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THE  
**MESSENGER**  
 OF  
**RICHMOND COLLEGE**  
 Richmond, Va.

Published Monthly by the Mu Sigma Rho and Philologist Societies.

E. M. PILCHER, - BUSINESS M. NAGER. | CHAS. CLIMENT, ASSIST. BUSINESS MAN'G'R

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## SELF-CONTROL AS AN ELEMENT IN LEARNING.

—O—

The fact that we are students is proof positive that our object is to learn. Our first lesson is self-control. Let no one suppose that the perfect lesson of self-control comes naturally. As the child must learn to talk by constant effort, so must the student learn self-control by repeated and earnest exercise of the will-power. Although helpful influences may be brought to bear upon this study, *self* is the principal teacher. It requires a great deal of hard work and persistent effort to obtain a certificate of graduation from this school, yet the pupil will never fill his highest mission in life until he has diligently studied and learned how to control himself. Realizing this to be a fact, let us no-

tice some things which may serve as stepping stones to this degree of proficiency.

1. *Self-control in our physical habits.*—As the condition of the mind is dependent to a considerable extent upon that of the body, one of the first things to be taken into consideration is, how we may govern our appetite. Common sense ought to be a guide in this, but all are not endowed with a superabundance of this rarest kind of sense. Imprudence in eating has wrecked the health of many men, and thereby destroyed their usefulness to a great extent for life.

Another condition upon which advancement in learning depends is, the way we control ourselves in



sleeping. Some one might say: well, any fool knows when to sleep and when not to sleep; but there are some exceptions to this rule, all fools don't sleep at the proper time. I have known some boys who seemed to think it was the smart thing to spend the solemn hours of night after night in reveling and "calithumping," instead of preparing for the next day's duties. Whatever you may say about the moral of thus keeping yourself and others awake, you are certainly wasting your strength and rendering yourselves and your fellow-students unfit for the next day's work. Again, I have known some students who had misty dreams of ambition, and heard of old that the quickest way to reach the giddy height of fame was by burning midnight oil. Such oil is too expensive for the student to use. Find out how much sleep your constitution really requires, and be regular in your habits.

The one thing in which students err perhaps more than anything else is the matter of taking exercise. If you have self-control in exercising your body it will thus prepare you both physically and mentally to use the mind more advantageously. When one is interested in reading a book or preparing a lesson, especially when he is a little behind in his work, oh, how much will-power it requires to leave the book to take exercise. After seeing how indispensable self-con-

trol is in these things upon which our mental advancement is conditioned, let us observe the importance of

2. *Self-control in our mental habits.*—Of all things the mind is the most unruly. It is much easier to keep a jumping, roving colt in the pasture than it is to control an untrained mind. When the mind is called upon to bring together its faculties to solve a difficult problem instead of penetrating it, like the humming bird that sings around the blossom "It flits ere you can point its place." As the colt needs a master to teach him to walk in the furrow, so the mind requires self-control to direct it in the proper path. It is impossible to accomplish very much in the mental world without the power of concentration. The man who has the power of concentrating the faculties of his soul upon one thing and keeping them there at will is the strong man. Unity is strength. If you take a pound of powder, scatter it thinly over the floor and set fire to it the damage done will be very trifling; but if you compress that pound of powder into a cannon barrel it is capable of working great destruction. Just as the rays of the sun are focussed upon matter with enough intensity to ignite it, so when the powers of the mind are brought to bear upon a single thing it will become clear. Here and there we find melancholy examples of men who, although endowed



with great powers, nevertheless have failed in life because they didn't possess the ability to concentrate their efforts. There is power in concentration which cannot be had without self-control.

Particularly is the benefit of self-control seen in the power of studying when we don't feel like it. It is idle folly for a student to talk about studying only when he feels like it. Suppose the farmer was to plant only when he felt like it, would he be a successful farmer?

Not only is self-control an indispensable requisite in studying when we don't feel like it, but also in studying and writing upon subjects for which we have little or no taste. I have known students who didn't have any relish for history; others who didn't like the languages nor mathematics. Some have never

formed the habit of general reading. A certain man of my acquaintance detests writing. Can we ever hope to become well rounded men until our lives are controlled by the power of the will?

Then it is frequently necessary for a man to study when he is tired. It may not be best as a general rule for him to apply himself closely when thus fatigued, but emergencies come in a student's life, as well as in all other pursuits, and if he has not the power of self-control, although nature may have bestowed upon him the rarest gifts his failures will sometimes be so grievous that his excellencies cannot serve as a gloss to cover them.

W. T. CREATH.

*Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.*

### THE INFLUENCE OF EDUCATION ON CHARACTER.

Truthfully has it been said that variety is the beauty and wonder of nature. In all her works she uses the same mould for no two objects of whatever kind. No two human beings of all the kindred mass that walk this globe, in features or dispositions, are alike. Nature, too, finds a differently formed leaflet for every shrub and tree, weed and flower. She sends forth nothing without her indelible stamp upon it, bearing its own peculiar impress, form and design. From the tenderest flowers

of the valley to the sturdy mountain oaks, from the water lilies of the rivulet to the palm of the plain, from the vineyards of the Rhine to the ever-green cedars of Lebanon, there is no perfect likeness. But in nothing does nature so much abhor similarity as in man's disposition and character. Truly she is the mother of our dispositions, yet zealous and jealous as she sometimes is towards her gifts to man, she never so engrosses him that influences of the outside world are



entirely shut out. <sup>They are</sup> Many are the influences that affect the character of man in the <sup>are</sup> short stay of life, <sup>to</sup> but none so forcibly, especially in early life, as education.

What the compass is to the mariner education is to character. There is somewhat a deficiency in the common use of the term now-a-days. It is not the filling of the mind with doctrines and teachings foreign to one's self, but rather the "leading out" of that which lies within, concealed and dormant, the bringing to light the inward man in full view to himself and the world. Education, then, is that training of the inward feelings and emotions that brings man in close acquaintance with himself and his fellow-beings. To educate is to "know thyself." Education is to know something, to be something, to do something. Without its power, without its brightening influence spreading over the mysteries of the human mind, than which nothing is more mysterious, superstition and ignorance would reign supreme over the dictates of man's heart and actions of his life. That conscious and irresistible presentiment, inexplicable otherwise than that its author is God, that there exists one Supreme Being over and above all, would soon lose itself in a vast ocean of opinions and doctrines ruinous and heathenish. It is this analyzing of self that instills into man that sense of dependence and obligation, respect and fraternal love due to his fellow-man,

which is as essential to the peace and happiness of the mind as material food is to the growth and strength of the body. All that is pure and holy in man, all that is grand and noble, has its closest affinity with this mental cultivation, so much to be desired by all who are ambitious to attain, in any degree, to the highness and nobility still remaining in man's inherited nature.

This knowledge is not learning simply, but wisdom, not to be found in "cold book learning," but to be gleaned from Nature's unfolded page.

"To him who, in the love of nature holds  
Communion with her visible forms, she  
speaks

A various language; for his gayer hours  
She has a voice of gladness, and a smile  
And eloquence of beauty; and she glides  
Into his darker musings with a mild  
And healing sympathy, that steals away  
Their sharpness ere he is aware."

Not to toss on the fitful waters of speculation, not to theorize the abstract, but to sound the dark channels of human thought, to probe far into the secret, sacred chambers of the human heart. As the tender fibres are being woven into the strong and durable texture of human character, what an impression this knowledge must <sup>make</sup> on youth's waxen mind. <sup>Christ</sup> But be patient, not as the fiery intellect imbibes learning, but let the sacred emotions that nestle nearest the heart unfold themselves in nature's own good time, for "learning



comes, but wisdom lingers." To be something!

Nothing goes so far in making its possessor firm in purpose, steady in aim, pure in motive, as this inward-searching of the natural disposition. The noblest ambition that stirs the heart in night's sacred hour, when darkness invests a "still and pulseless world," is to be some one for power and good in the world. But the highest aspirations of a fanciful child, though rainbows of promise, are even as transient unless prompted and propagated by this early training of the intellect.

