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HOUGHTON, N. Y., DECEMBER 4, 1925

NUMBER 10

Mozart's Violin

To Be Used by Gray-Lhevinne Here December 10

The violin Mme. Estelle Gray-Lhevinne uses in her concerts was made two hundred ten years ago in Cremona, Italy, and is the one used by Mozart in his childhood concerts. This same violin was also caressed by the bony hand of Paganini, and Donzetti worked out upon it the airs of many of his eighty operas.

But it is the violinist rather than the violin that packs to capacity auditorium after auditorium where Mme. Gray-Lhevinne holds her concerts. Few violinists have her dramatic intensity or her ability to move the hearts of their hearers. She has the faculty of captivating even those of her hearers whose ears have not been trained to appreciate the subtle beauties of exquisite harmony, and at the same time execute such feats of technique as to make professionals gasp. The secret of her phenomenal success is doubtless the vivacious interestedness with which she regards her music and also her audiences. One of the things which makes her especially pleasing is her little heart to heart talks with her audiences about the selections. She gives the circumstances of their composition, some bit of information about their career, an inkling of the picture they represent, or the message they convey. She talks as refreshingly as she plays.

It will be especially interesting to students to know that Mme. Gray-Lhevinne's entire musical education was won by a series of scholarships. At the age of eight, she gave her first unassisted violin recital, in San Francisco.

President Roosevelt was very fond of this artist, and when she gave a concert, it was a common sight to see the Colonel on the front row leading the applause.

To this great violinist who has swayed capacity crowds from San Francisco to New York, and from Italy to England, we will have the opportunity to listen on December 10.

Get Your Seats Early!



Another Goal Reached

The results of Houghton's self-denial month are a source of much encouragement to the Young Missionary Workers Band. At the last chapel exercises before Thanksgiving vacation, the students of Houghton brought the bountiful fruits of their self-sacrificing efforts into the treasury. In the chapel, Houghton laid the financial foundation for a Girls' Dormitory in India, and delegated the masons of India to lay a material foundation in India. \$414.51 of the \$500 goal was in the form of self-denial, hard cash, the rest being guaranteed pledges which are good for their face value when redeemed. Thus it was with grateful hearts and lips of praise that the Young Missionary Workers Band of Houghton returned thanks to God on Thanksgiving Day for answered prayer and innumerable blessings.

Students and Faculty join in extending sympathy to Mr. Frank Henshaw who has been suddenly bereft of his father.

Thanksgiving Activities of the Theologs

Chicken and pumpkin pie did not detract from the activities of the Theological Department during the Thanksgiving holidays.

Special Thanksgiving messages were given at the Portageville and Hume Baptist Churches, November 22. Wednesday evening a special program was rendered by Houghton and other outside talent at the Hume Church.

A series of revival services were held at Allen Center during the vacation by Messrs. Robinson and Enty. The latter had charge of the singing. About twelve persons came forward seeking salvation or the baptism of the Holy Spirit. One young man stated a desire to enter the ministry. Saturday and Sunday evenings a group of about twenty or twenty-five Houghton students attended the services thus showing interest in the work being done.

Last Sunday evening a group from the school held a Union service in the Baptist Church at Belfast. Good reports were given of this service as well as a similar service held the week before in Castile.

Please pray for the service to be held at Angelica next Sunday evening, and also for the work on Fox Hill, that souls will be saved.

Vacation Frolics

"My, I had a great time!" "Best vacation I ever spent at Houghton!" These were a few of the remarks which greeted students returning to Houghton after vacation. At first they were inclined to pity those who stayed. However, the enthusiastic responses they heard soon aroused curiosity as to what activities occupied our time during vacation.

