THE DEVIL IN LITERATURE.

SYNOPSIS\(^*\) OF A LECTURE BY PROF. EGGERT.

WHEN we observe children we can scarcely fail to be struck with the fact that they exercise their greatest charm on us while yet unconscious of themselves. Something similar is the case with nations. We take a peculiar interest in primitive times, primitive civilizations, and we find that that kind of poetry is most widely appreciated which treats of deeds real or fabled, of heroes more or less mythological, of religions more or less superstitious, in the dawn of history.

With advancing culture there arises in the most gifted minds a desire to supply as it were a substitute for that original charm of childhood of which childhood itself is unconscious, but which appeals with irresistible force to the heart and imaginations of the adult. Hence the beautiful legend of a paradise, or that of a golden age. A woman, both in the Hebrew and Greek mythology, is the cause that this paradise or state of unloved bliss was destroyed: Eve in the one, Pandora in the other. In either case it is an outside power—Satan with Eve, Vulcan with Pandora—that makes use of a woman for the purpose of revenging himself on the race. Why was this so? Probably because woman is undoubtedly the greatest temptation for man, and she, being the more lively and wide awake of the two, was thereby best fitted to mislead man. Pandora and Eve are fine types of womanhood: showing the appreciation of the ancient writer. For Adam we can scarcely feel anything but a hearty contempt.

Just as soon as man emerged from the condition of childhood, that is, the condition which preceded his present stage in the history of his evolution, he could not help being painfully struck with certain facts. Sickness and death, suffering of all kinds, could not but impress him vividly. Mankind generally conceived the idea of an evil spirit, as the incarnation of vice and sin, but at first the idea of a devil was only one of contrast with the idea of a state of perfect happiness. The same power that gives life and health takes them away when his laws are violated. The same power, therefore, appears to the imagination of untutored races at one time as a beneficent, then again as a cruel deity. This fact may be illustrated from Homer, etc. It seems not, however, to be traceable in the genuine Hebrew record, unless we accept, contrary to the testimony of historical and philological criticism, that the story of the serpent was of Hebrew origin, and not introduced from abroad. However this may be, the greatest poetical genius of modern times, Goethe, drew the inspiration for his celebrated devil Mephistopheles from this bible record. Here it is perhaps necessary to meet a wide-spread though very vulgar prejudice. There are people who cannot or will not understand that a man may be a sincere believer in the doctrine of Jesus of Nazareth, and yet regard, on the strength of scientific research, portions of the Hebrew scriptures as literature. They are innocently ignorant that a single fact established by science has more weight with an honest, clear-headed mind, than all the faith-power of all the pious believers that ever lived. The Song of Solomon, the Psalms, the book of Job are nothing else but magnificent, inspired literature. We must distinguish between a historical and a poetical version of the fact, Joshua's real fight at Gibeon, and a poetical version of that event. And so in other respects. Both poetry and record of fact are due to inspired writing, but it is certainly allowable to make the distinction without being chargeable with doing violence to the principles that are at the basis of the christian religion.

The devil by tempting Eve served the cause of civilization. He did this in the same way as, in Goethe's Faust, Mephistopheles urges Faust into activity, not because he wants to do good, but because it is his mission to fan passion into action. Goethe calls him the spirit that denies. He presents that part of human nature which appears as selfishness, vice, and folly, but which is at bottom the mainspring of action, and useful, if controlled by reason.

In the literature of the middle ages the devil assumed a terrible aspect. To him untold hecatombs of innocent beings were sacrificed. People believed in this conception as they believed in their own spirit. This belief has come down to our own times, but may now be said to have died out, just as the belief in witchcraft—also clearly taught by the letter of the bible—has died out in spite of the weight of evidence in its favor. In Dante and Milton we find the most magnificent representations of the devil of the church. Goethe, how-

\(^*\)This synopsis was prepared, and is here inserted by virtue of a unanimous vote of the Editorial corps. It is needless to say that it presents only a bare outline of the lecture.
ever, a forerunner of Darwin, and a poet-philosopher whose great object in life was to get the clearest light possible between himself and the objects of his perception, could not and would not form a devil so out of place in the modern world. He dressed him up in the clothes of a young blood and made him one of us. In spite of this he is the devil in a higher and truer sense than either Dante's or Milton's.

The devil, in the shape of a poodle, howls with anguish, when Faust is translating the first line of the Gospel according to John, by "In the beginning was the Dœd," not the word, or the idea, or the power, because it is a wrong conception of God to imagine him as having begun or ended his work, or as having made a plan. Why does he howl at this? Because it would kill him if the Bible were to be translated according to the spirit. He lived and thrived precisely because people worshipped the letter of the bible as Africans worship a fetish. His doom was sealed when men began to reason even in matters of theology. Future generations owe a debt of gratitude to Goethe who saved the devil from everlasting destruction by giving him a human form in which he is likely to exist as long as mankind wears its human shape here below. The spirit of mere negation, of scepticism in its worst form, of vice even, serves the great purpose of stimulating action and of developing the higher powers of man. There is no lower, meaner devil, or spirit of negation and skepticism, than that which directs its efforts against science and the philosophy and literature born of it. His weapons are dogmas hard as sin, sneers and taunts are his defences, superstition his element. Faust is the representative of struggling, thinking, acting humanity, Mephistopheles the principle that spurs mankind into activity by fanning his passions. This is the grand significance of Goethe's masterly work, praised by the highest authorities as the "epic of the age and the history of the human mind." The lesson for us is that we must cultivate the religious life, that there may not open within us a hell as terrible as any ever painted by poet or philosoper. The example of Jesus, who wrestled with sin until it lay powerless at His feet, should inspire us. "Get thee behind me, Satan!" should be the stern command of every one who wants to be sure of salvation, deliverance from such a hell. The devil must follow as a servant, not lead as a master.

