# THE VOLANTE.

VOL. VIII.

University of Chicago, January, 1879.

No. 5.



#### UNIVERSIT OF CHICAGO.

#### I. COLLEGE OF LITERATURE AND THE ARTS.

There are in this college two parallel courses: the classical course, leading to the degree of B. A., and the philosophical course, in which only one of the classical languages, either Latin or Greek, is required, modern languages and scientific or philosophical studies taking the place of the other. The degree in this course is B. Ph.

#### II. COLLEGE OF SCIENCE.

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The aim is to give thorough preparation for the University, with general academical studies to other students.

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- guage and Literature.

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- HEMAN H. SANFORD, M. A., Ph. D., Professor of the Latin Lan-
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- MARSHALL D. EWELL, LL. B. Professor of Common Law Contracts, Criminal Law and Torts. N. S. DAVIS, M. D., Lecturer on Medical Jurisprudence.

<sup>\*</sup>This Department is for the present under the supervision of Prof. James R. Boise, Ph.D., LL.D., who devotes to it such time as helcan spare from his duties in the Theological Seminary at Morgan Park.

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# THE VOLANTE.

VOL. VIII.

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No. 5.

## THE VOLANTE.

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With this issue, we introduce to our readers our newlyelected publisher, succeeding E. T. Ingham, of '81, who, on account of absence from college this term, thought it best to resign; thus the change. A few minor changes, of no special interest to the public, were also effected in regard to the publishing board, and we assure the students and our friends generally, that nothing has been left undone to make The Volante what it was intended for by its elections, and thus avoid any dissatisfaction likely to occur. founders—the representative of the University. To this After a short debate and the introduction of several amendend we cordially solicit contributions, as also the good-will ments, the resolution was finally defeated, and the election and patronage of every friend of our Alma Mater.

Of what use is the University library? If a student wants a book, he has to wait until after all lessons are over, even though he may finish his recitations at the end of the third hour, and then he must go up into a room cold as a barn, only somewhat colder, and hunt all over for the volume he wants; and the chances are nine times out of ten, that he won't find the book then. There is no catalogue of the library—at least if there is one, no one can find it—and no one knows whether there is such a book in the institution as the one looked for. But each student pays his dollar and a half library dues the year round just the same, whether he uses or can use the library. It does not absurd folly to set the entire University in commotion by seem quite fair to make students pay for that from which they can obtain no return, even though they wish to. There are very valuable books belonging to the University, but like the gold in the quartz rock, they are of no use in their present state and condition. If there were two or three sor, of Harvard University, writing on the subject, "The manuscript lists of the books made out, which could be College Library and the Classes," calls attention to the done with little trouble, and the books were classified under want of a practical usage for the College library by the the proper heads, it would increase the efficiency and worth student. He says that if anybody gets any good from the of the library ten fold, and largely augment the number of library of the average College, perhaps it is a few professors;

too familiar, and invariably signifies a combination on the part of different parties, aiming at obtaining control of certain offices, supposed to bring honor and distinction. Indeed, formerly, when merit alone served as the criterion, it really was an honor to represent one's college or class on public occasions; but, alas, the persistent machinations of C. B. HILLS, '82. party cliques, etc., have brought matters to such a point, that to hold an office means to hold it by grace of chicanery and the success of a particular "ring." We have no doubt that, in many cases, even though true merit deserved the reward, this prevalent opinion so warped public judgment that the attainment of office was related to this universality of parties, and thus innocence was made to suffer, undeserved. Latterly, in our last students' meeting, a resolution was drawn up, proposing to appoint a committee empowered to select the different class representatives for the so-called Washington Supper. Its sole aim was to avert of class representatives left to the classes. These elections have been held, and who does not feel mortified at the unusual large amount of wire-pulling indulged in during the last week? Those who are familiar with the inside workings of party management know that more schemes were concocted, more electioneering done, and a greater amount of reprehensible work accomplished, than for many years past. And what has been the result? Dissatisfaction on the part of those who were unsuccessful. The ones to blame are they, who, by their votes on the 15th inst., allowed the different classes to elect their representatives. On an occasion like the Washington Supper, it is the most resorting to measures commensurate to a Presidential campaign. Quid faciendum?

"College Politics." To students this expression is only

In a recent article in The Library Journal, Justin Winand if anybody gets any amusement, perhaps it is a few

mentioned article, a brief paragraph:

March the period of the Norman Conquest in England. of unceasing debates and speeches. Mr. Bright, you must be prepared on Bulwer's 'Harold,' to analyze the events and compare them with what you deem the best contemporary authors. Mr. Somers, you take Kingsley's 'Herward,' and criticise his estimates of the Saxons, and point out his divergences from historic truth. Mr. Hammond, I leave for you Napier's novel of 'William the Conqueror.' You may treat the book any way you please, as illustrative of the time," &c.

It strikes us that if this idea were carried out in this University, it would accomplish a world of good. Perhaps our own library could not provide the requisite facilities, but with a half-dozen circulating libraries in the city, free of access, a great deal might be done. As things are managed now, a class writes about three essays during the entire course, and while various authors may be recommended for perusal in connection with the study in hand, rarely is another than the text book consulted. Why Because it is not required, merely suggested. If certain works and publications were portioned out, one to each student for his consideration, and he should be obliged to bring in a written criticism or review of the work, it would vastly augment the interest in the study, and while increasing the information of the class, would create a desire for reading good, sound literature. Perhaps the most thoroughly neglected department of this "literary body," is the one which includes elocution, essay writing and oratory. Of course we all know, "Rome was not built in a day," and we hope that ere long the new management may see a discrepancy in this matter, and promptly remedy it.

