

Rockford High School's (RHS, Rockford, Illinois) fifth yearbook, 1898:

A 7" x 9" (18 x 23 cm) booklet containing 72 pages of text, photos, and six pages of ads.

The Annual
1898

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THE ANNUAL
1898

VOLUME V.

PUBLISHED BY THE CLASS OF '98.

THEO. W. CLARK CO., PRINTERS, ROCKFORD, ILL.

THE ANNUAL



EDITORS AND BUSINESS MANAGERS:

GUY PIERPONT JONES,
BESSIE LANE,
LEWIS VINCENT.

JUNIOR SOLICITOR.

SCHUYLER CASE.

This little volume is gratefully dedicated to

OURSELVES.

ROCKFORD HIGH SCHOOL

COLORS: CRIMSON AND BLACK.

YELL.

Rah-rah, Rah-rah, Rah-rah, Rah-rah!

R-o, c-k, f-o, r-d! R-o, c-k, f-o, r-d!

RAH! RAH! RAH! RAH!

ROCKFORD!



ROCKFORD HIGH SCHOOL.

EDITORIAL.



AFTER many trials and tribulations, complaints and lamentations, etc., the "gentle reader" now sees before him the '98 ANNUAL. We marvel that authors call the readers of their works "gentle," for it has been our experience that all readers are ferocious critics; but "such is life."

In the vast labor of preparing this work, great assistance has been rendered by Mr. Robert Ruhl, for whom we predict a most brilliant future. We have gained much from the experience of the editor of the '97 Annual, Mr. Center Case. We also wish to remember the faculty, students and merchants, for they have aided us greatly through their hearty co-operation. May they accept our thanks!



B. D. PARKER, PRINCIPAL.

THE FACULTY.



BERTRAND D. PARKER

BERTRAND D. PARKER, our present principal, is a graduate of the Classical and Normal departments of the Illinois State Normal University, and represented his class as salutatorian. He then spent several years as a teacher in village schools, after which he was two years principal of the city schools of Springfield. Entering the University of Pennsylvania in the Junior year, he graduated with the Class of '95. In college he took a prominent part in many debates and oratorical contests. His native state is Vermont, but he has spent the greater part of his life in Illinois. He came to Rockford in 1895, and at present teaches branches relating to political science.

O. J. KERN

Instructor in History and Civics. Educated in district schools and spent four years at DePauw University, Green Castle, Ind. Three years principal at Cherry Valley, and the last seven years in the Rockford High School. Nominated by acclamation for County Superintendent of Schools by the Republican Convention April 11, 1898.

JENNIE E. WALDO

Our instructor in Biology, Physiography and Geology is Miss Jennie Waldo. She is a graduate of the High School, and has attended the Marine Biological Laboratory at Wood's Hall, Massachusetts. She has also attended Wellesley College. She has taught in the Rockford High School since 1883.

CLARA F. RANDALL

Miss Clara F. Randall, instructor in English Literature, is a native of Claremont, New Hampshire. She is a graduate of Boston University, and has been a member of the Rockford High School faculty since September, 1889.

HARRIET E. MORSE

Our instructor in Algebra, Geometry and Trigonometry is Miss Harriet E. Morse. She is a graduate of the Illinois State Normal University. She was born in Sandusky, Ohio, and has taught in the High School since September, 1888.

ELIZABETH M. WILLIAMS

Elizabeth M. Williams, our instructor in Latin and Civil Government, is a graduate of Lake Forest University. She has taught in Argyle Academy, which is situated at Plano, Illinois. She has held her position in the Rockford High School since 1896.

FERD. STEDINGER

Mr. Ferd. Stedinger, a native of Hanover, Germany, has taught German in the High School since 1896. He has taught private pupils in Rockford six years, and is also editor of *The Rockford Germania*.

CARRIE M. SPERRY

Carrie M. Sperry, instructor in Latin and Greek, was born in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and is a graduate of the University of that State, being a member of the Class of '93. She has taught in Rockford since 1895.



THE FACULTY.

HOWARD N. HOWLAND

Howard N. Howland, instructor in Physics, Chemistry and Manual Training, was born in La Salle County, Illinois. After teaching in country schools for a short time he entered the Illinois State Normal University as a special student and assistant. He also attended Illinois State University at Champaign. He has taught in the High School since 1893.

AGNES BROWN

Our instructor in Botany and Physiology is Miss Agnes Brown. She claims the "Prairie State" as her native state, and finished a course of study at Lake Forest University. She then taught at Racine Academy, and entered upon her duties in Rockford in 1895.

FANNY K. BARTLETT

Fanny K. Bartlett is a graduate of Rockford High School, and also of Wellesley College. She was a member of the Class of '93. She has taught English in Rockford High School since 1895.

LILLIAN R. SMITH

Lillian R. Smith, instructor in Algebra and Geometry, took the position formerly held by Miss Martha Brown, who resigned to accept a similar one in Aurora. Miss Smith was a student in Rockford High School. She graduated from Wellesley College in 1895, and then taught in the public schools of the city until she assumed her present duties in February of the present year.

HELEN DICKEY

Miss Dickey, instructor in Drawing and Painting, has studied in Boston and New York. She came to Rockford in 1891, and has

since been connected with the Public Schools. She devotes Friday of each week to High School work.

