The Vidette-Reporter.

VOL. XX.  IOWA CITY, MARCH 17, 1888.  NO. 22.

The Vidette-Reporter.

Published every Saturday afternoon, during legislative year. 2.50.

B. C. Craven, Manager.

The terms of the Vidette-Reporter are.

One copy, one year, in advance, 1.00
One copy, one year, if paid in advance, 1.25
Sole copy, 50.

The paper will be sent to old subscribers until ordered stopped and remainder kept.

For sale at the Bookstore and Post.

Henceforth we have refrained from saying anything with reference to what has been said and done in the Legislature this winter in regard to the University. We have done so because we have been reluctant to discuss these matters, and have been of the opinion that they were better out of the college paper than is. The students in attendance here have learned all facts of any interest from actual observation or through the local papers. But it is due to the alumni that we now say something in this direction. The terms of the Regentschmei, Wright and Burrell expire in June. They were recently, by dint of a good deal of work on their part and on the part of their friends, re-elected for six years. Concerning their re-election we do not wish to say a single word. Our notion about their remaining on the Board can be easily conjectured from our former statements. We can not for bear to add, however, that since they are to be members of the Board another six years, we trust that the little good there is in them as Regents may be augmented, and the great evil diminished. The man elected to serve as Regent during the unexpired term of Dr. Hunt man, deceased, was A. W. Swalm of Oskaloosa. He met with the Board for the first time a few weeks since. Coincident with the election of these men was the appearance of a pamphlet at Des Moines from the pen of Dr. Hinrichs, in which were grave charges against Dr. Pickard, and still graver against Dr. W. F. Peck, coupled with a malicious censure of the University in general, and of the Medical department in particular. The Regents were also denounced as a set of thieves and robbers, and venom of an especially deadly character was poured out upon the head of our dear Mr. Rich ardon, though the latter is not so bad a man probably as Dr. Hinrichs would make him appear to be. There are several of the Regents whom we should not like to embrace and kiss, but any one of them is a sa.mt compared with Dr. Hinrichs. With this doctor we are pretty well acquainted. All know the motives he had in publishing that pamphlet. He once held a chair in the institution, but was justly removed two or three years ago. He is now a Deans professor, most righteously made defunct, and though he professes himself loyal to the University, everyone knows that he makes a greedy exaggeration or two of things. It is not a very exacting test. The committee has been reluctant to discuss these matters, having been unwilling to discuss the above charges, and the advisability of abolishing the law and Medical departments, the number of saloons about town, and the number of hours taught by each professor daily. The committee will be here soon, and we hope it will be with thorough satisfaction that the thing is ended. There was strong opposition to the re-election of Richard son, Wright and Burrell, but it was finally accomplished. It was opposed by alumni in the Legislature and the best friends the University has, and some of these same alumni were those most strongly in favor of appointing this investigating committee. As the acts of the Regents severally and collectively are better known, the anxiety for the ultimate welfare of the University increases, and this fact accounts largely for the easy credence which Dr. Hinrichs pamphlet has received. The people of the State have the idea that affairs about the University have been and are going wrong, and they are determined to put the whole matter to a test. The committee is to report in a week or ten days. Meanwhile the applic ation hangs fire. Before money is voted, our legislators want to know how the money is to be spent. They have heard for instance that a certain professor in the institution draws a salary of $1,800 per year who in the fall term worked but one hour a day, who this last term has worked but two, and who next term will work but a trifle more than one. They have heard that other salaries of $1,800 are being drawn for two hours' work per day, or less. These facts we cannot deny, but it is forgotten that the character of the work done calls for the salary given. We hope the committee will come here and satisfy itself and the body that sends it, that the atmosphere will be thoroughly and correctly cleared up, that if wrong is found it will be righted, and that then a large appropriation will be voted, and the University commenced to the confidence and patronage of the State.

Later it is learned that on account of the critical illness of Dr. Peck, President Schaeffer the other day requested that the proposed examination of the Medical department be deferred for the present, but asks that the committee be continued with power to sit in vacation, and that the investigation be made later. We presume this refers only to the Medical department, and that the other work of the committee will be begun forthwith.

