LEGEND OF ALYN FORD.

(SELECTED.)

Bright on the moorlands the morning lay,
As the Lord of Llangollen rode away.

Clear and loud on the air rang out
Bay of greyhound and hutsman's shout.

To the lady that watched him with parted lips,
He tossed a kiss from his finger tips.

Then merrily wheeled at the leader's word,
And galloped away to Alyn Ford.

Oh! the rider was bold and the leader was strong,
And the foam flashed white as he dashed along.

The hoof beats rang on the further shore,
And the scarlet plume that the young lord wore
Dropped low, as a silken scarf he spied,
Swung from the hands of his own sweet bride,
Away and away where the woods were deep,
'I'm the sun slid down the western steep
And a cloud rose out the moaning sea,
Black as a raven's wing might be.
Over the forest, over the plain,
It flung its mantle of sheeted rain.

The Alyn ran swift, and broad and high,
Mocking the wrath of the sullen sky.

Through the castle garden a lady came down
With a mantle over her silken gown
"Are ye mad, Lady Alice?" the old nurse cried;
Never a word spoke Llangollen's bride.

But white as a snow-drift, mute as death,
She fled down the narrow river path.

And afar, through storm and twilight gloom,
She saw the gleam of a scarlet plume.

Close to the brink of the seething flood,
Fearless the haughty huntsman rode,
And the charger sprang with a mighty leap,
Far out, where the water was wild and deep.

Soon he stood panting and fearful eyed,
Riderless by the lady's side.

Then out rang so sharp and wild a cry,
That the wind shuddered and hurried by—
And the river clapsed to its cruel breast,
The fairest form it had ever cared.

For dimly gleamed a silken gown!
In the spot where the scarlet plume went down.

And still the good people of Alyn Ford,
Tell the story of heath and board,
How, when the twilight hour is nigh,
And the river wraith goes shrieking by,
DIVINE AND NATURAL LAW.

The theory of the divine or theoretic origin of all law, in its form as law, after being neglected for a century or more, has of late given proofs of renewed vitality, even in Protestant countries. (Among Catholics it has always remained the orthodoxy theory taught by the church, and Bowyer's work expresses rather the Catholic than the English doctrine.) Thus Stahl and his school in Germany really rest on this doctrine while often disavowing it. In America it has made no advance among lawyers, but has been taken up by theological writers and speculators on law and morals. A terse, forcible expression of the doctrine in its latest form may be found in a letter of Prof. J. H. Seelye, of Amherst College, to the Japanese minister—a "It is a very common mistake which supposes that laws can be made or unmade by decrees of a monarch, or by acts of a legislature, or by votes of a people. But men can no more make laws of the state than they can make laws of nature. The enactments of a monarch, a legislature, a people, like the announcements of science, are only the interpretation which men give to laws, disclosing, declaring, not at all making them. The laws themselves are unmade and eternal, and the wisest statesmanship, like the wisest science, is that which most clearly discerns them. But what are the qualifications of the wise statesman and legislator? I must answer that they are moral rather than intellectual. It needs a great intellect, capacious and well-trained, to discover the laws of nature, but the laws of the state are instinctively apprehended, first of all, in the moral feeling of the soul; and it is not the man who possesses only great learning and keen intellect, but the man of correct life and of deep moral sensibility who knows what civil law is. It is not intellectual vigor, but moral purity, which makes the best citizen, and the most correct discern of the law."

In this statement of Prof. Seelye we have one of those half-truths which are often more misleading, and more mischiefous, than entire error. The view of law presented has a certain value as a reaction and a protest against theories which represent law as entirely of human creation, and man as able to frame for himself and to carry out any kind of law he pleases. It expresses forcibly the truth that law is based upon the constitution of the universe and the nature of man, and that no system of laws can be permanent or successful which does not conform to these. But in correcting the error of those who exaggerate the power and scope of human freedom, it falls into the opposite and more dangerous error of ignoring this element altogether. Law is not a mere system of immutable rules, framed by the Creator in advance, and utterly independent of human volition, like those that govern the physical universe. It may rather be compared to one of the great machines which human sagacity has invented to accomplish human ends. The material of which it is made, the principles that determine its action and limit its powers are divine: and man must content himself with studying and obeying these, as he finds them. But he does not rest passively content with this. He learns how by obeying nature to become her master: to frame new combinations of natural objects, new applications of natural forces, and thus to produce a whole system of laws and results that would have had no existence but for his own will. So in regard to society and law. Man has far more to do than simply to study and announce the laws of God. These take him no farther in the social world than the laws of nature do in the physical one. He must exercise a conscientious and responsible volition at every step he takes; must determine for himself many questions respecting which the divine law gives him no guidance, at least in the present state of his knowledge; must try experiments of which he cannot foresee the result; must provide for and regulate a vast variety of institutions, relations, transactions which have been brought into the world by his own wants and will, and in respect to which the so-called divine laws afford him at best but a distant analogy. Think of Prof. S. studying the divine, unmade laws of the universe, for the purpose of revealing therefrom what was intended to be the period of limitation against defects in a tax title, or upon what instruments of exchange days of grace should be allowed?

I have admitted that a portion of law was of divine origin, as Prof. S. claims; but there is a fallacy lurking even under that admission. The Creator gives us the material for law, the facts and principles which must determine what the law shall be; but not law in its form as law. That is entirely the product of the human mind. If there were no men in the world there would be no (jural) law. Man finds no rule ready-made, instructing him to do or not to do this or that. He finds situations, relations, needs, compulsions, which he must interpret into the form of law and express. The distinction is an important one because it involves the possibility or probability of a mistake in expressing the law.