IOLINE HOLLINGSHEAD

Miss Hollingshead is a native of Belvidere, Illinois, and is a graduate of the North Division High School of that place. Later she graduated from Swarthmore College, Pennsylvania. Her branches in the High School are first and second year English. She has taught in the Rockford High School since the fall of 1897.



THE SENIOR CLASS.

COLORS: PURPLE AND WHITE.

OFFICERS.

JAMES WALKER, President.

MABEL DODD, Vice-President.

HERBERT PETERSON, Secretary and Treasurer.

YELL.

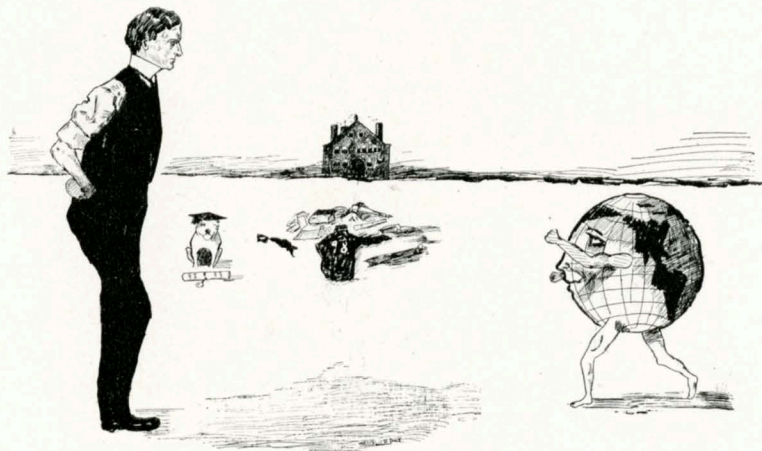
'98! '98! Rah-Rah! Rah-Rah!

'98! '98! Rah-Rah! Rah-Rah!

Rockford! Rockford!

'98! '98!

Rah! Rah! Rah!



DAVID AND GOLIATH.

Rah! Rah! Rah!
Rah! Rah! Rah!
Rah! Rah! Rah!
'98!

HISTORY.



INASMUCH as the curtain will soon fall upon the last scene, and the Class of '98 will pass, ere long, from the school life and stage, it is suitable that we should leave a clear record of our deeds that the honorable ones may be emulated by all future classes.

With fluttering hearts but a business-like air, a host of exceptionally bright young people wended their way one ideal morning in September to Rockford Temple of Learning. The Sophomores seemed to look at us in derision, the Juniors in contempt and the Seniors very unconcerned as we "filed" in to chapel the eleventh day of September eighteen hundred and ninety-four. We must not forget the looks of admiration and pleasure of the Faculty as they sat on their throne of honor. The boys were arranged around the room like "wall flowers," and the initiating song, "Oh, Happy Days Gone By," was rendered with less feeling than we can now sing it. All will remember the morning we were so sadly confused in marching to chapel, and would have shown our fondness for the opposite sex by sitting together. We were, as is customary, honored by a reception; but alas! very few acted as representatives of the class, but as far as is known enjoyed themselves after the feeling of bashfulness wore away.

Our first and only class meeting of the Freshman year! The stuffing of ballots, the strife between the Latin and English divisions in electing class officers and choosing a yell, and the general enthusiasm and excitement in pulling the curtains from their rollers, etc., but we have greatly improved and are now quite parliamentary.

We generously furnished the bulk of the news for the "*Owl*" by making the customary Freshmen blunders. The Freshmen this year were excluded from Literary society on account of our numbers

and our surpassing talents, but nothing daunted, the girls then organized a Literary society of their very own. Those who call to mind the different lines of work we took up will conscientiously say our programmes were equally as well given as those of the larger society. We were also informed that no reserved seats at commencement would be given to the Freshmen, but we lived in hopes of being admitted the next year.

When again we trudged to school with our Cæsar's and Geometries tucked closely under our arms, we were told four studies would be required of us instead of the three-and-a-half as before. Chapel was abandoned, and no more were we seen marching devotionally (?) to the Assembly Room. Prof. Edwards' place was now occupied by our present principal, Mr. Parker, who kindly told us we were to consider him as a friend, and by so doing we fear we have often troubled and burdened him. Miss Farley, who taught us those lines familiar to every Latin student, "*Gallia est omnes divisa, in partes tres,*" left us to teach other pupils the declensions, conjugations and numerous rules in Latin grammar. Miss Hodgman left us for college fields and pastures new.

There was an end to those entertaining Algebra lessons and problems solved by the gloved hand which we were warned to think over so carefully, to dream about so seriously, and to work out for ourselves in the quiet morning hours.

And may we never forget the new addition—the annex, with all its nooks and corners. Midway was then erected, which served for many chit-chats to and from classes, the exchange of smiles, and last but not least, the contraction of colds.

As the expectation of commencement to the Senior and our anticipation of reserved seats drew near, we were amazed to learn that we must content ourselves without them, and again wait patiently for the next year. At the close of this, our Sophomore year, we realized how little we knew and how much there was yet to learn. "We were becoming intelligent through a peculiar process of evolution. Our brilliancy was wearing away, and at the opening of another year,



with diminished members, we, a wiser and more sober band of Juniors, began to climb the heights of Mt. Wisdom."

Those who lingered by the wayside we could not stop to inquire about, but as hard toiling Juniors we tried by every means available, either by assuming, borrowing, discovering or inventing, the dignity shown in the speech and manners of Seniors. We, as Juniors, always do consider ourselves on an equal footing with our rivals—the Seniors—but as we labored under this delusion until the end of the year, it was impressed upon our minds the measureless gulf that lies between these classes.

