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LITERARY.

OCTOBER.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT OF ALLEGHENY COLLEGE.

I sit half sinking in the yellow wave
Of leaves dripped from the walnut o'er my head;
The woodland floor with festal hues is brave
And whispers merry to the rambler's tread.

This is October! How the varying year
Comes to its ripeness in these thoughtful days!
How tenderly the curving hill-tops wear
The dreamy veiling of their purple haze!

And this is consummation! All the green,
Young energy of Spring, the summer rains
And dews, with long, deep sunshine poured between,
Have wrought and gone; and this, their work, remains.

Full well I know soon comes a chilling breath,
And all these bright things crumble into mold;
Then over all the stiff and frozen death
The sheeting snow falls silent, white and cold.

But, couched upon this gold and crimson, who
Should sadly think of dreary days to come?
Fond memory, though the winds these gay leaves strew,
Shall with their brightness light our wintry home.

Life has its own October! When we feel,
"We are the sum of all we have been, now."
Life's month consummate! Age nor death shall steal
All the strong gladness its brief hours allow!

The business of life is to go forward; he who sees evil in prospect meets it on the way; but he who catches it by retrospection, turns back to find it.

"KNOW THYSELF."

The Delphic oracle, "know thyself," is perhaps one of the grandest injunctions ever given to man. Socrates attached great importance to it in his day; and it has come down through the centuries of the past, and is to-day, perhaps, more important and applicable than ever. Very few failures are made by those who thoroughly understand the work in which they engage. Yet men decide and act without having any understanding whatever, even of their thoughts or actions. Fascinated by the glitter and show of some calling, or the remarkable success of some in it, without calculating whether or not we are suited to the work, we undertake it, and learn that we have engaged in the wrong work, only when a useless life leaves its sole record in misused power. The ministry has been chosen by many an earnest, good man, who ought to be at the plow, the work-bench, the lawyer's desk, or in the professor's chair. Many intellectual persons deem themselves capable to fill the judge's bench, or honor the legal profession, who are no more fit to make and discuss laws, than a wood-chopper to carve a marble statue. The professions are cursed with men who eke out a miserable existence, degrade their callings, and not only injure society, but suffer themselves. That all these men are pursuing their avocations, knowing that they are in the wrong path, or actuated by selfish motives, we by no means hold; but they have not studied themselves sufficiently to know that they would do better elsewhere.

Success is within the reach of all. God never intended that any man should fail of his object in life. It is because we disregard the law of our

being, that we fail. If man be in his right place, he will succeed—out of it, he will not. To find that place, and the proper use of his power, is to accomplish his work. The man who does not study himself and understand his own mind, hesitates and loses time, which enables other men of less ability, to win a worthy fame.

Irreparable wrong has been done by men of as pure minds as ever lived, simply because they advanced an opinion which resulted entirely different from their feelings and desires. Entering the lists as champions of some cause, finding themselves unable to refute the most serious objections to it, or engage as strong men in its defense, many have received for their labor the reputation of inconsistency, when, if they had properly understood themselves, they would not only have saved their character for earnestness and honesty, but also effected great good.

How many nations have been deluged in blood and burdened with debt, by the mistakes of rulers and leading men. And why these mistakes? Simply because they had not studied their own minds; and their own actions were not guided by judgment. It is possible for a person to have gained a great amount of knowledge from books and yet not be successful. Why? He has not sufficiently studied his own mind, does not understand his opinions well enough to enable him to use the knowledge which he has.

We wonder at the success of some, are charmed by their eloquence, and behold them sway the populace at will. And why is this? Because they speak their own minds, and know what they speak.

We are told that it is only by long and careful labor that the symmetrical mind is formed. To become proficient in anything, we must practice it. And yet many, coming to college to make orators, spend most of the time in idle dreams, and allow themselves, in this way, to be dragged further and further from a noble destiny. Or, pursuing some particular course, at the same time denounce it every way, and trifle away time in discussing whether or not they should do what they are doing, instead of securing the great benefit gained by doing it well. If each one of us would investigate the subject thoroughly, not influenced by desire of ease or higher duties, what would be the result? Better disciplined minds, and more valuable information.

One of the grandest acquisitions of man is knowledge of human nature; and how better can he gain this than by a careful study of himself, and the constant application of the injunction, "Know Thyself."

SELF-CULTURE.

It is a fact to be mourned, that we enter upon the present state of existence very greatly affected with the malady known as ignorance; a disease, upon which if the only cure is not effected, will result in superstition, prejudice, fanaticism, and an untold line of accompanying evils.

Extensive as are the effects of the disease, so broad must be the healing art. The only antidote for this disease is culture; for without this man is little removed from the beast that perisheth. So essential is it, that it is needed by the most gifted as well as by the least talented.

No man, however beneficent nature may have been to him, can, if he neglects to improve himself, attain to any degree of distinction, much less perform life's noblest end.

While this is the fact of the case, the humblest and least talented ought only to be stimulated to greater effort by the very smallness of his natural endowments. The less he has, the more diligent he should labor to make the most of that little.

As self-culture is the duty of every one, so is it the prerogative of every one.

The very effort toward self-culture is noble and elevating, for it constitutes the true excellence and dignity of a man. Every man truly lives, so long as he acts his nature, or in some way makes good the faculties of himself.

