



# The University Reporter.

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## IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY.

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### CHRISTMAS THOUGHTS.

**M**ERRY Christmas! hear the music floating on the air,  
Echoing back o'er field and woodland, street and thoroughfare,

Rising up in sweetest accents into joyous swells,  
Ringing out one glad, long chorus, from the tinkling bells;  
Young and old now render tribute with united voice,

**C**hant with thankful hearts one anthem, tremble and rejoice!

Hallelujah, Christ our Saviour! (Sing in joyful strains.)

Risen, sits enthroned in heaven, and triumphant reigns.  
Is there joy in every household? Is there joy, or dread?  
Some are wretched, some are naked. Many cry for bread.  
Tried, afflicted, sorely tempted, careworn, tempest tossed,  
Many souls still grope in darkness, many more are lost!  
As we would that others do to us in time of need,  
So should we the poor and needy, comfort, clothe, and feed.

**D**oing little deeds of kindness, laboring with our might;

Ever watchful, never faltering, "battling for the right."  
Are the thoughts, and words, and actions of our erring way  
Registered, to stand against us, in the judgment day?

**F**earful thought! yet true and righteous, God in truth and love,  
Rules with justice, all his creatures from his throne above.  
Is there hope? yes, *faith* that Jesus met the law's demand;  
Every soul, who loves and trusts Him, *now* acquitted stands.  
Now rejoice, if that Redeemer is your life, your friend;  
Do not fear, His love so free and precious, knows no end.  
So the initials of these lines a happy greeting send.

ED. B. COUSINS.

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### FROM SHORE TO SHORE.

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BY R. C. G.

"All aboard! All ashore!" were the hoarse words of command that greeted our ears as the "Europa" was about to steam away from Pier 20, North River, for her voyage across the Atlantic.

The farewells were hastily spoken, amid tears, and sobs, and wringing of hands, as friends took leave of friends—some for a season, and others for the last time on earth. As I looked on—an idle spectator—I felt glad that I had been permitted to say farewell to friends at another time and place; for, to stand on shore and watch your friend as the steamer bears him away over the ocean, makes the separation only more complete, and the sadness of the parting only more keenly felt.

It was on a beautiful afternoon that we steamed down the Bay, whose waters were sparkling in the sunlight and were dotted over with a hundred sails which skimmed along

its smooth surface. Soon the spires of New York and Brooklyn began to fade in the distance. Presently we reached Sandy Hook, and, passing through the "Narrows," we rode upon the swelling tide of the Atlantic. The last of our native land soon sank beneath the horizon, and we turned away with a sigh—feeling very much as if we had just taken leave of a dear friend for a year or two. Never before did our native shores appear so dear to us as then. What a strange commingling of feelings as we thought of all we had left behind us, and then looked forward in anticipation to the Old World! Would we ever behold these loved shores again? How many of the kind friends we had left behind would greet us on our return? Doubtless we had looked on the face of some loved one for the last time this side of eternity. And then came the involuntary question, Shall we outride the swellings of the ocean in safety, or, like many a helpless mariner, go down amid its angry waves? What storms and raging seas it might be ours to pass through ere reaching a foreign shore!—who could tell? Such is the character of thoughts that pass through the mind as one begins his voyage over the ocean.

The peculiar rise and fall of the ship as she rode over the surging waves soon had the effect of sending quite a number of the uninitiated to their berths—feeling a little (?) sea-sick. But notwithstanding our "indisposition," we managed to crawl up on deck after nightfall to witness what we had often heard so much about, viz., the "fire of the sea." And there it was, sure enough! Every crested wave was tipped with fire, and the trough of the ship looked like a seething mass of the devouring element as we sped along. The sight of this grand spectacle was a sufficient recompense for the nausea of sea-sickness.

The second day we were out we entered a dense fog that lasted thirty-six hours. The constant whistling we were compelled to keep up for fear of running over fishing smacks, sounded to us, as we lay tossing in our berth, like a wail of distress, and we were heartily glad when the wind changed to another quarter and left us again in a clear atmosphere. But our fine weather was of short duration, for, on the fifth day, we encountered a violent storm that sent the waves dashing over the vessel at a fearful rate. It is a frightful thing to see the ocean lashed into a perfect fury by the storm, and hear the wind whistle through the rigging—tearing away the sails from the masts, while the furniture and dishes keep up a wild commotion in the cabin. I pitied the poor sailors who had to endure the brunt of the

storm for the common safety. Amid the roar of the elements we could hear the hoarse command of the officers and the prompt "Aye, aye, sir!" of the sailors as they hurried to take in sail—tightening a rope at this point and letting go at that, as the case required.

After about two days we again emerged into fair weather, and with it returned the bright smiles and pleasant conversation of the passengers as they looked forward to the end of the voyage and the pleasant times in store for them. Fully half of the distance had been made, so that we began to calculate the probable number of days it would take to go the remainder; for time on board ship passes slowly, at best. We invented all sorts of games with which to "kill time" during the day, and in the evening those who had any musical talent gathered about the piano and played and sang familiar songs that awakened pleasant memories of other times and other places. Thus we endeavored to fill up the tedium of the voyage as the days wore on.

But another scene of peril awaited us. On the eleventh day out our good ship took fire. I shall never forget the excitement and feelings of that hour. A huge volume of smoke suddenly burst up from the hold of the vessel, directly amidships. The women and children screamed and shrieked; strong men turned pale; the infidel and sceptic of an hour ago suddenly became devout and prayerful; all lifted up earnest petitions to God to avert the awful calamity that seemed impending. For a time the flames increased, and it appeared as though we would be compelled to take to the small boats and try for land at a distance of five hundred miles or more, but the prompt action of the officers and men, and the vigorous use of the steam pumps, at length quenched the flames, and we once more breathed freely. But our dangers were not all over. That same night a second storm broke upon us more terrible than the first. It lasted all that night and the following day, and what added to our anxieties was the fact that the wind was blowing us directly toward the dangerous coast of the north of Ireland, which we knew we were rapidly approaching. Along in the evening, however, the wind began to lull a little, and about 9 o'clock the man at the mast-head, who had been sent aloft to keep a lookout, gave the joyful cry, "A light ahead!" Immediately all eyes were turned in that direction to get a glimpse of the friendly lighthouse. It was a full hour, however, before it could be seen from the deck of the vessel; then we caught sight of it, "rising from the sea," and there went up a shout of joy at the prospect of once more gaining land.

But I will not dwell longer upon the subject. The next morning found us steaming up Loch Foyle, and about 9 a.m., we, with many others, landed at Londonderry, Ireland, thinking that a short time spent in visiting the beauties of the Emerald Isle would be a pleasant change from the tedium and excitement of the thirteen days that had just passed. We had reached the other shore in safety, and with feelings of deepest gratitude we thanked God for it.

