

Last no. of vol.

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# The Student Record

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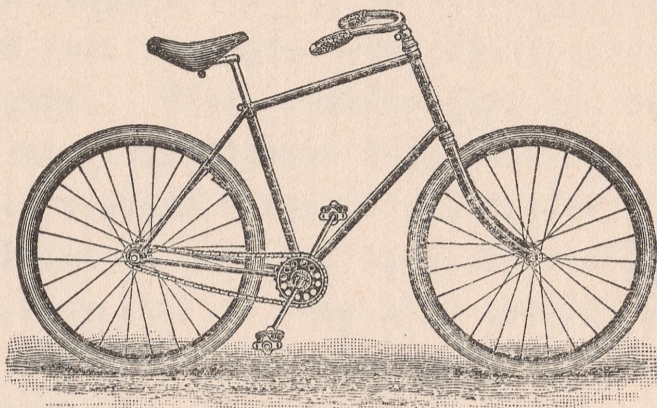
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# University Bulletin.

September 1, 1896, Tuesday, Entrance examinations.

September 2, 1896, Wednesday, Registration of students.

September 3, 1896, Thursday, Instruction begins.

November 26-29, 1896, Thursday to Sunday, Thanksgiving Recess.

December 23, 1896, Wednesday, Holiday vacation begins.

January 5, 1897, Tuesday, Holiday vacation ends.

January 21, 1897, Thursday, Mid-Year examinations begin.

January 26, 1897, Tuesday, First Semester ends.

January 27, 1897, Wednesday, Second Semester begins.

February 22, 1897, Monday, Washington's Birthday.

June 9, 1897, Thursday, Commencement.

# THE STUDENT RECORD.

VOL. III.

RENO, NEVADA, JUNE 5, 1896.

No. 17.

## THE STUDENT RECORD

Is a College Magazine Published  
Semi-Monthly by the

INDEPENDENT ASSOCIATION

OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA.

### EDITORIAL STAFF.

J. M. L. HENRY, '96, *Editor-in-Chief.*  
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RENO, NEVADA.

*Entered at Reno, Nevada, Postoffice as Second-Class Matter.*

### EDITORIAL.

WE announce the election of J. R. Magill '97 as Editor-in-Chief and R. M. Brambila '97 as Business Manager of the RECORD for next semester.

\* \* \* \*

WE condemn without stint the action of those students, college or otherwise, in bolting from a meeting of the student body while a yell was in process of adoption. Such actions are unpardonable breaches of college spirit and etiquette. We have no right to foist annoyance upon any meeting of students by leaving the hall during the speech of a member, simply by our lack of cultivation and courtesy.

\* \* \* \*

THE Student Government Association is to continue in existence again next year, which is

a testimonial of its efficiency. The election of a new corps of officers for that organization shows that our students recognize it as an instrument of good. While results have not been quite up to our expectations they have been sufficiently so to warrant a second year's trial. We can see and feel its influence upon the moral tone of our students and so long as it continues to exercise its influence in that manner let us keep it among us.

\* \* \* \*

WITH this addition the issue of the RECORD closes for this year. Since the present staff have had the interests of the paper in hand we have tried to make it bright and interesting. How well we have succeeded we leave for our readers to judge. We have been supported fairly well in the matter of contributions, at no time during the life of the paper have contributions been so plentiful as at present. In financial matters we have not had your help to the extent we should have. We have pursued a liberal policy, as the RECORD always has, in this matter, with no better result than usual. We are very thankful, however, to receive the support we have and with J. R. Magill and R. M. Brambila in the pilot houses of the two departments, with proper support, the RECORD will eclipse all her previous successes. It has improved steadily from its inception and has become such a factor of student life that we cherish hopes of its being published as a weekly next year.

\* \* \* \*

THE curtain goes down on the act which '96 plays at college. As we did our parts during that act by them will we be judged by men when the curtain rises on that long act which will close only with the grave. Most appropriate is the word "Commencement." The commencement of life after four years of studentship; the commencement of experiences which are to build up or tear down the character formed during our

college days. We commence our careers as actors upon the stage of life and the curtain goes up on the new scene at the expiration of Commencement week. The stage is broader and larger, the whole world only being its limit. What a contrast to the last act where it was limited to the old 'Varsity and its surroundings. Truly, "all the world's a stage and men and women merely players." We have spent four years in the study of our lines; years of pleasure I may say too, while thus occupied, and we feel confident of playing the drama life without a break. We will have no prompter as in the first act and as we prepared then so shall we render now. Students, the class of ninety-six bids adieu to you and the scenes of its Freshmanhood which shall always hold a prominent place in its memory.

