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The Volante.

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EDITORIALS.

Some of our friends complain that we do not pay enough attention to the old graduates. We assure the readers of THE VOLANTE that the one column of alumni gives us more trouble than the other twenty-three. It is absolutely beyond our power to make the column of interest of our alumni will not help us. Write us a letter, at least once a century, and tell us something about yourselves and your classmates. The trouble to you would be less than nothing, while the pleasure you would thus afford your—both instructors and students—would simply repay the investment in postage and stationery.

We have received several communications, which have cheered us on wonderfully in the gloomy undertaking of getting the alumni column ready.

The Volante suggests to the two literary societies that they take immediate steps to secure some distinguished lecturer to address them during commencement week. Hereafter, the work has been accomplished through the liberality of our President. He has secured the speakers, and paid them for their labor. The societies through the whole business, have acted the parts of automats. Will they continue to play that role, or will they show some independence, and cease to abuse another’s kindness? In addition to this, the societies are responsible, to a certain degree, for the success of the entertainment whose chief figure comes and goes without their knowing anything about him. If a lecturer fails, and the audience goes away disgusted, of course it will all be due to the judgment of the literary societies. We should begin to understand that our President cannot shoulder and satisfy every whim of the students. He is doing the work of a half dozen men now. Let us relieve him of the task and conduct the affair ourselves.

The societies can appoint a joint-committee to take the subject under immediate consideration, and, if found expedient, turn an honest penny by the lecture.

The Volante is unwilling to find fault and carp at the affairs of the University. The men who have it in charge scorn such a line of policy. But it is sheer madness to shut our eyes to the fact, that in the West there is a strong demand, a demand that is found irresistible, for a short and more practical college curriculum. How does the University meet this growing demand? By folding its arms and looking on silently. We know it is impossible to stem the current. Every other institution in the West, worthy of a comparison with our own, is laboring vigorously to satisfy this cry for a practical course, while our own, as far as is manifest, moves neither hand nor foot in the matter. Last year we were promised that the Scientific Course should be extended, invigorated, and made respectable. On that occasion it was declared, in substance, that the Scientific Course had been extremely weak, and anything but an honor to the University. Every old student in the crowded chapel broached a solid yes to that statement. So far, we have observed but a single improvement. The German Department is now under efficient control. But this is not all; far from it. There are a hundred and one things we could mention, which are sadly in need of radical reform. The Scientific Course, as a whole, is loose and jointless. It is a notorious fact here, that, for the last three or four years, it has been a sort of a receptacle to stow away the lazy, the carousing, and the stupid element in college. No one who has mixed with the better class of students can deny this. When a man is too indolent and dull to sail along smoothly in the Classical, he is quietly shoved into the Scientific Course, to be forgotten, and perhaps not even understood. We are well aware that some of the best men that ever walked these college halls were scientists. We have in mind the class ‘68. They were solid men in upstanding character, and not by their Scientific Course. They may have been dull, but was it not a result of the Scientific Course? It would be but one conclusion on this subject, that it is a fraud on the student, and a disgrace to the University.

Let us have the remedy at once. Delay and indifference will be fatal.

What has been the cost of this want of interest and foresight? It cannot be reckoned in dollars and cents, though that too, has been heavy. It is fairest to estimate it by comparing the number who came in freshmen and went out seniors during the last three or four commencements. The two courses have entered college equally represented, but at the close there have always been six classics to one scientific. Discontented with their own progress, indignant at the treatment they received, and hurt by the mingled feeling of pity and con-
tempt which the body of the classical students entertain for them, they have fallen out one by one, either to go to some polytechnical school, or to engage in some business.

To this want is felt more keenly from the fact that our classical course is as starchy as any in the land. The contrast between the two courses here is so glaring that a bishop's mitre has been made into a great hat worn in every direction, save alone in the Scientific Department. It is not as healthy today as it was four years ago.

However much we may depurate this tendency for "short cuts" to knowledge, the fact still remains that it exists, its origin in the vigorous activity of the West, and must be satisfied. There is no such thing as crushing it. It has a province in Western civilization, and while that exists there is no crying it down. If the authorities are unwilling to provide a Scientific Course that will stand shoulder to shoulder with the Classical, why then take down the sign, and let us have no farce of it.

