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VOL. XVII.

IOWA CITY, IOWA, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1885.

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The Vidette-Reporter,

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THE VIDETTE-REPORTER,

Iowa City, Iowa.

If there is an X before this paragraph you are in arrears for your subscription. Please remit at once and save us the trouble of sending you a personal dun.

The following from the *News Letter* of Iowa College on oratory will be of interest just now: "Were any in doubt as to what college oratory is, the state contest certainly settled the question. The college does have a style of oratory peculiar in its own, as truly as the bar, or the pulpit. Tho' in this it is a preparatory school, its graduate orators must learn anew with experience as the teacher. One of the chief characteristics of college oratory is its unnaturalness. Studying in the abstract rather than the concrete, dreaming rather than doing, the student too often neglects the means by which his thoughts may be communicated in a pleasing diction and eloquent address. Again, he wrestles with too unreal subjects, and labors under the disadvantage of seeming to have grappled with a powerful adversary and of being unable to hold his own. We must learn that bombast is not oratory, that violent delivery is not essential to eloquence. Iowa sends to the inter-state contest a polished orator. He is eloquent without being bombastic, impressive but not vehement, magnetic but not furious. But he is an exception. The fault is that we are clinging to the old style of oratory. In most of our colleges instruction in elocution is a nonentity, or at least is behind the times. And where instructors do take interest in this subject and desire to keep up with the car of progress, manifold duties prevent this effecting any lasting good. What colleges need and must have, if college oratory is to have an existence more than in a disgraced name, are permanent instructors in elocution,—instructors that are awake on this subject and can

devote all their time to this branch of culture." We heartily agree with the *News Letter*, and particularly with its last remark in regard to the great need of "permanent instructors in elocution" in other colleges in the state. The S. U. I. has one that is "awake on this subject," and perhaps this will serve to explain to our sister institutions over the state, why the University is so often on the honor roll in the state contests.

As a sample of the justness and reasonableness of newspaper criticisms, the present discussion of England's Egyptian policy furnishes an interesting specimen. It will be easily remembered that long before, and up to the time of the fall of General Gordon, the reports had been of conflicting and very doubtful nature; they ran about as follows: "Khartoum has been taken. Khartoum has not been taken. Khartoum will be taken. Khartoum will not be taken. Darn Khartoum!" Such was the mist in which the Egyptian question was surrounded, yet when the sad news of Gordon's fall came, a perfect storm of reproaches was poured forth from nearly all the papers both in England and in this country upon the Gladstone ministry for its incapacity, for its inactivity and needless sacrifice of a brave British general and his soldiers. Thus immediately it was seen by the unerring just what policy should have been inaugurated by the government. What a benefit they would confer upon humanity if their foresight were only as good as their hindsight! As to whether Gladstone's policy was vigorous enough or not, we do not pretend to know or discuss; his avowed policy always has been one of peace, and is opposed to further territorial acquisition, and his only purpose in keeping an army in the Soudan was to protect English interests. And that there was a sufficiently large army in Africa under command of General Wolseley to protect these interests he had the assurance of the men who knew the country best. Indeed the last issue but one of the *London Times* contained a telegram from Gen. Gordon claiming that he, Gordon, could hold Khartoum for a considerable time yet, and doubtless he could, had not a part of his own army betrayed him, the fore-knowledge of which event was as impossible for Gladstone as any other mortal. Newspaper criticism is one of the best things in the world for a government, but is also one of the most dangerous, for when it degenerates into sensationalism and becomes the mouth-piece of the momentary clamor it will drive the true statesman out of politics. Already "Mammon wins his way when seraphs might disappear," and we should not increase his chances.

A state university has been founded at Lake City, Florida.

ZETEGATHIAN EXHIBITION.

Last night at five minutes past eight commenced the Twentieth Annual Exhibition of the Zetegathian Society. The exhibition had been thoroughly advertised, and the Zets deserve great credit for the industrious manner in which they labored to secure a good house. The excellence of the Irving Exhibition, instead of detracting interest from the Zets only aroused a deeper interest in literary work. These circumstances, together with the extreme favorableness of the weather and the expectation of a good programme, called together one of the largest audiences that ever listened to an exhibition in the Opera House.

The exercises were opened by prayer by Prof. Fellows, followed by music, the "Alpine Song" by the vocal quartette, composed of Misses Hess, Glenn, Cox and Smith. This well prepared the audience for the salutatory oration, "Hawthorn" by B. O. Hostetler. Even many who have no love for Hawthorn, enjoyed the oration very much; the production indicated that its author had given careful and thoughtful study to the works of Hawthorne and was well worthy of the first-rate reputation of its author.

Mr. S. A. McClure followed with a declamation, entitled "The Tele-tale Heart." Mr. McClure's rendition was very good, indeed, and we liked it much better than the piece itself; he held the close attention of the audience throughout.

"Our Democracy" was the next oration, by V. G. Coe. His position on the programme was unfavorable and the audience relaxed from the attention it had given the former speakers. Mr. C. is not a forcible speaker yet deals with his subject in a plain common sense way.