#### THE GRINDSTONE THEORY.

A writer who signs himself Fair Play, asserts that our Faculty, by requiring German instead of Greek as a study preparatory to the college course, have thereby declared that they do not believe in what is known as the Grindstone Theory. In the last number of the *REPORTER* he is, for this reason, accused of enmity to Greek. It seems to us that he deserves also to be charged with enmity to Science. For not only has Greek been dispensed with, but Physical Science also, and we confess that the latter change seems to us by far the more important.

But is it really true that our Faculty have discarded the theory of the Grindstone system? In a certain, and we think in a legitimate sense, they have not. Fair Play is evidently wrong in supposing that the substitution of German for Greek indicates that the faculty mean to let students have an easy time. It is tolerably well known that German is fully as difficult as Greek, although it is less irksome than Greek on account of its affinity to the English. Hence, more can be done in German in a given time than in Greek. In addition to this advantage, there is the other one that in studying a modern language the ear receives a valuable training. It is certainly preferable, too, that we should be enabled to pronounce the noble thoughts and graceful sentiments of a great foreign writer in something like the very words of the author, which can only be done when we know the pronunciation of these words. In this respect, the study of no ancient language can take the place of a modern language. And then the *literature* of Germany! If Macaulay was right, some thirty years ago, in saying that the books published since the middle of the 18th century were of far greater value than all the works produced until then put together, how much more certainly is it true to day that the literature of Germany alone, and considered as a whole, is incomparably more important than the literature of any ancient nation. We are well aware that ancient literatures have special excellencies, and that in the artistic aspect of literature no modern literatures can do more than rival the charming simplicity and chaste beauty of the best ancient writers, but in the departments of thought, of morals, science and philosophy, the moderns have a natural and an indubitable advantage. The best thoughts of ancient culture have been long since incorporated in modern literature, and the additions in all that pertain to real science and philosophy, have been so immense as to make a comparison simply absurd.

In this sense, the substitution of German for Greek is more than a compliment to the former language. It implies a recognition of the great importance of German as a means of culture, thought and refinement, and hence as a kind of grindstone for the sharpening of the young minds.

But Fair Play seems to think that this arrangement will not last long, and that, at any rate, students will be discouraged by some person or other in authority for pursuing that course which affords the greatest facility for the study

of modern languages and sciences. His suspicions may perhaps be well founded, but he should take into account the existing condition of education. We are in the midst of a transition period.

The B. A. degree has hitherto been the sole degree given for graduation in American colleges. The B. Ph. degree is new, and hence less popular. Now, if the degree of B. A. was also given to those who pursued German, French, and Sciences, although they should do the same amount of work as those who pursued Greek instead, or even more work, the result would be that only very few would study Greek at all. Hence, in order to get our Greek classes filled, and to justify the establishment of a special chair for their study, it became necessary to forbid students from electing German for Greek in what is known as the "regular" College course.

Fair Play may prefer the present arrangement, but to us it seems that the old course was more liberal than the present. However this may be, neither Fair Play nor we can deny that under the former course our classes in Greek had grown very small indeed, and that for the very potent and very patent reason a change had become inevitable.

The Philosophical course, as it seems to us, is intended for those students who desire a thorough and symmetrical development of mind and character, while the ordinary classical course will accommodate those who wish to become specialists in antiquarian lore. Hence the Philosophical course, although susceptible of improvement, seems to answer better than any other the requirements of a generous and liberal culture, an education looking to the perfection of the whole man as a thinking and feeling being.

Such a course may not find favor with mere specialists, but it recommends itself to the sober judgment of the most intelligent. At any rate, let those who doubt its final success, as for instance, Fair Play, remember the good French proverb, that "*Le Monde appartient à qui sait attendre.*"

#### "HOME, SWEET HOME," AND ITS AUTHOR.

Among the sterner qualities of our nature, the beneficent Creator has wisely intermingled a love for the beautiful. Previous to man, the earth sprang into being by the magic of His all-powerful word, dressed in her present robes of surpassing loveliness. Then He culminated His wonderful works by speaking into existence the one formed in His own image, endowed with a power to appreciate, and in some degree an art to imitate His lesser creations.

The tiniest flower, by its exquisite workmanship, its delicate colors, and delicious fragrance, in some souls, frequently excites the highest happiness. The beauty and symmetry everywhere visible, in all of God's works, cannot fail to impress the rudest mind. Nature herself will ever be an infinite distance in advance of art, and yet many take great delight in transferring, and more in examining, upon canvas the strangely beautiful, but still imperfect copies of the

exquisite works of the Master Artist. But of the two great arts, it is left to music, the twin sister of painting, to touch the chords which move the greater mass of human hearts. How often the sweet strains of the singer stir the soul to the very depths, and excite all of its nobler emotions. We hardly know whether to attribute this strange power to the music, the words, or the pleasant memories inseparably linked with both; but certain we are, that somewhere in or among the three lies this magic influence.

The lullabys to which we have indistinct remembrances of listening in our babyhood days, the old songs that have greeted our ears from early childhood seem to us as priceless treasures, and at the very sound of their oft-heard and never-to-be-forgotten words and music, our hearts throb with unwonted delight. Certainly that man or woman has become very much hardened by the ills and evils of life, who can listen to the cradle song, "Hush, my dear, lie still and slumber," with unmoistened eyes, and unrenewed resolves to do the work of life better.

What American patriot can hear the soul-stirring strains of the "Star Spangled Banner," without feeling his love of country and liberty to be immeasurably increased. Or where will the sweet music and still sweeter words of "Home, Sweet Home," find an unmoved listener.

It is said that when the English army lay around Sebastopol one evening, the bands seated on the battlements nearby, played this piece. A great sob went through the whole army. They were homesick. The plaintive melody of this musical measure, by exciting sacred memories, touched the hearts of those that could unflinchingly face the aimed musket or pointed bayonet, or look unfeelingly upon the wounded, dying or dead.

Among the other things of which America has a just reason to be proud, is that this poem, "Home, Sweet Home," belongs to her. John Howard Payne, its author, was a native of New York. He lived between the years 1792 and 1852. He became conspicuous very early in life, both as a dramatic writer and an actor, known in this country on the stage as Young Norval, and in England as the American Roscius. During his life, many of his plays were very popular, but none of them gained for him a lasting reputation. He also occupied a high rank as an editor, but from all of his writings, only the song, "Home, Sweet Home," which was written in his drama, called the "Cluri," is now known. This is sung and admired wherever the English language is spoken. No other was ever more popular. We would naturally suppose that one who could depict the delights of home as touchingly and vividly as our poet has done in these exquisite lines, received much of his inspiration from his own pleasant domestic ties.

