

# THE COLBY ECHO.

Volume XII, No. 17.

WATERVILLE, MAINE, MARCH 3, 1909.

Price Five Cents.

## DARWIN AND HIS WORK.

Life and Services of the Great English Scientist Discussed by Professor Chester.

The career of Charles Robert Darwin, the great English scientist, the centennial of whose birth was observed on Feb. 12, furnished a timely subject for last evening's lecture by Professor Chester. It was an unusually large audience of students and townspeople which assembled in the chapel to follow the discussions of the speaker, and all were extremely pleased with the explanations of Darwin, his theories and his relations to scientific thought of past and present.

Professor Chester began with a description of the Darwin family, men inclined to philosophic and natural concerns, and of the fortunate circumstances which surrounded the youth Charles. After attending day school and Dr. Butler's boarding school, at the age of sixteen he was sent to Edinburgh University. As a boy he was fond of dogs, of hunting, of collecting all sorts of plants and animals, and preferred chemistry and Euclid to his other studies. His course at Edinburgh was intended to fit him for a physician; he had no love for medicine, however, but here enjoyed the acquaintance of Dr. Grant and others of prominence in the natural sciences. It was here, too, that he acquired his first firm and serious idea of evolution.

When it became evident that the boy did not intend to become a physician he was sent to Cambridge to study for the ministry. At Cambridge he met Professor Henslow and the career of Darwin was shaped largely by his friendship with this learned scientist. It was Henslow who made possible his geological excursion to northern Wales,

where he learned to group widely isolated facts into generalizations; and then on his return to England it was again Henslow who secured for him his appointment as naturalist with His Majesty's expedition around the earth. For the five years of this voyage Darwin practiced method and concentration.

Up to this time he had been a vigorous and healthy youth. Now, however, he observed symptoms of heart disease, and after the months of almost constant seasickness ill health attended him throughout his life. Yet to the end he remained cheerful in disposition and energetic in the advancement of his work.

In 1836 Darwin returned to England, married at the age of thirty, as a geologist resided for three years in London, and then moved to his country place at Doune where he thereafter resided and carried out his plans as a biologist.

In early life he was not ambitious to become a great scientist or to gain the praise of men. Through his relations with Henslow his name became known to scientific societies and by them he was received on the return from his voyage. His immediate works were a journal of travels, and various papers read before the Geological Society. There soon followed his treatise on the barnacles, "the consummation of his preparation for the most remarkable work of the nineteenth century." This work alone would have been regarded as a considerable contribution to zoology.

"The outcome of his supreme effort was "The Origin of Species," a book which wondrously transformed the biological ideas of the dark past and moulded the whole scientific thought of the future. The old idea tallied well with the nebula hypothesis and only Erasmus Darwin, Lamarck and a

few others had dissented. But Sir Charles Lyell, Darwin's firm friend, and men in general had grown uneasy of accepting the cataclysm theory. "The Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation," published in 1844, plainly suggests the undercurrent of thought during those years and its immense sale offers proof that the truth of evolution was ready to burst forth like a volcano.

"Various observations made on his foreign voyage had caused Darwin to suspect the theory of a special creation and on his return to England the idea of species and their origin seemed to haunt him. Proofs by actual illustrations that species were not fixed were alone able to convince him that a special creation was unnecessary. He had not yet discovered the theory of natural selection but he was almost an evolutionist.

"Darwinism and evolution are not the same. Darwinism does not mean that man sprang from monkey. Evolution is the theory of genetic descent and assumes that these two forms are related. Evolution shows what the connections were, Darwinism, how they were brought about. The latter depends upon the theory of natural selection.

"The theory of evolution needs no defense. Darwin labored, not to prove that there was an organic evolution, but to show how it could have been brought about by natural means. To do this he applied the law of natural selection, that nature destroys the unfit and is propitious to the fit. The law rests upon the three arguments of variation, selection and struggle: that favorable variations of a class are preserved and unfavorable destroyed; that nature has selected the best forms for the success of posterity as the breeder selects according to a desired character; that to live is to struggle with the same species, with other species and the environment.

"The force of the amount and variety of facts and illustrations gathered gave impetus to the theory which at once took by

storm almost every stronghold of disbelief. But Darwin's greatness depends, not so much upon his discovery of the principle as upon its possibility of application to so many different phenomena in plant and animal life. It explains how an evolution might take place and gives biologists a working hypothesis from which the whole future of biology radiates.

"The Origin of Species" was published in 1859, and at about the same time Alfred R. Wallace independently had made a similar discovery. Hence the theory is sometime called the Darwin-Russel theory of natural selection, but the work of Wallace fell far short of presenting so vast an array of facts. Darwin himself felt that the theory did not offer an exclusive means of modification and he strengthened it by his postulate theory of sexual selection and by Lamarck's theory of the inheritance of acquired characters.