\* \* \* \*

OUR athletics have been nearly stagnant all year and just when we had created a bit of en-

thusiasm comes news crushing it all out and blasting our hopes of the athletic revival which we noted in our last issue. We must take a lesson from this state of affairs if we would have athletics at all at our University. If we are to have any let us have them with a will and let us give them a good lively spirit. It is too late to attempt reforms this year, but next year something ought surely be done. The great hindrance seems the securing of antagonists from without the college. We have bent ourselves too intent on this and have lost sight of the inter-class affairs we should be having. We have confined our attention to home too greatly. Let us either confine our attention to inter-class athletics, pushing them to high efficiency, or let us seek new fields for antagonists other than in our immediate vicinity. Our efforts to arrange games and matches at home to keep our men occupied and to keep up the interest have proved futile. Now let us abandon them and work where our efforts bring more reward.

## LITERARY.

### HONESTY IN EXAMINATIONS.

THE question of the prevention of cheating in examinations is one that is occupying considerable attention in colleges. It seems strange there should be any occasion for such a subject. Nevertheless there are persons in every college, who cannot be trusted in an examination.

We may divide such students into two classes. The first class consists of those who come to the examination with the deliberate intention of cheating. Perhaps coming with numerous slips of paper containing an outline of the subject they are to be examined in, or even bringing a book. The second class consists of those who come with the intention of doing honest work, but finding the examination hard, or containing something they did not expect are tempted to use dishonest means. Students of this second class are to be pitied for their lack of moral strength; yet they cannot be so strongly con-

demned as the first.

The fact that there are others in the class getting credit for better work, by dishonest means is very discouraging to the honest student. The spirit of honest rivalry is taken away, and in its place is left a feeling that they are being wronged.

It seems disgraceful that in any examination the instructor should have to keep strict surveillance over the class, yet it is often done. For there are those who seem to think that the cleverest person is the one who best conceals his cheating, so the instructor's watchfulness is likely to fail in producing the desired result.

In many colleges the examinations are carried on in the so-called "honor system." Theoretically this is a very good system but when put to trial it is likely to fail. For if the student is naturally dishonest he is just as likely to cheat when he is put upon his honor, as when he is not.

In some colleges, lately, more stress has been

laid upon term work and less upon the final examination. It is thought that in the daily recitation the work is more likely to be honest and the instructor has better opportunities of determining the real capacities of the student. Of course, this can only apply to small classes, and if the term grade of the student is low, the same difficulties will be met with in the examination.

In Stanford University the students have taken the matter in their own hands. They have appointed a committee, from their own

number to look into every case that is brought under their notice. In several instances those guilty of dishonest work have been punished by suspension. This method of dealing with cases of dishonesty has been tried for only a few months, so its success is not as yet assured.

That any improvement can be made without trying is not to be expected. Every step of advancement made, marks so much gained and so much done toward securing this so important factor of the ideal college.

### MISCELLANY.

#### A SHORT SKETCH OF EUGENE FIELD.

**L**ATELY the literary world was startled by the news of the death of Eugene Field.

Almost every paper contained some account of this poet, journalist and story-writer. It is my plan to give a brief sketch of all I have read.

Eugene Field was born in St Louis in 1850. His mother died when he was a little child, and he was left to the care of his aunt, Miss Mary Amherst. He was a graduate of the University of Missouri, but the greater part of his education was gained in newspaper offices and in the practice of his literary profession. He studied the classic models very carefully, especially the Roman poet, Horace, and it is from him that he obtained the power of expressing himself in such a beautiful language. On the death of his father he came into possession of about sixty thousand dollars. Soon after he departed for Europe; while here he spent most of his time searching for curios and collecting rare books. The result of this extravagance is best told in his own words:

When in the course of natural things I go to my reward,  
Let no imposing epitaph my martyrdoms record,  
But in plain Anglo-Saxon that he may know who seeks,  
What agonizing pangs I've had while on the hunt for freaks,

Let there be writ upon the slab that marks my grave  
this line,

"Deceased was born in London in the fall of '89."

After his return home he married Miss Com-

stock, to whom he had been engaged before his departure to Europe. Having spent the greater part of his fortune, he was thrown upon his own responsibility, and it was at this time he became paragraph writer of the St. Louis Journal. Twelve years ago he went to Denver and was on the editorial staff of the Tribune. Here he established his reputation by his satirical paragraphs. Later on he worked for the Chicago Daily News, and was still writing for this paper at the time of his death.

As a man we are told that he was light hearted and kindly; fond of friends; and yet a scholarly man; devoted to his family and a little child among children. His love for children reflected itself in his writings.

It is comparatively easy in writing the life of a man, to find the principal events of his life and weave them together in a systematic whole. It is in the criticism of his works that we find so much trouble. Every one knows how difficult it is to criticise the works of any author, in order that people may consider the criticisms free from prejudice.