Messrs. Maughlin and Wilcox enlivened the audience with a cornet duet which was so well received that the gentlemen responded to an *encore*. The audience then listened attentively to a very interesting debate, "resolved" That the Presidential System of Government of the United States is Superior to the English Parliamentary System." Upon which Love and Young prepared themselves for the offensive and Powell and Lowden for the defensive. As it would take a column of space to give even a hurried synopsis of the points brought forward by the debaters on their respective sides, we shall have to content ourselves with simply recording that it was right good; the debaters were evenly matched and the points made by each side stood in the ratio of about "six to a half dozen." The judges decided unanimously in the negative, yet we can console the affirmative with the belief that at least one-half of the audience gave them the victory. The vocal quartette again appeared and favored the audience with a "Boat

Glee" song which was received so enthusiastically and cheered so heartily that it was repeated. At this pitch of feeling the audience was prepared to listen to a truly comic declamation by J. A. Vandyke, entitled, "The Yankee and the Deacon's Clock." Mr. Vandyke had the most flexible voice of the evening and was well adapted to the rendition of his selection. The audience wore broad, and very frequently audible smiles from the beginning to the "smashing" of the clock.

The valedictory oration, "The Mission of Calhoun," by D. C. Blashfield was the closing literary exercise of the programme. Mr. Blashfield had an enviable reputation for the sound thought which is the characteristic feature of his orations, but last night he surpassed, in our opinion, all his former efforts in thought, style and delivery. Although by no means a believer in Calhoun's extreme views, yet for his remorseless logic, his unquestioned honesty and integrity, he had the utmost respect, and notwithstanding his cause was now buried, his mission had given a definiteness to our government—the relation of state to nation which otherwise would not have been drawn. The "Singin' Skewl" by the "Boys Mastodon Minstrels" concluded the exercises in a very amusing, though, as we are frank to say, not appropriate manner for so good a literary programme. We heartily congratulate the Zets upon the success of their Exhibition, and trust their efforts may be as successful as their past in maintaining the high standard of literary excellence in the University.

The expense of Harvard's navy last year was \$6,500.

ODE.

If in the olden days of Greece,
Tobacco had been known,
And all the joys that spring therefrom,
The Greeks had made their own,

In faith I think among their gods,
Of whom we're won't to read;
There would have been another one—
The god that loved the weed.

For why, if honor fell to him,
Who went on many a spree;
Should not more praise have been bestowed
On him, who soberly

Filled up his pipe with fragrant leaves,
Then stretched at cordless ease,
Blew forth thick clouds of filly smoke
To wanton with the breeze,

While all his thoughts their courses ran
With method and design,
And were not in a mage, like those
Of him who quaffed the wine?

Then take a cup from Bacchus, boys,
And fill it to the brim,
And when we've drained it to the weed,
We'll smoke a pipe to him.

And thus with equal honor, boys,
From us shall praise proceed
To Bacchus and his brother twin,
The god that loves the weed.

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Sewing Machine



Simple Strong Swift & Sure

PERFECT IN EVERY PARTICULAR.
NEVER HAS NO EQUAL OUT OF ORDER.
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30 UNION SQUARE NEW YORK.
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FOR SALE BY

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248 State street, Chicago, Ills.

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Steel Pens.
GOLD MEDAL, PARIS, 1878.
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and his other styles may be had of all dealers
throughout the world.
Joseph Gillott & Sons, New York.

Society Directory.

BRODELPHIAN SOCIETY.

MYRA CALL.....President
FANNY HAMMOND.....Secretary
Sessions on alternate Saturday evenings.

HESPERIAN SOCIETY.

ROSE ANKENY.....President
LELLIAN COLE.....Secretary
Sessions on alternate Saturday evenings.

IRVING INSTITUTE.

C. W. WILCOX.....President
A. B. NOBLE.....Secretary
Sessions every Friday evening.

ZETAGATHIAN SOCIETY.

F. E. POMEROY.....President
A. T. HUKILL.....Secretary
Sessions every Friday evening.

STUDENTS' CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

N. M. CAMPBELL.....President
E. H. GRIFFIN.....Secretary
Prayer meetings every Tuesday noon in
President's recitation room. All
are cordially invited.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Freshmen Essays due, February 23, to
March 30, 1885. Outlines due, February
16, to March 23.

Sophomore Essays due, March 16, 1885.

Senior Orations due March 16th.

Junior Orations due March 23d.

Freshman and Sophomore contest,
March 27th.

LOCAL.

Was Pickett at the Zet Ex?

Who will get the captaincies?

Roland Reed at Opera House, March
5th.

H. L. Preston was quite sick the first
of the week.

Miss Evans has a friend, Miss Harrington,
visiting her.

Harry Clark made a trip to West Liberty
last Saturday.

The Amherst Faculty have voted \$300.
for base ball purposes.

Prof. McBride's article on Mardi Gras
will appear next week.

D. F. Johnson B.Ph. '84, is reading
law in an office at Marshalltown.

The speakers on the Irving Exhibition
had a picture taken last Saturday.

Messrs. Park Holbrook and Rosy Clarke
have been on the sick list recently.

Miss Julia Larrabee is sight-seeing in
New Orleans in company with her
parents.

Prof. Fellows was absent from home
Sunday in the interest of the temperance
cause.

U. G. Mozer, a former member of '85,
is traveling in central Kansas and meeting
with success.

We desire a few copies of No. 13 of the
VIDETTE, January 17th. Please send to
business manager.

Misses Clarke, Startzman and Griffith
are among those whose names appears
on the sick-list this week.

Miss Laura McCracken, a member of
last year's Freshman class, is visiting a
sister at Fremont, Nebraska.

Fred Green, who has recently been
teaching near his home in Jackson
county, returned to school Thursday.

