

## Oratory of the Bible.

Dr. Moulton gave his second lecture on "Masterpieces of Biblical Literature" in the armory last Monday afternoon. His subject for this lecture was "Oratory of the Bible," under which title he included not only oral discourse but also the discourses of the prophets in written form. In this latter connection he called especial attention to emblem prophecy or oratory mingled with emblematic action. Most notable among emblem discourses is Ezekiel's Emblem of the Sword, from which the speaker recited at length. There is also emblem poetry in the Bible, and the literature of two centuries ago was full of emblem discourses. The orations of Moses found in Deuteronomy were taken up, finally, and their features brought out by the recitation of portions of them.

In the evening Dr. Moulton gave a lecture on Shakespeare's Richard III at the residence of Hon. C. A. Gower in Lansing. He will hereafter give a Shakespearean lecture in Lansing on the evening of each day that he lectures at the College. Dr. Edwards says these lectures are even better than the Bible talks, so they will be well worth hearing.

## Natural History Society.

Mr. Gunson and Prof. Barrows furnished the program for the Natural History Society last Wednesday evening. The former gave a popular talk on wasps, which was confined mostly to observations made by the speaker in the summers of 1893, '94, '95. The habits of the mud-wasp were described, and specimens of its primitive architecture, were passed around for inspection. One observation was especially interesting; viz., that this wasp provides a kind of food that it never eats, for young that it never sees; and this food consists of live insects stupified by the sting of the wasp and placed in the mud cells, where it remains in a comatose condition until the young are ready for it. Wasps of this kind work alone and are called solitary wasps. Others, called social wasps, work in colonies and build structures of papier-mache made of wood fiber. It is worthy of note here that wasps were the first creatures to make paper from wood fiber; man has since acquired the art. These papier-mache dwellings, are found on twigs, stalks of grass and grain, roofs of buildings, in excavations in the earth, etc., and often reach a diameter of ten or twelve inches. A nest about ten inches in diameter was exhibited. It was composed of eight stories connected by numerous pillars, and was taken from an excavation in the solid clay bank in front of Abbot Hall. The speaker also called attention to the fact that the work of the wasp is much less regular and manifests much less intelligence than the work of the honey bee, which seems to have reached a higher stage of development than its wild relatives.

Prof. Barrows talked for about ten minutes on our winter birds, which he divided into three classes: Residents, specimens of which are

found here at all seasons; visitors which come here in the winter from the far north; and accidentals or irregulars, which are found here occasionally in winter. Twenty-three residents were mentioned. In some cases the individuals in this group remain here the year around; in others the individuals that are here in the summer move south and are replaced by others of the same species from farther north. Of the visitors we have about eighteen species, and one of the most conspicuous, though not numerous, is the snowy owl. The red crossbill is sometimes numerous and is remarkably tame, at times allowing itself to be caught in the hand. The third group, accidentals, is not so large, only six species being listed. There was not time to comment on all the species, but Prof. Barrows had specimens of most of our winter birds in the lecture room, which he had arranged in groups according to the above classification and which he invited us to examine after the meeting adjourned.

## Our Literary Societies.

### HESPERIAN SOCIETY.

Program given Saturday evening, January 21:

Quotations from George Eliot.  
Biography of George Eliot.—B. A. Peterson.  
Paper, "My Southern Trip."—F. W. Owen.  
Music, Violin Solo—H. C. Weatherwax.  
Essay, "Habits at College."—C. H. Parker.

Declamation—J. R. Thompson.  
Music, Cornet Solo—C. H. Parker.  
Current Events—R. M. Lickly.  
Critic's Report.

J. B. McCallum with '98 has been visiting at College and in the vicinity during the past week.

## Among the Athletes.

At a meeting of the football team last Wednesday, John Vanderstolpe was unanimously elected captain. He is one of our oldest and best players, and we feel that he will handle the team well. There are good prospects for a winning team next season, as most of the old players will return next fall.

E. W. Ranney has been elected baseball captain for the coming season. It will be remembered that Ranney was our star player last year, and made some plays that might excite the envy of more noted teams. It is hardly known what our baseball team will be, as but a few of the old players are here now, but we hope that the freshman class will furnish some good men to fill up the ranks.

We are exceedingly delighted to see so much interest taken in athletics this winter. The armory is open every evening from 6:30 to 7:30, where a large number of boys spend a pleasant and profitable hour playing basket-ball, indoor baseball, and numerous other games that at different times are thought of. In one corner of the room is spread a large wrestling mat, where several of our boys practice and are

getting themselves in condition for M. I. A. A. field day in the spring. In another corner of the room is the bicycle trainer, where we may see some of our best riders tearing away at the machine and hardening up their muscles to win laurels for M. A. C.

We understand that two games of basket-ball are being arranged with Olivet. W. K. Brainerd has just been elected basket-ball manager, and we may look for a game in the near future. W. T. P.