Matthew Arnold tells us that it is the growing tendency of this United States to over estimate moderately good work. In other words that little by little we are losing sight of what true greatness really is. We will all undoubtedly agree with this, and in what have we a better example of this growing tendency than in the criticisms published now-a-days of ordinary

writers. Perhaps in my criticism of Eugene Field this may be very apparent. What this man might have been we can never tell, he was truly a man of genius, and it is thought that if he could have lived longer, his genius would have shown more and more. He expected to do his best and greatest work this winter, but when he was most necessary he died.

As a newspaper man, he was especially bright. His work was always very neat, and it was presented to the printer without blot or erasure. He was particular of his choice of words in writing articles for the newspapers. How different would be the tone of our newspapers had we more men like Eugene Field writing for them! He tells us that "he likes newspaper English although the professional literary people turn up their noses at the newspapers. If any man's got blood in his veins let him choose between a good newspaper and a magazine. One deals with what is life or death to you to-day, the other prints when it gets ready something written three or four months or three or four years ago. It takes a geologist to get up an interest in such fossils."

As poet, he is noted for what he termed his verses, as he always insisted that he didn't write poetry. He is famous for his child verses, all children love them and through their love for them, they love him. These verses must deserve all the praise they get, as even the English

critics have spoken in the best terms of them. In England one of them, "Winking, Blinking and Nod" has been called one of the best child poems in the language. Of all the poems of his which I have read the one I liked best was "Pitty Pat and Tippy Toe." So sweet and childlike, and yet through it all runs a vein of sadness. His love for his children is very clearly shown in this little poem. They were everything to him, and in one of his poems he pities those who have no children to love.

But when comes this thought to me  
Some there are who childless be,  
Stealing to their little beds,  
With a love I cannot speak,  
Tenderly I stroke their heads  
Fondly kiss each velvet cheek,  
God help those who do not know  
A Pitty Pat and Tippy Toe!

Among his known works were the following books of verses; "With Trumpet and Drum," "The Love song of Childhood" and "A little book of Western Verse."

What sort of a life Eugene Field lived, and what he has left us as a result of his life's work I have shown. How great he really is we can not rightly judge, we must wait the result of time. If his verses continue to live, we will then call him great, one thing is certain if any of his poems do immortalize his name, it will be his "Love Songs of Childhood." V. '97.

## EXCHANGE.

With this number of the RECORD our duties as exchange editor end. We have found the work a source of both pleasure and profit. Through our connection with the RECORD we have obtained experience which could not well have been obtained in any other way. The work, though a pleasure, has naturally been discouraging, many of our tasks being like those of pioneers.

This department, to my notion, is one of the most important. It is through the exchange columns that we are brought into closer touch with other colleges, and we fear that in some

colleges not enough emphasis is placed upon it. Some of those lofty ideas which we so fancifully pictured to ourselves last fall have never been realized, yet we feel that some advancement has been made in this line, and that our successor will take up the work with a spirit that will place this department in a position to which it belongs—one of the foremost in college journalism. We desire to thank those who have assisted us in the past year, and we hope the paper will continue to retain their good will and the support of the Alumni and the students of the College.



## TWILIGHT MELODY.

Behold the dark-robed twilight maid  
 Comes from the western portals  
 Of the far-off realms of the setting sun,  
 The land untrod by mortals.

And far and wide and everywhere  
 With gauzy garments trailing,  
 She follows the herds from the grassy lea  
 And lists to the owlet's wailing.

And hither and yon with noiseless tread  
 She throws her dim veil over;  
 She closes the floweret's tiny cup,  
 And folds the leaves of the clover.

O'er hill and valley she wanders on,  
 Her shiny dew-drops flinging,  
 And as she comes this way I hear  
 A strange, sweet song she's singing.

She pauses not, but I know the words,  
 A thousand memories bringing  
 Of home and friends and loved ones all,—  
 Of these I'm sure she's singing.

And sweetly the words hang in the air  
 Of old-time things reminding,  
 Of boyhood scenes and the twilight hour  
 And every tie most binding.

The bells peal slowly from the tower  
 Their sombre accents rolling,  
 And nature is wrapped in evening's garb,  
 And the thoughts, they still are flowing.

With solemn mien, the trees they stand,  
 The God of all revering—  
 The chill night settles slowly down,  
 But still those words I'm hearing.—*Ex.*

## BITS OF FUN.

Patience always wins, they say,  
 So I just endure it.  
 When spring fever comes my way,  
 I don't try to cure it.

'Druther close my eyes than not,  
 'Druther dream than hurry,  
 'Druther find a sunny spot  
 An' dose instead o' hurry.

