WHEN the structure of the subject itself is as difficult as that of its foundation.

If we were only rich, what prodigies of good we might do; if we were learned, what revolutions in the world of science would we effect; if we were influential, how many would we lead to noble deeds and great achievements; if we were musicians, how we would charm even the birds. But these "ifs" vanish, and so the structures fail. If we possessed the money of John, or the talent of George, or the health of James, the education of a neighbor, or the experience of an acquaintance, to what an extent would the sufferings of the world be ameliorated by our example. Thus we build our air-castles out of material belonging to others, and never blithely at the thought of the thief. The thinking we seem to do, in a very miscellaneous way, on our own part. Our follow have hidden their light under a bushel, have wrapped their talent in a napkin—in short, their superior advantages and abilities they have wasted, and if they have failed, though possessed of such odds in their favor, how can we expect to succeed, when carrying a load of disadvantages in addition to being deprived of their opportunities? If the thought expended in the building of intricate castles upon so insecure a foundation as "if" were employed upon more real structures, we would not so deceitfully ourselves.

A lawyer seeks clients and doesn’t always find them; a proctor is troubled, perhaps, in the selection of a subject; a cook finds difficulty in getting at all remunera­ tions a variety for the table; a mechanic must first find the material with which to make a house; a doctor walks for patients. But an editor can commence and complete his work with material manufactured by himself, and expressly for use upon a special occasion, as witness: a lawyer makes his own clients, as it is running in business; a cook times does, he cannot get a very "fat take," for those who are foolish enough to get themselves tangled in his web are usually too foolish to possess anything valuable enough to satisfy his egotism. A preacher has only one source whence to derive his thoughts, and that source is the property of all men. It is not that the structure he builds is proved upon its own foundation. The cook depends upon the farmer for his materials wherewith to work, and the mechanic likewise is dependent upon the lumber merchants for his boards and timbers. A doctor waits until the sick call him, and he dies with Death if he seeks patients. All these representatives of trades and professions go to a source outside themselves for material to work with, and without it thus obtained from abroad they can do nothing. Even with this stock on hand, their field is within narrow boundaries; their business is with one theme for each—the preacher, his subject; the carpenter, his house; and the mechanic, his work. But an editor finds the words running from his pen as he moves it, and needs to look only within his own mind to find the ideas to express with those words. And not even the existence of absence of any particular person or class of persons need interfere with the successful performance of his work. For we have seen that the author may lament their scarcity; if they are abundant, he may also lament their abundance. And this ability to thus manufacture his own material may not in the least lessen the value of his editorials. For an editor’s stock in trade is his ideas, and he may incorporate the best part of that stock into his production, just as a carpenter uses his lumber for a fine house, or a preacher selects the best text for a good sermon. And moreover, the editor’s realm includes that of each of these laborers and professional men; he may properly write concerning them all. But all this presents a one-sided view. It supposes the possession, on the part of the editor, of an inextricable supply of ideas, with physical strength equal to the task of expressing them, besides the ability to do justice to all the multitudinous subject of which he is the possessor such varied talent?

The following eloquent testimony is given by Symonds, in his "Italy and the Italians," as the eloquent testimony of the Greek literature in determining the course of modern culture:

"The impulse communicated to the structure of antiquity by Chrysoloras, and the noble enthusiasm of his scholars for pure literature, might best be understood from a comparison of ancient Greek manuscripts and the first Greek editions of the classics. The latter had rather been changed into a cry of warning for ecclesiastical authorities upon the verge of dissolution—Greek text, eras perennis; since the reawakening faith in human dignity of man, the desire for the liberty, aura and passion of the Renaissance, received from Greek studies their strongest and most vital impulses,"

