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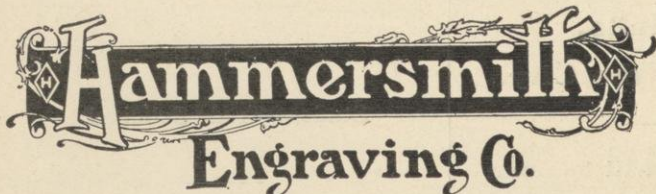
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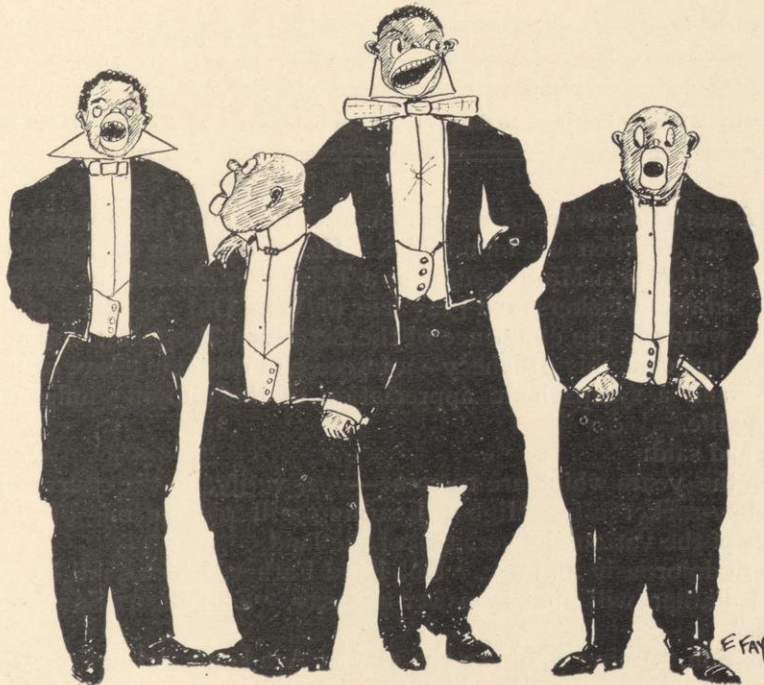
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The Sphinx

Narramore '04



THE ENGINEER MINSTRELS



THE SPHINX.

Published fortnightly during the College Year
by Students of the University of Wisconsin.

Entered at the Postoffice of Madison, Wis., as
Second-Class Matter, September 28, 1901.

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



WE were not aware of the presence of a Prophet in our midst until yesterday. Then we found him. He came not in the guise of a Fortune-teller, or a Mind-reader, or a Telepathic Artist; he wore not the venerable whiskers and gray hair of Wise Old Age; he clothed not his words in the eloquence of the Scriptural Prophets; but from beardless lips came his prophecy—a forecast nurtured in a love of outdoor sports and a sympathetic appreciation of the unifying influence of athletic contests in college life.

And he spoke and said:

Behold, how in the years which are to come—yea, verily, in the course of but a score of winters—the boy-seeker after Higher Learning will ponder long over the morocco-bound Catalogues of the various universities of the land.

And he will sigh dolorously and ask, "Oh, Kind Father, which shall I choose?"

Then the Kind Father will make answer and say, "Choose, oh Son, that one which most tempts you."

Whereupon the Son, turning again to the row of Academic Advertisers, studies anew that which they set before him.

In one he reads: "The Wisconsin State Seminary for Anaemic Adolescence offers incomparable advantages to the diligent youth who comes hither in the quest for old forgotten classic lore. There are absolutely no distractions that would tend to divert the mind of the student from the works of the ancient masters. Believing that a robust, sturdy physique is inimical to the highest mental and spiritual development, the Authorities have resurrected the medieval theory that the flesh is mortal, the soul immortal; that the body is nothing, the mind everything. This now-accepted Truth has been made the foundation of all State Seminary activities, and no student will be permitted to matriculate until he has satisfied those in charge that he can recite, verbatim, both forwards and backwards, upwards and downwards, the contents of a Chinese lexicon, and has given full evidence that he cannot lift a pound weight two feet from the ground. The only recreation permitted to students is an occasional visit to the ruins of the Gymnasium—the sole survivor of the historic Muscular Age. At present there are 25,000

