"Charley, what is osculation?"
"Osculation, Jenny dear,
Is a learned expression, queer,
For a nice sensation.
I put my arm thus round your waist:
This is approximation.
You need not fear,
There’s no one here—
Your lips quite near—
I then —— Oh dear!
Jenny, that’s osculation!"

APPLETON'S JOURNAL.

RELIGION AND SCIENCE.

It is said that thirteen members of the French assembly declared against any appropriation being made for the observation of the transit of Venus, because they did not believe in the Copernican system, that is that the earth and the planets revolved round the sun. They were not ignorant men, or barbarians, but men of education and refinement, religious men, who held to the dicta of the fathers, rather than the revelations of science. They were not constantly drawing the sword to defend, not the vital principles of religion, but the ancient dogmas of the church. A late writer says: “If Tyndall or Huxley venture any opinions as to Deity, they do it not as scientists, but as theologians. Should a man engaged in the sale of dry goods deny the existence of a god, it would be a manifest absurdity for any one to claim that the dry goods business is hostile to religion, or that it is leagued with infidelity, and yet it is precisely such an absurdity that religious teachers are guilty of committing, when they complain of the hostility of science.” The work of the scientific man is to examine nature, to push his investigations as far into the unknown as possible, to seek truth wherever it leads, to trace effects to cause or antecedent, without fear or favor of established dogmas. Man, like the child, at first gazes in wonder on the world around him, then he is seized with a desire to know, to penetrate beyond the near, and apparent, and he makes various attempts and excursions to learn, and asks many questions. The elders answer him in such language as they have, and with such things as they know. His observation teaches him many things, and the answer to his questions many more. He at first believes the words of the fathers implicitly, then he finds they do not harmonize with his own experience, and he doubts them, altogether, or if a better or more reasonable spirit possesses him, he suspects that their words may not mean to them what they do to him, and that their conceptions of what they saw or had heard were impressed with their peculiar mode of mind. If God spake directly to men, He did not give them a perfect utterance, and they repeated it with all the imperfection of human speech. No doubt men of extended research into the domain of the unknown, having discovered much, become vain of their knowledge, and scoff at the faith of the ignorant; they are in most cases driven to it by the persecutions of those who are contended with the expressions of the elders in their imperfect form. If religion is sure of her ground, and she should be, why seek to harmonize what in the end must be the harmony of truth? It is not in the mind of men to rest with the unknown before it, but everywhere there is still a limit to knowledge, and a wide and still wider mystery unsolved. The geologist traces the history of the world, in the strata of rocks back to its primitive atoms, or state of chaos and stop. The physiologist traces out nerve and muscle, and finds the central point of sensation, and the point of command, where volition arises; he can go no farther. The philosopher reaches back step by step from bodies of many organs to the cell and its protoplasm, he cannot produce protein matter, he may with resolute heart, divide matter far beyond the power of the microscope, yet he still knows that matter exists, and that he cannot annihilate it, or make it. He is sometimes confident, sometimes in doubt, whether he can bring matter and force together, so as to produce life; he knows that he cannot create either matter or force.

If he is not blinded by conceit, he must admit that a power, a first cause, lies beyond his knowledge, and that in the imperfect expressions of the early man, this is called God,
the Creator, worthy of worship, not in the blind way, that excludes all that may be known, that makes forms sacred, and human expressions of first truth unassailable mysteries or that worships the vestments of truth.

The philosopher of deepest science recognizes the fact that God exists, and rules and governs by laws that may be investigated. He is not deterred by reverence or daunted in his labors, that bring Him nearer and nearer to the first cause. He believes that all that is needed for harmony, is a new expression of the first youthful utterance of great truth. Science may at times be presumptuous, religion fearful; the first seeks to know to the utmost limits of finite reason, the latter to express the truth beyond the knowable. Those earnest for truth seek for no other harmony.

COMMUNICATION.

MESSRS. EDITORS.—In the last number of the Reporter an anonymous writer makes a series of corrections of the article on “The University and the Graded Schools.” It is hardly proper to ask of you any space for an extended discussion of the subject; wider field and a different medium are required. I only ask your indulgence to repel any charge of inaccuracy and to correct observations which are required. I most certainly deny any such imputation, and can assure the writer that it was prompted by no other feeling than a sincere desire for the best good of the University and for the educational interests of the State, and furthermore, that it represents a growing feeling in educational circles outside of the University. I propose in a little time to verify the figures and leave the ‘corrections’ of the ‘corrector’ for another occasion.

Very Respectfully, P. J. F.

ERODELPHIAN SOCIETY.

We visited the Erodelphian Society at a recent session, and after being shown to a seat by one of their polite historians, listened with interest to a series of excellent productions. They were appropriately opened by a duett, rendered in a pleasing manner by the Misses Clark. These ladies kindly consent to play quite frequently for the society. A gem of an oration on the subject “Gems,” was then delivered by Miss Jennie Barlett, being the salutatory of the evening. The leading thought of this production was very fine. As the brilliant gem is hidden beneath a rough coating, and presents to the sight only the appearance of a common pebble; so, many a bright human soul is frequently concealed beneath a rough, unsightly exterior, only waiting for some favorable circumstance, when it will flash its light upon an astonished and admiring world and shine for ages.

Dreams, both of wakeful hours and those of sleep, were treated of in an Essay, by Miss Elsie Day.

A review by Miss Abbie Chochran was next in order. This was a scathing, and to our mind perfectly just, criticism upon a certain Youth’s paper, called “The Fireside Companion.” This lady evidently had but little sympathy with the miserably trashy and disgustedly light literature that is being coming so prevalent in this country. The worse than senseless serial stories with their puérile demenouements; the weak and transparent plots in the average “Dime Novel,” and the “Answers to Correspondents,” fabricated to suit the case, were shown in their proper character by the fair reviewer.