"Darwin's was an ambition for work. "The Descent of Man," "Variation of Animals and Plants under Domestication," and many other works followed his greatest effort of all. To his experiments and writings his attention was devoted while the disciples of his theory entered the hostilities which followed "The Origin of Species." Critics appeared as soon as its publication and opposition to the theory is raised today.

"And yet while not beyond criticism, Darwin's theory was a stupendous task in inductive reasoning, set the world to thinking and has formed the basis for an immense amount of investigation. His work gave to biological study an impetus as great as if not greater than the work of any other man. 'No laborer in the field of science ever plodded more patiently through masses of small detail; no master mind on the highest elevation of philosophy has ever grasped more world-transforming truth.' "

Dean Berry has been on a business trip to her home in West Boylston, Mass.

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**NEW YORK ALUMNI.**

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The Fourteenth Annual Reception and Banquet of the New York Colby Alumni Association Held Saturday Evening.

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President Roberts was greeted by the largest and most enthusiastic gathering in the history of the New York Colby Alumni Association on Saturday evening, February 27th. Thirty-four Colby men had gathered at the Graduates' Club to demonstrate that the new Colby spirit is making itself felt in New York just as effectively as in Waterville. The spirit of the evening was notably loyal and Robertsonian. From start to finish it was evident that the local alumni are with the new President as one man, and that they stand behind him solidly in his efforts to build up a greater Colby. It was repeatedly remarked that such enthusiasm had never been seen before at a Colby reunion in New York.

The president of the Association, F. H. Hanson, '83, acted as toastmaster in his genial way, introducing the various speakers with some apt and telling remark. President Roberts was called upon first, and was at his best—what more need be said? In his terse and vivid fashion he outlined his hopes for the future of Colby and told of the educational ideals dominant there. He sat down amid a tumult of applause which culminated in three ringing cheers for President Roberts.

The speakers who followed him—Hon. R. C. Shannon, '62, of the Trustees; Dr. George F. Parmenter, of the Faculty; Rev. William H. Rowley, '94; Rev. J. B. Slocum, '93; and G. P. Phenix, '86, of Hampton Institute,—expressed the confidence felt by all that the new president was the right man in the right place, and that under his wise and devoted leadership great things were in store for "old Colby."

Dr. Parmenter was an especially welcome speaker, for in a frank, forceful way he told how the new spirit at Colby was manifesting itself in the class-room, on the

athletic field, and in every phase of student life. Come again, Dr. Parmenter!

Many letters of regret were read, and each one voiced the belief that a new day had dawned for Colby; each told the same story of unbounded confidence in President Roberts.

A feature of the occasion was the singing of the "Colby Hymn" recently written by Joel B. Slocum, '93. It is already familiar to the students but was new to most of the alumni present.

Dr. C. E. Meleney, '76, extended the hospitality of the Graduates' Club to all Colby men in the city and announced that arrangements are being made to have a "Colby night" once in two months, when all alumni will be invited to meet for an informal dinner.

R. B. Austin urged all present to subscribe for the "ECHO," remarking that it would keep one thoroughly posted in all college activities.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Pres., F. H. Hanson; Vice Pres., E. J. Colcord; Sec'y.-Treas., C. P. Chipman.

Executive Committee: A. H. Bickmore, G. A. Marsh, P. L. Thorne.

General Welfare Committee: W. G. Hooke, R. B. Austin, B. A. Gooch, G. P. Fall.

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The oldest living graduate in the country is Levi Davis, Alton, Ill., who graduated from Washington and Jefferson College in 1828, more than eighty years ago.

It has just become known that the office of chancellor of Michigan University is to be created by the regents and that President Angell is to be installed therein. A new president of the University is to be elected and to assume the work which is becoming too onerous for Mr. Angell's eighty years. President Angell as chancellor will remain actual head of the institution at a salary probably larger than the present one.

# THE COLBY ECHO

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The Graduates' Club, 11 East 44th St., where the New York Colby Alumni held their banquet on Saturday evening, is a young university club with a membership embracing representatives of a hundred American colleges. The late Dr. A. P. Marble, Colby '61, and Clarence E. Meleney, '76, associate school superintendent of New York City, were among the founders of the club and Mr. Meleney was elected its first president. Both these graduates of Colby were on the first board of governors and A. H. Bickmore, '93, has just been elected to a position on the present board. The Colby alumni have organized a Colby Club similar to those of other colleges within the membership of the larger organization and are very active in supporting

Colby's interests. Frank H. Hanson, '83, is president of the association and Charles P. Chipman, '06, secretary.

## "COLLEGE CHUMS."

Dramatic Club Scores a Great Success in Presentation of Its Play in Belfast.