Religion, in the highest, most spiritual sense, is not only compatible with an earnest spirit of inquiry and research, but it appears in its purest, most spiritual and mightiest form, where that spirit rules most! Revelation has not stopped since the days of Moses and Paul, but a new dispensation is actually being given to man, a dispensation that deals with the same problems, though it applies to their solution a different method. This is the method of Modern Science and of the Philosophy and Literature born from it—and it is this Science, this Philosophy, this Literature, that is destined to carry on the fight against the powers of darkness, and that at last, hand in hand with religion, will, we doubt not, put forever an end to the long reign of the Devil.

The idea of a change in the customary method of Spelling many words is not a new one, but having taken on the specious title of reform—"Spelling Reform"—it has been brought more prominently before the public within the past few years than at any previous time. The perplexities which beset children and educated foreigners, attempting to familiarize themselves with our orthography, have been a fruitful theme for newspapers, now and then varied by reports of business derangement through improperly spelled words.

Some years ago was perfected the organization of the "Spelling Reform Association" composed of many of the foremost scholars of England and America, having several branches in the Western States, and publishing its "Bulletins" at somewhat irregular intervals. Co-related with this society is the "American Philological Association," an older organization, comprising the most respectable students of language in America. This association at a late meeting recommended to the public the adoption of the following amended spellings, limited to these eleven words, "Tho, thru, gard, catalog, ar, giv, liv, hav, definit, infinit, wisht." It is strange that they did not include "program" and "connexion," already in quite general use.

Reformers, however, are seldom harmonious. Some changes have been adopted here, others there, all differing in extent. The only public sanction thus far given is in newspaper circles. The Chicago Tribune goes a little beyond the Association, but Mr. Medill once suffered from the "fonetik" disease and should not be carped at for this lighter slip. The Utica (New York) Herald adopts a part of the proposed changes; and the New York Home Journal another part, associated with its own pet notions. Two or three small trade publications present a whimsical appearance in their text and correspondence on this subject reminding one strongly of Locke and Shaw.

There seems now to be quite a general sentiment in favor of amendment in orthography; unity is necessary to success. The attempt is by no means a new one. In 1665-8, Bishop Wilkins laid out a great part of his fortune in twice printing (the first impression was burned in the great London fire, 1666) "An Essay toward a Real Character and a Philosophical Language"—a folio volume now scarce and quite curious. This learned man wanted to abolish the English language, as written and spoken. For the written word he substituted an arbitrary symbolic representation of characteristics, a sort of Chinese, as written by himself resembling bold Arabic. His book alone can explain the proposed speech. One of his strong points is orthography, and of that of his own day, after bewailing its condition and
narrating the reformatory efforts of Smith, Chester, Wade, and Bulkner, he says: "So invincible is custom that we retain the same errors and incongruities in writing which our forefathers taught us." These spellings are found on three pages of the good man's work:—

"Prophane, profane; onely, only; alwaies, always, al-wai, waies, waiws; suitable; signify, signify; raspberry, goosberry, misseltoe." We are rather better off than our great-grandfathers in the matter of orthography.

Our own Franklin found leisure to undertake a short cut across polyglot spelling by the invention of a new character, which may be consulted in his "Miscellaneous Writings." Sad to say, he took this means of concealing from the vulgar his correspondence with a lady.

The efforts of the inventors of phonetic systems have failed to arrest popular attention, and their systems, though easily read after an hour's study, have seldom been employed outside their books of instruction and advertisements.

The "Spelling Reform" movement has the support of many learned men, calls for little effort in its acquirement and use, and having gained a foothold by adoption in several public journals of respectability and wide circulation, seems almost certain to result in changes in the recognized orthography of words. Such changes have occurred in the past, why not in the future?

It is only proper to say that this "reform" is vigorously opposed by able scholars, headed by Archbishop Trench, a well-known and favorite author. All the objections so far brought forward are of a purely literary or sentimental character. The "Reform" relies on ease, time-saving, convenience, and utility for its adoption.

The following extract represents the amended pronoun as his doom. He believes with but few men, either by addition, or striking out the word "thyself"; secondly, by adding the word "everybody"; making the sentence read, "Know everybody." The world of letters is literally crowded to-day with men of unlimited culture in this direction. Men who could dictate language to the author of syllables; men who could not write a respectable epitaph for the poor slab that would suffice for half a century to tell a few men that they had once lived; most sagacious gnostics, most ridiculous images of the animal that wore the lion's skin; butchers of the "fattest hogs in Epicurus' sty."

Do not understand us to object to fair, honest, candid, criticism; a criticism that makes allowance for truth, does not attempt to sweep away at "one fell swoop" the entire fabric on account of one jarring note. Criticism has been reduced to a science. To historical criticism is due the purity of historical records. Without it the history of the past would be a chaotic mass of irreconcilable contradictions. Do not understand us to condemn careful, analytical reading and thinking.

