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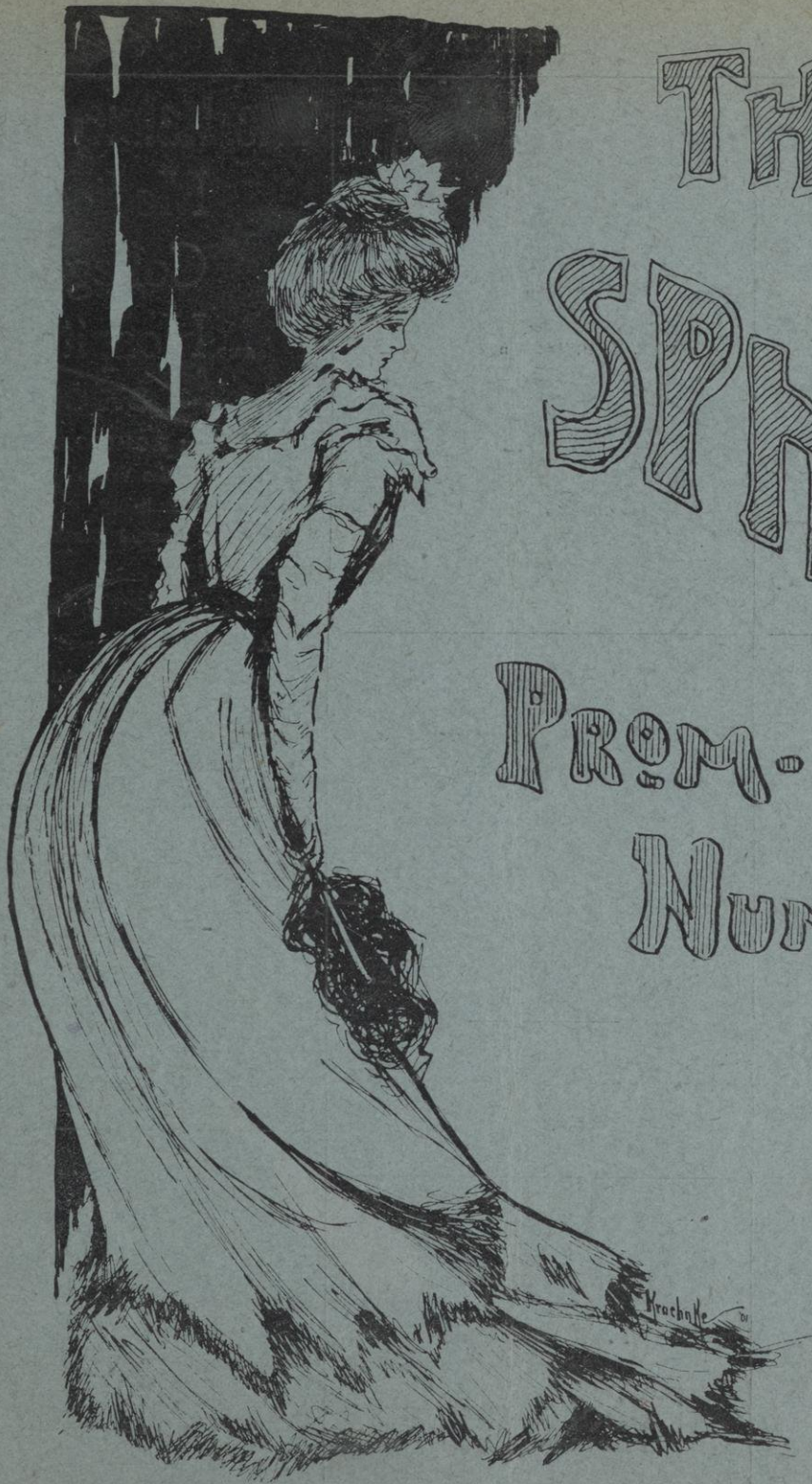
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# THE SPHINX

PROM-

NUMBER



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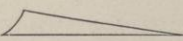
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# THE SPHINX.

