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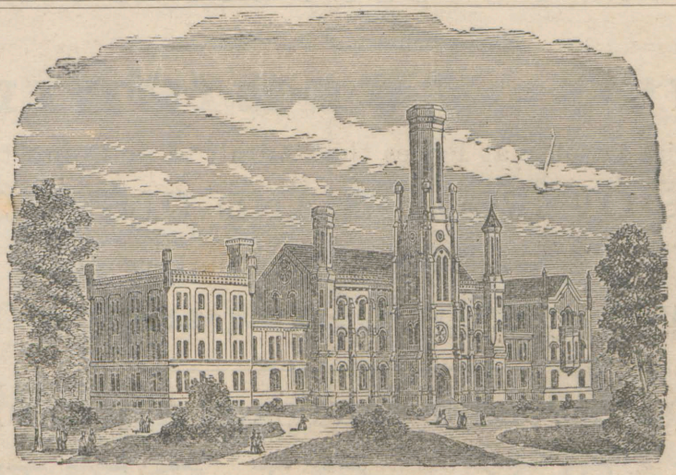
THE VOLANTE.

VOL. X. UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, APRIL, 1881. No. 8.



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THE VOLANTE.

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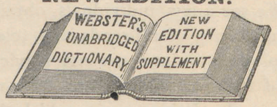

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Literary.

A NEW ADMINISTRATION.

The inauguration of a President opens our national record at a blank page upon which the people, for the next four years, may write the history of the Republic.

It is becoming an event of the profoundest import, as the country develops with a rapidity unparalleled in the history of the world, and is beginning to take the lead of all nations in commercial, productive and manufacturing interests.

The citizen is beginning to appreciate the responsibility invested in him, and the nations of other continents who scoffed at our system, ridiculed its principles and prophesied for it a speedy ruin, now regard at once with respect and admiration its simplicity and grandeur.

Divested of the ermine of despots and the purple of kings, standing before the people in the plain dress-coat of the citizen, the Executive is simply the exponent of the dominant idea of the people.

Not as of old is the enunciation of that idea usurped by a few of the most prominent men in the State, nor are the functions of government manipulated and monopolized by those nearest the throne, but the poorest peasant and the richest magnate have equal rights and privileges equally fostered and maintained.

To us, born under the stars and stripes, and breathing, from our youth up, the atmosphere of liberty, it seems only natural, right and just that this should be so, and if it were not for the sad recital of history could never have formed any adequate conception of the mighty

labors, the strange misfortunes, the blasting defeats and the slow but telling victories by which the nations of the earth evolved individualism from despotism.

Despotism, like a mighty dragon, for many centuries stood in the path of civilization and progress. It forbade the mind to think, the tongue to speak and the hand to write. Its blighting influence withered the germs of reason and intelligence, thought and opinion in the mind of man, and it pruned away with the sword the ever growing bud of liberty. But, as in nature, this last only stimulates the growth and diffuses the vital principle, so was it in man. And humanity, goaded on by long centuries of oppression, burst their bonds, and with chains clinging to their limbs and manacles clasping their wrists, disorganized and unarmed, forging from their bonds of oppression the weapons of freedom, with a groan of mingled defiance and despair, made the first onslaught upon tyranny and despotism.

Rebellion, insurrection and revolution hung like black clouds over the old world, and everywhere the din of clashing spear and sword and battle-axe drowned the cries for quarter and deafened the ears of mercy. Often hunted down and forced to fly to the mountain recesses, the cause seemed hopelessly lost, but always some patriot was ready to lead a forlorn hope, and, at last, the effects of the conflict began to be felt. Monarchs, deserted by their troops, fled in disguise; dungeon doors creaked out the death groan of despotism when they opened to their emaciated prisoners, and mighty empires which had stood for ages tottered and fell to the earth like a mountain tumbling into the sea, and at Runnymede the head of the monster was delivered up to the people on a charger.

