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"SUCCESS CROWNS EFFORT."

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WHY I AM YET UN-WED.

A POE-M.

Once upon a midnight dreary, I was sitting with my Neera
In the kitchen by the cupboard which the firelight glimmered o'er,
While we two were gently rocking, suddenly there came a knocking,
Which, so mighty, caused a shocking of the house from loft to floor—
Such a vigorous, violent knocking as I never heard before,
And I hope to nevermore.

Ah, distinctly I remember, it was one night in December,
And we then had been reminded of the lateness twice before,
How I wished surcease of raining! for it was my early training
Not to leave the folks complaining, as I'd heard in days of yore;
But angry, seething, frowning clouds, which in working wept the more,
Long detained me, nothing more.

But the knocking, which I spoke of, was so sudden that it broke off
Conversation, and, the joke of this narration I deplore.
Quick we both sprang up together, and stood looking at each other,
And I felt a mystic bother, which I ne'er had felt before,
For my Neera, in a tremor, went and opened wide the door,
'Twas her Mother, nothing more.

While she in the dark was peering, I was quiet, wondering, fearing,
Doubting, dreaming dreams no boy had ever dared to dream before;
But the silence soon was broken, and the mother gave her token,
And her words with anger spoken first abused and nothing more;
But when she spied my pent up form, 'neath the table on the floor,
Goodaess, gracious, how she swore!

First I thought that I would joke her, but I found that did provoke her
And she gathered up the poker, and I started for the door;
But so fast her steps repeating, that she cut off my retreating,
And then gave me such a beating that my head for weeks was sore—
Such a vicious, violent beating that I was all over sore,
For she thwacked me o'er and o'er.

When at length she ceased her reeking, I betook myself to speaking.
"Sir," said I, "or Madam, truly your forgiveness I implore;
But the fact is, it was storming, and the sky looked quite alarming,
But myself I'd just been warming, and had risen to the floor;
And was on the point of starting, when I heard you at the door."—
Then she struck me three times more.

"You ghastly, grim, and grouty gump! I'll make you twitch, and jerk, and jump!
You know my rule is, no one up after ten inside my door,
Brave indeed, when men with misses sit and fear such storms as this is!
You're an embryo Usses arn't you? Now begone you bore!
Take your coat from off that chair, and take your form from out my door!"
Then she at me came once more.

To the window I did dash up, *sine* time to raise the sash up,
Salled forth and made a smash up, and the glass my breeches tore,
And for this unique adventure, I'm to blame, if not to censure,
For some secret, ill indenture caught my boot, and then, I swore,
Pending there, 'twixt earth and heaven, with a vixen raving o'er,
Makes me nervous, evermore.

Presently I pulled the boot off, and then took a direct shoot off
To my cottage, hatless, coatless, semi-shod and trowsers tore.
Reached that place, just as Aurora blushed upon my garden flora,
Yet unwed! Forebodings *mora* haunt my sleep and tinge my lore,
And I fear in that dark *ora*, which you all may well deplore,
Wans my soul forever more.

NAMES, CHRISTIAN!

"What's in a name? &c., &c., &c.," said Juliet in her fair
courtship with Romeo. And why the saying? She was in
love:—Death is a leveler. Sage and clown are reduced
by death to the same denomination,—*dust*. Love is as much
a leveler; but it *levels up*, and its reduction is *ascending not
descending*. But one need not be as blind as Love, nor as
sightless as Death to lose the distinction of *Names*. That
distinction has been lost, is being lost while all eyes are
open and clear of sight. Misnomers are nothing new.

Classes have even been liable to misnaming; and terms des-
ignating classes have been equally liable to a confused
shuffling among and a wonderful shifting about.

The common names, philosopher and fool, king and slave,
philanthropist and churl, have been so indiscriminately ap-
plied, have been doffed and donned so often, by apposite and
opposite characters that we hesitate not to exclaim with the
mealy-mouthed Capulet,—“What's in a name!” I have no
quarrel, however, with those who borrow *common* names, pro-
vided they disgrace themselves only. I can not quarrel with
the ass who takes a holiday strut in an unemployed lion's
skin, provided his ass-ship brays the terrific. This will sus-
tain admiration for the lion. In fact, as individuals, we are
hardly censurable for the confusion among class terms. So-
ciety in the aggregate decides such questions, and I have but
the unit of a choice in the matter. But there are names
which are left almost entirely to individual choice; names
which should possess appropriateness to the highest degree,
yet names about which we moderns exercise little care and
less taste. I refer to the first, or given names of individuals.
The history of such names is curious, interesting and instruc-
tive. To trace these terms down from the first, *Adam*, to the
last, *Paul Washington Kane Blackstone Calvin Shakespeare
Dobkins*, would be to notice the countless indices that fami-
lies and nations have left to mark their times and tendencies.

So far as names are concerned, it would be a descent from
simplicity to complexity, from meaning to insignificance, from
euphony to jargon. To be appropriate, a first name should
be simple, significant and distinctive. The good old Hebrew
names possessed these characteristics in a great measure.
Adam, Israel, Moses, John, Eve, Hannah, Ruth and Mary are
names endeared to us, not only by their association with God
in history, but by their music and their meaning. And other
nations have a few choice names, excellent in meaning and of
beauty full. But, in our degenerate days, we have so far de-
parted from propriety in the use of these terms, that the
resulting confusion out-babels Babel. There is a class of
appellations with which many good people have taken blas-
phemous liberties. I mean those God-given names, such as
Abraham, Sara, Immanuel, in every way appropriate for the
persons whom they then designated, but in no way befitting
those who now wear them. These are Heaven-chosen titles,
and we have no right to them. In the next place we are
making sad havoc with the *meaning* of names. We apply or
misapply them so as to burlesque their sacred or beauteous
significance, while the ambitious giver and the martyred
wearer dwindle down to objects of charitable contempt. For
instance, *Israel* is a suitable name for Jacob, who *wrestled* and
prevailed; but, how many *Israels* can we count, who are not

of Israel? who are too nothingly to wrestle with flesh and blood,—much less with spiritual wickedness in high places, and least of all with a mighty messenger from Heaven. Here we find a monster glorying in the name of John, *gracious gift of God*; there a weak-kneed, water-brash skulk, whom we know as Peter, *a rock*; and here again a tetchy, brawling, battle-brain, who avenges a thousand fancied injuries under the soothing label of Alfred, *all peace*. Who doesn't know a Rebecca almost too ugly to be tolerable? Who cannot remember a sweet, patient Martha unlike everything her name implies? Who does not speak lightly the names Helen, Irene, Isabel, and Evangeline, when he thinks of the many outcasts who have wedded these gladsome names to infamy and disgrace?

Hero-worship is prolific of confusion among given names. The Hebrews, in obedience to a divine command, wrote the name of their Deity upon the door posts of their dwellings; but your worshipers of heroism without command or permission, but with a daring profanity, enough to kindle the wrath of the benignest godling, strings and buckles the names of their Penates and numerous demi-deities upon their puny children. At the present day the prevalence of this sort of nonsense is truly charming. Does a man "walk with God" and manifest the life and glory of such holy fellowship,—his name is bestowed upon a thousand little *miserables*, whose hereditary curses prevent them from ever appreciating, in them, the excellencies which make the name they wear a joyful remembrance. Let the intellectual Brobdingnag astonish the world by his feats; and lo! a myriad of mental Lilliputians are dandled, snubbed, and lullabyed to the music of that giant's name. If fire, and sword, and battle give one fame, his memory will not die; or, rather it cannot be buried, if it die; or, rather it will not *stay under*, if it be buried; for in our households, everywhere, its blood-begrimed and battle-blackened corpse will stand upon its feet and with its grizzly terror, cheer our hearthstones in form and seeming of a whining, pale-faced, cowardly boy. But the rage does not stop here. As hero-worshipers, like other idolaters, have gods many and lords many, in order to show due respect to each *adorable*, they are often obliged to fasten a whole calendar of names to one offspring. Interrogate a modern child about his name, and will he not answer as answered the unclean spirit from the tombs, "My name is legion"? It may be that the parent imagines that his child, by mouthing over a lengthy list of blessed names, will be influenced for good, as the Catholic is wrought up to devotion by counting his string of holy beads. But, granting them such a goodly reason, is there not objection to this *extensive* naming on the ground that parents are sometimes liable to treat their children partially in this matter? The first buds of the family must bear the honored names of that particular family; then the sweetest badges of romance (don't "go to the *Dickens*" to find these); then the illustrious, *high-sounding terms*; but woe to him, who as No. 10 or No. 15, appears to claim a christian(?) title. By this time, doubtless, the catalogue of worthies has been "used up," and he, poor fellow! must be content with Dick, Tom, Harry, or something else as low and common. Granting hero-worship to be proper and legitimate, I deem this *naming mania* a most irreverent madness. It shows too much