When youth ripens into manhood and the imaginative eye, for the first time, scans the vast fields of life's unceasing toil, it is then that the early-sown seed give first tokens of the autumnal harvest. It is then that the influences of education, as "water-brooks," laughing and dancing over pebly sands and rock-bosomed beds, at last swell ocean's broad expanse, unite and

coalesce, forming from tiny rills and rivulets one mighty tide that wafts man on its placid bosom to grander and nobler fields of labor. To do something!

To know is the "basis of character," To be is the formed character, firm and immovable. To do is the natural consequence of the union of the two. Man has entered upon life's arena, robed in a mantle of the strongest texture, covered with a shield from whose immense convex the darts of an envying world fall powerless and harmless to the earth. With this union man has, from a worldly standpoint, won the last victor's crown over self. Then strive on, O man; thy noble impulses, tempered with a Saviour's love, make thee scarcely "lower than the angels." Lift high thy noble brow, proud man; God made thee "in angel form, erect, to hold communion with the skies."

C. M. G.

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## THE UNITED STATES ARMY AND NAVY.

We have this army scattered throughout our country, but still we are in almost total ignorance of it and its manner of working. The cause of this ignorance is manifest; we do not like the U. S. army—think we do not need it, and therefore we do not care to know anything particularly concerning it. Kind reader, let us lay aside our

prejudice for a little while and enter the *sanctum sanctorum* of this "dread monster," as it is sometimes called, and learn a few things concerning it.

The United States army consists of 25,000 enlisted men, maximum strength, commanded by no less than 2,000 commissioned officers. The army is divided as follows:



Cavalry, ten regiments, each consisting of eleven divisions called troops, each troop containing sixty-four enlisted men, maximum strength.

Artillery, five regiments, each containing twelve divisions called batteries, each battery consisting of forty-seven enlisted men, maximum strength.

Twenty-five regiments of infantry, each consisting of nine divisions called companies, each company containing seventy enlisted men, maximum strength. These are officered as follows:

Each troop of cavalry and company of infantry—one captain and three lieutenants; each battery of artillery, one captain and four lieutenants, making a total of 1,670 commissioned officers in direct command of these soldiers. In addition to these we have one colonel in command of each regiment, one post commander at almost every garrisoned post, one or two doctors at every post and several with the regiments in camps, several department and division commanders, and finally a commander-in-chief, President of the United States, making this one of the best officered armies in the world.

The navy numbers only about 13,000 enlisted men, and is not so well officered as the army. These men are on duty in the various navy yards in the United States, and man forty-six ships. Of these ships, four are in China, two at Honolulu,

one in Japan, several in Europe, several in the South Pacific Ocean, several in the North Atlantic, and several in the ports of the United States.

The majority of these ships are obsolete. Many of them will go out of commission as soon as the improved steel vessels now in process of construction shall have been completed. The improvement made in the navy during the last few years is best shown by the following figures taken from last report of the Secretary of the Navy:

In 1889 only three modern steel vessels were in command, viz:

Name of vessel.	Displacem't. Tons.	Commissioned.
Dolphin,	1,485	Dec. 8, 1885
Atlanta,	3,189	July 19, 1886
Boston,	3,189	May 2, 1887

During this administration the following vessels will have been added to the Navy:

Name of vessel.	Displacem't. Tons.	Commissioned.
Chicago,	4,500	April 17, 1889
Yorktown,	1,700	April 17, 1889
Petrel,	899	Dec. 10, 1889
Charleston,	4,040	Dec. 26, 1889
Baltimore,	4,600	Jan. 7, 1890
Cushing,	116	April 22, 1890
Vesuvius,	930	June 7, 1890
Philadelphia,	4,224	July 28, 1890
San Francisco,	4,083	Nov. 15, 1890
Newark,	4,083	Feb. 2, 1891
Concord,	1,700	Feb. 14, 1891
Bennington,	1,700	June 20, 1891
Miantonomoh,	3,990	Oct. 27, 1891
Bancroft,	838	Dec. 20, 1892
Machias,	1,050	Jan. 10, 1893
Monterey,	4,138	Jan. 10, 1893
New York,	8,151	Jan. 31, 1893
Detroit,	2,000	Jan. 31, 1893
Montgomery,	2,000	Feb. 28, 1893

On their trial trip some of these vessels attained a speed of twenty-two knots per hour.

So much for a general view of these two branches of our government. Let us now visit a fort and then go out with a scouting party



on the plain. Suppose we visit Fort Monroe. We enter at the main gate by an arch-way cut through a wall twenty-five feet in thickness. We next climb the slope and find ourselves on top of the wall from which we obtain an excellent view of the surrounding country, Hampton Roads and Chesapeake Bay. Marching around towards the eastern part, we come to an immense cannon, looking frowningly over the wall. We ask about its size, range, etc., and are told that it is not of much importance now, that it is a smooth bore of 15-inch calibre, weighs twenty-five tons and carries a maximum charge of 125 pounds of powder and 500 pound solid shot. In surprise we ask what sort of a cannon would he call an important one, and are told that some of the cannon made by Krupp weigh 100 tons and carry a maximum charge of 450 pounds of powder and 1,800 pound solid shot.

We next visit the ordnance storehouse. Here we find among other rapid firing machine guns, one made by Gatling. This is a terribly destructive weapon, requiring only three men to operate it, and capable of being fired at the rate of 1,300 shots per minute. The maximum range of this gun is two and one-fifth miles, but is not very accurate or effective at a greater range than 2,000 yards.

But we desire to see something of the personnel of the army, so we wend our way to the barracks.

Here we find typical soldier life in garrison. On the first floor we find the dining-room, kitchen, bath-room, etc. Ascending the stairway we are ushered into the sleeping apartments. These are large, airy rooms, accommodating about twenty-five men each. The beds are neatly arranged around the room, heads to the wall, and each soldier considers the little space occupied by his own bed, and about two feet on each side, his individual domain and never feels any hesitancy in requesting a fellow-soldier to vacate if he himself desires to be alone. This is not done in a spirit of harshness and the soldiers never get angry with each other for so doing. We are impressed with the fact that they are a good natured, easy-going set of men, always polite to the visitor and delighted to show him around.

Now imagine ourselves transported to some military camp in the west. The order for two companies of infantry to go on a scouting expedition has just been received. See the men as they hurry to and fro, each one getting his accoutrements in the best possible condition, packing his knapsack, teasing those soldiers left behind in telling them what a happy time he is going to have chasing Indians, and anon thinking of home and loved ones from whom he will get no news for the next six months.

Now all this hurry and bustle is over; the command is given to "fall



in." Here they come! "Right face!" "Count fours!" "Fours right, march!" Let's follow them; over plains and mountains they go; sleeping on the ground, the clear blue of heaven for a covering and the bright orbs of night for watch fires. Subsisting on canned beef, hard tack and coffee. Mending their clothes with pieces of blankets or tent cloth. Thus they go for six months, and then start back for camp. On their return the whole camp turns out to meet and welcome them. Ye who think soldiers have no heart, look at these comrades as they clasp again each other's hand, They present quite a different appearance now from what they did when they set out. Then their faces were cleanly shaven and hair

neatly cropped; now, beard all over their faces and hair down to their shoulders; then their blue uniforms and brass buttons glittering in the sunlight; now the uniform replaced by patches of blankets and tent cloth, and pegs and strings doing service in lieu of brass buttons.

Such is our army and navy life. Let us not think too harshly of Uncle Sam's boys, but remember that while we are in our homes enjoying the blessings of life they are exposed to the biting blasts of winter or to the scorching rays of summer sun in order to prepare themselves to be our brave and stalwart defenders.

W. L. B.

### A PLEA FOR WOMAN'S ADMISSION TO THE BAR.

It is a pleasing task in which the supporter of woman's admission to the bar finds himself engaged, for he is only advocating giving to woman her just and proper rights, and doing what is in his power to promote her welfare and advance her interests. The first argument, then, for admitting woman to the bar is that to do her so would only be to accord her what she has a right to expect and demand. Why has she this right? Because she has the ability to fill the position of lawyer both honorably and well. But has she the ability? The facts

in the case lead us mentally to the conclusion that she has.

