SOLILLOQUY.

There stands my sword with keenest edge prepared
As best it may perform its duty. 'Twas
By the hand of Hector given, my worst of foes
And one whom I detested ever, Firm
Fixed in hostile Trojan soil—in kindness
It awaits its victim, nor waits it long,
Thus far 'tis well. But ere the fatal deed
I dare, to the Great Gods I look.

O ! Jove,
Father of all, the first I supplicate,
No signal favor do I ask of thee,
But that thou'st send some passing stranger
That'll bear the news of my unhappy fate
To Teucer's ear. that in mercy he may
First behold, then take this transpierced body
Far from sight of those who seek my life—lest
Discovered, I be cast by them
To ravenous vultures and to greedy dogs
Grant but this alone, and I am satisfied.
Thou too—Jove's winged messenger to man,
Be present to conduct with light and speedy
Tread this soul to its eternal home, soon
As shall reach my heart this penetrating steel.

Ye virgin daughters of the earth, who
Know all lays that fall to man, ready to do
Your Master's pleasure—attend—and behold
Me here a wretched victim to the power
Of cruel Agamemnon—then, swift as [lightning,
Seize, O ! Seize the murderers.
As I shall perish by my own sad hand,
So grant that those who've forced me to this last
Resort, may fall by the hand of those whom
Best love them.

Fly! quick! ye veneful Furies,
Glut yourselves with blood from all the Grecian
Host, nor spare a man.

Though, Sun, who driv'st thy flaming car along
The vaulted sky, when erst thou look'st upon
My native land, rein in thy steeds—announce
To my old father, and to her who long
Hath nourished me, the fortune and the fate
Of their unhappy son. Ah! wretched Mother!
When thou learnt'st that he whom thou didst bear, lies
A lifeless corpse near by the walls of this
Ill-fated city, how wilt thou rend thy hair,
And fill the streets with walls and bitter moans.

But all in vain—this deed—it must be done.
O ! Death, thou foe of human life, as thou
Passest, look on me. Soon shall I hail thee
As companion. O ! blessed light of Heaven
And thou proud Charitee, the Sun, receive
My last, my dying words. O ! Day—O ! Sacred
Soil of Salamis—land of my birth, shrine
Of my paternal gods—O ! noble Athens—
O ! companions of my happier days—
Ye rivers, fountains and fair fields of Troy,
And ye, my honored parents, who have reared
Me up with tender hand—Farewell! Farewell!
'Tis the last word Ajax shall speak on Earth.
The rest be uttered to the gods below!

SCEPTICISM.

Scepticism is a necessary, though not the highest,
phase in the education of the intellect. He who never
 doubted, never knew, is neither trustworthy as a wit­
ess, nor instructive as a thinker or teacher. To sift
 evidence and look for proof is the business not only of
the lawyer, but of the historian, not only of the man of
science, but of every one who is thoroughly alive to the
fact that he is a human being. Will doubt destroy faith?
Will it weaken our confidence in the wisdom of others?
Will it develop negative results instead of strengthen­
ing the positive side of our nature, intellectually, morally,
religiously? We answer: That depends on the man and
the extent to which he carries his doubts. Some minds
are so constituted that they take no interest in anything
positive; they like to belittle and perhaps to destroy;
they have not the strength to appreciate and build. But
humanity at large is not so constituted. Credulity is far
more common than scepticism, and has done far more
harm. Credulity crucified Jesus, forced Socrates to drain
the poisoned cup, sent Savonarola and Huss to the stake.
It kindled the fires of the investigation, and did not even
spare Servetus. Credulity is responsible for the perse­
cution of witches, the martyrdom of Galilei, the long
neglect of Science, the belief in the divine right of kings,
and of the divine right of the white race to enslave
the black. Scepticism may have, here and there, delayed
reforms, but as a rule it has hurt none but its own
devotees. Without scepticism, what would humanity
be? Would there have been a reformation? Had
Jesus never doubted the wisdom of pharisee and sad­
ducee, would that glorious system of religion and mor­
ae, of which he is the originator, have ever blessed the
world? But scepticism is not everything. It must
lead to other results than the mere recognition of er­
ers. Man is put into this world to be man, to be hu-
The genesis of every human being is developed from an all but invisible cell, passing through conditions in all respects like those of an animal, even retaining the animal character in the first stage of his existence, but gradually and surely rising higher and higher until, thanks to the benign influences of civilization, he attains the full stature of manhood. Whether or not the remotest history of the human race was analogous with the known history of every individual, whether, in fact, the genus, man, is the result of evolution, as the individual man certainly is, cannot change the great fact, that man must be human, that he must develop his human nature, if he would be true to himself, to his history, to the forces that advanced him to his actual condition. The more clearly this truth is apprehended, the less will man persist in merely doubting. There is so much to be done to raise humanity to higher and higher stages of progress, there is so much to study, to investigate, to think over and fashion into forms that will satisfy his craving for proportion, usefulness, symmetry and beauty, that scepticism can claim no other right than that of clearing the road of progress of the obstacles that past error has left upon it. In doing this it fulfills a most important function. There need be no fear that scepticism will destroy the real truths of Christianity, however much it may injure the superstitious belief in its traditional by-work. Christianity, the religion of the purest humanity, will, in one form or another, become the faith of all nations and all races, precisely because it is distinctively human, the religion of Him who called himself the Son of Man!

Scepticism, to be really useful, should be mainly devoted to an examination of the premises of a syllogism. The faculty of logical reason is as common as the faculty of using correct grammar. It is not the reasoning itself that is so much at fault in certain systems of religion, morals and philosophy, as rather the supposed foundation for that reasoning. It is for this reason that a knowledge of the methods of exact science is so all-important for the serious thinker. We do not mean that every one should be a scientist—there are scientists of the highest distinction who cannot reason properly outside their special department—but that every one should be practically acquainted with the inductive method of reasoning, i.e., the scientific method. It is only by this method that men of the most diverse views can expect to become agreed on any subject whatsoever. We have examined not a few text books on mental, moral, historical and even linguistic and literary science—(there is such a thing as a science of the history of literature!)—which seemed to us well-nigh useless for no other reason than this, that their authors were reasoning on no real basis whatever, taking the views of others as facts on which to found an argument, and begging the principal question in a manner sometimes positively ludicrous. Of what use is a logical argument, if the foundation for the argument is imaginary, the product of superstition, prejudice or common credulity? With a little leaven of keen and incisive scepticism very different results might have been obtained, and the student, instead of learning what, if he be worth anything mentally considered, he must surely throw aside afterwards as a mere tissue of irrelevant matter and pointless rhetoric, might have made some real advance in accurate thought and careful methods of investigation.

