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## Literary Department.

### MAN, SUFFRAGE.

(Represented at the Jubilee Session of the Alfredian Lyceum.)

Debate in Congress in the year 2,000, on the following concurrent resolution: "*Resolved*, If the House concur, that, to ensure the best interests of humanity, the constitution be so amended as to extend the right of suffrage to man."

Senator from Alaska (Madame A. E. Evans): *Madame President*,—This is a subject which we ought to approach with extreme caution, and give a careful study from every standpoint. It involves the welfare of those nearest us in all the relations of life. Hence it behooves us to make every effort to legislate in such a manner as will aid in the advancement and highest development of the masculine race. I care not to discuss the question of equality, as we might waste time in useless argument, leaving the object of the resolution unreachd, which should be, placing man in his proper sphere. If the right of suffrage has been instrumental in up-building the feminine race, and there is not a woman in the land who will deny it, it can not fail to be seen that it would be a mighty power working for man's advancement. I grant that he was somewhat tyrannical when in power, but that was the legacy of the dark ages, handed down from one generation to another, and it is not surprising that, looking through the prejudices of those early times, he should see the true elements of liberty as "through a glass darkly." I think he would profit by the discipline through which he has passed in the last seventy-five years, so that there would be no danger to us or society in giving the ballot to him. On the contrary, having learned how much better it is for society that woman should not be burdened with manual labor, but have all her time for the care and culture of her children, he would as carefully guard our liberties as we ourselves. When we consider the noble hosts of men who wrought in the world's service before man's deterioration, resulting from devoting his life to selfish aims, we see that they have performed deeds that have rendered their names famous in the world's history. And in the many struggles between right and wrong, which have been enacted on the earth, men have taken an active part, and often have offered up their lives that right might prevail. History is full of records proving that man, when moved by noble impulses, is a being worthy of our highest admiration, and is, equally

with us, capable of filling the most trustworthy offices of the land. Because he has failed once, should he be forever shut out from these privileges? Allow him to work with us, and by virtue of our superior judgment, he may regain the place which he has lost. My honorable legislators, let us not discard this source of strength, but exercise that grand charity which works good to all mankind.

Senator from Virginia (Madame C. E. Stillman): *Madame President*,—In taking the negative of this question, I shall do so with profound respect for the other sex. No lady on the affirmative would be more loth than I to deny equality of rights. Need I remind you that equality does not imply similarity? Madam Herschelina, in her well-known "Rule to square the Circle," demonstrates that a cube may equal a globe, yet how dissimilar! The question is of man's fitness to hold certain positions now occupied exclusively by woman. At the present time, he is certainly not qualified. Consider the evil effect of those long ages, when he believed himself so superior to woman that she must not question what he did, or why he did it! By viewing himself as the center of gravity, he turned his eyes on one point so long, it is still difficult for him to look at questions of abstract right. While he held the reins of government, so far did he consult private ends that the national motto might well have been, "Will it pay?" Man's first duty is to his family. That he can fulfill this duty, and still keep tolerably well posted in politics, and deposit a vote twice a year, no one has attempted to deny. But voting brings with it a multitude of other cares; it involves so many duties at a distance from home that his family must depend on some other hand to prepare their daily food, or perish with starvation. Now, woman's chief charm is in this dependence, upon her father in childhood, her husband in later years. As mother earth, in bringing forth those plants that sustain human life, and those forms of grace and beauty that inspire heart and brain, depends utterly upon the sky that enfolds her, fed by no care of her own on heaven-given rain and sunshine, so does the faithful wife rely wholly on the protection and nurture of her beloved husband. This, as early in our history as 1871, was foreseen by a sage (Wm. M. Conant) who wrote for a then popular monthly, propounding the maxim, (would that it were engraven in fire upon every Lyceum banner!) "Woman's first duty is to secure to herself a husband," adding, "I have established the dignity of marital over independent support for woman." All honor to those men who taught us our need to rely on the protection of their right arm! Shall we allow that support to be withdrawn? Never! Nay, man was created to love, cherish

and protect, not to desert his wife, leaving her often ill, often with the overcrowding cares of the nursery, to watch alone over the sleepless couch of suffering childhood, then wearily prepare her morning repast, too overworn to digest a mouthful of food; following this routine day after day, while he who should have been her stay, in the words of a masculine poet,

"Drinks mint julips,  
And swings upon the gate."

Man need not feel degraded by labor. Yet if he does, would he selfishly lay that degradation on woman? What? Compel the being whom he has honored with his heart to be his personal slave? All women who have noble, intelligent husbands will deny this. There is something beautiful in the thought that those raised to the dignity of motherhood are set apart, consecrated to their mission—woman's true mission, to tend, to guard, to cultivate their offspring, and lastly, to surround them with laws that shall conduce to their perpetual peace and morality. Even man can not demand greater honor than he now has, in being the respected provider for such a virtuous household.

Senator from New York (Madame J. I. Green): To me it seems that nothing could be more opposed to the well-being of humanity than the fulfillment of the ideas approved in this resolution. I have not only read of the trials and hardships of the women of that age, but I have heard from my great-grandmother's lips facts concerning her young married life, which make my blood boil with indignation. It was during the sixties or seventies of the nineteenth century that she took upon her shoulders the matrimonial yoke; and ladies, if you will believe it, that woman brought in her wood by armsful, prepared the food for herself and family, and actually washed clothes with her own hands, rubbing them over a ridgy board. Is there no danger of such times and customs again becoming prevalent, when woman's feeble strength shall be subjected to rough and manly toil, while man shall lounge about, reading the news, and chewing tobacco and smoking—cigars—I believed they called them—tobacco leaves rolled up—as was the custom of those times? Man's judgment is inferior, and his principles weaker than ours; and from the fact that he talks much more and thinks much less, he is given to much disputing. Now the States are governed in a quiet, peaceable manner, whereas, if man were allowed a position equal to ours, their chattering tongues would make a perfect Babel of our quiet country. Besides, their grasping, miserly natures would require money for every service. Give them equality, and they will abuse the gift by domineering over us, and trampling us under foot. My great-grandmother, of whom I spoke, attended school in her youth at a celebrated college known as Alfred University, and she remembered at one time a terrible excitement, because the gentlemen of the college refused to allow a lady to deliver a lecture in the building, giving as a reason, that it was out of woman's sphere, and a disgrace to her. But to-day the most profound, and at the same time the most brilliant speakers are ladies.

Senator from Massachusetts (Madame E. L. Santee): I go in

for men's rites, for what's sass for the goos is sass for the gander. Man's spear is where he can do the most good. The tawk about wimmin havin' to wash dishes if the men vote is all sheer nonsens, for I believe, Miss President, that men and wimmin votin' together will no more alter their nateral dispersions than standin' up together in church and singin' one of Wattses hymns together wood. If God ment that men shoold be nothin' but wimmin's shadders, he wood have made goests an' fantoms of 'em at once, but havin' made 'em of flesh and blood, I believe he ment 'em to be used to the best advantage, I do.