"They have given me four and twenty over kings," said John, in a paroxysm of rage. He might also have said that mankind, all over the world, looking back at this mighty precedent, rejecting the adage that the king could do no wrong, would say that good government consisted in wise concessions. After this the progression was purchased, not by blood, but by gold. Needy kings were ever ready, when all forms of extortion had been exhausted, to grant privileges of trade and franchise, in order to refill their coffers. Now by purchasing, now by wrestling concessions from the king, the emancipation of the individual went steadily, though slowly, on. But centuries later the old spirit appeared, startling mankind, in all its original tyranny, and Louis the XIV. voiced the true spirit of despotism when he dared to stand before twenty millions of people and, in reply to the expostulations of his minister, say, "The State? I am the State!" But while the French were deciding and defining, the statesmen in America were solving a much higher question of government in the old way. Taxation without representation was that principle, and Yorktown grandly verified Runnymede. The Constitution followed and effected the completest emancipation of the individual yet known in the world. It did, in fact, create an asylum for the oppressed of all countries and eventually shined out over both the oceans, a great beacon light to human kind. And now, after considering the price of liberty, forgetting, if you please, the mighty destruction of despotism and remembering only the struggles of our own nation, does it seem possible that citizens of these United States can too highly appreciate the privilege of the ballot or too sacredly maintain its purity. Hordes of foreigners, like clouds of locusts, may settle in our land, ignorant of the struggles, ignorant of the Constitution and ignorant, basely ignorant, of that patriotism which impresses all Americans with the sanctity of the trust reposed in them; may, by the toss of a coin, decide the distribution of the municipal offices in the metropolis of the nation. The ballot may be extended to four millions of freedmen, representing the very dredge of humanity, sunk in the lowest depths of degradation, their minds and hearts debased by three hundred years of slavery, and this casting of pearls before swine may be called the grandest act of the century. But however grand it was, these four million ballots threaten, like an entering wedge, to split our system and imperil the very existence of our liberties. The time has come when decisive and conclusive action must be taken, and we anxiously watch to see how a new administration will purify and regulate the suffrage.

But while this disease is gnawing at the very vitals of our body politic a hand threatens to clutch it at the throat. It is the hand of the monopolies, equally antagonistic to the welfare of the people and the purity of the government. We see a few individuals obtaining control of all the trunk lines of railroads and telegraphs in the country, employing an immense civil service, exceeding by far that of the government, and over which they have supreme control. It is a service which the government can never reform. In every town and hamlet over the broad land are posted their servants. Such an army so disposed and enlisted in the cause of a single interest, cannot but be detrimental to complete freedom of suffrage. Already, not only in our legislatures, but even in the very halls of Congress we can see the basest corruption contaminating legislation. Not only do they menace the government, but they threaten to degrade the American farmer to the servitude of the Irish peasant.

Whether the government will permit such a system just budding, to ripen into that enormous power which cannot but prove so disastrous in the future, is a question which vitally concerns the rights of every citizen.

The manufacturing interests, which the people, through the government, have fostered and maintained, have developed into immense organizations second only to the railway corporations, and their influence tends much the same way, until now they snap and bite at the hand that fed them and exemplify the saying of the great poet, "How sharper than a tooth it is to have an ungrateful child." Whether, in their present advanced state, these interests demand artificial stimulants, is but another way of asking whether the full grown, healthy man needs the same treatment as the convalescent patient.

"Party," said Burke, "is a body of men united to promote the national interest by their joint endeavors upon some particular principle in which they are all agreed. Ever since Andrew Jackson announced that, in government as well as in war, to the victor belonged the spoils, political parties have degenerated in proportion to the increase of the civil service. A growing tendency to the boss system has been manifest by which the true object of suffrage is skillfully foiled by judicious distribution of the offices. This, in time, cannot but mature into an aristocracy of officeholders, and we are soon to have a government for, by and of the officeholders, instead of, as was originally designed, for, by and of the people.

For the last four years the people have paid a surplus into the national treasury of fifty and a half millions per annum; but while the people are thus ready to maintain the national credit, how regardless is it of its obligations to the people. A hundred years have elapsed and still a State may repudiate its debts and not the slightest redress is left to the creditor; and these very legislators who profess to be so grandly patriotic will see the country come to the verge of anarchy because of a defect in the Constitution regarding the counting of the electoral vote, and still neglect to remedy that defect.

Our Constitution is a grand document, but it was written to be read, studied and cherished by the people, not to be consigned for safe-keeping to the politicians. Our government is based on broad and grand principles, but broad and grand principles are always in the interest of the people, and the people must uphold them. The country is but half developed and yet the government is fast slipping from the hands of the people into those of the allied politicians and money kings. If the purity of system is being poisoned at its source, the poison must be eradicated before the whole body politic is soaked with corruption. The remedy is at hand. Let us look away back to the Witenagemote, our ancestors at Jutland. There no landless man or "nithing" could become a partaker of the public councils. We want not more laws, but, as our English ancestors said, simply the laws of good King Edmund. So long as lobbyists are allowed the privileges of the floor of Congress, so long as vice and ignorance contaminate the suffrage, and so long as partisan leaders usurping the rights of the people go unrebuked, so long will the Constitution be perverted, the people robbed. Let not the memories of Washington, Jefferson, Hamilton and Madison silently fade from the minds of the people like stars in the night. Let us not be faithless to the great trust reposed in us, but let us defend and perpetuate the charter of our liberties, always remembering that eternal vigilance is the price of liberty.

F. M. L.

LAMENT.

Wail, wail ye, mournful sounding winds,
  Amid the weeping trees;
Bring up thy heavy-hearted clouds,
  Thou moisture-laden breeze!

Oh! bow your heads, ye trees, in grief;
  Oh! wring your thousand hands.
And ye, sad waves, oh! mourn for me,
  In sorrow beat the lands.

