

The Vidette-Reporter.

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NO. 9.

The Vidette-Reporter,

ISSUED

EVERY SATURDAY AFTERNOON,

During Collegiate Year S. U. I.

Office in Republican Building, Washington St.

S. B. HOWARD, '83. I. B. RICHMAN, '83.

C. W. WILCOX, '85. RUSH C. LAKE, '84.

J. T. CHRISCHLLES, '84.

Managing Editors.

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THE VIDETTE-REPORTER,
Iowa City, Iowa.

It is generally understood that college papers should not be made the medium for the discussion of politics. But, while this rule should be observed in general, yet we think there are political questions, the discussion of which might, with propriety and profit, be carried on in college papers. As students, we do not give enough attention to the study of political questions; we do not mean by this the study of mere party questions, but those broad principles which lie at the basis of good government. Most of us have inherited our politics, and if put to the test, could give no good reason for "the faith that is in us." Thousands of young men who are now hurrahing for the success of Democracy know nothing of the origin, history, or principles of the Democratic party. The same is true, in a measure, of many who support the Republican party. This should not be so. Every young man ought to study carefully the history of every political party in the country, to make himself familiar with its principles and their effects on the welfare and prosperity of the country when carried out. This is necessary that he may be able to form an intelligent judgment of the new issues that are constantly coming before the people for settlement. He ought to form his judgment of what principles would be best for the country regardless of party, and then vote for men who will carry those principles into effect. College students have peculiar advantages for the study of political history, and there is no excuse if they go out of college without that knowledge which will enable them to take an intelligent and influential part in political movements. Don't wait until you are a Senior to take up such studies, but keep up a constant line of reading during your college course. A familiarity with political history is at present of special importance. New issues are coming before the people. The question of Free Trade is prominent, and we can't form an intelligent judgment of its merits or demerits without knowing just what

it has done in the past. Prohibition is also another prominent question, and it has a history. What is the evil which it seeks to eradicate; is it the best means to that end and what class of people have been its friends and what its enemies? These are questions which can be answered satisfactorily only after careful study. The influence of young men ought to be felt more than it is in politics. Let us make earnest and honest preparation, and then make our influence felt.

In speaking of a certain political problem, ex-Governor Kirkwood, in his speech the other night, used language something like this: "I don't know how it is—you don't know how it is, young men, although you attend the State University." Evidently the Governor is mistaken. We have in mind several persons who know everything and own everything, who have gained all the honors of earth and a few not earthly—else why that summary disposal of every topic introduced into any conversation within their hearing? Why that lordly bearing and haughty demeanor? Why that contemptuous sneering at ideas expressed by common men? The fact is, Mr. Kirkwood, there are some persons in this world (and the University might possibly furnish a sample or two) who are so important that their very tread upon the ground produces earthquakes; that is, we might believe all this is the case, if we were to take these persons' word for it, but we "don't have to."

ROSE EYTINGE.

The St. Louis *Globe-Democrat* says: "Rose Eytinge, a widely-known and popular emotional actress, opened an engagement at the Grand Opera House last evening, in her play entitled 'The Princess of Paris,' supported by Col. Sinn's Company of the Park theatre, Brooklyn. Rose Eytinge met with a warm reception at the hands of a good audience, and was soon on the best terms with many friends and admirers. In the last act of the play Rose Eytinge has play for the full sweep of her emotional power, and touches all the chords of human feeling. The climax occurs when she believes her child has taken the poison which she intended for herself, but it happily happens to be only a sleeping draught. The scene was played for all it was worth, and stormed the house with its power. Rose Eytinge made a sensation as Lionette de Courlin, and was recalled after every act." At Opera House, November 15th.

GOLDEN EAGLE.

At the Golden Eagle you can buy a gossamer coat for \$2.00, sold everywhere else for \$2.50. And for 50 cents you can get a rubber hat or stiff hat cover. No necessity for getting wet now.

STERN & WILLNER.

'Twas once a Law of Eighty-three,
Whom legal learning had made free
From ignorance that limits and confines
The free expansion of the common minds,
Musing, as he was wont, on human ills,
His thoughts were turned to Medics and their pills.

How strange a being, thus his mediation ran,
Who finds his pleasure in the ills of man.
The blooming cheeks and healthy sparkling eyes
Draw from his bosom deep lamenting sighs;
True pleasure finds he in extremest pain,
And our sickness, gloating, counts his gain;
When sternest hearts must sympathetic feel
His pleasure deepens with the sinking steel.
When human beings take their nightly sleep,
The monster Medic cunningly doth creep
About the streets and in the alley lies,
To catch the unsuspecting dog he tries;
And if successful, skulking to his den,
He learns to practice on the living men;
Doubly abhorrent doth such conduct seem
To those like me, who having in esteem
Upright and lawful actions, must despise
Those who consent to lead such shameless lives.

LIBRARY NOTES.

The following periodicals for 1882 have been indexed upon cards, and these cards arranged in alphabetical order in the right hand upper drawer of the Catalogue Case: Contemporary, Fortnightly, Nineteenth Century, North American, International, Atlantic, Harper, New Englander, Bibliotheca Sacra, Blackwood, Edinburgh, Westminster, London Quarterly, and British Quarterly. In addition to this, the library has printed catalogues, of late date, of the North American, Atlantic, Harper, and Nation, to which will soon be added one of the Popular Science Monthly, and a general catalogue to 1882 of all our periodical literature.

The card catalogue of the books of the library is kept up to date, and contains an entry for both author and subject of every volume in the general library, and a brief reference under appropriate headings to a large portion of our essays and miscellany.

