

TUG OF WAR



After the exciting and eventful morning of Tuesday, September 25th, 1906, the two lower classes, 1909 and 1910, lined up at 12:30 for the real event — the Rush — that was to initiate the new class into Armour life. However, the rush was not for them. The sophomores had a more gentlemanly method of rushing the freshmen than had been in vogue in the years prior to that date. As a substitute for the time-memorial rush, the gentle, parlor game, popularly known at Armour as a “Candy-pull” was instituted. This change to a tug-of-war was advocated by the faculty and adopted by the freshman and sophomore classes only after several heated meetings. The change, though not relished by the freshmen, gave that class the victory where the outcome of a rush might have been otherwise. In the tug-of-war, the sophomores would have had the advantage both of experience from the previous year and of knowing each other.

At 12:20, a three hundred and fifty foot rope, about two inches in diameter, was stretched through the middle of Ogden Field, but, while Dr. Gunsaulus was addressing the freshmen and sophomores, a few upperclassmen started down 33rd street with it. However with the heavy rope dragging after them, they were not spry enough for the wily little Scot, “Jimmy” Little, who stopped the hasty flight of the rope by wrapping one end of it around a patrol box. After its return the ’09 Class made two attempts to show their superior (?) strength, but couldn’t “make good.” The Class of 1910 had things completely their way.

After the decision, the upper classes joined the warriors and the whole crowd played another famous parlor game, “Drop the Handkerchief.” From this they progressed to the old reliable stunt of rolling hoops, but decided that that also was “too rough” and quit. As a substitute, the *men* then sat down in a circle to tell fairy tales. But after two had been told, it was decided that even fairy tales were “too rough” and as no one could think of a refined game to suggest, the party gradually broke up.