familiarity with the *deified*. What! think these great dead men would rest in peace, could they hear their names so used in vain? They have indeed committed their names to posterity, but what a "casting of pearls before swine," and a "giving of holy things to dogs." But taking back the last grant, and justly judging hero-worship to be a vile abomination, it follows that naming the unconscious, unresisting little folks from a servile devotion to this idolatry is an abominably mean practice. Oftimes it is "eating sour grapes and setting the children's teeth on edge" with a vengeance. My teeth are sore to this day.

In conclusion, let me recommend Tupper's prudent advice upon this subject:

"He that is ambitious for his son should give him untried names;
For those that have served other men, haply, may injure by their evils;
Or otherwise may injure by their glories; therefore set him by himself,
To win for his individual name some clear praise."

J. M. W.

CENSURE VERSUS ADULATION.

There is hardly a person in all the land, who has not been denounced as a consummate rascal, or as an habitual liar—or both—by somebody. Americans display a great deal of denunciatory ability; and seem to be developing their talents in that line daily.

It don't matter whether the recipient of our choice language is in the private or public walks of life, he has the full benefit of billingsgate vituperation. From newspapers we have gleaned this choice language: "Grant is an habitual drunkard;" "Seymour, a knave and fearful liar;" "Judge Barnard a hoary old villian;" "Dr. Holland, a poor old fool;" and "Anna Dickinson, a common scold;"—elsewhere we learn that "Grant is one of the greatest generals of the age, and perfectly temperate;" "Seymour, the ablest living statesman;" "Judge Barnard, the firm, just judge;" "Dr. Holland, the learned essayist;" and "Anna Dickinson, the great heroine of woman's rights. We compare notes, and the unprejudiced are forced to the conclusion that they are all personages of respectability, and of at least average intellect. In the recent canvass according to newspaper report, there was not a public man of either party, who had a vestage of good character. If newspaper men, public speakers, and the world at large, were less censorious, and dealt less in excessive adulation, the things written and spoken would have far more weight. The master painter does not always use black or flashy colors on his picture.

When we depart from facts and reason, we find it very easy to garble truth and prevaricate, and thereby use words to which we attach far less meaning than their sound warrants; to which, also, we cannot hope that other people will attach much permanent significance. Public tranquility and propriety demand a less number of laurel-wreath bearing, and war-whooping editors and speakers. The most trivial things of every-day life, are so generally called "perfectly splendid," or "perfectly horrible," by the fair, that they sound very flat and insipid; on the other hand, we masculines are too often branding severe charges with all the energies of our natures.

This ill custom of ours is blunting the perception of good and bad. One of the results of this semi-barbarism is, many have ceased to regret being abused, and are but little flattered at praise. We need to temper our language with human experience, reason and judgment. * *

ELOQUENCE, AS IT WAS AND IS.

Eloquence has possessed an exquisite charm, and been a delight to mankind, in all ages, in every climate and under every form of government. Over the unlettered savages of the western wilds, and over the barbarous hordes of the eastern continent, over the cultivated meetings of the Acropolis and the Forum, and the able legislation of modern Europe and America, it has alike exercised its electrifying influence.

This exalted science has assumed different forms and taken different directions, according to manners and opinions of men. The same soul is required to discern and to be animated by its beauties; whether the courage is to be inflamed, the imagination delighted, or the judgment convinced.

We presume the great object of eloquence is to influence the imagination and direct the judgment. Seldom, if ever, in polished society, do we find them, distinctly and absolutely, separated. In the ratio as a nation lays aside the idea of conquest, for the sake of extending its dominions, or as its government becomes more stable and independent, or is strengthened by the peaceful arts of commerce, the more turbulent passions that arouse the human heart, and arouse to daring enterprises, are found, usually, to subside, and the judgment exerts its calmer and better influence. Thus, the scenes in which the imagination was wont to wander and revel are dissolved, and the mind is readily drilled into nice and critical researches, amid the less brilliant, but more noble, regions of truth and reason. We think the student is often led astray, by the beautiful and animated, but turbulent, harangues, of the ancient orators, whose chief dominion of eloquence lay in the imagination and passions. This is an age of reason and truth, not an age in which to indulge in extravagant figures and rhetorical flourishes. Orators who were calculated to excite the admiration and tone up to highest pitch, the enthusiasm of a Roman or Grecian auditory, would make a very blank impression on an intelligent audience of the nineteenth century. Those ancient governments were ever engaged in schemes of conquest or defence, or in the most turbulent internal dissensions, which kept the passions and imagination aroused, and which allowed but little time for an appeal to the calm judgment and better reason of men. In the grand march of events, the judgment has gained dominion, chaotic images vanish into thin nothings, the delusions of fancy are unvailed, the reason is brought into full play, and we begin to compare the present with the past.

A people whose government is firmly established, and whose habits and manners are well defined and settled, the progressive series of cause and effect is ever present to them, and exercises a controlling influence. Hence, in this age, and in our government, we do not greedily listen to the harangues on the golden prospects of futurity, but are dissatisfied with assertions or propositions that will not bear the investigation of truth. An independent principle is engendered in the hu-

man mind, which will not accept the sentiments of any individual, however classic in speech, unless the powers of words, and the embellishments of images are sustained by the dictates of judgment. An intelligent people, who are able to analyze and comprehend propositions, and who estimate things by the array of facts, will not permit their judgment to be clouded by excessive figures and extravagant assertions. To attract and convince such a people, hyperboles of ancient eloquence are not only unnecessary, but unacceptable. We are in the midst of a new era of eloquence, wherein the myths of imagination vanish before the stern energetic powers of reason.

Truth possesses, within itself, the elements of power and beauty. The orator who speaks under its influences, does not clothe his ideas with the splendor of artful embellishment, but produces a language characterized by its native dignity. At the present day an orator may hopelessly expect to bewilder an assembly, and lead it into his untried schemes, or decoy them to applaud his visionary speculations. The solid elements of eloquence nevertheless still remain not only unimpaired but strengthened. Still, in the new system, the elegant proprieties of language and moderate diffusion of sentiment, may aid the orator. The true nature of eloquence is unchangeable, and it don't matter as to the particular mode of demonstration, so that the desired end is attained. We see that in one age it is used to arouse the passions, in another to delight the imagination; and in a third to convince the reason, but they are so many modes by which its end is attained, namely, to persuade and convince. * *

THEATRES.

Much has been said of late concerning theatres and theatrical actions of the present day. Many just criticisms have been thrust from the pulpit and other rostrums at these "instruments of evil." We heartily commend the warning against the effects of many scenes which are acted in theatres now, yet we would not discourage the principle of theatres—a principle which is more effective in influencing and instructing the public than any other, whether it be for good or evil. Lessons of morality and virtue can be taught there with as much effect as those of corruption and vice. Formerly, the theatre was used to teach both the king and his subjects principles of christianity and morality, and if it is used to-day for other purposes, that is no reason why it should be abolished. Knowledge is a power which can be used for right or wrong, and its being used for the latter only proves that it is not directed in the proper channels. The most conscientious man on this point will not deny that in traveling he may learn many useful lessons, and yet he is only viewing a continuous and ever-changing scene of a perfect theatre, where the curtain of night falls at regular intervals. The principle of theatres is "to hold as it were the mirror up to nature"—to reflect the image of realities. And while it is true that it is injurious to society to portray depravity and corruption continually, it is no less true that the reflection of virtuous and noble deeds has a good effect on the same. We should not surrender this instrument because it is improperly employed, but rather use it for combatting what it now upholds, and thus amuse, instruct and gratify a people who must and will have some exciting recreation. *

The University Reporter.

