I. COLLEGE OF LITERATURE AND THE ARTS.

There are in this college two parallel courses: the classical course, in which both Latin and Greek are required, leading to the degree of B. A., and the scientific course, in which only one of the classical languages, viz. the Latin is required, modern languages and scientific or philosophical studies taking the place of Greek. The degree in this course is B. S.

II. ELECTIVE COURSES.

Those who do not wish to take either of the regular courses of study can select from these courses such studies as they are fitted to pursue, and receive their daily examinations with the classes of the Preparatory or Collegiate Department.

III. LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

Young ladies have the option of either of the regular courses of study, which they pursue with the regular classes.

IV. PREPARATORY DEPARTMENT.

The aim is to give thorough preparation for the University, with general academical studies to other students.

The College Professors do most of the teaching in this department. Having a broad and ripe experience in handling classes, their work is of the highest order.

V. UNION COLLEGE OF LAW.

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THE VOLANTE.

Vol. XI. University of Chicago, January, 1881.
No. 5.

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BYRON'S LETTERS.
Few men have been written about with more diversity of
praise and criticism than Byron, and an apology would
seem an appropriate preface to any views upon him or
his works. His preeminence as a poet, however, has ob-
scured his more varied genius, and we might find it, even
now, worth our attention to let his short relations with
Greek affairs suggest the general and statesman; or his
speeches in Parliament and clear reasoning, the orator.
His facility as a letter-writer has also decided interest.
In his letters is shown nothing of the studied elegance of
Irving, the finished beauty of Shelley, or the care and
monotonous method of Chesterfield. They are as care-
less and impetuous as the nature of the man who wrote
them. We grow charmed by the force and sufficiency of
his words, whether his topic be simple or sublime.
There are no long discussions or descriptions. A few
short sentences place before us his thought or his picture.
We are taken from serious reflection to trivial incident,
or to an image of classic scenery, with a rapidity that
cannot tire, but pleases more and more as we read. In
these letters—many of them to his nearest friends, and
natural and sincere—we get a truer knowledge of Byron
than from anything written of him by others. He means
what he says in them! The mask of his heart is thrown
off, and we see the truth and the passions of his real na-
ture. We forget the affectations which mar many of his
poems, and the studied eccentricities which made him a
mystery to society. They tell us of his pride, his vanity,
and his vices. We find from them, too, that he was
THE VOLANTE.

THE READING OF FICTION.

Life is an education, in which a collegiate training forms but a minor part. The great battles of life are fought with arms acquired elsewhere; and, with cultivated ears, reading is the weapon by which they draw their strength. If fiction forms a constituent part of this reading and a part that cannot otherwise be supplied, then the reading of fiction is in no sense a mere luxury, but an absolute necessity, to those who aspire to have his mental structure complete and in accord with our advanced ideas.

As man advances intellectually, his capacity for the enjoyment of life increases—in fact, the progress of civilization may be traced in the multiplication of the sources from which man derives his pleasure. It is only civilized nation, and only through those that fully appreciate the highest class of music. Fine painting and sculpture also find their only true appreciation here, even the bounties of the landscape being entirely unknown to the lower orders of humanity. Thus we see that the appreciation of the beautiful is almost entirely an adjunct to civilization, and, as civilization advances, our appreciation of the beautiful and power for the discernment of it, will correspondingly advance until finally we will see that all that is good is beautiful, and crime alone is hideous, and conversely. And with us and he that occupies the highest intellectual plane will have the more elevated and stronger sense of the beautiful, because intelligence gives power for enjoyment, and a full enjoyment of life depends upon, and is co-existent with, our appreciation and realization of the beautiful. This appreciation—say, more, even the realization—of the beautiful, while our knowledge and mental caliber, yet to a great extent is dependent upon, if it does not primarily proceed from, our imagination; hence, that which stimulates and strengthens our imagination, is not alone beneficial but necessary. It is, of course, unnecessary to state that fiction operates upon the imagination. I were to do so, I would be but stating a truism, as, from the very nature of our being, I must see it as a fact.

