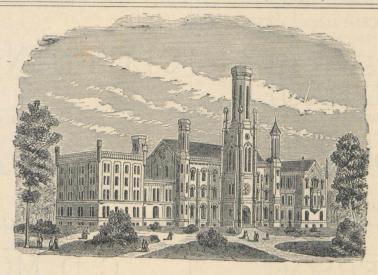
VOLUME IV.

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, DEC., 1874.

NUMBER 3.



UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.

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THE VOLANTE.

VOLUME IV.

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, DEC. 1874.

NUMBER 3.

LITERARY.

A STUDENT'S AMBITION.

The student sits in his room alone,
And over his loved book pores;
But his mind has afar from the volume flown,
And he brings no thought from its stores.
His fancy is painting a picture bright,
Of all that's to rise in the clear strong light
Of the hope-gilded years to come.

But e'en while he gives his thoughts their will, Abroad o'er the world to stray, Around his work they linger still, Nor turn from it quite away. To his soul there comes no vision rare Of wealth or power or beauty fair, Or yet of the joys of home.

In the farthest depths of his inmost heart Is forming a purpose high;
Among earth's workers to bear his part,
And strongly to live and die.
For over his spirit that strong spell steals
That the true and noble mind ever feels,
When it thinks on the struggle of life.

And this the resolve that fills his soul,
While he sits 'mid his books alone,
Permitting his fancy, without control,
To sketch the dark future unknown:
In the world of opinion some stand will I make,
Nor all my thought from its leaders take,
But will have my share in its strife.

If I may not stand on the dizziest height
Where the blasts are so keen and strong,
At least I may find some hilltop bright
A little above the throng;
And there 'gainst the forces of error and wrong,
That God's bright world have o'erridden so long,
Can stand like a pillar of stone.

Let me heedfully winnow the heaps of dust
That have gathered through ages past,
And finding the good under all its rust,'
To the winds the refuse cast.
Let me gather thought nuggets of shining gold,
And truth's rich gems that have ne'er grown old,
Though ages have o'er them flown.

If I may not mankind's opinions mould, I can surely shape my own.

If I can not bring forth, like the great ones of old, Bright treasures as yet unknown,

'Mid the manifold facts that around me lie, To find some neglected thought I can try, And give it again to the mind.

Perchance, after many years have passed In culture and training and thought, I may come to the glorious work at last, If with patience and zeal 'tis sought, Of helping along life's slippery way The thousands that stumble therein to-day, And thus may serve mankind.

Thus the student muses alone in his room, While the fitful firelight's flicker and gloom Its weirdness over him throws; And this purpose firm in his heart will stay, Till his soul's frail tenement of clay Shall rest in the last repose.

THE CONSERVATISM OF LITERATURE.

A national literature is its most lasting monument. Pyramids of granite, temples of marble, and statues of bronze, may have some claim to be as enduring, but they are partial and inadequate. They may truthfully record the triumphs of kings and warriors, the rise and downfall of dynasties, but they deal only with individuals, they are not national, in the true sense of the term. The inner life of the people, their thoughts, their intellectual and moral powers, their social relations-all that constitutes real nationality can be learned from literature. Many a people or tribe has passed away from the face of the earth and left no perceptible trace of its existence. But in every case it has been a people that had not risen to the stage of even the rude beginnings of letters, and the like cannot be said of any nation which has once entered upon the first elements of lyric and epic verse, the morning rays of literature. A nation that has once developed the genius to create an epic song for embellishing the names of its heroes, or lyric verses that thrill the life-blood to quicker pulsation, has then "pledged time" to deal gently with its illustrious dead, to unfold its history to coming ages, to bestow upon its mighty deeds an influence on human minds when the names of unlettered nations have passed into oblivion.

treasures from one country to another, and from one generation to another. Literature preserves a language from constant transformations, by embalming it in forms that become examples to other writers and grow to possess an authority. Thus when an author in the infancy of a language, by a popular work achieves deserved honor, he fixes ten thousand words in form and in meaning which centuries will never change. His countrymen will take up his expressions, copy his orthography and perpetuate his mirror of the language in the very face of the innumerable disorganizing forces constantly at work. The annals of literature and the history of the human races effectually prove with cumulative evidence this tendency of literature to conserve whatever production of the human mind is given to its care. Let us look, for a moment, at the old broken columns of the literary monuments of Asia. Out of the dim, uncertain outlines of the early history of Asia, there confront us five important religious sects, each seeking its sanction in a collection of writings whose words have been the source of spiritual satisfaction, hope and consolation, to millions of men. The scriptures of the Hebrews, the Zend Avestaof the Parsees, the Vedas of the Brahmins, the Tripitaka of the Buddhists, and the Kirgs of the Confucians, carry us back for the time of their production to from 500 to 1500 B. C., and yet, are performing their office to day for more than two-thirds of the human race, and destined to mould and shape the religious faiths of myriads yet to come. No one will deny the mighty influence of the Hebrew Scriptures in preserving the traditions, history and inspired writings of the little race hidden, as it were, among the nations, yet in its spiritual development and experience destined to affect the entire human race. The Zend-Avesta, though once swaying a mighty people under the name of Persian Empire, now guides yet for two thousand years it has furnished many souls with means to meet the religious wants of their nature, and conserved the spiritual ideas. At the present time, these ancient religious systems are exerting a vast influence over the western nations. Whether studied by the theologian, philosopher, or historian, they teach the unity of human origin and strengthen the brotherly feeling between the nations. The modern philosophy is but the offspring of grecian mind-Plato and Aristotle, the greatest philosophers the world ever saw, whose works, after the lapse of two thousand years, still stand at the head of all philosophy, and are studied to day with greater zeal than ever. Their mighty engine of the mind, working great results in classical civilization, rested for a season while classical literature slept in the bosom of the barbarous turmoil of the middle ages, and springing again to action with the revival of learning in modern times, owes its conservatism to the literature of cannot be too clearly drawn. A man who can guide the

Literature is a mighty means of transferring mental Greece. The same thing is true with all modern literatures. Thus the Italian became the voice of Dante, Tasso and Petrarch, the French of Racine and Moliere, the English of Chaucer, Shakspeare and Milton. The conservatism of literature is then one of the most precious gifts of God.

