According to an old legend a beautiful maiden is occasionally seen on a high rock which rises abruptly out of the river Rhine, on its eastern bank, near the town of Ober-wesel. Currants and eddies make this part of the river dangerous to the mariner whose attention is thereby drawn away from the danger.

THE LORELEY.

HEINRICH HEINE.

I know not why a feeling of sadness, deep and drear, Should creep upon my spirit as I recline me here; And with it bring a legend of the far-off olden time, When the sprites and fays of "Fatherland" were in their sunny prime.

The air is cool, 'tis growing dark, and softly flows the Rhine; The mountain summit glistens in the evening's bright sunshine; And a beauteous maiden sitteth where that tall cliff cuts the air; And her brilliant jewels sparkle while she combs her golden hair.

She sings meanwhile a melody, so wildly, sweetly clear, The very skylark pauses on quivering wing to hear; And the fair-browed youth, whose shallop light is sailing gayly by, From that fair vision on the height, in vain would turn his eye.

That wond'rous song is in his ear, he cannot hear the surge Of waves upon the pointed rocks, which soundeth like a dirge; Nor marks he how the waters dark are rising wild and fast; Nor how a low and shuddering moan seems mingling with the blast.

For eye and ear are fettered by the vision on the height; Her song shuts out the breakers' roar; her smile lights up the night, Till the mad waves have swallowed boatman and boat anon; And this with her sweet singing the Loreley has done.

Translated by Miss Minnie Taylor.

THE "NEW DEPARTURE."

The "new departure" indicated in the following extract will be hailed with delight by every intelligent friend of scientific education. No longer disparaging culture or given up to the production of narrow specialists, but placing itself squarely on the platform of the old classical colleges ("Grindstones"), it will enter upon a higher career of usefulness and deserve the appellation "liberal" as well as "new."

"There is danger that in our new-born zeal for scientific education, we may sacrifice the interests of a truly liberal culture, producing a generation of specialists, incapable of appreciating the departments of human thought that lie outside their own, or even of rising in their own departments, to broad and comprehensive views. We must not use the microscope till we spoil the eyes. We must not overstrain the investigator until he becomes less than a full man. The chemists, geologists, and engineers, must not cease to be intelligent and active citizens.

"It may be demonstrated that such a mistaken neglect of studies outside the range of a chosen profession, cripples activity and impairs success even in that profession. It is one result of the brotherhood of knowledge that no man, whether employed in the original investigation of nature, or in the application of natural laws to practical ends, can advance successfully without perpetual communication of his thoughts to others, and the reception of their suggestions and experiences in return. Hence the mastery of language, which was the first condition of civilization, remains the essential condition of progress. The power to comprehend statements, logical arguments and demonstrations, and to make such statements as may be comprehended by others, and will carry weight and influence in the very perfection of their form, is a vitally important part of the preparation of every young man for his life's career. His success, aside from his moral qualities, will be in direct proportion to his influence over other men; and this influence, again, will be in part proportional to his command of the means by which the minds of men are moved, mainly, language.

"Behind this vehicle of thought there must be fullness and variety of thought itself. Those fruitful analogies, felicitous illustrations, graceful associations, which come alone through wide acquaintance with human life and literature, are so many elements of power, and without this broad basis of a common ground from which to move the minds of others, the student of a special science, though possessed of the lever of Archimedes that moved the world, has no place wherever to stand. In accordance with these principles, the object of the system of college education in America has always been development and discipline of character, and the broad preparation of the student for his subsequent special or professional pursuits. Our colleges may not have succeeded in realizing this ideal, nevertheless
this has been their ideal; and it is the right one, as much to-day as ever. Whatever changes are required in our institutions of learning, to adopt them to the necessities of the modern era, must be changes in accordance with this principle—changes of means, not of ends, so far as colleges are concerned."—From the Inaugural Address at the dedication of Parlee Hall of Sciences by Prof. R. W. Raymond, President of the American Institute of Mining Engineers.

ANCIENT CIVILIZATION.

BY HERBERT S. FAIRALL.

A great many people have an idea that the movement of mankind is one of continual advancement; that the world is always learning, always progressing, and ever growing better, and that the state of civilization to-day is far in advance of what it has been at any period in the history of our race. Intelligence and prosperity, so characteristic of the nineteenth century, have made this opinion exceedingly prevalent.

The achievements that have of late been made in the wide domains of art and science, have caused us to become so incredulous in regard to former civilizations, that whenever we are compelled to meet their spectres, arrayed in all the grandeur of those old times, we are prone to think it all a delusion, and that the ancient philosophers, statesmen and poets, were but heathen humbugs, around whom a succeeding generations. Literature was of learning, to adopt them to the necessities of the present time in magnificence and extravagance, while their hanging gardens and artificial lakes have been the wonder of succeeding generations. Literature was also held in high repute and cultivated to a great degree.

Poets and orators abounded in every clime. Schools and academies were instituted, and education rapidly advanced, directed by the master minds of the age.

The Alexandrian library of seven hundred thousand volumes was a treasury of writings, that no modern library equals; while hieroglyphics and papyrus manuscripts are evidences that intercourse existed then as now between the several nations. The philosophies of Socrates and Plato, show a deeper mental culture and depth, than any of the mere philosophies of modern times, except perhaps, those that proceed from the Christian religion. Roman laws were so excellent and so thoroughly derived from principles of equity and justice, that many of them are to-day to be found upon the statute books of both European and American nations.

The Egyptian civilization is the oldest of which we have any reliable information; but even it was old when Greece was in her infancy, and the Greek scholars and philosophers were accustomed to resort to its venerable shrines of learning for the knowledge which their own land was then unable to afford. Yet the Egyptians were skilled in the arts, were accomplished, and quite as addicted to luxuries and pleasures, as the people of this generation. The ancients did not, perhaps, possess the printing press, the telegraph, steam, and electric batteries, but they possessed mechanical contrivances for lifting great blocks of marble and granite, that to-day we do not possess; while they
understood the art of embalming their dead, so as to preserve them for thousands of years; an art that modern science has sought to discover in vain.