An extract from the immortal “Child’s Harold,” was well rendered by Miss Kate Hedrick. This lady happily combines strength of voice and distinctness of utterance, with dignity of manner and graceful gesture—characteristics of an excellent speaker. Miss Lizzie Osmond’s solo at this point, was highly appreciated and she certainly merited the round of applause that greeted her at its close.

The influence of circumstances in determing the career of an individual, was discussed, pro and con, by Misses Myrle Day and Maggie Clites. Both speeches were excellent in thought and construction and in the argument set forth, albeit their effect was somewhat diminished by the fact that they were read from manuscript.

Undoubtedly one of the finest exercises of the evening was the declamation of Miss Belle Gray, following the disputations. The selection, in itself, was rendered in a pleasing manner with the utmost sweetness of voice and grace of manner. The closest attention was paid to this exercise by the audience; an honor that is not always accorded to society productions.

The Valedictory was rendered by Miss Lizzie Clark in a well-prepared oration on Kossuth. The life and character of the heroic Hungarian were depicted in the choicest and most appropriate language. The struggle he made for the liberty of his native land was touchingly alluded to, and the comparison of his life and deeds to those of our immortal Washington, fitly closed this fine production.

The critic, Miss Ida Osmond, very sensibly and truly said, that we could have a critic’s report every Saturday evening which could not be said of the monthly sociable, and advised that we adjourn to the Chapel as soon as possible. This we did after listening to an excellent piece of music by Miss Nellie Hutchinson.

Taken altogether the exercises were those of the first class, and while reflecting credit upon the society, gained the earnest attention of the audience. From our own experience we can heartily recommend the Erodelphian Society as a place of resort, to any one wishing to spend a Saturday evening both pleasantly and profitably.
HESPERIAN SOCIETY.

We'll grant that we were a fool for once, at least, in our life, and never were we better sold than when we accidentally and innocently strayed into Hesperian Hall, on the 23rd of last month. We found Miss Bailey in the chair, a better one, it looked so from a distance,—than we occupied, at any rate it appeared easier. No Secretary, and then Miss Johnson sufficed for a temporary officer.

The Literary exercises were opened by a declam. Between the shrieking of the door and the singing, nothing could be heard. The hinges of that door, however, should be geared. The song was just what was wanted for those of the Heps, who are wandering from the paths of religious rectitude. Miss McKenzie was asked to act as critic, her success at criticizing being shown later in the evening.

Miss Bailey, the retiring Presidentess, delivered a very pathetic address, saying she was glad to see the love which exists among the Sisters, and that she was sorry to part with the members, who had not honored her with a re-election. Miss Hamilton felt jubilant, as one would judge who had heard her address. She exhorted the members during the Language. "Zetagathian" was the inevitable one of man’s elevation and prosperity, financially and otherwise.

A declaration by Miss Johnson, was announced, which by the renditi-n, we supposed to be poetry—a kind of dog­gナル common to California poets. "As sure as the world moves on", Miss J. is a very valuable member of the Heps. Here the closing and opening of the door interrupted the speaker so much that she hesitated. We call the attention of the members of all the Societies that it would be made much more convenient if no one should be admitted, while an exercise is in progress.

Miss Craven read an essay on the Alexandrian Library. It was very interesting and showed much thought. The composition was easy, the lady’s position on the floor very staid, but her articulation was excellent, though perhaps she read too fast. The essay contained an historical sketch, which could not have been prepared except by reference to the numerous encyclopedias in the library, and a very careful and explicit noting of the facts exhibited therein. A piano solo was performed in an admirable manner, by a lady whose name we did not learn, and then came the all-important debate, opened by Miss Vaughan on "Fashion." When next we visit the Heps’ Hall, and the same lady is announced, we want her to speak louder and be a little better prepared. Her part of the disputation was read—and next time we suggest that it be either committed or as tempore. Miss Kerr had her hair done up in a waterfall which was a la mode. She unquestionably looked as if she might be mistaken for Adam’s grandmother. The lace bordering her garments, proved the New York millionaire’s statement, to the effect that there was not a yard of it in existence which was worth more than the amount for which it would sell. Mrs. Haddock took the floor in a manner that would have convinced one that she was a lady of taste and a firm adherent of the different modes of dress prevalent, though she may not be so easily as her composition indicated. Miss Stark closed the debate, and the negative side of the question. This lady’s habiliments were black, bounded by said lace, all of which was white, where we saw it. Her waterfall was dabbled fashion, and occasioned as much reflection as the whispering and disturbance in the hall, and outside, would permit. A dissertation by Mrs. Savery, failed to be given, when there followed the Valedictory, pronounced by Miss Lovell, her subject, “Our Language.” It evidenced profundity of thought and study, and was of historic interest. We will not criticise the critic, because inappropriate. The closing music showed from the words that the singers expected renumeration: Please Mesdames do give us something.

"Or we’ll not come here anymore."

The exercises over, we went to the sociable, wishing the Heps’ prosperity, financially and otherwise.

ZETAGATHIAN SOCIETY.

The first and most attractive place that students take their friends is to the Society Halls. When you reach the top of the second flight of stairs in the south building, turn to your right, and you are ushered into the oldest society of the University, known as the "Zetagathian." From three tallow candles and a borrowed stove, the furniture has gradually been changed, until to-day a stranger on entering would think himself in a parlor rather than in a literary society room. Waiving all description of the room and its contents, we will proceed to the programme of January 29th.