All nature call I to my aid,
  My tears refuse to fall;
Throw open heaven's fountain-head,
  Ye clouds arrayed in pall!

Ah! nature hears and pities me,
  Winds wail and sob and howl;
Trees writhe in fiercest agony,
  And dismal shrieks the owl.

My heart with wretchedness is filled,
  My cheeks, two monstrous lumps,
All joy in life 's forever fled (chilled?)
  Alas! I have the mumps.

PERSONAL.

F. B. Studwell has left school.

'81. Benj. R. McArthur is traveling in Texas.

'76. Rev. R. L. Olds has resigned his charge at Marseilles, Ill.

'66. Rev. H. C. First, formerly pastor of Plainfield, has removed to Waukegan, Ill.

Miss Addie L. Crafts, formerly of '81, now of '82 at N. W. U., attended the Junior Ex.

'81. C. A. Osgood has removed to Indianapolis, where he has obtained a good position.

'84. Miss F. V. Tarbell has returned to the South Side, and is devoting herself to painting.

'81. W. J. Alsip visited his Chicago friends last month. He is living in Kansas City, Mo.

'78. E. B. Felsenthal is rapidly attaining a large law practice at No. 78 Fifth avenue. Jas. Summers is with him enjoying his chosen profession. He says it is just as

good as school, but without any recitations or examinations.

'83. C. W. Goodman made us a short visit on the 29th ult. He started for Kansas March 30th.

W. K. Shannon, of St. Charles, once of '78, has gone to Southern Kansas to embark in sheep-raising.

'76. Howard B. Grose, who took his Senior Year at Rochester, is New York correspondent of the Chicago *Tribune*.

Prof. Wm. Mathews has recently presented 370 volumes of very rare and choice books to Colby University, his *Alma Mater*.

Prof. Hough delivered an interesting lecture on "The Solar System," at the Academy of Science, Tuesday evening, April 12th.

Miss Esther Boise, formerly teacher of French and German in the University, has gone to New Orleans to visit her sister, Mrs. Bush.

J. P. Topping left school on account of sickness, and will not return until fall. James made many friends during his short stay with us.

'72. Prof. N. E. Wood, of Beaver Dam, visited his *Alma Mater* on the 28th ult., and attended the Senior recitation in Moral Philosophy.

L. B. Stuck, once of '79, lives on the West Side, and is still in the newspaper business. He is married and has a daughter three months old.

'79. H. G. Williams, who left school on account of poor health in '77, called on the boys on the 4th inst. He is civil engineering and hails from Topeka, Kan.

'79. Miss Anna M. Coon visited the city during the annual meeting of the Women's Baptist Missionary Society, and addressed the meeting at its last session.

'79. Jno. J. Coon has located at Gilman, Ill., eighty miles south of Chicago. He is editor and publisher of the *Gilman Star*, the county paper of Iroquois county.

'78. Judson S. McSparran and Matthew Lee Goff, who left school in their Freshman Year, are both preaching, the latter at Morris, Ill., and the former in Western Iowa.

'70. G. W. Nead has become pastor of the Baptist Church of Oberlin, Ohio. He is often addressed as a graduate of Oberlin, but never fails to stand up for his *Alma Mater*.

'62. Rev. James Goodman called at the University recently to renew old memories. At the Baptist Ministers' Monday meeting, of March 28th, he read a very scholarly paper on "Imagination in Religion."

'83. Miss Fannie I. Boggs was married Tuesday evening, April 5th, to Albert T. Lester. Miss Boggs is remembered as a popular member of the Ladies' Department here in '77-'78, and an active member of the Athenæum.

Editorial.

THE JUNIOR EXHIBITION.

April Fool's Eve was duly celebrated by the Juniors. During the long weeks previous to the exhibition, every man's prayer contained but two petitions—1st, that he would win a prize; 2d, that the Weather-God would vouchsafe a fair night. As regards the first, the supplications of three were answered. But Vennor, the prophet, predicting that March would go out like a lamb, "had grown too saucy with the gods and incensed them to send destruction." For of all the nights of beautiful spring, *that* was the coldest, the stormiest, the most uninviting. The inclemency of the elements kept many from attending who would otherwise have availed themselves of such a brilliant display of oratory. But the audience who did venture out, turned their backs to the church at the close of the performance feeling that the evening had been well spent.

As a whole the entertainment was a success, and the orations did credit to the University. But there were hardly enough invitations sent out, and too little advertising done to insure a big crowd, even if the night was all that could be desired.

The people of Chicago do not hear enough of these public exhibitions. If any class feels too needy to buy invitations to scatter broadcast, then let the authorities take the matter in hand. Let them distribute a thousand cards of invitation next year, not 200, and we will guarantee that next year the auditorium will be filled with enthusiastic crowds, for wherever a crowd is there you will find enthusiasm of some kind. It is the vastness of an audience, and not a mere handful of friends and classmates, that inspires the young orator to put his whole soul in the delivery of his speech, and to essay the dizziest heights of eloquence. Nothing throws a wet blanket over the sparks of oratorical genius like a row of empty benches.

