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The Classic, March 1905

Northwestern Classical Academy

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H. Lubbers

MARCH, 1905.

The Classic.

PUBLISHED AT ORANGE CITY, IOWA.



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The Classic.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR BY THE STUDENTS
OF THE N. W. C. A.

VOLUME 13

MARCH

NUMBER 6

Editorial.

THE war in the far east! Those words are on the lips and in the minds of every one. The daily papers are full of war news. The weekly papers give more space to the lengthy articles about the war than about any other topic. The magazines and in fact every paper in print has an article about the war. With this fact in view we do not think that there is much more to be added. Still, we can not refrain from giving a few thoughts concerning it. It seems as though the end is near. Peace rumors have been abroad every now and then, but it was generally rumored that Russia wanted to gain a little, before she was willing to lend an ear to those whisperings of peace, so as to have something to say when the conditions were to be made. The last feat of Oyama however, which is without equal, has been so overwhelming and so humiliating for Russia that it now seems established in diplomatic circles, that there is nothing more to gain for poor Russia.

The Russian soldiers fight bravely and heroically, but they have immense difficulties to face: the great distance between the seat of war and the home center, the inefficiency of transportation, and last but not least the revolutionary spirit at home, which takes the vigor and vim, national spirit and prestige itself out of the heart of the soldiers. The Russian leaders, it is plain are far inferior to the Japanese leaders. Gen. Kuropatkin was, in the last manouvres, greatly outgeneraled by generals Nogi and Oku, who attacked him simultaneously and at different places. But when Kuropatkin found out what had really happened, Nogi had led 60,000 Port Arthur veterans, some 26 miles north and was vigorously attacking the Russian forces at that place. It is beyond our comprehension when we read that Kuropatkin held out for 19 days with an army of 325,000 men against fieldmarshall Oyama, who was bent about him in the form of a crescent with 500,000 men, over which he had such com-

plete control, that he was able at any time to attack the Russians at their weakest points and harrass them in any way possible without much suffering on his part. The extent of the casualties on both sides can as yet not be given, owing to the great confusion of affairs and because the fighting is still going on, but no doubt they will be immense and will overshadow everything we have witnessed heretofore in this and many other wars. Also owing to the critical state of affairs in Russia, it is thought best that the war should be brought to a speedy close. Neither Russia nor Japan however has as yet spoken themselves and therefore nothing can be predicted with certainty. We however cannot help wishing for a speedy close, so that this immense slaughtering of men, which is also absolutely unnecessary may cease.

THE beef trust, that giant corporation which holds its sway from New York to San Francisco and from the Gulf to the Lakes, and which involves every home in this vast domain, is at present involved in a war which threatens to work its downfall. The different Trusts, their origin, their development, and their peculiar way of working are fully treated in several magazines, at present, and its enormity is amazing and beyond our comprehension. It is only about 30 years ago that the first refrigerator car was introduced. The successful use of it entirely revolutionized the meat and cattle industry. It also laid the foundation for the beef trust. In this trust are also other branches as the fruit business and others, in fact it includes all things shipped in refrigerator cars. That those cars are used by all railroad companies and that they are paid for their services is not alarming in itself, in fact it can not be expected otherwise. But the folly lies in the fact that the few men who are at the head of the affair have the power to set prices and to dictate not only, but even to force, both friend and foe into their moneymaking schemes. The railroad companies are not only forced to assist the trust operations, but they are even obliged to fight its cases in court and they threaten with ruin those who work against them. The trust has such a complete control over the railroad companies that they dare not venture to furnish a car of their own, where a refrigerator car might be employed. The trust not only has complete control over the railroad corporations, but also over every branch of industry and business. With threats of all kind, as boycott, blacklist, or browbeat, they force everybody into obedience. Somebodies desire to augment private fortune, even though unjust it may be, lies at the bottom of this whole scheme, and is the deceitful foundation on which the whole edifice is build. This scheme, started

by some cunning schemer for personal benefit, has been developed little by little, and has at last come to such an enormous extent that it now covers every branch of business conceivable. It is to be hoped however that the government will take this matter in hand, as it now seems to be doing, and investigate thoroughly; and investigate it not only, but also take it under laws and regulations, and lay down rules which will bind the trusts, so that the few men who now oppress the thousands or rather the millions at their own sweet will, may be checked in their sordid game.