The dramatic club gave the first presentation of this season's play, "College Chums", last Thursday evening at the Belfast opera house and made a great hit with the audience. The play was given under the auspices of the Young Men's Association of the town and an enthusiastic audience taxed the seating capacity of the house to its limit. Renworth Rogers, '11, one of the members of the cast lives in Belfast and he was given a fine reception at his appearance on the stage.

"College Chums" is especially well adapted for presentation by a college dramatic club and is interesting and exceptionally lively from beginning to end. The hazing scene in the first act and the football game in the last strongly appealed to the audience. All the parts were well played and the female characters were finely portrayed by the fellows. Carroll, '11, who played the part of Grace Dinsmore, was especially complimented on his attractive appearance as a young lady.

At the close of the play a dance was held for which several pieces of the Colby orchestra furnished music. The next appearance of the club will be at Norridgewock on March 12. The cast of characters of the play is as follows:

Franklyn Risley, Ph. D., Dean of Clinton University, Clarke Blance, '12; Friedrich Von Weber, a professor of German, Raymond C. Bridges, '11; Wallace Findlay, known as the "Babe", Leon C. Guptill, '09; Howard Thorne, known as the "Bully", Joseph W. Hammond, '09; Arthur Kingsbury, captain of the 'Varsity team, Henry B. Moor, '10; Paul Dinsmore, a Sophomore,

Merle C. Rideout, '12; Clifford Paige, manager of the 'Varsity team, Harold W. Kimball, '09; John Findlay, father of Wallace, Renworth Rogers, '11; Alec, an old colored attendant, Ralph E. Nash, '11; Mrs. Almira Dinsmore, mother of Paul, Harold F. Dow, '10; Grace Dinsmore, her daughter, William Carroll, '11; Toby Sprague, daughter of the watchman, John P. Dolan, '12.

### CAMPUS CHAT.

Leo Trask, '09, went to Brunswick last Friday where he attended a reception given by the Bowdoin chapter of Delta Kappa Epsilon. The reception occurred in the afternoon and was followed by a ball in the evening.

Herbert H. Goodwin, '12, returned last week from a several days visit at Rumford Falls.

Henry J. Bacon was the guest of his brother Nathaniel Bacon, '12, at the A. T. O. house last week.

S. C. Cates, '12, has returned to college after a two weeks' absence because of illness.

Invitations for a reception to be given at the D. K. E. house next Friday evening, March 5, have been issued.

E. F. Allen, '09, violinist, assisted in an entertainment given at Albion last Saturday evening by students of Freedom Academy.

Harold Haywood of Oak Grove Seminary visited Harold E. Tobey, '12, last Saturday.

Henry Hemenway of South Jefferson was the guest of F. H. Rose, '09, at the A. T. O. house, Saturday. Mr. Rose returned with him to South Jefferson where he occupied the pulpit of the First Baptist church Sunday.

The executive committee of the athletic association held a meeting, last Thursday, in its room at Recitation Hall. Business not completed at that time will be taken up at an adjourned meeting tomorrow afternoon.

This season's musical clubs sat for their annual group picture at Preble's studio last Saturday.

'How dear to the heart  
Is cash on subscription,  
When the generous subscriber  
Presents it to view.  
But of those who don't pay  
We refrain from description,  
For perhaps, gentle reader,  
That 'those' might mean you.'

—Ex.

Suffering from an attack of tonsilitis, Irvin M. Holt, '11, was forced to leave Waterville, Monday, for his home in Clinton.

The college orchestra and the quartet will give a concert at Fairfield Center tomorrow evening.

President Roberts and Dr. Parmenter returned to Waterville, Sunday, after attending the Colby Alumni banquet in New York City.

A matter of interest to students in Physiography is the announcement that the U. S. Geological Survey has just published, in co-operation with the State of Maine, a topographic map of about 220 square miles in the southeast corner of the State, known as the Eastport Quadrangle. This quadrangle includes the most easterly land in the United States and has as its northern boundary the 45th parallel of latitude, midway between the equator and the north pole. The map shows all the physical characteristics of the area, elevations, drainage, channels, bays, and the various islands of the coast. The irregularity of the Maine coast is shown by the fact that Lubec and Eastport, three miles apart on an air line, are over 100 miles distant by the coast. Other towns shown are Pembroke, Dennysville, Perry and Whiting. These maps are furnished by the director of the U. S. Geological Survey for the nominal price of five cents a copy.

**RESOLUTIONS.**

Whereas: Our Heavenly Father in His infinite wisdom has removed from this earthly life our beloved classmate, George Neal Dean, be it

Resolved: That we, the members of the class of 1910, extend to the family of our beloved classmate our deepest sympathy, and be it further

Resolved: That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family and that they be published in the COLBY ECHO and the Waterville Sentinel.

