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# THE COLLEGE SPECULUM.

VOL. IV.—No. 2.

LANSING, MICH., OCTOBER 15, 1884.

WHOLE No. 14.

## Rhymes For '84—Class Day Poem.

ALICE A. JOHNSON.

*Friends and classmates:—*

We meet for the last time to-night;  
For, after to-morrow's sun  
Shall cease his light  
We, the class of "Eighty-four,"  
Shall greet these halls,  
Dear old halls, no more.

There are few poets skillful  
And poetic fancy have I none,  
Yet my brothers, willful,  
Have made me the luckless one  
To strive some thoughts to tell  
In perfect rhyme and bold.  
Long I sought the spring where the Muses dwell,  
And when I found it met but greeting cold.

Left thus alone, my fate I pondered o'er  
And scanned the deeds of those before us gone.  
I wondered if we could or would do more.  
A spirit seemed to hover near  
And a voice sweet and low  
Whispered, "Child, be of good cheer,  
There are words your Alma Mater fain  
Would have you say in prose or song,  
May you speak them to your brothers not in vain.  
And may they help you and your brothers battle with  
the wrong.

"On life's verge you stand;  
Before you, bright and fair,  
Spreads the future, close at hand.  
Will it be so free from care?  
So filled with all that's grand  
When the present it shall be?  
Looking then across time's shifting sand  
Full many a change you'll see.

"Could I promise to thee  
A future free from care and strife,  
That should ever pleasant be,  
With naught to harm or mar thy life;  
Wouldst thou of others take no heed,  
Wouldst thou have me give  
In thought or word or deed  
The right to cease to live?

"Tell my sons, bright and brave,  
To have no wish to say  
This is all our Mother gave  
On our parting day.

"I have hoped and sought  
To give noble, true and right  
Love and hope and thought;  
That they may stand in their might,  
Honest, noble, bold, and free  
Where'er they go, whate'er may be.

"Will they be all I hope,  
Men, brave and good and grand,  
Fighting ever 'gainst the evil,  
Fighting even hand to hand.  
Striving to be unto others  
Noble, helpful, and so true  
That none need say, they're not brothers,  
But like them will strive to give to all their due.

"They've been nobly taught,  
'Not for school, but for life, we learn,'  
Let the deeds that shall be wrought,  
Let every word that's spoke or writ,  
Be living, glowing, proofs of it,  
That deep into the hearts of men shall burn.

"Worthy of reward, not failure:  
Let this motto lead them through,  
And in themselves if not from others,  
They'll find a sweet reward and true.

"Of learning, living is the test;  
Noble lessons have they learned, still there's more to  
learn,  
But to time I leave the rest,  
Praying only, that from evil they may ever turn.

"They've all done well and many nobly, but let them take  
this vow:  
That a good, ennobling influence shall ever with them go,  
And shall be the furrow deep and broad they plow,  
And kindness, truth, and manliness the seed they sow."

The sweet voice ceased: I waited for a parting word;  
It came not, I have truly told you all I heard.  
And now, my brothers, noble men and strong,  
Go armed thus into the war of life,  
Be brave for God 'gainst every form of wrong,  
And He will crown you victors in the strife.

## What Shall We Read?

F. M. WOODMANSEE, UNION LITERARY SOCIETY.

To a student pursuing a college course, there is no question of greater importance than, "what shall we read?" Every student has spare time, and he should spend that time to the best possible advantage, that is in reading. For the most part, our education is nothing more than mastering, in a greater or less degree, the thoughts of others; and in books we find those thoughts recorded. To assure himself of the importance of the question, one need but go to our library and watch the student as he wanders aimlessly through its alcoves. He seems to think that the right book will leave the shelf and come to his hands of its own accord. If one selects a book, ten chances to one he does not read it through; because he did not know what he wanted, and consequently did not know what book to select.

Thus the student goes on searching blindly for a hidden treasure; when, if he would only ask some one qualified to direct him, he would in time gain the desired reward. He reads now a story from Harper, now a murder account, or a political tirade, now a novel, and now an article on the sports of the day. He asks no one to help him find good reading, and spends one, two, three, and even four years in an aimless and desultory perusal of books. At the end of his college course he finds that all his reading has served him merely as a pastime, and a poor one at that.

Or he may read good substantial literature; but in such a way that the various lines of thought form no

line of connected ideas. Thus he reads a play from Shakespeare, an essay from Emerson, a poem from Longfellow, a speech from Webster, an essay from Bacon, and an oration from Demosthenes or Cicero. No one can say that such literature is not of the standard quality. But, there is no system in such a way of reading. It is too much like studying rhetoric before the student has any knowledge of grammar. Of course the reading will do him some good, so would the study of rhetoric without his first having had grammar; but the benefit derived is less than it would have been had he first qualified himself for his reading and study. Emerson says, "the best rule of reading will be a method from nature and not a mechanical one of hours and pages. It holds each student to a pursuit of his native aim instead of a desultory miscellany. Let him read what is proper to him, and not waste his memory on a crowd of mediocrities." Emerson regards the reading of every student of such importance, that in his estimation every college should have a Professor of Books, to advise students in their reading, and furthermore that every student should have a course of what he is to read distinctly in mind.

By a course of reading he means one in which the various ideas will form such a line connection, that the thoughts seem one continuous whole, leading the mind successively from one line of events to another. The broad field of history offers the best inducements to one to follow. Some one will say, "What do I care about events that transpired, and men who lived centuries ago?" He will care if he is anxious to acquire an education. No man's education is complete without a knowledge of the history of his race. Nothing can be more interesting than to trace civilization from antiquity to the present day. The events that occurred then have extended their influence down to the civilization of the present. The orations of Demosthenes or Cicero never have been nor ever will be surpassed in force or elegance of expression, and richness of thought. The doctrines of Plato and Socrates are preached from our pulpits and taught in our colleges of to-day.

But would such a systematic course of reading present any advantage over promiscuous reading? Surely there seems no other conclusion that could be reached, than the affirmative of the question. Any casual observer would confirm this conclusion after noticing the interest of the students reading in their various ways. The student pursuing a systematic historical course is willing to sacrifice almost everything to this pursuit. He is never at loss to know how to dispose of his spare time. He never wanders aimlessly through the alcoves of the library. He has a definite purpose in view; and the fact of having a purpose in view creates a manifold increase of interest. Demosthenes and Cicero are his friends. He can see how mankind has passed through the successive stages of development to reach its position to-day. All this is of interest to him, and he returns no unfinished book to the library.

A course of systematic reading has an obvious effect on the mind. An education is simply a systematically cultivated state of mind. And a systematic course of study is a prime factor in mental culture. It leads the mind in one channel of thought. It is the best agent used in bringing the mind completely under one's control. Besides this it has a strengthening effect on the memory. If a person reads novels, newspaper locals, speeches, and sporting matters, he has a conglomerated mass of thought that will defy the best mind to retain. The mind is lost on this sea of promiscuous thought without chart or compass, drifting

hither and thither with the tide, unsuccessfully searching for the harbor. Can memory sustain such a mass of unclassified thought in which there is no connection? But, how different in a course where the thoughts are closely connected to one another, where one event suggests the next! Instead of burdening the memory, it is a helpmate and a support.

There are other beneficial results to be derived from historical reading, namely: The relative superiority of the matter read. Problems arise in the questions of daily life that must be solved by history. It has a peculiar fitness to help advance the various vocations. The lawyer is aided in his plea, by parallel examples from history. To a statesman a knowledge of constitutional history is of inestimable importance. But these are only a few of the benefits derived from a systematic historical course of reading. The matter of the novel and newspaper are not to be remembered; and so, instead of strengthening the mind, this desultory reading weakens it. We will in conclusion say, that it behooves every student to see that his reading will be a help and blessing instead of a hindrance.

### The Grange and the Agricultural College.

J. D. TOWAR, ECLECTIC SOCIETY.

The grange and the Agricultural College both tend to the same object, that of educating the farmer. The former may be rightly called the farmers' school and the latter the farmers' college; hence one is greatly dependent upon and closely related to the other, and their interests are identical. But it seems that these sister educators have as yet to learn their relations, which if learned would greatly benefit both.

At every session of the State Grange a great deal of interest in the Agricultural College is manifested, and from the actions of that body one is led to think that the patrons are overflowing with enthusiasm toward the college. But this interest and enthusiasm apparently ceases when the session is closed, for we do not see any great results of their actions at the college, since only one-seventh of the students are grangers, and not more than one-fourth of them are granger's sons. This proportion is very small, indeed.

The college wants more support from the grangers in the form of steady farm boys sent here four years. Such boys make the best students, and graduate with the greatest honors. When the grangers manifest their interest and enthusiasm more in this form, the college will do as much for the grange in sending back learned men as teachers in the farmers' school.

The grange is a separate organization from all others. It includes none of any other occupation than farming, and it is all the better for this. Not so with the college, for students of any profession may enter there. Yet the college is like the grange in not being connected with any other school which might cause agriculture to be neglected. It is alone and by itself a college where no branches of study are brought in to overshadow the one great object for which it was established.

The grangers, eager to gain knowledge, but not ambitious enough to make the necessary experiments themselves, have argued long for an experimental station at the college. This we think would be a good thing, yet it is not without its objections. On account of so great a variety of soil and climate in the State, and the difference in proximity to the lakes, many experiments might prove valueless. At present a great deal of experimenting, valuable to the farmer

and horticulturist, is being done by the professors of chemistry, botany, entomology, and agriculture, but the reports of these experiments do not reach as many farmers as they should. Farmers do not read enough agricultural papers nor take the interest they should in farmers' institutes. More boys at the college would carry the knowledge to the people of what is being done. The experimental station—and, what is of equal or greater value, the signal station—can be secured, as all the other departments have been secured, only by continually applying to the legislature, and by proving to that body their necessity, and by explaining the benefits that could be derived from them.