Again, and for the last time the Class of '98, as dignified and stately Seniors, took possession of Room 1, its attractions, fascinations, and all that delights the heart of a Senior. As we pass out from Rockford High School's portals into life, we can and will be remembered by many things, although we imagined we distinguished ourselves in a serious transaction, we wish when our obituary is written it may contain our good deeds only. The north annex and the famous "Bridge of Sighs" has been added to preserve equilibrium.

When we entered we were enrolled as a class of one hundred and forty-five. Each year we have missed some ones' familiar faces until now we can boast of only sixty-one, who we hope may win honors and laurels for the R. H. S. and the class of '98.

Two of our number, Leslie Hazard and Shepard Frisbie have learned their lessons and closed their books. Their earthly life was short but full of duties done, of lessons of patient gentleness and heroic conflict with pain and suffering.

We have pressed onward through misfortunes, conflicts, and all the new experiments, except the eight o'clock ordinance in which we have regretfully abided by the decision of the School Board. We have still a longing desire for knowledge if our wandering questions in the Literature class can be taken as a proof.

But the past is passed, what we have done we have done. The future bids us turn away from our regrets, and putting our hand to the wheel press forward. We can not say what we shall do, we understand our diplomas are not going to carry us through life, but we

must strive to do what we can with our mere insight of education,
and do everything well and honestly.

The year has passed with all its joys,
With all its hopes, and all its fears.
And we, the Senior girls and boys
Will not forget its scenes for years.

M. B., '98.



PROPHESY OF '98.



N EARLY every class which has graduated from the R. H. S. has had a glorious future, but it remains for the Class of '98 to eclipse them all. Ever since its entrance into the school, this class has been the envy of the other classes on account of its high standard of deportment, its varied accomplishments, and its recognized ability. By occult divination the futures of its members have been foreseen and here set down :

Louise Doran will travel as a living example for "Hall's Hair Restorer."

Grace Snow will go to Chicago and there pose as a model to beauty-loving art students.

Harry Peterson is particularly fitted to string telephone wires.

Edith Sovereign will instruct students in new and original Latin translations.

Annie Walton will play before the crowned heads of Europe and her musical reputation will be world-wide.

Effie Utter will open a confectionery store and make a specialty of fudges.

All who desire lessons in laughing, and talking forty-nine words to the square inch and all in a minute, apply to Jennie Walker.

Nelson Morrow will work in a match factory, assisted by Ada Raymond.

Mable Johnson will awe youthful hearts as a school teacher.

Norma Nelson will get a country school, to "teach the young idea how to shoot."

Ralph Spottswood will reveal to all young ladies who wish, the art of blushing becomingly.

Lillie Childs will enter the service of the church, as it is apparent by her uplifted expression that she already has celestial aspirations.

Elizabeth Hopkins will be an orator, well known for her opinions on the temperance question.

Rew Rutledge will in time be a great orator and will accompany W. J. Bryan in the campaign of 1900.

Robert Ruhl will finally become captain of the foot-ball team at Sweedunk H. S.

Those wishing to learn to dance may apply to Armstrong, who will give lessons in all the new and graceful dances.

Luther Salstrom will invent a new torpedo to blow up the Spanish fleet.

Nellie Johnson will go to China and devote her life to missionary work.

Katherine Rubel will accept a position at a ladies' seminary to teach mythology.

Evelyn McCaughey will be known throughout the world by the way she wields her magic bow "That's no dream."

Ruth Medlar will write a book that will rival "Donald and Dorthy," and will eventually break up the "Fern Club."

Bessie Lane will go into the locksmith business. Although there are a great many locks on the market, Miss Lane will secure a new patent, the "Tullock."

Nina Knapp will continue her studies at the Business College, where she will learn stenography.

Lottie Smith will become a poetess and win many laurels.

Matie Dixon will continue the study of German under Prof. Stedinger.

Will Etheridge will try his luck in the Klondyke and bring home a few millions to entertain the class of '98.

Edward Montgomery and Guy Jones will start out in partnership; one, as a minister, will tie knots, the other, as a judge, will untie them, to be tied again.

Genevieve Clifford will take up the business that her greatest experience warrants, and will sell curling fluid.

Josie Alexander will make her friends' lives miserable by posing them by the half-hour, to take snap-shots at them.

Lillian Thompson will give a wedding reception soon, and will invite the entire school.

May Picken will write an essay on the "Power and Beauty of Silence."

Ethel Vincent will put up her hair.

Mable Hulett will travel with a theatrical company to play the piano.

Gertrude Tyler will be Everat(t) newspaper work, by proxy.

Herbert Peterson will learn the barber trade so that he can keep his curly locks straight.

Marguerite Mulroy will be a female drummer for gents' furnishings.

Chauncey Blake will deliver orations of wonderful eloquence and charm the inhabitants of Freeport.

Alfred Richardson will start a toy-store. Rattles and all toys for little boys at reduced rates. Dice can also be bought, with full instructions how to play.

Miss Scone will join the ever-increasing ranks of school-teachers.

Jessie Sherwood will be the superintendent of a street car line, and have Trolley Days monthly.

Louise Sumner will go to the war and from her unlimited knowledge of geology will teach the soldiers what rocks are the hardest to throw at the enemy.