The band is making strenuous efforts
to procure suitable uniforms, in preparation
for the trip to the sunny south about
the first of May.

Miss Agnes Holbrook has been obliged
to quit school work owing to ill health.
She went home Monday and does not
expect to return. Her class-mates and
friends will miss her.

The Anniversary of the American Bible
Society will be held to-morrow (Sunday)
evening in the M. E. church. Prof. Fellows
will deliver the annual address on
the subject of the Bible as an Agent in
Civilization.

H. W. Beecher, a former member of
the Sophomore class has been visiting
S. U. I. friends the past week. Mr.
Beecher has been teaching near his home
at Kearney, Neb., and will now devote
his energies to farming.

M. M. Lewis of Washington D. C., a
graduate of the S. U. I. twenty years ago,
and a charter member of the Zetagathian
society, stopped in Iowa City a few hours
yesterday. Mr Lewis is a newspaper
correspondent at Washington.

The fact that an overcoat was stolen
from the central building Wednesday, to
say nothing of numerous petty thefts of
overshoes and umbrellas in the past,
shows that the tone of public sentiment
might occupy a higher moral plane.

Prof. McBride appeared among his
friends in Iowa City on last Saturday.
The Professor spent nearly three months
in New Orleans, having charge of the
local educational exhibit at the Exposition.
He reports a very pleasant time,
though bad weather prevailed to a considerable
extent.

The Arcade, Phoenix like, is rising
from its ashes, and will soon be open for
the patronage of the public. Several
new and valuable improvements will be
made, not the least of which will be even
a better floor than was in the old rink,
which was very good.

Two Junior girls wish to express their
gratitude through the columns of the
VIDETTE for the very excellent music
offered near their window a few evenings
since. The voices of the serenaders
were not recognized, hence this round-
about way of tendering thanks.

The arrangement by which a portion
of the chemistry class was excused from
recitation on Monday, undoubtedly
brought joy to the hearts of some. Still
a part of the uproar and demonstration,
which greeted the announcement,
might perhaps as readily have been dispensed
with.

Grand Inaugural masquerade skating
carnival, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings,
March 3rd and 4th, 1885, at the
I X L. Elegant masqued suits of all
kinds in attendance. Everything will

be first-class. Fun and a good time for
all. 4 prizes awarded first night at 10:
30. Grand drawing second night at 10:
30. Persons masqued are required to
make themselves known to the floor
managers. Admission, gents 25 cents;
ladies 15 cents, skates free.

Chas. B. Burrows, A.B., '79, familiarly
known to the boys of his time as "Pop,"
stopped off on his way to New Orleans,
last Tuesday to see his brother Shell.
Chas. is now a prosperous banker at
Norfolk, Neb., and also a large land-holder.
A life-long acquaintance enables us
to say that he is a young man of excellent
character and first-class business
qualifications.

Mr. Roland Reed appeared last evening
in his amusing characterization of
Dick Smythe in "Cheek." A short time
ago, when this piece was produced here,
it achieved an unqualified success; it is
full of lively incident, pleasing character,
humorous phases, and has many novel-
ties to strengthen it. The part of *Dick
Smythe* is admirably adapted to Mr. Reed,
who is an eccentric comedian of unusual
power and effectiveness, and he plays it
with a heartiness, frankness and mirth-
fulness that makes the performance
thoroughly enjoyable. The play is
charmingly put on the stage, great care
having been bestowed upon the special
scenes by the artists of the theatre.—
Chicago Inter Ocean.

Our state exchanges are coming in,
and contain reports more or less complete
of the oratorical contest. All speak
in the highest terms of the hospitality
of the Grinnell people, and of Iowa College
students. The *Simpsonian* and the
News Letter contain quite lengthy interesting
articles upon the contest and the
business transacted by the convention,
with the *Tabor College Echo* has a well
written editorial of the same tenor.
College oratory in general also forms a
prominent topic for editorial discussion.
These annual contests, though not
without some few attendant evils, are
unquestionably of great benefit in stimulating
the study of oratory, in cultivating
a spirit of friendly rivalry, and in awakening
a feeling of college patriotism.

The shades of night had fallen. The
student had finished the mastication of
his evening repast, but had not yet retired
to the solitude of his room to engage
in study, when informed by a sympathizing(?)
friend, that some individual who loved
darkness rather than light, had entered
his peaceful abode. "We'll see about that,"
he said, and forthwith prepared to take
precautionary measures for the safety of
his property, and to mete out justice to
the vile transgressor. He entered the room—
that is, a small portion of him did, and
looked around. It was not a case of "darkness
there and nothing more," for there was to
be seen a human form of no small proportions,
having in its possession a bundle of clothing,
and wearing a hat belonging to the
unfortunate occupant. It moved in the
direction of the would be sight-seer,
who began to wish he had brought up

his reserves. His knees began to tremble
and his hair to assume a perpendicular.
Suddenly the burglar dropped his bundle,
leaped through an open window, and
sought to escape from the dwelling. Now
if ever, was the time for the undergraduate
to recover his lost courage and show his
sterling manhood. He followed, darted
through the window and made an awful
leap. Though he jumped against a tree
and nearly cut himself in two he did not
stop. He was thoroughly aroused, and
with a vengeance proportioned to his
fleetness, pursued the flying fugitive.
At last he overtook him, but he did not
kill him, neither did he attempt to
maul him. He only said, "I never was
so badly sold in all my life" and
ungraciously retired. It was—but in
consideration of the oysters we promised
not to tell.