All higher education should have for its most prominent object the education of men that shall take a leading part in advancing the cause of thought, taste, art, science and the finest quality of morality among the people at large. Reforms must proceed from above downwards. The higher institutions of learning should be mainly devoted to the training of men that will take an active part in carrying on the work of culture, of reform, of civilization. Therefore they should not look with aversion on scepticism in whatever form it may appear, but rather encourage those who doubt, that they may advance beyond the pseudo truth to the real truth, thereby showing their practical faith in the old adage: "Magna est veritas et prevalebit."

OUR LATE PRESIDENT.

At the "Memorial Service" Pres. Pickard gave a very graphic outline of the life of Dr. Thacher, as follows:

"July 25th, 1817; Dec. 17th, 1878, mark the limit of a life. How full that life was is well known to those who knew Dr. Thacher best. He graduated from Yale in 1840 and from the Theological Seminary in 1843; was pastor of several churches in New England, coming from Meriden, Conn., to Keokuk, Iowa, in 1860, where he remained until his health failed in 1867; then pastor of the Congregational church in this city for a short time, after which a year of suffering and the grave claimed his body."

The analysis of his character and life work, as they appeared from various standpoints, was presented on the occasion referred to, and only a brief notice seems demanded here.

Voices from abroad indicate the high honor accorded him elsewhere, and, with remarkable unanimity, show how general was the conviction that the eminence he attained, great as it was, was below his best possibilities. The words of the Gate City ring out the thoughts
of more than one when it says of him, “He was really a great man. When stirred to action he had the body, and brain, and power under the stimulus of conflict, that make men great and admired leaders in the Senate or at the bar. We would not detract a word from the high usefulness of the minister or the teacher, but every man to his work, and this wasn’t Dr. Thacher’s work. His life had been thrust upon wrong lines. Had he been in the Senate in the old days of the fight between abolition and slavery ideas, he would have grappled with perfect self-containment with Douglas and Toombs in the struggles of the forum, and been as great as Ben Wade or Giddings.”

The duties of a President here are numerous, arduous and exceedingly diverse. The officer desires to move the myriad-minded public and a cautious legislature, to win the confidence of the professors, even when declining to second their favorite plans, and to secure the esteem of students in the face of needful reproofs and refusals. He needs to be fairly versed in the work of every department and to be appreciative of the duties of every chair, to be able to manage well the heavier artillery of the lecture platform and to direct the service of daily routine. In his relations to the students he should be gentle without weakness and firm without harshness, right in his decisions so generally that he may sometimes correct an error, so wise in thought and so young in feeling that he may become a safe and trusted guide, never carrying praise down to adulation nor censure to vengeance. Indeed a perfect President must needs be the impossible compound of the patient scholar and the active man of affairs, the prince in details and the master in combinations, of the giant in convictions and the child in adaptability, of the tender father and of the strict judge.

Into the midst of duties so multiform, so delicate and almost conflicting, Dr. Thacher brought a very strong and imperative nature. The drudgery of plodding acquisition was irksome to him, but the processes of deduction were eminently congenial, and here he was at his best. Had his inaugural been his only address it would have been an ample foundation for his reputation as a thinker and a master in combinations, of the giant in the struggles of the forum, and been as great as Ben Wade or Giddings.

Returning to work in the patent of another term, meeting everywhere happiness and health, we were deeply pained by hearing of the death of our late President, Dr. George Thacher, whose lingering illness had previously occasioned anxious solicitude, but no immediate fear. Appropriate memorial services, conducted by friends and associates of the deceased, were held in the chapel, on the first day of the present term; the only tribute to the noble life which now is done. President Pickard, in a few feeling words, gave a short sketch of the life and work of Dr. Thacher. Hon. Aus-
of any sort; and we have tried to obtain
furnished, speaking in behalf of the
then Rev. W. B. Craig represented the alumni, Chancellor Hammond the different Faculties of the University, Rev. Dr. Osmond the clergy of the city, Mr. C. L. Mozier the business men, and Mr. N. H. Brainard the Congregational Church.

No voice was heard from the present students of the University on that occasion; and properly, too; yet it would not be proper that the Reporter should now be silent.

In another column will be found a short presentation of Dr. Thacher's work while with us. His true record is written in the hearts of those who knew him.

When Mr. A. C. Troup, of the Law Dept., first became a member of our corps, he, and we all, thought that he was elected for two terms, the Fall and Winter; but now it transpires that his election was only for the Fall term. The misunderstanding arose in the confusion and bustle attendant upon the beginning of the school year, when the Law Class was but imperfectly organized, and its members only slightly acquainted with each other and with the customs pertinent to the Class.

Owing to this mistake, Mr. Troup retires without saying good bye; and we, without asking his consent, are very glad (that is, we are very sorry,) to say a few farewell words for him.

How well the interests of the Law class have prospered in his hands, all readers of the paper know. And besides recommending himself to the readers of the paper, he gained the good will of the corps, by his constant good nature, cheerfulness, and promptness on duty; qualities of the greatest value in the successful carrying on of the paper. We are sorry to lose him.

Mr. Troup is succeeded by Mr. Ray Billingsley, who makes his bow in another column; and under whose management the Law Dept. will not suffer.

If the Reporter were out of debt, and rich, it would prosper, and grow larger, and portlier, and fuller of great store of good things, and would have several kinds of type, and good covers on its back, and a nice picture of the University on its front. But the Reporter is poor, and can't afford good "clothes," and is quite as large as it ought to be, under the circumstances.