The question that should occupy our thought most in this world is, not so much where we stand as whither we are tending. To accomplish the end of life and reach the port of the blest, we must sail sometimes with the current and sometimes against it, but we must sail, and not drift, nor lie at anchor.

Perhaps the one end towards which all education should tend, is character. It should be of such a nature as would tend to exhibit to man the dignity of his nature, and to unfold to his view his high destiny.

In the present life, man is too often measured by what he has, or by his circumstances, rather than by his moral and mental condition.

The consequence is that many young men set out on a false principle, pursue an erroneous course, and run to a false goal. They absorb themselves in matters of the external world, and disregard that miniature world within. Yet it is neither rank nor riches nor circumstances that make the man. One has said that power and position are at most a pedestal. Place thereon an object which will bear elevation, and you make its excellence the more renowned; but place thereon an unworthy object, and by becoming more conspicuous, it becomes more despicable and unsightly. The man is not his title, nor his rank, nor his fame. The man is the embodied spirit; that, and that alone, which remains when the earthly house of this tabernacle is dissolved.

If we rightly awake to the fact that man is just what he will be when time shall have passed away, and immutability shall surround him, we will certainly put forth every effort, and bring every influence to bear upon our characters which will tend to strengthen and perfect them.

If it be true, and we believe it is, that the soul enters upon the future state with the same *moral* character with which it leaves this, so also will it carry with it the same degree of *mental* culture which it possessed in this life.

With what encouragement, then, should we grapple with the problems of this life, seeing that death has no power to rob us of the culture which we here attain.

But on the other hand, with what difficulty do most perceive that their culture in this life is for eternity.

"Shall thoughts that know no bounds,
But self inspired, rise upward, searching out
The eternal mind—the Father of all thought,
Shall they become mere tenants of the tomb?"

THE STUDY OF ENGLISH.

Of subjects of study there is no end. Our friend, Prof. Carey, of the Meadville Theological School, is the author of a scheme of human knowledge which shows a multitude of branches utterly appalling. No flesh can bear the weariness, no lifetime can furnish the period, and no mortal mind the energy indicated by the completion of a conquest over such a domain. The selection made in a collegiate course is intended simply to give the mind some power and skill in acquiring, and to open the way to what lies beyond. We all know that, modest as this intention is, the collegiate course is full, very full, perhaps excessively full. In the present state of general learning it is easier to see and own the evil of an overfull course than to devise any fitting remedy.

Still there is room for some choice in subjects of study. The propriety of choice is acknowledged by the adoption of a special course and elective studies. More and more freedom will probably be given it, as the college shall become furnished with more professorships. At present the labor of instruction cannot well be increased; still something may be practicable in the way of improvement over our present ways. Something may be possible in the direction of the study of English, its position and methods.

The English is certainly the chief of living languages. It is the youngest of languages excepting the Hindoostanee of India, which in many points so greatly resembles it. Of languages, as Berkely said of the acts in this world's drama:

"Time's noblest offspring is the last."

The English is so placed in history as to be heir to all the languages that have preceded it. It has an organic faculty for putting its own shape upon what it receives from the past and from abroad. It is proper to say that the 114,000 words of the most recent dictionary are English words. Some of them, most of them, have not always been such. They were once words of other tongues. From whatever source they or their roots may have come, they are now English,

as the immigrants to our country, once Irish, French, German, are now "Americans all."

The English is the speech of the foremost people of the world. It is the vehicle of trade, of government, of every art and of every science. It is used in every land, and on all the waters of the globe, and is solidly identified with the two nations now dominant in human affairs.

Such being the actual position of the English language among the 499 tongues of mankind, it follows that study of other languages is naturally tributary and subordinate to it. French, Greek, and the rest are studies in the artistic sense; that is to say, preparatory to the achievement of English. They are goodly studies, each rich in merits of its own, and rich as fontal sources from which our English is enlarged in volume, and improved in quality. As linguistic studies they are the handmaids awaiting upon the sovereign tongue.

The study of such a language cannot be lacking in dignity and advantage. Like other studies it demands to be prosecuted after a good method. Such a method must regard the English (1.) as a scientific speech, based upon observed facts and proceeding by logical processes. (2.) As a treasury, containing the gathered literature of a thousand years. (3.) As an instrument of daily use, demanding skill and force in its wielding.

(1.) As a science, it is a singular fact that its career stops with Shakespeare, or certainly with Milton. The student of English Philology (one might say of Scientific English) begins on German soil, and enters England with Teutonic invaders. He labors among the writers of a thousand years ago, as a botanist labors in a tropical forest. He finds in Chaucer matter for continual revel; but after Hamlet and Julius Cæsar, all becomes fixed. The forms and processes offer nothing farther to tempt and reward the student. Scientific study of English (for what we call Anglo-Saxon is English,) thus extends over a period of some 900 years, and the early part of it is rich in all that can delight and repay an ardent philosopher.

(2.) As a treasury, the value of the English may almost be said to begin where its scientific value terminates. Back of Chaucer (1400) one might, with him excepted, say that back of Shakespeare and Bacon (1600) we are back of everything of high literary merit. When, fresh from the giant impulses of the Reformation, the intellect of England burst out under Elizabeth, it found ready such guides as Shakespeare and Bacon to direct it at once to ways of beauty and utility, to truth in art and truth in reason. Therefore it was that there follows no rude vanity, no barren trifling. The patterns of the beautiful and the useful were permanently set, and they have been well copied. If we look back over the course of the English, as up a stream, for 1,200 years, and see in the dim distance Cædmon rising from the earth like a springlet, we are amazed at the sudden swelling of its volume after 900 years of flow. With that swelling of volume begins its rich freighting of literary treasure. For some years past an average of about 12,000 volumes a year has been added to its burden.