Vol. II.

MADISON, WIS., FEBRUARY 9, 1901.

No. 9



## Retort Courteous.

PRETTY CO-ED.—What can this mean! I've a report of *Fair* in all my courses.

GALLANT YOUTH—Oh, that means you're a fair student.

## He Got Through.

MRS. BROWN—How did your son succeed in his examinations at the University.

MRS. JONES—Well, Dean Birge told him his eyes could stand the strain until June.

## In the Peanut Parquet.

There are many, many pleasures which we mark as brightest treasures,  
And in happy retrospection rank among life's chiefest joys,  
But the one that sticks the longest, and in memory is strongest,  
Is the "show" night down at Fuller's in the gallery with the "boys."

There are men from "Arts and Letters," engineers in ruddy sweaters,  
Senior laws, and short-course Agrics; all contribute to the noise  
Which proclaims to formal Fellows who sit nearer to the 'cellos,  
That up here we're free and easy, eating peanuts with the "boys."

There is josh, and joke and jolly, all the very height of folly,  
While the big, good-natured "copper" while his useless "billy" toys,  
Till the foot-lights' flare advises, just before the curtain rises,  
That the seat-back view's the best one, in the sky joint with the "boys."

When the hero plants sweet kisses, there is smacking loud,—  
but hisses  
Greet the hoarse-voiced villain's scheming, and disturb his equipoise,  
And a score of strong field-glasses focus on the shapely lasses  
As they cast coy glances upward toward the "heaven" and the "boys."

You who sit on velvet cushions, in a "look-at-Me" position,  
Where the sound of car and carriage from the street outside annoys,  
For a rich appreciation of dramatic presentation  
Pay two-bits and rush the stairway to the gallery with the "boys."

## About Girls.

This is a pretty broad subject to handle; perhaps one girl would be easier to treat; not, however, the one famous as "Just One Girl," but just one single girl, not single as opposed to marriage, not such an old girl as that, although some single girls do live to be pretty old, and some when old do manage to look pretty, but that is quite an art. It seems to be as hard for a girl to be pretty when 'old as to be old when pretty—excepting, of course, for the art. You may say that you know one single pretty girl who is not an artist, but very natural, but that is not because she is single or pretty or because she is not naturally artistic. Every girl, you know, thinks she is natural, but not so with every girl I know. Well, to go back to the old girl—not the antiquated one or the married one, mind you, but the girl I started to treat in the first place—But I guess it will be a saving not to treat her after all, and just as well, or better, I think. Don't you?

## THE SPHINX.

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

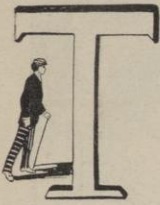
HERE is a subject THE SPHINX has long wanted to say something about, but of which she has forgotten so much that she always feels scary when she begins to talk upon it, even to herself, and that subject is Art. But the other day she found a person, a student,—yes, a senior, whose ignorance of this great subject caused her to blush for the man's training, at the same time that it emboldened her to speak. This senior knew positively nothing of that great Irish painter, Mike—Michael—Mike—never mind his surname anyway, the same one who painted the famous scene of the curfew or Angelo—Angelus,—that is the name. There, THE SPHINX herself is confused again. And that brings her to the point she has been wanting to make: She wishes she had a chance to refresh her memory upon this subject of Art—upon pers—(is it perspective or prospective) and Reubens, and proportion and Rembrandt. And she wishes we could have those art lectures and exhibits such as were given two or three weeks ago, oftener. She meant to speak about it before. She enjoyed them. And why couldn't we make them real gala occasions, events, so to speak? For instance, we might serve coffee up in the rotunda and run the elevator a quarter of an hour overtime, on the days of the show. Then it might be appropriate (THE SPHINX will suggest it if nobody else will) for the several fraterni-

ties to give house parties, and informal post-linear-prospective, and ante-Leonardo dea-what's-his-name-hops down at Keeley's and Kehl's.