The Librarian extends the time during which the students from the lower classes may enter the library to include Saturday morning. Hereafter, any student who is observant of the regulations in regard to conversation, can spend as much time as he desires at the shelves on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning.

THE PHIS.

The residence of Mr. and Mrs. Gillis was the scene of a most enjoyable event on Wednesday evening, it being the 21st anniversary of the birthday of their son, Constant L., and indeed an occasion long to be remembered by the members of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity, who had been invited to celebrate the affair. After doing ample justice to a most sumptuous supper of tempting viands, the remainder of the evening was spent in toasts and responses, interspersed with music. After several hours thus spent, the boys departed, well pleased with the royal entertainment which they had received.

Keep your copies of THE VIDETTE-REPORTER, and when the volume is complete have them bound. They will bring up pleasant memories of college days in after years, for in reality it is a history of the University, given in weekly chapters.

I am dying, Egypt, dying,
Which I'm barely just alive
From exhaustive efforts trying
To pronounce that word "khedive."
Are they lying, Egypt, lying
Who assert we should receive
"I" as "e"? And are they gying
When they call the cuss "khedive?"
I am crying, Egypt, crying—
"Orthographical contriver,
In the face of English flying,
Won't it do to say 'khediver'?"
I am sighing, Egypt, sighing
For my girl—can I believe her
When she's twisting, when she's tying
Her sweet tongue into "khediver?"
I am nighing, Egypt, nighing
My finale. Ere 'tis over—
Ere I'm frying, Egypt, frying,
I would fain suggest "khedover."

The popular way of handling an ear of corn at the table is to hold it as a flute player holds his flute while playing, having an eye on another ear in the plate. Those who have false teeth shave the cob with a knife.

Subjects taken from the tragedies or the sketches of Washington Irving do not succeed as operatic librettos. The drama of Romeo and Juliet has been set to music by a dozen composers, and one version has outlived his author. Macbeth by Verdi, Othello by Rossini, may have succeeded in foreign countries, but have never taken a strong foothold in England or America, however well they may have been presented. Some other composers of less reputation have tried to make use of Washington Irving's sketches as foundations for operas. So far, all operas founded on Irving's Works have been at least financial failures. The music of the new version of Rip Van Winkle by Planquette is inferior to his charming opera of the Chimes of Normandy, and seems to have been undertaken at command, like a commercial order to be filled or a job to be carried out, without any attempt to give it a local character, without originality and without any desire to show the resources of the orchestra by quaint of brilliant instrumentation.

The ghosts of Hendrick Hudson's sailors and the goblins of the Catskill Mountains receive Rip Van Winkle with strains of the same pattern as Offenbach or Lecocq would make *demi-mondaines* sing to welcome some French provincial's new arrival at the Mabille. Rip Van Winkle sings Tyrolean tunes, just as if the scene were laid in the mountains of Switzerland instead of New York, and as if there were no characteristic differences between the Dutch colonists from the Netherlands and those from the Tyrol. The score of the opera seems not only with reminiscences, but with undisguised phrases from the ballet music of the Prophete and Faust from Offenbach's Barbe Blue and from Planquette's own Chimes of Normandy. The costumes are picturesque, but neither our forefathers nor the present dwellers on the Hudson River would be so cruel as to give their daughters such a short allowance of coverings.—*The Hour.*

AN IRATE MATHEMATICIAN.

[To the Editors of THE VIDETTE-REPORTER.]

A few weeks ago there appeared in THE VIDETTE-REPORTER an article entitled "The Disciplinary Value of Mathematics," to which the author has indirectly requested me to reply. Owing to the pressure of duties I have been, up to the present time, unable to undertake the task.

I have often observed that a person who has any defect in his understanding, any foible or mental weakness, or any want of capacity in any direction, is likely to point with complacency to some great predecessor of his, on this life's stage, who has been similarly "endowed." Moreover, I have a certain suspicion of any one, especially a college student—not quite yet a profound philosopher and critic, whatever his aspirations may be—who desires to banish any particular branch of study, though an important one, from the college curriculum. It seems to me he is weak in his discrimination of the "eternal fitness of things." The author's summing up in his closing paragraph reads like the *dictum ne plus ultra* of a sage.

If the author's mind had had a true appreciation of that mathematical principle, certainty, there would have been less apprehension of the gentleman's confounding with an absolute principle of education, the avowed preferences and dislikes of philosophical and literary men. I think I see in the above mentioned article the implied avowal of a highly metaphysical mind. I think I see the tongue dropping those scathing words, designed to blast the efforts of hitherto reputable authors,—the hand that demolished Herbert Spencer in one short article.

Let us now examine the particular allegations of this "criticism" in question. The critic says in substance, "The study of mathematics is absolutely of no disciplinary value. Further, it is a positive evil, tending to injure the other faculties of the mind." His reasons for the above conclusions are these: 1. Because certain men, especially those who have passed their lives largely in philosophical uncertainties and metaphysical speculations, have said so. 2. Because certain speculative gentlemen, ("practical reasoners") having little taste and less faculty for the mathematical science, have testified to their own deficiency in this respect, and because the aforesaid gentlemen have been eminent visionaries and celebrated rhetoricians, that, therefore, mathematics can be of no general service to mankind as a discipline.

To sustain the point under discussion, our learned friend has extracted the sweets of literature from the realm of art, science, and belles-lettres, and given us the only true and reliable essence. Now, an exile from my *alma mater* and in outer darkness, my facilities for delving for quotations are but scant, and I know not but that a reputation for pedantry would ill reward me. However, I feel resigned when I consider that I need not search out isolated authors to establish the weight of authority. For the science of mathematics has ever held one of the most honorable places in institutions of

learning. Indeed, among the Greeks (my friend's cherished classic Greeks) it was the crown of sciences; insomuch that its very name is a synonym of learning. Down to the present time its utility as a means of discipline has been unquestioned among educators.