The best financial scheme for a paper, is to have a large subscription list; and the best way to obtain a large subscription list, is to furnish an interesting paper. And what is an interesting paper? We don't offer the Reporter as a model; for the Reporter is not all that we desire to make it. There are many things which prevent us from making it the finest paper in the Western Hemisphere, as we doubtless should, if our energies were allowed free scope.

We do our best; we have tried not to make our paper a repository for sermons, essays, long editorials, or long articles of any sort; and we have tried to obtain original matter, largely avoiding republishment. But there are other things desirable.

For instance, we should be glad to establish a regular column for general College news, items of interest, and clippings of good things from other papers; this would be of interest to many who are not obliged, as is the weary Exchange Editor, to see the same joke travel across the continent by medium of a score of papers. But here, as often elsewhere, we have been disappointed; for in the six or eight pages which remain when the departmental work is done, it is expected that there shall be found a poem, a good prose article, half-a-dozen "spirited editorials" on "topics of interest," two or three pages of "choice locals," a complete directory of personals, and a judicious assortment of exchange notes.

Now, we are exceedingly anxious to please, and would be glad to furnish even more than that; but often, when we wish to publish a nice little poem which we found somewhere, or when we have pasted a long string of superior jokes on a strip of copy paper, there is something more important, and we are "unavoidably crowded out," just as many contributions are, which we would be glad to publish.

Do not think, gentle reader, that we want to be pitied: we are too dignified to ask for charity; if you do not want to read us as we are, you needn't, and we will let you severely alone, as a person of very poor taste.

We think we're a pretty nice paper (though nothing to what we would be if we had half a chance, you know); but we simply present a few collateral incentives to encourage you to observe the extenuating circumstances, as it were.

Really, do you know how hard it is to write a "spirited editorial," when you haven't got your lessons, and know you'll be called straight to-morrow? Are you aware of the difficulties of concocting a "choice local," subsequent to midnight's holy hour?—"Oh!" you say, "why don't you write them in the morning?" To be sure; we never thought of that.

We do not devote very much space to athletics: we haven't very much athletics to devote it to. When we read in other papers, of the gymnasiums, the boat clubs, the athletic associations, the games and contests of other colleges, we feel ashamed that we can give such things no better showing in our columns. We recently received a communication from the National Association of Amateur Oarsmen (Albany, N. Y.), inviting our attention to the three beautiful challenge cups, placed in the possession of the Association through the liberality of the Eureka, Passaic, and Triton Boat Clubs, of Newark, New Jersey.
Accurate cuts of these beautiful prizes may have been seen lately, in Harper's Weekly; they are to be perpetual challenge prizes for college oarsmen only, and are to be contended for in an annual race. The style of races,—single scull, shell, pair-oared shell, six-oared shell, etc., which our college prefers, is desired; also, the most convenient date for the regatta.

What say ye, doughty athletes of the S. U. I., who can't jump as high as your own knees? Shall we row them a tub race in 1900?

No, no! we will none of boat racing. We are not here to gain silver cups; we are after Fame's immortal laurel. Let our river flow gently on, unvexed by oar-blades; the Lord made it to put specimens in. The true student's shoulders should be round like an orange or a ball; if he could touch his hands together behind his back, he would be unable to tell where Xenophon was born. And then consider, how undignified to jump! how fatiguing to run! how uninteresting to walk!

Away, ye tempters, who would sow pernicious ideas in our minds! Away, ye, who would have us imitate Eastern colleges! We are poor, but we are good. We will not row, nor run, nor walk; such things are of the Gentiles.

We are after mental culture; and we're going to have it, so help us shades of ancient Athens!

LOCAL.

—Livy can't spell.
—"A strange coincidence."
—It is safe to go on the ice.
—Work has begun in earnest.
—What is a Thesis, any how?
—Have you seen our mustache?
—The societies appear flourishing.
—Foot-ball is no more, at present.
—We notice several new students.
—This is 1879: and don't you forget it.
—Look out, the Hog cholera is raging!
—Ask the Seniors how they like coating.
—What did your Ma give you, Christmas?
—English Literature is Yale's most popular optional.
—Hare and Hounds have been introduced at Columbia.

—Total number of students in Michigan University is 1347.
—Where is our silk scarf? Lost in the "woods."
—Poor Sophs!
—There are about 200 College papers published in the United States.
—A Freshman asks: "How does a Bohemian earn his living?" and astonishes every one by answering, "By the sweat of his Frau."

—Only one lady in the University of Pennsylvania. Lonesome? Hardly.
—We wish we hadn't traded our skates off for a second hand dictionary.
—Joseph Cook has been engaged to deliver a course of lectures at Oberlin.
—The south end of the Chapel looks like a two-story stable with a board window.
—Coasting and skating are pleasures much indulged in, at present, by the students.
—"There is much virtue in a kiss when well delivered." Them's our sentiments too.
—Prof. in logic. "What is the universal negative?" Student. "Not prepared."—Ex.
—It is rumored that we have one Prof. who is a violinist, and another who is a fiddler.

—A son of Brigham Young was one of the '80 men who entered West Point last year.
—A German apothecary advertises a lotion whereby red noses may be restored to their pristine paleness.
—A Harvard instructor in German has been dismissed from the Faculty for selling examination papers.
—Scientifics of '82 have a course of Practical Physics. They'll be young "Galileos already," if they don't look out.
—And here comes a Senior, who says he isn't going to get a wife till he has enough money to get a good one. Prudent youth!
—The Philomathian and Symphonian Societies have united to form one society. The name of the new society is not yet known.
—The wise man placeth the stock of his gun to his shoulder before he fireth, but the fool looketh down the barrel to see the ball start.
—The Zets have put several dozen new chairs in their hall and will now be able to furnish all their visitors with comfortable seats.
—An athletic Freshman wants to know when that Anglo Saxon race that he hears so much about, is going to come off, anyway! Ex.
—We can, by a christianizing influence, be brought to forgive almost any wrong doer; but the man who peddles our jokes as his own—never!
—Mission teacher attempting to draw out from her class the fact that Adam and Eve were expelled from the Garden of Eden on account of their sins.
—The Senior, who slips on the icy pavement and tumbles upon his back, seems to say about the same thing a Freshman would under similar circumstances.
—The officers of the Freshman class for this term are: Pres. Seely, Vice Pres. Miss Maggie Holmes, Sec'y, Miss Emma Waldren, Treasurer Westover, Editor R. F. Parmenter.
—We are asked if Hercules was a Mussulman. Any person of ordinary education ought to know that.
hommed was born several years after Hercules had died; making this an impossibility.