PROFESSOR BONAMY PRICE'S LECTURE ON "UNIVERSITY EDUCATION."

A large number of the students availed themselves of the opportunity of hearing the distinguished Oxford professor on this absorbing topic, and all who did felt richly rewarded for their pains. But for the benefit of those who were not so fortunate as to be present, we shall briefly notice what seemed to us the most important points in the lecture.

Prof. Price began by remarking, that education was, perhaps, the most important subject that could engage the attention of human beings. Education is nothing less than the making of men and women—the development of human beings.

It consists of two distinct parts: first, the storing of the mind with ascertained knowledge; and second, the opening and training of all the intellectual faculties, so that the student may be prepared for any pursuit and all the affairs and duties of life.

The utilitarian theory of education was sharply, yet justly criticised by the lecturer. Many persons say they wish to give their sons such an education as will enable them to do things and earn a living. This is too narrow; it is extreme utilitarianism.

What is an educated man? A sportsman may be able to tell what an educated horse is, but it is vastly more difficult to define an educated man. A thoroughly accomplished artist may be passed upon by his compeers, and judged by the standard of his works on the canvas but a few worshippers. As a faith, it is almost extinct, or the marble. So it is only the highly cultured few who are competent to say what education really is. The bulk of mankind will have to be educated, before they can appreciate what education means.

Those who have the highest conception of education continue to educate themselves to the very end of life. Dr. Arnold, for example, was a man who had this lofty idea of education. He was perhaps as fine an educator as ever lived, and he always regarded himself as his own most important pupil. If any one thirsts for a good education, let him select the highest standard of the human mind that can be found, and then strive with all his might to attain, as nearly as possible, that perfection.

The best standard of education is the man himself, and if we would get a just conception of the subject, let us look at the best specimens of humanity around us, and at the noblest examples in history.

The distinction between mere skill and true education

skill, but he may be anything but educated. Even the person who has acquired a special knowledge of any one branch of science and education is not necessarily an educated man. It is not thorough education.

Mathematics is a very important instrumentality in the training of the mind. But when the professor said mathematics, he wished it to be understood that he did not mean the differential-integral-calculus machine, which is Simpy for grinding out mathematical formulas. The great value of mathematical study consists in the influence it exerts upon the mind to make it more rational and tone it down. The vast majority of mankind have yet to learn that when they lay down a proposition, it must be supported by argument. This is the lesson enforced by mathematical study and it imparts the power of logical thinking and reasoning. But even a mathematician is not thoroughly educated. Something else is wanting to fit a man for the affairs and duties of life.

Science also deserves an important place among the instruments of education. Besides having contributed immensely to the good of general humanity, and to the improvement of the industrial arts, science holds a high place also as an educational tool. The study of science necessitates the all-important habit of accuracy. All the facts must be gathered, and each one accurately and thoroughly understood, or disgraceful failure is the inevitable result. The lesson then, is, that we must have the facts and all the facts, in order to succeed. This is as important a lesson as can be put into a young man's head. But other things as well as science are necessary to a perfect education, and the professor well rebuked the arrogance of modern scientists, who would make it the be-all and end-all of education.

The great study is humanity. "The noblest study of mankind is man." General literature is the great storehouse of the human mind, and it has done great things for the development of human powers.

But Prof. Price said that he held deliberately and earnestly that, as an educational tool, he knew of none that was in the slightest degree comparable to the Greek and Latin languages, especially the Greek. Why? Because in those old languages were stored up the lives and thoughts and actions of the greatest men the world ever saw. The study of those tongues puts one in communion with the greatest minds—the greatest philosophers, heroes, moralists and poets. The very deadness of the ancient languages is a circumstance in their favor as a means of education. To acquire a knowledge of them, it demands the exertion of all the powers of the mind, and in the process of translating, every shade of thought in the original is stamped indelibly upon the mind. The eminent Englishman closed with an eloquent appeal for a higher education, and for the improvement of institutions of learning in this country.

plow, reef a top-sail, or manage a horse, is a man of THE INTER-COLLEGIATE ASSOCIATION CON-VENTION:

> The recent contest at Bloomington, with the accompanying convention, the first held under the auspices of the Inter-Collegiate Association, seems to have attracted a fair degree of interest. Our own institution was represented by five Juniors and four orator, and it is hoped that it suffered no disgrace at their hands.

