THE VILLAGE SCHOOLMASTER.
FROM GOLDSMITH.

Beside your straggling fence that skirts the way,
With blossoms'd furze unprofitably gay,
There, in his noisy mansion, skill'd to rule,
The village master taught his little school.
A man severe he was, and stern to view;
I knew him well, and every truant knew;
Well had the boding tremblers learn'd to trace
The day's disasters in his morning face;
Full well they laugh'd, with counterfeit glee,
At all his jokes, for many a joke had he:
Full well the boding tremblers learn'd to trace
Convey'd the dismal tidings when he frown'd.

Yet he was kind, or, if severe in aught,
The love he bore to learning was his fault;
The village all declared how much he knew;
'Twas certain he could write and cipher too;
Lands he could measure, time and tides presage,
And e'en the story ran that he could gauge:
For e'en though vanquish'd, he could argue still!
While words of learned length and thundering sound
Amazed the rustics ranged around,—
And e'en the story ran that he could gauge,
That one small head could carry all he knew.

THE DEBT OF THE INDIVIDUAL TO THE NATION.

BY G. T. W. PATRICK.

Man is a social being. He is found existing only in society. We may search the records of the world, but we find no account of that state of isolation which certain theorists have vaguely represented as his former condition. By some innate tendencies, men are drawn into the companionship of one another; and should we seek the cause, the origin, or the design of nations, we must penetrate the mind of the Deity that created human beings as they are. Far, far back in the history of man, we discern the rude outlines of social intercourse and civil institutions; and little by little these early principles of government have been expanded and broadened by his progressive spirit. Here and there, as by the light of history we pierce the distant past, we see some wandering or savage tribe suddenly shining forth in the light of semi-civilization, and after running its brilliant course, like a passing meteor, sinking again into oblivion. But the germs of government thus disclosed are seldom lost, and soon another brighter and more enlightened nation rises from the ruins of the old, till at last these rudimentary principles have developed into the state as it stands complete before us to-day.

But what, it is asked, is the utility of nations, and what their power to develop the human mind and promote human happiness? How can man secure the object of his life better as a member of a political body? Or why should his free nature be bound in allegiance to any sovereign or any society?

Let us notice. As we have seen, man outside of society is no longer man. Through society alone is the exercise of all those faculties that distinguish him from the brute, possible. The realization of fame and honor, the acquirement of wealth, the employment of talents and genius—all depend upon its institutions. But that full development of the mind and powers, necessary for the attainment of all these things, can not be effected in the short space of one lifetime without the aid of the products of other minds that have gone before. So we see at once the need of some body or organization that shall outlive the individual man, and, transmitting the result of each generation to the succeeding one, shall thus, as an intellectual personage, accumulate the fruits of its successive stages. Of necessity, therefore, the man of culture is a member of some political body.

But why has the growth of nations always been attended with such universal progress? It is because the nation furnishes the individual with all those weapons that enable him to contend successfully with the powers of nature. It offers his person and property unqualified protection, and enforces for his good the eternal principles of justice and right. It awakens his mind and interest, calls into action his latent strength and energy, and thus effects a higher development of his natural qualities.

With the growth of the state national pride is excited, and emulation, that powerful incentive to exertion, is aroused. The spirit of rivalry existing between the nations, the sympathetic bonds of union between the nation and the people, the power of the government itself to develop the useful industries and resources of the country, to promote the interchange of thought and encourage education—all unite with grand aim and object to strengthen man's abilities and to raise him from that
The culture afforded by the institutions of the nation now claims our notice. As by the action of diamond upon diamond the jewel is fashioned and beautified; so man by continual contact with his fellow beings, is polished and refined. This silent yet potent influence, depending altogether upon the institutions of society and the state, transforms the rude and ignorant hermit into the vivacious and courtly being that honors and adorns his country. It awakens in the soul of man all his hidden zeal, ardor and ambition. He looks around him and beholds a mighty, moving mass of humanity rushing eagerly on towards the goal of human hopes—each one struggling to gain preeminence. He sees that if he would attain distinction in that living throng he must rouse his sluggish soul to quick and prompt exertion. He catches their spirit of enthusiasm and plunges into the race for life.

But the last and grandest element in the power of the nation is inspiration. There is in human nature a principle that inspires in the heart a love and reverence for one's country, deep, earnest, and passionate. This is the spirit that, in every century of the past, has led millions of patriots, sacrificing every other object of affection, to endure the horrid scenes of war, and to fight and die on the field of battle in noble defense of their Fatherland. This is the spirit that has excited the most stirring eloquence and called forth the most bitter invectives against hostile invaders and conspirators, from the worlds greatest orators. This very reverence and love, together with national pride, encourage in man that self respect so powerful to raise his ambitions and ennoble his thoughts. How often have those old Greeks and Romans been inspired by the mere thought that they were members of nations so grand! How often has some citizen of that "Eternal City" paused to say, "I am a Roman and to do a dishonorable deed is unbecoming to a Roman!"

What then, in view of all these things, do we owe to our nation, by which we are, and upon which depends all our happiness? With what care should we preserve its purity and protect its sacred institutions! What infamous too dark for traitors! What punishment too severe for those untrc to public trust! But man is fickle, ever changing. He cannot bear prosperity, and when at last the nation has brought him to the highest point of cultivation, led on by his insatiate greed for gold and honor, he turns with ingratitude upon his parent country, and by preying upon her life and constitution, he seeks to enhance his own pernicious interests. No sooner, therefore, does a nation reach any high degree of glory than, her foundations being sapped by sordid avarice, she begins to totter and to fall. Revolution follows revolution; precious time and precious lives are lost in bloody warfare; till at last only a mass-

state of degradation which results from anarchy or isolation, to his highest and natural sphere. * * *

Let us have more real unselfish patriotism and less of covetous lust for gain. Let the true service of our country be of higher importance to us all; and may the time be close at hand when the voice of our national duty shall be more willingly obeyed, and all our land be ruled more by those simple laws which the Lord, the King of Nations, has given to mankind.