female students and 89 male students in attendance, so that even were it desired, there could exist none of that frivolous and pernicious social activity which characterized state universities and colleges in the Decadent Age just passed. Students are required to attend eight lectures a day and do five hundred pages (of Congressional Record size) of outside reading each evening. Saturday is given up to light mental recreation. The several classes are divided into squads, which engage in a Root Hunting Contest. The squads spend the entire day in the Library hunting Greek roots, and the one which has found the most new specimens when the six o'clock bell has struck, is declared the winner, amid much babbling of Foreign Languages.——”

The Kind Father regards the Son with paternal pride in his eyes, for verily the Son is a fine youth, full of red blood, strong and imperious.

Then he asks of the Son: “Oh, Son, have you found the Mecca toward which you shall journey when the Fall has come?”

And the Son makes reply in this wise: “Kind Father, give me a hoe that I may go forth into the fields and work among the things that are alive and growing, for I wish naught of THIS.”



THE LAST ECHO.



WISH to congratulate our Madison fire department upon the excellent manner in which they conducted themselves at the recent fire. It was a stroke of genius to break the plate glass windows and to cut holes in the roof, thus affording plenty of draft for the flames.

It is reported that one of the heroes saved a beautiful carpet sweeper. Marry, well he thought.

There is but one criticism. A supply of coal-oil should always be on hand. Systematically applied, it never fails to make a thorough fire. However, this is only a suggestion. —*Newspaper Item.*



Uncle Sam Reinforces the University Arsenal.

The Quest

I wandered afar in the eager quest,
 With never a stop or a thought of rest;
 While down from above shown the Star of Love,
 And twinkled as if at a merry jest.
 Through city and hamlet I went elate
 And looked through each home like the eye of
 Fate;
 Wherever I sought, the reward was naught;
 But never a whit did my zeal abate.



The 'types of fair women' in Art portrayed,
 Those beautiful creatures from Fancy made;
 I sought them in vain from the Gulf to Maine;
 But still I pursued the quest undismayed.

The Orient also its veil withdrew,
 To me it revealed its most cherished few,
 And beauty was there that was passing fair;
 Yet sadly I turned to the quest anew.

And when I had journeyed for many days,
 Through wearisome countries, in endless ways,
 At last I had won and the quest was done;
 Elated I burst in a song of praise.

Ah, purer is she than the new-blown flower
 That opens its heart to the leafy bower;
 And fairer is she than Euphrosyne
 With beauty and grace for a priceless dower.

A form like the Venus of sculptured fame
 Whose charms were displayed with no thought
 of shame;
 Far bluer her eyes than the summer skies,
 And like them a bright sunny mood proclaim.

As keen is her wit as the wind-blown rain,
 Refreshing dull spirits like dry champagne;
 More faithful in love than the saints above,
 Though never was *her* love bestowed in vain.

As ardent a sweetheart as she is fair,
 This maiden with virtues beyond compare;
 The Queen of Ideals, in whom love reveals
 A constancy dearer than jewels rare.

This Angel I found by the merest chance—
 Sure Fate must have guided the circumstance—
 I happened to look in a well-worn Book
 And found her at home in an old Romance!

—F. W. MacKenzie.

Local and Personal

The Rabbitsfoot Dramatic Club have decided to present the celebrated problem play, "Mrs. Devere's Defense, or Who Bit the Archbishop's Limburger?" The author is Bernard Jaw, the talented young nephew of Sam Bernard. Critics differ about this piece; some class it as a comic opera, some think it is a tragedy; anyway, it's a problem play.

The Chi Yi Mu Sorority has secured a new mascot in the shape of a fine baritone Angora cat.

The Omega Eta Fudge Sorority, next door to Chi Yi Mu, has organized a skat club.