Tasso's conversation was neither gay nor brilliant. Dante was either taciturn or satirical. Butler was sullen or bitter. Grey seldom talked or smiled. Hogarth and Smith were very absent-minded in conversation. Ben Johnson was very inconsiderate, and even irritable when pressed into conversation. Kirwin, though copious and eloquent in public address, was meager and dull in colloquial discourse. Virgil was heavy in conversation. La Fontaine appeared heavy, coarse and stupid; he could not speak and describe what he had just seen, but then he was the model of poetry. Chaucer’s silence was more agreeable than his conversation. Dryden’s conversation was slow and dull, his humor satirical and reserved. Cowley, in conversation, was so insipid that he never failed in wearying; he did not even speak correctly that language of which he was such a master. Ben Johnson used to sit silent and impertinently, and suck his wine and their humors. Soutby was still, sedate, and wrapped up in asceticism. Addison was good company with his intimate friends, but in mixed company he preserved his dignity by a still and reserved silence. Fox in conversation never flagged; his animation and variety were inestimable. Dr. Bentley was loquacious, so also was Grotius. Goldsmith "wrote like an angel and talked like poor Polli." Burke was entertaining, enthusiastic and interesting in conversation. Currax was a convivial deity. Leigh Hunt was "like a pleasant stream," in conversation. Carlyle doubted, objected and constantly murmured.

We stood at the bars as the sun went down, he who was to be a summer day.

Her eyes were tender and brown.

She broke as soon as the new-mown hay.

For from the west the coast-shimmer.

Glanced sparkling off her golden hair.

Those calm deep eyes were turned towards mine.

And a look of restlessness.

I saw her sitting splendidly now.

Positively shining and charming her end.

As I rubbed her nose—that Jenny now. —Advance.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge’s resting-place at Highgate is amid a scene of desolation and decay. Within the last year there have been twelve applications made to the man in charge, by persons who wished to visit the place, eleven of whom were Americans.—Harper’s Weekly.

A Harvard student thus translates

"Bona conversatio more congrua maxit."

More bits of corruption in the conversational.

Dear mother," said a little boy.

"A cyclist," said an old man.

"My child," she said, "is not that you for stealing grandmother’s apples."

Special sale of miscellaneous books at One-Price Outh Bookstore, commencing September 20th.
THE BROOK.

Starting from its mossy cover, Shooting forth the fern and clover, Glittering like a thread of silver: Gently flows the brook.

Murmuring in its tranquil whisper, Rippling in quiet laughter, Coming from its pristine solemn: Gladly flows the brook.

Darting past the mossy meadow, Chiding with a shrill complained, Larking on the bluebells: Mirthfully flies the brook.

Swelling to a mighty river, Where the rook-eared cattle gather, Overhead! O'erhead! Aye, forever, Grandly flows the brook.

THE SUPERNATURAL IN "MACBETH."

BY IRVING B. EICHMAN.

"Macbeth" is a tragedy laden with the gloom and the heaviness of crime. "When the play opens the sun is already dropping below the verge. And as at sunset strange winds arise and gather the clouds to the westward with mystery, the scene and silence, so the play of Macbeth opens with movement of mysterious, spiritual powers, which are auxiliary to that awful shadow which first creeps and then strakes across the moral horizon."

Shakespeare has written two great tragedies, distinguished from each other by that exact difference which has its own particular scope, and deals with a certain phase of crime. They both agree, however, in subordinating the fact of crime to the moral. In other words, they are both intensely psychological.

As a tragedy of this class, "Othello" derives its interest from the character of Iago—a veritable fiend, whose only joy is in the torture of his fellows. Regarded from a purely intellectual point of view, Iago is the prince of criminals. He is the personification of malvolence and cunning. A character for the consistent delineation of which was required a hand capable of the most delicate manipulation, and an eye capable of the coarse. The departure of a hair's-breadth from the true course would have ruined all. But the character of Iago—matchless creation of genius though it be—still lacks the prime elements of human interest. It is too purely intellectual. There is no trace of conscience or of feeling to be found; no point of contact for human sympathy. That which to some extent is possessed by all, even the worst of men, Shakespeare seems to have denied him. He has no soul. Crime with Iago is merely a calculation, and beyond the dexterous sword-play of his wits there is nothing. In "Macbeth," on the contrary, the intellectual aspect of crime is almost entirely dispelled. It is the soul that is here subjected to a searching analysis. Crime ceases to be a source of infinite satisfaction to the criminal, and becomes a moral curse at which he is himself appalled.