The first was music, which is now an indispensable feature of the entertainment.

The salutary was delivered by Mr. Clyde. The subject chosen "15th century." He reviewed society at that time, the state of religion and the progress of science and invention. The speaker has a conversational rather than a true oratorical style. His voice is remarkably clear and attractive. The gestures were striking and forcible, but very inappropriate. Then followed a declamation by one of the younger members of the society, who is very sensitive to criticism, therefore we forbear comment.

An oration came next, on the "Right of Suffrage." Mr.
I present. Tho exercises, as a whole, were highly play. We live in a period in which public opinion 
Bive echo in every 
eart 
forth the gently soothiug 
selection from a 
and impetuosity and degree of vehemence that spared neither 
The King's English, nor the 
bly sacrificed all party 
edly. Every one felt satisfied, however that 
ered 
with all the power that volume of 
then dropping a 
rebellion and a eulogy upon Grant and Kellogg, 
it into shreds 
cessors 
failed 
to grasp. Although a mere youth, Mr. S. fully 
equals a man with a cultivated beard. 
Mr. Tisdale now came forward and gave a history of the 
rebellion and an eulogy upon Grant and Kellogg, now and 
then dropping a telling remark upon the question, all deliv­
ered in a forcible, monotonous manner. 
Mr. Neiman, who is always ready on all occasions, real­
only espoused the cause of the new democracy. Taking 
the constitution as his basis, he attacked insignificant objects 
with all the power that volume of voice and force of gesture 
could offer, regardless of things past, present or future. 
Mr. Hiroshi spoke very pointedly, but rather unconnect­
edly. Every one felt satisfied, however that Mr. H. pos­sessed superior powers as a debater. 
Mr. Wright, a new convert to triumphant democracy, nobly 
sacrificed all party spirit to patriotism, and as circum­
stances required, vituperated the present administration with 
an impetuosity and degree of vehemence that spared neither 
the King's English, nor the feeling of the opposite side. Mr. 
W. and his colleagues fairly won the decision of the Judges. 
Mr. Dunton gratified the audience by reading a beautiful 
selection from a Romance of Love. The reader evidently was 
under the immediate inspiration of Venus, for he brought 
forth the gently soothing cadence of love that fell on the 
heart like the notes of the dying swan and found a respons­
eo echo in every breast—eoce vis amoris. 
Mr. Cope pronounced the valedictory, his theme being 
"Incentives to Development." He spoke of the importance 
of developing the will, and of the proper division of time. 
Many starve their natures and fail to give their souls fair 
play. We live in a period in which public opinion is omni­
present. The exercises, as a whole, were highly entertain­ing. The members appeared kindly disposed to one another by lending their sympathy to the speaker. The presiding 
officer performed his duties in a dignified and graceful man­
ner, and every member appeared to know his place, thus ex­
bibiting, to a visitor, a thoroughly organized and disciplined 
society. 

IRVING INSTITUTE. 

Friday evening, January 22d, this Society presented an excellent programme, which was listened to by a large and 
appréciative audience. 

All the exercises of the evening were fully up to the 
standard in thought and delivery, while many of them were 
especially good. The programme for that evening certain­
ly reflected credit upon the Society, and a large and atten­tive audience will surely be in attendance, so long as pro­grammes of such merit are presented. 

After the usual music, the literary exercises of the evening 
commenced with an oration by Mr. Brainerd, on the subject, "Two Lives." The gentleman in the delivery of 
his production, was somewhat interrupted by the entrance 
of visitors, and from this cause, lost the connection of his 
sentences. Recovering it, however, he completed his ora­tion in a very satisfactory manner. 

"The address of Regulus to the Roman Senate," was 
rendered by Mr. Merritt, with a dignity of mein, voice and 
gesture, worthy the proudest Roman of them all. 

A disputation on the relative advantages and disadvant­
ges of adding a Chair of Homeopathy to the Faculty of the 
Medical Department, next occupied the attention of the 
audience for a considerable time. The gentlemen dis­
cussed the question in all its details, and their remarks had 
the double effect of exhausting the subject and the patience 
of the audience at the same time. 

The next in order was a declamation by Mr. Owens. 
This gentleman has a good voice, and his selection was 
rendered with life and vigor. His style is elevated and 
pleasing, although once or twice he allowed himself to em­
phasize too strongly the closing syllable of some familiar 
word, thus giving it a sound of a mispronunciation, a habit 
doubtless contracted while the gentleman was faithfully serv­
ing his constituents in the character of a "grange legislator. 

After enjoying an excellent musical selection, the audi­
ence listened to a spirited debate. The all-absorbing 
question as to the propriety of Federal interference in the 
Louisiana difficulty was ably discussed. C. J. Berryhill 
and A. E. Swisher denouncing the Government, while M. L. 
Dunlap and J. G. Berryhill defended it. 

Mr. Chas. J. Berryhill opened the debate and took the floor 
with his hands full of newspapers, as usual. He spoke 
with accustomed energy, and when his time was exhausted, 
wished to read the peroration of Schurz's little speech. Of 
course his opponents demurred. 


UNIVERSITY REPORTER.

PHILOMATHIAN SOCIETY.