It is against the dishonest and unfair fault-finder, and the lynx-eyed casual critic that we cry out.

The egotistical gnostic glances at the subject of a discourse and says, "What a failure!" The casual cynic does not desire the subject if he can see the author. Two seconds are sufficient for him to measure his cranium, weigh his brain, read his character, and pronounce his doom. He believes with but few men, and with them only as long as they are members of his household. His eccentricity forbids him to allow his right arm to be honored with a touch of the jeweled fingers of his "sweet, bonnie, sonie lass." He praises those alone who will give him back his own with usurry.

He supposes that "all men are liars," self excepted. If you speak of Shakespeare or Milton "with many a hard thwack and many a bang" he demolishes the age that claims them, and curses the man that reads them.

Jonathan Edwards's chain of logic in his grasp is as a hempen thread.

Music, "that hath charms to soothe the savage breast and to soften rocks or bend a knotted oak," is discordant to his soul; and like Luther's enemy, who could not stand music, he flees.

It is said that a "little learning is a dangerous thing." Now imagination in all its wanderings has found but one class of men to whom this could have been applied—the casual cynic. With just enough sense to use the pick-ax and crow-bar, he attempts to overthrow Jerusalem's finest temples; differing from the Roman soldiery only in this: they sought the hidden treasure. He seeks self-gratification. He loves to see the smoke arise and calmly survey the ruins.
The casual cynic is a man of wonderful dignity, and if he happens to be a college student, it is decidedly fresh. His face is often seen in public. His manner informs his audience in the words of Gratanio, "I am sir oracle, and when I open—my lips let no dog bark," and then *ridiculus unus nascitur*. Most men learn during their college life, that they are ignorant. Exceptions prove the rule. Casual cynics are the exceptions. They stalk abroad among the common herd—the Philistines—and think they have done a poor job of it, informs him, audience in the words of Gratiano, and then *ridiculus unus nascitur*. Most men learn during their college life, that they are ignorant. Exceptions prove the rule. Casual cynics are the exceptions. They stalk abroad among the common herd—the Philistines—and think they have done a poor day's work if, with Sampson's famous weapon, they do not stay at least a dozen fellowmen.

Now, reader, we do not mean this for you, but for—well you know those fellows, who, when asked how Garrick spoke last night, replied, "Oh, against all rule my lord, most ungrammatically! Betwixt the substantive and adjective, which should agree together in number, case, and gender, he made a breach, thus—stopping as if the point wanted settling; and betwixt the nominative case, which your lordship knows, should govern the verb, he suspended his voice in epilogue, a dozen times, three seconds and three-fifths, by a stop watch, my lord, each time." "Admirable grammarians! But, in suspending his voice, was the sense suspended? Did no expression of attitude or countenance fill up the chasm? Was his eye silent? Did you narrowly look?"

"I looked only at the stop-watch, my lord!" "Excellent observer."

**WHAT IS ORATORY?**

This is a question which we think would be a proper one for oratorical associations to consider. We think it high time to begin to distinguish between mere analytical essays and orations. "Metaphysical soliloquies" have characterised our oratorical contests for several years. We cannot imagine the "language of the heart" to be the language of metaphysics. It would be as ridiculous as a revelation in the language of science.

"The language of the heart is at once the easiest and most difficult,—difficult since it needs a heart to speak it; easy because its periods though rounded and full of harmony, are still unstudied."

"Brilliant thoughts are, as it were, the eyes of eloquence; but the body should not be all eyes, lest the other members should lose their proper functions." The tendency has been to this kind of distinction; and as a result oratory has given away to a babel of ideas, which for want of a better name, we will call, "confusion of tongues." The tendency has been to make up a compound of contradictions and then reconcile them. To transform a man to a devil and then make all men devils in order that he may not seem to be "without sensibilities."

Henry Clay—orator—thus describes Caesar and Cicero: "Cesar controlled men by exciting their fears; Cicero by captivating their affections and swaying their passions. The influence of the one perished with its author; that other continues to this day." Nowhere in the works of Cicero do we find an oration upon the life of some proud Grachus, whom the lapse of a few years had made a genius. Demosthenes does not live as an orator, on account of some metaphysical "confusion of tongues." Had he attempted to repeat Iago under that sword, another feature would have been added to his history; his mouth could not have contained both the adjectives and the pebbles.

A man who cannot hold an intelligent audience entranced, is not an orator. I care not how profound his argument may be or how subtle his logic. The human soul is so constituted that when addressed, the feelings of the orator, are to a great extent, the feelings of the hearers. Some one has said "that men may counterfeit philosophy, but not oratory." Affected oratory is readily discovered. When man attempts to cheat his nature, no matter how sharp a bargain he may drive, he is always worsted. Were the vast majority of college manuscripts, purporting to be orations judged by the rules which the world's orators have laid down, the ranks of "so-called" orators would be decimated from a battalion to a single company. Do not understand us to hold that the noise constitutes the oration.

"Nature often gives us lighting without thunder, but never thunder without lightning." The point we desire to make is that eloquence is original. Cecil calls eloquence "vehement simplicity." We think, therefore, that the delivery should hold a more prominent place in the decisions at our contests.