In a former issue of THE VOLANTE we took occasion to present a few reasons for giving greater prominence to the study of modern languages in the curriculum of the higher institutions of learning in this country. But as the arguments in favor of a more general introduction of the study of French and German into the collegiate course are most frequently met by the plea of lack of time, we suggested, as one way of obviating the difficulty (not necessarily the only way, nor, perhaps, even the best way, but simply one way), of that of abbreviation somewhat the time now devoted to the study of the dead languages. It seemed to us that four whole years, including the preparatory course, is as long a portion of time as the student, whose aim is simply a liberal education, ought to devote to the learning of Latin and Greek, while there are other equally important subjects claiming his attention. This consideration led us to suggest that at the end of the sophomore year, when we expressed the belief that with profit the student be made, to give place to modern languages. We regret, however, and are not a little surprised that the views we presented should have been interpreted, in some instances, as implying upon the efficiency with which the departments of ancient languages are conducted in this University. When we stated that the chief difficulty in the study of the Greek and Latin languages is founded upon the mental discipline which this study affords, we thought we were only stating a truism. When we expressed the belief that at the end of the student's second year in college this knowledge of grammatical principles has, or ought to have been acquired, and that, after that time, the Greek and Latin grammars are, to a great extent, laid aside, we supposed we were only stating what was known facts. In view of these things we expressed our opinion that, so far as the desired mental discipline alone is concerned, there is comparatively little to love and much to gain by the substitution of the study of the modern in place of the ancient languages at this stage of the college course. But by this it is not meant that no progress has been made in the study of the Greek and Latin languages. Quite the contrary, we believe that the study could not be pursued with profit after the sophomore year; for this would be the merest nonsense. Much less would we be understood, from what we have said, as undervaluing the benefits which we ourselves have derived from the classical studies assigned to the junior and senior years in our own University. On the contrary, we admit that our clearest notions of Roman history and Roman civilization, and their bearing upon subsequent times, were gleaned from valuable suggestions and important facts presented from time to time in the classroom in connection with the study of Tacitus, in our junior year.

In like manner we look back upon the weeks spent in the study of Demosthenes on the Crown and Plato's Apology as, in some respects, the most profitable of our whole college course; chiefly, we think, from the fact that these studies were not conducted as a mere passing process, but in a manner inviting to the scholarly mind, and not indirect and superficial. In our senior year we were treated to the subjects of oratory and philosophy, both ancient and modern.

But it will be seen that these benefits which we have mentioned are, in a certain sense, incidental to the study of the ancient classics themselves, and depend altogether upon the teacher's knowledge and skill in presenting these subjects to his class. While, therefore, we would detect nothing from the claims of the dead languages, especially where they are studied according to the admirable method of Professor Brown, we are of the opinion that the object of a college course should be, not so much to reap the fruits of its own sowing, by pursuing a subject for its own sake, but to bring pleasure and profit which it affords after the hard drill-work has been accomplished, as to sow the seed for rich post-graduate harvests, by acquiring the rugged principles of the various branches of knowledge which the study of the classics imparts. While, therefore, we are of the opinion that it requires a mature mind to study with profit such works as Tacitus, the Oration on the Crown, etc., there is no reason why French and German may not be taken up in the first years of the course, and afterwards give place to the more important Greek and Latin authors. If modern languages only receive the attention which the classical progress of education seems to demand, we have no disposition to quibble about the manner in which this may be brought about.

"Once upon a time" there was a good old deacon who, in his ambition to acquire a reputation for excessive humility, was in the habit of smiting himself after the manner of the Publican, and complaining of the depravity of his heart and the sinfulness of his life. But when his pastor one day joined him in sympathetic grief over the evil tendencies of his nature, and urged upon him the necessity of doing all in his power to mend those wicked ways which caused his devoted heart so much grief, he forgot all about his humility, and replied: "I am as good as you are, anyhow!"

We are forcibly reminded of this interesting story by the apparently unappreciated efforts of the Harvard Advocate to sympathize with the Dartmouth over the admitted degeneracy of literature in Dartmouth College.

The Dartmouth, in one of its issues, complains of the fact that there has been a great decline in the literature of the college, and, by a melancholy representation of this falling off, to create a fresh interest in literary pursuits on the part of the students. The Advocate takes this matter up in "dead earnest," protests its sympathy with the Dartmouth over the deplorable condition of its literature, etc. Now, while one may complain of his own shortcomings, it is never pleasant to have others say much about them. So at least it seemed to the Dartmouth, and it replied to the commiserations of the Advocate substantially in the language of the deacon already alluded to.

The Advocate is disposed to make merry over this, and evidently thinks the laugh is all on its side of the house. But it is doubtful whether it is entitled to very much credit for this little bit of pleasantry at the Dartmouth's expense. It is hardly fair to take advantage of another person's extreme and5 foolish high principles for ill. It is well known that when there is an abuse to be corrected, or when a general interest needs to be awakened in any given direction, it is often necessary to exaggerate somewhat the urgency of the case, in order to create the desired enthusiasm in favor of the proposed measures for improvement. But when a view is so firmly established as to be immediately interested, to assume these more or less exaggerated statements for the plain truth, and proceed to dogmatic contemptuousness to the contrary, is at least, of a design to detract from a neighbor's good name and reputation.