We visited this Society on the 12th and found, after a short stay, ourselves highly pleased with the existing state of things. To say we were gratified at the prospect of a passable entertainment, would be saying little, but to tell the truth, we found the society in better condition than we anticipated. There was one thing, which we noticed, and we found that there was experienced much inconvenience on its account, the gas was poor. The room was but dimly lighted, and those who were compelled to read their productions in manuscript, found much difficulty in clearly and quickly discerning the words of which their exercises were composed. There was another thing that we would call attention to, and perhaps of as much importance as any, which can be imagined. The orations and essays were of proper length. We would ask the members of the two lower Societies to note this fact, that, when an audience can not be magnetized by the enthusiasm of a speaker, when the delivery is accompanied by inappropriate and awkward and inelegant gestures, when there is not present that gentle modulation and complete control of the voice and in consequence the production is given in a monotone, when the speaker, then, finds he does not possess these different but all-important qualities, the shortest time should be given for their accomplishment. This is a criticism, which it is not possible to escape or override, because it is comprehensive. Another thing, which occurs to us to be of infinite moment, is, that the members should not be afraid to rehearse their productions at their rooms. This is by far the greatest fault that can be found in connection with them. Yet it must be conceded that it is as easily eradicated as any. We noticed,—particularly, an essay,—that the reader was utterly unfamiliar with his exercise, and we should judge that it was the first time which he had ever perused it. We are sorry that we cannot give a report in full, nor do we omit it because the programme did not deserve it. As intimated, we were highly pleased with what we saw, and are confident that the Philomathians will at some not far future day make their power felt among the University literary societies. It should be understood that if a good member be developed among the lower societies, and if it be ascertained that he possesses the right kind of "stuff," he will find the way to the membership of one of the higher societies with no difficulty. If this be kept in view, a livelier interest will be awakened and much good will result.

To conclude, we would reiterate what we said in regard to the length of one's productions and rehearsal of it, and desire all conditions of success to fall to the lot of the striving, energetic, and, we hope soon to be, triumphant, Philomathians.

SYMPONIAN SOCIETY.

We visited the Symponians at a recent session and heard some tolerably fair exercises, albeit none of the productions showed very profound thought or careful preparation. This we suppose results from the nature of the society. Though quite advanced in years, it still retains a subordinate position. Yet this society well furnishes a facility for that preparatory drill so necessary to proficiency in the art of speaking.

The productions were so nearly of the same character in point of excellence that we refrain from special laudatory mention, and content ourselves with general remarks.

The debate was a special feature. The question thus placidly stated, "Resolved, Would the union of all denominations advance Christianity," was discussed in an equally intelligible manner. The funny speech of the evening was made by the critic. Some of his remarks were witty. For example, he criticised one member for not opening his mouth wide enough; the last thing we would ever criticise a Symp. for. Another member failing to appear, in the elegant language of the critic—"We did not hear him howl," &c. Such remarks in our estimation are far, very far, from the province of a critic.

Dunlap's smiling face and smoothly flowing words formed a pleasing contrast to the energetic denunciations of his associates.

Swieber was, as usual, calm and argumentative, although at the close he did allow his partisan spirit to reveal itself in honest invective against "Grant and his cohorts," much to the delight of the Democratic members, by whom he was vociferously applauded.

Mr. J. G. Berryhill closed the debate in fine style, showing much animation at the close. The judges gave the decision in favor of the negative, to the surprise of many; lighted, and those who were compelled to read their productions in manuscript, found much difficulty in clearly and quickly discerning the words of which their exercises were composed. There was another thing that we would call attention to, and perhaps of as much importance as any, which can be imagined. The orations and essays were of proper length. We would ask the members of the two lower Societies to note this fact, that, when an audience can not be magnetized by the enthusiasm of a speaker, when the delivery is accompanied by inappropriate and awkward and inelegant gestures, when there is not present that gentle modulation and complete control of the voice and in consequence the production is given in a monotone, when the speaker, then, finds he does not possess these different but all-important qualities, the shortest time should be given for their accomplishment. This is a criticism, which it is not possible to escape or override, because it is comprehensive.

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To conclude, we would reiterate what we said in regard to the length of one's productions and rehearsal of it, and desire all conditions of success to fall to the lot of the striving, energetic, and, we hope soon to be, triumphant, Philomathians.

Slander translates the common vulgarism as follows: Everything occupies an amicable position and the domestic water fowl is suspended at a proper elevation.
The University Reporter.

IOWA CITY, IOWA, FEB. 15th, 1875.

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Anonymous articles are invariably rejected.

With this issue of the Reporter, the labors of the present Editorial Corps, in connection with it cease. Ever actuated by an earnest desire to present a readable paper to our subscribers, we have spared no pains during our incumbency to make each issue of the Reporter welcome to its many readers. Having conscientiously discharged the duties of our position; having constantly striven to make the results of our labors satisfactory; having experienced in the fullest measure the pleasures and cares of editorial life, and found the latter abundant, the former few and far between; we would now respectfully thank our patrons for their kind encouragement, and resign to our successors the responsibility of conducting our University paper during the remainder of the year.

Pondering the question, as to whether it is advisable to complete a College course has many an ambitious student, who proposes entering upon a profession, come to a negative conclusion. To a youth, who can graduate by the time he attains his majority, and who is furnished with the necessary means to prosecute his studies, there can be but one answer. But it is different with a young man, whose mind is some what advanced in maturity, and who must rely upon his own financiering to obtain a subsistence. He wishes to make the most of himself; hence this question is a serious one. He seeks advice, and on the side he is likely to take, cites examples of men without college training, who have been crowned with success. But to this, it is urged, that these men would have reached a higher degree of eminence, had they pursued their college studies to completion. To some individuals a diploma is a curse, to none is it a passport to success.