—The Profs. make a great show of coming to morning exercises, just now; but don't let that fool you, my young friend; in about four weeks they'll begin to skip Chapel as regularly as any Senior.

—Trinity College has a man who has jumped 20 ft. 11 in. straight: but we've got men right here at home who have jumped more than a dozen recitations straight, to say nothing of the Chapel.

—The magnetic attraction between any two bodies is determined by means of a couple, its intensity being jointly dependent upon the strength of the couple and the length of the arm joining them.—Ex.

—The telegram which the student sent is said to have read thus: "Dear Chancellor; Shall not be able to be with you on first day of term; train off track. Don't suspend opening exercises on my account. Yours truly, W."

—The "careless Zets" who left the peanuts in the outer hall supposed their cousins across the way had been brought up "in the way they should go." But alas! they were disappointed. Honest Zets! unworthy Irvings!

—How sweet to be under the teachings of Science. Now we know that the instrument so beautifully depicted in the new chapel window, strongly resembling a double-barreled butter-paddle, is nothing in the world but a simple Chryphorus.

We are sorry to learn that Miss Loughridge is to leave the University. She will be remembered with feelings of gratitude by those who were accustomed to recite to her: and the best wishes of the Sub Freshman Class will follow her wherever she may go.

—A former student of the S. U. I. says it has been so cold at his home, that upon going out one morning to investigate the thermometer, which was nailed to a tree, he found Mercury sitting on a twig ten inches below it. Wonder what Prof. he was under.

—Every student should consult with Prof. Currier as to his course of reading. Most students get very little time to read, consequently the little that they do get should be spent in the most profitable way; and every one must admit that the Prof. is better able to make a choice of books for him than he is himself.

—Mr. Alfred Tennyson is said to have reserved the noblest poem he has ever written to be published after his death. It is added that the poem is long, is of a tragic nature, and is in every way remarkable and beautiful—in short, worthy of the poet.—Transcript.

—And now Class '80 is awakening to the fact that it has a Latin Preamble to its constitution, which was written ages ago, when '80 was Sophomore. The committee who framed the aforesaid Preamble were obliged to parse, construe, and give the derivation of each word, before the critical hearers would adopt it.

—This cold weather is rather hard on poesy; but nevertheless, our bard has produced the following:

"Sing, sing, ye gentle breezes,
All among the sticks and treesses!

Waft, waft, ye little blowesses,
Coolness to our ears and noses!"

—Prof. S. Goodrell, jr. of Des Moines, is the author of Valuminium Nater on Zoology and Variour and Exhaustive Meter on Chemistry. These are said to be thorough, limped and exceedingly simple. Students desiring either of the above works, will do well to consult the Prof.

—The fine public school building at Onawa, in Monona county, sustained $1,000 damage by fire a few days ago. Mr. Frank Lyon, a graduate of the University and husband of her who used to be Miss Hughes, formerly primary teacher in the Second ward, is principal of the schools in that place.

—The Oxford University has informed Harvard of the inability to row as late as August first. As the Harvard will not row earlier, it is likely there will be no race. Since the Oxford's letter was received eight members of the Harvards have withdrawn and a new crew will train for the race with Yale in the summer.

"Does my stove draw, now? Well, it does!" says Clinker, whose imagination is stronger than his reverence for truth. "Draw? why, I have to pile bricks on the chunks to keep them from going up the chimney; it was only last term one did get loose, and its friction against the air so charred it that a professor garnered it into the museum, and labeled it "A Meteor." Draw? well, rather!"

"The best of friends must part."
The little struggling colony of hairs that pre-empted our junior Editor's chin is but a reminiscence. Although it probably caused him much sorrow to part with this unpromising settlement, yet the antidote will be found in the unbounded congratulations of his friends, who may now conscientiously regard him as an American citizen, instead of a bristled relic of barbarism.

—the law class boasts of having the fleetest man in the institution, while the Sophomores boast the checkfast. A few nights ago, while these two searchers after fame were calmly winding their way out to the rural eminence of the former, they were suddenly startled by a runaway horse, the law took chase and ran it down in less than a block, while the soph. skilfully secured, from the owner, a dollar for service rendered.

Teacher—"Who was Adam?"
Class—(with some hesitation); "The first man."
T.—"And who was Eve?"
C.—(with more assurance); "The first woman."
T.—"Where did they live?"
C.—(with doubt); "In the Garden of Eden."
T.—(with expectance); "And why are they not there yet?"
C.—(with universal shout); "Why, they are dead."
—There is a suit pending in the court of this district in which the parties concerned are old "Bony's" smallest donkey and "Der immer cute" Junior. It seems that while the aforesaid Junior was enjoying the sport of coasting on "Loyd's Hill," he ran into the turnout of his colored fellow citizen. The cheek of the collegian and the hoof of the donkey came into violent collision, and—the donkey's leg snapped like a pipe-stem. And now "Bony" sues for damages.

—A certain Club, on street, has the following rules, printed in large letters, hanging about the tables: "Gentlemen are requested not to whistle or sing at the table, nor to throw bones under the table, nor to wipe their fingers on the tablecloths; not more than three Ella in the dining room is visitors are expected to pay in advance." "Bony" was entitled the table, nor to throw bones under the table, nor to wipe their fingers on the tablecloths; not more than three Ella in the dining room is visitors are expected to pay in advance.

—A TOURIST'S DIARY. —_Milan—Arrived in the morning; they tell me there is a magnificent Cathedral in the place; but unfortunately, other engagements prevented me from going to admire it. Verona—I see now that I have missed the Lake of Como, which I have heard people speak so much about. It is too late to go back. Arrived here at midnight; left in the morning. Florence—I had important researches to make in the library; unfortunately it was closed. Left the city disgusted. Rome—A telegram from Paris called me thither. I shall never forget this charming tour in spite of several little disappointments.