Those who love variety in everything must be perfectly satisfied with the sort of weather which has been allotted to us during the past month or more. True, there has been a monotonic uniformity in the absence of the unexpected on the ground, but this monotonv has been fully compensated for by constant changes in the atmospheric moisture which has been depositing with a marvelous constancy ever since a time beyond which an ordinary memory finds it hard to penetrate. These changes have been many, in the form and manner in which these changes have been made in the climate, but perhaps the coldest and wettest showers, the while the mercury sinks about the 80's in the shade, and the next day the chilly snowflakes of Christmas are driven by the relentless Boreas straight into your face, while the mercury is feeling for the zero mark.

But we do hope that those members of 73 who were anxious to have their senior vacation at the beginning of the term will heartily enjoy the knee-deep mud through which they must wade, with their umbrellas and over-shoes (if they are so fortunate as to possess these articles), whenever they wish to go down street. And we further hope that the benefits of this "eternal fitness of things" be extended to the succeeding classes; at any rate, until a worse time for the senior vacation can be conceived of.

Titty day before Dr. Boise left for his European tour the President presented him with the work known as "View of the Acropolis," wishing in some manner, the President said, small as it was, to manifest his love and esteem. In behalf of the class, he thanked the Doctor for the zealous interest he had taken in the class welfare, and the kindness with which he had on all occasions treated them. Doctor Boise said, in reply, that he accepted the gift, not only for himself, but also on behalf of the University and its students, since the work was one of general value. He thanked the class for the courtesy it had always manifested towards him in and out of the school-room, and earnestly hoped for each member a brilliant and an honorable future. And as the boys left the table, Dr. Boise said through the President, "I shall long remember how well I was entertained, and I hope you will not long forget a pleasant evening spent with us."
The volcano.

LITERARY.

THE COLLEGE GHOST.

A LEGEND OF ALMA MATER.
The mien of Sidney I bear invoke,
As parent of this legendary story;
As that if it be true, it be
To furnish evidence confirmatory.
Cats, standing under the proper scores,
My peep may not more freely in its course.
At mid hour of a summer's right,
Van Horn lay tranquilly in chains;
His dreams of kind the moon uplifted
Among his ears various every nay.
I love to give an unengaged reply,
Which he a poet, occasionally knows.
Yet talk in the poet's pace.
Such blest out to wildly shatter;
And I much with those born
Held aloft as it in matter;
For bad they done as, tardly then
They were old made fast, labour, and
And two professors had kindly spared
Embrace for which they neither were prepared.
But students, as you must believe,
Are prone to singular displays;
To showing what they think is wit
In regulation college ways.
Though finalness been ever fatal in
Least sort of wit in showings of kind.
And so it happened that Van Horn
Was rudely raised by such a shaking.
It seemed as to
Held a crest, and all the earth were quaking.
The mirth-out-cursed, broken him of chains,
And creakery, and cool eared down the stairs.
In short, it was a novel high,
A Cynic's estimate of laugh;
A sort of linear which I
To feel excited for an unable.
On this occasion, by long odds, the boys
Could not all utter base in way of noise.
Van Horn was no sooner heard the sound,
Thus, waiting not for wife or jacket,
He leaped to the finish.
As if he thought to beat the racket;
Then truly glorying along the wall,
And was not found himself in any ball.
Not only desired, either list;
But alive, and yet more less.
And when the head was thrown him
He grasped, but in his grasping amazed,
And especially the gegen feared him.
The fear was not, it was the sight,Cloud as they were in garments of the night.
"He, he, he, you next, watch at last!"
The sturdy handmaiden said, with laughter.
And exclaimed Van Horn so tall and full
Which no two can embrace, and.
Concerned with fear, the latter cried aloud,
And fully dook that 6 feet 3 or of Abad.
Together these are fast rubbing,
Each that he had the moral sound.
They hang for something the spite
Of half a minute, till the curtain.
Of dark dimples by a light was raised,
And Mrs. Prok stood by them, fairly shook.
I will not picture for your eyes
The scene that followed this disclosure,
Nor deal in too family wise.
With fact which was, in fact, exposure.
Enough that bare shows a raging base.
Gone certain evidence the joke was out.
I am not sure the Cynic's grasp
Mark license by this forced rendezvous:
Although I think Van Horn remained
Somewhat for his look of misleading.
And left the student free to dispose
Of time and talents as they chose:
And sellers, now, last midnight and the moon,
Are seniors forced to question—when's Van Horn?—

BEECHER AND PHILLIPS.