And so, as a reading is to a sense, the simplest friendly talk. In writing to Tom Moore, he breaks into—

"What say it not a syllable further to prove me? I say now one word. One word. One word! Here goes for a spin on the streams of old Time. On those banquet suppers, the Masters sit in their place, if our weight be heavy or light. While we are on our feet, it is to be in a hurry. And Sotheby's last peer has piloted his ship.

In his letters, written to the friends who knew best his weaknesses, and from whom he did not hide them, Byron has left the most truthful and pleasing record of his life."

same months that would urge the draping of the Venus of Milo before looking at her, or the clothing of Apollo in a toga ere they come into his presence. And, again, are there no poor paintings, and are all statues perfect? Do these critics, then, disparage art?

Probably, in the entire category of objections to fiction, none is more probable than this; "People read it too much, and for an excess." True; but the majority of mankind are extremities in everything; this man drinks himself into his grave; that woman dissipates socially until physically she is in a wreck and approaches her grave in an invalid's chair. But that does not prove that stimulants, used moderately, are not beneficial, and that social pleasures should be shunned.

The limited assignment of space prevents me, in this article, from discussing the two lower classes of fiction, embracing what is known as society and sensational novels. It would be the place of the intellectual to notice the libraries and "weekly" in the other. Against the latter class, many objections can be urged, and no one is more willing to urge them on than the writer; but against fiction as a whole, no very strong arguments can be brought; while in its favor much may be said—in fact, in favor of the last-mentioned class, whose immoral tendency is admitted, I hold that a man of any strength of intellect can read anything, as far as its immoral effect is concerned, for in literature the old adage, "to the pure all things are pure," finds its most prominent exemplification.

J. C. E.

Editorial.

It is always with reluctance that the VOLANTE speaks unflattering words to any who are in no sense superior to us; but the matter which we are to mention, though trifling in itself, occasions much dissatisfaction among the students as to demand attention. Whether reasonably or not we will not say, it has become an established principle that, as a matter of course, the higher classes should take precedence of the lower, and that students in a regular course should have the preference over electives. Conceding the right of the electives, among whom are found some of our most valued students, with certain rights which must be respected, and granting the same regarding lesser classes, we still think that the principle above stated will not be disputed. Yet the order of recitations has of late been determined apparently by an exactly opposite principle. Students not in any course are requested to present a list of the studies they wish to pursue, and the program is made out accordingly. And with what result? At the beginning of the present term, the three higher classes were assigned recitations for the last hour, the most undesirable arrangement possible, though by united protest on the part of the Seniors and through the courtesy of one of their instructors, they have obtained a more satisfactory hour.

The order of recitations is not a matter of great moment; what is important is that it is a serious inconvenience to be compelled to spend several hours of each day away from their accustomed place and to be subjected to each one who those few hours of time which to most students is a real hardship, for, to aggravate the difficulty, no suitable study room is provided for resident students who are compelled to pass an hour in the building.

Now we would suggest that, until the University is managed professionally for the benefit of electives, the program be arranged with the reference primarily to the interests and wishes of regular students rather than of electives.

TRUE AMBITION.

Ambition is one of the most powerful incentives to action. When the province of duty has reached its utmost bound, there stretch out, in increasing beauty and splendor, the limitless fields of ambition. Without ambition, no life would reach beyond the mediocrity and commonplace. It is the magic voice that lures us up the mountain side of endeavor, without which we should forever linger in the valleys and plains below. It is the beckoning horizon that invites to perpetual advance, but whose shadowy bounds we can never reach. Were it not for ambition, our poems would remain unsung, our pictures unpainted, our cathedrals unbuilt; all life would be reduced to a common level, and none would take a step beyond the present.

Ambition can serve the trembling hand to exertion; can inspire man to endure pain, fatigue and hunger; to count all things lost that some cherished hope, some dear ideal, may be.