We certainly are not at all prepared for the fact, that Payne himself, was a homeless wanderer, and near starving in an attic in Paris, at the very time his valuable genius bequeathed to the world this priceless gem.

Years after this poem was written, in conversation with

It is not too much to say that in many studies, some teachers will secure the best results from a class with one-half the labor on their part, demanded of them under the guidance of other teachers full of learning, but incapable of presenting a subject in its natural order, and freed of the non-essentials with which many of our text-books are filled. Much of the so-called improvement in teaching consists in introducing cumbersome machinery so that the strength of teacher and pupil both is taxed to keep the machinery moving in some prescribed manner. The least machinery possible is a motto for the manufacturer and teacher. Simplicity and directness secure the best results in every form of effort. Waste of labor is waste of time and strength, the two precious elements which every good work demands, but which no wise man ever spends in vain.—*Williams' Review.*

### THE MIDNIGHT INITIATION.

#### NEW FACTS ABOUT YOUNG LEGGETT'S DEATH AT CORNELL.

The Kappa Alphas do not deny that they took Leggett to Six-Mile Gorge because of its adaptability for their mummuries. They had used it before, and the facilities which it offers for scaring candidates have never gone unappreciated. They claim, however, that the ceremonies were to have been concluded at a point a little further up. The theory generally accepted here, and which is indorsed by most of the students, who are not members of the K. A. Society, is that young Leggett was taken to the gorge to frighten him. He was blindfolded with an elaborate arrangement of straps and buckles, so that he could not possibly get a glimpse of his surroundings until the moment came for the grand terrorizing. Some of the students went down over the overhanging cliff and fixed the colored lights. The paraphernalia for the masquerade had probably been arranged by those who had previously arrived. Horrible masks and costumes of devils were donned. Then the fires were lighted, and the victim was led to the very verge of the cliff. At a signal, like the firing of a gun close to his ear, or some equally unexpected or bewildering noise, the blindfold was snatched off. With the noise still ringing in his ears, and held by two fellows in the garb of demons, the scene before him was calculated to inspire the acme of terror in a body already bewildered. The glare of lights flashed up from a yawning gulf at his very feet, dazzling his eyes that had been so suddenly uncovered. Demons danced and howled, with firebrands waved above their heads, around an empty coffin. Every device that could heighten terror was displayed. The horrible scene was so suddenly flashed upon him, and was so far beyond anything that he had expected, that for an instant in his bewilderment he forgot that it was all a farce. Recoiling from the

counterfeit hell that yawned at his feet, he toppled Lee and Watson, who were holding him, and the three fell over the precipice.

President White and Professors Morris, Schaffer, Heart, and Crane, of Cornell University, are members of the Kappa Alpha Society. It is not supposed, however, that any of them participated in the fatal initiation, although Professor Crane was near enough at hand to be brought to the spot immediately after the fall. This connection of the society with the professorship, and the fact that its members are among the wealthiest and most socially pretentious of the students, is believed to explain the attempt to suppress a thorough investigation. The slipshod method of the inquest, the utter absence of searching inquiry, and the impotent conclusion, show how nearly this attempt was successful. The students were allowed to answer or refuse to answer as they chose, and consequently the evidence was so garbled and distorted as to be very nearly worthless. The admission that whisky was taken along to revive the victim, should he faint under their treatment, was about the only important fact that slipped out. The indentation which was made by Leggett's fall is exactly under the highest point of the rock, and ten feet to one side of the tree against which Lee and Watson say he was leaning before his fall. It is just under the point where he would most naturally have been stationed for frightening effect, and from which a fall could easily have been caused by a slight struggle. Here, too, the edge looks as if it had been crumbled off, while at the tree no mark is visible. The theory that the students did not know of the dangerous precipice stultifies itself. They say that they have used the place before for a like purpose. Besides, the night was not dark, and the edge of the rocks is not at all hidden. The notion that it could be unknowingly approached by moonlight is absurd enough, and is only less ridiculous than the statement that Lee and Watson held Leggett against the tree, without seeing the abyss over which its roots protruded. Until Leggett died, an hour after the accident, he continued to moan and cry, "Oh, don't, don't!" and that has led many to believe that he was being suspended over the chasm when he fell.

Outside of the regularly organized societies which have lodges at Cornell, there are others which are formed for the sole purpose of initiatory absurdities. They devote themselves to what they call "rushing" the freshmen. Had Leggett been killed while in the hands of one of these wild bodies the Ithacans would have been less astonished, because accidents are common with them. The numerous secluded gorges offer inducements for uninterrupted night marauding which the students are eager to improve. Arthur L. Miller, a freshman from Buffalo, was recently a victim of one of these bogus societies, of which there are six or eight in the University. He says that the candidate is taken from his room after midnight, and led to a secluded room in a secluded street, where the members have gathered

in masks to see the fun. He is blindfolded and pinioned, and then led over boxes, chairs, and other obstacles, until his shins are barked and he is tired into resistlessness. The room is in a commercial building, which is furnished with an elevator, and down this the victim is next dangled at the end of a rope, this frightening process being followed by tossing in a blanket. He is then saturated with water from squirt guns, after which the blindfold is removed among hideous noises, demoniac lights, and fiendish dresses, and a pledge of secrecy is made. After this he is usually blindfolded again, placed in a coffin, and some process resorted to intended to convince the victim that he is dying. This is sometimes done by suddenly drenching the head with water, and then administering chloroform; or by heating the bare breast nearly to a blister with a hot shovel he'd close to it, and then clapping on a large piece of ice, under which treatment he becomes insensible. When he awakes he finds that the bandage and the pinions are removed and that he is in a coffin surrounded by ghostly forms. If he is sufficiently scared by this, the ceremonies are then closed.