Success has almost invariably accompanied her collegiate and literary struggles with man whenever she has contended with him upon terms of anything like equality. It has not been many years since she was first admitted to our higher institutions of learning, and yet, wherever she has been, there, contending with the same difficulties, grappling with the same great problems as her brothers, she has not only equaled them, but has sometimes even surpassed them.



Moreover the same success has crowned her efforts in almost every other department of life. Some of our most gifted novelists, our sweetest poets have been women. Already many have entered upon the profession of medicine and achieved considerable distinction in that line. Even in the busy marts of trade women have been found who have entered into successful competition with men, and there is one woman who has even dared to invade the precincts of Wall street and there, amid its din and turmoil, where fortunes are made and lost in an hour, to contend with Gould and Sage and Vanderbilt, and hold her own, too, oftentimes coming out victor, in proof of which to-day she counts her fortune by the tens of millions.

If women have proved so successful in all the other walks of life, why should they not succeed equally as well at law? Is there anything so wondrous difficult in the law of the land, which is for the punishment of evil doers and the protection of honest folk, that the brain of woman should fail to comprehend it, when success has crowned her efforts in college, in all the varied field of literature, in the vortex of the business world and even in the practice of the noble profession of medicine? To ask the question is to answer it. But, fortunately, we are not left to merely theorize on this subject, for already in some of our northern and western States,

women have been admitted to the practise of law. Some of them have even attained national reputations in this walk of life, and one has gone so far on the road to legal fame and glory as to be chosen attorney general of the State of Montana. But, as an old proverb says, there are none so blind as those who will not see, and this is certainly true of those who, in spite of the clearest evidence to the contrary, still cling to the timeworn, motheaten, utterly indefensible theory that woman has not the intellectual capacity to contend with man in the profession of jurisprudence. This does not mean that every woman would make a successful lawyer, but simply that she would succeed as well at the bar as she has done in other professions and occupations for which we would be apt to think she was no better qualified, if so well, as for the practice of law. God has given to everyone some individual talent, or, rather, an aptitude for doing one kind of work better than another. There are some men who make complete failures as lawyers or doctors, who would make most excellent mechanics or merchants; there are some poor merchants or farmers who would make the world ring with their eloquence were they to become lawyers or statesmen. Patrick Henry is a most notable example of this. Is there any reason for believing that the same thing is not true in regard to woman? No, but, on the contrary, there is every rea-



son to believe that there are women, to-day, eaking out miserable hand to mouth existences by standing behind counters, or laboriously toiling in some huge factory in order to increase the wealth of a merchant prince or rich manufacturer, who might have homes equal in comfort and magnificence to those of their lordly employers, did we but give them a chance to display their God-given ability in the sphere for which the Alwise Creator has so richly endowed them.

Thus we are brought face to face with the question, is it right to exclude woman from any situation in life for which she is intellectually qualified? Is it right to exclude her from a position for which God has so amply endowed her? The unprejudiced mind must answer this question in the negative. Let us now take up the second reason for woman's admission to the bar, it is expedient both for her and for the community at large.

It is customary at this stage of the argument for those who oppose opening to woman this sphere of usefulness to indulge in some high-sounding phrases to the effect that "home is woman's world," and that if we admit her to the bar it will not be long before "the sweet blushing maiden and the tender loving wife" will become a thing of the past, and in their stead we shall have only the coarse, bustering woman of whom Dr. Mary Walker is a fair example. But such a result

will by no means will follow. It is a well known fact that there are more women in the world than men, and that the ratio is constantly increasing. Now, with this fact staring us in the face, some provision must be made for the excess of women, and where can a better place be found for a portion of them than in the honorable profession of law? Of course only those women who had a taste for its intricacies would enter upon its practise, but among that very limited number we should find those who were best qualified to fill these positions well. Usually this class of women would not be those easily assailed by Cupid's darts, and it is hardly possible to imagine that our homes would be broken up, or our domestic peace destroyed by letting one woman in every five hundred, and the number from the very nature of the case could not exceed that, try her hand at telling us what is the law of the land. But it is exceedingly easy to conceive of a case in which it would be of the greatest advantage to the female lawyer to be allowed this privilege. Let us imagine a father whose health has been broken down in the long struggle to provide for his dear ones, or sadder still, a family that in the mysterious providence of God has had the bread winner snatched away by the ice cold hand of death. Perchance there is no son to assume the burden now forever laid down by the father. But there is a daughter, as



true and noble as any woman who ever drew the breath of life, and heroically does she assume the task. Yet what is she to do. Teaching is distateful to her, most of the other avocations open to a woman she turns from with aversion. But God has given her a talent, an especial talent and fondness for the law. From her early years she has taken a delight in all that pertains to that profession, and foreseeing just such an emergency as the one now before her, she has qualified herself to become a lawyer. So now that the time has come, she boldly essays to practice her profession, and succeeds, and the shekles come pouring into her coffers, for success always follows merit accompanying perseverance. Thus the shekles continue to come, shekles which mean so much, comfort at home, contentment in the heart of the widowed mother, advantages of education to the younger members of the family, and best of all a sweet peace and quiet satisfaction in the heart of the noble woman when she reflects that she has been the means of doing so much for the benefit of those who are nearest and dearest to her. Say you such a combination of circumstances is not likely to arise. Nay, but it is. Surely amid the thousands of families that are to-day, for one reason or another, supported by their female members, it is not difficult to think that here and there we should discover just such cases as the one mentioned,

families that are now in poverty and distress because their supporters are denied access to the positions for which their talents entitle them.

Thus far we have only shown that it would be for the advantage of the female lawyer and her immediate family were she admitted to the bar, it yet remains to prove that it would be for the advantage of society at large. If women were allowed to enter the profession of law there would be a greater number of talented lawyers for the people to choose from, as only the best male and female lawyers would remain in the profession in consequence of the sharp competition that would ensue from the increase of talent, and therefore the business of the community would be better attended to, and there would be fewer of those legal injustices that now so often arise from the mistakes of ignorant and incompetent lawyers. Then too, many men who are now on the lowest rounds of legal success would by this same increase of talent in the profession of jurisprudence be forced to leave it, and to seek some other avocation of life. Their success in this could not possibly be less than that in law, which we have seen to be almost nothing, and they might, and and probably would go to some calling in life for which they were well qualified, and thus become useful citizens instead of drones and laggards in the race of life.

Lastly, woman has never yet



touched anything without refining and enobling it. Wherever we find woman, there we find a polish traceable directly to her influence. If this is so in all other cases, and that it is no one can deny, would not the admission of woman to the bar result in refining and elevating it? for what gentleman could be rude to a lady? And thus, instead of the discourtesy and illmanners which often now disgrace our halls of justice, were women present, we should have only refinemen and courtesy.

O! woman, God's best gift to man, how often hast thou been ill-

used and slighted by him. From the time when our first parents left the bowers of Eden, thou hast been regarded as his inferior, ofttimes his slave. But patience, the day of thy deliverance is near at hand, and already in the many social changes and advances of the present, we detect the dawning of that morning when all the mists of prejudice and ignorance shall be rolled away and thou shalt walk through the lights and shadows of the ever varying scenes of life by the side of man as his friend, his companion, his equal.

X. Y. Z.

### A DEER HUNT IN KING WILLIAM COUNTY.

Many years ago deer abounded in King William, but about twenty years ago they were hunted so much that nearly all of them fled out of the county. However, they have recently returned, and now the upper part of the county teems with them.

The country in this section is fertile, grassy, and well adapted to deer. Two rivers, the Mattaponi and Paumunkey, flow through it, making abundant watering places for them. Of all the sports in this country deer hunting is the most exciting and enjoyable. In a deer hunt most of the hunters take stands and two or three others, with a pack of hounds, drive the deer as near as possible to the stands.