There is no nobler sentiment in the human mind than true ambition. Through it man feels his kinship with that one divinity, which inspires to the lofty, the sublime, the difficult. Obstructions may loom up like mountains before him; he only cries out, like Hansirieb, "No Alps touch heaven, or are insuperable to the human race.

The true aim of ambition is self-development, self-advancement; but when a man imagines that he can only advance by retarding others, that every step forward must be planted on the neck of another, he is simply misconceiving the idea of true progress. He is making it relative, not absolute; and, according to this supposition, one might be at a complete standstill and yet on the advance, provided the rest of mankind were only re
As many seem to wish to know the exact facts of Dr. Anderson's long illness, we will state them to the best of our knowledge. The Doctor was taken sick, Nov. 10, with what seemed to be pneumonia. This, however, lasted only three or four days and soon ran into a low fever, with which he recovered sufficiently to do two weeks' work at the end of last term. The last day of last term the Doctor was taken sick again with an attack of pleurisy, which, as before, ran into a low malarial fever. He was more seriously sick after his relapse than before it, not getting out of his room till Jan. 23. On Jan. 28, this being only the second time he had gone out of the house, he went over to the C. & A. depot and started for Santa Fé, New Mexico. He was still very weak when he started, and was therefore accompanied by his son Eldridge. The Doctor expects to be back about three weeks, and he strong enough at that time to take charge of his class in Moral Philosophy.

If anyone has had any question about the University of Chicago being under Baptist auspices, it would seem to us that the amount of water that has deluged some of the recitation-rooms of late would be a convincing proof of the fact to the mind of such a one. We have all heard of the happy fiddler sitting in the only dry spot in his cabin and fiddling away for dear life, who, when asked why he did not fix his roof, replied, "Cause it rains!" But why do you not fix it when it doesn't rain?" "Cause, massa, when it don't rain he don't want no fixture." This would seem like very fair philosophy, but it seems hardly applicable to our own domicile, inasmuch as while I have been an unaccommodated one I have never been a wet one, and the menagerie had to suffer. We really do not wish to protest unduly; but if some of these evidences of "eternal spring" were a trifle abated, we should try not to rebel. Something of a prejudice seems to exist in this country against mannard seizes; but even if the roof cannot be repaired, would it not be a bright idea to capture the surplus humidity upon the upper floors, instead of allowing it to take the freezing off from all the recitation-rooms? But then, perhaps, this would save of partiality, and if people like it, by all means pass it around.

Billie(s).
Head.
How are your arm?
Who is Martha Billings?
Let that arm alone you—!!!!?

When is chapel fire built? Echo answers, when?
There are twenty-four in the ladies' department this term.

Some poor, fainting, struggling Seaman you may rescue, you may save.
How did that solitary Prof. happen to stray into the chapel the other morning?
The Chapel orations since our last report have been as follows: "Bacon and Science," A. J. Talbot; "Graduation," J. M. Russell.
The Seniors are mourning over the loss of Hawley. Can anyone tell them what has become of the boy? Perhaps he is working out his oration.

Stone is learning to skate. We observe that he has difficulty getting settled in his seat some mornings, although he declares he never tumbles down.
The Seniors in astronomy have the promise of a short squint with one eye through that fabled instrument in the Observatory. They are patiently waiting.

The Faculty require each student to write out a certificate that he has been vaccinated within a year. Fine scheme—for the students. It is such little trouble to write a certificate, and then it doesn't hurt like being vaccinated.

Dr. Anderson had a relapse during the Christmas vacation, and for a while was very sick, but is better now. So that he can get around a little, and expects to start for Santa Fe in a week, to try what that climate can do for his health.

Elections for Washington supper representatives are in progress. The Pro is represented by John C. Everest, the Freshmen by Frank Larned, and the Sophomores by Clayton A. Pratt. The Juniors and Seniors have not yet had their elections.

We notice from the city papers that Evanston has formed a Base Ball Association with Michigan University. We give her (N. W. U.) our hearty blessing, and wish her better luck than she had with us, with yet all due respect for our rural sister at Evanston, we would advise Ann Arbor to keep for eyes free from wool and wide open.