What is its disciplinary value? Imagine the world with no conception whatever of number and magnitude and their relations. Would there not be an inextricable confusion of thought? If, as Bacon says, "writing maketh an exact man," how much more does the study of mathematics make the mind think with accuracy, cause it to become accustomed to the *precise* relations of things and to reason with certainty.

I notice in the article, "In a world of contingencies it accustoms the mind to deal only with *certainty*," and the inference is therefore drawn that it injures the faculties to the extent that they cannot reason upon contingencies.

How true this is we can infer from such examples as Leibnitz, Des Cartes, and Newton, and Aristotle and Plato. But "a world of contingencies." Is there nothing certain in the world? Perhaps our philosophic friend is of the school of Hume. Must we spend our lives in dreary uncertainty and in splitting metaphysical hairs like those "*practical reasoners*" the illustrious scholiasts? Perhaps a little certainty might cause the destruction of certain *contingent* systems of metaphysics. What if we were to say that the study of logic, mental philosophy, and sister *contingent sciences* were to unfit the mind for dealing with certainties, would the gentleman search the library again and publish a list of quotations, for the purpose of their abolishment from the college course?

But further, the disputant "demonstrates" by the examples of men deficient in mathematical ability, yet great in other respects, that therefore mathematical discipline will be of no value to any one. Let us see what effect the lack of this faculty has upon such men. We need not go outside the list of men named by the author above mentioned. There is Charles Sumner—truly a great man and a noble one,—just, sincere, and true; but will not the sober judgment of mankind see behind the man of integrity and refinement, the man of visions and of impracticability? In many respects this is true of the man who could not master the close reasoning and the certain principles of mathematics. Then there is Macaulay, capable of dazzling the world by his intellectual sky-rockets and brilliant rhetorical declamation; but where is the exact calculating reason like that we see in Gladstone? We need go no further and dissect the youthful "critic's" metaphysicians. In the very nature of the thing, does it look reasonable that a man of complete mental conformation can be lacking in so important a faculty? It seems to me when one confesses his want of appreciation for this science, he confesses it to his shame; that when a "great logician" admits his inability to comprehend a demonstration of Euclid, there is a screw loose somewhere.

Such would appear to me to be a very

notable case of *incompetent greatness!* And because some few, from incapacity confessedly, had no taste for mathematical studies, and derived no benefit therefrom, this argues no defect in the science, but rather something wanting in the men themselves. But authorities are also cited to show that a profound or an exclusive study of the science tends to abnormally develop a single faculty. But the same is true of any branch. The pursuit of a single study will unduly strengthen the faculty exercised. The exclusive reading of fiction is what makes our sentimental young ladies, whom an allopathic dose of mathematics would certainly do no harm. Constant thought on but one subject is what makes our fanatics and our bigots, who desire to banish everything but what relates to their own peculiar hobby. Consequently no force can be attached to the conclusions respecting the *exclusive* study of mathematics; for no one advocates it.

Before I close let me notice for a moment a subject which the gentleman has seen fit to introduce, touching incidentally the comparative value of mathematical and classical studies. I have no inclination to discuss this subject. But let me say, in passing, a word as to the estimation in which these studies are held by modern educators.

In the English universities we see a disposition to banish the classics from the course. In our own country the same matter has been and is now under discussion. Meanwhile mathematics stand unquestioned by educators, holding her sway of reason over the minds of her devotees.

I now close this article, hoping that since the author of the "Disciplinary Value of Mathematics" has been so indulgent as to request an answer to his interesting paper, I may be favored by having this in THE VIDETTE-REPORTER.

REJOINDER TO AN IRATE MATHEMATICIAN.

It has perhaps not altogether escaped the notice of our readers that the author of the above highly-polished and masterly disquisition on the subject of mathematics starts out with what he is pleased to term an "observation." He has *observed* that one is apt to condone any foible or mental weakness where-with he may be afflicted, by pointing to some illustrious predecessor similarly endowed. Now, strange as it may appear to the gentleman, we also have been so fortunate as now and then to have made an observation ourselves; and the upshot of said observations has uniformly been that one, assailed by an argument extremely irritating to his self-complacency, and with which he is utterly unable to cope, is very apt to suffer himself to be betrayed into the exhibition of some slight annoyance—to launch an indiscriminate accusation against the sanity and intelligence of his adversary, and even to render himself positively ridiculous.

But our knight of the triangle is not content with having made a simple "observation"—crushing as that must

be—he also harbors a *suspicion*. Now it really will have to be confessed that the word "suspicion" does wear an ugly look. It reminds one of the Spanish Inquisition. Yet, somehow, we have not been much frightened by it; perhaps a tolerable familiarity, with the intellectual heights and depths of the mind in which the suspicion lurks, has something to do with our composure.

But, having disposed of the preamble with which our erudite friend has seen fit to adorn his argument, let us next proceed to consider the argument itself. This, we apprehend, will not be without interest as affording an excellent opportunity for observing the strange behavior of the *mere* mathematician, when he so far forgets himself as to attempt to reason. In the first place, then, it may be well concisely to restate the points made by us in the article which has been so singularly unfortunate as to incur the gentleman's displeasure. If we remember rightly, our first assertion was to the effect that it is often claimed by mathematicians that the study of mathematics is of the greatest value, both as a means of general discipline and of the cultivation of the reasoning powers. Our second assertion—which was supported by indubitable proofs—was, briefly, that great numbers of expert reasoners and logicians, in every department of learning, outside of mathematics, had been utterly destitute of the slightest capacity for that science. From these two assertions the inference was drawn that the study of mathematics, so far from being of the greatest, was of no value in the cultivation of those powers of reason that are non-mathematical.

