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SPHINX

VOLUME 4 # NUMBER 6
MADISON, WIS., DECEMBER 20, '02



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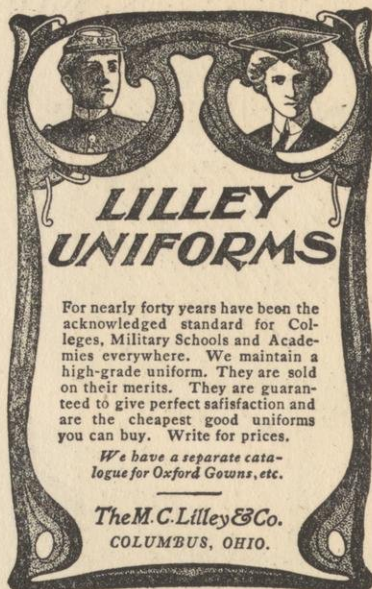
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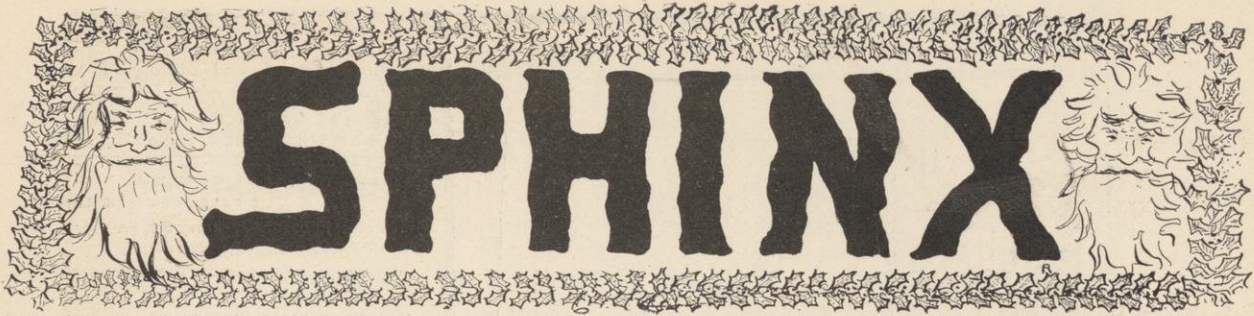
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Homeward Bound.

The world goes swinging on through space,
In much the same old humdrum style;
Yet time is bringing to each face
A newer, gladder, sweeter smile.
There's joy and kindness in the air—
The books and pens are laid away;
We're going home; away with care!
We're going home for Xmas day!

Let earth go rushing as it whirls
Along the course it has to go;
At home are blushing, loving girls—
At home are sprigs of mistletoe.
The world might break a trace and try
To throw its work aside and play;
We could not blame it, you and I—
We're going home for Xmas day!

Who says there's study to be done?
Who speaks of Profs. or classes, who?
Old Santa, ruddy, full of fun,
Is all the Prof. we ever knew.
The Xmas turkey fattens fast,
The Xmas gifts are in array;
We're going, going home at last,
We're going *home* for Xmas day!

A. B. B.



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Future appointments to the staff will be made on a basis of contributions received.

Always remember that this is only pretence, so that you are not to believe a word of it, even if it is true.—Kingsley

NOW THAT the holiday recess is almost here again THE SPHINX desires to wish her readers a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. She hopes that Old Santa will out-do himself in liberality, and that each one of you will not fail to make at least one New Year's resolution. It is well, however, to make several—make as many as you can. The more you make the more fun you will have the rest of the year breaking them. Resolutions are one of our most useful institutions. They give us a chance to laugh at ourselves, and to discover that we are very much like other people after all.

Of course no one ever has trouble in selecting just the right present for the family and the "others," but if any one should, don't hesitate for a moment. Just ask THE SPHINX about it. She has had lots of experience and she knows. She will even undertake to go herself for the rest of the year, and agree that she will do her best to make people happy. All you have to do is to pay her traveling expenses, and they are very small.