Some one is continually bewailing the sad condition of the literary societies, the lack of active members, and the parture," that is to say new for us, but not new for the dissatisfied; are always discontented. This class includes once in a while, but quite frequently. Talent is plenty, harshly if they happen to fail; they become incensed if they and the social world recognizes as a hero a person who is are conditioned in examinations, or if any one else falls into at home on the amateur dramatic stage. The society halls the same distress; in fact they become chronic grumblers. could be provided with stages at small expense, and both This crowd of men usually embraces all the loafers, trickhave room adjacent which could easily be used as dressing sters and busybodies in college, as seems quite natural. rooms. Recently Harvard gave public exhibitions of her Like the Communists, they must have commotion or they dramatic talent, in order to raise money for her boat crew, will perish. and with such success, we understand, that the Harvard Such men ought to be drummed out of college. They

students, from the smooth worn volumes of Sterne and crew will be present next year on the Henly course. We Fielding. It seems to be his thought that the library should have a fine glee club, if report be true, and with a helping be used in connection with the various English branches, hand from it, which we have no doubt would be cheerfully such as History, Rhetoric, Philosophy, and Mental and proffered, such enthusiasm would be created as would cause Moral Science, and we cordially agree with him. To illus- even the foundations of the University tower to tremble. trate the idea still more plainly, let us quote from the above | Our societies would not need to give public exhibitions and charge admission, as is frequently the case elsewhere, but Professor (Loquitur)—"Gentlemen, we will take up in simply engage in such performances to vary the monotony

> The examinations of last term closed with a result which proved a great surprise to many. Hitherto it has been the custom to have a rather loose oral examination, where the best scholars were "shown off" for the edification of visitors who were present to view the progress of the students and the amount of work done. But what a change last term! Seemingly following up the suggestions of The VOLANTE, our professors treated us to some very thorough examinations which were oral and written, and in some cases both; and the consequence was that quite a number were startled by the announcement that they had not passed and would be compelled to make up one or more "con-

> While we are sorry that any student should have so abused his opportunities as to incur a condition, we are rejoiced to see the Faculty make a vigorous effort to raise the standard of scholarship in the University. Let once her determination of demanding and insisting upon thorough work gain credence, and students will throng in crowds into

> We hope the late examinations may prove a beneficial lesson to those who failed in any study. We hope for their sake that it may not occur again, and they alone have it in their power to decide how it shall be. One thing must be remembered: pleasure and scholarship do not lie in the same direction. Either the social duties and enjoyments must be given up, or lessons will have to suffer; and as sure as they do, will come humiliations in the shape of failures and conditions at the end of the term. May the delinquents profit by experience.

There is a certain class of people in this world who are lack of interest in society work. We suggest a "new de- forever complaining about something or other; are always older and well grounded institutions of the East. Let the a large number of college students, whom something is societies vary their exercises once in a while by having a continually grieving. They are worked too hard, lessons dramatic entertainment. Have such variations not only are too long, or vice versa; professors arraign them too

have no business there. They should "go West" and | buds into the Junior, -into the acknowledged region of sphere. They are like the foreigners who disparage our more leniently and with more respect. government and institutions, yet who will flock here by thousands and tens of thousands to enjoy all the benefits they can, and at the same time malign and vilify the country country a class of literature which has peculiar attractions in every manner conceivable.

not thorough and complete enough; if lessons are too severe and others of the same ilk. While they may be very pleasor professors are too boorish; if one's classmates and asso- ant reading to consume some spare time, and may prove ciates are not of the right quality, every one is a free enough quite interesting and entertaining to wile away some dreary agent to go elsewhere. No one wants these individuals to hour, yet we believe that this sort of "trash," if we may stay. By all means let them get out. It does not cost any dare to apply such a harsh term to it, is working great harm more to go to some other college, and then they can be so and having a very bad effect upon college students genemuch happier. Let them either keep their mutterings to rally and those aspiring to become such. themselves, or make their adieux.

body of students, are regarded the world over. Of course enjoyment and pleasure are the most abundant, there the most College graduates pass through a Sophomore year prospective collegian turns his eyes, and there, and only unless they are "Scientifics," or are smart enough to there will be be satisfied to pursue his course. If necessity jump from the Freshman class into the Junior, so it is or circumstances compel him to attend elsewhere than is with no sinister motives toward any particular class of his heart's desire, as a general rule discontentment and Sophomores that we call attention to the peculiar light in complaining are his conspicuous characteristics. This is which they are held. A recent editorial on "How to the plain, unbiased truth, and we believe that such a state Close the Year," in the New York T. ibune, commenced, of things is owing to the picturesque and gaudy painting "School girls and Sophomores and that large class of gray- given to life in some of the more noted institutions of the headed young folks who carry the trains and habits of land, particularly Yale and Havard. It is a well-known their callow days on into old age, are apt to occupy to-day fact that though no more may be needed, yet a very large with a sentimental review of the past and solemn resolves amount of money is used by the average undergraduate in for the future." Why the poor "Soph" should be classed some of the well-known Lestern colleges. To be popular with school girls and "gray-headed young folks," and why in college one must needs be a literary or sporting man, they are more prone to waste New Year's day in the way and must excel in his undertakings. If one belongs to the mentioned, is somewhat mysterious.

quence" in disparaging tones, and furthermore, all mis- cents belong to the sporting fraternity, are members of chievous conduct is laid at the door of the very often inno- some boat club, base-ball nine, or other associations of cent Sophomore. To be sure, "Sophs" are the recog- athletes. Of course exercise is necessary, but no man can nized "hazers," but then a great deal of misconduct is excel in both pursuits, i. e., as a "dig." and a sporting attributed to them from which they are pure and guileless. man. Both require too much time even when taken alone. We are apt to think that Sophomores have been slightly Such amusements as the above fill up much of "the good greatly exaggerated that the Sophomore rather feels as if evil. "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." he had a position to sustain, and acts accordingly. If it But these books on college life, "Hammersmith: his were not from force of previous example and general antic- Harvard Days," for instance, are altogether too bright ipation on the part of other collegiates, not half the out- and jolly to be real, and they only serve to create a longrages and abuses of Freshmen would occur.

locate on a farm, or dig ditches. College is not their proper respectability,—and for this reason alone should be treated

Within the past few years there has sprung up in this for collegians. This species of literature embraces such If the college curriculum does not suit any one; if it is books as "Fair Harvard," "Students' Life at Harvard,"

College life is always considered the brightest and most charming part of a man's life, and where the pros-It seems a little curious to notice how Sophomores, as a pects for such a career are the brightest, and chances for former class, well and good—he is performing his college Newsp pers also frequently mention "Sophomoric elo- duty. But it is too true that a very large per cent. of stu-

abused; also their reputations to raise trouble have been so old times" of college life. They are, perhaps, a necessary ing for that which can never be satisfied. To be sure they Commencement orations are sometimes bores, and are draw men to the college which is the assumed scene of oftentimes ridiculed on account of their high-sounding titles; action, but these men, alas! find the sky too often leaden Junior orations generally smack of too much "eloquence," and the waving elms too gloomy instead of shady if they but they, too, are passed over, while it is left for the ora- have come there only for fun. Many a man has left these tions of the Sophomores to be dubbed "bombast" and aristocratic colleges at the end of his Freshman or Sopho-"spread-eagleism." This is altogether too severe. While more year because his funds had failed him through excesit may be right to crush the Freshmen, the "Soph" soon sive voluptuousness and expenditure in trying to imitate

some beau-ideal, some paper hero. We would warn those who are led by these tempting portrayals of college life that there is another side. "All's not gold that glitters." The old and renowned colleges and universities of the land have, without doubt, turned out many great and able men, but no record is kept of the no-bodies-whose name is legion. Knowledge can be gained and wisdom culled in any college, however great or small, and the reputation of the college never makes the man, but rather the good standing of the man adds increased luster to the name of his beloved Alma Mater. Therefore read these tales of student life with a large grain of allowance.