Olive Burman will teach dignified deportment and the dictionary.

Jessie Fabrique will open a lunch counter for R. H. S. students and furnish bologna particularly.

James Walker will enter West Point and there retain all the dignity and stately bearing recently displayed in class meetings.

Louis Brown will establish an appointment bureau. All dates

to be made after 2:30 P. M. if possible. Amy Johnson and Mable Bengelsdorf will do all in their power to aid him.

Louis Vincent will perfect himself in the study of Shakespeare, or be hanged.

Beth Forbes will feed chickens and pigs on a farm about six miles northwest of town.

Walter Martin will be known in his favorite play "Faust."

Daisy Dean will run a newspaper out in Colorado, and be an active worker in woman's rights.

Florence Myers will conduct a school for boys where they will be allowed to have their own sweet will and vote as they please.

Julia Lundvall will instruct the uninitiated how to become popular with the boys.

Lizzie Ogilby will give a course of lectures on the "Art of Entertaining During Noon Hour."

Emily Andrews and Frank Bebb will advertise "Antifat," before and after taking.

Paul Bennett will have his picture enlarged and framed to be hung in the school library to remind the students of his wonderful ability.

Ada Ades will teach deaf and dumb scholars to speak without visible language.

Having assured each member of our class a bright and eventful future we beg to decline all favors from the vegetable kingdom which any one may feel inclined to bestow upon us.

B. L. AND R. M. '98.



A YEAR'S JOURNEY.

THE JUNIOR CLASS.

COLORS: DARK BLUE AND GOLD.

DONALD STEFFA, President,
JESSIE DOBSON, Vice-President,
NORMA WOOD, Secretary and Treasurer.

YELL.

Rain or shine, Rain or shine,
We'll get there in '99!

HISTORY.



IN the month of September, 1895, the brightest young people that ever left the Eighth Grades of the city wended their way to the R. H. S. There a hearty welcome was extended to them by the Faculty, and a no less enthusiastic greeting was generously (?) given by the Class that entered the previous year. These receptions differed widely in character. Suffice it to say we escaped with a few wet collars and ruined neckties.

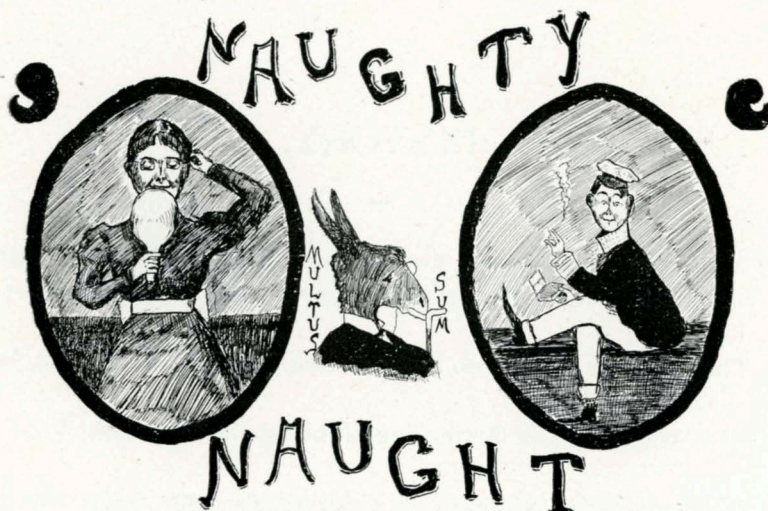
It is unnecessary to recall each detail of that Freshman year. We had the same aspirations that many Freshmen Classes have had before us. We held Class meetings, decided upon our colors and received the receptions as many classes had done before, and doubtless many classes will do in the future. But one thing characterised us—that was our marked intellectual capabilities. Thus the first year passed away leaving us wise and dignified Sophs.

In the second year the Class of '99 established the precedent of giving a reception in return for the one tendered us. Indeed the whole year was spent in various original undertakings (but few original propositions). The girls were distinguished because of a certain unwonted fondness for standing in the hall, and the boys became noted for their skill in throwing pieces of chalk. Most of us thoroughly enjoyed reading about Cæsar's constant care for "looking out for supplies," and about the ambassadors the Gauls seemed continually to be sending. Leaving behind us a good record we finished our second year to become the jolly Juniors we so much admired.

What a year this has been! It is with regret that we see this school year brought to a close, for next year will be our last in the dear R. H. S. Moreover, Seniors are supposed to be very sedate, and we have so enjoyed playing the part of jolly Juniors that the very thought of the responsibilities of the Senior is displeasing to us. As long as our privileges as Juniors will not last long, why not make the most of them?

M. B., '99.





THE SOPHOMORE CLASS.

COLORS: SILVER GRAY AND PINK.

OFFICERS.

ROY RICHARDSON, President,
FLORA LAWSON, Vice-President,
BIRDIE PLATT, Secretary,
BESSIE KNAPP, Treasurer.

YELL.

Hulla baloo, Kenuck, kenuck !
Hulla baloo, Kenuck, kenuck !
We are the class of naughty-naught,
Kenni, kechuck, kechuck, kechuck !

HISTORY.



IN September, A. D. 1896, two years ago, one of the most brilliant classes that has ever existed entered the sacred walls of the R. H. S.

The boys were forced to be the usual objects of ridicule, being treated with cold baths.