NOW THAT this is the season for introspection, it is a proper time for us to ask ourselves whether we lack those things here at Wisconsin which we might have by a little exertion and sacrifice. That poor word, college "spirit," has been used until it is tired. Many things have been done in its name, from daubing red paint into class numerals, to winning a joint debate. But let us talk now of traditions, the outcome of true college spirit and the cause of its continuous existence. Has Wisconsin developed traditions of her own? She has been in existence over half a century, only a part of a page surely, in Father Time's calendar, but long enough to have given her well established customs.

Tradition is hard to define and still harder to create. It is a slow growth and is the outcome of the actions, not of one man, nor of several men, but of all. When once recognized it is a power that is hard to break down.

Those who are in literary societies know its influence best. The memory of the old heroes is preserved. The men who have left the society keep in close touch with it. They are always ready to be called upon to work in its interests. Every debater knows that a victory means almost as much to the older men as it does to the active members. No society would do hard and faithful work unless compelled by its traditions.

It would be impossible to point out any one thing to which the lack of University tradition may be ascribed, but first and most important, we lack the hearty and active support of the alumni. After the football season closed one alumnus wrote, giving us sound and straightforward counsel. There ought to have been a hundred such letters. Under-graduates like to feel that the old men are with them. The alumni can keep the University up to its best ideals by being in close touch with the students. All of us seem to be imbued too much with the spirit of getting all that we can from the University and giving nothing in return.

There is no provision made for an attractive assembly room for the students. Even the old statues that used to stand in Old Library Hall and the many busts that were in the old reading room, and that used to give to the whole place something of a classic atmosphere, have been "stored" in the Historical Library. If there is any excuse for their being at all, why not place them properly instead of in a room where the ceiling scarcely allows them to stand erect, and where students seldom go.

Old Library Hall is as bare and cheerless as a deserted house, while many paintings that might be used here are scattered promiscuously about the class rooms. The Hall cannot be said to be beautiful in itself, but it is the only room that may be considered open to all the students. Here all the forensic contests and the weekly convocations are held, and something might be done to relieve its bare outlines.

A door in the Gymnasium announces the trophy room, but inside is a confusion of mats, platforms, torn bunting and pianos. A stranger might be led to the conclusion that these are the only athletic trophies that we possess. The Gymnasium is the home of athletics, yet there is not a place in the building where one may find a record of what our athletes have done, nor the tokens of their victories. Nothing is done to perpetuate the memory of our great athletes or of the teams.

Every year many athletic pictures are taken, and of these three or four have found their way to the Gymnasium. Merely preserving the likenesses of former teams may seem a small thing in itself, yet it helps to bind the present to the past. These things increase in value with time, and if this custom had been inaugurated from the start we would now possess a collection of athletic tokens that would make the Gymnasium more interesting, and of which every student would be proud.

No buildings or furnishing will create college spirit or traditions. They are the outcome of more than these. But the want of interest in doing what easily can be done, to preserve the past, shows the lack of anything that can be called well-defined tradition.



A quitter is a mistake which has never been apologized for.

A page of pony is worth an hour of stabbing.

Who hath not nerve, verily he shall be conned repeatedly.

Xmas is mostly a clearing house for favors which no one owes.

He—I have always yearned for the love of a good true woman.

She—But arn't you rather old for such things?

He—Its never too late to yearn.

Positive Proof.

They say he is a good student.

Good student! Well, I guess he is!

Why, he elected Vic Coffin's Modern European History in his senior year.



At the Summer Resort.

Junior (newly arrived)—Gee, what a gang of pretty girls you've got here. But they all seem rather sunburned.

Johnson—Yes, it gets very noisy here frequently from the belles peeling.

He Got Fired.

Ki.—What's the matter with you and Helen?

Yi.—You see, I took her to the hop the other night. She had a stunning dress, but I found myself traveling on the part that was trailing behind her. She said, "please, get off my train!" I was idiot enough to try a joke, so I answered: "Don't have to; I'm conductor." Then she got mad and informed me that she was general manager of the clothes line; and now she won't speak to me.