Industry will find in me  
 Allus a believer—  
 But I ask no sympathy  
 When I've got spring fever.  
 —*Washington Star.*

Bobby (taking his first lesson in Latin)—  
 Mother, does God understand Latin?  
 Mother—Of course he does.  
 Bobby—Who made him study it?—*Puck.*

Customer—What a lovely hat! And yet it  
 seems to lack something. What is it?  
 Milliner—A head, madam.—*Detroit Free Press.*

"We've got the loveliest college colors." the  
 intellectual girl exclaimed. "They were unani-  
 mously adopted and the suggestion was mine."

"I supposes you've imitated the older  
 college?" said her brother.

"No, we haven't. We haven't used any of  
 their heavy, common place colors. Ours is an  
 entirely original combination." "What is it?"  
 "Shrimp pink and elephant's breath."—*Wash-  
 ington Star.*

Newls—I'm in doubt whether or not to send  
 my boy to college.

Hartley—Oh, don't bother. Just get him a  
 tennis suit, a football, a rowing machine, a  
 college cry and a box of cigarettes and ten to one  
 nobody will ever know the difference.—*Exchange.*

First Spinster—What do you think the coming  
 man will be like?

Second Spinster—Oh, I don't know. I don't  
 believe he's coming. I have given up looking  
 for him.—*Harper's Bazar.*

Mrs. Pitcher is a woman  
Of the class that's called "new,"  
And in church and state, I grant you,  
That the tale is wholly true.

But when round our house she bustles  
In the season full of dread,  
She is just the same old person,  
With a towel round her head.  
—*Chicago Record.*

She—What did you find when you reached  
the top to the mountain?  
He—I found that I was out of breath.

"Yesterday you said you loved me."  
"Yes, my dear, I told you true."  
"And to-day you crush my puff sleeves,  
Monster, I am done with you!"  
—*Philadelphia North American.*

We're living in a funny age,  
For now, with best intent,  
Instead of boasting of their rise,  
Men brag of their descent.  
—*New York Herald.*

Teacher—What is a monkey?—  
Pupil—It's an accompaniment of the hand-  
organ.

### CAMPUS.

P. P. Fransden, '95, was on the campus May 10th.

S. B. Hamilton, '98, left for West Point May 25th.

Dr. Stubbs spoke on educational matters at Austin, May 15th.

Wallace Gullic left for his home in Northern California, May 29th.

Supt. Brown's nephew, Mr. Williams, has been visiting him for two weeks.

During the hail storm May 29th, many windows on the grounds were broken.

Miss Hedley French, ex-'94, was married May 9th to H. Lemmon in Carson City.

Miss Grace Herrick, 3rd year Normal, returned from St. Helena, Calif., on May 15th.

Mrs. Stubbs and daughter of San Francisco spent a few weeks with the President's family.

Miss Edna Catlin, Normal '95, came down from Carson May 17th, to attend the Normal reception.

Owing to illness Prof. Hillman was unable to meet his classes May 22nd, 25th, 26th and 27th.

Wednesday, May 20th, Prof. Wilson delivered his second lecture on Petroleum and Petroleum Products.

E. A. Powers, '96, and E. D. Lachman, '97, accompanied the Reno Bicycle Club to Virginia May 24th.

Miss Josie Roberts, 3rd year Normal, was called to her home in Carson on May 18th by the illness of her mother.

The lecture at General Assembly of May 13th was given by Mrs. Doten of the Reno High school. Subject: "Woman."

Acting Governor Sadler, State Treasurer Westerfield and Secretary of State Howell paid the 'Varsity a visit May 15th.

F. H. Saxton, '95, has recently secured a position as assayer and surveyor with the Dunderberg Gold and Silver Mining Co.

Prof. Wilson, Finlayson, Linscott, Smith and Sullivan, J. J., went to Virginia, May 15th, to be present at the entertainment given by Prof. Krall in aid of the gymnasium fund.

The resignation of Cadet Henry as Captain of Co. A was accepted May 26th. Cadet Williams was appointed to the vacancy and Cadet Cahlan was appointed 1st Lieut. and Adjutant.

On May 21st the committee appointed to secure a yell presented several to the students for adoption. The following was chosen:

Wah! Hoo! Wah!  
 Zip! Boom! Ah!  
 Rah! Rah! Rah!  
 Nevada!

The Cadet Battalion and Artillery Detachment under the command of Cadet Major Linscott turned out Memorial Day. Lieut. W. R. Hamilton was Marshal of the day, Dr. Stubbs, President, and F. H. Norcross, '91, Orator.

President and Mrs. Stubbs are entertaining the graduating classes and some friends at breakfast. The first was given Tuesday morning last, at which was present a party of fifteen. A most delightful time was spent by all.

ATHLETIC AND SOCIETY NOTES.

The Freshman Literary Society gives its open farewell exercises on June 6.

The long looked for game of basketball between the Dormitory and Down Town teams has been indefinitely postponed.

The last social of the year was given Friday, May 30. Owing to the heavy rain storm the attendance was smaller than usual.