This class has the distinction of being the last class of the century.

While Freshies, although we observed the usual deference to our superiors, we were a very independent class.

The first part of the year our class was organized; class colors, silver gray and pink, and the class yell was chosen. Later the Freshmen and Sophomores were received at Unity Hall by the Juniors and Seniors, who in turn were invited to a reception given by the Freshmen and Sophomores.

After having spent a year in working with the unknown quantity about which little was known, and other subjects which should have taken our whole attention, but didn't, we were no longer Freshies but distinguished Sophomores.

The second year has indeed been a busy one. The time has been taken up by the ever changing figures, Cæsar's method of conquering his enemies, the study of bones, botany, and a variety of English subjects.

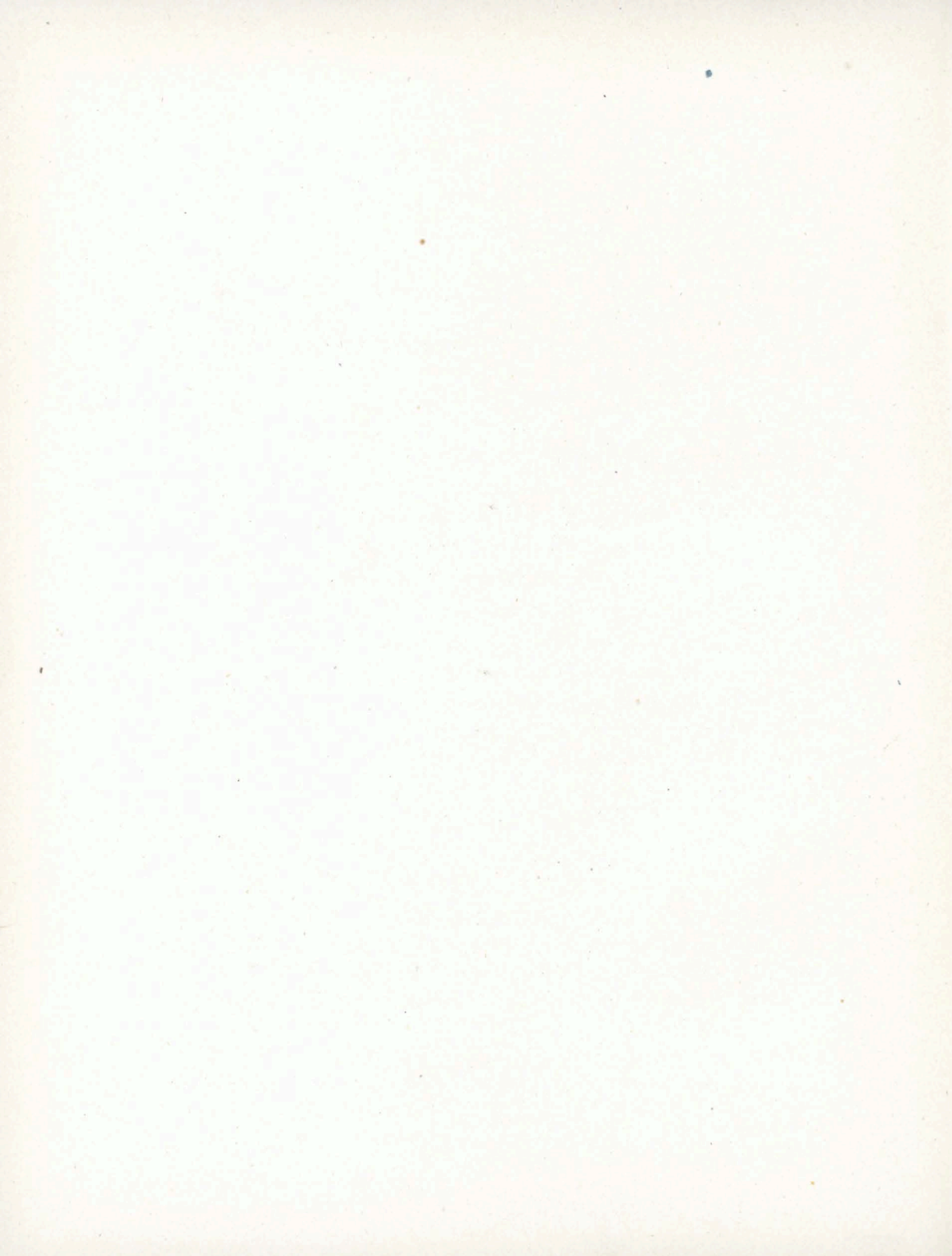
The Class of '00 is particularly strong (?) in athletics, and the boys are at sometime bound to carry off the pennant at Champaign.

The social features have not been neglected. Several dances have been given, and the abilities of the class in that direction are not lacking.

In a few weeks more our work as Sophomores will be completed, and we will be one step nearer the goal of our ambitions.

R. G. '00.

This space was originally intended for a cut of the Sophomore Class ; but owing to the size of their heads, which are abnormally developed, or in other words "swelled," the space was not of sufficient size to exhibit even their beaming countenances.





THE FRESHMAN CLASS.

COLORS: YALE BLUE AND WHITE.

LYON WEYBURN, President,
MATTHEW CORBETT, Vice-President,
MARY CASE, Secretary,
RUTH BURLINGAME, Treasurer.

YELL.

Twentieth Century 's just begun,
And we get there in 1901!

