The work containing the present aesthetic movement in England, which has been called "the English Renaissance," French fashion and literature to rapidly go out of style, and there is scarcely a parlor but bears witness to its influence. Mr. Wilde has certainly come to the wrong country to make innovations in men's clothing. The same reasons which caused knee-breeches, etc., of a century ago to be laid aside, are still in force. Men of leisure may spend their time in showing harmonious colors for their apparel; but the business men of our city demand clothes that will not attract attention; neat, not easily soiled, and capable of being easily changed. Agitation. Nor can it be said that those who result in this, as in every field where improvement is possible, Oscar Wilde is a young man, tall, graceful, with long brown hair, colorless face, yet, withal, expressive character. He has written a volume of poems, which, perhaps, do honor to one so young, but will disappoint all who read them. His attempt to illustrate his aesthetic views in his dress has justly brought upon him the ridicule attendant upon those who disobey the teaching of Shakespeare:

"Costly thy habit, as thy purse can buy, But not to wear in folly; rich, not gaudy."

However, if there is anything commendable in the man, we men of taste and education can find any peculiarities in dress, demeanor, or modes of expression. As Mr. Wilde says, every movement must develop peculiar characteristics in its members. Its ability to do so shows something of its strength. The greatness of the claims of this movement should at least give its representative a large, attentive, and candid audience.

JOHN McCOULLOUGH

Last Thursday evening was ushered in by such a warring of the elements that a comparatively small audience assembled to hear McCulloch in the role of Spartacus. It can be said that those who did venture out were altogether pleased with the performance. The difficulty, however, was mainly in the play itself, which possessed no very salient points upon which the genius of a great actor might seize. We constantly felt as though no adequate opportunity were afforded for a display of the capabilities of the man. Still, in a larger theater, provided with everything necessary to heighten the scenic effect, the impression produced by the play would doubtless have been much more favorable. The princely air of dignity and aluminating power with which McCulloch invested the character of Spartacus, were, perhaps, the most praiseworthy features of his acting. The combat in the second scene of the first act was conducted with such extreme daintiness and regard for mutual welfare on the part of the gladiators, that it was rendered almost laughable. The finest piece of individual acting throughout the play was, in our opinion, that of Pharsarius, when describing the horrible agony of the captives crucified by order of the Roman Consul.

On the whole, we were disappointed; but, as we have already observed, it was, doubtless, chiefly owing to the inferior quality of the play itself.

NOTICE

The work containing the prize orations of the Inter-State and State Oratorical Contests is now ready for sale. It is a volume of 125 pages, neatly printed and bound in heavy paper. It contains the two best orations of each year's contests, both State and Inter-State, since the organization of the association, besides a history of the organization and growth of the association. It is of great value to those interested in oratorical matters, and will be sold at the low price of 40 cents per volume. Orders should be sent to S. B. Howard, of Iowa City, or to W. G. Ray, of Grinnell. The money must accompany the order.

College papers, please copy.

Owen Morris, the winner of the second prize in the Inter-State Oratorical Contest, at Jacksonville, last year, died of consumption, recently, at his home, in Northfield, Minn.

Iowa College is making great improvements this season. The college buildings have been recently swept and mopped.

B. C. Corey, Iowa's orator in the Inter-State Oratorical Contest of '81, preaches at Ackley.

It pays you to buy your Groves at Horne's. Every pair warranted.

COLLEGE SOCIETIES.

Contesting Delegations to the Oratorical Association Meeting - Notes About Other Secret Orders.

