The Vidette-Reporter

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The Vidette-Reporter

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OB PRINTING.

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Students of history will be entertained and profited by reading Prof. Perkins' article on our literary page.

IOWA CITY, NOVEMBER 3, 1887.

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DAILY IN THE CITY AND THE LARGEST

The department of the College of Pharmacy of the State University of Illinois has just been placed in operation and is now ready for business. The department will be wholly limited to the treatment of diseases and conditions of the medical department, and prescriptions will, under no circumstances, be compounded nor medicines furnished except on the order of the department physician in charge of the case. This is a very important step in the University work, and was brought about by the active efforts of the dean and faculty of the Pharmaceutical Department.

IOWA COLLEGE will have a home orlctorial contest this year. Heretofore its contest to the State contest has been elected. We are glad to hear the News Letter speak in this way:

"By our next issue we hope to be able to list all the Iowa College containials for the State orlctorial honors. Selection will be made by a house contest. Very good last year's delegate was chosen by a vote. Though it was an easy matter to select the one best fitted, yet it speaks far better for the college, to make a selection by contest from a number of applicants to a high standard of college orlctorial. We hope to hear a contest of six or eight, as the constitutional limitations provide. We are not partisan. We are not who was first honors here, produced that the judicial decision light up on the one that will merit highest rank in the contest. A new interest is awakened in the college and we possess excellent speakers. We are especially conscious of seeing Iowa College once again appearing in the Inter-State contest and there, if possible, ranking first.

We fear that in a certain respect the students of the collegiate departments are too kind to the editors—too much concerned for our mental improvement—inasmuch as they allow us to do nearly all the writing for our paper and thus deprive of the charge of college publications like our own. We believe that this is not so much the case in other colleges. The contributions seem to be more general. Those having charge of college publications like our own should rather be as the capacity of editors such as authors, and especially so in purely literary matter.

You would like to see our literary pages interesting and valuable. We desire to make such pages. And in order to accomplish this end, we ask your interest and cooperation. If you happen upon a thought, either in your reading or your thinking, which you deem worthy to appear on our literary pages, please hand it in. We apply to you, kind reader, in particular. We do not ask originality; originality is too lengthy and too knavish in thought. But rather short essays, pithy paragraphs and pregnant epigrams. Or should you be favored with the "gift of the gab," we do not hesitate to mood us our all-varied sentiment done up in artful verse and grace by rhyme.

We desire to do what we had not space to do last week. We desire to say plainly a few words from the students' standpoint with reference to the use of tobacco about the University. The President a week ago last Monday morning called a meeting of the students of the collegiate department, specially summoned. The address contained an abundance of good counsel and salutary advice. But before it was brought to our attention it was called to the rule prohibiting smoking on the campus or about the University buildings, and the impromptu of the use of tobacco in these places took place. We believe that under existing circumstances, reference to this matter would have been quite unfortunate even if it had not involved the gracious admittance on the part of the highest officer of the University that he was himself addicted to private habit which he was afraid to induce others to adopt in public, but with such admission the reference was far more unfortunate inasmuch as the protest was thereby rendered quite ineffective. The prohibition of smoking on the campus or about the University is not a faculty regulation. The rule was made by the Board of Regents, yet some of these very same Regents who for years have pretended to cherish the highest welfare of the University and dictate progress to the institution, havehabitually, when here, pardoned the use of tobacco on the campus for more than a four months. This rule was made no doubt to apply to all officers connected with the University, yet one of the officers of the Board listed habituates of smoking on the University grounds and in the presence of students and in his office at the University than he would anything else. Moreover, the professor of one of the prominent chairs in the institution smokes regularly a remarkably large and long cigar both on the campus and in the library. Furthermore, it is said that the professor of still another prominent chair in the institution smokes regularly a surprisingly large amount of tobacco. We are bound to the students who smoke in the very halls of the University, that is to say, students who smoke at all to violate the rule of the Regents, and violate it without hesitation. We believe that the rule is a good one, but while circumstances are as they are, we maintain that it is a fruitless and hopeless attempt to have anything that we have said burst into a palliation of this practice, but we would suggest that the proper way to proceed to remedy matters is to begin by curtailing the desks before lecturing the halls. Reform should come from the center rather than from the circumference.