IOWA CITY, IOWA, - APRIL, 1869.

Believing the advantages our University offers to investigators in science are not generally recognized throughout the State, and among sister colleges, we would call attention to the *facts*, and solicit from those desiring to become thorough and practical chemists, a comparison with other colleges.—Too frequently, chemistry is taught in American colleges, by men who, perhaps are good doctors of divinity, but have never prepared themselves particularly for this work, consequently but little interest is awakened in this progressive science. But our Board of Trustees fortunately obtained the services of a man who has given, from early youth, all his energies to this science, *and this alone*, and under his care the chemical department has grown to its present leading position.

The rooms now occupied are five in number, viz: two 22 feet by 23, two 22 by 10, and one 30 by 55, all with ceiling 15 feet high, and basement underneath. They are supplied with gas, water and other necessary conveniences for laboratory practice, and presided over by Prof. Hinrichs and his assistant, Prof. Emery. While we are willing to compare our rooms with those of other institutions, we would especially call attention to the *manner* of instruction, and the *time* allotted chemistry in our course of study, which, as will be seen by reference to the respective catalogues, is *double* that of the University of Michigan.

Prof. H. is devoting his life to scientific investigations, and teaches by lectures, not using text-books which are a quarter of a century behind the times, but, at much labor and expense, holds communication with the most distinguished scientific men and institutions of Europe, and thus presents the class with recent discoveries, long before they could be obtained through the ordinary channels. The student feels that it is a *live, progressive* science, hence the great earnestness among those of this department. The light shining every night, till so late an hour, from the laboratory window gives the pupil confidence in the teacher, and has stimulated more than one student to renewed exertion.

It is with feelings of pride, that we notice pages in the standard scientific reports of the different countries of Europe, discussing the investigations of our own professor, and know that leading scientific journals of the world desire him as a contributor. Indeed our University is already indebted to him for a valuable library obtained by exchange with authors and learned societies. Life is too short, and the field of knowledge too vast, for one mind to comprehend all, and he who would be a discoverer, must sacrifice ease, pleasure, and even life itself, that man may take a higher stand, and hold closer communion with his Maker.

While our paper is passing through the press, Prof. Leonard and family are on their way to their new home in the vicinity of Centralia, Illinois. This change of residence has been rendered necessary by the state of the Professor's health, which has become seriously impaired by his labors in the University. By out-door exercise and such attention as will

be required in the management of a piece of ground devoted to fruit culture, it is hoped that his strength will be restored so far as to permit him to return, after a few months, to the post which he has so long and so well filled. This, his friends in the University and out of it—and they are many—do most earnestly desire. Meanwhile, it is proper to say, that provision has been made to meet his classes.

His intended departure was made the occasion, a few evenings since, of some surprise visits on the part of the students, and faculty and teachers, which form a pleasing episode in the life of the University. The students led the way. On the evening of Thursday, the 18th ult., the Professor, upon his return from a visit with a friend out of town, was much struck with the appearance of things within and without his own home. Upon entering, the explanation came to him *by degrees*. The members of the Sophomore, Junior and Senior classes had actually taken possession of the premises, and with the distinct object in view of showing their affection for the Professor and his wife, by the presentation of their gifts. At a well-chosen time and to the pleasing discomfiture of the recipients, Miss Lizzie Griffith, of the Sophomore class, stepped forward, and in behalf of the donors, with a few well chosen words, presented the beloved couple a beautiful edition of Shakspeare, and of Longfellow's translation of Dante's Divine Comedy, together with the beautiful chromo of Sunset in the Yo-Semite. It was with difficulty that the Professor responded to the words and deeds of the donors, so much did they affect him. The relief came through the additional presentation of some garden implements, chosen in view of the Professor's new work. In presenting these, Mr. Pickler spoke for the donors, and was very happy to say that the Professor's new work could be made to subserve the old in many ways. Turning teacher for the moment and giving first lessons, the speaker threw out hints to show how the Professor, with the tools in hand, could be pursuing the study of the angles, and curves, and cones of his favorite *mathe-mattocks*, when away from them. The turn given to affairs was a pleasant one, and after spending a time in social enjoyment, the guests left, each and all regretting the necessity which was taking such friends from them.

Next came the Faculty and Teachers, having chosen the evening of Monday, the 22nd, as their time. The Professor and his wife were caught off their guard completely. Without consulting them in the least, the friends who had come in had brought for presentation an ice pitcher and goblets, and call-bell, which Dr. Black, speaking for the donors, conveyed to them, the Professor responding with much feeling. The pitcher and goblets were selected by the lady teachers from the large stock of Marquardt & Bro., Clinton street, and are the workmanship of the celebrated Meridan Co. The pitcher is a double-walled, porcelain-lined one, with medallion ornament, and of antique style, bearing the inscription, '*Memento of the Faculty and Teachers of the I. S. U., March 22nd, 1869.*' The goblets are of chased gilt, and bear the initials of the Professor and Mrs. Leonard, the whole set constituting a gift as pleasing in itself as it is worthily bestowed. Long and well may the Professor and his wife enjoy all that has been presented! They are worthy.

MODERN LITERATURE.

Nothing is more certain than that the capacity of a person for the enjoyment of the beautiful in art and fiction is proportionate to the degree of culture which he possesses. None but a cultivated ear can fully appreciate the exquisite beauty of a sonata of Mozart or Beethoven. None but persons of highly cultivated tastes can discern and feel the indescribable charm of true poetry. None but persons whose eyes have been trained to the perception of artistic beauty can appreciate the beauty that shines forth from the paintings of a Raphael or a Correggio, or from the sculptures of a Canova, Thorwaldsen or Rauch.

To acquire a refined taste is one of the great objects of education. But taste is in reality only another name for the faculty of appreciating and discerning the beautiful in the works of art and nature. In order to strengthen this faculty, we must know the world of art and nature, the things and facts of life and history, and the better we know these and their relations to each other, and to ourselves, the more perfect will be our ability of enjoying everything beautiful, good, noble or sublime in the world around and above us.

We cannot know a great many *things* and *facts* before we can appreciate the beauty and fitness of the *words* which are used by the great writers to present to the mind a beautiful picture of the world of facts and ideas. All literature and all art, as well as all science, are based on the knowledge of things and facts. As this knowledge increases the aspect of literature, its scope and character must necessarily change. Hence it is that a knowledge of the world of Homer and Plato is not sufficient to enable us to feel at home in the world of Shakspeare, Schiller and Gæthe. A refined modern taste rejects the terminology and scanty resources of a past age, and characterizes as arrant pedantry the attempt of naturalizing the gods and goddesses of Greece and Rome in this age of steam-engines, railways and telegraphs. The true value of study of modern literature cannot be known by those who have only a vague and indefinite knowledge of the conditions of modern civilization, for the literature of any age is merely the poetic and artistic expression of the ideas and aspirations of that age. Hence, it is absurd to assert that an acquaintance with the literature of past ages, when humanity was in its infancy, will fit any person for the appreciation of the literature of our own age.