A MOVEY which has excited considerable comment this week, is the formation of a University Temperance Alliance, the avowed object of which is to assist in the enforcement of the prohibitory law in Iowa City. With this object the prime movers went to a number of the students who, they believed, had their cause at heart, and appointed with them Thursday afternoon to meet and organize an alliance. This did and it speaks well for the moral standard of the students and the earnestness of this movement that fifty-five members were at once obtained. When all of those who wish to join, this number no doubt will be much increased. There are no ladies in the organization. The students have quietly stood back and hoped for the best, in the closing of these saloons, for a long time. There has not been fully realized. They now propose to take an active part and see what aid they can furnish. In their work they are backed by the city alliance, many of whose members are best acquainted with Iowa City, whose sympathies are all on this side, who are ready to go down in their pockets and furnish the money to carry this work along, but who, know from experience and observation that they hazard their business when they make an open, aggressive warfare. There is one thing of which we may all feel assured; that the young men who have joined this movement are very much in earnest. Those who know them, know them to be the quiet, steady workers in the University; who know the value of work, and what it can accomplish. They will not be discouraged because daunting results may not at once crown their efforts. They are ready to make a long fight of it, confident that in the end, however remote that end may be, they will accomplish their purpose. The success with which they have already met have given them much encouragement and greatly strengthens them in their determination. The alliance would like any student of the University, who is in full sympathy with it, to become a member. The members want no one to join, merely because it is popular among the students. Only those whose characters are of some value to them. We are glad this organization has been made. We look forward to good results from it.

Anoty the time of the medical commencement, Dr. W. F. Peck in performing a surgical operation had his thumb slightly wound and was operated on. Nothing was apprehended at the time, but the thumb and hand and arm soon began to swell, blood poisoning set in, and the doctor is now lying in a critical condition at his home in Davenport. We trust a change for the better will soon be announced.

A Sophomore-Junior Oratorical Association was organized in joint session of the Irving and Zetetic societies. This association will hold annual contests to replace the regular Junior Contest of former years, which has been abolished by the University faculty. Sophomores and Juniors only are to participate in this membership to consist of the above-named societies.

TUESDAY next the commencement speakers will be announced. Some of us will therefore be made very happy. The rest of us and the large majority of us sometime and somewhere in our century crossed the dead line and were spat out. The triumphant few will march forth over our dead bodies.

Dr. J. L. Pickard, late president of the Iowa State University, has been helping celebrate the twelfth anniversary of the founding of the University of Illinois at Champaign. When it comes to selecting the veteran educators of the west, Dr. Pickard holds first place for years of usefulness. Democratic-Gazette.

Our thanks are extended to Richard son Bros., of Davenport, for a handsome copy of "A Circle Round the Earth," and for the Sunday edition of the Democrat-Gazette which we have the honor to place on our exchange list. An extended notice of the book appears elsewhere in this number.

The committee from the legislature to investigate University and Iowa City affairs consists on the part of the Senate of Knight and McCoy, from the House, Craig, Willer and Lewis. It is reported that they will be here Monday.

Vacation of the Vinnyre-Conservatory this spring will begin with the Spring vacation, hence this is the last number of this paper for the present term. The next issue will be published April 14th.

We extend thanks for the January number of the Iowa Wesleyan, It has just arrived.
LITERARY DEPARTMENT

TO

Once did I see an eagle rise,
And with its wing the evening glow light;
Sparing the earth in his high mountain flight.
The while a shepherd, watching o'er his croft,
Cloth o' the soft as spry, hewing shaft,
Sooner than e'er did eagle upward speed,
The arrow to the top, the quiver to the madness deed.

The air-winged, and as breeze wait
A withhold, torn, from its parent branch.
Hastening, yet known, are heard strained.
Until the sad, by the red drost stamped,
Monstrous for the life-blood that she could not stay.
Thus my existent hope, high mounting, falls and
When wounded by a glance from —'s cruel eyes.

