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Our short experience as editors of the REPORTER leads us to the belief, that a slight change in the arrangement of the matter of our journal would be for the better. We make mention of the fact, because *we* are about the seventeenth generation in the lineage of editorial corps of the REPORTER, and, as the same general plan has been pursued by our whole line of ancestors, there is doubtless a certain conservative sentiment existing in the minds of those who are intimately related to us by the ties of *the dollar*. Like Kronos in his creation of the race of muscles, some persons are always preferring the old. To such, if any there are, we would say that they should approve as much as they can, and censure only what they must. We endeavor to please ourselves, and hope to satisfy our readers.

One of the most pleasant features connected with the University is the good deportment of the students. The cause of this is undoubtedly due to the fact, that the Faculty always endeavor to recognize the students as gentlemen and ladies. Manhood and womanhood are held in such high regard that the students are self-governing. Not self-governing, however, as are the students of some colleges both east and west, where hazing, rushing and secret societies lead to combinations among students so that they are enabled to dictate for their school authorities. Our authorities rely upon the self-respect and honor of their pupils for good government, and, as the different members of the Faculty are highly respected by the students for their personal worth, their purpose is amply realized. We believe that there

is not a school in the West where scholars are more free from mischievous designs than those of our own University. It is a common remark among the citizens that the students are peaceable and free from the many little tricks that are so often found in colleges. Untrammelled by regulations abounding in suspicion, appeals to the better and more positive qualities of their nature, effect the desired results.

The Western Amherst Alumni Association held their ninth annual re-union and banquet in Chicago, at the Grand Pacific Hotel, Dec. 29, 1876. After many cheerful greetings and much social intercourse, they proceeded to the election of officers for the coming year. They next ate, drank and were all the while merry. After the feasting was over, Mr. N. S. Patton led his friends in the classic song, "Mary had a little Lamb," to the air of the "Battle cry of Freedom." "Moved by the concord of sweet sounds," they doubtless felt the full force of the geniality of college life. At this stage of their proceedings Chancellor W. G. Hammond was introduced and had the great pleasure of addressing his college associates. We take pleasure in calling attention to this re-union, because of the relation the Chancellor sustains to the University. Our institution is certainly fortunate in having the services of one of the ablest, if not *the* ablest of Amherst alumni.

This re-union leads us to ask the question, Will the alumni of the University, at no distant day, be disposed to hold re-unions in a similar way? The graduates of the University are surely as jealous of the welfare of their Alma Mater, as those of Amherst. Many of them meet with us at commencement, while others, living at a greater distance, seldom mingle with the associates of their college days. If our graduates cannot meet with the Alumni Associations during commencement week, could they not form associations, similar to the above, to be held at a different time and place? Such re-unions could be held in different localities, and would be of profit to its members, as well as honor the University. From 120 to 150 graduates leave the University every year. Many of them are eminently successful and we hope that they will consider the benefits to be derived from such re-unions, not only for themselves, but also for the good of the institution they represent.

The interest manifested in the literary societies of the University doubtless surpasses that of most colleges of the West. The societies are so matched that special literary efforts are constantly put forth by each of them. The Irvings vie with the Zetagathians; the Hesperians with the Erodolphians; the Symponians with the Philomathians. The rivalry is not such as to create any unpleasantness, but is of the most healthful nature, the intellectual forces of one society being weekly matched with its special rival. The crowded halls, from week to week, plainly indicate the appreciation of the public. The Faculty also take pleasure in noting the progress made. They say that the societies are constantly demanding more time and labor of their members. Because of this great devotion to society interests, and because of the value and efficiency of the work done, the Faculty agreed, that it was no longer necessary to require three terms in the labor incident to public rhetorical. The societies have afforded such ample opportunities for rhetorical training, that Senior rhetorical are now only necessary as a class exercise, that more attention may be given to individual criticism. It would be better, if more attention could be given to judicious criticism in the societies. Individual defects and peculiarities should be pointed out in a friendly way; yet it is very difficult to administer such advice successfully in the presence of a popular audience. The critic is nearly always tempted to criticise so as to please the audience, instead of doing justice to the individual. The desire of pleasing the audience is often so strong that even members of the same society are disposed to regard the critic a success, if the audience is made to laugh heartily at some individual peculiarity.

The *Press* and the *Republican* have of late devoted considerable attention to society criticism and commendation. If the writers for these papers would rise above bias and society preference, and think only of justice, these criticisms could be made of value to the individuals concerned. But this is seldom the case. A member or partisan of one society writes a critical report of another, and there is ever present the temptation to magnify faults, and to be blind to merit. Such accounts serve very well for the purpose intended, i. e. for news, but are wholly wanting in the candor, that makes them of any practical importance to the student.

In this connection, it might be well to notice the guardian care the *Press* exercises over students and citizens in warning them to *flee from the fire to come*. We do not pretend to understand the nature of the *fates* that are veiled by futurity, but it is evident that the stair-way leading to the halls is entirely too narrow and should be made wider as soon as possible. Board of Regents, prudence demands that at your next meeting you should give us the assurance that the halls are entirely safe. *If the stair-way should be made wider in order to insure security, it would be worse than folly not to effect the change.*

Students, like other people, sometimes make new resolutions at the beginning of the New Year. Some resolve one thing, some another. Some doubtless resolved to have better grades than heretofore. This is well enough, if they have not been making proper use of their time, or if they have not been accustomed to master the subjects pursued. In making such a resolution, however, the student should consider fully the objects of study. If a high grade would indicate the mastery of the subject, it should constantly be kept in view. But it is a fact, that those who labor so diligently for a high grade are often led to think more of the grade than of their acquirements. While it is laudable to have the reputation of standing well in class, it is by no means commendable to spend all the time in arduous cramming for recitation. The student should strive to make a fine display in the recitation room, but by the presentation of ideas, rather than by memorized words. Ideas should stand forth in bold relief. The student should attach more importance to them than to an arbitrary grade, which, in too many cases, is influenced by the low ideal of the fawning pupil at the expense of character. He is the best scholar who possesses the greatest number of available ideas; yet how many students devote more time to verbal acquisition, the utility of which scarcely extends beyond the school room, than to practical thoughts, the utility of which last forever! If the sum total of practical thoughts would be greatest by sacrificing a small per cent. of grade, that his acquisitions might be more enduring, he should have the resolution to endeavor to prepare for the actual demands of practical life, even at the expense of favor, grade, or commencement honor. The true teacher admires this plan, and would much rather have the pupil comprehend the subject, than to command the verbal statements of another. Yet it is true, that in many cases the teacher confines himself and class entirely too closely to the verbiage of the text. It is proper enough to think as others have thought, and the method of study should be such as to provoke thought, but the student should, in all cases, rise above considering that true mental work which represents ideas, parrot-like, without the ability to use them. It is sometimes said that students are, as a rule, devoid of a good use of language. The fact is that they are too often devoid of ideas. They are wanting in a comprehensive view of men and things. Such a view can be obtained, not by simply adhering closely to the text-book, but also by a judicious use of the library. A good library is here provided, yet there are some who study year after year and make but little use of its vast stores. "Food for the soul" is in store for all, but to some the tickling tingle of a *good grade* is so enticing, that they become devotees to its shrine, and sacrifice every moment to it, even health itself. They barter character for favor, find no time for general reading, and, finally, when it is too late, are made cognizant of the fact that beautifully recited words, unat-