It was recently my pleasure and

privilege to hear an elegant description of an exciting chase from one of the most experienced hunters in the county, which runs as follows:

It was a cool frosty morning in December as I took my stand about 9:30 A. M., near a large oak, by which the deer generally ran. I waited for a long time in silence, and at last I heard the melodious notes of the hounds in full cry about three miles distant. I steadied myself as much as possible, thinking that I would soon need all the nerve I ever had, for a deer running by almost as swift as an arrow shot from the bow, creates no small excitement in the breast of a hunter. The musical notes of the hounds rang out clearer and clearer in my ears, and I knew then for certain



they were coming in my direction at their utmost speed. Almost in another instant I saw the head and antlers of a magnificent buck appear through the bushes about thirty-five yards from me. He, although running very fast, seemed perfectly calm and was evidently saving his best efforts for the final part of the chase. Soon he stopped, raised his head and sniffed the clear, crisp atmosphere with a thoroughly suspicious air. He then turned his head quickly to one side. Thinks I, "now is my time," so I raised my rifle and taking deliberate aim at his neck, fired. A sharp report rang out on the frosty morning air, and when the smoke rolled away he lay at full length on the ground, having dropped in his tracks.

Soon the dogs came up in full cry

and running at full speed. I stopped them and called them to me. I laid my rifle across the stag and placing my foot upon its neck, made the hounds form a circle around me. I blew my horn and waited for the other hunters.

What a beautiful picture this would have made if only Lancier or some other famous hunter could have sketched it. It would have gone to adorn the famous art galleries of the world and thus add fame and lustre to the name of the artist.

As a trophy of this chase the hunter has in his hall the head and antlers of the stag. This will ever be a reminder to him of one of the grandest deer hunts in which he ever participated.

H. W. R.

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### LESSING.

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Of all the classic literature of the world there is none that is exerting to-day so powerful an influence upon the English mind as is the German. Even when England gives birth to an intellectual genius she seems not to realize what she has done until some German critic discovers his greatness and proclaims his worth.

The German critic is the most thorough scholar of the world. He is generally notable for narrow mindedness, but is equally remarkable for thoroughness in every-

thing which he professes to understand. His knowledge is all intensive rather than extensive. He will never be satisfied to take any truth at second hand—he must find a scientific explanation and discover a profound significance in the most trifling and ordinary things. He delights in the most fanciful speculations, and is never so happy as when he has worked his way into the winding labyrinth of some unsolved mystery beyond the range of human reason, and then bores away in delightful darkness, quite beyond



all understanding. It has been truly said that while English criticism is shallow and only skims the surface, that German often penetrates quite beneath the surface and "expiates in cheerful unconsciousness on the other side thereof." The speculative tendency of the German mind renders it almost impossible for him to deal lightly with any subject, therefore he has little idea of humor and generally in attempting to appear witty, makes himself ridiculous.

The aridness of the subjects with which he deals, aided by the use of sentences of inordinate length, generally succeed in making his style burdensome even to the most thoughtful reader. He never revises a sentence with the purpose of discovering what may with safety be omitted, but ransacks the utmost recesses of his brain to fine another thought that can be put into it. He has a wonderful facility for saying things no one can understand and what he himself does not know how to explain. It has been said that the chief thing which renders Hegel wholly unreadable is the fact that you may open where you please in any of his thirty-six volumes and you find him always saying the same thing. Still German scholarship is leading the world to-day and German literature, in many respects, stands preeminent above that of all other nations. Upon the pages of German literature during the classic period three names appeared—Lessing, Goethe, Schiller—which, in

point of intellectual greatness, far outshine those of all their contemporaries.

It cannot be said that when Lessing made his appearance in the German literary world literature was at a low ebb, because there had then never been a flood-tide. Martin Luther had been dead for two hundred years, and following his death German literature had suffered a sterility scarcely surpassed by that of the dark ages of the world. It cannot be said there were no authors, for there were thousands of them, (eight hundred in one town says a traveller of that day) but their motto was "as I am so you should be," and the amount of literary rubbish they collected was sufficient for the cremation of all its authors, and the world might have received a wholesome benefit had it been utilized in that manner. But the day of better things had dawned and in the latter half of the eighteenth century there appeared above the literary horizon of Germany a luminary, than which no brighter had ever shown.

Gottfred Ephraim Lessing was born January 22, 1729, in the small Saxon town of Kamenz, descended on both sides from lines of Lutheran pastors, who had waged many a polemic contest and transmitted to the boy, Gottfred, an intellect of extraordinary strength. His father was a learned theologian of the town of Kamenz, who had given signs of scholarship in being, as his son tells



us, one of "the earliest translators of Tillotson."

If there is truth in the theory that the mothers of remarkable children are somewhat above the average, in the case of Lessing there is certainly one exception. She was a woman of quite ordinary intellectual strength and force of character, who revered her husband and never ceased to be astonished at fruit of her marriage. Lessing received a private tutorage under a certain Mylus, attended the common school at Kamenz, and at the age of twelve entered the gymnasium at Meissen, where it was soon discovered that he was a horse that must have "double fodder." He seized upon Latin, Greek, several modern languages and mathematics with a marvellous relish and in the latter became especially proficient. At seventeen he entered the university at Leipzig. Soon after entering there he formed a warm attachment for young Mylus, brother of his first tutor at Kamenz, a young man of rather questionable morals, who had written a satire upon the elders at Kamenz and for which he was fined and imprisoned by those venerable sages. It was with this scandalous person, as well as some play actors, perhaps of both sexes, that Lessing shared a Christmas cake sent from home, at which feast it is said a bottle of wine figured prominently. Of course this wicked conduct could not long be kept from the ears of the pious parents at

Kamenz, and one may well imagine the commotion created and the ominous shaking of the head caused in the little parsonage by the arrival of the news of such unseemly conduct on the part of their disobedient son. The result was a pious fraud practiced upon the prodigal boy, and in the dead of winter, and thinly clad, he hastened home by a tedious stage route to hear the parting words of a dying mother. He finds her in excellent health, as he rather suspicioned he would, and now, as he has contracted a violent cold, heartily penitent for having summoned him home.

He returned to Leipzig at Easter but remained only a short while, having to flee to Berlin by night, and leaving behind him some histrionic debts for which he had become security. Soon, for the sake of pleasing his father, he entered school at Wittenberg but speedily migrated again to Berlin. There he remained three years, applying himself to the general work of poet, critic and translator, while he delighted himself with a wide range of study in language and literature. He also learned there an important secret which was ever afterward of inestimable value to him—the secret of how to "dine heartily" upon three pence. Now again his father becomes alarmed for his son, for he hears that Lessing is planning a trip to Vienna in company with a young merchant, and already having noticed a skeptical tendency in



the mind of his son now fears the temptation to Popery to which he would be exposed in that city. This, however, was not the magnet that was drawing him thither, but, perhaps, one that attracted his sentiment rather than his religious feelings—a certain Mademoiselle Lorenz. The fear occasioned at home this time, however, brought him an extra supply of money, by which he was enabled to prosecute his literary work with more ease and success.

All his life Lessing was hampered by debt and pressed by poverty but he was always in good spirits and was never reduced to the necessity of writing behind a screen as was Ben. Johnson. While at Berlin Lessing formed personal relations with the great French scholar and critic, Voltaire, to whom the eyes of the world was then turned. Acquaintance with this famous author helped to bring Lessing into greater prominence, especially when he thoughtlessly took with him into the country the manuscript of the *Siecle de Louis XIV*, the loan of which he had secured through Voltaire's secretary and which was not at once forthcoming when called for by the author.

In 1752 we again find Lessing in Wittenberg engaged in the study of medicine, evidently for the purpose of pleasing his parents, who had not yet given up the hope of fashioning their son into their own mould. Erratic as was his course, Lessing

never showed a disposition to be disrespectful to his parents and always seemed anxious to please them. But fortunately for his fame he could not be tied down to a strict routine, and his very nature resisted the disposition to submit to a benign oblivion which his father would have received had it not been for his illustrious son.

Lessing took his M. A. at Wittenberg when twenty-three, and from 1752 to 1760, with an interval of two years spent in Leipzig to be near a good theatre, he lived in Berlin applying himself diligently as a man of letters. Here he led the life of the "sparrow on the housetop," as he was pleased to call it, in which he persisted until he was forty-seven, when ensnared by the charms of a bright young widow, he forsook for a season the delights of celibacy.