If we are to measure an oration by the effect it produces, Chesterfield was right when he said: "The eloquence of style, and turn of periods, make the chief impression upon the hearers. Give them but one or two round and harmonious periods in a speech, which they will retain and repeat, and they will go home as well satisfied as people do from an opera, humming all the way one or two favorite tunes that have struck their ears and more easily caught. Most people have ears, but few judgment, you will catch their judgments, such as they are."

The Russian government has at last taken a stride, and a long one, toward ameliorating the condition of Siberia. A University, endorsed by the imperial family, will be established during the present year at Tomsk, in the opening services of which the Russian crown prince will participate. It is supposed that the majority of its attendants will be students who have been banished for Nihilism.—Ex.

Speaking of spelling, the Chicago *Tribune* has inaugurated the spelling reform in a practical way; although not a sweeping reform it is a long stride in the right direction.
The Senior party at the residence of Prof. Currier on the evening of Nov. 23d, was a very enjoyable occasion. It was the first oasis in the desert of the Senior year. It relieved the otherwise monotonous term. It was a gleam of sunshine just before the overhanging shadow of examination. It snatched the forgetfulness. After which the judges, Messrs. Levi Robinson, W. II. Cobb, "Legend of Bruxelles;" H. H. Abrams, "The American War;" Miss C. J. Kelly, "Address to Mt. Blanc;" Freshmen—F. Haller, "Polish Boy;" — Newman, "Spartacus;" E. B. Hughes, "Burn­ ing of the Lexington;" Alice Wilkinson, "Torquemada."

With one or two exceptions the selections were good and well committed. We are all too prone to criticise with an unerring eye, but we are responsible for the results. It is not too late to secure. Among the five. After the speaking Mr. C. C. Clark gave "Annie Lawrie" in his usual good style, after which the judges, Messrs. Levi Robinson, O. Brainerd and Miss Ida K. Osmond, awarded the prizes to Mr. W. H. Cobb, of the Sophomore and Mr. E. B. Hughes, of the Freshman class.

The new system is an attempt to classify. It has some good points. The trite but inevitable "what did you get?" will have in place of forty answers, now only five. They will be: Highest, superior, average, passable, and last and least, failure.

The first and highest marking you are not to attempt to secure. The second means anywhere from 95 to 100. Third is average. Fourth, below the average. The fifth will give to the obtainer time for a three months review to fix the principles of the study more firmly in the mind. Slips containing rank will be made out and sent to each student. The average of your three studies will determine your rank.

The College Faculty very bitterly censured a Freshman last week by suspension for the remainder of the term; and now quite a number of the students threaten to leave this college and go to the State University. We advise the boys to stay and enjoy, at least a while, in Grinnell, the exhilarating influence of a Christian atmosphere.

The above is from the Grinnell correspondent to the Davenport Gazette. "Exhilarating influence of a Christian atmosphere." Ha! ha! "Twang!" Come on young men. The University will welcome you to an atmosphere which, if not so "exhilarating" or "Christian," is at least the health-giving envelope of a system which treats students as young ladies and gentlemen, and recognizes honor in all. The University places each student upon his or her honor, and we are glad to say the trust is not misplaced. "All her ways are ways of pleasantness and her paths are paths of peace." Among six hundred students there is no cause for suspension or expulsion.

The day of "Blue Laws" is past as well in colleges as in State. Strange how slow some colleges are in finding it out!

As far as we can learn the unpardonable offense of the poor, innocent Grinnell Freshmen was, that after
humiliating himself by asking permission of the Faculty he dared to call on a young lady.—Horrible!!
Middlebury College, Vt., expells a student for playing football, and now the Professors treat empty chairs. Grinnell suspends a Freshman for going with a young lady. What next? There is such a thing as carrying matters too far, even under the "exhilarating influence Christian atmosphere."

LOCAL.

Items are scarce.
Read Prof. Eggert's article.
Christmas on the twenty-fifth.
Won't some one give us a joke?
Have you studied your almanac lately?
The Seniors have decided to have a class day.
Rogers '87, has gone home. What for? Can't tell.
Song for the 25th, "Hold the turkey, I am coming."
It is really a treat to hear the lectures on military science.
"If it hadn't been for Goethe the Devil would have gone to the Devil."
"So" J. S. Enlow, has left his class and accepted a position as Principal of the Springdale School.
The unprecedented phenomenon of a Zet. reading the Bible occurred in Society the other evening.
The Senior class bought a bar of soap the other day.
Getting ready for commencement we suppose.
"I think nudi means very thinly clad, Professor."
"Certainly, but how thinly, Mr.—?" Class smiles.
We are sorry to lose Captain Chester, It will be difficult to find a man to fill his place in the University.
WANTED—At the University Library, December number of Harper's Monthly for 1875; also vol. 56, of Harper's Monthly.
Scene—Junior French Class,—Prof. hedged in by wicked Juniors, exclaims: "O, mine 'Gott,' deliver me from these difficulties."
Why don't the Academias show some spirit and get up a quartette? We have some good talent. Later—A quartette has appeared.
'78, Messrs. Campbell and McIntyre visited their Alma Mater a few days ago. Perhaps "Me," came to visit the schools and perhaps he didn't.
The Seniors are to have an extra week's vacation at the beginning of next term. The graduating orations are to be handed in by the first of March.
Cute Junior to metaphysical Senior whom he thinks unscathed by Cupid's darts. J.—"What are kisses?"
S.—"Kisses are transient chunks of Heaven.

