



THE

# ALFRED STUDENT.

VOL. II.

ALFRED CENTRE, N. Y., FEBRUARY, 1875.

NO. 5.

## Literary Department.

### THE STUDY OF LITERATURE IN COLLEGE.

During the last Commencement season, one of our leading daily papers—it was the *New York Tribune*, we think—stated that the vocabulary of the average college graduate, at his graduation, does not exceed two hundred and fifty words. Whether this statement be strictly true or not, it is painfully evident that the newly fledged graduate has a very limited command of the English language and the riches of its literature. He may know much of the Greek and Roman languages and literatures, but he knows little of his own; he may have read the Homeric Hymns and never have seen the English ballads to which Wordsworth and Scott and so many others owe so much; he may talk learnedly of Homer and Virgil and be mute when Chaucer, Spencer and Milton are mentioned; he may discourse of the ancient drama and of Æschylus, Sophocles and Aristophanes, of Plautus and Terence, but feel none of the beauties of Shakespeare, the king of the drama, and hardly know the names of Ben Johnson, Beaumont and Fletcher, Marlowe, Congreve. He may delight in the satires of Horace and Juvenal without having heard the name of Samuel Butler, and may be educated thus in all other departments of literature. His knowledge of the classical authors, however, is more likely to be merely that acquired in a severe grammatical drill. The *Iliad* to him is merely the fabric in which were woven obscure grammatical threads, hard to trace, while its lines were merely so many pegs upon which to hang philological and historical questions. That the *Iliad* is a great poem may never have entered his thoughts. Even in his translations, the student cramps the thought of the text within the limits of his own meagre vocabulary, instead of enlarging and improving that vocabulary until it is able to express beautifully and adequately the thought and the

imagery of the text. It is this method of classical study, combined with the discouraging of much outside reading, which has destroyed the literary societies and the literary interest in so many of our colleges, we firmly believe.

The first thing we would insist upon, in urging a literary culture, would be the literary rather than the mere grammatical study of the classics. The grammatical, historical, philological, and other questions should all be for the purpose of understanding the work as a literary work, a work of art, and not as ends in themselves. Upon such a classical training, by which the student might be interested in the *literature* of the ancient world, we would base a thorough study of the English language and literature. The interest in this study and the material for it are now great. Within comparatively a few years, the writings of March and Corson upon Anglo Saxon and Early English, of Marsh upon the Origin and History of the English Language, the voluminous publications of the Chaucer Society, together with many careful editions of the *Canterbury Tales*, of *Piers Plowman*, of Spencer's *Faery Queen*, *Specimens of Early English*, *Shakespearean Grammar and English of Shakespeare*, the histories of the Literature from Taine's brilliant work of two octavo volumes to the pocket manual, R. G. White's and Dean Alford's writings, and many others too numerous to mention, have opened a broad and inviting field to the student.

In this field we would insist upon, at least, a year's solid work. Examining first the language itself, and following with some manual, like Shaw's, Craik's or Spalding's, supplementing the work with daily essays from members of the class, and examinations of the authors themselves, as far as possible, and closing the course with a *Philosophy of the Language* like Bascom's. In this way, the field would be exhibited to the student; he would have tasted some of its sweets, and would know where to seek others. Instead of being a mere grammarian, utterly at a loss when called upon to use language as a means of expressing thought, he would be a scholar with his mind stored with rich allusions, with a knowledge of the power and beauty of a suitable expres-

sion of thought. Not only would his Commencement oration show a command of words beyond a paltry two hundred and fifty, but he himself would be far better prepared to lay hold of men and influence them through speech. The orator who can address his audience through illustrations familiar to them, who recalls, by his words, the songs our mothers crooned to us in childhood, and the lines our fathers have read to us, has a power over us he can obtain in no other way. The development and culture of the student himself is best secured by a study of the mother tongue and language, in addition to the other studies. There is no literature which touches so many chords of the human heart, which brings out so many sweet notes as our mother English, with its stories, songs, ballads, its inspiring words. The college which sends out its graduates into the bustle and hurry of life without adequate training in this wonderful literature, does them great wrong. Over eighty of our colleges recognize this truth and make provision for training in this department. May the day soon come when no college shall send forth its graduates without a careful training in literature, prominent in which shall be our own inimitable English.

FRANK.

### METEMPSYCHOSIS.

In childhood's days I heard a story told,  
That even now, perhaps, is not too old  
For telling. It was thus the tale began:  
Well, once upon a time, there was a man  
Who traveled on his way to market, down  
In Asia Minor, I believe. The town  
Was Turkish and our hero was a Turk.  
Behind, he led his donkey, long eared shirk,  
A very docile beast, and never tired,  
Because to urge him, Ziz could not be hired.  
Perhaps the man was thus by nature kind,  
Perhaps, again, this thought possessed his mind;  
If, in the transmigrations of the soul,  
He and his donkey should e'er take the *role*  
Each of the other, why 'twas plain to see,  
Himself would doubtless better fare, if he,  
Who now at Fate's behest held rein and goad,  
Should spare them well at this turn of the road.  
Well as they fared along, this man and beast,  
Two thievish rogues, and very shrewd at least,  
Espied them, and as quick devised a plan  
To steal the donkey from the poor old man.  
So hid from view, for him to pass they wait;  
Then, softly stepping forth at Ziz' own gait,  
One slips the halter from the donkey's head,  
Inserts his own, and shambles on instead.  
The other quickly turns the beast aside,  
And o'er the fields, to town makes haste to ride.  
Soon with him to the market he has come,  
And straightway sells him for a good round sum.  
But as our hero slowly jogs along,  
Cheering his way with many a careless song,  
His donkey stops; Ziz turns, and what a sight  
To meet the gaze of the astonished wight!  
The donkey speaks. "My master dear," says he,  
"So long a time you've be so kind to me,  
May God reward you for your mercy true,

And happy life still be in store for you!  
Like you, I was a man long time ago,  
Of human parents born, and loved, I trow;  
But I, poor fool, my mother did offend,  
She cursed me, seven long years a brute to spend  
My life; but now, than' heaven, that time expires;  
Pray let me go, God bless you and your fires."  
Retransmigration of the soul! 'twas true!  
Ziz speechless, loosed the thief without ado,  
Who hastens on to share the ill got spoils,  
While he without a murmur onward toils.  
Arrived at last within the market place,  
Deep pondering many things, there face to face,  
What first should meet his wondering eyes, indeed,  
What, but the visage of his long-eared steed!  
A re-retransmigration of the soul!  
This was a doctrine plainly past control!  
The old man smiled, and grimly shook his head,  
And in disgust, "You scamp," he archly said,  
"How soon again your mother you offended!"  
Then bought another beast, and thus the story ended.

J. E. SPICER.

### ART.

Read before the Science and Art Club, and published by its request.