> The delegates arrived in Bloomington just at dusk, on a stormy evening, and after supper at the Ashley House, made their way, together with a number of other strangers similarly situated, through the still falling snow, to the college, which is situated about a mile to

> Here they found a goodly gathering of the Wesleyan students and their friends from the town. After a prayer by Prof. Palmer, of Normal, President Fallows, of the Wesleyan, gave an address of welcome, in which he set forth in the strongest terms the value and power of trained and cultivated speech. After this the company repaired to the very pleasant rooms of the literary societies, where it is very certain that the Chicago delegation found its share of amusement. At all events when at a rather a late hour some members of it wished to return to the hotel, it was with great difficulty that two of the Juniors were separated from the ladies with whom they were conversing. They could not be induced to believe that it was late. The evening was somewhat marred by the defective arrangements for the reception and introduction of the strangers.

> The next morning at ten o'clock the convention assembled in the hall of the Munsellian Society in the University. It was called to order by Mr. Wharry, of the Industrial University. In the absence of the president elect, the vice-president, Mr. Martin, of the Northwestern, was installed as chairman, and Mr. Brown, of Illinois College, as secretary. A committee on credentials was appointed, and representatives were found to be present from all the colleges in the association. A communication from McKendree College was then read, asking admittance to the Association, and also to the pending contest. A lengthy discussion, made up largely of points of order, followed, and at twelve o'clock the convention adjourned to attend, by special invitation, the chapel service of the Wesleyan University, without having transacted any business whatever, beyond its mere organization.

> The second session commenced its sitting at three instead of two o'clock, as had been determined. The chair ruled that the vote should not be taken by delegations and was sustained. It was then decided that Mc-Kendree College should not be admitted to the Association. A committee of three was appointed to draw up a revision of those articles in the constitution of the Association relating to the choosing of judges.

THE VOLANTE.

A motion to allow one minute and a half more time to the speakers in the coming contest, occasioned a great deal of discussion, as, indeed, did all motions brought before the convention. The delegates certainly were not disposed to let the orators monopolize all the talk. As soon as the question could be brought within the comprehension of the whole body it was lost, and the orators restricted to fifteen minutes.

The committee on the revision of the constitution reported an article providing that the president, vice-president and secretary, should at each convention submit the names of a number of suitable men, from whom three judges should be chosen by the convention, with a condition that none of them should be residents of the place where the contest was held, or alumni of, or officially connected with any college in the Association. This article was adopted. A motion to have the president of the Association preside at the contest caused another animated discussion, but the action of the Wesleyan committee in asking Dr. Edwards to preside was at length sanctioned.

It was then decided that the chairmen of the respective delegations should draw lots for the position of their orators on the programme of next year's contest. The following was the result: Knox College, first; Northwestern University, second; Industrial University, third; Illinois Wesleyan, fourth; Chicago University, fifth; Shurtliff, sixth; Monmouth, seventh; and Illinois College, eighth.

The convention then proceeded to elect officers for the next year, choosing for president, Mr. Bosworth, of Chicago University; for vice-president, Mr. Turner, of Illinois College; and for secretary, Mr. Humphrey, of Shurtliff. Jacksonville was fixed upon as the place for holding the next contest, and after adopting an order of business for the guidance of future conventions, and fixing as the time for the next contest the last Thursday in October, 1875, the convention adjourned to meet immediately after the contest.

At this meeting, after a good many recriminations and complaints that the gentleman who took the first prize had deliberately violated the rules of the Association, a resolution was passed that in all future contests the president of the Association should preside and enforce the rules. A vote of thanks to the gentlemen of the Wesleyan University was moved, and voted down by delegates who thought that their entertainment had not been what it ought. This action, however, was reconsidered, and a vote of thanks to the citizens of Bloomington and the students of the Wesleyan, finally passed.

After the selection of Senator Oglesby, Prof. Patton, of Chicago, and the Rev. Mr. Reese, of Champaign, as the judges of next year's contest, and the installation of the officers elect, the convention adjourned.

THE CONTEST AT BLOOMINGTON.

The coming together of students, separated by almost the whole extent of the state of Illinois, and separated perhaps even more widely in training and habits of thought, to display in public the fruits of their different forms of culture, could not but be interesting. It is not to be wondered at, that, in a town like Bloomington, it should have been found impossible to get a hall that would accommodate all who wished to hear. The house was literally packed, both floor and galleries.

After the prayer by Dr. Fallows, of the Wesleyan University, and a song by some of the Wesleyan students, came the oration by Mr. Twiss. It was marked by the dignity, grace, and finish, that Chicago students long ago learned to expect from him. The effort was one of which both he and the University may be justly proud. A Bloomington paper says of it: "Mr. Twiss had chosen for his subject, "Head and Heart," and his thorough and successful treatment demonstrated the wisdom of his choice. The speaker's style was elevated and dignified throughout, and his purity of sentiment caused many to award him the highest place on the programme." We are not alone in the estimate of our orator. That there was something a little too cold and elaborate in the oration and its delivery, is the only criticism we would hazard.

The next speaker was Mr. J. R. Hanna, of Monmouth College. His subject was the "Power of Love," and, naturally, did not give an opportunity for advancing any very new or striking ideas. The oration, however, was well worthy of the close attention it received, notwithstanding the rather unfortunate choice of a subject, and a kind of ministerial heaviness, that somewhat impaired it.

The next orator was Mr. J. F. Stout, of the North-western University, who spoke on "The American Statesman." The oration was clear and vigorous. It aimed to show what manner of man the ideal American statesman would be, and contained many fine passages and stirring sentiments. Though not characterized quite so much by high finish and grace of delivery as by strength of thought, it deserved and received the hearty applause of the audience.