There is one particular in which the grange differs from a great many organizations, and in which the Agricultural College differs from every other college in the state. The grange owes its success to a vast extent to the admission of women within its order. In view of this fact the grangers can not but think that the condition of the college and of their daughters could be greatly improved if some provision could be made for the accommodation of ladies at the college. That it is the wish of the State Grange to admit ladies to the college, is proven by the fact that every master's annual address encourages this project, and the report of the Committee on Agricultural College always favors it. That the faculty are in favor of it is shown by the interest they take in helping the few fortunate young ladies living near enough to the college to enjoy its benefits, and by the fact that none of them oppose their admission, while nearly all are enthusiastically in favor of it.

Now since the interests of the grange and the Agricultural College are so nearly alike why do not these near relatives become better acquainted, and each work for the interests of the other, and patiently wait for wise legislation to provide for their respective needs.

## SCIENTIFIC.

Among the bee-plants of the apiary this season was a plant of *scrophularia nodosa*, a figwort which some experts have dubbed "Simpson's bee-plant." The writer has passed the plants two or three times a day all summer and does not remember to have seen half a dozen bees on them at any one time, while he has seen large numbers of the common "yellow jackets" busily going from flower to flower. Will our entomologist tell us whether this is because the wasps drive off the bees or whether they have the most enterprise or whether they can get the honey to better advantage than the bees.

W. J. B.

I reported the above facts to the Michigan State Bee Keepers' Association last fall, and suggested the following in explanation:

We have only a small bed of plants. The flowers of this plant—figwort—are noted for the large amount of beautiful nectar which they secrete. Many apiarists say that it is incomparably superior to any other of our native plants in this respect. Like the Poinsettia of our green-houses, the large cup-like flower often contains a large drop of honey. We readily see, then, that this flower would be very attractive to sweet loving insects.

Our common Yellow Jackets, *Vespa vulgaris*, are very abundant this year. There are two nests right in the apiary grounds. These wasps are very fond of honey, and of course flock to the figwort. The wasps are so fierce and predaceous, that they often attack and kill bees. Only a few days since I

received some of these same *V. vulgaris* from a Utah bee keeper, with the complaint that they were capturing and killing his bees. We see, then, that their love of nectar, the rich font in the flower tubes of the figwort and their pugnacious habits, would together account for their sole possession of this territory. In their ethics "Might makes right."

That wasps are more enterprising than bees no bee keeper would or could believe. We have all found how difficult it is to conceal honey so the bees will not find it.

That the bees can gain access to the nectar of the figwort is well known. Examination makes this point clear. Bees are often seen at work on figwort in our forests. Many apiarists plant figwort purposely for bees and think no plant so valuable. Had we an acre instead of a few plants, then without doubt the yellow jackets would have to share this figwort nectar with the bees.

This also sustains the point made by Prof. Trelease that nectar may benefit plants by attracting such insects as ants and wasps, which would keep injurious insects at bay. The wasps would keep off injurious species as well as bees.

A. J. COOK.

## The Botanic Garden.—Continued.

Dr. Beal in the last number commenced a series of articles on the Wild Gardens and College Grounds, which are continued in this issue and will be in the next.

On the bank near the pond is a single tree-shaped, round-topped plant of the common elder which attracts every one by the large numbers of its fragrant white flowers and handsome pinnate leaves.

In the shade near a bog are masses of peltate saxifrage and wild ginger, both fine and peculiar, the former for its shield-shaped leaves a foot in diameter, the latter for its kidney-shaped leaves which hide the purple flowers trailing on the ground. A species of teasel (*Dipsacus laciniatus*), has found its way into cultivation. It has opposite leaves which clasp the stem, making a cup, each of which will hold a pint of water. After wet weather the water remains for some time and abounds in dead flies and other insects. The object of the cup of water may be to prevent insects from climbing to the top of the plant, as such insects do not aid in fertilizing the flowers. Perhaps the dead insects caught in the cup furnish slight nourishment for the plant, and the water may be a help in keeping the plant fresh and healthy. It is a strange and striking plant, often attaining a height of eight or ten feet. The wild lupine and many of the phloxes are worthy of a place in the ornamental garden. By occasionally using some of those here suggested our gardens would become much less monotonous than some of them are at present.

Near the upper pond is a young Wisconsin weeping willow which stands our severe climate well, and is a good substitute for the old sort of weeping willow, which is tender and short lived.

Grasses are my favorite, and there is no knowing when I should stop if I began to speak of the many charms which they present. Let me here call attention to the idea of growing some of them in un-mixed masses. The andropogous, wild sorghum, *panicum virgatum*, several species of *elymus* or wild rye, bottle-brush grass, in fact almost every grass we have, and there are sixty or more in almost every neighborhood, are fine ornamental plants. There is much difficulty in keeping many sorts separate for a very long time, as the seeds sow

themselves in every direction, and we soon have a mixture without a hope of separation.

The horticulturist is well repaid by a study of the sedges, where he will find a number that are valuable for bogs and low places. They are models of gracefulness.

In the botanic garden, from day to day, the student can observe the different stages of growth and development of plants, or he can compare closely related species. The fruit of our different species of trillium is quite unlike and affords good points for distinguishing them. Most of the plants are arranged in natural orders, but some are grown in mixed groups in places supposed to be most congenial to them. As our classes continue study most of the summer, the garden is very useful in affording specimens. Of certain kinds it is handy to have a large quantity. Frequently each student is set to observing one plant, each a different species. Perhaps he ransacks the neighborhood for many growing specimens, as he studies their mode of climbing, or their runners, or to see how insects aid in fertilizing the flowers. In this case the garden is of much more value than the herbarium. A growing plant often reveals some things which are never shown in one that is dead and pressed between folds of paper.

#### Ash of Forest Leaves.

During the summer term Mr. Andrew Park, class of '84, made some estimates of the ash of different kinds of leaves, at two different times, to determine the increase in amount of mineral matter in the leaf. He gives the following results:—The first samples examined were gathered June 5th, the second July 25th. The same tree was used for the both examinations:

	June 5th, Per Cent Ash.	July 25th, Per Cent Ash.
Basswood.....	2.08	3.94
Beech.....	1.15	1.77
Soft Maple.....	1.88	2.20

The increase of ash in the Basswood is three times greater than in the Soft Maple and five times greater than that of the Beech. The composition of the ash which showed this remarkable increase was not determined but remains for future investigation.

#### The Society for the Promotion of Agricultural Science.

The members of this society, composed of forty-one selected men of our country are engaged in studying the sciences pertaining to agriculture. No new members were elected at this meeting. Papers were presented by Major Alvord, in charge of the Houghton Farm, N. Y.; Dr. E. L. Sturtevant, director of the New York experimental station; Dr. C. E. Bessey, of Iowa Agricultural College; Prof. F. A. Gulley, of Mississippi; Dr. Peter Collier; Dr. Byron D. Halsted, editor of the American Agriculturist; Dr. Geo. H. Cook, director of the New Jersey experiment station; Prof. W. H. Jordan, of Pennsylvania Agricultural College; Prof. W. R. Lazenby, of Ohio experiment station; Prof. I. P. Roberts, of Cornell University; Dr. W. J. Beal, of Michigan. A few of the papers might be of some popular interest, such as that of Prof. Lazenby, detailing experiments showing that the pollen of one variety affects the fruit of another variety of strawberry; that of Dr. Halsted, on some experiments with the new tomato fungus; that of Prof. Gulley, on preventing the washing of

soils in the south; that of Dr. Collier on varieties of sorghum; that of Prof. Roberts showing the profits of keeping manure under shelter till it is applied to the land; that of Dr. Beal on the vitality of seeds buried for five years.

Sixteen members were present, but in the words of the Agricultural editor of the *Press*, "a dozen men may do a good deal to advance agriculture in a two-days meeting." This editor said there was more forestry in Prof. Satterlee's short article on "Nut bearing trees," as found in the Michigan Horticultural Report, than there was in the whole of — recent new book on Forestry.

Of the forty-one members of the above society, ten are or have been Professors or graduates of our College, not including one other, the late Prof. Robert F. Kedzie, of Mississippi.

W. J. B.

#### "Manus-ine."

The casual observer looking over the materials contained in the show case of any city drug store will find this season among the usual number of face powders and tooth washes, an entirely new class of materials known as "Manicure goods."

As the name indicates they are dedicated to the proper care and preservation of the human hand, and more especially the finger nails.

The implements generally consist of a small brush armed with a pick and with a steel rasp, mounted in the handle; a small bottle of pink powder (nothing but silica colored with aniline), accompanied by a buckskin buffer for polishing the nails. These materials in a cheap pasteboard box retail at \$1.00. Along with this box is usually sold a bottle of Manus-ine. It is: "A harmless application for removing rough and superfluous cuticle around the nails, yellow stains and all other discolorations from under the free edge, giving them a clear whitish appearance; imparts to the finger-nails a beautiful transparency. Removes all ink and fruit stains from the hands and finger-nails."

"Directions.—Apply with a small flattened stick (jeweler's wood is the best). Wash the hands immediately after in tepid water."

"Prepared only by Mrs. Pray, America's first Manicure, 69 West 23d St. Directly opposite Booth's theatre."

A two-ounce bottle of "Manus-ine" retails for 50 cents. Analysis shows it to be simply a saturated solution of oxalic acid perfumed with rose water, the solution containing 10 per cent of oxalic acid.

Oxalic acid usually retails for 25 cents a pound, and in quantity can be bought for 15 cents or less. One pound of the acid is enough to make 80 bottles of "Manus-ine," retailing for \$40. Mrs. Pray should sign her name "Mrs. Prey" (on the public).

POLARITY OF LEAVES.—The following is an abstract of a paper presented by Dr. Beal at the Philadelphia meeting of the A. A. A. S. Several prominent persons have shown beyond a doubt that the leaves of *Silphium laciniatum*, L., Compass-Plant, on the prairies, assume a position with one edge to the north and the other to the south, and the cause assigned is this: Both sides of the leaf are much alike in structure, and are equally sensitive to the light, hence they effect a compromise by assuming this position.

On the smaller stems of moderate growth, in a rather still place well exposed to the sun on all sides alike, the middle leaves of *Erigeron Canadense*, a flea-

bane or mare's tail common in fields, show polarity in a marked degree. The leaves on the north and south sides of the stem generally show torsion, while those on the east and west sides are not twisted. Strong winds or shade interfere with the polarity.