Archimedes, the great Syracusan engineer, stood far above the profession as it is now. Instruments were invented by him, that set the Roman vessels on fire at an immense distance, and in addition, he had machines that lifted them out of the raging waters and plunged them to the bottom of the sea. If these are facts, as they assuredly are, we are not then so far in advance of the ancients as we would suppose, and often boast of being. We possess many devices for using the forces of nature, which doubtless we think were unknown to them; but it is not improbable that these are but re-inventions of machines that they constructed, used, and lost. At any rate, we must not imagine that the classic shores washed by the Mediterranean have always teemed with an ignorant populace, but remember that one time the mistress of the world; Athens, with all her classic associations, and Corinth, the center of wealth and splendor. Carthage, Alexandria and Babylon, are too suggestive of the greatness attained by our race in art, science, and literature, in those remote ages, to pass readily from our memories.

We may now be surrounded with almost a perfect form of civilization. Our land resounds to the hum of manufactories; steam plows the oceans and rivers of every continent, thunders over arid wilds, and through towering mountains; electricity is our ready servant, carries our messages around the world with lightning rapidity; science assists us in our progress, reveals the history of the past by descending through the earth’s strata, soars at our will off through the myriads of worlds overhead disclosing the wonders of the universe; education is thoroughly disseminated, and we are finally a reading, thinking, well informed people. But in the midst of all this smiling prosperity, let us remember that the ancients were not far behind us in all that tended to their comfort and happiness.

Let us not forget, whenever we contemplate a comparison between ancient and modern civilization, that the former had its Homers in poetry, its Aristotles in philosophy, and its Demosthenes and Cicero’s in oratory; that centuries since, upon the monument of Time, Raphael painted a reputation, and Phidias earned a name that will never be effaced, while Alexander, wept for more worlds to conquer, having extended his dominion over every known civilized people. Let us ponder over the contests of Marathon and Thermopylae, the construction of the Pyramids, and the bridging of the Hellespont; let us think of all this when we attempt to lift the veil of the past, in order to get a glimpse of the drama of life, as enacted by those who long, long ago, have taken

"Their chambers in the silent halls of death."

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GLIMPSES OF EDINBURGH.

BY R. C. GLASS.

No one who visits Edinburgh will fail to be impressed with its rare beauty and magnificence. It is built upon three hills, and spreads in beauty over the intervening valleys and surrounding plains. The site must have been strikingly picturesque even before a stone of the city was erected,—when the shepherds fed their flocks around the base of Arthur’s Seat and beneath therowning Castle Rock. The houses, especially those composing the newer portion of the city, are built of free stone, are plain and substantial, and devoid in a great measure of that outside ornamentation so frequently met with in our large cities. The prevailing style of architecture is Grecian, and this fact, as well as the general resemblance of its natural features to that ancient city of learning and philosophy, has secured to it the name of “Modern Athens.”

An air of refinement pervades the people of Edinburgh which is seldom met with in other large cities. The smoke and din of manufacturing establishments which are so painfully manifest in its sister city, Glasgow, are almost altogether wanting. It is the abode of the rich and cultured, and also of many of the titled nobility of Scotland. Here, too, for centuries have gathered the scholars and literary men of the land, and have found in its quiet and intellectual atmosphere a congenial retreat for their chosen pursuits.

Edinburgh furnishes many places of real interest in its monuments, castles and palaces, its collections of ancient and modern art, and its spots of hallowed associations. Space forbids us to speak of more than a very few of these.

Scott’s Monument, of which the people of Edinburgh are justly proud, situated in Prince’s Street Gardens, is the central figure of the city and is always pointed out to the stranger who visits the city. It was erected in 1844 from designs furnished by George Meikle Kemp, at a cost of £16,154. The monument is an open Gothic cross or tower, rising 200 feet in height and covering by its intersecting arches a colossal statue of the great poet and novelist sculptured in marble. Many of the niches in the monument are occupied by statues of the most familiar characters of Scott’s writings. By paying a fee of 2s. you are permitted to ascend to the top, from which you may have a splendid view of the city and its environs. In the same Gardens are situated the National Gallery and Antiquarian Museum. The buildings are large and imposing, and are fine specimens of the Ionic order of architecture. The galleries are well filled with paintings of every description, and contain many master pieces of art from the most celebrated artists of the present and past. One might well spend days in studying these wonderful works of art and not feel satisfied. In the museum is a marvelous collection of works of ancient art, representing every degree of culture from the stupid
mound-builder to the fertile brain and ready genius of the Greek and Roman. Here, too, is to be seen the old oaken pulpit from which John Knox was wont to thunder his fierce denunciations against the Romish hierarchy. Close by hangs the celebrated stool of Jenny Geddes, supposed to have been introduced by the Earl of Morton himself as himself; the great unhappy victims of this fatal instrument. The, grcat

The Castle is a huge pile of stone wrenched into turrets and fortifications of various shapes and dimensions, covering a space of seven acres, and resting on a summit of trap rocks which lift it to a height of several hundred feet above the surrounding level. In the Crown Room are displayed the regalia of Scotland, and in the adjoining room, called Queen Mary's, is where James VI. was born. The Castle has a curious and interesting history, but too long to be given in this place. It stands like a huge gray sentinel as one approaches the city from the west, which fact called forth from the poet Burns the words:

"There, watching high the least alarms,
Thy rough, rude fortress gleams afar,
Like some bold vet'ran, gray in arms,
And mark'd with many a scaring scar;
The pond'rous wall and massy bar,
Grim-rising o'er the rugged rock,
Have oft withstand assailing war.
And oft repelled 'th' invader's shock."