\* \* \*

It may be objected that this plan is a trifle too spasmodic and discontinuous to inculcate permanent lessons in art but THE SPHINX offers it merely as a suggestion for an improvement along our present lines. She used to think there was some hope for a school of art here at Wisconsin, and when the fees took their last jump she felt sure her wish would be fulfilled. But alas! while the school of music thrives like a Prom-Girl, the biologist has opportunity to plat the curve of the sensory-sympathetic nerve in a bull-frog's off front paw, the engineer has instruments for testing the amount of linseed oil escaping through the smoke stack of the city power house, the historian has pamphlets which tell how much the Rubicon rose when Cæsar and his army got into it, the poor art student can't get anyone to show him how to draw a picture of his dresser to send home to mother. Still if we can't get a regular school of art, let's push the other idea, the coffee-and-event-scheme. The lectures and pictures are good if we could only attract the people to them.

## Latitude is Longitude.



THE girl wore her new waist last night when the science instructor called on her. She was a pretty girl and the new waist was pretty, too. Altogether the combination was so irresistible that the visitor could not refrain from a few complimentary quotations with original notes.

The girl declared the dress-maker had spoiled her costume—the stripes running around her made her look short. The scientist courteously, but as one having authority, denied the statement. "Vertical lines," said he, "give the effect of breadth, horizontal lines, the effect of height."

The girl had two ambitions, one was to win the approval of the scientist, the other to add to her five feet and no inches worth mentioning. Now the first became last and the last first, as she warmly argued a contrary thesis.

They debated long and earnest-



ly. Finally the scientist drew from his pocket a small pair of scissors, paper, and a fountain pen. With bachelor's precision he folded and cut the paper, then unfolded it to disclose a row of paper dolls guilelessly holding hands. These he attired in neat and inexpensive suits of stripes—some running across like Sing Sing convicts' garb, some running up and down like old fashioned wall paper.

The girl added classic features,

and Oxford ties or buttoned boots. Finally she admitted herself defeated. Then the complacent guest became reminiscent.

"I knew a fellow at Harvard who became so interested in that problem that he had some clothes made striped across on one side and up and down the other. And when he wore them in the yard the side where the stripes ran vertically looked so short that he had to carry a cane!"

## Thoughts About Flowers.

A SYMPOSIUM.

In these trying days many a weary youth is struggling against a case of incipient insomnia—not on account of exams or possible cons, but because he is endeavoring to solve that most momentous of questions—"Shall I send her flowers?" A plenitude of contradictory advisers has driven him to despair; and the thoughts of what she will think if he doesn't, and what she will think if he does, and vain wonderment as to what color of gown she is going to wear, and what kind of flowers would go best with it if he knew what it is to be—and above all, the vision of his Prom expense account with another heavy item added—these things are making of life a thing not to be desired, and of all social pleasures a hideous nightmare. THE SPHINX, in her impersonal capacity, alone could institute the delicate inquiries which might shed light upon this all-important subject. This she has tried to do, with what success appears below. For prudential reasons, only the initials are given of the ladies who submitted answers to the question:

"Which would you rather do or have flowers?"

M. L. D.—Have flowers, of course. What's a Prom

for, if not to make a fellow blow himself once a year?

J. M.—Yes, I think—no—yes, on the whole I think I should.

A. B. S.—I don't believe a man wants to get flowers anyway. If he wants to do something, I wish he would send me a plant—say a palm, or an egg-plant. An egg-plant would be nice, because then I could make omelets for the girls in my chafing-dish.