During the past fortnight America's two new gifted orators have spoken before Chicago audiences—Henry Ward Beecher and Wendell Phillips. The one the greatest of living preachers, the other the greatest of living agitators. Strange as it may seem, the agitator is more polished both in diction and utterance than the preacher. Beecher presents a fine appearance, tall, of perfect proportions, he towers up among his audience, bearing stamped on his very person the mark of the leader. Standing perfectly erect, with head, shoulders, and hair thrown back, he looks like an Hercules ready and able to overwhelm all opposition. One word expresses his appearance exactly; that word is:—power. His appearance is the type of his oratory. His voice deep, full, magnetic, ringing, adds to the effect. Word follows word, sentence follows sentence, in exhausting profusion, as though he were attempting to-drown out his opponents. Phillips, too, is tall and fine, but he has not the same rich and melodious, lacking a little in volume, a want more than compensated for by the distinctness of his enunciations. Cool and deliberate, half the time picking the lint off the speaker's stand, without the least exertion or effort, he holds the audience entranced. It is as easy for him to speak as for them to listen. The word which expresses Phillips's appearance is:—grace; the grace which comes not of effeminacy but of perfection. You can hardly realise that the easy, graceful man who stands before you is he who harbored the most seething thunderbolts against the slave system. Yet, even now, with a smile on his lips, and in the sweetest tones, he utters sentences, keen as a Damascus blade, which go straight to the marrow—sentences which will ring in your ears as long as life lasts.

Beecher's greater power lies in the magnanimity of his person, the sympathy of his voice; that, and that alone, holds the hearer. The lecture was commonplace; to new thought, few figures, no brilliant dictum: he was divorced from the personal element of the orator, it would fall flat. He works on the hearer just as the musician does, touching or rousing, captivating or terrifying through the ear.

Phillips works only through the reason. While he is talking you pay no attention to him, you think only of the object. The effect stands out before you in vivid colors and sharp lines. It is only afterward, when reflecting on the effect which still lingers in the mind, and the ease with which it was produced, that you realize the wonderful skill of the speaker. Beecher deals best with pathos, and the poetic. Phillips with sarcasm and invective. Beecher reminds you of some old warrior of the heroic age, slaying his terrible club and battle-axe; you see the stroke coming, and tremble, but there's time to dodge, and when the blow does fall, the whitlow may be unshaken. Phillips reminds you of some adroit knight of the age of chivalry; you see few motions, nothing but the tremulous glitter of polished steel, but quick as the lightning, the smarting edge has pierced the vitals, and the enemy is dead—yet on his feet. Laird Collier says: 'We have traditions of the oratorical pow- ers and habits of Prentice, Clay, Marshall, and others, who in their day swayed multitudes, and whose names have about them a poetic and idealistic enchantment. But without doubt the final judgment of history must be that Wendell Phillips was the greatest orator America ever produced. His name will certainly be grouped with Democritus, Pericles, Mark Anthony, Bonnet, and Burke, and in his day without a rival.'

COLLEGE MORALS.

At Cornell students have never been required to perform religious duties. Harvard has abolished compulsory attendance upon daily religious exercises. The Yale Course some time ago expressed the hope that the auth- orities of Yale would follow in the same course. Compulsory attendance at church and chapel has long been condemned of, and looked upon by many as an irksome duty and a matter of course, and unreasonable, if not absolutely injurious restraint; and it is probable that the majority of students in our best colleges are in favor of doing away with the system en- tirely. It is also probable that at no distant day the leading colleges of the country will adopt and carry into practice the views of Harvard and Cornell, in this particu- lar, at least.

If, then, the manifest tendency of college government is toward such liberalization in regard to religious duties; if this time of compulsory attendance upon religious exercises, which has been considered the main safeguard to college morals, is to be set aside, the very natural and important question confronts us: What is the meaning of this innovation? and to what will it lead?

It will lead to gross materialism, infidelity and immoral- ity, predicts, in debate tonics, the incipient, half-born theologian of some obscure rural institution, who is yet unable to conceive of true piety as distinct from a melan- choly visage and deep-drawn sighs. Who has not seen him? Whatever he happens to smile, or take part in some healthy exercise, he invariably mistakes the admoni- tions of his starved stomach for the reproofs of his con- science, and manifests his penitence with deep groans.

With him college morality consists in abstaining rigidly from any and every attempt to render his existence less miserable to himself, and less disagreeable to his fellow students. He it is also who, in the prayer-circle, points out the beauty of the 'golden rule,' and who, at other times, studies this or that trick of college politics by which he can secure for himself and his "friends" offices and posi- tions of honor (?), or contrives this or that silly "joke" by which he hopes to hurt his neighbor's feelings or in- jure the reputation of a supposed rival. Fortunately, the class to which this student belongs is, as a general rule, becoming less numerous, and in most colleges is not thought very respectable. But this is the class that fore- sees the sure overthrow of college morals in these liberal innovations.