The ill treatment is about equally severe in the various societies of this sort. At Cornell and the regular college organizations they have fal'en into the same abuse. Recently a candidate was badly hurt by the fall of an elevator, the intention being to let him down quickly to a certain point, and then suddenly check his descent. But the apparatus was bunglingly used, and was not stopped until it struck the bottom. Another blindfolded freshman was told, during an initiation, to dive into a stream which flowed through the gorge. He did so, believing that he would be thrown in if he disobeyed. A blanket was held under the ledge from which he dove, but he struck it with such force as to go completely through, and fell heavily to the ground. His injuries were severe enough to confine him to his bed a week. So far have these mummeries been carried that Ithica has become the nightly scene of more ingenious tortures than the Sons of Malta ever inflicted. Freshmen are the game, and there is little secret made of the ordeals to which they are submitted. Even the girl students have caught the infection. They have their CO<sub>2</sub> Society, their initials forming the chemical symbol of an acid gas, and are credited with imitating their male fellow-collegians in the initiation of members. They do not resort to the gorges, however, but confine their diversions to a small room in the village.—*Correspondence N. Y. Sun.*

#### BASE BALL.

There has been so much said in opposition to popular amusements of late, that we venture these few hints that have occurred to us in regard to base ball, which has been swept into general denunciation along with bull baiting, gambling, drunkenness, &c. The principal objections raised are:

1. It gives opportunity for betting, and hence encourages gambling.

2. It is sometimes attended with accidents, and should be discouraged on the same principle as cruelty to animals.

We acknowledge there is force to these arguments, and would labor as strenuously as any to correct these evils. But in our opinion, to abandon the game would neither correct the former nor do away with the latter. We must have something deeper. "To purify the stream the fountain must be visited." Do away with the game, and the same parties that gamble on *this* will stake their money on something else. Do away with that, and they turn elsewhere; and as long as the *spirit* for gambling remains opportunity will be found to exercise it; and if we were to refrain from one thing after another as fast as these gambling spirits became acquainted with them, we would see everything disappear that combined the slightest amusement with recreation, for fear some one should bet on it, or persons with impeachable morals should engage in the same exercise.

As to the second objection, we would only suggest that the *same* danger attends *every* out-door exercise in which a person can engage.

The performances of our common gymnastics are accompanied by double the average amount of accidents of base ball. Jumping and running have caused as many broken bones and bruises. Croquet is not free from its liabilities, and every species of *labor* (chopping wood, tending horses, &c., *ad infinitum*) are fraught with dangers enough to frighten the stoutest heart, were they arrayed as they are against base ball.

Shall we give up this game because some immoral characters engage in it? On the same principle, give up speech, because some use it to an evill purpose.

#### ONE WHO PLAYS.

#### THE NATION.

The complete set of the *Nation*, which we notice among the late purchases for the Library, is an addition of especial value, for no journal in the country is comparable with it in learning and ability.

Its editorials cover a wide range of topics of general interests, and are models for their breadth of view, keenness of insight, and vigor of style. The financial, social, and political questions which so deeply agitate the public mind, and are likely to do so in a still higher degree in the immediate future, are treated with the candor, dignity, and ability which their importance deserves. The book notices and reviews are of the highest order, and its foreign correspondence keeps the reader well informed upon matters of interest throughout Europe. A merit of prime consequence would be omitted if we failed to make special mention of its dignified independence in its treatment of all topics. Its own ideas of truth, justice, and public policy are boldly mentioned without fear or favor with respect to individuals or parties.

It is not too much to say that in many studies, some teachers will secure the best results from a class with one-half the labor on their part, demanded of them under the guidance of other teachers full of learning, but incapable of presenting a subject in its natural order, and freed of the non-essentials with which many of our text-books are filled. Much of the so-called improvement in teaching consists in introducing cumbersome machinery so that the strength of teacher and pupil both is taxed to keep the machinery moving in some prescribed manner. The least machinery possible is a motto for the manufacturer and teacher. Simplicity and directness secure the best results in every form of effort. Waste of labor is waste of time and strength, the two precious elements which every good work demands, but which no wise man ever spends in vain.—*Williams' Review.*

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Outside of the regularly organized societies which have lodges at Cornell, there are others which are formed for the sole purpose of initiatory absurdities. They devote themselves to what they call "rushing" the freshmen. Had Leggett been killed while in the hands of one of these wild bodies the Ithacans would have been less astonished, because accidents are common with them. The numerous secluded gorges offer inducements for uninterrupted night marauding which the students are eager to improve. Arthur L. Miller, a freshman from Buffalo, was recently a victim of one of these bogus societies, of which there are six or eight in the University. He says that the candidate is taken from his room after midnight, and led to a secluded room in a secluded street, where the members have gathered

in masks to see the fun. He is blindfolded and pinioned, and then led over boxes, chairs, and other obstacles, until his shins are barked and he is tired into resistlessness. The room is in a commercial building, which is furnished with an elevator, and down this the victim is next dangled at the end of a rope, this frightening process being followed by tossing in a blanket. He is then saturated with water from squirt guns, after which the blindfold is removed among hideous noises, demoniac lights, and fiendish dresses, and a pledge of secrecy is made. After this he is usually blindfolded again, placed in a coffin, and some process resorted to intended to convince the victim that he is dying. This is sometimes done by suddenly drenching the head with water, and then administering chloroform; or by heating the bare breast nearly to a blister with a hot shovel held close to it, and then clapping on a large piece of ice, under which treatment he becomes insensible. When he awakes he finds that the bandage and the pinions are removed and that he is in a coffin surrounded by ghostly forms. If he is sufficiently scared by this, the ceremonies are then closed.

The ill treatment is about equally severe in the various societies of this sort. At Cornell and the regular college organizations they have fallen into the same abuse. Recently a candidate was badly hurt by the fall of an elevator, the intention being to let him down quickly to a certain point, and then suddenly check his descent. But the apparatus was bunglingly used, and was not stopped until it struck the bottom. Another blindfolded freshman was told, during an initiation, to dive into a stream which flowed through the gorge. He did so, believing that he would be thrown in if he disobeyed. A blanket was held under the ledge from which he dove, but he struck it with such force as to go completely through, and fell heavily to the ground. His injuries were severe enough to confine him to his bed a week. So far have these mummeries been carried that Ithica has become the nightly scene of more ingenious tortures than the Sons of Malta ever inflicted. Freshmen are the game, and there is little secret made of the ordeals to which they are submitted. Even the girl students have caught the infection. They have their CO<sub>2</sub> Society, their initials forming the chemical symbol of an acid gas, and are credited with imitating their male fellow-collegians in the initiation of members. They do not resort to the gorges, however, but confine their diversions to a small room in the village.—*Correspondence N. Y. Sun.*

#### BASE BALL.

There has been so much said in opposition to popular amusements of late, that we venture these few hints that have occurred to us in regard to base ball, which has been swept into general denunciation along with bull baiting, gambling, drunkenness, &c. The principal objections raised are:

1. It gives opportunity for betting, and hence encourages gambling.

2. It is sometimes attended with accidents, and should be discouraged on the same principle as cruelty to animals.

We acknowledge there is force to these arguments, and would labor as strenuously as any to correct these evils. But in our opinion, to abandon the game would neither correct the former nor do away with the latter. We must have something deeper. "To purify the stream the fountain must be visited." Do away with the game, and the same parties that gamble on *this* will stake their money on something else. Do away with that, and they turn elsewhere; and as long as the *spirit* for gambling remains opportunity will be found to exercise it; and if we were to refrain from one thing after another as fast as these gambling spirits became acquainted with them, we would see everything disappear that combined the slightest amusement with recreation, for fear some one should bet on it, or persons with impeachable morals should engage in the same exercise.