## Debating Society Projected.

Friday evening a number of non-society young men met in the English class-room to take steps toward the organization of another society. O. L. Ayr was elected temporary chairman; F. DeW. Linkletter, temporary secretary; and Messrs. William Krieger, Ayr and Linkletter, committee to prepare constitution and by-laws. The plan that the young men have in mind is to organize a society for literary work, the principal feature of which is to be debating.

While debating is by no means a new feature in the society work at M. A. C., it has been more than twenty years since a society has been organized with the avowed purpose of making debating the leading feature of its literary work. Early in the seventies such a society was in existence for a short time, but strong opposition to it on the part of the then existing fraternities, and a lack of support from its members soon brought the organization to an end. Shortly after (in 1876) a society combining literary and social training in its objects was organized and successfully maintained; and each society organized since that time, either for young men or for young women, has patterned after this first successful society. Conditions are now vastly different than they were in 1876, and there seems to be no reason why this most recent venture should not be a success. There are now so many more students than can be accommodated in the existing societies that no opposition to the new organization, except a friendly rivalry in securing members, will develop. Not only this, it will have many warm friends who will lend it kindly encouragement and support. And finally, it will be able to profit by the mistakes that other societies made, and thus avoid the shoals on which they foundered. The enterprise is a laudable one, and it should meet the hearty approval of everyone in College.

## Library Additions.

The last consignment of new books in the library includes the following: Finance, Adams; The Evolution of Our Native Fruits, Bailey; Rex Regrum, Bayliss; The English Religious Drama, Bates; Handbook of Invalid Cooking, Boland; Bush Fruits, Cord; Family Living on \$500 a Year, Corson; Theory and Construction of a Rational Heat Motor, Diesel; Jesus the Messiah, Edersheim; An Introduction to the Renaissance, Field;

Building, Construction and Superintendence, Kidder; The Jungle Book and the Day's Work, Kipling; The Column and the Arch, Longfellow; Carving and Serving, Lincoln; Strategic Points in the World's Conquest, Mott; The House Comfortable, Ormsbee; Home Economics, Parloa; Locomotive Mechanism and Engineering, Reagan; Life and Times of Gladstone, Ridpath; The Chemistry of Cooking and Cleaning, Richards and Elliott; Century Cook Book, Ronald; Hygiene of the Nursery, Starr; Text Book of Nursing, Weeks; Home Sanitation.

## Inter-Society Oratorical Contest.

The literary societies of the College will hold their annual oratorical contest Friday evening, February 10, in the armory. The Columbians will be represented by F. E. West, the Eclectics by J. A. Bulkeley, the Hesperians by C. H. Smith, the Olympics by C. A. Warren, and the Union Lits by A. Thorn Swift. The Feronians were admitted to the association this year but will not be represented on account of the illness of their representative, Miss Lucy Monroe.

## Prayer Solves the Problem.

A helpful talk to College students was given in the chapel last Sunday morning by Rev. Ernest Bourner Allen. He said that we should consider four things: 1. "What shall a man do with his life?" 2. "College life multiplies the factors in the problem without offering a solution." 3. "The glory of life is not in the possession but in the transmission of power." 4. "Prayer offers the solution of the problem." The question is not, How little can I do and acquire a competency? but, When and how can I do the most good? In support of the proposition that college life multiplies the factors in the life, the speaker quoted from the report of the U. S. Commissioner of Education, who compiled from replies to the question, "What does education do for a man?" sent to employers all over the country, the following answers: A common school education adds 50 per cent to a man's wage earning power; a high school education adds 100 per cent; and a college education adds 200 per cent. In determining how we shall use, how transmit this power, we should be guided by prayer. Many lack faith in prayer because they cannot see how results are brought about; they cannot understand it. But these same people believe in the workings of the laws of the universe whether they understand those laws or not. They believe that we can send messages thirty, sixty, a hundred miles, without wires or other visible means of transmission. Is it not just as reasonable to believe that the message sent in prayer reaches God? "But," says the doubter, "God works by unchangeable laws. If we follow those laws we shall reach the same results without appealing to Him." To say that is to deny the personality of God. You admit his power to create a universe, then you deny his ability to administer it wisely.



"What's this now that fills the room up so with noise? The cane shop, did you say? Oh, yes, this is where we sent our old rockin cheer to have a new seat put in; I remember now. Look, Philip! there's a little boy no bigger'n you are, standin' there weavin' canes as smart's you please. An' those other little shavers settin' round playin' jackstones must be waitin' fer their turn.

"And next is the shoe-shop! Mariar, Samantha, Philip, hold your noses till we git out—aint this awful tho'? I s'pose they learn a lot but I should want a muzzle an' a bottle of lavender if I staid long. Guess I'll have to send down next winter an' have a pair of shoes made fer you, Phillip—you'll have to wear the box anyhow next year, your feet is gettin' so big.