The gymnasium is to be very prettily decorated for the dedication exercises. The students have undertaken the matter of dedicating the gym. and have decided not to allow the question of expense to interfere in any way with their plans.

The University Union has agreed to pay the sum due on the Adelphi piano, which amounts to some twenty odd dollars. The piano, by an agreement between the Adelphi Society and the Union, will remain the property of the latter till the former can redeem its debt.

At a meeting of the Student Self-Government Association, held May 26, the following were elected to fill the offices for the next year: Bliss '97, President; Thompson '98, Vice-President; Dexter '99, Secretary; Lamb '99, Reporter; Wrinckel, "Special," Sergeant-at-Arms; Higgins and Feeney '97, Doten and Finlayson '98, were chosen lawyers. Several amendments were made to the Constitution, the most important being that in which a provision is made allowing students the privilege of witnessing trials.

The Athletic Association met on May 28 and elected as officers for next year, Higgins '97, President; Finlayson '98, Vice-President; Thompson '98, Treasurer; Jones '99, Secretary; Feeney '99, Football Manager; Magill '97, Baseball Manager; Lachman '97, Track Manager. The track is being put in condition for Field Day. Several men have been at work on it for the last few days and it is expected that it will be in excellent condition for Field Day.

The Freshman Literary Society will hold its initial open meeting on Saturday night, June 6th. The students and public are cordially invited. The exercises will be held in the Gymnasium at 8 o'clock P. M.

Remarks.....	Class Prex
Essay.....	Louise Julien
Vocal Duet.....	Louise Ward and Gertrude Gilman
Declamation.....	Aimee Sherman
Recitation.....	Louise Linscott
Violin Solo.....	Roy Robinson
Select Reading.....	Zena Blakeslee
Essay.....	John Hamlin
Instrumental Duet.....	Lulu Culp, Enid Williams
Debate..Gignoux and Brown vs. Robinson (Geo.) and Lawrence	
Subject— <i>Resolved</i> , That Napoleon was a greater general than Cæsar.....	
Recitation.....	Elizabeth Stubbs
Chorus.....	
	Misses Julien, Culp, Ward, Gilman, Blakeslee, Hickey, Messrs. Hamlin, Gignoux, Mack (Tom), Robinson, Longley, Boyle, Lawrence.

By order of Program Committee,  
 NELSON H. BRUETTE,  
 LOUISE JULIEN,  
 THOMAS P. BROWN.

## CONTRIBUTIONS.

## A REFORM SCHOOL IN NEVADA.

**M**UCH has been said of late years about the increase of vice in the United States. This nation is no exception to the general rule, that crime increases as States or countries grow older. It is no wonder then that the number of Nevada's criminals is growing larger in like proportion. But records show that among this number are boys and girls, some scarcely twelve years old. What is working to influence these young people to evil actions?

We find on investigation that some of these unfortunate children have vicious parents, and consequently are under evil influences at home. They receive no moral training at all and have no one to oversee their conduct or give any kindly advice. They may choose whatever associates they please, read any writings, immoral or otherwise, and may go where they, in their poor, warped judgment think they can get the most pleasure. We can scarcely wonder that this class give expression in criminal deeds, to the character formed by such associations.

Other children have good, intelligent parents who try to make home a place of good influences, but who do not extend their care beyond that. A boy who has nothing special to do may form habits of loafing, get into bad company and add another to our list of unruly boys. It is not the busy, but the idle, who find time for mischief. I think the evil tendencies of most children may be accounted for by some lack of training and oversight during the formative period of growth and development. Might not these young people, if brought under healthful influences and trained in good habits, become useful, honest citizens? All efforts to reform these youthful offenders display a "strong faith in the power of reason to sway and of habits to mould a human character."

In the prisons what is done toward reform? Scarcely anything. The vile associations, the mingling with older and more desperate criminals only embitter the young mind against society

and the laws which put him there. He comes out with new impulses toward vengeance and crime.

Some States, seeing the effects of the prison system, have established reform schools, where honest, sympathetic, big-souled men and women labor to influence the young children sent there, and try to rise and start anew on a better path. Here they learn habits of industry, get a good education, and sometimes learn a trade. After they leave the authorities are sometimes instrumental in getting them employment. They are watched and encouraged even after going out into the world again.

These schools were established to secure certain results; that is, to reclaim the young from error and train them for the duties of honest citizenship. Have those started accomplished this desirable end? The records say that about seventy-six per cent of those sent out from the schools have become useful, law-abiding citizens of their community. Surely it is worth while to try this method of reform in Nevada. The only draw-back is the cost of starting such an institution. But if the State reclaims as citizens her youth, who, without parents or true friends, still have in them the material for making virtuous men and women, will she not receive ample reward? Financially, she may save the cost of numerous law trials, the wages of a large police force, and perhaps reduce the cost of maintaining the prisons. Morally, her gains cannot be estimated, but at least she earns the services of honest producers, and the support of faithful citizens. At present there seems to be no other way of obtaining these much needed reforms. Let Nevada try the plan which other States have successfully carried out. A.