If of no value in this respect, it certainly was of no value as a means of general discipline; for the field of general discipline is peculiarly that of non-mathematical reasoning. We admitted, however, that there were minds endowed with a faculty for *both* mathematical and non-mathematical reasoning; that such minds had a certain advantage over those minds endowed merely with a faculty for non-mathematical reasoning, in that, while the quantum of intellectual power was not greater, the sum of positive knowledge was. And, as we have already said, the assertion, of which these were the necessary consequences, was supported by the testimony of a cloud of witnesses from every department of learning—historical, philosophical, scientific, and even the mathematical itself.

Now let us see how this argument has been met. Remember that it is a mathematician who has taken upon himself to answer it, and what he offers may, therefore, fairly be presumed to be a model of concise and elegant demonstration. His first, and almost only point, is that the authorities we have cited are "*eminent visionaries and celebrated rhetoricians*;"—rather a sweeping assertion, isn't it, for a mathematician? Somehow, all the steps in the process are not perfectly clear to us. Where the gentleman *seriously* to bring this charge against men of such caliber as Sir William Hamilton, Gibbon, Bayle, LeClere, Dugald Stewart, Sumner, Prescott, Goethe, etc., we should be strongly inclined to believe

that his luminous from some casual temporary eclipse presume, however meant was some but that we had ematical acumen

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that his luminous understanding had, from some cause or other suffered, a temporary eclipse. We will charitably presume, however, that what he really meant was something entirely different; but that we have not sufficient mathematical acumen readily to discern it.

But we have been guilty, it seems, of for more heinous offences than quoting the words of "rhetoricians and visionaries;" we have even dared to suggest the total abolition of mathematics from the college curriculum. Now, we never suggested anything of the sort. So long as mankind shall have occasion to buy a loaf of bread or survey a road, the science of mathematics may be expected to remain in vogue. But whether it may be expected long to remain in vogue as a means of *general discipline* and *cultivation of the reasoning powers*, is an altogether different question. The practical value of the labors of the English collier is, to the world, inestimable, yet we cannot say much for the elevating influence exerted by those labors upon the individual himself.

But another point demands our attention. In our first article we objected to the study of mathematics as a means of *general discipline*, on the ground that, in a world of contingencies, it accustoms the mind to deal only with certainty. "What!" exclaims our startled opponent "is there nothing certain in the world?" "Are we doomed always to wander in perplexity and doubt?" Now, if the gentleman had only returned to his *alma mater* this fall, he might possibly, by this time, have made sufficient progress in the study of mental science to have learned that the realm of absolute certainty or demonstration is peculiarly that of mathematics; that all other reasoning is necessarily of a contingent character; and that the processes of each are, therefore, *distinct* and *separate*. With this difference well in mind, it would not have been difficult to perceive that one habituated to the processes of demonstration, in which there are no degrees of certainty and no contingencies, would cut rather a sorry figure were he suddenly called upon to balance probabilities with the statesman or historian. Indeed the gentleman himself is a conspicuous example of just what we should expect in such a case. It may be well for him, therefore, ere he again ventures to plume his crest and couch his lance for the onset, to take an elementary course of instruction in some good text-book on the subject of metaphysics.

Nor is it of any consequence, in this connection, that the gentleman mentions the names of several individuals, distinguished in other lines, who were also fine mathematicians. He might have saved himself that trouble, for we had already taken it for him. These men had the good fortune to be mathematicians—and *something more*. And right here, it may not be uninteresting to note the estimation in which some of these very individuals held their *mathematical attainments*, as compared with their attain-

ments in *other directions*. Des Cartes—whom the gentleman cites, and whose opinion he will, therefore, doubtless accept—said, in a letter to Mersenne, "that he had renounced the study of mathematics for many years; and that he was anxious not to lose any more of his time in the barren operations of geometry and arithmetic, studies which never lead to anything important." Aristotle—also cited by the gentleman—says, in referring to the purely mechanical nature of mathematical study, that "mere boys may become mathematicians, while yet incapable of practical or speculative philosophy." Plato observes, in the "Republic," "mathematics are founded on hypotheses of which they can render no account;" hence he even denies them the denomination of science. These are the exact words of authorities referred to by the gentleman himself. He is abundantly welcome to all the consolation they are calculated to administer. Moreover, with regard to the opinion of the Greeks concerning mathematics—which the gentleman kindly informs us was that they were "the crown of sciences"—Sir William Hamilton observes: "Among the Greeks, in ancient and in recent times, mathematics were drawn back to the primary elements of education." This, taken together with the express utterances of Plato and Aristotle, quoted above, may perhaps serve as a partial counterpoise to the great weight that must otherwise attach to the gentleman's assertion.

Finally, in reply to our argument that, inasmuch as the study of mathematics, as a means of *general discipline*, was utterly useless, its effect upon the mind, when studied for that purpose, was even positively harmful, the gentleman contends that the excessive study of any single branch is harmful. Very true; and now if he will only admit further that the study of mathematics, as a means of general discipline—or as a means of cultivating the non-mathematical reasoning powers, which is much the same thing,—is an instance of the excessive study of a single branch, we shall heartily agree with him.

This, we believe, concludes our response to the eloquent and masterly disquisition mentioned at the outset. As to its author having been *requested* to send in a communication, the facts are simply these. Not long since we were told by a friend that the gentleman's irascibility had been highly inflamed by our first article, and that he was meditating an onslaught. To this we replied that we should endeavor to bear with fortitude any castigation which the gentleman might choose to inflict. This we have done; and feel very much as though we had been on a pleasure excursion or had taken a walk for our health.