The *mock-scheme fiends*, to the surprise of all, were on hand. They had kept their dark designs so concealed that even the shrewdest Junior did not suspect their evil intentions. The schemes were handed to the audience with the regular programmes.

The class of '83 deserve credit for their enterprise in this direction; yet the funny handbills in many particulars verged upon vulgarity. We appreciate the difficulty in drawing the dividing line between wit and coarseness. But applying the name of "Beer Garden" to the Sanctuary, and frequent allusions to tobacco quids, etc., cannot but be condemned. Otherwise the schemes were gotten up in good shape, and elicited roars of laughter.

The exercises were opened by a brief prayer from the Doctor, who thanked the Lord for the "great prosperity which had attended the University during the past year, and for its many friends." Whether financial or intellectual prosperity was intended, the audience were at a loss to decide. As for its numerous friends, THE VOLANTE suggests that it is almost time for these dear friends to give less good-will and moral support, and more endowments. He invoked God's blessing upon the poor trembling lambs who were about to appear.

The Chicago Quartette, otherwise known as the "Old Reliable," rendered their selections in fine style. All their songs except the first one, were received with marked favor by the students and their friends. Since their last appearance before us, they have made a valuable acquisition in the person of their first bass, who contributes much to the beauty of their singing, as well as to the fun of an audience. The students turned out well—not so our alumni.

It is a shame that graduates living in the city are infused with so little interest in the affairs of their Alma Mater, as to neglect its public entertainments. Washington Supper, Junior Ex. and Commencement ought to attract them by the scores. Among our old friends we noticed W. H. and W. J. Alsip, Mr. Ege, Mr. F. L. Fuller, Mr. Meredith, Mr. D. B. Cheney and Mr. A. E. Barr, accompanied by Miss Addie Crafts. The order of speaking was as usual changed. Cannot the speakers arrange this matter among themselves and settle before the exhibition? The audience, in many cases, are unacquainted with the participants and are dependent upon the programmes in order to distinguish their names. Such a change always necessitates confusion and could be easily dispensed with.

MR. E. T. STONE

paved the way for the other speakers by discussing "The Goal of Man's Ambition." Ambition dwells in the bosom of kings, and controls the actions of the poor. Man was not made a passive recipient of pleasure, but was given muscle to gain it. He showed that all true pleasures were the result of labor, and that in the struggle for them every power must be directed by intelligence. The speaker dwelt upon the necessity of keeping high standards before us, illustrating it by referring to American progress during the past century, which is due to the high standard our country has aimed at. His production was well written, and the delivery pleasing. His voice was hardly powerful enough at times, although his utterance was very distinct.

MR. C. S. BROWN

used a gesture in the very first sentence of his oration, before the audience were prepared for it. For a biographical subject, his was treated in a masterly manner, but the delivery was abominable. He paid a just tribute to the great American scientist, "Agassiz," and showed that the advancement of science in this country was due in a great measure to his genius. Up to his time, oratory, literature and invention had all been represented, but never science. It was his work to awaken a general spirit of investigation in the scientific realm. His was a great nature—affluent, genial, modest. Though sought by monarchs, his chosen title was teacher—his favorite home the granite hills of New England. Agassiz' spirit seems to animate creation. Mr. Brown says that he is the only speaker who was not drilled in elocution. We believe it. We recommend that he take a few lessons before appearing again in public.

The attention of the audience was next fixed upon Mr. F. H. Clark, and he retained it to the last. In full, round tones, appropriate gestures and distinct articulation, he told of Ireland's wrongs. Mr. Clark surely deserved the second place. His oration was beautifully written, and full of original thought, even on such a hackeyed subject. His delivery, perhaps, in some places was too dramatic. He went through the whole history of famine, tyranny and persecution which has been enacted on Irish soil. In the present struggle of Ireland there are grand principles at stake, great wrongs to be righted. England's infamy is responsible for the starvationof Ireland; the same as England is responsible for opium in China, and massacres in India. The dissatisfaction in Erin is not the protest of a few, but the general protest of all Irishmen. Ireland is now passing through her crisis, and every nation is interested in the result. Centuries of bondage have not reduced the proud spirit of the Celt. This struggle must emancipate Ireland, and when once free she will stand forth a giant among nations. The speaker was received with great applause, and was followed by the prize oration, on "The Jews," by

MR. F. G. HANCHETT.

Of all the dark crimes committed in the name of religion, the most terrible is persecution. Religious zeal, when directed by ignorance, degenerates into persecution. The orator traced the Jewish history back to its earliest dawn, and showed how its past abounded in great law-givers, prophets and poets.

The persecution of the middle ages was instigated by a fanatic monk, who, when the crusaders were about to

start for Jerusalem, advised them not to go to Palestine, in order to slay unbelievers, but to begin at home by killing those who destroyed our Lord. Shakspeare's Shylock is not the characteristic Jew of the middle ages, he is too avaricious, too bloodthirsty.

