

The Student Record

Volume XI.

University of Nevada, March 17, 1905

Number 24

RETURNS FROM MT. WHITNEY

Dr. Church Makes Important Climatic Observation at 13500 Feet

After a week's arduous work scaling the steep, snow covered sides of Mt. Whitney, Dr. Church returned to the University Monday. While he did not reach the summit, that feat proving to be an impossibility, yet, the experiences of the trip and the observations made at Camp Lake View, at an altitude of 13500 feet, amply repay him, he says, for the time spent in the undertaking.

G. F. Marsh of Lone Pine, who built the Lone Pine trail on Mt. Whitney, accompanied Dr. Church. The explorers, Mr Marsh acting as guide, proceeded on this trail, which is said to be the steepest in the world. In many places the trail is not more than four feet in width and in order to accomodate mules with baggage it has been necessary to blast away some places in cliffs around which the trail winds. It was in these places that the climbers experienced difficulties. The snow having drifted from overhanging cliffs, had completely filled the narrow defile which served as the trail. With the aid of snow shoes and walking sticks they slowly crawled around these places. Below them was a sheer drop of a quarter of a mile, above them was the goal, white and shining, the highest point in the United States.

As they neared the summit difficulties began to increase, the trail becoming steeper, the snow less compact thus serving less trustworthy footing. In some portions of the trail the Dr. says he was reminded of Tyndall's experiences in the Alps.

After three days climbing the party reached Camp Lake View at an altitude of 13500 feet. It was on reaching this point that Mr Marsh advised it unsafe to continue further. The noted Jordan trail just before them which was much steeper than other dangerous parts of the trail, had been completely hidden by the drifting snow.

Dr Church then suggested a round about course but the many cliffs

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NEVADA ENTERS INTO NEW ERA

Irrigation Will Make Homes for Thousands of People on Barren Deserts of this State

In the state of Nevada 1,000,000 acres of arid land, acres on which nothing is grown and on many of which nothing lives, save the rabbit and the lizzard, yet could be reclaimed if the water flowing in all the rivers of the state could be utilized. The Southern Pacific railroad, through the greater part of its course in the state, runs directly across this great barren area. It is this fact that has caused many writers to deceive their eastern readers with the statement that "all Nevada is a desert." In passing from the green fields of California to the green mountains of New England, it is not strange that the dry unbroken wastes of desert in central and eastern Nevada should wring from them unfavorable report. But to call all the state a desert is wrong, for it has fertile valleys, though they are for the most part hidden from the eyes of the traveler. In these valleys is the largest average farm, giving the largest average yield per acre of wheat and potatoes of any state in the union. Much of this land was at one time barren, but small, private irrigation systems have made it bloom. This is a proof that the 300,000 acres of land to be reached by the first great government project will, by the magic touch of water, yield handsome returns to the husbandmen who till it. This first great area to be reclaimed lies mostly in Churchill county and much of it along the line of the railroad. Yet a few years and that eastern writer will find a new oasis by the way, and if he comes again, in a dozen years, he will wonder if the railroad is located on another right-of-

way, or the moisture trust has absorbed Nevada.

Who, it has been asked, will claim this desert land for a home, even after water be made to reach it? Will the poorest of the East leave the little patches, even though they barely yield a living, for a new and desert land with all its uncertainties, and which in the end, after the struggle, can offer them only a little more independence? But what of a natural increase of the nation and the 1,000'000 immigrants who yearly reach our shores. Thousands are lured from the east each year by exaggerated stories of that truly great state, California. They continue to increase each year and soon cannot all be absorbed. They will surge against the Pacific shore only to meet disappointment and then gradually work backward on the course they came. Just beyond the Sierras they came again on those great areas of unsightly soil and this time look more closely. The numberless acres are not covered with waving grass or studded with happy homes. But that traveler, weary with the search, will see the possibilities. He will know that by the aid of water, so soon to reach it, man's energy can make there a home where happiness and plenty may reign. The equilibrium of the masses must be maintained. Land that will yield the necessities of life, will not long be thickly settled here and sparsely inhabited there. The stored waters of early spring will be brought within reach of the land, men to till it must come, and the eastern scribe will needs revise his book.

At the regular meeting of the Crucible Club held last evening, the lecture was delivered by Prof. Etcheverry. His subject was "Bridges and Bridge construction." His remarks, while not bearing directly on the subjects generally

dealt with by the Crucible Club, were extremely interesting and presented many of the phases of mechanical engineering as they are understood at the present time.

If you want the college news, subscribe for the Record.

STRANGE STORY OF A HERMIT

Imaginative Mind of Pencil Pusher Results Fatally

From its source until it emerges into the broad valley, bearing its name, the Carson River flows through a succession of narrow canyons, broken here and there by beautiful little valleys. To one of these came William Moore, from no one knew where, and building himself a cabin prepared to gain a livelihood from his scanty acres. Beyond his name nothing could be learned of him or his antecedents. After the curiosity, occasioned by his sudden arrival had died away, Moore was allowed the freedom of his affairs without further molestation from the curious ones.