Iago contrares the destruction of Denouement for the titillation of his intellectual palate, but in "Macbeth" it is the soul that conceives the murder of Duncan, and it is the soul that perishes in consequence. "Macbeth" is "the supreme tragedy, in that it chronicles the death of the soul."

But its deep moral significance is strangely heightened by a touch of fate. There is, at least, foreknowledge of the murder of the king, even if that murder has not been foreordained. He that is Glamis and Cawdor shall be what he is promised, is, indeed, already a factor in latent issue of events. The intense brooding of spiritual powers has cast a deep shadow upon the world. Nature and the agitated soul of Macbeth are in a wonderful and accursed.

"Light thickens and the crow makes wings To the rocky wood. Good things of day begin to sleep and drown."

Moral responsibility is somehow becoming netted in the web of fate.

It is needless to say, that of all ideas, that of the soul and the supernatural were most familiar to the Greeks. They necessarily formed the basis of the whole the question of the supernatural, and given the fate of man into the keeping of his own hands. But the chord struck thus early in the history of the drama has not ceased to vibrate yet. Human nature still looks beyond itself.

We have banished the dryads from our groves, and the nymphs from our streams; no laughing Peck or dainty Ariel waits to do our bidding. Yet, when some exquisitely fabric of fancy's handwork is to be compared with its final grace, how gladly do we bid them come trooping back again? What were "The Tempest" or "A Midsummer Night's Dream" else? We have likewise exorcised the world of its bards and demons,—relessly exterminated by the hand of science. Yet Goethe can teach a profound lesson with his "Faust," and even Ham Halakel with his philosophy of facts.

It is for this reason, therefore, because the human soul still retains its capacity for being far more profoundly moved, in certain ways, by the supernatural than by the natural,—that Shakespeare hast introduced fate and the witches in "Macbeth." We still feel that a huge mystery envelops crime. Man is believed to be a moral agent, and is held responsible for his deeds; yet he is the child of destiny no less. The witches in "Macbeth" are the handmaids of destiny. "From the moment that their eyes first meet Macbeth's, he is spell-bound. He can never break the fascination." They are the visible emblems of the mystery of crime, and thus give to tragedy a firmer tone.

Yet, of all the characters in the play, only two come in direct contact with the supernatural. Macbeth and Banquo. Others are dimly aware of it, only as some weird shadow that benzines the day. To Banquo, this shadow is not so meaningless as the rest. In it he sees the covered up fulfillment of a promise to himself as well as Macbeth. Dismissed, at first, as an idle fancy or a bubble of the air, it returns to make the texture of his dreams, and, on the night of Duncan's murder, hangs on him like a pall. He, too, is under the spell of the weird sisters. By Lady Macbeth, however, its dire influence is never felt. She is the great human agency in the drama. Her acts are determined by no vague promptings of destiny. The destiny upon which she is resolved does violence to her nature, yet she crushes that nature in obedience to her will. Will is the dominant faculty of her mind. Her crime, therefore, is the irresponsible crime of deliberate intent. Lady Macbeth stands out an heroic figure against the dark background of tragedy. Not, like Medea, dimly revealed through the distorting clouds of mystery and fable, but distinct and clear-cut in our northern sky,—a woman and murderous; a figure best contemplated in the dim light of the understanding.

By her side, Macbeth himself is but a "haunted shadow" at once "a hand's breadth of pale sky." He has dipped his hands in the blood of a king, only to behold the vision of a sceptered race that stretches out to the crack of doom.

Fate has ended in retribution. Retribution, indeed, is but the accomplishment of fate. Yet who can explain the full mystery of its sequence upon crime, "beast of all, can explain it here? I have often wondered that it now takes upon itself the form of the gentle Duncan.—"

Whose "virtues"

Still "shone like angles trumpet-adjusted Against the deep damming of his taking off."

But he who reads "Macbeth" must expect to find it crowded with wonders,—all the wonders that can be packed in the great are of crime.

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EX WIT.

Don't buy a rooster got rid of, on her part.—Principle.

Such fool-punning ought to be put to stop to.—Hamlet. Literature.