Senator from Patagonia (Madame M. E. Sherman): *Madame President*,—I most decidedly believe in the truth of this resolution. The spirit of free government demands that all who are subject to law must be represented in making that law, idiots and criminals excepted. The subjugation of one part of those entitled to representation is as mischievous to the dominant party as the subjugated; for what the one loses in independence and nobility of character is turned in the other to arrogance and selfishness. This tends to develop the baser qualities in both, for arrogance begets bigotry in the one, and incites hatred in the other. Thus, strife between the two is engendered, and the energies which should be used in lifting each other up is spent in profitless bickerings. Now let man take his place by our side, and work hand in hand with us for the making and carrying out such laws as are best suited to our mutual needs, the lack on either side being supplemented by the other, and we shall see such an advancement and elevation in all departments of life as the world has never yet known. There has been truly a rapid improvement for several years past, and some pretend to believe that it is due to the supremacy of woman, but the truth is, the upheaval of society which resulted in placing woman in the lead also gave greater freedom, for while we make the laws unhindered by his interference, we still own allegiance to him in the family as the divinely appointed head. It seems to me, Madame President, that looking at this resolution from the true moral standpoint, all must admit that it embodies an important truth, and one which, in its results, must prove most beneficial to mankind.

Senator from Massachusetts (Madame E. L. Santee): Idiots! lunatics and men! Be they goin' to speak thunders the law. Can I believe my noble right ear? Can I, bein' blindfolded, trust my seventeen senses? Is the law so hardhearted that it will not let men lift their fingers in the makin' of it, and yet sends 'em to state's prison when they don't jest tow the mark? But hark! I hear it speak agen. "I'll have you understand," sez the law, "that 'taint no man's bizness whether the laws are just or unjust; all you've got to do is jest to obey 'em, so start off for prison bairheled, my male young man. Not another word out of your hed, or I'll fine you for contempt." As he meanders towards the prison walls, he sithes: "Wood I were a idiot. Is it not possible that I may become even now a lunny, then I shoold be respected by the law."

To be continued.

## THE IMMIGRANT'S FIRST SEEDING.

Here is the place! Here first resounded  
 The mighty forest with our toil.  
 Here have our hands, by hardy effort,  
 Broken and tilled the virgin soil.  
 Here a new home shall shed its blessings;  
 Here, exiled from dear fatherland,  
 We'll plant, confiding still in Heaven,  
 The first seed on a foreign strand.

Reach us the grain! We gladly hail thee,  
 Growth of our precious natal land,  
 Our sole inheritance remaining,  
 Pledge of the future from its hand.  
 As if a child, we sadly bury,  
 Strows thee reluctantly, our arm,  
 While thoughts of home each heart are stirring  
 With deep emotion, pure and warm.

When called to life, thou hadst been bursting  
 The silent tomb, where thou hadst lain,  
 In slender blades, by zephyrs fondled,  
 Then thou stoodst on fair Saxon plain;  
 And mildly shown her sun upon thee,  
 And gently moistened thee her dew;  
 The sky-lark's glad some chant was cheering  
 Thee every morning, sweet and new.

And when thy stalks were waving higher,  
 Their swelling germs now well defined,  
 We watched thy growth in boding sadness,  
 While pangs of parting smote the mind;  
 And when thy heavy ears were nodding,  
 Arrayed all in purest gold,  
 Oh! then, how many tears of sorrow  
 Downward upon thy riches rolled!

For lo! our thoughts already wandered  
 To distant climes, far o'er the sea,  
 In fancy we were borne already  
 Across its waste on floating keel—  
 What will the harvest then avail us,  
 What orchard's wealth, or vintage-flow,  
 If never may o'er our own hillsides  
 The noble seed of freedom grow!

When neighbor bands in sheaves were braiding,  
 With merry songs, their bounteous crop,  
 An anguish far too deep for utterance  
 Did wildly in our bosoms throb.  
 We could not join the reapers' dances,  
 Though called by fiddle shrill, and horn;  
 But in the fading twilight's glimmering,  
 Were binding silently our corn.

Grim parting came, yet not one handful  
 Of our dear native soil we took  
 For a memorial—but our seed corn;  
 On that we with affection look.  
 And as an ensign plants his banner,  
 Triumphant on the hostile wall,  
 So let us plant beyond the ocean,  
 Firmly resolved, our corn, our all!

Thou corn, here sowed at happy season,  
 Thou favored grain of our dear home,  
 Mayst grow and prosper, bloom and ripen,  
 Though over thee a ruder dome  
 Is arching, though no lark will greet thee,

Like those thou heardst in German sky,  
 No flowery wreath thy sheaves be crowning.  
 When harvest joys are passing by.

And yet, if God will, we shall see thee  
 In thrifty stalks, so proud and strong;  
 And free men shall thy substance nourish,  
 Of wretched slaves no cringing throng.  
 Thus, while with tears our seed we moisten,  
 On foreign soil, far, far from home,  
 May Liberty, by heaven's watchcare  
 Protected, there spring up and bloom.

I. F. K.

NOTE.—Corn in German means *rye*, and is to be understood thus.

## HUMAN PROGRESS.

It is a leading mission of humanity to reduce truth from the abstract to the concrete and practical. Mind ever seeks, hence new discoveries; is organic, hence new inventions, or truth organized to new modes and ends. Where there is no capability for this acquisition, there must be immobility. The brute race present examples where both prerequisites are wanting, consequently there can never be advancement. The Edenic birds sang with as much artistic skill to listening Adam and Eve as the birds of to-day. Instinct, leaping to its highest at one bound, in the individual and the race, makes the brute intellect stationary. Again, there may be capability without the desire of progress. Savage barbarians have come up to and appropriated certain truths; and there stopped. They have remained stationary, it may be for ages, no progress, nor can be, till a desire for new and higher truths be awakened. Parties and sects, with their platforms and creeds, have a certain number of truths which they have accepted, mingled, more or less, with error. With these they are satisfied, consequently their systems are stereotyped; they too are fossilized. Progress is at an end. Many are progressive in the earlier years of life; but as maturer years draw on, their growth ceases, becoming thus fine illustrations of what are known in science as arrested development—very progressive while young, dwarfed, fossilized, when old—or with a vegetative decay. The world having no more use for them, watches in respectful silence over its dead.