In Germany as in England in those days when there was no reading public which by buying an author's books could make him independent, only such writers could keep their heads above the water as could secure the patronage of the great.

Lessing's independence and pride made it impossible for him to bow to the necessity of lavishing unmerited eulogy upon any man and he chose poverty in preference to fawning flattery. He rejected the professorship of eloquence at Koenigsberg because he would be required every year to write an



eulogy upon the king. Lessing's dream was to be a poet, but he had one higher ideal than that, namely to be thoroughly a man. Unlike Goethe, he regarded as sacred the honor of other people, and would not with a ruthless hand stain the character of anyone to satisfy the curiosity of his enquiring soul.

Becoming tired of Berlin (he could not remain long in any one place), possibly because the sparrows life on the house-top is not quite so pleasant now as before, he takes his flight to Breslau, where he spends five years at first seemingly forsaking the life of a scholar and writer. It was here that he made the darkest blotch that rests upon his character by imbibing the practice of gambling. It may be said, however, that he sought it not for sordid ends but for amusement and recreation. When the Seven Years' War closed Lessing at once resumed his old career, and soon there appeared two manuscripts, each in a different field, "Minna von Bornhelm," the first great German comedy, and "Laocoon," the best work of German criticism, by which two his reputation as the first writer of Germany was established.

In 1770 Lessing was appointed to take charge of the Duke of Brunswick's library at Wolfenbuettel, at which time he was betrothed to Eva Koenig, whom he married after an engagement of seven years. This union, though short, proved to be

a most happy one, and at her death he mourned in the deepest sorrow. To a friend he writes: "I wished for once to be as happy as other men; but it has gone ill with me. \* \* \* My wife is dead, and I have had this experience also. I rejoice that I have not many more such experiences left to make, and am quite cheerful. If you had known her. But they say to praise one's wife is self-praise. Well, then, I say no more of her. But, if you had known her."

Eva Koenig was a clever, discreet, sensible woman—a true help-mate and worthy companion for such a man. So far from being "crushed in spirit" at Wolfenbuettel, the years spent there were among the most productive of his life. It was there that "Emelia Galotte" was composed and published.

It was by the publication of the "Wolfenbuettel Fragments," portions of a work by a radical thinker, Reimarus, that he called down upon him the indignation of the more rigid Lutherans, and which led him into a heated controversy with Goetze, in which he showed himself to be the intellectual giant of his day. He also composed while here his "Education of the Human Race" and "Conversations of Freemasons."

But it was the publication of "Nathan the Wise" that gave him his greatest fame. It is characterized by a loftiness of sentiment sur-



passing anything in literature, and next to Goethe's "Faust," stands as the most peculiar and characteristic production of German genius.

On the 15th of February, 1781, at the age of fifty-two, when Goethe was thirty-two and Schiller ten years younger, Lessing died.

Though Lessing had an ambition to be a poet yet he declares that he never attained that ideal. His dramas are more the productions of a reflective reason than of the creative fancy. Still he was a great poet. Goethe said of him: "Lessing wished to disclaim for himself the title of poet, but his immortal works testify against him." Among his early writings his lyrics deserve the highest place. Their tone was pleasing, but their philosophy, which he claimed was not his own, was false. His elder sister once threw a parcel of his poems into the flames, and Lessing in revenge, somewhat angrily, threw a handful of snow into her bosom—to cool her excessive zeal, he said.

His fables give some indication of the author's imaginative powers. But it was through his dramas that Lessing gained his greatest renown and made himself the recognized literary athlete of his time. The first of these, "Minna von Barnhelm," is by some still regarded as being the best German comedy in existence. It exerted a wonderful influence immediately upon its appearance, making German plays popular instead of French as here-

tofore. It is called the *Roszbach* of German literature. It was a vivid presentation of contemporary life, having for its background the Seven Years' War, and for its high aim the rebuking of the disposition to ape the French, and to extinguish the provincial hatred that had grown up during the hostilities in Prussia and Saxony.

Still grander are the teachings of Lessing's later dramas, "Emelia Galotte" and "Nathan the Wise." Emelia, which by some is still called the greatest German tragedy, has for its design the holding up to execration the baseness of the German princes. Its scenes are Italian, but this is only a thin veil through which it was easy to see, and wickedness was made to tremble at its bold, denouncing voice. But Lessing's masterpiece is the peerless play of "Nathan the Wise." It was written late in life, when his soul had been humbled into sweet humility by the experiences through which he had passed. The poem is not complete. It has many faults from an artistic point of view, but its moral elevation is so noble that one, in contemplating it, loses sight of its defects. It teaches love to God and man, emphasizes tolerance and depicts the beauty of peace. But it is as a "critic" that Lessing shines out in his most brilliant grandeur. Madam de Stael has said that it is in Germany alone that literature has derived its origin from criticism; among all other nations



criticism has followed the great productions of art, but in Germany it produced them. Insofar as this is true, the critic who paved the way and made it so was Lessing. His mission in the world was to judge, and to his duty he continued faithful, ever separating the pure gold from the dross, in literature, art, politics, morals and religion. It has been said of him he was logic because flesh. Every sentence is clear, exact and choice. He was a youth of twenty-one when he began his critical work, and he continued to prosecute it with vigor until the end of his life. His best critical work was the "Laocoon, or The

Limits of Painting and Poetry. But time and space do not permit further comment upon his illustrious works. They speak for themselves. Lessing's fame is destined to live on so long as men respect the wise, admire the beautiful and love the good. James Russell Lowell says of him: "In the history of literature it would be hard to find a man so stalwart, so kindly, so sincere, so capable of great ideas, whether in their influence on the intellect or the life, so unswervingly true to truth, so free from the common weaknesses of his class."

RETLOW.

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## EDITORIAL.

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The recent death of Hon. James G. Blaine suggests several reflections: In the first place, that it is possible to enjoy a brilliant career and yet die a disappointed and disheartened man. Mr. Blaine won a large measure of political success and honor. No man since the days of Lincoln, with the exception of Grover Cleveland, has been more prominent and popular than he, still he died a defeated and humiliated man in many respects.

Another reflection is the exceeding difficulty of great men to become President. It will not be denied that Mr. Blaine was surpassed in point of ability by few, if any, of the statesmen of his day, and the

aspiration of his life was the presidency. He saw such mediocre contemporaries as Hayes, Garfield and Harrison elevated to this exalted station over his shoulders. They could not compare with him in qualification for this high office, and yet they reached it and he failed in spite of his long struggle. It is one of the singular facts of American history that comparatively few of her great statesmen have been President. We find upon the distinguished roll the names of Polk, Tyler, Pierce and Buchanan, all of whom were men of rather small calibre, while the names of such commoners as Clay, Webster, Calhoun and Benton do not appear



upon the list, although they were the ablest statesmen of their time, and belonged in many instances to the successful party. It is a misfortune that so few of our greatest men ever grace the presidential chair. There are several reasons for this lamentable fact; one is the contemptible jealousy that contaminates human nature. Men of long and distinguished public service create envy and hostility by their very success. As soon as a man reaches eminence a set of puppies begin to pull at his pants-leg and try to overthrow him. When a strong and able man is presented to a caucus or convention, the weaker ones all combine against him, and thus often compass his defeat by someone far inferior to him. Each candidate by reason of this envious feeling prefers that the last one in the race should win rather than the first, who demonstrates that he is the best man by being the first.

A further reason why so few of our most distinguished ever attain the coveted prize of the presidency is the premium which is coming more and more to be placed upon obscurity. Unknown men are regarded as more available. The old regulars are relegated to the rear, and raw recruits are brought to the front.

Mr. Blaine's career also proves that in politics at least a man is not always the architect of his own fortune or misfortune. It is curious to note how capricious circum-

stances conspired to cheat him out of the presidency. In 1876 an adjournment of the convention on account of approaching night lost him the nomination. He failed again in 1880 because he happened to be Grant's strongest opponent. It is said that the famous remark of Burchard against "Rum, Romanism and Rebellion" brought about his defeat in 1884. A series of untoward circumstances over which he had no control seemed to have barred him from the White House. Politics affords numerous other examples of the same kind.