J. H. Nollek.

THE NEW CRUSADE.

From the Divine Right of Kings to the Natural Rights of Man.

CARL K. NYDER.

Opinions, not armies, have made history a chronicle of change. In the grand parliament of human thought, Discontent has ever stood forth as the radical leader of the Opposition. Discontent, then, and not ambition, is the real mother of Reform. This is the true index of a progressive age. The warring of kings, the strife and dissensions of the nobility, the quarrels and machinations of priest and clergy, all have contributed but little to progress. On the battle-fields of revolution, and not of conquest, have been fought those signal victories that have advanced and elevated the race of man.

Revolution, and not conquest! It tolls the tocsin for the assembling of a country's patriots; it sounds the knell of usurping despots; it lights the fires of daring civilizations. It is the natal day of every era of freedom—the mile-stones of a nation's advancement. "Revolutions never roll backward." Revolution is it that has wrought the greatest changes of the past; this is the task that must work out the needed changes of the future.

The world is growing better. The revolutions of the past, of to-day, have made it possible for kings of France to disseminate together. Happiness is not yet reached. There is famine and suffering in the midst of plenty. The gray hairs of sorrow mimic their faded beauty in the golden tresses of joy. With equality written all over our statute books and our laws, we have the most monstrous inequality in the world. There are hovels that ought to be homes. There are human beings turned into machines. Childhood is robbed of its pleasures and manhood of its nobleness. In dustry is deprived of its just reward, and the very "lack to toil" becomes a boon. The shades of prostituted genius rise up to mock the artisan at his task: "Why toil ye?" they ask; "Grow ye richer thereby? The inventions of a century, surpassing all human hopes of fame and fiction, have they lessened the weight of our burden—have they increased your want need of happiness?" And by their side stand the demon of want, ceaselessly harassing the patterns of poverty its vast army of discontented. As yet, the masses have never flung up barricades in our great cities,

Politicians cry that such mad anarchy would be impossible in a land where all are equal. Yet this much braided equality—who has seen it—who has felt it? Before the revolution a pretence of a startling likeness to the picture of the America of to-day. There, it was gulf and feudal tenantry; here, it is industrial slavery and the lightening of alien landlords.

There, ignorance and fear hang like a mantling cloud above the heads of the peasantry; here, the Crouse-like employer banks his millions and endures the lash for millions of an arrogant plutocracy gathers unto itself the haughty roles of an ancient aristocracy, and the vaunt of gold replaces the boast of patriarchal ancestry. A century of protection for the manufacturer has reaped—a harvest of riches, and widespread acres crowned with the magnificent palaces of opulence attest its magic power. A century of unprotection for the working man has reaped—a harvest of broken promises and barren regrets, and the squab-beds and crowded tenement houses of penny baspeak the hollow lie! Not unfrequently has bribery trod almost unchallenged the halls of the American Congress. More than once the prospectors put forth the foul hand of the warren, begging for tribute. Unleashing robbery and legalized theft are crowned with the trophies of success, and the millionaire criminals, bearing no hallowedness or contentment from the face of sunny France. And the cry of her terrified, haggard children, begging at the gates of the rich for bread, is the faint, waiting breath of the coming storm.

The play is on. The convocation of the State-General is the signal for the harvest, and the wild drams of revolution has begun. Before us appears a strange anomaly, the insurrection of the women. We are at Versailles on that awful night with sullen skin. We see the palaces eaten up, the million criminal, the streets unchained. Yesterday it was a desolate stretch of human woe. To-morrow what? A pestilential breath of the coming storm. The final act.