A MODERN CLASSIFICATION.

BY ROBERT EGGERT.

Students may be divided into three divisions, namely, the Nominal, Dormant and the Active. Being a student myself and not insisting upon the immediate adoption of my classification by the various faculties, I shall with due respect define each division, and ask the conscientious reader to supply the names.

First, the Nominal Student: His proximate aim is the diploma and his remote the presidency. The first goal is easily reached by him, but from that to the second stretches a desert which he can never traverse. While at the foundation he failed to supply himself for the long journey, and almost in sight of the first oasis he is compelled to retire to the shades of mediocrity. You know him well. Since his innate desire is to impress people with his superiority he suffers no principle of any science to penetrate his innermost being lest it be hidden from the admiring world. In the district school, at the time-wasting school exhibitions, from his teachers example, he contracts the vice of sacrificing almost anything for the sake of a momentary applause. This vice is fostered and grows at college. Science which should ennoble her possessor, broaden his views, elevate him above his fellowmen, has the opposite effect on him. He forces the fair goddess to subserve his vices; the increased load of knowledge upon his shoulders instead of in his heart, presses him down and narrows his views, and he sinks lower in the scale of civilization than the laborer who can neither read nor write, but who brings to the altar of the race the dignity of labor.

Don't you see the grand divisi on tottering along! sneering at everything they do not understand, condemning without a trial, flattering where they like to poison, tearing down what they cannot define, stumbling over the flithiest bankbill, selling their manhood for a trifle, and yet teach, preach, write and plead. This is the outgrowth of the nominal student which forms a considerable part of the "refined" society of to-day and—to our shame be it said—is in many instances the leading element.

Second, the Dormant student: He is the silent plodder, with sallow skin and dreamy eyes. He swallows
his lessons with the same stolid patience that the con-
sumptive does the numerous patent medicines, and with
about the same result. He has been one of the best
scholars in the class, but the repeated overdoses, and
his utter disregard of the dictates of health have bro-
ken him down, and with shattered health and softened
brain he enters the arena of life only to be thrown aside
by the mighty and merciless throb of action.

This class furnishes the world with the learned block
heads, imbeciles and consumptives.

Third, the Active Student: His aspirations are as
lofty as human thought will permit. Slowly, steadily,
silently, like the march of time, he strives for excellen-
cy. The scoffer's sneer and the flatterer's praise are
unavailing. Science bestows on him her lustre and in
true humility he vows to become as true and pure as
she is. With increased knowledge his charity increases
for less fortunate humanity, and though he honors the
dead and reveres their giant structures; the quivering
lip, the saddened eye, the care-worn face of the living,
are dearer to him than the past with its myriads of si-
lent sleepers.

From this class of students has emanated a Jesus,
Socrates, Wyckliffe, Luther, Thomas Paine and Lincoln
and to this class of students we must look for the ban-
ners-carriers of moral and intellectual liberty and pro-
gress of the future.

Before parting permit me to review briefly.

The masses imbibe instructively their leaders spirit.
The army of nominal students, who in a great measure
shape public opinion, have ever been sowing the seed
of prejudice, from which has sprung the hatred and
contempt between races, nations and factions. You
and I have harvested and are still harvesting our full
share of the bitter fruit. If ever true culture shall pre-
vail then war must be waged against these false pro-
hets, who have mastered the religious, educational and
political phraseology, and who, with uplifted eyes, and
under the protection of the dear old flag, bury their tal-
osn in the nation's heart.

The goddess' true disciples, so few in numbers, loom
high before us; and to them we owe our ideals, our vir-
tues, and the fond hope of victory. As a parting mes-
gage I invite you to a race to yonder hight, and shame
on him who deserts his comrades and joins the foe.

We clip the following from "Nature," of March.

"A remarkable piece of coral taken off the sub-ma-
rine cable near Port Darwin, is spoken of in a Melbourne
paper. It is of the ordinary species, about five inches
in height, six inches in diameter at the top, and about
two inches at the base. It is perfectly formed, and the
base bears the distinct impression of the telegraphic
wire still adhering to it. As the cable has been laid
only four years, it is evident that this specimen must
have grown to its height in that time, which seems to
prove that the growth of coral is much more rapid
than has been supposed."
voice, which did not seem to be under proper control.
The judges, Chancellor Hammond, W. H. Hubbard, and Mrs. Prof. Parker, retired for consultation and the band discoursed music during their absence. When the judges returned, President Thacher announced that the first prize had been awarded to Mr. Patrick and the second to Mr. Evans; the prizes were then presented to the victors and the audience after generously applauding the decision of the judges, wended their way homeward.

OUR SOCIETIES.

It is occasionally remarked by some few of the students, that time spent in study, is better employed than that spent in preparing for society. But experience teaches us that knowledge is not knowledge, until we have brought it under the dominion of the great social faculty-speech. To develop this power the student must have access to the literary society. Here the finest and noblest qualities in his many-sided nature are brought to the surface. Here the art of thinking quickly is developed. Here self-confidence is attained. Here are called into action the highest social faculties by the triction of mind with mind. Students who seldom mix with their fellows, are almost sure to become one-sided, the victims of fixed ideas and prejudices, which if exposed to the air of social life would melt into the air and become mere nothings:

They facilitate social intercourse and mould the character of the student. Can it be said that oratory is without influence in moulding the character and shaping the destinies of our country; in the pulpit, at the bar, and on the stump? Why is it, that out of the many discourses delivered weekly, so few make lasting impression? Surely, it can not be attributed to the matter, the detect is in the manner, the delivery of the discourse.