FRESHMAN PROGRAMME.

Zetagathian Society, Friday evening,
March 6th, 1885:

Music.....Vocal Quartette
Salutatory.....Capital and Labor
Joseph Mekota.

Declamation.....Joan of Arc
E. V. Mills.

Music.....Vocal Solo
Miss Larrabee.

Debate,—Resolved, That the Railroads
should be owned and controlled by
the general Government.

Affirmative—E. H. Griffin, E. E. Best.
Negative—G. W. Newton, E. R. Nichols.

Valedictory.....1066 A. D.
Ed. Moore.

Music.....Vocal Quartette

He is most powerful who has himself
in his power.—*Seneca.*

Whittaker's Barber Shop and Bath
rooms, 8 doors south of Post Office,
Clinton Street.

Charlie Moore is having wonderful
success in selling "Huckleberry Finn,"
Mark Twain's new book. It will be
ready for delivery about the first of
March.

The New Stock of Initial Stationary
and Stamps at Allin, Wilson & Co.'s It
is the finest ever received in this city.

Lost—A bunch of keys. Address, Box
1281.

Bargains in Sheep Poets at Lee, Welch
& Co's.

Flour by the sack or car load at Sey-
del's grocery.

See Seydel for anything in the grocery
line.

Bargains in Medical Books at Lee,
Welch & Co's.

Opera glasses to rent at Lee, Welch
& Co's.

Buy Pappose Cigars at Rigg's Drug
Store.

All odors of best brands of Perfumes
at Rigg's Drug Store.

Those desiring complete file of the
VIDETTE for the present year had better
order at once. We have only a few files
up to date.

SHORT-HA

ELDON

A correspondent
at Independence.

Miss Agnes L
has entered the
in Stenography

B. F. Holcomb
pudence class
week. He expect
Des Moines in a

The Bureau ha
a stenographic
Chambers case, a
to be tried in Ce

C. C. Hamilton
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stenographer fo
Circuit of Iowa,
Sioux City.

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widow's sister?"

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has accepted the
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secured for her
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Hopkinton, Iow
Sandy Creek, Ne
Union, Highland
Marshall, Ill.; M
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doctor edifies
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zollern or a P
declares that
occasionally ac
laryngeal para
longata."

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THE NOBBIEST STOCK OF CLOTHING AT THE GOLDEN EAGLE CLOTHING HOUSE.

Custom made student's uniforms always in stock at the lowest prices

SHORT-HAND COLUMN.

ELDON MORAN, Editor.

A correspondence class will soon begin at Independence, Iowa.

Miss Agnes Lord, of Ellsworth, Maine, has entered the school for a full course in Stenography.

B. F. Holcomb is organizing a correspondence class at Charles City this week. He expects to take a situation in Des Moines in a few days.

The Bureau has been engaged to make a stenographic report of the Savage-Chambers case, a hotly contested lawsuit, to be tried in Cedar Co. next week.

C. C. Hamilton, a former student of the School, has just been appointed official stenographer for the Fourth Judicial Circuit of Iowa, with headquarters at Sioux City.

He is the most accurate stenographer who pays the closest attention to the "sense" of what he writes. Hence to test the student's proficiency, a good plan is to observe his demeanors he writes, at dictation, some such question as, "Did the defendant in this case marry his own widow's sister?"

Miss Mary F. Clarke departed last evening for Guthrie Center, where she has accepted the situation of stenographer for the Citizens' Bank. The place was secured for her by the Bureau. Miss Clark has become an accomplished reporter, and highly deserves what promises to be an excellent position.

New students by mail are: George Waterman, West Side, Iowa; E. C. Burnham, Alden, Iowa; A. J. Teter, Mt. Pleasant, Iowa; Miss Mattie Brokaw, Hopkinton, Iowa; Henry C. Fairchild, Sandy Creek, Neb.; J. S. Hoerner, editor Union, Highland, Ill. Miss M. M. Knight, Marshall, Ill.; Miss Kate Duvall, Horace, Iowa; Miss Ella Dwigans, Shellsburg, Iowa; Miss Hinkson, assistant in the Iowa State Industrial School.

The new edition of the Trial Lessons are at last ready for distribution. This is a neat 24-page pamphlet, accompanied by two correction leaves to be filled out by the student after the lessons have been learned. From these samples of work, and the answers to questions stated on page 16, the natural fitness of any person for stenography can be accurately determined. These little books are sent free to all who apply. Thousands are distributed every week.

Prof. Lackey reported Dr. Middleton's lectures on Insanity. The occasional necessity for a speed of 175 words per minute is nothing, but a momentary pause is occasioned when the doctor edifies his audience with about a dozen such words as these used in close proximity, glycogenesis, pneumogastric, "Striata optic thalami," "Hohenzollern or a Puffensteins," or when he declares that "This manifestation is occasionally accompanied by glosso-labio-laryngeal paralysis of the medulla oblongata."

ACADEMY COLUMN.

GUIDO H. STEMPPEL, Editor.

The Athenian Society challenges the Spartan Society to a joint debate.

The Athenian Society adjourned last night on account of the Zetagean exhibition.

Miss Grace O. Partridge has been confined to her room during the past week by illness.

The date of the Declamatory Contest of the Athenian Society has been fixed on March 13th.

Prof. B. Shimék spent Tuesday in Des Moines, attending the State meeting of civil engineers and surveyors. He reports a small attendance but a good time withal.