An effort was made yesterday afternoon by the Indiana Oratorical Association to elect officers for the ensuing year. The convention was called at the Bates House. An insurmountable barrier to the proceedings arose by the arrival of contesting delegations from each college. One delegation clamored as loudly for admittance as the other. The two sets of delegates were the result of the action of the various secret societies in the different colleges. Each university is entitled to only three delegates. From 2 till 6 o'clock was consumed in endeavoring to secure order. The efforts of the President and certain members were the only means of preventing the meeting from breaking up in a row and putting an end to the entire proceedings. Finally, after adjournment was taken until 9 o'clock this morning. After adjournment enough of the delegates to secure a quorum gathered and elected the following officers: President, Carey E. Morgan, Butler; Vice-President, Samuel L. Rosbro, Wabash; Treasurer, W. L. Fisher, Hanover; Corresponding Secretary, L. B. Peck, Franklin; Recording Secretary, R. R. Overstreet, Asbury; Delegate to the Inter-State Convention, Douglas Morris, Asbury, W. H. Rucker, State University, and George W. Crower, State University. Their action, however, will probably not stand as final.

A meeting of the Sigma Chi Societies of the State was held last evening. About fifty members were in attendance, and officers for the ensuing year were elected. The meeting was continued in the New Denison Hall after the contest. The meeting was held at the Bates House to elect their State officers.

The Beta Theta Pi will hold a meeting at 9 o'clock this morning at the Bates House for the purpose of electing their State officers.

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The Seniors should all go to Sperry's for their pictures. You will find a genial and accommodating operator.

The largest assortment and noisiest Millinery Goods at Horne's.
THE VIDETTE-REPORTER.

HERBERT SPENCE'S THEORY OF THE ABSOLUTE.

BY ISYTVN R. RICMAN.

Notwithstanding the evident satisfaction with which Mr. Herbert Spence indorses the opinion of Dr. Mansel, concerning the innumerable contradictions necessarily involved in every system of religious faith, there are, we think, yet apparent in his own doctrine of the Unknown and Absolute Reality which transcends phenomena, may easily be gathered from the following summary of his chapter upon the relativity of thought:

"We are conscious of the Relative as existence under conditions and limits; it is impossible that these conditions and limits can be thought of apart from something to which they give the form; the abstraction of these conditions and limits, in other words, is impossible, for the abstraction of them only; consequently there must be a residuary consciousness of something which filled up their outline; and this indefinite something constitutes our consciousness of the non-Relative or Absolute. In other words, we form the indefinite thought of the Absolute, as we form many of our definite thoughts, by the coalescence of a series of thoughts. Thus a large complex object, having attributes too numerous to be represented at once, is yet tolerably well conceived by the union of its essential characteristics; its standing apart apart of its attributes. On thinking of a piano, there arises first in imagination its visual appearance, to which are instantly added (though by separate mental acts) the ideas of its remote side and of its solid substance. A complete conception, however, involves the strings, the hammer, the dampers, the pedals; and while successively adding these to the conception, the attributes first thought of lapse more or less completely out of consciousness. Nevertheless, the whole group constitutes a representation of the piano. Now, as in this case we form a definite conception of a special existence, imposing limits and conditions in successive acts, so, in the converse case, by taking away these limits and conditions, we form an indefinite notion of general existence. By fusing a series of states of consciousness, in each of which, as it arises, the limitations and conditions are abolished, there is produced a consciousness of something unconditioned."

It seems to us, however, that had Mr. Spencer, instead of assuming the existence of some unconditioned entity as the basis upon which to impose those limitations necessary to our conception of a piano, seen fit to reverse the process, and ascertain by means of a careful abstraction of limitations already existing, whether he would obtain an unconditioned residuum as a result,—a much better method would have been employed. As it is, the just order of analysis and synthesis has been disregarded, and that, too, at a point where it is exceedingly important that it should be observed. Accordingly, let us endeavor to retrace the steps, and at the same time avoid, as far as possible, the errors of the preceding argument.

In forming a conception of the keys of a piano, for example, we condition our notion of matter by limiting it to matter of a particular quality, adapted to a particular purpose. But, in abstracting our conception of these keys, we annul all former modifications of matter, and as a consequence have left only our notion of matter unmodified. Moreover, if we continue the process with regard to unmoldified matter, we finally reach "space," certain modifications or attributes of which cannot be abstracted. In other words, when we have annulled all those conditions of being which it is possible to annul, our residuum is certain conditions of the relative entity space, which, because of their inseparable connection with space, cannot be removed. It is plain, therefore, that we can obtain no conception of the Absolute as such, however indefinite, by any process of abstraction of which the human faculties are capable.