tended by thought, or a jargon of unrelated facts, does not secure what the practical world demands.

CHANGING TEXT-BOOKS.—If there be, in connection with the University, one thing more than another, about which there is much and continual complaint by the students, that thing is the so frequent change of text-books. Many students have but limited means at their command, and are hence necessitated to practice economy, not only in *obtaining* needed books, but also in disposing of them after use. Under the present changeable condition of affairs, a student has no assurance as to what particular text-book he will be required to use during the ensuing term, until his first lesson is assigned, when he is in such immediate need of the work, that he is compelled to buy a new one; and then when the term's work has closed, no justifiable disposal can be made of the book, because there is no demand for it—nobody wants it.

Again, different members of the same family may be, and frequently are, in different grades of the course, but because of such changes are severally obliged to purchase new works upon the same subjects.

Such considerations lead students to complain of so frequent changes.

But it may be said that improvements in the selection and arrangement of matter, and general utility of text-books, are being constantly made; and that the University should keep pace with the educational advances of the times. The general truth of the proposition is admitted. But should students be text-book worms? Know nothing but that which is presented in a text-book, and in the order in which it is there set forth? Does experience teach that he is a successful teacher who confines himself to the matter and method of any text-book, however good? Does one who so confines himself deserve the name of teacher? He is a true teacher who leads the pupil to look upon the text-book as a mere assistant in his investigations, and creates in the pupil a desire to study the *subject* rather than the book. Then, though there be some defects in a particular book, the study of the subject may, by a little judicious care on the part of the teacher, be carried on even more successfully than were the book faultless. Because there will be less liability of the pupil's contenting himself with what is there presented, but he will be led to think for himself, and will arrive at conclusions more satisfactory, since he has demonstrated their truth by his own investigations. While we would not advocate the selection of faulty books simply that the pupil might be led to look beyond the text-book to the subject itself, for the true teacher will bring about such a result, let the pupil use what book he will, yet if a faulty one be in use, a change should not be made unless a most manifest advantage over all disadvantages would seem to follow. And largely in view of the great inconveniences to which students are always sub-

jected by a change in books. When a change is contemplated, do such considerations have their due weight with those suggesting and advocating it. Let us hope that publishing houses and authors have not an undue influence in making such changes, and that none but the best and purest motives are influential in bringing them about.

Our queries in the last REPORTER concerning some "seeming editorials" in the Iowa College *News Letter* for October and for November, have elicited two conflicting statements from Iowa College students, viz: one, that they were wanton forgeries; the other, that they were authorized by a majority of *one*. On the important point in the case, however, we have only one report, "the ideas were President Magoun's," even though one of the editors may have penned them!

This report relieves the editors greatly, (for those articles were more cute than truthful,) but it is unfortunate for their President. In addition to these new errors, it seems that that college officer, after making a false statement concerning one of our Faculty, persistently and actively evades all correction of it! Should we draw a conclusion from this incident it must be that he is capable of making a *mis-statement*, and, when made, *unwilling* to correct it. And here we are willing to leave it if our Grinnell friends are, but with regret that such a shadow falls over that splendid editorial in the last *News Letter* which begins with the declaration, "The highest, noblest attribute of a manly character is *truthfulness*."

That preaching is a good buttress for our advocacy of christian colleges, there is only one better, the *practice* of it.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS.—The year just closed has witnessed one of these quadrennial contests. That they constitute a very severe test of the law abiding disposition of our people is surely evident to every one.

A nation possessing less thrift and intelligence than ours, could hardly be expected to pass such a crisis without serious disorder, if not ruin. Once in our own history we failed to stand this test, and were plunged into a civil war by the rebellion of the slave holding minority.

The canvass of the past year has been very active, and the partisan orators and press have been very unscrupulous in their statements.

Perhaps never before have money, slander, violence, and intimidation been used to such an extent to the prejudice of a free and honest expression of the popular will. Never before has there appeared to be such a readiness on the part of the prominent partisan leaders to win success by over-ruling both the letter and spirit of the laws of the land.

Even yet, it is a matter of doubt, whether the greatest danger has been passed. Not until President Grant's successor has been peaceably inaugurated, will the current of our national life return to its wonted channels.

The occasion for all this excitement in the present canvass is not to be found in any radical difference between the platforms of the two parties, as adopted by their respective conventions in Cincinnati and St. Louis. Men who belong to the same party often differ more widely in regard to great national issues, than do these platforms.

The warfare that has been waged along the whole line has turned more on personal than on national grounds. Personal in regard to candidates themselves, and to the past history of the parties they represent.

Irresponsible men, both on the rostrum and on the editorial chair have done their utmost to inflame the passions of the people against those of the opposite party, until large numbers of their unsophisticated hearers and readers have been led to believe that anarchy, civil war, rebellion—anything, would be better than the defeat of the party to which they belong. It may be that the intelligence and patriotism of our people will at this time suffice to save us from the horrors of another civil war. We think it will so suffice.

The costly experiment having been so lately and unsuccessfully made, may deter many from a disloyal course who would not be influenced by higher considerations. But is it not best for us to consider the danger involved in such contests, and see whether there be not some "more excellent way" of determining who shall preside over this nation?