PERSONAL.

'80, John H. Sanders is teaching.
C. C. Clark, of Buffalo, is in school again.
'81, J. W. Howe is teaching at Riverside.
'82, W. H. Mahannah is not in school this year.
'78, G. T. W. Patrick is teaching in Cedar Falls.
E. C. Woolcott is teaching in the Missouri valley.
Frank B. West will not return to school this term.
Miss Mamie Loring resumes her studies, this term.
'82, Miss Will Thompson is at her home, in Hampton.
'82, Miss Carrie Smith, has left school on account of sickness.
'80, A. C. Kelly is holding revival meetings near Davenport.
W. C. Crane, of Mason City, has returned to school this term.
Amos W. Hoff, so well known to the Subs, is not in school this year.

Will Lohr will not return to the University this year on account of ill-health.

Christopher Wellington McCracken is missed from the University this year.
Benjamin Kennedy, formerly of the Academic Dept. has entered the Law Dept.
'80, Mr. Stewart Goodrell desires us to announce that he is in school this term.
J. E. Richardson is assisting his brother in the County Clerk's office, in Sigourney.

Misses Abbie and Lena Ellis are temporarily absent, by reason of the illness of their sister.

H. L. Harrison is in town. Has been confined to his room for two weeks. Is cutting teeth.

Ella Patterson, a former student of the University, is teaching in Nashua, Chickasaw county, I. wa.

F. C. Suster is in New Boston and will not be in school this year. The Sophomore Class lost one of its best members.

Wright and Tuttle have been engaged to pave the streets of Des Moines, will, therefore be unable to pursue their studies this term.

Hattie A. Clapp is obliged to discontinue her studies on account of ill-health. The Sophomores regret the loss of so valuable a member.

Dr. C. W. Eaton, of Newton, Iowa, has recently been selected as assistant lecturer on Theory and Practice, in the Homeopathic Dept.; he is already popular with the students.

Our Freshman editor, Arthur J. Craven, is compelled to leave school on account of ill-health. He will be much missed from his class and society; and his many friends hope to see him return soon with recovered health.

OUR EXCHANGES.

We were sitting in our room, with our feet resting gracefully upon the top of the stove, and our hands reposing in our pockets. We were dreaming of home in the holidays; we had completely ruined fifteen cents' worth of good penholder, in trying to chew an idea out of it. Being in this condition, we heard a decided rap on the door; and on opening, we beheld the Ancient, his face aglow with pleasure, his spectacles sitting on the top of his venerable nose, and his left arm embracing an enormous volume on the "Art and Rules of Criticism." Without further invitation he deposited himself in our best easy chair, and immediately proceeded to amuse himself by whistling Old Hundred, as he turned the leaves of the Ashbury Monthly. After pausing a space, he remarked: "This of a truth reminded me of a paper which my father once prized highly; it was entitled the Missionary Herald.

"Is not this five-page article on Edmund Burke about what you editors designate a "grind?" he asked, after an hour and a half of the deepest application, great furrows of thought plowing their way across his usual-
ly tranquil brow. We referred him to the dictionary, and told him to cast his eye upon the article on “Original Thought,” and to contemplate “Goldsmith at College,” as given by the Monthly.

“I do not think that students can take much interest in this kind of a paper,” said he; “I should incline to believe that they would willingly pay something to escape the reading thereof.”

“And here is another of the same character,” he remarked. “The Kenyon Advance; a small twelve-page paper; takes up ten pages in printing four long homilies, and devotes two to local news and exchanges. Pshaw! I will none of it.” And he cast it into the wood box.

Our worthy friend now being up to his elbows in the various exchanges which decorated the floor, and a beaming smile wreathing his intelligent countenance, we concluded to just step out for a walk, but were recalled by hearing so wild a peal of laughter that we supposed he had read some joke in the Dartmouth, and become insane. “Look! behold!” he cried; “the University Quarterly clips this from the Colby Echo: ‘The Freshman class was unusually large, and when they assembled for the first time at prayers, the doctor opened to the third Psalm and read: “Lord, how are they increased that trouble me!”’

“Why, you old simpleton!” we observed, refraining from slaying him, “that’s the fiftieth paper that has copied yonder joke; one more time, and we shall surely die.” Chagrin sat high upon his visage, and he fumbled in his waistcoat for his spectacles, as he took up the Knave Student.

“Now,” said we, “you needn’t say anything savage about that paper; for, although it is a young one, it is large for its age, and decidedly well gotten up. And besides, it thinks the Reporter is good, and even copies one of our jokes.”

“Well,” said the Ancient, “that joke will never go very far.”

Displeased at this piece of maliciousness on his part, we savagely picked up the Hesperian Student.

“What kind of a red-backed seed catalogue is that?” queried our friend.

“Well, to tell the truth,” we were forced to reply, “the Hesperian is altogether too solid this month; nothing new or striking in these heavy articles; and the locals are not so good as usual.”

“And oh, ye gods!” cried the Ancient, looking over our shoulder, “How can an editor let friendship compel him to publish such miserably distorted prose and call it poetry?” “The Smash-up,” indeed! Why, I’d smash up any man who’d hand me a poem like that!”

Here we began to replace our papers into their pigeon holes.

“Pause a moment!” exclaimed our visitor, of whom we were beginning to be heartily tired. “What is that neat looking little eight-pager under your arm?”

“That is the Central Ray, from Pella; a fine, spright-ly little paper, with an admirable local department.”

“And now, old nuisance,” we added, “it’s bed time, and you’ll have to excuse us; and if you ever come up here again, we’ll break your head, in all probability!”

We threw his big folio on the “Art and Rules of Criticism” down stairs after him; we were quite confident we did not need it.
the average student and the novitiate, they mean simply nothing but perhaps a certain amount of edification in the way of amusement.

