

Class Room and Campus

Ferry Hall, Lake Forest.

On Friday evening of last week, Rev. W. B. Westervelt of Chicago gave an interesting and instructive lecture to Ferry Hall and Academy students in the Ferry Hall Chapel. His topic was Hawaii and was illustrated by stereopticon views. Miss Sargent introduced the speaker. He said in part: "It is a great pleasure to come and meet, not only the young ladies whom I expected to see, but also some of the young men who are to become rulers of Hawaii in a little while. There is so much to be said on this subject that it will be impossible to tell you all I should like to this evening. Miss Sargent has asked me to speak of the literary development, and so I will dwell on this feature particularly tonight. Exceptional opportunities were afforded me during my stay in the islands for getting hold of the origin of the people, because I was working among the priests and assisted in establishing missions among them. I had access to all of the very best literature from ancient times down to the present day. We think of the Hawaiian Islands as we think of our own land, as one of the younger nations of the earth. Its history goes back until it stands side by side with early English history, our history of the English or Angles. The traditions of its origin have been handed down from century to century as the stories were handed down in England from century to century, until the art of writing reached England, but not so quickly did it cross the waters to Hawaii. There are four races in the Islands. The Brown race, which is the highest type among this people, can be traced back through tradition to the coast of Hindustan. The same peculiar name, Hawaii, with little change, is that given to the early inhabitants of Java, New Zealand, and other islands of the Pacific. This conclusively shows that all these islands were originally inhabited by the same race. When Capt. Cook discovered the Hawaiian Islands and looked into the faces of those who gathered around his ship, he wrote: 'Their visages, very many of them, are like the Europeans, not like the negro with thick lips and low forehead.' But going back still farther, we learn of these people from the discoveries made by the Spanish. They found a

people who, when gold, jewels, and spices were held up before them in a questioning way, shook their heads, meaning they knew nothing of such things. And since these Spanish adventurers found no rich treasures such as they were seeking, their stay on the island was short. Capt. Cook discovered the islands anew in June, 1778. In February, 1779, he settled on the larger island. He had full power over the natives, who respected and loved him. They believed him to be the god Lova from over the waters. Many historians seem to find it difficult to explain why Capt. Cook met his death at the hands of this people. To us who have heard the story from the lips of the natives, it is easily explained. When he had won their love and esteem, instead of giving them kindness in return for their kind acts toward him, he and his men became tyrannical and cruel to them. The white sailors were especially brutal to them, and this they would not endure. In one of these frays, Capt. Cook was struck by one of the islanders, and in his anger he fired into a group of the natives. They at once hurled their spears, which caused the captain to cry out in fear. At this the natives exclaimed: 'He cries; he is not a god;' and so they took his life. The literature of this people consists chiefly of chants dedicated to the different gods whom they worshipped. We find much said of this one god, Lova, which I have before mentioned. Among the ancient writings is an account of the creation of man in which is found the word which translated means serpent, or mischief-maker, telling of the fall of man and the expulsion of man and woman from their beautiful home.

"The school system of the Hawaiian Islands will be interesting to some of you who may become teachers in a little while. It is just the same system as we have in the United States. History is taught in all the schools. The textbooks used are the same as we have in our public schools. There are academies and universities of learning also. The system of compulsory education is enforced throughout the island, and a special police, called schools officers, visit the schools regularly each day and find out what children are not present, and if they learn

any are truants, they are taken to jail. It is a long while before they play truant again. You can see that before many years pass by with these rules there will be a much higher per cent of those who can read and write in these islands which we have annexed, than in our own land."

Rev. Westervelt, while at Ferry Hall, was the guest of his niece, Miss Winnifred Westervelt, class of '99.

Ferry Hall Lyric and Dramatic Club gave its first public entertainment in the Chapel Monday night. The programme was a good one throughout. We trust they will favor us with another soon.

Miss Covington entertained the members of her art class at dinner Tuesday evening.

Ferry Hall Glee Club, under the direction of Miss Helen Fleming of Chicago, gave a concert at Lake Bluff, Friday evening, March 24.

A number of young gentlemen dined with friends Saturday evening last.

St. Patrick's day was celebrated in an appropriate manner by a favored few of the Ferry Hall students Friday evening. The members of the Junior Class were the guests of the Seniors. Invitations were in the form of shamrock leaves bordered in black. An Irish wake was the principal feature of the evening. The Seniors dressed in black received their guests in silence. A group on the floor acted as chief mourners, and after the guests were all seated, the leader, in priestly garb, read the paper of the evening. This was to commemorate the death of the verdancy of the Junior Class. Miss Sargent enumerated the faults of the Juniors, because, as she happily said, it would take less time than to tell of their virtues. Potatoes carefully wrapped in green tissue paper were the souvenirs presented. It was an occasion enjoyed by all.

One of the happiest events in the student life of this week was a stereopticon entertainment given by Miss Sargent on Tuesday evening. The views were illustrations of the works of Wm. Morris. These were made especially for the purpose of illustrating the lecture on "The Life and Works of Wm. Morris," which Miss Sargent recently delivered in Chicago. Among the views given, the best is the portrait of Wm. Morris, which is excellent in every detail. Through the courtesy of Marshall Field & Company, a photograph was taken of a piece of Morris tapestry, the "Flora," which is in their possession, and this was given with the many other views.