After "The Student's Song," Mr. George A. Lawrence, of Galesburg, spoke upon the somewhat hackneyed theme of "Scholarship-—its Influence." This oration, also, was marked by much good thought and by uncommon skill in composition. The plea for higher culture as the supreme need of our country was a fine one. Something a little overstrained and too violent at times in his delivery was the principal fault of this speaker.

Next came Mr. C. R. Lathrop, of Shurtliff. His subject was "Law and Liberty." This gentleman, if he did not exhibit the polish and elegance of the real college orator, most certainly did show himself a forcible and mpressive speaker. None of the contestants succeeded

better in presenting their ideas to the audience in such a manner as to have them felt and remembered. Mr. Lathrop deserves the warmest congratulations on his success as a public speaker, although he is not a prize orator.

The next oration, on "Culture, a Basis of Brotherhood," was by Mr. Thos. I. Coultas, of the Wesleyan University. On the entrance of this gentleman, the Bloomington people manifested their partiality for their own college by hearty applause, thus adding still further to the embarrassment of the gentlemen from abroad, all of whom were received in ominous silence. Perhaps the good people of Bloomington were not conscious of their discourtesy. They seemed greatly astonished when some of the strangers in the audience showed their disapproval. This oration has been characterized as unequaled for fluency and force by any production of the evening. This is undoubtedly the case, if physical force is what is meant. Mr. Coultas unquestionably displayed more of the orator's personal magnetism than any of his rivals; but many of his arguments, though powerfully presented, would not bear close analysis.

Mr. Henry MacKay then spoke on "National Arbitration." Mr. MacKay's composition was excellent and his thoughts valuable, but altogether too much in the style of an essay to be appropriate for such an occasion. His style of delivery did not tend to remedy the fault. His somewhat constrained manner obscured the real merit of his ideas.

The last oration of the evening, on "The Scholar's Service and the Scholar's Crown," was given by Edward B. Clapp, of Illinois College. Although the oration was well written and contained many sentiments that won the applause of the audience, yet it seemed both in its conception and delivery to lack that concentrated power necessary to complete success. There was, however, enough in his remarks upon the scope for usefulness offered to scholarship in this country, to justify all the favor which this youngest of the speakers received, despite his somewhat faulty manner.

Then after the music, there followed some timely remarks by the President, Dr. Edwards, and as soon as the judges returned their verdict he presented, with a few appropriate words, the first prize to Mr. Thos. I. Coultas, of the Illinois Wesleyan University, and the second to Mr. J. F. Stout, of the Northwestern.

In respect to the singing by the Wesleyan students, some of their more critical hearers repeated with emphasis the Latin exercise: damno, DAMNARE, DAMNAVI, DAMN(AT)UM. The expression was strong but justifiable. Our taste may be at fault, it is true, but really we should have preferred a tolerably good hand-organ. College songs well sung are as pleasing in their effects on the musical ear as they are soothing to the savage breast. Not well sung—we forbear to characterize.

THE VOLANTE.

EDITORS:

J. STALEY, '75.

BOGANAU, '75.

W. G. HASTINGS, '76,

PUBLISHERS:

CHAS. R. DEAN, '77.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS:

A STUDENT'S AMBITON	29	EDITORIALS	33
CONSERVATISM OF LITERATURE	29	Ат Номв	36
		Personals and Exchanges	
		CLIPPINGS	
		CLASS OF 1840 AT BROWN	

This is the proper time for holiday compliments, and we intend to wish you all Merry Christmas with the utmost heartiness. But first a few words of caution, please. It is true that gentle spring has been commonly apostrophized as the season when

* * the young man's fancy Lightly turns to thoughts of love;

but if there be any proof in experience—that of others, of course—we must conclude that, for some unaccountable reason, there is no period when the student is so apt to be successfully stormed and made captive, so likely to infringe certain faculty rules whose justice is beyond question, as in the winter vacation. In what the fatality consists we are not prepared to say. The victims in such cases fail to recognize the first cause, and correct diagnoses of the malady are wanting. We only desire to urge upon you, as health officers urge upon the people in anticipation of other epidemics, the necessity of caution. Do not become entangled during this brief respite, we beseech you. Christmas trees and gifts. sleighrides, if snow and equipages be not wanting, social gatherings of various kind, reunions with kindred and friends-these pleasures await some of you. We almost tremble for you.

Freshman, beware of dark eyes and appeals to your newly acquired knowledge. Make no engagements that are certain to end in sorrow long before you reach Horace's lines to sweetly smiling Lalage and Pyrrha golden haired! Sophomore, try not to excuse yourself as you meet the neglected one. You know very well that prize essays had naught to do with your conduct. Do not make promises of better things. Speak out, rather, like a man. Declare that you are out with the old, refuse to be in with a new, and come back free and happy to the pursuit of Physics! Junior, we are at a loss regarding you. Surely you will not repeat the treachery of last year? You were young then, and posterity may forget

your fault and yourself. But if you persist in former courses, have a care lest the era of big brothers break on your eyes and blacken them blue! Senior, it will be well him, his manners are what the Frenchman, with a charfor you to shut yourself in your room, attend to your diet carefully, and reflect on the holidays of other years. They were not alone injurious to you in the estimation of the faculty. Behold what you now are, mentally and morally. Think, then, what you might have been. We drop a charitable curtain upon the picture. If there be hope for you, it will depend on speedy reformation.

one, if they be made the means of saving others from it" to get another. The bearing of the stout exhorter possible disaster. Go your ways of enjoyment, ve undergraduates, if so happy as to have those ways open his belief in what he had said, perhaps, through overjoy to you. But have a care for yourselves, and bear the college regulations as a shield before you. Then shall you go forth joyously and come back not sheepishly, sans reproach, sans photographs, sans tears. And with you all shall go our most Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Somewhat of newspaper controversy has grown out of the recent oratorical contest at Bloomington. This is bad enough of itself; it is particularly unfortunate with reference to the future of the Inter-Collegiate Association, which has scarcely got its legs as yet, and which will not be likely to thrive on rancor. Reflective people everywhere will agree that the representatives of our colleges, which are the seats of culture, should be the last of all persons to breed petty dissensions; and that if the collegians cannot go abroad peacefully, it were far better for them to stay forever at home. It is not to be supposed, however, that the delegates went to Bloomington with intent to have other contest than that between the orators; nor yet that the bursts of displeasure which succeeded were without cause.