One of the chief objects of education ought to be facility of expression. We do not refer to fluency or oratory, though, of course, this is one of the highest accomplishments to which a man may aspire, but we are urging the necessity of cultivating a graceful ease in ordinary speech. It is not enough that we learn the grammar, etymology and history of our language, or that we apply the grammar after we know it. A grammatical sentence may be very awkward and the words very unhappily chosen both with reference to accuracy and smoothness of diction. We frequently find men learned in many respects who employ harsh and awkward phraseology, yet there is no feature of education brought into such large practical requisition as our ability to use words properly and easily, and it is strange that it should be so much neglected.



Let us remember, too, that adepts in the art of expression are not made by studying grammar and rhetoric. These are important but not sufficient. One of the first requisites is a good vocabulary. This is acquired by carefully making the acquaintance of every unfamiliar word we meet with in our reading and by studying the dictionary—no other book is more entertaining and instructive to read.

After the mind is stocked with words in this way all we need is discipline in their use.

We enter a plea for more attention to facility and felicity of expression in our schools and individual life.

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It is to be feared that many of our students acquire knowledge rather than wisdom in our college courses. We store our minds with a mass of material without ever digesting and assimilating it. The mere acquisition of facts and dates is not education. They are merely its basis, and unless they lead us to think, they are worthless. We need to think more and stuff less. One of the chief functions as well as delights of education is to think. But the average student goes on cramming his mind with facts on top of facts without ever stopping to generalize, to philosophize, to reflect. This is why many educated men prove failures. They have knowledge but lack wisdom.

### Three Things to Learn.

The first lesson that most young men need to learn is that they do not know everything. The importance of this lesson is only exceeded by the difficulty of learning it. The average young man has been so petted and spoiled by parental fondness and professional flatters, that he is surprised to find and unwilling to acknowledge the superiority of others; yet the lesson must be learned, the earlier and the more thoroughly the better.

When a young man becomes convinced that he knows comparatively nothing, that intrinsically he is of insignificant value, then the next lesson is that the world cares nothing for him. Society will not recognize him until he proves to be of use to it. He is the recipient of no one's overwhelming admiration, neither petted by the one sex nor envied by the other. His birth is not a title to a livelihood. His existence is not a claim upon society. His self-valuation is not the price that the world places upon him.

The third lesson is patience, a very difficult virtue to learn. We look for immediate results, and if we do not see them we feel discouraged. Delay disappoints us. Waiting wearing us. We look for the harvest before the seed has had time to sprout. We expect the labor of to-day to be recompensed tomorrow, the promises of one year to be fulfilled the next. Of course we are disappointed. We must



learn to wait as well as to work, to exercise patience as well as prowess.

The value of these three lessons cannot be overestimated. Together they constitute a platform that will win success against any combination that adversity can form. They are the trinity of promise, the triune of success. Indeed when they are

thoroughly learned success is half achieved.

These lessons constitute a panacea for the ills that afflict so many young men. They are a cure for conceit and a disinfectant for supposed superiority as well as a benediction to discouragement and a beacon-light to the despondent.

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## LOCALS.

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“Did you make it?”

Mr. W. thinks that Africa ought to be annexed to the United States!

Snow-balling is big fun, but rough on our contingent deposits, as nearly all the window-lights here cost two and a half apiece.

The attendance at morning prayers, which is always good during examination times, was unusually good on the morning of the day for Latin examination.

Mr. N. and Mr. F. made a bargain not to go “quilling” during the period of time embracing their examinations. This is a new scheme, for it is almost a universal rule among us, and has been for a long time, that whenever one has an examination he must go to prayers that morning and “quilling” that evening. But we learn that the new scheme works pretty well, for both of the said gentlemen

think they were successful in all their examinations.

Mr. C. informs us that David Copperfield made the first steam engine, and that Homer invented the sewing machine.

Mr. S.: “Say T., do you pray for your girl every night?”

Mr. T.: “Pray for my girl every night! I pray every night for a girl.

Mr. R. wishes to know if *common sense* can be cultivated.

Mr. M. requests us to say that he is always willing to show over the grounds and buildings any ladies who may not have escorts.

Mr. F. and Mr. C. were walking by Park Place Methodist church, and Mr. F. told Mr. C., who is a *rat*, that this church was built by one man, namely Mr. Pace, whereupon Mr. C. asked in tones



of astonishment: "What! did he do all the brickwork too?"

A "set-up" at the "short-madams" is offered to the first gentleman that will present to ye local editor the correct answer to the following riddle:

"Though the brightest of objects that are  
seen upon earth,  
I spring from the darkest of gloom;  
The moment of my death follows that of  
my birth,  
And my cradle serves for my tomb.  
I am brightest in infancy — 'energy is  
might,'  
Belongs to my tenderest age,  
And when I am commissioned to the field  
for the fight  
No power on earth can check my rage."  
Can you tell what I am?

The Law Class has decided to turn the quiz-class that was organized at the beginning of this session into a regular moot court, thinking that the latter will be more interesting and profitable.

#### Election of Officers.

At the recent elections in the two literary societies the following officers were chosen:

*Philologist*—President, D. H. Scott; Vice-president, H. Tate Harris; censor, A. P. Fox; recording secretary, W. W. Seward; chaplain, G. H. Cole; treasurer, N. J. Allen; sergeant-at-arms, G. G. Merkel; Hall managers, Hall and Wright; critic, G. F. Hambleton; final orator, H. T. Allison.

*Mu Sigma Rho*—President, R. W. Hatcher; vice-president, F. A.

Jones; censor, P. Winston; recording secretary, W. F. Long; corresponding secretary, J. A. Turner; chaplain, J. R. Murdock; treasurer, C. M. Cooke; sergeant-at-arms, J. H. Franklin; hall manager, R. J. Willingham; critic, W. D. Duke; final orator, C. W. Duke.

#### G. and H. Notes.

On January 19th, Mr. Charles Poindexter, State Librarian, gave an enjoyable public lecture in defence of Captain John Smith against his critics. A large number were present to hear Mr. Poindexter and we purpose making his lecture known to many more by printing it and sending it over the country.

The principal conflicts of the late civil war are engaging the attention of the Society. The fall of Forts Henry and Donelson and of Island No. 10, together with the battles of Winchester and Shiloh have been discussed to the pleasure and profit of the Society by Messrs. Hatcher, Bowden, Hoover and others.

At the last meeting Professor Otis T. Mason, of the Smithsonian Institute, was elected an honorary member of the Society. Steps have been taken to have our best essays and public addresses printed and exchanged with societies of similar nature.

A pleasant note comes from Professor H. B. Adams of Johns Hopkins University, expressing his appreciation of an invitation to attend Mr. Poindexter's lecture.



## MY ROOM-MATE.

Poets may write and harpers may play  
 Concerning fate,  
 But I present this simple lay  
 To my room-mate.

For our fortunes we have blended;  
 Pleasant estate.  
 Each the other has befriended—  
 My own room-mate!

He has cheered my lonely hours,  
 Banish'd ment'l weight;  
 And the one who saves my powers  
 Is my room-mate.

His beaming smile and open face  
 Dispel all hate.  
 A cheering word ever in place  
 Has my room-mate.

When adverse winds around us blow,  
 Joys then abate;  
 But I can look for comfort, though,  
 From my room-mate.

His life and mine are closely bound  
 By ties innate.  
 Such friend indeed is rarely found  
 As my room-mate.

In distant future years shall I  
 Not meditate;  
 And in bright hope fully rely  
 On my room-mate?

Beyond these scenes of toil and strife,  
 At any rate,  
 May I enjoy a blissful life  
 With my room-mate.

—WAYLAND.