From the earliest dawn of civilization, there seems to have been in the minds of the races a desire to give expression to the idea of beauty, to develop in thought, form, or color, the gift God has bestowed of objectizing the absolute conception—mayhap the divine conception of the beautiful. Though crude and shrouded in mystery, we would lift the veil, trace out, and gather up, as best we may, the evidences of this struggle to express artistic conceptions, and study the means employed to give them expression, in order the better to appreciate the advancement of art and its influence on modern civilization. The narrow strip of territory, scarcely broken by an elevation, lying between the Tigris and Euphrates—possible the region which was the home of our first parents—a land of unsurpassed fertility, abounding in spontaneous productions, seems to have been the earliest home of the races, after the subsidence of the Noachic deluge. Here, where the wanderers first permanently abandoned their tent-life and began to practice the arts of civilization, would we naturally turn our eyes for some outgrowth or development, some monument or antiquity of the art feeling, speaking from the world in its infancy to the world in its maturity. How could they otherwise than desire to speak in signs and symbols inspired, when their eyes constantly beheld the exquisite beauties of a flora springing up from a soil so rich as to be called the "gift of the rivers," where the cypress, the sycamore, and the palm, towered aloft to heaven, and rivers sparkled and danced in the splendor of a tropical sun! How could life under such influences fail to awaken desire to express in some way the thrilling inspirations of beauty with which they must have been possessed! During the ages that divide the past from the present, time has been busily effacing the remains of antiquity, still there are sufficient to indicate that the Chaldeans responded to their deeper, diviner, imperative art impulses. Unfortunately the country in which

they lived did not abound in stone quarries as did Egypt and other oriental lands; so that they did not possess the means of perpetuating on the rock walls of their palaces, temples, and tombs, for the benefit of future generations, a knowledge of their manners, customs, wars, national events, and history, but were compelled to use sun-dried clay, and bricks burned in a kiln. These latter were laid up with a bituminous cement and were well enough adapted for architectural purposes.

The early Chaldean temple was a building in three stages: the first and second were solid-masses of brick work ascended by steps on the outside; the third, a small chamber highly ornamented, containing the shrine of their deity. The facade was of burned bricks, strengthened by buttresses. Several ruins of tombs, monuments, temples with arches, pillars and buttresses are extant; and although the *architectural* appears to have been the highest achievement of art, yet their architecture was almost destitute of external ornament. As to other antiquities of art, dishes, vases, jars and ornaments, were made of pottery; and armlets, bracelets, earrings, and rings for the toes, were made of bronze; and gold beads have been found in a few of the tombs. The name of the first person on record who might be styled an artist, was Urkh or Urkham, who flourished about 2070 B. C., and was the designer and planner of all the temples, and the chief promoter of Chaldean art.

With this brief allusion to Chaldean art, we turn to the Assyrians. Assyrians were an offshoot or branch of the Chaldean race, and give evidence of a marked advance in the fine arts, the exhumed remains of which show us that they equaled, if they did not excel, all the other oriental nations. They were skilled as embroiderers of dresses, glass-blowers, workers in ivory, engravers, sculptors, designers, and architects. In Assyrian architecture, the palace instead of the temple is the exponent of the nation's art. These palaces were almost uniformly built on the same plan, and constructed of brick and heavy stone masonry, being divided into court, grand hall, and small private apartments. The court of Esse Haddon's palace at Nineveh, was 220 feet long by 100 feet wide. In the palace of Sardanapolis at Nimroud, the hall was 160 feet long by 40 in width, and the hall of the palace of Senacharib at Nineveh was the same in width and 180 feet in length. They were all paved with bricks, and the walls were covered with magnificent sculptured alabaster slabs, that reveal to us the greatness of Assyrian art. The ground plan exhibits throughout straight and parallel lines—no curves are seen, and no angles, except right angles. At the entrances were colossal human-headed bulls, at the gateways immense winged bulls from 15 to 19 feet high. The statues were clumsy and formal in design—lacking breadth in a side view—as if intended to be seen only from the front, yet characterized by much firmness, strength and spirit. The designs were greatly lacking in perspective. The *animal* was very much superior to *human* forms, and this feature is characteristic of all early art. One of the finest pieces of this class is a lion hunt described by Layard. The most wonderful

achievements in art, in connection with these palaces, are to be found in the extensive basso-relievo ornamentations which were found covering the walls for nearly four-fifths of a mile. These portray the most important events in the lives of the monarchs, their wars, sports, amusements, festivals and worship. The battle pieces lack unity, but are spirited, as the animals and human forms display a great degree of energy, particularly, the horse was most excellently and artistically handled. The bas reliefs represented the character of the countries through which the monarchs marched their armies, the trees, streams, lakes, rivers, hills, mountains. Bas relief was to the Assyrians what the full statue was to the Greeks, and what painting is to modern nations. Their art ideal seems to take on form and expression only in the symbols of their gods. "The emblem of one of their favorite gods was a winged circle or globe, from which a figure in a horned cap is frequently seen to issue, sometimes simply holding a bow, sometimes shooting his arrows against the enemies of Assyria. The circle typifies eternity, the wings omnipresence, and the human figure, wisdom and intelligence." They had the art of casting in metal, both in solid figures and low relief, and of making delicate patterns in embossed work, wrought mainly with the hammer and finished with the graving tool. They had the skill of ornamentation with gold, and of inlaying one metal with another. We observe that among this people the art of painting was first practiced, although in the most rudimentary manner. Our knowledge is principally derived from enamelled bricks found in the ruins of the structures. Some are merely patterned, while others have designs of men and animals stamped upon them. Coloring matter was obtained from the mineral kingdom: white from the oxide of tin; yellow from antimoniate of lead with a slight admixture of tin; blue from oxide of copper without cobalt; green from copper; brown from iron, and red from suboxide of copper. Their tints vary from three to five. The more usual combinations being of the three hues: red, yellow, black, with white. In every case there was great harmony in coloring, but there was great lack of *chiaroscuro*. It is a remarkable coincidence that the same, or nearly the same colors—red, yellow and blue, instead of black, with white (but made of different substances)—are used almost exclusively by some of our best artists of to-day, because they form every hue necessary for light and shade, and give more perfect harmony throughout a picture than can be secured by the use of a greater number of colors. It is stated by good authority that these with the addition of asphaltum were the only colors used by Reubens. We would not leave this "Plain of Shinar," the land of the Tigris and Euphrates, without noticing a city unrivalled in all the treasures of art, learning, and civilization. The great city of the East, the theme of both sacred and profane history, the burden of prophecy, but whose glory, beauty, and strength, ages ago, departed, leaving scarcely a sign or vestige of interest to the artistic world. A few small antiques finished with extreme care, a block of basalt roughly cut to represent a lion standing over a prostrate human fig-

ure, a fragment of freize, is stated to be the only relicts of what was once Babylonian art.