#### JUNIOR ORATIONS.

The long agony is over. All the anxiety, the care, the trembling, which, for three months past, has made life a burden to the Juniors, is ended, and they are to-day happy or jubilant, or sorrowful and cast down, as their fortune in the result may have proved. When Dr. Anderson announced in chapel, Wednesday last, that the judges had made their decision, and he was ready to announce the subjects of those who were successful, the heart of every Junior who was present suddenly leaped into his throat. It was a moment of anxious suspense, and only when the Doctor had finished and chapel exercises ended, did the suppressed excitement find a vent in shouts, congratulations, and hand-shakings.

The new process of choosing the orators had been an experiment, and no one, not even the unsuccessful competitors, will deny its success. There were three judges, unknown to the students, and each judge marked the orations and gave the marks to the President. No judge knew how his two colleagues had marked the orations, and so, of course, was not influenced in the least by their opinions. The Juniors are not yet aware who were the three judges, and, to all appearance, never will be. The "chosen ten' named, according to the marks of the judges, are-

- 1. E. W. Peek, 2. Willis Hawley,
- 6. D. B. Cheney, Jr., 7. E. B. Tolman,
- 3. Alfred E. Barr, 8. J. Calvin Johnson.
- 4. Charles H. Wayne,
- 9. F. W. C. Hayes
- 5. E. W. Clement,
- 10. W. A. Walker.

part of the present term, at a date to be announced hereafter. From the ten speakers will be chosen one to represent the University in the Inter-Collegiate contest at Champaign next fall. This trial of merit has, so far, been con-

#### LITERARY.

#### DEPARTED DAYS.

Like the faint perfume of a drawer Where rose-leaves were, but are no more, The sweetness of departed days Lingers through all our lives and ways.

As when, across a maze of flowers The south wind wafts the early showers, Not several sweetnesses he brings, But mingled odors load his wings.

So from the past there gently steals A subtle joy, he knows who feels; Not many memories fill his soul, But the blest influence of the whole.

M. E. A.

#### MABEL.

'Twas in early spring when I met her, Ere open the rose-buds had sprung, But the robin was trilling his love song-The woods with his glad music rung. She was fair as the Goddess of Beauty,

With eyes that sparkled at night: Her voice was a cadence of melody, A source of bewitching delight.

Alas! the spring-time that opened so radiant, Closed darkly in sorrow and gloom; Like the lily whose beauty has perished, My darling was laid in the tomb.

So I gaze in the deepening twilight, And dream of the dear long-ago; Fond memories bedim mine eyes with tears Sweet vain bows my spirit low.

Oh, Life! heavy burden of trouble-Oh, Death! silent refuge from sin; Of all sad thoughts that throng to-night, The saddest, "It might have been."

#### SPELLING REFORM.

One of the leading questions that is now engaging the attention of English-speaking educators is that of spelling reform. Philological societies having this end in view, are springing up everywhere, and various boards of education have interested themselves in the matter, some of them even going so far as to petition Congress and the legislatures of their respective States to appoint committees to The exhibition will occur some time during the latter investigate the subject. In addition, almost all the educational weeklies are advocating the reform, and the press, generally speaking, teems with articles pertinent to its con-

The great object of a written language, as a lecturer said ducted in a fair, just, and satisfactory manner, and it is to not long ago, is "to convey to the mind through the eye be hoped that it will end with the same feeling of content | what the voice would convey through the ear,"—a virtue as exists among the Juniors at present. Chicago Universi- which written or printed English cannot boast. It is a ty would like to come off victorious from Champaign, and ridiculous fact, also, that there is no person who is able to no doubt she will if the best man be chosen to represent spell this English language correctly. And such being the case, it is high time to make some change so as to place

acquire it.

There is no doubt but that it will be a great saving of time on the part of the student, and space on the part of the printer. At present, "A" with its various combinations has some fifty uses, and other vowels and letters a corresponding number.

The plan seems likely to succeed, authorized by such men as Max Muller, Gladstone, John Stuart Mill, Lord Lytton, and Carpenter. But the change, if there be one, must be brought about very gradually. Some literary magazines favoring the measure are inaugurating it by spelling programme, p-r-o-g-r-a-m, catalogue, c-a-t-a-l-o-g, &c. Thus little by little the change can be made, and, as was the case with the resumption of specie payments, January 1st, the reform will by degrees become so widespread and general, and the results so satisfactory, that people will wonder that it had not been accomplished before. To be sure there is a slight argument in opposition to this new way of spelling, in that the derivation of a word will be lost sight of. But the fact is that it is only the Latin or Greek student, or the person well versed in modern languages, that knows or cares anything about the derivation; and they, from their knowledge of the language from which the word is derived, will also be cognizant of the root of any word.

the better educated classes, that is, hose who are now the college students, will in a great measure impede or advance | and around the city, are: Woodward's Garden, which conthe project by their opposition or support. For the sake of the great good it will accomplish, and its vast literary worth, it is hoped that they may do all in their power to cemetery, the Chinese quarters, and the hotels, which are carry out the idea.