Buy your Perfumes of Shrader.

The Best Perfumes are Mary Stuart, Marvel of Peru, Persian Bouquet and Violet, all sold by Shrader.

MEMORATA MEMORABILIA.

A TALE OF A POSSUM.

The nox was lit by lux of luna,
Ett was a nox most opportuna
To chase a possum or a coona:
For nix was scattered o'er this mundus
A shallow nix et non profundus.
On sic a nox, with canis unus,
Two boys went out venari coonus.
The corpus of this bonus canis
Was full as long as octo spanis:
But brevior legs had canis never,
Quam canis hic bonus et clever.
Some used to say in stultum jocum
Quod a field was too small locum
For sic a dog to make a turnus
Circum se from stem ad sternus.

Unus canis, duo puer,
Nunquam braver, nunquam truer,
Quam hoc trio unquam fuit;
(If there was I never knew it.)
This bonus dog had one bad habit:
Amabat much to tree a rabbit,
Amabat much to chase a cattus,
Amabat plus a hungry rattus,
But on this nixy moonlit night,
Fecit canis hic just right;
Nunquam chased a starving rattus,
Nunquam treed a hungry cattus;
But cucurrit et intentus
On the track and on the scentus,
Till he treed a possum strongum
In a hollow trunkum longum.
Loud he barked in horrid bellum—
On terra seemed venisse hellum.
Quickly ran the duo puer,
Mors of possum to secure.
Quum veniscent, one began
To chop away like quisque man,
Soon the ax went through the trunkum,
Fast the blows fell, salit chunkum.
Combat deepens, on ye bravus!
Conis, puer, bite et stavus,
As his powers no longius tarry,
Possum potest non pugnare.
On the nix his corpus lieth,
Down to Hades spirit lieth.
Joyful puers, canis bonus,
Think him dead as any stonus.
"Aint his corpus like a jelly?"
Quid plus proof ought hunter velle?"
Now they seek the pater's domo,
Feeling proud as any homo,
Knowing certe they will blossom
Into heroes, when with possum
They arrive, narrabunt story,
Plenus sanguine, tragic gory,
Pomyey, David, Crassus, Caesar,
Cyrus, Black Hawk, Shalmanezzer,
Tell me where est now the gloria,
Where the honors of victoria?
Pater praiseth, likewise mater,
Greatly wonders junior frater.
Possum leave they on the mundus,
Go themselves to sleep profundus.
Somnient possums slain in battle,
Strong as ursae, large as cattle,
When nox gives way to lux of morning,
Albam terram, much adorning.

Straight they go quatrere varmen
Of the quod hoc est the carmen,
Possum hic est resurrectum,
Leaving puer most dejectum,
Possum linqut track behind him,
Sed the puers never find him,
Cruel possum! bestia vilest!
How the puers tu beguilest!
Puers think no more of Caesar—
Go to gramen, Shalmanezzer!
Take the laurel cum the honor,
Since iste possum is a "goner."
—College Student.

Oysters at Madame Noel's.

New Era Cigars, at Shrader's.

Shrader's Drug Store, on the corner, opposite Opera House.

Optical instruments, combs, brushes, etc., large assortment, at Fink's store.

THE STUDENTS ALL GO TO
GARDNER & O'SULLIVAN'S
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WHY? Because they are always suited.
On Dubuque Street, half a block south of Iowa Avenue.

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(Formerly "Summit.")

The undersigned would respectfully announce to the public that he has moved from the "Truesdell House," and has REFITTED and renamed the old "Summit House," which will hereafter be known as the

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Respectfully,
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Proprietor.

GEORGE A. BOCK,
BAKER.

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North side of Avenue, keeps constantly on hand a fresh supply of

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JACOB KEIM,

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LILLIE HUNTER.....Corresponding Secretary.
Prayer meetings every Tuesday noon in
Prof. Parker's room.

LOCALS.

Pay your subscription.
Your subscription is due.
Lulu Gorton has returned to school.
Forbes' Comedy Company next week.
Ben Cotton next week at the Opera House.
J. A. Miller has been in Chicago during the past week.
Rose Eyttinge at the Opera House November 15th.
Lillian Lewis and Abbie Ellis were University visitors this week.
Tactics for the Juniors next week. They are groaning over the prospect already.
Pee Lee has had his hair cut very short in order to make his mustache more prominent.
The little Seniors say they feel a foot and a half taller since donning their shoulder-straps.
Dr. Armstrong has just returned from a two weeks' business trip to Silver City, Mills county.
A. J. Craven will spend his two weeks, vacation here, and probably attend some of the law lectures.
Professor of Physics: "What's Hoyle's Law?" Diligent Junoir: "Never trump your partner's ace."
President Pickard attended the Commencement of the State Agricultural College at Ames this week.
Rose Eyttinge, the widely-known and popular emotional actress, plays at the Opera House next Wednesday.
Go and hear Ben Cotton, the celebrated comedian, at the Opera House next Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.
Metaphysical Junior in German: "Professor, is life worth living?" Prof. C.: "That depends upon the liver." Class faint.
The Freshmen threaten to fire any

Sophomore who is bold enough to enter their class in elocution. Sophs had better beware; the Fresh are muscular.

Tutor (indicating Greek prose composition): "Tell me, slave, where is the horse?" Startled Sophomore: "It's under my chair, sir; I wasn't using it."

When the dentists of this country can discover a way to pull teeth without making a man wish he had been born a hen, life will have twice as much brightness.

They had quarreled, and she was waiting for him to begin the peace; at length he said, "Je l'adore." "Shut it, yourself," said she. He did, and she is still waiting.

