

The High School Register.

Vol. I.

OMAHA HIGH SCHOOL, MARCH 18, 1887.

No. 8

An Historical Ode.

On Greece, that country, Oh, so small!
Came down a mighty power.
The Persians, who had conquered all
The East, yet wanted more
When all of Greece had heard the call
For men, yet answered not,
The brave Athenians took the lead,
And with a few Plataeans bold,
They made a stand and did the deed
Which kept the Grecians free.

On the famed plain of Marathon
These Grecians made their famous stand,
Resolved that there they'd do or die,
Before the despot won their land.
The Persians came—they came and laughed,
And little guessed how yonder band
So splendidly would meet their foe,
And drive away by land and sea
Their countless hosts—how could they know
Of that defeat in store for them?

The Persians came; were driven back;
For though in numbers very few,
The Greeks in spirit did not lack,
And when assailed by thousands strong,
Forgot they all their private wrong,
And through that struggle fierce and long,
Though faulty men, they fought with right,
In freedom's name they won the fight.

And thus the power of Greece did rise,
She rose and rose—she reached the skies.
Alas! her power learned to die;
She fell, proud Greece! and ages sigh
To think of what a fall was there.

—ALICE BROWN.

NOTES.

—Examination next week.

—The German students enjoyed immunity from recitation last Friday.

—The marble season has commenced and the small boys realize it to their fullest extent.

—The lethargy into which the boxing gloves of the gymnasium had fallen was disturbed the other noon by a lively mill.

—The season for lawn tennis has opened, and the lovers of the sport are taking advantage of the opening. The boys have numerous tennis clubs. Why do not the girls organize a club?

—It is to be regretted that the scholars do not take more interest in the morning exercises. Many are unwilling to take the trouble to aid the committee and thus all the work falls upon a few.

—We have heard the remark that one person would like to borrow the collar of a certain member of the banjo band for use as a back fence.

—Nearly everyone regrets that the Friday afternoon entertainments begin after two o'clock. Hereafter we will have to recite on Friday afternoon.

—One of the Sunday morning papers contained an article about young ladies flirting with the bicycle riders at the Exposition building. It is wondered by many who the young ladies are.

—Many of the High School scholars will learn with pleasure that Miss Gurdie Coburn has recovered from her recent sickness and intends to return to school after the spring vacation.

—We have the following special offer to make to new subscribers. Subscription for spring term without back numbers, 25 cents. with back numbers, 50 cents. Hand in your names soon to avoid the rush. Don't crowd.

—The new balance, which arrived last Friday for the chemistry class, is very fine indeed. It was imported from Germany and is made of the best steel and brass. A glass case surrounds it to protect it from dust. As it is a very delicate instrument, all are requested to keep "hands off."

—On last Tuesday the whole school assembled in the Ninth grade room to practice singing. There were not enough books to go around and the scholars did not make much of a showing. But we like to hear a class make lots of noise even if they don't come up to Patti. It will shape itself into music in time.

—Considerable noise and dust have been made by the men who were engaged in putting in the new steam pipes, this labor seems to be nearly completed however, just as the warm weather has rendered additional radiators unnecessary. The school building was better heated last winter than ever before, thanks to the janitor and his assistants, and by means of our new heaters we will be even more comfortable next winter than last.

Pease Bros. for Hats.

—The examinations, commencing next Monday, will continue for one week, at the end of which time the scholars will be allowed a week's vacation. Hunting excursions, and similar amusements are being planned already, and everyone seems to anticipate an enjoyable time.

—It is to be hoped that many of the young folks of the High School and of Omaha will take advantage of the opportunities that will be offered to take riding lessons at the Exposition building this summer. What could be more enjoyable than a riding club. This will certainly be a very popular sport this summer.

Friday Afternoon Entertainments.

Invitations to the parents of High School scholars have been issued which read as follows:

Omaha High School
Friday Afternoon Entertainments,
March 11, Topics: History and Modern Literature. March 18, An Afternoon of Music. Followed in the Spring Term by illustrations of work in Physic, Chemistry, Natural History, and Elizabethan Literature.
High School Auditorium.
2 P. M.

The musical entertainment will be held this afternoon, and from the preparations and rehearsals it promises to be a very fine affair.

Examination Programme.

We publish below the examination programme for next week. Those who, on certain days, have no examination are not required to attend school on those days.

The examination on Monday commences at 12:40.