The record of Medo-Persian art is not very extensive, yet it shows a greater perfection than has been seen in the history of the preceding nations. The architectural had received an entirely new impulse, and the statuesque had assumed a more ideal and devotional form. Many of the palaces are in such a state of decay, that they reveal nothing of much value. At Susa and Persepolis, ruins are to be seen that proclaim in the strongest manner the superiority of their conceptions and the high degree their mechanical skill had attained. They established the foundations of their structures on the bases of mountains, adding terrace to terrace, with stylobates for the support of their mason work. The peculiar beauty of the halls and palaces consisted in the manner of construction, which gave them an air of freedom and grace. The columns shooting up with extreme delicacy to immense heights, and usually imitating the stems of the lotus and the palm, a fit expression of the free and untrammelled spirit of the race, and in harmony with the religion, whose objects of worship were the sun, the elements, and the open vault of heaven. The Propylæum of Xerxes consists of four huge masses of masonry with sculptured bulls, and two out of the four pillars that once supported the roof. The ruins of the hall of Xerxes consist of the stair-form stylobate, with sculptured front, and upon it are fifteen, out of the seventy-two pillars that supported the roof. There was also a hall of a hundred pillars, much larger, but less elaborately finished than the others. The pillars are plain or fluted, having circular bases, and many of them double-bulged capital, Ionic in character, and probably the source whence the Greeks received the Ionic Order. In regard to sculpture, aside from the bulls already mentioned, which were of exquisite workmanship, were huge monsters of colossal stature carved in stone; winged, having the body of lions, feet of horses, with human heads, crowned with a tiara or diadem. These fabulous animals clearly announce a mythological system of oriental Persian origin. The human form was delineated in easy and unconstrained attitudes, characterized by considerable degree of simplicity, and with accuracy in all the details of execution. This same scrupulous care is seen among all people in the infancy of art. It is first the faithful imitation of nature, even in her defects as well as beauties, but as soon as the artist catches a glimpse of the ideal, in its pursuit, he ceases to regard perfect imitation.

AMELIE E. STILLMAN.

The St. Louis *Globe* thus speculates on the obituary of the future: Charles Pupker, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$  pounds; cremated July 9th, 1872. For wife of the above see third pickle bottle on next shelf. Little Tommy, burnt up September 16, 1862. Jane Matilda Perkins, Oct. 3, 1869; put up by the Alden Corpse Cremating Company; none genuine without signature.

The University of California intends to furnish cottages for the students, each cottage holding twelve.

### A VISION.

A lovely being sweet and fair,  
Lips parted as in blessing,  
A bright'ning halo round her hair,  
Hands outstretched for caressing;  
And night by night, her glad wise eyes  
Foreshine their nearer glory,  
With glimpse and gleam of paradise,  
And grand prophetic story.  
But morn by morn I wake to find  
The old unlifted sorrow,  
And just as far away, the kind  
Dear vision, called To-morrow.

—*Marion W. Jones, Scribner for February.*

### THE RAPTORES OF ALFRED AND VICINITY.

Extracts from an article presented before the Science and Art Club by  
MARK SHEPPARD, and printed by its request.

The order of Raptores is divided into four families, viz., the Strigidae, or owl family; Falconidae, or hawk family; Cathartidae, or vulture family; and the Gypogeranidae. Of these four families we have the first three well represented here:

The Strigidae, or owls, are noted for having a facial disk. The eyes are large, looking more or less directly forward, and set in a circle of radiating bristly feathers. The eye is set in a bony cylinder which moves freely in all directions within the orbit, and the orbit is overarched by a superciliary shield of bone. The external ear is large and often provided with a movable flap, or operculum, presenting the nearest approach among birds to the ear-couch of mammals. The fourth toe is versatile, but never permanently zygodactyle. They feed exclusively on animal substances, and capture their prey, which consists of small quadrupeds, birds, and even fish, reptiles, and insects, alive. Like most other raptores, they eject from the mouth, after a meal, the bones, hair, feathers, and other indigestible substances made up into a round pellet. The number of species which pass current are given as about two hundred, which Coues estimates should be reduced about one-third; and out of fifty generic names now in vogue, probably less than half represent structural peculiarities. There are twenty-five species and varieties of owls found in North America, and of these ten are liable to be found here. We have already in the cabinet, collected from this immediate vicinity, the horned owl, *Bubo Virginianus*; the barred owl, *Syrnium Nebulosum*; the long-eared owl, *Otus Vulgaris*; the screech owl, *Scops asio*; and the saw-whet owl, *Nyctale Acadica*. The barred owls seem to be very abundant, and next to these in number are the horned owls. The latter are much more destructive to poultry, and are easily caught in traps, as they are sure to return for any part of their prey which they could not devour at the time it was captured. Five have been caught in this way within a circuit of two miles of us during the past year. The snowy owl is occasionally found here, but is difficult to

approach, as it shuns the woods and takes to the open fields on being pursued. The short-eared owl should also be found here as they are said to be abundant in all parts of temperate North America. The great grey owl, the tengmalms owl, and the hawk owl, are Arctic species, which are occasionally found in this State and may come to us sometime.

The family Falconidae, or diurnal birds of prey, comprise the great bulk of the order Raptores. In these, the nostrils are impervious. The eyes look laterally as in ordinary birds. The facial disk is wanting. The external ears are moderate and non-operculate. The eyes, as a rule, (but not always,) are sunken beneath a projecting superciliary shelf, conferring a decided and threatening gaze. The bill shows the raptorial type in perfection, and is always furnished with a cere, in which the nostrils are pierced. The noticeable features of the toes are the wart-like pads at the joints, to prevent slipping, and the basal web. The older works on ornithology give for the Falconidae one thousand species and about two hundred genera, but more recent writers cut these figures down to about four hundred species and fifty genera. There seems to be great difficulty in dividing the families into sub-families, as so many grade from one sub-family into another. The principal divisions, with which we should be familiar, are the falcons, hawks proper, and the buzzards. The falcons are prominently distinguished by the presence of a tooth behind a notch in the upper mandible. They are birds of medium and small size, but of very compact and powerful organization, and bold ruthless disposition. They prey by sudden and violent assault. There are over fifty species of true falcons. Of these we have as yet only two species, the pigeon-falcon and the sparrow-hawk. We ought to find here the gyrfalcon, and the peregrine falcon. The hawks proper are an extensive group, of medium to small size, which, although less powerfully organized, are little if any inferior in spirit to true falcons. They capture their prey in active chase like hounds, and always kill for themselves. The cutting edge of the upper mandible is slightly lobed instead of toothed. Of the hawks proper we have three species—all that inhabit North America, viz: the goshawk, the sharp shinned hawk, and Cooper's hawk. The buzzards form a large group not easily defined, except by exclusion of the peculiarities of the other divisions. They are hawks of medium and large size, heavy bodied, of strong and measured flight, inferior to the true hawks and falcons, and as a rule feed upon humble game, which they rather snatch stealthily than capture in open piracy. When pressed by hunger, they feed upon carrion. They include a variety of forms shading into other groups. With the buzzards must be associated the eagles, as they lack the true spirit and warlike character of falcons, and often stoop to feed on carrion. The buzzards of this region which we have procured, are the red-tailed, the red-shouldered, the rough-legged, (both the *Lagopus* and *Saneti Johannis*,) and the bald eagle. There are several other species which we hope to obtain here. With some exceptions, in the whole family of Falconidae, the sexes are alike in color, but the female is al-

most invariably larger than the male. The changes in plumage are great, and render the determination of species perplexing; especially so, since purely individual and climatic color variations are frequent.

