MARCH, 1906.

The Classic.

PUBLISHED AT ORANGE CITY, IOWA.

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Editorial.

None of the great questions that confront our nation today is of greater importance than the railroad problem. People are already making up their minds in regard to this question, and are drawing gloomy pictures of what the destiny of the nation will be if some measure is not taken to check the abominable proceedings of the railroad men. Much has been written about the matter in newspapers but nearly everything has yet been in favor of the railroads. The question then naturally comes up: "Why are so many editors taking this stand?" It is simply because they are bribed by agents in any way possible. These agents sometimes not only give them rewards but also send them articles for their papers. In some cases railroads have employed very able correspondents at state capitols who send daily or weekly letters on various subjects, never failing to work in masked material favorable to the railroads. The editors accepting this as a kindness and not knowing that these agents are connected with the railroads advertise this in their papers. They not only reach newspapers in this way but even go so far as to choose firms among which are a number of experienced newspaper men. To this comes every publication of every sort within a certain territory. Here everything is read with great care and if there are articles which are unfavorable to the question they clip them out. When editors are found to be strongly opposing them, they send agents down to his community and stir up the people and ruin his paper.

We must all admit that railroad-men have a perfect right to present their arguments to the people, for the more publicity the better if public opinion is only made up right. But it is equally fair for the people to inquire from whom they are getting their information. It is therefore nothing but doing justice to the editor to ask him whether he is presenting an argument himself or receives it
from some one else, and whether or not they are true facts.

The matter is getting to be pressing because the people must fight against so great an organization. Railroad companies are supplied with an unlimited amount of money; they have a private interest in defeating the law of the people; they are eager to destroy the law, and their wish is to be powerful. On the other hand the public is unorganized, their money is wanting and they have no experts to make investigations. The end of all is that the public must be satisfied with the facts which the railroad men give them. In spite of all this it is to be hoped that matters be revealed to the public more and more, and that efforts be made to discover some scheme that will be for the common welfare.

THERE are a few measures introduced into Congress which are attracting considerable attention. One which is attracting the most attention is the Joint Statehood Bill which provides for the admission into the Union of Oklahoma and Indian Territory as one State and Arizona and New Mexico as another State. Altho Congress has the right to join two territories into one state one should also take into consideration the wishes of the people in these respective territories, whether or not they wish to have the territories joined and thus have one state. Thus in Indian Territory, it is claimed, the existing conditions are such that the majority of the people favor the measure of coming into the Union as a state with Oklahoma, but in Arizona conditions, both geographical and racial, are such that ninety-five percent of the people of Arizona are against coming into the Union as a state with New Mexico. Such being the conditions it would be well for the Senate to adopt Foraker's amendment, adding to it however so that it will apply to the people of Oklahoma and Indian Territory as well as to those of Arizona and New Mexico. The amendment in this form would cause elections in all four territories and would admit Oklahoma and Indian Territory, only in case the people of both territories, voting separately, voted in favor of it and the people of Arizona and New Mexico likewise. This would leave Congress to determine under what conditions they should enter the union and the consent of the people would be one of the conditions.

ANOTHER measure was recently introduced into Congress which is entirely unjust to men who have given the best part of their life to preserve this Union. This bill was the recommending the reduction after they had reached the age of 65 and closing the classified service at 70. This measure is vehemently objected to by "Corporal Tanner" who, in a letter to Representative Tawny, calls his attention to several serious defects. The main defect is that it will fall the hardest upon men who have fought the hardest to keep this Union together, that is the veterans of the civil war. This objection is somewhat overcome by Mr. Prince of Ill., who has given notice that he will offer an amendment that the veterans and widows of veterans be exempt from the action of the age provision. Another objection would be that some of the most distinguished men in the Senate would be affected, and to overcome this another amendment would have to be made.

David B. Henderson.

David Bremmer Henderson the famous Iowa soldier and statesman, was born in Old Deer, Scotland, March fourth, 1840. The family came to America when David was six years of age, and settled on a farm in Winnebago County Illinois, in 1846. They had but one sovereign left when they reached Chicago having been swindled out of the earnings of Thomas Henderson, the father, before they left Scotland. After living in Illinois three years the family had accumulated enough to enable them to move to Iowa where they acquired a large tract of government land, which became known by the name it still bears, Henderson prairie.