Therefore, we say, that for the beginner, one to whom the Science of medicine is, as yet, an unexplored subject, our Western medical schools meet all the requirements necessary for a perfect comprehension of the art and an intimate acquaintance with the primary fundamental facts which form its foundation; leaving it for the student alone to determine what shall be the character of the superstructure of his future life. The elements of his success alone depend upon his own exertions, the eager employment of every opportunity to increase his knowledge, and not upon a framed certificate conferred by some famous, popular college.

MEDICAL BRIEFS.

Prof. Clapp has instituted a series of quizzes on the subject of anatomy, which are largely attended and enjoyed immensely by the students.

Medics, "brace up," for hard work. The professors are looking at you, and are wondering whether it would be proper, at the end of the term, to let you loose on a suffering world.

Mr. Green, our worthy janitor, carries no more the hempen rope to capture the unwary of the canine tribe. The public are requested to understand that Mr. G. has paid for each and every cur in his interesting collection.

At a recent business meeting of the Medical Faculty of the S. U. I., the question of the election of valedictorian of the class of '79 was decided in unanimous favor of Mr. Fred H. Little. It was a truly deserved and well earned distinction.

HOMEOPATHIC DEPARTMENT.

Taking a lively interest in all school papers, I cannot refrain from sending you a communication for the Reporter. Leaving you to decide whether my article shall be "crowded out," or worse still share the fate of many valuable and interesting articles, "help fill that indispensable piece of furniture the waste basket," will proceed with my talk to your readers.

Perhaps my subject is one that is not often discussed in your paper, but I sincerely hope you will not be prejudiced on that account. It has a tendency to lead towards "woman's rights." I see you turn away in disgust, but wait until I have explained. It is quite another side to the question that has so agitated our country.

Any one who has studied human nature will agree with me that the great tendency of man is never to be satisfied with that which he has in his possession, but on the contrary, is continually grasping for more. It is not in my province to criticise this tendency, for without it I doubt whether we would have any civilization. But as we ascend the ladder, it would be well to stop at each round and look about us. If our progress seems slow let's look back and we will have reason to be thankful for many blessings.

A great many of our advocates for the rights of woman are too hasty, they would accomplish the work of a century in a quarter of that time. We have a good start and if we work well it will be a good ending.

"It is not necessary to compare our present condition with that of the past in order to prove that time has dealt well with us. The admittance of women to the bar is perhaps one of our greatest victories. It is the only means by which we can have any say in the affairs of the government. But that which cost us the greatest effort to win ought not to be neglected. I refer to the long and hotly contested battle against the medical profession in order that we might have equal privileges with men. The battle was finally won and there remains nothing for us to do but to work our way "onward and upward." And where can we find a better field for our work than the "care of the sick." I do not mean by this that we should all turn physicians; but even if circumstances were such that we may never practice, yet the study of medicine can do us no harm any more than any other scientific studies. Then I would say to all those who intend to become useful members of society, and who have a taste for a study that has for its basis the beautiful laws of nature, turn your attention that way and let us use a little tact and do our work in a becoming and womanly way, instead of heaping reproaches upon the members of the sterner sex, which does nothing but harm and deepens their prejudices.

REBECCA RAY.

JOCOSE CORNER.

The Laws take such a lively interest in the District Court, that they cannot refrain from discussing the cases across the street.

He who engages in five minutes conversation with a young lady, in the presence of his jealous and uncharitable fellow medics is rash, impudent and utterly oblivious to his future welfare.

To those who occupy the South Building and who have discovered that the "medics" are not only scientists, but also vocalists, we would announce that they are intending to make their debut in Iowa City, in the Opera of Queen Esther.

Judging by the beaming countenances of professors and students, it is evident they have all had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Santa Claus brought each "first course student" a new pair of boots rendering them indeed very comfortable, but alas, for the Amphitheatre and nerves of sensitive persons!

It being the first of the year, certain professors deemed it advisable to reverse the order of exercises and instead of quizzing the students as of yore, he went through that terrible ordeal himself, and although the candidates for graduation propounded deep and scientific questions the professor retired from the rostrum with great honor.

This most important of all columns should not be neglected by the "benefactors of mankind," even though the so called individuals can spare but little time from their most noble and scientific studies. In introducing this column in the Reporter we do most humbly appeal to the "witty youths" of the "gallery Jocose corner," to aid us in the most difficult of all literary efforts, namely, "jokes."
Law Department

OUR BEGINNING.

We presume it is expected and proper that some what after the prevailing fashion, we come before you in salutation. However, as salutatories in the Reporter are necessarily stamped with so great a degree of sameness and frequency, brevity on our part will be most appreciated. One is called upon to represent and enhance herein not only the interests of the present class, but those of the alumni and school as well. Hoping we fully realize the great responsibility devolving upon us in assuming this position of honor, humbly thanking the class for it as such, and promising faithfully to improve all the time that can be properly allowed by other and more important duties, we enter cheerfully upon the work, though with a keen sense of incompetency, and respectfully solicit aid from our con seekers of legal lore, and from friends of the school everywhere. May you all realize that "Mighty things from small beginnings grow."

JUDGE DILLON spends two weeks this month at the University delivering his very excellent series of lectures on medical jurisprudence before the Law and Medical classes respectively. Of course the "Medics" are not brought in contact with the "Laws" upon these occasions, and everything goes on smoothly as usual.

A CORRESPONDENT of a college journal recently gave quite a striking picture of the Michigan University Law School. We can but notice the strong contrast between it and a fair representation of our department at present. Our Ann Arbor brethren are portrayed in about this way: While the room is filling preceding the lecture, one cannot hear his own voice lower than a shout. It is really astonishing! In the midst of this, Judge Cooley, Dean of the Faculty, and the favorite instructor, appears. This is a signal for increasing the uproar, and yells and whoops give tone to the din. A perfect bedlam! At once the lecturer begins and the noise subsides to comparative silence.

Now, not in a boastful spirit, but with a feeling of just pride, we present in comparison our own picture upon a similar occasion. In a quiet and gentlemanly manner the boys enter, remove the hat, and take their respective seats, or form here and there groups in spirited conversation, but in no way disturbing each other or their neighbors in the same building. When the worthy and esteemed Chancellor enters, he is greeted heartily, but respectfully, with clapping of the hands only. Then all become quiet as a model church congregation, and attention is undivided through the hour. Which picture do you admire? Either? We do.