The first event of importance was the bountiful Thanksgiving dinner provided by Miss Grange. The girls dressed as Pilgrims and brought a truly Thanksgiving atmosphere. After dinner everyone was invited to a "bee-line hike" led by "Solomon" Elzey. The general route lay "over the hills and through the woods" for about four miles. The most important occurrence of the hike was the discovery of the "missing link" (page Darwin!) For a more minute explanation, readers are

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Mr. and Mrs. Butler Score Big Success

Entertainment Greatly Appreciated

On Friday evening, November 20, the student body and friends of Houghton College were again treated to an elevating and inspiring entertainment—one which many have termed the best that our lecture course has thus far produced. This recital was given to us through the efforts of Mr. and Mrs. Butler, soloist and reader, together with Miss Chase, pianist. From the first, the entertainers held their audience firmly within their grasp, and because of their friendly and altruistic spirit they seemed like members of the listening group instead of professional artists of the highest type. Encores were frequent, there being scarcely a number rendered which did not gain a hearty applause.

Mr. Butler commenced the program with a group of light selections which vividly portrayed the spirit of childhood, and the nature of simple life. Mr. Butler's rich, deep, baritone voice, and his easy, graceful stage appearance won him many friends and admirers.

Equally pleasing and entertaining was the group of dramatic readings which followed the vocal selections, and which were given by Mrs. Butler. Her fine interpretation of "The Highwayman", and her humorous presentation of a cutting from a work by Kate Douglass Wiggins, exceeded by a great degree the expectations of her hearers. For an encore she rendered a southern selection—a negro lullaby.

Mr. and Mrs. Butler both favored us with other superb groups, and Miss Chase added variety to the program when she introduced a number of piano solos. Her musical ability appeared little short of marvelous, and her artistic touch thrilled even the most skeptical. Undoubtedly the most outstanding portions of the latter groups were the songs by Mr. Butler "They are not Dead", a patriotic selection, and "Goin' to Snout", a negro spiritual, and the reading by Mrs. Butler, entitled "The Lost Word", written by Henry VanDyke.

If our lecture course continues to provide entertainments of as high a caliber as the one described, we shall indeed feel that our patronage is not in vain, and that our money is well invested.

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Editorial

"I Am Sir Oracle!"

"No one is really necessary anywhere." At least, the world does not noticeably slacken its pace even when some of its most indispensable citizens are taken away. It may feel the pain of separation and emptiness, and because of this put on its robes of mourning for ten minutes, but soon forgetful, it returns to the accomplishment of its self-appointed tasks. Despite the fact that Caesar has long since conquered his Gauls and stretched out in six feet of earth, that Burke has ceased thundering forth his "propositions of peace", that Ruskin has finished the "one life he had to live", and the fiery tones of John Knox have not, these many years, echoed through the glens of Scotland, the world still wages its wars, and men still take their turns at setting the world right. Military prowess did not die with Caesar, nor oratorical skill with Burke, nor love of truth with Ruskin, nor zealous faith with Knox. These things live, and in every generation new leaders and new followers receive their inheritance in them. No, we are in no need of Caesar!

Last June, some of the most indispensable citizens of Houghton passed on to new fields of activity. In contemplation of this Exodus from our midst, we began to think seriously of the leaders for the new school year. "It will be a trying year," was echoed and re-echoed continually. Look at

Our President's Message

Our estimation of man or woman, boy or girl, in regard to culture, refinement, education, and almost in regard to character is largely made from his use of English and his manners in public. One of the greatest assets is to know how to conduct one's self properly in public, and then to put this knowledge into practice.

All of us are continually attending some form of public meeting. Pleasure business, and worship must always function with crowds of people, and every student should know and practice the rules that common sense and social etiquette have made for these occasions.

Public meetings for pleasure include lectures, artists' recitals, and entertainments of many kinds. These functions are often quite formal, and some of the things that were said about the formal social functions could be repeated here. Every student should learn and practice the usages of cultured society in regard to such meetings. While a speaker is speaking or an artist is rendering any number, he should have the undivided attention of the whole audience and there should be perfect silence with absolutely nothing to disturb or distract. The greatest discourtesy that can be given to an artist is to whisper, or giggle, or in any way make a disturbance when a number is being rendered. Between numbers a certain amount of freedom is permissible, but dignity should always characterize such meetings. Applause is in perfect order but should not include the stamping of the feet. When applauding, it is kind to keep in mind the golden rule, and thus encourage a beginner though the number may not be worthy of special praise.