The Purple Serpent Club held their regular reunion at The Juneau yesterday evening and night.

The Pink Domino Club has accepted the challenge of the Checker Club to a series of match games.

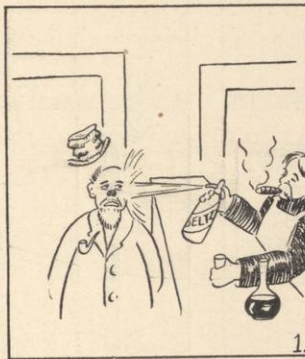
Edison Brainey, Electrical Engineering, '09, has patented a device which fills a long-felt want of the co-ed. It is an electric curling-iron heater; which can be used to make fudge, and in cases of emergency can serve as a foot-warmer. All the sororities have filed rush orders, and Chadbourne Hall will take seven dozen.

Several students spent University Day in Milwaukee. Several others spent the day in bed.

Mr. Gridiron Pigskin Football, who has been very prominent in University circles for many years, has been given leave of absence by the faculty for a year. He will spend his vacation recuperating in Obscurity.

THE SPHINX ART CRITIC.

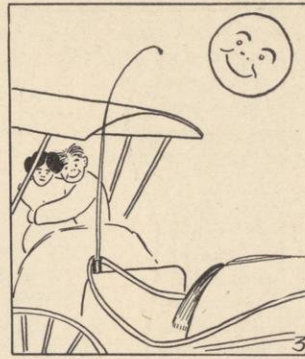
Comments on artists and their work.



Mr. A.'s wash-drawing is certainly surprising.



Mr. B. seems to understand the proper handling of high lights.



Mr. C.'s loose-line work seems to satisfy himself and amuse others.



Mr. D.'s water-color work does not satisfy the educated American taste.



Mr. E. does not seem able to get a desired smoke effect.



Mr. F. is an expert at line work, and is said to be among the best of drawers.

In the Seats of the Mighty

SCENE: The *Candy-ball* office. Also seen: the feet of Pete looming most conspicuously over the editorial desk. His benign visage is enshrouded in the thick, pungent smoke emanating from a short-stemmed French briar. John, conscious of his presence, is doubled listlessly back against the plastered wall in an unstable office chair, and preserves a respectful silence. A bunch of understudies, gathered about a broad table in the middle of the room and inhaling the reeking fumes of the paste-pot, drive their pencils as though inspired.

Breaking the momentary silence, an associate editor lifts a shrill voice as he reads aloud from the *Shouting* a scathing denunciation of Western football, by Jasper Splitknee. As he finishes with a flourish, he poises aloft his ready pencil and prepares to voice the sentiment of the student body in a brilliant editorial.

"I wonder how much of that is true?" The freshman reporter lifts his head toward the tobacco clouds. He is busy cutting out marked passages from the *Michigan Daily* with a pen knife.

"That gazaboo ought to be put in the lake," is the verdict of the sophomore news shark, as with a mighty flourish of the dripping paste brush he transfers the laurel-wreathed portrait of Eugene Marshall from the columns of a state paper to a conspicuous place among the badger heroes on the smoky wall. Then he again grabs for his pen and falls to writing.

"S-a-y, old man, rip that fellow up the back right!" John unfolds a few lengths to deliver this potent advice and again lapses into silence.

There is a commotion among the smoke clouds. The feet of the managing editor are withdrawn from the rifts and his voice sounds forth like an oracle: "It's r-rotten!"

Inspired by these profound utterances, the pen of the associate editor falls upon the waiting sheet and scratches vigorously. Thus, distraught by emotions of patriotism and inflamed by the presence of genius, was the editorial writer moved to deliver that famous sentence—the sentence that was balm to hundreds of students and that made thousands of English instructors weep—"The oracle HATH SPAKE."

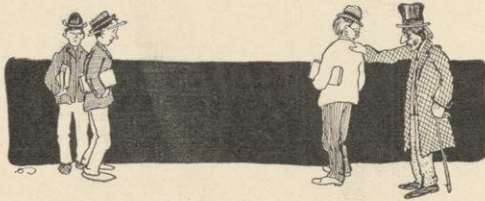


THE NEW ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.
(Run by Student Power.)