Every system of human origin must be based on such principles as to admit of the discovery, engrafting, and growth of new truths, or it will soon come to maturity and harden down into immobility, or lapse into decay. However perfect any system of human origin may seem at first, man soon arrives at its culminating point, and there remains stationary or leaves it for the better. The religious systems of those grand old nations, Chaldee, Egypt, Assyria, Hindu, Persia, Greece, had many elements of truth; but they lacked, among other things, the truth acquiring, therefore the growing element. After embodying a certain amount of truth, they became encrusted with error, and their vitality destroyed by the leprosy of falsehood. Those old nations advanced through the stages of development granted by their systems, and thenceforward they presented stereotyped editions, petrified forms of humanity, or worse, through the

destructive influence of evil, went down to decay and death. Just here is one of the chief tests of the Christian religion. Its author comes forward professedly as the light of the world; his disciples are declared to be as cities on a hill. Is it like the other systems that have been inaugurated for professedly the same object? Is it soon to accomplish its mission, raise man to the highest of which it is capable, then die because its light has become dim through age, and humanity found a better light in the higher stages of civilization? The answer depends upon the quality and quantity of its light. The Christian religion has been answering this question for nearly nineteen hundred years. Commencing with the individual springing and growing from the heart outwards, whereby every individual receiving it becomes a center of radiation and of growth. It affects its possessor, not as a petrifying or destroying force, but gives light, life, growth, progress. It shines gently into the feeblest intellect, and is found sufficient to task the powers of spirits of mightiest grasp. It meets man at every point of progress, and leads him up to higher planes, and opens to him ever higher truths and diviner prospects. Modern civilization is an outgrowth of Christianity. It touches every field of thought, of learning, of science, of philosophy. It lays every department of knowledge under contribution for its elucidation and advancement. Its truth makes its possessor free with a freedom so high and strong that it can not be fettered by the shackles of sects or of creeds, though sanctioned by names great and venerable.

#### HUDSON'S TEXT-BOOK OF PROSE.

TEXT-BOOK OF PROSE; from Burke, Webster and Bacon, with notes and sketches of the authors' lives, by Rev. Henry N. Hudson, Boston, Ginn Bros., 1876.

We have several times called attention to the importance of English literature as a college study; and in furtherance of that aim, we are glad to notice this book. It is prepared on the principle, as the editor states, "of teaching English literature by authors, and not by mere literary chips and splinters." By the method usually pursued, the student of English literature is called upon to learn a long list of writers, time of their births and deaths, dates of writing and publishing their various productions, and an outline criticism of the works of several hundred writers, or the briefest extracts from their writings, or both. He studies very little, if at all, the works themselves, and knows, of course, nothing definite about their literary workmanship; and he is fortunate, if he finishes his course with any acquaintance with, and love for the English classics, or with any idea of art in literature. His style may not have been improved, nor his taste refined by familiarity with the masterpieces of his own literature. By another method of study, the student may be taken into the field of English literature itself, may examine and study the works of the authors instead of their *biographies*, and may imbue his mind with the spirit and power of some of the best English productions. If he should not learn (and forget)

the names of all the English writers, great and small, he is, at least, likely to have a living knowledge of some of them, and, above all, to acquire a culture which will lead him to a wider study of literature. Mr. Hudson, adopting this latter plan, presents, in a compact form, matter for the use of students. The volume, intended to accompany a text-book of poetry, contains specimens from Burke, Webster, and Bacon, with biographies and historical and critical notes. From Burke, we have thirty-three selections, occupying 316 pages; from Webster, thirty-five, occupying 217 pages; and from Bacon thirty essays, and a few brief selections from the *Advancement of Learning*, occupying, in all, seventy-six pages, giving a volume of 636 pages. While there might be a great difference of opinion concerning the best selections to place before students, as models, these certainly are good, and likely to be acceptable to the American youth, from their political bearings and style. The method of study to which the book is adapted is the true method, in our opinion, and the book well accomplishes its end; but we trust the preparation of selections from English classics will not stop with this book and its companion volume. The student can hardly be said to know English literature when he knows Burke, Webster, and Bacon, and a few poets of the second class.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

##### Vacation Rambles.

Taking the cars at Hornellsville, we halted and examined Portage Falls and the new iron bridge, that vast structure just completed, then passed on to Buffalo and the Falls of Niagara, made the usual tour of the islands, passed over onto the Canada side, under the Falls, then proceeded to Chicago, passing through a region varied in scenery and richness. In Chicago, though visiting places located mostly in the "burnt district," but very few effects of the fire were to be seen, new buildings having been erected, most of which are much finer than the old ones, occupying the same ground. Prominent among the newly erected buildings is the Palmer House, claimed to be, at the time of its erection, the largest, and best-furnished hotel in the world. This hotel contains seven hundred rooms, is thoroughly fireproof, and was built at a cost of \$2,400,000, and the site on which it stands is valued at \$1,000,000 more. Another prominent feature of Chicago is the tunnel by which the city is supplied with water. It extends from a "shore shaft" under Lake Michigan, two miles, in a straight line, and at the end of which is a "lake shaft." Four powerful engines are used, one of which is 1,400 horse power, the bore of the cylinder being 70 inches in diameter. By means of these engines, the water is pumped up into the "stand pipe," from which it is distributed by its own weight to every part of the city. In the surrounding region, we found some very fine farms; but like most places it has its inconvenience. Here, it is lack of water, there being no springs, and the wells from 60 to 110 feet deep. Most of the farmers use windmills for pumping water.

I proceeded thence to St. Louis. One of its prominent features is the new bridge across the Mississippi. It is nearly a mile in length, and is high enough for the largest steamers to pass under. Besides the railroad which passes over the bridge, there are two street railways, two carriage ways, and two walks for footmen. From St. Louis, I started for Washington by the way of Cincinnati and Parkersburgh. The portion of West Virginia through which we passed was romantic in the extreme, being in some places heavily timbered, and as a general thing very mountainous, causing the road to crook in every direction. Some idea of the unevenness of the country can be obtained from the fact that we passed through twenty tunnels in running from Parkersburg to Grafton, a distance of about one hundred miles. The next morning, soon after daylight, we passed through Harper's Ferry, and about 7 o'clock, reached Washington. The first place we visited was the United States Post-office department, and next, the Patent-office, where models of all the patents ever issued are arranged in large glass cases, which occupy a large portion of the building. One of the great curiosities here on exhibition, is the original printing press of Benjamin Franklin. This wonderful machine very much resembles the copying presses used by business men in copying letters, although it is somewhat larger. The next place at which we stopped was the "Army Medical Museum," formerly Ford's Theater, and the scene of the assassination of President Lincoln. After examining the large number of interesting specimens of this department, we proceeded to the Treasury building, to see where the United States money was kept. After watching the clerks awhile, and silently wondering if I could carry all the money they counted in one day, (had I the chance,) we walked down and out. The White House was made the object of our next visit, and although the President was not at home, we had the consolation of seeing the place where he *should* have been. The President's flower garden attracted our attention as we came out, and wishing to see what his taste was in that respect, we walked out that way. After looking around among the flowers, and through the park, to my entire satisfaction, we moved on in the direction of the Agricultural Department, where we found on exhibition a very fine collection of specimens (in wax) of all the different kinds of fruits and vegetables, of the largest size, grown in the United States. Just outside of the building is a very large greenhouse, containing all kinds of tropical plants, flowers, fruits, etc. The next place which we visited was the Smithsonian Institute. Here we found all kinds of specimens belonging to the animal and mineral kingdom, also life-size specimens of the different races of mankind. I give a few facts in regard to the Capitol, which we next visited. The dome (which is constructed of cast iron) weighs over 2,000,000 pounds. The entire length of the building is 751 feet 4 inches, and the greatest depth 324 feet. The area covered by the entire building is 153,112 square feet. The dome is capped by the bronze statue of Freedom, which weighs 14,985 pounds; the height of the dome is 287 feet 3 inches,