The boyhood life of David Henderson was an exceedingly busy one. Many things now accomplished by machinery were then done by hand, the hours for labor were long and left little time for study and play.

It was under such difficulties as these that David grew to manhood and it is still recorded in that part of the State that he was the best all around athlete ever known there. In spite of the fact that he spent most of his time in agriculture he read a great many English Classics before he was sixteen years old when he was eighteen he entered Upper Iowa University at Fayette and for three years he labored at this institution when he broke his arm in a wrestling match and was obliged to discontinue his studies for a time, while the arm was healing he taught school, afterward continuing his studies till the outbreak of the war, when his love for his adopted country led him to take the initiative which finally resulted in a company being raised and sent to the war from Fayette County. He tho't it the duty of every able bodied man to leave his work and tender his services to his country, with the help of two fellow students he bro't the matter before the University. One evening after prayers he was allowed to address the students. It was an important moment in the life of the soldier statesman. He
made a thrilling speech and at the end he drew up a series of resolutions ending with the words: "We therefore drop our books to fight our country's battles". He was one of the first to sign the muster roll and twenty one other students soon followed. Henderson then took his roll through the country and in less than six days one hundred and four men were ready to take up arms for the Union. Henderson firmly refused the captaincy of the company but was unanimously elected his lieutenant. This band of sturdy young patriots left home and friends, some never to return and others to return as did their brave first lieutenant maimed for life, and went to Dubuque where camp Franklin, in charge of the senior senator William B. Allison, was situated. Here these two great brothers had their first meeting, and a strong friendship sprung up between them at once. The company was mustered into service at once and became part of the Twelfth Iowa which saw some of the worst fighting of the war. Lieutenant Henderson was at the front always and distinguished himself at Fort Donelson, the Colonel being absent. Henderson led the regiment right straight through a rain of shot and shell to the foremost line of breast works, where he fell, shot in the jaw by a Confederate bullet. He soon recovered however and seemed stronger than before. At Corinth, October fourth, 1862 he was severely wounded in the leg by a cannon ball. This wound eventually caused his death. After he rallied from the first effect of the wound he was appointed commissioner of enrollment of the third Iowa district but on June tenth he again tendered his services to his country, this time serving till the end of the war. In 1865 he was appointed internal revenue collector but resigned in 1869 and went to practicing law. He soon became one of the ablest lawyers in the State. In 1882 he was unanimously chosen as the third district nominee for Congress, and was elected by a large majority. Work on the appropriation committee and as chairman of the judiciary committee made him one of the foremost members of that body of intellectual giants, so it was natural when speaker Reed laid down the gavel in eighteen ninety nine Colonel Henderson was the choice for that exalted position. He was elected when congress convened in December. His reelection to the chair was assured by the increased number of Republican representatives in congress and by the complete satisfaction his work had given to all concerned. Colonel Henderson was just about to enter upon his third term as speaker and his eleventh consecutive term in congress when the political world was shocked to learn of his withdrawal from politics on account of his health. David Henderson had the distinction of being the only Iowa man who ever held ten consecutive terms in congress. He was truly one of the best "vote getters" in Iowa and above all a great "man" but at the same time he possessed that dignity which is characteristic of a leader among men. "Jolly Dave," after being weakened in body by nine months of suffering, his mental faculties dimmed by sickness and his sighs blunted by paralysis, David Bremmer Henderson passed to the great beyond, in the City he loved to call home. His last struggle was a valiant one and not until the once powerful and rugged frame had wasted away was death victorious.

Colonel Henderson was one of the most powerful characters of this age. Even his presence in an assembly seemed to change the very atmosphere. In the house he could keep better order than the speaker himself. It is said that during the stormy days in the house before the war with Spain, Representative Brum of Pennsylvania and Bartlett of Georgia became involved in a dispute, members began to throw books at each other's heads and finally an excited Southerner drew a knife. Suddenly Henderson hobbled down the isle to the speaker's desk, which seemed to be the fighting pier, and leaning against the desk shook his crutch in the air and shouted out a clarion call for order: "Members of the House of Representatives you forget where you are—back to your seats." Immediately the men all over the house dropped into any convenient seat and order was restored. He seemed to overrule speaker Reed, the call was effective. Henderson's crutch had restored order where Reed's gavel had apparently failed.