The Fable of the Two Co-eds.

Once upon a Time two Girls, who had received Sheep-skins from a High School, came to the Varsity. As they had, for a long Time, told each other their Secrets and giggled together, they naturally made their Headquarters in the same Room.

Jeannette was one of those bewitching little Brunettes with Bituminous Hair and Anthracite Eyes. She always walked down the Street with a Mit full of Skirts held just high enough to reveal the upper Edge of her Oxfords. With fifteen Minutes jollyng, she could have any Fellow going straight to the Pal for Bitter-Sweets, which she could surround by the Box. She never cut a Man, and often went a Block out of her Way in order to give a Particular one the Curling Lip.

Now Jessie was one of those Sorrel Topped sanguine Creatures who from the Rear resemble a California Sun Set. She never wore out Shoe Leather on the Waxed Floor, and seldom sat alone with a Man in the dark Corner of the Piazza. She wasn't a very brilliant Social Light, but she could certainly annihilate an Algebra Problem, or make a Page of Virgil look like fifteen Two Cent Stamps.

A Month or two passed rapidly by. Jeannette was taken in by a Sorority, and introduced to every Spender in the Varsity. She always had a full Program at every Hop that happened. She went out among 'em six Nights in the Week and twice on Sunday, in fact, she had more Dates than an African Palm. You never could collide with her, not even on the Hill during Class Hours.

Jessie, however, made few Acquaintances, and most of these were Girls who stood on Spots next to hers at Gym Drill. She generally spent her Evenings at 1250 State Street, or at the Library. Once in a great while she had an Engagement with the Self Government Association, or the Y. W. C. A.

When the Middle of January came around, Jeannette cut out her Society Stunts except with one or two Particulars who had made especially Good. She spent most of her Time now buried in a Pile of Pillows and Books, cramming Day and Night. Jessie too redoubled her Efforts, and even the Furniture began to look Wise.

Finally the Week of Torture passed. Jeannette got a nice little Bunch of Fairs with a Good thrown in as a Sort of Prize. Jessie, of course, pulled five Ex's.

In this Way the four Years passed, and both Girls were Finished. Soon after, Jeannette was married to Tom, who had graduated the Year before, and on any bright Day you may see a Streak whiz by, as she speeds down the Pike in her Automobile. Jessie now earns Thirty Plunks per, walking three and a half Miles to and from a Country School.

MORAL: *Be crafty.*

J. E. B.

Mr. Beaumont—(Head of a trustful oil company.)—At present there is but little friction in the company.

Mrs. Beaumont—Of course not. The company is oiled well.

WISCONSIN ROWDYISM?

Another Riot Among the Students—Plate Glass Smashed and Houses Burned Down!

(Special dispatch to the Sentinel.)

MADISON, Wis., Dec. 15.

Another brutal riot took place here last night. One thousand students—nearly all of whom were intoxicated—gathered together on the campus and, shouting "Rough-house! tear up the town!" marched up State street singing 'varsity songs and hurling stones through the windows. The plucky Madison police, led by their modest but brave chief, Capt. Baker, charged the mob, but were overcome by superior numbers. Capt. Baker received a bad cut across the mouth, which will incapacitate him for duty for some time. Four other police were injured, and one was killed, shot by an unknown miscreant in the crowd.

After the police were disposed of, the students went mad and pandemonium reigned. Respectable citizens barricaded their houses, and the town was in the midst of a wild sack, in which the students broke into stores, terrorized the street-car men, entered offices and even cut telegraph wires. The house of Dr. Elsom, professor of Freshman Anatomy, was burned to the ground. The students finally marched upon the capitol yelling, "Skin the officeholders alive," and bombarded the secretary of state's office with rotten vegetables. Mr. Froelich attempted to reason with the crowd, but his nose was broken by a large dried pineapple, which also badly lacerated his face.

Gov. La Follette at last called out the militia, and after a severe fight, in which twenty students were injured and three killed by the militia firing into the crowd, they finally quieted the town.