Monday afternoon—German.

Tuesday—12th, Literature; 9th and 10th, General History; 11th, advanced Geometry.

Wednesday—11th and 12th Chemistry; 10th, Geometry; 9th, Algebra.

Thursday—11th, Virgil; 10th, Caesar; 9th, Latin; 12th, Iliad.

Friday—12th, Geology; 10th and 11th, Physics; 9th, Zoology; 9th, Book-Keeping; Greek Lessons.

When you want a good Hat call on Pease Bros.

The Register.

EDITORS:

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MARCH 18, 1887.

THE covers of some of our exchanges are exceedingly interesting. Several are adorned with comic illustrations of the various topics treated of.

SEVERAL of our exchanges criticise each other most unmercifully, and have for some time, carried on a regular newspaper war. It is amusing to note that these papers vigorously condemn the theory of picking at one another's faults, the while they steadily carry out the practice. As yet the REGISTER has not suffered from attacks made on it by any other school paper for it has attacked none. We have no space in these columns to abuse our brethren.

ALMOST before we realize it the regular examinations are upon us again. So quickly has the term passed away that we are in doubt as to whether we have stored away enough knowledge to successfully carry us through that important event known as the examinations. Some scholars have no doubt written their acquired information on their memories with a clear, deep hand, while others have inscribed it so lightly that it will only carry them through the day's recitations. If the scholar makes himself perfectly familiar with his lessons each day as he goes along a slight review will put him in a condition that will give him perfect confidence in his ability to triumph over the questions which the teacher's learning has produced. It is not good policy to spend half the nights before examination in trying to recover the ground that has been half worked during the term. It is just about as a scholar once said in explaining his poor percentage, although he worked hard every night for several nights before examination. "I had it all in my head but couldn't get it out."

BENEFICIAL as school exercises may be there is little doubt in the mind of an unprejudiced observer that there can be too much of them. And in no place is this truer than in our schools where to a great extent, the impression prevails that an endless round of debates, essays and declarations conduces not only to the education but also to the pleasure of the pupils of all ages. However, as it happens the pupils themselves are seldom consulted on the matters, so that their enthusiasm, or lack of it, count little.

Every school day morning exercises are held in the auditorium, and the Tenth grade room, while the various literary societies commonly meet at intervals of two weeks. On these programmes good music frequently finds a place, and is almost the only relief from a long series of copy-book essays, or uninteresting selections from prosy writers. While literary exercises were a novelty in the school, the scholars enjoyed them. There is a limit to our powers of enjoyment, however, and to pass that limit in to turn pleasure into suffering. Though the pupils must endure what they cannot prevent, it is not wise to force them to much in one direction, lest their enthusiasm be destroyed and their progress checked.

Another thing that must strike any one who has attended the literary meetings in the school, is the one-sided tendency of the matter read before those societies. Nearly every essay, review or sketch seems to be devoted to praising some modern writer of fiction or poetry. We have had Helen Hunt programmes, and Tennyson programmes, and Longfellow programmes. Has it never occurred to any one that not a single afternoon has ever been spent in reviewing the careers of our greatest men who were *not* writers? Possibly the constitutions of the debating clubs would prevent an attempt to have a Washington or a Franklin programme. If so, those constitutions ought to be altered at once. For, while the songs of the poets, and the tales of the novelists, serve to amuse the leisure hours of the cultivated, history assigns the highest honor to those men who have made their names immortal by deeds not by words; to soldiers and statesmen and inventors whose labors have been brought to a successful conclusion in the face of the most trying circumstances. Fame, as Cicero showed, is an incentive to action, and the most useful mission of the letters is to convey fame. Would it not, then, be better for our literary societies to study

not only the writings of great authors, but also the actions of great men? Our literary societies form an important part of our school system, and to be successful and interesting and instructive their members should endeavor to so vary their programmes as furnish something adapted to the tastes of every individual belonging. Failing to do so the school debating club impedes, rather than aids, the process of education.

Crickets.

