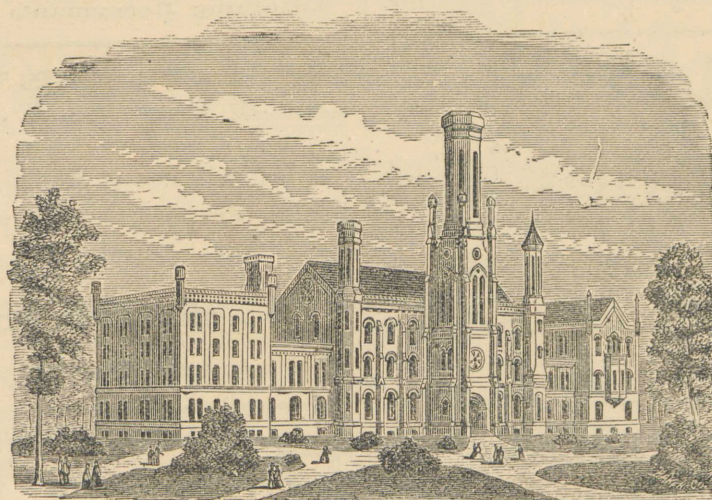


THE VOLANTE.

VOL. VII.

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, FEBRUARY, 1878.

No. 5.



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THE VOLANTE.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

PRES. ABERNETHY'S RESIGNATION...	67	DAY OF PRAYER FOR COLLEGES.....	69
CHANGE OF EDITORS.....	67	NATIONAL EDUCATION.....	70
OUR READING ROOM.....	68	PERSONALS.....	75
OUR ORTHODOX FRIENDS.....	68	LOCALS.....	75
A SONNET.....	69	EXCHANGES.....	77
THE RAINBOW.....	69	CLIPPINGS.....	78

At a recent meeting of the Board of Trustees of the University, Pres. Abernethy handed in his letter of resignation as President. He has occupied this trying position for nearly two years. We say trying position, for the University has, in all its history, passed through no darker times than it has during his administration. Few men would have consented to take the presidency of the University in the condition Pres. Abernethy found it when he entered upon his duties, and few men could have been more successful in the discharge of such arduous duties than he has been. We say in all truth and with pride, that he has won the universal respect and esteem, and admiration of the students. Their respect and esteem, because he has at all times sought the highest good of the students, their admiration, in that he has stood so faithfully by the University in its time of greatest need. We are glad that so able a man in every respect as Dr. Galusha Anderson has been elected his successor. Dr. Anderson accepts the position only on condition that the present indebtedness of the University be paid, and he has been so fully assured that this will be done, and immediately, that there is no doubt of his acceptance. In the renewed prospects of the prosperity of our University all friends will rejoice, and none more heartily than the students.

With this issue of THE VOLANTE, J. D. S. Riggs, our efficient associate editor, retires. We very much regret the withdrawal of Mr. Riggs from the editorial staff, for he has proven himself to be that most difficult of all men to find—the right man in the right place. Most men are better fitted to fill some one position in life. Mr. Riggs seems eminently qualified to fill the position of editor, and he will no doubt one day drop into his editor's easy chair, and take the position in life which he will honor; and for this reason we regret that a pressure of outside business compels the withdrawal of so valuable a member upon THE VOLANTE staff. It is not at all necessary to comment upon the duties or hardships of an editor. It would benefit neither the retiring editor nor his successor. The one has learned them already. The other can learn them himself more thoroughly than they can be taught him, and we have no fears of his inability to comprehend and appreciate them, after he has performed his duties for ever so short a time, if he is made up of the ordinary editorial stuff.

In regard to Mr. Riggs' successor, Mr. H. T. Duffield, of the class of '78, we can only commend and congratulate the Association in being so happy in their selection. Mr. Duffield enters upon his duties with the fullest confidence of the students and of his associate editors in his ability, and in his purpose to make THE VOLANTE a representative college paper. Mr. Duffield, to the hopes and disappointments, to the joys and sorrows of an editorial life, we welcome you. If the smooth flattery of friends and the cold scorn of enemies, and the pleasures of hearing from others how much better they could do if they were in your position, to all these we welcome you. Receive our hand: enter our sanctum—there's our easy chair—be seated.

Dr. Gregory, President of the Illinois Industrial University, delivered an eloquent sermon at the University Place Baptist Church on Sunday, February 3d. On Monday morning he conducted chapel exercises. In his talk to the students he encouraged them in the hopes of future greatness, but more in their desire for benefiting mankind in their future life; and he warned them that, though glances toward that which they wish to become are sometimes to be indulged in; still they must remember that success is obtained as a brick house is built, by placing one brick on another. Dr. Gregory is a pleasing, forcible and enthusiastic speaker, and the students heartily enjoyed his remarks.

There seems to be a mistaken idea in the minds of some students in regard to the Reading Room. The University agreed to warm the room on condition that those who reside outside the building could have the use of it as a study-room when not in recitation. With one exception, these students pay nothing towards its support, nor are they requested to, unless they choose yet they have free access to all the reading-matter and are permitted the same privileges that those have who support it. We are happy to say that the majority of them seem to appreciate the accommodation thus tendered them and conduct themselves in a proper manner while there, yet there are a few who do not, and these remarks are intended for this few. They should bear in mind that it is not a bar-room; that it is not a place for smoking, chewing, spitting, scattering pea-nut hulls, throwing papers, etc. A word to the wise is sufficient, and for the benefit of those directly interested, and who pay for the support of the room, as well as for those who make use of it as respectful students should, we hope such conduct will cease, and that further allusion to the subject will be unnecessary.

After some effort and a good deal of drumming around enough enthusiasm was aroused among a portion of us to purchase a foot-ball, and the day set for the opening game was expected to furnish not a little sport, but "Old Prob." turned our thoughts in another course, for on that day it snowed. As soon as the weather will permit we hope the undertaking will be carried out. We have the material here for foot-ball, as well as for base-ball, and as the latter is useless for an out-door sport in winter, why not make use of the former? All will admit that exercise is necessary for the student, and this is just what some of us do not take, not having the necessary opportunities.

Foot-ball is a game that brings all the faculties into active energy, nor does it require the practice and skill that base-ball does. The Captain of the Chicago Foot-Ball Club has kindly offered to come down and give what information he can regarding the management of a game, etc., in order that they might get a chance to meet a club something near their equals, as he expressed it. Perhaps our neighbor colleges would like to try our metal in this as they have in base-ball. There is Evanston, ever ready to compete with us in anything. What say you, neighbors?

We publish in this issue a communication from a member of the Senior class, relating to the "late unpleasantness." THE VOLANTE is, of course, not responsible for the opinions of those who contribute to its columns. The article in question was written by a member of the class who was not here during the examination in Zoology, nor was he in college for the space of four or five weeks previous to said examination, and is not, on this account, competent to

draw as correct conclusions as those of the class who were here and know all the circumstances. He admits his ignorance on some points, and yet claims to be authority on all points, although he has gathered them, not from any personal knowledge of them, but only from hearsay. He denies that the Prof. urged misconduct as one reason for not passing two members of the class. This is ample proof that the gentleman has been misinformed upon the subject, and he is not the proper person to attempt the vindication of a Prof. who has annoyed, not two members of the class only, but the whole class.

A step in the right direction has been taken in the University of Michigan. This year, and we suppose for ever afterwards, no orations will be delivered by the graduating class, on commencement day. We all vote the commencement exercises, at least as far as the Senior and Junior orations are concerned, a big bore. Senior orations are an affliction upon the audience assembled to hear them, and of no earthly benefit to the Senior himself. He never discovers or develops any new ideas, and never clothes the ideas he has borrowed in such fine language and metaphor that his production is likely to become a gem of literature. We think the plan to be adopted at Michigan University is by far better, that is to have some distinguished man deliver an oration upon some great theme interesting alike to the students and the audience, and then the boys will march up and receive their degrees. A sight of the boys will generally be sufficient without any exhibition of their gift of gab.

Thousands of our orthodox friends are much exercised in mind over the investigation now being made in regard to the hereafter. But why should they? Certainly nothing but good can result from the discussion of such a question. Truth is truth and must and will prevail, be the efforts of men what they may to eradicate it. If the old and almost universally accepted belief in a physical, endless, burning hell be truth, then the closest investigation, which the most learned men can make, will but more thoroughly establish it, but if on the other hand the belief be a delusion it is high time it were broken. Why should men cry lustily against the slightest tendency towards a change in the commonly accepted interpretation of great religious truths? Is it a sufficient reason for calling in question a man's Christianity, because he places some new and it may be startling interpretation upon the truths of the Bible, and is bold and independent enough to announce to the world the result of his investigation? Scientific and philosophical investigations are pushed forward and new truths developed, or old truths receive new applications with each succeeding generation. The natural laws which govern the universe receive new interpretations; but men cry out

against any new interpretation of the divine law. Any change from the belief established in the dark ages, is denounced as heresy. All acknowledge the possibility of the development of scientific truths. Is there no room for the development, no progress for the grandest truth? Are the truths of Christianity so fully established that they need no further investigation? Is the province of religious truth so narrow that men centuries ago found the limits and now no man dare go beyond? Is the vein of eternal truth so thin that men years ago dug through and let in the light so that all succeeding generations could see all the truth? No one would answer yes.

LITERARY.

SONNET.

Behold the dial of this new-born year
Doth shadow forth my ten and seventh Spring;
Down, I am with Time's ungentle wing,
Born relentless. How fast, O, Age austere
Doth thy far-rolling chariot wheels draw near.
Yon welkin, from whose depth didst shine, ere now,
The star of hope unbroken on this brow,
Hath cast about herself yon mantle clear;
And as the tender floweret, whose face
But sparsely tastes the light; aspiration
In my soul hath perished, nor leaves a trace
Of its once genial flame. The benign sun
Of youth, with light all dream hath run his race
Unveiling life's severities begun.

THE RAINBOW.

How oft at close of day the sun appears,
Scattering the clouds before his radiant eye,
As o'er the earth bedewed with glistening tears
He bends his bow athwart the eastern sky.
Formed of the fleeting drops by sunshine riven,
Emblem of time and of eternity,
Spanning the earth and reaching unto heaven, I
God's promise both and Nature's prophecy.--
Oh, mystic change! The unsufferable glare
Of day's white light now tempered to the view,
Prism'd by the rain-drop on the blackness there,
Discloses glories of a seven-fold hue.
As o'er her sleeping infant's tear-stained face
The mother bends with fondest look of love;
So Heaven seems to stoop with tender grace
And smile serene as the blue depths above.

"THE DAY OF PRAYER FOR COLLEGES."

While in previous years the usual exercises of this occasion have been of considerable moment, we can say those of January 31st bore peculiar and especial interest. The good attendance and the close attention manifested throughout the services were an indicator of interest awakened—may we hope, of conviction inspired in the hearts of the

students. The address delivered by the Rev. C. L. Thompson, of the Fifth Presbyterian Church, was most opportune. In this time of doubters, the credulity of many persons is fairly unsettled. They grope along, resting their belief in the instability of popular theology, which is plastic to the touch and inclination of worldliness. We marvel at the infidelity abroad, especially when there is an eternal standard, in which we may lay our foundations deep, and secure from storms that sweep into oblivion the baseless fabrics of popularity. "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away," says the Nazarene. Their living presence in time past and present is proof enough of their vitality in the future. Jesus Christ and His Word are the source of truth, the eternal fountain whose cooling waters give life and peace to men and nations. This is the central truth to which the address of the speaker testified. The following notes will be welcomed by lovers of truth:

"WISE MEN PRESENTING GIFTS UNTO JESUS: OR CHRIST'S KINGSHIP IN LETTERS."

1. The beginnings of literature are in the Bible. The discoveries in Central America and at Ninevah of a pre-historic literature giving the account of creation, the fall of man, and the deluge, show a common origin with the Biblical account. The science of language traces the connection between the simplicity of Genesis and the cumbrous Polytheism and Pantheism of Persia, Greece and India. In the sacred books of all nations we find hints of the pre-eminence of the early Biblical books. The Bible is the first sacred book. It is the only sacred book which is not puerile in its fancies and absurd in its claims, and others are indebted to it for their elements of truth. Voltaire boasted, "With my pen I will write Christianity out of the world." Not one star of truth has been blotted out. The Old Testament is classic, and Carlyle thought the Book of Job "one of the grandest things ever written with a pen." But (a) what is the Bible? It is the book of Jesus Christ. (1) The Old Testament is a meaningless puzzle without Bethlehem and Calvary, without the incarnation. The spot where the wise men kneeled is the spot over which all the lights of inspiration trembled,—at which all prophets open their treasures. (2) The New Testament belongs to Jesus, though He did not write it. His name lights up every page. It formulates the system of truth which clusters around His life and death. The Bible then is Christ's book. It is the book of God. Now, we have seen the Bible holds claim to the beginnings of literature.