The founders of the nation foresaw these perils and the scheme of the electoral college was their device for avoiding them. Unhappily, as we think, their wise enactment has been rendered a nullity as to its main intent by the practice of nominating conventions. Many self-constituted champions of the people, have claimed that the election should be made directly by the people, in the form of a vote, which after all would be only the ratification of the nomination of a convention of men representing (very imperfectly), some one political party. Why would it not be far better to abolish the nominating conventions? Those bodies are made up primarily in little village caucuses, attended generally by a large proportion of village loungers, and a small number of the better class.

From such sources as these arise the nominating convention. The result at which they arrive is often quite distasteful to the mass of the party they represent. So that it takes from one to three months, often, to reconcile the mass of the party to the support of the nominees. Such was the case with both parties in the last campaign; and yet after they had once enlisted in the canvass they are so wrought up by the excitement of the campaign, that they are ready to do anything that will defeat the election of a man who was a few months ago, in their estimation, almost as good as their own

candidate. Is not the original plan and intent of the fathers of our nation wiser than the one we follow?

In view of the fact that the present canvass has brought into prominence many imperfections in our constitution as to the proper method for ascertaining the will of the people in the election of their chief magistrate, would it not be well to endeavor in some way to avoid the great peril to which we are subjected by every contest like the present? Already a bill has been introduced into one branch of Congress for a convention to make an entire revision of our constitution. If such a convention be called let us hope that some means may be found by which may be avoided so unnecessary and useless a test of the endurance and patriotism of our people.

COMMUNICATIONS.

HOMEOPATHY.

EDITORS REPORTER: Prompted by a desire to see things done in a spirit of fairness, we ask space for a few thoughts upon a question which was the subject of an editorial in our November issue, and of a communication by Mr. [—] in your December No.

By your correspondent it is charged upon the writer of your editorial that he is a "Homeopathic patron;" that "he promulgated some very unqualified remarks and promiscuous ideas;" and that "he doubts the conscientious conviction of the Faculty of the Medical Department to sever their connection with the I. S. U. if a Homeopathic chair should be introduced."

We have read the editorial to which reference is here made, and must say we can find nothing in it which would justify any intelligent, fair minded person in the conclusion that its writer is a "Homeopathic patron." It seems to be the expression of such sentiments as one would expect from a non-partisan observer; from one who desired to see fair play in the matter.

When your correspondent says, "he promulgated unqualified remarks and promiscuous ideas," it is difficult to understand precisely what he means, or whether indeed he means any thing. All the statements of the doomed editorial seem careful and well guarded.

The charge "he doubts," &c., cannot be made with even a show of truth; for in that article the contrary thought is as clearly expressed as the English language will permit.

Mr. [—] finds objection to the opinion expressed in your editorial on the taxation phase of the subject. This is the language containing the "absurd" doctrine about which Mr. [—] complains: "It is not right that an institution created for the benefit of all the people, should be committed wholly to one medical system, *if there is another whose practical workings are so important as to demand public support. If Homeopathy is what it claims to be, thoroughly scientific, and productive of the most satisfactory results, its patrons are surely justifiable in demanding a place in the present Medical Department; or, the establishment of a new department, wholly Homeo-*

pathic." That is, if such and such be so, then such and such should be granted. Now, what is here asserted to which any fair minded Allopathist, even, could not give the heartiest assent?

Mr. (—) says in substance, that schools should be established for the masses, not for every little cast, and proceeds to lay Homeopaths on the shelf, labeled "little cast." That schools should be established for the masses and not for little casts may be admitted, but is the Homeopathic element so insignificant as to be set down on the list of "little casts?" Let us see. In the U. S. there are over 5,000 Homeopathic practitioners; in the State of Iowa alone Homeopathic patrons are numbered by the thousand; and further, it is a significant fact, recognized by Allopaths themselves, that the majority of Homeopathic patrons are from the more intelligent classes. We ask our friend to canvass the matter in Iowa City, the Athens of Allopathy in Iowa, and report the results of his investigations. Will he then brand Homeopaths as but a mere "cast," and not entitled to representation in the Medical School of the State?

Again, he says, "the idea of one chair satisfying the demands of a school, which maintains an independent science of its own, is preposterous." The individual who writes so, knows not what he says. Homeopathy has no new Anatomy, or Physiology, or Chemistry, or Pathology. It has no new Surgery, or Obstetrics; although it claims to have made great improvements in the treatment of surgical and obstetrical cases. There are only one or two subjects on which there is a difference of opinion between the two schools. What, in reason, then is there to hinder students of both schools studying together, those subjects on which the two systems agree, and studying under different instructors those subjects on which the schools differ? What do you say Mr. (—)?

H. J. B.

THE STATE TEACHER'S ASSOCIATION

held its annual session at Grinnell during the holidays. The large number present, the ability of the papers and discussions, the fine weather, and the cordial reception by the good people of Grinnell, contributed to make the occasion one of unusual pleasure and profit. The membership—one hundred and seventy-seven in number—was thoroughly representative of Iowa Educators; including the Superintendent of Public Instruction, Professors from the University, Agricultural College, and State Normal School, County and City Superintendents, Principals of High Schools, teachers of every grade of public schools, Professors from denominational colleges and teachers from academies and private schools.

The papers were generally of a practical character, and of a high order of excellence, but we have space for only brief and partial mention. The Inaugural Address of Supt. C. P. Rogers aroused much interest and provoked an earnest discussion by its severe strictures

on the County Superintendency. He proposed the entire abolition of the office, and advocated in its stead a Superintendent selected and employed after the manner of City Superintendents, for such a district as he could thoroughly supervise.

Mrs. Curry's "Foot-prints of the Centuries," charmed us by its brilliant thoughts, poetic fancies and graceful language.

Principal J. B. Young, of Davenport, presented a paper upon "the responsibility of the school for the personal development and culture of its pupils," worthy of all praise for its high ideal of the teacher's character and work, and the mission of the school in the sphere of character and culture.

The "Plan of a scientific course," by Prof. Bessey, of the Agricultural College, illustrated the fact that one may be an enthusiastic specialist without narrowness, and join true allegiance to practical science with a generous sympathy with all liberal culture. The most characteristic features of his proposed course are the principle that a science once begun must be carried through the rest of the course, and the large space given to language—Latin, German and French being required, and Greek strongly urged.

Pres. Kephart while claiming high praise for distinctively Christian Schools, under private direction, avowed complete sympathy with State education from lowest to highest, and advocated the completest good fellowship in the work of general enlightenment and culture.

The right and duty of the State to make ample provision for higher education, was maintained in "The State and the School," by Supt. Sabin, of Clinton, which for breadth of view, cogency of argument and elegance of diction was the gem of the occasion.