The truth is, there never was a great minister, lawyer or statesman who was not also a great orator, and who did not give attention to the science of expressing by gesture and tongue the burning thoughts within him, and who did not gain his proficiency at the expense of his hearers.

The society affords a healthful recreation and refreshes and enlivens the overtaxed brain. They extinguish stage fright, which characterizes so many men of ability when asked to ascend the rostrum.

To conclude, the interchange of thought encouraged by our societies among the students engenders stability of character, enlarges the mind, opens new fields of literature, gives amplitude to thought, originality to the forms of expression, stimulates a desire for knowledge, and prepares the student to fight with vigor the battle of life.

STOLEN SQUIBS.

Those who raise envy will easily incur censure.
The devil never yet tempted a man whom he found judiciously employed.
The reason why lovers are never weary of one another is this—they are always talking of themselves.

Extended empire, like expanded gold exchanges solid strength for feeble splendor.

A young lady said to her lover: "You may be too late for the cars, but you can take a 'bus;" and the stupid fellow went to look for a 'bus.

A quack doctor advertises to this effect: "Cough when you can, for after you have taken one bottle of my medicine you can't."

"Bright * of my xixtoc! give me an 14!" said a printer 2 his sweetheart. She made a - at him, and planted her between his 2 1's, which made him C ***.

The Tufts Collegian follows the Undergraduate in its advocacy of more drill and practice in extempore speaking.

A very precise person, remarking upon Shakespeare's lines, "The good men do is oft interfered with their bones," carefully observed that this interment can generally take place without crowding the bones.

Curran being angry in a debate one day, put his hand to his heart, saying, "I am the trusty guardian of my own honor." "Then," said Sir Boyle Roach, "I congratulate my honorable friend on the snug sincere to which he has appointed himself."

"Before we were married," said he to a friend, "she used to say 'by-by' so sweetly when I went down the steps." "And now what does she say?" asked the friend. "Oh! just the same," exclaimed the man—"buy buy." "Ah! I see," said the other; "she only exercises a little different 'spell' over you."

"May they always live in peace and harmony," was the way a Yankee marriage notice should have wound up: but the compositor, who couldn't read manuscript very well, put in type and horrified the happy couple by making it read, "May they always live on peas and hominy."

"Dar's gwine to be wah," remarked a colored citizen "an' all de niggahs mout je's well get ready for active business." "Which side shall we take?" asked one of his hearers. "You niggahs can take jes' wat side yer please. I'se gwine to take de Canada side."

A nice thing in beaux is composed of a long and slender piece of conceit, trimmed with a wide flounce of flattery, edged with a knife-pleating of "airy nothings" and headed by a narrow bias fold of thought. If a white cravat, red and blue silk handkerchief and white kid gloves be added, this charming article becomes quite irresistible. They are much affected for evening wear, and are usually worn on the left side.
In his annual report for 1875-6, President Eliot, of Harvard, states that the corporation regard "the Library, the centre of the University," and believe "that it would be easier to carry on the University without productive funds than without books and reasonable facilities for their use." The accompanying Treasurer's report speaks in this wise: Buildings for Library extension, $85,000; Books, $155,540.43; Salaries (of librarians and assistants) $14,367.30; Binding and Incidents, $2,687.61.

President E. says that in comparison with ten years ago, "the examination in Latin and Greek have been greatly improved in subject matter and in method; the mathematical requisitions have been sensibly increased. English and either French or German have been added to the requisitions; and natural science has got a foothold in the scheme. Furthermore, the few persons by whom mathematics are for any reason preferred to the classics, are permitted to offer certain advanced mathematics instead of portions of the Latin and Greek authors."

THE TRIENNIAL, AND BENTON'S ADDRESS.

The early history of many educational institutions is obscure. With our University the case is quite different. The foresight, industry and tireless care of its friends (particularly Thos. H. Benton, Jr., and T. S. Parvin) have preserved and printed all the essential facts of its organization and progress. A complete history is thus rendered possible. To the valuable information of Col. Benton's address have been added a reprint of the first catalogues and programmes of the University, and the Triennial catalogue. The latter contains in a form compact and condensed, the entire list of "officers and alumni" of the State University of Iowa. To the names there is affixed the address and occupation, which gives much knowledge concerning the graduates—their whereabouts and their business. From this catalogue the alumni will glean the information they desire about their college chums and classmates. They will also, it is hoped, turn their thoughts backward to their Alma Mater and not forget the debt they owe her, but improve every opportunity by saying a kind word for an institution which is still laboring in the cause of knowledge.

By the summary on the last page of the Triennial, we see that the number of our graduates foots up well in comparison with other and older Universities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Normal</th>
<th>Collegiate</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academics</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>345</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law</td>
<td>383</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical</td>
<td>115</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>846</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

"FROM CODS TO CODLINGS AND FROM CODLINGS TO CODS."

In the course of a very interesting scientific lecture, Prof. Gunning was understood to say that the Codfish sometimes lays as many as nine millions of eggs in a single season. And further, to illustrate the necessity of limiting in some way the result of such astonishing fecundity, he said that if each of these nine millions of eggs should hatch out a codling, which should grow up to be a cod, and in its turn lay nine millions of eggs in a season, and these eggs should each be hatched as the others had been, and so on without discount or detaration for 500 years, the product would fill the ocean from surface to abyss.

It occurred to us at the time that the Professor had greatly underrated the capabilities of the cod fish. A brief calculation will give a better idea of the increase from such a ratio.

