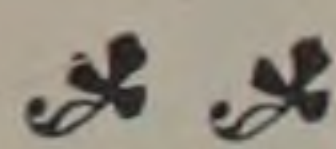


Glee and Mandolin Clubs



History

THIS is affirmed by a member of our faculty,

"Clubs may come and clubs may go,
But the Glee and Mandolin Clubs go on forever."

If we may limit the "forever" to the four years since the Institute opened its doors, this has already been proven. Through vicissitudes of all descriptions the Clubs have succeeded far beyond the expectations of the organizers.

Only two months after we had commenced to "grind," during the first sessions of the Institute, the necessity of giving vocal vent to our feelings was recognized. Mr. Stewart, '97, called for volunteers for a Glee Club. About forty coming wonders responded willingly, ready to do or die for the cause. Mr. Malmene, of the Department of Music, undertook the task of training this assemblage. After several rehearsals it was decided to abandon the idea of so large a club and effect a reorganization with Mr. Herman L. Walker as director. Mr. R. N. Stewart was elected President, Mr. H. T. Manlove, Secretary and Treasurer, and Mr. T. P. Haughey, Leader and Manager.

Coincident with the reorganization of the Glee Club, was the organization of the Banjo and Serenade Clubs, with Mr. S. K. Martin as leader.

So much accomplished, those who were to uphold the musical side of the College were selected from the applicants and preparation for our debut made. The first concert! Could any one, with even the semblance of sentiment, ever forget it? After months of patient rehearsing we were, at last, to gain our reward. An audience which filled every nook of the Assembly Hall, aided us to forget our nervousness, by their indulgence and applause. Certainly our initial performance was a success in every respect, and in spite of the lateness of the season, the latter part of May, the Club secured an engagement at Christ Church. We then felt that such an overloaded treasury as existed should be relieved, and the result was a lake trip. The adventures of that trip, coming, as it did, at the close of our year's studies, blotted from our minds all the unpleasant memories of the June "exams." For an account of the excitement, we always refer to W-1-y.

The election for the season '94-'95 brought no change in the leadership of the Glee Club. In this year, however, the Banjo Club was disbanded owing to lack of material, and a Mandolin Club organized, Mr. B. N. Kavanaugh acting as leader. Mr. J. W. O'Leary became manager of the Clubs. The annual concert was held in December, '94, followed by a trip through Elgin and Aurora. Early in '95, Mr. C. E. Freeman assumed charge of the Glee Club, and Mr. J. W. O'Leary succeeded Mr. Kavanaugh as leader of the Mandolin Club. Many successful concerts were given in various parts of the city.

The season of '95-'96, brought with it a reorganization of the Banjo Club, with Mr. C. E. Freeman as leader. The Glee and Mandolin Clubs retained the same officers and management.