It is a somewhat strange fact—although one that is easily enough explained by a study of the causes which have produced it—that it is the fashion in the colleges and collegiate papers to indulge as often as possible in highly-wrought tirades on the superiority of ancient (Greek and Roman) literature, while no mention is made of the beauties of modern literature? There may be two reasons for this. The one may be illustrated by the well-known story of the farmer who warmly extolled the merits of one of a yoke of oxen which he was offering for sale. Being asked why he did not praise the other also, he replied, after some hesitation, "Well, he doesn't need it." Perhaps modern literature does not need any commendation. The question seems pertinent: Why is it that so many of our scholars have words of praise only for one set of authors, while keeping a suggestive silence in re-

gard to the other? If they do so, because they think the other ox needs no praise, we will not complain. But possibly there is another reason. Perhaps they are not acquainted with modern literature; perhaps they are unable to appreciate the beauties of Gæthe and Shakspeare, of Milton and Schiller, of Dante and Cervantes, not to speak of the brilliant galaxy of historians, philosophers and naturalists of the present day. Let us remember that no one can do justice to a subject which he does not thoroughly understand. As long as the attention of young men and women is directed to things of the past, rather than to those of the present, we may, possibly, gain that kind of culture which will enable us to enjoy the beauties of the past—and we do not deny that these beauties are very great indeed,—but it is foolish to expect that in this manner we will attain that other kind of culture which is indispensable to every one who wishes to understand and appreciate the grand productions of modern genius.

It is no depreciation of the great merits of the ancient writers to say of their successors, the modern authors, that the latter have attained to a higher degree of excellence than the former. It would be strange indeed, if this were otherwise. The achievements of the past have borne their fruit; we are the heirs of the past, and we have immensely increased our inheritance. Is it necessary to call the attention of thinking young men to this palpable fact? Is it necessary to warn them against an unreasonable and one-sided advocacy of the study of things that belong to the past, and to urge them not to shut their eyes against the wonderful wealth that lies around them? Is the small capital inherited from the past worth more than the enormous interest which has accumulated on it? He must be an intolerable pedant indeed, into whose head the idea has never entered, that the law of progress is universal, and that it is as potent, in the domain of literature and art, as in that of science and political life. The Greeks have been our teachers, but may it not be that a pupil surpasses his teacher? Are the oldest teachers always the best?

If it is true, and no intelligent person will deny it to be so, that the modern literatures of England, France, Germany, &c., are of infinitely more value than those of Greece and Rome, would it not be advisable that our colleges should become very much more liberal in reference to the study of the modern classical authors than they have thus far, with a very few exceptions, shown themselves to be?

OONIMUS.

HENRY W. LONGFELLOW, Geo. B. Cheever and Nathaniel Hawthorne graduated at Bowdoin College in the class of 1825 which numbered 38. Longfellow ranked fourth, Cheever eighth, but Hawthorne was not counted in at all. Since their graduating day nothing has been heard of the first three at the head of the class.

The son of Rev. Mr. Montague, residing at Whitewater, Wis., was delivering a college valedictory address a short time ago, when, in taking his handkerchief from his pocket, he pulled out a pack of cards, which fell on the floor; "Halloo," he exclaimed, "I've got on my father's coat." The worthy divine, who sat in front of his promising son, was more confused than his hopeful scion.

THE ELF-KING.

TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN OF GOETHE, BY ZETHOS.

Who rides so late through the darkness wild?
It is the father with his child;
Tightly he clasps the boy in his arm,
He holds him safe, he keeps him warm.

"My son, why hid'st thy face in fear?"—
"See'st thou not father, the Elf-king there?
The Elfen-king, with sceptre and crown?"
"My son, 'tis a mist-cloud floating down."

"Thou lovely child, come, go with me!
Many charming games will I play with thee;
On the strand is many a beautiful flower;
My mother has many a shady bower."

"Father, oh father, and dost not hear,
What the Elf-king is whispering in my ear?"—
"Be quiet, be quiet, my child, and sleep,
O'er the dry leaves the wild winds sweep."

"Wilt thou, brave boy, go along with me?
My daughters shall prettily wait upon thee;
The night with their festive dances they keep,
And nightly they'll rock thee and sing thee to sleep."

"Father, oh father, and see'st not there,
The Elfen-king's daughters so graceful and fair?"—
"Be quiet, my son, very plainly I see;
'Tis but the gray bark of the old willow tree."

"I love thee, thy beautiful form doth please;
But who comes not gladly, with force I must seize."—
"Father, oh father, he's hurting me,
Elf-king has done me an injury."

The father shudders. The night is wild,
And tighter he grasps the trembling child;
He reaches the gate with fear and dread,
And in his arms, the child is dead.

HAVE LAWYERS A RIGHT TO EXIST AS A PROFESSION?

There is one question that every class of men must, consciously or unconsciously, ask of themselves from time to time: "Have we, as a profession, a right to exist? Are we a necessary portion of the community, serviceable to our fellow-men, provided with genuine work to do, and doing it to the best of our ability? Or are we useless and cumbersome, *fruges consumere nati*, good only to keep bread from moulding, as the nursery translation has it, and better out of the way, and done with. If lawyers did not ask themselves this question, it would be often enough asked of them. No subject has been more popular with Utopian reformers than the abolition of lawyers as a class. It is proposed so to simplify all laws, that simple and uninstructed common-sense can understand and apply them, and every man in the community be his own attorney and counselor.

The object is laudable enough. If the 31,983 lawyers of this country can be dispensed with, and so many citizens transferred from the non-producing to the producing class, it is so much added to the wealth of the country. The only question is, *can you do it?*

The amiable philanthropists who would banish us so summarily, and set us all, as they say, to getting an honest living—in some other way, argue on the assumption that the complexity and multitude of our laws result from the manner in

which they are drawn. Not a few of them are charitable enough to hint that these long-headed lawyers contrive to keep our statute-books in such a state for their own emolument and glory. They love to quote verbose old English statutes as a proof of ingenious concealment of sense under a multitude of words. But a moment's reflection will convince any candid mind that the difficulty of simplifying our laws is born neither of lawyers nor law-makers, but is a necessary consequence of the manifold relations among men which the law is called upon to regulate. Think for a moment what a vast province the law has, and how constant, yet varied are her duties, even toward the most peaceful and unlitigious among us. She is called upon to watch every right and privilege we have, and to guard against every wrong, of act or omission by which we can suffer. Her cares extend alike to the rich and the poor, to the busy and the idle, to the virtuous and the vicious, to those who invoke her protection, and to those who are unconscious of receiving it. Upon these last indeed are spent by far the greater portion of her labors. The honest citizen who keeps clear of the lawyers, and thanks Heaven that he was never in a court of Justice in his life, is as great a charge to her as the most quarrelsome litigant in the State. It is for him, and to enable him to keep out of law that four-fifths of our statutes are passed, and that courts deliberate long and painfully to frame decisions which shall be guides for the future. Philosophers tell us about latent heat, hundreds and thousands of degrees of temperature lying hidden in bodies that we handle daily without feeling them to be even blood-warm. So every citizen's life in a country like this is saturated with latent litigation. His every act is the net result of hundreds of forgotten law-suits. It is amusing to hear such a man talk about having nothing to do with law. He has been at law from the moment of his birth; he is at law now with everybody around him; and he will be at law till he is dead and buried; aye, till he has been so long buried that his grave no longer claims the law's protection, and the honest ploughman of a future generation guides his plough-share over his mouldering bones. Not at law because he has no suit in court! He might as well say that there is no weight in yonder rock, because it lies quietly on the ground. Let him put his fingers under it, and he will find that gravitation is at work all the time. Let him once disturb that balance of forces which now holds his rights and his neighbor's, in such delicate equilibrium, and he will find at once with what perpetual action the law is pressing upon every citizen. The man who thinks it so easy to keep out of law gets up in the morning to a breakfast, whose peaceful enjoyment it takes at least two hundred pages of the Revision of 1860 to secure to him. He goes out to work upon a farm, which he could not hold in safety from seed-time to harvest if no positive law guaranteed the validity of that bit of paper he calls his title-deed. He drives a team which is protected against all sorts of injury by more than one hundred distinct paragraphs. If he has a better plow than his father used, he owes it to a library full of patent laws and decisions. The first animal he turns loose on the prairies would almost ruin him in damages if the supreme court had not made a decision expressly for his benefit. He builds his fences, measures his

corn, works his road, and marries his wife under and by virtue of the Laws of the State of Iowa. He sends his children to a District School that has cost the State well-nigh more law-making than anything else in it. He collects a debt that never would be paid, if it were not for his power of enforcing it by suit. He latches his barn and house-door, and goes to bed in security, only because complicated and manifold statutes have been made to provide against every wrong that force or fraud could do him.