Since this meeting referred to, Prof. J. C. Arthur, of the New York experiment station, writes in the *Botanical Gazette* for September, that the leaves on the flowering stems of our common garden lettuce show polarity. This is best shown on the Cos varieties, as they have flat, narrow leaves. The observations were made on over 100 varieties of lettuce. The same polarity was formerly discovered on the leaves of *Lactuca Scariola*.

THE FLOWERS of our wild balsam or touch-me-not have a slender curved point to their large spur. This flower contains honey, to obtain which bumble bees this year were seen in large numbers to bite holes through the point of the spur. Honey is secreted by the flower for some days, so the bumble bees visit the same place again and again. This way of getting honey is called "illegitimate," as the insects do not help to fertilize the flowers and thus pay the plant for the food supplied.

W. J. B.

## THE COLLEGE SPECULUM.

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BY THE STUDENTS

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LANSING, MICH., OCTOBER 15, 1884.

IF OPPOSITION and criticism serve to invigorate, the "SPECULUM BOARD" ought to be unusually vigorous. We of course expected a thorough review of the paper by those interested, and we accept with good grace all such made in good faith.

Among the numerous advices and criticisms which we have received, are: That students, no matter what their positions, have neither the right nor the ability to criticise in any manner, their college; that they should meekly and humbly accept all actions of the College and conditions of the school, as infal-

libly right and for the best; that students should come to college, spend their time and money, and take no thought, have no voice as to the manner of their expenditure; they are expected to be old enough and are considered to have sufficient judgment to take care of themselves, to know what they want, and what they are at college for; yet they should sit meekly by, allow others to do their thinking for them, say what is best and what is not best, what they shall and what they shall not do. These, however, are matters upon which opinions differ; and this board considers itself among those who most respectfully beg to differ.

It is inconsistent with our ideas of justice and right that students should servilely submit, and without question to all ways and manners in which their time and money are disposed of. Are they slaves who are not to be allowed to have any ideas or opinions upon matters which are of the utmost interest to them? Most certainly not. Yet that seems to be the position held by some. We take and shall maintain the ground that students have rights and opinions in college matters, which, when there is a medium for that purpose, may at least be declared and expressed.

Men in power, if only applauded, and never questioned as to their authority and doings, are liable to overlook and to under estimate the privileges and interests of those beneath them, and to magnify their own. Why should this institution be an exception? We, therefore, consider it our privilege and duty to guard as far as possible our rights, privileges, and interests.

"Admitting," it is said, "that things are not altogether right, it is very difficult to make them so." We reply: all the more reason then for arguing such matters; for human nature is ever prone to slight those duties which are irksome and difficult. Men in public positions, and paid large salaries, are not employed to perform simply the pleasant duties, and allow the rest to pass, especially when the well-being of those who pay, is at stake.

It is maintained further, that even though things be not exactly as they should be, a students' paper should seek rather to cover up those deficiencies than to expose them. Of what benefit would such a course be to either students or college?

No articles were admitted to the columns of this paper that were not well considered, and it is intended that none shall be. And furthermore, should anything occur to us as being within the province of this paper to discuss, we shall discuss that matter according to our best judgment, be the consequences what they may.

WHAT HAS become of the Students' Government? There is no dearth of opportunities presented by which it may show its purposes, and prove its usefulness.

The halls and rooms have been repaired; and it is for the interest of the students as well as for the good

name of the institution, that these be kept in as good condition as possible. It is, we think, within the province of the Students' Government to at least assist in preventing the rooms, and especially the halls, from being injured, or in any way defaced.

A most common and disgusting nuisance, is the amount of paper, old rubbish, melon rinds, apple cores, and the like that find the windows a convenient "catch-all;" and are thus left to disfigure the walks and lawns about the dormitories. The best excuse that can be offered for this, is that the students guilty of these offenses are too lazy to dispose of such material in the proper manner. We think though that the evil would not be so great a one, were there proper and convenient places provided for the reception of such matter.

The disgusting appearance of the dormitories, and portions of the lawns, on this account, during Commencement, was a shame upon the students, and a disgrace to the college. Cannot and ought not some measures be taken to remedy this evil?

Any student thus violating the rules of decency and good breeding, lays himself liable to the rules and regulations properly provided for such cases; and he should be dealt with accordingly, and to the full extent of the rules.

While the order in the dormitories cannot, as a general rule, be complained of, yet it might often be bettered. A few of those who persist in having so much sport during study hours, might with propriety be made the subjects of profitable examples that would have the effect of insuring a little better order on some occasions.

It has been and is asserted by not a few, that the students' government is becoming a failure. We do not think that this is altogether the case; but, on the contrary, think it is the best means that could be provided for bringing about and maintaining the objects of the system. But the administration of affairs has been for a long time so loose that it has become a sort of habit to allow matters to run about as they will. Unless there is a change, matters may come to that state where it may be found necessary to appoint an official (the coming military officer for instance) to take in hand the preservation of order and the observance of necessary rules. Certainly no one would wish to see such a state of affairs brought about. The proper officers, then, should see that rules are obeyed in so far as it is their duty and within their power to do so. The persons who have the immediate oversight of such matters are, of course, the captains and lieutenants. But it is too often true that these are men elected, not because they will attend to their business, but because they will not; they are frequently men who either will not or are afraid to report any misdemeanors.

The one whose business it should be to oversee the entire students' government, and to see that officers attend to their duties, is the President of the Students' Organization; and on him should fall the main

responsibility, if our system of students' government does receive its proper attention, and is not properly carried out.

ONLY ABOUT fifty freshmen, and this in an agricultural college, the oldest and recognized to be one of the best in the United States! The College is situated in the heart of one of the very best agricultural districts; it has a faculty the greater part of whose individual members stand in the foremost ranks of their professions, and in which they have become recognized authorities; it has equipments and facilities for the study of the sciences, that are surpassed by those of few other colleges; it has commodious and pleasant buildings situated on beautiful grounds that make it a most desirable students' home; the expenses at the school are moderate and opportunities in the way of work and teaching are afforded, by which a large number have paid and are paying their own expenses. Considering all these advantages, fifty seems a very small number for a class entering this College. Why are there no more?

One of the principal reasons, we think, may be found in the fact that the College is not properly known and appreciated. Its very name misleads most people as to its character and the work it is doing. Many who are considering the matter of what College to enter, look no further than the name, agricultural College; this, with the reputation of the College as an agricultural one, has given rise to the very general opinion that the school is entirely agricultural in its character. As to the agricultural part of the school, it affords opportunities for the pursuit of that study, which, if properly appreciated and employed would yield valuable results as an education fitted for the farmer.

It is, nevertheless, true that such is not even the distinctive characteristic of the College, but it is indisputably scientific. It furnishes that character of an education which is the most practical, and which is becoming more and more popular, and a knowledge of these advantages spread abroad, should fill our College with students.

But the fact is, what little knowledge the people have of the College, is to the effect that it is almost exclusively agricultural. Its advantages and aims in other lines, as chemistry, mathematics, veterinary, and our excellent course in the natural sciences, have been almost wholly ignored; and its agricultural features put prominently before the public. The result is, what is known of our College abroad, is in a great measure erroneous.

Other schools, not so worthy of support, are, by means of a liberal amount of wind expended in blowing their own horns, brought to the notice of the public, and as a consequence they are liberally patronized.

A change in the name that would imply the scientific as well as the agricultural character of the school, and the use of proper and sufficient means



to make the College widely known and understood as it is, and not as wholly agricultural, would, it can hardly be doubted, result in a large increase in the number of students.

Another great aid, as was mentioned in the last SPECULUM, would be a preparatory department. It is well known that a large portion of the freshmen class, as have been previous classes, were not properly prepared to enter college; and it must also be further conceded that many who cannot now enter would do so, were there opportunities provided for pursuing some of the lower branches. Hence the establishment of a preparatory department, would allow the introduction of such studies and others, such as United States history, that would be valuable additions to our curriculum, and would undoubtedly soon result in an increased attendance in the regular course as well as having them better prepared to enter.

AN EXTRA effort is to be made during the coming year to revive an interest and secure better work in the Natural History Society. The work of this society, and its programmes, have been in the past very interesting and instructive; but the organization seems to have fallen into a sort of lethargy from which well directed efforts are needed to arouse it. This can be accomplished only by the earnest coöperation of all members, and by the addition of new members who will take hold of the matter with some vim and energy.

The society at present is almost entirely in the hands of a few professors who are making earnest endeavors to arouse the society; but they cannot alone do all that is necessary. The programmes would be better appreciated, did the students take more part in them, as the articles presented by members of the Faculty are often intended for those who have made special and advanced studies in that department, and hence of but little value to those who have no knowledge of the branch to which the article relates. Now, there are plenty of students here who have not so much work to do but they might give a little attention to this society. The great difficulty is, though, the ones who have the least to do are the very ones that will do nothing except as they are obliged to do, and as little of that as possible; and to carry on any such enterprise as this the already busy ones have to bear the load. If those who can, and there are plenty who can, will take hold of this matter with some spirit, they can arouse enthusiasm in the Natural History Society and make it a valuable auxiliary to our course.

As was stated in the last SPECULUM, the room rent has been reërranged, making the aggregate amount considerably larger than before. By this, means were afforded to repair some of the rooms, and during vacation, under the supervision of Mr. Frank Kedzie, a

large portion of the rooms in Wells Hall were alabastined and painted, as were the halls. In Williams Hall, some calcimining was done (at the beginning of the term), but no painting was done except by the students themselves. Where this has been done, it has very much improved the appearances and conditions of things.

But the question very forcibly presents itself, who pays for all this? Nearly all the rooms that have been improved, belong to the classes for which low rent is paid, and those who occupy the high rent rooms pay the expense, as but few of these have received any repairs, they having been previously fitted up by the students. There may be justice in all this, but we haven't studied psychology long enough to find it, for it must certainly exist in the mind. While at this matter of refitting the dormitories, would it not be in the same line to furnish some of those lights for the halls, which the catalogue says we pay for, but nevertheless stumble around in the dark for the want of them? The objection made to this by the officers, is that when such lights have been provided, they could not be kept in a useful condition; that they were blown out, oil and chimneys stolen, so that it has been useless to furnish them. The objection is a very reasonable one, and if the students wish to have the halls lighted, they must take care that the lights are not destroyed; they have the means of doing this, and ought not to complain when their duties in the matter are not fulfilled.