2. Has it subsequently been pre-eminent? It is objected (1) that while the Bible is the fountain of religion, Grecian culture is the fountain of the world's thought. 'Tis true, on the Aegean sea, literature, art and music first came to flower. But Grecian culture had in it no elements of truth and duty. We are grateful for her fine ideas and her exquisite taste, yet its culture gave no bloom to the world's wilderness. Regarding the high end of life, classic culture was a failure. And in its intellectual and moral culture, we must record respectively its glory and its shame. On the other hand, Bible culture is practical for the uses of man. It touches every want. Its basis is as broad as human life. It takes the classical ideal, purifies it with the

breath of heaven, and makes it real. It applies the fine theories of culture, by reforming government, and establishing schools, asylums and hospitals. As a historic fact, the Bible is the fountain of all best culture. Take your stand at its centre, and history, literature and legislation fall into proportion and harmony. In the light of redemption, the world moves on with a purpose. And whatever of truth and good morals men possess is traced back to the light of the Bible.

It is objected (2) that the Bible has had very little practical effect on the world. This is the question: Has Christ moulded the thinking of the world? Are kings at his feet? After Christ's ascension, his disciples preached everywhere. Greek philosophy was practically dead, so that the first three centuries were given to stating and defending Christian truth. Patristic literature is still the pride of the world. Then followed darkness, deepening in the fourth, and eleventh century when the revival of literature came. What did the awakening mind do with Aristotle and Plato? They were used to throw light upon sacred truth. The Bible was still first, and for the understanding of the Bible the old masters held the lamps. Grecian art was used to adorn and enrich churches. Again, when the pen yielded to the printing press, the Bible was the first book printed and given to the people. Its influence was great and lasting. Luther's Bible created the language which is spoken by educated Germans. Wickliffe's Bible did the same for the English tongue. The translation of the Bible among heathen nations has created a language and literature, as the Hawaiian literature.

3. What has been the indirect influence of the Bible on literature? (1) In philosophy, since the Christian era, the greatest names, if not Christian, were deeply imbued with Christian ideas, and incorporated the fundamental truths of Christianity in their systems. (2) In poetry we need not tell from what source Dante drew his awful conception of justice, his beatific visions of love, nor where Milton got the plan of Paradise lost. And whence, if not from Christian influence, came Shakespeare's profound knowledge of conscience, sin and justice. Have not the best art and music been at Christ's feet? But (3) what about science? Its modern princes do not bow at the altar. The tendency among them is to push aside the Bible. The science that is hostile to Christianity gets its dialect from Christian science. All natural truth will hasten to the feet of Religion. Scientific truth will point to a personal God, no matter who levels the needle. The three angles of a triangle are equal to a right angle, no matter who works at the problem. Mill prides himself on having grown up with no religious bias. Why, he grew up in Bible-wrapped England. So with all science and philosophy. They are born and nurtured on Bible soil, and cannot escape allegiance to God. Yea, philosophy, poetry, art and science will all open their treasures, and joyfully lay them at the feet of Jesus.

NATIONAL EDUCATION.

The tongue of an ancient philosopher was like the pen of a ready writer, and frequently delivered itself with as much elegance and force. The Greek Law-giver uttered, in characteristic manner, a succinct piece of wisdom when he said to Croesus, who had displayed to him the wealth of his palace—"If another come who has more iron than

you, he will be master of all this gold." Perhaps the remark was more strictly true in an age of conquest and arms, yet the principle is many-sided and good for all time. Certainly the honor, the prosperity and free government of a people are golden, but without the *iron* to sustain them, their existence must be brief. This is a composite ore and has embedded its varied elements in only a few countries. Sparta built her redoubts of a single material, and became practically a nation of athletes or bullies. The Greek brought to his aid more varied forces, and if he evinced a nobler courage at times, it was due to the fact that mind more truly fought with body. The one indeed, with a blind and savage heroism, looked upon death as little better than defeat; but the other, superior in intelligence, comprehended the full result of every contest and battled with a skill and valor equal to the occasion. No regular or permanent system, however, made even that intelligence far-reaching or lasting.

Aristotle could perhaps instruct a few youths who followed him and hung upon his eloquent lips; yet where was there another such, and how few was the number of those fortunate disciples admitted to his presence! It must be admitted, notwithstanding a general spirit of knowledge breathed all through the Greek republic, that the poor man's inheritance of it was not only very limited, but held by a very precarious tenure. Genius could not always exist, or if it did, only in books, the treasures of the rich; although it was the inspiring flame which raised the Greek in subtlety and originality above his dull and barbarous contemporary. Could we be transported for a moment to that marvelous city of marvelous men, our first object of inquiry would doubtless be for the famous bema. Yes, we might say, that here it was the thrilling eloquence and good logic of those gifted orators must have educated the commoner in one of the most perfect of languages and in the art of reasoning on public affairs. Yonder magnificent temple must have cast a moral influence over this city, and at its altars the humblest inhabitant could have learned devotion and a certain spirituality. On that street corner could he have heard powerful reasoning, whose keenness silenced sophistry, and a morality not below christian. Here are places also where he could have found justice administered under a very good code of laws. But one thing shall the modern look for in vain, and that is the all-powerful, all-sacred common school. If there is any really broad difference between ancient and modern society it will be found, we think, in that one institution, which stands open to all, is free to all, dispenses knowledge to all.

Again, it may be safely affirmed that in the growth of existing nations, if any marked inequalities are discovered it will be owing directly or indirectly to the adoption or rejection of this system. By growth is meant a progress which develops every function of a nation's being, which renders it more capable of efficient defense, and able to

throw off through its active vitality political fevers and irruptions. Otherwise the palm would doubtless go to different hands; and we would not hesitate to call France, what she calls herself, the modern Greece. For has she not, in addition to her unsurpassed financiers, produced some of the very foremost scientists, many of the most brilliant writers of the age? Yet she has too truly modeled herself after that ancient democracy; she has too truly been an educated aristocracy and centralized municipal government, slavishly obedient to its caprices. Her condition too readily invited and has too surely retained the grasp of Ultramontanism, which held, and holds, that ignorance in all classes, with the exception of the Priesthood, is necessary to devotion. And no doubt such is the case with this exceptional religion. Under its benignant rule France has suffered the most desperate political throes; but her inhabitants have been saved the toil and trouble of bending over dry text-books in their youthful days, and at the fatal contact with the German States, nearly one-half of her adult population, or fifty-two per cent. of her army, could neither read nor write. Prussia, on the other hand, commanded an army of which ninety-eight per cent. had passed through some course of either collegiate or common school training. A difference so vital was not to be traced to the natural indisposition or incapacity of the one, but to the civil institutions and laws of the two, which had been working out their legitimate results through many previous years. One government adopted and carried out Mandeville's famous argument; while the other would acknowledge no person as one of its protected and privileged citizens who had not received certain mental training. The Franco-Prussian duel in fact resolved itself into a rigorous test of not only education, but compulsory education, its actual effects on the military strength of a nation. And who shall say it was not one of the most conclusive and brilliant proofs that any system ever received? The German school house had actually humbled the proudest nation in Europe. It was a bitter, but yet an invaluable lesson to France, never to be forgotten. Like Achilles, the Gaul's vulnerable point was at length discovered, which the Papal ermine had carefully covered in self-interest. He had indeed been baptized in the river Styx, but the Holy Church could never bear to see the head go under. Now, however, that the people are themselves once more, and apparent masters of the situation, we look for and are witnessing solid, tangible improvement.

The value of compulsory national training is acknowledged by every leading nation in Europe. Austria has put herself under the severest regimen, and Switzerland, with the exception of two or three cantons, is an earnest advocate of the system. The statesmen of these countries distinctly see that even the rudiments of knowledge instilled into an army give it not only better skill in managing war materials, but a moral courage before which savage bravery

is swept like chaff. Their close proximity forces them into an honorable rivalry, which reveals to the American a new fact, that although his isolation from Europe is in many points of view fortunate, there is still one outlook not so favorable. While the precepts of Washington, enjoining us to keep free from foreign broils, should be strictly observed, we may yet profit by an emulation of their loftier strife in general mental culture.

The same arguments which force Europe into the long neglected work of purifying the dregs of society, apply with ten-fold force to the American States. For although her means may be more strictly our object, and Prussia may develop good citizens because they make good soldiers; the reason loses none of its force with us. If one-seventh of our population refuse to accept the offers made by the state to become intelligent, respectable members of the nation, it is for various reasons the bounden duty of those remaining six-sevenths to put the other one under the force of law. Objections are raised to this measure that it tramples upon liberty, and is usurping an office which may well be trusted to parental affection. If the latter were true the former would be invalid, and if the former were well taken the latter must be false. For if parental affection reached down to the very bottom of society and touched every mind with the fire of intelligence, the law would affect the person of no man. Penalties for horse thieving and other crimes never reach you or me, because we stand above and beyond them. Hence the truth that he who takes upon himself the greatest number of duties lives the most loyal disciple, the most perfect example of freedom.

As to the other objection, it naturally follows that if there is an infringement of liberty, the dispositions of humanity can never be trusted with this all-important duty. The two arguments thus neutralize each other. You cannot further protest against the right of the state; because it has the power, in self-defense, to call for your physical force, and in view of any further contingencies imperiling its existence, to demand your yet undeveloped mental energy. But we do not wish to be understood as advocating a species of tyranny; a form of rule which demands the unwilling obedience of a people. When government is self-existing the invasion of private rights is certainly dangerous; but in our own country no such peril ought properly to be feared, since that institution is supposed to represent the people and in its actions to consult their interests. Public safety must necessarily be paramount, as exemplified in the civil, criminal and commercial laws, to the behavior of individuals, and the only decision of such a question is the rule of the majority. Six-sevenths of our population have already declared their approval of such a measure in stronger terms than words can convey,—by personal examples. Objections from this class of the community, to the necessity of universal education, would only bely their actions, and must proceed from either selfish

motives or prejudiced views. The Southern white may oppose it with some plausible arguments, and grow warm over the objection; but the moral probabilities would be in favor of classifying him with the Ultramontane, and attributing the stand taken by him to the interest, in part, which determined his position on the same subject in the palmy days of slavery. For he knew, and knows, better than the black, the lament of Isaiah that, "My people have gone into captivity because they have not knowledge;" and the past actions of many who formerly held slaves in the South has been a sad commentary on this text. What but the same spirit organized and pushed to desperate deeds the Ku-Klux-Klan? Who else would have stained their hands with the blood of defenseless school teachers?

But the negro-haters have been too severely intent upon the object of their prejudices and political desires. Their views, with an exceptional instance here and there, have been narrow. Even if the white population are the chief holders of land and property, if their own capital shall be demanded by the state as taxes, to supply every school district with its proper teachers and buildings, a broader view would certainly convince them that education is the cheapest as well as wisest method, both financially and politically. So long as this numerous population at the South make themselves obnoxious because of their want of knowledge, and hence refinement, no respectable capitalist will venture to invest their sums there, and the vast, desolate territories will be left just as the war left them. Again, the mild climate does not demand that toil and frugality, to which the Northern laborer is driven; and the "darkey" will follow out the instincts of nature by alternating his days between work periods and "grand busts."

Nothing, but to adapt themselves and the whole population to the new situation, will now avail with the whites. The idea might be given up once and forever of establishing a feudal system in that part of the Union: of making every wealthy personage a sort of lord, followed by his grand train of vassals. The negro's vote will never be successfully gained by force: never be alienated from that party, so long as it exists, which shattered his shackles, whether it be right or wrong, until education has made them members of that party whose platform is truth, patriotism and justice. Nothing will be so efficient in breaking up those organizations, unjustly formed upon the color line, as the school house.