Now, if we pass from a simple life like this to the diversified employments that make up civilized society, and if we think of the countless rights in which each of these employments must be protected, and the countless wrongs which the legislature must foresee and protect against, our manifold laws, like the manifold beams and girders of a vast building, are seen to be all necessary. * *

BIOGRAPHICAL.

Our Professor of Ancient Languages is the next regular subject for a biographical sketch. AMOS NOYES CURRIER was born at Canaan, N. H., in Oct., 1832. His childhood and youth were passed among his native hills, enjoying the luxury of Heaven's first, best gift to man—the privilege of honestly toiling for a livelihood. At the age of twenty he graduated at Kimball Union Academy, and received the degree A. B. at Dartmouth College in 1856, and came to Iowa in 1857. The trustees of the Iowa Central University, at Pella, offered the Professorship of Ancient Languages to him the same year, which he accepted and held until August, 1861, that dark period in our country's history, when he resigned his position as Professor to accept a commission as a private in Co. "C," 8th Iowa Infantry. He accompanied his regiment in the Springfield campaign, commanded by Maj. Gen. Fremont. His regiment was present at the battle of Shiloh, and he was among those taken prisoners during the terrific scenes of those April days.

The hospitalities of the prison-pens of Selma and Cahawba, Ala., and Macon, Ga., were enjoyed by him to their fullest extent until June of the same year, when he was paroled and sent to Benton Barracks, Mo., where he spent over two years as chief clerk of the post commander, Col. B. L. E. Bonnaville (Irving's Capt. Bonnaville). He was then commissioned Commissary of the 11th Mo. Cav., which place he filled with his regiment in Ark., until Jan., 1865.

On his return home he was re-instated as Professor of Languages in the University at Pella. In June, 1867, the Board of Trustees did themselves credit and honored the Iowa State University, by electing him Professor of Ancient Languages and Literature, which chair he is still filling to the entire satisfaction of all who are connected with the Institution, and has won the esteem of all who know him, and admire and love the faithful teacher and christian gentleman.

STRUGGLE FOR LIFE.

Miss Anna Dickinson introduced her lecture, at Metropolitan Hall, March 8th, on "Struggle for Life," by announcing as her text a sentence spoken by a celebrated divine, "Stop preaching and go to fighting," and by stating that her theme would be the one dearest to her, the condition of women. She

then portrayed the helpless condition of a woman, who has been supported by some strong masculine arm and enshrined in some heart, when the arm is suddenly withdrawn, or the heart proves false, and contended that the work and trials borne by men would strengthen women.

But the central idea of the discourse was the pernicious effects resulting from parents discriminating so much between the education of boys and girls. "Boys are taught to work, girls are raised for the market and given to the highest bidder." And as women make society, she added, this reacts directly upon men, causing them to desire tender hands and untanned faces, rather than the hard palms and sunburnt brow of honest toil. Women, reared in tenderness, and without experience, are compelled to compete with skilled workmen, and consequently do not receive good pay, nor do the work well. She hesitated in finding fault with men, while mothers would sustain and encourage their daughters in idleness and fashion. She stated "we must make it as honorable to sell a woman's work, as it is to sell her body and soul."

Miss Dickinson delivered her lecture in a clear strong voice, and with that eloquence which invariably accompanies earnestness, seldom indulging in those bitter invectives which detracted from her speech last winter. Although her rhetoric does not equal Taylor's, nor is her logic always conclusive, yet the interest she feels in the subject, and the plain manner in which she presents it, will always give her the attention of the audience. Let women *themselves* present their claims to share the sterner burdens of life, and to bear part of the political warfare, and let them prove by the manner in which they do this, that they *desire* and are competent to sustain its trials, *then* men will yield all the rights they demand. R.

A Convention of American Philologists will assemble at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., on the 27th of July 1869. The preliminary steps to organize a National Society for Philological Investigations were taken at a meeting in the New York University last year, and it is now proposed to complete the organization.

The teachers of Languages and literary men of the nation are requested to attend and participate in its exercises. Certainly there is need of such an organization, and we hope that the good results flowing from it may be felt all through the land.

The following questions will be discussed:

1. How much of the time in a collegiate course of study should be given to the study of language?
2. How much of this time should be devoted to the study of the modern languages?
3. Should the study of the French and German precede that of the Latin and Greek languages?
4. What position should be given to the study of the English language in our colleges and other high schools of learning?
5. What is the most efficient method of instruction in the classical languages?
6. What is the best system of pronouncing Latin and Greek?
7. Should the written accent be observed in pronouncing classical Greek?
8. What more efficient measures can be taken to preserve from destruction the languages of the aboriginal Indians of America?

The University Reporter,

IOWA CITY, IOWA, - - - APRIL, 1869.

MANAGING EDITORS: **H. M. REMLEY,** **W. D. WILSON.**
 ASSOCIATE EDITORS: **A. LOUGHRIDGE,** **F. C. PEASE,**
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Communications are requested from our friends on matters of interest.

All articles of a political, partisan or anonymous nature are rejected.

Address, JOHN A. PICKLER, Financial Agent, Box 270, Iowa City.

DEDICATION OF THE HESPERIAN HALL.

When we published a notice of the dedication of the Erodelphian Hall two months ago it was recorded as, probably, the most interesting event we would be called to notice during the present year. At that time no one thought of being so soon invited to attend another such meeting. True, on the same floor was another hall similar to the one fitted up, but the society for which it was intended was thought to be about extinct. We had heard nothing from it for some time and the first indication of its life, that we received this year, was the subscription paper presented a few weeks ago, asking assistance in furnishing this Hall. The work, undertaken by resolute and determined young ladies, went rapidly forward and as a result of their labors one of the most tastefully furnished Halls of the University was, on the 19th ult., dedicated to the use of the Hesperian Society.

The exercises of the evening were opened by Miss Deeds, the President of the society, who stated the object of the meeting and extended to all present a cordial welcome.

A few appropriate remarks were then made by Prof. Leonard, who, on the part of the Trustees, presented the key of the Hall to the Society.

The reply to the address was by Miss Zimmerman. She briefly recounted some of the troubles through which they had passed, and said that now, having secured a home, they hoped, in it, to do good work training their minds for future usefulness.

Representatives from the different societies of the University presented the congratulations of their respective organizations.

These were responded to, in behalf of the Hesperian Society, by Miss Thompson. She returned thanks for the liberal aid they had received from friends, in the work they had undertaken and carried forward thus far, and urged her associates to do their part so well, that in future years they would look back with pride and pleasure, not only to the exercises of that evening but of all meetings of the Society.

After this, remarks were made by members of the Faculty and other visitors.

Mr. E. Clark, Treasurer of the University, made a stirring little speech, setting forth some of the advantages and needs of the University and pledging *five thousand dollars* to assist

in erecting an Observatory in connection with the school.— Prof. Smith and members of the University choir helped make the evening pass pleasantly, by interspersing the exercises with excellent music.

The University can now boast of four well-organized and working Literary Societies, each occupying an excellent Hall. The prospects of all of them are bright, and while we would encourage emulation we would caution them to guard against those petty jealousies that are so common in some of the older institutions. We have thus far kept free from such troubles, and, if every one does his part, never need be annoyed by them.

CITY SCHOOLS.

We are glad to notice that the City Public Schools, which have just closed another term, attract the attention of many of our best citizens. Each teacher seems determined to make his school superior to all the rest, and the pupils take like interest in the progress and reputation of their school. It is a pleasure to step into the rooms and watch the cunning looks and sparkling eyes of the little fellows as they march up to recite. And if you give play to your imagination, you may see in that roguish line a class of dignified college seniors.