They say we have a Freshman who is so short that he can't tell whether he has holes in his knees when he feels unwell.

Subscriber: "Why is my paper so damp every issue?" Editor: "Because there is so much mud on it." Exit subscriber rapidly.

A young lady in Marietta being told that her father objected to her kissing the students, philosophically remarked that she didn't care. - Transcriber.

Doctor.—"Well, Pat, have you taken that box of pills I sent you?"—Pat.—Yes, sir, but I have none, but I have, but I have not any better feeling yet; may be the lid hasn't come off yet?"

He was sitting in the parlor, with his feet, in his shoe, on the floor, saying: "Chaintickee." "I wish you would," said she, "I am as sleepy as I can be." —He cleared.

Assorted spices of night.

Did it at right.

And get into right.

They want to fight.

Which isn't right.

By a —right.

Only as a brother.

"My teeth are all full of sand," said the fairest bather in the surf. "All right, hand them out," said an admirer, "and I'll rinse them off for you." And now she regards him only as a brother.

As he sat on the steps on Sunday night, he claimed the right to kiss for every shooting star. She at first demurred, as became a modest maiden; but he finally yielded. The student decided, on accommodating as to call his attention to flying meteors that were about to escape his observation. Then she began "jalling" him on lightnings-hugs, and at last got him down to solid work on the light of a lantern that a man was carrying at a depot in the distance, where the trains were switching.

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The students all go to GARDNER & O'SULLIVAN'S Barber Shop.

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Lytle Hunter, Corresponding Secretary.

Prayer every evening in Prof. Parker's room.

LOCALS.

Fire at Cornell.

Ask Clarke if he went to the fire.

Where are the usual entertainments? - Junior in French: "Keywork." Professor: "Sit down. Next."

Hal D. Allen will spend Sunday in Des Moines.

Mr. E. O. Morgan, father of the boys, paid the city a short visit during the middle of the week.

Why does Prof. Eggert look so smiling nowadays? - Is a girl, and the only one in the family.

Sevile Johnson writes as a lively letter from Fort Byron, Illinois. He is studying law.

The band, Senior football team, and everybody else, more or less, went to Mt. Vernon yesterday.

If you want to know the definition of Oleomargarine, ask the Academy class in constitutional law.

W. S. Gibbs, M.D., '70, is now Professor of Physiology at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Omaha, Neb.

Mr. E. O. Morgan, Secretary of the Railroad Commission, paid his sons Ed and Charles a flying visit this week.

We are not given to catastrophes over the weather, but, on yesterday, autumn seems to have realized its full perfection.

From appearances, one would infer that a hot store had recently burned down, and the Faculty had attended the fire.

Mr. J. E. Dodge, of Class '81, came in unexpectedly last night to join the Law Class. Mr. Dodge will be warmly welcomed by his many friends.

George L. Dillman has been home at Toledo during the week. He will be at Mt. Vernon in time to kick with the Seniors and then return to school.

Subjects at the Presbyterian church to-morrow - Morning: Is Christianity to be considered as a faith or a failure? Evening: Subject: The conditions of a true life.

What does it mean when a student comes home and takes a miniature handkerchief, a small pair of mittens, and an umbrella out of his pocket? A Junior can explain.

On last Friday evening the different faculties of the S. U. L. Law, Medical, Dental, and Academic, were given a reception by President Pickford. The University band regaled the party with serenades.

The drill last Wednesday consisted principally of a street parade. The solemn bearing and general conduct of the boys elicited merited praise from the spectators. The band, also, received its share of compliments.

The beautiful moonlight nights this week have so affected the younger members here of Tus Val Incidents that they remain at their dormitories corps that it has been almost impossible to get them to any work for this issue. Moonlight is hard on a weekly paper.

Masons, Howe, Gage, Vincent, and Bopp, the Law advise, were caught by Mr. Springer's, where the fire occurred on Thursday evening. The boys were quite badly disorganized, but sustained no great loss. They escaped very fortunately.

At last the Juniors have found a football team they can beat. On Tuesday afternoon the Juniors and Law met on the Carlton grounds, and the Juniors easily took both games, giving them the game. We advise the Law to retire from the field.