and the cost of the entire building is about \$12,500,000. After traveling through the Capitol until I was thoroughly tired, I took passage on an excursion steamer for Mount Vernon. Arriving at the landing, we proceeded up a winding path to the house, which stands on quite a high elevation on the west side of the Potomac River. The house is in a very good state of preservation, so also, are the barn and the houses formerly occupied by the negroes. Although the buildings (with the exception of the barn, which is brick) are constructed of wood, yet no change has been made, with the exception of new roofing. The house is two stories and a half high, about 100 feet long, and on the side fronting the river is a stoop extending the entire length of the building, and the roof of which projects from above the second story windows. In the rear of the house are the flower garden and greenhouse, which are kept in good condition. About ten or fifteen rods below, near the path which leads to the river, is the family vault. Directly in front of the door, on the inside, resting on low marble slabs, are two plain marble coffins in which are deposited the remains of George and Martha Washington. After a stay of two hours at Mount Vernon, I returned to Washington, and in the evening went to Baltimore.

The next morning, I took an early train for Philadelphia, where I spent the day in Fairmount Park, looking through the Centennial buildings. So many descriptions have been given of these buildings through the columns of the papers that I will refrain from giving any. I returned home, well satisfied with the way in which I had spent my Summer vacation.

G. E. COTTON.

#### A Recollection.

DEAR STUDENT: While raging Boreas rattles the windows and piles the drifting snow, and the chimneys ring with the sudden shrieks of his ungoverned fury, it is pleasant to draw the chair near the cheery fire and sit and watch the fickle flames as they come and go in all their brilliant changes. Nor is it the least of the pleasures of the fireside, during mid-winter, while thus meditating, to turn from page to page in life's history, and refresh the mind with once familiar scenes and friendly faces; and to recall the merry times of the days that now are passed. Fortunately, memory delights to recall, and live over again and again, the pleasant scenes; while fancy and reality vie with each other in painting in detail—what really was, or what might have been. The ideal vanishes and the real becomes more real. The rattling shutters and the storm, are forgotten, the colors on the hearth are not seen only as they light up the new picture, that now, in our mind, has become so deeply outlined. The events of the year just passed lie before us. We see its storms and its sunshine, the sleeping earth and budding spring, the summer, and the fruited autumn. Forgive us the impulse to mark with a pencil the scene that just passed in review. It was in the mild September; the days and months preceding had passed amid the routine of business. Anticipation had often carried us forward to this month, and to—Alfred. From our homes in a little State, and once considered un-

worthy to belong to the union of States, our company, light hearted and care-free, took a journey to the Centre. It was with some the first visit; others more fortunate had passed many days in the University. The hearty welcome of friends, among the village folk, and their hospitality, is forefront in this picture, nor does time efface the memory of its genuineness. The hills seemed majestic, the valleys attractive, and the first tints of the autumn foliage greeted the eye in every changing scene. We remember the University grounds and buildings as "beautiful for situation." We visited the cabinets, and caught glimpses of the numberless specimens there treasured, and we could but hope for the speedy erection of Memorial Hall, that shall display in all their worth, the collections now hiding their light under the impecunious bushel. Nor did the attractions of Pine Hill escape our attention. Its beauties we saw at its base, its grandeur upon its summit. It was a long climb, a hard climb, and a climb as best one could; but the sights from its brow, seen through the departing rays of the slowly setting sun, repaid every effort. As we saw hill after hill rise one above the other, and in the distance only dim the horizon with their misty outlines, we promised ever to speak the praises of that historic spot. By our side stood the huge pines, before us lay the valleys, with their streams, just beyond were the two lesser hills, their protecting arms guarding the white-painted village, which lay as clean as a pin at their very feet. Pleasant indeed is the memory of the days of one short week passed in Alfred Centre. Our wish was, and is, prosperity for Alfred. May success attend every effort of its University, and may the multitudes, as they come and go, speak the worth of her school and the worthiness of her citizens, even as we delight to do.

JERSEY.

## Ancient Epigrams.

EDITOR STUDENT: Wandering once through a New England cemetery, we were struck with the quaintness of the inscriptions, and copied a few which may be of interest to your readers. We give them *verbatim, et literatim, et punctatim*:

In memory of Mr Jonathan Wright who died  
April the 10 A. D. 1766 in  
the 30 year of his Age.

in different ways and manners are we  
taken away  
prepar'd or not prepar'd we must  
obey  
the fudden calls of death we turn  
to dust  
to earth Again who waf our mother  
first.

Here lie the children  
of Mr John & Mrs  
Prudence Newbre  
Anne Born Febr'y  
ye 15<sup>th</sup> 1753 Died June  
ye 22<sup>d</sup> 1762 Prudence  
Born June ye 20<sup>th</sup> 1759  
Died June ye 28<sup>th</sup> 1763

IN Me Mory of Samuel  
Dewey who Died March  
the 17 1801. In the 60<sup>th</sup> year  
of his age.

IN MEMorY of  
McP polly Cook daug-  
hter of RoBert & deBo-  
Rah cook hu did  
Aug't The 7 1795 In  
The 7 year of her  
Age

In memory of Mifs Elisabeth  
Smith confort of Mr Derick  
Smith who departed this Life  
December the 28<sup>th</sup> A Dom 1771  
& in the 26<sup>th</sup> year of her Age

IN Me Mory of Lucy  
HarriSon Daughter  
oF Capt AL mod &  
Mr jerusha HarriSon  
Waf Drowned  
March the 25 1799  
In the forth year of  
her Age.

X. Y. Z.

# The Alfred Student.

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## AIMS AND IDEAS.

Away in the future is the goal of ambition, the aim of life; like a bright star pendant over a mountain brow, it gleams and shimmers in the distance, the object toward which all action should tend. The only successful person is he who bends every thing in the direction of this object. Still, the person of one aim must never be confounded with the individual of one idea, who sees nothing, who knows nothing that does not lie in the same straight line with that idea; who cries, "Let me alone with my idols, unless you, too, will worship them." This individual of one idea is ex-



emplified in the liberalist who is so illiberal that he rants and rails at every thing but liberalism; also in the sectarian who revolves in *his circle*, and insists that it is the only one in the entire universe. Singleness of aim differs from singleness of idea as much as an angle differs from a straight line. The person of one aim converges things, turns every little stream in the one great channel of life, not by inflation, not by spreading out thinner, but by condensing, squeezing out what will be wine for him and leaving the remainder.

Singleness of purpose is the key that unlocks the door of success. A determined *I will* is the most effective, the most invulnerable armor. It was only through indefatigable industry that Aristotle gained high rank in Plato's school, until Plato himself called him the "Mind of the school," and would say when he was absent, "Intellect is not here." Surety of success lies alone in having one aim in life, and converting everything into helps in that direction. What if fate topples me over a dozen times, can't I get up a dozen times if I try?