But Mr. Spencer maintains further, "It is a doctrine called in question by none, that such antinomies of thought as whole and part, equal and unequal, singular and plural, are necessarily conceived as correlatives; that the conception of part is impossible without the conception of a whole; that there can be no idea of equality without one of inequality; and that it is admitted that, in the same manner, the Relative itself is conceivable as such only be opposition to the Irrational or Absolute."

Now, in reply to this statement, we would observe that our conception of the Relative does not necessarily presuppose a conception of the Absolute as such either definite or indefinite, as its antithesis, but may be obtained by contradiction of the various phenomena of the Relative itself.

Thus matter and space, although evidently included within the sphere of the Relative, are yet essentially different, even in respect to their fundamental character and nature. Consequently, the most abstract form of our conception of the Relative, and marks the limit of our approximation to a conception of the Absolute. Our conception of matter, on the contrary, may be so framed as to represent almost the highest type of relativity. It is consequently manifest that even an indefinite conception of the Absolute, as such, is not necessarily implied in a conception of the Relative, since, by reason of the antithesis between matter and space, a notion of the Relative (of which matter and space are cardinal phenomena) may easily be obtained. The same thing may also be said, with equal propriety, of our conception of entity. For it is obvious that, insomuch as our only conception of non-entity is our conception of space, our conception of entity is not the correlative of our conception of non-entity, but merely the result of that strong antithesis between matter and space, which, as we have already indicated, is derived from our conception of the Relative.

The conception seems to be irreversible, therefore, that Mr. Spencer's Absolute and Unconditioned Reality which transcends phenomena, upon examination, resolves itself into nothing more than that exceeding abstraction, yet strictly relative, entity, in which the worlds of our universe are hung.

How beautiful is the exhibition of humanity in the young. A little boy found a poor, half-frozen wasp in the garret, and placed it upon a chair before the fire to thaw out. Surely the angels must have looked down approvingly on such an act of kindness. When sister Mary's bos was called that evening he glanced at the chair, and seeing himself in it, murmured: "Ah, bless her heart, how thoughtful she is of my comfort!"

Two minutes later there was as much noise and racket in that parlor as if it had been turned into a den of demons. The wasp had flown away and left in its wake the residue of its IQueryable being."

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Complete Course of Instruction in the Art of Short-Hand Writing. In Class, $50. Price, $20; by mail, $5. Only one lesson given per week. Eight years experience as a private instructor, at the completion of which course, entire satisfaction. 215 Blodmen Street, Iowa City, Iowa.

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AUGUST ALLEN.... Secretary.
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ESTHER SOCIETY.
ELLA HILL... President.
ALMA WEGNER.... Secretary.
Sessions on alternate Saturday evenings.

YOUNG INSTITUTE.
P. L. SIVER... President.
W. B. MR. Secretary.
Sessions every Friday evening.

SETTLESIAN SOCIETY.
R. H. MORGAN... President.
H. D. LAMO... Secretary.
Sessions every Friday evening.

LOCALS.
Oh, don't!
Examination.
Whoa, Os-car Wilde!
Cigars at Whetstone's.
"Where is Uncle Jean?"
All money for advertisements is now
Which house do you bet your
money on?
Read our advertisements, and
profit by them.
J. C. Armentrout, of Davenport,
is in town.
Fight we will, if necessary, but
use our lower limbs first.
The Hon. John P. Irish started for California Thursday evening.
"I would like to see what dog­
gone wave will wash that out?"
WANTED.—A couple of copies of
W. D. Brown, '78, was admitted
to the bar at Sioux City, April 1st.