The man who has, the so-called, common branches at his fingers end is more than the peer, in the business world, of the college graduate without this readiness. A college education instead of concentrating the energies into a single focus, scatters them over a large area. Instead of one central sun with attending satellites subjected, the whole space of life is darkened with insignificant asteroids. New tastes are created, that are apt to consume much of life. Our period of time, and amount of energy are definitely fixed. It is not clear to us, why a man whose habits are formed, who has mastered the fundamentals, and secured sufficient discipline to pursue his studies alone, should continue on branches of knowledge irrelevant to the profession he intends to enter. Are there not too many going to college on 'borrowed' money? Too much of other peoples money staked on the hope, that a lucky ace will win it all back again? We have been viewing merely from a business standpoint; undoubtedly the more varied the development of the faculties of the mind, the greater the capacity for enjoyment and it may be usefulness. But it is a question that every man can decide for himself more satisfactorily than all the world.

The choice of a profession by which to gain a livelihood, and possibly amass a fortune or win a lasting reputation, is one of the most important decisions to be made in life. The vital importance of this choice and the propriety of choosing aright are apparent, when we reflect that success in life or the reverse, depend in a great measure upon the wisdom of this grave decision. There are some individuals so gifted with mental and physical energy, that they bring to a successful issue whatever they undertake, regardless whether that may have been the pursuit for which they were best fitted by nature. For it is an indisputable fact that individuals are specially adapted to particular vocations. A man succeeds in some chosen calling, when another with like energy would have signally failed. Recognizing this principle, how important that a proper choice be first made, in order that no vital energy may be wasted. It will not do that a man, by actual trial, demonstrate his unsuitness for one or two chosen vocations, since life would thus be squandered in coming to a conclusion as to what he is fit for. The only way in which a decision can be made approximately correct, is to carefully notice the inclinations of mind and from these judge what pursuit is best adapted to the temperament of the person. What time is better fitted for this self-examination, preparatory to a proper choice than those years devoted to college life? Then the mind, unharrassed by the cares of business, is free to view at leisure the different vocations, and choose from among the many,
that one best suited to its taste. For we all have our likes and dislikes, and in the rough places found in every pathway—even in one strewn with flowers—all the natural enthusiasm of an individual is necessary to carry him through its trials successfully. This important choice should be made only after mature consideration. All around us we see the wrecked lives of those, who made a premature choice of their life-work from some temporary whim or in accordance with the caprice of another; thus being unguardedly forced into an occupation in which failure was almost inevitable. If, during the years spent at college, the mind be trained to measure accurately its own powers, and choose unerringly that calling best suited to its inclinations, the time will have been well spent, as a successful life will testify.

Some, who appear to us to err in judgment, say that the system of elocution, as taught, in the institution, is not wholly satisfactory—is not sufficiently extreme. The fact is, and we are positive reason will support us, that those who declare against the present system are not competent to judge in the matter. Our Professor does not claim to give the students committed to his care the most extensive course, not only because time will not permit it, but also because it should not be expected from him. He professes to give us a thorough outline, to teach us how we can cultivate our voice and acquire an easy movement. In order to be perfect in this, we think that a person should devote his whole time to the occupation. It is a lamentable fact that of all the common school branches, there is no one so little cultivated as elocution. It is true that Eastern Colleges, in some institutions, have made special strides in this direction, and have been to a certain extent successful in their labors. The only way to judge correctly of Prof. Pinkham's work is to imagine that we were without him, and we should find ourselves deficient to such a degree, that our knowledge of gesticulation and a proper use and control of the voice would be perfectly useless.

Another way by which we can form a judgment, though meagre, of the result of his labors is from the admission on the part of the students themselves of the amount of good which he has done them. There is, we venture the assertion, nor in our opinion is there sufficient evidence ever to controvert it, not one of the members of the four collegiate classes, whom the Professor has not benefited by proffering his services, when asked. Members of the Societies ask him for advice and it is willingly given, never the least particle begrudged. of the science, yet there is no one thing in which the examining professors are more disappointed. We learned when we were attending the district or private school to attempt to fashion our letters after the copy, which was placed before us. We always found much pleasure in scribbling, and the result has been that after much labor some have become excellent handlers of the pen, while the vast majority write in
such a style as that the words can without difficulty be discerned. We need not expect that we can gain an intimate knowledge of this science by merely making a few letters. It is here as in everything else. Practice only gives proficiency. It is true that there are some penmen in our number whose equals it would be hard to find, yet undoubtedly what they have learned has been due to their long continued practice. Spelling also is a branch which must be known at all events. We are told that in many instances the alumni are as poor spellers as the Sub. Fresh. It can not be denied that spelling is an indispensable necessity, that there is no way to excuse it, and that we might begin to acquire the knowledge of it as well soon as late. We do not mean to be understood as saying that in every case we expect to see correct spelling, but rather that we expect to find few places for corrections. When then we are not occupied, let us cultivate, first our spelling, and secondly, as intimately linked to it, our facility in writing. We do not wish that either of the branches should be cultivated in preference to the other, but that both should concern us. Our attention was called to these few words from the fact that a letter was received from an alumnus, which overstepped all bounds of propriety, and we concluded to refer to it in our columns.

The history of the world is divided into three distinct departments—ancient, medieval and modern. For some there is more pleasure found in the descriptions of one department while others revel with equal delight in another. For some the lessons of antiquity are most applicable and furnish them with events which they call most important, and with men whom they call greatest; while for others the same is true of the other departments.

All periods alike present us with striking examples of intellectual greatness and marked events. Noted generals, distinguished poets, renowned orators, artists and statesmen loom up before us in all their grandeur; revolutions roll on before our eyes like a vast flood; convulsions in nature are chronicled in the mighty earthquake, the volcano. Our love of novelty is gratified in viewing the scenes and events of other times.