Charlotte Cushman was as unmoved by the straight laced notions of her Puritan friends when she decided upon her career as though she were a mountain ledge and their importuning mist. Just as she had achieved her first triumph, when success was certain, the lower notes of her register were destroyed by the southern climate. Was she frightened at the phantom of failure that stared at her? No; determined to succeed, she forced her voice to the requirements of a soprano scale, only to ultimately destroy her upper notes. Still undaunted, she said: "I am born for the stage, I will succeed;" and she did succeed, becoming America's dramatic queen. Success is the rich fruitage of singleness of purpose, armed so strongly in determination that the counter currents of opposition and the side issues of life affect it not.

#### SATELLITION.

This is the clustering of smaller names around a greater. It is one of the characteristic tendencies of human nature. Every great name is a kind of a central sun, around which lesser lights revolve, not because the pure attractions of truth draw, but size draws. Their dazzle, like the lamp light, draws the mental miller out of the darkness to flutter and singe in their blaze. Some, it is true, are non-conformists by nature. They are born protesters. Most, however, are acquiescents, yielding readily, almost passively, almost unconsciously to whatever public sentiment may sweep around them. Man is ever prone to believe his own party, not so much from the conviction arising from sincere and earnest investigation of his own, as from the fact that its founders or leaders have declared the truth to be with them. On the same principle it seems quite a self-evident truth to most, that whatever is not of his party or sect, most especially if it be held as true by the opposite party, must of necessity be false.

Again, all offices, emoluments, easy tasks, privileges offered by one party or people over another, must be subtract-

ed by the truth seeker before poisoning the balances on the sharp pivot of truth. Even when passing from the stronger or more popular side to the unpopular or weaker, there is danger. There is a deal of apposite truth in the fabled response of Sicily, which, when requesting the gods to be set off from Italy, on being asked the reason, replied that she had rather be a little head than a great foot. This desire for headship blinds the eyes of not a few.

## At Home.

### AN ALLEGHANIAN SESSION.

On the evening of Feb. 12th, the Alfredians, in accordance with a previous invitation, visited the Alleghanians. The following is an outline of the exercises on that occasion:

Roll call and response by sentiments.

Essay by L. W. Potter, on School Teaching. After speaking of the fact that teachers of the public schools often make that employment a stepping-stone to other professions, the essayist went on to show how the teacher may keep an eye on his future profession in a manner that will be profitable, both to himself and his school.

Recitation by Mr. Barney. His selection was the poem on Old John Burns at Gettysburg.

Story, S. H. Coon. He stated that his production was not a story, but a true account of his recent trip to his former home in the West. He gave a lively description of his journey, dwelling chiefly on Chicago, the young but great metropolis and grain market of the West; and on a terrible accident which occurred to the train on which he started from Chicago.

Oration, O. D. Sherman. An interesting sketch was given of the former greatness and present condition of the countries bordering on the Mediterranean Sea.

Paper, D. M. Estee. This contained a number of locals and spicy items of various kinds; also the following articles: "Hand Shaking;" a poem, "A Dream of our National Bicentennial;" "Our Next President."

Poem, O. M. Rogers. "The Bee." Some of the useful lessons that may be learned by observing this little insect were well brought out in poetical language.

Discussion of the following resolution: "Resolved, That the use of the Bible in the public schools should be prohibited." Opened on the affirmative by J. Davison; on the negative by T. A. Burdick, after which the assembly was resolved into Committee of the Whole, and a somewhat lengthy and spirited discussion followed. The principal arguments presented were as follows: *Affirmative*. The proper places for religious instruction are the home, the church, and the Sabbath-school, but not the public schools. The people of this nation consist not alone of evangelical Christians, who accept the Protestant Bible as their spiritual

guide, but includes Roman Catholics, Jews, Liberals, Chinese, etc., all of whom have an equal interest in the burdens and benefits of the public schools; it is therefore unjust that the religion of any one class shall be introduced in these schools. As the evangelical Christians would not want the religion of these other classes introduced, it is but an application of the Golden Rule not to bring in the evangelical Bible and worship. It was the design of the founders of the government, and should be the aim of the people to-day, to keep church and state entirely separate; to secure this end, no institution, supported by the State, should be used for religious purposes. That the entire separation of church and state is the only means by which our schools and other public institutions can be secured against the encroachments of religious organizations, either of Roman Catholics or others.

On the negative it was claimed, that the use of the Bible in schools has a beneficial influence. To prohibit its use in the schools would be an infringement on the rights of those who live in districts where its use is desired. Such prohibition would be a union rather than a separation of church and state. It is the Roman Catholics who are attempting to expel the Bible from the schools, and this is only one step in their design to get the control of this country. As we value our freedom, we should resist every step in their encroachments. If we attempt to expel from the schools everything that is objected to on religious grounds, we shall have to throw out many of our text books; there will always be something objected to, so there will never be an end to the task, if it is commenced. At the close of the discussion, the vote stood thirteen for the resolution to twenty-seven against, only one lady voting in the affirmative.

#### AN ATHENÆAN SESSION.

On the evening of Feb. 26th, the Athenæans entertained the Alleghanians with the following exercises: Salute, Miss Witter. The "Irrepressible Conflict," carried on in this country between freedom and slavery, was brought out as an illustration of the conflict that is ever going on between right and wrong, truth and error.

Recitation, Miss Hall. This depicted the death scene of a young man in a foreign land, surrounded only by savages who could neither alleviate his sufferings nor understand his dying words. The cause of his miserable end was shown to be the wine cup, which he had learned to love while in a home of refinement and luxury.

Trial, "A leap year breach of promise case." Miss A. E. Lamson, Judge. Mrs. Jennie Stillman, Clerk. Miss V. Varnum, counsel for plaintiff. Miss C. Skinner, counsel for defendant. After impanneling a jury, witnesses were examined, the counsel for the plaintiff endeavoring to prove that the defendant, a wealthy lady, had sought to win the affections of the plaintiff, a susceptible and guileless youth, and having succeeded, now refused to marry him. The counsel for the defendant claimed that the attentions and favors bestowed by the defendant were prompted by charity and grat-

itude for favors once received from relatives of the plaintiff. The jury found the defendant guilty, and the judge sentenced her to pay \$5,000 damages and costs. We suppose our Athenæan sisters will of course take warning, and not trifle with the affections of susceptible young men during the present year.

Valedictory, Miss Bradley. It has ever been the tendency of man to seek for liberty. In this country, it has been attained in such a degree that the oppressed in other countries have here found an asylum. But we have not yet gained perfect liberty. Political corruption, intemperance, and other crimes are hindrances to liberty. The same is true in individual life; true liberty can be gained only by overcoming every temptation to crime.

