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CHICAGO,

"Early Recollections"

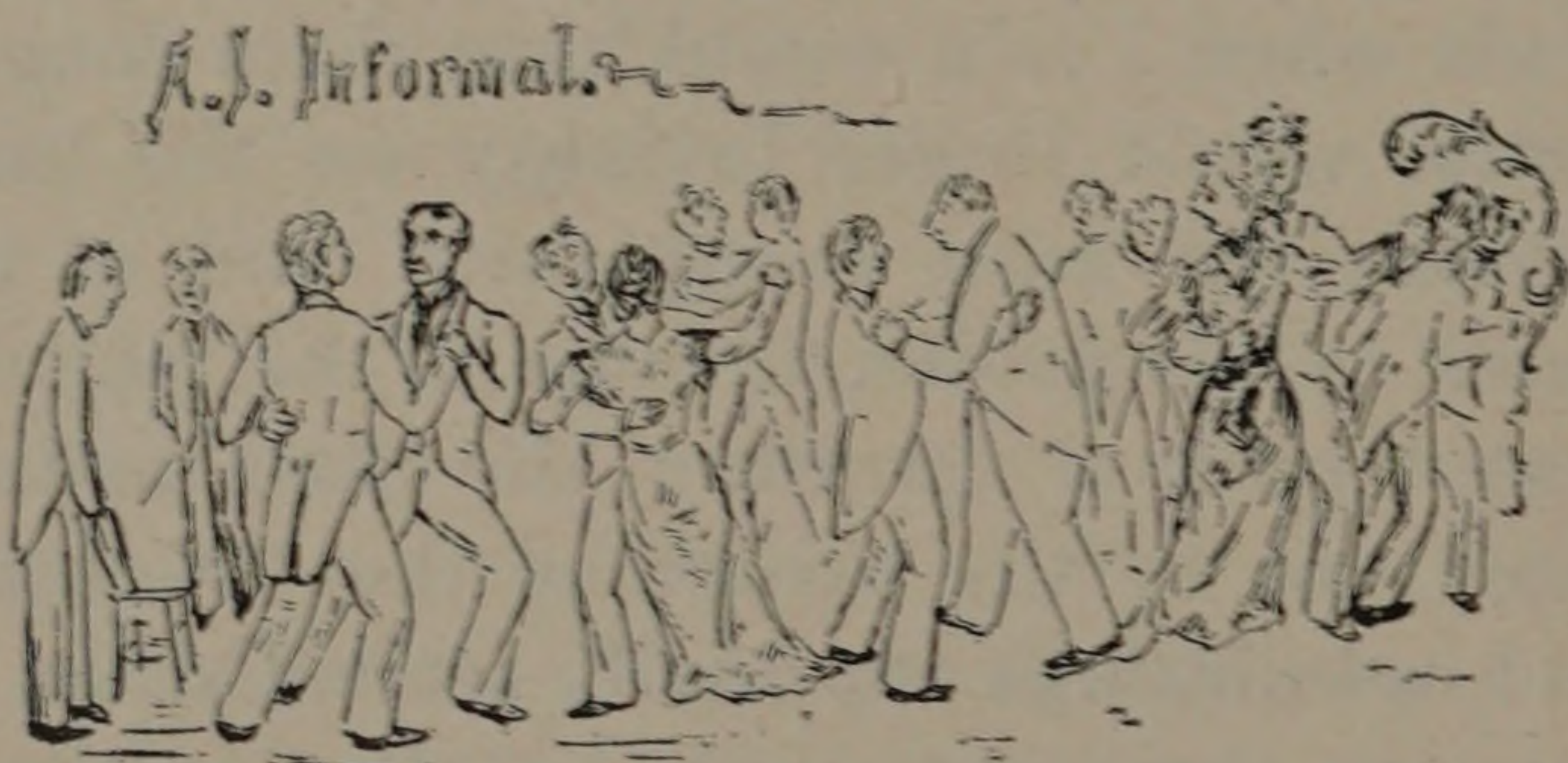
CHICAGO, ILL., Jan. 15th, 1898.

To the Editors of THE INTEGRAL, of '98:

This may appear to be an odd term to use in connection with an institution which is not yet five years old, but to many of us, it seems perfectly applicable since in that time we have completed our college course.

In the early days of the Institute (it had not then added the last two words of the present official title), the Academy predominated. This was due to the fact that the Academy started with four classes, while the College had but one, the great and only class of '97. Consequently the glee club, foot ball team, and the other student organizations had but few college men among their members. Speaking of the foot ball team, "That reminds me," as John Brownell would say, "of the first time we tried to play foot ball."

Our first practice took place in the vacant lot just south of the Webster school, on Wentworth Ave. All of the "moochers," larger and small, from that part of the town, came to see what was up. In some unexplained manner they secured the ball, and in attempting to recover it, a scrimmage ensued, during which Val Hunt landed his good right fist in the immediate locality of the lower jaw of one of "de gang." The result of this was a shower of brick bats and other bats upon the gallant men of Old Armour. We finally held a conference with the enemy, with the result that they expressed their opinion in this manner: "Well, mebbe youse fellers is all right, but we wants de feller wot hit Dempsey."



However, they never secured Mr. "Man-Wot-Hit-Dempsey," and we afterward played foot ball in peace, if such a term is allowable in connection with the game.

We were active in other ways also. We had Library and Faculty receptions, "informals" and other social functions, and on the whole thought we were quite "warm."

We people in the class of '97, although only Freshmen, had, or thought we had, all of the dignity and prerogatives of seniors, as we were the only class in the college. The present Freshmen, with three classes to look down upon them, cannot appreciate how important we felt.

We used to go out to the Worlds Fair with the Profs. on inspection trips to the Electrical Building and Machinery Hall, but often the Midway or some other part of the grounds would seem to our youthful minds to be more attractive than flywheels, generators, and other inanimate objects.

If I were to continue telling of the many things that happened during the school year of '93 and '94, the Board of Editors would have to get out a heavier Annual than they can afford, so it will save them money if this article is brought to a speedy close.

Very truly yours,
WILL FARGO SIMS.

EDITOR'S NOTE.—Will the reader please read the letters of our two friends, Sloan and Sims, in parallel.