#### CALIFORNIA

mention all the points of interest in our great, most western State, California. But the little we can say we hope will not be yoid of interest to our fellow-students. Hoping that many of our readers will some day have an opportunity to visit this golden State, it may be well to suggest of going, especially to the person who has never been tossed what seasons could be most enjoyably spent in a tour of by the mountain billows of an ocean, would be by steamer; five or six months' duration. If the tourist should be so fortunate as to have eight months at his command, it would be well to start as early as October, in order to spend a month or two in the vicinity of Lake Tahoe, which is situ- | sick; but a few sweet, fresh oranges after arriving at Los ated near where the Western Pacific railroad crosses the Angelos make one feel none the worse for his ride. A re-State line. This beautiful lake, twenty-five miles in length | turn by stage gives those who are possessed of a sufficiently by fifteen in width, is situated in the Sierra Nevada range, and is six thousand four hundred feet above the sea levelhigher than Mount Washington, that giant among the peaks of New England.

its size, being in some places one hundred to five hundred opens its doors to all, without regard to sex, color or confeet deep. Never was water so clear and blue. One can dition, and free of charge. The site is as charming as can

this faculty within the power of at least those wishing to | look down fifty feet and count the pebbles on the bottom, and see the fish glide along. The sky itself is not bluer than the water, and the tint is particularly soft and bright. This lake abounds in trout, which are of an unusually large size. A ride in a row-boat on a pleasant morning is particularly enjoyable. Venturing out a few rods, perchance a little breeze roughens the calm surface of the lake, and the sun shining in such a direction that the crest of each little wave is converted into so many glistening diamonds, and all of the first water-can remind one of nothing less beautiful than the starry heavens. This lake, like the beautiful Donner, but a few miles away, is not without its sad associations. Surrounded on every side by snow-topped mountains, a sudden gust of wind is at any moment liable to come pouring down an immense canon, dashing the crystal waters into foam, and many is the fisherman and pleasure seeker who have reached an untimely end on account of the treachery of this beautiful Lake Tahoe.

The three cities of most importance in the State are Stockton, Sacramento and San Francisco, the latter being about one-half the size of Chicago. It is a city built upon sand, and, according to the parable, is liable to fall at any moment when the great Author of Nature sees fit to allow the winds and tides of the broad Pacific to sweep over it. It has a harbor equaled by none in America, and probably It is a great undertaking, and the incoming generation of | by none elsewhere, which is always filled by steamers from all parts of the world. Some of the points of interest in tains a rare collection of animals and many specimens of tropical plants; the great Jewish Tabernacle, the Catholic excelled in magnificence and grandeur by none in America. A drive of six miles along a read smoother, if possible, than those in Lincoln Park, finds us at the Cliff House, On account of limited space, it will be impossible to even | where we see the seal rocks, the Golden Gate, and the broad expanse of the Pacific ocean. Any of the winter months will be suitable for a visit to the southern part of the State, where the orange and lemon groves are the most interesting sights. The most suitable and satisfactory way for although one does not become acquainted with the country by so doing, unless possessed of a cast-iron stomach, he gains the pleasure of knowing what it is to be really seastrong constitution to endure day and night riding in a stage coach, a good idea of the country.

The University of California, situated at Berkeley, just across the Bay of San Francisco, and about five miles from In depth it is probably not exceeded by many lakes of Oakland, is an institution of true western liberality, and

well be conceived. The grounds run up on to the foot-hills of the Contra Costa mountains, and are handsomely orna-

dred and fifty miles from San Francisco. Leaving the railroad at Stockton, and after becoming possessed of a good tiful sight which the imagination can picture, but also for be satisfied.

trusted.

#### EVOLUTION.

EDITORS VOLANTE: We have had the courage to take mented with acacia and evergreens. From every part of another glance at your immortalized November number, the grounds you can look right out of the always open and find a special delight in reading "Dana's" letter on evo-Golden Gate, to the boundless ocean beyond. The build- lution. As to the personal allusion, we are not concerned and ings are of a fine granite, brought from somewhere near know nothing, but are rather of the opinion that, if any remark was made about the ignorance of evolutionists, it In closing, I will mention the most remarkable feature was probably intended to scathe that irrepressible crowd of of the State, the Yosemite valley, which is about one hun- imaginative fanatics who invariably swarm from the crevices of society whenever any new theories or inventions are propounded to the world, which they carry by a fiery efflux horse (which can be purchased at a very reasonable price), of enthusiasm into the distant regions of impossibility. a pair of blankets, a large knife, and a good, strong seven In the present case, there is evidently the usual army scatshooter, one is prepared not only to behold the most beautered throughout the hamlets and cities of Christendom, who seem in their highest bent of earthly pleasure when, climbing and descending hills which at first sight seem with uncovered heads and flying hair, they can sail, with almost impassable. But after a somewhat fatiguing journey majestic and perilous leap, down the rapids of some precipwe arrive at our destination, suffering in every joint and itous stream; who have sense enough to see the herculean limb. After such a jaunt, especially to one not accustomed sweep and radical change that evolution must inevitably to riding on horseback, one's very bones seem to find a way inaugurate throughout the world of thought, opinion, and to make their grievances felt; but a short sleep and a little belief; who, in short, go about saluting their enemies in stimulus of some kind (the latter for those who have not hostile colors, and, while they point with one hand to the joined the Red-Ribbon Club), arouses to reality what an blazing names of Darwin and Tyndall, throw up their caps active imagination could never have pictured. The first with the other, and shout "Victory!" These are the selfspectacle which attracts the attention after entering the appointed pioneers of Science. Like the news-bearers over valley, is the falls, which are about opposite the entrance. a country district, who go to a central depot for the article, The Yosemite creek which forms it, rises about ten miles but which somehow grows to immense proportions before north of the valley. Being fed by melting snow, it attains delivery, they pander to the sensationalism of their hearits greatest magnitude about the middle of April, which is ers by telling them, with wonderful gravity of countenance, the most enjoyable time to visit the valley; but the great that, according to the inductions of science, they are posiheight of the fall makes it wonderful, even when the volume tively the direct descendants of an arboreal monkey; that, of water is not great. The whole descent is twenty-six positively, they have no souls; that, positively, there is hundred feet, but it is not all made at one leap. The water no God—and many other things of as equally palatable and falls over a granite precipice sixteen hundred feet, where it hotly-seasoned nature. Even here, among professedly strikes a projecting ledge, then for six hundred feet it falls hard-headed lovers of truth, is the original Fama of Virgil, in a series of cascades, and finally gathers itself up and viresque adquiret eundo; and Science herself has become makes its last plunge of four hundred feet. This is the a veritable Isis, who sits behind folded curtains, and from highest fall in the world, and is sixteen times the height of her tripod throne sends forth orders, mandates, prophecies. Niagara. The valley is about seven miles long, and scarcely Why, these middle-men of science promise, by their intola half mile in width at its narrowest part, and has an aver- erant and dogmatic manners, their ignorant and presumpage depth of three quarters of a mile. But alas for poetic tuous ways, to destroy the very credit, the very popularity phantasy! Who can picture or explain the various emo- and strength of the firm. We are thankful, indeed, that tions that do necessarily arise in the soul of every person our days have fallen on an age which is governed by priests at viewing such a spectacle? Hoping that the future may of nature, rather than priests of superstition—by ministers produce such an one, I leave you to see for yourselves and of a broad and catholic faith, rather than of a narrow and intolerant one. But the very approval which we feel of this new and rational dynasty, is what prompts us to a so-The Freshmen were considerably surprised and amused licitude for its safety from the ruinous reactions of excess. to find, on application to Prof. Howe to be excused from The man who argues against established and demonstrable attendance at chapel exercises, that a written request from facts, causes us to cling with greater tenacity and confidence their parent or guardian was required by a new rule of the to the standard of science, while he who takes upon himfaculty. When we were a Freshman, they took our word, self to hold up to his fellows a pet theory, and declare it but, in these times, the degenerate youth are not to be the unqualified opinion of the scientific world, is only a possible friend to truth—perhaps an enemy.