The family Cathartidae, or American vultures, are represented here by only one species, the turkey vulture, or turkey buzzard, and this occurs only very rarely when one wanders from its natural habitat, or is carried here by south-easterly or south-westerly gales.

#### WEATHER PROBABILITIES.

BELLE PLAINE, Minn., Jan. 17th, 1875.

From the 11th of September till the middle of November, the sun shone clearly every day; no rain, scarcely a cloud. Then we had a shower, and soon after, a high wind which swept for a day and a night over the extended prairies north-west of us, with awful force, doing much damage in some localities, uncovering and slightly disarranging a few buildings in this town. We really thought one of two disasters would occur: That our town would be razed to the ground, or, that Boreas would crack his cheeks; but the principal part of the town still stands; and, judging from a subsequent storm, the cheeks of Boreas are yet whole. Then came another long, dreamy spell much like the former, only that everything wore a bluish cast caused by a superabundance of smoke coming from prairie fires still west of us. Our autumn, taken as a whole, was equal at least to anything I ever saw; only two rainy days, never too warm, never too cold; everything so still that one might fancy he could hear the silence itself. During this stillness it almost seemed as if nature was meditating whether or not to deny us the experience of a Minnesota winter. But the force of habit was strong, and about ten days before Christmas we had a ragged coating of snow, and it has kept coming by degrees ever since, making for the present a handsome aggregate; and by degrees it grew colder, till finally on the 8th of January it succeeded in freezing mercury and held it there for thirty-six hours; and the wind blew, and the snow flew so that no man could see. It was still colder about one hundred and fifty miles west of here near the Dakota line, being from 45° to 47° below zero, and freezing proof whiskey at half an hour's exposure. (Ye bummers come not here!)

What I have seen of Minnesota weather suggests the case of a young lover, hopelessly disappointed, coming from the happiness of a lovelier season, there was first, that long, dreamy, vacant gazing, a few tears, then a fitful freak showing a desperate resolution, and at last the roaring, freezing storms of dissipation. What is most peculiar, is the fact that it may be comparatively mild; nature may wear a placid countenance, and business progress with its usual briskness, and in the short space of five hours there may be a convulsion, freezing lambs and colts while out at play, children on their way to or from school, amputating men's noses, snipping off ears, distorting countenances, fearfully curling and twisting around man's extremities. Now against this,

you may enter a protest and say: "too much;" "too highly colored." I will admit the reasonableness of your protest; but nothing short of this would convey a befitting idea of the unrelenting severity of a Minnesota winter. But it was of "probabilities" I commenced to write. It will, probably be warmer by and by.

YOUR CELTIC FRIEND.

#### CORRESPONDENCE vs. CORRESPONDENCE.

*Dear Student,*—Is it, or is it not, strange that persons of the same calling should not see alike on all questions? Under the head of Correspondence, Pedagogue (of Illinois), in the STUDENT for January, can scarcely find words sufficient to express his admiration and praise of the scenery and climate of the home of his childhood, and of his *Alma Mater*. Its babbling brooks, its silver cascades, its shady forests, its cool retreats, its chatting squirrels and falling nuts, its lofty hills with beautiful outlooks, and then the pleasure of sleighing with "Betsy" or "Polly" by your side; all these call forth most eloquent strains in their praise.

We think we fully appreciate all this, and while admitting most that is claimed for them, have not so short a vision as not to see some loveliness in these prairie lands, (for I judge that this part of Jersey is much like the country of which he speaks.) Those high-drawn descriptions all sound well enough in verse, but lose some of their poetry when we are brought to face the realities. For instance, we have no objections to skating and sleighing, but when you have snow for three months at a time, and two feet deep, with the thermometer 30° below zero, the charm is gone. Hills too make a very good *outlook*, and yet there is nothing else so great an obstacle to our *looking* out as those very hills. Saying nothing of the inconvenience of getting over and around these hills for our outlook, give us anything rather than one of these walls of earth to face. Has he no regard for these fine farming lands? none for these beautiful drives, which stretch for miles a level track, with no rocks to unstring your nerves, nor hills to lessen your speed? No regard for the fruits with which the year is crowned? the vast peach orchards, the acres of strawberries, of pears, grapes, and cherries, the mammoth melons, sweet potatoes, and vegetables of all sort? Do none of these move him? That which feasts the eye would hardly satisfy the cravings of the stomach. But he sees a redeeming feature in the people. *Yes, indeed*, if they have not all the vim and hardihood which the colder climes give, they have the genial warmth that corresponds with the milder climes. And I don't know that "Betsy" and "Polly" are any better or enjoy sleighing any more than "Fanny," or "Jane," or a score of others. And in these climes we get so little snow that when it does come, it doesn't come for naught. There is enough of the Alfred stock here also to season society, though not as much in *quantity* as at Farina. Could I call to my aid the muses to chant the praises of these Italian skies, these golden sunsets, these genial breezes, and the glory of these rolling lands, gladly should I record their words. But, dear STUDENT, while we

would vindicate the claims of our present place of abode, we do not forget to thank our *Alma Mater* for her cherishing care, and are more than grateful for the inspiration from her rocks and rills, and all the good things heard and felt among the hills of Alfred.

"PEDAGOGUE."

SHILOH, N. J., Jan. 31st, 1875,

## The Alfred Student.

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#### PERIODICALS.

Lamartine is reported to have said that in the next century all books would be merged in the periodicals. As far as the every day reading of the multitude is concerned, we are fast approximating this state. Books are coming to be regarded as bores, and periodicals are substituted as furnishing the needed nourishment, in style and quality better adapted to the wants of the age with its drive and rush.

Dr. Johnson prophecied that ultimately all long arguments and laborious induction would disappear, and aphorism and proverb take their place. Whole books would be reduced to single sentences loaded with wisdom and rich with human experience. The great army of workers are loudly calling for that good time. Something that can be read as they run is their want. The periodical, meeting this tendency, has already become the cherished companion in the homes of all the intelligent. It is ever a welcome visitor at their fire-sides. Its coming is looked for as the advent of a tried and true friend. Its influence for good or evil is most potent. It has become one of the great world institutions. Every interest feels the need of the periodical as its exponent and herald. Every institution, party, sect, corporation, enterprise, is establishing its periodical as its most ready and efficient means of communication with the world. Some have a spec

ialty for their leading idea; others work for comprehensive principles and complex interests.

A periodical, according to our idea, should link us with all truths, events, and peoples. Its mission is to flash truth, new and old, along our pathway, seeking to awaken higher sentiments and inspire to nobler action. It should give to knowledge the glow and swiftness of electricity as it is condensed and vitalized in lightning; to wisdom the thunder's voice of majesty and power, or else not be heard amid the roar and clash of business; should come laden as the full freighted clouds. It is to be, not a simple passivity receiving whatever is offered and unthinkingly promulgating the same; but rather a positive force among the social powers, becoming thus not only a pleasure but also a power. It is to guide rather than be guided, to lead rather than be led, in all great, progressive and beneficent movements. Literature, art, science, education, industry, law, politics, rather than parties, religion, rather than sects, should find in the periodical a warm friend and earnest advocate, freely investigating all principles underlying them, all truths overshadowing them, all laws guiding them. The great heart of humanity needs to have its pulsations felt freely throughout all its arteries. It is to stand boldly out on the head-lands of human progress and beckon humanity on to a higher and holier future, and lend a helping hand and encouraging word to the humblest member of the great human brotherhood.