The mayor said to his council-men in reference to a block pavement about Des Moines: "All you have got to do, gentlemen, is to put your heads together and the thing is done."

"What is the greatest charge on record?" asked the Professor of History. And the absent-minded student replied: "Seventeen dollars for hack hire for self and girl for two hours."

Now that the trees are bare of the leaves which so kindly and thoroughly hid the old college buildings from sight during the summer, the latter stand out in bold relief, showing all their want of architectural beauty.

Friday night Prof. McBride delivered a very interesting lecture to the people of Durant on the "Scientific Spirit." The Professor was greeted by a large and intelligent audience, and his lecture is highly spoken of.

"What would you do if you were me and I were you?" tenderly inquired a young swell of his lady friend, as he escorted her home from church. "Well," said she, "if I were you, I would throw away that vile cigarette, cut up my cane for firewood, wear my watch-chain underneath my coat, and stay at home nights to pray for brain."

The Sophomore Greek class have finished the Anabasis, and will now commence Lycias. This class enjoys the distinction of being more than a term in advance of all preceding classes in this branch, and the credit is due not more to the talent in the class than to the most excellent instruction of which the numbers of the class have had the advantage.

Problem for the Freshmen: "An alderman pays a reporter five dollars to write him a speech favoring the erection of a new school-house, but after delivering eight cents' worth of the oration, he is informed that there is no question before the meeting, and he falls back and breaks a pair of suspenders, worth thirty cents. How much is the great man out of pocket?"

As yesterday was the last day of drill for this term, we would like to suggest to those in authority that it would please the students to have the gymnasium at their disposal as soon as possible. Exercise is very important to most of them,

and the weather, in a very short time, will probably be such that outdoor exercise will be unpleasant if not impossible. Let us be gymnasts at once.

The boys have been forbidden the privilege of playing foot-ball on the Carleton grounds. There may be some justice in this, because with whatever careful playing the ball will occasionally go beyond the bounds of the ground and into neighboring yards, and the necessity of going after it may cause a little annoyance to property owners. But at this time of the year the gardens contain nothing that can be injured, and in all cases, when treating with decent people, the students are as considerate and gentlemanly as any one. However, they need to beg no favors of any one.

If those boxes which were used for the bonfire the other night had been handed over to the students, what a great deal of trouble it would have saved them! The kindling-wood problem is a vexatious one. If we take fence-boards, cattle will overrun the garden; if we use boards from the side of the barn, the operation of tearing them off creates so much noise as to disturb the neighbors, and besides, it is not genteel labor, and students don't like to be caught at it; if we go to somebody's wood-pile—that's stealing. Perhaps some wise man will appear some day and solve the problem.

The event of the week was the marriage, at the residence of the bride's parents, in this city, of Miss Emma M. Rankin, '77, and Mr. J. S. Frazee, '78, on last Wednesday evening, Rev. H. M. Thompson officiating. Numerous friends were present to witness the ceremony. The presents were valuable and numerous, attesting to the high esteem in which the parties are held both at home and abroad. Their many University friends will join with THE VIDETTE-REPORTER in wishing the newly married pair long life, happiness, and prosperity. Their future home will be Glenwood, Mr. Frazee being County Superintendent of Mills County.

Ever since the opening of the term the ushers of the societies have been annoyed by the crowd of young men who thoughtlessly filled the space between the two halls, thus rendering the passage difficult and disagreeable. The ladies especially found it embarrassing to pass through such a crowd. Upon last Friday evening we were glad to notice there was a decided change toward improvement. Visitors of the societies were not wholly responsible for the crowd, but many of the members had contracted the habit, thus helping on the evil. There is one way of avoiding the difficulty which we will suggest; it is that each one shall see that he is not found obstructing a passage to which others have an equal right.

Last Saturday the Cornell foot-ball team, accompanied by quite a number of their friends, came over to play the return game with our boys. The game was commenced soon after two o'clock

on the fair grounds, and occasioned considerable interest, as was manifest from the large crowd of spectators. Four innings were played and each was an easy victory for the University team. After the foot-ball, some running races took place. In the "free-for-all," the result was rather in favor of our boys, but the race between one man from each team resulted in favor of the Cornell boys. While here, the visitors were entertained by the University boys, who endeavored to make their visit as pleasant to them as it was enjoyable to us all here. The band furnished music for the occasion.

LAW DEPARTMENT.

J. W. BOPP, Editor.

Nice November nights.

Judge Love, Monday, 2 P. M.

"Don't complain young man, if you're sold."

Ask Critchfield about stump speeches and Democratic rallies.

Prof. A. J. Craven, of West Branch, spent Monday with this Department.

It makes Cleveland smile to hear of the 200,000 for his namesake in New York.

She was about thirty, but registered as sixteen, and a friend added—"and rising."

Vanderpoel was unable to be in his classes the fore part of the week on account of sickness.

F. A. Agnew, Law '82, is located at Stuart, Iowa, and last Tuesday was elected Justice of the Peace.

In duelling it is held that there is at least an intention to hurt the other fellow, but, like good resolutions, they are seldom carried out.

Thanksgiving two weeks from next Thursday. Write home to have the fatted calf ready. There is a joke in this, but we haven't time to explain.

Save your papers and have them bound in the spring. It will only cost about fifty cents, and be a nice record of the haps and mishaps during the year.

A father, according to the books, may say all kinds of bad things about his daughter's beau, and the beau has no redress. "O, 'tis nice to be a family man!"

Several visitors have been allowed to call this week without being cheered for a "speech." This is commendable, and will add very much to the good opinion of the Department.

The present organization of the Ross Club Court is as follows:

Chief Justice—C. L. Day.
Associates—Carrithers, Linderman.
Clerk—J. F. Leonard.
Sheriff—E. R. Mount.