Other nations crushed under the iron heel of oppression have sunk into servitude, but the Jews have risen above it. Their fortitude has sustained them; they have been stimulated and inspired by the hallowed memories of the past. In philosophical Germany, in sunny France, in free America, they are a race of business men and scholars. The leader of the republican party in France to-day is a Jew. The head of the conservatives in England is a Jew. A Jew stands in front of the liberals in Germany. Germany's attempt to revive the old antipathies cannot succeed. Humanity shrinks from it; the voice of the nations declare against it; justice forbids it. Not many years shall pass before this scattered people will be again restored to their once glorious position among the nations of the world. Mr. Hanchett made the best appearance on the platform of all the speakers, and his gestures were very graceful. No one as far as we have heard begrudges him the place of honor.

MR. J. M. RUSSELL

hardly did himself credit that evening. His friends expected a better oration from "John." His voice was shocking, the entire work of speaking being done by his throat. His oration was on "Motives," which he called the *hidden* sources of volition. Among the great men of the past who were ruled by self-exaltation, we find few to admire, none to emulate. We think that the irrepressible meteor is becoming too stale a simile to be used in a public exhibition. That Napoleon was actuated by selfish impulses, and urged on by an inordinate ambition, is pretty well known to the people by this time. We have already heard too much about Wiclif, who freed the national mind from the chains of ignorance and superstition. The speaker showed that the motive of the one was to redeem, of the other, to rule the world. To Wiclif our age owes its boasted enlightenment, and his memory will be cherished through all time. When men are impelled by unselfish motives the world is always benefited. This noble sentiment of philanthropy has been manifest in every age and clime. By its influence ignorance and tyranny have been destroyed, and slaves have seen their chains loosened. Its province is unbounded, its utility is universal.

THE QUARTETTE

then sang a waltz song, and the boys who were accompanied by their ladies were only restrained from starting a dance by the Doctor's presence, for they knew that he would be eager to trip the light fantastic himself, were it not for the audience.

MR. J. H. TALBUT

discoursed on Science and Poetry. Science in studying nature has revealed a new grandeur, she has established that all nature is living. Whether piercing the fiery clouds of the sun, or searching the fathomless beds of the sea; at the poles, and at the tropics, everywhere there is life, everywhere animation in a thousand forms. It is by the guidance of science through the chamber of nature that we behold all its wonderful phenomena. When corruption has banished honor from the world, then turn the mind to the study of nature, she is always pure and robed in virtue. Nature loses no part of her enticing mysteriousness when science investigates her wonders.

The speaker labored under the disadvantage of a foreign accent, which at times was quite noticeable, and deflected from the force of his delivery. His voice was good, but he had taken just enough elocutionary drill to interfere with a proper rendering of his production. An affected and exaggerated emphasis on some few words frequently caused a smile from the audience. He spoke as though he were really afraid to utter the words *awe* and *mysterious*. However, the style of his oration was admirable, and for its originality and literary merit deserves high commendation.

MR. F. W. BARBER

then stepped upon the platform and told an expectant audience what he knew about "Pernicious Literature." Frank gave us the benefit of years of experience with this subject, and although it has been pretty throughly discussed throughout this country during the past year, yet he presented it to us under several new phases. He said that good books invite us to a realm of noble and inspiring thought. These influences may be in every household—may permeate every heart. The tons of obscene literature which pass through the mails every year, he likened to a hideous malaria in the atmosphere —to a festering sore demanding immediate attention. He called the writers of this trash demons in human form, whose only work it is to make skeletons in many a family, whose sole mission is to demoralize, blight and ruin.

The race of life is becoming intense, and we have no time to feed the mind with sickly sentimentalism. Like the muscles of the gymnast, our intellectual qualities must be exercised in order to make them strong. The debasing influence of a vicious thought cannot be estimated.

Among the ancients the highest virtue was courage; to-day purity of character is most to be desired. Although we have laws which punish the sale of obscene literature, yet the speaker told us that from every newscounter are sold the "Days Doings," "Police Gazette,"

et cætera. The time has come for action; these foul monsters must feel the power of a righteous indignation embodied in law. Already we hear the mutterings of an awakened conscience, and soon the people will rise up like one man and blast out of existence this great evil.

One or two of the speaker's gestures were evidently put in for effect, but his appearance was free and unembarrassed. Many of the audience marked Mr. Barber third, and some even placed him second. The judges were men well qualified to decide upon the merits of an oration. They were James L. High and Victor Marowitz, both well known lawyers of this city, and the Rev. Goodman. The President announced the decision, saying that the "Coroner's Jury" had considerable difficulty in making up their verdict.