The account will stand thus:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Generation</th>
<th>Codfish</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>9,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>450,000 cu. ft. at the rate of 20 per foot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>4,050,000,000,000 cubic feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Globe 11,000 miles in diam' tr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th</td>
<td>Globe 2,200,000 miles in diam.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th</td>
<td>Globe 44,000,000,000 miles in diam.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th</td>
<td>Globe 17,600,000,000,000 miles in diam.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is not worth while to carry this out any farther as the magnitude of our fish ball is already such that it would extend beyond the nearest fixed stars, and the next move would carry its circumference out two hundred times farther away. This leaves out of view all egg deposits save the one from each fish, and supposes each one to vanish from the scene as soon as its eggs are laid.

To set the matter in a clearer light, let me suppose that this laying takes place at the end of the fifth year of the cod's life. Then it will appear that if the Professor had deposited such a cod upon this footstool at his birth, and then betaken himself to flight with a speed equal to the velocity of light, this codfish globe would have overtaken and overwhelmed him before he had reached the age of thirty-five.

N. R. L. in the Republican.

A Junior, who has been a student of Physics during the past few weeks, thus moralizes: "The lever is a sad instrument. When I leave her I weep. The arms are waisted for the moment and there is more or less friction at the point of osculation."
UNIVERSITY REPORTER.

Iowa City, Iowa, - - - - April 16, 1877.

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Albion N. Fellows, '78.

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A. D. Bishop, Financial Agent.

In his Chicago lecture, Col. Ingersoll said: "It is the duty of the Government to educate all the children in the nation." It is Ingersoll's opinion that compulsory education is consistent with that ultra view of liberty of which Ingersoll is, at present, the most prominent advocate.

The editorial corps is prepared to pass judgement on any amount of matter for the Reporter. Come one and all! Send in poems, scraps, locals, personals, long-winded editorials, solid leaders, squibs and items of all sorts, sizes, shapes and qualities, and the Reporter will thrive as never before. Don't all come at once.

The socialite in the chapel, the last of the winter term, may be considered an average success. These gatherings should come oftener; they could, however be rendered more interesting, and one would surely be a "true reformer" who would interest himself to inaugurate a New Departure for the better. It might be well to limit conversation to a space of five minutes, i.e. one person should not converse with another longer than this period at one time. This mode of procedure would dispense in a great measure with what might be termed a monopoly, would render remarks pointed and terse, and cause general animation and vivacity. Still, even this theory has its weak points, for, seniors especially, would audaciously assert that they had forgotten their watches and thus excuse their glaring misdemeanors. Be all this as it may, it does not look well in any one to sneer contemptuously at "those University sociables." Neither is it very creditable for any one to speak disparagingly of these luminous centers of social culture (for such they are in reality) which would shine brighter and radiate greater warmth, if even these would be critics, these constitutional grumblers, would lend their presence, and thus remove so many stumbling blocks from the pathway of social progress.

The AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

We learn from the papers of the State that this institution has taken a "new departure." In Nov. 1876, Prof. Beal, the civil engineer, took to himself a wife. December of the same year, Prof. Pope, the chemist, brought home his newly wedded wife. In February, 1877, Prof. Stanton, the Mathematician, was married. On the same day, Prof. Macomber, the Physicist, ceased to be a bachelor. As two of the newly wedded wives are members of the faculty, it follows that six teachers were married during the past vacation.

The Reporter confesses to be in doubt whether these remarkable facts portend peace or war in the college! However, giving our sister institution the benefit of the doubt, we extend our hearty congratulations.

SELF CONFIDENCE.

The market value of self reliance is too often underrated: proper confidence seldom gets due appreciation. It is almost the only means which enable a man to gain (in the eyes of his associates and compers) the position to which his merits and genius entitle him. Between egotism and confidence there is a difference as broad as that which lies between confidence and cowardice.

Egotism is an excess of self reliance which leads its parasite to overestimate his capacity, to misjudge his talents and overstate his proficiency; its minion finds his whole career one of error and his life work capped by failure; it blasts the fondest desires, blights the brightest hopes of its slave, and despoiling him of his mental faculties makes him as senseless as a fool.

Lack of confidence—cowardice—receives the gibes of every project, discourages every intention, hinders every devise, thwarts every plan and frustrates every endeavor for the improvement or progress of which the mind of mortal man is capable; it impedes the intelligence; tramells the will, incumbe's the imagination, clojs the reason, retards ambition, distorts affections, mars the judgment and enervates the moral sensibilities of its victim—thereby leaving him, bereft of strength, a child.

But the happy mean, self reliance, true confidence, leads to the proper use of the faculties with which nature has endowed us and makes us, instead of reckless or timid, careful and prudent; instead of heedless inconsiderate and imprudent or shy and spurious it makes us courageous and interpid.

Confidence can be cultivated. Nearly our whole life is one of growth in confidence. The prattling infant may have sufficient strength to walk, but while lacking self reliance it will only creep until by degrees it acquires reliance upon its own powers. Nothing dared, nothing done. The intellectual man must try his intellectual legs. He ought not to be satisfied with the snail like pace of creeping but to venture until he gains enough skill and confidence to walk and then, perhaps to run.
The societies begin the Spring term with teams of good working officers:

**ERODEPHIAN.**
President: Mary E. Cochrane.
Vice President: Harriet J. Parker.
Rec. Secretary: Emma Rankin.
Cor. Secretary: Belle M. Gilchrist.
Treasurer: Clara E. Coe.

**HESPERIAN.**
President: Minnie Kimball.
Vice President: Leona Call.
Rec. Sec'y: May Robinson.
Cor. Sec'y: Hattie Smith.
Treasurer: Alma McKenzie.
Member of executive committee: Emma McKenzie.
Society Orator: Mary H. Johnson.