The President informs us that an attempt will be made to have at least a partial rebate allowed to those who have made improvements on their own rooms. Such a course would certainly be rendering no more than justice to those who in many cases have expended considerable amounts in this manner.

WHY ARE not our public rhetorical and Wednesday evening lectures better attended? Were the audiences larger, the exercises would become more interesting; and the reverse undoubtedly is as true—were these more interesting, the audiences would be larger. Did those who have public exercises feel assured that there would be a well filled house, and one that would have concern enough in the matter to be critical, they would feel constrained to give more attention to the work of preparing their orations. Both would tend to create enthusiasm in the work, that could not be otherwise than beneficial.

It can be said we think, with confidence, that great efforts will be put forth during the coming year by all concerned to make this part of the college work of increased interest and benefit. Those who take no part may greatly aid those who do, by attending the exercises and lending the influence of their presence. Students at this college do not derive the benefits from large and mixed audiences, that students at more favorably situated schools do. This may, in part, be remedied by persons living on the college premises attending these public rhetorical and lec-

tures. And the students, through the SPECULUM, extend to all such an earnest invitation to be present at these exercises.

It should hardly seem necessary to extend such an invitation to any of the faculty, but an increased attendance from that source might very reasonably be expected; and it would very likely impart life to those occasions. Besides, those who "*don't know very much about the rhetorical*" would enjoy excellent opportunities to observe more in regard to what the school is doing in that direction.

Members of the faculty, though, are hardly to be called to account for not attending the lectures, for the reason that they know too well what is coming. With a few most honorable exceptions, the lectures delivered at the college chapel have been worn out by being carted around to more or less farmers' institutes during the winter, and then palmed off on us during the summer because, perhaps, we are supposed to live in the "backwoods" and not to know the difference.

The Students' Lecture Association was the outgrowth of a general feeling for something additional in the way of lectures. But this is in danger of not meeting with continued success, because of the too great expenses incurred. Until recently the catalogue has said "A lecture by a member of the faculty, or by a gentleman from abroad," but that gentleman has been "abroad" only a very few times during our three years in college.

THIS COLLEGE is quite a popular resort for visitors. But very few, however, of the many who visit the place go away with any very complete ideas of the college, its equipments, the work it is doing, or the things of interest to be seen here: for the reason that there are no adequate means of information, except as they blindly wander about and see what they can.

The SPECULUM suggests that this might, in part at least, be remedied by the appointment of students on the different departments, or for the whole college, as guides to point out the things worth seeing, and to explain as far as possible the workings and advantages of the school.

Other public institutions are provided with guides, and such persons might be made of no little service to the Agricultural College. One of the greatest obstacles this college encounters is the imperfect and erroneous knowledge many people have of it. By the means suggested, many people would go away with better and more satisfactory information in regard to the place.

THE LONG sought for and much coveted military officer has been at last obtained. We hope those who have been so anxious to see the consummation of this scheme, will feel relieved, and will take upon themselves all the glory which should be their reward. But now that you have him, what are you going to do with him?

We are afraid that those students and officers who have been so clamorous for a military department, will find the theoretical view of the matter much more pleasant than the practical experience. We repeat, what is to be done?

Are we to be put under regular military discipline? That would be very objectionable to the students, and a difficult task for the officer. There appears, though, to be no necessity for this, and we do not, therefore, entertain any fears of its being done. Will we be obliged to provide ourselves with uniforms, is a very common inquiry among the students. This would not seem to be practical here, yet drill in military tactics, for any considerable time without them would hardly be a very continued success. The expense of such outfits is an objection raised, but we think this would not necessarily increase expenses to any great extent, unless the uniforms were for drill only. Is military drill to be regular and compulsory? It must certainly be, or the whole affair would become a perfect fizzle, by the time the novelty of the first term or two has worn off. It would soon result in about the same state of affairs that are said to exist in the Iowa Agricultural College, where the officer stays in his rooms, details a higher class-man to drill the company, who all proceed to lie in the shade, or in other ways enjoy themselves. We would not vouch for the truthfulness of the above statement, but nevertheless think that plan could be thoroughly and successfully carried out here.

Now, in order to have a regular and systematic drill, together with necessary instructions, where is the time to be had? To secure this students must either be excused from work, or else the regular number of hours for manual labor must be reduced. The reduction of the work hours from three to two hours a day we think would be a wise course, even in the absence of a military department, and it is a matter which is intended to be discussed in the next SPECULUM.

Whatever is to be done in this matter remains to be seen (no one seems to have any ideas of what it will be), and we hope to be able to give our readers some more definite information in the near future. It will, of course, take some little time to perfect any arrangements.

Although the objections may be numerous, a military department can be made of considerable value to the college if it is taken hold of in the right manner, and the proper kind of an officer is put at the head. It will offer greater variety in our course, it will call attention to the college; besides good military training and a knowledge of military tactics, are accomplishments by no means to be despised.

THE STUDENTS of the Agricultural College have always prided themselves on not having among their number any of that class of barbarous idiots, who employ such means as the destruction of property, to vent their spleen for some real or imagined injury done them. But just as we go to press we are pained

to learn that there is an example of such in our midst.

On Friday night the leather fixings of Professor Satterlee's carriage were shamefully mutilated by a knife in the hands of some unknown person. We can hardly believe any student to be capable of thus degrading himself, and casting reflections on his mates, and we hope that should the facts in the case be disclosed, our belief will prove to be well founded.

But, if any student is guilty of the disgraceful deed it will be a most unfortunate thing for him to be discovered, for the students justly feel most indignant in the matter, and might give way to their feelings in a manner not very pleasant to the guilty party.

AFTER CONSIDERABLE wrangling, passing and rescinding of resolutions, Junior Class Day for the class of '85, was abolished. Whether or not this shall prove a precedent in the future, remains to be seen.

While it is not thought that class days should be abolished altogether—in fact it is thought that in most cases they should be encouraged, as providing in a degree, some of the society advantages of which the College is largely deprived—yet Junior Day is rarely a successful one; for the reason that by the time they have become that far advanced in the course, members do not have sufficient interest in the matter to make it a success. They attend only through a sense of duty and patriotism to the class.

It becomes, therefore, a burdensome expense, attended with but few of the usual profitable results. Hence it is the very general opinion that in this matter the class has pursued a wise course.

As THE political campaign deepens in interest, the student voters begin to consider the matter of going home to vote, and the question, will the experience of two years ago be repeated, presents itself, namely, will some of the members of the faculty pay the traveling expenses, or "what will induce them to go home?" of those who will promise to vote the Republican ticket. That may not have been buying votes, but it certainly secured a number of ballots for the Republican candidates, that they would not otherwise have received. If this is to be done again, why not treat all alike?

## COLLEGE NEWS.

### Natural History.

A paper on "The Philadelphia meeting of the A. A. A. S." was presented by Dr. W. J. Beal. He stated that the recent meeting was the largest ever held and consisted of 1249 members and fellows. Most of the business in the line of papers comes up in sections of which there are nine, each holding a session at the same time. All papers which are read must first be examined and approved in full or by abstract by a committee of experts. The sections which have the most papers and draw the largest crowds are biology, geology, and anthropology.

For some years the entomologists of the association have met for consultation and acquaintance as an entomological club. Last year the botanists began with this plan, and this year there were probably not less than one hundred present at the

meeting. They had a free excursion to the pine barrens of New Jersey, a reception at the Academy of Sciences and held several meetings for reading papers. So large a gathering of botanists never met before in this country.

By attending meetings of the association, persons become acquainted, get new ideas, compare themselves with each other and add to their enthusiasm. Among the 300 or more British, was one who by careful estimate was six feet eleven, or eleven feet six. It would have been interesting to see him on these grounds for comparison with some members of our faculty.

At the meetings there are always some cranks. One wanted to read a paper on the protection of cities from cyclones by inclosing each by a very high wire fence. Another wanted to present a paper on the pyramids of Egypt, in which he was to show that these old monuments were begun at the top and not at the bottom as usually supposed.

Prof. Cook presented a paper on Sources of Nectar or so-called "Honey Dew."

He referred to plant lice nectar, and stated that it was light colored and very pleasant to the taste. He said that such nectar could do no injury to honey, and was safe as a winter food for bees. The nectar from coccidæ, or bark lice—so very prevalent this season—was, on the other hand very dark and disagreeable both in taste and in odor. In some cases the odor had been so strong that apiarists, whose bees had stored this unwholesome sweet, thought the bees had "foul brood." The odor was often very manifest as we passed trees infested by these bark lice.

Honey from extra floral glands in plants, was illustrated by cotton and the partridge pea. Prof. Lulease, who has studied this point, thinks this nectar attracts wasps, ants, and other fierce predaceous insects, which serve the plant by keeping at bay such insects as feed on the plants.

Recently Prof. Cook had received some grass, which the sender called manna grass. It was coated with small grains of white sugar, very sweet and pleasant to the taste. It was stated that bees had collected much fine honey from this grass. Upon examination this grass was found ergotized. The ergot grains were very numerous and large.

This ergot fungus is probably the source of the nectar. European authors often speak of a sweet yellowish liquid as characteristic of the early stages of ergot. In this case the sweet excretion is very abundant and pleasant. Attention was called to the poisonous nature, and the medicinal properties of this undesirable fungus. It was shown that honey dew was a misnomer for such nectar. Manna would be an appropriate name.

Prof. Satterlee presented quite a lengthy and interesting paper on taxidermy.

Mr. L. G. Carpenter described at some length the meeting at Montreal of the British Association for the advancement of Science. He stated that this was the first meeting of the Association outside of the British Isles. A great many eminent scientists were present from all parts of the world.

Fifty-one freshmen; some have left already.

The new experimental barn is nearly completed.

Prof. Carpenter has a new desk in his class-room.

Mr. Hoyt, '83, visited College at the first of the term.