As to the second objection, we would only suggest that the *same* danger attends *every* out-door exercise in which a person can engage.

The performances of our common gymnastics are accompanied by double the average amount of accidents of base ball. Jumping and running have caused as many broken bones and bruises. Croquet is not free from its liabilities, and every species of *labor* (chopping wood, tending horses, &c., *ad infinitum*) are fraught with dangers enough to frighten the stoutest heart, were they arrayed as they are against base ball.

Shall we give up this game because some immoral characters engage in it? On the same principle, give up speech, because some use it to an evil purpose.

#### ONE WHO PLAYS.

#### THE NATION.

The complete set of the *Nation*, which we notice among the late purchases for the Library, is an addition of especial value, for no journal in the country is comparable with it in learning and ability.

Its editorials cover a wide range of topics of general interests, and are models for their breadth of view, keenness of insight, and vigor of style. The financial, social, and political questions which so deeply agitate the public mind, and are likely to do so in a still higher degree in the immediate future, are treated with the candor, dignity, and ability which their importance deserves. The book notices and reviews are of the highest order, and its foreign correspondence keeps the reader well informed upon matters of interest throughout Europe. A merit of prime consequence would be omitted if we failed to make special mention of its dignified independence in its treatment of all topics. Its own ideas of truth, justice, and public policy are boldly mentioned without fear or favor with respect to individuals or parties.

# The University Reporter.

IOWA CITY, IOWA, JAN. 15, 1874.

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E. E. FITCH, Financial Agent.

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## THE UNIVERSITY.

A State University, being under the control of a political body, as the Legislature, is very often surrounded by circumstances that peril its prosperity and endanger its very existence. In these days of fierce political contest and bitter partisan rivalry, party lines are most sharply drawn. Posts of honor and emolument, and the management of the various State institutions, are made subjects of rancorous contention. The reigning party must control everything, and any member of the opposition who comes forward for a public office, even if he be a gentleman of great learning, ability and integrity, is at once tabooed.

Such, we regret to say, has too often been the spirit which has directed the management of our State Universities. This is the very reason why so many of the State Universities, which might be the pride of the land, have dwindled down to a position inferior to that of a first-class seminary or academy. The question of personal, political prestige and influence being paramount, is too often, and fatally, made the test in electing faculties and regents. In this respect State institutions are more subject to the capricious mercy of unprincipled demagogues than are those under denominational supervision. But not alone from political sources come all the dangers with which State Universities must contend. Religious prejudice and sectarian bigotry make gigantic efforts to gain the mastery in their management.

Men, calling themselves religious, with more zeal than wisdom, and with a total disregard of the true aim of a liberal education, endeavor to advance their own petty de-

nominational interests, to the detriment of the institution, by placing in its faculty a man of their own ism and creed. Truly State Universities are precariously situated when made the sport and prey of the politician or the bigot.

There are barely a half dozen universities, under the control of the State, in the Union, which are at all worthy the name they bear.

The Michigan University is the grand exemplar of the possible State University, and the possible University is by no means fully realized yet. That great possible, now only dimly shadowed forth in the ideal conceptions of educators, will be made a living reality when our Legislators, laying aside all bias, whether of a political or religious nature, perceive the aims and mighty importance of untrammeled education, and devote themselves to secure it. Until that day dawns, every State University in the nation is in constant jeopardy, and will not develop broadly and symmetrically. Our own University, now so solidly established, has by no means been free from these adverse influences. In the early years of its history it had to struggle against bitter opposition; its enemies were legion; its friends few. For years it did nothing but preparatory work; its reputation was only local; nearly all its students were from the immediate vicinity. Its opponents in the Legislature tickled themselves and their constituents by sarcastically stigmatizing it as the "Johnson County High School."

But by degrees it has advanced; able men have been added to its several faculties; it has ingratiated itself into the affections of the people; its reputation has widely extended; its finances have been managed with vigorous honesty and scrupulous economy; of late years liberal appropriations have been voted by the Legislature; and to-day the Iowa State University ranks among the first, and can furnish as thorough scholarship as can be obtained.

The Academical Department furnishes a choice of four complete courses of study, of four years each, viz: Classical, Philosophical, Scientific, Civil Engineering. Each course is fully as thorough and extensive as similar courses in the best Eastern Universities.

The Law Department has existed only eight years. It now has nearly one hundred students. Its Faculty contains the best legal and juridical talent in the State. Many students attend from other States, passing by older and popular law schools to attend our Law Department.

The Medical Department, though established only a few years since, has acquired a wide reputation, and is already taxed to its utmost capacity in accommodating its students. The hospital recently opened in connection with the Medical Department furnishes unsurpassed opportunities for clinical instruction.

The course of study in the Normal Department has been enlarged, so that no one now can obtain the Normal Degree without a thorough education, and two years of successful teaching. The Library contains 6,000 volumes, judiciously selected. No better library of its size can be

found. The Laboratory is large, completely furnished, and finely managed. The Geological Cabinet is extensive.

Surely the Iowa State University has a grand start. Shall it be raised to a still higher position, or shall it become stationary, and finally relapse into a mere academy?

Our Legislators must answer this question. All we ask is, "Give us means commensurate with our progress; 'room according to our strength.'" We believe the Legislature of Iowa will be true to the cause of education, and that the University will be fully and completely sustained.

#### LITERARY SOCIETIES.

It is now very generally admitted that the literary society furnishes an important element in a thorough collegiate education. Every college has its literary societies, and in fact it is no uncommon occurrence to take those societies of a literary institution as the criterion by which to judge of the merits of the institution itself. The literary society has many advantages. First of all, it affords an opportunity for improvement in general culture and for an acquaintance with the living issues of the day, which is not found elsewhere in the routine of college work. It does not, as is sometimes asserted, tend toward habits of carelessness, but, on the contrary, for the successful member, it cultivates a habit of thoroughness in the acquisition of knowledge. The manner of preparing a literary exercise is necessarily critical. In the society hall students must stand upon their own merit, and it requires a thorough earnestness to achieve success. Besides, the practice secured is of very great benefit. Society work is the practical application of elocution, logic, and rhetoric. The text books can only give the theory, but this will be of little benefit unless put into practice. The majority of our eminent men have been diligent workers in literary societies. It is sometimes objected that a student cannot do justice to his studies and have time to prepare his literary exercises, but this difficulty is more imaginary than real. It is only necessary to improve the time, and it will be found that society work, instead of being a burden is a pleasure, and a rest from the dull sameness of the class room. Those students who desire to learn to speak well, to express their ideas in an intelligent manner, than which nothing is more important to the scholar, cannot afford to pass through their college course without taking an active interest in the literary society.