Smith & Mullin are the "hoy­
boys" to trade with, wholesale or
retail.
Oscar Wilde tickets will be on
sale next Monday morning at six
o'clock.
We have a chronogram for the
person sending us the largest club of
subscriptions.
A drunken policeman attempted to
show his authority over the students
again Thursday night.
Ardner's restaurant is the place
to buy confectionery, fruits, nuts,
ic, cream, and strawberries, etc.
Chas. Magowan writes us from
From Yankton, D. T. Are you
looking for a homestead, C. S.? We
have received several sub­
scriptions during the past two weeks. Let the good work go on!

"The English Renaissance," next Thursday evening, by Oscar
Wilde.
Prof. I. H. Bunn, instructor in
vocal music, Cornell College, Mt.
Vernon, was in the city yesterday.
Parties are coming here from
Cedar Rapids, Muscatine, West
Liberty, Wilton, and Marengo, to
hear Oscar Wilde, as he stops in
no other city in the State.
Though we are not paying high
prices for Spring poetry, yet, if
Mary will send in his production,
we can furnish him space at
advertising rates.

Fresh to Soph: What does all
this mean? Why are there so
many Prof's. in chapel this morn­
ing?
Soph—Why, my dear young
innocent, did you not know the
Board of Regents is now in ses­
sion?

Architect Cochran, of Chicago,
had finished his plans for the new
Medical Building, a photograph of
which may be seen in the Library.

We are very sorry to announce
that B. Shimek, on account of
poor health, is compelled to leave
school, and will not graduate with
his class. Mr. Shimek was elect­
d seven times ago Class Historian
for '82. His resignation of that
position should have been men­
tioned at the time we gave the
program for class day.

As we go to press, the momen­
tous base ball game is in progress,
and we await the result with anx­
ious hearts. Two boarding-house
crowds, having eaten out several
kindly-disposed landlords of the
city, and turned out to the cold
charities of the world, contest in
matched game for the survival of
the fittest.

Those who have never visited
Townsend's Gallery have no idea
of the taste and elegance displayed
in the artistic arrangement of his
paintings, portraits, etc. And, by
the way, he will have in a new stock of artotypes
in a few days. Perforated card
board portraits and flowers to be
worked with silk, are now open at
the rage, and the only thing of
the kind in town. Although you
will find Mr. Townsend's operators all
busy, you are made right welcome.

Of speakers from abroad for the
Amendment campaign, Miss Willard,
Mrs. Skelton, John B. Finch, and Geo. W. Bain are al­
ready secured. Mrs. Skelton will
begin work in the Second District
the first of May. Miss Willard
cannot come until June. Mr. Bain
will come about May 20th. Mr.
Finch, makes his first address in
Des Moines, April 27th. Other
noted temperance men and women
of national fame will be added to
the list, and with the most efficient
work of our home speakers, the
State will be be shaken from cen­
ter to circumference, in the inter­
est of constitutional prohibition for
the home against the saloon.

The Junior Contest is announc­
ed for the 12th of May. This
event is, as usual, looked forward
to as a pleasant disturber of the
monotony of the Spring term. It
comes just long enough after the
society exhibitions that the audi­
ences are rested, and just long
enough before Commencement that
its echoes may die away and
leave the auditorium hushed into
anxious expectancy for the tones
of Senior graduates. The Con­
test for this term promises to be a
good one,—many of the best
writers and speakers of the class
proving forth, faces which suppress an anxious, haggard look, the
halls echo preparation, and indeed
the students and citizens await a
show of talent which will take time
and money of our students as much
as that of any other city in the
state.

We noticed an editorial in the
last issue of the Rockford Semi­
inary Magazine lamenting the fact
that the students were not allowed
to attend the theater. The true­
tees of the college will allow the
students to attend concerts, but
they hold up their hands in a holy horror at the thought of ex­
posing the little dears to the de­
filing influence of such actors as
Booth, Barrett, Keene, McCul­
ough, etc. We had thought that
the principle of keeping students
under lock and key, and bound
down by iron rules, was almost
universally discarded by American colleges as a means of keeping
them safe from the dangers and
temptations of the world. But a
few fossils of that superstition
age seem to still have control of
Rockford Seminary. When we
compare the freedom of our own
institution with such senseless re­
lations as they have, it is hardly
a feeling of disgust. It is surpris­
ing that students still continue to
patronize colleges where the gov­
ernment of the students is as much
as a hundred years ago.