But, recurring to the text, an impartial observer is rather | same law, produced by crosses and referable to a savage led to infer, from the spirit and occasion of its utterance, ancestry. Why not, at some time and spot on the earth, a that the prophet in the present instance is a rabid evolu- complete r version to the quadrumanous form? And why tionist, who has assumed the duties of chivalry toward his is the cross between black and white productive of a greatbeloved goddess, and therefore sees fit to take up the gaunt- er intelligence? The author, however, argues his point let at every insinuation or rumor which bears not on its rather in a circle, and helps to prove, at most, a probability. face the "head and front" of a flattery. Our sympathies, Thus other circumstances lead me to believe that x is the let us say, are rather in favor of evolution, which is a sim- common ancestor; therefore, these marks are facts of reple and beautiful theory, accounting for the development of version to the wild form, x; and x, having the same marks, life into those infinitely varied and numberless forms about a circumstance necessary to reversion itself, is therefore all us—quite as beautiful in conception as the Bible account, the more the common ancestor—a conclusion assumed, in and possibly more rational. But the day is not yet when a turn, as true, in order to strengthen the premises. Of careful and critical scientist would venture his convictions | course, it will be seen that proof in this way will never arpointed y in favor of Darwinism. And, indeed, if Agas- rive at certainty except in due course of time; and the siz, a noted example, shall be no better refuted an hundred question, from its nature, is left solely in the hands of exyears hence than Newton is to-day, in his conclusions about perts, who are capable of weighing the delicate grains of the undulatory theory, whom "Dana" thinks he resem- scientific truth, and of ascertaining how many possibilities bles most strikingly at this point, the orthodox theologian | make a probability—how many probabilities one certainty. would have no just reason for either changing his tactics or A further point may be mentioned here, in reference to instituting a "fair compromise." No one will deny but one of the fundamental doctrines of evolution, that Prof. that this has supplanted the theory of emanations; yet Huxley gives it as his candid opinion that not a single disstill, so far from being a physical fact, it is regarded by the | tinct species has yet been found, based upon either natural best scientists as only a plausible or well-constructed hy- or artificial selection. pothesis, to simplify their analysis and aid their reasoning But there are other fields of investigation which are yieldpowers. From its laws, we are obliged to separate in our ing their quota of evidence, and where the battle of evoluminds the mechanism by which it seek to account for them; tion may be either lost or won. Notably is that of Paleonand when we remember that light only manifests itself in tology, and the results of long and strenuous labors in this connection with matter—that its way s have a transverse direction were summed up, in an unequivocal manner, by motion, implying the existence of a substance with proper- Prof. Huxley, at the close of his lecture on the sameties of a solid in the interplanetary spaces—that there are no where he says, in substance, that the positively ascertained other such phenomena throughout nature—and that these facts in this line of investigation "negative the common very scientists believe in the induction of electricity, an ele-doctrine of progressive modification." The amount of ment essentially similar in all other respects, across a perfect | modification in the fauna and flora of the several ages, is vacuum, we stand almost in despair. Were it not for the so insignificant, the earlier species being of hardly more finite velocity of light and our utter inability to conceive of generalized structure than the later—that it is quite incomenergy existing in nothing, such a theory would doubtless patible with the hypothesis which makes all living forms be discarded by the scientific world. Even here is uncer- the results of a necessary process of continuous develop-

even less tangible theory! Of course, some allowance rious doubts upon the subject, by announcing the results of must be made for the instinctive guesses of a well-bred extended researches in Archæology. The Quaternay man, "genius;" but Pythagoras himself deserves as good a or remains of man in the diluvial strata, though strongly name. And so far as the reasoning of Darwin goes, though combated by Cuvier, is no longer a question, but a posimarked by an ingenuous spirit, as must needs be, it is tive scientific doctrine. And every fossil man here found sometimes subtle, lacking that cogency of logical proof, and is marked by distinct generic characteristics, such as distintherefore passing in feebler minds for more than its due guish him to-day. Not only this, but specimens are now worth. As a single example, take a strong factor in his under examination, from the tertiary strata, which have altheory—atavism, or reversion to ancestral forms. Child- ready convinced many of the existence of man in that peren sometimes exhibit traits or features belonging to their riod. Among churchmen of high standing, such as the grandparents or still remoter ancestors, not seen in their Abbe Bourgeois, the evidence is received as sufficient basis immediate progenitors.

draws the inference that the savage disposition of certain up in some unexplored region, because the probabilities are half-caste races of men whom travelers tell of, is due to the | that the inhabitants of that period were grouped together

ment.

How much greater must be that uncertainty, then, in an More recently, Prof. Virchow has thrown some very sefor a positive doctrine. Even should they not prove so Darwin gives examples of dogs, cattle, birds, and then eventually, it is suggested that the tertiary man may turn

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er this may be, Prof. Virchow concludes: "On the whole, away. we must really acknowledge that there is a complete absence of any fossil type of a lower stage in the development of man."