We are in receipt of a sectional, township, and railroad map of Iowa from Silas Farmer & Co., Detroit, Mich., which for beauty of finish and accuracy is unsurpassed by any previous publication. Our State maps have heretofore been so inaccurate that a work of this kind is especially desirable. The references of the map are unusually complete, embracing the history and resources of the State, together with the population of the principal cities and towns, and a key by which the location of any county, city, town, or railroad station in Iowa can be readily found.

#### TO THE STUDENTS OF THE STATE UNIVERSITY.

##### *Ladies and Gentlemen, Greeting:*

We need but remind you that it is a custom in all our Eastern Colleges and Universities for the students to spend much of their time and labor upon preparations for various kinds of competitive contests, such as boat-racings, foot-racings, ball-matches, and what not; all for the mere gratification of an unwholesome thirst for selfish notoriety. This is the principal motive that actuates to the emulative feats. Our Western Colleges and Universities are, substantially, without any of these unprofitable co-operation, and we thank our stars for it. We believe, however, that we can institute some kind of friendly rival enterprises that will not only be very honorable and profitable to the parties immediately interested, but will have the effect of elevating the standard of literary merit in both institutions in an eminent degree. We venture to propose the following plan by which the result may be arrived at. Let it be arranged between our schools that one shall select representatives who shall prepare a literary programme to be performed in public in the presence of the other school, and such other auditors as the latter may wish to invite. Then let this action be reciprocated by the school that has acted the part of the host, it being understood that the visiting delegates be entertained by the members of the school where the entertainment is given. We do not think any board of judges should be appointed to render judgment in favor of what may appear to them the winning party; but simply let no arbitrary decision be given for the present; and if it be found on trial that such board can be instituted with a probability of mutual benefit, there will be time enough then to arrange for it. What say you, friends?

We extract the above communication from the *Collegian*, published at Mt. Vernon, Iowa.

We recommend the proposition to the students of the University for their earnest consideration.

Such an arrangement as this proposed by the students of Cornell College, we think, would be highly interesting and beneficial to both institutions. The preparation requisite for such entertainment would certainly prove of very great value to the participants.

These exercises need not take place so frequently that lack of time can be pleaded in opposition. Suppose that each institution should give one entertainment during the year, assuredly the performers could give ample time for abundant preparation. Then, to appear before a strange audience, an audience which has no prepossessions of your ability, and on which a favorable or unfavorable impression of yourself will be formed by that one effort alone, will be of inestimable benefit.

That single fact will stimulate the candidates to redoubled energy in the preparation of their themes. It seems to us, considering everything, that the proposal submitted to us should meet our cordial concurrence. We trust our students will think of the matter carefully. Suppose a meeting be called, and a committee be appointed to consult with the students of Cornell College, and prepare a definite programme of action. Similar entertainments have been successfully maintained by the students of the Northwestern University of Evanston, Ill., and the University of Chicago. Let us give it a trial.

PHILORHETORIAN.

## LOCAL

We venture the assertion that the law students passed a happier vacation than other bodies. Poor chaps! their load is heavy enough.

The present term of school commenced on the 8th inst. Quite a large number of new students have entered the University this term.

Each of the literary halls is furnished with a piano, and music will doubtless soon become a permanent feature of the literary societies.

The members of the Faculty were very prompt in attendance at Chapel on the first morning of the term. Will this continue during the terms.

The Medics. seem to have had a kind of "revival" on the 8th inst., judging from the singing of such songs as "Sweet Hour of Prayer," and other noises.

New Year's Day was quite generally devoted to skating by students who remained in the city. Both ladies and gentlemen participated in this healthful recreation.

**SCENE IN A RECITATION-ROOM:** Prof.—*Je ne suis pas mange* (I have not eaten). What is position of *pas*?

Senior—Why, *pas* (Pa) comes in just before eating.

It would be better for students to enter the University at beginning of school year and save a world of vexation to the professors. Prospective students will please remember.

A fire occurred in the city Tuesday, 6th inst., on Clinton street, but owing to the prompt and efficient action of the fire company it was extinguished with the loss of only one building.

**NEW VERSION.**—Brutus asked Cæsar had many eggs he had eaten that day. Cæsar replied: "*Et tu Brute.*" Brutus got mad because Cæsar called him a brute; seized a knife, and stabbed him quite dead.

**JAN. 3RD.**—Spring has come! Perhaps you think I am dreaming, but I am not—if the combined testimony of my senses don't deceive me. I am awake. There is no sign of winter,—no snow, no cold wind; but I see instead green grass, I hear a bird sing, I see the loafers come out and whittle at store-boxes, all the folks are taking walks, and such a warm wind compasses me about that I almost wish myself to be all spirit that I might permeate and float upon this delicious atmosphere.

**JAN. 4TH.**—Snow, cold! I shiveringly long for the appearance of yesterday. My fingers are numb and cold and refuse to write more.

The lecture delivered recently by Miss Hattie Walker, of Indianola, under the auspices of the Ladies' Literary Societies of the University, was not so well attended as the object of the lecture and the ability of the lecturer demanded, yet the receipts were sufficient to pay all expenses and leave a small balance in the treasury of the societies. Miss Walker is evidently a lady of more than ordinary ability, and is destined to achieve success in her chosen field of labor. The title of her lecture, "Outside the Walls," suggested the hope that the political phase of the woman question would be omitted, but in this regard we were disappointed. However, constant agitation has characterized all great political reforms, and the public must patiently hear the same line of thought and argument repeated until public opinion is convinced.

Rev. F. Ward, Iowa State Agent of the Am. Peace Society, is engaged in circulating petitions to Congress against war and in behalf of arbitration of national differences. One of said petitions has been left in the Library to be signed by students. Let all append their signatures. We know not what weight our influence in Congress may be; we can't "generally most always" tell what's in a name.

Prof. Pinkham, who, at last commencement, was promoted from the position of tutor to the chair of English Literature, has returned from an extended tour over Great Britain and the continent. The Professor relates most brilliant accounts of his travels. The class in English Literature are expecting rare feasts in the shape of lectures, descriptions, and anecdotes gathered from the historic places of "Old England," illustrative of her literature. Prof. P. brought with him many rare and curious specimens of the early English language. We are heartily glad to welcome him back.