Granting that many of these are reprints, many duplicates and many unimportant, the accession of valuable substance is still very great, and the aggregate, as represented in some vast libraries, is enormous.

Another paper may give some definite, and we may hope, practicable system of handling the English language by method, and present some suggestions on the remaining topic above named —English as an instrument of daily use.

THAT THEORY.

Many times have we heard it asserted that there is no such thing as making a people virtuous by course of law. Indeed, judging from the remarks some have made upon this subject, one would almost think that stringent laws in a community were to be regarded as detrimental to the growth of virtue in that community.

The advocates of the theory argue in this wise: "When a man is restrained by fear from committing crime, he is not on this account any the more virtuous, since the desire lingers in his

heart, and would come out in his life if it were not for the fact that punishment awaits the violation of any law of the land.

For a man to become virtuous, the desire of violation of the law must be taken out of his heart—a thing impossible to be done by law." Hence these wiseacres appear to think it useless to attempt to make a man virtuous by legislation.

In order to test the truth of this let us inquire what it is that makes men vicious. "Oh," says Mr. Theology, "man is naturally depraved." A son of Africa, hearing himself spoken of as a colored individual, spoke up, briskly, "No, sah! I'm not colored; I was born so." So it is claimed for man, and we question not the truth of the assumption that he was born depraved.

But every one is willing to admit that the manifestations of depravity are more marked in some cases than in others, and so, as our theologian would contend that men are equally depraved at birth, we naturally look for some other factor. We think we find it in the fact that every one is in a great measure moulded by the influences surrounding him.

The reason why many of us are not believers in Confucius is simply because we were not born in the Celestial Empire, and the probability is that if we had been born of Turkish parents, we should now be Mohammedans.

The influence of example goes further than this; beyond the food we eat or the clothes we wear, even to the manner of eating that food and of wearing those clothes. We do certain things daily because others do them; we do them in a certain manner because others use that mode, and others do them because we do. We are not to blame for this, it is a principle of our nature, asserting itself all through our life; usually, however, stronger in youth than in after life. It is this principle that gives to a bad example all its fearful power for evil, and we ask: Had not the youth a right to demand that the influences which shall help to make him what he is to become, be pure and good?

"But," says one, "has not a man the right to live as he pleases, without regard to his influences upon others?" We trow not. If God has not given him the right he has it not. No man can make a right.

We talk glibly sometimes about giving to women certain rights, but it is impossible for a mortal to confer a right upon a mortal, although he may, and often does tyrannically deprive another of the privilege of exercising his God-given rights.

A right is inherent in, and inalienable from a person. It is in this respect, and not in the matter of stature, possession of worldly goods, or power of brain that the noble document penned by Jefferson should be understood, when we read therein, "all men are created equal." We have no power given us to be used to the injury of another; not even the silent influence we unconsciously exert.

Now, in view of these facts, the influence of example on the one hand, and on the other the right of those who shall be influenced by it to demand that it be not prejudicial to them in forming their character, we submit that the Government *has* province in the matter, and the right so to legislate with a view to removing causes of stumbling from the pathway of future citizens as she may see fit.

Of course laws for the promotion of virtue are more effective as preventive than reclamatory. The task of straightening the tender shoot is small compared with an attempt to straighten a tree, yet we hold that a well directed law will even do something in many instances towards reclaiming old offenders.

Murders are of comparatively rare occurrence in a community where good laws are recognized; in civilized countries to-day, the percentage is smaller than fifty years ago; not because murderous weapons are more difficult to obtain, but because wholesome laws exist; and partly in consequence, a more healthy public sentiment obtains.

A general draws up his army on the eve of battle, and addresses them, telling them that if any wish to go home before the fight, now is

their time to step forth from the ranks, and manifest the desire, adding, as he cocks his pistol, "But I'll shoot the first man that moves." They conclude not to move; conclusion; they are not cowards.

Thus many men have been deterred from deeds of darkness and desperation by the knowledge that they cannot commit them without detection; but the fact that they are restrained, by fear, it may be, is still a cause for rejoicing.

Nor is there anything in this mode of proceeding that is opposed to right. It is in perfect harmony with, and may be looked upon as an intensification of natural law, helping the mills of God to grind, not more certainly, it is true, but a little more quickly, so that the dull sense of man may more readily perceive the inevitable relation between cause and effect.

We must consider law to be an educational power, or conclude that the author of our being is either unwise or malicious in providing certain punishment where punishment can be of no benefit. Thus we are led to infer from the working of natural laws, remembering that they are laws given by a benevolent Being, that it is possible to cultivate virtue and love of virtue by law.

INGERSOLL'S APOSTROPHE TO LAUGHTER.

Strike with hand of fire, O weird musician, thy harp strung with Apollo's golden hair; fill the vast cathedral aisles with symphonies sweet and dim, deft toucher of the organ's keys; blow, bugle, blow, till thy silver notes do touch and kiss the moonlit waves, and charm the lover's wandering mid vine-clad hills; but know your sweetest strains are discords all, compared with childhood's happy laugh. O! rippling river of laughter, thou art the blessed boundary line between the beasts and man, and every wayward wave of thine doth drown some fretful fiend of care. O! laughter, rose-lipped daughter of joy, there are dimples enough in thy cheeks to catch and hold and glorify all the tears of grief.