The minutes of the first meeting of the model House of Representatives, held Feb. 13th, have been lost. They were taken in a Keyston A R Y Tablet. Their being returned will confer a favor all around.

The ladies who are members of the House of Representatives seem to be "ticked to death," because they are allowed to vote, and that too, on such important measures as come up before that august body.

The U. S. Congress, during its 94 years of existence, has passed so many acts as to hamper the action of the model House of Representatives. That body will have trouble in determining just how much of U. S. legislation of the past must be considered as well done and not needing correction. But with the combined efforts of "all hands," it is hoped to bring the model House of Representatives around so that it may really be a model for any legislative body.

When you go to the Opera House stop at Lee, Welch & Co's., and get a pair of opera glasses. They rent them.

Have you called in at Tom Whittaker's New Barber Shop, No. 17 Clinton Street? Everything in first-class shape and good Bath rooms in connection. Tom has gone to a good deal of expense in fitting up his rooms, and now has the most convenient and neatest shop in the city. Give him a trial and be convinced.

Mr. M. Ryan, long and favorably known in Iowa City business circles, has disposed of his business to Messrs. Stillwell & Byington, who will continue at the old stand. Mr. Stillwell has been in the employ of Mr. Ryan for seven years and has mastered the business in all its details. Mr. Byington is a young man of sterling worth and we are sure they will make a success of their venture.

Are you going to the New Orleans Exposition? If so see Agent Lindsley of the B. C. R. & N. He can sell you the cheapest tickets, and by the most direct route.

Seydel's grocery was not injured by the fire in the least, and he is still disposing of goods at bottom prices.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

J. W. BLYTHIN, Editor.

MISS LAURA B. HOUSE, Asst. Editor.

Elmer A. Doty, Oxford, Ia. was chosen permanent Corresponding Secretary of class '85.

Mr. Edwards, a member of the graduating class, has been detained at home for over a week on account of the serious illness of his wife.

Autographs and photographs are in constant demand now among the students who are soon to leave the school, both seeming to bind together a class in which all has been harmony and peace.

A new and attractive feature of the closing exercises of our school is the neat invitation cards to be sent to the friends of the students. Girls, send on to your brother, and boys, don't forget your sisters.

The commencement exercises of the Medical College will take place at the Opera House, on the evening of the 4th; the aspirants for diplomas number forty-six—thirty-nine gentlemen and seven ladies.

'Tis said that some of the Laws are e'en now sighing over the approaching departure of the Medics; we were always sure that they had a warm corner for us in their hearts, although they often manifested it, in a strange way.

Miss Washburn has been suffering from a severe attack of measles for the past two weeks, but we are glad to hear that she is convalescing. Sutherland and Gruwell were compelled to hurry through with their attack in order to be ready for examination.

"'Tis better to be born lucky than sick." Soon after a certain member of last year's class received his sheepskin, a physician in an adjoining state, died leaving him a large practice and—an interesting daughter to whom he has since been joined "for better or worse."

Tuesday and Wednesday of the coming week will be occupied by the examination of candidates before the State committee composed of the following: Drs. C. B. Bosbyshell, Glenwood, J. H. Green, Dubuque; C. C. Parker, Fayette; J. D. McVay, Lake City; D. V. Hurst, Oskaloosa; and J. C. Robertson, Dublin.

Medical students notice—Please give the Business Manager the change in your address, if any, in order that you may receive your papers regularly.

Best Cigars in the city at Rigg's Drug Store.

Seydel makes a specialty of fine groceries.

Everybody uses Rigg's Hoarhound Cough Syrup for coughs and colds.

Boarding clubs supplied with groceries at the lowest rates at Seydel's.

Initial Stationary is now all the fashion, at Allin, Wilson & Co.'s You will find an elegant assortment.

A dollar will buy more good groceries at Seydel's than any place in Johnson county.

LAW DEPARTMENT.

A. H. DENMAN, Editor.

Blake is on the sick list this time.

In the last item of last issue we were made to say prospective where we meant perspective. Thus the sentence should read: "We need to look at things in perspective" which is very different from looking at them prospectively.

The two classes are studying the code together under the chancellor. These code studies ought to make every student of law who expects to locate in Iowa, stop and think whether he can afford to pass by our law school for those farther east.

This column is open to all members of the law class and contributions of any suitable nature are invited. The editor of course will exercise his freedom of selection and of veto, but with all possible fairness. Whatever is sent should not be sent anonymously. It should be short especially if a rhyme and humorous. Credit will always be given in one way or another.

How cute it is to make a rhyme,

To string words in a jingle!

Ideas to marshal into time,

And with the meter mingle!

Some things are far too fine for prose,

His rude fists cannot handle 'em,

Yet highly relished, some of those,

If you make a meter dandle 'em.

What art to take a pointed stick,

And punch the target through?

But stand far off with bullet quick,

And see what you can do.

We often have occasion in the literary society to criticize those students who, when they are assigned orations, either read essays instead, or give us essays committed to memory. The distinction between the essay and the oration does not lie in the fact that one is read and the other committed, it lies far deeper. The aim of the essay is to convey information, of the debate to convince, of the oration to arouse. The orator must make his audience feel the force of his ideas. If the oration conveys information or describes things, it does so only as an incident to its one underlying purpose. The essayist has succeeded if he conveys a truthful, lively or clear presentation of his subject, the debater if his arguments outweigh those of his opponent and give him the weight of probability, but the orator must do more—he must drive home these ideas, and his reasonings to his hearers. When the orator desires or reasons he must do more than appeal to the intellect. His description must be adapted to his purpose, his reasoning overwhelming. The essay and the debate are skeletons but the oration is flesh and blood. The subjects fit for orations are bounded if not limited. No one, for instance, could write an oration on such a subject as the occultation of the Pleiades, or the transit of Venus, because these things appear merely to the mental nature, whereas it is the province of the orator to deal with the affections and nobler passions.