In his large circle of friends it is traditional that Colonel Henderson always kept his word and it is said of him that when a boy going away to school he promised his mother to write to her at least once a week and thereafter kept his word—from college, from Southern battlefields, from his office and from Congress, that weekly letter went to cheer his mother as long as she lived. Colonel Henderson tried to get something good out of everything in his life and he owed this to his first composition. He was going to school to his brother and took for his subject: "The Mouse". He told its color, what it would do if it was attacked and how fond it was of swimming in preserves. His brother criticized him severely and said his composition was the poorest in the class since he failed to find anything good in this little creature which had required the wisdom and care of the Infinite to create and Henderson decided to find something good in everything after that. Speaker Henderson was beloved by all who knew him. His last day as speaker was one to be
remembered when the gavel had fallen for the last time, the members crowded around the speaker's desk to grasp his hand. Meanwhile, as is the custom, some members began to sing "The Star Spangled Banner". "Auld Lang Syne" and "America" were sung, followed by: "He is a Jolly Good Fellow", "Our Country" and others in a livelier strain. Then as by common consent the singers gathered about the speaker and began singing: "God Be With You Till We Meet Again." In an instant the push and jostle had ceased and even those in the galleries took up the refrain. The speaker was deeply touched by this closing scene and long before the song ended his eyes were swimming over with tears. Nor was he alone, men who had never been touched wept. Little did those singers in the Halls where our country's laws are made know how appropriate their words would be, ere many a month had passed. And surely, "God will be with them till they meet again". David Henderson was not only patriotic, brave and an antagonist worthy of any foe, in any place where his life work called him, always well to the front with the few who always occupy that position, but he was well endowed with all the finer sensibilities which so grace human character and captivate and win admiration and esteem. After the battle, after the exhibition of unfaltering courage and the lion heart, came the calm, the repose, the good fellowship, the song in his heart, very frequently on his lips, sometimes rollicking, humorous, sometimes full of pathos, commanding the tear, sympathy and tenderness were characteristic of him. There is no true greatness apart from great heartedness. A cold, intellectual life we admire, but we do not love. Colonel Henderson was intellectual, a sound, sane thinker, brave, eloquent, kind, tender, genial, nor faultless, but possessing a combination of qualities which won him renown and love. Born on foreign soil, his only nobility, nobility of character, we rejoice in this transplanting of the best of Scottish blood to "Peerless Iowa", that while he belongs to the nation, he was our gift. He is gone. We have lost him, but he rose from poverty to fame simply upon his own merits, will ever be an inspiration to youth; his courage, his devotion to country, his patience through long years of suffering, his optimism, his tenderness of heart, will be admired as the very best elements of character as long as the "Father of Waters" flows at the base of the beautiful elevation where his mortal body sleeps forever. Iowa to-day gives testimony of her appreciation of his worth, saying: "Well done thou good and faithful servant, farewell."

C. E. R. '07.

Review of "Of Kings' Treasures".

"Of Kings' Treasures" is the title of a lecture on books and how to read them by John Ruskin. Ruskin states that he does not want to speak of treasures in a physical sense but in an educational sense or along the book-line. So he has chosen as his theme "Advancement in Life", and with this theme he sets forth the royalty and riches that are otherwise suggested by the title.

"Advancement in Life" naturally includes becoming conspicuous, seen to be something, seen to have accomplished something, not merely knowing it for ourselves but to know that others know. A secondary result of this is to get into good society we all try to choose the best friends from among our acquaintances. Yet we all look up to poets, kings, statesmen, and the like as the best, and if we could converse with these or see them face to face we would feel very rich indeed. Now this company can be gotten by reading books. We can know their thoughts and heart-springs if we are willing to look for them between the covers of a book.

Ruskin divides books into two classes: books of the hour, books of time. Books of the hour are simply talks written because we cannot talk face to face, or they give some firm facts, witty questions and pathetic stories but they are not written with a view to permanency. A book of time is one which contains some precious truth which the author wishes to preserve during future ages, thoughts which are the noblest and best fruits of his life, and which the author thinks are true and useful for human nature now, yesterday and to-morrow.

To enter this noble society we must rise to it. It is open only for labor and merit. No wealth or honor can take us there. Neither is it open for any vile and vulgar person. The question is: do you deserve to enter? do you long to be noble? do you desire to converse with the wise? If so, come in and enjoy yourselves. Otherwise no:

If we have risen to this noble society of poets, kings, queens, statesmen and the like we must also love them. This we can do in two ways. First by showing a desire to be taught by them; and second, by desiring to enter their hearts.