## Examinations.

At the time this goes to print we are living hard, being in the midst of that awful period known as "examination times." We would amend that old Turkish proverb, "To every man his own care, the miller's is water," so as to read thus: "To every man his own care, the student's is examinations," for surely even the best students dread

them. Not seeing your girl quite so often, not having so much time for tennis or ball, close hard study, midnight oil, sore eyes, small loss in avoirdupois, and such things as these sink into utter significance when compared with the heavy weight of care resting upon the mind of the ambitious student. Some sages will look over their spectacles and tell you in tones of mild rebuke, "Study hard during the session and when the examinations come you need not have any fear of failure." Very good theory, but the practical is seldom as big as the theoretical. We have yet to see the student that looks forward to his examinations without a feeling of anxiety. Not only do we look forward with fear to the intermediates but when they are past we do not know whether we have been successful in them. Some say with confidence, "I am sure I made it, I slugged at least 90;" others say, "I think I made it all O. K.," while others say, "Well, I don't know; it is close, but if I fail on this I'll make it up on the final," and there is still another class, but we won't mention them here. Nor do we find out before June. The determination to "make it up on the final" stimulates many to do more work, and it has been our observation for nearly four years that there is more studying after the intermediate examinations than before them. Many, however, are doomed to sad bitter disappointment, and when in



June the names of the successful ones are posted upon the bulletin and some names are conspicuous for their absence, there is indeed great sorrow among our ranks, some weeping and refusing to be comforted.

Reader, imagine if you can the bitter gall of disappointment which comes to the candidate for a degree, or, indeed, to any ambitious student, when he finds that he has failed, disappointing himself, his parents and his friends.

#### University Extension Lectures.

For many years modern languages have occupied a place of secondary importance in the course of instruction at Richmond College. But at last a new era has dawned, and through the indomitable energy and characteristic thoroughness of Professor Boatwright they are rapidly assuming the place they deserve to occupy. The school of modern languages this session stands third in its number of matriculates, and no department of study is pursued with more interest. And why should it not be so? For surely no language has a more charming literature than the French, and no people are so noted for scholarship as the Germans. The professor of this school is not satisfied with merely teaching the principles of these languages and giving the students facility in translating them into the English, but is determined to give

them a clear insight into the richness and charm of the literature of the languages and to stimulate in them such a fondness for it as will prevent their forgetting them as soon as their college career is ended. To this end, therefore, he has prepared for this session a series of lectures upon German literature, in which he unfolds to our view many of the beauties of the literature of that language. But even this does not satisfy his ambition, for he is willing that all who may feel an interest in this subject shall have an opportunity to extend their knowledge, and he has, therefore, extended his lectures to the public of Richmond. Four of these lectures have been delivered already and the numbers that attended them have testified to their popularity.

These university extension lectures may be called an innovation in the South and Richmond College has the honor of being the first institution in the Southern States that has thus opened her doors to the literary public. The first lecture was delivered on the evening of January 17, subject: "The Beginning of German Literature." The weather was quite inclement, their being a deep snow upon the ground and the thermometer very low, yet the size of the audience was very encouraging to the speaker.

On the 24th he spoke on "The Great Epics" under circumstances rather more favorable, and to a



larger audience. In the course of this lecture he exhibited twenty-two stereoptican views illustrating the beautiful stories which he related.

This lecture was heard with unabated attention and received general applause. The lecture on the *Minnesingers and Meistersingers* was delivered on the evening of the 31st, and threw much light upon that rather unfamiliar portion of German literature.

The fourth lecture, entitled *From Luther to Lessing*, was exceedingly interesting and instructive in that it dealt with the great reformer and with the first great literary luminary of the period of German classic literature.

This series of weekly lectures will be continued until the professor has pretty fully outlined the whole field of German literature and dwelt at length upon the productions of Goethe, Schiller and Heine.

#### Lecture on Determinants.

On Thursday afternoon, January 19th, Prof. R. E. Gaines gave the first of a series of five lectures on "Determinants." These lectures, given on the four successive Thursdays, beginning January 19, were delivered in the Physic lecture room, to the senior and intermediate classes in mathematics. They were purely didactic in their nature. The professor extended an invitation to the graduates of his school and to

such persons as might be interested in the subject. In consequence of this quite a number of people, both ladies and gentlemen, attended.

When the notice was read in the city papers that Prof. R. E. Gaines of Richmond College would deliver a series of lectures on "Determinants," many persons made wild guesses as to the meaning of "Determinants." This is rather a new subject in mathematics, and although discovered by Leibnitz about a hundred years ago, still the first textbook that treated of them was published in 1841. In the last half century, however, the subject has been more fully developed, and a treatise on Determinates is now found in all modern higher algebras.

Professor Gaines is thoroughly versed on this subject, and his lectures were of a high order. The only trouble about it is that so many of us have to stand an examination on them.

#### Athletics.

At a recent meeting of the college Athletic Association, the boat crew committee were instructed to consider the advisability of purchasing a new *working boat*. The committee decided to buy one, and have petitioned the faculty for permission to hold a jollification next June in order to raise the money. The boat will probably cost about \$250. The prospects for a good boat-crew and a good base ball



team this session is quite favorable. Messrs. J. H. Franklin, A. Blair and C. Clement constitute the boat-crew committee, and Messrs. W. D. Duke, H. C. Burnett and A. H. Sands the base ball committee.

#### Y. M. C. A.

On the first Saturday night in January a business meeting was held, Mr. C. C. Crittenden presiding. All standing committees reported. Those who had charge of the work carried on at the different mission stations reported that the work done by the students at these places was quite encouraging. The president in his term report said that the way in which the work had been carried on, and the general working of the association had combined to make the term just past the most profitable one that the association had gone through since he had been a student at the college (four years).

The following officers were elected for the ensuing term: President, T. S. Dunaway; Vice-President, R. J. Murdock; Recording Secretary, R. E. Lockett; Corresponding Secretary, W. L. Hayes; Treasurer, R. W. Hatcher.

On Thursday, January 12, occurred the regular monthly missionary meeting. Prof. Harris, who is an active member of our association, gave us a fine discourse on

missions. He spoke of the educational value of missions. He said that *mind* is the measure of man; the *heart* is the measure of the desires. The world is large compared with former days. Alexander conquered the world, but the world was small then. The world, though large in a sense, is small, and constantly growing smaller when we consider the great facilities for commerce, and the marvelous inventions of the age. God's purpose in thus bringing the world so close together is a missionary purpose. Note the population of the world. There are 850,000,000 pagans, 492,000,000 semi-pagans, 150,000,000 evangelical Christians. The heathen deserve our sympathy. The highest and holiest view of missions is that we are co-workers with God. His is the plan, his the atonement, his the power. Ours is to fill up that which is behind the afflictions of Christ (Col., 1:24.) The duty is on us, not on angels. We are debtors to all men.

On Thursday, January 26, Dr. W. D. Landrum, of the Second Baptist church, preached in the college chapel. His text was: For what shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul? (Mark, 8:39.) The doctor handled this question in an admirable way.



## EXCHANGES.

—O—

*The Earhamite* is one of our most interesting exchanges. Its last issue contains quite an instructive sketch of the ruins of Karnac in Egypt. "A Chapter in Earham Life" recalls vividly the first days of our college life. We feel, from the first, a personal interest in the freshman as he bids his family good-bye; we unhesitatingly follow him through the many episodes that usually characterize the early period of a man's college life, and see him at last before the end of the term pleasantly situated among many friends. From the same journal we slip the following, which is worthy of our close consideration:

"While students we acquire the habit of a lifetime, and the student who makes his own inward consciousness the measure of his exertion, regardless of the impression he may make upon his professor or fellow-students, will be the man in life who will retain the same standard—regardless of the verdict of the world, which, also, is not only varying, but often altogether wrong,—which, if followed, can call forth only an imperfect exercise of man's energies, and even may lead to contradiction in one's actions. That student is the one who will be enabled to correctly estimate his own power, and to properly direct the

force for work within him, and consequently the one whom the greatest success awaits."

We note the following in the *Southern Collegian* for January:

"Washington and Lee did not enter the Amateur Boating Association of Virginia on account of several difficulties brought to light in the attempts previously made to send crews to the annual regatta at Richmond. The great obstacle is the risk and expense of transporting boats. Another difficulty was in finding good men who were willing to remain a whole month after Commencement in June."