On the other hand, there are those who look with de- light on this growing disposition on the part of college authorities to do away with all religious restraints, as the earnest of the speedy overthrow of all religious belief and all moral restraint. They mean nothing more, than what they choose to call the emancipation of the young mind from the too narrow confines of moral duty and moral responsibility. They profess to believe that it is only as the young man, by means of a liberal education, can break away from such restricting fetters as the fear of God and the belief in a world to come, that he can reach forth to his highest and noblest destiny, as if there has been, or ever will be a grand and noble achievement accomplished on this earth to which religion does not supply the material; since it means, they say, as if any movement of lasting benefit to mankind has taken place during the last eighteen hundred years to which the spirit of Christianity has not lent its divine in- spiration.

The fatal error into which both these schools of pro- pects seem to fall, consists in supposing that the princi- ples of the Christian religion, which are the source of all true morality, in college as elsewhere, depend for their existence and prevalence upon some system of compul- sory moralities or of compulsory attendance upon religious exercises, which has been considered the main safeguard to college morals, is to be set aside; the
THE VOLANTE.

pulsion, but because "He spake as never man spake." So the doctrines of Christianity today depend for their triumphs, not upon any force of external circumstances, but upon their divine, intrinsic power to elevate and bless mankind. To remove all compulsion, therefore, in religious matters, is by no means to abolish religion itself, but simply to rid it of an incumbrance which never before longed to be removed! This has now been associ- ated with it; while religion in its true spirit and essence is left unconfined to exert its powerful influence upon human thought and action. The world at large is grad- ually awakening to a fuller appreciation of this truth, and it may be that some such considerations as these have induced the authorities of some of our best institutions of learning to do away with all requirements of a religious character, and leave those things to the individual mind and conscience, where they rightly belong. Nor does it appear that they have taken this step any too soon. On the contrary it seems, from what may perhaps be too superficial a reflection, that the average college morality has been advanced in proportion to the preva- lence of an intelligent liberality in the government of col- lege students, especially as regards religious duties. Two things are certainly evident. There is less of religious restraint and bigotry manifested in college regulations, and there is also less vandalism, insubordination and dis- graceful rebellion on the part of students, than formerly. There may be no conclusive argument against a system of compulsory religion in the facts just mentioned, but the student is his own judge. Again, if compar- isons are in order, a lesson may be drawn from the present state of affairs, corroborating the views already presented. These remarks apply equally to the students of either Harvard or Cornell on the ground of morality. On the contrary, they seem to conduct themselves with sobriety and diligence, and to excel in "the utmost harmony, good will and benefit on all sides; while at other colleges, where students are compelled to attend "divine service" twice a day, with one additional service on Sunday, the students are continually "in war and rumors of wars"—the students fighting and flandering the faculty, and fighting and flandering each other. Now, if there be no reason why college morals should bear fruits differ- ing from those sought in the world without, and if it be an element of morality to "preserve the spirit of unity in the bond of peace," and, in a homely phrase, to mind one's own business, one certainly looks in vain for any peculiarly pure development of a noble State, in the heart of which all the morals are in no jeopardy from this growing tendency to remove religious restraint.

It is not the design of this article to urge anathema against the importance and the beneficial influences of religious exercises to those of any men into whom with willing hearts and earnest motives. There is no desire to abolish chapel exercises; but in order to be productive of any real benefit to the participants, at- tendance upon them must be voluntary. Young men, when they are old enough to come to college, need sympathy, admonition, and counsel; indeed, but pietty and morality are qualities born in the heart, and cannot be implanted in a person by any form of coercion.

COMMUNICATED

Below will be found an interesting letter from E. O. Taylor, '68. We are grateful to Mr. Taylor for so kindly reminding us, and heartily support his suggestion for the class of '68 to have a reunion at the coming com- mencement. The reputation of the class is still fresh in our memories. The undergraduates will extend to them a hearty welcome; while THE VOLANTE will do anything in its power to second the movement. What does '68 say to a similar reunion?

Since the above was written, we have learned from a member of '68, in this city, that it was a general under- standing among his classmates to hold a reunion at this next commencement. We hope they will all hear this in mind.

TOPKE, Kansas, March 28th, 1872.

EDITORS VOLANTE:—Please accept my sincerest thanks for your kind remembrance of me in as far as to send me an occasional copy of THE VOLANTE.

Herein you will please find enclosed $1.50, for which I desire you to have my name enrolled as a regular subscriber.

I have no hesitancy in pronouncing THE VOLANTE the best appearing college paper in the land. Its "dress" is admirable, and it is well edited. I like your suggestion that every friend of the University should take it. It should be a medium of communication—a bond of union among the alums; while we should be proud of a sheet that represents the college so well. May it have long continued success. Though it is in now nearly five years since I was wounded from my Alma Mater, I have by no means forgotten her, or lost in any measure my former interest in her welfare.

Since I came to Kansas two years ago, I have been most thoroughly interested in the affairs of this new and expanding State. Kansas is a noble State, in the heart of which all the morals are in no jeopardy from this growing tendency to remove religious restraint.