To be taught by them we must work hard and faithfully. We must get our shovels and pickaxes in good order for we must dig and chip and dig again before we can discern the golden meaning that is meant by the author, when we find this meaning we ought to take it to heart, we should be willing to say, well I never thought...
of it in that way, yet how true it is. Patience goes with the digging. True mining is a slow process, for the accuracy taken in word and letter draws the line between an educated and uneducated man. Ruskin lays special stress on this — know whatever little you do know thoroughly and you will always to a certain extent be an educated man.

The second way to enter this noble society, namely, to enter into their hearts, is a harder one. It requires a certain purity of character, a living conscience or as Ruskin expresses it a fineness of sensation. This is simply being sensitive to good and evil. So sensitive that we hate evil in all its wretched forms and so love the good that along its course our minds are trained to a pure conscience and fineness of sensation.

Ruskin mentions five things to prove to the English people how much they lacked of this sensitiveness. He says, we have despised literature, despised science, despised art, despised nature and despised compassion. He says that this does not mean that the people have rejected these things but that in reality these things are cared for only by a few who put their entire soul in the work, and that the nation cares more for peace than public libraries, museums, conservatories, natural scenery and human sympathy. The reason he mingles these subjects with his lecture on books and reading is because they show the lack of an education in the ordinary habits of thought.

Ruskin concludes his lecture with an earnest plea to become magnanimous, mighty of heart, mighty of mind. He who does this is rising to a powerful kingship. His spirit is entering into living peace. He is laying up treasures whereof no one can deprive him. To illustrate this he pictures France and England first as buying panic and terror from one another and then as having museums, conservatories and public libraries with a royal series of books, printed in clear type on good paper with a broad margin and bound with strong covers; libraries which shall open all day and evening for those who are interested. Such he says are the treasures of a nation. Such is the true gold.

"Of Kings' Treasuries" is the title of a lecture on books and how to read them. The theme is "Advancement in Life". This includes becoming conspicuous or in truth to get into good society. The best society is found in books. To enter the ranks of the noble we must be willing to be caught by them and enter into their heart-thoughts.

A. M. M. '06
of the "B" class went along with them in their private car as far as Alton. There they horrified the passengers with their class-yells.

Prof. Soulen was nonplussed when he learned that Kuyper had actually dared to skip a couple studies in order to see Big John off. Poor Kuyper! We see his finish.

If you want to hear some revised versions of the Ten Commandments just attend Bible Study once and you can hear all kinds of them.

Do you know that Bauman actually comes to breakfast once or twice a week?

Mr. Mulder has left the club. Something must be the matter with the board bill. You had better investigate, Schwitters.

Brink chased the way-freight all the way from Maurice to Orange City, a few Mondays ago, so that it actually got here ahead of time.

Library books are now being drawn under the new system.

Schwitters went to Clovis City, Minn., for a few days to attend a wedding. We have been unable to find out who it was, but he claims it was a niece. Anyway he had a big time waiting on tables, telling stories and . . . . . . laughing.

Brink says the eclipse of the moon occurs when there are stars going around it.

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A fierce battle was fought Mar. 8, between three roosters of Prof. Soulen's pet flock. When one felt like dying, the other two fought and thus they went the rounds, until all three had to quit on account of lack of breath.

Say, Schwitters, isn't it about time you put in and pay for that broken window pane as per agreement?

Dykstra has temporarily quit school to help his brother move to Dakota.

At a recent baseball meeting, Mr. Huisenga was chosen captain and Mr. W. Hoppers manager. A subscription is being taken up and if you haven't given anything yet, show your loyalty to the team by "digging up." We wish to thank the girls for their kindly interest and support.

Miss Nettie Bogaard of the "A" class entertained her classmates at her elegant home, four miles out in the country, Thursday evening Mar. 15. After some musical selections had been rendered and some games played, they were treated to a toothsome repast. The party returned at a late hour having spent a most enjoyable evening.

Prof. Hoppers made a mistake (?) the other day by giving the "B" history class a lesson of 17 pages instead of seven.