#### CALLINGS.

My life-work—what shall it be? Am I to vegetate vegetal-like, feed animal-like, or live and act man-like? Work-power without a work?—evidently not. Work, then, is one of my highest prerogatives. If so, what shall it be—good and great, great because good? What the particularly appropriate work on which my life can be concentrated? Hitherward and thitherward I look, yet am unsatisfied. That sphere is too contracted, this too one-sided. One calling is too frivolous, another too groveling; some too objective, some too subjective; others have doubtful moral tendencies. Again, the means are insufficient for the end—the foundation, for the superstructure. Give a work genial, noble, satisfying, and I will work joyfully. Such are the questionings, prospectings, longings of every one honestly and earnestly seeking his life-labor.

The choice of one's life-labor is one of the most difficult, yet imperative decisions of life. Important interests and consequences cluster around such decisions, not only physical but spiritual, not only to the individual, but also to society. This choice too must be made in youth with its inexperience, assisted, it may be, by the counsel and caution of friends; yet with all aids possible, the choice may be but as the casting of lots respecting a dim uncertain fatality. An individual's calling gives self support, soul-growth, social intercourse, public service. Without a work and a place a person is pitiable indeed. Whirled here, tossed there, discontented, vacillating, his endeavors are nerveless, spasmod-

ic, till some call lifts him to his feet; then he becomes purposeful, energetic, therefore successful and happy. Seldom, likewise, does a person possess that many-sided mind, that versatile tact which will enable him to become an adept in diverse pursuits, and a successful driver of several trades harnessed abreast. This tendency is the prolific source of quacks and quackery. Life is too short, and powers too feeble to warrant leisurely and objectless ranging among many or diverse pursuits. One calling well filled, with occasional offshoots for its own greater efficiency, girdled by those labors imposed upon all by common human interests, is generally all-sufficient.

Adaptability is a consideration of primal importance in determining one's calling. Variety amid uniformity is stamped upon everything as a leading law of nature. With a few simple elements, Deity works out the world's wondrous variety, utility and loveliness. The uniformity of genus varies in species, species in individuals. With general underlying likeness of a common humanity, newness and variety is found in the finishings, furnishings and tendencies of each individual. One, sun-like, illumines and vivifies; another, like the storm-cloud, sweeps and thunders over the earth; others distil, dew-like, refreshing influences. A few stand, palm-like, solitary and grand, shedding beauty over vast wastes; other few, as graceful elms, singing pines, or majestic oaks, are cultured and strengthened by sun and storm; others, still, have the liteness of the willow, the sensitive thrill of the poplar's leaf. Some, violet-like, meekly look heavenward; some, anemone-like, shed around a delicate loveliness; some, eglantine-like, exhale the ethereal sweetness of home-affections; some, trailing, vine-like, cling to the strong for support. As every plant has its office in the world's economy, so has each individual.

Their callings are adapted to them by a like diversity. Possessing generic commonality, they diverge into species and varieties with individual peculiarities, so that each may find among the group of allied pursuits to which his bent tends, some one adapted to him. A person finding thus his work can work it better than any other. Again, every calling which is promotive of the general welfare, is both useful and honorable; yet in respect to inherent nobleness of pursuits, the degrees are very differing. Those callings, which, keeping in check the lower appetites and propensities, tend to draw out and culture those higher powers that make to the elevation of humanity, have the greater dignity. They are to be coveted as the better gifts, to the limit of capability; better, however, be below than above one's power. Many a lower station has been deprived of a good occupant to furnish a poor one for a higher. An humble work well done is better than a lofty one ill done. Beg not for place. Let place be the beggar. Better to be asked to come up than to go down. To do faithfully and well the first work at hand, however humble, is noble, and this may open to other and, perhaps, better. The lowliness of the lot matters less than the spirit in which it is lived, and the virtues it nurtures, whose full fruitage await the unfolding of eternity to reveal.

In order that success may crown effort, the knowledge of one's calling must be accurate and extensive, theoretic and practical. Kindred pursuits, with their related knowledge and experience, even the world at large with its culture and progress, become assistants in every calling, which in turn helps forward civilization in its complex development. Past progress becomes the source, not the limit of progress. The scholar has, in his acquisitions, so many treasuries of superior power, that give in his callings most important vantage ground, and are so many inspirations to good and noble doing. His especial task is to discover, test, and inwork truth, new and old, into the ever-increasing forces of civilization. Work, in all the manifold industries of the great avocations, waves to him beckoning banners. Every consideration calls to him for thorough preparation, earnest, purposeful endeavor, and achievement fit for history. Wonderful is the transforming power of deliberate and solemn determination, through industry, punctuality, perseverance, to make, with divine assistance, the most of life. All poverty, disease with poisoned breath, pain with blade of torture, all guileless living, loyalty to truth, boldness for the right, all listening to the voice of wisdom, following the lead of aspiration and hope, all events, conditions, and influences, aid in good done, influence exerted, character found. Character culture is the ultimate end of all callings, the great subjective work of life. All these are writing upon the soul ineffaceable lines. The warp and woof of work are woven, silently yet surely, into soul garments. Life is transmuted into a spiritual body of character. Voices from the fathers, from the blood of martyrs, from all battle fields of freedom, from all the ignorant, oppressed, sorrowing, from all reform and progress, call upon all workers, especially upon all scholars everywhere, to preserve those institutions whose seeds were planted in blood and watered with tears, and lend a helping hand in scattering the mists of ignorance, in delivering from all wrong, in raising bleeding virtue from the dust and enthroning her in the hearts of men, in inaugurating new eras of industry and culture, agitating, purifying the great ocean of mind, starting, encircling, expanding waves, the impress of which, through all time, the remotest shores shall gladly receive.

#### COLLEGES—FEW OR MANY?

There are two diverse and opposing systems of education: One is centralizing, the other diffusive; one European and aristocratic, the other American and republican. The former is designed primarily for the few, or the noble born, with institutions built up and sustained apart from the people, as at Oxford, Cambridge, Paris, and Berlin; the latter is for and by the people established in their midst, for their benefit, and sustained by their sympathy and sacrifice. The centralizing system tends to draw all higher education to great centers of wealth and influence, giving a heavy money basis, with fat salaries, costly edifices, and all appliances on an ample and expensive scale; the diffusive tends to scatter them broadcast, giving smaller salaries, cheaper edifices, and

appliances less ample. Which, however, is the best adapted to the educational wants of the people, tends most effectually to diffuse a healthy glow of intellectual life, to send a thrill of mental activity through the masses, to awaken a love of learning in the hearts of the common people, and furnish culture to the poor? The large centralizing schools may, doubtless, have more scholarly professors, but professors more completely separated from the people and the stirring events of the present, therefore, emasculated of one of the great elements of manly character; the other being more intimately associated with the people, the teachers do not so far sink the citizen and the man in the scholar, but have an influence outside of college walls, in politics, religion, and all the progressive monuments of the times. Large centralizing schools may turn out the more polished scholars; the small ones are, doubtless, more favorable to the production of independent, manly, self-poised culture, therefore more manly and perfect men, as well as acting more directly and effectively upon the education and elevation of the masses.