The cordial reception of the sentiments of these last mentioned papers, the favor shown to Prof. Parker's plan, set forth in his report to the Association, for unifying High School work, and bringing it into harmony with higher education, and especially the University, and the hearty endorsement of the University by the Superintendents and Principals' Association, will be cheering to the friends of the University.

We are pleased to notice so large a representation of former students in the Association, and to bear testimony to the high honor they are conferring upon their Alma Mater by their personal character and successful work.

The Association honored itself and paid a graceful compliment to an accomplished lady, when it elected for its President Miss P. W. Sudlow, long connected with the Davenport schools, and now their efficient Superintendent.

SPELLING REFORM.

BY P. H. PHILLBRICK.

One of the most important topics now before English

speaking people is that concerning a change of English orthography. It is my purpose, in this short article, to simply call attention to the subject, in connection with a statement of the proceedings of the Iowa Association of Teachers at Grinnell.

It wud doubtless surprise many who have not kept a close watch of this subject to know the amount of preparatory work that has been done upon it; and that iz one of the principal grounds for hope for the success of the prezent moovment. The work is now being carried on more concertedly than at any previous time, and persons engaged in many diferent pursuits and callings are interested in *the* subject, which in the nature of things concerns all.

The Linguist, the Filologist, the short-hand writer, and uthers, have this question continually thrust before them, and I believe that ere long they will be supported, in their attempts at reform, by all admirers of "the true, the beautiful, and the good;" by all lovers of progress, and by all who have in their souls a spark of genuine scientific spirit. That scholars and men of enlightenment should hold to the true principles on this subject is, in the opinion of Prof. Whitney and others, necessary, and that so far as Americans are concerned this end is pretty well attained. It would be easy to show that the statement applies with almost equal force to the English speaking people of the old world.

Meny hav feared that the changes which the reformers seek to introduce would seriously interfere with the present state of things. The writer believes these fears to be entirely groundless, and that no change likely to be recommended by the Spelling Reform Association, or by any other society now having any influence, would lead us into any greater difficulties than the dropping, by Webster, of the final k in many words, and omiting u from such words as favour, labour, &c. Does any one consider himself a great loser by those changes? The fact is that the introduction of certain consistent changes in the English spelling is a thing so proper and natural, and would lead to such important results, that when once done all will wonder that, at any time, any one could be found to object. I refer the reader to the last "Report of the American Filologic Society, on Spelling," contained in the last "Proseedings ov the International Convention for the amendment ov the English Orthografy."

Another erroneous opinion entertained by some is: that as the changes in English spelling in times past have been gradual, so will they be in the future. This ignores all preparation for the change, and admits that, while in other directions and in reference to other things changes may be effected, more or less suddenly, in this, the servant and instrument of thaut, no changes can be made save thru accidental causes, and by unwarranted innovations, here and there, by lexicografers or others, and which are sure, for the time being, to meet with objections.

Again, it is proper to state that the Spelling Reform

Association is working with a view to the approval of recommendations by the American Filological Society, a recognized influential body. This will give dignity and currency to the necessary innovations, and something of the kind is of course necessary, for we seek authority and uniformity, which in this way will be amply provided.

The arguments braut forward in opposition to an improved orthografy rest, for the most part, upon wrong hypothesis and imaginary cases. But I will give better authority than my statement for this.

Says Prof. W. D. Whitney: "I have especially felt called upon, as a historical student of language, and of modes of writing, to protest in the name of sound science as well as common sense, against the worthless arguments popularly brought forward in opposition to a changed and consistent spelling of English, and to demonstrate their worthlessness."

Again, in regard to "historical spelling," the same scholar writes: "Certainly there are few in our community deserving the name of scholar who do not confess that a "historical spelling is in principle indefensible, that it has no support save in our customs and prejudices."

The first clause of the Report already referred to is as follows:

"The true and sole office of alphabetical writing is, faithfully and intelligibly to represent spoken speech, so called historical orthography being only a concession to the weakness of prejudice."

"The objection that reform would obscure etimology is not urged by real etimologists, equally unfounded iz the objection that wurdz when desently spelt wud looz their historic interest. The modern orthography iz superlatively *un*-historical. Instead of giding us to, it drawz us from the 'wel of English undefiled.' The only history it can be trusted to teach begin with the publication of Johnson's dictionary."—Dr. J. H. Trumbull.

Prof. Max Müller thinks he has answered the *one* remaining objection, (see the Fortnightly Review for April 1st, 1876,) but I have not space for further quotations.

I must omit all direct reference to the advantages growing out of a reform of English spelling—they are too numerous to be even catalogd in this short article.

But upon the teachers, and especially those of the common school, must we depend to a great extent for success in all movements of this nature—in all movements which effect so directly the people. The teachers of Iowa cannot afford to be behind those of other States in contributing to the common good, and in forwarding the interests of all. They cannot afford to let important events go by without an active part in them.

At the State Teacher's Association held at Grinnell an interesting paper on the "Spelling Reform," was read by Supt. J. K. Pickett, of Sigourney. The subject matter of the paper was referred to a committee; that com-

mittee embodied their report in the following resolution:

Resolved That we cordially approve of spelling reform in the English language, in the direction of Phonetic simplification, and we will most heartily cooperate with any possible plans and efforts for securing said result; also, that a committee of three be appointed to confer with the Spelling Reform Association for the promotion and advancement of this most important object.

[Signed]

J. K. PICKETT,
Mrs. T. F. M. CURRY, } Committee.
Miss ANNA E. PACKER, }

Report adopted, and chair appointed the same committee and another member afterwards added.

I have not sought in this article to illustrate a system of spelling, for we certainly have none at present. I have however paid no especial attention to "Webster," as I wished to indicate merely a few of the many improvements that might be introduced without the slightest inconvenience to any one. Since, however, the form of all changes depends, to a great extent, upon the plan upon which changes are made, it is evident that no separate change can be viewed to advantage as an independent one, they are however mainly in accord with the spirit of the Spelling Reform movement, that seeks to do away with what (to change a word—England to America) Prof. Max Müller calls: the un-historical, un-systematic, unteachable, but by no means un-amendable spelling now current in America.

OUR SOCIETY HALLS.

Since the burning of the Brooklyn theater some of our people have felt anxiety in view of the possible results of an alarm of fire given during the sessions of our Literary Societies.