HISTORY.



The ladder of Fame, the ladder of Fame,
That stands on the High School hill ;
We mount its rounds one by one
With the strength of a new born will.
So look to the class of ninety-one
To climb to the top some day !

A HALF score and two years ago the first class began to wend its way toward the new temple of learning. Since then many are the classes which have been received by their elders, but I doubt if any have received as hearty a welcome as did our class, and the boys in particular appreciate the efforts put forth by the upper classes to make the first day memorable to us.

The first month we went every day "by rail" to our classes, and certain of the Latin students were usually informed that they would find the correct work on the "side-board."

The second month we formed a class organization, drew up a constitution, chose our class colors and decided on our yell.

The remainder of the year has been passed in a pleasant and profitable manner under the able supervision of our teachers.

Now as the year draws to a close and we look back from the first round of the ladder gained, we feel that we have passed through experiences never to be forgotten, and no matter how high some of us may climb the ladder of fame, the memories will always be dear to us of our first year in the Rockford High School.

LYON WEYBURN, '01.



ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

OFFICERS.

NELSON MORROW, President,
PAUL BENNETT, Vice-President,
ROBERT RUHL, Secretary,
JAMES WALKER, Treasurer.

ATHLETICS.



ATHLETICS this year have been in most divisions a success, especially

FOOT BALL.

At the first the Association was doubtful whether to organize a team or not, as the material was light and for the most part inexperienced, and besides there were no Levings, Hunters or Grays among them. But the love of sport triumphed, and we decided to make as strong a team as possible from the mixed gathering which presented itself.

Not having the privilege of a coach the boys were obliged to coach themselves, so two teams being composed, those more experienced in the art proceeded to instruct the others. After constant practice with the second team a fairly strong and heavy eleven was developed. Robertson was elected manager, and Ruhl captain.

On October ninth the team went to Freeport and lost their first game. Although defeated, the team was so much stronger and more experienced that in the return game we defeated Freeport. The next game was at Beloit. This and the return game were lost on account of the superior playing of Beloit High School, they having the advantage of a college coach.

This ended the foot ball season of '97-'98 in the Rockford High School on account of the retirement of Walter Minard and Herbert Peterson from the team. Minard left town and Peterson received a broken collar-bone in the last game. Financially the foot ball season was a success, a large attendance being at both games. Enough patronage was received to pay expenses and fill the treasury. The following shows the scores of all the games:



ROCKFORD HIGH SCHOOL FOOT BALL TEAM.

First Game—Freeport, 16 ; Rockford, 0.
Second Game—Rockford, 12 ; Freeport, 4.
Third Game—Beloit, 14 ; Rockford, 0.
Fourth Game—Rockford, 4 ; Beloit, 10.

BASE BALL.

The proposition of having only morning school brought out the idea that a base ball team could be started in addition to the track team. So the Athletic Association passed a resolution incorporating a base ball team. Steffa was elected manager and Brown captain of the thus far visionary team. Steffa and Brown collected all the fanatics in the school, and finally from these was chosen a team thought to be a fairly good one. The first game was lost to Beloit, and the next was lost to Janesville.

At the last game Manager Steffa was obliged to report the loss of ten and one-half dollars, after which the team was immediately dissolved, the Athletic Association being unable to stand such losses.

First Game—Beloit, 14 ; Rockford, 6.
Second Game—Rockford, 1 ; Janesville, 15.

TRACK TEAM.

The most successful part of athletics so far this year, and for some years, has been the track teams and Field Day of the four classes. On the motion of Ruhl, the Association elected from each class one man to organize the boys of his class into a track team. The captains elected were as follows: Etheridge, '98 ; Robertson, '99 ; Ross, '00 ; Andrews, '01.

These teams were to meet on May 13th in a field contest for the championship of Athletics in the Rockford High School. The plan was unanimously adopted, many of the boys of each class starting to train for their respective events at once. All was enthusiasm ; great strife and good natured jealousy existing between the classes, and there was much speculation between the students as to who would win, the result of the contest between the Seniors and Sophomores being seemingly doubtful.

On May 13 we met. The Senior Class won by a large majority. Seniors, 67; Juniors, 15; Sophomores, 46; Freshmen, 17.

The records made are as follows:

Fifty Yard Dash—Brown, '98; Glenney, '00; Peterson, '98—:05.2-5.

Quarter Mile Bicycle Race—Robertson, '99; Hill, '99; Woodruff, '00—32 ½.

Half Mile Run—Etheridge, '98; Andrews, '01; Weld, '00—2:09.

High Jump—Morrow, '98; Armstrong, '98; Ruhl, '98—4 feet 9 inches.

Hundred Yard Dash—Brown, '98; Crill, '01; Peterson, '98.—10.2-5.

Shot Put—Martin, '98; Stowell, '00; Coyner, '00—32 feet 11 inches.

Low Hurdles, 220 Yards—Glenney, '99; Brown, '98; Robertson, '99—26:4-5.

Four Hundred and Forty Yard Dash—Etheridge, '98; Andrews, '01; Bennett, '98—:52.2-5.

Pole Vault—Vincent, '98; Richardson, '00; Walker, '98—8 feet 1 inch.

Mile Bicycle Race—Hill, '99; Bennett, '98; Johnson, '99—3:05 ¼.

Relay Race—Senior team composed of Walker, Etheridge and Vincent, first. Sophomore team composed of Weld, Knowles and Carrico, second.