The French Revolution—what wonder of modern times—truly the pictured battle of the gods,—its history the grandest epic of literature,—its lessons the most profound in all the philosophic wisdom of the ages. History,—a grand drama of confusion, destruction and change, that dispelled as with an enchanter's wand the Cimmerian gloom of the centuries,—the new crusade; for as centuries before, the following of the sacred holy is, inspired by the fires of religious zeal, swept in mighty hordes far over the land and over the seas to wrest from the ruthless hand of the Inflated the tomb of Christ, or with so not a less holy zeal, did these enthusiastic children of the revolution braver the brave of civil strife and the might of the hand of Europe to rescue from the solid grasp of usurping monarchs and mailed marauders the rights of man!

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Go to the Opera House to-night for, at first-class shave and hair-cut.

The greatest bargains ever offered in the state, until April 1st, at the Golden Eagle.

The Golden Eagle will move into their new and spacious quarters on or about April 1st.

Go to Cash & Hunt’s meat market, opposite Opera House, for choice meats of all kinds.

Prof. Roots went to Beloit last Monday to train the Juniors for their oratorial contest.

You will save from $500 to $1,000 on a suit by buying at the Golden Eagle before April 1st.

Miss Minnie Preston, of Des Moines, will be a guest at Prof. Calvin’s until Sunday evening.

Prentis Hyatt, class of ’92, now studying law with his father at Webster City, was in town Monday.

Major Califf presented to the Museum an alligator which he procured from friends in the South.

Will Stotfman, of Burlington, is in the city for a few days. He came in time to attend Irving election.

Prof. Patrick has prepared and will soon publish a treatise on the ancient Greek philosopher, Heraclides.

Students in need of shoes can save from 25 cents to $1.99 per pair by buying from Furibish on the corner.

E. H. Moss, of the Dental department, was in town this week. Abraham so soon, whom partings are so sad!

Prof. Nutting will give a lecture before the Agassiz Association at the Unitarian church, next Thursday evening.

Jack Bacon requests us to announce to the public that he has fallen heir to $80,000. The story is incredible.

The finest line of Prince Albert Coats and Vests ever brought to Iowa City is now displayed at the Golden Eagle. Schedules have been issued this week and it is surprising to find how many say they got just what they wanted.

The Sophomore and Junior declamatory contest will be held at the Opera House next Saturday evening, March 24.

A new poet has turned up, as will be seen from an examination of our literary page. The debut is certainly very creditable.

Miss Carrie Pennook contributes to the last number of the Hesperian a very readable essay on the late Prof. A. A. Gray.

A straight discount of 20 cent per on any article in the house until we move. The Golden Eagle One Price Clothing House.

Miss Julia Cavenagh, class of ’92, teaching her fourth year in the Newton High School, is home for a two weeks’ vacation.

You can always find the best styles and double the stock of any other house in the city at Furibish’s.

The committee on Commencement invitations has been appointed, and is taking active measures to get up a first-class invitation.

Students patronize Waterman & Williams, when wanting anything in the line of dry goods or notions. 324 Clinton street.

The programs for next term’s work are out. The scheduling was to have been done Thursday and Friday. We suppose the most of it was.

Everything marked in plain figures. Take 20 percent off, and you have our price until April 1st. The Golden Eagle One Price Clothing House.

The Political Economy classes enjoyed some extra "strolling on the campus" during Pickard’s absence from the city Wednesday and Thursday.

Several young men met at the office of Burns & Sullivan last evening and formed the nucleus of a young men’s Democratic Club—Waterloo Tribune.

The school taught by Miss Eva Elliott, near the city, closed yesterday. Many of the S. U. I. students attended the final exhibition given by her last evening.

The bookstore of Lee, Welch & Co., always first-class in every respect, has now on hand a fine line of Easter cards from which you should make your selection.

The Hesperians elected as follows: Minnie Howe, President; Hattie Stimmel, Vice, President; Florence Brown, Secretary; Edith Proctor, Treasurer; Kate Legler, Orator.

We neglected to notice last week that W. M. Stafford, C. E. B., ’94, was visiting friends in the city last week. Mr. Stafford is flourishing as secretary of the Sun Insurance Co., Rock Island, Ill.

Students of the University and their friends will find C. L. Mohr’s 125 Washington street, the best place to buy supplies in his line. His stock represents the novelties as they appear in market.