The same fallacy underlay the entire "Law of Nature" of the eighteenth century. That our law is in many cases founded on nature no one would dispute; but it is a very different thing to assume a law ready made by Nature to man's hand. Perhaps there is no question or class of questions connected with the law, in which we are so liable to be led astray by plausible hypotheses, as in our efforts to determine what part of our existing institutions, rules, etc., may be regarded as natural, or to what natural basis they may be assigned. It is only by the comparison of different systems of law that we can arrive at even a probable answer to these questions. And even then we may be led only further astray if the systems we take are all so nearly connected, historically, with each other as those of modern Europe and European America. Among all these systems, which have been chiefly formed of two great factors, the Roman law and that of the Germanic nations, there is an infinite number of points
of agreement that seem to us so plain and necessary that we should not hesitate to ascribe them to the law of nature if indisputable historic evidence did not show them to have had a purely positive origin. And recent studies have revealed so many and so surprising cases of this kind that we can hardly think it safe to rely on any agreement between such systems as proving a true natural law. Whenever a historical connection can be proved it is more logical to assume that all unexplained analogies are due to this cause, and are of positive origin, rather than to consider them proofs of a natural principle, merely because their actual starting-point and original form has not yet been shown.

On the other hand if we compare systems that have no traceable connection—as our own with the Chinese, African, etc.—we find it impossible to deduce any "natural laws" from systems so divergent. Scarcely a principle of "natural reason" can be found in one that is not flatly contradicted by some rule or institution of the other. The Chinese law is full of rules that seem to us so absurd or revolting that we can scarcely understand how rational beings are content to live under them; and no doubt our law presents a similar aspect to them. Even such fundamental conceptions as property, marriage, family, etc., are so different that we have not yet learned to make any comparisons of much value between their conceptions and ours. In other words, where there is no actual historic relation between different systems of law, we are not yet able to trace any common natural elements of a kind to be of the least value to us in the study of comparative jurisprudence. The different systems must be considered for the present at least as incommensurable.

It only remains then to study the systems that can be profitably compared with a view of perfecting our knowledge of their historic connection until we are able to say safely what resemblances cannot be so accounted for. But a beginner will be surprised to find how many conceptions that seem to him so plain and necessary that they must be natural, can easily be proved to be artificial by tracing the successive steps through which they have been developed from some purely positive or technical origin—e. g., wills from adoption as shown by Sir Henry Maine—trusts from fideicommissa, a mere form of legacy—leases from a Roman consensus contract.

It might almost be said that from present appearances we are warranted only in placing the state of a natural law in the future not in the past. It is the ideal to which all law is tending, not the source from which all law has sprung.

W. G. H.

THOUGHT VERSUS STYLE.

"Along the banks of Ayr," Scotia's greatest poet was taking a constitutional. A clouded chill November day added its dreariness to the melancholic effects of a previous night's dissipation, and both together assisted the gloomy mind of the bard in calling up from its darkly rolling waters of that classic frith, the ghostly sage with the discouraging maxim, "Man was made to mourn."

What constitutes the title of this assertion to immortality? Certainly not its truth; man was not made to mourn. The place of "outer darkness," of "weeping and wailing and gnashing teeth," when "the smoke of the torments of the lost ascend upward to heavens forever," while it may be the destination of many, certainly does not present those conditions of existence for which man was created. Burns' thought was a fit emanation from the hell upon earth, his previous excesses had made for him. It was neither great, nor true, nor original.

But he has expressed it in such a wonderful manner; he has hedged it about with such a witching jugglery of words; he has so cast upon it the enchanting spell of genius, that it will never be forgotten. Like many another gem of literature, it will be preserved for the sake of its setting. A weak falsehood, a pitiful complaint, a thought unworthy a great healthy mind perpetuates itself, and the fame of its author simply through the form of its expression. This then, is the secret of immortality; this is the test of genius; not the material, but the workmanship gives evidence of the master's hand.

A good style hides a multitude of literary sins, and saves many a weak thought from death. The history of books teaches no more obvious lesson, than that manner of expression, and not originality or sound logic determines longevity. A good style cannot commend shallowness any more than sound argument can afford to disregard attractive diction. But place by side by side the obscure profundities of Butler and the admirably stated falsehoods of Hobbs, and which is the more enduring? We can state the analogy in better English and throw Butler aside. Hobbs we will keep as a model of clearness and force.

Great thought, stupendous learning, shrewd observations, wonderful wisdom, keen penetrations, we find in many, if not in all great literary productions. But not in proportion to their real fame, not in proportion to their hold upon the popular mind. To the accomplished scholar, to the original investigation, a certain respect is accorded. But such were not Chaucer and Spencer, Shakespeare and Johnson, Goldsmith and Addison. Originality, especially, is not a characteristic of literary genius, that is originality in its generic sense.

Critics never exhaust their subject, however much they may weary themselves and us in telling of the unconscious confiscation of others' thoughts, practiced by the great authors. This is not to be understood in any disparaging sense, for that is one of the most glorious of the human faculties which enables one to take a single fundamental conception out of the world's common stock, to develop this conception by exhibiting all its relations to other thoughts, and to adorn it with all that fancy or imagination can
suggest, so that the grandness, beauty, and vividness of the picture presented becomes a theme of ceaseless wonder and admiration.