Mr. Bacon—"That Mr. Crossley, who called last evening, is a self-made man"

Mrs. Bacon—"Too bad he couldn't have made himself a little more agreeable."—*Ex.*

The hand that rocked the cradle is now guiding the bicycle.

## LEISURE MOMENTS.

## REMINISCENCES OF THE COMSTOCK.

**V**IRGINIA CITY, Nevada, as it now appears gives little token of what it was in its palmiest days, in the early '70's.

In '69 the rich bodies of ore in the Crown Point and Belcher mines of Gold Hill were uncovered; and soon after followed the finding of other bodies equally rich in the Ophir, California and Con. Virginia of Virginia proper.

Speculation ran wild. Everybody dealt in stocks. Fortunes were made and lost, often without the interested parties ever having seen, and much less handled, the money thus represented. Around the brokers' offices when the bulletin appeared all men became free and equal for the time being. The elegant gentleman jostled against the rude miner, the street scavenger or perhaps the Chinaman; while my lady Hauton, in her silks and velvets was quite liable to find herself confronted with her own servant girl, equally well dressed, or with one of the demi-monde, attired in a manner fully as rich and far more showy. A Monte Cristo dream of wealth filled all minds, but was permanently realized by only the very few. Of those who once counted their fortunes by the thousands, tens, aye even hundreds of thousands, few are now the better off for having once been the possessors of such sums.

Bishop Leonard of the Diocese of Utah and Nevada, lecturing recently before a large audience in a Nevada town, drew a strong picture of life on the Comstock in its wildest days, contrasting the condition of the whole State at that time with its present condition, ending by asking if any would exchange the Nevada of to-day for those past days, even with their life and bustle, show and glitter, and the unsubstantiality of their unfulfilled dreams. Many old Comstockers were present, and glancing around at them I fancied I could read on their faces as I could read in my own mind, "No! we would not exchange the present for the past, but not one of us would willingly lose from our lives the memories of the Comstock and its experiences, sad

though some of them may have been, and ending as in many cases they have done, in poverty, all the more galling from its contrast with those days of plenty."

Arriving in Virginia in Dec., '70, from a quiet eastern town and with little previous knowledge of what I was to find in my new western home it seemed for a time as if I had been transported to a foreign country. The town itself so strangely built, in terraces as it were—or as one good lady visiting the place for the first time expressed it: "I never was in a town where the houses were set up on shelves in rows before,"—was a source of wonder to the new comer. Climbing far up the sides of Mt. Davidson, as if some ambitious spirits had felt that by thus doing they were getting perhaps the nearer heaven, it extended on the other hand down, down into a sort of ravine so far below the main streets that one needed to be a good climber and to have his lungs in good condition if he intended to live there and still make frequent visits to C street. Its huge hoisting works, whose shrill whistles seemed to blow at their own sweet will and time, for each mine had its own particular time, the quartz mills, the thunder of whose stamps seemed never still; the quartz teams, comprising from six to twelve horses or mules dragging a huge wagon filled with ore from the mines, usually with a smaller wagon called the "back action" fastened behind; the animals and wagons often mired in the deep mud sometimes sliding down one of the steep side streets, and occasionally landing in a heap, horses, wagons, quartz and drivers, a struggling mass, with fearful results, to the poor animals at least, while the air was filled with the shouts and oaths not only of the drivers, but of all assembled to assist; the mixed character of the people one met on the streets, in the churches, everywhere—all formed a study unique and one to be met with only in a frontier mining town.

To the student of human nature the people themselves presented by far the most interesting study. Every State in the Union, every quarter

of the globe, and all grades of society, had here their representatives. "Like seeks like," and here as elsewhere, kindred spirits grouped together, forming several distinct casts. The upper crust of society, the "F. F. V.'s" were of a very different nature from the same class in a longer settled, staid, eastern town where everybody knows everybody else's antecedents; but nobody cared much about people's past lives here, and "take us as you find us" seemed to be the rule. Taking them thus, no brighter, quicker-witted, more genial, whole-souled, hospitable people will ever be met with this side of Paradise.