Mr. Bonham, '84, made the College a visit not long ago.

Messrs. Grimes and Gillett, '84, visited College recently.

One thousand bushels of oats were harvested from 28 acres.

No show was made at the State Fair this year by the College.

There was an entertainment in the Library the other evening. Assistant Secretary H. W. Baird was entry clerk at the State Fair.

There is an Holstein calf on the farm that \$150.00 will not buy.

Prof. Frank Gulley '80, visited College at the first of this term.

October 9th saw the first frost to effect vegetation in this vicinity.

The white grubs and the moles are disfiguring the lawns somewhat, in places.

The College boasts of six young women in attendance, two having entered this fall.

Prof. Harrower, during the past vacation, visited his father's people at Albany, N. Y.

The Y. M. C. A. accorded with their constitution, by giving the Freshmen a reception.

Mr. C. H. Baldwin of Dayton, Ohio, recently visited his daughter, Mrs. A. J. Cook.

Mr. Mohn, the College carpenter, has moved to Lansing, and rides out to his work daily.

J. R. Newton resigned the office of steward for "Club E." A. L. Nichols succeeded him.

The wheat grown on the farm, though badly winter killed, yielded 22 bushels to the acre.

A new shaper and drill press have arrived for the new engine house, which is now completed.

P. G. Towar, a present member of '85, is nominee for county surveyor on the Prohibition ticket.

Mrs. Pres. Abbot and daughter are visiting the family of Oscar Ciute, '62, at Iowa City, Iowa.

The State Board has appropriated \$50.00 to engage an instructor for the College cornet band.

A broad cast seeder was donated to the college by a Racine manufacturing company some time ago.

Mr. Haws, the engineer of the College has resigned his position and has gone into business at Ionia.

The graveling of the drives from the Library and the Farm House to the garden has been completed.

Prof. Johnson spent a part of his vacation recruiting his strength at the Sanitarium in Battle Creek.

Dr. Grange spent his vacation at Georgian Bay and in Ontario. He visited the Ontario Agricultural College.

Officers of '88 are: President, Thurtell; V. President, Essig; Secretary, Duffy; Treasurer, H. E. Harrison.

Mr. H. V. Clarke, '78, visited friends at the College a short time ago. He has just been ordained minister.

The President's son, J. R. Abbot, '84, is yet at home, but expects to go into the engineering business soon.

Dr. Kedzie is examining and analyzing specimens of lime stone and building stone from quarries in Huron county.

There is a freshman who says he only attends one class now and that is chapel, and has only been there three times.

Mr. Tsuda, '84, visited the College a few days since. He intends to return to his home in Japan before very long.

There has been no hazing this term, and it is probable that the time honored custom has come to an end in this college.

About 2½ acres of sowed corn, weighing over 27 tons, were put into the silo this year. The cost of the work was \$19.14.

The work on the drains has been continued on the farm as was intended. Between two and three miles of tile have been laid.

The fish ponds will not be in full running order before next spring. The small ponds have already been stocked with mirror carp.

A petition from the students to the Board, requesting that work bills be cashed at the end of the first two months of the term, was granted.

Prof. Cook has been engaged by the United States government to supervise an apiarian exhibit at the forthcoming exposition at New Orleans.

The ground was in fine condition for draining the swamp north of the Library during the summer vacation. The work was done by students.

A good sized Blaine club was organized at the College on the evening of Oct. 8th. A delegate has been appointed to meet Blaine at Williamston.

During the recent vacation Dr. J. F. Baldwin visited his brother-in-law, Prof. Cook. Dr. Baldwin was a student at the college for a year in 1871.

The onions and potatoes are being harvested in the garden. They are an excellent crop. The White Star has proved the best of the new potatoes.

An entertainment was given the Seniors by Prof. and Mrs. MacEwan, on the evening of Sept. 16th. All enjoyed themselves to the fullest extent.

The spring and summer vacations have been shortened by the Board to one week each. This will make the fall term 12 weeks, and the winter vacation 14 weeks.

The highway leading to Trowbridge has been opened to travel since the last issue of the SPECULUM. The College donated \$75.00 to assist in its construction.

The present store-room in the Botanical Museum has been fitted up as a study for the professor of horticulture, and new apartments will be provided as a store-room.

Prof. Johnson has been authorized by the State Board, to visit the Chicago Fat-stock Show, and glean information of value to students of stock breeding and feeding.

There was a mink captured in the Wild Garden the other day. It was sent to a taxidermist in Rochester, for preservation. This shows our Wild Garden to be rightly named.

Mr. Millis, class '82, now foreman of the horticultural department, has resigned his position, and accepted a position as instructor in Rider's Business College, at Trenton N. J.

The new house for the Professor of Horticulture is completed and is awaiting the acceptance of the building committee of the Board of Agriculture. It makes a very neat appearance.

Through the kindness of Prof. Cook, the students who intend to teach, were favored with an excellent lecture on the effects of alcoholic stimulants, delivered in the Professor's class-room.

Dr. Kedzie is making scientific investigations as to the effect of saw-dust on well-water. He has characteristic specimens of well-water from leading points in the State for examination.

Dr. Beal has changed the order of study in microscopic botany. The student now begins by studying the lower orders and not by studying the higher orders of plants as formerly.

Among the new machines on the farm, is a new Bell City feed cutter, with which Prof. Johnson is well pleased. There is also a new potato marker and coverer, which gives perfect satisfaction.

Prof. Satterlee tendered to the Board his resignation as Professor of Horticulture, to take effect Jan. 1st, 1885. The resignation was laid on the table until the next meeting of the Board.

Y. M. C. A. has for President, G. C. Lawrence; Vice-President, H. T. French; Recording Secretary, E. St. John; Corresponding Secretary, T. H. Stanley, and for Treasurer, J. R. Newton.

The boys did the fair thing by Ben. Butler, there being but few left at the college, on the evening of his speech in Lansing. About 120 students marched down and they did a good deal of the cheering.

The appropriations for the Signal Service department were not so large as they were expected to be. No new stations can be established this year. The projected station at the College will therefore have to be postponed.

T. D. Himebauch, at present with '85, exhibited at the State Fair a fine collection of grasses, consisting of 94 native specimens. It speaks well for the other exhibits that Mr. Himebauch was not a successful competitor.

The President of "The Board" has received notification that a military instructor has been assigned to the College. Colonel McCreery was appointed committee to select the man. The man selected is Lieut. J. A. Lockwood.

Several specimens of sorghum have been received by Dr. Kedzie, which were grown on the sandy land of the State, in accordance with his request. The canes grown on sandy land without manure, prove better than was anticipated.

Prof. Carpenter's father, Mr. C. K. Carpenter of Orion, died during our last vacation. He was an ex-member of the Legislature and was at one time nominee for State Governor. At the time of his death he was an enterprising farmer.

A bill providing for the establishment of experimental stations at the agricultural colleges of the country, was before Congress the last session. The bill was ordered to be revised and printed. The bill provides for \$15,000 per annum for each station.

There have been two sales of stock from the farm since the last issue of the Speculum. The Ayrshire cow, Phylacy 2d, was sold to Mr. Muldraugh of Sandhill, Wayne Co. The young Short horn bull, Col. Page, was sold to Mr. Grimes, of Williamston.

H. T. French of the Senior class takes charge of the new experimental barn next winter. Some of the "school marms" of the College envy him his situation, for he will have a fine place to work. Every thing in the new barn is as convenient as possible. The barn presents a fine appearance from the outside as well.

As being a very appropriate hint to many of our students, the following is copied from the *Detroit Free Press*: "Borrowing books is one of the privileges of friendship which is oftentimes most grievously abused. It is a pleasure to have our friends enjoy our books and our pictures, but when the best we have, and often the most prized of our treasures, are given them with a most hearty good will, it is certainly a most disagreeable abuse of our kindness to mar them in any way or appropriate them for long months and perhaps never return them. Such treatment is fitly characterized as an offense against friendship and good manners, if not against the law of honesty. Books become to be a part of our lives, and when they are sought and found missing a feeling of disappointment comes over us which changes to resentment, when it is remembered that some would-be friend has, through our kindness, obtained possession of the cherished volumes, and then, with most unpardonable thoughtlessness, retained them."

On Saturday, Sept. 20th, a game of base ball was played on the college grounds, between the Alerts of Lansing, and a picked nine from the college. The score was 29 to 13 in favor of the

college. The Alerts played well considering the size of their men. In a second game played September 27th, the result was reversed.

Besides the clearing out of the swampy places in the back fields, that part of the farm is much improved by a thorough clearing up of the fields and by the fencing of the lane. The rows of elms on each side of the lane will be continued back next spring. It will not be very long before the lane will be passable to the railroad.

Dr. Beal takes courage in thinking he will have a relative in the next State Legislature. Within three miles of his old home he has an uncle who is nominated on the Prohibition ticket, a cousin on the Republican, and another cousin on the Democratic ticket. There are probably no Greenbackers or women suffragists in the family.

Pres Abbot, Sec. Baird, Prof. Cook, Prof. Satterlee, and Dr. Grange were all in attendance at the State fair. Prof. Cook reports the apiarian exhibit to be the best ever made in the United States. Dr. Grange was busily engaged taking the measurements of horses of various breeds. Four of the Seniors were also present.

At the recent meeting in Philadelphia, Dr. Beal was the only representative of our college. He read a paper on the "vitality of seeds," "the way in which some grass seeds bury themselves beneath the surface of the soil," "the torsion of leaves," "the polarity of the leaves of erigeron," and gave a short address as President of the Botanical Club.

The meeting of the State Board of Agriculture was held on Oct. 6th, 7th, and 8th. All members were present except the Governor. Most of the time of the meeting was taken up in making estimates of expenses for the next two years, to present to the Legislature next winter. The estimates will be completed at their next meeting, Nov. 16th.

In several of our northern counties, notably Wexford, Huron, and Saginaw counties, the wheat is being eaten by a small, light colored, striped larva. The inside or flour of the kernel is eaten out. This is a new enemy and appears to be the larva of a moth belonging to the genus *Hodena*. It is causing no little destruction. Prof. Cook is working out its life history.