The very genius of American life and society require that colleges, like other enterprises, should be a free and natural outgrowth from the wants of the people. The same spirit that would cramp them in respect to colleges, would, if legitimately carried out, limit them, regardless of their wishes, in respect to their railways, newspapers, public and private schools, and churches. If these were limited to a few great monopolies, they might be richer, and, perhaps, with better appointments; but who believes that the interests of the people at large would be as effectively promoted, and the demands of a free and progressive civilization be as well subserved?

Without competition, all enterprises have a tendency to become fat, lazy, conservative, corrupt; with it, necessity compels them to be wide awake, energetic, progressive. If by a money or a law pressure our schools could be compressed into a few, would they, however rich, continue, as now, to inspire the youth to seek a higher culture? All such institutions are better for being scattered among the people, mutually warming and invigorating each other. Every college or academy bell is a missionary, awakening all within its sound to new intellectual life and activity. Every such institution, if properly located and conducted, will create nearly all of its own patronage; that is to say, the greater share of those attending such an institution, doubtless attend it from an interest awakened through its influence. All such are a clear gain to the ranks of cultivated intellect. Economy, health, morals, and manhood are all in favor of scattering colleges broadcast among the people. It is very true that by this process we may get more such institutions than we really need; but such excess is incident to all the operations of a free people. We may, doubtless, get too many banks, railroads, telegraphs, newspapers, books, houses—all sorts of institutions and property—more than the people need; but these evils will, in time, correct themselves. The people can find out what they need better than any theorist can tell them beforehand. They may overdo in all departments of labor; but better take the risks of freedom and growth than the crampings of despotism.

## At Home.

### ONE SCHOOL DAY.

No two students follow the same routine, perform like duties, and it is not our plan to chronicle the work of any particular scholar, but to give a general programme, one followed to some extent by every one, in order to show the multiplicity of activities crowded into one day and to surmise the result, the grand total which a year of faithful work will bring by the accumulation of these little deeds.

Our record begins when the old chapel bell peals forth its clear notes at five A. M., giving a kind invitation to leave dreamland and anchor your attention to terrestrial affairs, to study, that your epicureanism may do justice to the morning meal. Some may question there being a five o'clock bell, but that you may believe the statement, ask your chum to wake you at that hour that you may hear it. Subsequent to the masticatory proceedings, the elocutionists assemble to recite "Queen Mab," or with Cæsar and Cassius, "to buffet the troubled Tyber chafing with her shores." Soon, all are summoned to Chapel Exercises, and, being quietly settled in their respective seats, upon the entrance of "the bell-room boys," each one, for we presume it to be Monday morning, is called on to report attendance upon or absence from church and Bible-class. If all the requisitions have been performed, a loud distinct "all" is the answer, but the student who has failed to perform all the prescribed duties is suddenly attacked with weak articulation, and the response is almost inaudible. After the devotional exercises, very unfrequently comes a chapel speech by some of the Professors, if they happen to be present. We see no reason why a teacher as well as a scholar should not receive a mark for non-attendance, and at least, it should devolve upon them to set the example of attendance by their presence. It is certainly a more pleasing sight to see the chairs upon the stage occupied than empty. Chapel dismissed, the classes assemble in their several rooms, while those having no recitation this hour go to their apartments, and the streets have such a deserted appearance that a stranger would never mistrust that there was a student in town. The bell strikes, and like a regiment called out on duty, there is "hurrying to and fro," that the classroom may be reached in time for roll call.

These alterations constitute the main features of the time that classes are in session, yet there are a few exceptions worthy of mention. One is the punctuality manifested in going to the post office at mail time; and another is a visit for half-an-hour's gossip at some of the stores during the noon recess; and, again, an hour a day cannot be employed more profitably or pleasantly than in the Reading Room; and any scholar who neglects this opportunity does an injury to himself. After tea, the new gymnasium affords an hour's exercise to the gentlemen, that is indeed valuable for the physical development, which is fully as requisite as study for the at-

tainment of good culture, and should go hand in hand with all mental labor. After a second visit to the post office, the streets are again desolated, and for a couple of hours all the energies at command are expected to be called into action in preparing the morrow's lessons. Fortunately, we selected a day rendered illustrious by a noted event, namely, "Faculty Meeting," which occurs during the evening of the day described. Only the experienced can speak of the proceedings of this august assemblage, and often they are prohibited by extreme modesty. But the faithful sentinel, the bell, relieves the weary youths from duty, gives warning to retire, and "the powers that be" announce that "you are supposed to hear the last bell while fast asleep and dreaming of home." So,

Little deeds of action,  
Little acts of strife,  
Make a day at Alfred,  
And a college life.

### THE CANTATA.

Henry Schoeller's Cantata of New Year's Eve, was rendered by the Conservatory of Music as announced, and attended by the largest house of the season. The piece is composed of three parts: The first, a general *debut* of the impersonations; the second, picture scenes, and the third the farewell of the "Old" and the appearance of the "New Year." But to speak more minutely, we consider the parts separately.

Part I. The rising of the curtain revealed the "Old Year," represented by Mr. E. L. Maxson, dressed in regal robes, and seated on a commanding throne, while to his right, "Father Time," personated by Mr. J. G. Burdick, appeared, bearing that proverbial scythe and hour-glass, and with long flowing hair and beard whitened by the frosts of many winters. "Time," pointing to the lessening sands of his hour-glass, reminds in song, the "Old Year" of the end of his reign and calls for an account of his deeds. The "Old Year," in reply, assembles the Four Seasons and his twelve daughters, the twelve months, and bids them answer for themselves. Each of the Seasons attended by their sprites, and the months they control, now enter, pay in sweet song their respects, and are then dispatched to prepare an entertainment of picture scenes.

Part II. was enlivened by tableaux that were well arranged and characteristic of the scenes represented. "Spring," represented by Miss Jennie Green, attended by "Zephyr" and "Dewdrop," enters and announces the picture ready, and bids her attendants open the inner curtain, which discloses a happy May Day scene, with the "Fairy Nymphs" copiously decorating the May Queen, Miss Pauline Stillman. "Summer," Miss Jennie Bardeen, followed by "Sunshine" and "Rainbow," next present themselves before his royal majesty and present the tableau, "A Summer Picnic," to "Old Time," whose perverse nature fails to find anything worthy of approval in the joyous party, and laments that half the year has been unprofitably spent. Miss Rathburn, as "Autumn," with "Jack Frost" and "Cloud," now reveal "A Harvest

Scene," which very lucidly illustrated a harvest field, with workmen busily gathering the "golden sheaves," while the "lunch girl" cheered them by her presence. While the audience were viewing the picture, Miss V. K. Crandall sang "The Last Rose of Summer" in her usual pleasant and expressive style. "Winter's Icy Sway" was represented by Miss Ellen Barber, with "Snow" and "Sleet" as attendants. The inner curtain was again withdrawn, revealing a group of "Shepherdesses" singing "Glory to God in the Highest," as they guarded their flocks of sheep, which were personated by little children rolled in cotton. "Time" at last expresses his satisfaction that some of the precious moments of his gift to the "Old Year" have been rightly spent, but reminds him that the sands are sinking fast, and bids him prepare to yield his throne, scepter, and crown.