True, they had their faults, and one was sure to hear of them all without the asking, for here, as elsewhere, "people would talk you know;" meet a few of the set when the other dear ones were away and the old stories were brought out. "Is it true that old S—— bought his wife of her father for \$10,000? If it is, its no wonder she flirts so abominably with Dr. B—— and every other man that comes in her way." "Was Mrs. E—— a camp-follower before her husband picked her up and married her?" and so on through the list. Still, as a rule, these things were overlooked and lost sight of in the whirl and dissipation of the times. One good reason of this may have been the knowledge in the minds of many that their own past records were not such that they would care to have the full light of day shine on. A few there were who boasted of spotless lives, and of their blue blood, proudly tracing their descent from some of the best known families of the East and South. Still they never held themselves aloof on this account but were "in the swim" with the rest and "hail fellow well met" with all. All seemed to be possessed with a particularly happy-go-lucky spirit; if fortune didn't smile on them to-day, "Never mind, she probably will to-morrow." In other words, if their particular stock didn't happen to boom to-day it was liable to go up to-morrow, and in the meantime what use in fretting. It was this philosophy, this make-the-best-of-everything spirit, that enabled so many to bear up under disappointments and defeats

that otherwise crushed them, and they often saw their fortunes swept away, their castles in Spain utterly demolished, with a fortitude that was sublime in itself, and would then set to work to make another fortune with the same eagerness they had before displayed.

Few people came here intending to remain. To make a raise, get money enough to live on handsomely elsewhere, then leave, was the idea with all. I knew one family who lived in the same house' their own property, for over twelve years, who never made a repair about the house and denied themselves many comforts in the way of furnishings that they were abundantly able to have, because they did not expect to stay long. "What's the use of fixing up?" said the son, afterwards Governor of the State, "we are liable to leave in the spring or in the fall and should have to leave it all behind us. Many, however, never left until the time came for them to join the grand army of the dead; and their bones now lie decomposing in the grounds of the cemetery. Perhaps in time by some process of chemical combination these may be converted into the precious metal for which the living sought so long, and may in turn serve to swell the silver production of the world. Poetical justice in the idea truly.

The Bachelor Club was one of the institutions of Virginia society, and the balls given by them will never be forgotten by the old Comstocker. A few nights after my arrival there the opening ball of the season was to be given by its members. It was to be a grand affair; the Bachelors' did nothing by halves, and all those fortunate enough to be among the invited were making great preparations for the event. Ladies were in the minority, the unmarried ones of the elite at that time could be counted on the fingers of one hand; so all were sure of having any amount of attention. To add to the interest and excitement it was confidently reported that the wives of the then budding millionaires, Mackey and Fair, were to be present, and would vie with each other in the splendor of their costumes and the magnificence and brilliancy of their diamonds.

To one so unsophisticated as myself, the off-hand manner in which silks and satins, velvets and laces, diamonds and millions were discussed as every day affairs, was startling in the extreme, and I longed as impatiently as any for the eventful night to come. And come it did in due course of time, as all things earthly must.

Armory Hall was the place in which the ball was given, but where it was situated I do not know, as that was the last public occasion on which it was used, as it was destroyed by fire a few nights after. I remember that it was a big bare structure, appearing to me more like a huge barn with its rough, unpainted sides and rafters than any thing else, and the contrast between it and the elegantly dressed ladies and gentlemen was striking, to say the least. However, the floor was covered with canvas, the bareness of the sides partially hidden by pictures, bunting, flags and other decorations, and no one minded or cared about the hall; enjoyment was the chief end and aim of their existence for that night at least.

Truly it was a brilliant scene; the lights shone on fair women and brave men, the life-book of many of whom held chapters that would read as sensationally as the spiciest novel. While they still live, these must remain as sealed books; but when they shall have passed away where the troubles of this life will no longer vex them, then may there be some one left to tell the tale. The gentlemen were all in faultless evening costume, irreproachable as to linen, gloves (white kid as the rule), boutonnieres, and swallow-tailed coats with white silk linings. Southern chivalry was largely represented; all were elegant in manner and most agreeable as partners for an evening, while many of them have since proved themselves of true worth and excellent as partners for life.

As reported, Mesdames Mackey and Fair were present in all their glory, the former resplendent in a blue silk, that—as our grandmothers used to say of a good silk—would stand alone. The dress was trimmed with point, or some other costly lace, and diamonds flashed from the wearer's ears and bosom.

The same description would apply to Mrs. Fair's dress as to her rival's with this difference that her's was of corn-colored silk instead of blue as was Mrs. Mackey's. To my ignorant eyes it was a case of "fine feathers make fine birds," for while each was sufficiently good looking there was nothing about either of these excellent ladies that would have attracted the attention of the unprejudiced observer, or have caused one to turn for a second look as they passed.

As I recall them now it appears to me that there were but few ladies present who were distinguished by any especial beauty and that most of them were past their first youth. A few there were, however, whose graces of form and feature would have entitled them to rank as belles in almost any other place, as they did here.