The society rooms are in the third story of our South Hall, and are reached by a stairway but little more than three feet in width. The joint membership of the societies that meet on Friday evening is not more than sixty or seventy. The means of exit are quite sufficient for their accommodation, but the danger arises from the fact that they have acquired the habit of inviting the attendance of the general public at all, or nearly all, of their ordinary meetings. In obedience to this invitation the Society Halls are generally pretty well filled, sometimes crowded with intelligent, appreciative audiences.

These audiences sometimes number six or seven hundred, and should an alarm of fire be raised while they are in the Society Halls serious consequences might ensue. Such a statement would be true of every hall in the city, but especially is it true of these Halls. If, however, we come to consider why the means of exit are so scanty, and what can be done to remedy the evil, it will not be so easy to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion.

The South Hall was not built for the purpose to

which it is now applied. It was erected as a Boarding Hall and Dormitory. Dimensions 40 by 110 feet with two good brick partitions running lengthwise through the building from the ground to the floor of the third story, enclosing a passage way 11 feet wide, crossed by a central passage of same width. These passages are ample for stairways, and the coming and going of all who were expected to board or reside there. On each side of these partitions provisions were made for rooms, each 9 by 14 feet, for students. Soon after the work of fitting up these rooms began, it was found that the University must have the use of the building for recitation and lecture rooms. To adapt it to these purposes it became necessary to remove some of the central brick partitions, and omit, for the most part, the small partitions which were to separate the building into students rooms. In the southern half of the Hall, both the brick partitions were removed, in the second story, and one of them was removed in the first story. We mention these facts for the purpose of pointing out, that there is another danger to which these large audiences are exposed, arising from the weakening of the building in sequence of the internal alterations to which it has been subjected.

We cannot censure the builders of the house for its present weakness, for they did not build it as it now is, nor for its present uses. Neither can we censure those who fitted up the present means of exit from the Society Halls. They found these upper rooms too high for the convenience of recitation rooms, and the societies, then in their infancy, having asked that they might occupy them, their request was granted. The accommodations were then ample in all respects. No one seemed then to have had any prevision of the crowds that now assemble each week to witness the exercises of these societies; had they done so, it is not easy to tell how they could, under the circumstances, have provided so as to insure the safety of these assemblies under all possible contingencies.

Let us then suggest two thoughts:

1st. Under the circumstances would it not be best that the societies should cease, for the present, to invite the general public to witness their ordinary exercises. Let such invitations be issued now and then, when some special preparation would be made, and the exercises held in the Chapel. There are some reasons in favor of such a course, growing out of other considerations than those named above.

2d. Before calling upon those in authority to make such changes as have been suggested by some friends of the societies, would it not be well to ask ourselves whether it will be the sober judgment of the powers that be, that they ought to make provision for these throngs who attend our ordinary meetings? Is it not barely possible that they may take it into their heads to advise us to give a little more time and care to the culture of our powers before courting so much of public attention? If such advice is likely to come, would it not

be better for us to act in the matter ourselves, than to wait until such counsel is offered?

METEORS.

On the evening of Dec. 21st another of those brilliant meteors flashed across our sky from S. W. toward N. E. Its course for more than 1,000 miles from Eastern Kansas to Western Pennsylvania, was marked by a dazzling light, frequent loud detonations, which seemed to be caused by the bursting off of fragments from the meteor, and which were so violent as to shake the earth in many places. What became of the meteor is a question which does not appear to be settled. Did it finally come to the earth, or did it at last conclude to put aside the allurements of this wicked world and go back to its home in the skies? Perhaps it is even now lying on some of the snow covered fields of Pennsylvania, New York, or Canada, awaiting some such enterprising efforts as those that brought our great Iowa county meteor of February, 1875, into the market. If so we hope it will not have to wait in vain. It is worthy of note that a large meteor was seen to fall into the Pacific off the coast of California but a few days before the one above mentioned. Also, that on the evening of December 27, last year, a very bright meteor passed over southwestern Iowa, and on toward central Missouri, accompanied with the phenomena of detonations and the bursting asunder of the meteor. No pieces have been found. Does the earth in this season of the year, when it is nearest the sun, encounter an unusual number of these large meteors?

SOLAR INSECURITY.—On the night of the 24th of November last a serious accident occurred in the constellation of the Swan. One of the smaller stars of the constellation caught fire from some unknown cause, and the flames had gained such headway before the astronomers were notified, that all attempts to extinguish them were manifestly useless. The fire was first discovered by Professor Schmidt, of Athens University, who promptly gave the alarm, and in a short time had all the available telescopes in Europe pointed at the star, although they produced no more effect than would have been produced by so many hot-house syringes. Fortunately, the conflagration gradually burned itself out without extending to any of the neighboring stars, and though its embers are still glowing there is no reason that any further danger should be apprehended.

Although the destruction by fire of a valuable and uninsured star is always a matter to be regretted, the fire of the 24th of November was so remote that it attracted little attention from the public. Since that date, however, Professor Proctor, an accomplished sidereal expert, has made an official investigation into the origin of the fire, and has arrived at results which are full of interest and importance to mankind. Professor Proctor

asserts that the star was covered—rather recklessly as it seems to prudent men—with an envelope of hydrogen gas, and that the latter caught fire, possibly from a match dropped by a vagrant comet, and blazed so fiercely as to wrap the whole star in flames. He does not say whether or not there were any means at hand for extinguishing the fire. That is a question which is now too late to press. What we do know is that the moment the hydrogen caught fire the star was doomed, no matter how abundant the water supply may have been or how efficient may have been the local fire department.—*New York Times.*

THE NEW YEAR.

Yes, the New Year is come again,
The old is passed away;
And with many loved ones gone,
Are sorely missed to day;
And lonely hearts turn sadly
From each without word of cheer;
God pity them and strengthen them
To meet the present year.

And there are other stricken ones
Who wearily still wait
The hearing of the summons, and
The opening of the gate,
Through nights of painful watching,
Almost in sight of home;
God help them bear the burden
Until the summons come.