The patrons of the schools do not realize how cheering it is to the scholars to have their parents visit them at school, and show that *they* take an interest in the school's prosperity. The teachers will appreciate a kind word now and then, and if there is any class of mortals that earn their wages, it is faithful teachers.

FAILURE THE ALPHABET OF SUCCESS.

Ben. F. Taylor made his name too familiar to the people of the West during the late War, by his thrilling descriptions of the campaigns and battles of their armies, while he accompanied them as a correspondent of the *Chicago Journal* to need any introduction by us. His reputation as a literary man and public lecturer since that time, has become noted and we certainly consider him the inferior of no one on the whole lecture list. The lecture on English Words, last year, with the one on the above named subject, this year, have given him a popularity with our lecture going people, that few hold. Mr. Taylor possesses no superior ability as an *orator* or *reader*, but covers these defects by the *matter* that he presents. He makes no attempt at an argumentative style, deeming, as he says, that "Logic is only the art of taking a dead thing to pieces and making it deader" but establishes his points by using familiar illustrations, and embellishing them with the beautiful conceptions of his own mind. He declares that Time, Space and the Devil are the enemies that men must conquer to be successful and to *no* man can the crown of triumph be truly awarded, for every great invention or discovery has been the work of thousands of intellects, and the word success has been spelled out by a whole alphabet of failures. As a word-painter, Mr. T. is peerless, as a sculptor of thought-images he is unrivaled.

Whether with the telescope "that gateless gazer of the universe" he catches the door of God's Laboratory ajar, and watches him making worlds, or with the "telegraph, he snatches the heart out of a story and leaves the rest to come

along by rail-road," or tells the tale of a child who fooled the Devil with a "bunch of primroses plucked from the mountains while the dew was on," his hearers are alike charmed and instructed. And as the man who buys a tree for a dollar, and gets a pair of robins, a morning and evening song, a mat of shade for the noon tide hour, and a fresh breath of oxygen every day, gets a great bargain, so they who go to hear B. F. Taylor, never regret the going.

We are glad that the Y. M. C. A. have engaged Mr. Taylor for next year.

At an election held by the Junior class last month the following officers were chosen: President, Mr. J. E. Cook; Vice President, Miss Ada Rankin; Secretary Miss Sada V. Graves; Treasurer, Mr. W. Hoffman; Historian, Mr. C. H. Preston; Orator, Mr. W. D. Wilson; Toast Master, Mr. J. A. Pickler.

The sociable on the 20th ult., although not largely attended on account of the press of examinations, called forth many "Au Revoirs," it being the last of the term.

Shall we have another, the second Saturday evening of next term, April 17th?

RETURNING.—Several of our old students, who have been letting their light shine in the capacity of school teachers the past winter, are seeking their places in the classes again. We venture they have learned something since they left us, and gladly welcome them.

PROF. A. T. SMITH, has resigned his position as musical instructor in the State University, and emigrates to East Tenn.

Ladies will ride at the Velocipede Exhibition at Market Hall, on Saturday night, April 3rd.

Read New Advertisements on page 109.

Thos. E. Dugan has removed to the building formerly occupied by F. J. Haas, Clinton street, where students will find a fine assortment of Staple and Fancy goods at low rates.

Mrs. A. M. Bryan with a large and well selected stock of Millinery Goods, at the same stand.

Beach & Allin have removed to a more commodious building, three doors north of their old stand. All kinds of University and Common School books for sale.

All books used at the University kept constantly on hand by Lee & Son.

If you want your rooms papered go to Mahana & Son.

CO-EDUCATION OF THE SEXES.

In a recent address the Bishop of Oxford, in maintaining the need of religious instruction in the universities, said—"A college is to be a house in which the family life of England is to be exhibited on a very large scale; where young men are brought together, exposed necessarily by that very circumstance to a multitude of temptations, to expense, and to the indulgence of natural appetites, as to intercourse with one another, where they make utter shipwreck of life, if there is not a wholesome influence brought to bear upon them."

But how is the college to be the larger English home, with all the pure influences of the family pervading it, if that particular influence which has made the English home what it is, is carefully excluded from it?

It was prophecied in America that when young men and women were brought together in colleges, that there would be many love affairs; and that these would be often imprudent and lead to the neglect of studies. The experience of American colleges shows that though there were fewer cases of this kind than had been anticipated, they rather incited those concerned to better conduct and more earnest study. Both man and maid aspire to make the best appearance in the eyes of those they love, and not to be surpassed by others, and why should such attachments be imprudent? Where does society offer the young better opportunities for knowing each other's minds and characters, than is implied in studying side by side for years? The chief source of domestic unhappiness is that the young, fresh from their monastic colleges, rush heedlessly into life-long relations with persons of whose minds and characters they know little or nothing, or else enter into heartless marriages of convenience. There is too much levity associated with this subject; human happiness and welfare are more deeply involved in it than any other; and to a thoughtful man or woman it will be no disparagement of the co-educational plan that it may lead to attachments which, surviving the test of years of associated study, may end in marriage.

In none of these colleges has the standard of study been in the slightest degree lowered beneath that of those in which young men alone are taught. The girls have not asked or received any favor, and they have shown their entire competency to hold their own in the same field with the other sex, whether as pupils or professors. Miss Mitchell is as good an astronomer as any in America; and the professor of mathematics at Antioch—a woman—taught without the book the most abstruse portions of her science, with a clearness which the best male professor acknowledged could not be surpassed. The writer has often been in the recitation rooms, and can testify that the girls were in no wise inferior in their performances to the young men; and at the commencement the public essays read by the female graduates dealt with subjects of general interest quite as ably as the orations of the male graduates. Indeed, the uniform testimony of these co-educational colleges confirms that of the examiners at Cambridge, England, that if there has been any difference between the young men and the young women, it has been in favor of the latter.

The undeniable facts reported from Cambridge have compelled the opponents of all such steps to shift their ground.—Forced to admit that women can pursue, with equal success, the same studies with men, they now say, "Yes, but they are not proper studies for women; they do not fit her for her true sphere; and consequently they unsex her." Now it must be admitted that it would be a strange anomaly in nature if this were true. Women daily sit at the same table with men, and partake of the same food; nature has not provided one kind of beef and mutton for women and another kind for men; and yet the same meat and bread are converted by one sex into women, by the other into men. The two are not unsexed by breathing the same air, or by the same sunshine; there is not a female and male air or sunshine; and yet one frame converts these to long tresses, the other to long beards. It would be strange indeed if by the same mental diet, the same intellectual sun and atmosphere, woman should be made too masculine or men too effeminate. The fact is, this is absolutely a phantom. It ought to be needless at this date to affirm to English people that the broad culture and profound psychological penetration of "George Eliot," the severe scholarship of Elizabeth Browning, the political insight of Harriet Martineau, and the science of Maria Mitchell, co-exist with the utmost womanly feeling and refinement.—*Westminster Review*.

An absent minded professor, in going out the gateway of his college, ran against a cow. In the confusion of the moment he raised his hat and exclaimed, "I beg your pardon madame." Soon after he stumbled against a lady in the street; in sudden recollection of his former mishap he called out: "Is that you again, you brute?"—*Postal Record*.

Velocipedes are worth, in Paris, from \$7 to \$10, in gold.

OTHER COLLEGES.