L. R. W.—I'd rather he would take me sleighing twice instead of only once.

E. L. O.—No, most certainly not.

S. F.—I can talk better with flowers in my hand, and then I look so much more fetching that way.

B. R.—The way my man dances there won't be any room for flowers.

L. T.—I want flowers, but prefer them the next day.

O. R. N.—I'm glad enough to go to the Prom, flowers or no flowers.

D. B.—I don't like to carry flowers, and the way my waist is going to be cut there isn't any place on it for them, so what can I do?



### Faculty Society notes.

Following their usual custom members of the faculty have been giving little informal anti-prom house parties this week, which have been unusually pleasant and successful.

These parties, held in the faculty lodges, and given in such a free and hospitable spirit have always been one of the best means of making some of the more backward students feel perfectly at home.

We can only mention one or two of these functions, but it should be said that all the faculty understand how to give their guests an interesting and profitable entertainment.

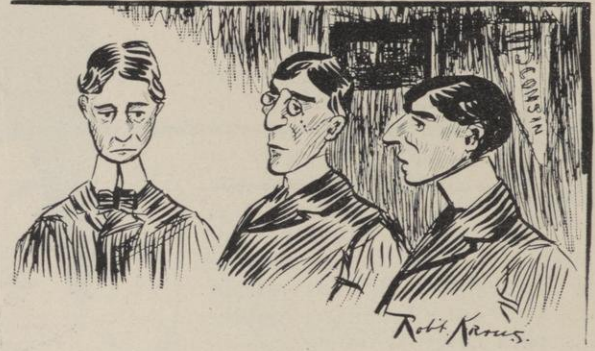
One of the first to entertain was Dr. Meyer, who opened his beautiful lodge on the left of the upper campus, on Thursday Jan. 31, from 4 to 5:30.

The guests found awaiting them neat little conundrums which they were to answer. Some of them pertained to insurance, and as the young men had been having a course of insurance with the Dr. they were able to figure out some of these. One of the cutest ones was: If the rate of mortality in an all-night restaurant at Topeka Kansas, is  $978\frac{3}{4}$  per 1000, how long will a wise Hebrew live in a fire proof building?

Dr. Stearns entertained very pleasantly at 8 A. M. and 2 P. M. on Saturday Feb'y 2. These hours had to be taken because so many of the students had engagements for the rest of the day. The Doctor passed the cunningest little blue covered books around, and then gave his guests the privilege of telling him what they knew of one or two things, 1st. The age and preparation of lady teachers in Bohemia. 2d, What salary ought a graduate to get as principal of an 8th Grade, in order to get married in one year and bring his wife down to the Prom? Just as he finished his explanation Dr. Stearns remarked "Please write at the head of the page which one of the questions you are answering." The doctor has a felicity of entertaining ways that is all his own.

At Dr. Libby's pleasant little at-home the students got the same old questions:

- I.—Explain the relation between Cæsar's expression "Et tu Brute" to La Follette's "Primary Election Bill."
- II.—Why did Napoleon put on red socks before the Battle of Austerlitz?
- III.—What influence did the Spanish Armada have on the Junior Prom.?
- IV.—(a) What expression did Marius generally use when his cook told him dinner was ready?  
(b) Give the full name of all the Roman Senators between the years 25-35 A. D.
- V.—What was Cleopatra's objection to Mrs. Nation and co-education? Why not? Where?
- VI.—Explain the following:
  - (1) The Anti-uncles.
  - (2) April 10th, 18 A. D.
  - (3) Popverataleonolmy.
  - (4) Roman history.
  - (5) Queen Elizabeth's influence on golf.



Three students bold  
With joy enrolled  
Their names last fall;  
But now their looks  
Suggest of books  
Bucked not at all.

### A Place of Tender Memories.

There's a spot in this fair city where we seldom fail to cuss;  
It has made a deep impression upon every inch of us;  
The scene that on these frosty days ne'er fails to make a hit  
Is Mayor Hoven's meat shop and the walk in front of it.

The Mayor's far from handsome, and his meat shop follows  
suit,  
And his grammar might be better by 'most any street galoot;  
But about these little weaknesses you'd never hear us talk  
If he'd only sprinkle ashes on that icy cement walk.