CLOTHING HOUSE.

Largest Assortment of HATS AND GENT'S FURNISHING GOODS at STERN & WILLNER'S.

Everything marked in plain figures. One-price only.

SAVONAROLA.

BY MISS BERTHA WILLIAMS.

In the very heart of the city of Florence stands the Duomo, lifting its carved front toward the sunny blue of the Italian sky. Almost four centuries ago, the walls of this mighty edifice echoed for the last time to a voice that for nine years had been the moving power of Florence. This was the voice of Girolamo Savonarola. Savonarola, priest, prophet, reformer—martyr. He who gave to the service of the Florentines the best years of his life, finally crowning the sacrifice with his death. And all this to the city of his adoption. For the ties that bound him to this city which he served so long and faithfully were only those which its need of reformation created in his own great heart.

Terarra was his birth place and here, while the days of his youth slipped away one by one with outward uneventfulness, all the while in the mind of this remarkable man those seeds were being sown which in after years were to bring forth such abundant fruit. He perceived and pondered deeply on the immoral and wicked tendency of the times, and as he saw the crimes committed under the guise of innocence and the protection of the priesthood, he felt his whole soul burn within him. It was at this stage when he was so wrought upon by the world's wickedness, that he thought to escape its snares and taking upon himself the vows of priesthood. Sick at heart with the sight of the world and its follies, in 1475 he entered the Dominican convent at Bologna taking upon himself the duties of a simple lay brother. Quietly and peacefully several years of monastic life passed away, the happiest, most uneventful of his life. In 1482 he was removed from Bologna and entered the convent of San Marco at Florence, the scene of the greatest triumph and bitterest agony of his life.

Florence at this time was in a state that plunged into the deepest despondency all to whom her welfare was dear, under the sway of Lorenzo de Medici, one of that family which had done its utmost to ruin her. Held in the most abject slavery by this tyrant, her citizens seemingly destitute of all love of freedom and morality, each one, whether priest or monk, nobleman or common citizen, apparently vied with the other as to who could be the most cruel, idolatrous or licentious. The higher classes entirely given up to intellectual pursuits and destitute of religion, the lower groping about in blind superstition in the power of a church, given over to all manner of corruption and sin, Florence indeed was in a most lamentable condition.

Savonarola looking on from the retreat of his quiet cloister felt his great heart going out with pity for his countrymen, wandering afar in darkness and sin. From his very entrance into Florence, the city seemed to have taken hold of his affections and now his only aim in life was to release her by some means

from the chains by which she was bound. Thus weighted down with sadness and with forebodings of future evils, he still performed the simple duties of the cloister waiting until the way to higher duties was pointed out to him. During this period he was quite unknown in Florence and had no opportunity of thundering into the ears of the Florentines the warnings that were perpetually sounding through his brain. But he was by no means entirely silent. During penitential seasons he and his brothers were often sent out to preach in the neighboring villages and here he poured forth to the simple, awe-struck villagers the words of prophecy whose burden was always: "Woe, Woe, Woe to the sins of this earth! Repent and turn ye from your iniquity and flee from the wrath to come!" It was in one of these villages that what may be considered as the crisis of his life occurred. Here once by chance one of the courtiers of Lorenzo was struck by something in the appearance of this man and by the torrent of eloquence he poured forth. He gave Lorenzo no peace until Savonarola was permanently returned to Florence. Here he continued to preach to the youths of the convent in the convent gardens, and the circle of his hearers, gradually widened as his power and earnestness began to be felt, until some of the most learned and influential men of Florence were among the number.

About this time, almost against his will, he was persuaded to preach publicly in the cathedral of San Marco and here, on Sunday 1489, Florence heard for the first time the voice of her deliverer. Thus Savonarola entered upon the second epoch of his life, and left behind him all the quiet years of monastic life to enter upon greater duties, those of the law-giver, the reformer of Florence. At first the Florentines were unfavorably impressed with his sermons. His sentences were not polished or smooth enough to please the ear of the cultured Florentine, but his power and the forcible truths of his utterances, his burning impassioned eloquence, could not fail in time to impress them. Soon his fame began to spread, San Marco became too small for the crowds that flocked to hear him, and he was finally compelled to have recourse to the Duomo. Here he laboured with all the earnestness of his great soul, his power and influence rising higher and higher, while the people roused by his prophetic utterances, as he pictured the wrath of God about to descend upon them trembled and were afraid. The city formerly plunged in vice now rushed to the other extreme. Even harmless, innocent pleasures were forbidden because they did not contribute to the spiritual welfare of the people. In a word, Savonarola became the master-spirit of Florence, though Lorenzo was still ruler in name, and even this crafty monarch came under the spell of his power, made advances to him which Savonarola steadfastly repulsed, abhorring him as the source of all Florence's woes. And soon Lorenzo in the very prime of high life and glory was laid low by that tyrant which spares no one, nei-

ther a prince nor commoner, rich nor poor, high nor low,—Death! His son a weak and vicious prince succeeded him, and before he had held the power for many months an unexpected danger presented itself to Florence in the shape of an evasion by Charles of France and his army. At the first intimation of danger the weak and cowardly Lorenzo fled from the city. In this extremity, deprived of a leader, threatened with invasion of foreign power and with a still worse evil, that of civil war, the people turned instinctively to Savonarola for aid and counsel, and he did not fail them. During the critical period which followed, he guided and controlled the people and saved the city from the horrors of a mob and its attendant consequences. It was chiefly owing to him that in a few days the French king and his army withdrew from Florence without any more serious harm to the city than the loss of some of her fine works of art.