Officers for Senior Class, Winter term: President, A. J. Kelly; Vice-President, J. S. Enlow; Secretary Mrs. Hine; Treasurer, Mr. Funk. Editor, O. A. Byington.
Scene—Mental Science: Prof.—Illustrate Imagination. Flaxen-haired Senior, "The wave with dimpled cheek jumps into the air and catches something and holds it there."
It was amusing to note the blank smile which overspread the little Senior's face when informed that at the close of the year they would be examined on the lectures on military science.
Officers of Irving Society for Winter term: President, A. Kelly; Vice-President, J. Jones, Jr.; Recording Secretary, Lyle Sutton; Corresponding Secretary, Mr. Funk; Treasurer, Mr. Moon.
"What makest dis litin?" asked the Chinese of a student, as he pointed to certain mysterious marks on a pair of cuffs. Well-er-um, you see our Professors require us to take so many notes. (Oyez.)
One of our Sophs says he wishes it was leap-year oftener. It is so nice you know, to have a pretty damsel call you out in the hall and with artless simplicity ask you to escort her home. Who could help complying.
The following specimen of genuine wit floats to us from an Iowa college. A student says: "In other colleges the students are expected to have a conscience, but here we need none, for we have a F (f) aculty in all, and our Faculty is infallible while conscience is not."
The following officers were elected by the Zetaghians at their last election: President, O. S. Fellows; Vice-President, A. E. Goshorn; Treasurer, A. S. Young; Recording Secretary, A. T. Horton; Corresponding Secretary, H. Hostetler; Sergeants-at-Arms, R. G. Morrison and W. H. Cobb.
Learn to spell, Faculty, was posted on the bulletin board a short time ago. Hum! What is there hard to spell about it? Has that august body devised some new method of spelling, in order to strike terror in the heart of the evil doer? Perhaps the Faculty with felicitous facetiousness, thought to frighten the frisky Freshmen into improving his faculties for spelling Faculty. There are some who spell it with a "d," but these are scarce and hardly ever survive.
All have doubtless seen the written examination papers used in many of our classes. They are all really copied from one original paper. The press is merely a shallow tray filled with gelatine. To print with it, a copy of the matter is first written with a peculiar ink. This copy is now pressed written side down upon this tray of gelatine, and enough ink adheres to print a hundred copies. It is a very simple thing, and any one can make one for himself, at a cost not exceeding one dollar.

We do not wish to be cynical, but it seems as though some of our society work was not very beneficial to
ourselves or any one else. Some late occurrences are a disgrace to any society. What, or wherein is the benefit of of devoting three-quarters of an hour to the real exercises of the evening, and three or four hours to splitting hairs about some question, which, decided either way, is of no possible importance? It may be urged that these quibbles give practice in parliamentary tactics. Perhaps it does, but it appears to an unbiased observer, that things succeed in getting terribly mixed up before a conclusion is reached. We believe that a society can be so conducted that it will benefit us, but we thwart our object by quarreling and quibbling over things which are of no moment.

Hold the gun, While I run, Said the gallant Eighty-Two. When I'm o'er, To th'other shore, There will I my charge renew. Not a word Was heard To escape the noble Soph, As with bound, And a sound, Like a whizzing bale, he's off. Now a wall, Like a gale, Echoes, besides a sound of sin.' Hurrah Soph! Bravo Soph! Eighty-two has tumbled in.

--The following books have lately been added to the library:
Impressions of Theophrastus Such.—Geo. Eliot.
Annals of Science and Industry.—S. F. French.
The Human Species.—A. D. Quatrefages.
Writings of Albert Gallatin.
Letters on Demonology and Witchcraft.—Walter Scott.
Data of Ethics.—Herbert Spencer.
Color Blindness.—B. J. Jeffries.
Modern Chromatics.—Ogden N. Rood.
Burke.—John Morley.
Thackery.—Anthony Trollope.
Gleanings of Past Years.—W. E. Gladstone.
Great Speeches.—Daniel Webster.
Law of Hotel Life.—R. V. Rogers.
Memoir of Benj. R. Curtis.
Euripides.—J. P. Mahafy.
Familiar Quotations.—John Bartlett.
History Norman Conquest, V. 6.—Freeman.
Library of Poetry and Song.—Bryant.
Is Life worth Living.—Mallock.
Value of Life, a Reply.
Footprints of vanished races in the Mississippi Valley.
monuments and relics.—Coombs.
Young Folks' History of Germany.—Yonge.
Tour through the Pyrenees.—Taine.
Titan, a romance.—Richter.
Health and Education.—Kingsley.
Ho to get Strong and stay so.—Blairke.
Dictionary.—Webster.
Works of Shakespere.

Critical account of the philosophy of Kant with an Historical introduction.—Caird.
English Actors, Shakespere to Macready.—Baker.
Beatrice Cenci.—Guerrazzi.
Papers relating to U. S. Treaties.
Johnson's Cyclopedi.a.
Special attention is called to the new and enlarged edition of Webster's Dictionary, also to Johnson's Cyclopedi.a and to a very fine critical and annotated edition of Shakespere's works in twelve volumes.

EXCHANGES.