On the 7th of this month a game of cricket—the first of the season—enlivened the dull monotony of school life. With a perfect sky, a good field and a fair ground to help them the cricketers passed a most enjoyable afternoon. The wicket was fairly level but treacherous at times, so that straight falls proved very troublesome to play. The score is given in full:

Broatch c. Ahlquist b. Beall.....	.4 not out....	3
F. Rustin b. Beall.....	.....13	
P. Templeton, run out.....	.....0	
Bowles, run out.....	.....5 b. Beall....	3
Durnall h. w. b. Beall.....	.....1	
M. Nelson b. Rosewater.....	.....4	
Bausermanu b. Rosewater.....	.....1	
McCague, run out.....	.....1	
Taylor b. Rosewater.....	.....0 b. Rosewater 0	
Quinlan b. Rosewater.....	.....0	
Leisenring, not out.....	.....6 l. b. w. b. Beall 4	
Townsend b. Beall.....	.....4 b. Beall....	0
Dickey, not at bat.....	.....0 not at bat..	0
	Extras.....	19

Total.....39 Total.....19

Beall b. Townsend .....	.....6 run out....	13
B. Nelson, run out.....	.....0	
Ahlquist b. Townsend.....	.....3	
Barnum h. w. b. Broatch.....	.....0	
Rosewat'rc. Leisenring Broatch 0	run out.....	7
Stiger, run out.....	.....6 c. Nelson b.	
	Townsend 0	
Karbach b. Townsend.....	.....7	
Denise c. Nelson b. Townsend 0	.....0	
Ellison b. Townsend.....	.....2	
W. Rustin b. Townsend.....	.....0 run out....	3
Walters b. Broatch.....	.....0 not out....	1
Rhodes, not out.....	.....2 b. Townsend 0	
Harris b. Broatch.....	.....1 b. b. Towns'd 0	
	Extras ...	4

Total.....27 Total.....28

BOWLER'S ANALYSIS.

	RUNS.	WICKETS.	AV'G.
Townsend.....	33	10	3.3
Broatch	18	4	4.5
Rosewater	10	5	2.0
Beall	39	7	5.5

—The attendance of ladies at the second Lauer trial has decreased very much since the first. Last spring, representatives of our school could always be found there without trouble but now, as the interest has almost died out, few had curiosity enough to urge them to attend.

Foot Ball.

On Friday, March 4th, a game of foot ball was played on the high school grounds. About fifteen on a side were engaged, and three goals were kicked. The second and third goals were won by the side captained by Ben Nelson, deciding the match. Several good plays and exciting "scrimmiges" marked the course of the game. It is plain that in the high school exists material for an eleven which will play well under any rules—as outside clubs may be forced to admit during the present season.

Joint Exercises.

The several grades of the High School held some joint exercises in the Ninth grade study room, on Friday last. There was quite a large attendance of friends and relatives of scholars. The piano was covered with quite an array of plants and flowers which added some splendor to the scene. A majority of the school was disappointed on learning that the exercises were to be held after two o'clock:

PROGRAMME.

Piano Duet, - - Misses House.
Essay, "A Homeric Washing Day,"
Elizabeth Siddell.
Essay, "The Popularity of Frank
Stockton," - Mable Balcombe.
Piano Solo, - - Bertha Yost.
Review, "Mrs. Burnett's Last Story,"
Kate White.
Essay, "A Gladiatorial Scene,"
Larry Denise.
Minuet, - - - Banjo Sextette.
Recitation, "The Pemberton Mills,"
Mable Fonda.
Essay, "The Remarkable Story of
Christopher Columbus,"
Eunice Stebbins.
Song, - - - Florence Birkhauser.
Reading, "My Double,"
Nellie Bauserman.

Board of Education.

A full attendance, with the exception of one, was present at the meeting of the Board of Education on Monday evening, March 7th. A good deal of business was transacted, among which the following might be of interest to the readers of the REGISTER:

A proposition of the Omaha Toilet company to furnish the schools with towels, mirrors, etc., was referred to the committee on finance.

The proposition of John Dwyer to remodel the double desks used in the city schools, making them into single desks, was referred to the committee on buildings and property, with power to act.

The committee on manual training

reported that no progress is being made in the construction of the boiler at the High School and asked the board to make a change of supervising architects. The change was refused.

The teachers of music in the schools were authorized to engage the Exposition building for one night for the purpose of giving a May musical festival by the pupils of the graded High schools.

The Youth of a Great Traveler and Poet.

In a cool shady spot, at the junction of two highways, and near the center of a little hamlet called Kennet Square, was born, about sixty-five years ago, one of America's greatest travelers and poets. The house in which this hero was born was a two story one, of brick and mortar, being long and narrow, having its rooms small and low, but it was considered by the farmers of that time a very comfortable and respectable house. There were not more than two hundred inhabitants in the town where he was born.