From private consultation of a VOLANTE reporter with the judges, we learn that from the very start two of them were in favor of Mr. Hanchett for first place. The other judge placing him second and Mr. Clark first. Messrs. Barber and Brown also had one vote for a high place. The decision seemed to be universally approved among the students; it was as follows:

Mr. F. G. Hanchett, 1st Prize.
Mr. F. H. Clark, 2nd Prize.
Mr. E. T. Stone, Honorably Mentioned.

A GREAT deal of time the past winter, we understand, has been spent by the young gentlemen of the university, in the gymnasium, in developing to a high degree their strength and agility. The scene of action is now, to some extent, transferred to the ball ground, but the exercise is continued, apparently with renewed zest. The result of all this is seen in the straightness and elasticity of figure, and the often wild excess of animal spirits everywhere observable. Everywhere except among the young ladies. They have spent the same time in their study-room, enveloped in shawls, stirring the fire, and diligently training themselves up in the ways of learning, and the shape of the letter S.

It has been a very studious winter with most of them, owing partly to their small and divided numbers, partly —we say it not boastingly—to the character of the ladies themselves, and partly to the inclement weather, which prevented much indulgence in amusements. But after this long and close attention to study, need of relaxation begins to be felt.

We are sure if some regular and systematic exercise could be inaugurated it would be both pleasant and beneficial.

We have heard frequently of ladies' rowing-clubs, equestrian parties, base-ball nines, etc., in other colleges; then why not here?

True, there is very little provision made for anything of the kind, but it ought not to be so.

All hopes centered in the old recitation room adjacent to the study-room are vain, for it has been appropriated to other purposes. But surely some secluded corner of the basement, or of the campus ought to be found where they could occasionally indulge in a game of base ball, or tag, or something equally inspiriting. At least an archery club might be formed if all the adjacent lives and property were insured.

Archery is a harmless (at least as far as intentions go) and beautiful amusement, and the campus certainly affords good field, for either that or lawn tennis. The latter might perhaps be more feasible and less dangerous to life and limb.

If spring should happen to come some time this year, one of these certainly should be attempted.

TO many it is a matter of surprise, and to some, o regret, that we, as students, take so little interest in strictly college affairs, such as literary societies, the ball nine, and other associations of the students.

This is one of the disadvantages of being in a large city, in whose doings we are permitted to mingle and take an active interest.

While we can show less flourishing societies than other colleges of the same rank, we get much practical knowledge of the world which is invaluable after leaving school.

We sometimes envy the students who, situated in some country village, carry on flourishing organizations in every department, and are the cynosure of all the wondering villagers. Yet we believe our state is better. The comparative advantages of city and country institutions are often discussed, and each has its own advocates. It cannot be disputed that the liability of boys being carried away into vice is far greater in the city.

When we see boys led off by the temptations of the city, we incline to say that the city is a bad place for a college. But on reflection, we are convinced that boys have their characters to make sometimes before they can be men, and the undeveloped condition of graduates of country colleges is a frequent subject of remark.

They may go back to the paternal nest as innocent as they went forth, with the one idea added, that they are mental prodigies; and the only wonderful thing they have discovered is, that one head can contain so much knowledge. But, if they are ever to mingle in city life and men at large, they are placed at an immense disadvantage compared with their city rivals.

In the city college, students find their individuality totally obscured unless they assert themselves. Any

tendency to self-conceit receives an early blight, and every man stands in college and out for just what he is worth.

Wealth, too, makes less distinction among city students. Everyone has enough to occupy his attention without looking into the private affairs of others.

When the city student graduates, if he has his eyes half-open, he has sufficient knowledge of men and business to judge of his own ability and tastes, and feel sure of whatever position he assumes.

In this opinion, which observation and the uniform testimony of others has confirmed, we are consoled for the lack of what is usually termed "college spirit."

LAST term the Junior class completed their course in Greek by reading Demosthenes' On The Crown, and consequently have had their last study under Prof. Olson.

As a member of that class, and speaking the unanimous voice of the class, we wish to express something of the high appreciation we have for him as a man, as an instructor, and especially as an expounder of the oration On The Crown. The culture, sound judgment, and high character which the Professor brings to his class-room have long been appreciated by our class, but we had never seen them brought out to as good advantage as in his teaching of Demosthenes' greatest oration. The successful teacher of such a study must be a broad-minded man, and to be eminently successful should, we think, have some of the instincts and characteristics of an orator.

We feel that it is but justice to the Professor to say that in the opinion of the class he was eminently successful.

We consider our last term's work in Greek one of the most profitable of our college course. Many grand and inspiring truths were unfolded to us which will not soon be forgotten.

At the close of the term the Professor complimented the class for the "manliness" they had shown in his recitation room. We wish to say that it was but the reflection of the treatment we received from him, and if college professors, in general, would treat students more as men, they would themselves receive a more manly and generous treatment.

LOCALS.

Mumps!

Rats are at a premium just now.

Mumps? Yes, mumps! had 'em!