The key to every man is his thought.

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THAT college pump, what a blessing! How easy to manipulate; how responsive to the labor of the pumper; how exceedingly humid! We recently endeavored to quaff from its waters. But the longer we pumped the drier we got, and the drier got the pump, until, after a tremendous effort, the antiquated relic heaved a sigh, dropped a tear into the cup, and again sank into repose. Give the antique fossil a rest by placing in its stead something more serviceable.

WE are not as musical as we might be at Allegheny. True the Glee Club furnishes some good music, and the Quintette Club discourses sweetly to the passer by. Yet, on the whole, there is not that interest taken in music, or that enthusiasm displayed for singing college songs which is manifested in many institutions.

College songs find no counterpart in the field of music. Their place cannot be filled by any other class. The spirit which pervades them is admirably suited to student life. Why then don't we sing more of them? Why are there so few college song books among us? Let us reform in this matter. One good, hearty, college song does more to enliven and cheer a poor, downcast soul, than a dozen labored choruses, or excruciating solos.

COLLEGE is a poor place for self-conceit. There are a few young men entering Allegheny this year, who have already made themselves the laughing stock of the students by their despicable self-conceit, and their arrant presumption. Nothing can be more detrimental to a man's success than this one trait. A fellow may be pitied for being dull; or censured for neglect of duty; or disciplined for irregular habits; but a conceited ignoramus is an abominable bore.

Now, gentlemen, do not deceive yourselves with the idea that a bold and forward bearing is an antidote for greenness. In the literary societies consider that there are older and more experienced members than yourselves, and be content to take a back seat for awhile. In your classes don't be anxious to answer every question, even if you are able to do so; or when your neighbor begins to stumble, don't wave your brawny fist aloft, and snap your fingers, to indicate that you know all about it, and everything that pertains to it. Such things may do for a country school house, but not for college class room.

We are pleased to say, however, that the deportment of the greater part of the new students is eminently courteous and manly, and the few to whom the above remarks apply may profit by their example.

Now that we have fairly started on the year's work, the question might be asked: are we to have any lectures this winter? We do not know the purposes of those who have control of this matter, so that the question remains unanswered. But as to the advantage derived from a course of lectures there is no question. The only difficulty in the way is the fact that in order to secure the services of eminent men, considerable money must be expended. It has been the custom heretofore for some one of the literary societies, or of the college classes, to engage a speaker for a course of lectures. But these are always more or less expensive, and many are too poor to attend.

Now why cannot we bring into operation local talent, and have a course of lectures this winter by men who are personally interested in the college, and would lecture willingly, for the benefit of the students, for little or no remuneration. The four patronizing conferences of the college comprise many able men and brilliant orators. We could obtain speakers from Buffalo, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, and Erie, besides the smaller cities. The most of these, perhaps all of them, would lecture if their expenses were paid. To meet this bill let the students and any citizens of the place who feel so disposed, pay half a dollar apiece toward the lecture fund. This would meet all demands, and afford us a course of lectures from the best men in this part of the country. The plan we think to be perfectly practicable, if the proper persons but put it in operation.

THE bee draws honey from every flower, and thus, though laboring hard continues sweet. Some students draw vinegar from every task; and thus, in course of time, get awful sour. Constitutional acidity seems to be the main characteristic of many people. The brightest gems that cluster round a human life, and make it bright and cheerful, seem tarnished by their very breath; the loveliest flowers that lie along their pathway wither and decay at their very approach. Incapable of seeing anything good or sweet in creation, they not only feel sour themselves, but spill their vinegar over the rest of humanity within their reach.

A student's life, though in the main pleasant and joyous, is monotonous. His work is confining and often irksome. No sooner has he finished one lesson than another stares him in the face; no sooner has he passed the recitations of one day than the tasks of the next are before him. It requires an effort, therefore, to preserve that equanimity of temper, and that angelic disposition which will carry him untainted over all these afflictions, and render him happy in spite of them.

But (*triste dictu*) there are some students who go around looking as forbidding as a thunder cloud, and as glum as an Ohio Democrat. Now the world is what we make it. The morose and gloomy individual, looking through the atmosphere of bile that surrounds him, can see nothing

but bile. Others with opposite dispositions can always find something pleasant to look at, or think about. We can, and ought to cultivate our social nature, as well as our intellectual, while in college; one is about as important as the other. Many a competent man has lost a good position from lack of a pleasing address; while many another has gained an enviable rank by its possession. General courtesy and affability, therefore, is a trait of character that all might cultivate to advantage; while with some, the feeble sprout will require tender nursing, and constant attention in order to survive.

THE acquisition of simply scientific and philosophical facts is not the only object which a college student should have in view. Nor is simply a knowledge of text-books, facts and theories, all that is required of a college man by the public at large. It is expected of him that he can converse intelligently on all the leading topics of the day, and have a respectable knowledge of the important events of ancient and modern history. But how often does the college graduate present the pitiable aspect of a man strangely ignorant of the most noteworthy events of both ancient and modern history, and with little idea of the present politics of Europe or America.

