

Austin Society.

COLLEGE, October 21.

This being the night set apart for our special public meeting according to our constitution, the society held its meeting in the Assembly Hall, as our society hall was not large enough to accommodate the audience. At 8 o'clock the hall was nearly filled—this being the hour to commence. President Pittuck called the house to order, and in a few well chosen words bid the audience a hearty welcome. Roll call found all of the members present. The president then requested that the secretary read the program, which was as follows:

Music..... College Musical Club  
Essayist..... Pittuck

MUSIC.

Claimer..... Cook

MUSIC.

Debate—Resolved, "That Religious Instructions should be taught in Public Schools." Affirmative—Lewis; negative—Ferguson.

The first man on the program, Mr. Pittuck read an essay entitled "Lynch Law." Mr. Pittuck discussed this subject thoroughly from beginning to end. He showed how men in a sudden impulse of their frenzied feeling would disobey the laws of their God and their country and take the life in the most savage way, of a person who perhaps if the law could have taken its due course, would have been pronounced as innocent.

The next man Mr. Matthews read an interesting piece entitled "The Death of Garfield." Mr. Mathews read in a clear and distinct tone, plainly showing that he was master of his undertaking.

The declaimer Mr. Cook then made his appearance in his usual graceful way and "by his expression plainly showing that to make some fun he was going." The subject of his declamation was "Christmas Night in Quarters" Mr. Cook deserves much credit for this piece as he had only a short time to learn it; but by the general applause of the audience plainly showed how well it was delivered and appreciated.

The debate was then brought on and after the president appointed Professors Nagle, Puryear and Tilson to act as Tribunal; the first man Mr. Lewis opened in debate and presented his arguments very clear and distinct. He showed by his argument that he had studied the question thoroughly. Mr. Ferguson then addressed the audience in behalf of his side of the question and brought forth many strong points, but was defeated by his opponent; for the Tribunal decided two in favor of the affirmative.

After the debate there being no further business before the house the motion for adjournment was in order and after a selection by the Musical Club the society adjourned until its next regular meeting.

The Young Men's Christian Association held their first public exercises on the 24th of last month. The meeting was well attended, about half the corps being out. A great many of the professors were out also with their families. The following programme was rendered:

Doxology..... By the Choir  
Prayer..... Dr. Red.  
Song..... Quartette of Ladies and Professors.  
Music..... College Orchestra.  
Address..... Dr. Bittle.  
Music..... College Orchestra.  
Vocal Solo..... Mrs. Giescke.  
Song..... Double Quartette.  
Closing Song..... Choir.

The Association feels greatly pleased at the large number out and intends arranging for another entertainment in the near future which will be something on the style of the Friday night exercises formerly held at the college.

MISCELLANY DEPARTMENT.

A. M. TODD AND W. DAZEY, - - - EDITORS.

Shoulder-Straps.

"Pray tell me, mamma, what the shoulder-straps mean  
That on the blue coats of our officers gleam;  
You know they're so different, now why should it be,  
That not even the uniform buttons agree?"

"I've noticed, for instance, a blank and a bar,  
Two bars, leaves of silver, of gold, and a star,  
Two stars, and an eagle—now what may it mean,  
On scarlet, or orange, light blue, or dark green?"

"Now listen, my daughter, and pray take heed,  
For the income and straps of a beau are agreed;  
You may dance with a leaf, and flirt with a bar,  
But reserve your best smile for the eagle and star."

"And remember the fence with nothing within  
Is the field of the stripling, whose spurs are to win;  
A poor Second Lieutenant, perchance still in debt,  
For the clothes he wore out as a West Point Cadet."

"And if on the field a bar should appear,  
Your prudence, my darling, should lead you to fear;  
For if left a widow, the pension's so small  
Your gloves and first mourning would swallow it all."

"And e'en evict your Captain, who flourishes two,  
Don't prefer the gay hue to the staff's sober blue;  
For the difference per month, in the matter of pay,  
Not to mention the forage, quite wiles one away."

"Next in order the leaves, but here you reverse  
Each value metallic in prose and in verse;  
For though gold be a Major, the silvery hue  
Works the Lieutenant-Colonel, or scarlet or blue."

"Then, over the Forest, beneath the bright stars,  
Soars the eagle, the lord of the leaves and the bars;  
Besides, 'tis suggestive of eagles that fly  
When the wife of the Colonel her bonnets would buy."

"Above all, my darling, still honor the star,  
Though it shines 'neath a silver-head, better by far  
To catch some old General then make him afraid,  
And you won't be the first to command a brigade."

"—I've heard you dear mother, and thought it all o'er,  
My heart's with the lover who went to the war;  
You know the poor boy has not even a bar,  
But I'd rather be his than the bride of a star."

—Anon.

The Rose in Poetry.

Published by request.

The rose is the most widely known and the most universally admired of all the vari-hued, sweet-scented, poetry-inspiring, God-given emblems of love that adorn our earth.

"I saw the sweetest flower wild nature yields,  
A fresh blown musk rose."

Sappho sweetly sings:

"Would Love appoint some flower to reign  
In matchless beauty on the plain,  
The rose (mankind will all agree),  
The rose the queen of flowers should be;  
The pride of plants, the grace of bowers  
The blush of meads, the eye of flowers;  
It's beauties charm the gods above,  
It's fragrance is the breath of Love;  
It's foliage wantons in the air