been used in determining what scores should be placed on record. The bowling averages are given as well as possible. The figures are so incomplete that the figures of only three of the bowlers can be given. Even the averages of these are not complete, for in several games no analysis was kept. It is presumed that if the returns were complete the relative standing of the bowlers mentioned would not be greatly altered. No player's name will be here included unless he has made above ten runs. Nor will any average of less than two runs be found in the list. Anyone whose average is not given in this paper can ascertain the same by calling on the captain of the eleven. It must be remembered that the excellence of the batting average is proportionate to its greatness, but the reverse is true of the bowling averages. Above seventy

players took part in the games last quarter, and fifty-four innings were played.

	In'gs.	Runs.	Times not out.	Average.
Ahlquist.....	13	78	3	7.80
Brown.....	6	17	0	2.83
Beall.....	38	443	3	13.65
Baruum.....	18	59	4	6.35
Broatch.....	52	358	8	8.13
Bowles.....	6	63	0	10.50
Cook.....	4	27	0	6.75
Criegh.....	16	36	5	3.27
Durnall.....	22	40	4	2.22
Denise.....	31	116	3	4.14
Griffitts.....	27	102	3	7.28
Green.....	10	22	0	2.20
Goldsmith.....	21	62	3	3.44
Johnson.....	9	36	0	4.00
Kuhn.....	19	77	1	4.27
Karbach.....	9	17	1	2.12
Leisenring.....	34	117	1	3.54
McConnell.....	17	106	1	6.62
E. Morseman.....	40	99	1	2.53
J. Morseman.....	34	72	2	2.24
McCague.....	47	202	1	4.39
Manning.....	10	23	2	2.87
Marsh.....	16	107	0	6.68
M. Nelson.....	35	115	3	3.48
B. Nelson.....	31	230	0	7.41
F. Rustin.....	13	143	1	11.91
W. Rustin.....	21	125	0	5.95
V. Rosewater.....	41	125	2	3.23
Townsend.....	14	40	1	3.07
P. Templeton.....	19	73	1	4.05
J. Templeton.....	31	120	1	4.00

BOWLING AVERAGES.

	Wickets taken.	Runs off bowling.	Average.
Beall.....	134	589	4.47
Broatch.....	202	839	4.15
Griffitts.....	83	105	3.18

Some other features of last season's play may be published in another edition of this paper. Our athletic reporter regrets that there are no base ball statistics attainable.

CONTRIBUTIONS.

A Private Camping Excursion.

PART III.

About six the next morning Wal awoke and awakened the other boys to ask if they were asleep. Johnny said, "Yes," Guy said he would tell him after awhile, and Herb said he didn't know. After a general family yawn they managed to arise, one by one, and went down to the shore to wash. The shells did not appear within twenty or thirty feet of the shore, which gave them a nice, sandy bottomed bath tub, with the water about two feet deep.

The sun was hidden behind a bank of clouds, or fog, on the eastern horizon but appeared in all its concentrated warmth before the campers were through breakfast. Johnny and Wal were sent after water, while Herb and Guy made up the beds, swept the rooms, started the kitchen fire and got breakfast. The table was set, each person having a tin plate, tin spoon, knife and fork. Some bacon was sliced ready to

fry and some eggs were prepared to boil. Johnny had brought a bologna with him and the other boys had laid in a stock of dried beef. There was some butter left and that with the bread was also put on the table. The cracker sack was placed within reach. When the other two returned with water, a plentiful amount of coffee was made, in the small bucket. The show then began. When it was over the cracker sack looked like it had been stepped on, and the tinware was shiny. They had made the discovery that coffee and crackers are very valuable on such occasions, and that there should be no limit to the supply.

"Say, if we're going to eat a breakfast every morning, we'll have to lay in another stock of crackers," remarked Guy.

"Yes, and as long as there's coffee to boil, the crackers won't spoil," said Wal.

"Here, here, none o' that! No more bad breaks," yelled the other boys.

After breakfast it was decided that Johnny and Herb were to go after the boat, find a good camping place around in the creek, and come back after the baggage. Wal and Guy were to wash dishes, pack up, and get things ready to move.

Johnny and Herb set out. They had to go 'way around the head of the creek and this took them through the town. The same old country carpenter was at work on the unfinished house, and commenced laughing as soon as the boys came in sight.