The fact is that the average student does too little general reading. He may be able to untwist a sentence in Homer or Tacitus, but be unable to comprehend or appreciate a simple dispatch; such as, for instance: "Andrassy has resigned," or "Cetywayo has surrendered." He may be a good mathematician, but know nothing about the statistics of the day. He may have a knowledge of the schools of Grecian philosophy, but be ignorant of the philosophic and political creeds of his own time.

It is urged that a college student has no time for general reading if he attend rightly to his prescribed duties. But this is not true, if he is pursuing, regularly, a course, and is not trying to get ahead by extra work. A student gains nothing by assuming so much college work as to hinder him from spending a portion of his time in general reading.

We would advise all who can to take a good daily or semi-weekly paper; and besides this to have marked out a definite course of reading in history and literature. We have thought that it would be a good plan for one of the Faculty, or some competent person, to arrange and publish, in the CAMPUS, and Catalogue, a course of reading for each college year, thereby giving shape and direction to the reading of many that would otherwise be fragmentary and comparatively unprofitable. Culture, in its highest sense does not result from the somewhat mechanical drill of the classroom alone, but only when there is added an earnest and extensive study of present and past history, and of the productions of refined and cultivated men.

SCIENTIFIC.

THE DARING VOYAGE OF THE VEGA.

The intrepid Swedish navigator, Professor Nordenshjold, (pronounced Nordenshuld,) has made a memorable voyage along the north coast of Asia. He is the first man who has sailed in "one continuous voyage in one ship, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, along the European and Asiatic arctic shores. A letter from him, dated February 20th, has just been published in the *London Standard*. He has discovered that the coast of Siberia, west of the Lena, is a vast plain, devoid of trees, in the navigation to which an encounter with impenetrable ice-floes, is generally to be feared. There are no great islands out to sea there to prevent the wind from driving the ice toward the land, and there are vast distances where few rivers empty into the Polar ocean, and by their warm current preserve a space of open water along the shore. For several hundred miles in the vicinity of the Lena, however, great rivers pour into the ocean, and large islands lie off to the northward, and there is almost no ice along the shore. East of the Kolima, toward Behring's Strait, there are no great rivers, and al-

though the climate is milder, and the woodlands creep down almost to the sea, the frozen floes crowd closer to the shore, and in the fall and winter they are liable to bar the way to shipping. On the 27th of September last, they caught and enchained in solid ice Nordenshjold's ship, the Vega, where, although but a few miles from the open water, north of Behring's Strait, and only 130 miles from the Strait itself, he was kept eight weary months.

The most interesting fact communicated in the letter referred to, is the existence of a remarkable group of islands, called the New Siberia. They open the book of the history of the world at a new place. The ground there is strewn with wonderful fossils. Whole hills are covered with the bones of the mammoth, the rhinoceros, of horses, bisons, oxen, sheep, etc. The sea washes up ivory from the shores. In this group is possibly to be found the solution of the question of the ancestry of the Indian elephant, and important facts with regard to the vertebrates which existed at the time of man's first appearance on the earth. How came horses and sheep in a region now locked in the fetters of an eternal winter, uninhabited by man, not now supporting life in any form, and almost impossible of access. The Professor offers no attempt at a solution of the question himself, but urges the importance of further scientific investigation of this interesting region.

In one locality beyond the river Lena he found a most interesting tribe of people, speaking a tongue wholly unknown, living in tents, pitched on the sand banks, separating the lagoons, peculiar to this coast, from the sea.

For a further account of this tribe of natives, and their peculiar habits, and mode of life, we refer our readers to the *New York Semi-Weekly Tribune* of Oct. 10, to which we are indebted for the greater part of this sketch.

The *Niagara Index* informs us that *billiards* is one of the favorite pastimes of the Seniors in the "Seminary of our Lady of Angels."—*Dennison Collegian.*

EDUCATIONAL.

Oberlin has a new telegraph college.

America has but three college weeklies.

A new laboratory is being built at Vassar.

The standard of examination is being raised gradually at Bowdoin.

The first college paper was published seventy-nine years ago.—*Ex.*

Yale has 909 students; Nebraska State University 200.

Syracuse University has one young lady in the Senior class in analytical chemistry.

Two hundred, of the two hundred and fifty colleges, in this country publish papers.

According to the New York *Tribune*, the University of Virginia has 225 new students.

Harvard gives 45 graduate courses this year against 27 last year, and 104 regular elective courses.

Smith College has 200 students, and admits ladies not belonging to the college to its musical course.

A professorship of Greek and English Literature and also one of German are to be established in Louisiana University.

The Italian Government has decided to send two professors of Greek to Greece every year to study the modern language.

Elihu Yale, for whom Yale College was named, was not a very fine character, and barely escaped hanging for murdering his groom.—*Orient.*

Among the students at Johns Hopkins University this year there are four graduates of Harvard, four of Yale, and several from foreign Universities.

Williams College has received from the late Judge Rice, of Iowa, a bequest of $20,000, of which some $5,000 is to be applied to the establishment of Latin and Greek prizes.

Prof. A. S. Cook, of Rutgers College, who taught Anglo-Saxon at Chautauqua last sum-

mer, has been appointed assistant Professor of Anglo-Saxon at Johns Hopkins University.

Perhaps the youngest College President in America is Prof. Hill, lately elected President of the Baptist University, at Lewisburg, Pa. He is about twenty-eight years old.—*College Index.*

More than 500 students attend the lectures to ladies at King's College, England, though it is but two years since the inauguration of these lectures. Classes are busy on the regular studies of the college curriculum.