A large number of the members of the physiology classes assembled in the basement of the new scientific building, this morning, to witness an experiment by which the heart-beats of the victim (a dog) were seen.

The Golden Eagle seem to be doing a rushing business, by all appearances. While in their store this morning, they were crowded with customers taking advantage of the liberal inducements this live house is offering at present. A. Lichty, Treasurer; J. E. Nollen, Secretary.

The seniors are having their pictures taken. Besides individual photographs, they will have a class picture and a composite of the entire class. The better will be something new and novel in the history of Iowa, and, of course, handsome.

The officers of the Kedelphian Society for the spring term are: President, Myrtle Lloyd; Vice-President, Elvira Wright; Recording Secretary, Bessie Poet; Corresponding Secretary, Doris Gilliam, Treasurer, Nora Barnard, June onor; Anna Lair.

The following are the officers elected of the Irving Institute for the ensuing term: Julius Lischer, President; A. W. McCausland, Vice-President; C. S. Clark, Treasurer; M. Bannister, Rec. Sec.; C. E. Rages, Cor. Sec.; F. W. Myers, Sergeant-at-arms; and Carl Stutman, June onor.

Zetaehigan officers for the ensuing term: Fred Lohr, President; J. E. Allen, Vice. President; S. V. Friend, Secretary; C. A. Lichty, Treasurer; M. L. Kennecl, Sec. Cor. Sec.; H. G. Haidt and H. F. Rall, Sergeant-at-arms; J. S. Nelsen, critic; D. L. Coon, June onor.

This is the way the paper of the Nebraska State University puts it. We are easily credulous: "A great number of the students attended Bill Nye’s lecture on 'The New South,' and seemed to enjoy the few jokes which he got off. He amusingly left the subject alone, and the boys all seem to agree in calling it a 'sport.'"

Baldridge, the valedictorian of last year’s medical class, and his wife are in the city seeing old friends. Dr. Baldridge is located at Omaha, and reports that his prospects are all that he could desire. He says there are a great many S. U. I. boys in Omaha and that all of them are doing well. Dr. B. returns Monday. His wife will probably remain longer.

Mr. Rohde, of the Senior class, has committed Gladipus Tytarnus to memory in the original during the past term, committing his lessons daily. Eighty pages—150 lines—of Greek tragedy to "tongue’s end" is no small matter; and the feat argues wonderful capacity for mental labor on the part of Mr. Rohde. We are proud of our powerful Greek. It will be next in order to present a Greek tragedy in the original, as Harvard and Cambridge.

Program of Junior and Sophomore Declamatory Contest.

The Power of Poetry in Battle—Robertson Charles B. Burton
The River—Riddler, Penna. by Robert
Walter A. Delorm
Unapt National Acquisition—Chorens
General George B. Thompson
A Man Overboard—Hayes
John T. Bailey.
The Pioneers of Iowa—Randles
William B. LaPorce.
There Is a God—Valmef T. Print.
The Cause of the Grinch—A. J. Cross
Juliet C. Monett.
The Treasure Box—Schare
Chas H. Messen.

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W. C. TAYLOR.

J. C. BARTLETT.

B. C. STILTS.
TRAGEDY IN HIGH LIFE.

A MURDER IN THE FIRST DEGREE COMMITTED IN THE PRESENCE OF MANY WITNESSES HAVING NO PARALLELS IN HISTORY.

The murderer stood his ground against his four murderers, who armed respectively with rubbers, chair rungs, stove poker and the like, charged the poor victim. One daring maudlin thought to display her talons, and, with club in hand and fire in her eye, was about to aim a deadly blow at the creature, when a bewitching wink and a pleasing speak touched her under (?) seat, and she leaped upon the table, (she was an expert in this line, for she had been in training under Lisch in the S. U. G. Y., or for the last term). Then there was a wild chase. The senior girl got her right hand smashed by a mishap from the (brave) (?) girl. They knocked the limbs of the radiador off, and hurled them at the unwelcome intruder. The ladies kept up a continual song and dance, greatly to the edification of the regents in the adjoining room. The creatures sought refuge in the bottom recesses of a tiny (?) rubber. Bang went a board, over went the table, and with one leap she stood upon the enemy in triumph—a victor without the spoils.