Discussion, "Resolved, That specie payment should be resumed in 1879." Opened by Mrs. Sherman, and continued in committee of the whole. On the affirmative, it was claimed that the history of the world shows that gold is the only reliable basis for currency; that the honor of our nation requires the payment of its notes in specie; that the financial interests of the nation at large and of individuals demand a return to specie payment. A few who have given their notes or other obligations, on a greenback basis, will unavoidably be losers; but this is a small evil compared with the continuance of the rag-money system.

On the negative, it was argued that it is the stamp of the government and not the material which constitutes money, therefore, paper may be used as properly as gold; that a purely specie currency is an impossibility; that the prosperity of our country, with a greenback currency, is sufficient proof that it should be retained. The resolution was carried. Excellent music was furnished by various members of the society.

#### REGENTS EXAMINATION.

Regents examinations have come and gone, and now is the time to count the killed and wounded, and learn the lessons which this triannual battle teaches. This year, as heretofore, the veterans, skilled in the Greek and Roman wars (classic), were on hand. They had doffed the togas of ancient literature, and come down to show how the battles of the English verb and noun should be fought. There was the astute mathematician, armed with all the toggery of radicals and theorems, prepared to make a jest of complex and decimal fractions; and there too was the new recruit, who was to "smell powder" for the first time.

The first session in arithmetic began with fifty-seven in their seats, all prepared to correctly solve and place upon paper ten problems in two hours. The engagement opened with the best promise of success. For a time it was hotly contested; but the enemy, though so few, from behind his breastworks, soon wrought dreadful slaughter. The first to give way was the cavalry, which having been "dismounted," could not maneuver successfully over the unfamiliar ground, without the aid of their "ponies." Next the recruits broke, and the whole brunt of the battle fell upon a few who had en-



trenched close to the enemy's works, and proposed to carry them by "regular approaches," which they succeeded in doing. The afternoon session in grammar was a trying one. The ranks were nearly full again, (forty-four strong,) but unfortunately "short of ammunition," and it was a sight to move the stoutest heart, to see those tried "soldiers of the 10th Legion," one by one, shoulder their empty pieces, and with woe-begone faces, betake themselves to the rear. It was a terrible letting down to many. They fell as Lucifer fell, "From early morn till dewy eve—a summer's day." Friday morning came the second arithmetic session, with fewer numbers, but some good work; and to lay aside all figures, study, work, discipline began to tell. A creditable number were successful. In spelling and geography, about the usual percentage succeeded.

To conclude: This examination, like all its predecessors, demonstrates two things: First, that spelling is sadly neglected in our common schools, where it must be taught, if at all. Secondly, that in *all* our schools, the pupils are allowed to hurry over all the common English branches, and into the higher studies, until superficiality is justly charged upon most of us as teachers and scholars.

### THE SPELLING MATCH.

The weather has not smiled on the Alfred spelling matches this year. At the time appointed for the first one, the night was dark and the roads muddy; the evening of Feb. 17th was then appointed for the second spell; this time, though the mud was at least partially covered with snow, the roads were far from good, and snow was falling, making it quite unfavorable for a public gathering. A small audience assembled, including about thirty spellers. Mr. I. A. Place and Miss A. E. Lamson chose sides. Prof. Allen pronounced the words; Prof. A. B. Kenyon and Mr. J. M. Mosher were referees. Many of the spellers had evidently come with the intention to do their best, for the ranks thinned out very slowly. The words were first selected from a copy of the *STUDENT*; after four hundred and eighty-three had been spelled from this source, one hundred and seventy-five were given from a list prepared for the occasion. When these had been disposed of, there were ten contestants remaining. Words were then selected from various sources, principally from a test speller. Sixty-eight more words were spelled before the last contestant was vanquished, making altogether seven hundred and twenty-six words spelled. The last three words missed are auricle, cartouch, accordion. The prizes were awarded as follows: First prize, Webster's Unabridged Dictionary, to Miss Wealthy V. Tucker; second prize, a photograph album, worth \$3, to Miss Clotilda Stillman; third prize, a photograph album, worth \$2, to Mr. J. E. Varnum. The following is a nearly complete list of the words misspelled: Sentence, achieved, years, stepped, trode, paradigms, Schiller, sacrifices, Macaulay, villain, grammatical, enterprises, billiards, Cassody, Noachian, maintenance, supersede, succeed, acknowledgment, apparatus, cauliflower, ex-

hilarate, Pleiades, resuscitate, apropos, cauterize, auricle, cartouch, accordion.

THE READING ROOM is well patronized this term. Although it does not contain all the publications that can be desired, it has a good variety, as the following list of periodicals to be found there will show: Popular Science Monthly, Atlantic Monthly, Harper's Monthly, Scribner's Monthly, Elmira Daily Advertiser, New York Semi-Weekly Tribune, Frank Leslie's Illustrated Weekly, Harper's Weekly, New England Journal of Education, Toledo Blade, Chicago Inter-Ocean, Missouri Republican, Independent, Christian Union, Christian Standard, Christian Secretary, Christian at Work, Christian Observer, Christian Cynosure, Church Union, Methodist, Baptist Weekly, New York Observer, Messiah's Herald, Methodist Recorder, Narragansett Weekly, Husbandman, Hornellsville Herald, Cuba Herald, Alleganian, Allegany County Reporter, Southern Tier Leader, Cape Vincent Eagle, Angelica Republican, Allegany Democrat, Olean Times, Friendship Register, Andover Citizen, Salisbury Press, of Chariton county, Mo. It is expected that there will be some additions to the above list at the opening of the Spring Term.

CABINET CONTRIBUTORS.—*Archæology*.—Rev. N. Wardner, Rev. A. H. Lewis, W. S. Bonham, Mrs. M. Bonham, J. S. Bonham, E. D. Bonham, Mrs. E. S. Davis, A. Flitchinger, Louis Scheible, W. Davis, Helen M. Evans.

*Botany*.—Mrs. H. Bacon.

*Numismatics*.—Helen M. Evans.

*Mineralogy*.—Rev. N. Wardner, Winfield S. Bonham, Helen M. Evans, George Bonham, Gilbert Ayres.

*Palæontology*.—Rev. N. Wardner, H. M. Tomlinson, Augustus Flitchinger, Rev. A. H. Lewis, Prof. G. M. Cottrell, Eddie Lewis, P. B. Davis, G. Bonham, F. Tomlinson, Gilbert Ayres, H. B. Davis, H. B. Evans.

*Zoology*.—H. M. Tomlinson, Mrs. E. B. Swinney, H. B. Davis, A. Flitchinger.

SHEPPARD & COON are closing out their stock of groceries, preparatory to dissolving partnership. Mr. Coon will continue to deal in books, stationery, picture frames, etc. Mr. Sheppard will devote himself to preparing to enter the medical profession. Mark will be greatly missed by both students and citizens; his obliging manners and social disposition have caused him to be well known and highly esteemed by the students of this Institution for many years past. All will heartily wish him success in his new employment.

THE endowment of the Professorship of Church History in Alfred University is so far completed that Rev. A. H. Lewis, professor elect of that department, will occupy the chair at the opening of next year.