**IRVING INSTITUTE.**
President: John Campbell.
Vice President: Frank T. Lyon.
Rec. Sec'y: Chas. E. Tebbets.
Cor. Sec'y: Alfred D. Churchill.
Treasurer: H. J. Bell.

**ZETAGATHIAN.**
President: Arthur Springer.
Vice President: Robert M. Goshorn.
Cor. Sec'y: C. N. Hunt.
Rec. Sec'y: L. C. Johnson.
Treasurer: C. C. Ziegler.

**PHILOMATHEAN.**
President: F. A. Vanderpool.
Vice President: E. C. Walcott.
Rec. Sec'y: J. B. Brennan.
Cor. Sec'y: F. A. Remley.
Treasurer: F. E. Burbank.

**SYMPTONIAN.**
President: J. S. Enlow.
Vice President: J. A. Moon.
Cor. Sec'y: J. J. Smith.
Rec. Sec'y: F. M. Collins.
Treasurer: F. S. Rice.
Usher: O. A. Byington.

We scarcely know whether the **REPORTER** is most indebted to Chancellor Hammond in apologies or in thanks. The Chancellor delivered his interesting lecture for the benefit of the **REPORTER** while it was under the old *regime* and we did not notice until a few days before our last issue was out that it had not been acknowledged, and the apologetic article that we wrote for the last issue, owing doubtless to the wondrous ways of ye printer and the inexperience of the present corps did not appear. We regret very deeply this apparent lack of courtesy to Chancellor Hammond and we hope he may find it in his heart to measure our gratitude and thanks by the negligence we have shown in their expression. But even that would inadequately represent the benefit the **REPORTER** has derived from the proceeds of the lecture; it was enabled to liquidate several annoying debts and to make some improvements with the pecuniary assistance thus rendered. Though our recognition of our indebtedness to the Chancellor is tardy—and though our negligence and inattention may justly be charged with the omission we feel confident that no one will impute to us any intentional disrespect toward a gentleman from whose reputation and attainments the **REPORTER** could not detract if it wished, and to whose beneficence it is so largely indebted.

**LOCALS.**

—It was the general impression during examination that the Professors were extremely inquisitive.

—Quite a large number of students remained in the city during the week of vacation.

—A Freshman wishes to know whether the elder Pliny was a popular preacher.

—One of the foremost Seniors says that he makes up in brilliancy of recitation what he lacks in actual knowledge.

—"President Hayes neither drinks, chews or smokes." The same can be said of every man in the senior class.

—Sub-freshman orator,—"Some things die; some do not; those that do not live for a long time."

—The sociable held in the chapel on the last Saturday evening of the term was well attended and was an enjoyable affair.

—One of the very best teachers in the University is quite unfortunate. He says that he is gradually losing the ability to enjoy being mad.

—A member of the Sperical Geometry Class has, undoubtedly, a wonderful bump of comparison. He likened a sphere to a water melon.

—A couple of "Fresh" in their verdancy mistook the lecturer for an usher, and followed him up to the front. Their dismay was only equalled by the skill with which they slunk around the corner and down a side aisle.

—One of the Freshman class, noted for his impetuous, liberal translations, caused considerable merriment among some members of the class by using the very classical term "horse soldiers" for the word *equites*.

—Here is the latest outburst of Freshman philosophical reasoning: "There is no use talking, if a fellow once starts up, and keeps going ahead he's bound to rise in this world." The Freshman Class flatters itself that it has such a truly logical, Socratic thinker, and hopes he may soon start on his upward journey. Success to you, comrade.
—The Sophomores have been heard from. Four representatives of the class will shortly appear in declamatory contest. The are: Mary H. Johnson, Georgie Countryman, Frank B. Cowgill and Mary Loring. Success to all of them.

—A Sophomore made an egregious blunder the other day. He wrote two letters, one to his mother, the other to his fulicina. The one containing his affectionate outpourings he directed to his mother. Talk to him if you want to see a fellow weep!

—During the Winter term one of the pleasing features of the Sophomore Latin was the interesting and instructive lectures by Prof. Currier on the diffusion of language, and the manners and customs—civil and religious—of the Romans, Germans and various other peoples.

—Chapel singing has been revived. The new Chapel Hymns printed in a form convenient for distribution throughout the whole body of the students are a decided improvement on the twenty or thirty singing books which seldom found their way further down the chapel than the Junior seats.

—The Zetagathians and Irving's adjourned their regular session for the last Friday evening of the term. This afforded to such as desired it a chance to attend the O'Gorman lecture, and to the members of the two societies a welcome rest before entering upon the labors of the present term.

—The opportunity of seeing a genuine celestial is being improved by the students. A few days ago we noticed standing in front of the Chinese Laundry on Clinton street, a group composed of Americans, Germans, Englishmen, Irishmen, Bohemians, Scotchmen, Indians and Africans, gazing earnestly through the window at Mr. Ah Sin, who all unconsciously of their gaze was engaged in ironing a shirt.

—A Freshman in a small company of young people the other evening turned to a class-mate, and in a tone ostensibly low, remarked: "He—came into German this morning with two long hairs upon his shoulder." A "fair one "immediately interposed: "Why Mr. B— I haven't been with Mr. H— for a week!" Chorus of the company laughing, and blushing exit of the fair one.

—A Sophomore who is a "thinker" recently wrote the following sentence: "That all men are idiots is a profound truth which is believed by everybody except mankind." Our "thinker" thought for a whole hour over the thought that he had so elegantly expressed, and then with sad and mournful looks he said: "This sentence is too deep for me, I cannot discovery what it means."