Several different kinds of potatoes have been tested on the farm this year. The potatoes were planted in rows 330 feet long and 3 feet apart. Eight rows of White Star yielded  $5\frac{1}{2}$  bushels per row; 3 of Early May Flower,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  bushels; 2 of Rural Blush,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  bushels; 3 of Early Telephone,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  bushels; 5 of Early Harvest,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  bushels; 2 of White Elephant,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  bushels per row.

Last May the class of '86, Albion College, challenged the class of '85, M. A. C. to play a game of base ball. The challenge was accepted and the day set for the game. The day arrived but '86 did not. June 7th was then fixed upon as the day for the contest; but "literary exercises" at Albion fortunately prevented the appearance of '86, and thus saved them from an ignominious defeat.

A college orchestra of ten pieces, has been organized with G. L. Spangler, '86, director, and F. S. Kedzie business manager. The college cornet band now contains thirteen pieces with prospects of further additions. The College contains considerable musical ability, and commendable energy is being displayed in bringing it out, giving us a band and orchestra that will compare favorably with any of their kind.

On Friday evening, Oct. 17th, Alexander Winchell, Prof. of Geology and Paleontology at the University, will deliver one of his intensely interesting lectures in the College chapel. The subject is "Man in the Light of Science." Every student should attend the lecture, as it is his duty. It looks as though the students would have to get all their lecturers from "abroad," as the faculty seem to have "flunked." None of the Professors have given a lecture in the chapel this term.

The Engineering Department has engaged the services of Mr. James Wiseman, as engineer. Mr. Wiseman is a native of Glasgow, Scotland, where he served five years apprenticeship to a first-class mechanical engineer, and has since been seven years chief engineer on an ocean steamer. Mr. Wiseman comes very highly recommended as a skilled machinist, and with the apparatus provided in the new engine house, he is expected to give considerable practical and useful instruction in mechanical engineering.

Dr. Gilbert, the celebrated experimenter in Agricultural Chemistry, associated with Sir John Lawes, at the noted Experimental Station, at Rothamstead, England, delivered an instructive two-hour lecture to the students, Tuesday, Oct. 14th. The lecture was profusely illustrated by elaborate tables, and showed the results of some of the experiments at Rothamstead. Dr. Gilbert came to this continent for the purpose of attending the meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of

Science. While on the continent he concluded to lecture at some of the leading agricultural institutions; hence Pres. Abbot was able to get him to lecture here.

The College was recently canvassed. Some of the students were not in their rooms, others were undecided on political matters, and others had no political ideas at all. Of the 118 students interviewed, 76 were for Blaine, 32 being voters; 15 for Cleveland, 6 being voters; 13 for St. Johns, 7 being voters; 10 for Butler, 3 being voters. The sentiment for Governor was, 46 for Alger, 9 being voters; 32 for Preston, 17 being voters; 18 for Begole, 5 being voters. It is believed by many that this shows a smaller proportion of Republicans than formerly. There is not a Blaine man among the managers of the Speculum. Four hurrah for Cleveland, one for St. John, and one for Butler. Of these 118 students, 82 intend to teach, if they can get the schools and the certificates.

Prof. Cook has just received, from the eastern part of the state, specimens of a new insect pest, which works on the stem of the wheat. The insect is closely allied to the old wheat joint worm (*Isasomia hordei*) and to the wheat straw worm (*L. tritici*), which has been destructive so recently in Illinois. The insect works anywhere above the first joint, but is most common between the third and fourth. The stem for a distance varying from one-half to three-fourths of an inch is more or less knotted and deformed. The hollow is entirely filled with a hard fibrous growth, within which are small oval cells containing from six to twelve insects. At present (Sept. 22) they are in both larva and pupa state. None of the imago have yet appeared. They cause some anxiety in the region around Detroit.

There have been important changes made in the constitution of the club boarding association. All money for board is now to be received by the stewards. Secretary Baird is to act as banker. Each steward is required to present vouchers for every thing that he buys. There is but one auditing committee for all the clubs, and the committee receives remuneration for its services. They are required to examine the accounts of each steward every week. This is much better than formerly, when stewards were not required to present vouchers, and when the auditing committee did not care to give their time away. The committee on membership now has the power to equalize the number of students in the different clubs; this power was wanting before.

Commencement exercises began on Friday and Saturday evenings, Aug. 8th and 9th, with society banquets. On Sunday the Baccalaureate sermon was delivered by Pres. Abbot to a large audience. On Monday evening the class-day exercises were presented with a pleasing effect. After this the graduating class and those fortunate enough to have invitations, and others fortunate in being classed as parasites, repaired to the Botanical Laboratory, where a fine banquet was prepared. Tuesday, the commencement orations were delivered to a crowded audience. The orations, as the critic says, were "very good indeed." It speaks well for the class that one of the orations should be demanded for publication by a leading agricultural paper of the State. The orators were J. R. Abbot, E. C. Bank, Chas. Baker, W. D. Barry, C. C. Lillie, B. C. Porter, C. E. Smith, and Miss Alice Johnson. After the thirty degrees had been conferred by Pres. Abbot, and C. M. Weed, '83, had been made M. S., Gov. Begole addressed the class for a few minutes. In the evening a large number attended the President's Reception, and had an enjoyable hour. Thus ended the commencement exercises, and in a few hours the class was scattered over the country perhaps never to meet again in a body.

The Senior class officers are: President, H. E. Thomas; Vice President, D. J. Striker; Secretary, C. F. Schneider; Treasurer, R. W. Hemphill, Jr.; Orator, C. B. Collinwood; Poet, C. H. Hoyt; Prophet, R. M. Bates; Statistician, P. G. Towar; Historian, J. D. Towar; Toast Master, E. A. Bartmess.

The officers of '86 are: President, A. E. Brown; Vice President, H. B. Howe; Treasurer, P. B. Woodworth; Secretary, J. W. Clemons; Orator, J. B. Cotton; Poet, C. H. Judson; Prophet, E. A. Whitney; Statistician, E. G. Eldridge; Historian, Miss Jennie Towar; Toast Master, T. A. Stanley.

The officers of '87 so far as elected are: President, H. L. Chapin; Vice President, C. H. Smith; Secretary, E. W. Redman; Treasurer, I. B. Bates.

The officers of the Students' Organization are: President, J. W. Mathews; Vice President, J. J. Jakway; Secretary and Treasurer, H. L. Chapin. C. H. Hoyt is President of the Natural History Society and H. E. Thomas is Secretary.

The State Board will submit to the Legislature an estimate for a new veterinary hall, to be situated near the site of the old dormitory, which burned some years ago. As asked for, the new building will be 80x35 feet, and will contain, on the first floor, a lecture room, an office, and study for the professor, and an operating room, where animals for examination and treat-

ment can be brought before the class; on the second floor, a veterinary museum and dissecting room. The equipments so far as determined upon, will consist of the celebrated *papier maché* models, constructed by Dr. Auzoux, which will be,—horse complete, showing 3,000 objects; jaws in 30 separate models showing age from birth to advanced years; jaws of the ox in 14 models; uterus of the cow; foot and pastern of horse; skeletons of the horse, cow, sheep, and hog. The operating and dissecting rooms will contain stocks, and the various apparatus needed for the preparation and examination of subjects. If this is granted it will put our veterinary department on a firm foundation, and in connection with our study of related sciences, will make it among the few first-class courses in the West.

The new comet was seen by the College telescope immediately after it was discovered in Europe, and has been seen by it many times since then. A keen eye may be able to discern the comet about the middle of November. Its orbit is nearly the same as that of the comet of 1811, and very possibly it is the same one.

**LIBRARY NOTES.**—Our evening visitors are few. Does it pay to keep open?

For a book to have a well worn binding is to have a badge of popularity, and one notices that we are all of a mind in regard to books; one, two, or three of an author's works are the popular ones, and they stand worn and unhandsome by the side of their well kept brethren, which never leave the shelves.

The library was well shaken by the late earthquake; unsupported books fell over, lamps chattered, and a sound as of distant falling bricks and mortar, or as of coarse gravel and stone sliding down an embankment, seemed to emanate from the south east corner of the building. The shock lasted several seconds.

We are indebted to Dr. Beal for copies of the Philadelphia Press, giving reports of the association. He always remembers us with papers.

The subject catalogue is growing slowly; it is already of much assistance in finding out-of-the-way matter.

With the close of the summer vacation, our exchanges are coming in, showing that work is being begun in all our sister libraries. Our library has also sent acknowledgments, by way of reports and catalogues, to about fifty different firms and societies.

**THE GREENHOUSE** and flower gardens, under the care of Mr. Knapper, are receiving many improvements both in the house and in the plants.

The old method of whitewashing the glass during the summer, has been replaced by the neater, more pleasing, and effective, as well as cheaper plan of canvassing. The palm-house and the rose-room have been remodeled, new pits have been constructed, the plants more systematically arranged; and they now present very neat and tasty appearances.

The plants, and more especially those propagated within the last year or two, have every indication of a healthy and vigorous condition.

Among the new and more attractive plants, are a large number of carnations, grown by Mr. Knapper from the seed; a handsome lot of chrysanthema propagated from cuttings obtained by Mr. Knapper, from Jay Gould's gardens at Irvington. The roses, of which there are many varieties, are expected to make a very attractive feature of the gardens in the near future; the one thousand cuttings obtained from Germany, are making a fine and healthy growth. And no pains are being spared to keep all in the best possible condition.

## PERSONALS.

THE Editor of this Department desires the earnest co-operation of the alumni in adding him to fill these columns with interesting items. Give occupation since graduation, what offices held, whether married or not, etc. Let this receive prompt attention from every alumnus.

- A. W. Mather of '83, is farming in Dakota.
- R. J. Coryell of '84, is farming at Jonesville.
- A. C. Hinebaugh is farming at Burr Oak, Mich.
- F. Hodges of '84, is studying medicine at Chicago.
- John Bush of '84, is in the Savings Bank at Lansing.
- Fred Herrington of '84, is teaching at Waterford, Mich.
- T. W. Whitney, with '69, is a lawyer at St. Louis, Mich.
- C. L. Grimes of '84, is teaching at Wacousta, Clinton Co.
- J. T. Matthews of '83, is studying law at Portland, Mich.
- Guy Osborn, with '86, is in the drug business at Chicago.
- J. D. Hill of '84, is working his father's farm at Albion, Ind.
- W. D. Watkins, with '85, is employed in a bank at Union City.