The Ancient Pedagogue.

(Scene: State St., Madison, Wis. Time, 1925 A. D.)

It was an ancient College Prof.,
And he stoppeth one of three.
"By thy long gray beard and glittering eye,
Now wherefore stopp'st thou me?"



"You barkeep's doors are open wide,
And I am scorching dry.
I long for the cheer of a stien of beer,
And thither I would hie."

He holds him with his skinny claws.
"There was a time," says he,
"When I was a prof, with a merry laugh
Upon your faculty."

"Long, long ago, we had you know,
Our college football here;
And our heroes bold, in those days of old,
Were cheered with many a cheer."

"And they were goodly students then;
They loved their college well.
And a thrill of pride would through them
ride
When they gave their college yell."

"The good old yell's forgotten now,
Camp Randall's sowed with corn,
And there's nary a glim in the good old gym
So ruined and forlorn."

His eyes stuck out like glassy orbs
'Neath his long and shaggy mane,
And the awful glare of his frightened stare
Made him look like one insane.

"What makes you look so mad, so mad,
Any why so full of fear?"
"Ah! woe is me! Ah! woe is me!
I killed athletics here!"

I slowly walked away from him,
I'd almost reached the bar,
When the old boy fell with a harrowing yell
And was killed by a trolley car.

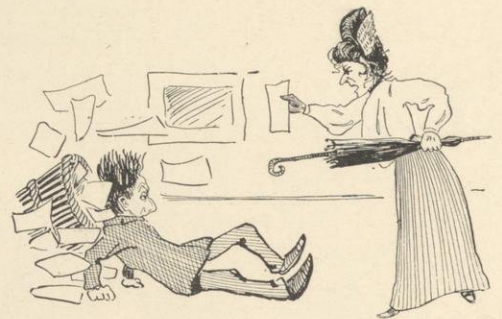


How dear to my heart was the old Night
Lunch Wagon,
When, hungry, at midnight I entered its
door!
How well I remember its gay-colored win-
dows,
The shelf round the wall and the little bare
floor.

The bright coffee boiler, the stove and the
counter,
The chef with his apron, who gave out the
food;
Pie, chili con carne, milk, cocoa and coffee,
And, yes, the fat sandwich, all steaming
and good—
The succulent sandwich, the piping hot
sandwich,
The hamburger sandwich, all steaming and
good.



"Yes," spouted the orator, "among that
notable gathering were to be found both
worthy and unworthy members!"
"Who worthy?" asked the Goat.



Anyway we were told it in this way. An
indignant woman stormed into the *Cardi-
nal* office. There was blood in her eye and
rage in her voice. The trembling editor,
from sheer terror, was unable to make the
least movement.

"See here," the irate dame shrieked,
"my husband is your heaviest advertiser¹
and look, just *look* at the outrageous thing
you have printed about the pink tea we
gave yesterday!"

And she shoved under the pallid nose of
the editor the following clipping:

"Mrs. Simms gave a punk tea to the
ladies of the faculty yesterday, from 2 to 5."

¹ He weighs 300 pounds. —ED.

**A Conversation a la Deux
or
The Sentimental Tete-a-
Tete.**

Dramatis Personae.

Porphyro—A sentimental youth.

Madeline—A maiden quite the reverse.

Scene: In the University woods.

*Porphyro and Madeline are discovered on
"Spooning Seat." An afternoon in
the fall.*

Madeline—Isn't it romantic here! These old leaves and fallen branches and black stumps, the lonely stillness and that kind of darkness that just precedes a sun shower—Oh, I don't know just how to say it, but it makes one feel—sort of shiver with that peculiar strangeness, don't you know.



Porphyro—Yes, but that doesn't make it exactly romantic. There must be something more.

Madeline—What?

Porphyro—Beauty. Sunny Pyre once said that romanticism meant "strangeness added to beauty."