All the ring leaders have been arrested and are now waiting trial in the county jail. Among them are five prominent seniors and thirty well-known fraternity men. An attempt was made early this morning to rescue them, but was thwarted by the vigilance of the militia.

Dean Birge, acting president of the University, is considerably annoyed by the outbreak, but no vigorous measures will be

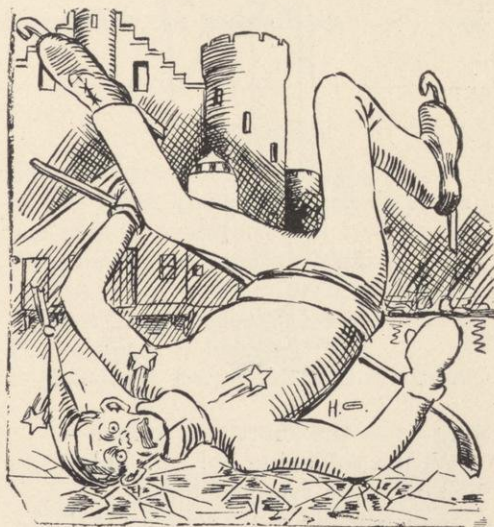
taken, because it is whispered that several instructors and three professors were in the mob. It is understood that Professor Yang Fu of the Chinese department will be asked to resign. He lectured yesterday morning upon student riots in China, and is looked upon by Dean Birge as the instigator of the riot.

Madison is very quite to-day. Several prominent merchants are figuring on the damages sustained, and believe the total will reach \$100,000.

They were running up the street, when the slow one stopped suddenly. The swift one came back. "What you quittin' for?" he said.

The slow one thought a minute. "Well," he said, "My foot hurts."

"Gee," answered the swift one, "that's a lame excuse." Then he added quickly, "footless, too." Then he died.



Theatrical Term—Starring in his own company.

They made a carpet of nails;
(I'm not one of those persons who rails,
At what people do;)
It wears, it is true,
But that carpet for comfort quite fails.

S. M.

Mrs. X—This newspaper is getting just horrid.

Mr. X—What now?

Mrs. X—Why, you know poor Cyrus Long who died last week?

Mr. X—Yes, always behindhand in everything. Ought to have died before.

Mrs. X—That's just it. The paper refers to him as the *late* Cyrus Long. Ain't that horrid?



Sing hey—the short course man—
 With a rollicking ho! ho! ho!
 The oats, the rye, the bran;
 Sing hay the short course man!
 He works as best he can,
 "Scant hours the fates bestow;"
 Sing hay the short course man,
 With a rollicking hoe, hoe, hoe.

M. B.

He—Watching the hurdles—Why don't you try for the hurdles? I think it would be easy.

She—Blushing—Why?

He—Isn't a deer good on the jump.

It happened at the Chicago game. Beside me sat a Wisconsin freshman with his girl. The girl was one of these smooth, well-dressed maidens whose every move showed that she was one of Chicago's prides, and the freshman didn't seem to be at all ashamed of her either. The only thing that marred his pleasure was a man who sat two or three rows back. This fellow I recognized as a fellow fraternity man of the freshman. At every good play by Wisconsin the man in the rear would yell, "Pretty good, eh! What do you think of that, Billy?" Now and then he would lean forward and poke the freshman in the small of the back. He seemed determined to let everyone know that the two were acquainted. The freshman's girl seemed to be watching the proceedings with interest. Finally she turned to her consort and said, "Say, Billy, tell me who is your friend?" The freshman turned around and looked at his brother behind him. "Oh, that," he said, to the girl, "I don't know who it is. Some lobster up at Madison that thinks he knows me, I guess."

A Winter Idyll.