—The concert of March 30th, under the management of Messrs. Woollett and Titcomb assisted by the best home talent was a grand affair; but owing to the inclemency of the weather, was poorly attended. We are informed that Messrs. Woollett and Titcomb meditate establishing here a conservatory of music. We hope their project will be carried into effect. Such an institution is needed in our city; and should receive the encouragement of all lovers of music.

—Once more the cheerful sound of music is heard during the morning chapel exercises, an appropriation having been lately made for the procuring of an organist and music leaves. This is a step well taken, for singing, entered into with a right degree of earnestness and animation, has a tendency to invigorate both the physical and mental powers. Let all those who possibly can engage in this exercise, one not only profitable to themselves but interesting and pleasurable to others.

—Several members of the Law Class proper are laboring under the impression that the advanced class in law is dead. You ought to consider, friends, that we have no lids to our desks, that the aroma of the filthy plant forms no part of our existence and that no terror-stricken visitor needs to halt at the door of our sanctum in order to ascertain by the deafening noise within whether a camp meeting, menagerie or an Indian massacre is in progress. Under these circumstances your mistake is, of course, excusable.

—That graduates should still attend the University is incredible but true nevertheless. The members of the advanced class in law, who under the leadership of Chancellor Hammond have on Monday, April 2, commenced the study of Story's Equity Jurisprudence are living witnesses to the above assertion. Judge Howe is the arbiter of the Supreme Moot Court and our docket is filled with cases which are sent to us from the Supreme Court of Iowa and the United States District and Circuit Courts. Thus it happens that our decisions are law in Iowa until they are reversed by our sister tribunals.

—At the close of Edith O'Gorman's first lecture, two young men whose thirst for knowledge enabled them to overcome their well known timidity, approached the speaker and having introduced themselves, stated their wish to get a few "points" on the subject of the Papal power. And when the lecturer, by so marked a deference to her ability evidently too much flustered to find words for a lengthy reply, gave them the comforting assurance that the desired information can be found in any exhaustive work on Roman Catholicism. These seekers after knowledge went their way evidently much pleased at having gained another height of knowledge.

—The Freshman Sociable took place in the Zetagathian Hall. Many thanks to the estimable members of that Society for their courteousness in allowing the class the use of their well furnished room. To call the Sociable a mere success would be commonplace, and to say that it was a brilliant affair would give but an inadequate idea of the pleasure experienced, and the inestimable benefit derived, by almost the entire class from the unprecedented occurrence. After introductions, con-
A WORD ON THE MARKING SYSTEM AS PRACTICED IN THE IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY.

The foundation of the "marking system" is supposed to be a desire to arrive at even justice; a belief that each student makes his own record, free from the influence or sympathies of the instructor; that he is placed with others upon his merits, and by the force of his own scholarship he shall rise, or from the lack of it he shall fall. A very homely way to put it is found in the proverb—"Every tub stands on its own bottom."

The system has its good and its bad points, even when used from a systematic stand point; but when it no longer is the exposition of a system, but becomes the exponent of the mere feelings and sympathies of the instructor, who dislikes to give "low marks," and wishes that his classes may rank high in "standing," all its good points are lost and all the bad ones become prominent.

The writer would evince no spirit of hostility to any of the accomplished and honorable instructors of the institution. It is hard for the professor or tutor to banish all sympathy for a really deserving and usually prompt student, who makes an utter failure—it is hard to mark a zero. They feel it, on the other hand, unjust to the deserving student to mark ten to the usually dull student who receives under a strong suspicion of owing aid to another. Between these two extremes, the range is wide. It is a difficult task for the instructor to banish the heart, and sit in cool judgment an impersonation of equal and exact justice, watching not for an approach to, but for a departure from, perfection.

Granted that one instructor allows for the failures and shortcomings of the student, that when the head says seven the heart whispers, "Yes, but you gave ten," and so a compromise is struck and the hasty pencil jots down nine. Another instructor feels this and he marks seven when perhaps more heart and less head would have given eight and justly too. This does not lie still. It is said that one professor marks "high," that another marks "low," and the students learn to look on the one with pleasure, on the other with hatred. Said a student, "It hurts his conscience to mark ten." Said another, "Why he will give anybody ten." What once may have been a system and an impersonation of justice, soon becomes when thus treated an encouragement to the idle student to continue idle, and a discouragement to the diligence of the studious.

Yet worse than this, a student, after examination at the close of the term called on the instructor, and asked the class standing given him. The instructor gave him the figures. Whereupon the student objected saying he should be marked higher, and—the professor accordingly marked him up! Is not this ridiculous?

Another, and if possible, more glaring case, was presented but a short time ago, when the instructor, not satisfied with the usual examination, determined on a written one, to occupy two days. The first day six easy questions were placed on the blackboard, on prominent matters connected with the term's work. On the second day the instructor informed the class he had been surprised and mortified with the result of the previous days examination. He declared had justice dictated the marking some of the class would have fallen below thirty! many of them below sixty! and but few would have reached ninety. Yet in the same breath he announced he had given no one of the class less than sixty! This was an injustice that should not have been overlooked; if a student earned no more than thirty in examination, thirty he should have received. Justice to the student, to the teacher, and the class alike would dictate this. It was a positive injustice to those who receive high marks, for it lessened the value of their standing, and cast suspicion upon their scholarship. It was
no honor to receive high marking under such a system.

But a few days ago, an observant Junior stated, naming them, professors who mark high, and those who mark low. Sad to say the professors of one course are credited as liberal markers, and the professors of another course as close markers. When the day of graduation comes and the record is made up for class honors one may win a prominent place who should give way to another, higher in scholarship, though owing to the different markings, lower in standing.