JOHN AUSTIN.

I.

There is very little in legal authorship of that indefin able charm, which, from the days of Homer and the author of Job, has attached to the making of books. Almost the first step in literary taste is usually the boy's love of reading about the personal habits of poets and novelists, and historians, and all who live by their pen; and in spite of much proof to the contrary, few of us can conquer our early impression, that such work is in itself poetical, or romantic, and altogether different in the eyes of the author himself, from the dull drudgery by which other men earn their daily bread. The youthful aspirant for fame thinks of himself as dashing off an ode or a string of sonnets, in much the same poetical fervor with which he reads them; and the lives of authors, as usually written, foster the same belief, by painting in brilliant colors all that is spectacular and striking in the career of their heroes. But none of this romance of literature is found in the arid field of legal authorship. Nothing could be drier or less interesting than a description of the labor to which we owe the innumerable rows of calf-bound volumes, which find their genesis in no nobler passion than a young lawyer's desire for clients, or a publisher's greed for money.

But once in a while, even in this arid field, the lover of sentiment may find a book, whose history is in itself a romance, as striking as ever produced a poem or a picture. Even in "The Calamities of Authors," or any of the other works, which detail the vicissitudes of literary life, we shall hardly find a more surprising story, than that of the Lectures on Jurisprudence, which have now made the name of John Austin, famous wherever English law is administered or studied. Written in sickness and doubt, delivered but once, and then to a small and rapidly dwindling class of embryo barristers, cast aside in disgust, to lie neglected for all the rest of the author's life, they owe their resurrection and splendid success to a woman, to the loving pride of a devoted wife, who spent all the years of her widowhood in building this monument to her dead husband's fame.

John and Charles Austin were the two sons of an Englishman, who had begun life as a miller, but made money enough by army contracts during the French war, to feel warranted in trying to raise his children to a higher social position. For John, therefore, a commission was bought in the army, while Charles was bred to the bar. Of the latter it is sufficient to say that he made a great reputation and greater fortune as parliamentary counsel, when railroad companies were striking for profitable charters, and paying enormous retainers to the barristers who had influence in the lobby and committee room. In short, he was a successful lawyer of the most practical type, and is remembered now chiefly by the fact, that after being an ardent Liberal to the very verge of socialism all his life, he exhausted his ingenuity in framing a bill by which his
property should be strictly entailed to the farthest limit allowed by English law.

John Austin appears to have lacked all the practical qualities of his brother. He did not like the army, and sold his commission very soon. Then he studied law, and was admitted to the bar at the age of twenty-eight. Under all the delicate phrases with which his biographers have veiled the truth, it appears plainly enough that his failure was almost as conspicuous as his brother's success. A part of this is attributed to ill health, still more to a fastidious temper and morbid self-consciousness, which all his life prevented him from dealing effectively with his fellow men. He had acute and subtle intellect, with much logical power, but lacked perseverance. He does not seem ever to have been a close student. When one reads his lectures carefully, after the first glow of admiration has passed away, one cannot help feeling that they betray a surprising want of acquaintance with the learning of his chosen profession. Of course, we do not expect in them the technical treasures of a Coke, or a Comyn, or even the mastery of detail shown by writers like Blackstone or Woodeson. But there are many passages in his work which reveal, as well by what he does not say as by what he does, the fact that he never took the pains to thoroughly master the system, which he afterward criticized so severely and so effectively. He probably would have been a much better lawyer, if he had been less interested in many problems of social science and human life, which had an indirect bearing upon the trial of causes. He loved to speculate upon these, and about them.

To Mrs. Senior, in the life of George Grote, where she says: "Don't you know what is the matter with John "Austin? He has been languishing for the want of a "listener. * * * It is the indispensable condition of "his existence; talk, and monological talk." In this connection we may refer also to the very keen analysis of his character, unfortunately too long to quote here, in the autobiography of John Stuart Mill.

When the new London University, with all the confidence of inexperience, undertook to revolutionize the study of law, Mr. Austin seems to have been selected by common consent, to inaugurate the new system. He had already given up the attempt to practice, and went to Germany to prepare himself there for his duties. He spent the greater part of a year at Bonn, in studying German and civil law. He came entirely under the influence of the so-called philosophical school of jurists, of which Thibaut was the recognized leader. The conflict between this school and that of Savigny was then at its fiercest, and neither party could have expected so useful an influence upon an English stranger, as it would have done at a later date, when a spirit of compromise prevailed, and each school had learned to profit by the favorite truths of its opponent. But it must be added too, that it was unfortunate for Austin and for English law, that his German training was not received from the historical school. The sympathy which that school has since shown for English law is a sufficient proof that he would have found in their doctrines, teaching far better adapted for transplantation, theories answering far more truly to the facts of the common law, than those of Thibaut. Had Austin become as zealous a disciple of Savigny as he was of his rival, the study of scientific jurisprudence in England might have reached a generation earlier, the point to which it has now been brought, with so much labor, under the guidance of jurists like Sir Henry Maine.

To be concluded in next number.

OUR BRIEFS of this issue will appear in the general local columns.

JUDGE AUSTIN ADAMS, of the Supreme Court of Iowa, has given us most pleasant and profitable entertainment during his two weeks' course of lectures on Domestic Relations and Corporations, which was completed on the 17th inst.

HON. DANIEL F. MILLER, of Keokuk, a member of the Iowa bar for the past forty years, and one of its most venerable, distinguished and able representatives, delivered his lecture on the "Art of Forensic Eloquence" before the class and a number of visitors in the afternoon of January 8th. The address, requiring nearly two hours in delivery, was exhaustive, instructive and finished, and showed the speaker not to accord with the prevailing idea that forensic eloquence is on the decline.

EXCITEMENT peculiar to election days disturbs even the tranquility of the Law Class. At its meeting of January 9th, for election of officers for the term, a spirit of rivalry was introduced by a ticket having been agreed upon in secret caucus. Excellent men were presented thereby, but a strong opposition was manifest against them, simply because of the manner in which they were brought forward, and consequently, with one exception, the ticket was defeated. The following expresses the result of the prolonged and earnest contest by ballots: President, Granville G. Ames; Vice-President, R. S. Ervin; Secretary, James F. Forney; Editor, Ray Billingsley.