What was proving to be an interesting mock trial at our socie-
ty Mar. 16 was cut short by the ring of the fire bell. By the time we got up town the fire had been extinguished.

Mr. Sickenga paid the Academy a farewell visit Mar. 9. On the following day he left for Washington.

We have received information that a certain "B" class girl circulated a note saying that the party given by Miss Scott was written up better by the town paper than by the Classic. This is an unfair criticism. If you want your class parties detailed, tell us about them and we will gladly do so.

A few Sunday evenings ago Billy G. was seen to accompany from church a lady of size and age rather unequal compared with his.

For some unknown reason Prof. Muste was not able to meet his classes Mar. 19. Rock Valley must be a fascinating town.

Since our last issue the Academy has been the recipient of two delightful surprises the announcement of which fairly made the chapel walls ring with enthusiastic cheering. The one, a draft from Mrs. C. Rapelye of New York with which to purchase a new piano gladdened the hearts of all. With this new acquisition the Academy will be enabled to equip a music room and give its students that much needed supplement to their academic course.

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invites the  
LADY STUDENTS  
to inspect her fine line of  
MILLINERY.

a musical training, Mrs. Rapelye, who has won such a large place in the hearts of students and faculty, could hardly have made the institution a more agreeable surprise. The classic voices the sentiment of all by extending to the kind donor our hearty thanks.

The second very acceptable gift was a set of the "Worlds Best Literature" consisting of twenty large volumes. Such works, containing, as they do, the best that of all ages prove especially valuable to students whose reading so largely directs their future thought and actions. Mr. Ed. Brown, the jovial Rock Valley editor, who made this donation appreciates the fact that such works do most good in higher educational institutions and accordingly made our school a present that will be appreciated by all Academy friends. Three cheers for such kind friends.

De Alumnus.

'01 Gerrit J. Pennings from Hope College and '01 J. J. Heeren from Haward were chosen as delegates to the Student Volunteer Convention held at Nashville, Tenn., on Feb. 28th.

'94 Miss Katie Kramer who is teaching in the Public school here, spent Sunday Feb. 24th at her home in Hospers.

'01 Corrie G. Hospers went to Chicago the 10th.

'95 An article was recently
written in "De Volksvriend" by Rev. C. H. Span on the dedication of an Academy in Cordell, Okla.

'02 Miss Fay Wilcox, teacher in the Hawarden schools, spent Sunday Feb. 24th with her parents in O. C.

'00 Mr. Gerrit Slob was chosen treasurer of the O. C. School board.

'05 Misses Minnie Van Gorp and Hattie Mullenburg '04 are enjoying their spring vacation at home.

Exchange.

"The talent of success is nothing more than doing what you can do well, and doing well whatever you do without a thought of fame. If it comes at all it will come because it is deserved, not because it is sought after".

"Willie," said the Sunday school teacher, "can you tell why Rachel wept for her children?"

"I guess it must have been because the preacher came when she wasn't lookin' for him and seen them afore they got cleaned up."

"What is an anecdote, Johnny?" asked the teacher. "A short, funny tail," answered the little fellow. "That's right," said the teacher. "Now, Tommy, you may write a sentence on the black-board containing the word." After a few moments' hesitation Tommy produced the following: "A rabbit has four legs and one anecdote."

"There's so much bad in the best of us, And so much good in the worst of us, That it hardly behoves any of us, To say anything against the rest of us."

Mother—Tommy, what's your little brother crying that way for? Tommy (who has taken the little fellows cake)—I guess that's the only way he knows how to cry, ma.

So many fail where one attains success, We quite forget to make our ideal loss, And gain an end. Fearing that we may fail We, many times, neglect to strive at all.

What the assured cannot foresee A Northwestern Policy may provide for.

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We quite forget to make our ideal
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And gain an end. Fearing that
we may fail
We, many times, neglect to strive
at all.

of special interest to women.
It is doubtful if any other newspaper in the United States caters so successfully to the varied interests of the home as does The Chicago Record-Herald. There is a fashion article in every issue; a department devoted to interesting items of amusing variety concerning matters in which women have special interest; Mme. Qui Vive's "Woman Beautiful" column, in which questions concerning the toilet, etc., are answered and useful hints are given; "Meals for a Day," including menus and recipes for the three meals every day; an installment of a high-grade serial story, and in addition the "Stories of the Day" column on the editorial page. S. E. Kiser's hu

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