"Well, here we go down some more rickety stairs—I jist expect every minit to go through onto those boys' heads. An' you, Mariar, don't ye git on the same step! It's too much.

"Well, here we are at the carpenter shop, and I think this is the most interestin' one yit. Lawsy massy, look at the stuff the boys has made! Who'd a thought sich heathen could do sich nice work. Why here's doors an' winder-frames an' cupboard drawers, cabinets, dumb-balls, an' Indian sticks, spool-boxes, an' everything, an' even Moses' head carved outen wood! Who'd a thought it!

"Well, I kinder hated to leave that, it was so curious an' interestin', an' the boys seemed to like it too, by the way they worked. Well, another breath of fresh air an' here we go agin. Oh! this is the bake-shop where all the bread is made for the boys to eat. Look, Mariar, see the big troughs, an' would ye jist see them big wallopers gittin' their arms into the dough an'— Oh come here!—the oven door's open an'—I do believe that 'ere oven goes all over the rest of the buildin'—seem's if it stretched way back to Podunk! An' say, it's hot enough to make a body think of his sins! There, Mariar, that's the way to make bread,—three hundred loaves at a time—now ain't that a sight? An' jest barrels of cookies at a time—an' the boys do it all, too, with a good baker to teach 'em. Now, that's what I call teachin' 'em somethin'. I s'pect you'd like to git a man like one o' them, 'at could do all the bakin' so's you could set around an' do fancy work; but don't ye let me ketch ye lookin' at them boys agin, Mariar, or we'll go straight hum this minit.

"Well, now we're goin' back to that other buildin' agin. I wonder what next. Oh, yes, this is the boys' kitchen, where they git all their meals. Would ye jist look at that big copper biler there—an' how strong the beets an' cabbage smells! I wonder if that's all the boys has to eat. Oh, no, here's some meat a bilin'! Must be they're goin to have vegetable soup. An' the boys do all the work, with only one woman to boss 'em!

"Well, come on, we're goin' somewhere else now. Oh my sukey, what a big room! An' what a lot o' tables an' stools—an' Mariar, do look at them dishes! Nothin' but big earthen bowls an' tin knives an' forks, an' oil-cloth on the tables! An' a organ to march in by! Lawksy, git outer the way, kids—the boys is comin' now. Tramp, tramp, tramp! what an aw-

ful noise they do make—an' jist like sojers, two by two,—an' some of 'em have red stripes on their uniforms; must be they have some kind of military drill here!

"Hear 'em march in—'aint that fine? My sakes to gracious, what a noise they make settin' down! Hush, now, Samantha,—they're sayin' grace—don't you know nothin'? Well, come now, we've seen about all we kin an' we'll be late to dinner as it is. Come, Mariar, none o' your foolin with thim boys! Here, you Philip an' Samantha, come on an' quit your laggin'. Yes, sir,—thank you, sir. We've enjoyed it ever so much, an' ef Jeremy gits a job up here you'll probably see us oftener. Yes,—well, good day; come children."

### At the College.

Pres. Snyder was in Grand Rapids last Thursday and Friday.

Prof. Smith was in Saginaw and Bay City on institute work last week.

Dr. Edwards has been suffering from an attack of the grip for several days.

W. K. Brainerd received a visit from his father and mother the last of the week.

The Olympic and the Union Literary societies entertained ladies Saturday evening.

J. G. Aldrich and Robert D. Smith were both obliged to go home the past week on account of sickness.

Miss Keller and Miss Rushmore went to Detroit Friday to see Richard Mansfield in Cyrano de Bergerac and to visit friends.

Prof. Babcock and baby, Mrs. Haner, and Profs. Holdsworth and Hedrick were on the grip-sick list last week.

Fire broke out in the room of J. H. Vanderstople on Friday morning but was discovered and put out before much damage was done.

In Wells Hall the word "measles" is the watchword, the countersign and the favorite subject for heavy and lengthened discussions.

While working with a gasoline engine last Thursday, W. H. Flynn had his foot caught under the crank, and a bad and painful bruise was the result.

The Eclectics gave a dancing party last Friday evening and a most pleasant time was so enjoyed by all that 11 o'clock came much too soon. Dr. and Mrs. Waterman were chaperones.

Miss Lucy Monroe, who has been ill with the grip for several weeks, will spend the remainder of the winter in the South. She left yesterday for Kalamazoo, where she will be joined by Mrs. Shakespeare, who also goes for her health.

Funeral services for Robert Stukeley Westcott, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Westcott, were held at the residence in Howard Terrace last Tuesday afternoon. The services were brief and were conducted by Rev. Fred George Cadwell, of Lansing. The remains were then taken to Mount Hope cemetery for burial.

John Morley has been paid £10,000 (\$50,000) for writing a biography of the late William E. Gladstone.

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