The North does not escape the necessity of such a law. No element more dangerous to free government is harbored by the nation than that "white trash" which circulates chiefly about populous centers. Their ears can never be reached by the intelligent and worthy statesman, who advocates things of which they have no conception. It is impossible for him to overbear their special views, by pointing out the final ends of action, namely, the avoidance of evil and attainment of good. They have never

been taught to rise up and comprehend questions affecting national interests; and hence their vote lies in the hands of such men as mingle with them and share in the vices which characterize their condition. Nothing but local affairs and surroundings will influence their convictions in the slightest; and by their actions they have repeatedly proved themselves unfit to exercise the right of suffrage in the humblest form of democracy. France has groaned under the sway of Parisian mobs, who, at the instigation of the most unprincipled men, have taken the rights of government into their own hands for a brief season, and committed atrocities whose bloodiness history refuses to record. Hundreds of examples offered by every country are a reasonable warning that the Charybdis of republics lies in the ignorant masses who live in and about cities. Our own elections have frequently signalized this fact.

The occupations of such a class varies from mendicancy to half-respectable manual labor; not denying that there are exceptional instances of purely self-made men, and that all work is honorable where the person who engages in it is so. They are neither producers nor honest consumers, nor supporters of society; but live upon the industry, frugality and worth of other men, a scum borne on by the under-current of morality and education. Appearing as a few beggars, they have grown to an army of "tramps," who infest every village and country house in the land. It is not too improbable to say that if their minds are not brought more immediately under the supervision of government, and some efficient measures taken to aid their proper development, that we as a nation shall some time in the future, realize the deplorable picture which Fletcher draws of Scotland in 1697. A lawless band of marauders, says he, making up some two-fifths of the population, traversed the country from one end to the other, scourging the thrifty and industrious with all the torments and inconveniences of bold-faced beggary. Its causes were evidently wide-spread ignorance.

But no one anticipates that it will be possible for the state to instruct this order of men further than in the wholesome rudiments of knowledge. If zeal urges them on to new investigations, the world will lose nothing, and may gain considerable. For we think the tendency to overcrowd professions and intellectual pursuits, will at length be properly adjusted, as the functions of society develop and become in a measure fixed. And a man with some stock of practical information will perform any service, even menial, better than without it.

With these and many other reasons readily suggested, it may be inferred that among the intelligent class at the North, little opposition ought to be encountered to such a measure. At the South still less, with the exception probably of certain white voters; for the black is said to be as eager in the pursuit of knowledge as if the whole force of an appetite, which might be supposed to have accumulated

during the period of his book starvation, were urging him onward. Our only remaining "doubtfuls" are the white blacks of the North; and why should they waver on a plan which is for their own benefit? It must be evident to them that everything is valued now in a large measure according to the amount of mind which it is supposed to represent. They must be anxious to know that secret which obtains in every walk of life a sure and respectable living. None of them would wish the light of day shut off from their senses, and yet they tolerate that which is immeasurably worse, blindness to the world of science and letters. But on the other hand, if this class of men are so low in the scale of intelligence as not to comprehend the wants of their own children, living in a civilized country, and on an equal political footing with other people; the decision as to whether such a law would be an invasion of private rights, rests still with the majority. Both public and private safety, together with utility, demand the elevation of the multitude. Just as the article which is vended in the market, is valued according to the amount of skill and work put upon it, so does the vote of an intelligent man represent more thought, and his sword in times of danger does more efficient service. Again, why does the world's wealth pour towards and centre in civilized nations? Simply because knowledge is power, and lays its heavy tributes upon the earth with an irresistible fiat. For the same reason, wealth and strength will be most at the service of that country whose breadth and depth of practical knowledge are greatest. When our country shall become densely populated with perhaps a hundred and fifty millions of inhabitants, the necessity for individual tact, sagacity, and industry, to make every acre of tillable ground yield its precious products according to definite principles of art, and for deep-reaching intelligence to move on the intricate mazes of society, will be most severely felt.

Gentlemen Editors:

An article appeared in the last number of THE VOLANTE which we consider not only a misstatement of facts, but also extremely unjust toward one of our most esteemed professors. Being astonished at the manner in which he had been referred to, we at once made the most careful inquiry to see if these things were so. We find that the matter can be truthfully presented in a very different aspect; and now as a representative of no insignificant portion of the class of '78, we hope you will allow us this privilege in your columns.

In the first place the author of the article strongly implies that the two gentlemen conditioned passed an average examination, as he *thinks* that no one in the class, if he had been told that two had not been passed, would have named the two whom the Professor selected. What we have to say in regard to this is that the Professor has dis-

tinctly told several inquirers that the two conditioned did not answer their questions rightly, and that they showed no familiarity with the subjects presented to them. It has been said that a certain one of the questions was foreign to the study. This is not so, for it pertained to something the which the Professor had repeatedly taken special pains to explain to the class. Now who is the more competent to judge as to whether the questions were rightly answered, the Professor or the writer of said article? We leave it to the decision of the intelligent reader. As to the conversation between the Professor and the two students, we know nothing definite from disinterested parties, but as near as we can learn he gave them no good reason to infer that misconduct was the cause of their being conditioned. Even granting that he may have been somewhat blunt with them, when they approached him in an excited state of mind and an ungentlemanly manner, the idea that misconduct was the main reason why they were not passed, though it may have been the result of reflection, certainly was not the result of impartial investigation, if we can judge from the combined information which we have received from all sources.

In the second place, if he wishes as a rule to make misconduct a secondary reason, we heartily uphold him in it, especially if it is during his lectures, for a poor standing must then necessarily be the result of it. We have repeatedly seen such conduct, even in the Senior class, as deserves the severest discipline. The author also makes a great mistake in saying, that with one exception, the whole class showed a lamentable lack of interest in the study. He asks why those conditioned could not have had a second trial. The rest of us all know that this is not the usually adopted method in first-class colleges. We know it is not pleasant to be conditioned, neither is it pleasant to engage in any such discussion as this; but we must heartily discountenance any such underhanded contrivance as to take THE VOLANTE as a means of reflecting on the character of a Professor with insufficient grounds, in order to stand up for the boys.

HERE IS SOMETHING PRACTICAL.

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 25, 1878.

PUBLISHERS OF THE VOLANTE, Chicago, Ill.

GENTLEMEN:—Please inform me if I owe THE VOLANTE anything. I see by my letter-book that I paid you Nov. 1, 1877, for "current year," but failed to note when it ended. I once occupied your position and can appreciate your troubles, when the printer is dunning for his pay and the subscribers are slow to pay up. Yours truly,

FRANK H. LEVERING, Class of '72.

He further requests us to give all the "personals" we can in each issue, adding that the old graduates value them more than all the rest of the paper. Here is a letter that

makes the hearts of the Publishers glad. He not only finds a friend who sympathizes with him, but is also assured of a little cash—a very necessary article just now.

We venture to predict that if this gentleman conducts his business—that of a lawyer—in this style, there is no fear but success and wealth will crown his efforts. We also sincerely hope that the old graduates will respond in regard to the “personals.” We cannot announce your whereabouts and occupations unless we know them. By granting this favor you will make the hearts of the Editors glad.

PERSONALS.

'77. Bass reported favorably from Rush.

'75. J. C. Hall is preaching at Granville.

'73. D. G. Perrine is at his home in Centralia.

'77. Harrison was around to our exercises of the 31st.

'75. J. F. Riddlon is studying medicine in Bellevue Hospital, New York City.

'75. Boganau expects to get his M. D. Diploma, from Rush Medical during this month.

'79. M. N. Armstrong has departed for rural districts in order to enlighten the young idea.

'75. H. A. Howe is assistant principal of the Cincinnati Observatory, Mt. Lookout, Ohio.

'73. Columbus Hall is professor of Latin language and literature in Franklin College, Ind.

'72. C. R. Henderson is the very popular pastor of the First Baptist Church, Terre Haute, Ind.

'65. J. Pike is conducting the Public Schools of Jerseyville, in this State, assisted by D. J. Murphy, of '78.

'77. Baird is attending Law School at Madison, Wis. Success to you Perry; we had almost lost your track.

'77. Lansing is off for a short vacation from the arduous labors of Freight Agent for the Ill. Central, at this place.

'67. Rev. W. W. Everts, Jr., has accepted a call to the pastorate of the Fourth Baptist Church, Providence, R. I.

'69. W. E. Bosworth has just been elected superintendent of the First Baptist Church Sunday School, Elgin, Ill.

'75. Maurice Blumenfeld has gone South and entered upon the study of theology. He is somewhere in Virginia.

'73. Joseph Mountain resigned his pastorate to take a course in theology, and is now in the Seminary at Morgan Park.

'72. C. A. Beverly is engaged in the practice of Medicine, at Dundee, Ill. He is attaining quite a wide-spread reputation as a lecturer on phrenology.

LOCALS.

Snow.

Fire.

Babcock.

Temperance.

Shoot the dogs.

Pay up your board.

Where is your ribbon?

Look out for valentines.

Foot-ball is snowed under.

“Puddin’” is what they call him.

What is the matter with that choir?

“Gad Zeus,” this horrid dyspepsia!

How the dogs howl around the Halls!

Buy your tickets for Washington supper.

“It’s so mean I lie awake at night and swear at it.”

Supper, and the proper accompaniments on the 22nd.

We didn’t want to hear Beecher any way. Sour grapes.

At this time one year ago the blue-glass bubble was expanding.

“Goose” is the name of a wild “Prep.” who rooms in Jones Hall.

Tri Kappa Anniversary Meeting takes place on the 8th of March.

One way to make an impression: Sit down in a snow-bank.

The latest thing out: The one who stays up to blow out the light.

A Prep. wants to know the best method for taking a bath in a wash bowl.

How is this for high? We have a pair of six-foot young lady students.

Where is a girl who would like THE VOLANTE? We want to comply with the request in last issue.

They have “mum” sociables up at Madison, so the University Press says. Let’s try one.

One sixteenth of the students at Rutgers, have been either expelled or dismissed since Sept. 20.

Text books at half price, old books wanted, Barker’s, 131 E. Madison Street, one door west of Clark.

We hope our young ladies will read an article entitled “A Lady of Culture,” in Frank Leslie for Feb. 9th.

We tried to keep our word in regard to getting THE VOLANTE out on time, but the printers have delayed us a week.

Juniors can be had cheap now. They took a fall in Prof. O.’s recitation room. Cause—seats broke down.

We have a Senior affected with “too much girl,” who swears off regularly three times a week, and as often breaks his vow.

What kind of weather is to be expected when a Senior, after a class supper, goes out and barks up a tree by moon-shine?

The Marquis of Bute, has contributed \$850,000 for the endowment of Memorial Hall in connection with Glasgow University.

Prof. (assigning a lesson in Meteorology): “Well,” with considerable impatience, “you may begin at chap. vi, and go to thunder.”

Deacon Willard has closed his Sunday afternoon Bible readings. They were well attended and generally appreciated by the students.

Some one suggests a novel way for heating a street car. “Carry a woman a block farther than she wants to go; it will be hot enough.”

The young ladies are opposed to the telephone. They don’t care to have a fellow whispering in their ears with his mouth twenty miles away.

The Jubilee Singers of Fisk University, are now giving concerts in Germany. In the six year they have been singing, they have received about \$150,000.

A representative of Young America seeing the inscription, “I would not live always” on a tomb stone, took a piece of chalk and wrote under it, “sour grapes.”

One of our lady students, when asked why she did not wear *her* ring on her fore-finger, replied that she did not get hers on Christmas. Will somebody please explain?

We hope the letter in this issue will call out the old graduates. Under-graduates, also, like to hear of you. Send in your cards and those of your fellows who do not get THE VOLANTE.

Any of the students requiring a short walk before their meals will find the Douglas House very convenient, and the low prices they offer to *studen’s* will surprise you. See them and be convinced.

In our exchange clippings would it not be a good plan for all of us to give each paper credit for what it says, and not put simply “Ex” after them? Occasionally we see a clip that we would like to know where it originated, and

yet have not time to look it up. What say you, brethren?

Wm. Mosher, the artistic photographer, formerly of Washash avenue, begs to inform the students of the University that he will make special reductions to them and to the professors at his magnificent new gallery, 125 State street. Call and see.

Prof. in physics explaining the construction of the barometer: After trying some time to open it at length gave it up and curtly remarked, “Well, some one has fixed this so that rogues can’t get in,” and then was surprised to see the class smile audibly.