It seems to us that the colleges of Virginia take very little interest in the State regatta, which, in our humble estimation, stands at the head of all other athletic contests. If Washington and Lee, University of Virginia and all other regularly organized boating clubs of the State would join the Amateur Boating Club we do not see why we shouldn't have as good a regatta as could be seen anywhere.

For the past two years only two crews have contested for the cup. This should not be the case any more. We sincerely hope that the crews of the State will take the subject under consideration, and that we shall have, at least half a



dozen clubs contesting for the prize in June. If Washington and Lee desires the regatta to be had at Glasgow, why not have it there if it is most convenient to a majority of the crews contesting? We do not think there would be much trouble in arranging the date to suit all concerned.

We are pleased to number among our exchanges *The Villanova Monthly*, published at Villanova College, Pa. The first issue is indeed a creditable magazine, and the best words of encouragement which we can offer are that it may ever hold its own.

*The Georgia University Magazine* is one of the most matter of fact journals recived at our table. It does not seek to delight our finer feelings with romance and sentimental poetry, but discusses everyday subjects such as "The Age of Steam and Electricity," "University Men in Politics" and "The Road question." Each of the above subjects are ably handled.

A few weeks ago the daily papers had quite an interesting account of one, Ralph Butterfield, who had died in Kansas City, leaving his entire estate, valued at \$200,000, to Dartmouth College. He was reported to have been a miser and to have died in apparent poverty, without friends or acquaintance. The above has been branded a

falsehood by Hon. George F. Putnam of the above city in a letter to *The Dartmouth*, which closes as follows:

"Dartmouth College had never a truer friend. And among the many noble and talented gentlemen she has sent out to engage in life's great battle, very few indeed will she have occasion to hold in higher esteem or remember with greater pride than our friend, the late Dr. Butterfield."

Our January exchanges are filled with essays on the distinguished men who have recently passed away, and the editorials of many of the magazines seem to indicate that their editors have been thoroughly aroused to the fact that they soon will have to appear on the stage of the world, either to win the approbation of some or to merit the contempt of many. We clip the following from the *The Swarthmore Phoenix*:

"One by one the great men of the age are passing away and leaving their places to be filled or partially occupied by those who are to follow. That this depletion of the ranks of genius is more rapid than we are wont to suppose is demonstrated by the fact that upon making a *resume* of the year's events we are annually commenting that the closing year has witnessed the decrease of an unusually large number of famous men and women.

The startling question confronts



us: Whence are the reapers in the fields where these great workers wrought to be replenished? It is the unanimous opinion of the critics that there are at present in England and America none who are in every way capable of filling the spheres made vacant by the passing away of such men as Tennyson, Browning, Emerson, Lowell and the rest. There are men of genius and power, men who may sometime produce such classics as have grown beneath the pens but recently laid down forever, but for the present there seems imminent a pause in the production of English literature of the very highest type. How long the inactivity will continue depends upon conditions and circumstances too numerous even to suggest."

Just along this line the following from *The Bethany Collegian* is very appropriate:

"Youth is the time to prepare for the future of life. No great man has ever wasted the opportunities of his early years. All have set us examples of diligent application to study or ceaseless and untiring labor with their hands. 'We build the ladder by which we rise.' We cannot find the path to fame and greatness a smooth and even way already prepared, for it is narrow and tortuous and our guides are few and not always reliable. We must select our own way and follow it by the guidance of Duty and Right."

We note the following palpable truth in *The McMicken Review*:

"Though fraternity spirit is a very good thing, it is very often abused. For one thing, the wearers of different colors feel at liberty to run down their opponents, and to exaggerate the prestige of their own fraternity. This is not only undignified, but impolitic; if a fraternity rests not on its own merits, but on others' demerits, it cannot be worth very much. In some of the great colleges of the country it is part of the code of manners that such matters must not be mentioned, and none but very young freshmen infringe the rule."

Just at this period each year a general cry arises as to the disagreeableness of examination, and many of our students are not reluctant in expressing their disapproval of the detestable things; still no good plan has yet been suggested by which we can dismiss them. However, Washington and Lee students seem not disposed to dispute with them. We quote the following from the *Collegian*:

"In regard to the student, his review of his session's work as a whole is almost invaluable to him. He thus sees the relations of the different parts of his subject to one another with a distinctness and broadness of view that was impossible while he was studying the different topics separately. Such a review is like the binding of a vol-



ume that makes of separate chapters one book. Again, on a written examination the student has every opportunity to do the best work of which he is capable, being free from confusion or haste."

Hampden-Sydney follows suit with the following:

"The Rev. John Todd says 'the great secret of being successful and accurate as a student, next to perseverance, is *the constant habit of reviewing.*' How many of us would ever review were we not forced to it by examinations?"

"Again, how often do examinations show us how little we know about a subject? And it is said that a man is never on the true road to wisdom until he learns what a fool he is."

A MODERN MIRACLE.

Her eyes are symbols of her preference,  
Her orient eyes of deep cerulean blue—  
For she herself has said they evidence  
To man that she's a Yale girl through  
and through.

When a Harvard man expostulated,  
Naively she spoke, "When I my colors  
• hide—  
A thing which never could be consummated  
While I can see—then I'll be on your  
side!"

\* \* \* \* \*

But lo! when I, one day, my deep love  
told her,  
I saw her silk-lashed eyelids droop and  
furl  
The blue—crimson on her cheeks grew  
bolder,  
Thus, self confessed, she was a Harvard  
girl.

—HARVARD LAMPOON.

Chicago Girl—"I'm going to spend next summer at Old Point, and papa says I can have my dog cart there."

New York Girl—"A cart? Why, what do you want with that at Old Point?"

Chicago Girl—"Don't be so ignorant, its impossibte to enjoy those lovely Hampton Rhodes without one.—*Ex.*"

SATISFIED WITH HER STRROUNDINGS.

As Corydon and Phyllis fair  
Paused in the shade to rest,  
He threw his arms around her there  
And drew her to his breast.

"If I had gold," he said to her,  
"T'would be my dearest duty  
To see that your surroundings were  
Befitting to your beauty."

Sweet Phyllis blushed and softly sighed  
A sigh of deep content,  
And whispering said, "I'm satisfied  
With my environment.

—G. R. J. in Life.

My empty pocket-book to-day  
Gives cause for much repining;  
Unlike the dark and stormy clouds,  
It has no silver lining.—*Ex.*

Now, the junior and the co-ed,  
O'er the snow they fly in haste.  
Close they press their curly heads  
While his arms entwine her waist.

—THE NEBRASKAN.

College News.

At Boston University the faculty have voted to permit work on the college paper to count as hours' work in the course, allowing seven hours per week to the managing editor, and two hours to each of his



assistants. The thousands of toils-worn, care-laden collegiate editors would rise up and call their respective faculties blessed were they all to take such philanthropic action.

The largest University in the world is at Cairo. It has 11,000 students. They come from every part of the Mohammedan world. The courses embrace Mussulman law, history and theology.

The faculty of the University of Chicago has decided not to prohibit secret societies at the university, but to discourage them as much as possible.

The young women of Vassar College propose to perform the Greek play, "Antigone," in the original text.

The University of Pennsylvania has students from every State and Territory in the Union and from twenty-eight foreign countries.—*Ex.*

Chicago University has chosen yellow for its color. It is said a yell was decided upon before the first recitation was held.

The best endowed college in this country is Columbia with \$9,000,000. Harvard is next, with a fund of \$8,000,000.—*Ex.*

A mother and two sons have entered the Freshman class at the University of Michigan.—*Ex.*

At the University of Wisconsin, a rank of 85 per cent, in daily or term work exempts a student from examination.

It is said that at the expiration of his term President Harrison will deliver lectures on law at the Leland Stanford, Jr. University.

The University of Bologne is the oldest in the world; it was founded in 1119.—*Ex.*

The leading professors at the University of Chicago receive a salary of \$10,000 per year.

The girls of Wellesley College are raising a fund to build a boat house.

One hundred applications to enter Cornell were refused.



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