James P. Lewis, '78, is in the hardware business at Firth, Neb.  
Charles Baker of '84, is at home on the farm, at Bancroft, Mich.

C. E. Smith of '84, is principal of the schools at Morenci, Mich.

L. Bonham of '84, since leaving college has gone to St. Louis, Mo.

C. P. Cronk of '79, is at Washington, in the U. S. signal service.

A. W. Page, Jr., is the first victim of '84, married and gone to Dakota.

G. P. Antisdale, with '85, has entered the scientific course at Cornell.

W. O. Wilcox, with '83, has an extensive medical practice in Chicago.

W. R. Hubbard of '81, has been travelling in Europe. He is married.

J. W. Beaumont, '81, will enter the profession of law at Chicago, Ill.

M. C. Skinner, three years with '67, is county clerk of Noble Co., Ind.

C. A. Dockstader of '81, is in the drug business at Three Rivers, Mich.

Will A. Norton, with '75, is one of the best lawyers at Charlevoix, Mich.

A. L. Forbes, with '69, is real estate and grain dealer at Stockbridge, Mich.

D. C. Holliday, '83, is doing business in a railroad office at New Orleans.

Howard Carey, a special with '85, is taking a medical course at Ann Arbor.

W. P. Denny, with '78, is county superintendent of schools of Noble Co., Ind.

W. F. Pack, with '81, is doing a thriving dry goods business at Centerville, Mich.

The only other important event of the year, was the advent of a girl July the 5th.

Cyrus Crandall, '80, is the Republican candidate for county clerk of Lenawee county.

John Breck of '84, is studying law with his brother, George Breck of '78, at Paw Paw.

L. W. Hoyt of '82, is in the insurance business with E. C. Watkins at Grand Rapids.

W. D. Barry of '84, is unsettled, but expects to follow farming. He will teach this winter.

C. N. Crossman of '82, is building a number of tenement houses at Benton Harbor, Mich.

C. E. Hollister of '61, is superintendent of the pomological exhibit at the Central Michigan Fair.

A. A. Crozier of '79, is taking a course in cryptogamic botany at the State University, Ann Arbor.

R. Haigh of '69, has removed to Paw Paw, and will continue the insurance business at that place.

L. A. Ross, with '86, and T. A. Parker, with '87, are attending the polytechnic at Terre Haute, Ind.

Mr. T. F. Millspaugh, '82, is canvassing for an encyclopædia at Muskegon, for a Grand Rapids firm.

W. I. Lillie has been nominated for circuit court commissioner for Ottawa Co., on the Republican ticket.

Fremont E. Skeels, '78, is in the gardening business at Grand Rapids, in company with C. W. Garfield, '70.

C. W. Gammon of '79, is in the fruit business at Richland, Col. He is also a dealer in lumber and wheat.

W. A. Bahlke of '83, has finished his course in elocution, at Chicago, and returned to his home at Pewamo.

C. W. McCurdy of '81, is teaching at Sand Beach. He has an enrollment of 211 pupils, and an average of 192.

C. E. Herrington has been re-nominated for circuit court commissioner of Oakland Co., on the Democrat ticket.

W. S. Delano of '81 of the U. S. signal service, has been changed from Yuma, Arizona, to Shreveport, La.

A. G. Gulley, '68, is apt to go the round of fairs, and sweep in the premiums, which he did this year in Illinois.

Fitz R. Osborn, two years with '85, who graduated at the State Normal this year, is now principal of Climax schools.

A. T. Miller, with '85, is in the drug store of W. A. Hendry & Co., at Big Rapids, and not a farmer, as reported in the Speculum.

C. C. Lille of '84, is teaching at Lamont. His commencement oration was printed in full in the Grange Visitor.

E. T. Gardner of '85, reports a pleasant time teaching at Old Mission. He also says that fruit is plenty in that region.

Milton Delano of '84, fills the place of the hired man on his father's farm. He says his time is all occupied, even Sundays.

C. R. Dart of '81, is drafting for the D., M. & M. R. R., at Marquette. His principal work is on mineral docks and bridges.

W. C. Stryker of '84, has been farming since leaving college. He will teach a five months school this winter, near Niles, Mich.

E. C. Bank of '84, found himself in the Reform School within a month from the time of graduating. He isn't married either.

M. Tsuda of '84, has returned to his home in Japan. His address is No. 51, Sunorokubanchiyo, Kojimachi Ku., Tokiyo, Japan.

Chas. McDiarmid of '84, is farming at Bear Lake, Manistee Co. He reports fruit plenty and in splendid condition in that vicinity.

Mr. John Simonson, '74, is the fusion nominee of the Greenback and Republican parties, for prosecuting attorney of Bay County.

C. A. Dockstader, '81, is in the essential oil business at Three Rivers, and is studying plants with special reference to this business.

J. A. Troop '78, made an exhibit of injurious insects at the Indiana State Fair; he also had charge of the Purdue University exhibition.

Frank Hodgeman of '62, is preparing a manual for surveyors, which will soon be published under the auspices of the State Association.

E. A. Murphy, '82, is editor of the Lyons Herald. He still lives on the farm, and drives into town to attend to his newspaper business.

A. G. Gulley of '78, returned from Colorado to South Haven, and thinks that Michigan is about the best place for his line of work,—horticulture.

O. L. Hershiser of '84, is at Water Valley, N. Y., beekeeping for D. A. Jones. He will take charge of one of Mr. Jones' large apiaries next summer.

R. H. Gulley, '78, business manager of the Mississippi Live Stock Journal, came North this summer, was married, and has returned to Mississippi.

C. P. Gillett of '84, is at home farming. He has succeeded in raising a crop of blisters since leaving college, and will teach school this winter in his own district.

Mrs. C. E. Gillis, a niece of Dr. Kedzie, and who was at the College in '70, has gone with her husband and family to northern Alabama, for the benefit of her health.

J. H. Smith, of '83, has a position in Iowa college, at Grennell, Iowa. Mr. Smith teaches mathematics, and is himself studying Latin, French, and Didactics.

Frank Benton, '79, has invented a cage for mailing queen bees a great distance. The invention is an entire success, and is winning great favor among queen breeders.

H. S. Hampton of '76, is practicing law at Albion, Idaho. He owns a farm which he is developing, and will send a collection of native grasses to the New Orleans Exposition.

J. Troop of '78, now at Purdue University, reports things as booming. He spent two weeks at the Rochester nurseries after leaving here, before going to his work at Purdue.

Students in the earlier history of the College, will be grieved to learn of the loss Prof. W. W. Daniells, '64, mourns in the death, last summer, of his daughter, aged three years.

Monroe, who was here at the opening of the college, has been a member of the State Legislature, and re-nominated this year, sends the first grandson of the college, H. B. Monroe, '88.

W. H. Leisenring of '84, since leaving college has been visiting his brother, at South Haven. They have picked about two thousand baskets of peaches, and have as many more to pick.

C. M. Weed of '83, has accepted a position on the editorial staff of the Prairie Farmer. He made a fine exhibit in economic entomology and of pressed honey plants, at the recent State Fair.

B. C. Porter, in company with his brother, is conducting a dairy farm at Grand Rapids. They confine themselves to butter making only; Jersey cows. He says, "success to the Speculum."

Donald McPherson of '74, is special examiner in the U. S. pension office. He has been detailed to investigate fraudulent pension claims in Pennsylvania during the past six months, but is now at work in Michigan. He is unmarried, but hopes to be sometime.

C. E. Hollister, '61, of Laingsburg, is a director of the Central Michigan Fair. His son expects to enter the college next term, and will be the first grandson of his Alma Mater sent by a graduate.

W. H. Coffron, '82, has completed his course at the Signal Service Training School, graduating with the highest honors of his class, and he has now been detailed for service at the central office at Washington.

W. L. Carpenter, '74, brother of Prof. Carpenter, is acting chairman of the First District Republican Congressional Committee, and manager of the campaign. H. A. Haigh, '74, is secretary of the committee.

J. I. Bicknell of '81, was deprived of the use of his eyes for nearly a year, and was obliged to resign a good position on that account. Since his recovery he has had charge of his father's farm at Riverdale, N. Y.

J. B. Watson, with '81, is owner of a fine drug store at Cooper-ville. D. O. Watson, his brother, and a student at the same time, is junior member of the firm of W. G. Watson & Son, general dealers, at the same place.

After spending some time at Dresden, W. S. Hough, '83, has gone to Heidelberg, where he studies, this semester. He has some intention of spending the second semester at Leipzig, and the year following this at Berlin.

Oscar Clute, '62, is the President of the Iowa Bee Keepers' Association; and this year had charge of the bee exhibit at the State Fair. The show, and especially that portion exhibited by Mr. Clute, is said to have been very fine.

Miss Wolcott, a short time with '85, taught in one of the departments of the Owosso schools during the past year; good authority, however, informs us, that she has been induced to resign both her employment and her name.

Jay D. Stannard of '76, says the junior member of the firm is an enterprising youngster, past two. Mr. Stannard is a breeder of Shropshires and their grades, but says he has not been in the business long enough to make his mark yet.

The friends of Mr. N. P. Graham, who was obliged to leave the class of '79 on account of sickness, will be pained to learn that during the past year his health has again failed, and that he was obliged to resign his school at Flandreau, Dakota, last January. He has since been at his home, at Marengo, in this State.

Prof. C. E. Bessey, '69, has resigned his situation in the Iowa Agricultural College, and will accept the position of Dean of the Agricultural Faculty, in the Nebraska University. His more immediate charge will be Professor of Botany and Horticulture.

C. Bloodgood of '77, has a fine medical practice at Frankfort, Mich. He has also gained a good reputation as a surgeon at that place. Mr. Bloodgood is building him a house; but the gentleman is not married, but makes his own bed and sews on his own buttons.