C. E. R. MULLER, '68, is studying music in Stuttgart, and rumor has it that he takes great pleasure in the company of a fellow student,—not of the masculine order.

B. B. BLAKE, '68, is in the manufacturing business in Racine, Wisconsin, and is said to be highly successful both in business and in the way he carries his lately acquired matrimonial honors.

WILL PARSONS, '68, is in business in Vicksburg, Miss-issippi, and according to accounts is progressing quite well in worldly affairs. He still has the same affectionate regard for the faculty, particularly Prof. Safford.

MAELE, '68, is still pastor of a church at Rockford. Through his zeal and industry the church was enabled to pay a debt of fifteen thousand dollars during the past winter.

BROMWORTH, '69, better known as "Boz," will soon marry a fair maid of Elgin.

HENDERSON, '70, graduates this year at the Theologi- cal Seminary, and hopes to Terre Haute on a salary of $1,500. Pretty fine for the first effort.

BAKER, '71, is in the commission business in Chicago. As hearty and jovial as ever.

WESTON, '70, we learn with profound regret, died re- cently at his father's residence of that terrible scourge, consumption. PoorFrank! When he left us he looked as hearty as any man in the class.

TUCKER, '71, we are very sorry to learn, has been con- fined to his bed for some time. His thirst troubles him. Our informant tells us that he is now recovering and will very likely spend the summer months out west near the Rocky Mountains.

PRATT, '71, delivered the valedictory at the last graduating class of Hahneman Medical College. The effort was one of the best of the evening. He painted in rich colors the future of the class, and was elected to the membership of the class, under all circumstances, to be true to their profession and their Alma Mater.

POWERS, '71, is still connected with the eastern press.

GARDNER, G. C., office of '72, is assistant superintendent of the Joliet Iron and Steel company, and has, we under- stand, a very lucrative position. George was one of the original newspaper men of the University, and to him, as much as to any one man, is due the present prosperity of THE VOLANTE. He says: "I engage the requisite amount for my subscription, and ask pardon for my delay, and should you be in need of funds I think it will be to your advantage to let me know of it." We wish you health George. Are you married, if so by all means let us know it?
THE VOLANTE.

The Brownian for February is replete with excellent articles. Its poetry sparkles with a brilliancy that is foreign to college magazines. The prose is thoughtful, and written in a very readable style. But we especially admire the candid and manly criticism of something reassuring about that part of the magazine.

The Harvard Advocate has changed its board of editors, but not its style of criticism. In the last number, the Miseducatus is put on the rack and tortured in a heartless way. Though we condemn the manner of the Advocate, it is simply puerile for our exchanges to sneer at its ability. Too many have found out, at a bitter cost, that it's dangerous to talk of it in that way. The Advocate displays good judgment in the selection of its material, giving an equal space to subjects of a local and a general nature. Whatever else we may think of the Advocate, and there is much to be severely censured, we cannot but admire the care and literary finish so apparent in its whole make up. "He first thought" contains several stanzas that vividly express what every hard-working student has felt.

The Tablet calls upon Trinity College to advertise. Here is its argument: "A college cannot attract a large number of students unless it takes active measures to proclaim its excellence, any more than a merchant can find a market for his goods and be sought after, if he is kept concealed in the dark corners of a warehouse."

The Central Collegian is a new exchange and comes from Missouri. It presents a good appearance, but its matter is not up to the average. The editors spread themselves too much. One editorial takes three columns. It could very well be condensed into a dozen lines.

The Argus is a good copy quite extensively. We like its reading matter, for there is some substance in it, especially in the last number. The "Complaining flower" is a fable neatly told in verse.

The Geysor was born at Wabash College a month or so ago. The type-writing is simply wretched, and the contents, though lively and familiar, can with more pains be greatly improved. The Wabash Magazine and the Geysor are on good terms, since the latter was started to deal with local affairs more extensively than the former. By hand work, gentlemen, you can make the Geysor a worthy exponent of the spirit and ability of the students of Wabash. We wish you a hearty success.

and a snorer, the different classes of college editors. We advise the Argus, for the sake of its reputation, to abstain from all future efforts at wit. It's a dangerous weapon to handle. The Advocate has been greatly improved since its first appearance. We found much of interest in it in the last number. The Williams Review reached us the other day for the first time. It is substantial in appearance, and manifests no little taste in the selection and arrangement of its material. Editorials are short and to the point. We hope, it may visit us often.

The Chronicle lies before us with its usual quota of interesting matter, and we must add that it surpasses all of our exchanges see an energetic and business-like air. The editors write, not as a pastime, but as though they were in earnest, and want to be convincing rather than pleasant. Though a good share of its contents is local, yet it is so banal that every student feels an interest in the subject. In the present number there is an article on "Ponying," in which the writer conveys the impression that some members of their faculty countenance that system of locomotion. He reveals the fact that the practice is by no means confined to the lowest men, but that even the best students yield to the temptation. We are afraid that the gloomy truth could be told about some of our own students.