EVER since Joseph F. Smith founded the Mormon Church, it has caused much trouble for the Government of this country. Thus the problems presented by these Latter Day Saints although they have been discussed very much for the last ten years yet very few people know anything about the size and perfection of this organization. The man who stands at the head of the church is called the president. But in the full sense of the word he is not what we would call a president for really he has the power of a dictator. As a matter of fact, there are twelve apostles and two councilors, but they are constantly in harmony with the president for if anyone of them creates any trouble he is quickly dropped. "For the quorum of twelve apostles has equal power, when united, with the first presidency, but as apostles are chosen by a revelation from the president, and as the president is promoted from the president of the twelve apostles to be the head of the church and is made prophet, seer, and revelator, his power is absolute". Moreover the president of the church who is supposed to be the mouthpiece of God is even able to control the election of that city. This was seen in a recent election of Salt Lake City, in which a day before the election nearly all the people of that city were in favor of the Republican ticket but on the election day the Democrats won because the president had given the impression that it was the party chosen by "God's elect" to rule. Another thing which helps to give power to the church is the tithing which they receive of every man. This tithing which is one-tenth of everything that is produced, is paid to the head of the church. The tithing not only creates an immense fund but it also serves to keep the poorer classes in absolute subjection. But they also keep up their practice of polygamy. They break their promises regarding polygamy again and again and have even attempted to defend this hideous practice.

Thus after having read this short sketch of the Mormon Church it is evident that it is impossible for a person to be a loyal citizen of United States and a faithful follower of this church. For can he be

a good citizen who as it were is a slave to his master? For can he be a good citizen whose vote is controlled by another man? For can he be a good citizen who practices polygamy which is so hateful to our land?

Christopher Columbus.

Whether in old times, beyond the reach of history or tradition, the arts of sciences have existed, whether the Egyptian Legend narrated by Plato respecting the islands of the Atlantics was indeed a fable or the obscure tradition of some unknown country, must and will ever remain a matter of visionary speculation. But certain it is, that at the beginning of the fifteenth century, when the wisest men were seeking in every direction for the light of geographical knowledge, a profound ignorance prevailed as to the regions of the Atlantics, and no conjecture could penetrate its vast waters which seemed to bound the world as with a chaos. Sciences had been lost to the European nations, during the long epoch of monkish bigotry, but fortunately for them in the bosom of dark Africa Arabian sages were contemplating the measurement of a degree of latitude and estimating the circumference of the earth. Slowly it made its way back to Europe. The revival of learning also brought with it geographical knowledge. Then also we find the maritime cities, to whose youth the sea is the road to adventure, and the highway to success, sending forth their children to the waves as their natural element, for the purpose of discoveries. But pre-eminent among them stands Genoa, for out of her came forth the man whose name is immortalized by his illustrious achievement. And this man was Christopher Columbus.

Christopher Columbus was born as is supposed of humble parentage in or near Genoa. Little is known of his youth, except that he learned astronomy and navigation in a school at Pavia. He entered upon a nautical life at the age of fourteen, and made several voyages. In 1470 he settled in Lisbon being at that time in the full vigor of manhood. In Lisbon he imbibed the idea of the land westward, and there the ardent mind of Columbus was kindled up to enthusiasm. The discoveries already made had inflamed his imagination, and had filled him with visions of land (westward) yet to be discovered in the boundless waste of the Atlantic. The idea of land westward, he was destined after long years of disheartening labor to establish as fact. With the view of better qualifying himself for his great enterprize, he made several voyages along the shores of Africa, and islands of the Atlantic. In 1482 he laid his scheme, of finding a shorter route to India, before the king of Portugal. The king how-

ever sent out some men on the proposed route of Columbus, but these, being too timid to venture far from the beaten track, soon returned to heap ridicule on the project. Disgusted with the duplicity of the king, Columbus left secretly for his native city, but also there his scheme was treated as the silly product of a visionary brain. Now he turned to Spain for he was not despairing of hope, since he believed that he was destined to plant the first foot-prints upon those shores, which only seemed to exist as yet in his own imagination. At the Spanish court he came in contact with a noble man who used all his influence to procure him the favorable consideration of the king and queen. But it was not until seven years of disappointments and hard labor that he found himself in command of three vessels. Columbus now considered himself about to effect the great task which he had been contemplating to accomplish for the last twenty years. Thus gratified in his wishes, after a course of delays and disappointments sufficient to have reduced an ordinary man to despair, Columbus took leave of the court and set out joyfully for Palos.