JEROME P. FOGWELL  
ALTON D. BLAKE  
HENRY B. MOOR  
FREDERICK HILL.

Com. on Resolutions, Class 1910.

**DE FEMINIS.**

MAUDE N. EATON, Editor.  
CASSILENA PERRY, Manager.

Miss Ethel Merriam of Skowhegan was the guest of Miss Gail Taggart, '12, over Sunday.

Miss Hazel Mariner, U. of M., has been the guest of Miss Freda Snow, '12.

The Dexter Club held a meeting Saturday evening at Foss Hall. The meeting opened with a business session at which Laura Day was elected treasurer. A literary program followed, consisting of readings by Lillian Carll, Margaret Skinner and Helen Nichols, a piano solo by Bessie Cummings, and a review of the current events of January and February by Laura Day and Mary Ingraham.

Miss Edwards and Mrs. Allen, state evangelists, conducted the chapel services Friday.

Miss Emmeline Wilson of Farmington Normal school was the guest of Miss Beatrice Haycock, Friday at luncheon.

Miss Louise Richards, a teacher at Farmington Normal School, was the guest of Miss Clara Eastman, '09, last Friday.

Miss Grace Diffin called on Miss Harriet Lawler, '12, on her way to her home in Eastport.

Miss Helen Warren, '11, is teaching school at Fairfield.

Plans are being made for a sociable at Foss Hall next Saturday evening. Candy will be on sale.

**INTERCOLLEGIATE NOTES.**

A joint resolution was introduced recently in the Nebraska Legislature providing for a school of citizenship in the University of Nebraska.

At Amherst College, a committee has been appointed to consider the question of postponing fraternity rushing and to draw up a new system. The matter is being considered from all points of view by the committee, and the systems of other colleges are being studied.

Student clubs have been organized at the University of Pennsylvania and Tulane University to foster a firmer college spirit and congenialty. Their quarters contain a reading room, bowling alley, billiard and pool parlors, lunch room and co-operative bookstore.

It is interesting to note that while Yale University was named after its famous student, Elihu Yale, two centuries ago, not a student by the name of Yale has matriculated there since and the case is reported equally true with Harvard University.

John D. Rockefeller has given the University of Chicago \$1,000,000 in 4 per cent. bonds, the income of \$40,000 a year to be used for general expenses. This makes a grand total of \$25,309,561, which Mr. Rockefeller has given the university within the last twenty years.





THE WILLOWS—Colby Campus.

Representative to Congress, Hon. Samuel W. McCall, from Massachusetts, has been offered the presidency of Dartmouth College.

College societies have at last broken down national limits, and the first European-American organization has just been formed by the amalgamation of Corda Freres, having branches in sixty-five continental universities, with the American Cosmopolitan Clubs, the latter being located at Missouri, Chicago, Northwestern, Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, Cornell, Leland Stanford, Harvard, Yale and other American universities. The Cosmopolitan Clubs take in practically all the foreign students at the universities.

Work on its grounds that would have taken the University of Washington at Seattle ten years to accomplish, has been done in two years by the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition, in preparation for the

great World's Fair which is to be held on the University campus during the summer of 1909. Approximately \$1,600,000 is being expended for permanent buildings and in further beautifying the campus. The exposition has spent more than \$300,000 in work on the grounds exclusive of buildings. Five miles of roads and avenues have been graded and paved with asphalt. A complete sewerage system embracing three miles of pipe has been laid. With this goes the seven miles of water mains that cover the entire campus. After the Exposition is over the University will find it has a natural amphitheatre staged and seated, able to care for at least 25,000 persons.

Quit notices have been received by 153 Cornell students as a result of the mid-year examinations. The number of students dropped on account of deficiencies totals more than ever before in the history of the university.

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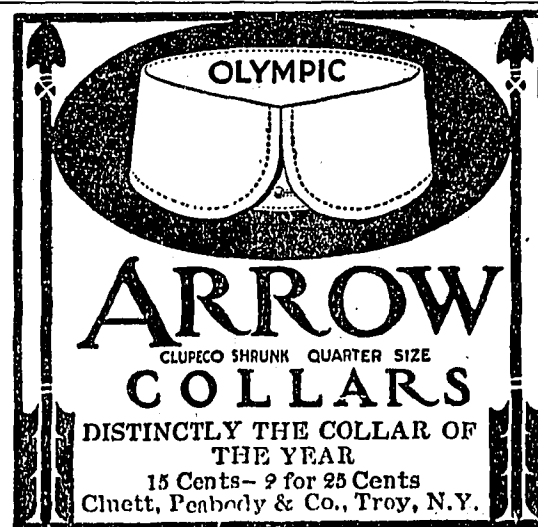
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Mother's Oats, (family size) . . .	.25
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New Series—Vol. XII  
Number 18



Waterville, Maine  
Mar. 10, 1909

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