Thus far, Milton was original; thus far, he was the "prince of plagiarists." In this sense, the appropriation of another's thoughts is an act legalized by precedent and enabled by the example of princely genius. You have a perfect right to borrow the literary weapons of another; you can use them as your own, with this stipulation:—you must make better use of them than their previous owner. Where are the conditions of successful authorship?

"The ivy twines among the victorious laurels," for any one who will tell an old story—and all stories are old—better than it has ever been told before. No matter how threadbare the tale, a "new and improved version" being fame for the narrator; and the best version is the one which usage always sanctions. We never quote anyone whose thoughts we can express better in our own language.

Shakspeare is in everyone's mouth, not chiefly because of the new and wonderful things he said, but because he gave to a multitude of common, everyday thoughts, and feelings an expression at once so concise, appropriate and beautiful, that when we, to-day, wish to speak concisely, appropriately and beautifully, we can do no better than quote him. Hence it comes that nearly every line of Shakspeare contains some picturesque description, phrase or epigrammatic expression, which custom has since adopted as being the best possible representation of the thought or idea for which it stands.

And it is precisely Shakspeare's representation of the more ordinary thoughts and emotions which are most used. The average intellectual and emotional range is very limited. Sublime conceptions fill our minds but seldom, mighty passions stir our souls but occasionally, and we never appreciate and enjoy what we do not comprehend. This explains the success of the modern society novel.

It shows us just as we are, and we never grow tired of gazing at ourselves, even if the picture is not complimentary. We do love to be told "what we ourselves don't know."

The mental pabulum we desire is that entitled to one's capacities. It may, or may not, be wholly our fault that our capacities are not far better things.

Whoever is responsible for it, human nature cannot be materially changed. So the chief task set for the young candidate for literary honors, is to cater to our common necessities.

There is an occasional prodigy who may disregard the common law, but to the most of you who would have your sayings upon every tongue, and your praises in every mouth; who would have your productions decorate with their gilt and morocco, the palaces of the rich, and when in their plain cloth covers, the homes of the poor; who would make "footprints" on the "sands" of the shores of the kingdom of letters which no incoming wave of authors can ever wash out; to you the advice must be, do not worry your poor brains too much for original thoughts, which perchance may not be there; but condescend to common-place exposition of every day themes; and if you tell your story well, we will hear you gladly. Express everything in the best possible manner; make each of your productions a "mint of coined thoughts;" this alone will give them energy.

The materials which you are to fashion into new forms of life and attractiveness, lie before you in every shape and condition.

Rough, misshapen piles of ore are waiting to be washed up. Weapons of thought, old, worn out, rusty or broken, but still of good steel; pieces of literary armor, patterns new, old and antiquated are at hand; take your choice.

It is yours to recast, renew, and beautify whatever of material a careful study of the great master-pieces and a diligent search among the rubbish of the past may furnish you.

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LETTER FROM "SCANDY."

PEORIA, ILLINOIS, NOV. 17, 1874.

Editors Reporter:—"Out of sight, out of mind," has become proverbial. But I doubt its truth when applied to the students and alumni of the Iowa State University; at least my own experience and observations have invariably contradicted this statement. Throughout my travels, whenever I chanced to meet a University acquaintance, an earnest inquiry has always been made after Mr. A., B., and C., and Miss D., E., F., etc., whether they were still in the classic halls or in active life. At the earnest solicitation of many friends, I improve this opportunity of making a few statements in the Reporter, respecting my doings and whereabouts in the busy world.

Since graduation I have become one of the authors of a new method of arithmetical calculations. The book is entitled "Common Sense Applied to Numbers; or, The Word System of Addition." For two years I have been actively engaged in disseminating this science in Western and Southern Universities, Colleges, Normal Schools, and Teachers' Institutes. It has been my privilege to introduce the "Word System of Addition" in about two hundred of these centers of learning; among which I might mention The International Business College Association, which convened at Cincinnati, Ohio, Oberlin College, Ohio, the State Universities of Michigan, Minnesota, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, etc. Also, some twenty State Normal Schools. I might write here modestly add, that in all these great educational centers our "Word System" has met a very warm and welcome reception, which is exceedingly encouraging and gratifying. I might also note that our methods have received the unqualified recommendation of about one thousand of the foremost educators of our day in some twenty States of our Union.

It is my purpose, the coming year, to visit the time-honored
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words, and in much less time. These

by every thinking mind, that they can be recalled as easily

and readily as words in ordinary

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read in ordinary written or printed sentence

are numerous, and to read

Tactics, substituting the lettcrs

Students

III. REGULATIONS. For purposes of Tactical Instruclion

are assigned such

may deem fit, in a dition to their usual company or battalion duties, to special duty as instructors of

Tactics, or other necessary branches of military instruction,
in such manner as he may deem most conducive to the best interests of the military department of the University.

2d. The Professor of Military Science and Tactics shall be, under these regulations, charged with the immediate direction and superintendence of the military duties of the students both as regards practical and theoretical instruction, as well as with the execution of other commands for their military government emanating from the Faculty.

It shall be his duty to cause the course of study established, to be carried into effect, and to submit for the approval of the Faculty such changes therein, and in these regulations generally, as experience in his judgment and in that of the Faculty may, from time to time, suggest; and for such other purposes he will consult with the Faculty as often as may be deemed necessary.

III. COURSE OF INSTRUCTION.

1st. Military duties shall commence with the beginning of the first term of the Academical year.

2d. The course of instruction will be practical during the first and third terms, and theoretical during the second term.

3d. The practical instruction shall comprise so much of the school of the soldier, company and battalion (Infantry Tactics, Upton) and of the school of the piece (Artillery Tactics) as may be necessary for the students for their proper appearance at all forms of review, parade, etc., etc., prescribed by the tactics.