Mr. C. F. Vincent, of Mason City, stopped over Wednesday on his way home from Missouri, to take a look at his son, Ed F., and the S. U. I. generally. Mr. Vincent is a practical civil engineer, and expressed great satisfaction with the work we have been doing.

Fun, frolic for fourteen friends. Tip-top till ten, then music melodious, which wrought within sweet, soothing sentiments. Moonlight most mellow, breeze bracing. Such serene sweetness was wrapped within Wednesday evening's enjoyable encounter at the Misses Wilson's.

The Seniors have gone to Mt. Pleasant to-day to play a match game of football with the Cornell boys. We hope that next week we may have the pleasure of chronicling another victory for the S. U. L. We never have been beaten in field sports, and the Seniors will probably sustain our reputation.

The game which decided the championship in football for the year was played on Carlton grounds last Saturday afternoon. Up to this time the Sophomores had led, but they had more than the usual amount of sophomoric conceit. But the modest (?) Sophomores appeared upon the arena, and kicked the ball over the goal the first time, so that the Sophis were fairly dazed with surprise. The next inning they did better work, as they were credited to him. But this was their first and last success, as the next two goals were won by the Seniors, giving them the game.

Dr. Wilkes, in his work on Physiology, remarks that it is estimated that the bones of every adult person require to be fed with lime enough to make a marble manel eight months. It will be perceived, therefore, that in the course of about ten years each of us eats three four mantel pieces and a few sets of front door-steps. And in a long life we suppose it is fair to estimate that a healthy American could devour the capital at Washington and perhaps two or three medium marble quarries besides. It is aw-

The new officers of the Oratorio Association are as follows:

Irving - Frank Leonard, President.
Zestheticus - J. T. Churichelles, Vice-President.
Hesperia - Miss Kate Reed, Secretary.

Erebenthal - Miss Annie Hanford, Treasurer.

The Zeta elected their annual exhibition programme last night, which is as follows:

Subalternt Oratory - Chas. R. Brown, Declamation - F. L. Haller.


Oration - W. M. Walker.

Declamation - Chas. Magwan.

Valedictory Oration - S. B. Howard.

R. F. Hurthart, class of '82, has entered the University Conference and has been sent to Palo for the coming year. We understand that Frank passed a very creditable examination, and entered his work with a brilliant outlook for the future. If we are informed correctly, he intends to remain in the work for two more years, and then complete his preparation at the Boston Theological School, after which he will continue to work in his chosen vocation - Cornellian.

Our readers will remember that Mr. Hurthart, Chairman of the Iowa delegation to the Inter-State Oratorical Contest at Indianapolis, last May, Mr. Hurthart is a royal good fellow and our relations with him were extremely pleasant. We wish him the greatest success in his chosen life-work.

We would sang of football and the weather, and all that, you know. The Seniors were to beat Cornell without any trouble, but the gods were not propitious.

The contest had to be got up in the middle of the night to get an early start, were much disheartened by the appearance of the clouds, which were indeed discouraging. But nothing short of a cyclone could dampen the Senecas and so forth, they went, the band played, streamers flying, and the Junior's tin horns in full blast. But the rain came down in sheets.

Pain begins to mount up and advise return; but no. After many false starts and much consultation among the most active and influential members of the student body, the game finally moved on. And still it rained. The band drew too much and fell behind. The way-faring granger had to suffer. Team gives our band, puts up a flag to wait for better times. The "team" goes on to compuet and the red return to dinner. Thebanner hand-moasted-on the wall. Anxious hearts return to the games-homes-bones-bones.

Poppes Cigars, at Shradar's.

Genuine cash cigarettes at Fin's store.

Buy your Perfumes at Shradar's.

Buy Soaps and Brushes of Shradar.


DAYS alternately warm and cool is cream and oyster at Noel's.

THE VIDEOTTE-REPORTER.
THE STUDY OF ANCIENT LANGUAGES.