Some of the boys had a little "ratification" of their own Thursday night, calling on Mr. O'Sullivan for a speech and afterward serenading the Professors and some of their friends. Good enough; for we are glad somebody feels good.

DON'T FORGET that the **CHICAGO ONE-PRICE CLOTHIERS MAKE THEIR OWN CLOTHING.**

Gents' Furnishings Always the Latest Styles. Pants Made to Measure, \$5.50. Four Doors South of Post-office, Iowa City.

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LARGES

Mr. Byington went over to Mt. Vernon last Sunday, with one of his friends of Cornell College, who came over Saturday, and on his return it was plainly noticeable that he was in favor of about six times the present amount of road tax.

Chancellor Ross has Mrs. Emeline Powers, of Perrysburg, Ohio, Mrs. Maria Burdick, of Fremont, Ohio, and E. P. Brown, of Neota, Iowa, as visiting friends from abroad this week. The class acknowledges a pleasant call, and hope to see the friends again.

J. W. Bopp, who is well known to our people, makes a grand success as editor of the Law Department of THE VIDETTE-REPORTER. The paper as a whole, we consider a success, and feel assured that no member of the S. U. I. will have cause to be ashamed of it during the present management.—*Waucoma Free Press.*

They were both Laws and had gone to see the same girl and now one of them quotes these lines:

"Somebody hit me with a codfish ball,
Somebody kicked me through a nine-foot wall,
The fellow who did it was six foot tall
And I'll save my little club for him."

Surely "love is a dance where Time plays the fiddle"—and the other fellow wins.

Mr. Enlow went over to his old home in Cedar county to look after the political fences of some of his friends on Tuesday. He not only succeeded in staying the tide of "change," but had a good round majority for the Republicans and felt jubilant until he heard from New York—and several other precincts. Alas for human glory and—the Republicans!

Programme for November 17th:

Salutatory oration—Eli Cole, Jr.
Declamation—French.

Debate—*Resolved*, That civil liberty in Europe was promoted by the career of Napoleon. Affirmative—H. W. Cole, Carrithers, Dewell. Negative—Garrett, Bopp, Stout.

Reading—Pres. Moore.
Valedictory—Hanchett.

The society is giving excellent entertainments and the public is very cordially invited.

The programme of the Law Literary, as carried out last evening, fully merited the large audience that was present. The various performers acquitted themselves creditably and gave an entertainment that we venture to say was not surpassed by any society in the University. Several ladies graced the hall with their presence and we hope in the future their example will be followed by many others. After an able discussion of the question, it was decided that free trade would not be beneficial to this country. The criticisms on the evening's various exercises, by Mr. Hanchett, were very excellent and appropriate.

On behalf of the State Insurance Company of Des Moines, in which the editor was insured, we wish to say that our loss was promptly and satisfactorily settled by their agent Mr. J. G. Hill of this place. We found the adjuster of the company

Mr. C. J. Ballard, to be one of the most courteous and systematic business men, that it has been our lot to meet, and from his careful though very liberal adjustment, we should judge that he would add as he no doubt does, very much to the confidence and popularity of the old reliable State. For their liberal policy and prompt settlement we commend this company to our friends and say these few words for the company insolicited further than by their prompt and very liberal dealings with us.

Literature seems to have thrown a peculiarly fanciful haze around the period of youth. Here is a point for its sarcasm; credulity, sentimentalism, and castle-building are hurled upon it with unrelenting severity. Even wise Socrates could not resist the temptation; corners the young man in argument with a blade of wit, lets the wind out of his puffed-up vanity, and the crowd laughs. Even Shakespeare could not pass the opportunity by unnoticed, but provokes a smile even from sad tragedy with love-sick Romeo.

The frequency of frailties peculiar to the young man in literature has its foundation in fact, for the distinguishing outlines of literature, however profusely imagination may shade between them, are sketched from reality. The law student dreams of two havens,—the bench and politics, more frequently the latter. The frailty consists, not so much in the nature of the objects steered for, as in the presumption of ambition which would gain them, leaving out of consideration frequently all adequate conception of the preparation necessary to insure any pleasure in their occupancy, even if they were secured. There is no doubt but that he who understands law is better prepared, as a usual thing, to interpret laws and to make laws. To the bench the legal profession is the only road. A glance at the courts will establish this. But to politics there are ways as many as the caprices of the people. Lawyers here seem to be losing their prestige. A good, live farmer, who is educated and well posted, stands a better chance. We cannot see why a farmer may not understand law and be as well fitted for legislating as a lawyer, and, as far as his occupation is concerned, he undoubtedly has a stronger hold on the people, especially here in the West. We say, let the future politician look to the farm.

Thus, we think, law students are deceived not only as to the means, but also as to the real value of the end sought. Is there not considerable illusion whose very falsity enhances the desirability of political life? Consult the lives of our statesmen who stand highest, and to attribute happiness to them would be the keenest sarcasm. If the best fruit is bitter, what must be the flavor of the snarly crabs of political preferment, so eagerly clutched after by the one-horse lawyers of the country? Little petty offices are the bane of successful practice. More brilliant professional careers

are blasted in the bud by the strange spell of official honors, than from any other one cause. The young lawyers of the country are too proud to leave hard, earnest work in the direct line of their profession, and start out on a mad chase for glory. And what glory to proudly assume the ill-fitting robes of some little country office, because, forsooth, you did a little more wire-pulling than the other man, dealt more in falsity, or spent a little more money! "God made him, let him pass for a man."