4th. The theoretical course of instruction shall comprise, for the Senior class, second term, recitations once each week in Field Fortifications, Outpost Duties, and lectures on the Science of War.

For the Junior class, second term, recitations once each week in Infantry and Artillery Tactics.

5th. All recitations and lectures will be regulated by the Professor of Military Science and Tactics under the direction of the Faculty.

IV. UNIFORM.

No student shall wear other than the prescribed uniform when on military duty.

COAT. Double-breasted frock coat of cadet grey cloth, the skirt to extend from one-half to three-fourths the distance from the hip joint to the bend of the knee; seven buttons, stand-up collar not less than one nor more than one and one-half inches in height to hook in front at the bottom, and slope thence up and backward at an angle of thirty degrees on each side, corners rounded, pockets in the folds of the skirts, with two buttons at the hips and one at the lower end of each side edge, making four buttons on the back and skirt of the coat; collar and cuffs of the same color and material as the coat, and the latter with three small buttons under the seams; according to pattern.

OVERCOAT. Grey Kersey, double-breasted, to reach two inches below the knee; stand up and fall collar, rising to the tips of the ears, and hooked in front, six buttons down the front on each side, two buttons at the hips, and one at the bottom of each plait behind; cape of the same material as the coat, seventeen inches in length, to button in front; body, cape and skirts, lined with woolen, and sleeves with twilled muslin; according to pattern.

TROUSERS. Cadet grey cloth, with a black stripe one inch wide, down the outer seam, welted at the edges; according to pattern.

CAPS. Of cadet grey cloth, chasseur pattern, with the University badge in front, top of the badge to be even with the top of the cap; according to pattern.

GLOVES. Of White Berlin; according to pattern.

UNIVERSITY BADGE. A gold embroidered wreath on a black velvet ground, encircling the letters "I. S. U." in silver old English characters; according to pattern.

BUTTONS. Gilt, one inch in diameter, bearing in raised form the Arms of the State of Iowa, and underneath, the letters "I. S. U.," according to pattern.

INSCRIPTION O F RANK.

Students acting as officers and non commissioned officers shall be designated by chevrons of single gold lace upon both sleeves of the uniform coat as follows:

Captains: Chevrons of four bars on each arm above the elbow, points up.

Lieutenants: Three bars.

Adjudants: Lieutenant's chevron with an arc of three bars.

Quartermaster: Lieutenant's chevron with a tie of three bars.

Sergeant Major: The Sergeant's chevron with an arc of two bars.

Quartermaster Sergeant: The Sergeant's chevron with a tie of two bars.

First Sergeant: Two bars with a lozenge.

Sergeant: Two bars.

Color Sergeant: Sergeant's chevrons with a star, five pointed, one and one-half inches in diameter.

Corporals: Two bars on each arm below the elbow, points up.

Corporals of the Color Guard: The Corporal's chevron with a star three fourths of an inch in diameter, all according to pattern.

All articles of uniform, etc., must be made in strict conformity with the approved patterns.

V. REGULATIONS.

1. Drills will take place (weather permitting) on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 4 to 5 o'clock P. M., during the first and third terms.

2. All students are required to be on their respective company parade grounds, duly armed and equipped
between the first and second calls for duty, and in ranks a
the last tap of the drum—3d call.
3. The Arms or other public property for the use of the
students shall not be taken from the office of the Professor
of Military Science and Tactics except for duty. Each
student’s arms and accoutrements shall be marked with his
name or designated number, and no student shall lend or
exchange his arms or accoutrements, or use those of any
other student, without the permission of that Professor.
4. No student shall alter his musket, by scraping, filing,
cutting, or varnishing the stock, barrel, or any other part of
it; nor shall the lock be removed, or be taken apart without
the permission of the Professor of Military Science and
Tactics.
5. Applications to be excused from any military duty
must be made in writing and in time for the student to
report to the Officer of the Day before the duty begins.
6. All permits to be absent from any military duty must
be approved by the Professor of Military Science and Tac-
tics, and be deposited with the Officer of the Day. No
permit will bear the name of more than one student, and
no student shall leave or absent himself from any military
duty for the purpose of obtaining a permit to be excused
from said duty.
7. Any student reported for a military offense and hav-
ing a satisfactory explanation for the same, shall explain it
in writing according to the following form, and present it
at the office of the Professor of Military Science and Tac-
tics not later than the second orderly hour after its publica-
tion. If the explanation be satisfactory that Professor will
erase the record; if not satisfactory, he will forward the
same, with his report of offences, to the President for his
decision. No explanation will be received after the time
herein specified unless sickness, absence or some other un-
avoidable cause—which must be stated in the explanation—
shall have prevented its presentation as herein required; in
which event it must be rendered without unnecessary delay.
8. Explanations will include only such statements of
fact and of conduct or intentions of the student as may be
necessary to a full and correct understanding of the case, but
will not be made the medium of complaint or criticism, or
of irrelevant remarks. The jurisdiction of the Battalion
officers respecting offences reported, ceases with their re-
port, and all communications in reference thereto must be
made to the Professor of Military Science and Tactics.
9. [Form of an explanation for an offense.]