Soon his little squadron was ready to go to sea. Those who remained behind took leave of the crew as of men whom they never again were to behold. Thus at last Columbus found himself launched on his great enterprise, and daily they were pressing onward into that apparently boundless abyss. After a few days his confidence in the perseverance of his crew failed, for they harassed him with incessant murmurs, but Columbus with admirable patience reasoned with their fancy. Finally land was spied and in spite of many difficulties and dangers he had accomplished his object. The great mystery of the ocean was revealed; his theory, which had been the scoff of sages, had been gloriously established, and for himself a glory, firm as the world itself, secured. Now Columbus soon set out on his return voyage to the old world. After a voyage of great difficulty and suffering, he at last reached Spain. The sovereigns were dazzled by this sudden acquisition of territory, indefinite in extent and boundless in wealth. The fame of his discovery sounded throughout the nation, and the air was fairly rent by the acclamation of the people. Magnificent receptions were held to his honor. The public eye could not be sated with gazing on the trophies of the new world, or on the remarkable man by whom it had been discovered. Nothing could be more deeply moving to his mind than the gratitude and admiration of a nation, yea of the whole world. Thus for a time Columbus drank the honeyed draught, before enmity and distraction had time to drug it with bitterness. Envy itself was dazzled by the sudden splendor of discovery. O! could we but here close with the

consummation of the hero's wishes, it would be to the honor of human nature and would leave Columbus in full enjoyment of great and well deserved prosperity. But history is destined to give a proof of the inconstancy of public favor. No hero has ever met with a more glorious reception for a benefit done to mankind, but yet none ever drew more jealousy and rivalry or that which involved him in more distress and difficulty than did this great discoverer. The sun of fame had risen to its fullest glory in the life of Columbus, but by the fervor of its rays called up the rank and noxious vapors which for a time beclouded his glory.

The enemies of Columbus had viewed his promotion and magnificent reception with an eye of jealousy, and after the greatest enthusiasm was over, succeeded too well in bringing Columbus to a state of poverty and scorn. His great services which proved so great an advantage to them were not considered. Ah Columbus broken down by old age, worn out by toils and troubles, thou deserve a repose from thy labors. But in its place care and sorrow has been allotted to thee, and the very margin of thy grave is strewn with thorns. Little have thou profited by thy ardent work.

The cold ingratitude of his sovereigns, the suspension of his honors, and the enmity and deformation experienced, threw a shadow over his glory. Thus one of the greatest men the world has ever produced died in poverty and distress, forsaken of mankind to whom he had rendered the greatest services. But his services will remain engraved in the memory of mankind more indelibly than in marble, and he will forever stand forth as one of the most illustrious men the world has ever produced.

Now to more fully appreciate the real greatness of the life of Columbus we must turn to the results of his works. The mountainous wilds which Columbus discovered were slowly turned into cultivated fields. Among the barbarous wilds of the unknown, civilized settlements were established. Instead of a horde of wandering savages, we soon find thirteen States struggling for freedom, developing into a nation, whose dominion extends from the wild Atlantic to the peaceful Pacific, and whose sceptre waver from the Gulf of Mexico to the Great Lakes. All her achievements were crowned with success. Wealth and prosperity are now reigning in her flourishing cities. Liberty and equality are the foundation of her constitution. Religious freedom is enjoyed throughout her extensive borders. The United States ranks as the foremost nation of the world. She has attained the highest glory attainable, but may she not forget the humble man of Genoa, but may his memory be enshrined in every heart.

H. S. '05

Galveston, the Stricken City.

Behold, that haughty island city, laughing, dancing, mocking,
 See its grandeur, splendor and its beauty.
 But hark! why now that deathlike shrieking?
 Why now that guilt, that fear, of undone duty?
 From whence these cries, these moans, these eyes so sadly set?
 This creeping, chilling fear of coming death?