After the departure of Charles, Florence woke to find herself in a new and novel condition. She had finally escaped from the bondage of the Medici and was once more a free and independent republic, but without laws or government of any kind. The people still looked to Savonarola for aid and not in vain. For seven years he was in reality the ruler and law-giver of Florence, and during these seven years her citizens enjoyed a season of unexampled peace and prosperity. It is a proof of his entire unselfishness of purpose, that Savonarola never used the power he had gained for his own ends. He had no personal ambition, his whole aim was the prosperity of the city he so devotedly loved, and the reform of the abuses of religion and the church.

During all this period he still continued his sermons in the Duomo, crying out against the sins of the Pope and the corruption of the church, until the attention of the Pope himself was arrested and turned toward this fervent prophet. The head of the Roman Church, powerful as he was, feared the mighty influence of this man and determined in some way to silence him. He attempted this first by means of letters commanding him to cease his violent denunciations of Church and Pope. Failing in this he threatened him with excommunications, but with no avail. Savonarola gave no heed to his warnings and for three years the struggle was waged between the power of the pope and that of Savonarola, and at length by a sentence of excommunication the mighty preacher was silenced, but only for a short time. Savonarola after six months of silence and earnest thought decided that the sentence of a pope so corrupt, who had purchased his office with gold, must be invalid, and once more, for almost the last time on earth, was his voice heard in the Duomo. His first sermon after his excommunication was a passionate protest against the sins of the Pope. He went even farther than this and wrote letters to all the monarchs in Christendom, summoning them all to a Grand Council for the purpose of removing the impostor. These letters by some means fell into the

Pope's hands and after this there could be no hope for Savonarola. Alexander VI would allow no such powerful enemy as this to go unpunished. He still delayed however any decisive movement, waiting for some ground of excuse for putting him out of the way, without exciting the too great wrath of the people.

Savonarola's power for the last year or two had been on the wane, for it was not possible that such a rigid reform could last long, so this was not so difficult of attainment as it would have been formerly. At length the occasion presented itself. Savonarola by opposing what was intended as a test of the genuineness and truth of his prophetic inspirations lost the last remnant of popular favor. Even some of his most devoted friends and supporters deserted him at this crisis. It is difficult to determine all the motives which induced the Florentines to turn upon the man they had once almost worshiped. The failure of the Ordeal by Fire, in some degree, led to this, but whatever were the motives which actuated them, it is certain that they were now desirous of his ruin and at last their desire met with fulfillment. On Palm Sunday, while mass was being celebrated in the cathedral, a mob of citizens broke in upon the little band of worshippers gathered there. A scene of indescribable horror took place in the peaceful twilight of that holy evening. Savonarola and two of his most devoted followers were dragged to the Signory and there condemned to long weeks of suffering, and were finally sentenced to death, yea, to that bitterness of all deaths, that inflicted by their own country men for whose sake they had toiled through so many weary months and years, and this was their reward. Who can realize the anguish of his faithful heart through the long weeks of torture and suffering, which followed? He was upheld by the faith which had never deserted him in any extremity, and his conduct during this weary time of waiting was characterized by the same patience and nobility which had distinguished his whole life. Although in the anguish of delirium, caused by the tortures of the rack, confessions were wrung from his lips that were garbled and distorted by his enemies into all manner of falsehoods, yet when his mind regained its clearness, he never ceased to affirm his faith in the divinity of his mission and the truthfulness of his utterances.

At length came the day of his release forever from all pain and suffering, and on the 23rd. of May 1468, Girolamo Savonarola looked for the last time on the light of day. Under the shadow of those walls where he had labored so long and faithfully his great heart at last found rest, and he passed from this world to that "Undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler returns." Savonarola is dead, his body has been dust and ashes these many centuries, but in Florence to-day his memory is still revered and the little stone cell in the San Marco, which he occupied, is still haunted with memories of his presence, and is held as the most sacred spot in all Florence.

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BOOKS AND PERIODICALS.

C. Davis English begins in *The Current* of February 28, a consideration of "The Future of American Criticism." He severely censures "the critical laxity and independence of to-day," and holds that contemporary criticism in the United States is lacking in decisive authority.

The January number of the *Nashville Journal of Medicine and Surgery*, edited by C. S. Briggs, M. D. of the Medical Dept. of Vanderbilt University, contains a short account of results obtained by using the new anaesthetic, Muriate of Cocaine, which is exciting so much interest in the medical world.

The first number of the "Journal of Mycology," a monthly publication devoted to Mycological Botany on our table. It is published by W. A. Kellerman Ph. D. of the Kansas State Agricultural College at Manhattan Kan., assisted by J. B. Ellis of Newfield N. J. and B. M. Everhart of West Chester, Pa., New Kansas and Iowa Fungi, North American Geasters, and an exhaustive review of the new literature pertaining to the subject of mycology, comprise the contents of this number.