The Knox Student is a first-class literary sheet. Its editorial articles are sound and do credit to the editors. Its literary articles are well selected and of marked interest.
We quote from a “Prize Essay,” “The Powers of Deed.” "The exercise of power is an essential prerogative of men. The grand consummation of the creative works, he is the authorized vicegerent of the Creator. Enowered with faculties which ally him with the infinite, and ranked a little lower than the angels, to his deeds there attaches a peculiar significance, there belongs incalculable power. The forces of nature are often potential and often violent in their operations. A rill upon the mountain side becomes a brook, the brook becomes a stream, the stream a river, mighty, impetuous, irresistible. The earth quakes, and magnificent Lisbon becomes a heap of ruins. Vesuvius vomits torrents of lava from its seething crater, and Herculaneum and Pompeii are entombed. But how insignificant in their results are these physical phenomena when compared with the moral upheavals which agitate society, the power tremendous and big, with destiny," which is latent with human action." It also contains an interesting essay on "John Keats."

We cannot say much of the Simpsonian; it is a second class sheet in every thing. With nine editors on its staff it seems that it ought to get up more enthusiasm. It acknowledges the receipt of number one of our cotemperary and says it contains a page or more devoted to the interest of the Reporter. Now, we have looked the Viedette clear through, and have come to the final conclusion that that page was clipped from our copy or that it is a Simpsonian joke, too deep for us to comprehend.

The News Letter contains the second prize oration of the oratorical contest held at Grinnell, October 31st. Subject, "Genius." It is a masterly production and speaks well for college oratory at Grinnell. "Raphael paints a Madonna in the Sistine chapel; every line is in perfect accord with the highest type of earthly beauty; each delicate tint and blush of color is as fresh and true as the most beautiful in nature, and the entire work is so perfect in finish that we may almost trace each separate hair on that comely head; then, around and over all the artist throws such an unearthly radiance of tender love and sympathy and holy joy, that his creation seems to soar away from earthly
things, and to dwell in the pure ether of a higher and holier sphere; whither too, we, gazing upon it, are alike transferred."

Nine-tenths of our exchanges for November have put in a well-aimed blow directed at the arrogant and bombastic editor of the *Niagara Index*. We ignore the effort. The best way to conquer a mule is to let him alone.

Our contemporaries, the *Vidette*, presents a much better appearance this month. The second prize oration at the State Oratorical Contest, "The Influence of Passion as Shown in a Life," by Chas. N. Hunt, needs no comment. "Within the breast of man is a battle-field. Here the affections and passions are formidably arrayed. Here is man's existence with its infinite longings and small acquirings; its ever thwarted and ever renewed endeavors; its unspeakable aspirations, its hopes and fears. It is through the media of joy and sorrow, love and sympathy, that heart speaks to heart, and the life of one becomes the actual experience of all. Do you ask for an example? Find it in the North and South alienated by civil war. See the conquered South after the roar of cannon and musketry had ceased, and the cloud of battle had blown away, smothering her wrongs in her wounded breast. Think you words can effect a reconciliation? No! Chords must be touched that lie too deep for words. But behold her again, when friend and foe have deserted her,—when she lies stricken by a terrible scourge, starving, dying. Hear the cry of the perishing as it thrills those fibers common to humanity, reaching out toward eternal and universal sympathy. Behold the response as from every Northern home it takes the wings of the morning to bear its aid—yea even its life, to suffering humanity.

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*Medical Department.*

C. A. Atwood, Editor.

"Tis the sublime of man,
   Our noonday majesty, to know ourselves
Part and proportions of a wondrous whole."—Coleridge.

Vacation is close at hand and with this number we close our editorial duties for the year 1879. Before laying aside our pen and bidding good-by to the old year, we want to thank our friends for their generous support and wish all a pleasant vacation and a safe return to their studies at the beginning of the new year. Let's all lay care upon the shelf for a while, take a genuine good rest and merrily and manfully "Ring out the old ring in the new
Ring out the false ring in the true."

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**CHIPS.**

"Singer tea and whisky" at Vinton, Iowa.

G. L. Rubleman is regaling himself at Rush.

Jonah was the first discover of "Gadus Whalers." Pettingill, '79 swings his shingle at Fort Calhoun, Nebraska.

C. E. Nicholas was recently called home by sickness in his family.

Dr. Ephriam McDowell, of Kentucky, made the first operation for ovariotomy at Danville, in 1809.

The "blue bottles" have all been emptied, now can't some of the Juniors deliver their funeral oration?

125 Demonstrators tickets are out, the largest number ever issued since the opening of the University.

Have you seen Flint's new work on Clinical Medicine? It is small and concise and contains much that is new and valuable.

Freshman in Physiology—"Why is the human body like a humbug?" Senior gives it up. "Because its an aggregation of cells."—*Cornell Era*.

The youngest member of the class is——? Well, never mind, we think it is a girl and weighs about eight pounds. For further particulars enquire of junior Landon.

Mutual courtesy between professor and student should be extended at all times and in all places. A single violation of the code may cause a great deal of harm and discord.

It is said that the smallest man in the class has a serious affection of the heart that requires his presence at Marengo every week, and numerous epistolary prescriptions between times. It is expected that the case will prove fatal.

Night waltzing, evidently the result of indigestion and a troubled conscience, is the innocent amusement of one of our lengthy friends. While we admire his light and airy gymnastics and enjoy his midnight orations, we would modestly suggest that he give us a rest until holidays.