One woman attracted my special attention, and it seemed to me then and has ever since, that she had dressed herself whimsically with the malicious intention of dividing the honors with those dames more favored by fortune than she. She was a little woman whose Spanish-Mexican blood showed in her dark skin and flashing black eyes. She hadn't an ounce of flesh to spare, in point of fact she was of the skinny variety at that time, as her dress, low in the neck and without any sleeves to speak of, abundantly proved. The dress itself was the chief point, however; this was of rich silk of wide alternate stripes of the brightest pink and dark brown, the latter relieved by a white flowered design running lengthwise through it. It was extremely décolleté, with a long train streaming behind, and the wearer as she darted here and there in the dance, always on the move, received all the notice due such a striking combination of woman and costume.

Sweet music was discoursed and the happy hours glided all too quickly away. About midnight came the interruption of supper; this was to be procured from Fitzmeier's, a restaurant some streets away noted then and since for the excellence of its ball suppers and especially for the salads and coffee accompanying the same. The change from the heated ball-room to the

cool night air was not an agreeable one. The scramble for places at the crowded tables and the eating of the supper occupied considerable time. Still everything was conducted as smoothly as possible, everybody was good-natured and jolly and when the appetites were satisfied most of the company returned to the ball-room and danced, many of them till the discordant shriek of the earliest mining whistles warned them of approaching day.

The Bachelors' Ball was pronounced a decided success. Others followed it, but at no other appeared the millionairesses, Mackey and Fair, together at least. Indeed, shortly after this the Mackeys left Virginia, and though "Honest John" often revisits the place from which he drew his immense wealth, his wife is said to have shaken its dust from her feet when she departed and vowed that she would never again return; nor has she done so.

Since that night, twenty-five years have rolled away. A visit to Virginia now brings to the old-timer who remembers it in its halcyon days a feeling of sadness and pain, a heartache and a longing for the days that are no more. He will meet a few whom he remembers, and if he has been away long, they will seem to him at first like the ghosts of those whom he had known long ago, and the sensation will not be a pleasant one. He will miss many familiar faces, and when he inquires for them will be told perhaps to seek them in that most doleful of places, the graveyard of this mining town. A few business men who have been here from the first still remain and are fairly prosperous, but these are the exception, not the rule; and of all the gay party who were present at the ball given by the Bachelor Club, December 16, 1870, it is safe to conclude that not a dozen are still living in Virginia City.

"All are scattered now and fled,  
Some are married, some are dead;  
And when I ask with throbs of pain  
Ah! when shall they all meet again?"  
I hear the answer, soft and clear,  
Beyond the gates, but never here.

M. S. D.

#### BIOGRAPHY OF "96."

Addie Boyd, Reno, Nev., L. A.; 4, Secy. class.

W. L. Brandon, Reno, Nev., L. A.; 4, Lieut. of Artillery Detachment.

Jay H. Clemmons, Reno, Nev., L. A.; 3, Cadet Adjt.; 4, Arty. Capt.; 4, Member Debating Union.

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J. M. L. Henry, Reno, Nev., Mines; 3, V. P. Athletic Assn.; 4, Assc. Ed. STUDENT RECORD; 4, Ed.-in-Chief STUDENT RECORD; 4, Class Pres.; 4, Cadet Capt.; Member T. H. P. O. Frat.; Member Debating Union.

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Mae Palmer, Reno, Nevada, L. A.

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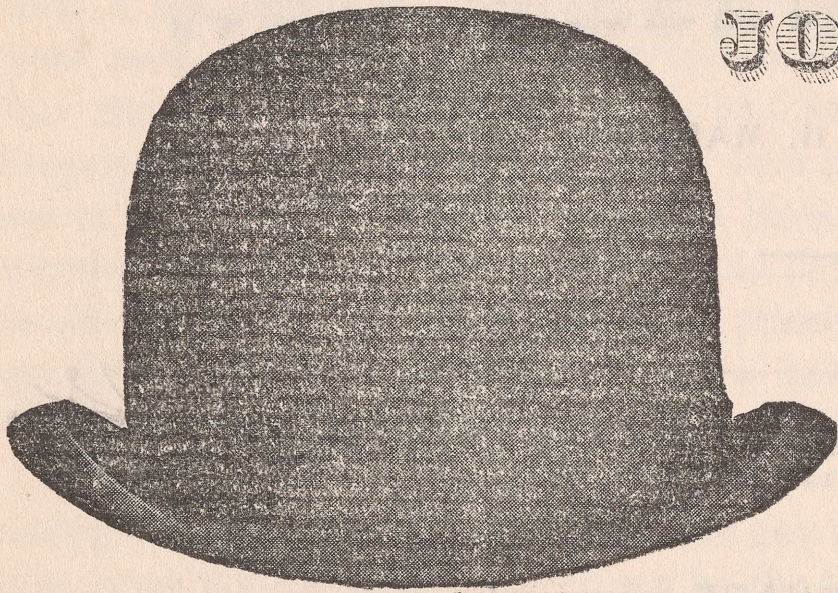
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