When the Wesleyan orator came on the platform, the Bloomington audience gave him immoderate applause, which was an exhibition of purely local preferment, since the young man had certainly done nothing to merit it beyond furnishing a rather profuse bow. This preferment, it was said, was natural and therefore excusable. In this view of it, was it less natural for those who felt that the constitution of their Association had been deliberately trampled 'under foot, and who were smarting under sense of lesser wrongs, to make known their grievances?

action because it is natural, since those who do not know better may do an uncourteous thing as naturally as the cultured do a courteous one, we venture to say that the provocation in this case was considerable; and that, while it would be manifestly unjust to prefer a sweeping

members of those committees or the Wesleyan orator. In regard to the latter, whatever else there may be to acteristic shrug of his shoulders, would call bourgeoise. We have not the heart to wish him a worse fate than the publication of his oration, to the end that the public, and not less the judges, may be enlightened as to the subject matter which was estimated by certain ones so highly. We have the word of two gentlemen, that this person, in their hearing, said he had secured one of the The lessons of student life are not vainly learned by judges, and that the University (Wesleyan) had "fixed throughout was of that confident kind that would mark at the success of his plans. Now, whether the remark was false or true we know not; but was it not well calculated to arouse inquiry and suspicion? And in the light of the result, is it a source of wonder that suspicion, possibly unjust, deepened into conviction?

Was it not, further, just occasion for comment, that the person who sent postal cards to his fellow-orators, setting fifteen minutes as the utmost time that would be allowed, should himself prepare a nineteen minute oration, as his friends admit? To be sure, they claim that he compressed it in delivery into sixteen and a half minutes, but watches differed about that.

Was it quite the thing, again, for the Wesleyan President to step behind the scenes and advise his student to deliver his entire production, regardless of the expressions of the Association on the matter?

We recall these features simply to show that what it has pleased some to term "schoolboy spleen," was not mere disappointment in any quarter at the loss of the prize, nor envy of the successful contestant. It was plain outspeaking rather, against that, the very appearance of which puts the college man in arms-trickery. If there was no trickery; if injustice was done the Wesleyans, we still think the accused may look to themselves, and especially to their champion, for the sources of the unpleasantness.

By far the most important point to be observed in this Bloomington affair, was the violation of the constitution in the appointment of the judges. Be the fault whose it may, it was a grave fault. It inevitably threw suspicion on the Wesleyan men, who were perhaps innocent as babes. And it resulted in the selection of a judge who While we shall not be led into the error of justifying was in reality the choice neither of the orators nor of the Association. The contest was to take place within a few hours when attention was called to the fact that there were but two judges. The position was a forced one: Here is a man at Normal, which is a mile or so distant. You cannot get anybody else at this hour. charge against the Wesleyan committees, the strictures What will you do? What did they do, of course? They made were nevertheless directly provoked either by took him. The constitution read that each orator must

advance. This was hardly sixty minutes in advance, and some of the orators did not know who the third judge was till after the contest. But no matter. Circumstances alter constitutions. To be sure there were plenty of reasons for rejecting the nominee, such as that Normal and Bloomington are separated much as Chicago and Hyde Park are; that Rev. Mr. Palmer was interested in the Wesleyan institution nearly as much as its Pres ident; that there was no assurance of his fitness for so delicate an office, etc.; but no delegate could urge anything against that: "You cannot get anybody else!" That was the ultimatum.

There are some questions about the future which suggest themselves here. A repetition of this year's scenes would be fatal to the new organization in the State. Excuse itself as it may, Wesleyan College managed badly in many respects, important and unimportant. Bloomington has many people one might be proud to know, yet we should not care particularly to go to another contest there, unless many changes were to take place meanwhile. Upon reflection and careful review of what has passed, we are forced to the conclusion that there is but one way in which to make the association contests harmonious, impartial, successful. That way is, to have the college which is the seat of the gathering resign its claims to an orator. Galesburg did this last year, and there was no discord. We see no other way to escape those local influences which cannot fail to induce prejudice and partiality—things most disastrous to an undertaking like that which our colleges now have in hand. This matter is worth discussion, and we hope our exchanges will give it attention.