Quebec has a Seminary two hundred years old.
 Harvard College is worth about \$1,700,000 in gold.
 Vassar Female College has a base-ball club and ten boat-clubs.
 William and Mary College has received a legacy of \$5,000 from England.
 The University of California now pays its Professors \$300 a month.
 Adrian College, Michigan, was partially burned recently. Loss \$20,000.
 Sixty students have been dismissed from Cornell University for failure to pass examination.
 Eben B. Towne, of Reynham, made a New Year's gift of \$5,000 to Dartmouth College.
 Cornell University has 320 volumes in its library in the department of Sanskrit Philosophy.
 There are at present one hundred and seventy one students in Princeton Theological Seminary.
 Mrs. Toppan, of Portsmouth, has given \$5000 to Harvard to found a Scholarship in memory of her late husband.
 Spring Hill College, Alabama, was destroyed by fire, February 4th. Students with effort escaped. Loss \$100,000.
 Cambridge University is eating ass flesh by way of experiment, which seems to be a close approach to cannibalism.
 The authorities of Cornell College, New York, have inaugurated a custom of having dancing at college receptions.
 The students of Wesleyan University have formed a literary society in which is represented every secret society in the College.
 "Founder's Day," at Cornell, comes on the fourteenth of April. The *Era* says; "The first celebration will be an occasion of great interest."
 Four-fifths of the students in the Madison, Wisconsin, University, have been converted during the great revival which is still in progress.
 The Committee of the Ohio Legislature to whom was referred the location of an Agricultural College, have decided in favor of Urbana.
 A blind man is pursuing a College course at Shurtleff College. His brother reads his lessons to him and he commits them to memory.
 The following is one of the rules adopted for the government of the boys in the Western University of Alabama:
 "Boys must wear suspenders."
 Racine College has a smoking room, well furnished with carpets and pictures, where students can retire and enjoy their cigars. Next to it a billiard table is to be added.
 THE ALUMNI, of Monmouth College, number 182, of whom 50 are Ministers of the Gospel. The present Senior class numbers 39. A Normal Department has been established.
 We clip from the *Courier*.

North-Western Christian University, Indiana. The students of this college concluded to celebrate Washington's birth day contrary to the wishes of the Faculty, for which thirty-three of the best students were expelled. They have appealed to the regents.

A few weeks ago the youthful President of Cornell University was taking a sleigh ride with one of the students, when by some mishap, there was a "tip over." A good natured countryman in assisting them out of their difficulty remarked to the student "Let the other boy hitch up." It is said that President White enjoyed the joke.

RICH.—The story is told in "College Days," that at one of the rhetorical classes in Ripon College, a preparatory student had written an essay on the subject of the habit which some people have of bestowing too much attention on the affairs of others. He had enunciated his topic in a very modest way, when the professor, who had failed to catch the words, interrupted him with a question calculated to throw light on his subject. Turning to him, the young man responded innocently but firmly, "*Mind your own business!*" Great confusion ensued.—*Qui Vive*.

By Official Reports there are in Ohio one hundred Colleges and Academies, about one-fifth being Colleges. No doubt many institutions are not included in this list. The attendance of students in 1867, was 15,122.

Professors and Teachers,.....	466
Value of Apparatus,.....	\$86,288
Value of Buildings,.....	\$3,411,755
Endowments,.....	\$1,815,430
Oldest College, Ohio University, Athen,.....	1804
Most Classical Graduates, Miami University,.....	802
Most Students, Oberlin,.....	1,139
Most Endowment, Ohio Wesleyan University,.....	\$350,000
Most Expensive Buildings, St. Xaviers,.....	\$275,000
Most Expensive Apparatus, Ohio Wesleyan University,.....	\$10,000

These are statistics of 1867. Two years may have reversed some of them.—*Willoughby Collegian*.

A Woman's Suffrage State Convention will be held in Des Moines about the 20th of next month. Anna Dickinson, Susan B. Anthony and Mrs. Cady Stanton are expected to be present. Mrs. Brinkerhoff, of this State is the leader of the movement. It is likely several other conventions will be held in different parts of the State, in order to secure a large delegation to the National Convention, to be held in New York next May.—*Muscatine Journal*.

The vessel which is to convey M. Gustave Lambert and his corps of scientific explorers to the North Pole has been purchased, and the deed of assignment to M. Lambert drawn up by the syndicate of the shipping agents of Havre. It has been christened the Boreal.

The salt mines of Austria are worked by a million of miners.

A celebrated cliff in Denmark, the "Queen's Seat," recently fell bodily into the Baltic, from a shock of an earthquake. The rock, about four hundred feet high, was an object of great interest to tourists, from the magnificent view to be had from it.

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PERSONAL.

Dr. E. O. Haven, President Michigan University, is in his forty-ninth year.

The wife of the late Hon. D. Franklin Wells has just been paid \$3,000 life insurance.

Katie Bowers, Junior Normal, has been elected to the Grammar Department Barnard school.

Will Lytle, class '70, Principal Franklin School, has been compelled to suspend labor on account of ill-health,

Frank Springer, class '67, lately visited this city and will attend the Law Department next term.

Miss Alice O. Bent, Graduate of Class of '64, and a successful teacher, has been visiting her old friends in this city.

Mr. F. C. Pease, editor from the Freshman class has been compelled to resign his position, and leave school on account of ill health.

Miss Kate E. Brainerd, Normal Graduate, has resigned her position as Teacher of Grammar Department, Barnard School.

S. B. Zimmerman, Normal Graduate of last year's class is conducting the affairs of Lucas School, of which he is principal, very quietly and smoothly, and to the entire satisfaction of its patrons.

Prof. Perkins favors us with the following from a R. I. paper concerning our *alumni*:

The Readings given by Granger W. Smith, of Brown University, in the Third Baptist Church, on Wednesday evening were very good.

Mr. Smith is a man of much promise, and has evidently made this important branch his study. The audience expressed great satisfaction with the entertainment and desire its repetition at an early day. Should he be persuaded to repeat his readings he would doubtless be favored with a much larger audience than the one of Wednesday night.

We clip the following from the *Yale Literary*.

Our exchanges will confer a favor by giving the following, as wide a circulation as possible. Its publication in different parts of the country, particularly the West, is desirable.

MEMORIALS OF THE RECENT WAR.—By the liberality of a gentleman in New York, a graduate of Yale College in the class of 1848, a sum of money has been placed in our hands for increasing, arranging and binding the collection in this library of pamphlets, hand-bills, manuscripts, etc., illustrative of the recent war. This collection has received many rare and curious documents by the kindness of graduates and friends of the college, whose opportunities at the North and at the South were particularly good for rescuing from destruction such historical relics. Before proceeding to bind up what has already been accumulated, we solicit further contributions, that a collection designed for permanent reference in so public a place may be as complete as possible. Any thing illustrative of the war will be acceptable, even duplicates of our present possessions being very useful to others in exchange. In New Haven and in New York, we can send for any such contributions, and the cost for transportation from any part of the country will be cheerfully paid.

ADDISON VAN NAME, Librarian.

A benevolent gentleman in Richmond, Virginia, offers five dollars to any good-looking young woman with a name ending in y, who will never use the termination ie.

ITEMS.

America was discovered on Friday.

Iowa does not owe a cent and has \$629,000 in the treasury.

Henry Ward Beecher's *Life of Christ* will be published in May.

New York has tried music in her public schools, and the effect is good.

Over 50,000 persons have come to the United States this year from Norway, Sweden and Denmark.

In California there is one woman to three men; in Nevada, one to eight; in Colorado, one to twenty.

A Hebrew bible, dated 1491, or 1492, printed upon parchment, was lately sold in London for \$800.

Over 100 orders for Adams & Asher's new Map of Iowa have already been taken in this county.

The total length of the railway track in the United States is more than twice the circumference of the earth.

On the 17th ult. at the dedication of the Agricultural College of this State, 100 students were present, 20 of whom were girls.

The *Yale Courant* says that members of the Faculty have been tardy at religious exercises twelve times since the beginning of last term; asleep twice. No record of absences.

There was coined at the San Francisco Branch Mint, during the month of December, \$2,520,000 in gold, and \$47,000 in silver, which is said to be the largest monthly coinage for several years.

Of the 150,000 teachers in the United States, it is asserted that 112,500 are females. The city of Boston has 553 female to 62 male teachers; New York city has 2,206 females to 176 males.

The term *gasconade* is derived from the name of the people inhabiting Gascony, a province in France before the French Revolution. They were noted for their exaggeration in describing their exploits; hence the term.

READING FICTION.