Running Broad Jump—Morrow, '98; Troller, '00; Etheridge, '98—16 feet 2 inches.

Hammer Throw—Stowell, '00; Weld, '00; Martin, '98.

Two Hundred and Twenty Yard Dash—Glenney, '00; Crill, '01; Coyner, '00—:21.4-5.

Standing Broad Jump—Weld, '00; Morrow, '98; Brown, '98—9 feet 4 inches.

Mile Run—Andrews, '01; Knowles, '00; Vincer, '00.

THE LITERARY SOCIETY.



ALTHOUGH immortal, the ancient gods were not exempt from physical pain. One day Jupiter suffered intensely from a severe headache, and, in hopes that some means of relief would be devised, he summoned the gods to Mount Olympus. Their united efforts were in vain, however; and even the remedies suggested by Apollo, god of medicine, proved useless. Unable to endure the racking pain any longer, Jupiter bade one of his sons, Vulcan, cleave his head open with an axe. With cheerful alacrity the dutiful son obeyed; and no sooner was the operation performed, than Minerva sprang forth from the head of Jove, fullgrown, clad in glittering armor, with poised spear, and chanting a triumphant song of victory. Such was the birth of the Goddess of Wisdom.

Nearly a decade has passed since good Professor Smith felt a strange throbbing in his temples. He was troubled, for he wished to draw his pupils into closer friendship; he wanted them to feel a sense of ownership in a society which was to further the dramatic, the literary and musical abilities of the pupils, and also give pleasure to those who were not endowed with gifts in these directions.

December 23, 1887, there sprang from the brain of Professor Smith, as did Minerva from the head of Jove, the Literary Society, armored with a constitution and by-laws, prophesying a noble and vigorous youth. It was to have the regular staff of officers and a programme committee.

Each one who signed the constitution was expected to take part when called upon, or else be fined a small sum. The young people entered into the work with a spirit that foretold of strength. At one of the first meetings the members of the literary class gave the Court

Scene from *The Merchant of Venice*, each one carefully learning his part. As years rolled on an increasing interest was felt in the character of the programmes. In the year of '94 the attendance at the meetings grew to such a size that the next year the Freshmen and Sophomores were excluded, much to the chagrin of the Sophomores. As a result of this the work was better done. When an open meeting was held the room was uncomfortably crowded.

This year our programmes have been of rather a topical nature. Meetings were devoted to Gladstone, Spain, Christmas, and various topics of the day. The last meeting of the season is always a farewell given by the outgoing Senior class. At this meeting the class prophesy, history, and song were given, also a funeral march, many of the Seniors weeping profusely (aided by water soaked sponges).

This year we thought we would do something out of the ordinary, and being a "War" class we thought a patriotic march would be very appropriate. The procession left the chapel headed by a large flag.

We hope and trust the Literary Society will still grow and thrive for many decades, and continue to be a source of enjoyment to all who are privileged to be members of the society.

L. M. S., '98.



ORATORY.

As a result of the Inter-State Oratorical Contest at Champaign, Edward Montgomery, of the Senior Class, is the proud possessor of a beautiful medal. The contest, which was open to all High Schools in the state, was held on the 20th of May.

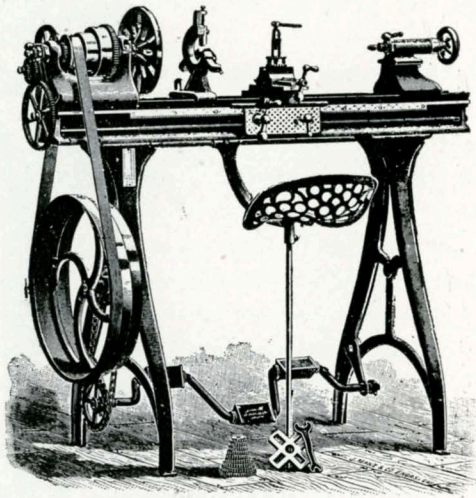
The first prize was won by the West Aurora High School. Their orator's subject was upon the annexation of Hawaii. Rockford claimed second prize; Mr. Montgomery's effort being a plea for the laboring classes.

Rockford may be justly proud of this new honor, which shows that our work is of a high standard, as out of the thirty-three orations received only ten were accepted, and out of the chosen ten we received second prize.

MANUAL TRAINING.



ONE of the most interesting departments of our school is Manual Training. In 1896 the enterprise was launched in the basement of the South Annex. Through the kindness of W. F. & John Barnes Company, some useful machinery, such as lathes and drills, was added to the scant supply. In the fall of '97 the shop was removed to the North Annex, where there were more commodious quarters. The north half of the room is filled with carpenters' benches, while the south half is fitted up with iron and wood lathes, drills and a shaper. The motive power is a gas engine and an electric motor.