The little village was one of the prettiest and most romantic spots in old Pennsylvania, with its lovely shade trees, and the brooks sparkling here and there between the hills and vales, where the cattle were often to be seen grazing. There could be no better place for an artist to sit and sketch, or for a poet to write about Nature and her beauties.

The old home where this boy was born was destroyed by fire during the centennial year. While our hero was only about two or three years of age, his father purchased a farm only a mile or so from the village and on that farm this traveler spent the opening years of his life. How deeply the lad loved his new home, with the rolling fields, the chestnut and walnut woodlands, that dear old stone farm-house, the clumsy barn, the old highways, and the acres of corn, and all the beautiful and natural surroundings. Yet with all that nature could give to this country home, he was never ambitious to follow the plow.

He worked cheerfully and was always wringing more or less poetry out of every occupation; by so doing he was contented for a little while. He was a wiry, nervous boy, quick at work, study or play, and consequently had many leisure moments, when other boys were drudging along with ceaseless toil.

His school mates all agreed that he was a mischievous boy. He loved practical jokes and was ceaselessly forming verses. Often he would write love letters, couched in the most deli-

cate phraseology and, signing the name of some class-mate, would send them to the astonished plough-boys and blushing maidens. The life he led from his earliest school days until he was fifteen years of age was that of every farmer's boy in America, who is compelled to work hard in the summer and attend the district school in the winter.

He gathered the greater part of his youthful education from books that he read at home. His parents, seeing how unfit for farming he was, sent him away to an excellent high school in Westchester, Pennsylvania. As his parents could not pay for his schooling more than a year, he was sent for that time, but soon after entering school, he formed a class and taught it himself. In that way he paid for his schooling with the money he earned.

Very often when he had read a book he would sit down and write to the author, and in every case he would receive courteous and lengthy replies. In this way he made the acquaintance of many men well known in literary circles of America, some of whom were of great assistance to him a number of years afterward.

After leaving school he entered a printing office, but did not like the work very well, as he was always longing to travel. Some time before entering the printing office he happened upon a "Guide to European Travelers." The boy, hardly a boy any longer as he was now about seventeen, studied that guide book with the greatest and most persevering zeal, until he learned all about the principal cities in Europe and Asia; and at length he thought he should like to take a trip to Europe, and see something of this great world.

So the months rolled away and his fingers became wearied of the type, while he began to feel ashamed of the boasts he had made of his long-anticipated journey. About this time a cousin Frank came to visit him, and having talked the matter over they determined to go to Europe together. Our hero having composed a great many poems, had them printed in a pamphlet, sold them, and in this way collected a few more dollars to add to his little sum. We will leave him now, safely started on his travels.

After returning to his native land, he wrote a great many books, the majority being about his travels. He also wrote novels and poetry. His best works are Critical Essays and Notes, and Studies in German literature; but the crowning and greatest work of his life was the translations of Faust.

After what has been said, you will know who the hero is—Bayard Taylor,—the great American poet and traveler, who died December 19, 1873.

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MILITARY NOTES.

Pease Bros. for Hats.

—“She’s quite a chewer isn’t she?”

“Yes, amateur.”

We recommend all boys attending our school, to see Pease Bros. stock of Hats.

—The article in reference to sparring, which appeared in the last REGISTER, has caused quite a revival in that sport.

—The question of uniforming the company with cheap blouses is being discussed. Steps will be taken to ascertain the cost of such a uniform.

—The belts have been placed on a rack, each belt being numbered to correspond with the number of a gun. Thus belt No. 3 belongs to the man having rifle No. 3, and so on. Each belt should be blacked and kept in its proper place.

Pease Bros. for Hats.

—Owing to the confusion about numbers inspection will be postponed until next Tuesday, when a very thorough examination of the belts, bayonets, rifles and boxes will be made.

Boys Hats, all kinds, at Pease Bros.

Tenth Grade Literary Society.

The Tenth Grade Literary Society had a debate at their last meeting to vary their programme.

It was “Resolved, That Themistocles did more for his country than Aristides.”

The affirmative were Messrs. Richenberg and Morseman; the negative, Misses Brown and Byrne. This was decided in the affirmative, although a great many thought that the opposite side had the best of the argument.

A poem entitled “An Historic Ode,” written by Miss Alice Brown formed part of the programme. Miss Brown has written several poems which give great promise.

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