It so happened that a writer on one of San Francisco's sensational papers spent a summer in Carson Valley preparatory to writing an article on the Washoe Indians. While roaming through the hills he chanced upon William Moore, and was, immediately impressed with his peculiar actions. Being of an imaginative disposition he found but little difficulty in composing a column writeup for his paper in which he represented Moore as being both a miser and a hermit and darkly hinted at hidden treasure. Not long after this article had appeared in print, two young Indians, while hunting in the vicinity found Moore's home a heap of ashes and amidst the ruins the skeleton of the hermit himself. From a hole in his skull it was evident that he came to his death as a result of a rifle shot.

An effort was made by the local officers to apprehend the murderers, but beyond causing the arrest of a number of the red brothers, no light was thrown on the mystery as a result of their investigations. It is generally surmised that some person or persons reading the article in the San Francisco paper, believed it and thinking that he had discovered a shortcut to wealth had brought about the death of the defenseless old man. Whether he

Continued on page 3.

THE STUDENT RECORD
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Thursday, March 17, 1905

Editor Today D. M. McDonald

When Dr. Stubbs announced that Congressman Van Duzer would soon announce his appointment from Nevada six names were handed in. The power of naming the fortunate man was placed in the hands of President Stubbs, but owing to the large number of students who desired the place, he felt that a competitive examination would better suit everyone concerned.

When the day for the final examination arrived, only one student of the original six appeared. Such a record is not very encouraging, and those who had charge of the examination were not pleased with the result. The action of those who signified their intention of taking the examination, and who failed to appear on the scene at a critical moment, should be condemned severely. Their courage failed them when it was needed most. Such people should never attempt anything unless they have some idea that they were capable of accomplishing it.

Rehearsal for the play, "Twixt Love and Money," which is to be staged by the University Dramatic Club shortly, began last night. Manager Scott has been hard pressed securing actors for the different parts, as many of the students felt that they could not afford the time from their studies, but at last every thing is arranged and the success of the play assured.

RECORD ads pay.

Speaking Financially

Prof. R. Lewers

Good old Uncle Sam gives the University \$25,000 a year; the State of Nevada gives us about the same amount. This gives each student about two hundred dollars a year, or, in other words, it costs about eight hundred for each output in the form of a graduate. If we turn out a thirty cent graduate, it is a very poor investment. In the course of events a few of that grade will be found, but we are of the pronounced opinion that only a few of this kind has gone forth. Most of them have proven by their work that they are worth far more to the state than what they cost. Uncle Sam is satisfied and Nevada is satisfied to get better citizens. Each wants trained workers to develop the country and would far rather spend the money to train the youth for future work, than to have to spend it to support the wrecked ends of life in the form of pauperism and crime.

Russia with her untrained populace, without hope because of lack of opportunity to advance, and this in spite of the great natural resources of Russia, now smarting under the sting of defeat administered by a little country illustrates the imperative need of making every citizen an active unit in promoting the welfare of his country.

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MT. WHITNEY

Continued from page 1.
and canyons made this an impossibility.

The explorers then pitched camp. Many pictures were taken by Dr. Church and observations made which explain to a certain extent

the reason why for two different winters the minimum thermometer placed by Dr Meadie, coast observer has never recorded lower than zero. It was observed that the temperature at Camp Lake was only 15 degrees above zero, and that the small lakes in the immediate vicinity were hardly frozen over, while sheets of water a thousand feet below opposite the mountain, were covered with snow and ice. A moderate wind also blew across the mountain. Studying this wind it became apparent that it is the cause of the warm atmosphere in the high altitudes.

It comes from the subtropical Inyo valley, and is therefore more suitable for such a purpose than the inaccessible summit. To keep tab on the weather at the summit it would be necessary to run a telephone line up and to the house for the winter.

In a short time Dr. Church will be asked to tell of his experiences publicly. This with the aid of lantern slides the pictures for which are now being developed by Prof. Doten will be a treat.

STRANGE STORY OF A HERMIT

Continued from page 1.
was rewarded for his task, must, perforce remain a mystery as long as the culprit keeps beyond the clutches of justice.

Days lengthened into months, months into years and still he led his hermit life, nor did he divulge any of the secrets of his past. By dint of much labor he had converted his little valley into an ordinary farm and annually raised a small crop of hay and grain. He numbered among his possessions, twenty or more cattle, two horses and a wagon, as well as some necessary agricultural implements. The few who caught sight of the hermit during these many years remembered him as being a man of extraordinary size and as possessing piercing black eyes and a swarthy skin. His hair and beard were long, black and unkempt. He seemed to avoid the company of his fellow men at all times, as though he feared lest something concerning him or his affairs be discovered.

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"But still we wait with ear and eye,

For something gone which should be nigh,
A loss in all familiar things;

In flower that blooms and bird that sings,
And yet, dear heart! remembering thee,
Are we not richer than of old?

Safe in thy immortality,
What change can reach the wealth we hold?

We cannot feel that thou art far,

Since near at need the angles are;

And when the sunset gates unbar,

Shall we not see thee waiting stand,

And, white against the evening star,

The welcome of thy beckoning hand?"

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