The Tripod has chosen a new board of editors, slightly altered its dress, and completely changed its character. Hitchcock has been severely gravely; now it has leaped to the other extreme, and is dangerously trivo- lious. We hope that it will not pursue some things in the last number of the paper. If they weren't indenst, they bordered so closely that it would require a Philadelphia lawyer to draw the distinction. Such trifles are of too much stuff; it savors too much of the language used on "cider and peanuts" nights. Shakespeare and Beautiful Eulogium are two names: all best articles in this number.

Dr. Matthews, in a recent article in the Chicago Tribune, says:

On the whole, the result of our peep into the work-shops of the Geysor is to our satisfaction. It shows better writers than articles in this number. We believe that the paper is on the road to eventual development; that very soon we may look for a periodical of being respectable, which only shows a "pitiful ambition in the fool who makes it." The veins of golden thought do not lie upon the surface of the mind; time and silence are required to work the shafts, and bring out the glittering ore. "Le temps n'orpaoge pas qu'on fait sans lui. — Time spares nothing produced without his aid," says Boileau. It is in literature as well as a physiological law, that longevity demands a long period of gestation. An elephant is not prolific, but its offspring outlive whole generations of the inferior animals whose incubation is of more frequent occurrence. Half the failures that occur in literature are due, as they are due in art, in business, in every kind of pursuit, to self-consciousness in the aspiring, leading him to despise labor, and to fancy that his slightest effort is to be prepossessed with success. It is an age of improvement that we live in,—of prompt reform, of prompt legislation, of prompt invention, literature, philosophy; the volatility and verve of extempore eloquence in the pulpit, the cut-and-thrust style of criticism in magazines and reviews, the laborsaving, hot-house schemes of education, so much in vogue, indicate, by their popularity, the spirit of the age. All is steam, electricity, railroad rush. "Who will deliver us from these annihilators of time and space?" cries we.

AT HOME.

The Tri-Kappa Society held its ninth anniversary last month. There was a good audience. The music, by Miss Fannie Goodwin and Mr. Edward Schults was excellent, and showed that the society had made a good choice. Pres. C. H. D. Fisher opened the exercises with an appropriate address. He referred to the difficulties the society had encountered and overcome, and prophesied a brilliant future. The oration by L. H. Holt, which was delivered by Mr. C. H. Hall, was far from being tame. The closing lines were listened to with marked attention. They were certainly well executed. During the exercises which followed, some men were led to tender more to its perpetuation than to its destruction? Was discussed by George Sutherland on the affirmative, and W. K. Roney on the negative. Both speakers handled the subject with considerable skill. They manifested good taste in being vigorous without ranting, and in stating their facts without distorting them. Johnny Sutherland—he will excuse our familiarity; everybody knows Johnny—read "The Tri-Kappa Sepulcher," and thereby added much to the humorous part of the entertainments. Commanded us to Johnny for a lively paper. The oration by R. W. Clifford, "Does Education Receive the Attention it deserves?" was a powerful appeal in behalf of the great interests of the nation. It is an old fact that the speaker held the undivided attention of the audience, though the hour was late, is ample testimony of the young orator's ability. The Tri-
Kapya boys are proud of their meeting, and feel quite jubilant now. The Athenaean comes next.

EXAMINATIONS were very severe at the close of last term. The professors came down on the boys in a way that caused a good deal of marveling. The harder the keep up, and increase the pressure, gentlemen.

We learn from various sources that the University has cleared $1,000,000 dollars on the one hundred and sixty acres of land it bought near the City just before the Fire.

We are sorry to announce the continued illness of our esteemed President. He has for several weeks past been confined to his home, unable to assume active charge of the arduous duties of his office. We sincerely hope that his health may soon be restored, as the University can ill afford, at this time, to dispense with his zealously and self-sacrificing labors in its behalf.

The report of the Ladies' Education Society says there are 59 theological students in the University: 48 Baptists, 1 Methodist, and 1 Congregationalist. The report concludes with a pathetic appeal to the Baptists of the Northwest to assist these self-sacrificing young men. Does the appeal include the Methodists and Congregationalists?

There is a rumor abroad that the Northwestern is negotiating to get a foothold in our law school. We believe a union of interests would be beneficial to both institutions, and surely of great importance to the law school itself.

PROF. —— tells the following rich and suggestive story about Harvard University. When he was connected with the Cambridge Observatory, he had occasion to take the senior class out on a beautiful night for practical observations. The instrument was ready for use, and only awaited the Professor's return. But before he came, the boys thought it wouldn't be safe to see what could be discovered on the earth— with special reference to a fine marble front where lady occupants were well known to most of them. They painted the instrument toward the parlor windows, and to their profound astonishment, behold one of their classmates where he ought not to have been— the sofa, with the fair mis of the mansion on his lap. Here the only constellation they ever enjoyed looking at. No doubt.