Holyrood Palace is, on many accounts, the most interesting place to be visited in Edinburgh, because of its many associations of persons and deeds that have long since passed into history. The Picture Gallery, into which the visitor is first conducted, contains many fine oil paintings and portraits of the kingly and lordly class. Queen Mary's Room remains as she left it,—the bed, the chairs, the mirrors, the paintings and tapestries on the walls, all untouched; the last named being the remains of her handiwork. At one corner of this room is the place pointed out as the spot where Rizzio was seized and murdered by his assassins; and the entrance to the audience chamber is the place to where he was dragged and left lying all night in his blood—the stains(?) of which are still to be seen on the floor. A portion of the palace contains the apartments of the royal family,—occupied only when the members chance to be in Edinburgh.

Holyrood Chapel, or the Abbey, is falling into ruins, but it still exhibits sufficient to show its former beauty of architecture. It has been the scene of many historical events. Charles I. was here crowned King of Scotland, and James II., James III., Queen Mary and Lord Darnley were married within its walls. A magnificent fountain—a masterpiece of art—stands directly in front of the Palace and from it gush streams of water in every conceivable manner.

We have only space left to barely mention a few other places of almost equal interest to the visitor. Calton Hill with its monuments of Nelson, Dungald Stewart, Playfair, and the unfinished National Monument; Burns' Monument, in which are kept several letters and other interesting relics of this poet so loved by the Scottish people; the old house in High Street in which John Knox lived, bearing above the door the quaint inscription, "Life God abhor' all, and ye neighbour as yiself;"—all arrest and hold the visitor's attention. In the same street is St. Giles' Church, in which the great Reformer made his stirring appeals to the piety and patriotism of the people of Scotland. The National Museum of Science and Arts is a mammoth collection of all the name indicates, and a day is insufficient to get a passing glance at the different things to be seen. The skeleton of a whale eighty feet in length is suspended from the ceiling in one of the halls. Grange Cemetery is a place of interest to all those who would like to look upon the last resting place of such persons as Hugh Miller, Thomas Chalmers, Dr. Guthrie, and other eminent men. The Balcanie Gardens are a credit to Edinburgh, and would be to any city in the world. The Palm House is especially fine in its collections of tropical plants. In conclusion, we would mention Arthur's Seat, whose lofty summit resembles a huge lion lying at repose, and from which, in a clear day, is to be had the finest view of the city and surrounding country.

LEX MIRABILIS.

As an evidence of the rapid progress being made by the embryo judges and statesmen of our present Law Class, we print the following pleadings. They are copied verbatim from one of the club court dockets. The reader will please note the terse precision, the choice language and the logical construction of these papers; he will also observe the careful avoidance of abusive epithets or personal allusions, and above all the lofty spirit of patriotism displayed, especially in the "motion."—Ens.

U. S. Grant, 
vs. 
Jefferson Davis.

Petition.

Club Court, I. S. U., Johnson Co., Iowa,
December Term, 1873.

Plaintiff, by his attorney, alleges that on the 1st day of January, A. D. 1873, after attending to his official duties in the U. S. Capitol, in Washington, D. C, he concluded (in accordance with the custom of Presidents of the U. S. to leave the Capitol when the sun is on the noonday meridian, and go home for refreshments), that he would repair thither and gratify the wants of his inner man.

The said plaintiff, thus following an old and established custom, did leave the Capitol by the east door and start in the straight path towards home, and while so walking and at the distance of 57 feet from the southeast corner of said Capitol, did meet Jefferson Davis, late from Richmond, Va., and defendant in this case, he being on the Capitol grounds inside the fence surrounding the Capitol building, and 40 feet from the southeast corner thereof.
And said defendant, while in the act of getting over the fence, did then and there turn his face towards the plaintiff and in a loud voice say: "Grant! you are a devil!"

Now plaintiff brings suit in this court demanding judgment in the sum of $100,000, for damages accruing from the utterance of the above slanderous words; and also the costs of this suit.

Attorney for Plaintiff.

State of Iowa, Johnson Co.,
Club Court, Dec. Term, 1873.

U. S. Grant, vs. Jefferson Davis.

Motion.

Comes now the respondent, Jefferson Davis, by his attorney, and as against the petition of plaintiff—if such the miserable jargon of inaccuracies can be styled—says that at the time of the utterance of the alleged slanderous words he was temporarily sojourning in the city of Washington to receive the benefits that the climate of that region alone can give; and that upon the morning mentioned—if any at all is mentioned, which we think very doubtful—he was walking out upon the public highway in said city for the sole, express and determined purpose of restoring vigor to his broken-down and worn-out constitution; and that as he was walking along on that dry, cold January morning, admiring the wondrous works of nature, and secretly in his ing Prof. Parker to deliver a course of lectures on the philosophy of the history of Ancient Civilization, and Prof. Eggert to deliver a course on the history of Central Europe, was recently presented to those gentlemen. Of the benefits to be derived from such a course of lectures, it is hardly necessary to speak. Among the requisites of a thorough, practical education there is none more important than the knowledge of history—both ancient and modern. Not only would these lectures be instructive and interesting in themselves, but, by cultivating a taste for historical research, they would be of incalculable benefit to the students. The Professors, to whom the petition is addressed, are eminently qualified, and it is to be hoped that they will comply with the request.

"Fair Play," in the last Reporter, is slightly tart and greatly troubled, and we pity him. He hates "Grindstones" much, but Greek grindstones most, but just what he wants we are puzzled to know. He seems exultant because the Faculty think so well of German, but is miserable because so many students choose Greek!

We would sympathize with him if we could, but we can only whisper to him, "If you are a student, shun Greek and be happy; if you are not, why—what is the matter of you?"