The Sophomores had a good, square supper at the Palmer House last Friday—the first solid meal they've had this year. Hurrah for the Sophs! They couldn't get up a canoe rush, but take the lead on the subject of grub. The carriage hire alone for that supper amounted to—all. Sophs are young, and don't mind the streetcars.

The boys do not seem to be very enthusiastic on the subject of vaccination. When the small-pox began narrowing its circle around the University, the Faculty invited Dr. Garrison to come over and vaccinate the boys. He procured the necessary number of hundred-pointed needles, spent an hour at the building for three successive days, and vaccinated just three students and a baby. The baby belongs to Prof. Hough, and we think the virus must be worked over.

The Juniors are now twisting their jaws and shrugging their shoulders over French. The rules for pronunciation trouble them, but the girls have got the rule for the pronunciation of c f r into a form which they will never forget. By pronouncing the letters c f r rapidly, the sound is easily converted into se feller. This comes as naturally to a girl's lips as does the breath she breathes. Could somebody reduce all the rules to such expressions, French would become popular.

In the general giving and merry-making of the holidays just past, the young ladies of the University were not forgotten. Four members of the Senior class presented them with a very pretty statuette, with which to ornament their apartment. With hearts overflowing with gratitude, tender and reverent hands placed the "pets" on high, behind their antique bookcases. There it stands, a monument of the good taste and munificence of the Seniors. A speech was called for at the time of the presentation, but being too much occupied with demonstrations, an extemporary address could not be thought of. The young ladies would therefore now extend their hearty thanks to the donors for their kind remembrance.

The following authentic history of John Smith lately appeared in one of our exchanges: "Johannes Smithus, walking up a streetus, met two ingentes Ingus et parve Ingus. Ingus non caput sunt ab Johannes, sed Jo- hannes captus et ab ingentibus Ingingibus. Parvulus Inginus run off hollier, et terrificandus est most to death. Big Inings removestus Johannes ad tentum, ad campi- num, ad manuque pluperque in gentibus Ingingibus, squaque. Quum Johannes exsauveset us ab Ingingibus, they condemnati sunt eum to be cracked on capite ab clubbusibus. Et a big Iningus was going to strikatus esse Smithum with a clubum, quum Poca- lontas come trembling down, et hollier, 'Don't ye dun, don't ye dun!' Sic Johannes non perit, sed grew fat on corn bread and hominy."

Not long ago Yale Geo Club paid us its annual visit, and treated us to an excellent selection of College songs, rendered only as the Yale boys know how to render them. But we think an entertainment of such a nature suited to the comprehension of all lovers of music, should likewise be suited to the comprehension of all pocket-books, whereas the boys, either to make as much money as possible or to make it more pleasant, can reduce the price as far as possible. Another thing we have against them, is their singing under the standard of the Yale College boys when their chief musicians are Yale Alumni. If this is permitted College Geo Club may be gotten up without trouble. If Yale has not the talent let her go without some of the parts, and not come here and take our best paths off with us her 74 or 75 men as undergraduates.

A merry party of Sophomores and their friends met at the Palmer House on Friday evening, Jan. 27, to enjoy the annual class banquet. Afterpartaking of a sum- plex supper (in a sense separate), and a short season spent in social intercourse, the literary exercises followed, gracefully presided over by the President, Miss Lydia A. Dexter. The following was the programme: President's address; oration, "A Tribute to Mathematics," Fred R. Swarth- wout; poem, "The Student's Pains and Pleasures," D. R. Leland; prophecy, Frank S. Cheney; paper, "The Sophomore's Voice," Clayton A. Pratt; declamation, "Massachusetts and South Carolina," M. Persons. The
The ripest meat of the season...
The VOLANTE.

Personal.