A students' excursion is the
latest get up. At a cost of $20
the student can make a tour of
England, Belgium, Germany,
Switzerland, Italy, and France.
The excursion starts from Indi­
apolis, June 15th, 1892.—Ex.

The first Senior class of Colo­
rado University will graduate this
year. It has six members. The
whole number of students now in
attendance is 118.—Ex.
A Nevada school teacher died,
the other day, and the local papers
announced it under the head of
"Loss of a Whaler."—Teacher's
Guide.

J. B. Noel says it is to late for
oysters, but strawberries and ice
cream are now in season.

DON'T FORGET that the CHICAGO ONE-PRICE CLOTHIERS MAKE THEIR OWN CLOTHING.

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GOVERNOR KIRKWOOD AT HOME.

Twenty-six years ago a deposition of prominent citizens of Iowa City drew up the following censure of the Governor, before he was an old grist mill, called out a rugged, four-covered man named Samuel J. Kirkwood and informed him that the people of Iowa, whom he had(IOException) the State Senate. Taking a sent on a convenient log, the miller pulled up a chair and had a candidate, winding up with the declaration that the music of the dam and the roar of his machinery were more agreeable to him than the containments of politics. "But you must run," said the ebullient Bob Finkbine, and a few more of the enthusiastic expressions, followed by the widespread favor with which the nomination was received throughout the county, settled the question, and Mr. Kirkwood entered the Legislature and public life in Iowa.

In his first adopted State—Ohio—a young lawyer he was chosen a prosecuting attorney. He was also a number of representative to the present Constitution of the Buckeye State. Always a close observer of political issues, he was present at the birth of the Republic in the State, being in the Old Capitol building, now the Law School building, of the State University. Of Mr. Kirkwood's subsequent career, every citizen of Iowa is familiar. The mind quickly reviews his record in the State Legislature, as Governor during the gold scramble, as a member of the United States Senate, again, honored as no other Iowa has ever been, by a third election as Governor, then again sent to the Senate, from which he was invited by President Garfield to be a member of the Cabinet. The last and highest appointment he was honored Iowa in, was being a fitting reception of the Illinois Republican State of the Union.

day, Samuel J. Kirkwood is again a private citizen. The bullet of the assassination fired at him has not disfigured his national administration, thankfully sent him into retirement. For more than a year he administered the affairs of the State, in which position he has not dimmed the bright luster of the Government to manage—a man in which it is difficult to enumerate the loneliness of this public and the people. Yesterday we found him out on the grassy lawns that fronts his beautiful home. He and Mrs. Kirkwood had arrived from Washington the previous night, but the fine Spring morning called them up early and they enjoyed a stroll over the pleasant grounds.)(IOException) any more of the State to the state of the health of the people. Should anyone dealing with the State to the extent of the stately white house you must not want something."

Taking a seat upon the steps of the recently-constructed, thirty-room structure, Mr. Kirkwood, who had gathered around him. His remarks would be read with interest, but it would be a breach of good home for his home paper to welcome him back with an interview, as free.

We have just received Mr. Sanders' poem, to which our friend Wood directed us last week, and gladly surrender space to it, as it reflects much of Horace—

We must now close.

LADY D'AMOUR.

Dusky boy, effusive sage,
How but a friend?
Why tease your tender age?
Till comprehend.
Business plateau, worldly cues.
My time employ,
Yet wear I from the scene
Gadfly to boy.

Summer moon, starry nights,
Have I not seen?
Pacing the street, he smiles
Passions too keen.

Up, down; the bolted door.
Shakes midnight chimes,
Still walks the boy before,
Heart beating time.

Happy maid, merry bed,
Blewly ate asleep,
Clocks flashed in dreams, yet dead.
To vials he keeps.