THE ACADEMY CONTEST.

The Academy students, last Thursday evening, following out a precedent established three years ago, held a declamatory contest in the Zetagathian hall. Considerably before the time to begin, every chair was taken; but the crowd still poured in as long as there was standing room. There were eight contestants. We do not know why they were all gentlemen but such was the fact. They were: Horatio Baker, Phil. S. Cory, K. S. Stevenson, B. F. Shambaugh, W. W. Kaye, H. M. Lyon, H. E. Kelly and Sam'nn Yonkin. The speaking, on the whole, was very good. To one who is unacquainted with the quality of the work done in the Academy, the excellence of some of it was surprising. They must have had faithful training in order to accomplish what they did. Mr. Shambaugh was awarded first place, Mr. Lyon second, and Mr. Kelly third. The judges were: Prof. McClain, of the Law department, Miss Prof. and Miss Boles, of the Merit, and Prof. Drew, as referee. We believe that the decision was almost universally satisfactory.
We propose in this, article to give the result of our experience and reflections upon the subjects above suggested, since our said matriculation. It is probable that large numbers of students in the late lectures as a chief means of instruction. This is shown by the fact that the great schools in Europe and the Eastern States have chided this method to its very root that it has come some exclusive. If lecturing is the best method of teaching then large numbers in a law school might be a thing of beauty, order, and profit. Not so, for this. But if there are not a few from this noted question, we can see but little benefit in large numbers in a law school. The great schools in a law school should be trained to self-independence, skill, courage, and self-reliance. Is this the case? Rather is not, by individuality appears represented? Does it not bcome-difficult, retiring, being feeling himself to be more at home in the multitude? But, be it as it may, we would especially consider the relative merit of reading and class recitations to the student in the law school. He is the only active one in the audience; all others are passive. They sit and receive, as he gives. Questioning by the student on obscure points would be at the beginning course away the congregation. He is the only active one in the audience; all others are passive. They sit and receive, as he gives. Questioning by the student on obscure points would be embarrassing, or unflattering, or look ed upon as annoying interruption. If al lowed, few would have brass enough to avail themselves of the privilege, especially, if the audience were large, and they would be liable to criticism for impertinence, from the less forward. Quite different from this are the exercises in the reading room. Here the student has something to do. He takes active part in the exercises, the professor being the leader and monitor. He not only listens, but he questions, he answers, he takes part in the discussions. Not only does he receive legal knowledge, but by the drilling he receives he becomes familiarized with it. He digests it, so to speak, and makes it his own. More than that, he improves himself in the all-important art of expressing himself on legal subjects in legal language and in good legal style. Moreover, he acquires independence, originality, alertness, versatility, and aptness in questioning and controversy. On the other hand the professor is brought in closer contact with the student. He acquires a better knowledge of his aptness and deficiencies. He is thus better qualified to perform his duties, to explain, to drill, to simplify, to restrict, to encourage, as all of his class, or each, may need.

We would not detract from the value of lecturing. It has its important place in the curriculum and is of great profit to us. The fact is, that in so vast and complicated a science as jurisprudence, every means should be given and has proved for its mastery. Every means should be given and improved to secure that mental discipline, which is indispensable to its successful pursuit. The lecture is, in a logical science. We have been trained to think, to think promptly, to think profoundly. It is a practical profession. We want a training that will give us common sense, tact and showbread. It is a doing profession. We want a training that will give us decision, that will give us energy of voluntary act, to execute, to accomplish. It is a doing profession. We need a training that will give us spirit, independence, courage, a manly ideal. Last, but not least, it is a profession, the object of which is the administration of justice. For example, as well as precept, should instruct us that here, as elsewhere, honesty is the best policy, and that, in no instance, in no judgment, in no statute, nothing or any right, be the offspring of self-interest or vanity.