18. Prof. E. T. Ingham is teaching successfully in the State Normal University at Ft. Scott, Kan.

21. Miss Cornie Gansette is desperately ill with consumption. The slight benefit derived from her European trip was not permanent. She has been slowly sinking since her return, and those around her are endeavoring to make as pleasant as possible her stay here, which they fear will be short at the best.

Henry Topping, now in Ottawa, Kan., intends returning to his old home at Delevan, Wis.

Emil Bary, "nihilist," was married last month to Miss Nellie Beecher, of St. Charles, Ill.

Several wanderers have arrived, Miss Paynter again brightens the class-room with her smile, while Miss Clara Brown's presence calls up fond recollections of her fair self.

Weinschenk who has been sick for some time is again in school.

33. J. M. Bulley, Jr., has just returned to Rochester, to renew his studies in the class of '85.

81. Miss R. M. Edgerton is absent from the city, visiting friends in Detroit.

93. E. Persons has left to complete his course at Union. Our good wishes follow him.

22. C. C. Pickett looked in upon us at Christmas time.

33. J. E. Cornell spent the holidays with his friends in Hyde Park.

67. J. E. Rhodes is in business in Sacramento.

28. C. F. Everett, once of '82, with his wife and child, is visiting in the city. Charter has a regular pasture near Champaign.

Exchanges.

The duties of the exchange editor are not unpleasant. In the score of offices on his table, he has the best thought of the college world, and in each exchange he sees a link of the golden chain which unites one great brotherhood all the colleges and the college men of the land. Nor is his position lacking in importance. The real capabilities of the exchange college are not generally appreciated. Through it the editor may reveal to his fellow-students their standing as compared with others; through it, by a judicious use of scissors and paste pot, may come many valuable suggestions and many items of interest, so that the exchange department shall be at home, as it always is abroad, the most readable part of the paper.

Among Western exchanges, the Portfolios, from Colorado, presents a mechanical make-up which places it with the Echo, the Courier and the Dartmouth, among the neatest and most tasty of our exchanges. The matter also corresponds with the garb in which it appears, except that the literary department is noticeably deficient. The strongest feature of the Berkeleyan, on the contrary, is its literary merit. The article on "Truth Telling," especially, is evidently the work of a thoughtful, well-read man. These friends of the Occident have the best wishes of the VOLANTE.

The archins, so to speak, in our group of exchanges, the irreproachable small family, the Heptorarian student and the K. M. T. News. When we read, in the latter, of "Custer's last Rally," we don't wonder that it is with the VOLANTE in the matter of spelling reform. You are young yet, boys, but you mean well. If you will listen to a word of kindly advice, we would suggest that you issue less often and in better form.

We are proud of the Courier as a representative of Western college journalism. For the good of the fraternity, however, one exception must be recorded. A feeble-minded exchange editor will receive the medical attention he so much needs. No one will dispute the gentleman's right to form adverse opinions; no one will question his right to express the same; but after laboring through several columns of abuse of some of our most esteemed cotemporaries, we were forced to the conclusion that the intention of the Courier had misconceived the duties of his position.

The Rockford Seminary Magazine comes to us looking appropriately neat and trim; and though it has the notice of marriages and deaths characteristic of a "girl's paper," it contains also several readable literary articles. In its local department, the Illinois has adopted a modified spelling; for which the Illinois is to be commended as a step in the right direction. These changes effected are directly in the path of the evolution of language, and as evolution never moves backward, the editors of the Illuminator confidently expect that their spelling will not long be peculiar.

The Roanoke Collegian is improving. It contains a great amount of matter, though not always original. The number before us is remarkable for a highly italized, much metaphysical article, entitled, "Be what you are." Among the many friends with whom we would not quarrel, as to their fidelity, we must especially mention the Ariel, the Mercury, whose weakness is styled a novellate.
and last, though by no means least, Lowell Library, ac-
cording to its own report, "Dux femina facti."