Madeline—Well, I guess I can't call this romantic then.

Porphyro—Yes, you can; you're all right.

Madeline—How? I don't see any beauty around here. You surely can't call those old dead leaves and branches, and so forth, beautiful, can you?

Porphyro—No. But I see beauty, just the same.

Madeline—Where?

Porphyro—Don't you know?

Madeline—No. Tell me.

Porphyro—Well—I guess I won't.

Madeline—Oh, you horrid thing. I



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\$4, \$5 and \$6 the Pair.

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MILWAUKEE, WIS.

We Have No Branch Stores.

think you're awful mean. Why won't you tell me?

Porphyro—Because.

Madeline—Because what?

Porphyro—Because I haven't got the—the courage.

Madeline—Heavens! Is it as bad as all that?

Porphyro—Yes.

Madeline—Well, what are you afraid of?

Porphyro—Oh—Nothing.

Madeline—Then why don't you tell me?

Porphyro—You're too inquisitive.

Madeline—Well, it's your fault.

Porphyro—I know it.

Madeline—Then I think you might tell me.

Porphyro—What for?

Madeline—Because.

Porphyro—Because what?

Madeline—Because I want to know.

(Teasing.)

Porphyro—Well, I guess I'll tell you—it's YOU.

Madeline—Oh, h, h, h, h, ha! Silly thing! I didn't know you were so sentimental, Porphyro, h, h, h!

—'07.

[We know of no surer sign of Spring than the above.—ED.]

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ALFORD BROS.,
Phone 172.

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•••
"Why are you limping?"
"O, I sat down on the spur of the moment."

—The Punch Bowl.

•••
"What a long tunnel this is!"
"This isn't a tunnel. This is Pittsburg."—Life.

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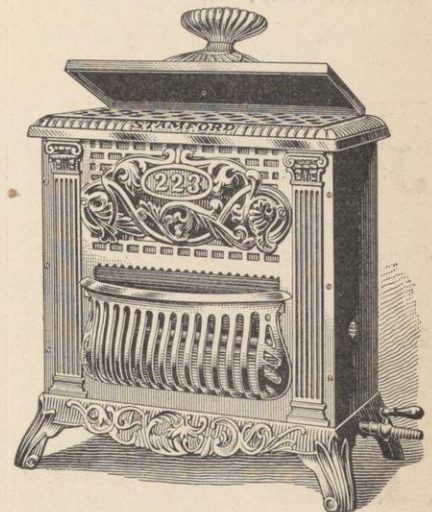


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Carl Thomas Photographer

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Findlay's.

Coffee List.

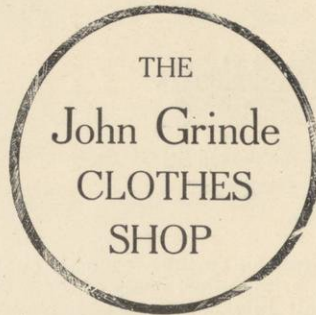


Better keep this list so you will know just what each coffee will cost you.

Also to remind you that we roast coffee for every taste and at prices within the reach of all.

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- Rozan, 25c. 4 1/2 lb..... \$1.00
- Hotel Blend, 22c. 4 3/4 lb..... \$1.00
- Bourbon Santos, 20c. 5 1/2 lb.... \$1.00
- Jamaica, 18c. 6 lb..... \$1.00
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Gumbusta—Wouldn't like it; think of getting ten pairs of suspenders for Christmas. — *New York Press.*

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Grocer—Chicago's left half-back has struck for a raise.—*Widow.*



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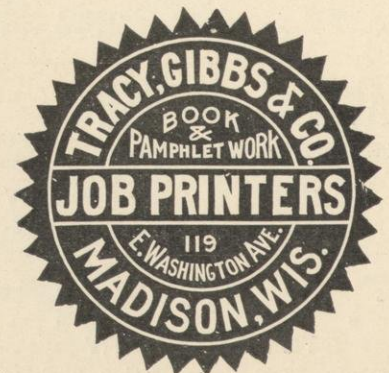
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