We fancy ourselves in the battle's front leading on the gallant troops to victory, as we seat ourselves in the chair of the astronomer, and take a look with him at the mighty orbs of the heavens rolling onward in the vast space of the Universe. Each department of history has its own particular space, or sphere, over which it extends its boundless arms, reaching in all directions, grasping all events. Anon it brings forth to the gaze of man the mysteries of the vast deep; now roaring aloft into limitless space, recounts the wonders of the starry heavens. Its locks are white with the snows of nearly sixty centuries; yet, it may be said to have been born but yesterday.

All minds are not gifted with the same powers, nor have those powers been trained to range within the same limits. For some the history of antiquity has an irresistible charm, and comes to them on wings freighted with untold enjoyments; the men and deeds of other times seem to them comparatively tame and without interest; they admire the overwhelming eloquence of Demosthenes, and the fiery, sately measure of Cicero, but have little sympathy for Webster, Mirabeau or Pitt; they praise the generalship of Alexander and Caesar, but consider Napoleon, Cromwell and Washington mere pignuties in comparison. For others, the events and writings of the medieval period, surrounded by clouds, of doubt, superstition and mystery, are far sweeter to the taste. For others, still, the little world of Modern History is their all. Within its golden dome sparkling with the wit, wisdom and eloquence of myriads, "they sit and read themselves away in everlasting bliss," caring little for the heroes and sages of medieval days, and still less for those of antiquity.

There is indeed much pleasure to be derived from the study of history. As classes of mankind, in a greater or less degree, draw from its never ceasing but ever increasing fountain untold enjoyments. The lawyer pore over with pleasure the misty records of history, wherein are contained accounts of master lawyers of old. The physician reads with increasing interest of distinguished physicians, who have acted their part, left a bright record and an illustrious name. The minister of the gospel is enabled to grasp more firmly the promises of eternal life by tracing with eager eye the way-marks left by Luther, Wesley and others. Without history the civilized world would be enveloped in the utter darkness of barbarism.

Had history never had an existence, the world would never have advanced in civilization beyond the first few generations, or its progress, at least, would have been extremely slow. Every scientific discovery must necessarily have perished with its discoverer, or have oozed out a meagre existence during a few centuries.

We are constituted with an inherent love of variety. This love is gratified in a thousand different ways by the various scenes and events unfolded to our gaze, like a vast panorama of living pictures. Variety, always and everywhere, meets our eye and ear.

"The gloomiest day hath gleams of light,
    The darkest wave hath light foam 'neath it,
    And twinkles through the darkest night
    Some solitary star to cheer it."

Now, we seem to see before us, real as life, the mightiest men of antiquity, re-enacting their various parts, which thrill us through and through with wonder and admiration. Every nerve vibrates like the strings of a well-tuned harp, touched by the gentle breezes of summer, when Pagananiields the magic bow. Every eye fills with rapture and admiration when Appelles takes up the pencil, or Phidias the sculptor's chisel. The advantages accruing from the study of history are many. Who can say that the troubles and perplexities of life have not fled away as he rambled over the green
prairies and through the forests of the far West, under the
guidance of Irving's magic pen! Who can say that he
has not found a balm for many a sorrow in the care-
forgetting works of Scott? Indeed the student of history
may wander whithersoever he will and under the leaders-
ship of whosoever he pleases, gathering the intellectual
fruits of all climes and all ages. Then again we be-
come wiser and better by studying the works of history.
We join as it were, the social circle of the great of all ages,
and hold converse with them face to face. Their thoughts
become our thoughts; the grandeur and dignity of their lan-
guage becomes ours; the loftiness of their minds, in a mea-
sure, is imparted to our own. We feel ourselves lifted up
into a higher and purer atmosphere, surrounded by the witty,
the gay, the dignified, the great and the good of all times.
We are thus enabled to perform our own duties in life more
in accordance with right. Way-marks and guides are
wearing for thirty
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Prof. C.—Give me the perfect indicative of Amo. Fresh.
—Aimeram (I'm a ram.)

Dr. P.—How many feet does it take to make a measure? It
depends on the size, sir.

A Freshman, speaking of a perpendicular line, called it a straight
up and line down.

A Sophomore lady declares that while she was visiting in
the country her lips were all covered over with chaps.

The Sophs. poetically say of the Freshmen, “Let the
geese hiss, their natures are thus constituted by an overruling
Providence.”

Fun caps are quite the rage among the lady students, and
are generally becoming. The girls seem to have taken them
“far better, far worse.”

While the Juniors were being lectured on the “Evidences
of Christianity,” the ladies amused themselves by comparing
the size of the gentlemen’s feet.

Sophomore recitation: “The Anglo-Saxons arose from three
races which dwelt upon the borders of the North Sea,—the
 Saxons, the Jutes, and the Angels.”

Recently, while one of the students was discoursing pro-
doundly on carbon, she astounded the class with the information
that “If man had lived in the carboniferous age, he would
have been dead.”

The University Reporter has a lengthy set of rules govern-
ing the military cadets who are “invincible in peace, and
invisible in war.” Excuse us, gentlemen, we will take arbi-
tration in ours.—The Trial.

A certain member of the chemistry class in speaking of the
copper in the human system, remarked that the systems of
some persons must contain zinc, which forms with the copper
an alloy of brass.

Scene in Mental Philosophy: Preceptor, to student reciting:
“Different things are events. You are reciting; that’s an
event.” Perplexed student, muttering, “Um! an unfortunate
event!”

Hastings, a Harvard Sophomore, shot himself recently in a
fit of mental despondency. He was a victim of over study.
There is little danger to be apprehended from our Sopho-
more on that account.