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EXPLANATION.
10. All explanations or other official communications
will be written on white, ruled “letter paper,” and shall be,
when delivered to their address, of the size of a half sheet
of such paper folded into three equal parts; no such com-
munication being made on a piece of paper of less size than
one of such parts.
11. The Officer of the Day will be detailed from the
roster of Senior Officers, and will report to the Professor
of Military Science and Tactics at orderly hours on the day
following his detail.
12. He will cause all the signals to be sounded at the
proper time by the Orderly Musician. He will be present
at all parades and roll calls during his tour, and require that
the absentees be reported to him.
13. On being relieved he will submit to the Professor
of Military Science and Tactics, a report of all violations of the
regulations or orders which may come to his knowledge during
his tour of duty, stating the name of each offender, with a
clear and definite description to his offense, and the circum-
stances of time and place, when not necessarily understood,
adding in a column of remarks such explanations as may be
appropriate. He will add to his report that he has faithfully
performed all the duties enjoined by the Professor of Mil-
itary Science and Tactics and Regulations, and shall present
with it all permits that may have come into his hands during
his tour.
14. All official communications from students, intended
for the Professor of Military Science and Tactics, will be
addressed to the Battalion Adjutant.
15. Orderly hours will be from 9 A. M. to 10:30 A. M.,
(except on Saturdays and Sundays), at which time the Pro-
fessor of Military Science and Tactics will transact business
with students in his office, and where the Battalion Adju-
tant may be found from 8 to 8:30 and 11 to 12 A. M., on
the same days.
16. The Professor of Military Science and Tactics shall
cause a Register to be kept of all offences which may take
place in his department, and shall, at the end of every week,
report to the President the names of those students who
have been guilty of offenses, and the action taken there-
upon.
17. Strict attention to all Military duties and proprieties
is required and for all offenses and misconducts therein,
demerits will be given at the discretion of the Professor
of Military Science and Tactics, and the demerits given for
military offenses will affect the standing of the student in
the University, as provided in the Rules of Order. The
same respect and obedience is due to the officers and
non-commissioned officers of the Battalion in the line of military duty, as to the Professor of Military Science and Tactics.

By order of Lieut. Sheenck, Prof. Mil. Scin. and Tactics.

R. J. WILSON,
1st Lieut. and Adjutant.

Official:
ROLLIN J. WILSON,
1st Lieut. and Adjut.

THE CONTEST.

On the evening of Thursday, Nov. 5, 1874, in the University Chapel, occurred the first Inter-Collegiate Contest of Iowa. For weeks preceding it was the principal theme of conversation among our students; and the growing enthusiasm seemed to infect Faculty and citizens as well.

As intelligence from other colleges arrived and the names of contestants were reported, discussion was opened afresh and the chances for each champion were considered and weighed with true philosophic gravity and acuteness. As the names of ladies began to appear in the lists, we rejoiced that the occasion was to be enlivened with woman’s “finer fancies” and “lighter thought,” and we pondered the sentiment that the “race would not be to the swift nor the battle to the strong.”

So the interest swelled till on the eve of the eventful occasion, such an under-current of excitement pervaded the University as has not been experienced in our college history. Every device known to ingenious minds had been utilized to render the occurrence pleasant and memorable. The Executive Committee of the State Association had skillfully outlined and perfected the plan of the enterprise, and our Local Committee, in its wise management of the details of finance and business, crowned the undertaking with complete success. Suffice it to say that the net proceeds, clear of all expenses, are $110.

BUT TO THE ARENA.

At an early hour in the evening the audience began to assemble, and the rush for unreserved seats was unprecedented. The chapel, specially decorated for the occasion, pleasantly enconncing 800 people presented an ample field for exercise of the far-reaching ken of logic, the flashing scintillations of wit, the aspiring flight of imagination and the nobility of Demosthenic action.

The exercises were interspersed frequently with music, led by Capt. Cree, assisted by Mrs. Cree, Miss Blanch Lee, Mr. Tom Jones and Dr. C. B. Kimball, with Miss Mollie Moon at the piano. These accomplished wizards of voice and keys wrought their magic enchantments with all their old power and fascination.

At eight o’clock Mr. Sayles, President of the State Association, called the assembly to order and announced prayer by President Thacher; after which it was explained that the judges, Hon. James F. Wilson, Hon. Jno. A. Kasson, Rev. A. L. Frisbie, had already graduated the orations on a scale of 10, with reference to thought and composition and that there remained to be noticed only the excellence of elocution. Hon. Jas. B. Edmunds, of Iowa City, was chosen referee-judge, whose decision should determine in case of a tie.

Then was announced the first speaker of the evening, Mr. T. W. Graydon, of the Iowa State University, whose subject was “The Two Races in Ireland.”

Mr. G, being a native of the “Emerald Isle,” and having spent most of his life there, was singularly fortunate in the choice of his subject, as it is one to move the deepest feelings of the impulsive Irish heart. And he threw his soul into it with an ardor of enthusiasm that alone carried him far on toward victory. Mr. G. has some faults of manner and voice of which he has been sufficiently reminded, and further mention of them is neither desirable nor needful.

Per contra, he evinced fine culture garnered from wide and varied reading. His style of composition is dignified, manly, eloquent. The oration merited in every sense the meed it won. Iowa need not tremble for her representative at Indianapolis.

Miss Mattie Clinton, of Cornell College, followed on “The Unrewarded.” Miss C. deported herself very well on the platform, but not easily and elegantly. Her voice is harsh and incapable of filling a large hall. Her thesis was well written, abounding in rich imagery. It was, however, too tropical; had not enough of strong thought to balance it. She has powers, which, if cultivated, will give her the mastery of a fine and forcible style.