Students, let us make the most of our opportunities along this line, and so act that we will reflect credit upon our home and our school.

J. S. Luckey.

To be continued

the leaders we are losing. Who will head the Y. M. W. B.? Who will be editor of the Star? Who will guide the student body into green Elysian fields of peace? We will have plenty of "second the motions" for there are always enough "I think so, too" people, but in whose fertile brain will new ideas for the forward march of our beloved school originate? Grave apprehensions were certainly present. Nevertheless, we still have a Y. M. W. B.—with a president—the student body has not vanished, and the Star appears from week to week. It may be that we are not coming up to the illustrious standard of our predecessors, but "we're coming, Father Abraham".

Yes, we are exceedingly important, and when this year closes, it will be very hard to get someone to take our places. "I am Sir Oracle!"—but there are others.

Reminiscences

R. W. Hazlett

The death of the Sheriff of Allegany County, DeForrest Bennett, in the hospital at Warsaw on October 29th, following an operation, may have little significance for the present student body, except for the fact that some may have casually noted, that Mr. Bennett came from near Short Tract, which was also the birthplace and the early home of Pres. Luckey. But to the scattered students of nearly two decades ago, and particularly to the charter members of the old Houghton Seminary Band, this intelligence will come as a distinct shock and personal sorrow, when they are told that Sheriff Bennett was no other than "Dick" Bennett, their first Bandmaster.

All of which recalls an almost forgotten chapter in the musical history of this institution. Except for a badly battered tuba that will never "um-pah" again, lying in the locker room of the gymnasium; a few faded green band caps that now and then an enterprising youth brings forth from the dusty depths of some dark closet and wears jauntily in mock masquerade; and the warped shell of an old bass drum, reposing in the attic with the lettering on the head still faintly visible—very few of the present students know that Houghton once boasted a flourishing brass band of twenty-four pieces, which added its fanfare to many a stirring political campaign, besides giving concerts and playing for many special occasions.

Yet such is the case. Early in the fall of 1907, several kindred spirits got together and broached the idea of such an organization, which was received with vast enthusiasm. Instruments were procured, and "Dick" Bennett secured as Bandmaster. An expert cornetist himself and an experienced leader of beginning bands, he accomplished wonders in a surprisingly short time. This was before the days of flivvers and improved roads, and "Dick" drove the ten miles or better from Short Tract by horse and buggy. No matter how bad the roads or inclement the weather, he never disappointed the boys, although on a few particularly stormy nights he might be a little late. When he arrived, it seemed as though he brought the invigorating breath of the whole out-dours with him. His very presence was inspiring and dynamic; the atmosphere seemed charged with magnetic currents. After a few breezy greetings and the exchange of some rough banter in which he was likely to allude to a slide trombone as

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a "slippery elm" and a clarinet player as a "sliver sucker", he was ready for business. One may rest assured that there was no further fooling or horse play when he gave the order to tune up!

And how he could make a cornet talk! Staccato runs and triple-tonguing, it was all the same to him. Perhaps a trace of the old boyish admiration and hero worship remains, but the feeling still persists that he was the greatest cornet virtuoso and Bandmaster in the world, bar none! Why, under his leadership, the band could play the "Twelfth Regiment" or the "Empire Express" March with verve and esprit that would have made Conway, Pryor, Sousa, and all the rest green with envy! Such was "Dick" Bennett in his prime, and the Houghton Seminary band in its heyday.

Although Mr. Bennett did not continue to act as tutor during the whole eight or nine years that the band was in existence, yet he kept in touch with the boys by coming to assist them at concerts and other special engagements. Every member of the band, whether old or new, had the same feeling of hero worship—why deny it? Back of trenchant wit and a somewhat caustic tongue, there was a genial good nature and warm-hearted loyalty as well as a virile manhood, that made him the true friend of everyone who really knew him.

This reminiscence sketch would, probably never have been written had not its author, for the first time in years, caught a fleeting glimpse of his old-time "chief" in the Fillmore State Bank not two weeks before his death. There was no opportunity to speak to him, as he was busily engaged in conversation—and besides a real sheriff is a very terrifying personage, even to one whose conscience is entirely free from guilt. But even this brief contact revived the old memories and renewed the spell of his personality. Then came the news of his sudden death, and with it a vast regret.