If we were able we would like to reward those persons who delight in pounding on the gas pipes. Such performances and good taste are deserving of some retribution. Send in your names, and we will give each of you a special personal in our next issue.

The photographs taken by Stephens, 85 and 87 E. Madison street, (over Hershey Hall) are attracting a great deal of attention. For beauty of finish and artistic effect they are unsurpassed by any in the city. Reduced rates will be given to students.

Henry Ward Beecher preached at Plymouth Church, in this city, on the 23d. Quite a number of our boys were fortunate enough to go early and take part in the jam, thereby favoring the noted gentleman with their presence. Many are the views expressed, and all agree that the sermon was good.

Class in Shakespeare: “Not all the Dukes in waterish Burgundy,” etc. Prof.—“What does ‘waterish’ refer to?” Student—“To the numerous rivers there.” Prof.—“It struck me that it might also refer to the abundance of wine produced there, and perhaps the samethought may have occurred to *some* of you.”

It was a small matter, yet we all smiled. Even Pres. bit his lip and got choked, when that Freshman executed an unintentional solo one morning recently during the singing. Freshy says he would not have cared so much if his voice had not “cracked.”

Above a scripture motto on the west wall of the Tabernacle still hangs the advertisement of the Kellogg-Cary Farewell Matinee. It is made to read thus. “Tickets 50cts. Reserved seats, 75cts., on sale at Root & Sons music store, 156 State Street. Friday morning, 9 o’clock is the accepted time.”

In translating the beautiful story of Cornelia and the Gracchi from the French, a Junior translated the sentence which reads, “These are my jewels and my most beautiful ornament,” as follows: “These are my jewels and my best *furniture*.” He was determined that the Gracchi should be useful as well as ornamental.

It is the design to furnish in the next issue of THE VOLANTE a complete list of the Alumni. Any Alumnus will therefore confer a favor upon us if he will forward his name, address and occupation. This is done in part to aid the officers of the Alumni Association in addressing the Alumni at the close of the year.

At a door of the Plymouth Church, among the crowd awaiting entrance to listen to Henry Ward Beecher, a student was heard to say, rather loud: "Veni, vidi, vici," when a man near by, in high feminine tones and scornful, echoed: "Veni, vidi, vici." Moral:—If you want to display your knowledge of the languages, don't select a phrase which is familiar to every little boy in Chicago.

Our Literary Societies are to be congratulated on the quality and excellent rendering of the music with which they have been favored this term. This is fast becoming one of the most attractive features of our programmes, and does more to draw an audience than any other one part. Situated as we are, our facilities are almost unequalled for obtaining musical talent, and of the best that the city affords.

One of our Seniors said that he gave his girl the d(D)ickens. It happened to be the author's edition, in fourteen elegantly bound volumes. Many of our girls would like to get the d(D)ickens, but the dickens of it is we are not all like our Senior. This reminds us that we lately heard a Soph. who was wildly tossing upon his couch at night saying, "Oh, dear, my life is one dem'd horrid grind." He evidently had the d(D)ickens, and had it bad.

In reply to the numerous inquiries about the choir we would say that it has been removed; that the students are inclined to think that many students sing as well if not better than those holding that honorable position, and the choir refuse to act, wishing the students to suit themselves. We hope they will do something soon, for undoubtedly the time and tone are better kept in a chorus of several score of voices when a few are selected and recognized as leaders.

Chicago has got it at last. Dr. Reynolds, the red ribbon temperance man, is at work in the city with flattering success. He certainly has an immense field for work, and a rich harvest will probably be the result. Already some of our students display the ribbon, and, strange to say, they are the very ones who apparently need reform the least. Perhaps they think to make an example of themselves.

The most lamentable ignorance of the scriptures that has come to our notice lately was evinced by a member of the class while pursuing the delightful study of Horace. On coming from recitation the other day this member asked some students who have read Horace, in an agonizing tone "Where can I find the thirty-first psalm? Prof. F. told us to read that for to-morrow, but I've looked all through

Horace and can't find it anywhere." Information was given which will probably never be forgotten.

Student accompanies a fair one home and goes in for a chat. She—"Pull off my overshoes." He—politely obeys. She—"Pull off my—no you needn't either. I just wish this plaguy snow would stay away; I don't like to bundle up so." And away she went and did it herself.

Pres. announced in chapel a course of lectures for which students could get free tickets by applying to certain persons, further stating that they would not be transferable, and that tickets could be bought by applying to other persons mentioned. Of course we could see through it; but times are hard, and the next best thing to wait and see what young ladies would get tickets. There are more ways than one to choke a dog.

The beautiful snow, besides furnishing inspiration for poet's songs, proves a source of regret to some persons. We heard a Soph. remark in a melancholly voice that "he hoped it wouldn't snow any more, because the boys would have to return the complimeot of a leap-year sleigh ride given them last winter, by inviting the girls this year; but then it was just his luck!" Poor boy! We sympathize with him, for we also participated in the leap-year sleigh ride, and times are hard!

Now comes into notice another one of the "few immortal men who were not born to die." This man's claim to immortality rests upon his original way of spelling. Our ingenious friend comes out in a letter to a business firm in this city, and having occasion to use the word essential, spells it, assentiol. Rough, he spells ruff. Zounds, 'tis enough to make the immortal Webster turn over in his grave and heave a sigh that must rend his tomb.

Within the lids of our book of books are grander truths than have ever yet been discovered in the realm of philosophy, truths which have won the minds and hearts of the greatest intellects God ever created. We cannot say that some new interpretation of these grand truths is impossible. The old faded dress may be taken off and buried in tomb of by-gone centuries and a new, and it may be a more beautiful one put on, and thus attired, truth may be more attractive to men and in it may more clearly be seen that divinity which claims the allegiance of every heart.

Among the characteristics which have rendered the class of '80 famous, the faculties of getting into a scrape and out again with flying colors, are prominent. The mother of one of the Sophs. was in the city last week and desired her son to visit her on a certain evening. "But that is impossible," he cried, "I have an engagement with a young lady to attend prayer meeting, and cannot possibly break it." Materfamilias was rather incredulous, and said he had changed greatly since she had last seen him, as

EXCHANGES.

We have received since our last issue several new, and so far as we have been able to examine them, have pronounced them very good exchanges, one among them is the *Ariel*, from the University of Minnesota. Vol. 1 No. 3, is the first issue of the *Ariel* we have seen, and we are glad to place upon our exchange list a paper which gives every indication of being a good acquaintance. The *Ariel* speaks well for the University which it so ably represents. There is one thing which we especially like in the issue before us, and that is, that it contains two articles upon the University and University matters. Too little as a general thing is said about college affairs.

A criticism, though it is a very slight one, may be passed upon its department of clipping. That department is rather too extensive. Its department of home hits and happenings is ably edited. We cite as an example, only one of the many good hits found in this department. "A Freshman, asks us if we can tell him what to do when he calls upon his girl. Certainly we can. You should—You'd better—why—you—hang it all, why will you take advantage of our youth and inexperience? We don't know any thing about it. If you are going to ask us such questions as that we shall resign.

The Denison *Collegian* presents a much better appearance in its new dress. The paper is not altogether wanting in merit, but might attain a much higher standard if it were issued only once instead of twice each month.

One of our best exchanges is the Tufts *Collegian*. Its editorials are usually of a high order and to the point. Its literary articles are good and fresh.

The editorials of the University Missourian are excellent. We can not, however, so highly recommend its literary productions. In the issue before us, which is the only one we have yet received, the literary articles are upon such old and hackneyed themes as "the temperance movement," "the conflict between science and religion," etc., etc. We turn over a few pages and come to the selections, and find them in the main good. On the next page is the "Local Department." This we think is by far the best department of the paper. All the locals are fresh and enjoyable, as good as any we find in our exchange list.

The *Vidette* is a new paper just out from the North Western University. It is worthy of its share of the patronage of the students N. W. After a careful examination of the paper, we find that it is not altogether deficient in merit. There are some good suggestions in "What the boys thought of College Papers." If the *Vidette* will follow the suggestions of Mr. Chase it will do well and will become successful. There is one thing however that makes against the paper. The Niagara *Indew* speaks

then he rather avoided prayer meetings than made engagements to attend them; but he remained firm, and, in truth, he *was* seen at prayer meeting with a young lady, but he went to a dance with her afterwards.

A most startling thing is said to have occurred in room "S" last Monday morning. Many are willing to affirm that out of twenty-two young ladies in the room eleven were discovered sitting on the tables. Now, though this might be used as an argument against co-education, on the ground that young ladies in a seminary always occupy chairs, still these young ladies of room "S" do solemnly assert that it was not through any desire of theirs to appear hoydenish that the tables were so used, but *per necessitatum* as the number of chairs is limited, and the girls are constantly trying to solve the problem, how can eleven chairs be arranged to offer accommodations for twenty-two?

THAT JOKE.

Some Psi U. boys, their meeting o'er,
Then took their homeward way,
For other pleasures called them hence;
One part was yet to play.

A serenade was promised to
A Reverend near by,
Who said he would sit up for them,
And have in wait some pie.

Another band of jolly lads,
The D. K. E's they're known by here,
Got "wind" of this nice little treat
And gave a smothered cheer.

For now they thought that Reverend
Could not the difference tell,
And for a joke, and pie to boot,
They'd near their honor sell.

At twelve o'clock, when all was still,
They found the proper place,
And sang some songs of college fame,
While hearts could scarce find space.

A flood of light broke out within;
A manly voice was heard:
"Come in, my boys, and help yourselves;
You see I've kept my word."

So in they went, and talked and ate
'Till naught there was to eat.
'Twas late; nor longer could they stay
Lest others find the cheat.

At one o'clock the others came,
And sang their very best,
Yet not a form could they entice
From out its cozy nest.

With blasted hopes and feelings hurt
They slowly crept away,
Nor did it help a bit to learn
The truth the following day.

Now tricks like this—and others too—
Give student life some cheer,
Yet ne'er before has such a one
Been perpetrated here.

favorably of it, that's bad. That's enough to kill any college paper. "If that sheet it may truthfully be said. "Its friendship is more dangerous than its enmity."

We have received Vol. 1 No. 1 of Student Life, from Washington University. It is not like a preacher who takes a text and then preaches from it. It preaches on its text. Its name is well chosen, and we find just what we would expect to find from its name, that the main feature of the paper is the record of student's doings. About half of the paper is devoted to locals.

In addition to the above mentioned papers we have placed on our exchange list since our last issue The College Rambler, The Rockville High School and College Index. We hope they will prove valuable exchanges.

The poems in the issue of Jan. 19th, like most college paper poems will not, in all probability, be handed down to posterity as gems of literature. The *Collegian* is perhaps open to the criticism, that too little said about college affairs.

CLIPPINGS.

Once upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered weak and weary,
Over many a quaint and curious volume of forgotten lore;
While I nodded, nearly napping—darn me it I didn't go to sleep.
—*Ec.*

The lecture was getting dry. "Let's take something," said the professor. Then those Seniors rose unanimously; but it was only something to be taken by way of illustrating his remarks, that was all.—*Ec.*

An embryo theologian on being asked the meaning of the D. V., replied, "*Deus Volens.*" "But," said the questioner, "how are you going to govern the nominative, Mr. W.?" To which our learned friend piously replied, "My dear sir, the Lord governs all things!"—*Ec.*

When you are tired twirling your thumbs sit down and see how fast you can say, Shoes and socks shock Susan in an inexplicable manner and inexorably she ceaseth sheathing her shoes. It is better than Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.—*Ec.*

While the inmates of room 19 were listening to Beecher's sermon their stove spilled some fire, which caught in the carpet and flooring and almost caused a burn out all round. An alarm was turned in and the department responded promptly, but before they could throw any water the Janitor, with the aid of a Babcock and the assistance of a Professor, and some "bad boys," who were not at church, had control of the flames. A ruined carpet, a big hole in the floor, a wet room below, and a terrible fright were the principal damages.

HATS, CAPS AND FURS.