Incredible as it may seem, yet it is a fact, that the President has of late had occasion repeatedly to warn the students against the barbarous practice of splitting and breaking kindling wood in the halls and in their rooms. We remember also that on a former occasion, in the past few years, our late President was under the necessity of referring to the same matter, and as his just indignation towered high, he became eloquent and characterized this inexcusable habit as "barbarous vandalism;" "for," said he, "if there are more kinds than one, this is certainly the barbarous kind." We fully agree with our officers in their views of this boorish custom, and were it not for one fact, we should, for evry shame, forever refrain from mentioning the subject in these columns. That fact is the circumstance which has led to the introduction of this deplorable habit, viz.: we are without any place but our rooms in which to keep our kindling wood. We are compelled to make wood sheds of our dormitories. We have no place on earth, except under our beds, to stow this indispensable article article. In view of this fact, can the authorities of the University

be notified as to who were the judges sixty days in fail to blush, our friends outside, to be astonished, and we, to be indignant? We have not the least desire to justify any one who, under any circumstances whatever, breaks wood in the building; but at the same time we cannot hide from ourselves the fact, that chopping wood in one's room is the natural consequence of making a wood shed of one's room. For is not a wood shed the proper place for cutting wood? We have, it is true, one great receptacle into which the coal of a hundred or more students is thrown together, and from which we have our coal doled out to us during two half-hours each day, but the necessity of a place for our wood has been absolutely ignored. This is a real grievance of no slight magnitude, which ought to be obviated without delay. There ought to be a fuel bin with lock and key for each room. This is not an unreasonable demand. It can and ought to be complied with. It is not only our right, but is, as we believe, the only way to do away the abuse referred to. As long as the student has his kindling stowed away in his room there will always be a strong temptation to break a few sticks in his room whenever it is necessary to build a fire, and the temptation becomes all but irresistible when there is eight or ten inches of new-fallen snow on the ground. In the appropriate language of our esteemed President, "we trust it will only be necessary to mention these things, to have the wrong speedily made right."

> Among the advantages that we may justly claim for our students, is the opportunity of hearing the best lecturers on the platform. The lecture courses for this season are unusually good as well as cheaper than of old. The student that cannot at the present price of option tickets, afford to hear some of the best speakers must be poor indeed, and he who allows his studies to overburden so completely as to leave him no time do so, greatly mistakes his own best interests. There is a mental stimulus in listening to the great orators of the day that can not be obtained in any other way. No college duties will at all suffer because we occasionally spend an evening in this manner.

> The close of the term is at hand and examinations are imminent. We all expect to pass the ordeal successfully. Certainly we ought to, after a term's work marked by such a complete absence of all disturbing elements. If our instructors are in any way dissatisfied with the work we have done, they have thus far carefully refrained from showing it, and consequently we have no fear of breaker's ahead. Both Faculty and students will agree with us in saying that the term has been in every way a successful one. There is sufficient reason for gratification in the zeal with which the classes have taken hold of the various branches of study, and not less in that spirit of harmony that has prevailed throughout.

THE VOLANTE.

AT HOME.

Bradlaugh's late lecture was listened to by a fair delegation of the students, who were well repaid for the wait they experienced.

The two upper classes have been busily engaged in everything but study for a week or two, during the absence of the President.

Victor Hugo said: "Toute cette cavalerie reparut, toujours compacte et serrée." A Junior made it: "All this cavalry reappeared, still compact and tight!"

Another translated: "Avec pistolets d'arcon dans les fontes" (holsters) thus: "With horse-pistols in their hostlers." He should go back to Trench on the study of

Prof.—"What ore is at times possessed of magnetic attraction?" Senior, (vigorously turning the leaves of his book)—"I don't know, Professor, I can't find it here."

The Glee Club has twelve members, and practices three times a week. Professor Root acted as critic recently, and spoke highly of the material and the progress thus far made.

The chapel choir is an improvement on the chapel organ, to be sure, but there is vast room yet for progression toward good music. Punctuality on the part of the members would not be displeasing.

Thanksgiving at college was marked by a dinner which, given under the auspices of the boarding club, has not been surpassed in the annals of that department. So say those who were not invited out.

The Juniors are certainly departing from the straight and narrow path. One of them on being called by his chum the other morning, rolled over and drowsily mur-· mured, "I can get that girl, if I want her, by Jehu!"

The Sophomores were given "Delusion" as a subject for essays, lately, and one of them took into the class and boldy read some choice extracts from the Sunday Times, prefacing with the words: "The delusion which I shall speak of particularly is Bunko!"

Professor of Mathematics.—If A and B start at points equally distant from C and travel toward it at the same rate of speed, what will be the result? Freshman is not sure. Professor, unconsciously.-Why, they'll come together at the same time, will they not?

Our Professor of Greek was asked the other morning, why the Juniors looked so unusually cheerful as they came from chapel, and replied: "I think they have just learned that the President is ill." He then explained escape metaphysics.

One of the Seniors, fresh from the east, went west a piece to spend Thanksgiving, expecting to find a howling wilderness. Next day there fell into the hands of the astonished authorities an ill-directed telegram, meant for his chum: "Sold, by thunder! Send dress suit immediately. High-toned dance here to-morrow night. R."

Dr. Moss was present at the national gathering of Baptist Unions, which took place recently at Brooklyn. He was among the college presidents who delivered addresses during the sessions, which continued several days and were largely attended.

PROF.—being discouraged and vexed at the negligence and stupidity of a Fresh., said, "Mr. G., there are three classes of persons in the world: first, those who learn from the experience of others; second, those who learn by their own experience; and third, those who are so obtuse that they won't learn at all."

FRESHIE, (promptly).—"Yes sir, I know it, and I belong to the first class."

The ladies of the University Place Church have undertaken to furnish the President's recitation room. Two parlor entertainments to raise funds have thus far been given, at one of which Dr. Moss lectured, and at the other an original poem was read by Rev. Mr. Woodruff. of Elgin. The movement will be appreciated by the students, who have much feeling on the subject of hard benches and bare floors, and are never averse to cheerful surroundings, unless we much mistake them.