We have just received No. 1, Vol. 1 of the "The Iowa Historical Record" a quarterly published by the State Historical Society at Iowa City. This is really a resumption of "Annals of Iowa" issued by the society for twelve years ending Dec. 1874, but suspended for lack of funds. President Pickard, President of the Society, writes an introduction, giving briefly the aims of the society in publishing the "Record." A phototype of Stephen Hemstead, the second governor of Iowa, is accompanied by a biographical article. C. W. Irish contributes an article on "Iowa," devoting considerable space to the Indian tribes once living here, and to the derivation of the name. Prof. N. R. Leonard tells of "Iowa Meteorites" in a brief but comprehensive article. Muster rolls of various volunteer companies are next given. The proceedings of the Board of Curators are given, and a list of Donations to the society. Among the officers, we find Pres. Pickard, Profs. Calvin, Hinrichs, Clapp and Hobby of the University. We hope to speak further of the society in future issues.

Adventures of Huckleberry Finn. (Tom Sawyer's Comrade.) By Mark Twain, with 174 illustrations, pp. 366, New York, Charles L. Webster & Co. The extraordinary success of "Tom Sawyer" indicated that the public desired another book in the same vein. Over a half million of Twain's books have been sold in the United States alone, and they have been translated into many foreign languages. The success of Tom Sawyer was instantaneous, and its companion "Huckleberry Finn" bids fair to exceed it in popularity. It has been pronounced by a noted author "the brightest and most humorous book that Mark Twain has ever written." Side splitting stories are interwoven in its text with

adventures of the most humorous description. All of its 43 chapters are simply overflowing with interest and humor. In brief, the book is the story of the adventures of Huckleberry Finn, Tom Sawyer and a negro named Jim, who encounter in their journeys, two tramps engaged in "doing" the towns through which they pass, using the temperance crusade, missionary dodge or any other pretext. Although this book might be called a sequel to "Tom Sawyer" it is complete in itself. Charlie Moore has secured the agency for the work in Iowa City. He can furnish it in three styles of binding at different prices. Address Box 244 and he will call on you and show the book in the different bindings.

St. Nicholas for March opens with a frontispiece picture of the "Inauguration of President Garfield," to illustrate this month's installment of "Among the Law-makers," in which the boy-page tells also of General Grant's second inauguration, and compares these with the inauguration of Presidents George Washington and Thomas Jefferson. This is of the special and timely interest to all patriotic American boys and girls.

Another attractive series, entitled "The Children of the Cold," started to take the place of "Davy and the Goblin," who make their farewell bow and end their "believing voyage in this number. The new series, while scarcely less wonderful, is quite true, and in it Lieut. Schwatka, who has spent several years living among the Eskimo in their own homes, relates the many interesting things he knows about the child-life in the Arctic Circle.

E. P. Roe, in the second chapter of "Driven Back to Eden," tells the entertaining story of how the little family of apartment-dwellers journeyed back to the garden-land, and of their very un-Eden-like reception—rendered even more graphic by the numerous characteristic illustrations by Birch and W. H. Drake; while W. A. Rogers successfully performs a similar office for three chapters of J. T. Trowbridge's popular serial, "His One Fault."

Among the shorter stories are: a charming tale by Mrs. Julia Schayer, called "Liesel," telling of a little German girl who was befriended by the famous and benevolent Prince Poniatowski; "Little Kine," a bright story-sketch, by M. C. Griffis, of child-life in Japan, in which there is much that is new and strange to us who live on the other side of the world; and a clever story by Sophie Swett, with the title, "How Santa Claus found the Poor-house"; and there are other stories, sketches, and poems by Louise Stockton, Celia Thaxter, Malcolm Douglas, and others.

The success of the "War Articles" in the *Century* is phenomenal. From a circulation of about 130,000, it has increased from month to month, until 200,000 per month fails to satisfy the demand. Three editions of the Febru-

ary number were called for, and now comes the March number with a series of articles which almost *compel* the attention of the public. "The First Fight of Iron Clads" by John Taylor Wood, the senior surviving officer of the "Merrimac" and "In the 'Monitor' Turret" by Commander S. D. Greene, executive officer of the "Monitor," give both sides of that famous naval combat. Gen. R. E. Colson, commander of the Confederate forces near by, contributes an eyewitness account of the same battle. The "Recollections of a Private" by Warren Lee Goss are as interesting as the former papers by the same author. The excellent illustrations and maps accompanying all of these papers, greatly enhance their value. Too great praise cannot be given the "Century" for presenting a non-political discussion of the important events of our great struggle. The other departments of the *Century* do not suffer on account of the special effort put into the "War Papers."

The serial novels by Howells and James, "The Rise of Silas Lapham," and "The Bostonians," bid fair to equal in interest any former productions of those novelists. By a strange coincidence, Boston is the scene of action of both novels. A portrait of Daniel Webster, accompanied by "Reminiscences" by Stephen M. Allen, and "Recollections of Charles O'Connor" by John Bigelow, add two valuable papers to the *Century* series of brief biographical articles. "The Land of the False Prophet" is rendered exceedingly interesting on account of late developments in the Soudan. O. B. Frothingham contributes a very readable article on "The Worship of Shakespeare." Among open letters, "The Claims of Chicago," "Courbet, the Artist" and "The Blue and the Gray" are of especial interest. Several other articles, with "Bric-a-brac" complete the contents.

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