PERSONAL.

-H. C. Hadley, '78, is located at Burlington.
-M. T. Owen, '78, is practicing in Waterloo.
-Mr. G. A. Matthews, '78, was in town for a short time, lately.
-Thos. Stapleton, '78, makes us a brief visit. He is not yet located in practice.
-C. E. White, '78, has entered into partnership practice with W. A. Meese, '77, at Moline, Ill.
Ray Van Winter has returned to work after several weeks absence under surgical care for a broken arm.

W. P. Whipple, '78, of the firm of King & Whipple, Vinton, Iowa, reports fair success and good prospects.

We extend to Jas. H. Irey, who was detained at his home for a time after the close of holiday vacation, by the death of his father, the sympathy of instructors and classmates.

Herbert S. Fairall, member of '79 for a few weeks, was recently admitted to the bar at Tipton, Iowa, and has united in practice with his brother, S. H. Fairall, Esq. of this city.

Among the attorneys within the bar of the Court room during the present session of the District Court here, we notice L. W. Clapp, '78, C. B. Jack, '78, R. W. Byington, '77, C. A. Lovelace, '78.

Charles, '76, Burleigh, '78, Baldwin, '77, and Pascal, '78, were recently married. Had our cards not been missent, or not sent at all, we would take pleasure in giving more extended notices. However, we tender our congratulations to each, and the bride of each, with best wishes.

There is hardly a county office known to our laws that will not be found represented in the Year Book. Thus, P. C. Burr, '73, is County Clerk of Floyd co.; George T. Kelley, '76, has been Sheriff of Hamilton co.; Theo. B. Snyder, '71, County Superintendent of Des Moines co.; Geo. W. Hand, '72, Recorder of Johnson co.; while the members of the Legislature, and the County Judges and Attorneys (in the States where such offices exist) would make a list altogether too long to insert here. But if any graduate has been promoted to be Coroner of his county, his modesty has not allowed the fact to be put on record.

A hearty welcome is extended to the following gentlemen who have joined the class since the publishing of the list of one hundred and six members in October: J. F. Oliver, Onawa, Ia., and Geo. C. Preston, Decorah, Ia., returned to complete the course with '79; Eli C. Perkins, Hopkinton, Ia., C. S. Roberts, Rochester, N. Y., J. A. Ward, Cedar Rapids, Ia., R. S. Graham, West Fairfield, Pa., and J. H. Antrobus, Denmark, Ia., came in time to graduate next Commencement; Jno. B. Early, Spencer, Ind., admitted to the Indiana bar, Jas. W. Conine, Logansport, Ind., Duncan Rule, Mason City, Ia., Clarence C. Hobart, and Clayton E. Gregory Clinton, Ia., J. R. O'Connor, Iowa City, Ia., J. S. Hoopes, Sterling, Kan., J. S. D. Hopkins, Clinton, Ia., enter this term and propose to return next year to complete the course.

Upon reassembling this term, we miss from our ranks the following worthy members: J. E. E. Markley, of the Advanced class—because of his brother's illness, called to the management of his business affairs; Norman Willett of the able firm of Willett & Willett, Decorah, Ia., detained by press of business; Preston H. Wilson, who enters the office of Anderson & Eaton, Sidney, Ia.; H. Percy Smith, who has accepted a clerkship in the Probate Judge's office, at his home, Lebanon, O.; Jos. Bookwalter, who is convalescing at his home, and we confidently hope, will be able to rejoin the class within a few days; Jas. C. Warnock and Thos. McCullis, who completed the course of study at the close of the Fall term and took their departure in peace, but will be with us again at commencement. Jim is reading in an office at Rock Island, Ill., and Thos. is attending Court where Judge Snane presides.

The Class of '69—the first which graduated at Iowa City—makes the following good showing at the close of its first decade. Two of its members are District Judges in Iowa—Hon. Charles H. Lewis, of the Fourth District, and Hon. Robert C. Henry of the Third. Judge Henry took his seat this month; Judge Lewis has just been re-elected after serving one term, having also been District Attorney of that District for the term preceding his first election. At least two others of the Class are, or have been, upon the bench elsewhere: J. M. Limbocker, as Probate Judge of Bourbon county, Mo., (the county in which Fort Scott is situated) and B. F. McHenry, as Probate Judge of Dallas county, Mo.

L. S. Butler of the same class has been District Attorney of the Twelfth District one term, and H. C. Madden has filled the same office in Huntingdon county, Penna. In the next class, (of 1870) there are two District Attorneys, Smith McPherson of the Thirteenth District of Iowa, and Arthur N. Ferguson, previously in the State Senate, of the Omaha District, in Nebraska; and one Probate Judge—N. H. Stidger, of Union county, Mo.

The proportion of graduates from this school, who have gone into other business than the law, is not large. Probably no law school in the country can show so great a percentage of active and successful lawyers among its alumni. Two or three are in the ministry; one is upon the stage; one is a College professor, L. S. Reque, '74, in the Lutheran College at Decorah; and at least seven are newspaper editors, though some of these practice at the same time. W. E. Blake, '69, edits the Burlington Gazette; W. O. Crosby, '70, the Centerville Citizen; E. W. Baker, '70, the Weekly News, at Yates, Kan.; O. H. Wood, '72, the Brighton Star; John A. Everett, '73, the Warren Record, at Indianapolis; Robert Eggert, '77, the Rockford Reveille, and J. B. Chapman, '78, the Beloit Democrat, Kansas. Three are, or have been, Mayors of their respective towns; S. H. Green, '71, of Adel; T. E. Ingham, '71, of Wilton, and J. A. Rice, '77, of Oska losa. No doubt the list could be extended; but municipal and county offices have fallen so plentifully among the Laws of the last ten years, that many of them have not thought worth while to report them. This is to be regretted, for all the alumni have a common interest in a complete and accurate record of each one's success in life.