A short time ago it was said of three instructors, that they could not account for the low general standing of some of their best students, as compared with others whom they considered "dull," until they had examined the records and found the average was raised by the markings the "dull" students had received under other instructors. Once their eyes were open they raised their marking, or rather lowered it, and brought it up, or down, to what they considered the standard maintained by the other instructors. As a system of "general average" this may be all right, but the "marking system" should not be a general average,—it should at least approach to, if it does not reach, an exact justice.

These feelings beget heart burnings and strifes, until it is said to have reached such a point that certain students have declared a purpose to refuse to take part in the commencement exercises unless they receive a position of honor, claiming that they will be justified in such a course by this state of things.

With all due respect to you, gentlemen of the Faculty, either mark on a system, or abandon the so-called system, and whatever the "future system" may be, let it be one that shall be based on even and impartial justice, with no tempering of mercy, with no allowance for good conduct, or previous good recitations. Not that the instructors should be degraded to the office performed by a lung tester, or a lifting machine, where a sudden spurt or knack may carry away the highest place, but they should discriminate, take a stand together, agree on the manner of marking, and carry it through, impartially and justly, without fear or favor.

J. S.

"BLUE GLASS."

FROM "POPULAR SCIENCE MONTHLY."

We are asked why we do not discourse of Pleasonton and "blue glass." Why should we? Is it not abundantly considered by the press already? The object of our pages is to treat of subjects that are too generally rejected; to give expression to those great results of discovery and scientific thought which get but a meagre share of attention from the popular press, and we cannot find half room enough to do this work as it should be done. "But, really, what do you think of Pleasonton and, and the blue glass cure?" is now the obtrusive question. Well, we think that the man is a pestilent ignorantus, and his book the ghastliest rubbish that has been printed in a hundred years. He may be entirely honest, but that is no reason why we should give attention to his egregious follies.

Pleasonton however, it must be confessed, serves one important function; he gauges for us the depth and density of American stupidity. De Morgan says, somewhere, that certain men appear occasionally to play the part of "fook-ometers" in the community, that is, to measure the number and quality of the fools furnished by any given state of society.

Pleasonton has done this for us with an accuracy that leaves nothing to be desired. Our showing in this respect is on a very handsome scale, fully commensurate with the length of the Mississippi, the sweep of the prairies, the glory of the Centennial exhibition, the grandeur of the national debt, and the splendid proportions of our system of education. He is a public benefactor, in that he has given us another "big thing." The interesting point just now about "blue glass" is psychological. It is an exponent of popular intelligence, in index of culture, a register of common school work, and a test of the influence of Colleges. Our collective schools produce in the community a certain state of mind; "blue glass" indicates it. There is evidently a very close connection here, and the problem deserves to be worked out. If the Intercollegiate Literary Association will offer an additional prize for the best essay on the connection between the study of Latin and Greek and the "blue glass" mania, the Popular Science Monthly will furnish the money for the purpose.

PERSONALS.

Class '80. J. J. Bowles will not be in this term.—The wish of his class is that he may prosper in whatever he undertakes.

Special. T. J. Brockway is alive and well; has been teaching during the past winter near his home in Washington County. He sends kindly greeting to all his friends.

Class '80. W. V. Smith, having finished his winter's school, is once more among us. Happy to welcome you again, Vincent.

Class '80. Miss Rosa Cowgill has left school, and intends to be absent one year. We congratulate Class '81 in getting such a worthy member.

Lizzie and Florence Clark spent a portion of their last interregnum from scholastic cares in the city.

Ida F. Ingalls is once more a student in the University.

J. B. Chapman is editing the Tama City Press. His friends will welcome his return next year, when he will enter the Law Class.

"Pete" Ritter dropped in upon his old friends the
other day. It is a long time since we have seen your smiling face, Pete.

James F. Slaughter is again in his accustomed place. The Sophomore Class can congratulate themselves on a valuable acquisition to their numbers.

'71. Law '73. Elinim McClain returned from Washington where he has been Clerk of one of the Senate Committees. He goes to Des Moines.

'78. John Helmick and his brother Charles were called home by the sad news of their father’s death. The sympathy of their numerous associates went with them. May they soon be with us again.

'76. Clara Remley spent the vacation of her Winter school in the city, at her home.

'76. Florence R. Kinney, of Rock Island, spent a few days of her vacation among the old associations of her school days.

'75. Edwin W. Craven spent a short time in the city. Ed. is as frank and genial as ever. He is teaching Latin in the Des Moines University.

'76. Miss Mary Shepard is at her home in the growing City of Marshalltown.

W. G. Koogler astonished the older students by an appearance in chapel. We have heard it intimated that next year’s law class will be favored with his distinguished presence.

Thurman and Johnson are in mourning over the hasty departure of two coats which sheltered them from hoarse winter’s chilling blasts. They are anxious for Spring.

Mr. Richardson having taught some time in Indiana returns to resume duties in the University.

A. J. Greiner, mirabile dictu, was again seen in the streets of Iowa City. He is in the lumber business in Muscatine. He contemplates a return ere long to the Athens of Iowa.

MARRIED—At Orange City, Sioux county, Iowa, Mr. Edward Lanning, a graduate of the Medical Department, class ’77, to Miss Katie Jackson of New York, Rev. S. Bolks officiating. May yours be a life of happiness.

75. J. N. Neiman heard from, is having success in the practice of law at Tipton, Iowa.

75. Harman Hiatt, principal of the Springdale schools, occasionally makes visits to the city.

George Ingram, one of our old students, spent Sunday—a few weeks ago, in the city. George is County Superintendent of Iowa County.

74.—Alfred Wood looked in upon us. Sidney, Fremont County, claims his attention to her schools.

Special—Frank Garretson passed a few hours among old chums.

Nathaniel Guernsey is in his wonted place. Glad to view your cheerful phis, Nat.