The reason and judgment of the young should first be developed to a certain extent, before they should indulge in reading even the best fiction. Novels of the highest order are not all good. In either the language, style, invention, sentiments or conclusions, or in all, the superficial may be led adrift and filled with strange vagaries of fancy.

First give the mind mental training and discipline, so that it is able to detect error in its manifold forms. Before a young person takes in hand even the best novels of Scott, Dickens, Bulwer, or Reade, he should have sufficient common sense to eliminate the most glaring evils from the good,—in short, to read as a critic.

Too often are fallacies instead of sound views, and common errors instead of patent truths, most ingeniously interwoven by the novelist, and thereby are those with weak judgments injured.

First fortify the intellect by reason, and you may then please the fancy by fiction. * * *

SOCIETY REPORTS.

THE ZETAGATHIAN SOCIETY on Friday evening, March 5th, had for consideration The Woman Suffrage Question. The discussion was animated and earnest. Strong and eloquent appeals were made in behalf of woman-kind, but owing to the determined opposition the question was lost.

On the evening of the 12th the question was: "Did the French Revolution promote the interests of liberty?" Some of the speeches were good, showing active preparation; decision given in favor of the negative. The above named were the only discussions during the past month, as on the 19th the Society attended the dedication of the Hesperian Hall, and on the 26th elected officers. The latter were chosen as follows: President, H. M. Remley; Vice, J. E. Cook; Secretary, S. B. Zimmerman; Treasurer, J. C. Helm; Corresponding Secretary, C. H. Preston; Critic, L. Jackson; Sergeant-at-Arms, W. B. Craig.

Adjourned to meet on Friday evening, April 9th, when the Farewell and Inaugural addresses will be made by the outgoing and in-coming presidents. The following question, also, will be discussed in committee of the whole, "Is Roman Catholicism compatible with free institutions?"

IRVING INSTITUTE.—The Society has had but three sessions during the month of March. The exercises have been marked, in the main, by vigor and exhibited considerable preparation and study by the performers.

Did the Crusades exert a beneficial influence on the Society of Europe? Was there more to be admired than condemned in the character of Napoleon Bonaparte? are questions that have been discussed. The election of officers on the 26th ult. resulted as follows:

President, A. B. Lemmon; Vice President, J. A. Pickler; Corresponding Secretary, W. B. Ketner; Recording Secretary, W. H. Fort; Treasurer, E. Herring; Sergeant-at-Arms, J. D. Butler; Critic, N. B. Dana. The thanks of the society are tendered to Prof. C. A. White for a beautiful picture for the Hall.

HALL OF THE ERODELPHIAN SOCIETY March, 31, 1869.—The Erodelphians are still advancing to their ideal standard in the attainment of knowledge and worth. The Society is still increasing in numbers. The exercises during the last month have been of unusual excellence, prominent among these, we will mention the Paper read by Misses Griffith, and Prescott. We can report no discussions this month, as they were deferred for want of time. The number who attend these weekly meetings of the Society, shows the interest felt by its friends for its advancement. The next regular meeting will occur on the first Friday of next term. All are invited.

S. V. GRAVES, Sec.

PRAYER MEETING NOTES.

That culture of heart which begets "The same mind that was in Christ Jesus" has been sought by a goodly number of students at the Tuesday evening prayer-meetings during the past month. At the last meeting of the term there seemed to be an unusual interest. Quite a number being about to leave study-halls for the more active duties of life, earnest prayer was made that all might be led into channels of usefulness and that God would give grace to honor His name in the use of all their talents in whatever field called to labor. "Blessed are ye that sow beside all waters," B.

Not long since in the hydraulic diggings at Smartsville, California, 1,200 kegs of powder were used for one blast. The material thus moved was two hundred and seventy feet in length, one hundred and eighty feet in width, and an average depth of over one hundred feet. At the moment of the blast, the hill was seen to rise some fifteen feet, crumble, and then settle back without making any report, there being only a slight trembling of the earth. The cost of the blast is near \$6,000.

MATRIMONIAL.

Married in Washington, Iowa, on the 20th ult., by the Rev. Shearer, Mr. Q. T. MILLER and Miss HATTIE WARREN, both of Brighton, Iowa.

Mr. Miller was a member of the Middle Normal Class, but having turned aside from his course to engage in the ever excellent and honorable work of farming, has chosen for a helpmeet one of Brighton's fairest daughters. A part of their "honeymoon" was spent in Iowa City.

ELEVATION OF IOWA ABOVE THE SEA.

Among the most interesting facts for one to know are the general character of the surface of the region or state he inhabits, and its elevation above the level of the sea. The following data are extracted from the material in course of preparation to illustrate the general topography of the State of Iowa, in the forthcoming final report upon its geology. It will be seen that, considered in its entirety, Iowa is in fact a broad plain, with only just enough inclination of its surface to drain off the water that falls upon it. The general slopes are about as follows: From the southeastern to the northeastern corner (slope of the Mississippi), six inches to the mile; from the southwestern to the northwestern corner (slope of the Missouri and Big Sioux rivers), one foot to the mile; from the northwestern corner to the highest point directly eastward, which is in Dickenson county, six inches to the mile; from the last named point to the northeastern corner, three and two-third feet to the mile; from the southeastern corner to the highest point directly westward, which is in Ringgold county, four and a third feet to the mile; from the last named point to the southwestern corner, four feet to the mile. The elevated strip of country that divides the drainage between the two great rivers, often called the "great divide," but more properly the great water-shed has a slope from north to south of about one foot to the mile.

It will thus be seen that the steepest general slope of surface in Iowa is only about six feet to the mile; the same that the valley of the Platte river has, up which the Union Pacific railway goes, and which seems to the traveler as level as a floor. The elevation of Iowa above the sea, it will also be seen, is comparatively very slight; so slight indeed that some of its artesian wells have been bored to a point considerably below the level of the sea. The following is a

LIST OF ELEVATIONS ABOVE LOW WATER IN THE MISSISSIPPI AT KEOKUK:

	FEET.
Low water at Keokuk (the lowest point in Iowa, and 444 feet above the sea).....	0
Low water in the Mississippi at the N. E. corner of Iowa.....	216
Low water in the Missouri at the S. W. corner of Iowa,	510
Low water in the Big Sioux at the N. W. corner of Iowa.....	825
Ames' Station, near Agricultural College.....	500
Low water in the Mississippi at Burlington.....	42
" " " Davenport.....	84
" " " Clinton.....	143
" " " Dubuque.....	166
" " " McGregor.....	198
" " Missouri at Council Bluffs.....	550
" " " Sioux-city.....	669
Northeast corner-stone of State University.....	220.35
Railroad grade at Mt. Pleasant.....	262
" " Des Moines.....	261
High Ground near Spirit Lake, probably the highest in the State.....	1,250
Railroad grade at Des Moines.....	351
" " Oskaloosa.....	380
" " Eddyville.....	234

A daughter of Murat, the famous king of Naples, is principal of a female seminary in Bordeaux.

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CARLETON
Success
That they are

They have a
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Strangers visiting the city will here find life size paintings of
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Rocky mountains etc. etc. Gallery entrance at Blue Show
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Fall term commences Sept. 17th and closes Dec. 28d.
Vacation of two weeks, Dec. 29d—Jan. 7th, 1869.
Winter term commences Jan. 7th, closes March 31st.
Vacation of one week, March 31st—April 8th.
Spring term commences April 8th, closes June 30th.
Commencement June 30th, 1869.
Anniversaries of literary societies and alumni during Commencement week.

TERMS:—An incidental fee of \$5 00 per term covers all charges. Four students from each county will be received without payment of incidental fee; two in Normal department, and two in regular College departments.

Tuition in Law Department, \$80 00 for the full course, \$30 00 per single term.
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The **Medical Department** will be opened not later than the Fall of 1869. It is the intention to put it upon a basis equally broad with that of the law department, and to secure for its Faculty men whose rank in the profession will be the best warrant that the training of those who are yet to enter it will be safe in their hands.

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