Others now robed in gladness,
May feel the shadow fall
Over the sunlit path-way, like
A dark funereal pall;
May find their strength is weakness,
Their day eclipsed by night;
God pity them and comfort them,
And lead them to the light. [*The Interior.*]

WHY WE USE THE RIGHT HAND.—The habit of using the right hand in preference to the left among those people whose monuments date from the remotest antiquity, appears to be a universal fact, and this is accounted for by the anatomical mechanism of the human body. It is known that the right lung, liver-lobe and limbs exceed in size those of the left side, involving of course, a greater amount of tissue structure and a larger supply of nerves and blood vessels for their nutrition. A person walking in a dense fog figures with his feet the segment of a circle, and, if he is right-handed, he takes a direction to the left, because the right leg naturally takes a longer stride. The left side of the brain is larger than the right, and, as it appears that the power of verbal articulation in the right-handed is confined to a certain convolution on the left side, the conclusion is arrived at that, in speaking and thinking, the left side of the brain is used, this being the result of dextral education. The opinion has also been expressed by some medical writers that amnesia and aphasia in right-handed men indicate disease of the left brain, and that hammer-palsy and writer's cramp show the results of excessive working of the left brain.—*New York School Journal.*

LOCALS.

Why don't somebody offer the editors a sleigh ride?

"Gov. Kirkwood" now comes to town daily.

A new Janitor for South Hall. An important officer at this season of the year.

When a young man says *du* to a young lady, you may know there is some thing up.

Decidedly thin: over-sleep yourself, and go to school at 7:45, without breakfast.

The first train on the new rail road will be run, probably before this item reaches our subscribers.

It seems to be a settled fact that when the Laws go to clinics, they must be carried out and have water thrown in their faces.

Prof. Parker delivered a very instructive lecture on the subject of "Education," at Springdale, on the 5th inst.

Leap year is over and the bashful boys who have not got pluck enough to ask a girl, have to stay at home or go alone.

Why is it that the boys are so frequently impressed with the feeling that they ought to *sit down on the sidewalk*.

Hon. Wm. P. Wolfe, of Tipton, ex-member of Congress from the 2d district, was in town a few days ago, on business.

Penn College, Oskaloosa, Iowa, had one graduate last year, and it is thought it will have two next year if half the class does not fail.

SOPH. GREEK CLASS.—Inquiring Student: "Prof. why does the imperfect of *horao* have double augments?" Prof.: "I suppose because they *were seeing* so much."

Recitation hours now extend from 7:45 A. M. to 5 P. M. Wanted, a little more daylight at the beginning of our first and at the end of our last recitation.

The propuecy that the present winter would be an unusually mild one has been "counted out" by the returning board.

Eighty-four students answer to the roll-call in Law class proper, while there are seven in the advanced class: total, ninety-one. Each class boasts of a lady.

OBITUARY: On the 31st ult., at 12 M., after an eventful existence of one year, passed quietly away from the scenes and cares of earth, the Centennial Year of American Liberty and Independence.

The U. S. Government has furnished a set of metric standards of weights and measures to the State of Iowa. They are in charge of Prof. Leonard, State Superintendent of Weights and Measures.

Two law students recently betook themselves down the Avenue for the purpose of buying a load of wood. Whispers A. to B., "How many feet in a cord?" Says B. "120." A. "O! is there? I thought there was 1728."

The diphtheria is raging to a fearful extent near Downey; some of the schools in that vicinity have been en-

tirely broken up. One family lost three children within a few days, and another six.

Holidays took from the Medical class one of its number and substituted two, one of which is a former student of Rush Medical College. So we still hold our ramparts with equal or greater strength than in 1876.

A mistake! An item which appeared in these columns of last issue, placing the cost of the new bridge at \$35,000. Though the bridge is a very fine structure, yet we are credibly informed it did not cost more than half that sum.

The members of the State Society of Homeopathic Physicians will meet in Iowa City, March 7, 1877. They meet at that time that they may urge the establishment of a Homeopathic Department in the University, as the Board of Regents meet at that time.

J. W. Blythin was missed from his classes the other day, and it was whispered that he had been very imperatively summoned by a constable from Marengo, to go to that place. It is but just, however, to say that he was subpoenaed as a witness in the case of the State vs. Kauffman.

Prof. Fellows desires to have *Tates' Philosophy of Education and Phelps' Manual for Teachers returned immediately*. Some of the other Professors have loaned books and are now in need of them. Let each student see that he does not put the Professors to any inconvenience because of negligence in returning to them their books. *Don't forget this notice.*

Several students have asked us whether back numbers of the REPORTER for this college year could be obtained by persons subscribing now. To old and new students we would say that back numbers will be furnished to every one subscribing until the issues are exhausted. We hope new students and others will subscribe and thus secure the full volume.

The rooms of the State Historical Society will be open every Saturday afternoon. Students will find it to their profit to visit these rooms occasionally. They contain many things of interest. The books and various collections are not arranged and classified in any systematic order because of the limited fund appropriated to the Society by the State, but they are nevertheless quite interesting.

S. S. Hanna has entered the sanctum, ascended the tripod, and taken up the pen as editor of the *Essex Index*. In his greeting, he says: "We take up the quill that brother Heath has laid down with no slight misgivings. Our editorial career dates back to college days, when the Freshman class thought they saw in us a fitting exponent of their literary ability, and elected us to represent them on the editorial staff of the UNIVERSITY REPORTER. Whether the taste then acquired for the tripod and the pen was a fore-runner of a future calling remains to be proven by the success attending our present efforts."

Eight law students passed examination for the degree of LL. B., and one didn't.

The following are the names of the officers of the Erodelphian Society for the present term: Pres. Ella Osmond; Vice Pres. Belle Whitney; Rec. Sec. Virginia Slagle; Cor. Sec. Belle M. Gilcrest; Treas. Hattie Parker.

During the late vacation Judge Howe kindly consented to instruct those law students whose purse or home induced them to remain in the city. The Judge devoted one hour a day to a recitation in Code pleading and practice.

Dr. Clapp, Professor of Anatomy, invited by Judge Dillon, ventured one afternoon to appear before the law class in their lecture hall and deliver a lecture on Osteology. In the absence of a more paying reward an undivided vote of thanks was bestowed on him by the class.

On Monday afternoon, the 15th inst, the Law Class assembled in the Laboratory to listen to a very interesting lecture by Prof. Hinrichs on the subject of poisons, and the way in which to detect arsenic and strychnine. The Professor's demonstrations were very excellent, and as near as can be, this intricate branch of chemical science was simplified and made clear. Besides the members of the class, there were present Chancellor Hammond, Judge Howe, Judge Shane, of the District Court, and other legal gentlemen.