In Part III., all the characters are marshalled before the King in their proper position, and sing their Farewell Chorus to the "Old Year." "Christmas," N. W. Williams, with a mask that had "grin" enough for a whole family, and "Santa Claus," M. S. Wardner, masked, with an innumerable quantity of trinkets, were escorted on the stage. As the clock strikes twelve, the "Old Year" is removed from the throne and the "Young Year," W. B. Dininy, takes his place and is crowned. "Time" and the "Old Year" now disappear, and the remaining characters sing a "Welcome Chorus" to the "Young Year," which ends the entertainment.

The last scene was enthusiastically encored, and the house apparently enjoyed the whole presentation. The cast of actors is so numerous, and our knowledge of dress nomenclature so limited, that we forbear special comment, but say that credit is due to all for the tasty and unique apparel. The indistinctness of expression made it impossible for a large share present to understand what the singers were saying, but no doubt part of this was due to the room. Mrs. Helen M. Crandall officiated at the piano during the rendering, and enlivened the audience by extra pieces between the acts. Mrs. Prof. Larkin deserves especial praise for her untiring work in preparing and drilling the impersonations, and conducting the Cantata to so successful an end.

**BOILER EXPLOSION ! (?)**—On Friday, Jan. 29th, a certain printing office near by was thrown into the wildest confusion by the escaping of steam and water from the boiler, causing a shock that made the building tremble from turret to foundation, and accompanied with a sound that made each particular hair on the head of each individual printer stand on end. At the time of the calamity, the "boss," foreman, engineer, devil, and pressman were absent, (it being their dinner hour,) and the compositors, being utterly ignorant of the working of the engine, were thrown into a panic, and each moment an explosion that would blow press, type, and typos into eternity was expected. The situation seemed precarious. Blended with the deafening sound of escaping steam were cries of "Explosion," "She's going to bust," "Where's Mary," "I know that my Redeemer liveth." One printer, with remarkable presence of mind, started for the engineer,

in his haste, falling over another unlucky typo, and knocking a coal-scuttle into "pi;" another made for the sanctum and hurriedly began writing a note to his — mother, informing her of what seemed his inevitable fate; a third was seen making rapid strides for Andover, with his coat in one hand and a composing stick in the other. In a few moments, the devil (*i. e.*, printer's devil) appeared, and immediately comprehending the situation, checked the unruly power, and the excitement was over. No lives lost! The glass water-gauge had only bursted.

THE Gymnasium Association will give an entertainment in the University Chapel, Thursday evening, March 4th, 1875. It is proposed to have short literary exercises, some practical illustrations of the art of performing by their best gymnasts, if suitable apparatus can be placed on the stage, and an interesting piece rendered, making a programme with sufficient variety to please all. Proceeds to pay the debt incurred by the Society in constructing the new building. Admission, 25 cents.

CONGRESS has adjourned for this term, and the Lyceums are again in good running order. Only one resolution lived to get through both Houses, and all the bills perished before the third reading. The President's duties, aside from writing his messages, could not have been very laborious. Though the organization is yet incomplete, there is much practical knowledge to be derived from it, and requires only time and work to make it a valuable exponent of Lyceum culture.

THE Alleghanian Lyceum is the recipient of two copies of the "Constitution, Manuel, Rules, and Barclay's Digest," from Mr. J. H. Sypher, an old student and Alleghanian, and now Member of Congress from Louisiana. The Society gladly accepted the valuable present, and gave the honorable gentleman a hearty vote of thanks.

WILL the sapient gentleman from Wellsboro have the kindness to explain to the humble disciples of Gutenberg, and the public generally, what is meant by "ornamented long primer, metal-roofed border, two ens wide?" Is it anything like "Pica italic quads?"

QUERY.—What is that young fellow, who has lately been "shipped" by his "Desdemonia," going to do with the "Lover's Guide" seen in his possession a few days ago? Evidently he contemplates studying up on the intricate points of love making, and trying it again.

MR. J. G. BURDICK, Conductor of the Harmonics, has been presented with a fine silver-mounted baton by some of the members of the Society. The tribute is certainly appropriate and well merited.

BAYARD TAYLOR lectures in Hornellsville, Tuesday evening, Feb. 16th, 1875. Subject, "Ancient Egypt."

THE Science and Art Club has some new printed blanks, which can be easily filled out with the programme as the time requires. This is a good example for the Societies to follow.

THE Treasurer of the STUDENT will receive remittances with pleasure. Dues for Vol. I preferred. We have room on our list for many new subscribers, and want them.

OUR Post Master, to save answering questions, has numerous printed placards for information concerning the mail, which is not unfrequently late.

MR. IRVING SAUNDERS, our popular artist, is stopping for a few weeks at his branch gallery in Friendship, and Mr. E. E. Burdick is attending to the photo business here.

DR. C. B. CRANDALL, Dentist of this place, has opened a branch office at Andover, where he holds forth from Monday until Wednesday noon of each week.

A GENTLEMAN, being unable to read the last part of his admission ticket, seeks assistance to decipher it, and behold his astonishment to find it the President's autograph.

A PROFESSOR examining the ears of an owl, in profound astonishment, exclaimed, "These are the longest ears I ever saw, except a jackass'."

THE citizens were entertained, a few days ago, by a lively dog fight; but as no STUDENT reporter was present we are unable to give the particulars.

OWING to a rush of business at the Gymnasium, the proprietor of the "Tremont Reading Room" has discontinued it.

AND now the "Brick" has an agricultural department, to raise pumpkins and roll them down stairs.

MR. D. M. ESTEE is teaching in the Pardon district, a short distance from Andover.

## MARRIED,

JONES—BABBITT—At Alfred Centre, N. Y., Jan. 9th, 1875, by Rev. N. V. Hull, Mr. Carlyle Jones and Miss Carrie A. Babbitt.

MANROE—KNAPP—In Annin, Pa., Jan. 4th, 1875, by Rev. S. D. Morris, Mr. David Stillman Manroe, of Friendship, and Miss Amelia C. Knapp, of Annin.

SHELDON—POWELL—In Hornellsville, N. Y., Jan. 19th, 1875, by Rev. K. P. Jervis, Mr. John Sheldon, of Alfred Centre, and Miss M. Adelia Powell, of Livonia.

SMITH—LYMAN—In Roulette, Pa., Jan. 6th, 1875, by Rev. J. L. Huffman, Mr. John L. Smith and Miss Celestia E. Lyman.