DEARBORN SEMINARY takes a lively interest in the University boys. The invitations to the Philobacnic concert at Standard Hall came in as thick as blackberries. Seniors need not think they were the only ones. The “Freshies” could tell a story or two.

The juniors are laboring and creating a ridiculous mess about their orations.

THE SENIOR class, while waiting for the political comedy lecture the other day, indulged in a Virginia reel. The whole class joined, and the duet in the President's room was fearful. Prof. Safford was attracted by the tope, and came in time to witness the striking tableau of the gentlemen hugging their partners.

An ambitious “prep” solicited an exchange of letters, and perhaps after awhile something warmer, with a young miss up at Winnetka. By some means the letter reached W, without a stamp. The Winetka miss told Buck she didn't object providing he'd pay his postage.

The seniors in room —— are greatly exercised about petitioning for an injunction to restrain the removal of St. Xavier's Seminary.

A young student who made a splendid Cynic, informed his classmates and the Professor of Latin that Arcada brought the conspicious name to latine.

 booth was too much for the paternal injustices. Most of the boys were down to see the great actor, and are in ecstatics over his Shakespearean delineations.

Mr. EDWARD BOWEN, one of the editors of THE VOLENTE, will visit Europe as soon as commencement is over, and very likely join Dr. Boise in Germany. His stay there will be about two years.

We notice the name in our advertising columns, who was formerly a staunch friend to the College Times, and to college boys in general. His terms are extremely liberal to “students.” A word to the wise is sufficient.

ABROAD

We learn from our excited contemporaries, that the boys of Union invited the girls of Vassar to mend their freebies not their pantaloons, but the breaches in their regatta flags.

Chanceller Winchell in his inaugural before Syracuse University, said:—

"The achievements of the intellect of modern times have so extended the field of human knowledge and activity that the learning of ancient and mediaval times seems almost insignificant. Systems of truth based upon observation and experiment are almost wholly of modern birth. Such especially are the sciences of chemistry, zoology, botany, geology, archaeology, anthropology, ethnology, etc. A university cast in the mold of the middle ages is no longer a university if it does not expand with the expanse of human learning."

A Brassy sophomore closed an essay, read before the class, with the following information:— Copies to be found in the general library.—Chronicle.

THE MOST supremely silly and childish action of which we have lately heard is that of the ladies of 76, who refused to grace a recitation room with their presence, because, as they erroneously supposed, "the boys were laughing at them." We are informed that it was not until Professor —— had almost exhausted his powers of persuasion that the infuriated damsel consented to take their places in the class. Now, we question very much the propriety of any professor leaving his class-room for the sake of inducing any student, male or female, to attend recitation. It detracts from the respect which every student wishes to entertain for the professor. If the ladies could get some faint idea of the contempt which they inspire in the minds of those who witness such foolish actions, we think they would be more circumspect in the future. The remark of one of the ladies, "that she would never have stepped inside of the recitation room if Professor —— had not explained the cause of the laughter," shows very clearly that they have no appreciation of college dignity, or that they have a magnified idea of their importance. After hearing of such actions it will probably excite no surprise to learn that there is a strong and steadily increasing feeling against co-education among the students.—University Herald.

A dealer in tombstones applied to a senior to render into Latin the sentence: "The grave is all distinction." "Cholera Morbus Ferris," was gravely handed to him on a slip of paper, and he departed happy and full of admiration at the etymology of ye students.— Yale Record.

A Louisvillian who had only been acquainted with his girl two nights, attempted to kiss her at the gate. In his dying deposition he told the doctors that just as he kissed her the earth slid out under his feet, and his soul went out of his mouth, while his head touched the stars." Later dispatches show what a fine gentleman he was the old man's best.—Chronicle.

The following bardic piece of rhetoric is from the Index Niagarae. "A young man named Everts contributes a self-compliment article on "The Council of the Vatican," to the Volunteer, which he does not stick to penetrate with this magnificent piece of bush, etc.

A young lady becoming impatient at the non-appearance of a recent lecturer, exclaimed:— "Oh, dear, I shall fly!" to which the scholar who attended her revolution of Fly into my arms, we dear." We understand that the flight took place later in the evening at the seminary door.—Mediisemnus.

The position taken by Dr. Elliot has called forth opposition. Ex-President Hopkins, of Williams College, has written a note expressing his full accordance with the views of Dr. McCosh, regarding the necessity of obligatory attendance at college recitations.—Ed.

THE VOLANTE.

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Letters of inquiry should be addressed to me at the Baptist Theological Seminary, Chicago, Ill.

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