President Gilman, of Johns Hopkins, believes with President Barnard, of Columbia, that the indiscriminate conferring of academic titles is a growing educational evil. Medical colleges, he believes, are worse than literary institutions in this respect.

The London Society for the extension of University Teaching offers local instruction this season in physiology and the laws of health, English literature, political economy, and English history. Professor Morley reports that the work has been extremely successful.—*Tribune.*

Sidney Lanier, the southern poet, is lecturing at Johns Hopkins University, on English verse. During the winter M. Rabillon will lecture on French epic poetry; Professor Trowbridge, of Harvard, on certain aspects of the study of physics; and Professor Morris, of Michigan, on ethics.

The Professor of Chinese at Yale has not had a student within two years. Will the Harvard Professor be more fortunate? The course at Harvard will require two hours a day with the instructor, and from two to three hours private study. Women are not admitted into the classes.

Five ladies will take the Greek instruction provided in Cambridge by Harvard professors. Six are to take Latin, 1 Sanscrit, 5 English, 6 German, 84 French, 3 philosophy, 5 political economy, 2 history, 2 music, 5 mathematics, 2 physics, and 3 botany. Four have taken the 4 years, and 18 the special course.—*Tribune.*

The woman's prize list for next year, just completed by the Cambridge (England) examiners, shows that women are not only capable of going creditably through a college examination, but can win high honors. Ten young women took scholarships, several being "distinguished" in nearly every subject of their particular courses of study, and, in some cases, in branches of other courses. They are very unassuming and modest about it too—"some students," it is stated, "are surprised by their own success.—*Tribune.*

President Angel, of Michigan University, in his report for 1879, says: "After our nine years' experience in co-education we have become so accustomed to see women take up any kind of University work, carry it on successfully, graduate in good health, cause no embarrassment in the administration of the institution, and awaken no special solicitude in the minds of their friends or of their teachers, that many of the theoretical discussions of co-education by those who have not had opportunities to examine it carefully, read strangely to us here on the ground. It is a cause of sincere congratulation that, both in this country and in Europe, the opportunities for women to obtain as thorough and extended an education as men, are rapidly multiplying."

The second session since the admission of women to full rights of students in the classes of arts and science at University College, London, has just begun. The experience of the first session completely justified that admission. Except that the women students have a separate common room with female attendants, and that there are for different reasons a few classes open only to women, and a few open only to men, the departments of arts, laws, and science, admit women and men as fellow-students upon terms in every respect equal. During the last session there were 211 female students; while instead of the decrease in the number of male students which some wiseacres feared, there was an increase of fifty. The whole number of students now in the college is 2,000. It is very seriously worth while to note the social result of co-education in this prosperous and dignified college, as published in the *London Times.* "There was no difficulty whatever" it says, "in the working of the system

the sense and courtesy that regulate society in the outer world, where men and women are accustomed to meet daily, are not wanting in the minds of students; there was no breach of college discipline, nor was there even a breach of courtesy within the knowledge of the deans." The information contained in this paragraph is heartily commended to the Harvard authorities, who, with a hesitancy that looks very much like affectation, have assumed to be wiser than noted British scholars, and have offered to women what they could not with any grace refuse—private instruction outside the university limits, by professors, when not otherwise engaged. Women have not, after all, much to thank Harvard for.—*Tribune.*

PERSONAL.

Information concerning Alumni and former students of College earnestly solicited.

'74—Rev. James W. Miles, of Pittsburgh, Pa., was in the city last week, visiting his wife, who has been ill for some time.

'76—W. P. Eckels was in town last week, attending the Teachers' Institute He is principal of the public schools at Spartansburg, Pa.

'76—E. H. Koester, who is practicing law at Bradford, Pa., has presented to the library a complete set of the Waverly novels. They are very handsomely bound, and will be a valuable acquisition to the library.

'77—P. A. Reno has been returned by conference to his last years' charge at Fairview, Pa.

'77—T. D. Sensor was in town attending the Institute. Tom is commencing his third year as principal of public schools at Cochranton, Pa.

'78--C. W. Reese resides at present at Columbus, Pa.

'78—L. L. Davis made a flying visit to the town and college last week. He expects to be admitted to the Pittsburgh bar next spring.

'78—C. W. Kugler has abandoned the study of medicine and gone into business as solicitor for the Bolivar Stone and Fire-proof Cement Co., of Sharon, Pa.

Among the many teachers at the Institute, last week, were seen Frank D. Gray, of Riceville, Pa., and A. T. Cooper, of Milledgeville, Pa., both of whom were students up to a year or so ago, but have left college to mingle in the active duties of life.

Major Frank W. Hess was called away suddenly last week, on account of illness of his sister.

Mr. H. G. Schorr, who left Allegheny suddenly last spring, in order to accept a position as traveling missionary for the Maryland Sunday School Union, is now attending Dickinson College. While here, he won many friends by his gentlemanly and christian-like deportment.

Mr. W. F. Oldham (an Englishman born in India,) from Cawnpore, India, arrived here about the middle of October, after a four months' journey, to attend college. He comes for the purpose of preparing himself for the missionary work in India, and will take the regular four years' course.

ALL AROUND THE CAMPUS.

The Freshman class numbers 36.

No class feeling in Allegheny College, consequently no athletic sports.