S. R. P. O. has nine lives, exactly.

S. R. P. O. is not so evanescent as was imagined.

Ghosts are sometimes seen flitting about in the dusk of the basement hall.

S. R. P. O. flings out her banner. Long may she wave!

Miss May Sherer is in school again this term, and recites with the Juniors.

Can't some of the dear girls be coaxed to tell us all about it? We know they all want to.

Morgan Park Theological Seminary closes May 17th. Commencement at First Baptist Church.

Can we not have a flower-bed or two this spring to relieve the vast monotony of our front campus?

And now the young lamb gazes upon the ice in the lake and longs for the Fourth of July. The green pea and the snow bank lie down together.

We are progressing finely in our list of childish accomplishments—last year we had the measles and this winter a thorough course of vaccination and the mumps.

Horse radish "warranted pure" is again abroad in the land, and the embryo sugar-refiner rubs another onion in his tearful eyes as he grates the gentle turnip on the back steps.

Scene: Room 7, Jones Hall. Time: Two hours after Junior Ex. The prize orator in his *robe-de-nuit* endeavoring to borrow a half-scuttle of coal.

CURTAIN.

BEWARE—of going through the basement at night without a light. Judging from the generally torupn-condition of things, accidental (?) cases are wanted for surgical practice.

One of the seven Alumni who claim to have been slandered in a previous number of THE VOLANTE, now acknowledges that it would be vain for him to attempt a denial of the charge.

A second year Prep., who went to a matinee at Haverly's, was stopped by the doorkeeper, who demanded his ticket. The Prep. pointed to his *cheek* with a significant wink and passed in.

A scene after an examination. First Senior, boastingly: "My average is 99.967." Second Senior, with an air of conscious superiority: "Mine is 99.968." First Senior: "Let 's play horse."

No sooner does a Senior appear on the street in his new silk hat than he is "run in" by the police, and dispatches are immediately sent to the Insane Asylum to ascertain if any of the inmates have escaped.

THE VOLANTE would offer a timely suggestion that a flower garden be constructed somewhere on the premises for the convenience of the dignified Juniors. We feel

quite positive that they will never be induced to attempt one of Prof. Bastin's miles (equal to the distance between Douglas Monument and Grand Crossing) solely in the interests of science.

The late spring is exceedingly unfavorable for base ball. Scarcely anything has been done yet towards forming a club. The gymnasium seems to supply sufficient recreation and muscular training.

Now, while the ground is soft, is a good time for pedestrians to keep off of the grass on the campus. Why cannot the walks be raised above the common level so that there will be no temptation to trespass?

A class has been started under Prof. Bastin's direction to pursue original investigation in the department of zoology. If the enthusiasm of its members approximates to that of their leader, great success may be anticipated.

Several of the boys attended the concert of Amherst College Glee Club, in Central Music Hall, April 5th. Of three college clubs that have sung here recently, "the boys" place Yale first, Amherst second and Williams third.

A very enjoyable reunion of old college friends was given by Miss Edgerton, at the close of last term, in honor of Miss Ryan and Mr. Henry Topping. Mr. Topping was unable to be present, much to everyone's regret.

After Junior Ex. the orator of the evening, with his usual magnanimity, regaled his friends and admirers with an excellent "spread." He displayed his good sense and rigidly adhered to his temperance principles by furnishing nothing stronger than lemonade as a beverage.

A class for the pursuit of a truly æsthetic science has at last been formed. There has long been felt a need for some such refreshing study to relieve the monotony of a dry college course, but it has remained until now unfilled. The class meets daily at 2:30 P. M. and dissects rats.

The classes in zoology, botany and biology, under Prof. Bastin, took their first excursion on Friday, April 22d, going to Woodlawn on the Hyde Park train. Owing to the lateness of spring material was scarce, but a few frogs, a snake and several varieties of water insects rewarded their search.

A good story is told of a certain member of '81. Having been introduced to a dashing young grass widow, of whose previous experiences he was ignorant, '81 was (to put it mildly) completely "struck." Acquaintance quickly turned to friendship and friendship to—well he asked the privilege of an early interview at her home. It was eagerly yet blushingly accorded. Soon a little girl of ten years appeared for whom the fair one manifested such affection that '81 inquired if it might be her little sister. "Why, no, my daughter!" '81, "—!—!! —!!!" *That call was never made.* The widow tells the story.

The Theo. Sem. boys were discussing the matter of bringing their ladies to their recent "literary" anniversary when some one remarked that B. was going to bring his *Gunn.* "Well he musn't shoot my *Coon,*" rejoined a well-known punster of '80. "I'll show him *Howe,*" added another theologue, and then they all fainted.

First Upper Classman. "Say, chum, who are the cheekiest men in the College?"

Second U. C. "The second year Preps., of course."

"No; guess again."

"Then the first year's."