J. S. BARNES,

Successor to Bishop & Barnes, and late J. S. Barnes & Co.,
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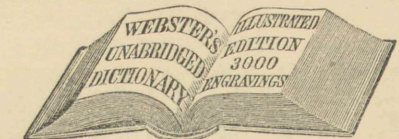
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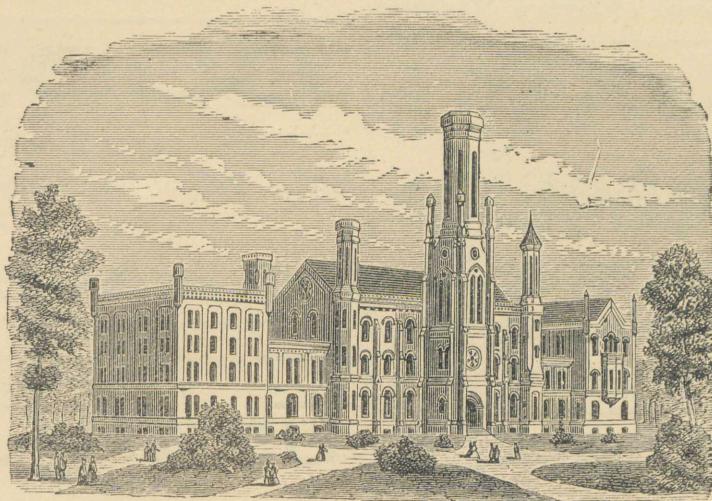
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VOL. VII.

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, MARCH, 1878.

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THE VOLANTE.

VOL. VII.

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, MARCH, 1878.

No. 6.

THE VOLANTE.

EDITORS:

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 Miss F. M. HOLBROOK, '79. H. G. PARKINS, '79.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS.

PRESIDENT ANDERSON'S ADDRESS.....	83	TRI KAPPA ANNIVERSARY.....	87
MR. BURNHAM AND DEARBORN OBS'Y. 84		ORATORY—HOW IMPROVED.....	88
COMMENCEMENT ORATIONS.....	84	COMMUNICATION.....	89
AN OLD EDITORIAL.....	85	PERSONALS.....	90
DRIFTING.....	86	LOCALS.....	90
WASHINGTON SUPPER.....	87	EXCHANGES.....	93

Dr. Anderson, President elect of the University, attended chapel exercises one morning last week, and made a very interesting and instructive address to the students. The Doctor signified his acceptance of the presidency of the University and his eagerness to enter upon his duties as soon as possible.

President Anderson also spoke warmly and encouragingly of the prospects of the University, saying that in a great commercial metropolis like Chicago, where everybody is eager for material prosperity, such an institution as the University is rapidly proving itself to be is needed to be a constant reminder to the citizens that after all there is something in life nobler and grander than an eager rush after material wealth. That grander, nobler something is the pursuit of ideas, of truth. Truth is immortal and will live on after all that is material has perished.

'Tis now the country-bred student recalls the rattling mill, juicy apples, and delightful taste of sweet cider, as he ponders on the subject of temperance and the pledge, and tries to decide whether he can go back to the old scenes and help make it without taking a little. For those who never saw cider made, and tasted it fresh from the mill, and who believe the nice little stories,—which, by

the way, we consider an imposition upon the public and a slander upon the honest farmer—of temperance men, about the so-called vile, dirty, contemptible “worm juice,” it is a small matter; but for one who knows and has had some experience in this innocent and delicious luxury, it is a bitter pill, and all the more so, because it sticks to him for life. Why not swear off eating apples and grapes? The juices of these are what make them palatable. Better refuse to sign the pledge a thousand times, than do so and break it once. There is such a thing as taking an over-dose in anything. This is what we regard as one of the over-doses. Here we have a remedy that hundreds are taking, simply because it is forced upon them—we might say, and not miss it far—and they cannot well avoid it, and for a disease—intemperance—utterly foreign to their systems. You ask, Why is this? They answer, For the benefit our influence will have over those who really need to take the pledge. As an illustration, suppose it is dyspepsia instead of intemperance. A man comes around with a remedy, say some pills, that are a sure cure. Would everybody want them? Would you want them if you had not this complaint, and would not you regard him as a fool for trying to force them upon you? “But,” he argues, “you must take them in order to induce your friend, who needs them, to do so.” What will that friend think when he sees you taking medicine for a disease which you have not, simply to induce him to do it? Ten to one he will call you a fool—and how much is he wrong? It is thus we regard this matter of signing the pledge. We do not wish to say anything detrimental to the temperance movement, for certainly intemperance is the greatest curse of the land, but it appears to us more proper for those to put on the shoe whom it fits, or in other words, sign the pledge if you have the disease, even in its mildest form.

We must again say a word about the Reading Room. It would be at least gentlemanly in the students who have free access to the room without any expense to them in any way, to keep quiet and maintain their dignity while in the room. Instead of order, disorder reigns. Boys smoke, chew, spit and hurl articles in the room. No one can go there and read with any pleasure after chapel exercises are over and the room becomes filled with day students. The day students are allowed the privileges of the room on con

dition that they use it as a study room, but it is anything else than a study room now.

We hope, boys, you will consider this matter, and see if we have not the right to expect you to preserve proper decorum while in the room.

We think the students made a mistake in permitting the committee on programme for the Washington Supper to select the participants from the different classes. This part certainly should belong to the classes themselves, rather than to Seniors, who are not personally familiar with all the members of the lower classes; besides, the positions are very important, if we heed a remark made in an address of the evening, which intimated that the exercises were as much a criterion of what the students could do as those on Commencement day. Being thus important, surely every class ought to consider well the question as to who shall represent it, and give the one chosen time to thoroughly prepare himself so that he will not have to blunder along, discomfiting himself and annoying the audience, as was done by some of the speakers. An occasion of this kind is not the place to read essays, which, if well committed and delivered in proper style, would be received by the audience in a manner worthy of the productions, and would give credit to the speakers. We noticed also that some of the speeches were announced as toasts.

The meaning of this word may have changed since our edition of Webster was published, but if not, some one made a mistake; for there was no visible health-drinking in connection with these, nor even the beverages requisite for such, unless you accept strong coffee and lake water, which mostly had been disposed of during the eating.

Observation and experience are two of our noblest teachers, and committees for future suppers should recall what they have seen and experienced in the past, and act accordingly.

We notice in one or two of our exchanges (one that comes from Oregon,) that our University is in danger of being compelled to close its doors on account of the pressure of debt. We never heard any such news until our friend, the *Archangel*, from Oregon, told us of the supposed fact. It may be possible that our friend, away off beyond the Rocky Mountains, knows more about our affairs than we do ourselves, but it seems improbable. We have a debt. It is burdensome. But the indebtedness of the University is small compared to that of some other colleges which cannot boast of the high standing of this University. It seems very strange to us that any one should get into his head the idea that we intend, or will ever be compelled to close. It is false. Chicago needs just such an institution. The Northwest needs such a University. The vast wealth and energy of Chicago and the Northwest will be

poured in upon her, and she will live. We know whereof we affirm when we say that the University has never been in better circumstances than it is to-day. That it has never had brighter prospects than it has at present. The classes are full. All the students are full of spirit, energy and animated with a warm affection for the University. We still live.

At last we may expect some practical benefit to arise from our telescope. Since last July Mr. S. W. Burnham, a gentleman little known at home as an astronomer, but much esteemed as such in foreign countries, has had charge of it, and every clear night is diligently at work with this valuable star-gazing implement, and already his success is quite marked. Hitherto Mr. Burnham has paid especial attention to double stars, and he has discovered a greater number of these than any other man now living. Considering his age, now only forty, and the instrument with which he has accomplished this, his success has been truly wonderful. This instrument, so valuable in gaining his reputation, has only a six-inch object-glass, and is mounted in a kind of cheese-box structure situated in his back yard, and almost in the shadow of our great equatorial, being only two or three blocks away. He is placed at the head of this branch of astronomical science by the leading astronomers of Europe, and many difficult questions have been referred to him for decision. For a number of years he has been a regular contributor to astronomical journals in Europe, and for five years has been a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society at London, and of the great German Astronomical Society at Berlin. His "Catalogue of Double Stars," a quarto volume of five hundred pages, is now in press at the naval observatory at Washington. Since last July, although the weather has been very unfavorable at times, he has discovered one hundred and sixty new double stars, and made more than five hundred difficult measurements of double and triple stars. By aid of the superior power of the instrument which Mr. Burnham is now using he finds that many old double stars are really triple and even quadruple stars. The Astronomical Society is fortunate in obtaining the services of so valuable a devotee to astronomical science, and henceforth we may expect to hear of the Observatory at Chicago as doing something in this great work.

The action of the Trustees of the University of Michigan abolishing the custom of having the Senior Class deliver orations on Commencement Day was merely alluded to in our last issue. We think this action is upon the whole thoroughly sensible. We think it cannot fail to commend itself to every one after careful reflection upon it. It is one great step in a much needed reform in that particular part of a college course. Yet the arguments in favor of such a change, and the substitution of an oration to be delivered

by some man of acknowledged ability as a scholar, are not wholly conclusive. But we venture to predict that the days when the Senior in all the pride of his manhood shall get off his little, weak, puerile, ten-minutes-oration on Commencement Day, are about numbered in our colleges, except, perhaps, in a few institutions, and there are always some that lag behind in every reform, dazzled by the glory of other days, and clinging still to the old, old customs so dear to them because they have grown old and gray with the march of centuries. The Senior Class has taken action in this matter and presented, through a committee, a resolution to the Faculty requesting a change in the Commencement exercises. The change proposed is similar to that which takes place this year for the first time in the University of Michigan. The change proposed is, that some noted man be secured to deliver an oration before the Senior Class instead of the regular programme, which consists of orations delivered by different members of the Senior Class.

We would advocate the change for various reasons. I. It does way with a custom, a custom which results in no very great good to any one. We do not have the presumption to say that Senior orations are of any great benefit to an audience, and we are ready to maintain that they never result in any particular advantage to the Senior himself. He is supposed to have written a few essays and delivered some few orations during his college course; hence he would not be entirely at a loss how to proceed if he should ever be called upon to deliver an oration, and an additional effort in this direction, upon which he has spent two or three weeks, it may be more time, will not very greatly add to his attainments as an orator. He is not supposed to make a display of the knowledge he has acquired during his course, for, so far as actual facts are concerned, he has acquired very few, the object of his studies being not so much the accumulation of facts as mental discipline. He may have an extensive knowledge of Greek roots and Latin syntax; he may be able to demonstrate with ease and accuracy every problem in Geometry; but tracing the crookedness of Greek roots and giving demonstrations of problems in Analytical Geometry would be an exceedingly ludicrous performance on Commencement Day. He cannot deliver an oration upon any leading question of the day that will be of any interest or importance, because he delivers his oration to an audience in which, perhaps, nine out of every ten are as well or even better informed upon the subject he is treating than he is himself. To such an audience an oration upon such a subject, by one less capable of judging than themselves would be looked upon in the light of a school-boy declamation.

II. Senior orations are voted bores by a vast majority. Each speaker has present his particular friends, who listen to and applaud his effort, but aside from his friends there is no interest taken in him.

And why is the Senior oration voted a bore? For reasons stated above. The Senior is not well enough informed and has no time to inform himself sufficiently to instruct an audience, and an oration delivered upon subjects to which his attention has been particularly directed would be entirely out of place before an audience of men and women who plunge daily into active, practical life.

III. It would be better for the institution itself that some man of noted ability as a scholar and orator be selected to deliver the oration before the graduating class.

Flaming head lines always announce the fact that Seniors are going to deliver their orations, and nobody cares to witness a display of their simplicity. But on the other hand, let it be announced that some eminent man will deliver the oration before the graduating class of the University of Chicago, and an audience will assemble to be pleased and instructed. By this course the institution will be brought into some prominence before Chicago and the public at large.

The first college paper edited by the students of our University appeared at the beginning of the rebellion. It was called the *Index Universitatis*, and published in the spring of each year. The second copy, issued in April of 1863, contains an editorial from which we give an extract below, not only for its interest, but for its appropriateness as well. In it are mentioned two of our present professors, while the description of the scenery then surrounding the building will be highly appreciated in contrast with the present view:

"A year has rolled around since the issue of our first paper, during which time have occurred many important events. We had hoped that, before this, peace would be established in our land, and that our old flag would now be floating above the rebel capitol, and every stronghold of the South. But still the war goes on. We hear the tramp of armies and the thunder of their artillery. We see our formidable navies drawn up before rebel forts and cities, and hear the booming of the guns and mortars. There are bloody battles yet to be fought. May the God of battles crown our arms with victory!