At a meeting of the students recently held for the purpose of electing an orator to contest for the prizes offered by Knox College, F. E. Brush, of our editorial corps, was chosen. We feel assured that our University will be ably represented.
THE ORATORICAL CONTEST.

Of late, much has been said and written upon the subject of inter-collegiate contests. The Springfield Regatta furnished the text from which many diverse disquisitions were deduced. Some of the leading educators and best thinkers in the country, perceiving the growing deleterious tendency of college sentiment toward exclusive boating, base ball, foot ball and other athletic sports, have stoutly raised their voices against it.

With firm hand they have pictured its blighting influence on true intellectual culture and thorough education. They have given utterance to grave fears that should this sentiment take precedence in our colleges, a superficial learning would be superinduced, and careful and generous development of brain power, which should be the highest aim of collegiate instruction, would not be attained.

It is true that the impetuous, restless, rushing spirit of our Young America must find some outlet; and it may be directed as well toward pursuits "worthy of the immortals" as to those in which the lower interest and the selfish motive predominate. With this truth in view, repeated suggestions and arguments have been adduced as to the propriety, practicability and beneficial results of grand inter-collegiate contests in which the intellect, the immortal part of man, shall not be made subsidiary to mere brute force and skill: contests in which mind, soul and body, the holy trinity of humanity, shall conspire to produce the noblest results, and the most beneficent and far-reaching influences.

The pleas presented for these contests are many and powerful. It does not seem that any valid objection can be sustained. It has been urged in opposition that, from the time of appointment to the grand consummation, the candidate will be in a perfect flutter and tremor of excitement; that he will neglect his regular studies; that his mind will be unstrung, and that he will be incapacitated for calm thought. Surely, this conclusion is not entirely apparent.

The candidate, if he be well chosen, certainly will have acquired sufficient confidence and composure to meet the ordeal deliberately.

If he would withdraw entirely from all Society work and extraneous affairs, leaving on his mind only his studies and his preparation for the occasion, no neglect is necessary or justifiable. The benefit derived from the preparation would be fully equivalent to a half dozen ordinary productions, so that full compensation would be had for all resigned benefits.

Among the advantages of the project, the following may be mentioned: It will bring colleges into competition, engendering a healthy rivalry in producing the highest culture and the best specimen of intellectual manhood. Each candidate represents the spirit of his college and stands forth the product of its varied influences. It will stimulate colleges to devote more attention to those prime branches of a liberal, thorough, and practical education, English criticism and elocutionary training. It will direct the thoughts of students to oratory and mental discipline, in contradistinction from trials of brute strength.

But we will not enter further into the discussion of this subject. The theory will, at least, have the benefit of a fair trial. The Adelphi Society of Knox College, in arranging a course of lectures, determined to give an opportunity for testing the intellectual contest theory. Accordingly they issued a proposition to six Western colleges to participate in such an exercise. Thinking that the details of the proposed contest may be of interest to many of our readers who have not heard them, we publish the proposition in full:

GALVESTON, ILL., October 25, 1873.

To the Honorable Faculty and Students of the Iowa State University:

The Adelphi Society of Knox College, feeling that it would be for the mutual benefit of "Western Colleges" to engage in friendly rivalry, and preferring the culture of the rostrum to that of the oat, desires to submit to your consideration the following proposition:

1st. The Adelphi Society offers two prizes in oratory, to consist of one hundred dollars ($100) and seventy-five dollars ($75), respectively, to be opened for competition to the following named universities and colleges, each institution furnishing one orator: Illinois State Industrial University and Chicago University, of Illinois; Iowa State University and Iowa College, of Iowa; and Wisconsin State University and Beloit College, of Wisconsin.
2nd. The contest shall be held under the auspices of the Adelphi Society of Knox College, in the Galesburg Opera House, on the evening of February 27th, 1874.

3rd. The Governors of the three States represented shall each select one man, and these men so appointed shall constitute the awarding committee.

4th. In marking the contestants the judges shall take into consideration excellence of thought, style of composition and delivery; marking each on a scale of ten. The person receiving the highest average mark shall be entitled to the first prize, and the one receiving the next highest to the second prize.

5th. At the close of the contest the committee of award shall place their marks, in sealed envelopes, in the hand of the chairman, without any conferring together, or comparing of notes.

6th. A committee of three selected from the audience by the contestants shall receive the marks from the chairman, take their sums, and announce the successful contestants.

7th. The Adelphi Society further agrees to pay the railroad fare of the contestants to and from Galesburg.

8th. As soon as the names of the contestants are reported to the Adelphi committee, they will cast lots for positions on the programme and report the positions, as drawn, to each of the contestants.

By order of the Society:

F. J. MOULTON,
II. W. READ,
GEO. LAWRENCE,
Committee.

From the official document printed below, it will be seen that Governor Carpenter, of Iowa, has duly appointed the Rev. Alexander Burns, D. D., President of Simpson Centenary College, the member of the committee of award in the great inter-State college contest, to take place at Galesburg on the 28th of February next, on the part of Iowa:

STATE OF IOWA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT;
Des Moines, November 28, 1873.

To whom it may concern: Greeting:

The Adelphi Society of Knox College, at Galesburg, Illinois, having offered sundry prizes for excellence in oratory, to be competed for by representatives of certain Universities and Colleges in Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin, on the 27th day of February next, at Galesburg, and having invited the Governors of the States named each to select a member of an Awarding Committee therefor;

Now, therefore, I do hereby designate Rev. Alexander Burns, D. D., President of Simpson Centenary College, as member of such committee, on the part of this State.

C. C. CARPENTER, Governor.

SPECIALISTS AND THEIR TEMPTATIONS.