"Why, no; those that have the mumps!" (*Joke.*)

A theologue who attends the University stepped into a room, last week, where there was a case of the mumps, with the request that he might study there for an hour. On being asked if he had "had 'em"—"MUMPS!" says he, "—!!!" The way he skedaddled was a caution to snakes. It is believed that he was frightened out of a year's growth.

On the evening of Saturday, April 2d, the University grounds and vicinity were lighted by an electric lamp suspended over the front entrance. The effect of the bright light on the building, in contrast with the deep shadows of the recesses, was very brilliant. A larger engine is to be substituted for the small one now in the basement for testing more fully the utility of the light for the use of public buildings.

In view of the fact that the attendance upon the literary societies is usually small during the spring term and the interest in literary matters subsides somewhat, THE VOLANTE would recommend a few joint meetings of Tri Kappa and Athenæum during the present term. They have been satisfactorily and successfully tried in past years. Let us lay aside past animosities and embrace each other by way of variety.

If all the falsehoods which have been fabricated to obtain excuses for absences from recitations were published in book-form, they would unfold a tale of misery and sickness compared with which the story of the seven years famine in Ireland would cause no more grief than the perusal of a last year's almanac. They would present such an array of startling episodes that "Buffalo Bill's Last Leap" and "Tracked to Death" would sink to the uninteresting level of the average Sunday school book, and pass into insignificance. The benefits of the marking system are certainly self-evident.

The official reports of observations on the total solar eclipses of 1878 and 1880 fill a large volume which has recently been added to the library. The work contains over fifty handsome plates, illustrating the appearance of the eclipses at several stations in the Western States and Territories. Besides their scientific interest to astronomical students many of the colored plates are exceedingly beautiful from an artistic point of view.

Miss Jessie Waite gave a delightful reception in honor of her visiting classmate, Miss Carrie Ryan, Friday evening, April 8th. About ten couples boarded the train at Thirty-fifth street and soon drove from the car all other passengers by their sweet (?) college glees. The evening was spent in general festivities, including dancing, cards, supper and songs. It was intended chiefly as a reunion of '80, and the "old boys," with their "old ladies," came prepared to renew old friendships.

Some members of the Ladies' Department seem to forget the purpose for which their room is intended. Those who have an hour or two to spend there daily cannot afford to lose the time, and neither can they employ it to advantage while some are indulging in hilarity, others mumbling their lessons in a loud undertone, and still others studying aloud in concert. It would be a great favor, as well as an act of justice, if they would refrain from such exercises. We hope they will take this in good part, as it is so intended.

EXCHANGES.

Our Canada contemporaries are so different from college papers on this side of the line, that we should know one of them at a glance, without looking for the name.

They are quite English in style, the little wit they attempt being of the portly, John Bull order. They give more attention to heavy discussions and questions of government, but lack the intense local spirit which our college papers manifest. They are never flippant, nor are they very interesting: if they have more weight, they lack that versatility which is the life of American journalism.

A recent comer from the North is the *Queen's College Journal*, of which we have received three or four numbers. In the matter of heavy original articles this paper is an exception to the class, but it follows the English custom of publishing the University sermons. An item appeared in the first copy received to the effect that the *Journal* had been uncourteously treated by the publishers of the VOLANTE. We are surprised to see this item extensively copied in our exchanges. Otherwise we had not intended to notice it, but justice to the editors of the VOLANTE compels us to say that they were in no way responsible, being entirely ignorant of the matter until the item appeared in the *Journal*.

The *College Courier* contains the best article on "George Eliot" that we have seen, among a large number. The writer discerns the true mission of the novel-writer, and, while paying due tribute to her genius as a writer, deplores the gloomy fatalism which broods over the writings of George Eliot, and which places before her readers a yawning gulf which neither faith nor hope can fathom. The *Courier* does credit to its staff, showing much improvement since the beginning of the year.

Looking over the *Undergraduate* we were about to pass the poem, "A Legend of the Tides," without reading it, as we do nine-tenths of the poems in the college papers; but on second thought we read it through, cut it out for our scrap-book and showed it to others, who fully agreed with us as to its merits. Of course we resolved to give it a word of commendation, but looking further we blushed to find in the Exchanges column a very appreciative comment on THE VOLANTE. Though we generally avoid "answering back" when we are complimented, we must say that we were more than ever convinced of the good taste and keen discernment of the *Undergraduate*.

The next number of the *Harvard Register* will be its last.

We are sorry for this because it deserves a good support and a long life, yet we think, for a magazine of over sixty pages, the reading matter of the *Register* was not of sufficiently general interest to command an adequate support.

The *Bates Student* is as regular and prompt in appearing as it is uniformly good in its matter and neat in its typography. Its departments are well balanced, but we would criticise its locals in one respect, viz., they begin "Whooper-up!" "Ha J-e-gorry!" "You old reservoir!" etc., etc., *ad infinitum, ad disgustum*.

Many students of Bates go out to teach during the winter term and their ludicrous experiences in pedagogy furnish many funny items for the *Student*.

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