The order in which we study Latin and Greek authors is no doubt founded on the necessities of grammar and construction, but it is certainly not founded on the principle of literary appreciation. We commence with Caesar, one of the finest prose writers, concise but graceful, exact yet intensely interesting. There could be no better study of exact style given to a student, and exact style is a thing which newspaper literature has almost destroyed in the nineteenth century. There could be no way of forming a truer conception of this man who turned the whole course of Roman history, than in studying his writings. For in him intellect was no separate world far from Rome and its disturbances, but ever in him was turned to the one point of his purpose, so that the student of the "Gallic wars" feels that even in knowing Gaul as he saw it, in understanding his plans and their execution, especially as they were pictured by his pen, he really knows Caesar. But this perfect piece of literature, this magnificent style, with all its advantages, this conception of a man, whom some would call the greatest, who at least compressed into himself Roman history for over ten years, is consigned to the Junior preparatory, to boys who care for nothing beyond attaining the highest mark, and whose attention is all diverted from the literary value to be given to the forms of grammar. And so we might go on. Homer and Virgil are sacrificed in the same manner. The finest poetry that Greek civilization could produce is not alluded to beyond the Freshman year, and is not studied, for its literary merit. The intensely beautiful part of Hector and Andromache is never translated; the grand picture of Hector breaking through the gates, bearing fire and sword to the black ships, is never met except in translations in our readers. The exquisite figures are rarely commended to our sense of the beautiful. Virgil is never seen after our Senior prep. year. In fact, we know so little of him that the mention of his name calls up no beauties of poetry, but sequences of tense and subjunctive mood. To Xenophon we devote time and attention far beyond his worth. Why not a few of Plato’s dialogues in the place of the somewhat trifling discussions as to the desirability of mixing food which the cook has not seen fit to mix, or the query as to whether a sauce-pan is as beautiful for its use as a painting as for its color? Certainly we might hear more of the greatest philosopher the world has ever seen. Again, the possibility of omitting the "De Corona" never occurred to us until we came to the study of Greek orators and devoted nearly two-thirds of a term to Isocrates (may his shade rest un molested!) The idea of going away from college ignorant of Virgil’s excellences, and spending time on Ovid and P Aviation, is rather trying to the man who has some desire to know "All fair things of earth, how fair they be."

If it is necessary to consign these authors to the preparatory department that students leaving the gold may mine the baser metal of grammar from their treasures, why not give us an opportunity to meet them again and get from them that which is more worthy? At Amherst they have a term in which Homer, and, we think, other fine authors, are read, not for construction, but for themselves, at a stage where students can read fast enough to get some connected idea of a work. Even that would be an immense addition to our knowledge. The term of Greek Dramatists was almost the only one in which we reached anything that might be called literary appreciation, and we look back upon it as the greatest literary treat we have had while studying the languages, and it has whetted in us an appetite for those classic treasures, which, we trust, will never be satisfied, although we must pursue their gratification by ourselves. - O. Belis Reiter.

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We are indebted to Mr. J. R. Electronics for a large share of the matter in this department, and extend our sincere thanks for the willing helping hand.

We have been the strong hand of a friend at the helm making the darkest hour brighten and our trouble lighter; and while the work may be in the nature of human nature that forms also the basis for gratitude.

We would recommend the practice of forming quiz clubs of four from each of the classes, for the purpose of studying and answering the list of questions so admirably prepared by Chancellor Ross. The careful preparation of answers to these questions is the best way to get substantial benefit from "Code Pleading;" and it seems to us the text must rather confuse than aid one in the preparation of those questions.

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The following members of the Law class of '93, in addition to others already mentioned, have been heard from:

W. H. Liston is at Des Moines.

Prof. McClain discredited the cumbered learning of the books, and in two lectures gave us, in a nutshell, the history of the origin, growth, and importance of constitutional law. He will continue the subject next week.

John F. Duncombe, of Fort Dodge, father of our Duncombe, paid the class a welcome visit on Tuesday. In response to a call, he says he never makes speeches without pay. How long before we will refuse to make speeches—without money?

Jas. A. Kerr has opened up an elegant law office in Newton, and Kerr reports business as good. Mr. Kerr has been reading law for the past eighteen months, and was recently admitted to the bar of Newton, in which he at once takes high rank. We predict he will be heard of in our State's future.

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