We know a stateman's occupied with affairs extremely big —  
When he isn't slicing sirloin or butchering a pig;  
But he might prevent his hired men — seems to us it isn't  
nice—  
From sandpapering that walk of his and coating it with ice.

There's ice on Lake Mendota, and there's ice on Pinckney  
street,  
And the gentle slide 'round Science Hall they say is hard to  
beat;  
But for certainty of dropping you, and for hardness when you  
stop,  
The record's held by that short walk in front of Hoven's shop.

### One Good Word for the Exams.

FATHER — George must be very busy with the  
examinations at Madison.

MOTHER — Why?

FATHER — Oh, because he hasn't written for money  
once the whole week.

### A Strong Student.

Little Jack Horner  
Sat in a corner  
Writing a history 'exam.  
"A pony I hold  
In my right hond so bold,  
Oh, what a strong boy, I am."



HER FIRST PROM.

THE SPHINX



THE OUT-OF-TOWN GIRL MEETS HER VARSITY UNDER-STUDY.

MADISON, WIS., FEB. 6, 1901.

DEAR MRS. SPHINX:

I thought I answered about all the questions occurring to the minds of first time Prom. goers, but several more have arisen, to which I shall reply if you will again grant me the courtesy of your columns.

1. Never mind that jolly the committee gives you about not bringing flowers, as I said before, if your folks are florists, and you have some roses coming don't cancel the order.

2. I always found that the accidental breaking of costly instruments in the lab. and the excessive registration fees were first rate. Then too you can tell him about your books—in fact I think the book song-and-dance is about the most fetching, for nothing softens a parent's heart so much as to think his good money is going into something permanent like books.

3. Oh of course you will find two or three of your choicest dances mixed. At such times you will find one of the deserted stairways or the bank of the lake good places to quietly say a few things.

4. If you expect the hack at 7:30 tell the girl to be ready at seven sharp. It will call for you about 7:45 and then you won't have to wait so long for her.

5. Why yes, of course it pays to go. What do we all go for? Sure it pays. Yes, of course.

6. No you couldn't have done a nicer thing for her.

With best wishes, and deepest sympathy,

YESSIVE BINTHAIR.

P. S.—Be careful about sitting out dances.

Y. B.

#### A Vexed Question Settled.

They were mad at each other. Thus each one defined the state of affairs, but secretly to themselves both confessed that the other must be the one who was mad, for they weren't, and they surely ought to know. (This sounds mixed up, but if you've ever been in the state you'll realize the perfect sanity of it.)

She had not given him the chance to wait for her a single time for a week, and he,—why, he had actually walked clear down the narrow sidewalk to Chattering Hall with her dearest enemy.

So they sat at opposite ends of the reading room and each waited till the other had gone, or tried to, so as to show the other that application to study was not an impossibility even when—, when,—well, when the other one was mad, and this brings us up to the beginning of the end.

Both had come to the library late that afternoon and both of them wanted nothing but the "Elizabethan Lyrics" to buck. He wanted it to review and she needed it to make up back work. He was the fortunate one, and she had to use something she didn't want, and of course, she wasted the whole afternoon. This vexed her greatly, and when, nearly