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MR. RICHARDSON’S BOOK.

We have just received a copy of "A Girdle Round the Earth" by Mr. D. N. Richardson of the Davenport Democrat-Gazette and recently re-elected regent of the University, and have examined with interest a work that has received such general notice from the press. All agree that it is written in a racy, brisk, vigorous, and highly entertaining style and that it is superior in very many respects to any book of travel that has lately been published. It abounds in facts succinctly and briefly stated, it being evident that the author is not long upon any one subject, place, thing or feature. By the peculiar press the work is printed without important qualifications. By the religious press certain features of it are seriously condemned. The best review of the book we have seen, can be found in The Nation of February 25th. And one would expect The Nation a pretty fair statement in this case. It concludes thus:

"The author would have done himself more justice, and spared annoyance to his readers had he spent a few hours in a library on his return home, and corrected some of his inaccuracies and many of his curious and superficial but mistaken notions. On page 60, he would have us believe that "the merry, rice-fed heathens," Japanese "Coolies" at Yokohama (though properly speaking, they belong no caste in Japan, there are no coolies but free laborers) heat an equal number of "vigorous Highland soldier athletes," because of their diet, instead of because of their life-long dexterity with the push-cart, which is a specially balanced machine, requiring skill even more than strength, whether gained by meat or rice. The talk on page 83, that the Chinese "practised with type two thousand years ago," is rubbish, and the author's general ideas about Chinese chronology (p. 116, p. 122) are hazy and according to unsolved cyclopædias. Many of his statements of things in the Holy Land will not stand the test either of history or of the surveys of the Palestine Exploration Fund. Many passages, such as those relating to Jerusalem (pp. 241-242), the Jordan (p. 257), are graphic and brilliant, but usually marred by such infections of the seas as the zealots who idolize the Bible, and will disport those who do neither. Indeed the chief fault of the author is his tendency to lofty and sweeping generalization, which betrays a lack of modesty such as culture alone can instil in a traveller. One is nauseated with the constant repetition in every chapter of the author's religious views, and his theorizing of theology into nearly every description given and opinion expressed. One might almost call his work "The Sentimental Journey of a Theologian." A little more reading and genuine culture must certainly improve an author who wields a trenchant pen with an ability not always well directed."

Mr. Richardson seems to be of the opinion that the Protestant world has ideas that need knocking down and some old foggy ideas that need correction. It is too bad that the Christians of this country have not heard from Mr. Richardson before. It would appear that he regards all missionary enterprises as a humbug, and is quite ready with a sneer or slur for the poor deluded mortals who have gone to foreign lands to labor for the salvation of the heathen. He sees on board his outgoing vessel a pair of young missionaries, man and wife, and the great wells of his compassion are stirred. "Would I could send them back," he says, "if missionaries must be sent abroad, send in their stead some stalwart gospel men who can be easily spurred, and who are better calculated to bear the brunt of this lonely and tiresome task." The italics are ours. The above is but a sample. Others might be cited, but we must hasten.

Yes, if the author had used his library before starting as well as after coming home, if he had taken more culture with him, and left some of his lamentable ignorance behind, we cannot help believing that he would have produced a better book. In the course of his work Mr. Richardson gives several choice bits of historical information. We find a great deal that we never found before and fear we shall never find again. Here is a specimen from page 390:

"We talk of the great powers now—the great powers of Europe. Why, China's hand covered the whole of it—this boasted map, this patch-work crazy-quilt, and this was but a tithe of Rome's possessions.

Mr. Richardson's vast mind is the first to discover that the Roman Empire took in Great Britain, Scandinavia, Germany, and all Russia. Then Europe, the whole of Europe, "was but a tithe" of the Roman territory! Truly the Roman Empire was large!

A man with some respect for Christianity and with an average knowledge of facts could revise the book and make an excellent work out of it, but just as it is, one can readily see, in order to read it with the most satisfaction one must not be critically disposed.

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