THE CABINET.—Since the poverty of the University prohibits appropriations for making needful additions to the Cabinet of Natural History, it is with no small degree of satisfaction that we note during the past few months, a number of valuable donations from old students and other friends of the Institution.

We trust the number of such donations will be greatly multiplied in the future. Every locality in the State and beyond it, may furnish something of interest to students of Natural Science, and if our friends would but take the trouble to collect and forward such specimens as may be found in their own neighborhood, the aggregate would be a most valuable addition to the University Cabinet secured at scarce any cost to each separate contributor.

Among recent donations we notice a right femur of the buffalo that has been broken by a rifle shot, and afterwards repaired so as to make a strong, but curious and clumsy splice. A bullet imbedded near the head of the femur shows where another though not so serious a wound was sustained. This specimen is the gift of E. W. Lowrey, Larned, Kansas.

A number of beautiful fossils from the Cincinnati Group, at Richmond, Indiana, bearing the name of O. H. Buckman, Atalissa, Iowa, as donor.

Some ten or twelve species, embracing fifty or more very perfect specimens, from the upper Devonian rocks of Iowa, were collected and presented by B. F. Hoyt.

A gigantic specimen of tarantula in alcohol, according to the label, was received from Prof. G. Hinrichs.

Profs. Philbrick and Calvin donated quite a number of Devonian and Cretaceous fossils, the result of collections made in Canada, New Jersey, &c., during a vacation tour last summer.

Who will be the next contributors?

Said a law student: "I joined the law class, not so much for the purpose of enlarging my knowledge of the law, as for mastering the legal phraseology and obtaining the diploma. With the assistance of text-books, reports, digests, etc., and my own cultivated sense of justice, that happy confidence in myself of being equal to any emergency was unshaken, when I was numbered with the class. Weeks and months of hard study passed, and plunged me in a chaos of legal principles and ideas which undermined effectually my former confidence.

"When through the fog which my own investigations had created, a ray of light would break, I perceived in the distance strange regions to which many paths did lead and many a guide post did point; but I could not follow the paths nor read the signs, because I had not yet learned to control the winds and the waves which tossed me to and fro, nor had I learned to decipher sciences' chirography, which in countless forms was imprinted upon every thing, and whose hieroglyphics seemed to constitute the word, Order.

"And now I shall stay until my lost confidence returns, until I can command the wind and the waves, and read the signs, and with the help of science change chaos into order."

Comment is unnecessary. It is the student's old, old story revised.

LIES.—It is a lie that all the students are subscribers for the REPORTER; that no more subscriptions are wanted; that the friends of students care nothing for the news of the University; that the Laws never sing John Brown; that they never smoke in the recitation rooms; that they do not chew tobacco nor spit on the floor; that they do not attend Chapel; that a dog in Chapel indicates a search for a Medic, and whines because none is found; that the Medics are not accustomed to applaud their teachers; that there are still dogs enough and to spare; that Ruppin has a *Canis domesticus* that won't bite; that the weather did not take cold lately; that the snow is taken from the walks as soon as it falls; that the students do not want singing at the Chapel exercises; that music has no charms for them; that Frank Ellis appreciated falling into a cellar just to give a Samaritan Medic, who happened to be passing that way, an opportunity of helping him out; that Mr. G. did not say to an insolent cur, "If you kick me, I will bite your head off;" that Prof. H. permitted a certain student to let go the battery "— quick;" that none of the Irvings, Zets, or any body else ever creates any disturbance in the ladies' Societies; that the REPORTER voted for Tilden.

INTER-COLLEGIATE.

Otterbein University oratorical contest was held Dec. 9th, '76.

The *Otterbein Dial*, after a career of one year, suspends publication. The *Dial* was a good paper, and we are sorry to note the demise of so genial a friend.

The *College Mercury* is out in a new dress for holidays. Hope it may conclude to continue its present tidy appearance.

Perry Baird of the Chicago University is the representative of the Illinois Oratorical Association, to the North-Western Inter-State contest.

The *College Recorder* is a peculiar specimen of College journals. It is usually filled with interesting and useful reading matter; but who manages the paper? Who will tell?

In a recent number of *Scribner* is a paper on "College Expenses," from which it appears that students of Western Colleges report their annual expenses to average from \$300 to \$350. Students at the East spend about \$500, except at Amherst, where the amount is not far from \$700, and at Yale and Harvard, where \$1,000 is reported as the amount.

The *Yale Record* complains about a lack of originality in the contributions from under-graduates. It says, "We are painfully impressed with its (under-graduate composition) lack of originality. This fact is never more forcibly impressed upon us than when we are compelled to throw from six to ten pages of 'truck' into the waste-basket, realizing as we do it, that the writer is capable of better things."

We are certainly happy in this respect, for we are seldom troubled with contributions from under-graduates. Would that some of this class could be induced to let some rays of their light shine out through the columns of the REPORTER.

Among our Exchanges is found the holiday number of the *Round Table*. It is splendidly attired, and contains its usual amount of interesting matter.

Attempts are being made at Cornell for the establishment of a "Student's Relief Fund," as a provision for the sick students.

A literary contest occurred Dec. 8th, between the Tri Kappas of Chicago University, and the Adelpic of North-Western University. From the report given in the *Tripod* we judge it was a very enjoyable affair, notwithstanding the mercury at 16 deg. below. Why can't some of our Iowa colleges enliven times by society contests?

We congratulate our friends of Central University upon their neat little paper *The Central Ray*. We are interested in all institutions of learning, but especially in those of our own State; and there is no way by which so good an idea of the workings of a neighboring institution may be obtained as by means of the college paper. We hope our sanctum may be frequently lighted by the *Ray*.

A Normal Department is to be maintained in connection with the Marshalltown city schools. This is a move in the right direction: More training schools for those who are to instruct the youth of our country are needed; for it cannot be reasonably expected that good work will be done in our schools, until our teachers have had special training for their work.