L. H. Bailey, '81, completed his pay work at Harvard in August. He is now working on the editorial staff of the American Cultivator, and doing some good work at the University in botany, especially in reviewing and cataloguing sedges, one of the most difficult of flowering plants.

J. L. Morrice, '73, was defeated for county treasurer of Emmet Co., in 1882, his successful opponent was also successful in getting away with \$2,000 of the county funds; and Mr. Morrice was appointed to fill the vacancy thus occasioned. He was this year nominated by acclamation for the same position.

Jas. H. Tibbit of '73, last year principal of the Palo schools, Ionia Co., attended an examination of the civil service at Detroit, last May. He received notice in August to report to the Secretary of the Treasury for assignment to duty. He was assigned to the office of the fifth auditor, salary twelve hundred per year.

E. M. Preston of '65, was appointed commissioner to the New Orleans Exposition. Since his appointment he has been collecting articles to represent the mineral and agricultural resources of Colorado. At the same time he has been making a collection of minerals for the college museum. He also reports business as being prosperous.

Ira Saire, a time with '79, recently visited the College a day. Mr. Saire spent three years at Columbia College, N. Y. city, studying medicine. He is also a graduate of the law department of the Michigan University, and is at present practicing law at Flushing, but expects eventually to follow farming. He was married last August to a lady who is now a student at Albion College.

Ben Porter, '84, has already experienced some of the practical results of his studies in veterinary. In the early history of his dairy business, one of his favorite calves was suddenly stricken with some mysterious indisposition. Ben immediately consulted

his veterinary notes and found "Exactly what to do." The next morning poor "caffy" was dead. Now, if Ben hadn't studied veterinary, he would probably have to be doctoring that calf yet. See the benefits!

As we go to press we are pleased to see the face of Mr. C. P. Bush of '83, on the college grounds. "C. P." has been on the sick list for a few days, and does not present so ruddy an appearance as when he was the "lively man of '83," laboring with the Superintendent of the Horticultural Department. He is now a senior in the literary department of the University, but has been for the past few weeks, agent for campaign literature in northern Indiana, and has also been making some good speeches for Cleveland and Hendricks. He will not return to the University until after election. But will remain at Howell, his home, and will take part in the campaign. The SPECULUM congratulates Charley on being an "'85."

## COLLEGES.

Columbia College, 8,500 alumni.

Heidelberg College is to have a new college building.

Harvard has the largest collection of meteorites in the world.

Twenty American girls are studying at the University of Zurich.

Sixteen fraternities are represented at the University of Virginia.

Kansas Agricultural College has a freshman class of 100 students.

It is said that there are 2,370 Catholic parochial schools in the United States.

Iowa Agricultural College will soon have its buildings lighted by electricity.

Dakota has a college. It is situated at Yankton, and was dedicated Sept. 20.

The Occident has removed the glitter from its title page, and we think improved its face.

The state of New Hampshire gives \$5,000 a year to aid indigent students at Dartmouth.

Professor Alpheus Packard, lately deceased, has been connected with Bowdoin College for the past sixty-five years.

The "Public Institution of Ireland" is to be the name of the University of Ireland, which is to be opened Oct. 1st, 1885.

If Mr. Blaine is elected, we suppose there will be great rejoicing at Washington and Jefferson College, as Mr. Blaine is an alumnus of that institution.

Prof. Gildersleeve of the American school in Athens, is to be succeeded by Prof. J. C. Van Beuschoten, late professor of Greek at Wesleyan University.

The University of Cairo is said to be 900 years older than Oxford. Ten thousand students are being educated at the University for missionaries of Moslem faith.

The Lantern is now published fortnightly. This paper deserves to be complimented on its general appearance and contents. It reflects credit on the University.

If young men wish to see cyclones before going west, they have but to call on Prof. Douglass of the Michigan University, who can manufacture cyclones on a small scale.

W. W. Corcoran, the Washington banker and benefactor, has added to his good works by founding a school of science and arts in connection with Columbia University, N. Y.—*Ex.*

In some Southern institutions book-keeping is taught according to some plan best adapted for use in cotton and tobacco factories, as more capital is employed in these industries than in any other.

The three hundredth anniversary of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, was recently commemorated. This event was of great interest to Americans, as many of the Puritans were members of this college.

We think the University of Heidelberg is not very enterprising, for when offered one hundred thousand marks on condition that women be admitted to its courses, the University said: "We can't accept."

Statistics show that Cornell students have larger lungs and larger calves than students of any other college. This is attributed to the climbing of the hill near the college, and to its excellent gymnasium.

Russia is said to be the only civilized nation whose laws exclude women from a college course, and yet Dean Burgan says that God has forsaken Oxford University, since women have been admitted to examinations in that institution.

Purdue University opens the new school year with more students than for many years previous. The dormitories are full and many students have obtained rooms in the town and city near by. Five new professors have been added to the faculty.

The students of the Iowa Agricultural College issue, besides their college paper, a paper called the Students' Farm Journal. The paper contains four departments: agriculture, horticulture, veterinary, and editorial. We are in receipt of a copy, and think it a very creditable sheet.

The first American citizen to be made a member of the faculty of a German University, is Dr. Caspar Reni Gregory. He is the son of the vice-president of Girard College, and a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, and also of Princeton College. He took a degree of Ph. D. at Leipsic.—*Ex.*

## EXCHANGES.

We have found a few exchanges in looking over our list that are devoid of puns.

The *Ariel*, from the University of Minnesota, speaks in very high terms of their new President.

The *College Transcript* has again found its way to our tables, and is filled with readable matter.

Cyrus Northrup graduated at Yale in 1857, and ranked third in a class of one hundred and four.

"The SPECULUM, from the Michigan Agricultural College, comes in bright and newsy as ever."—*Aurora*.

"We find the thoughts and doings of the Agricultural College, of Lansing, Mich., pleasantly reflected in the 'COLLEGE SPECULUM.'"—*Crescent*.

The *College Student* for October comes with a new dress. It contains a seven column article—The Variety and Unity of the Human Race,—by Joseph Dubbs, D.D.

The September number of the *Philomathean Review*, from Brooklyn, N. Y., comes to us with an inclosed notice of suspension. We are sorry to note the death of a college paper.

The *College Courier* is a very good exchange, else we should hardly feel like excusing it for placing at the head of its columns of college news this glaring pun, "Courierosities."

We have recently received a card from the *Fortnightly Index*, stating that it is obliged to place a limit to its exchange list. The *Index* is a valuable exchange and we are pleased to know that it will continue to visit us.

The *Notre Dame Scholastic* appears regularly among our exchanges. We think, however, that it would be more generally admired if it gave less space to sectarian ideas and Catholic news, and instead favored us with more literary articles on live topics.

The *Occident* for August 28 contains an interesting article on the indifference of students toward their college paper, and why German universities have no college periodicals. It also contains an able article on the Writing of Themes. The *Occident* is one of our most frequent visitors.

We judge from the style of the composition that the exchange editor of the *Niagara Index* is a woman, yet it is painful to note the numbers of slang phrases and by-words used by that person. We have no Freshman whom we would cite as being more intemperate in this respect.

We agree with the *Student Life* in thinking that a "college paper forgets its mission" when its principal literary articles are political discussions. Few students read these articles because they find plenty of such reading in newspapers. Again, the average college student is not overly enthusiastic in politics, and not always competent to discuss such questions.

The *Berkleyan* gives the Freshmen at the University of California some good advice in regard to adopting class hats: "Decide upon some civilized and modern style of head-wear such as may be seen upon the street without being an object of curiosity." The Freshmen are very enthusiastic in regard to class insignia and must have not only a class hat but a class pin as well.

An exchange notes the following old-time Harvard regulations: No Freshman shall wear his hat in the college yard, unless it rains, hails, or snows, provided he be on foot and have not both hands full. Freshmen are to consider all other classes as their Seniors. No Freshman shall speak to a Senior with his hat on. All Freshmen shall be obliged to go on any errand for any of his Seniors, graduates, or undergraduates, at any time except in study hours, or after nine o'clock in the evening.



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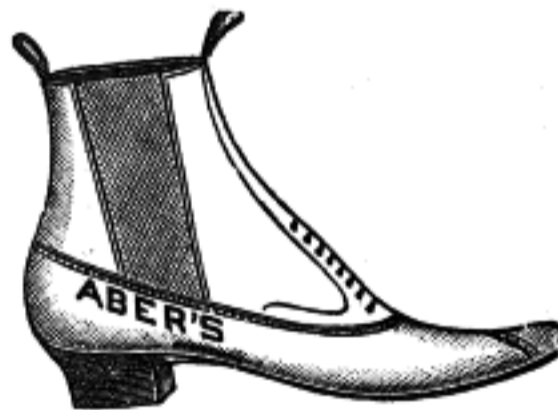
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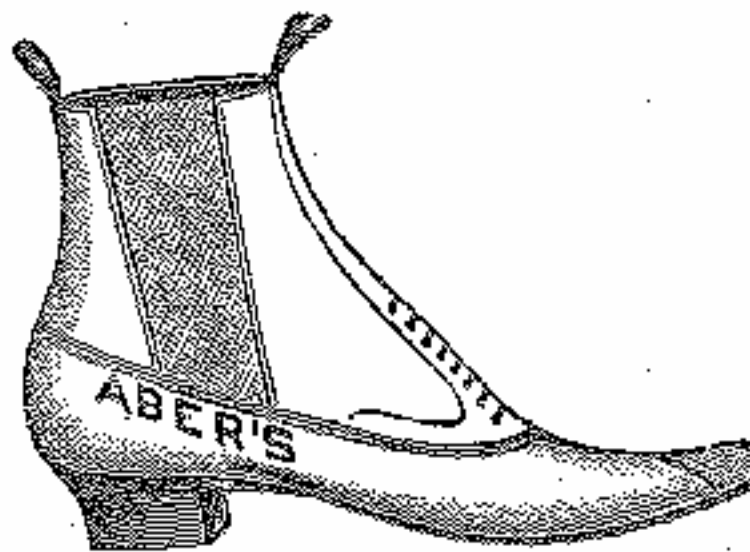
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