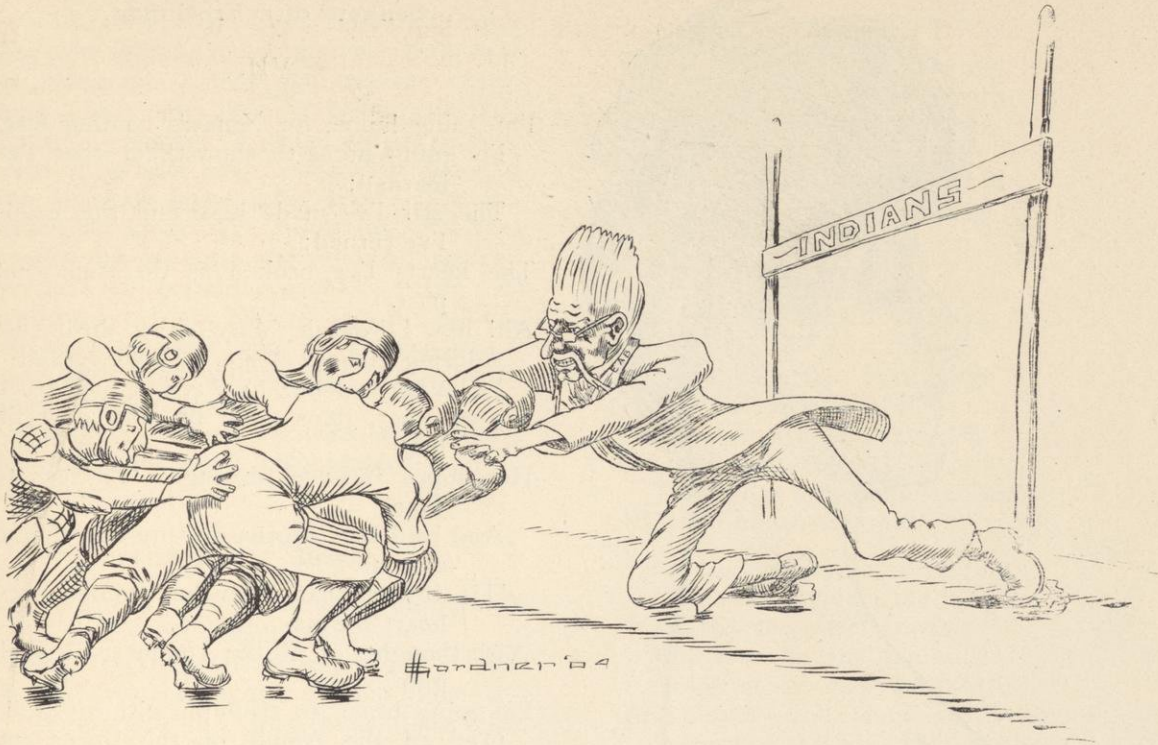
The snow is singing on the fire,
 The teapot boils upon the bough,
 The dog chirps on the trolley wire,
 The hedge hog draws the early plow,
 The sweet potato sips its beer,
 For winter's here!
 Grim winter's here!

Without it's ninety in the shade,
 The ice is thick upon the grass,
 The rills are running lemonade,
 Within the fire has froze the gas,
 My toes are burning up I fear,
 For winter's here!
 Grim winter's here!

The bed tick crawls along the floor,
 The hall clock's sweating with the heat,
 My voice is frozen to the door,
 And I am talking with my feet;
 The arm chair gently chaws my ear,
 For winter's here!
 Grim winter's here!

R. H. K.

Life is short, why make it shorter
 Doing things we hadn't orter?



VARSIITY NOTES—Because of several unforeseen obstacles the football team will not go West this vacation.

The Sphinx sat thoughtfully in the sand. The Sphinx couldn't help it. She had to sit there. And as she sat she cogitated. This explains why she sat thoughtfully. And her thoughts were sweet. "For," she whispered to herself (which was easy for a Sphinx,) "I have no Xmas shopping to do. I have all the room I want and oceans of sand, but I don't believe I have the sand to go shopping." Here the Sphinx chuckled a bit at her own joke, and a bit of her left ear fell down and smashed an archeologist. "Also," she meditated, "although for centuries I have heard people rave over my majestic presence, no one sends me any. Candy at 10 cts. a box, or seventy-five cent shirtwaists don't bother me, and I don't have to worry over buying something for my husband that he can afford." Here the Sphinx sighed happily, and absent-mindedly tipped an Arab off her eyebrow. "Lastly, I do not worry over my Xmas recess, for my course was laid out for me when all the higher classes had a perpetual vacation," and as the desert sun set with a bang, the Sphinx laughed aloud, and scrunched a professor who fell into a crack on her forehead.