It is reported that one evening, not long ago, two or three persons with lanterns were seen trying to find out whether the street lamp on University Street was burning or not.

THE GYMNASIUM ASSOCIATION gave an entertainment on the evening of March 1st. It consisted of a recitation, gymnastic exercises, and a drama, entitled "Among the Breakers, or Cast up by the Waves." The recitation by Miss M. L. Bradley was a plain but interesting story of domestic life, and was delivered in a clear voice and easy manner. The gymnastic exercises were by Geo. McNett, W. H. Ferris, F. D. Crandall, and A. O. Allen. The boys showed an amount of skill and muscle that agreeably surprised those who are not accustomed to visiting the gymnasium. The drama was a love affair, and therefore amusing rather than instructive; but all agree that it was well rendered, considering the inexperience of the actors. The whole entertainment was well received by the large audience in attendance. Music was furnished by the Alfred Centre Cornet Band.

COASTING and snowballing have been rather scarce luxuries most of this winter, but on the 15th of February snow commenced falling, and in a few days there was a good coasting track on Chapel Hill. All the sleds of the neighborhood were then in demand. Daylight did not last long enough to satisfy all of the lovers of the sport. It was kept up by moonlight; and when that failed, lanterns were brought into use. The authorities seemed to admit, tacitly, that a little indulgence was justifiable after so long deprivation, and on one or two evenings the merry voices and laughter of the coasters were heard somewhat later than a strict adherence to regulations would admit.

OBITUARY.—Died, at his home in Alfred Centre, Feb. 13th, 1876, of general atony, Luke Green, in the 74th year of his age. So reads the last clause in the history of a man known to most of the readers of the STUDENT. Mr. Green became a citizen of Alfred in the year 1827, and during almost the whole intervening time has been actively engaged in the mercantile business. A man of energy and integrity, he has enjoyed the confidence of the community, and accumulated considerable wealth. His sickness brought to his bedside his whole family, though widely scattered. David, Hannah and Orson, from Plainfield, N. J., and Miranda, from Saginaw, Mich.

"FOUR YEARS IN THE HOSPITALS" was the subject of a lecture by Miss C. C. McNair in the Chapel, Monday evening, Feb. 25th. Miss McNair is one of those noble Christian women that freely gave their services, to lessen the horrors of war in the late rebellion, by caring for the sick and wounded. She is a forcible writer, and drew vivid pictures of hospital life, holding her audience completely. The subject is one that will help teach our youth what it has cost to give to them a free and undivided country.

SOME time ago a class in elocution was practicing on various selections; among others one from Webster's supposed speech of John Adams in favor of the Declaration of Independence. The selection commences as follows: "Sir,

before God, I believe the hour is come." One member, not having it well learned, and perhaps deeply impressed by his position as a public speaker, with uplifted hand and solemn voice said: "Sir, before God, I believe *my* hour is come."

THE FAIRBAIRN FAMILY gave two very pleasing musical entertainments at the Chapel Hall, on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, Feb. 22d and 23d. Their programme was largely made up of the songs of Scotland, their native country. Mr. Angus Fairbairn gave a brief biographical sketch of Robert Burns, and sang some of his finest ballads. To all admirers of the melodies of the Scottish highlands, and lovers of the poetry of Robbie Burns, these were rare entertainments.

POSITIVELY THE LAST!—The Publishing House, which was located (by vote) on the University grounds, has since been removed (by the same) to the ground now occupied by the shop owned by Thomas Place and Prof. Wm. A. Rogers. As the job of building the Publishing House is let, and stones for the foundation are on the spot, we infer that there will be no more changes of site.

ALMOST A FIRE.—The dwelling house of A. A. Shaw was, a few days since, discovered to be on fire. Fortunately, the discovery was made in time to save a conflagration. Cause supposed to be sparks or coals from a stove. Moral—Take care of the fire when you leave it.

AS AN evidence of the unusual mildness of the winter, we note the fact that on Feb. 14th plowing and scraping were commenced preparatory to building a publishing house.

B. S. BASSETT, of Canisteo, has bought the property in this place owned by Horace D. Eaton. Price \$2,000. Mr. Bassett takes possession September 1st.

STEPHEN C. BURDICK takes the place of J. S. Kenyon as "mine host" of the Tremont House.

REV. D. E. MAXSON has bought of J. C. Green a lot containing one acre. Price \$1,000.

## Alumni Notes.

[Information from any source concerning this department will be received with pleasure.]

### ALUMNI.

'44. Rev. John D. Collins is teaching in Dalton, Georgia.

'48. Rev. Darius Ford, of the Elmira Female College, was announced to preach at the Baptist Church at Almond, N. Y., on Feb. 13th.

'52. Abby K. Edwards *Witter* resides at Alfred Centre, N. Y.

'65. Mrs. Martha J. Benjamin is President of the Ladies' Sabbath Tract Society of Alfred, N. Y.

'67. Amos Lewis has returned from the West, and will engage in farming on the old homestead.

'73. Rev. Geo. J. Crandall, lately of Richburgh, N. Y., has become pastor of the Seventh-day Baptist church at West Hallock, Ill.

'75. Prof. F. E. Mungor, of Brookfield Academy, N. Y., read an original poem at a session of the Ladies' Sabbath Tract Society, lately held at that place.

#### OLD STUDENTS.

'41-'42. William Stout, Esq., is Postmaster, Justice of the Peace, and a farmer at Fulmer Valley, N. Y.

'50-'51. Leader Gorton is a Civil Engineer and Surveyor at Belmont, N. Y.

'56. At the late town election, of Hornellsville, N. Y., Miles W. Hawley, Democrat, was elected Supervisor by a small majority over F. M. Conkrite ('64), Republican.

'60. A. J. Switzer is manager of the Urbana Wine Co., at Hammondsport, N. Y.

'63 Jacob Vickers, Temperance candidate, was lately elected Excise Commissioner for Hartsville, N. Y.

'66-'67. Mrs. Ruth Karr Cool resides at Pittston, Luzerne Co., Pa.

At the session of the Teacher's Association, for the Southern District of Allegany County, held at Wellsville, Feb. 10th, Silas G. Burdick ('60), Principal of the Graded School at Andover, presented an original poem. J. W. Bullard ('70-'71), Friendship, conducted an exercise in Geography. A. B. Cottrell, Commissioner, gave instruction in English Grammar, and Mrs. A. A. Allen, of Alfred University, presented an exercise in Industrial Drawing.

### MARRIED,

JEWELL—WRIGHT—At Irving, Kan., Feb. 8th, 1876, by Gavan Reed, Esq., Mr. Lyman Jewell and Miss Elizabeth C. Wright

### DIED,

ENNIS—In Little Genesee, N. Y., Feb. 22d, 1876, of typhoid fever, Dudley K. Ennis, in the 30th year of his age.

## The College World.

### THE LITERARY SOCIETY.

We have noticed with regret the numerous signs of decay in the College literary societies. Whatever may be the cause, the result is to be deplored. No thoughtful person, we presume, questions the value of the literary society.