"Hello, boys! Goin' back to Washin'ton?" he asked.

"Yes, sir. We forgot something. It isn't very far, is it?"

"Oh, no! Just keep on and you'll get there in about an hour," he said.

So the boys went on, leaving the old gentleman laughing.

Johnny knew the country pretty well, and soon after passing the landing the two left the main road and took a path which led through the woods. In about two hours after leaving the camp Mr. Dickerson's place was reached.

Getting the oars and key, the boys took a lane which led down toward the creek. About a mile's walk brought them to the creek bank where the boat was found, secured with a padlock.

Johnny was at home in the boat. Herb had navigated once on a canal, and again on a small raft in a railroad hollow filled with water, and this was his first sea trip. The sky was clear and there was a fresh breeze blowing which ruffled the waters but did not rock the

boat, which glided smoothly along, under Johnny's steady strokes. Herb kept quiet for a few minutes but suddenly burst out:

"I say, Johnny, aint this jolly?"

"Yes, we won't go home for month."

Herb looked as if he was thankful that he was alive. The actual pleasure of a trip on pure salt water was too much for him. He probably would have made no objection if Johnny had pulled him all over the creek, and Johnny soon realized this fact. Resting on his oars, he remarked:

"Well, what shall we do first?"

Rowing across the creek the shore was inspected for some distance, but all the good camping places did not have a good beach or bottom, some being shelly or else covered with eel grass. At length, they found a good place to camp, just behind a little point and having fewer shells on the bottom. The tent could be pitched among the trees, on the bluff which rose some six or eight feet, with a good, gravelly beach between it and the water. After impressing the place on their memory, the two explorers started for "Shallow Bottom," as the first camping place was named.

It was quite a long pull,---down through the narrow mouth of the creek called the chops, and along up the shore. Wal and Guy had worked very faithfully to get the dishes washed and packed after which it was necessary for them to take a bath. But it did not take long for the tent and other baggage to be packed in the boat. Then Herb took his seat in the stern, with a board for a rudder, Johnny took the oars and sat on the seat nearest Herb, Guy occupied the next seat to the front, and Wal, after pushing off, straddled the extreme bow. After pulling a few minutes, Johnny remarked that the great resistance afforded by Wal's feet hanging over the bow, seriously retarded the progress of the ship, and if he would kindly draw them into the boat, being careful not to upset it in the operation, they might reach their destination a few hours before schedule time. When this elaborate request was finished, Wal's feet had been in the boat for some time.

Johnny pulled for awhile, then Guy, and then each took an oar and propelled it in that way, being directed by the man at the helm with such expressions as "pull Johnny," "easy Guy," "slower Johnny," "pull Guy." The tide at the Chops was very swift, but it happened to be flowing in, so that the boat drifted some distance and gave the pullers a rest.

The new camping place was about one-half of a mile north of the Chops. As soon as the boat was made fast, the new quarters were inspected for a few minutes. Then the hatchet was used in disposing of some branches that were in the way of the tent, and the brush and other rubbish cleared away. The tent was set up and a ditch dug around it, the dirt being banked up around the bottom of the tent. The dining room was established under a large tree, which hung over the bluff, and the table, which was brought over from Shallow Bottom, was set up. The fire was built up against the bluff in front of the tent. Dinner could not be overlooked, so an adjournment for refreshments was made.

The boys spent the afternoon in fixing up the camp, getting firewood and tinkering around generally. About the middle of the afternoon it was decided to sample the bathing facilities. The bottom was nice and sandy for a rod or so from the shore, but beyond that it was made up of mud and oyster shells. The boys played around in the water for some time and then went back to shore, and each one remarked that his feet had been scratched a little, but on examination the scratches proved to be deep cuts which gave their possessors much trouble for some time.

The day was rather warm, and the rest of the afternoon was spent in laying around and doing anything that suggested itself.

The camp was improved and an extra stock of firewood was collected. This was found in plentiful quantities as driftwood along the shore, and was white and dry. Colonel Burns de's house, where they went for water, was but a short distance across the land and they would row up the shore always and make it still shorter.

After supper the fire was improved and around it the four campaigners sat. Everything imaginable was discussed and talked about.

Some one proposed fixing up a sail on the boat.