Prof. Green, in charge of the canine department, recently received a visit from a delegation of ladies who had in view the recovery or purchase of a family pet. After looking through the establishment they concluded that "Wart" was the long sought-for prodigal and were about to institute proceedings for his recovery when the Prof. very gently informed them that while he admired their exquisite taste and considered it but a due compliment to the comely dog, he was under the painful necessity of informing them that Sir Wart had become a permanent member of the department and could not be purchased for love or money.

Dr. Horatio Wood, Jr. has recently brought to light a new alkaloid in Sophora speciosa. This he names Sphonia. In its action it resembles Calabar bean. It is a spinal sedative, producing death through the respiration. One-twentieth of a grain of an impure specimen of this alkaloid produced a profound sleep, lasting many hours, in a half-grown cat. Mr. Billinger, of Texas, states that the Indians near San Antonio use it as an intoxicant, half a bean producing "delirious exaltation followed by a sleep which lasts two or three days," and it is asserted that a whole bean would kill a man.—[Extract from Dr. Rotherock's report.]
The work of the term has been progressing at a lively rate and we find ourselves buried in the midst of books, notes, and study, almost unable to keep pace with the professors. Dissections, too, are going on at a "deadly" rate, and take it all in all the Medics have a very busy time of it. The holidays, however, are not far distant, and many, I presume, will hasten to their homes, to relatives and friends, there to enjoy the short season of rest allotted them, while as many more, perhaps, will remain, having laid out and set aside a definite amount of work to be pursued and accomplished in that time. But be that as it may, this being the last issue of the Reporter previous to the holidays, it will doubtless, I trust, not be considered permature, if the writer takes this opportunity in joining with the remaining corps of editors in wishing one and all a merry, merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Nutting, Jr. is practicing at Council Bluffs.
A telephone has been put up between Dr. Cowperthwaite's office and his residence.
Abbot has withdrawn and is now engaged in the lumber business near What Cheer.
The students of this department may expect a lecture on Microscopy some evening next week.
Where are you going and what are you going to do during the holidays? seems to be the leading question among the students.

Several more students have come in during the past month. Among them is Miss Disbro, who will be remembered by many as one of the students of this department during its first year.
Prof. Rockey has just come into the possession of a fine new binocular microscope. The instrument with all its appurtenances, analyzer, polarizer, etc., cost somewhat over $300, and is said to be the best in the State. It has ten adjustments, by means of which it can be put with exactness and ease into any desirable position.

**PRESERVING THE DEAD.**

Science does indeed, every now and then make some wondrous discovery or invention, which draws the attention of at least those who are interested in its progress. So, too, in the last few years a preparation has been invented in Germany, by means of which dead bodies of human beings or animals, or parts thereof, may be preserved for years, fully retaining all their originality of form, flexibility and color, unaccompanied by decay or decomposition.

The inventors had secured a patent for his discovery, but the German government, recognizing its importance to the scientific world, induced the inventor to abandon his patent. The government then made public through the press, the entire process as set forth in the letters patent. That the government might be fully satisfied as to its importance, the inventor upon request embalmed the body of a child. After an exposure of 15 weeks to the air, it was found upon dissection that all its parts were as soft and pliable as when but 24 hours old. Even some blood corpuscles were found which had not undergone disintegration. Many indeed will be the advantages derived from this invention, if it does all that is claimed for it, and a new era will have dawned upon the laboratory of the anatomist. The "artificial skeleton will no longer be in demand and in its stead the student of medicine may have hanging in his room a skeleton bound and held together by its own natural ligaments. Specimens of morbid anatomy and physiology will no longer require a spirituous infusion and thus be deprived of its color and flexibility. A body or part thereof may also be preserved in a hardened condition. Palates and other articles have been made out of the hardened liver and lungs, doubtless for the purpose that from them the friends and relatives may eat, drink, and be merry in honor or memory of the departed. Zoological museums containing the parts, skeletons and entire bodies of the various animals may now be the order of the day and the gardens fall into disease both on account of the trouble of constant care and feeding and the dangers connected therewith. The art of statuary may now be abandoned and our halls be filled with mummies.

Now, that this process has been made known, every one is at liberty to start a family museum, wherein he may place as representatives of the departed, their real bodies apparently life-like in appearance. Should any one after a thousand years attempt to write an historical romance about our time he would have better material at his disposal than were left us by the ancient Egyptians. The following is the composition of the liquid as translated and taken from German newspapers:

In 3,000 grammes of boiling water are dissolved 100 grammes of alum, 25 grammes of cooking salt, 12 grammes salt-peter, 60 grammes potash and 10 grammes arseneic acid. The solution is then allowed to cool and filter to 10 liters of this neutral, colorless, odorless, liquid; 4 liters glycerine and one liter methylic alcohol are to be added. The process of preserving or embalming dead bodies by means of this liquid consists, as a rule, in saturating and impregnating the bodies with it. From one and one-half to 5 liters of the liquid are used for a body, according to its size.