A *liberal* sprinkling of students were seen at Bob Ingersoll's lecture on "Liberty for Man Woman and Child."

Member of Athenian Literary Society, warming up to his subject: "O, America! an apple luscious to the embrace! O, Africa! ripe, but unbitten!"

The Freshman class have elected the following officers for the ensuing year: President, Porter; Vice President, Kinnear; Secretary, Miss Hayes; Treasurer, Hoskins.

The following is a specimen of orthography as seen on a postal card requesting a catalogue: "To thy manageers of the colage at meadville, Croffard Co., Penn'a."

Some of our *venerable* professors are threatening to develop wonderful pugilistic powers, if the disfiguring of the newly painted walls and wood work is continued.

The Juniors have been late in sending in returns, but show a revolution in class politics, electing as officers for the ensuing year: President, Miss Seager; Vice President, Ewing; Secretary, Tarbell; Treasurer, Miss Merchant.

Rev. H. W. Warren delivered his lecture on "Sights and Insights Abroad," in the College Chapel, on Thursday evening, October 30th, before a delighted audience of 200, composed of students and citizens. The proceeds are to be devoted to the library.

Prof. of Mathematics drawing a circle in which the elliptical predominates, remarks that it is not quite perfect, but will do for illustration; upon which a facetious Sophomore is overheard to remark to classmate, "The figure is like the professor, a little eccentric."

Class in English Literature is reciting; Professor puts a question: "Mr. G—, what part did an apple play in the life of Newton?" Mr. G—: "He fell off an apple tree." Class explode, while Professor pushes inquiries as to the result of the accident.

There is at present no electrical machine amongst the various and efficient apparatuses of the laboratory, the old one having been irreparably injured. But we have it from good authority that a movement is being made which will undoubtedly result in the purchase of a very fine pictorial electric machine.

Not long since a party of four (one of whom was a *quondam* student of the college,) were being shown through the museum, and coming up to the megatherium, our student proceeds to enlighten the remainder of the party upon the origin and habits of the "fowl:" "That's the magtherium," says he, "it's sort of a four legged bird, and used to roost upon trees."

What a mania young ladies have for driving, was demonstrated the other evening. A horse hitched to a buggy is standing quietly tied to a post; a college girl comes tripping along; she spies the rig; looks hastily about; not a person in sight; unties the animal; springs into the conveyance; goes rattling over the public thoroughfares at a break-neck speed; returns excited; horse exhausted; harness broken. *Finale*—Who did it?

The officers of the different literary societies for the term are as follows: *Allegheny Society*—President, Dix; Secretary, Wann; Treasurer, Ford; Attorney, W. W. Thoburn. *Philo-Franklin*—President, G. S. Miner; Vice President, Armstrong; Secretary, C. M. Blair; Treasurer, L. O. Mead. *Athenian Society*—President, E. S. Blair; Vice President, E. E. Blair; Secretary, Plummer; Treasurer, A. H. Siggins. *Ossoli Society*—President, Miss Iris Barr; Vice President, Miss Mina Wood; Secretary, Miss Hattie Woods; Treasurer, Miss Minnie L. Seager.

The library is now opened daily for the convenience of the students, and under the healthful supervision of Prof. Tingley, it has become one of the most valuable auxiliaries of the college. In no college of the land, that we know of, do the students have the privilege of going to the shelves and taking down books to examine without permission from the librarian. In addition to the facilities of the library, the tables are covered with all the leading periodicals of science and literature, and the principal daily and weekly journals of the land.

On Thursday evening, October 16th, the members of Class '80 held the annual Senior reception, in the Chapel building. It was the most delightful occasion of the term. The large and commodious room was well filled with the friends of the class and the college. The floral decorations were tastily arranged, and especially attractive was the motto of the class, "*Spes sibi quisque*," constructed out of autumn leaves, and suspended on the wall over the rostrum. The music, furnished by an orchestra, was well selected and rendered to the delight of all present. At the proper time the refreshments were served,

and aided not a little in making the reception one of the most social and enjoyable that has ever been given in the college.

The following are the promotions and appointments as the officers and non-commissioned officers of the battalion for the present year:

Quartermaster—Capt. Jas. H. Montgomery.

Assistant Instructor in Artillery Tactics—Capt. P. A. Dix.

Assistant Instructor in Infantry Tactics—Capt. S. M. Decker.

Assistant Quartermaster—1st Lieut. W. W. Thoburn.

Adjutant—1st Lieut. J. A. Wann.

Sergeant Major—

Quartermaster Sergeant—J. W. Kinnear.

"C" COMPANY.

Captain, Shilling; 1st. Lieutenant, Ensign; 2d Lieutenant, Anderson; 1st Sergeant, Sears.

Sergeants—Hovis, Hoskins, Peck.

Corporals—Burroughs, Ross, Hughes, Blaklee.

"D" COMPANY.

Captain, Newell; 1st Lieutenant, Gill; 2d Lieutenant, Tarbell; 1st Sergeant, J. B. Siggins.

Sergeants—Cooper, Cubbison, F. White.

Corporals—Babcock, Best, Laughlin, Culver.

"B" COMPANY.

Captain, Lippitt; 1st Lieutenant, Nodine; 2d Lieutenant, A. L. Bates; 1st Sergeant, A. H. Siggins.

Sergeants—White, Andrews.

Corporals—Jackson, Blair, C. P. Robinson.

"A" COMPANY.