"The festive wood-chuck sitteth beside his hearth and sucketh his claws continually; the solemn crow flieth southward and forgetteth the land of his youth; the grasshopper dieth and is gathered to his fathers; the troubled cat gazeth mournfully at the pale moon, and every sign portendeth winter.—*Ex.*

A motion has lately been made by the overseers of Harvard College to discontinue morning prayers; also to abolish compulsory attendance on public worship.—*Band and Aesthetic Journal.*

The class orator of the class of '77, Brown University, is a colored man, who is said to be talented, and very popular with his class.—*College Journal.*

Attend ye society critics:

Ye critique of the *Herald* waxeth furious, he paweth in his sanctum and rejoiceth in his wisdom; he goeth out to hear the young orators speak; he heareth the sound of their voice and the utterance of their lips; neither believeth he that their sentences are properly constructed, or the words correctly pronounced. In the evening he sitteth among the congregation. The greatest orator of the West, whose voice maketh glad all the people, appeareth before him; but ye critique seeth not the renowned one, neither doth his prejudice allow him to hear as others do; he believeth that a mediocre hath spoken in his presence and straightway he goeth forth and publisheth the same to the world.—*Simpsonian.*

The Amherst College tuition fees now amount to \$100.

Soph reading quotation from Emerson: "No sensible person ever made an apology." "That's a lie; I've made lots of apologies myself!"—*Ex.*

Berlin University has four hundred distinct lecture courses.

Out of one hundred and seventeen ladies in the Michigan University, only four have taken to law. How many have taken to lawyers is not stated.—*Ex.*

Some of the eastern colleges, headed by Princeton, have organized an Inter-Collegiate Foot-ball Association. What may be effected next from eastern athletes?

The exercises in connection with the recent formal opening of the new and elegant boat-house of Columbia College consisted of four well-contested races, which excited much interest. The boat-house is situated on Westchester shore of the Harlem River, and is admirably adapted to meet the wants of the boating men of the college. It is two stories in height, with an observatory from which a fine view of the river can be obtained. In the interior, upon the walls, are painted the start in the Saratoga race of 1875, and the finish of the race of 1874, in which Columbia College was victorious. The house cost \$10,000, of which the faculty subscribed \$4,000.

An unusually large number of representatives of the University are now engaged in journalism, and making a most honorable record. We are waiting, hopefully, for the historical pamphlet which is in preparation, and it will be welcomed by graduates now engaged in the practice of the law, or of medicine, in the ministry or in business, and, not least of all, by missionaries as far away as Southern Asia.—*Prof. Parker, Com. Schol.*

The University of Michigan had last year 101 female students, distributed as follows: Medicine 37; law 2; homeopathy, 2; literature, 60. "The experience of the past year," writes the president of the university in his annual report, "confirms the opinion we had been led to form by the experience of former years, that women who come here in good health are able to complete our collegiate or professional course of study without detriment to their health."—*Ex.*

"Gen'l'men," exclaimed an old Connecticut salt, as he grasped the brawny arm of a Yale College oarsman and called the company's attention to its muscular development, "gen'l'men, thar's intelleck for yer."—*Ex.*

PERSONALS.

Profs. Leonard, Parker, Fellows, Philbrick, Pinkham, Currier, Calvin and Mr. Osmond, were in attendance at the State Teacher's Association.

Prof. A. D. Schenck has been relieved from duty at the University, and ordered to report to his regiment; and Lieut. Chester has been detailed to succeed him.

A. B. '73. S. S. Hanna is editing the "Essex Index." "The right man in the right place."

An unusual number of the former students and alumni have visited the city during the holidays.

A. B. '69. Mr. C. P. Rogers, of Marshalltown, and wife, have spent their Christmas at the former home of Mr. Rogers; once Miss Kate Brainard, Normal '62.

A. B. '73. Chas. E. White of Decorah. A. B. '75; Chas. B. Jack, of Albia. A. B. '75; Ossian H. Brainard, of Oskaloosa. B. Ph. '76; Jacob Lamb, of Toledo. A. B. '76; Lizzie Clark, of West Liberty. B. Ph. '76; Lucy D. Evans, of West Liberty. '76; Florence Clark, are among those who spent a part of their vacation in the city, most of them doing so on their way to or from the State Teacher's Association in Grinnell.

'76. Allan D. Draper is pursuing a course of study at Union Theological Seminary, New York city. Although laboring under an excessive pressure of duties since entering upon the course there, he is much pleased with the institution. We may expect his presence at our next commencement.

'76. O. H. Buckman is spending the winter in the city, pursuing some special studies.

Law '76. J. M. Ingalls is visiting his many friends in the city.

'78. G. W. Miller, who left the University last term because of sickness, has returned with good health.

'78. W. M. Martin is teaching this winter near the city.

'78. J. J. Pollard is in school again this winter, having been out teaching during the fall term.

'79. Miss E. L. Flickinger has not returned this term. Her mother's health is so poor that she feels that she is needed at home.

'79. Miss Ella A. Patterson is at her home in Ames this year, enjoying the recreation that is found in a change of employment.

'79. John Jones, jr., has returned to the University. He attended Beloit College last year.

'79. C. D. Thompson is teaching at Coralville.

F. T. McKibben, a student of Garden Grove Academy, has entered class '79 of the University. Would that there were more such institutions as Garden Grove Academy, to prepare students for the University.

J. L. Jenkins and J. Calvin Murray have gone to Cornell.

Mr. E. P. Heizer, of Galesburg, Ills., a nephew of Prof. Leonard, is now a member of the Law class.

James R. Teller, formerly an Academic, but more recently a Medic, in the University, is succeeding well in his profession at Decatur city, Iowa.

Mr. O. A. McPherson, of the Law class, visited Chicago during vacation.

Dr. F. A. Xanten, class '76, paid the city and his many friends a visit during holidays.

Dr. R. J. Hart, class '76, surprised his many University friends with his presence last week.

Mr. Esher, of Medical class '77, fills the place of House Physician in Davenport Mercy Hospital.

Dr. Clara A. Atkinson, who commenced practice of medicine in West Liberty, has been called to a new field of labor, is now acting as Hospital Physician at Colfax, Iowa.

Dr. Jeffrey Martin, class '76, has left Davenport where he practiced during the Summer, to locate in Elmo, Texas. We judge from Dr. Martin's class standing conjointly with his integrity and energy, the future promises a reward.

Dr. John Carder, a former medical student, is in town "on business."

MARRIAGES.

Married, Wednesday, Jan. 10th, at the residence of the bride's mother, in Iowa City, by the Rev. P. P. Ingalls, JOHN N. DAVIS, formerly a student of the University, to Miss DEAN. The happy couple left on the next morning train for their new home in Adams co., where Dr. Davis has, for some time, been engaged in the successful practice of his profession.

Married, Dec. 6th, 1876, by Rev. C. M. Des Islets, Prof. R. L. PARISH and Miss HOFFMAN, both of Leon, Iowa.