**Law Department.**

W. M. McFarland, Editor.

As editor of the Law Department, "we step down and out" with this issue. Our relations with the editors of the other departments have been pleasant, and we drop this work with something of regret on this account. We have purposely avoided filling the department with jokes, and "small talk," and have devoted the space to abler pens than our own. So that critics will be compelled to attack our use of judgment in making selections. With a little over two pages at our disposal we never expected to build up a
A petition was brought ing most emphatically that no ecclesiastical authority Bacon was strongly in Parker’s favor, the court declar-41


eating Parker, the result being that the latter’s busi-

gien e al ‘o went so far as to forbid the congregation pat-
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dupesne, of the French Catholic Church.


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lesson.


instructors seriously taxed by this habit, at times? 3


tations through this h abit? Is not the patience of ‘ our 2


third of thi s term by s ickness . Mr. C. is an honored ing to an under standing of the matt e r, bring suit by


m em b e r of th e clas , and has the sympathy of all. eminent lawyers, for their share of the prop rty. The


South: - Mr. Jen : B.


Love


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will meet with like favors. the will pro viding that it should not be divided until


our expectations. We have many thanks for those A singular case is before Judge


himself a better-half, and is now practicing law in Le-


Antioch College Springs, Iowa.


Arago, Nebraska.


Walker, Iowa.


Sweet Wine, Ohio.


Chariton, Iowa.


Aledo, Illinois.


Davenport, Iowa.


Windsor, New York.


Casey, Iowa.


Middlebury, Pennsylvania.


Independence, Illinois.


Kankakee, Illinois.


Lockhart, Texas.


Elkport, Iowa.


West Side, Iowa.


Black River Falls, Wisconsin.


Key West, Florida.


Kansas City, Missouri.


Brooklyn, New York.


Mt. Pulaski, Illinois.


Mt. Pleasant, Iowa.


Toledo, Iowa.


Worcester, Massachusetts.


Morris, Illinois.


Elkader, Iowa.


Salem, Nebraska.


Hartford, Iowa.


Cambridge, Illinois.


Rock Island, Illinois.


Augusta, Illinois.


Georgetown, Ohio.


Iowa City, Iowa.


Spencer, Indiana.


Troy, New Hampshire.


Belle Plaine, Iowa.


Iowa City, Iowa.


Agency City, Iowa.


Ascutneyville, Vermont.


Mt. Pleasant, Iowa.


Wilton, Iowa.


Middlebury, Nebraska.
DEFINITION OF LAW.

Blackstone defines our science as composed entirely of law i. e., of rules; but divides it, as composed of rights. To read his account of the science as a whole, you would expect to find the work divided according to the different kinds of law; to read his “analysis” or the heads of his chapters, you would naturally expect to find somewhere in the work an account of the nature of these rights which play so important a part in his classification. In both cases you would be disappointed. In the former case, it can hardly be considered Blackstone’s fault; since no one has ever succeeded in classifying law by the kinds of law. In the other case, he is open to criticism; since it was feasible to give at least some kind of account of a term which he used so freely.

I said that law has never been classified by its kinds. I mean, of course, the subject matter of law has never been so classified. This is not surprising; it is only equivalent to saying that the subject matter or contents of our science have never been successfully classified according to distinctions founded only on the form. Yet, while this is a justification of B. in one sense, in another it only brings out more strongly the error he commits in defining the science. For if the difference between the kinds of law is (relatively to the science) a formal one, certainly it is a mistake to make the definition of a law answer for a definition of the science. And this is precisely the mistake that B. has committed. Instead of defining the law, as a science, he has defined only laws as a part of the forms in which that science or its contents presents itself. Thus he speaks of “municipal or civil laws; that is, the rule by which particular districts, communities, or nations are governed; being thus defined by Justinian: “Jus civilis est quod quisque sibi populus constituit.”—(144). But jus or “the law,” regarded as a science, embraces far more than a mere rule, regarded only as a rule; it embraces also a scientific consideration of the rights and duties constituted by the law; that is to say, of the “actions” themselves, whereof the law furnishes us the rule.

When we define this science as a branch of human knowledge,—as the system which we have to study and practice, we must remember, therefore, that the term has a very different comprehension from that of law in the abstract, as a mere rule or a set of rules. It is Blackstone’s error to have overlooked this. He defines “a law” or “laws” in general, and gives no other definition for the “law” which constitutes the matter of his work. But the law as a science or art (jus, jurisprudentia), embraces much more than the mere set of rules that may be stated as “prescribed by the supreme power of a given state.” It must consider not only the rules, but also the actions governed by them, in a scientific method; that is, it must classify these actions according to their legal significance into rights and
duties. It must take account of the persons subject to the rules; of the relations which arise between them; of the things and actions which are the objects of many rules or dispositions of the law; of the means of enforcing the rules, and of punishing or remedying the breach of them. It must examine the legal institutions of the country whose law is in question, with all the rights, relations and duties arising from these. From the construction of the law with the state it results that to understand the law we must understand the entire political constitution of the state. Indeed a very large portion of every system of municipal law is composed of the rules which result directly or indirectly from its

The question is not whether any

As to the latter, all admit that new

In general terms' one can

whether this is accurate, even

In the United States, as stated. As to the latter, all admit that new

And there can be no doubt that this must be answered by saying that far the largest portion of every actual system is made up of rights, etc., and not of rules. Even the statute book does not attempt anything else. Its rules always imply the existence of these rights, etc.

About one-half of the class are being examined this week.

The class election resulted in the election of J. H. Williamson for editor, and R. C. Poston for President.