A Senior, while reciting the other day, was so unfortunate as to use the word female when he might, more properly, have said woman, whereupon the Prof. severely rebuked him and forbade him ever to say female again when he meant woman. "For," said the Prof., as he waxed warm in his expostulation, "female is ambiguous: a drake is a female." The argument was overwhelming and poor Senior collapsed.

A few mornings since, at a disagreeabiy early hour, a seven-year boy shot through Jones' Hall as if he had come out of a mitrailleuse, and landed against the door of No. —, which he pounded vigorously, velling at the same time: "Is Mr. H—here?" "No, he is not," said the handsome but enraged chum, as he seized the hurricane-lad by the collar and seated him on the table, saying: "Now, my boy, what is it?" "I must see Mr. Hright away. It's business, I tell yer!" "Never mind, sonny, I'll tell him. What is it now?" encouragingly. Boy, loud enough to be heard throughout the building: "Oh, Liz she had her fortune told last night, an' the tortune-teller says Mr. H- is her first love, an' Liz that he was once a student and knew what it was to wants him to come right over!" At this point Henters. Tableau vivant!

PERSONALS.

C. C. Smith, '70, is preaching in Rockford.

J. W. Myers, '75, is a proud senior in the State University of Iowa.

Clendenning, '73, is pastor of the Methodist Church at Geneva, this state.

Mitchell, '76, suddenly called away a few weeks since, will return next term.

R. D. Shepard, '69, has been recalled to the pastorate of the Western Avenue Methodist Church.

James M. Coon, '70, has charge of a church in Galva, Ill., where his labors are very successful and greatly appreciated.

Rev. J. T. Sunderland, '67, of Northfield, Mass., has been appointed essayist on a scientific topic at the next reunion of the Alumni.

I. P. Phillips, '68, is settled with the Baptist Church at Joliet. There is a good chance for the "pride of his class" to do work among the convicts.

W. W. Everts, Jr., '67, is soon to be called to the professorship of Church History in the Seminary, the endowment of his chair having been nearly secured.

Lansing, '77, has taken the principalship of one of the University Preparatory Departments, located near Metamora. They call it a district school out there for short.

The students will be pleased to learn that Professor Stearns has arrived safely at his destination in the Argentine Republic, and that the revolutionary turn of affairs down there has not at all affected his prospects.

L. T. Bush, '68, will probably become pastor of the Western Avenue Church, succeeding Rev. John Gordon, who was for a time a student here, and who made a not enviable reputation for himself in the McCarthy scandal.

T. C. Roney, '77, who was compelled to leave College last May on account of sickness, has opened a Conservatory of Music at East Saginaw, Mich., in conjunction with his brother H. B. Roney. The classes are large, and the prospects for the success of the enterprise very flattering.

OUR EXCHANGES.

It seems to us that it ought to be regarded as one of the pleasures and advantages of the college editor, to have the occasion and opportunity to see and peruse (to some extent at least) the college magazines and journals of the country. We find it no unwelcome task to examine as many of the leading publications, as our duties will possibly permit. There is something about this kind of literature, that makes it even fascinating to the enthusiastic student.

The air of self complacency is characteristic of journalism n general, but this is preeminently true of college journalism. This self-complacent spirit does not, however, often lead to results which are advisable. Yet it has, we fear, led some members of the older and more efficient college press of the East, to come down with undue harshness upon a few of our younger and less experienced brethren of the West. Judging from some of their strictures, one would suppose that they would have our young aspirants of the Far West abandon the editorial quill entirely, simply because they have not yet attained the excellence of their worthy exemplars of

Now, if this principle were adopted in every department of human affairs, it would put an end to the universe at once. We are reminded of a remark once made to us, by a friend, when we criticized the unshapeliness of a certain big boy. "A gosling," says he, "lacks the plumpness and symmetry of the more fully developed gander; so this youth, though now somewhat ungainly in form, will, in the course of a few years, plump-out and assume the more graceful proportions of perfect manhood." Gentlemen,

Though the story be simple,

And we cannot help being reminded also of that careful mother who forbade her boys to go into the water, till they could swim. Some of our western contemporaries are just learning to swim editorially and ought to be encouraged rather than disparaged.

Our exchanges are coming in thick and fast, and we rejoice to behold their friendly faces. We extend to all a cordial welcome, and hope soon to get leisure to cultivate a more intimate acquaintance.

The Dartmouth of November contains, among other good things, a very just and appreciative article on Burns. The writer has evidently caught a little of the sweet poet's spirit.

The Chronicle favors us once more with its welcome presence. It takes hold of college topics with a spirit and vigor which are truly inspiring.

We learn from The Brunonian of the loss sustained by the students of old Brown, by the burning of their magnificent boat house, with all its contents. We look with unfeigned admiration upon the enthusiasm with which they have set about repairing their grievous loss.

The Beloit Monthly quotes two stanzas of the Volante's poem on "Life," and impertinently tacks this on:

"And we should say little-fool."

We have no inclination to contradict the Monthly's statement, "for there's no accounting for tastes, you know," as the boy replied to the stranger, who said "he would rather eat a skunk than a rabbit."

The Reporter of Iowa City, and the News Letter, give us a full account of the Inter-College Oratorical Contest of Iowa. It was held at the State University on the 5th ult., and three of the eight participants were ladies. We learn also from our Wisconsin exchanges, that the contest of that state occurs January 7th, at the capital. Four colleges are to be represented: the University, Beloit, Milton and Lawrence, the last by a lady.