"Yes, and we can use that big piece of gunny sack we brought along," said Herb. "Its pretty holey, but by doubling it over I guess we can hide some of them. But we havn't any pully."

"Oh, we can get a forked pole for the mast and let the rope slide through the crotch," said Guy. "We brought along a big ball of that thick twine, or young rope, or whatever you call it."

Johnny raised the scientific objection that as the boat had no keel the sailing could not be depended upon, except when going before the wind.

This proved afterwards to be true.

But they decided to have a sail if they did have to row half the way.

The conversation drifted to the tent. It looked like it was home-made, and purely original. It was not more than five feet tall, eight feet wide, and eight long. Its wall was about fifteen inches high.

"It leaks some, on account of the top not being steep enough to carry the water off quickly," said Herb. "It soaks through."

"How did you fellows come to get the tent?" asked Johnny.

"Why, that used to belong to a militia company of kids, in Illinois," said Herb. "About the time a company of state militia was organized in the town where we lived, a lot of us boys were just old enough to go crazy over soldiering, and so organized a company of our own, and called it 'Company A, First Regiment.' We would hold our meeting on Thursdays, to decide where we would camp on Saturday. We would go out of town a mile or so along the railroad, or to Ed Kemp's farm, or to a creek three miles away. At first we used some old carpet for a tent. By collecting old iron, bones and paper, and trading them to a rag peddler, we managed to accumulate some tin plates, cups and spoons. The rag peddler would not give us cash for what we brought him, so we took the iron down to the foundry, and traded the bones and paper for tinware. At last we had about a dollar and a half in the treasury, and one afternoon we went up in a body, to a dry goods man, and by lots talk he was induced to let us have some very good canvas for nine cents a yard. He was a good hearted man, and we had lots of fun with him. Eighteen yards were purchased. My mother volunteered to do the needle work. That eighteen yards would not make more than the top part, so some bedticking was rustled up and used as the ends. That tent saw no rest until winter. Every Saturday we went somewhere, and may be some night during the week we would sleep in it. The first night we used it as a bed-room was at our house. Herb Wingate, Will Doede and one or two others came down to spend the night. We had a candle inside the tent, and some big bums from up town happened to go by and saw it. Soon we heard two or three clods hit the canvas. We put the light out and got out and picked up some clods, but the bums had hid themselves and we didn't see anything to throw at, but soon we heard them walking on up the street. Another night about ten days after,

we camped at Herb Wingate's. Herb had a smaller brother, Roy, who couldn't understand why he was shut out of the militia company on account of his size, and always insisted that he could have as much fun as we could. He felt so disappointed whenever he could not go out with us that we compromised with him by taking him out occasionally if he would stay home quietly when we wanted him to. On this evening of our stay at Herb's house, we knew he could not be induced to stay in the house, so we counted him in. He was very quiet the first part of the night, but when the ground began to get hard he would root all over the tent for a soft place, and take the covers with him, so that we had to get everybody out in the middle of the night to reconstruct the bed. The next night encampment took place at Will Doede's. It passed off very quietly. One hot night Wal and Walter Downey thought they would sleep out and they set up the tent in a little hollow. During the night a big rain and wind storm came up, and soaked the tent and blew it down, then the water began to fill up the hollow occupied by the boys and their blankets. They got out from under that wet canvas without stopping to think it over, and went in and slept on the kitchen floor the rest of the night. The tent was in active service all summer, and the original canvas was somewhat weatherworn. Late in the summer organized searches for rags, bones and old iron, were made, and in this way the treasury got enough money to purchase the ends. Some brass rings were used to tie the ropes to, and the front doors furnished with buttons and button holes. We now had a tent complete. It seemed as though we could not use it enough, and it was still in use when the first snow came. When we moved here I bought up all the stock held by the other boys."

"It has stood the racket pretty well," said Guy. "But looks as though it had been through the war."

"Yes, it has seen lots of service, and I suppose we will have it framed after while."

The wind began to rise, and blew across the creek in a cool breeze, starting the waves to their gentle rush on the sandy beach. Johnny securely locked the boat and the boys crawled into their blankets to spend an hour or two in talking and then go to sleep, with the cool breeze blowing over them and the rustling waves singing them to sleep.

(To be Continued.)

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