The keen discipline which results from the conflict of active minds; the self-control and power of thinking rapidly and accurately, which is acquired in extemporaneous speech; the foresight which comes from preparing arguments to

withstand the vigorous and searching criticism of opponents; the development derived from the analysis and refutation of the arguments of others; the clearly defined knowledge demanded in debate; the familiarity with parliamentary laws, secured by practice, and the training in courage and self-reliance, all combine to render *debating*, at least, one of the most valuable means of discipline and culture within reach of the student.

Dr. McCosh, at the beginning of the present term, in a speech urging the students to support the literary societies of Princeton, said: "The debating societies of Edinburgh have produced some of the greatest statesmen in Britain; the Historical Society of Dublin nurtured the greatest orators of Ireland; and in our day, the results of the debates of the Union Clubs of Oxford and Cambridge are telegraphed to London, and statesmen next morning eagerly tear open their newspapers that they may see what is the opinion of young England now, which they are sure will be the opinion of old England five years hence." As far as debates can show, Young America has no opinions now, nor is likely to have in the future.

While the colleges have perhaps gained in thoroughness and finish of scholarship, they have lost in vigor and grasp of thought, and this decline of manly vigor seems to be manifest in the decline of the literary and rhetorical exercises, and in the lack of general interest in political and social questions. Whatever other colleges may do and are doing, we think the power of this Institution will diminish with the decline of her literary societies. The societies certainly are declining in their debates. There is a marked falling off from the standard of eight or ten years ago, and it is full time a remedy was sought, or deeper interest awakened, and better work done. A lack of preparation, a limited knowledge of public interests, questions, and movements, a false timidity, are some of the causes of the failure, no doubt. If the societies should, from time to time, hold joint debate, in which society was pitted against society, and the strength of the society judged from its public exhibition in debates, some good might result. We trust the members of our societies will give this question a careful consideration, and take measures to prevent them from following in the course of so many similar societies throughout the land.

### THE INTER-COLLEGIATE LITERARY CONTEST.

The literary contests naturally lead to a comparison of the competing colleges in respect to their methods of teaching, courses of study, success in accomplishing their plans, etc., etc. President White began the comparison, claiming that Cornell's success came from three things: the broad foundation of Cornell as a real university, its unsectarian choice of its instructors, and the establishment of various courses of study suited to the qualities, tastes, and aims of various students. *Harper's Weekly* immediately took it for granted that the success of Cornell was proof that her system and methods of instruction were superior to all others, and that

her success itself was sufficient answer to all objections to her system and methods.

Before the conclusions are all drawn, however, sound sense requires a wider induction of facts than we have yet had. Cornell is devoted, more than any other of the competing colleges, to special courses and to specialists. It is easy for a specialist to take a prize, in his own department, over a student who is successfully pursuing a regular course of many departments, and under teachers of great ability and skill. Before we judge, we wish to know whether Cornell's successful students were pursuing regular or special courses. We would wish to know also, whether the success of Cornell may not depend on the possession, just at this juncture, of students far in advance of those of the other colleges, in age, general culture, and discipline. It is quite natural to suppose that Cornell, from the chances for work which she offers, has a large number of students who are helping themselves, and have taught, studied and thought more than the majority of students in the colleges. If so, Cornell's success would prove nothing save as to the ability of the contestants themselves. We have no desire to detract a particle from the glory of Cornell, but when educational theories are to be developed, we demand a longer and more thorough study of the case in all its bearings, and desire stronger proofs than the non-employment of sectarian professors in the university.

#### SECRET SOCIETIES AGAIN.

The March number of *Schermerhorn's Monthly* contains an entertaining (?) article on Secret Societies. The writer begins by saying, "In regard to secret societies, it may be justly said, that one ounce of practical knowledge is worth a pound of theoretical conclusions," and then proceeds to give an *ex cathedra* decision of the whole case. Over three hundred colleges have secret societies, all of which are devoted to intellectual and literary culture, and include in their membership nearly all the students in these three hundred (and over) colleges, says this man of practical knowledge, and then he brings forward four colleges, Harvard, Yale, Williams, and Rutgers, as proofs of his free and easy assertions. Are we mistaken in thinking that secret societies have long been prohibited at Harvard, and have held a meagre, clandestine, and sickly existence there? If so (and we are pretty sure we are right), our wiseacre must drop one from his magnificent list of four. We know that at Williams the majority of the students are *not* members of the secret societies, and that the societies themselves are not distressingly literary and intellectual in their aims. Then too, how about the three hundred and more colleges in which there are secret societies? We do not propose, at this time, to discuss the secret society system, but wish the *Monthly's* critic to follow his own advice, and give us facts instead of wild misstatements. When he does that, perhaps we shall sympathize with him in his manifest spite against Princeton.

The school fund of the Indian Territory is \$100,000,000.

WOMEN IN CORNELL UNIVERSITY.—From the circular of the Sage College, Cornell University, we clip the following: "It is now three years since young ladies were admitted to the University. Thus far the results have been excellent as regards both sexes. There has been no decrease of manly spirit among the young men, or of the feminine graces among the young ladies. On the contrary, the discipline of the University has been constantly improved; acts and words which will always be tolerated among assemblages of young men alone have been banished by the presence of young women, and a natural emulation has steadily raised the standard of scholarship. Not a breath of scandal has been heard. The fears of the timid and the prophecies of the hostile have been brought to naught. Although the young ladies have labored under disadvantages, owing to the want of a suitable building, hitherto, their average of health and attainment has been fully equal to that of the young men."

CORRECTION.—A communication from an Amherst student calls attention to a mistake in our February number concerning the decay of the Literary Societies at Amherst. The libraries are surrendered to the general library merely for greater convenience in their use. We formed our notions of Amherst literary societies from the reports and complaints of the *Amherst Student* of two or three years ago, and from private sources. We are glad to be informed that the societies are flourishing, and willingly correct our statement.

EXCHANGES.—The following exchanges have been received: The Crimson, Bates Student, Madisonensis, Trinity Tablet, Targum, College Mirror, School Bulletin and New York Educational Journal, University Record, Brunonian, College Argus.

#### CLIPPINGS.

If there is ever a time to be ambitious, it is not when ambition is easy, but when it is hard. Fight in darkness; fight when you are down; die hard, and you won't die at all. That gelatinous bodied man, whose bones are not even muscles, and whose muscles are pulp—that man is a coward. —H. W. Beecher.

Fourteen hundred young Americans are prosecuting their studies at the universities and colleges, music schools and conservatories of Germany, and recent criticisms and reports from German authorities testify to their being very apt scholars.—*Ex.*

And still the "pull back" gets tighter. The girls now take sustenance from the mantelpiece, instead of sitting at the table with the rest of the family.—*Ex.*

President Stearns, of Amherst, says that the modern system of education, embracing a multiplicity of topics, is injurious to the memory.

Sixty-six students are absent from Dartmouth, and over sixty from Bates, engaged in teaching.

In the Iowa State University, last year, with 620 students, the law class had two ladies.