Some of the ancients believed human life was once prolonged several centuries, to enable the race to learn astronomy. The lives of the moderns are certainly too short for any one to master all available knowledge, or to test all possible means of culture. Hence, "What shall I study?"—becomes a question of profoundest personal interest to every thoughtful student. Every hour of our brief lives is precious, far too precious to waste in inactivity or useless efforts; yes, too precious for any but the best uses.

The world abounds in blanks, yet there are many prizes, and the youth of even ordinary ambition longs to seize them. Should he seek to vault, at one bound, and without preparation, into a position of gravest responsibility, he will but emulate the Roman Maxim, of whose like the world has had too many. Yet if he desires some educational preparation for his proposed life work, two theories and two systems based on those theories confront him, the special and the general, the "practical" and the "disciplinary."

Of these, commercial colleges, agricultural colleges, schools of technology, scientific schools and scientific departments, as usually arranged, represent the special, the "practical," while the old fashioned colleges and the "grind-tone" courses represent the "disciplinary." The underlying and generative theory of the former was, and very generally is, that the wisest preparation for one's specialty is the direct and immediate, that in which one pupil shall be reminded at every step, that he is to be a clerk, another that he is to become a farmer, and a third that he is to be an engineer.

The other assumes that the clerk, the farmer and the engineer are to be men and citizens also, and that all the elements of the noblest manhood are to be developed, and that preparation for useful citizenship should be made as truly and as directly as for the specialties of business life. Yet it must be conceded that there are many whose circumstances limit them to a knowledge of "the bread and butter sciences," or to no advanced school discipline at all. Such circumstances are unfortunate, and the life built on such a preparation may resemble a palace built on an Egyptian obelisk, much more than one resting on an Egyptian pyramid, yet these special schools and special courses have, and must have their place. In fact, however, but few of these have continued long on the narrow basis of their origin; most of them have incorporated much that is general into their curricula, and their success, often has been measurable by the extent of such expansion. The ablest advocates of the "new education" which has been so largely special, are repudiating the obelisk theory and accepting the fundamental doctrines of their opponents. W. P. Atkinson, sometimes regarded the "Magnus Apollo," of anti-classicism, says, "The advocates of science have been too prone to confound education with information, mental training with useless knowledge." "I know of no definitions of education which can compare * * * with those given by some of the classicists."

Prof. E. L. Youmans, the Pontifex Maximus of "practical" education, writes, "The narrowness of the curriculum of our technological schools which aim * * * to prepare immediately for practical professional life, is a very serious objection." "It is now demanded that the 'new
education shall be widened, harmonized and adjusted so as to meet the full requirements of a liberal, mental cultivation."

Such is the sweep of the educational current, and it is such that the reformers already need reformation, if their systems and schools are to be "practical" enough for those who must take a short course. The best informed and most intelligent specialists are tempted, most powerfully tempted to enlist in the regiments they have so long assailed, provided only that they may retain their peculiar arms. But, hold, reforming friends. Send back a guard, at least, for the unfortunates tempted to your old camp by promises of a small number as it now has who small a number as it now has who are active members to-day. With the exception of service in chapel, all our religious meetings are sustained principally by members of this association. We believe that the weekly prayer meetings, now the only religious meeting we have, would cease to exist, if a few zealous members of this organization should withdraw their support.

A year or two ago, a noon-day prayer meeting was started by the association, but it was so ill supported by the students at large, that it soon had to be discontinued. A noon-day prayer meeting we should have, and the association is always ready to lead in the movement, but with so small a number as it now has who are willing to pledge a regular attendance, it seems impracticable.

If such meetings can be carried on successfully anywhere, they certainly ought to be here, where we have the names of about two hundred professing Christians constantly on our rolls. The annual ingathering of religious statistics, the maintenance of prayer meetings, and, in fact, every kind of Christian work, this association has been expected to do, and, as far as it has been able, has done, yet it has received but a very meagre support from both faculty and students. It is lamentably true that very many of our students, even those who are church members, seem to be unaware that such an organization has its existence with us. We think that no valid, reasonable excuse can be given by any religiously inclined students, for failing either to unite themselves with this association, or to engage zealously in its work. While we believe that the association was never more prosperous, and never, perhaps, accomplishing more good than now, still the addition of every new name increases its strength and influence. We notice that the minutes of the first meeting of the organization, were prominently characterized by the appointment of a large committee for the purpose of "arousing an interest" in the faculty, and among the students, in the work of the association. How they succeeded is not recorded, but we know that many like committees, since appointed, have seldom met with encouraging success. The experience of these committees has been, that among the students, almost "all with one accord began to make excuse." With the members of the faculty, however, they report somewhat differently. They find them generally anxious for the success of the organization, and many times elicit from them promises to attend its meetings. But where one promise has been remembered and fulfilled, about six, we should think, have not been. Had these promises been fulfilled, the comparatively few, on whose shoulders the responsibilities of the association have always rested, would have been much encouraged. Now, as this is the only organization of the kind we have, it certainly ought to receive a vigorous support. The decided indifference manifested by so many who should be its earnest advocates, is at least discouraging. Let us rally to the aid of this association and its cause. It will cost us but little self denial and time, while we may deepen and widen its influence immeasurably.