Another point about evolution, acknowledged by Tyndall | kind. and obvious to all, is that a complete proof of it involves consummation "to be hoped for," and a serious obstacle wring the vital spark from inorganic matter. Dr. Bastian an opportunity to become better acquainted with each other? of London, it seems, in his haste to translate the theory into the semblance of fact, attempted a species of legerdeneither did they dream. Shall some specious experiments, in order to satisfy a theory, do away that which alone has but what the "ladies' night" would be well attended. inspirited the race for ages with a sense of moral responsibility; which has stayed the tide of a sad and disconsolate humanity from rolling its waves of ultra-socialism over the world—the immortality of the soul?

All that we have to say is simply this—that evolution, so far from being a biological fact, is a question still, with two apparent sides.

#### COMMUNICATIONS.

The editors of The Volante disclaim responsibility for opinions vouched in

EDITORS VOLANTE: Allow me to make a few suggestions in regard to the literary societies of the University of Chicago.

First suggestion: It appears very clear to the writer, that the literary work of the University would be greatly strengthened by the consolidation of the two societies, Atheneum and Tri Kappa. It is a fact that most of the literary work in these societies is entrusted to a few persons, who are obliged to appear too often, both for their own good and for the benefit and enjoyment of their auditors; on their own account, because it takes too much time from their studies, and an audience soon tires of a speaker who appears before it with the preparation, perhaps, of a week, or may be only a few hours. Now, whether the weekly appearance of these few persons is due to the fact that they are the only ones in the societies who have any literary ability, or whether the remaining members are too indifferent to take any active part in the work, I do not pretend to say. The fact, however, mentioned above, remains the same.

Again, one of the literary societies, if I am not mistaken, was established for the purpose of giving the lower classmen an opportunity to prepare themselves for the other or higher society. At present, as is well known, one society contains as high classmen as the other; so that the object | building.

in one locality—possibly what is now Greenland. Howev- for which the lower society was established has passed

Lastly-by consolidating, we would be better able to present a programme containing at once originality and variety, two things essential to a successful entertainment of this

Second suggestion: The meetings are too formal. the hypothesis of spontaneous generation. The latter is a There is not enough sociability. Would it not be a good plan for the members of the consolidated society to meet in the way of an orthodox evolutionist. He sees it, and at least half an hour before the time of calling the meeting has wearied both hands and eyes in many a vain attempt to to order, so as to have a good chat, and give the members

Third suggestion: Why not allow the ladies of the University to have exclusive control of the consolidated society main on the Academy at Paris. But the latter slept not, on one or two evenings of each term? A lady to preside, a lady to deliver the oration, etc., etc. I have no doubt

Yours,

Y. O. U.

#### LOCALS.

Term dues.

Do the new slippers fit?

Strange faces quite plenty.

We have "resumed" College.

Don't forget your College bills.

Pay your Volance subscription.

Slap! bang! here we are again.

It was rather hard on Beaver Dam.

Always date your petitions, ye Greeks.

MARKETS.—Gold quiet but firm at 100c.

Was your stocking heavy with "goodies"?

Here's to '79, drink her down, drink her down.

The "Freshy" knows how to cram-ballot boxes.

Ladies for Washington's birthday supper on the advance.

Some of our skaters patronize the free rink on the lake

Room E, Douglas Hall, contains a Senior and Prep, fourteen chairs and a lounge. Popular resort.

A certain professor was away a few recitations, and it was rumored that he was not in "court" either.

In what respect are some of the Seniors and Prof. Freeman alike? Ans. Both favor the use of (gin)n.

Some of the boys are complaining about the charges for use of library," "incidentals," &c. What is the matter?

The University ought to be provided with a patent steam snow plow, to make pathways from the gates to the

present at least.

Provisions of all kinds used by the boarding club have risen. This will probably necessitate a tax of \$1.50 at the end of the year.

How are all your good resolutions—to study harder than ever before; to be more regular in your attendance at Chapel, and in regard to quit swearing, &c.?

The students came back rather slowly at the beginning of the term. It seems as if it ought to be just as easy to be on time the first day as to lag behind a week or so.

The worthy treasurer of the Students' Association for last term, was obliged, much to the regret of the students, to decline a re-election on account of a rush of business.

The Students' Association, after receiving E. T. Ingham's resignation as publisher of The Volante, elected Ira W. Rubel to fill the position for the remainder of the College

Some evil-minded genius has been around inquiring about the gymnasium. Be quiet, sir, the executive committee are deliberating and intend to report before the end of the term.

The worst sidewalk in the whole South Side, was the walk in front of the University for several days, the first of the term. Oh, that Moses would return and shovel a while out there.

Care should be taken to put ashes on the stone steps of the University during the slippery season. It is sometimes very hazardous to walk on them, particularly if there is a strong north wind.

The Seniors are reciting "Demosthenes" with the Juniors, and their flowery and smooth translations are quite noticeable—considering that they recited their last Greek lesson about two years ago.

The election of officers of the Students' Association, held January 15th, resulted as follows: President. W. H. Miles; Vice-President, Willis Hawley; Secretary, John C. Hopkins; Treasurer, E. E. Cox.

practice their voices up in Douglas Hall, could be induced to try the top of the tower for said preliminary work, the teeth?" denizens of the Little Giant's hall would say, "Thanks."

Nowadays, before a student enters a society, students' association or class meeting, he tucks under his arm the latest edition of Roberts' Rules of Order. There is nothing like conducting business "on the square" and in a lawful manner.

Her Majesty's opera troupe has called out several of the boys who have enough geld to pay the prices. M'me Gers- during a part of the past month, and many who came a few

The Junior Class bemoans its fate in having lost three of ter was the favorite with most of them. One member of its lady members, who have retired to private life, for the '82, however, could remark of nothing but the beauty of the choruses.

Elections.—Meleterian Officers for term ending Feb.

President, Powers; Vice President, Bailey; Secretary, Goodman; Critic, Persons.

Professor Sanford was delayed in the East by the severe snow storms around New Years, from being present at the immediate opening of the term, and it was sad to note the disconsolate looks of the members of his various classes when the announcement was made.

The annual convention of the Zeta Psi Fraternity occurred in Troy, N. Y., on the 2d, 3d and 4th insts., thus allowing ample time for the delegates to reach their respective colleges in time for the winter term. Perry Trumbull was appointed delegate from the Omega Chapter.

Recently "Almost Persuaded" startled the denizens in the northern part of the University. By actual count no less than five different notes lent enchantment to the ear. as follows: F sharp, B flat, D sharp, G sharp, and the other was thought to be meant for &c. sharp.