Mr. L. L. West, of Tabor College, was next introduced. Subject, “Originality.” This gentleman possesses several elements of oratory; his voice is full and resonant; his gesticulation is free and graceful. His composition is good, but not marked by any of the graces which enrich a style and render it beautiful and attractive. Mr. W’s oration was marred by the somewhat frequent recurrence of stilted terms and inelegant expressions. Still it was a good effort, and the speaker showed himself master of the situation and utterly free from that peculiar experience known as stage-fright.

Mr. Hassell, of Iowa College, next discussed “Physical Culture.” Mr. H. was, perhaps, the most graceful and polished speaker of the evening, and had his thought been equally strong with his rhetoric, he might have worn the byas of success; but, as it was, he made a sharp fight for it, and earned the second place of honor. With age and culture Mr. H. will develop a manhood of power.

Mr. Whittford represented Iowa Wesleyan University with an oration on “The Reward of Intellectual Culture.”
This gentleman has the making of an unquestionably strong speaker. With a manly presence, a voice of great volume and purity of tone, and a mind quick and active, he needs but a thorough training in vocal culture and position. He appeared awkwardly, but spoke well. His speech was short; showed much care in preparation and was appreciated.

Miss Kate N. Tupper, of the Agricultural College, under guise of "The Gender of Intellect," plead for a recognition of woman's mental abilities. Miss T. has been rather severely criticized here for discussing a theme so old and hackneyed, and Iowa City cannot be said to be one whit behind the most advanced "reformers," on that subject at least. For five years past scarcely a public University entertainment has been given which did not contain in its programme a presentation of some phase of this question. Still it is due Miss Tupper to say that she presented her views in good shape, evidenced very excellent ability in composition and was not excelled in perfect ease of manner.

Mr. Scobey, of Upper Iowa University, discussed on "Heroism." This was well written, containing many noble thoughts couched in graceful diction. His manner was insufferably slow and monotonous.

Miss Walter, of Simpson Centenary College, closed the entertainment with "Things That Last." Miss W. has a remarkably strong voice, which is rather coarse but not unpleasant, and with due cultivation would be rich and melodious. Her manner is self-possessed and graceful. The subject matter of her oration, though evincing little original thought, was yet well arranged and poetically phrased.

While the quartette sang "Those Evening Bells," Mr. Edmunds, the referee, computed each speaker's average, and forthwith announced as the name of the successful contestant, Mr. Graydon; whereupon cheer upon cheer arose, and the old chapel shook with accordant acclamations.

Thus closed Iowa's first experiment in Inter-Collegiatism, and, in every sense of the word, it was a success. And yet there are those who express themselves as disappointed with the merit of the Contest as embodying the discipline and culture of the Colleges of the State. This general criticism is, we fear, a just one. In fact, it was publicly stated here by those whose judgment and authority could not be impugned, that several of the institutions were not fairly represented. This ought not to be. If a college joins the Association and sends an accredited representative to the Contest it should allow none but the ablest to go; it should remember that by its orator as a standard, the audience graduates the college as to the value and importance of its training. Thus, not to send the strongest and best talent an institution can command in its register of students, is to declare to the whole State its own weakness.

In contests of this kind neither class prejudice, nor Society distinctions, nor partisan spirit of any sort should be permitted to affect, in so much as the weight of a single hair, the balances of justice.

Let every institution endeavor to impart to its students a broader culture, a sounder learning, a correct literary taste and more polished manners; then let it send to our annual trials of skill the very best embodiment of its training. Then and only then will this system develop its best and most complete results.

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LIVING WORDS.

The stong conquers us.—Schiller.
Guilt is a spiritual Rubicon.—Jane Porter.
Language is the dress of thought.—Johnson.
A sigh can shatter a castle in the air.—W. R. Alger.
Victory belongs to the most persevering.—Napoleon.
Clad in the beauty of a thousand stars.—Marlowe.
Felicity, not fluency, of language is a merit.—Whipple.
Man's love is of man's life a part—it is woman's whole existence.—Byron.

Delicacy is to the mind what fragrancy is to the fruit.—Archilkes Poincelot.

Dew drops are gems of the morning, but tears of mournful eve.

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A short time since a little commercial traveler chanced to get into the same railway carriage in which the Dukes of Argyle and Northumberland were traveling. The three chatted familiarly until the train stopped at Alwick Junction, where the Duke of Northumberland got out, and was met by a train of flunkeys and servants. "That must be a great swell," said the "commercial" to his traveling companion. "Yes," responded the Duke of Argyle, "he is the Duke of Northumberland." "Bless my soul!" exclaimed the "commercial," "and to think he should have been so condescending to two little snobs like us."

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THE MAN WHO PLAYS THE FLUTE.

Just above my chamber door,
In fact upon the second floor,
Lives the man I'd like to boot,
For he's the man who plays the flute.

Now in vain I try to write
Something on the Free Trade Fight,
How I'd like to punch the snoot
Of the man who plays the flute.

Then I try to get the gist
Of "Clinchers on the Atheist,"
It's no use, an endless toot
Proceedeth from that idiot's flute.

Soon I hear a dozen more,
Above, below, behind, before!
Bless me!—how I'd like to shoot
Every man who plays the flute.—Etc.
The University Reporter.

IOWA CITY, IOWA, NOV. 18th, 1874.

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MILITARY DEPARTMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY.

The organization of a Military Department in the University was found to be a work of no small difficulty. But, thanks to the labors of Lieut. Schenck and his able assistants, the work has gone rapidly forward, and is now nearly complete.

The work of the year is divided into a course of practical instruction in Military Tactics during the fall and spring terms; while the winter term will be devoted to a course of lectures to the Juniors and Seniors—the officers—on Field Fortifications and the Science of War.