Without knowing anything of his political activities or affiliations, one cannot help wondering whether "Dick" was happier for exchanging his baton for a badge, and whether he always secured a perfect ensemble and kept everyone marching in line at his own allegro tempo up at the county seat. Politicians are notoriously deficient in close harmony anyway! It was the same "Dick" Bennett at Fillmore that day, as of yore in spite of his greved hair (he was only fifty-six) —

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and yet one sensed a subtle difference somehow. His smoothly shaven face presented the same clean-cut, incisive profile, but the fighting jaw was a trifle more pronounced if anything, and the steely glint in his eyes was a bit more cold and authoritative. There was also a certain nervous tension in his voice and manner that bespoke not only the responsibilities of his position, but also, if one could have but known, the fatal disease that already had him in its grip.

But more than enough has been said! Only taps should follow the finale, and the motif of life ends with a

rest. Good old "Dick"! We'll wager that friend and foe alike join in paying honor to your character as a man and in mourning your loss as a citizen, and that up to the very end you displayed the same indomitable will and courage that President Luckey recalls when even as a boy you got your first horn and started out to be the best cornetist in the township of Granger and all outlying districts.

Houghton College may have her "Harmonizers" of today—her highly complimented orchestra and much encored double male quartet; but to the mind of the old timer at least, there will never be anything quite so satisfying and thrilling as the martial strains of the old Houghton Seminary Band led by "Dick" Bennett!

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Y. M. W. B.

Praise Him, all Houghton! Praise Him, for, as Mr. Robinson, leader of the Thanksgiving prayer meeting, said, there is endless cause of praise for the hope of the resurrection mentioned in I Peter 1:3. Indeed, most of the service was devoted to joyful thanksgiving. Thirty-five audible testimonies rendered to Christ the praise due to His name, while about fifty hands from the saved and unsaved were lifted to express appreciation of His supreme goodness.

The last Tuesday evening service was in charge of the Y. M. W. B. The program drew our attention to the souls in waiting, to the great needs, and to our favored circumstances; and exhorted us to tell the gospel story. Clinton Donahue lead devotions, Ruth Williams and Irwin Enty sang a duet, and Ruth Rockwell pictured the needs of the mountain girls by reading, "Just Gals". Then Mr. Boyd gave a talk worthy of much consideration on, "Modern Missions in the Light of World Development". The final number was a song by the girls' quartet.

Fellow Christian, do you not feel every fiber of your being yearn to do your utmost for the Master of Men? If not, we urge you to take immediate inventory before Him to whom you are unmeasureably indebted.

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referred to anyone who went on the hike.

In the evening two parties occupied the time of some, while others attended an impromptu basket-ball game in the gym.

Friday afternoon the "call of the wild" again came to our ambitious vacationists and about twenty-five hiked to the Roth home about two miles from Houghton. The afternoon passed very rapidly; for we enjoyed such games as "Ships, sail on" and "Spirits" as well as eating prodigious quantities of fudge. At 5:30 a delicious supper was served. Early in the evening we returned to the dormitory where every one joined in a general "sing". Then two parties were held in the dining-room—one a "pancake feed".

Saturday plans were made to "journey" to Allen Center where the Theologs were holding revival services with Harvey Robinson as evangelist and Irwin Enty as songleader. At supper that night, the "Caneadea Family" occupied a separate table and enjoyed some goodies sent by Alice Huntsman. Each member found at his place a card bearing his nickname; such as, "Count de Change", "Percy Cution", "Deacon" "Missing Link".

Promptly at six about twenty

young people met at Cronk's store and were very solidly packed into Crouch's truck. As the night was cold, some of our members had the appearance of Esquimaux. At the end of the state road, we left the truck and "merrily" hiked over roads that had the appearance and general effect of corduroy for what seemed an endless distance to the school-house. On our return part of the journey was made on a sleigh. By making good time our weary hikers arrived home at twelve o'clock.

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