"Notwithstanding our beloved country is engaged in a bloody civil war, which has called out the largest armies of modern days, the University has made rapid progress, and enjoyed a degree of prosperity which, considering these stormy times, has met the most sanguine expectations of its friends and patrons. We doubt not, had peace continued to smile on our land, that the main building of the University would, long since, have been commenced, and would now be approaching its completion. But black-hearted traitors dared to trail in the dust our dear old flag, and trample under foot our constitution—which fired the hearts of the patriots of the North, who sprung to arms in their defence.

"Among those who have gone to the field of battle, are a large proportion of the young men who have filled our colleges. We have been obliged to bid farewell to many of our fellow students, who have felt it their duty to give up the delightful pursuit of knowledge—to leave our classic halls, and go forth to fight the battles of their country. Many of them have breasted the storm of battle, and stood firm in the thickest of the fight, winning laurels for bravery and daring. (Among these was Alonzo Abernethy, who entered service as a private, but arose to the command of his regiment.)

"As our country is in the greatest peril, it is befitting that all considerations should be subordinate to the one great question—the establishment of the authority of the government, and the complete overthrow of the rebellion. But we rejoice that even in these 'times which try men's souls,' the cause of education is cared for, and we trust the time is not distant when the walls of the main building of the University will begin to rise, and that the work will not cease until the topmost stone is put in its place, amid the shouts of a rejoicing multitude. The prospects of the University are indeed flattering. Although many students have gone away, yet others have come to fill their places, and the average standard of scholarship is higher than it has ever been before.

"Among the changes of the past year, we must not omit to speak of several which have taken place in the Faculty of the University. Professor Sylla has left us, and Professor Mathews has been elected to the chair of History and Rhetoric. Professor Mathews is very popular, both with the students and the members of the faculty, and is esteemed by all as a faithful and efficient teacher. He has led us in the flowery paths of literature, and thrown around the authors of our noble tongue such attractions that we shall not fail to study them, when we are no longer permitted to enjoy the benefits of his superior instruction. Mr. G. W. Thomas was appointed, a few months since, tutor of languages in the University. He graduated from our institution in 1862, with the highest honors, and has proved to be a most efficient teacher, acquiring a reputation which seldom falls to the lot of a young man. He is not only well versed in the Latin and Greek, but is also proficient in several of the modern languages. His success is an earnest of great usefulness in the cause of education.

"The location of our University could not be better. From the top of the building we have a very fine view, wonderful for its extent and variety. On the south is a beautiful grove, which reminds us of the classic shades of old Yale. On the west the prairie stretches out for miles in extent, over which, ever and anon, we see the iron horse dashing furiously on, or panting and snorting as he drags along the ponderous train. On the east is the beautiful Lake Michigan, from which blow cool and healthful breezes, and on the bosom of which we see the majestic steamer

moving along, and in every direction the white sails of commerce spread to the winds. On the north we see the city of Chicago, the great western metropolis, with her spires, domes and beautiful buildings. In every direction we see new buildings nearly completed, and foundations laid for others. What a wonderful city! She is making giant strides, in spite of the war! Although we live retired, and free from the noise and tumult of the city, yet we have all the advantages of city life. We mingle in its society; we hear the speeches and lectures of many of our greatest men; and we find these benefits invaluable. If we expect to become practical men, we must come in contact with the great public heart, and meet society in all its phases."

LITERARY.

DRIFTING.

BY T. BUCHANAN REED.

My soul to-day
Is far away,
Sailing the Vesuvian Bay,
My winged boat,
A bird afloat,
Swims round the purple peaks remote:—

Round purple peaks
It sails and seeks
Blue inlets and their crystal creeks,
Where high rocks throw
Through deeps below,
A duplicated golden glow.

Far, vague and dim,
The mountains swim;
While on Vesuvius' misty brim,
With outstretched hands,
The gray smoke stands
O'erlooking the volcanic lands.

Here Ischia smiles
O'er liquid miles;
And yonder, bluest of the isles,
Calm Capri waits,
Her sapphire gates
Beguiling to her bright estates.

I heed not, if
My rippling skiff
Floats swift or slow from cliff to cliff;
With dreamful eyes
My spirit lies
Under the walls of Paradise.

Under the walls
Where swells and falls
The Bay's deep breast at intervals;
At peace I lie,
Blown softly by
A cloud upon this liquid sky.

The day so mild,
Is Heaven's own child,
With earth and ocean reconciled:

The airs I feel
Around me steal
Are murmuring to the murmuring keel.

Over the rail
My hand I trail
Within the shadow of the sail;
A joy intense,
The cooling sense
Glides down my drowsy indolence.

With dreamful eyes
My spirit lies
Where Summer sings and never dies,
O'erwailed with vines,
She glows and shines
Among her future oil and wines,

Her children, hid
The cliffs amid,
Are gambolling with the gambolling kid;
Or, down the walls,
With tipsy calls,
Laugh on the rocks like waterfalls.

The fishers' child,
With tresses wild,
Unto the smooth, bright sand beguiled,
With glowing lips
Sings as she skips,
Or gazes at the far off ships.

Yon deep bark goes
Where traffic blows,
From lands of sun to lands of snows—
This happier one,
Its course is run
From lands of snow to lands of sun.

O happy ship!
To rise and dip,
With the blue crystal at your lip,
O happy crew!
My heart with you
Sails, and sails, and sings anew.

No more, no more
The worldly shore
Upbraids me with its loud uproar!
With dreamful eyes
My spirit lies
Under the walls of Paradise!

—Interior.

WASHINGTON SUPPER.

The 22d of Feb. was celebrated here this year in the usual style, and praises were lavished upon the immortal George, according to a time-honored custom, which makes this day one of the most enjoyable of the college year. During the day the committees on decoration, supper, etc., were busily engaged in preparing the dining-hall for the evening's entertainment, and when 8 o'clock arrived everything was in order. The first thing that met the eyes of the expectant ones was a tastefully decorated room containing an elegant supper, furnished by a city caterer, and the partaking of which formed no small part of the evening's entertainment.

After the supper was disposed of Mr. J. S. Forward, president of the Students Association, opened the exercises with a few remarks appropriate to the occasion, and then introduced Mr. J. R. Windes, of the Senior class, who delivered the Washington Oration. As the representative of the Junior class, Miss Carrie Howe gave an address on Ambition. Mr. C. H. Wayne, of the Sophomore class, delighted the audience with his knowledge of "Rushes." Mr. W. G. Sherer, of the Freshman class, then responded in behalf of the "Canes." Mr. C. B. Hills expounded the trials, tribulations and great importance of Prepdom. Miss Sara Longenecker, representative of the Ladies Department, then gave her views on the perils of co-education, which, judging from her remarks and the happy appearance of the many faces present, are not such as need be greatly feared by either sex. Mr. A. J. Fisher, of the Alumni, class '76, spoke on the subject of "Orations and Rations." President Abernathy, Professor Freeman, Dr. Burroughs, Professors Olson, Howe and Thomas followed in elegant and impressive addresses, and before the audience had realized it the 22d was past, and the first moments of the 23d were quietly gliding by.

The music of the evening was furnished by Miss Nellie Bragg, in two vocal solos, and Messrs. T. C. Roney and E. J. Henderson, each an instrumental solo, on the piano. After the exercises, which ended in all singing America, the audience repaired to the parlor, while the hall was quickly cleared of tables and other supper necessities, and then those so disposed indulged in the mazy waltz, or tripped the light fantastic as occasion required, until the Janitor said "he was 'mighty sorry,' but he must turn off the gas," and thus ended one of the most noted events of 1878.

We suppose if an Alumnus, who was here back in the sixties, had accidentally dropped in upon us, he would have been greatly surprised at the number of young ladies present, who, if we are rightly informed, were very scarce in those days. Now, those not fortunate enough to have lady attendants are indiscriminately assigned a separate table back in one corner; or, if not willing to submit to this, are compelled to stay away and make themselves miserable as best they can. These are some of the perils of co-education.

TRI KAPPA ANNIVERSARY.

The fourteenth anniversary of the Tri Kappa Society occurred Friday evening the 8th inst. at the Sixth Presbyterian Church. The popularity of the church chosen, and the mild, starry night, promised and secured a large and appreciative audience. Rev. Mr. Fleetwood, of St. Mark's Church, opened the exercises by prayer. The president of the society, Mr. J. R. Windes, made a short, forcible address, reviewing the work of the society during the past year, urging the students to renewed activity in literary la-

bor, and recommending the participants in the evening's programme to the favor of the audience. Mr. T. C. Roney then played a *Grand Valse* by Chopin, and received an enthusiastic encore, which he responded to by giving the popular *March de Nuit*.

Miss Clara V. Ryon gave as a reading the selection, "New Church Doctrine," which had the merit, rare now a-days, of being new to the majority of the audience. Miss Ryon has a clear, pleasant voice, and was thoroughly acquainted with her selection, which she gave acceptably to all who could hear her, as the only fault to be found was that her voice did not reach those who were seated in the back part of the room. Mr. W. A. Walker gave an oration on "The Spirit of the Age," which was an able, well-written production. We think, however, that he did not impress upon his audience so clearly as he might have done what he meant by his subject. Mr. Walker has gained an enviable reputation in society as a promising orator, has a very powerful voice, is a gentleman of good presence and pleasing address, and we predict for him great success in that direction.

Miss Nellie M. Bragg rendered the solo, "Speed on," so acceptably that she was compelled to reply to an encore. Miss Bragg's voice is a rich, powerful contralto, which fills the church with its tones so easily as to immediately inspire the audience with full confidence in her powers.

The declamation, "McLain's Child," was then admirably given by Mr. F. W. C. Hayes. All who have heard Mr. Hayes recite expected a fine effort, and were in no wise disappointed. The piece is one of thrilling interest and dramatic power, and gained in both by his rendering. The debate on the question, "Was the right of suffrage prematurely granted to the American negro?" was affirmed by Mr. J. D. Russell. As usual, the speaker was witty, and his first sentence put the audience in a good humor and made them anxious to hear his speech. Mr. Russell's arguments were well taken, but not forcibly enough stated. His debate was ready, witty, delivered in an easy, unembarrassed manner, and when he finished the applause he received attested the approbation of the audience. Mr. C. H. Forward replied to Mr. Russell's arguments with earnestness, conciseness and power, but his debate exceeded the time allotted to that exercise. Mr. Forward has one of the most important characteristics necessary to a successful debater—the power of entering into his subject and impressing his audience with the feeling that he is thoroughly in earnest and believes every argument he offers. Mr. Forward is not an easy, confident speaker, but that is only the fault of inexperience, which time will overcome. The exercises were here pleasantly varied by music, Miss Lester giving a soprano solo, *My Dearest Heart*. Miss Lester is too well known to all friends of Tri Kappa to require our praise. Her singing was equal to its usual standard of excellence, and the flowers and encore she re-

ceived were well merited. The society Paper was then read by Mr. O. B. Ryon. This exercise is always listened to with interest, as college notes and personals form a prominent part. *The Sepulcher* was well edited and well arranged. The editorials were finished productions, and the college items mirth-provoking. The "Answers to Correspondents" was a pleasant change, and proved to be one of the most interesting parts of the paper.

Mr. C. N. Patterson then gave an oration on "Mediocrity." He clearly proved that we live in an age when mediocrity is the rule, and urged us not to be moved from using every effort to make the best of our talents, whatever they may be. The oration was delivered in a very fine manner, and gave Mr. Patterson great credit. Although coming late in the programme, when an audience is wearied, he commanded the closest attention, and made a very favorable impression.

The programme closed with a solo, *Good night, Farewell!* by Miss Bragg, which appropriately finished one of the most interesting anniversaries of Tri Kappa Society.

ORATORY,—HOW IMPROVED.

PART FOUR.