Prof. Hammond, as was announced to the class at the close of last term, during vacation delivered a course of lectures on English Law to those who remained in the city. It is needless to say that the lectures were interesting and instructive to the law students. The whole course was well attended, both by the class, a number of academics, and ladies and gentlemen from the city. At the close of the third lecture, Prof. Hammond announced that Mrs. Hammond and himself would be very much pleased to have the class assemble at his residence on the 2d inst., at 7 p. m. Accordingly when the time came every man put in his appearance and looked his sweetest. But imagine our surprise when we beheld a vast array of fine ladies whom Mrs. H. had invited to make the evening more pleasant. We did not run, however, but did the next best thing,—got acquainted. Introductions and hand-shaking having ended, a general good time was enjoyed. At a reasonable hour a "bonne bouche" was served, and all having done justice to the good things, the party in due time separated, having passed a very pleasant evening and one long to be remembered.

On the last evening of the fall term the programme of the literary societies of the University were unusually attractive. Each hall was filled and a large number were compelled to go away without obtaining an admittance. In the Zetagathian Hall each performer acquitted himself in a creditable manner. The orators of the occasion were C. C. Wright, John L. Griffiths and E. Sanders. Mr. Welch delivered a declamation, and Mr. Fairall read a poem. Messrs. Myers and McLoud, McFadden and Helm participated in the debate. In regard to the music it is only necessary to say that it was furnished by Mr. Jones, assisted by Miss Blanche Lee and Messrs. Kimball and Freeman. The exercises of the evening closed with a pantomime performance entitled "Courting Under Difficulties," the several parts of which were well enacted.

The Irvings and Erodelphians held a joint session, with the following programme:

Salutatory,—A. B. Byram.

Debate,—Mr. Byington, Miss Gordon; Mr. Seerley, Miss Kinney.

Valedictory,—Miss Clark.

The Drama of *David Copperfield*.

The valedictory by Miss Clark was a production of much thought, and delivered in a style both graceful and pleasing. The drama was decidedly a success, evincing a careful preparation on the part of the performers.

On the reception of Prof. Calvin's resignation as Principal of the 4th Ward School, the Dubuque Board of Education adopted the following complimentary resolutions:

WHEREAS, Prof. Samuel Calvin, having felt it to be his duty to accept an appointment to the chair of Natural Sciences in the Iowa State University, having tendered his resignation as Principal of the Fourth Ward School, a position he has ably and satisfactorily filled since September, 1869, which resignation having been this day accepted, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we deem this a fitting occasion to express to him our high appreciation of his valuable services as a teacher; of his success in conducting and governing his school, and in promoting the best interests of the City Teachers' Institute, by the delivery from time to time of carefully prepared lectures on practical education and the natural sciences.

*Resolved*, That while we deeply regret the loss our schools will sustain by the departure of Prof. Calvin from this to another field of usefulness, we congratulate him upon his advancement.

*Resolved*, That the foregoing preamble and resolutions be spread upon the records, published with the proceedings of the board and a certified copy of the same be presented to Prof. Calvin.

#### PERSONALS.

T. J. Mize, Law '72, is teaching in Vacaville, Cal.

Law '73, J. B. Johnson is in a law office at Kewanee, Ill.

Smith Hanna, '73, was visiting in the city during vacation.

J. B. Chapman, class '77, is teaching in Helena, Tama Co., Iowa.

Charles White, '73, spent a few days in the city during vacation.

Law '73, Frank E. Stone has established himself in Provo City, Utah.

S. S. Lytle, a former student, is teaching in the public schools of Brooklyn, Iowa.

Miss Mary A. Safford will remain at her home during the winter in Hamilton, Illinois.

C. B. Hutchins, formerly a student in the University, has returned to resume his studies.

Law '71, J. A. Lindberg is meting out justice to the citizens of Ridgeport, as a Justice of the Peace.

'72 W. J. Medes has recently been elected principal of one of the ward schools in Keokuk, Iowa.

Mr. A. H. Sterritt, special, has entered upon his duties as Superintendent of the schools of Tama county.

Mr. Powers, '72, visited his friends in the city recently. He reports his school in Mitchelville in a prosperous condition.

Miss Eva Cowden has been teaching since leaving the University, and is prevented, by ill health, from returning.

J. A. Fairbrother, owing to some complications in school matters at Keokuk, has resigned his position as Principal of the High School.

'72 R. E. Fitch is prospering nobly at Laramie City, Wyoming Ter. His salary has been raised to \$150 per month, and he is giving complete satisfaction.

'75 T. W. Graydon, formerly of the *Reporter* corps, is succeeding finely with the "young ideas," and with the "old ones," too, at Lettsville, Louisa Co.

Law '73, B. S. Miller visited his many friends in the city during the past vacation. He is assisting Judge Cole in the preparation of his new edition of *Iowa Reports*.

N. W. Macy, '73, recently took advantage of the vacation in his school at West Liberty, to visit the University. He met with a cordial welcome from his student friends.

'70 J. E. Cook paid the University and his Iowa City friends a visit recently. He reports legal business in Jesup as being very lively. He has plenty to do, and is doing it successfully.

H. H. Hiatt, once of '74, passed several days of his vacation in the city. "Teaching the young ideas" seems to be quite pleasant and satisfactory to him, judging from the appearance of his *physique*.

Miss Mary Ryan, Normal, '71, teacher for over two years in the public schools of this city, has accepted a position and entered upon her duties in the schools of Laramie City, Wyoming Ter.

A. E. Kellogg, formerly of '73, has permitted his theological course to be interrupted for the present, having been elected to teach Latin and Greek in the San Jose Institute. The position is a very good one. We are glad to see so many signs of Mr. K.'s material prosperity.

Dr. C. A. White, formerly Professor of Natural History in the University, and State Geologist of Iowa, was in the city recently. We understand he is at present engaged in the preparation of a work for the State of Illinois, similar to that which he lately prepared for our own State.

I. P. Roberts, late Professor of Agriculture in the College at Ames, Iowa, and Superintendent of the College Farm, has been elected to a chair in Cornell College, New York. He will fill the position of Assistant Professor of Practical Agriculture in that Institution, with a salary of \$2,250 a year.

Prof. Samuel Calvin, the new Professor of Natural Sciences, arrived in the city with his family a few days before school opened. He is taking well; he impresses all with his genial, gentlemanly, cordial manner. He seems to possess the art of captivating the respect and good will of the students at the start. We have all confidence that he will fill his position admirably. The University is to be congratulated on obtaining his services.