The Colby Echo, one of the best college papers issued, though coming from a village, candidly admits that "the
advantages presented by a city as a place for education,
are much greater than those offered by a rural village."
The subject is a broad one, and has been often discussed,
but we were impressed with the force of an argument
in favor of one phase of the Echo's position, found
in another column of the same issue, viz., a list of thirty-
four names of students who were teaching for the winter.

In addition to affording the advantages of society, li-
braries, sermons, lectures always offered by a great city,
the University of Chicago is doing a noble work for
young men who are obliged to pay their own college
expenses. Though we have our share of "worth by
poverty oppressed," we have no charity students. Yet
we recognize the names of none of our number who are
obliged to be absent from us to teach. Chicago offers
honorable and profitable employment to all who seek it,
and there is no question but that the result is more hon-
or able, able, self-reliant men.

College Humor.

TRANSLATION FROM ANACREON.

Nature gave horns to the ox,
And presented hoofs to the equus,
And hooves of foot to the bovus,
To the lion a charge of dentition,
To the bird the power of flying.
Of swimming was given the fish,
To the racoon the talent of lying.
To the wolf—nautical—was given the disk.
Oh, yes! there is something—good looks!
Now, girls, it's no use to scoff;
It is better than going and cooks.
For it makes you stand in with the Prof. —Chronicle.

The little was led up the broad aisle,
Got in the most filling stable;
When sick if it shall be
A true wife to be,
She promptly replied, "I should inside." —Varsity.

In a Sophomore text-book reposes this little gem:

"Volo luxet librum
Eris in laboris.
Ego mathematicus
Voluntaria spesius;
In quin ultius honores,
Ego nemorum curas." —Ex.

Co-education—Prof.: "Who will see Mr. T. before next Monday?" Lady Student (blushing): "I shall probably see him Sunday night." —Echo.

First Fresh.: "Say, Ned, got this down pretty fine."
Second do.: "Well, about as fine as I can get it and
still have it legible," shaking a little piece of cardboard
from his coat-sleeve.

In one of his verses, Oscar Wilde alludes to the "bar-
ren memory of unkindness kisses." An "unkissed kiss" is probably the barrenest thing within the range of human
experience.—Independent.

The following subjects have been assigned by the Fac-
ulty for Junior prize essays: "The Dangers and Prospects
of the American Republic;" "The Complications in Ire-
land," and "Fiction as an Element of Culture." —The
Dartmouth.

Happy were the students of bygone days, when the
following rules were enforced:

CHAP. II., SEC. VIII.: Every freshman shall be
obliged to do any proper errand or message for the au-
thority of the college, and likewise within one mile of the
college of the resident graduate, and the two upper
classes when required, which, if any freshman shall re-
frain, he may be punished by fine or otherwise.

SEC. IX.: It shall be the duty of the senior class to
inspect the manners of the two lower classes, and espe-
cially of the freshman class.

College World.

The University of Iowa has 650 students.
The faculty of Columbia favor inextrication.
The Freshman class at Cambridge, Eng., numbers 835.
Harvard is soon to admit ladies to her medical depart-
ment.
The question of establishing a characteristic German
University at Milwaukee is being agitated.

No examinations are required of students at Amherst
if one-tenth of the recitations are attended.—Portfolio.

The Oxford cap is now worn at Columbia, Princeton,
Williams, Amherst, Trinity, University of New York,
and Brown.

The passing mark at Harvard has been raised from
33½ to 40. The standard required at the University of
Chicago is 75.

The library of Amherst College will receive $500,000
from the estate of a Boston lawyer who was a member
of the class of 1823.

England has four Universities, France 15, and Ger-
many 22. Ohio, with that simplicity characteristic of the
West, contents herself with 23.—The Varsity.

At the Boston Globe Theatre, the Greek tragedy,
"Edipus Tyrannus," is to be presented on a scale similar
to that at Harvard, all the parties but one, however,
being in English.

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sands of riders are daily enjoying the delightful and health-giving exercise. The "Columbias" are care-
fully finished in every particular, and are con-
dently guaranteed as the best value for the money
attained in a bicycle. Send 5 cent stamp for cata-
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