Stop, boy! she cannot know,
Count but the coast.
Strain not your heart-strings—
Love's labor lost.

Sperry will take group pictures for little money.

James, the old stand-by, is still making pictures to beat the world.

Did you all go Madame's opening?

School books at Smith & Mul-"n's.

Buy the Double-Seamed Parachute at Horne's.

Pure drugs and spices at Stru-"n's.

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Washington and Dubuque Sts., IOWA CITY, IOWA.
As has been announced, it is our pleasure to conduct the Law column of the The Vidette-Reporter during the present term. Having just been preceded by so worthy and able a journalist (and who, by the way, is an excellent judge of beauty), more, no doubt, will be expected of us than will be realized. As our territory for news is limited to the class, it is unnecessary for us to follow the stereotype rule, as persistently carried out by the average textbook paper, and devote two or three columns to the line of policy we intend to pursue toward the present administration: whether or not we believe in free trade; or what effect, if any, the Chinese immigration has on American society and rats; or whether we believe Whittaker needs, or whether we believe to create sympathy, or to add to his personal beauty; and, finally, wind up with a half-dozen lines of capital, exclamation points, etc., declaring that we will never cease this vigilant warfare until the bonds are freed from every American citizen, labor reap its reward from the hands of capital, and the monopolists reduce cologne to fifteen cents per bottle. These are vital questions, but it is not our place to handle them, and we will endeavor to do the best we can in our limited field of labor.

Ralph D. Bell.

Quack! Quack! Mr. Harding, of class of '81, paid us a visit, Tuesday. He is holding forth at Council Bluffs.

The Laws came out first best, Saturday, notwithstanding the enrollment (?) of a new Freshman.

President Merritt has been absent a few days this week on important business connected with the class.

A few bills were circulating around the room, the first of the week, conspicuously headed, "Prof. Robertson, LL.B."

Rev. Zeigler paid the class a visit, Tuesday. As the boys are all right spiritually, he refrained from giving them a talk.

Mr. Fred Smith, recently of the Law class, recently of Texas, recently of West Liberty, but now of Riverside, Iowa, paid the class a visit, Tuesday.

It is currently reported that some of the Laws are addicted to the habit of using antifat. Respectfully referred to the gentleman from Marenco.

Mr. Phillips, one of the worthy members, is absent from the class at present, on account of ill health caused by over work. We hope to see him back in a few days, entirely recuperated.

Chancellor Ross has been correcting the list of names in the class, preparatory to having them published in the catalogue. But few of the fresh faces part their names in the middle.

Prof. to student—"What would you do in a case like the one just mentioned?" Student—"I would move to squash out the action." Profound silence in the class, and Prof. looking at the clock to see the time of day.

During the rain storm, Tuesday, quite a commotion was caused among the class by a terrible crash, which, at first, was supposed to be the falling in of the building; but examination revealed the fact that the "light-weight" Law had sat down in a chair in the library room. The chair is not in condition to be repaired.

Programme for Law Literary, Thursday evening, April 27th:

Enchawation—Quinlan.

Essay—Giffin.

Oration—Hopkins.

"Debate—Question: Resolved, That the war of 1812 was detrimental to the honor and interests of the United States."

"Affirmative—Rhodes, McConlogue, and Winzen.

"Negative—Morrell, Emsry, and Putnam.

Oration—Kenned.

The opening base ball match of the season took place on Saturday last between the Law Department nine, on the one side, and the other departments of the University, on the other, in which the members of the Law nine acquitted themselves with credit. There were, however, many errors made, and the score shows need of much more practicing behind the bat and in the clubs. Reeves and Moats were the only men not put out—each making four runs—while Shea and Cornish made the best batting record and the fewest errors of the members of the Law nine within the diamond. At the end of the fifth inning the game was closed, the Laws having made a score of 17 runs, against 5 made by the "cads." It should be remarked that Putnam's curve pitching was quite effective, and that two or three very pretty fly catches were made in our field. Mr. Truesdale gave general satisfaction as umpire.

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