Part third called attention to improvement derived from observation of the best orators, and cautioned against copying their manner without first submitting it to our own good judgment and taste. We should imitate the orator's delivery intelligently; noting the states of mind and the circumstances which prompted his intonation. Then we avoid error, and more quickly arrive at excellence. But how about the best models of the histrionic art? Do they afford a like opportunity for improving oratorical manner? Oratory, broadly considered, may be defined in a word,—the best delivered best. The master of the histrionic art personates the great parts of the best histrionic productions. Assuming the character he wishes to represent, he gives to it natural expression. Like the orator, he delivers thought and sentiment with the accent of nature. The orator renders truth as truth. The great actor delivers fiction as truth. Regarding delivery alone, this is the main difference. Naturalness is the object, as human nature is the law, of both. Hence the remarks upon imitating the best orators equally apply here, and it follows that in the attentive observation of histrionic artists we find an additional source of improvement. But let us not be understood to advocate the practice of theatre-going. This is far from our intent. When we speak of the best models in the histrionic profession, we do not mean all 'ycleped "stars." We mean great actors of great plays. We mean the Garriks of our time, as Edwin Booth. Further than this we would not go. Attendance on the plays commonly enacted, we believe injurious both to moral and æsthetic culture. While in them is a great deal to vitiate, there is

very little to cultivate, the taste. The reverse is true, however, in the enactment of dramatic masterpieces by master artists. Listening to Edwin Booth personate the sublime characters of Shakespeare is elevating and ennobling. It offers improvement for oratory by way of imitation; it acquaints us with the thoughts and passions of genius; and rather than perverting taste, contributes to its cultivation. The latter, however, is incidental. The cultivation of taste is derived from many and various sources, and has no small influence on the character of a man's oratory. This brings us to the last point in discussion,—the improvement of oratory by a general cultivation of taste.

Hitherto we have presupposed the possession of good taste as requisite to the perception of natural delivery. In general, Nature has granted a proportion of taste to all, and to some even more than others. But few persons are endowed with a high order of æsthetic insight. Such is acquired. Inasmuch, therefore, as genuine taste is largely the result of cultivation, we claim that its general improvement will exert a marked influence upon our oratory. The higher our æsthetic culture, the more elevated will be our oratory. We must aim at a finer susceptibility of beauty and harmony, of the pleasant and the agreeable. The discriminating power of mind must be improved.

Now, while no one will deny the matter of oratory is much heightened and perfected by æsthetic culture, to say delivery is improved may seem to lack significance. A little examination, however, will discover the power of good taste on delivery as well.

Literature is the embodiment of cultivated taste and genius under the lofty appreciation of the beauty and grandeur of nature. Its productions have had enduring fame in so far as they have depicted natural objects with their natural character, their proper features and expression. In such alone is genuine taste exhibited, and only such have found chords of sympathy in the hearts of all ages and nations. To their beauties mankind generally have been sensible. The pleasures of the imagination have in them culminated. They carry the indelible impression of good taste. To these masterpieces, then, let us go for improvement. Our æsthetic culture will become more finished as we devote to them more earnest application. We will acquire a higher susceptibility to the beautiful, and possession of a taste combining delicacy and correctness of judgment will gradually be obtained. But this is the essential requisite for the interpretive law. It gives a wider knowledge of human nature, disclosing its various phases. It opens the treasure-house of the soul, and the discovered gems fill us with admiration. It raises our minds to the true conception of thoughts, so that with language and voice to utter, eloquence cannot but escape the lips. In a cultivated taste, then, we are better able to apply interpretation, because we have the faculty of perceiving natural delivery. The more we apply interpretation, the more we

improve our delivery. The interpretive method gives permanent success when most diligently applied. As we search within us for the right accent, it is the complete mastery of circumstances and the discriminating power of taste that enables us in delivery to rise equal to thought and give to it natural expression. The more effectively, therefore, application of interpretive law is made, the sooner our delivery assumes the natural type, and we realize the improvement of oratorical manner. Now the foundation of this improvement rests in the general cultivation of taste. But the possession of good taste exerts a great influence upon the matter of oratory as well as the manner, and gives to compositions a value and merit they could not otherwise have. Inasmuch, then, as æsthetic culture improves both the matter and delivery of oratory, how much more diligently should the speaker labor to acquire it. The improvement of one alone would repay him for his labor in the acquisition of good taste; but when a two-fold improvement is accomplished,—nay, when his pleasures are heightened, and life and nature obtain from him greater appreciation, he feels many times repaid, and labors on, still going to the sources of taste and drinking at its fountains.

COMMUNICATION.

Editors of VOLANTE:

It may be interesting to some to know what our prospects for a nine are for '78. As three of last year's nine graduated, and two did not return, it would seem that our nine would be quite weak. But a few games played last fall established the fact that we have among us players competent to fill the positions made vacant, with skill equal to that of the former occupants. The pitchers' department we can safely say will be stronger than last year, and the probabilities are that the catchers' will be also. We also promise an excellent 1st baseman. Four of the six remaining positions will undoubtedly be occupied by the old players. The two others wait the developments of spring practice. However, we feel assured in saying that our prospects for a good nine are better than at any other previous time, owing to the fact that we have so many good players from which to choose. If the weather of the past week continues, practice enough ought to be had to determine, by the first of next term at the farthest, who the lucky ones are to be. Four or five games with the city clubs will fit the nine for the contest for the College championship.

The merchant's song abbreviated:

Trust,
Bust.

Here is a big subject boiled down to two words, and one that hundreds of the best merchants in the land have failed to sing to the right tune in the past year.

PERSONALS.

LOCALS.

- '69. Rev. R. D. Sheppard is traveling in Europe.
- '72. G. M. Lambertson—attorney, Lincoln, Neb.
- '77. Miss Jesse Waite is visiting friends in the city.
- '73. J. B. Johnston is in the practice of law at Ottawa, Ills.
- '74. F. J. Wilcox—in First National Bank, Northfield, Minn.
- '70. W. R. Breckenridge—grain merchant, Lafayette, Ind.
- '65. S. E. Massey is in the furniture business at Morris, Ills.
- '70. C. E. Taylor is pastor of the Baptist Church at Jerseyville, Ill.
- '72. C. D. Wyman is secretary Belt Railway Company, New York city.
- '76. H. I. Bosworth is still very ill. He has gone to the Hot Springs.
- '71. E. E. Osgood is in the carpet house of Adams, Monsur & Co., Indianapolis, Ind.
- '76. Olds has been conducting a revival with marked success at Prairie Center, Ill.
- '76. S. C. Johnston was in the city a few days since. He is reading law at his home in Iowa.
- '78. M. L. Goff formerly of this University, graduates with '78 at the Illinois College, Jacksonville, Ills.
- '79. Osman was seen upon the streets a few days since. He is still local editor of the Ottawa *Free Trader*.
- '79. Blackmer is in the class of '79 at Williams College. He sends \$1.50 for THE VOLANTE. That is right.
- '78. Charles Ege has returned to college and rejoined his class. He has a heavy growth of burnside.
- '81. A. W. Fuller came back to pursue his studies in the University. He says that he had a royal time teaching young ideas how to shoot.
- '79. Patterson, not C. N., formerly member of '79 is happy. He says the coal trade isn't very lively, but the little boy who came to see him a few days ago weighs just twelve pounds, and is well.
- '75. J. F. Ridlon is not in Bellevue Hospital, New York city, as announced in our last issue. We have since seen an invitation to attend the graduating exercises of his class in the medical department of Columbia College, of New York.
- Hats.
- Canes.
- Whereas.
- Orations.
- Spoon it.
- The dog came back.
- We missed it a block.
- How was that for a programme.
- Senior class history in our next.
- Oh, Watson! Pull down your lip.
- Ask Horace where he got that hair.
- Were you a victim of the Dainty sell?
- Female debate in Tri Kap, March 16th.
- There will be no school on St. Patrick's day.
- Athenæum Anniversary Meeting, March 28th.
- The subject was dark, and in the dark they left it.
- A back-stop. Face about in front of a red-hot liner.
- We are going to collapse sure; can't pay our water tax.
- Is the new silver bill going to effect our silver ball, and if so, how?
- Now is a good time to pay forty cents on the dollar and wipe out old debts.
- What is the difference between a Senior and a gold-headed cane? Five dollars.
- The question now is, whether private devotions are productive of Faculty rushes.
- The time of year is at hand when bruised hands are quite fashionable among some students.
- Owing to the present style of dress the girls are shut off on one thing: Can't laugh in their sleeves.
- If you want books of any kind, or have any old ones to sell, go to Barker's, 131 E. Madison st. Text books a specialty.
- Think of it! Forty days and nights on cod fish and oysters. Ain't we glad that "we don't have to."
- That Senior who keeps open book in class misses it sometimes, and is not called upon when his turn comes to recite.
- Of course they don't mean to, yet occasionally we see a young lady trying to walk out of chapel with a bench in her pocket.
- The base ball aspirants mutter and denounce the fates as they gaze upon the holes and crooked footpaths dug in their once beautiful, grassy practice ground.

Love and disappointment in the Laundry, and thereto hangs a tale.

That unfortunate Senior has been in trouble again; this time he got as far as the church door with his "ducky," when his hat turned out missing.

How thoughtful some people are. One of our Juniors engaged his girl for Washington supper a year in advance, and ran all risks of getting left.

"When the cats are away the mice come out and play." So do some students, when a Sophomore's uncle is gone East and left him in charge of the mansion.

Dr. Reynolds says that sweet cider is the devil's kindling-wood. The fire there must be different from earthly fire, and who knows but it may be as enjoyable as cider itself is.

'78 is masculine throughout, and perhaps such another class will never graduate from this institution again, unless co-education proves a failure and we have to give the girls the go-by.

Scene.—Washington Supper. Junior—showing off his French before his girl—to colored waiter,—“De l'eau s'il vous plait.”

Colored Waiter.—“No Sah! We have no silver plate.” Junior concludes to go thirsty.

Students are cautioned against talking too loud about their lady friends—especially if unfavorably—in the street cars. Sometimes these friends have acquaintances present in the car, also, and then the first time they get together certain ones get reviewed.

It seems the theologians in the Senior class at Evanston are the “boss” men, and run things to suit themselves. Why don't they try it here? Anything for a change in the monotony of class routine.

The photographs taken by Stephens, 85 and 87 E. Madison street, (over Hershey Hall,) are attracting a great deal of attention. For beauty of finish and artistic effect they are unsurpassed by any in the city. Reduced rates will be given to students.

Herculean Freshman. Dearest maiden. Lovely moonshine. Walk, walk, walk. Euchre; no whist. Came in at five, A. M. Forty excuses, but no explanation. “Murder will out.” Better own up and save your “credit.”

Mrs. George has returned to her rooms in Larned Block, and is prepared to do light sewing and mending for the students as formerly. Room 14, 655 Cottage Grove ave.

Our Seniors, as a class, will not wear plug hats, nor can they agree on a class-cane, and worst of all, they are trying to kick commencement orations higher than a kite on a windy day.

A majority of the Faculty—*mirabile dictu*—was induced to appear at chapel exercises on one occasion this term. The surprise of the students was such, on their appearance, as to call out general applause.

According to agreement, the Freshmen were permitted to resume their canes on the 22nd. Yet they don't seem half so eager to carry them as they did before the rush. This is a case in which circumstances play a prominent part.

C. D. Mosher, the well known photographer, formerly of 951 Wabash ave., begs to inform the graduating class and the professors of the University, that he will make their class card photographs at special reductions, at his magnificently furnished new Gallery, 125 State st. Call and see.

One of the Freshmen looked intently for a long time at the name of a Senior editor of THE VOLANTE, then turned to a Soph. who was standing near by and said: “Why, I thought A. was a Senior!” Soph.—“So he is.” Fresh.—“Then why does he have Junior attached to his name?” Soph. explained.

Not many years past an enterprising publisher of THE VOLANTE sent, among other gratuitous copies, one addressed thus: “Boss Tweed,—Hades.” In a short time it came back superscribed thus: “No such place on the line.”

A Senior was appointed critic *pro tem.* in one of our literary societies one evening. In his criticism upon a young lady he took occasion to say, “I do not like the subject. I—I—do not mean, I—I do not like the young lady. I—I mean I—I do not like the subject of her essay. I think the subject is too long. I—I do not mean the young lady is too long; I—I mean the subject of her essay.”

Scene at an evening party. Soph. to Senior.—“Remember that a ‘soft answer turneth away wrath,’ ”

Senior, in reply.—“I should think that you would turn away a great deal of wrath, for you give the softest answers of any man I ever heard.” Soph. looked small.

Prof.—“Miss H. what reason can you assign for the change of g to y in the word royal, a contracted form of *regalis* from the Latin. *rex*?”

Miss H.—“It comes through the French, I believe.”