The Mercury is elegant in form and sprightly in its contents.

The Dickinsonian heads its business directory with this, "If you tickle me, I'll tickle you," and hastens to explain by the following exhortation: "Let the students make it a point to patronize those who patronize them." A good suggestion. Will our students also act upon it?

The Budget of Sacramento Seminary, has a good sensible essay on "Ideal Womanhood."

The College Olio takes the University Review to task for selecting from that lively paper, without giving credit to whom credit is due. It says, "that insignificant Ex.' doesn't satisfy us." If we ever have any occasion to transcribe anything from our contemporary, who longs so earnestly after immortality, we shall be careful to acknowledge it in big letters.

Up to date we have received the Magenta, Dickinsonian, Vassar Miscellany, Cornell Review, Seminary Budget, College Olio, University Herald, American Garden, Trinity Tablet, Advocate, Argus, High School, Sibyl, Spectator, Tuft's Collegian, Tripod, Brunonian, Olio and Music Folio, News Letter. Targum, Cornell Era, Chronicle, Hesperian Student, Acta Columbiana, College Herald, Transcript, Amherst Student, Lawrence Collegian, Mercury, Reporter, Madisonensis, Illini, Beloit Monthly, The Owl, Dartmouth, Asbury Review, Oberliu Review, National Teachers' Monthly, High School Budget, Reporter of Doon, Del., Bowdoin Orient, Lafayette Monthly, Wittenberger, Berkeleyan, Simpsonian.

CLIPPINGS.

The boy who cut his foot the other day while trimming his shinny believes that,

"There's a divinity that shapes our ends, Rough hew them as we will."

-Mercury.

Pres.—"Self-reserve is the ticket that will win any woman's heart."

Senior, (wildly)—"Give me two tickets."—Transcript.

A former out in Colorado solemnly avers that a grasshopper got on his gate and called out to him, "Milton Lander, what in thunder did you do with the rest of that cold meat?"—Exchange.

A Soph was returning the other evening from the concert with a bright-eyed maiden on his arm, when suddenly a cat, with a white stripe down its back, and "talibus erectis," ran into them, the poor Soph said "scat!" and kicked the harmless creature, when lo! the valley, but just now bright and peaceful, became filled with a mist. The unfortunate has buried his clothes, dug up his hatchet, and swears eternal vengeance.—News Letter.

Prof.—"What causes the Aurora Borealis?" Student.—
"I knew, sir, but have forgotten." Prof. (excitedly)—
"Great Heavens! The only man in the world who knew what the Aurora Borealis was, and he has forgotten it!"—
Hamilton Lit.

For an avaricious set of individuals we will place the managers of the late Oratorical Contest against the world. They invite a delegate of the Association to a Reception, ask to take care of his wrappings, and then charge him for their politeness. It is also rather curious that complimentaries to the contest were not given the delegates. Why didn't they make the orators pay admission, and make a clean sweep of it?—The Illini, Champaign.

CLASS OF 1840. (BROWN UNIVERSITY). [From the Newport (R. I.) News.]

To the Editor of the News:-

Yesterday you alluded to the fact that Hon. William Gaston, governor elect of Massachusetts, was a member of the class of 1840, at Brown University. You also named the Hon. Abraham Payne, Prof. Jacob R. Boise, and the Rev. Dr. Heman Lincoln. Mr. Payne is well known to the citizens of this state, as one of the leaders of our bar. Prof. Boise was tutor and afterwards professor of Greek in the university in Michigan.

The Rev. Dr. Heman Lincoln is now professor in the theological seminary at Newton, Mass.

In addition to those named above, there are others who have established reputations, and made their influence felt, who might be named.

The Rev. William T. Brantly was made professor in the University of Georgia in 1854. The Hon. George H. Brown, also well known throughout our state as an able and fair lawyer, as colonel of the —R. I. regiment, and more recently, as the person elected to the honorable and responsible office of chief justice. The Hon. James H. Coggeshall has been frequently honored by suffrages of the citizens of our sister city, Providence, and is now United States marshal of this district.

The Rev. Ebcnezer Dodge was made professor of Madison University. The Rev. Benjamin Franklin is a well-known able preacher of the Protestant Episcopal church. The Rev. Jacob R. Kendrick, D. D., has established a reputation for great ability and eloquence as a preacher. The Hon. Edwin C. Larned, probably the wealthiest member of the class, is a leading lawyer in the city of Chicago. The Rev. Henry G. Weston, D.D., is well known as a most eloquent divine; and not to trespass further, I will mention, lastly, the Rev. Henry M. Exeter, D.D., whose power and eloquence many of your readers recently have had the privilege of feeling. The class graduated thirty-six in number.

[Prof. James R. Boise is the gentleman, probably, referred to by our correspondent. He is professor of Greek in the University of Chicago, of which institution he is a very important part.—Ed. News.]

To the above list, should certainly be added the name of William N. Sage, probably the most successful business man in the class, and a prominent supporter of the University of Rochester.

The editor of the *Newport News* is our old friend, Mr. Fred. P. Powers, a graduate of this University, and one who is still remembered with great affection and respect by a large circle of acquaintances.

J. R. B.

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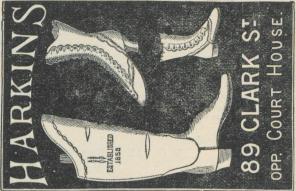
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