#### MARRIAGES.

In Muscatine, Iowa, December 25, 1873, Mr. H. S. Howe, Law Class '72, to Miss Minnie Hume, of Muscatine.

On the evening of December 24, 1873, at the residence of the bride's father, in Monte Bello township, by Rev. A. D. Workman, Mr. Charles C. Safford, to Miss Martha A. Miller.

Mr. Safford was formerly a member of class '70.

At the residence of the bride's father, in Muscatine, on the 23d ult., by the Rev. James Remley, assisted by Rev. N. A. Reed and Rev. A. B. Robbins, D. D., H. M. Remley, Esq., of Anamosa, and Miss Mary E., daughter of Mr. S. Underwood, of Muscatine.

Two of the University's noblest children made one—a most happy and auspicious union. Mr. Remley was graduated from the Academical Department, in '69; also from the Law Department in '72. Mrs. Remley was a member of '73, and took her Diploma with the class last June. Our best wishes follow the newly married couple. May the swift flight of the years serve but to deepen and strengthen their ardent affection. May they quaff deeply from the charmed chalice of life all its pleasure, and little of its bitterness.

## OUR EXCHANGES.

In general appearance, and in choice literary matter, the *Williams Review* is not excelled.

The *Vassar Miscellany* appears with its accustomed life and cheer. We regard it as one of our most welcome visitors.

The *Spectator's* article, "Self Reliance," we think well written and well worth perusal. Union College may well be proud of its literary exponents.

The *Indianola Simpsonian* evidently appreciates a good, well-written article, as it has copied *verbatim*, one of our last. It fails, however, to give us credit for the same.

The *Owl*, Santa Clara, California, is equal to the average of college publications, but it unworthily assumes an air of perfection which, we think, detracts largely from its merit.

The ever-welcome *Packer Quarterly* is again upon our table. After reading "What do I go to school for?" we were led to believe that strong-mindedness was, perhaps, too prominent a characteristic of the writer. A spirit of independence, however, is evinced, which is always praiseworthy.

The *Union College Magazine* stands very near the "Ne Plus Ultra" of college journalism. Considerable space is devoted to articles of high literary merit. College sports also receive their full share of attention. The entire college press is carefully gleaned and items of humor and information collected.

The *College News Letter* has come to hand in a new dress. Its general appearance is very much improved. It is one of our best western exchanges. Iowa College is one of the institutions to be represented at the Knox College Prize Contest. A contest will be held at Grinnell, on February 1st, to decide who shall represent them at Galesburg.

We have also received the following: *The Woman's Journal*, *Pen and Plow*, *Index Niagarensis*, *Wood's Household Magazine*, *University Press*, *The Aurora*, *Iowa Classic*, *American Newspaper Reporter*, *The Annalist*, *Lawrence Collegian*, *Qui Vive*, *College News Letter*, *The Analyst*, (*Des Moines*), *College Courier*, *Beloit College Monthly*, *The Tyro*, *University Missourian*, *Hesperian Student*, *College Chronicle*, *College Journal*.

## CLIPPINGS.

One who knows, says "kissing a lady with an Elizabethan ruffle on is about as much fun as embracing a circular saw in full motion."—*Ex.*

A Freshman from the city seeing the model of a threshing machine which is in the Agricultural Museum, inquired "if it was not a gas generator."—*Ex.*

The Junior who was found the other morning in the wood-box, sleeping off a carouse, insisted that he had merely been laying in his winter's fuel.—*Anvil.*

The engineering students in that department of Dartmouth College, have surveyed the line for a new railroad from Hanover to Lyme, N. H.—*Ex.*

New Haven Apothecary Shop: *Young Hopeful*—"Would you take the last cent a fellow had for a drink of soda water?" *Clerk* (without thinking)—"Yes, certainly." *Hopeful* pulls out the cent and demands the drink.

A student being examined on the Bible, in answer to the question, "What are the first three books of the New Testament?" said "Shem, Ham and Japheth."—*Tablet.*

An aged gentleman straggled into the drawing room of the Engineers, and after watching for some time the playful antics of the boys, very earnestly and innocently inquired if that was the museum.—*Yale Courant.*

Talk about fat! Two Freshmen chums have a double bed apiece, and then have to put chairs all around the edges to keep them from falling out. When one wants to turn around, the other has to go out in the hall.—*Argus.*

Some Harvard students were recently serenading a boarding-school, when, seeing some heads at the window, they waited for comments. They heard the following and then left: "Shure, and don't they sing swately, Maggie?"—*Ex.*

"A postal card containing the following was picked up on the Freshman recitation room floor this morning: 'Dear Father—they came into our room—blowed out light—stood us on table—had to scan Livy—had to spell three-syllabled words—hard ones—and I want you to come down Monday.—D.'"—*Bowdoin Orient.*

A Junior, who had been troubled all the week by the importunity of his washerwoman, was disturbed in his sleep by the malignant, demoniacal howls of a discontented cat, and rolling over in his bed he muttered, "I'm dead broke now, but I'm expecting a remittance every day, and when it comes I'll settle, so now let up, old woman."—*Chronical.*

A farmer in Illinois keeps cattle out of his enclosure by posting the following verbatim notice: "If enny man's or woman's cows gits in these air oats, his or her head, as the case may be, will be cut off eye am a man what pays my taxes, and confcoziation to be the man who lets his critters run loose; say eye."

A certain professor, whose chin was wont to be graced by a flowing beard, has lately returned shorn of every vestige of his hirsute appendage. A Sophomore, meeting the aforesaid professor, after a prolonged stare, and with a knowing wink to his Senior companion, burst out with: "By Jove, that's the hardest looking Freshman I've seen yet."

A landlady on York Street gave a spread to her new Freshman boarders. On the table were all the *indelicacies* of the season. A member of the incoming class from the West reached for an olive, turned it over, and finally tasted. He then skimmed off to a window, relieved his mouth of the pickle, and cautiously beckoned to the aforesaid landlady to meet him in the hall. Then, with a facial expression denoting disgust, he quietly remarked: "Mrs. Brown, I do not wish to destroy the hilarity of the party, but that cuss from New Jersey has put acid on the plums."—*Record.*

This thing of sending boys and girls to the same college would seem to be a frightful sort of business. The *New York Graphic* says "the male Freshmen are blindfolded and violently kissed by frolicksome Sophomores of the gentler sex." If this is true, every Freshman ought to have a couple of policemen with him all the time for his protection. If we were a Freshman, rather than submit to the diabolical violence of being blindfolded and kissed by a parcel of sixteen year old female Sophomores, we would a thousand times rather retire uneducated from college, and glide down the stream of time without knowing a single thing.—*Louisville Courier-Journal.*