THE UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

This association was organized in January, 1871, with Dr. Fellows as President. Its object, then as now, being the improvement of the spiritual and social condition of its members, and the spread of Christianity within the sphere of its influence. By Article Second of its Constitution, any person of good moral character, who holds and accepts the doctrines of salvation by faith in Christ alone, is eligible to membership. Since its organization, eighty-four persons have signed the constitution. But, owing to graduations, absence, etc., scarcely more than one-fourth of this number have active members to-day. With the exception of service in chapel, all our religious meetings are sustained principally by members of this association. We believe that the weekly prayer meetings, now the only religious meeting we have, would cease to exist, if a few zealous members of this organization should withdraw their support. A year or two ago, a noon-day prayer meeting was started by the association, but it was so ill supported by the students at large, that it soon had to be discontinued. A noon-day prayer meeting we should have, and the association is always ready to lead in the movement, but with so small a number as it now has who are willing to pledge a regular attendance, it seems impracticable. If such meetings can be carried on successfully anywhere, they certainly ought to be here, where we have the names of about two hundred professing Christians constantly on our rolls. The annual ingathering of religious statistics, the maintenance of prayer meetings, and, in fact, every kind of Christian work, this association has been expected to do, and, as far as it has been able, has done, yet it has received but a very meagre support from both faculty and students. It is lamentably true that very many of our students, even those who are church members, seem to be unaware that such an organization has its existence with us. We think that no valid, reasonable excuse can be given by any religiously inclined students, for failing either to unite themselves with this association, or to engage zealously in its work. While we believe that the association was never more prosperous, and never, perhaps, accomplishing more good than now, still the addition of every new name increases its strength and influence. We notice that the minutes of the first meeting of the organization, were prominently characterized by the appointment of a large committee for the purpose of "arousing an interest" in the faculty, and among the students, in the work of the association. How they succeeded is not recorded, but we know that many like committees, since appointed, have seldom met with encouraging success. The experience of these committees has been, that among the students, almost "all with one accord began to make excuse." With the members of the faculty, however, they report somewhat differently. They find them generally anxious for the success of the organization, and many times elicit from them promises to attend its meetings. But where one promise has been remembered and fulfilled, about six, we should think, have not been. Had these promises been fulfilled, the comparatively few, on whose shoulders the responsibilities of the association have always rested, would have been much encouraged. Now, as this is the only organization of the kind we have, it certainly ought to receive a vigorous support. The decided indifference manifested by so many who should be its earnest advocates, is at least discouraging. Let us rally to the aid of this association and its cause. It will cost us but little self denial and time, while we may deepen and widen its influence immeasurably.
SOCIETY REPORTS.

ERODEPHIAN SOCIETY.

The society holds its regular sessions every Saturday evening at seven o'clock.

The interest for the past term has been all that could be desired. A goodly number of new members have been received, and judging from the productions we have heard from them thus far, they seem to have entered into the work with the intention to put forth their ablest efforts. The old members have also worked zealously, apparently determined to allow the interest in society work to by no means diminish.

A good piano has been secured for the Hall during the term, which has added much to the exercises in declamations, reviews, etc.

The literary exercises have consisted of debates, orations, declamations, reviews, etc.

The members have ever been encouraged and stimulated by the number of hearers who are in attendance each Saturday evening, and we extend a hearty invitation to them for the future.

VIRGINIA J. SLAGLE, Cor. Sec'y.

IRVING INSTITUTE.

The opening of this year found our quota of active and zealous members in readiness for the term's work; and the new ones, who have been added, have entered with earnestness for the success of the society.

If we may take audiences as a proof, our work this term has been as successful as any preceding.

We have, with the Erodolphian Society, rented a piano, which, through the kindness of Misses Hughes, Vaughan and Reno, has added a pleasantness to our exercises never previously secured. We have had this term 29 orations, 29 declamations, 5 disputations, 11 debates, 2 comics, 1 dramatic, 1 poem, and 14 pieces of music.

The officers for the ensuing term are as follows: M. F. Dunlap, President; W. J. Young, Vice-President; J. J. Seerley, Corresponding Secretary; J. Campbell, Recording Secretary; Chas. Ketner, Treasurer; W. F. Rodgers, Sergeant-at-Arms.

The attendance of the professors, students and citizens have given us much encouragement, and we are looking forward to next term with bright anticipations of improvement, interest and general success.

J. J. Seerley, Cor. Sec'y.

HISPANIAN SOCIETY.

One more session closes the work of our society for the present term. For the most part its record is such as none of our members has reason to regret. The audiences which have so kindly favored us with their presence may respond concerning the success of our rhetorical efforts; and the improvements in our hall, which have been made since the last report appeared in the columns of the Reporter, may speak for the financial. Our programmes have varied but little from the usual routine. The educational question has been discussed in several of its phases. "Compulsory," "Forbidding persons to teach under eighteen years of age," "Restricting a common school day to four hours," and last but not least, "Co-education," "Chinese Immigration," and "Whether or not Representatives are obliged to follow the will of their constituents," have also been duly considered. Oration, declamations, and essays, have received their share of attention.

We opened the year rather discouragingly, heavily feeling the loss of several of last year's earnest workers. To maintain the former reputation of our society, the labor imposed upon the remaining ones was too great. But the addition of twenty new and very valuable members, has more than met our highest expectations, and the prospects are now promising for the remainder of the year. We hope to enjoy the pleasure of entertaining a crowded hall every Saturday evening.

LAURA ENSIGN, Cor. Sec'y.

ZETAGATHIAN SOCIETY.

Since our last report through these columns, three terms have come and gone. During this period our work has been very encouraging; exceedingly profitable to ourselves, and if large and frequent attendance be any criterion, quite entertaining to our visitors. Each term has opened and closed with special programmes, in which music, furnished by the best city talent, has formed a prominent part. In addition to our usual exercises, dramatic are occasionally given, and with good success.

Our hall has meanwhile undergone quite an improvement. Re-frescoed; the portraits and chromo's re-arranged; the doors, windows, and rostrum hung with heavy, maroon-colored curtains of pure woolenterry; and graced with a piano, it presents a most attractive and cozy appearance.

It is also arranged that on either side of the President, small rooms can be curtained off; very necessary and convenient in a colloquy or dramatic performance.

Although at last commencement, many very valuable members were lost, still the broken ranks have been strongly recruited, and in their beautiful homes, free from all incumbrances, the Zetagathians as of old, are firmly of the opinion that, "Vita sine literis more est."

