

History '99 Academy



IN order to properly start a record of this kind it is desirable to go back to pre-class-historic times, when in the year of 1895 a number of boys and girls upon graduating from the grammar schools of the city of Chicago carried off all the highest honors.

There is no document in existence which conclusively proves that these said persons were those who now make up the class of '99, A. S. A., but the assumption seems justifiable when we look at the scholarship records of some of our representatives. The marks of others need not be taken into consideration, because such a step would meet with the disapproval of the class and cast a reflection on the high standing.

It is said that an old lady once went into a book store and asked for a pocket edition of the bible, but she wanted it in very large print, and the clerk did not clearly see how to oblige her. The historian of the ninety-nines is in a predicament exactly the reverse of the clerk's. He was told to write enough to cover two sides of the Integral, and pen and paper are almost the only materials with which he has to work. For if the happiest years as well as the happiest nations have no history, the first two we spent at Armour should have been a source of great joy to us. In the third year we formally organized into a class so that on departing we might leave behind us, "a window on the library wall" as our predecessors have done.

The constitution does not avowedly state that this was the purpose for which we united, but, nevertheless, it seems to have been the inducement which caused the members to honor the little yellow slips issued with great regularity by our treasurer. These yellow slips stated the amount which the victim had already paid into the treasury, and also the sum which was still due. The former was usually to the latter as fifteen cents are to a dollar.

Shortly after the class was established it suffered by the loss of two members, who now serve as our New York correspondents. As the president and treasurer are among those who look forward most eagerly to the letters written by them, the historian may be permitted to use the term "our correspondents."