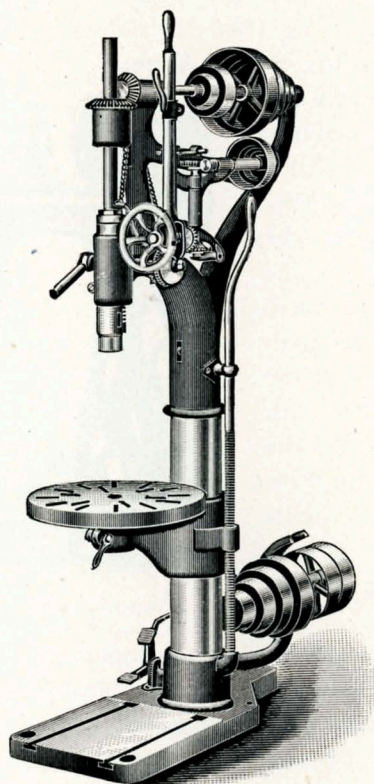


Power Lathe Presented to the School by
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The boys in the wood-working department have made patterns for castings of machinery, which the boys in the iron-working department have finished up. A number of switches, galvanometers and reverses for the Physics classes were made by the boys, thereby saving the city the expense of buying these high-priced instruments. A desk, supplied with dove-tailed drawers, was also made in this department.

Messrs. Atwood and Troller have constructed a fine steam engine, and Mr. Walter Martin made an excellent punch for use in the Manual Training department. He also made a pump for compressing gases in Chemistry.

These are only a few of the many accomplishments that have been made during the year, and much credit is due Mr. H. N. Howland, our efficient teacher in Manual Training. That this great branch of our High School may always flourish is the hearty wish of '98.



Power Drill Presented to the School by
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THE OWL.



STAFF

Editor: LEWIS VINCENT. *Assistant Editor:* BESSIE LANE.

Athletics: ROBERT W. RUHL. *Exchange:* RUTH MEDLAR.

Business Managers:

EDWIN ARMSTRONG,

PAUL BENNETT.

THIS year THE OWL cannot be called a success in hardly any department. The reasons for this non-success can hardly be laid to the business managers, or to the literary staff. THE OWL in a financial way has received none of the support that could be expected from a school of over four hundred; out of these not over one-fourth subscribing.

Notwithstanding the appeal of the editorials in the first OWL, very few scholars contributed articles, the editor therefore not having a choice of articles essential to a good magazine or literary production. However, with the limited material at hand, an effort was made to make THE OWL interesting, instructive and amusing. If it has not been so, we wish to say it has been no fault of the editors.

The staff of assistant editors was remarkably chosen, thereby helping to credit the few OWLS that have been issued. The athletic editor, Robert Ruhl, was particularly well fitted for that position, being also captain of the foot ball team and otherwise taking an active part in all athletics. Miss Lane, as assistant editor, has written several pleasing articles. Miss Medlar, exchange editor, proved quite a critic in regard to the exchanges, replying to their criticisms with readiness. Howard Wilson was aptly fitted for the place of Alumni correspondent, being in a position where he could gain knowledge of the actions of the various Alumni. He also furnished many original articles.

Thus, with a last farewell, we gladly surrender the trials and tribulations of THE OWL to the present Junior Class, hoping they will carry out its management with better results than did the present Senior Class.

L. V. '98.

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HERBERT PETERSON, '98.

Violin :

PAUL BENNETT, '98.

Guitars :

ROBERT W. RUHL, '98. BEACH MAGUIRE, '99.

The High School Mandolin Club has enjoyed a very prosperous season. The sweet music produced by this organization has graced many a reception, social and entertainment in our fair Forest City. The members have acted with great earnestness, and through their efforts the "literaries" and receptions have been made very pleasant. In the future may music flourish in the High School, as it always has in the past.



ROCKFORD HIGH SCHOOL MANDOLIN CLUB.

GRINDS.



Why is Webb Stevens always so "Early" at the High School receptions?

* *
*

Cupid has Pierce(d) the heart of one of the youngest members of the faculty.

* *
*

"Hello, Beach!" "Are you mad, Ada?"

* *
*

The following is sometimes heard in Manual Training; "When you get tired, quit!"

* *
*

The H. S. boy who didn't go to the last base ball game said to the one who did,

"What's the score?"

"Rockford one—"

"Hurrah! Hurrah! Rockford won!"

"Hold on! Janesville 15."

* *
*

The following appeared in the "Knudson Kolumn" of the *Rockford Recorder*. The ANNUAL cannot vouch for the truth of the entire article:

"Two smart fellers from high school try to make monkey of Eckman de livryman Tuesday, but in de end dey get it vere de shicken got de axe. Ekman may be kine of skoning in some tings but ven it come to livry bissiness he is up in G all time. Vell, dese

two smart alecks come over an hire rig to go to Stillman Valley to see runis leaved by cyclone, ven dey get few bloks from stable four udder fellers climb into rig an all start for Stillman Valley shuckling bout how dey put foolers on sevet street sved. But some von put Ekman onto fact dat hole bus load vas riding in his rig and he eente do ting but yump on horse an go after dem. He catch dem bout tree mile sout of town. Make dem dig up price of rig an den make dem all get out an valk back home. Ay guess dey will eente try an put foolers on Eckman gain right away. Dey get back to Rockford along toward night but dey never say vurd to deir frens bout excursion dey take to de country, and dats wy Ay taught Ay vould mention it hare."

* *
*

Has the bane (Bayne) of Steffa's life turned out to be a meddler (Medlar)?



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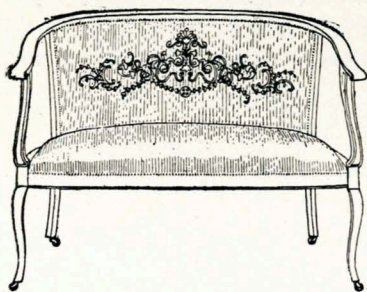
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