Wanted—by the future—young lawyers, who will be satisfied to honestly spend their lives in the strict limits of their chosen profession, who will not be enamored of office, who, if they ever enter politics must be sought by the people. Let all such, and none others, apply at the front door, at all hours, day or night, we will insure them good paying positions.

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Buy Soaps and Brushes of Shrader.

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Students will find many excellent bargains in books at the One-Price Cash Bookstore.

Special sale of miscellaneous books at One-Price Cash Bookstore, commencing September 25th.

Boys, when you want a good team and carriage, drop in and see us. We want to trade with you, and you, on your side, want good rigs and fair prices. Our barn is at 113 Washington street, opposite First National Bank. It is the students' barn, for the great majority of them have always hired of us. Come and try us.

MURPHY BROS.

See how the busy little bee
Improves each shining minute;
How gayly lights he on your nose,
And sticks his stinger in it.

Boots of great men all remind us,
We can make our soles sublime,
And departing, leave behind us
Footprints that are seven by nine.

COMING.

A rare treat is in store for our amusement loving readers. Ben Cotton, the celebrated comedian, and his talented daughter, little Idalene, supported by the Forbes Comedy Company, will appear at the Opera House next Thursday, Friday and Saturday, giving a reception matinee Saturday afternoon. The following is from the Davenport Gazette of the 4th inst.:

The play was presented in a very charming manner. Little Idalene won every heart. She is the most delightful, winsome wee thing that ever trod the boards in Davenport—a finished actress, and yet an innocent, artless little sprite, with all the charms of merry childhood. Her imitation of Aimee, in "She's as Pretty as a Picture," brought her a round of applause such is seldom heard in Davenport. She graciously responded with her overpowering imitation of Pat Rooney, and convulsed the house with laughter. Ben Cotton was a light of the minstrel stage, and in his characters of Uncle Zack, Hannah, and Bob, was eminently successful. The support was very creditable, and the whole performance excellent.

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The University students.

Harvard's been amount to \$400,

The University ing for further e

Edinburgh U dents in attenda

At the Wisconsin out of 170 tion.

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Noah Porter, expressed his dis system in colleges advanced classes.

The girls at th high school indul ball. This is anot of woman suffrage

The University singularly unfort being able to see military instructor kick.

The Harvard He the head when it tors should be ex theses, and allowe work on the paper.

An exchange rep of the studying d Vassar faculty are the girls' holiday fr day. We wonder i good plan to adopt

The new heliomet servatory at Yale is ence. It was made burg, and delivered cost of \$8,000. It instrument; it is int astronomical work.

The approximate n at the New England by the list of Seniors logue, is as follows: 154; Dartmouth, 72; 54; Williams, 45; Col Bowdoin, 28; Bates, Vermont, 16; Boston Tufts, 10; Middlebury Institute of Technol sets Agricultural Co only a dozen appear t the bachelor's degree total of 803.—Ex.

The largest library National in Paris. I Louis XIV. It contain volumes, 300,000 pamph uscripts, 300,000 maps 150,000 coins and meda of engravings exceeds 1 in some 10,000 volum which contains these tr on the Rue Richelieu. feet, its breadth 130 library in New York, i ate works, is the Asto volumes are on its shel

COLLEGE NEWS.

The University of Berlin has over 4,000 students.

Harvard's bequests for the past year amount to \$400,500.

The University of Toronto is clamoring for further endowment.

Edinburgh University has 3,237 students in attendance this year.

At the Wisconsin University, 114 students out of 170 are in favor of Prohibition.

At Illinois College students are excused from examination when they reach a certain standard in their daily examinations.

Noah Porter, President of Yale, has expressed his disapproval of the lecture system in colleges, especially in the less advanced classes.

The girls at the Marshalltown, Iowa, high school indulge in the game of football. This is another argument in favor of woman suffrage.

The University of Minnesota has been singularly unfortunate this fall in not being able to secure the services of a military instructor. The boys ought to kick.

The *Harvard Herald* strikes the nail on the head when it says that college editors should be excused from writing theses, and allowed to substitute their work on the paper.

An exchange reports that on account of the studying done on Sunday, the Vassar faculty are thinking of changing the girls' holiday from Saturday to Monday. We wonder if this would not be a good plan to adopt in the other colleges.

The new heliometer placed in the observatory at Yale is the finest in existence. It was made by Reobold, of Hamburg, and delivered at New Haven at a cost of \$8,000. It is not a class-room instrument; it is intended for important astronomical work.—*Ex.*

The approximate number of graduates at the New England colleges as shown by the list of Seniors in the official catalogue, is as follows: Harvard, 182; Yale, 154; Dartmouth, 72; Amherst, 65; Brown, 54; Williams, 45; Colby, 35; Trinity, 30; Bowdoin, 28; Bates, 26; Wesleyan, 56; Vermont, 16; Boston University, 15; Tufts, 10; Middlebury, 11; Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 24; Massachusetts Agricultural College, 35 (of whom only a dozen appear to be candidates for the bachelor's degree). This makes a total of 803.—*Ex.*

The largest library is the Bibliotheque National in Paris. It was founded by Louis XIV. It contains about 1,400,000 volumes, 300,000 pamphlets, 175,000 manuscripts, 300,000 maps and charts, and 150,000 coins and medals. The collection of engravings exceeds 1,300,000, contained in some 10,000 volumes. The building which contains these treasures is situated on the Rue Richelieu. Its length is 540 feet, its breadth 130 feet. The largest library in New York, in respect of separate works, is the Astor. About 190,000 volumes are on its shelves.

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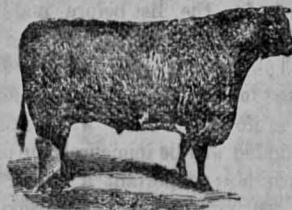


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