J. H. T.

Triolets.

The misletoe is hanging high,
 And Janet knows full well its there;
 She stands beneath it and I sigh,
 The misletoe is hanging high.
 "What's worth the doing's worth the try,"
 Janet has whispered! What a dare!
 The misletoe is hanging high,
 And Janet *knows* full well it's there.

He raised the orphan from his door,
 And gave him quite a start in life;
 The orphan boy had made him sore,
 He raised the orphan from his door,
 "I'll teach you" (and he roundly swore),
 "To ask me for my girl to wife!"
 He *raised* the orphan from his door,
 And gave him quite a *start* in life.

There was a young man at Kehoe,
 Who used to live mostly on snow;
 He was blind as a bat,
 And legless at that,
 For he was a snow man, you know.

W. I. W.



“The Angel.”

I know a little fairy, her name is Madaline;
Whom I'm backing up to play a steller
role.
Her voice is very fitting for a comic opera
queen,
She uses it to charm away my soul,
I have never been with stage folks; that is
not enough to know,
But she tells me she will prove a winning
card.
She advised me not to worry, just to give
her half a show,
It's all right, but she has touched me
pretty hard.
I have “cut” my class in dancing, am using
some text books
A student at the college used before.
I have shoved my summer glad rags, and
am eating twice a day,
But then eating really is a horrid bore.
Well it's all right Madie, my ten-twent-
thirty risk;
Some day I'll see your ship come sailing
in,
When you have May Irwin going, and
have outclassed Gilson too,
We will marry and divide the load of tin.

T. J. L.

Sonnets of a Freshman.

VII.

I'm going home, for Xmas's coming fast,
I'm going home to show them what I've
learned;
The stir I've made here and the heads
I've turned;
The hearts I've broken as the time went
past.
Ah! how I'll dazzle Mary—how she'll cast
Adoring glances at me. Unconcerned
I'll let her worship, for *I've* vainly yearned
To win her, days gone by, and now I'll
blast
Her hopes in sweet revenge. I'll turn to
Jane,
And lead her captive to my new found
charms.
'Tis brains that win the women—my
heart warms
With thoughts of all the conquests I shall
gain.
I'm going home to triumph with my brain
O'er all the people of the towns and
farms.

A. B. B.

A Case of Jolly.

“What a girl likes,” said the Senior at the
head of the table, “is to be jollied.”
“Yes, indeed,” the Fat Engineer added,
“even if she knows you're jollying her.”
“Possibly,” responded the Girl, “if *she*
knows you're jollying, but not if she knows
that you know that she knows you're jolly-
ing.”
“Yes,” said the Senior, “or. going even
farther, if you know that she knows that
you know that she knows you're jollying—
the thing stills holds true.”
“Nonsense,” snapped the Girl; “look at
it logically. The girl likes to be jollied;
admitting that, and admitting that she likes
to be jollied even if she knows that you're
jollying her—does it follow that she likes it
when she knows that you know that she
knows that you're jollying; or, taking an ex-
treme case, when she knows that you know
that she knows that you know that she
knows that you know that she knows you're
jollying?”
“Certainly, she does,” responded the Fat
Engineer, “and if you don't believe me,” he
added. “come out on the porch and I'll
prove it to you.”

KIM.

"Genevieve," he said, and his voice trembled with his love, "do you not believe my sincerity, I love you beyond everything, above my life, my honor, my University. Darling, I have gone through much to be near you. I have cut convocation to walk home with you." The girl turned her prond face from him. "I have pawned my watch to take you to parties." Her face still remained averted, "And," he continued, his face lighted with his sublime passion, "for your sake to be near you, I have undergone a semester of Economic History under Scott."

