

bouquet, and said: "Mr. Hewett, please accept these flowers as a birthday present from the children of the primary department." Turning to make a double response, he was a third time interrupted by Mrs. Haynie, of the Normal Department, who, as representative of the faculty, held in her hand an elegant Bagster Bible. Mrs. Haynie's address was a model of delicacy and beauty, and was delivered with such evident feeling as to make it peculiarly impressive.

So successfully had the preparations been kept secret that the president had not the least suspicion of the affair, but was completely surprised. When at last he "got the floor," with voice tremulous with emotion, he thanked the good friends for their thoughtful kindness, on the day upon which he reached the "summit of life." In a short speech, which was full of good advice and good sense, he recalled the fact that just twenty-nine years before, he began his career as a teacher, and since that time, with the exception of a few months, he had been engaged in teaching, the last twenty years having been spent in this institution.

The members of the faculty were all called upon. Prof. Metcalf spoke at some length. Prof. Cook made a very witty little speech. When the president announced that the spelling exercise was over for the morning, the eyes of the students sparkled with delight, and they greeted the announcement with hearty applause.

THE SOCIABLE SQUABBLE.

The American of average pluck and combativeness has, among his most pleasant memories, the recollection of some parliamentary contest about society or class affairs. Wrightonians and Philadelphians of the spring of 1881, remember with special pleasure the sociable fight of the spring term. The opening of the spring term found both Societies in a healthy condition, with their ranks filled with earnest, plucky and able workers.

As usual, early in the term, arrangements were made for a union sociable. The night appointed was so stormy that few attended. Many now wished to hold the sociable the following (Saturday) evening. The older members objected to adjourning the regular literary exercises, and from this difference started one of the most hotly contested struggles of later years. As stated above, the contest was upon the propriety of adjourning the regular literary exercises for a joint sociable. The first joint meeting called to decide the matter was held March 22. In this meeting the sociable party carried their point, with but little opposition. It was now that the fight began.

At the close of the session on the twenty-third, the anti-sociable party called a meeting of the Wrightonian Society. Matters grew so interesting that about twenty members paid their dues before the meeting was called to order. Faces that had been long strange, and faces new in business sessions, now appeared. The anti-sociable party at this meeting were ably led by E. E. Brown, John Gray and others. The sociable side, by Walter Blake, and F. A. Houghton. The session was protracted and warm. The anti-sociable party argued that we could not afford to do away with the regular literary exercises for such a trifling thing as a sociable; that we get too little literary drill, even if every regular meeting is held. This was met by the new students retorting that there are more opportunities to do literary work than are taken advantage of; that drill in social courtesies is more needed by the majority of students than literary drill, and that the older students, having become acquainted, did not feel the need of a sociable, as did the newer students. At the final vote, by a majority of three, the anti-sociable party carried their motion to annul the action of the "joint meeting." Still the fight grew warmer.

The next meeting—a union meeting—met at 4 p. m., March 24, in Normal Hall. To those already spoken of as leaders of the sociable party in the Wrightonian session, we must now add the name of George Howell, a Philadelphian. At this meeting, David W. Reid was chosen by the two society presidents to preside. As the session was turbulent, it was found no easy matter to conduct the business expeditiously. The motion to reconsider previous action carried, and on reconsideration the joint meeting again declared in favor of the sociable by a vote of eighty-four to thirty-seven. This session lasted from 4 to 9:45 p. m.

At four p. m., March 25, another meeting of the Wrightonians was called in room twenty-three. At this meeting Mr. F. A. Houghton moved that we have a short programme, after which society adjourned for social exercises. This motion was seconded by E. E. Brown, and was unanimously carried. So ends the sociable fight, in which the "cream" and "scum" met in earnest but friendly conflict. Let us add that the sociable proved a grand success, and that one of the most pleasing incidents was the presentation of a beautiful bouquet by the ladies to George Howell, in token of their appreciation of his efforts in behalf of the sociable.