Methinks the venerable George Washington would much preferred never to have had a birthday, could he have known that the celebration of it would have given rise to so much bulldozing, fraud in elections, stuffing ballot boxes, and general consternation among college students.

At the first meeting of Tri Kappa, owing to a lack of customary articles, the president appointed three young ladies to act as judges on debate. The first speaker, however, started his eagle with an appeal to the "gentlemen judges," much to the surprise of the young ladies.

THE VOLANTE of last month was mistaken in the name of the new fraternity about to make its appearance in our midst. It should have been Delta Kappa Psi, instead of Delta Psi. As all catalogues of college fraternities within reach omit this one, it is probably the initial chapter.

It was quite amusing to see some Sophomores shake hands enthusiastically after it was announced at close of last term that this or that study had been successfully completed. Is If those enthusiartic Christian Association members who it possible that these young men belonged to that class "who just s-q-u-e-e-z-e-d through by the skin of their

> The trustees of the University met January 9th and unanimously elected N. K. Fairbanks, Esq., President of the Board in place of the Hon. Thos. Hoyne, who resigned. After ascertaining that the finances of the institution had been materially bettered under the direction of Dr. Anderson, they adjourned.

> The rear door of Chapel was locked "to prevent a draft,"

let of eyes on entering the door reserved for Professors, clusion that those whose slowness of speed could only be be scored against the janitor.

The following opposition nine for next term is talked of: It is again rumored about that there is an effort on foot won for him the surname, "El Progresso Givemesum."

The following persons will represent their respective departments at the anniversary of Washington's Birthday:

Ladies' Department—Miss Crafts. Senior Class-E. B. Esher. Junior Class—D. B. Cheney, Jr. Sophomore Class-H. C. Van Schaack. Freshman Class—A. C. Mead. Preparatory Department—C. F. Hobbs.

The regular election of officers of the Students' Association occurred January 16th, and although for some unaccountable reason only about two hours' notice was given, a fair representation of the students was present. We are much gratified to notice that of late more attention is paid to such matters, and that a greater number of students Times, New York city. manifest by their presence a determination to prevent any pre-arranged scheme from being executed by any party or and preaches at Marseilles, Ill. organization.

The President of the Students' Association has appoint- Junior class at Brown University. ed the following committees on arrangements for the anniversary of Washington's Birthday:

Literary Programme J. J. Coon, H. C. Parkins, and D. B. Cheney, Jr.

Supper—E. B. Esher, A. E. Barr, and J. C. Hopkins. Decoration-Misses Gassette, Edgerton, and Fannie Howe; Messrs. H. J. Carr, Willis Hawley, and J. P. tinue his course at college for the present. Gardner. .

were obliged to wait so long in suspense for the decision in return. regard to their orations after each had passed in his manuscript for inspection. Of course there is likely to be a hitch somewhere in trying any new plan, but with a little more care, and perhaps more explicit and emphatic directions in regard to detail hereafter, all need of dissatisfaction will be removed. In another part will be found information in regard to "Junior Ex."

Since our last issue the earth has been robed in a mantle of white. We hope that all of our lady acquaintances had the exquisite pleasure not only of hearing the merry jingle of the silvery bells, and being drawn by some swift-footed Rarus, but also of telling how "our horse passed every- Hawley, and Waite. The Juniors are sighing, "Lost to thing on the avenue." At first we were unable to credit sight, to mem'ry dear."

minutes late "cut," altogether rather than run the gaunt- such remarkable speed, but have at last arrived at the conladies and Seniors. All absences on this account should exceeded by the tortoise, referred to the teams hitched to lamp-posts and curbstones.

Parkins, catcher; Swett, pitcher; Powers, short-stop; to exclude the "Preps" from the Students' Association, Peeke, 1st base; Clark, 2d; Nichols, 3d; Bass, left field; as if the majority of preparatory students were not as capa-Carmichael, center, and Sutherland, right. The management | ble as members of the College classes to vote on all queshas not yet succeeded in obtaining the pitcher, whose patent tions concerning College matters. There is one thing that double-action, back-sliding parabolic and diabolic curve has Preps can do, which will be acknowledged by all, namely, to help support, with their pocket-books, all College enterprizes and projects, and it is quite gratifying to learn that they perform this somewhat disagreeable task fully as well as that class of students who would now debar them of their rights.

#### PERSONALS.

'76. W. D. Gardner is practicing law at Wilber, Neb.

76. J. E. Rhodes is with a hardware house, Sacramen-

'76. Harley B. Mitchell is editor of the American Mil-

'76. C. C. Adams is the Eastern end of the Chicago

'76. R. L. Olds is a theological student at Morgan Park

A. L. Abbott, formerly of '80, is now a member of the

'76. A. J. Fisher is mercantile reporter for a Chicago paper, and travels most of the time.

'76. Sam. C. Johnston is preparing himself for the same noble profession at Knoxville, Iowa.

'81. Ingham has been compelled by ill-health to discon-

Professor Wheeler has gone along with the Mexican ex-The Juniors feel a little injured and grieved because they cursion. We hope to hear something from him on his

> '74. Robert M. Ireland, a promising young lawyer of Elgin, Ill., lost his office and library during the fire of Jannary 2d.

> '77. Gardner, the "old reliable," has been amusing himself this winter playing base-ball on ice-just to keep

> '80. Miss Hawley calls around every once in a while, and cheers the Juniors with the hope that she may possibly

> '80 has lost three of her lady members-Misses Cox,

(as he says) during vacation. But the "boys," C. B.how could you see them then?

Lew Lansing and Geo. Northrup; formerly of this College, but now of Rochester, recently spent some time in visiting friends and classmates here.

The Hon. G. M. Lamberston, who was recently appointed by the President United States District Attorney for Nebraska, is a graduate of this University.

'78. Chas. Ege paid us a visit the other day, and, by his smiling face, gladdened our hearts. You know that Charles didn't smile on the girls until his Senior year.

Goff, who left '78 at the end of his Freshman year, and who has since pursued a course at Knox College, is now a member of the Junior class at the Baptist Theological Seminary, Morgan Park.

E. W. Clement, of the Junior Class, who was compelled to leave College for a short time at the close of last term, on account of overwork and ill health, is all right again, and has returned to his class after a pleasant visit to Whitewater, Wis., at his uncle's, Prof. J. W. Stearns, formerly of the University.