Our officers for the ensuing term are as follows: W. M. Forbes, President; W. H. Fannon, Vice-President; C. D. Clark, Recording Secretary; R. P. Hanna, Corresponding Secretary; J. W. Conley, Treasurer; F. E. Brush, Sergeant-at-Arms.

H. S. FAIRALL, Cor. Sec'y.

A GOLDEN TIDE FOR DENMARK.

Nearly $10,000 have been pledged in Denmark for the Academy there, and Denmark Association is moving to raise $15,000 more for it. A non-resident of the State (though lately and long a resident here) volunteers $600 for the same object, and yet that is probably not the end of such gifts. The case with which Tabor College raised over $50,000 for her endowment is encouraging to Denmark. For institutions as for men character is capital.
MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

The Medical Department was opened for the present session with a larger number of students in attendance, than at any previous session. The students as a class, present a respectable and intelligent appearance, and appear to possess all the necessary qualifications to lead them on to a successful future. The rapid progress this department has made during the few years of its existence is unequalled in the histories of medical schools; even its most enthusiastic admirers are struck with surprise.

At its present rate of improvement, with its corps of zealous and energetic professors, it will soon equal any of the medical schools in the United States. Having visited and attended other colleges, we are enabled to realize and appreciate the many advantages of this school. Among them are its methods of chemical and clinical instructions.

Chemistry, which is one of the most necessary qualifications, and is so generally neglected, receives the greatest care and attention. The method of theoretical and practical teaching combined, make the study both pleasant and interesting. By the united efforts of professors and citizens of Iowa City, a hospital with amphitheater has been added to this department, which has aided materially in increasing its many advantages over other medical schools. The course in didactical and clinical instruction is all that could be desired. It is not as persons would generally suppose from its location, that it lacks clinical material, but on the contrary it is abundantly supplied, and has everything beneficial to the student. It is the prevalent and mistaken idea that a student should see an immense number of patients in order to gain a thorough knowledge of the science.

Experience has demonstrated that one care well studied, is of more practical value than a superficial knowledge of a number, which must necessarily be the result where a large number of patients are presented to the class, and are merely seen, not studied, while here the minutest and most delicate points of diseases and their complications are conveyed to the student. Thus it will be seen that the course pursued in this school will enable the student to proceed to the practice of his profession intelligently and successfully.

VENTILATION.

Editors Reporter: As your journal is found upon the table of almost every student, and surely every teacher of the University, and also is read by many friends of education elsewhere, it seems befitting to notice the above subject. And I do not do this merely for the sake of writing, because my words shall be few, but to impress the urgent need of greater care in regard to this matter. There is, indeed, much said about ventilation, but to always preach and never practice is, to say the least, inconsistent among teachers. But the mistake belongs not to teachers alone,—all society is responsible for the miseries so constantly attendant upon ill ventilation. Its sister vices,—gluttony, drunkenness, loss of sleep, or the use of tobacco, are scarcely more terrifying to one who carefully considers the effects of each. No one can question the evil, but its work of destruction is so gradual that we neglect to fortify against it. As the tobacco slave thinks only of his enjoyment and not of the certain injury which each day brings him, so we in recitation room, church, hall, or court, breathe poisons of foul air, unconscious of their curses.

In the "Schoolmaster," E. A. Gastman directs the following paragraph especially to teachers: "Can you afford to shut yourself, to say nothing of your pupils, in the room, and breathe the exhalations from twenty, thirty, or sixty pairs of lungs, without even making the attempt to render the atmosphere as pure as possible? Your own health is too important to be sacrificed in that way. You are the guardian of the children placed under your instruction. You know what is said about a 'sound mind in a sound body.' All else that you can do for the young will not compensate for their destruction of health."

Calculations here as to the amount of pure air required, and the amount which pupils really have in our schoolrooms, are not necessary, as every one who occupies the position of teacher has often made these. Our physiologies and other works of science are full of testimony to prove how much depends upon thorough ventilation. True it is, that many difficulties stand in the way of accomplishing this end, but we can never be free from the responsibility until we have done all within our power. As often as each recess, at least, the windows and doors should be thrown open to admit the fresh air so invigorating and agreeable to human life.

THANKSGIVING.

Our usual Thanksgiving vacation has come and gone. Many of the students took occasion to visit their homes. Those who remained in the city had abundant opportunities for enjoyment and recreation. It has been the custom for several years for the students to have a supper in connection with the Thanksgiving sociable, but, profiting by the experience of the last two years, the students wisely concluded to forego the pleasure of a supper. The sociable was held in the Chapel on Thursday evening. It was quite largely attended by students, and a few members of the faculty were also present. The Annual Union service occurred in the Presbyterian Church, the sermon being preached by the Rev. S. M. Osmond, D.D.

ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN.—Not many Sabbaths since, a promising young lawyer of class '74, was ushered into one of the city's most popular churches, advancing with uncovered head, even to the "amen corner," as he put it, and felt no uneasiness until some "still small voice," announced to him the fact that he had forgotten to smooth his curly locks with the proper instrument. The scene to many was amusing, but to him extremely exciting. He concentrated every energy of mind to decide what he should do. Could he pass out? There were the gawking eyes to follow. Could he stay? Oh horror! He thought of Blackstone's Articles, sought relief of mother wit, but all to no avail. He calmly smoothed his ruffled brow and by a severe discipline of countenance so bore himself as to assure all that it was "no accident!"
At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the University November 8th, 1873, it was resolved that the thanks of the committee are due to James Lee, Esq., of this city, for his very generous donation of a magnificent buffalo head in a perfect state of preservation and elegantly mounted, to the University Cabinet of Natural Science.