at the end of the afternoon, she saw him cross the room and lay the book on the table in front of her dearest enemy, (one can see a great deal the whole length of the reading-room, when one wants a book), she was angry, purely over the wasted time, only, of course, and flounced out of the swing-doors so abruptly that she quite swept the little Jap off his feet as she passed him in the north corridor. She snatched her wraps from the hooks, flung them around her shoulders and stalked out of the south door. It was quite dark by this time and just as she reached the head of the little flight of stairs towards the lower campus, she thought she heard a familiar footstep behind her. Involuntarily she turned and then her footing gave way and she dropped on the topmost step. In an instant a voice sounded in her ear, "What is it, dear? Lean on me. Is it your ankle?" Her only answer was, "Oh, George, I'm so sorry I acted so." "Don't stop to think of my brutality now," he said firmly. "Is it your ankle again? Yes? Well, I'll help you down to the street and a car'll be along soon and we'll get you home and get a doctor for you. Will you wait alone while I run up stairs and tell ephone for a doctor to meet you at the house? Don't want one? All right." Slowly and with great care he helped her down the treacherous dark steps and then they stood leaning against the wall and waiting for the car. As they stood they talked, talked about,—well, various things, none very interesting to us. Finally, the car came in sight, and, as he started to help her out to the switch, she said, stammering shyly, "George,—I—I've been trying my ankle while we stood here, and,—and,—if you'll give me your arm, I think I can walk home. The car is so,—so crowded, you know."

They were both late to dinner that evening, and have been several evenings since, and we believe that the question is pretty definitely settled for them whether or not a light is needed at these stairs.

#### Love's Dream.

Beside me in the twilight dim,  
With hand in mine, she sat;  
Her touch was like an angel's touch,—  
To me it seemed e'en that.

Still full of pain was I tho' holding  
Her sweet head of flax.  
Her small boy brother had been round,  
And filled the chair with tacks.

#### Those Lab. Fees.

RAZZLE:—Going to the Prom?

DAZZLE:—No! Going to take Chemistry.



"JAMIE."

"Thought you had to buck this afternoon?"  
"Been bucking. I'm waiting for the book to cool off."

### Will it Come to This?

*Clipping from the Madison Stemocrat on the morning after the "Prom" Feb. 15th, 1925.*

The Junior Prom held at the "Gym" last night was a complete success, both socially and financially. The receipts were \$7,325.28 and as the expenses are all paid by the annual "Prom" appropriation by the Legislature it will be seen at once that the twenty-five men on the committee will each receive enough to buy a few postage stamps and obtain the *Daily Scaredinall* for the remainder of the year.

The program was arranged in three parts, each part containing 25 dances. People holding blue colored tickets were permitted to dance from 6 o'clock to 9, at which hour Chief of Police Bakerton announced that the second relay would now occupy the floor. By a little extra sprinting this relay managed to dance their number of dances. At 12 o'clock the last of the ticket holders appeared and danced until 3 A. M., when the Social Committee of the Faculty sent a message "that lights should be put out." The dancers were very much put out over this as there yet remained two more dances. The patronesses, owing to the immense crowd occupied a platform suspended from the rafters. The sight was soul thrilling and beautiful. Cid Bundell's magnificent "ad" of Manhattan shirts appeared in a conspicuous place on the platform to offset the beauty of the patronesses in a very pleasing manner. Owing to an unfortunate accident, the patronesses were compelled to occupy the platform the entire evening. Mrs. De Updeworld said the suspense was terrible. Supper was sent up to them by means of a pulley. The ladies are none the worse today for their unhappy adventure.

The music was furnished by Dahgo's celebrated orchestra from Rome, Italy, which came to this country for this one party. Their contract with the Prom. committee forbids their playing at any more dances and they must immediately disband.

The decorations were beautiful in their attempted simplicity. Big American Beauties covered every inch of the vast hall. One young lady who so forgot herself as to carry a bunch of violets in her hand was ordered from the hall by the insulted committeemen. The American Beauties, it is believed, will today be given to the poor of the city.

The programs were magnificent; a small jeweled pencil was attached to each by a golden thread. The programs themselves were made of pressed eider-down pulp, and were works of art. The price of each it is said was about \$8.00.

The supper was served at Camp Randall which had been covered for the purpose. The guests were taken there by Horseman's automobiles, and with one exception the time for the distance was less than four minutes. The supper was furnished by the chef of the Waldorf Astoria, of N. Y., assisted by Mrs. Dougherty. The olives were splendid and the cream was cold. It is believed that no more than 400 guests went hungry. This is very flattering to the supper

committee, as away back in 1900, almost the same number experienced a similar fate.