“Have you Goldsmith’s Greece?” was asked of the assis-
tant librarian the other day, by a Jun. lady. “No,” said the
librarian, “we haven’t Goldsmith’s Greece but we have some
splendid hair oil.”

A Scr-Fresh, recently inquired of a Sophomore why Miss
—— was so well versed in ancient history? To which the
Soph. replied: “Because she has an excellent recollection of
the events that occurred in her childhood.”

The Freshmen are making fine progress in composition and
elocution, under the thorough and proficient drill of Professor
Pinkham. We congratulate the class on their fine opportunity
to learn to speak and write with force and eloquence.

Student to Professor of Geology: “To what age do I be-
long, Prof?” “Don’t know; have only learned to classify
rocks, not bricks.”

A giddy student, having had his skull fractured, was told
by the doctor that the brain was visible, on which he remarked,
“Do write and tell pa, for he always said I had none.”

The Professor of English Literature in his lecture remarked
that men are judged by their writings, whereupon a Senior
suggested that the Day of Judgment would be an examination
in Rhetoric.

The late unpleasantness in the weather froze four and a-half
inches off the top of a Sophomore’s ears. He no longer laps
them over the top of his head to keep his scalp warm.

It was remarked by one who ought to know, that the
papering of the college walls would tend to elevate and
christianize the students, as the excess of whitewash is a fer-
tile source of profanity.

“You’re feet are not very stylish,” said a Freshy to his lady
friend, whose feet were covered with bunions. “No, not
very stylish, but exceedingly nobby,” was the good-natured
reply.

The four beautiful and lively young ladies, college students,
who occupied front seats at Bret Harte’s lecture, were compli-
mented (?) by the gentleman in the remark, made by him after
the lecture, that they had been his “inspiration” through the
whole evening.

Scene: Laboratory.—Assistant bustling among a multitude
of glass jars accidentally knocks one to the floor, dashing it
into a thousand fragments. Prof. H. — surveys the wreck
mournfully, but cheerfully remarks, “Blessed are the piece-
makers.”

At Lawrence, the other day, a man was sentenced to the
house of correction for three months, just because he refused
to saw wood for his wife. Ye students who deem it beneath
your dignity to engage in that occupation, behold what you
are coming to.

Since our last issue, the Sophomore booths above our
heads have become almost unbearable. With the kindest
intentions possible, and out of regard for their India rubber
vocal organs, we would mildly suggest that they show a little
respect for the incoming corps, and hereafter conduct their
exercises in a lower key.

Our cause of complaint this issue is the chapel doors. Why
can’t both be opened? After morning service the rush for
egress on the part of students eager to reach the recitation
rooms and begin reciting is very great, and the throng and
crowding abominable. At the east entrance, owing to the
promiscuous nature of the crowd, the squeezing and pressing is
endurable; but, at the west door, where there is no such
consolation, the pain is insuperable. Now, all the difficulty
would be remedied by a piece of rope or wire attached to the
other door, by which it could be opened. Won’t some kind,
charitable friend please climb up and fasten a piece of rope
to “them doors?”
University Reporter

We had the misfortune to pick up the following in a Prof's room, and it wasn't a good day for scrape either: "E pluribus unum, E pluribus unam, cæcum ad infinitum salverat voc et tuum." From the last few words we judge that a junior celestial wrote it in a moment of desperation.

Icy pavements have been more than usually abundant this winter. Involuntary sitting down is quite the fashion. Some times on the part of Laws and Medics these pleasant exercises are accompanied by divers earnest expressions addressed to ultra-mundane objects.

We call the attention of the "musical" students to the large stock of Max Otto. Max advertises in our columns, and we ask for our patrons a liberal patronage for them.

Two fresh operations were begun and finally completed. 'I'he cause of the whole thing, is, that almost despairing struggle for some time, is growing stronger, though still in infancy. It can now actually be seen by close scrutiny, and he wastes precious time in attempting to twirl it.

We have not yet this year noticed our exchanges. In the next issue, which our successors will get out, we will attempt to prevail upon them to notice them, giving their number, names, articles, and any and everything pertaining to them that will benefit our readers.

At an almost fabulous expense, we have imported a writer (or writers) of world-wide celebrity to epitomize the literary societies from their entertainments on certain evenings. He (or they) visited them, and the result of his (or their) labors we lay before our subscribers in the present issue.

The Erodelphians held no literary session on Friday evening, February 9th. We are not at liberty to divulge the cause. It can no doubt be obtained by conference with some of the more irascible members, who are very talkative upon this delicate and palatable subject.

There is a Fresh, who is our friend, and at the same time, a most willing dupe. He conceived the idea that he wanted a shave and he interviewed a law student with this end in view. Lawyer consented and after much stopping and lathering, the operation was begun and finally completed. The denouement of the whole thing, is, that said Fresh was shaved with the back of the razor.

Our suggestion with regard to the sociable was just in time as upon the evening that our last paper arrived, one was held. It was immensely enjoyed, and the chapel was more densely crowded than upon any previous occasion of a like character, which we can call to mind. There is one feature which we should like to see introduced, and it is the hire of efficient and first-rate music. How much more pleasant would the time pass, with a dulcinea of two hundred pounds in weight hanging loosely upon your almost worn-out arm, tramping the dismal march at the rate of three miles an hour, to the tune of "John Brown," "Old Hundred," or any one as melanc holy and bile-producing! "Gub us some."

Personalia.