The following change has recently been adopted by the Faculty with reference to the time of holding Chapel service: Chapel exercises are now held at 15 minutes before 9. The classes, which have heretofore recited at 8, begin 15 minutes earlier. This arrangement will greatly accommodate many of the students who have no classes till 9.

A few weeks since Senator Wright lectured before the Law Class on the subject of “The Necessity for the Exercise of Common Sense.” The address was replete with sterling, practical ideas, earnestly and forcibly expressed. It was well received and duly appreciated by the class who manifested their interest and pleasure by generous applause.

Some of the law students have actually attended Chapel service; yes, indeed! They came in hesitatingly, slid into seats meekly and quietly, and preserved a serious demeanor throughout the exercise. They might have been detected by their erect forms and awe-struck countenances. Doubtless they have been little accustomed to visit such places, and felt they were in the wrong pew. Come again, Blackstonians, you will feel more at ease. Nothing like getting used to a thing, you know.

“VARIETIES.”—During the latter part of last month, a “Vaudeville Theater,” having been duly organized and lodged in Metropolitan Hall, amused bad little boys, worse young men, a few married men who have no homes, and a number of students, among whom were a Senior or two.

Why should the students go to such a place? Are his thoughts so mean that he is ashamed of their company? Are they transcended by the stale jokes, bad performances and musical (?) murmurings of a variety troupe? Then are they poor indeed! We always thought that the student, when he had received a few high thoughts, went into solitude to enjoy them; but here we see his immortal mind fed by low expressions and scenes,—breathing air that cannot fail to poison his thoughts, unless, indeed, they are nourished by poisons.

Were we there? Yes, but not to be amused. We merely went to see if you were there.

MY GREAT POEM.

The following, Mr. Editor, is the introduction to my Great Poem:

The elements lay in chaotic sleep
And thickest darkness brooded o'er the deep,
When, echoing through the black and silent night,
Rang the Creator's word: "Let there be light!"
Through all its realms the kindling ether ran,
And startled into life creation's plan.
The mighty mass of atoms now divides
Into a million suns, and tides on tides
Of shapeless matter follow in their wake,
Compelled by laws their proper place to take.
But laws conflict: each part is in the way
Of every other part, yet must obey
The law of its own being, or be lost.
In one that greater is; now, tempest-tossed
And rushing 'twixt the billowy worlds of fire,
It shoots through heated space a flaming spire;
And evermore, as on its course it speeds,
The growing orb on straggling meteors feeds,
Until, at last, in bulk and power full grown,
It circles round and round—a world, a sun!

Or, more to search for truth and shun mistakes,
And viewing things through scientific specs:
Behold one phase of the perpetual change,
Through which the Universe for aye doth range!
There is the universal mass in space—
The restless chaos with his gloomy face,
If face it be that is without a nose,
To water regions where the mustache grows;
That has no mouth to take in glorious hash,
And evermore, as on its course it speeds,
And thunder curses deep behind his back,
Or leave on rosy lips a smoking smack.

Excuse me—I must stop here a minute. It will take a flood
Of inspiration to carry me past the "smack."--

The Seniors have elaborated to their own satisfaction, at
least, the following subjects in Chapel orations:

November 7.


November 14.


November 21.


PERSONALS.

'73. Rob't C. Glass is pursuing his studies at Assembly College, Belfast, Ireland. Mr. G. intended to study at Edinburgh, but concluded to remain at Belfast, at least one year.

'73. M. N. Johnson has recently been elected Professor of Modern Languages in the California Military Academy at Oakland. "M. N." was for three years financial agent of the Reverend, and a very faithful and efficient one, too. We trust that he may find unbounded success away there on the "golden shore."

'70. J. A. Pickler is located at Kirkville, Mo. He is prosecuting Attorney of the district in which he resides. Multifarious cases crowd upon him and abundant success crowns his labors.

Law '73. J. L. Carney has located at Marshalltown. He is in the office of Brown & Sears.

Law '73. F. B. Benton is in a law office at Saratoga Springs, N. Y.

Law '73. J. W. Cone, the "business man" of his class, has established himself for the practice of his profession at Conesville, Iowa.

'76. S. L. Moser has left the University to preside over the rising generation at Hamilton, Marion county.

'76. J. J. McConnell will teach during the winter at Ainsworth, Washington county.

Granger W. Smith, a few Sabbaths since, occupied the pulpit of the Baptist Church in this city. He is at present pastor of a Baptist Church in Des Moines.

Law '72. William Hoffman is progressing brilliantly at Muscatine, Iowa. He is known as "Judge Cole's Pet."

G. A. Watson, formerly a student in the University, is now driving the quill as editor of the Nebraska Farmer, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Wm. B. Anderson, '72, law of '73, has become the law partner of Judge Brown, of Washington, Iowa.

Geo. T. Cowgill, '76, during the last vacation received an appointment to the chair of Mathematics in Albion Seminary, Albion, Iowa.

Fisher, valedictorian of law class '73, is in Davenport in the law office of Grant & Smith.

J. P. Conner, law '73, is practicing law in Denison, Crawford county.

Frank Lyon, class '76, is teaching.

MARRIAGES.

Married, November 26, 1873, at the residence of the bride's father, in Columbus Junction, Iowa, Miss M. E. McAbey and Mr. G. A. Smith, law class '74.

Judging from the cordial greeting Mr. Smith received upon his appearance in the law department the following morning, he and his lady have the most hearty good wishes of all his brothers in the department.

Married, at the residence of the bride's parents, in West Liberty, Iowa, on Thursday, October 23, 1873, by Rev. A. Porter, James W. Cone, Law Class '73, and Miss Emma M. Staples, a former student of the University.

Married, in Iowa City, September 6th, 1873, by Rev. Dr. S. M. Osmond, Mr. Lewis McConnell and Miss Flora Hall.