According to the rule adopted a few years ago, no co-ed was present; the number of young ladies from the Philippines and Hawai was surprisingly large. But one young woman from this state was present.

Among the most beautifully groomed men were the following:

J. F. Worthington Rockerbilt—Delta Alpha Phi—green silk shirt waist, red sash, carried in his hand a mammoth rose (price \$5,000).

S. Cleveland Rothschildren—Chi Delta Beta—long black silk coat, red ribbons in button-holes, pink slippers.

C. Johnson Astorfeller—Phi Omega Rho—blue velvet coat with his fraternity letters in gold thereon, silk trousers, white slippers.

### Can This be True?

FIRST INSTRUCTOR:—I wonder if there are any vacant lockers in the gym.

SECOND INSTRUCTOR:—There probably will be pretty soon anyway.

F. I.:—Guess I'll go down and pick out a good locker, find who its owner is, and—

S. I.:—Gee! what a scheme! We'll go in together.

MADISON, FEB. 2, 1901.

DEAR EDITOR SPINAGE:

I just wanted to say I do hope you wont let anything get in your paper which says anything mean about that visitor being turned out of a class the other day because he came in late. I know all the students feel dreadfully angry about it, and they are saying awful things about asking someone to resign or something, and about how only two or three will elect his courses next semester, but I know it's just because they don't understand. If they'd just read that apology he wrote in the *Stemocrat* they'd see they are wrong. Honestly, don't you think that is the dearest little apology you ever saw? It just explains everything. We have been wrong about how we ought to treat visitors. We should teach them to look up the schedule of recitations and then to go into the class room early and stand in the corner until all are seated, and then to sit quietly until the class is dismissed. They should think how it annoys an instructor to have them do anything else.

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To the 'Varsity Belle,  
"I've long been a friend to you.  
'Tis now my task  
To gently ask,  
May I not be your valentine too?"

Said the 'Varsity Belle  
To the Howling Swell,  
"I am sure no friend of mine,  
Such a prude would be  
As to offer me  
A comic valentine."

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SHE.—I'm awfully sorry, but it is; and I should have so enjoyed a number with you.

HE.—Oh, mine is full too you know, but there's a friend of mine coming from out of town.

SHE.—Oh—well—wait a minute.

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She turned and said,

"If you give me one to steal."

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"Why,—Why—Why," said Cholly,  
"the fool told-me it-ah-took-ah  
bwains to-ah wun an automobeles."

"Oh, well you must excuse him.  
He didn,t know you owned one."

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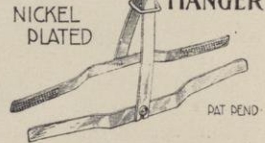
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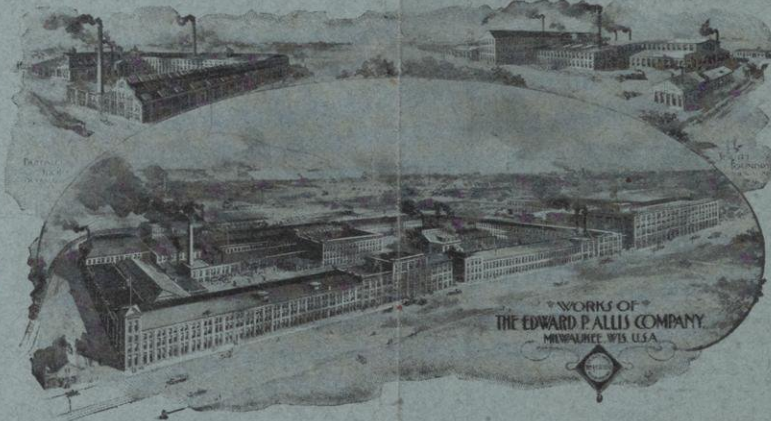
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