75.—J. J. Welch strode into the Zetagathian hall to the wonderment of those who knew him. The dry goods business engages his attention and Welch is a success at pleasing the ladies, of course—as all of Red Oak’s females can can testify by this time.

74.—Alfred Wood came down upon the S. U. I. the other day. Sidney’s schools enjoy his supervision.

—J. Calvin Murray is enjoying the advantages of our sister institution—Cornell College. Wonder if he has been converted or had the conceit taken out of him.

Prof. Gustavus Hinrichs has been over in Illinois lecturing to the suckers upon various scientific subjects as usual he was greeted with large audiences and his lectures are highly spoken of by the local press of the localities he visited.

Judge Love, of Keokuk, has returned to finish his duties for the year in connection with the Law department. He lectures for the remainder of his stay upon the subjects of Federal Practice and Admiralty and Maritime Jurisdiction.

Married—In Iowa City at the residence of Levi Kauffman by Rev. P. P. Ingalls, W. C. Preston and Louise Kauffman. The happy couple received their friends upon Thursday evening, March 27th. May their life be long and joyful.

81. Wm. Welch, who has been teaching school the past winter, is in school again.

81. J. J. McConnell is with us once more.

EXCHANGES.

Speaking of J. W. C’s. poem in the February Reporter, the soulless man of the Index says: “A pretty little poem is that in the University Reporter for February. It contains just 262 verses and rhymes “to thee with I’d be,” &c. The metre reminds one of the prancing characteristics of a country stag dance.”

They ought to turn out good newspaper reporters at Cambridge. There is a practice of lending money, at Harvard, to students whose funds are limited, and of taking notes in return. President Elliott, in his last
annual report, says that $35,000 of the money thus loaned has not been paid.

"Tycho" has a splendid article in the College Mercury on Blue Glass. Mark Twain and the "Hawkeye" man may well tremble for their laurels if "Tycho" will only stick to the papers and never, never attempt to write a book.

The Hesperian Student all the way from Lincoln, Nebraska, is on our table. It is gotten up in magazine style and is as sprightly as ever, though we judge news must be as scarce in Neb., as it is with us.

The Archangel (which proclaims itself to be published under the censorship of the Rt. Rev. Archbishop Blanchet) calls secret society members "the dupes of a deceptive delusion." Perhaps some "deceptive delusion" has unanimously blackballed the archangelic cynic.

A rather long, though very fine article on Shelley's poems is to be found in the March Berkeleyan, together with the usual quantum of non mots, &c.

Somebody wrote an "indignation" letter to the Undergraduate which frightened it into a polyglot explanation of three columns. To read all the English, French, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, &c. in that article would stretch the immortality of Max Müller. We haven't read it.

The University Press comes to us in its usual perfection; but the exchange editor is so riled at the Qui Vinc for calling him a "prosaic poet" that he wades through a column and a half of brevier to give vent to his wrath.

The Faculty of Harvard have concluded that women had better have the same privilege as men in the University provided they can pass the required examination.

Josh Billing's Aphorisms.—Be merciful to all the dumb animals; no man can get to Heaven on a sorebacked horse.

The great fight is fast for bread, then butter on the bread, and then sugar on the butter.

The grate secret ov popularity is to make every one satisfied with himself first, and afterward satisfied with yu.

The grate mistake that most people make iz, they think more of their cunning than they do ov their honesty.

The unhappiness of this lite seems principally to consist in getting everything we kan and wanting everything we aint got.

I have finally com to the konklusion that the best epitaph any man kan hav for all praktikal purposes is a good bank account.

Paupers suffer less than misers do—the man who don't kno where he is going to git his next dinner suffers less than the one who is anxious to kno how much ii ts a going to kost him.

LIBRARY NOTES.

Since the issue of the March Reporter the following volumes have been purchased:

Herbert Spencer. Education.
Daniel Deronda. 2 Vols.
Adam Bede. 2 copies.
Felix Holt.
Romola. 2 copies.
Middlemarch. 2 Vols.
Mill on the Floss. 2 copies.
Clerical Life and Silas Marner. 2 copies.
Thackeray. Vanity Fair.
Pendennis.
The Newcomes.
The Virginians.
Barry Lyndon.
Wallace. Russia.
Huldekkasser. Judaism in Ancient Rome.
Auerbach, Woldfield.
Mrs. Alexander. The Wooing O'T.
Garrett's Home Decoration.
Art in the House.
Gautier. A winter in Russia.
Constantinople.
Whittier's Poems.
Willis's Poems.
Essays of Sir Roger de Coverly, (from Spectator).
Dewees. The Molly Maguires.
Spear. Religion and the State.
Giles Lectures and Essays. 2 Vols.
Mahaffy's Rambles and Studies in Greece.
Tuckerman. Biographical Essays.
Merivale. The Roman Triumvirates.
Whipple E. P. Literature and Life.

Literature of the Age of Elizabeth.

Ferrier. Functions of the Brain.
Fawcett. Gold and Debt
Charles Kingsley. Letters and Memorials.
Calvert. Life of Rubens.
Seelye. Christian Missions.
Wright. Philosophical Discussions.
Jebb's Attic Orators. 2 Vols.
Henry Wilson. Rise and Fall of the Slave Power.

Vol. 3.
Stanley's History of the Jewish Church. 3 Vols.
Trevelyan's Selections from Macaulay.
Lange's Commentary on Ezekiel and Daniel.
Darwin. Insectivorous Plants.
The Fertilization of Orchids by Insects.

Wallace. Geographical Distribution of Animals. 2 Vols
Benton's Historical Sketch of the State University of Iowa.

The Library now contains 7,487 Volumes exclusive of Public Documents and Pamphlets.