#### CLIPPINGS.

A word to the wise. Keep so.

What a barber musn't do-lather his wife.

What key is the hardest to turn? Donkey.

Women in arms. Well, that's as it ought to be.

How to prevent bad dreams. Don't go to sleep.

"Spread yourself," as the bread remarked to the butter.

If thine enemy wrong thee, buy each of his children a

Why was Noah never hungry? Because he had Ham

When persons are sea-sick what do they most desire? To feel sea-cure.

"Give me a centre berth," she remarked. He centre to the ticket office.

"Taken prisoner and hand-cuffed," said the bad boy when he was apprehended and had his ears boxed.

"Mamma," said a little boy who had been sent to dry a towel before the fire, "is it done when it is brown?"

What is the difference between a cloud and a beaten child? One pours with rain, the other roars with pain.

doting parent to his slothful heir, who was prone to lie abed, work." And, when Mr. G. kindly suggested that perhaps

Shells, Fssils, Birds, Eggs,

And all objects of NATURAIHISTORY are bought, sold and exchange

## By A. E. FOOTE, M. D.,

1223 Belmont - Philadelphia, Pa.,

Scene, College Campus—"Did you see Dean Stanley in chapel this morning?" "No; who's Dean Stanley?" "Why, the great African explorer." "Is that so? I wish I'd seen him."

"Mother," said a lad, "is it wrong to break egg-shells?" "Certainly not, my dear," replied the mother, "but why do you ask such silly questions?" "Because I have just dropped the basket with all the eggs in it," replied he.

> on of Minerals." neralogical Catalogue of 50 pages is distributed free to others on receipt of 10 cents. It is profusely illust r and engraver charged me about \$900.00 before a By means of the table of species and accompany sies may be verified. The price list is an excellent of all the species and the more commo

A sea captain was about to dance at a company with a lady of rank, who delicately hinted to him the propriety of his putting on a pair of gloves. His reply was, "Never mind me, ma'am; I shall wash my hands when I've done dancing."

A big Yankee from Maine on paying his bill in a London restaurant was told that the sum put down didn't include the waiter. "Wal," he roared, "I didn't eat any waiter, did I?" He looked as if he could though, and there was no further discussion.

Personal-Miss D. Meanor and Miss Em Bezzle are in the city, guests of the aunt and uncle of the latter young lady, Mr. and Mrs. D. Fraud. They are accompanied by that active and ubiquitous gentleman, Mr. D. Faulter. As stated in his brief note of regrets, "Mr. D. Camp would like to form one of the party, but he hasn't time.'

> Dirty days hath September, April, June and November; From January up to May The rain it raineth every day. All the rest have thirty-one, Without a blessed gleam of sun. And if any of them had two-and-thirty, They'd be just as wet and twice as dirty.

"I am told," said Mrs. Gubbins, the other day, "that a good deal of suffering exists among the 'pheasants' in "I wish there was more get-up to that boy," said a Europe, in consequence of their not being able to obtain

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she meant peasants, she flared right up, and said he had their audiences, he closes the chapter by speaking somehe was elected alderman. o James our James.

Peeke, 1st base; Clark, 2d; Nichols, 3d; Bass, left field; and now storm the very citadels of your mind and senses." Carmichael, center, and Sutherland, right. The management won for him the surname " Trans Givemesum."

#### HOW THEY DID IT.

They were sitting side by side, And he sighed and she sighed. Said he: "Your hand I ask, so bold I've grown," And she groaned and he groaned. Said he: "You are cautious, Belle," And she bellowed and he bellowed. Said he: "You shall have your private gig," And she giggled and he giggled. Said she: "My dearest Luke!"

And herection of officers of the Students urred January 16th, and although for son le reason only about two hours' notice was esentation of the students was present. tified to notice that of late more attention ratters, and that a greater number of EXCHANGES.

List of exchanges received since our last issue: Dartmouth, Campus, Suftonian, Olio, Chronicle, Knox Student, Round Toble, Williams Athenœum, Vidette, Review, University Press, Bates Student, Know Student, College Courier, Ariel, College Monthly, Student Life, Archangel, Lasell Leaves, College Message, Students' Journal, Niagara Index, Canadian Spectator, Reveille, Vassar Miscellany, Berkeleyan, Westminster Monthly, Oberlin Review, University Courant, University Magazine, College Journal, College Cabinet, Rochester Campus, Wittenberger, Bowdoin Orient, Rambler.

#### ORATORY AND ORATORS.\*

Dr. Mathews, formerly of the University, has recently sent forth the sixth of his very instructive and wellwritten publications. This work on "Oratory and Orators," cannot fail to interest every one who has any hope or expectation of entering the public arena; and it is of especial worth and value to college students, a considerable part of whose time is generally spent in the study of oratory. To such it cannot fail to be a guide and aid in composing as well as delivering their productions.

The volume opens, after an interesting preface, with a chapter on "The Power and Influence of the Orator," which is one of the finest in the book. After depicting in vivid and elegant style the power of various orators over

been "mighty willin" to "catechise" her talk ever since what sadly of the perishability of eloquence. "As well might you attempt to paint the lightning's flash as to paint the piercing glance which for an instant from the great The following opposition nine for next term is talked of: orator's eyes darts into your soul, or to catch the mystic, Parkins, catcher; Swett, pitcher; Powers, short-stop; wizard tones which now bewitch you with their sweetness,

After calling attention to the various needful qualificahas not yet succeeded in obtaining the pitcher, whose patent | tions of the orator, and showing the necessity of good voice double-action, back-sliding parabolic and diabolic curve has and figure, together with energy and gesture, he presents the trials and tribulations of orators and the way to meet them. According to one critic, "such lessons may well be taken to heart in our country, where, with our boasted free speech, every other man is fain to think himself fit to . mount the stump and harangue the multitude." Then follow brief sketches of the most celebrated of modern orators in their various callings. This portion is in fact a very attractive part of the production. The closing chapter is devoted to "A plea for oratorical culture," in which the anthor claims that hard work is the only sure means of ultimate success.

> Dr. Mathews does not lay any great claim to originality, but bases his merit on an ability to combine the best thoughts of others in the most pleasing manner. In "Oratory and Orators" he has compiled a vast collection of valuable information and placed it in such a form as to be readily available. With Montaigne he might almost say, "I have gathered a posy of other men's flowers, and nothing but the thread that binds them is my own."

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