Prof.—“It is more likely that it comes through the throat”

At a party the the other evening the conversation turned to the opera. A young lady asked a gentleman if he had attended the opera this season. Yes, he replied, he had seen Faust the previous evening. “Ah, indeed!” she remarked, smiling, “how did you like him? Was he good?” The amusement of the gentleman can be imagined, but he solemnly assured her that he liked *him* very much; that *he* was excellent.

The latest rush was that of Rush Medical College, connected with the University, which rushed out one hundred and twenty-eight graduated "saw-bones" at its thirty-fifth annual commencement, held on the 26th of February, into the wild and uncertain rush for human existence, fortune and fame, who are fully authorized to cure—or kill—according to law.

On the evening of the 7th inst., President Anderson delivered an address before the Christian Association on the interesting subject, "Science and Prayer." It is needless to add that the subject was presented in a masterly manner. The Christian association may congratulate itself in having secured President Anderson to deliver the address, and we hope that in the years to come his faith may inspire and his wisdom guide all true seekers into the realm of higher truth.

In our last issue we requested the Alumni to send us their names and addresses, as we wished to publish as complete a list as possible in our March issue. A very few have up to date responded, so that we are under the necessity of deferring the intended publication until our April number. In that number we hope to publish a very complete list. Please aid us. We express our thanks to J. G. Davidson, of the class of '72, for valuable assistance in this work. To any alumnus we say, "Go thou and do likewise."

At a fashionable reception in the city the other evening, a young lady was asked by a young gentleman to allow him to see her programme. "Well," answered this would-be-thought belle, "I don't know; I promised several gentlemen they should see it first, but I guess it won't make any difference." She held out the programme to him, but he coolly remarked, "Thank you; I think you had better let them see it first," and departed, not seeking her company again that evening.

One of the disappointments of student life is when he runs half way across the campus to get a good, square lift at the foot-ball and then misses it about two feet. The momentum of the foot, meeting with no resistance, is not arrested until the utmost distance to which the feet are capable of being separated is reached, and then a sitting posture, though not so graceful, is the easiest assumed, and generally follows such a feat. His sensations are such that he doesn't care a penny whether or not the evolution theory will explain conscience, and as to the freedom of the will, he arises under the impression that his will was a little too free that time. Lower classmen will understand this better when they get to be Seniors.

As a general thing, by keeping to the right, all trouble is avoided in meeting persons on the street, yet occasionally a ludicrous scene will occur down in the business part,

where people go rushing along at break-neck speed regardless of consequences. Recently an old gentleman and a nicely dressed lady were seen to meet on turning a corner, both in a hurry, and each eager to avoid the other and be getting along. After dodging to the right and then to the left, but always both in the same direction, three or four times, the old gentleman, in a kind voice and with a twinkle in his eye, said, "now you just stand still and I will walk around," which she did, and further trouble was avoided. Nothing like presence of mind in an emergency.

Scene—Freshman's room. His Father and sister come on a visit, and find no one in; they take possession all the same and await events. Room-mate, who is a Prep., hastily enters. Great surprise. Explanations follow. Prep. sees a suspicious-looking paper on the table, and determines to conceal it. After much talk and a good deal of manoeuvring, gets it into his back pocket. The father (who observes it all): "See here, what are you doing with that candy?" Prep.: "I—I—why, I thought it was chum's tobacco," while his face suddenly rises to blood heat, and he mentally longs for a trap-door to go down with him. Father roars, and the Sister—well, we were not there, and can't go into the particulars.

An editor sat on a four legg'd chair,
As he rubbed his brow and pulled his hair.
In vain did he try to write some matter,
But murderous thoughts his wits would scatter.

Some fiendish Preps. in a neighboring room
Were whooping and yelling like mad baboons.
That editor swore, as editor's can:
Now, Preps., beware, lest you mistake your man!

A CALL CONDENSED.

A gentle ring;
A pretty thing
Answers it.
A rattling chat,
Of this and that,
Makes a hit.

With pretty pout,
She sees him out
To the ground.
He leaves, impress'd
That she's the best
Ever found.

But when he hears
That these two years
She's engaged,
'Tis then he tears
And madly swears;
He's enraged.

MORAL—Look before you leap.

EXCHANGES.

Look at that pile of exchanges upon our table. What is to be done with them? Publishers constantly ringing in our ears their cry, "Got any more matter ready?" and we turn, turn, turn, page after page of our exchanges to find something in them that we want to notice. One by one we lay them aside. We see nothing particularly objectionable in them. It may be because we are especially meek and do not wish to pick a quarrel with any one. We have always been noted for being extremely fearful of wounding any one's feelings. We have another reason. We do not wish to say that there is something objectionable in any paper unless we can indicate wherein it is objectionable. Nor do we wish to praise a paper, and say, as many others do, "This is one of the best of our exchanges; its locals are spicy; its editorials are good,"—unless we can point out the particular qualities which make the paper good, and wherein the goodness consists. But right at this point, we have reached the exchange column of the *College Herald*, and find to our great delight that there is a sensible man upon the editorial staff, and he has said just what we were thinking. "Great minds," etc., etc. You know it, *Herald*. Now, without falling into the error that the *Herald* condemns, we wish to say that we have seen nothing in the way of criticism of exchanges better than the *Herald's* criticism of college journals as a whole. The *Herald* exchange editor talks thorough sense. He charges, and justly, we think, that a number of college papers make such criticisms as these: The paper "is not first-class,"—and yet do not go into details and inform us in what respect the paper fails in being a first-class journal, nor do they suggest in what manner the journal may be improved. It may be that the paper is commended, and yet there is no reason assigned why it should be commended, unless it be remarked that the editorials are good; and this remark is unaccompanied by any explanation which indicates any point of particular excellence. To quote further from this sensible criticism:

Another thing extremely distasteful to us which is noticeable in a great number of the exchanges is this everlasting "puffing," as our preceding exchange editor called it. Such expressions as the following abound in their criticisms: "Our ideal of a college paper," "readable from beginning to end," "presents the neatest and most pleasing appearance," "full of good things." These expressions are evidently intended to signify good will—to say something nice, which will cause pleasant feelings on all sides. But we hold that the reviewer has no business to be actuated by such motives. It is his office to criticise justly and mean all he says. It is right for him to praise and express his approval of what he considers meritorious, but in expressing his approbation he ought to give his reasons for it, just as he ought to give his reasons when he expresses disapproval. It is all right for him to say that a paper is "full of good things," provided he *points out* the good things, and states *why* they are good.

Strange co-incidence that the *Montpelierian* should find in some corner—scrub corner, was it not?—the close of a letter, word for word like the one found in Douglas Hall here, and published in our January issue. Here is the letter as we found and published it:

"If you do not care for me I have nothing else to live for in the world, and shall find some way to end my most wretched existence. * * * Come to me or write, *won't you?*"

Change the signature from "May" to "M.," and you have it just as it appears in the *Montpelierian*. It is probably some mistake of the printers. The *Montpelierian* intended to give us credit for that, but as usual their devil was up to his tricks and spoiled the good intention. We forgive. We never could cherish malice.

We picked up just at this point a paper, which we took to be the *Vassar Miscellany*, but found it was the *Niagara Index*. Beg your pardon, *Miscellany*.

We next take up *Home Arts*, published monthly by Alfred L. Sewell, Chicago. We thought the name of the publisher sounded and looked very familiar to us. After with but little reflection it came upon us all at once. When we were little boys we watched for *The Little Corporal* and this same Alfred L. Sewell. Well, surely, this *Home Arts*, if published by Mr. Sewell, must be something good. We examine it and find it just what the name of the publisher would indicate it to be. It is an excellent paper, and will afford a great deal of instruction, and take the place in many homes now occupied by the "pernicious five cent novel style of literature."

We have received since our last issue quite a number of new exchanges, entirely new to us, and a great many of them new to the college world. We have not space to notice them in this issue.

LIST OF EXCHANGES.

The *Wittenberger*, *Cornell Era*, *Trinity Tablet*, *Bates Student*, *Colby Echo*, *Chronicle*, *College Olio*, *Packer Quarterly*, *Bowdoin Orient*, *The College Echo*, *University Magazine*, *University Herald*, *Denison Collegian*, *University Press*, *Dickinsonian*, *Reveille*, *Boston University Beacon*, *Pen and Plow*, *Wabash*, *Montpelierian*, *Christian Union*, *Dartmouth*, *College Courier*, *Campus*, *Tuft's Collegian*, *The Round Table*, *College Mercury*, *Nesterian*, *Rochester Campus*, *Lawrence Collegian*, *College Herald*, *Niagara Index*, *Transcript*, *Oberlin Review*, *Reporter*, *Targum*, *College News Letter*, *Brunonian*, *Irving Union*, *Penn. College Monthly*, *Simpsonian*, *Illini*, *Athenæum*, *Tripod*, *Westminster Monthly*, *Home Arts*, *Archangel*, *College Monthly*, *University Gazette*, *Star of '80*, *University Courant*, *Lafayette College Record*, *Vassar Miscellany*, the *R. H. S. Collegian* and *Neoterian*, *College Rambler*, *Besom*, *Campus*, *College Courier*, *University Missourian*, *Simpsonian*, *Phoenix*, *Cheltenham Record*, *Williams' Athenæum*, *Student Life* and *Undergraduate*.

CLIPPINGS.

Student.—(in discussion)—“Professor, I rise to a point of information.”

Professor.—“You may state your point, sir.”

Student.—“May I be excused from class?”—*Ex.*

When Longfellow was presented to Mr. Longworth, of Cincinnati, the latter remarked, “There’s no great difference in our names.” “Yes,” replied Longfellow, “but worth makes the man and want of it the fellow.”—*Ex.*

Professor F.—“Miss L, did you note anything remarkably fine in the ancient Egyptian religion?”

Miss L.—“Yes, sir; they worshipped cats and dogs, I believe.”

Mental Science (hour nearly expired). Prof.—“That is the genesis of this experience.” Weary student (*sotto voce*)—“Never mind the Genesis. An Exodus is what we want now.”—*Oberlin Review.*

The peculiarity of the fly is that he always returns to the same spot; but it is the characteristic of the mosquito that he always returns to another spot. Thus he differs from the leopard, who does not change his spots. This is an important fact in natural history.—*Ex.*

First student: “I think I shall buy me a gold bar for my chain like yours.” Second student: “Your spending so much in the bar-room will bar you from all such bargains.” First student: “There’s a bar possibility that I may barrow the cash.” Second student: “That would be a piece of pure barbarity.” Both collapse.—*Ex.*

It was a bashful Fresh that stood before the class officer, trying to excuse his many absences from prayers. Prof. questions him closely, “You see, professor, I have been sitting up with a friend down street.” Prof.: “Is your friend in college?” “No, sir.” “Who is it then?” “It is a—a—a young—guess I’ll take my demerits.”—*Ex.*

President McCosh, in speaking of oratorical contests, is reported to have said: “I do not believe a committed oration will ever make a great orator. The speaker should learn to devote himself to the arguments of his opponent. I hope the time may soon come when oratory will rise to be something above the mere performance of a school boy.”—*Ex.*

“Metaphysics is that science whose laws apply to facts, if they exist, or, if they do not exist, they would apply if they did, or, in other words, a mass, conglomeration, or stagnation of hypothetical, diabolical, inferential paradoxes, which by the virtue of their nonsensicality are essentially useless, having neither substance *per se*, nor objects upon which they may ‘intue,’ to-wit, apply, act or operate.”—*Dr. McCosh.*

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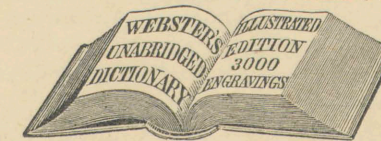
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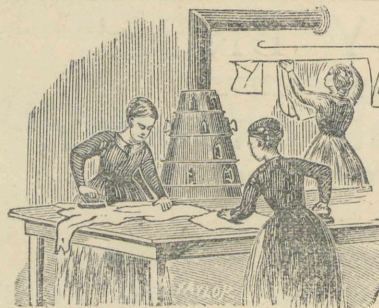
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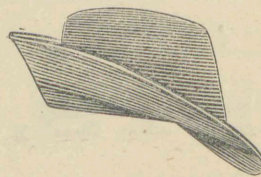
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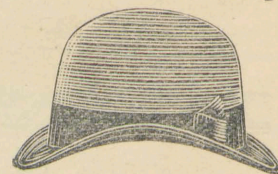
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