Walter P. Hayman, '79, is teaching in Kansas.
J. A. Stow, Law '70, is located at Postville, Iowa.
J. R. Darhom, Law '74, is located in Knoxville, Iowa.
J. B. Chapman, '76, is teaching in the suburbs of Iowa City.
James C. Young, '77, is attending Cornell College, Mt. Vernon.
J. W. Conlon, '76, is teaching at the Second Ward, Iowa City.
John B. Jones, '77, has entered the Virginia State University.
Z. T. Honnold, Law '74, has charge of the public schools in Ottaville, Iowa.
Fremont Rowan, an old student of the University, is engaged in the lumber trade in Colorado.

Maggie Clites has been sick, and a fair prospect for her ultimate recovery is entertained.
Mary Ogg, Normal '72, is teaching in the High School at Newton, Iowa.
Prof. Leonard was quite ill for a day this month. He recovered and heard his classes on the following day.
J. E. Hyatt, formerly in the Academic department, is station agent for the B. C. R. & M. R. R., at Rowerly, Iowa.

Sophomore sick list, -- Miss Virginia Stingle, E. McIntyre, Mr. W. P. Whipple. Happily all are again recovered.
N. Newell Sill, a graduate of the Iowa State University Medical Department, is practicing at Strawberry Point.
Thos. W. Graydon, '75, the champion for Iowa in the Inter- State Oratorical Contest, is teaching at Lettsville, Louisa Co.
Andrew Kershaw, '77, having been received into the M. E. church as a minister, has been appointed upon a circuit near Oskaloosa.

Hale of Law '73, made a visit to his Alma Mater a short time ago. He looks hale and hearty, and his physique shows that labors in his profession have benefited him.

Henry Carmichael, who was in the Medical Department, taking a course in Materia Medica, having listened to all that Dr. Farnsworth had to say on this subject, has returned home.

Dr. Farnsworth has finished his lectures in Materia Medica and is at present engaged in lecturing on the diseases of children.

E. G. Cooley, '78, has taken a short respite from the Freshman boon companions, Livy, Robinson, etc., and is supplying the farmers of Clayton county with sewing machines.

E. R. Sayles, of the Iowa State University, and one of the delegates appointed to attend the Oratorical Convention at Indianapolis, has been confined to his room on account of sickness, but we are glad to see him again attending to his duties.
Miss E. L. Flickinger will return next term and resume her studies in the special course.

John B. Erwin, who was for a time a member of Law '74, has hung out his sign at Keota.

George T. Cowgill, well known to most of the students, is now engaged in cultivating the soil in Grundy county.

Mr. Jackman has been elected Corresponding Secretary of the Philomathian in the place of D. B. Ellis, resigned.

Hamilton Davidson, Law '74, is doing business in Cedar Rapids. He called on us lately, and reports everything lively.

Hon. W. D. Litzenberg, who attended the law class last term, was admitted to the bar on the 7th of January, 1875, at Marion, la.

John S. Frazee, '76, is teaching school a few miles north of Toledo. He does not intend to return to the University until next year.

Edward S. McLoud, '75, has entered upon the study of medicine. He thinks that perhaps he will enter the Medical Department next fall.

T. C. Maughlin, '78, who left this institution and went to McCorkle College, Ohio, is teaching school near Washington. He intends to return to the University in the spring.

E. W. Craven of the Senior Class, was confined to his room for two or three days last month on account of sickness. We are pleased to see him again attending to his regular duties.

A. T. Flickinger and I. N. Flickinger were delayed through the sickness of their father for a week at the beginning of the term. The latter, we are glad to add, has recovered.

'77, A. W. Lee paid his friends a visit since our last issue. He is located in the post office at Muscatine. It is not definitely known whether an affection of the heart did not draw him thither.

"Doc." Corning wore a piece of flannel around his throat a short time ago. We presume that his esophagus was sore, and that he was looking for a nice young lady's sleeve in order to alleviate him. No Sub. Fresh. need apply!

J. G. Cotton showed his face in our midst a few days ago. J. G. is at Pella, and if we mistake not, in the Pella National Bank. It is commonly asssented to, that first class institutions engage only the best workers, which is not a violation in this instance.

A. O. Williams, on our staff from the Medical Department, has been selected by the medical faculty as class valedictorian. This is an honor well earned, and a selection admirably made. A most brilliant production, it is our destiny no doubt, to hear.

Alfred Churchil, who attended the University last term, and was classed as a special, has failed to return. The many friends, which his gentlemanly carriage made for him, will much regret that he must be absent. We understand that he was preparing for the Freshman Class of Yale. His home is Davenport.

The present law class is said to be the most temperate and well behaved of any class since the connection of the Department with the University.

'76, Ed. R. Sayles, one of the former editors of the News Letter, recently spent a few days in Grinnell. He reports himself well satisfied with the University.—College News Letter.

Judge Dillon began his lectures on the 9th, and was here a week. Judge Cole had had charge of the law class for the four previous weeks, and "the boys" say he has put 'em through. They have no doubt learned something. Judge Mott, at the present writing, is lecturing the class. Judge Miller came on the 15th.

MARriages.

Bowman—Carbee—In Linn county, Iowa, by Senator Kerhart. Mr. H. G. Bowman and Miss Alice Carbee.

Mr. B is a member of the present law class, and the golden wishes of his fellow members go with him. Ninety bachelors yet remain, and swear "by the eternal" they will go and do likewise.

Burk hart—P inney—At the residence of the bride's father in Iowa City, on Wednesday, Jan. 27th, by the Rev. Mr. Sparks, Mr. H. Z. Burk hart and Miss Sadie Pinney.

Mr. Burk Hart was long a student of the University, where he became a general favorite with all. Since, in his connection with the post office, his genial face has been familiar to students and citizens. The bride was one of the first ladies of the place, and to their new home in California they go accompanied by the good wishes of a host of friends.

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