## DIED,

ALLEN—In Milton, Wis., Jan. 12th, 1875, suddenly, Abram Allen, father of Pres. J. Allen, in the 76th year of his age.

BOWMAN—In Almond, N. Y., Jan. 28th, 1875, of consumption, Mrs. Ida A., wife of Edward A. Bowman, and daughter of the late Walter Slingerland.

EVERETT—At Alfred, N. Y., Jan. 1st, 1875, Mrs. Elizabeth Everett, aged 45 years.

## Alumni Notes.

We earnestly solicit items from all sources concerning any of the Alumni or Old Students.

### ALUMNI.

'61. Wallace W. Brown, A. M., is a member of the Pennsylvania Legislature.

'62. Capt. William P. Maxson is a machinist in Elmira, N. Y.

'66. Prof. D. Ayers Blackeslee, A. M., is principal of one of the Elmira City schools.

'69. Mrs. L. Rosalie Kenyon *Mrs.* A. L., resides in Nile, N. Y.

'71. Correction: Mollie E. Setchel, A. M., is in Boston studying elocution instead of Rochester, as mentioned in a previous number.

### OLD STUDENTS.

'39-'40. John B. Robbins is a merchant in Knoxville, Pa.

'39-'40. Levi Reynolds is also a merchant in Knoxville, Pa.

'46-'47. Peter Wilkes Bell is laying out a new city in Texas.

'48-'49. Maria King is teaching a Select School in Little Genesee, N. Y.

'48-'49. Mrs. Ophelia Norton *Dounce* resides in Elmira, N. Y.

'62-'63. Isaac Fasset is surveying at Carson City, Nev.

'62-'63. Amy M. Place is teaching at Bradford, Pa.

'65-'66. Czarina Runner is one of the first lady readers in the country, especially in the West.

'65-'66. Floyd L. Kenyon is clerking in Wellsville.

'65-'69. Hattie McCormick is a nun in a convent at Syracuse.

'67-'68. Mina M. Coon is teaching in Plainfield, N. J.

'66-'70. Levi C. Strong and H. A. Burdick ('68-'72) are furniture merchants in Friendship, N. Y.

'66-'67. Mrs. Sylvia Wells *Salisbury* resides at Ashaway, R. I.

'68-'69. Edmund P. Barker is teaching a nine weeks' term at Winchester, N. H. He is a member of the class of '76, of Amherst College.

'68-'71. Carrie W. Coats is teaching in the Graded School, Greenwood, N. Y.

'68-'71. Signoria Smythe is giving public readings, attended with great success.

'69-'73. Ada Evans is teaching in the Scio (N. Y.) Graded School.

'70-'71. Charles H. Phalen is Superintendent of the Educational Department of Henry Holt & Co.'s publishing house, New York City.

'70-'71. Melville Dewey is acting Librarian of Amherst College.

Dr. Henry Ledyard is in Oregon, traveling at present on the west coast.

## Gleanings.

### NOTES

Taken at the Science and Art Club.

Oct. 20, 1874. Mrs. Allen presented a paper on the current slug. After its description, stated that the slug always ate the leaf of the current from outside toward center. About the last of July or the first of August it becomes sluggish and soon goes into the ground and builds a cocoon. It flies again in September and again goes into cocoon, coming out the next June. It always flies at evening or morning.

Nov. 3. Prof. Allen presented a paper on "Metaphysics of Physics."

Nov. 17. Mr. Mungor presented a paper on "Insecta Alfrediensiensis." After general description of insects, he took up and separately described some of the insects to be found in Alfred. *Pieris brassica*, or cabbage butterfly. *Colias philodice*, or sulphur yellow butterfly. *Papilio turnus*. *Attacus cecropia*. *Attaca Luna*. Prof. Larkin said that owing to the geological formation of this location we have a greater variety of insects than in almost any other place in the United States.

Mr. H. G. Stillman presented the qualitative analysis of the "Sulphur Spring Water" of Alfred Centre: 1. Organic matter, probably from decomposition of leaves. 2. Sulphuric acid. 3. Sulphuretted Hydrogen. 4. Faint traces of iron. 5. Sodium, in minute quantities. 6. Magnesium (most abundant of minerals in form of Magnesia Sulphate.) 7. Carbonic acid gas.

Prof. Larkin made a report on Fungi. Extent of subject wonderful. Toadstools, puff-balls, and mold are known to all; but the air, the water, the inside of plants are full of microscopic fungi. Even yeast is a sort of mushroom. Books are scarce on subject of fungi. Not more than one-tenth of fungi have been classified. Prof. Allen said he had been told by Prof. Hall that his botanist was adding 100 to 200 species of fungi to the list every year. Nearly all fungi feed upon decay; the fermentation which results in alcohol is the work of fungi, and so also is digestion of plants and animals. Prof. Coon said that Prof. Liston, by experimenting on wounds, had found if they could be kept from the fungus in the air they would get well without gangrene, and

usually by first intention. Prof. Allen said it had long been thought that oxygen of the air was the great destroyer, but if the air could be strained of the active sporules of fungi it would lose its destructive power. Prof. Coon said the theory of disinfectants was based on same principle, *i. e.*, the destruction of the germs of fungi which cause all sporadic diseases.

## The College World.

### EXCHANGES.

The great tendency of College paper editors, in criticising other College papers, is to give their opinion of articles in the objective sense, scarcely ever giving credit for the good. Now, in our opinion, this is decidedly wrong. Each paper is struggling for an existence, and a word of encouragement rather than censure would help them on in their strugglings. Our advice is, if you can not speak well of a paper, or have no advice or suggestion to make, don't say anything. What interests us as much as anything else is the general look and dress of the paper itself. And we would say (modestly, however,) that we have some papers on our exchange list that look *almost* as neat as our own *STUDENT*, among which are the *Trinity Tablet*, the *Magenta*, the *Brononian*, and the *College Argus*.

We notice by the *Trinity Tablet*, of December, 1874, that the editors for the past year take leave of the public with some very appropriate remarks. In the editorial, "College and Campus," the Class of '76, who are to take the places of the retiring editors, are heartily congratulated; and a hope is expressed that they may escape the errors of their predecessors. To the College they say: "Have mercy on these poor unfortunates, and help them in their troubles; instead of complaining, sit down and write something for them. Recollect that there are always some good-for-nothing fellows on the board, and the principal part of the work falls on one or two, for which the entire board, individually and collectively, receive the credit."

With the *College Argus* of Jan. 20th, the new corps of editors commence their work like a "new broom."

The *Nunda Academy Advocate* is edited by Miss Mary H. Kneeland and Miss Libbie Van Ness. It is devoted to the Academy at Nunda, Prof. Wm. H. Rogers, A. M., Principal. Patent outside. Free.

The *High School Monthly* is a new paper, published at Fall River, Mass. We welcome it in the arena of College papers. Our advice is "More original matter, and less selections."

We have received the following: The Potter Journal, Angelica Republican, Nunda Academy Advocate, Hornellsville Herald, Trinity Tablet, College Argus, Magenta, High School Monthly, New England Journal of Education, Bates Student.