Captain, Chryst; 1st Lieutenant, ————; 2d Lieutenant, Richmond; 1st Sergeant, Cullum.

Sergeants—Loomis, Harper.

Corporals—Cree, E. M. Robinson, Case.

EXCHANGES.

The *Seminary Guard* is a new candidate for editorial recognition. It is published by the students of Union Seminary, Berlin, Pa., an institution which, as we learn from a page of very strong advertising, prepares "young men for the Freshman class in college." The article headed "German University Cost," contains some information that may be of value to students contemplating a course at a German institution. It is by a former Sem., we suppose, but the date, December 10, 1877, takes the idea of freshness from it. We judge this, however, to be a misprint. As the *Guard* is but young, we do not wish to criticize severely. We will give it a chance to make a reputation for itself, and tender our best wishes for its success.

The *Pennsylvania College Monthly* is very neatly gotten up, but with the exception of one article, its inside was uninteresting. Occurrences of last July are a little stale for an October number, and the "College Roll" still drags its slow length along. The article on "Facilitators" is one for which we thank the writer. His views on the use of ponies are sound, and his arguments against them good and well expressed. We cannot forbear giving a quotation to which we invite the attention of our readers, and especially those of them who cannot resist the temptation to sit in the saddle once in a while: "It destroys all self-reliance and independence, and is thus subversive of true manhood. The true student depends upon himself, exercising his God-given faculties, but 'horsing' leads a man to neglect his own power and look outside of himself for help. A perfectly sound man may so habituate himself to the the use of a crutch that he will become unable to walk without it. And students who habitually use 'helps' and translations find themselves in the same predicament. When they happen upon some work of which no translation is obtainable, they are very lame indeed. And this habit, too, accounts for the fact that graduates, after five, six or seven years spent in classical study, pass over, as too hard, all the little classical notes or quotations which they may meet in their future readings or study. Perhaps if they had a pony by their side they might translate them. The chances are that these men will be *lame* all their lives and in all they undertake." We hope to see the *Monthly* filled with such articles as this in future, and we shall then say it deserves the place accorded it

by that umpire of college journalism, the *Colby Echo* exchange man. We will make another exception—in favor of the local department. We see no better.

We read through the September number of the *Niagara Index*, and laid it down with feelings of profound gratitude, mingled with which was a hope, albeit faint, that we should never be called to account for wasted time. While at that semi-intellectual occupation, our gratitude was occasioned by the recollection of an old saying that its perusal brought up. We noticed that the articles were all short, and when we tried to think of the enjoyment they gave us, and to estimate their quality, we assented to the truth of that old saw, "Everything is mixed with mercy." The *Index* is opposed to secret societies. What do you call the Jesuits and many of the monastic brotherhoods of the church? Here is a specimen of the charity of our Catholic friend: "Why are others Lutherans, Calvinists, Jews, Mohammedans, Idolaters, etc? Because these different errors have been stamped on their souls." We are decidedly skeptical of the dictum that "education will be completely christian when it will be conformable to the prescriptions of the Sovereign Pontiff." The exchange "sprite" of the *Index* is evidently a very bad case of *cacoëthes scribendi*, else he would not write merely to "fill out" his allotted space, as he confesses. From the matter with which he "fills out" his space, we take him to be a man who puts his hat on a good deal of empty space, and while we despise the scurrility which he mistakes for wit, we cannot but extend him our commiseration. We hope he will get better. The "Index Rerum" of the paper is well edited.

The *Dennison Collegian* has a readable article on "Co-Education" in a recent number. We agree with its editorial on the necessity of students reading newspapers. Its article on the "Convention of the Liberal League" is none too severe on Bob Ingersoll. The *Collegian* would be a better paper if it would spell better. *Phylosophy* several times in one column is too much for even a spelling reformer. We are almost sure the proof reader was suffering from a too liberal allowance of that wedding cake we are told of in the "Locals," when he passed over *allmost* and *enconia* without blame.

REVIEWS.

We believe few real, live teachers of our state can do without the Pennsylvania *School Journal*. It always contains articles on timely topics that are of interest to all engaged in the work of teaching. In addition to this, its news in reference to school matters in Pennsylvania are of special importance to all interested in the educational progress of the State. The name of the State Superintendent, Dr. J. P. Wickersham, is a sufficient guaranty of its value to all in any way connected with the public schools. In the October number, the "Wonderful History of a School District," giving the history of educational progress in a district of Washington Co., Pa., is as inspiring reading as a teacher will find anywhere. "Selecting a School," a reprint from the *Christian Union*, contains good advice to the teachers about to choose a school. The "Salt Mines of Europe" is an interesting account of the productions of a common necessary of life. Prof. J. V. Montgomery points out the "Advantages of Drawing," a branch of education hitherto too much neglected. His arguments are logical. W. A. Beer, in whom we recognize a former fellow-teacher, has an article on "Strait Jackets," in which he makes out a strong case against those who ride hobbies in their teaching. It may be some inducement to new subscribers to know that the *Journal* is being enlarged "twenty per cent without any increase in subscription price."

We have received a copy of the New York *Evening Mail*. We shall be prepared to speak of it after a more extended acquaintance.

"Full many a roll of pony leaves serene,
The dark, unfathomed sleeves and text books bear;
Full many a crib is born to blush unseen
Yet shed assistance, hidden by the chair."

—*Kenyon Advance.*

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