Hark, it's this, a sad, a thrilling shock,
 Its mother-sea her bosom doth inflame.
 Its gales, its surfs, and foam, a threatening rock,
 And now this city as her prey doth claim.
 Ah, now no laughing, dancing, mocking,
 All is weeping, moaning, wailing.

In vain for refuge, for the hills they sigh;
 In vain their fatal destiny to shun,
 In vain for mercy to the waves they cry,
 Nor swiftest speed can cruel fate outrun.
 The billows swell, and haughty Neptune raves,
 Mighty, angry, are his thundering waves.

O'er the howling city now the foaming surges roll,
 While in the crimson West doth sink the sun full soon.
 Hear now, the moan, the wail of sinking soul,
 While at the sight doth blink the moaning moon.
 Still fiercer rises now its angry frown;
 Who now, but God, dare here look down.

Oh, why so dark, so at this midnight hour?
 And why, the Moon so dark, so black within its nest?
 Shalt Thou now in Thy anger all these souls devour?
 Before, again, Thou callest in the crimson disk, above its crest?

Faint streaks of purple blush along the sky.
 Unseen hands of angels shift the night.
 "The sun, the sun", a thousand voices cry;
 And now, ah, now it sees the fearful sight.
 O sun, why did thine light not last?
 But now it looks upon the night that's past.

O words, flee not, nor yet desert my mouth,
 Before this dreadful scene I try to paint.
 This stricken ruined city of the South,
 And those poor mortals who in sorrow faint.
 Was this the laughing, dancing, mocking city?

But now a dreadful scene of untold pity?

Where is now its grandeur, splendor and its pride?

Where is now such sorrow and such grief?

Fifteen thousand souls appease the angry tide

Who now do reap, what once in life they sowed.

No tender hands have borne them to the grave,

Entombed are they beneath the furious wave.

I stand and watch this place of graves,

The monstrous deep can scarcely leave to prey.

Oh bring him back, O waves!

The brother that in thy bosom lay.

Oh, death in life, this smile no more to greet,

But sweet the day when once again we'll meet.

D. E. '05.

Exchange.

The Unheeding World.

There's many a heartache on life's way,
Many a failure from day to day,
Many a sorrow from dawn to dawn,
But still the unheeding world whirls on.

Many a life is wretched on the shoal,
Many a one fails to reach the goal,
Many a one falls down by the way,
But the world whirls on, merry and gay.

Men live and die, their names are forgot,
No one inquires what had been their lot;
Empires may rise, and empires may fall,
The world whirls on, unheeding through all.

Why fret and worry your lives away
To build what will last but one brief day?
Build for eternity, then your name
Will last, tho' the world whirls on the same.

"Cast thy head upon the waters"
Sighed the student with a frown;
"Add a little salt and pepper
Call it soup and gulp it down."

THE CLASSIC.

Published Monthly during the School Year
by the Students of the N. W. C. A.

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Locals.

H. C. H. C. H. C.

Once upon a time some fifty or
less school teachers went out
sleigh riding in one sleigh and
such a lot of talking and laughing
had never been heard before.

One day Mr. A.T.P. was think-
ing so hard about a physic prob-
lem that his brains picked him
up from his seat and dropped him
on the floor before he knew what
had happened.

Many of the students have cul-
tivated the habit of going to
prayer meeting on Wednesday
evening. Others having a diffe-
rent motive go after prayer meet-
ing.

The Class pins of the "A class"
have finally arrived and they cer-
tainly do excel any pins hereto-
fore had at the Academy.

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Mr. E.H. broke his former record by seeing somebody's sister home after Endeavor meeting. He reports a good time and intends to make it his practice.

Prof. in Dutch: Mr. W.G., you may translate this sentence: We have no fish in the brook.

Mr. W.G. translates: Wij hebben geen visch in de broek.

Prof.: Mr. G. d. J., give me the nominative, singular and plural of foot.

Mr. G. d. J.: De voet en het poot.

Prof. in Physics: "Well we must go on with the lesson for we have got to make light in two weeks."

Many of the students went to hear Durno the Magician and some were very well pleased while others were very much disgusted.

Mr. S. Terpstra will leave the Academy walls in a few days and take up a course of watchmaking at Minneapolis. Mr. Terpstra was a good entertainer and we regret to see him leave.

Mr. M. G. van Osterloo visited the Academy students for a few days and on March 13th bade farewell to Academy and students perhaps never to see them again. Ill health is the cause.