The girl crept into his arms for she knew that such a love was unassailable.

K. T.

Heard in Class.

Instructor:—"What is an hyperboloid?"

Student:—"It's equation is ____"

"But can't you tell me something it looks like so I would recognize it when I meet it."

"Well-well. I-I can't think of anything it looks like unless its a corset."

What will the scientists do when everything has been investigated, correlated, formulated and accepted? When all the water-puppies have been dissected and described, when all the rock specimens have been classified, when all the microbes have been caught and marshalled in armies on glass what then will the biologists, geologists and bacteriologists find to occupy their time and microscopes?

In Physics Quiz—What is force?

"Hygienic" Student—Force is something similar to Malta-Vitae.

Cousin came to visit us,
At our cooking made a fuss;
Said our meat was very tough.
Cousin acted very rough;
Said "I will and must be fed;"
Killed and ate our baby Ted.
Said our ways were such a bother;
Tried to cut a steak off father.
Mother said, "He's so high handed,
Cousin must be reprimanded."

P. N.

According to Horace.

The gusts without are blowing,
The wind is whistling shrill;
Within, the firelight's glowing
Beats off the wintry chill.

Come, take no thought of ill
But drink to love and Momus;
Let those be sad who will
"Dum vivimus vivamus!"

What pleasure lies in knowing
The fates we must fulfill?
Tho' fortune cease bestowing
The past is loyal still.

When Death has taken Jill
And all we lived for from us
Then grief may come and kill—
"Dum vivimus vivamus!"

What though the day be going;
(The sun hangs on the hill);
What tho' the water flowing
Will soon be past the mill?
Sometime no love shall thrill
And Death—dull Death—shall calm us;
Sometime the wine shall spill—
"Dum vivimus vivamus!"

Envoy.

Prince, 'tis not long until
Thy funeral choirs shall psalm us,
Yet, ere we test their skill—
"Dum vivimus—vivamus!"

H. G. W.

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T'Other (with good intentions): O no; don't be afraid; see how intelligent they all look.—*Yale Record.*

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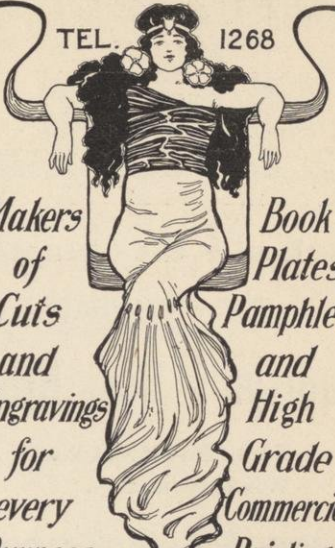
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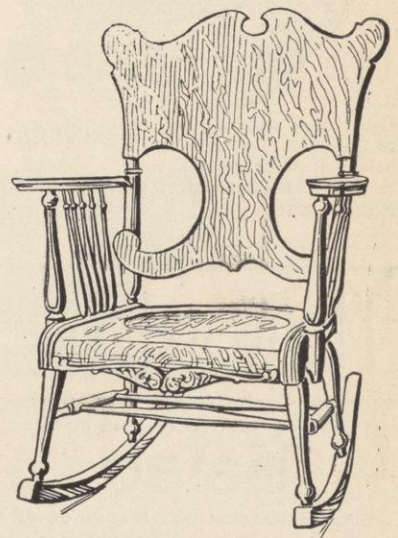


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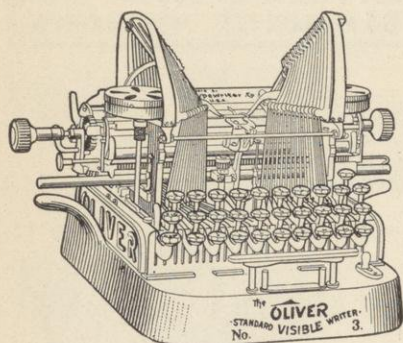
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