Such a course as this cannot fail to benefit those engaged in the work. Unlike most other studies, this cannot be pursued in private, and for this reason most of the University students are availing themselves of this opportunity to gain some practical military discipline.

In addition to this, the drill furnishes an excellent opportunity for exercise and physical culture. It may be claimed that the organization of a Military Department was not necessary in order to place within the reach of every student the means of physical culture; and that the optional recreation, taken when and where he pleases, will benefit the student to a greater extent than the constrained culture of the drill. Such may be the case. The question is, will such exercise be taken voluntarily and at the proper time? Experience has shown that it will not. Too many of our promising students graduate with high honors only to sink into premature graves, the victims of mental over-work and the want of physical exercise.

As a rule the closest students in the University, those who most need it, will not and do not take the necessary out-door exercise unless they are placed under a systematic course of physical culture. In the Military Department the exercise recurs at regular intervals, it is taken in the open air and yet it is not too excessive. It thus combines the three necessary requisites of successful physical culture, and for this reason, if for no other, it should be welcomed to the University as an excellent feature.

Another objection that may be urged against it, is the severe restraint under which the student is placed, and the seemingly harsh and arbitrary manner in which the commands must necessarily be given. This objection has but little force, when we reflect that the student is under no greater restraint in this Department than in the others, and that the commands must be given in the manner objected to, in order to be explicitly understood and promptly obeyed.

Every sensible student will, therefore, gracefully submit to these things in order to attain proficiency in the drill.

At any rate let us not condemn this Department too hastily, but welcome it for the good results that may flow from its establishment as a constituent part of the University.

The Medical Department opened on the 22d of October under more favorable auspices than ever before. Not only has the number been augmented, but the individual standard has advanced. There has been no change in the faculty, and for this reason the best interests of the department have been furthered. Each professor has now occupied his respective chair long enough to acquire comprehensive and thorough views of its scope, to become familiar with its generalization and minute, without becoming one-sided and partial; for Medicine, unlike many other professions, will not admit of the excessive development in one particular specialty, without a corresponding development in all its parts. While on one hand thoroughness and fitness, foster independence and originality of thought and action, they consummate union by a nearer approximation to the underlying truth. Many questions in medicine are yet undergoing discussion. Its issues are not settled by a judge, but every man stands on a level with his fellows to establish the truth of falsity of any controverted point. It is characteristic of the more intelligent medical mind of to-day to be careful of extremes, to willingly lay aside old errors, and embrace heartily new truths when clearly demonstrated. It is particularly noticeable of our faculty, that each year is not simply the turning over of the old barrel of lectures, but each theme is replete with fresh personal experiences, and the latest and best ideas garnered from the great leading minds of the profession.
New box desks have been placed in the lecture room of the Law Department, and the rostrum moved from the east to the south side of the room. Now more than one hundred students can find better accommodations than could sixty before the change. The old red desks are gone. In an earlier day, they encircled the president's stand in the literary halls, and gave as much inspiration to the boys of that period as do the eager sought for audience of to day to our "modern orators." The halls were remodeled and the curved desk removed to the law department. Here, four consecutive classes, burning for distinction, have spent hours in engraving with pen-knife their names on the pine desks. They will be rejoiced to hear that these red tablets have been purchased by the proprietor of St. Joseph Institute; that now their mystic names are daily moistened with holy water, and that the small boys of that institution are ever hear chant:

"Lives of great men all reminds us
We can make our lives sublime,
And departing, leave behind us."

The second annual meeting of the Iowa Collegiate Association, was held in Zethagathian Hall on the 5th inst. Eight institutions were represented in the convention, which proved one of interest. The Central University, of Pella, being the only institution which had neglected to send delegates. A few changes were made, by amendments, to the constitution of last year, and Des Moines was decided upon as the place for holding the second annual contest in Oratory. An amendment was offered to the effect, that there be two separate contests in Oratory, one for the Ladies, and the other for Gentlemen, but it meet with but very little support. Individualy we think the idea just mentioned a good one, and we hope the future will win for it a more hearty support. Did space allow we would gladly show how right and reason favor this plan. E. R. Sayles, of our University, is one of the delegates chosen to represent the State in the Inter-State Convention, which meets in Indianapolis, Ind., on the first Thursday in February.

LOCAL.

WALK around number two is non est.

The University battalion has gone into winter quarters.

Our senior editor, who has been boiling for the last few weeks, spells rostrum with two o's. This was doubtless owing to his affliction.

The President announced on Monday morning, "As soon as the gentlemen of the Faculty leave the rostrum, Prof. Calvin will call the roll."

We understand that the Medical students have all applied for the position of surgeon to the University battalion, and three Law students for the position of chaplain. No appointments yet.

One of our Seniors is noticeably infatuated with the last lady on the oratorial contest. He receives our heartfelt sympathies, as we know how it is our own self.

Prof. Hinrichs is delivering a very interesting course of illustrated lectures on Light and Electricity, in the Laboratory, Thursday afternoons at 2 P. M.

The University battalion have received their muskets, which they flourish round at a reckless rate, much to the terror of the small boys and unsophisticated Medics.

Our captain, who met with such poor success in drilling the ladies, tendered his resignation to Lieut. Schenck, but received the following reply—"By thunder! that's too thin!"

The Erodelphian hall was very tastily ornamented with busts on Hallow Eve. The campus and streets generally were strewn with cabbage leaves, corn, beans, and fragments of pumpkins, doubtless remnants of busts.