Mr. G. d. J. needs a hair cut. "Don't worry about it though."

Some of the Academy girls have joined the know-nothing party. We hope that the number will be limited for it makes it very embarrassing for some of the

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TRY THEM.

Phone 36.

young men. For particulars ask H. S. and J. H.

Again another term of school has almost passed and many of the students begin to take their examination pills.

Mr. W. H. reads German: Unter den Schülern sind einige Amerikaner.

Mr. W. H. translates: Some American boys were under the school.

Many students have been invited to the weddings lately held in town. Others who were not, joined the serenading parties and also had a good time.

The new club caps draw the attention of all the town people and especially the young ladies. The town boys are vainly trying to place a wrong interpretation upon the initials.

After some rain and frost, the sidewalks were so smooth on the morning of the 16th that some of the young ladies thought it advisable to take the middle of the road coming to school.

It is very embarrassing for the young ladies to make experiments in a "dark room".

We are glad to report that Mr. George Gulker who has been operated upon for appendicitis is doing nicely in the hospital at Rochester, Minnesota, and will soon be able to return.

Mr. J. C. must have some important business in the northern part of town for he goes to see a

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certain person three evenings every week.

De Alumnis.

"97" John Van Peurse has received the call from the Ref. church of Coopersville.

"93" Mina Jongeward is visiting friends and relatives in Dak.

"96" B. Bruins from Princeton has received the call from the Ref. churches of Sully and Bethlehem Iowa.

"97" Rev. H. Hospers has accepted the call from Roseland Ill.

"04" Miss Gertrude Beyer has returned from her visit in Pella and Bussey Iowa.

"96" The church of Oak Harbor Washington has called as its pastor John Van der Beek.

"02" Richard De Zeeuw had the misfortune of having fire in his room. Some of his books were burned although not much damage was done.

"01" George Van der Steeg has returned from Iowa city and is now working in the court house.

"92" The church of Dolton Ill. have called Rev. F. Lubbers from Albany N. Y. as their pastor.

NOTED CORRESPONDENT AND TRAVELER.

Few newspapers in the United States are able to command the services of as brilliant a corps of correspondents as that of The Chicago Record Herald. Its choice of a Washington correspondent is indicative of The Record Herald's policy of obtaining the best there is to be had. Walter Wellman, the well-known author on political subjects and one of the ablest writers of the day, acts in that capacity.

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Sioux Center, Iowa.**

Mr. Wellman was born in Mentor, Ohio, Nov. 3, 1858. At the age of 14 he began his newspaper experience, establishing at that age a weekly paper in the little town of Sutton, Neb. In 1878 he returned to Ohio, and a year later established the Cincinnati Evening Post. In 1884 he became the Washington correspondent of the Chicago Herald, and in 1892 he visited Central America and the West Indies and located the landing place of Columbus on Watling's (San Salvador) Island, and marked the spot with a huge stone monument. Mr. Wellman's dashes for the north pole are well known. In 1894 he made the first of his two arctic voyages of exploration, reaching the latitude of 81 degrees northeast of Spitzbergen. In 1898 he returned to the North, penetrated to Franz Josef Land, returning again to this country in 1899. On each trip he met with wonderful success in the discovery of new islands and lands, and brought back with him scientific data and information of great value to the American Geographical Society.

Mr. Wellman has been a voluminous writer for scientific magazines and popular periodicals. On returning from his arctic trips he renewed his connection with The Record Herald and is now the Washington correspondent of that paper. His incisive discussion of contemporary affairs has given him a high place in the regard of statesmen and scientists of the day.

DO YOU KNOW MME. QUI VIVE?

Probably you do, for Mme. Qui Vive has a national reputation as an aspiring friend of every woman with a beauty woe. Her Woman Beautiful department in the daily issue of The Chicago Record Herald is a perennial source of joyous helpfulness to womankind. Her instructions on complexion ills are interlarded here and there with snappy little epigrams as "cheerers". The weapons she suggests to beauty seekers for the complete annihilation of beauty grievances do not include artificial methods—"factory" frizzes, rouge and other horrors being barred. She gives instructions on correct breathing, what to eat, how to bathe—in brief, how to become a healthy, wholesome woman. No wonder she is popularly known to many thousand women.

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