The moon favored us with an eclipse the other evening. The Subfreshmen class were out in full force to calculate their longitude. They evidently must have tapped a keg of fresh cider, judging from their vociferous demonstrations, and haggard appearance next morning.

A member of last year's law class called recently on a young lady, and, as conversation lags, he inquires, "Have you had a press to-day?"

Lady—blushes. "Have you had a daily press, I mean?"

Lady—"Oh! I catch your idea"—(eye dear).

Not long since a prospective Freshman was cruising over the books in the University library, in the vain hope of finding a biography of the noted "Tom Collins." He did not find it. It is said that a wicked Senior suggested to the too credulous Subfreshman the idea of reading the life of the fictitious "Tom."

The following note was found on the campus grounds: "Mr. Doge, it was neither honest nor gentlemanly in you to carry off those hose. Please return. Miss B——."

As there are several Doves in town, it is impossible to point out the guilty one; we trust, however, that he has complied with the request of the note, and saved the reputation of the community.

The Hammond Society of the Law Department has again been re-organized, and has a fair prospect of continuing the work begun throughout the year. It affords a superior forum for the cultivation of forensic oratory. The flower and adornments of speech vanish, and clear logical reason, founded on facts, appears. Here the criticism is not to flatter the speaker, or make him the laughing stock of an audience; but to show a man his defects in such a manner as to compel him to feel that the critic is his friend. The following are the officers of the Society: A. J. Hirschel, President; J. P. Hand, Secretary; C. E. Cohoon, Treasurer; P. H. Riorden.

There is also another literary club in connection with the Department, in which the best results are being secured.
PERSONALS.

C. E. White is teaching in Northern Iowa.
May Wiligrod, is helping her father tend store.
A. Morsman, has entered the Medical Department.
Ella Wilcox, Normal '71, is teaching in Sioux City.
Ellis and Howard, law '73, have settled at Red Oak, Iowa.
Marcus Mintzer, class '77, is at Columbia College, N. Y.
Thomas Mattison, was in town a few days ago on business.

G. T. Peterson, law '74, is studying law at Fort Dodge, Iowa.
Law '74, Judson H. Fugard, is practicing law at Newton, Iowa.
Miss Ida Whiting has turned granger, hence not in school this year.
Lillie Cochrane, has been obliged to leave school by reason of illness.
Cyrus Beard, law '74, called on the “leges scripti” in their sanctum a few days ago.

A. E. Kellogg, is professor of Ancient Languages in Oakland High School, Cal.
Normal '65, Mrs. Judge Haddock, is now a member of the law class.

P. W. McClelland, Normal '72, is teaching in the Monona High School.
Dr. Thacher, fills the pulpit of Rev. Mr. Dickeman, who has gone to California.

M. N. Johnson, is still Professor of Modern Languages in Oakland Military Academy, Cal.

Smith McPherson and Newton Hanna, law '70, are practicing law at Red Oak, Iowa.
J. W. Smith, Med. '75, is now attending lectures at Jefferson College, Philadelphia.

Misses Lizzie Sperry, Nettie Dick, Mollie McCowen, and Georgia McCrory, are teaching in Waterloo, Iowa.

J. W. Hinchon, a former student of the University, is county superintendent of Allamakee county.

C. B. Kimball, E. H. Shaffer, Elizabeth Hess and A. B. Moon, Med. '74, are now practicing in Iowa City.

Hamilton Davidson, law '74, gave Iowa City a flying visit not long since. He is located at Cedar Rapids.

Z. T. Brown, a member of law '73, after a year in the Chicago Law School, has returned to complete his course here.

Robert Banks, who attended the University in '69 and '70, is teaching in Allamakee county.

J. W. Crane, '74, wishes to have the paper of his dear "Alma Mother" sent to him this year.

George W. Wilson, class '77, has withdrawn from the Academic Department, and entered the Medical.

Prof. C. A. White, formerly our Professor of Natural Sciences, has an appointment on a Government survey.

J. E. Anderson, known among the boys as "Scandy," returned for a few days to recount his adventures in "lightning calculation."

E. McClain, was in town a few hours on business the other day. He reports the University boys at Des Moines as all doing well.

Our honored fellow-student T. W. Graydon, has been compelled to leave the University for the present. He will teach school in Louisa county.

W. B. Ketner, has matriculated in the Medical Department, under the preceptorship of Dr. Talloes. We understand that he intends to take the degree of D. D. S.

Nate Wood, law '73, is with us again. For the last eighteen months he has been following his profession in Kan. Ill health has at last compelled him to leave a lucrative practice, and seek a more healthful clime.

Chas. S. Vorise, has returned from a fifteen months cruise in the Old World, having passed most of his time in visiting the sights in the principal towns in Germany, and staying a month in Paris on his return. He is now a student in the Law Department.


MARRIAGES.

FITCH.—EATON.—At the residence of the bride’s mother, Aug. 11, 1874, R. E. Fitch and Lida Eaton. Both were members of class '73. Rumor had long preceded the event, nevertheless all wish them much joy.

ANTHONY.—WARD.—At Oxford, Iowa, Oct. 21, 1874, by Prof. S. N. Fellows, F. G. Anthony and Mary W. Ward, Miss Ward was for a number of years a member of the I. S. U. She receives the congratulation of her many friends.

OBITUARY.

Died, in Ainsworth, Washington county, Iowa, October 17, 1874, Dr. L. P. Eckles, aged twenty-four years. Mr. Eckles was a graduate of the Medical Department. He had just begun a successful career in his chosen profession, and had gained the love and esteem of all.