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# THE COLLEGE SPECULUM.

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WHOLE No. 8.

## “Co-education at Lansing”---Pro and Con.

As discussed at the “Wolf Crick Debating School.”

BY HERBERT W. COLLINGWOOD, DELTA TAU DELTA.

The battered old school-house was crowded; along the rough seats at the side,  
The good district fathers were seated, gray-headed and wrinkled and dried.  
On three battered chairs by the table, the wise district school board were placed,  
The pride at their honored position in each wrinkled countenance traced.  
The great stove was crowded with fuel, and right in the circle of heat  
The late comers stood with red faces, attempting to warm their cold feet.  
There were girls with great fluttering ribbons, and good honest-sized hands and feet,  
Who looked not the least disconcerted altho' they sat four in a seat.  
There were bashful young men who stood watching—the girls, all too ready to flirt,  
Resplendent in bright paper collar pinned onto a blue flannel shirt.  
Behind the rude desk on the platform the president sat in his chair,  
The top of his bald head arising high out of a thicket of hair.  
He gazed on the people before him with countenance calm and sedate,  
The man of all men in the district to judge o'er a heated debate.  
At last, from a seat in the corner, arose a man wrinkled and thin,  
Who spake, “Mr. Cheerman, I move ye, that these here proceedin's begin.”  
The president rose on the platform at this very gentle command,  
And quick called the meeting to order by striking the desk with his hand,  
And then with his nose for a trumpet, he blew a blast solemn and loud,  
Then up on his head pushed his glasses, and looked under them at the crowd:  
“My friends, ye hev come here this evenin' to hear some debat-in', an' so  
I won't take no time in speech-making, but jest to the very pint go.  
The question afore us this evenin' is one that won't let us keep cool;  
It's co-education at Lansing—shall wimmin folks go there to school?  
The fust man kin speak for the measure, give all the idees he kin pack,  
An' then let the next speak agin it, so both sides can hev a fair hack.  
An' when we git through with the speakin', why them what's no longer in doubt  
Kin hold up their hands to be counted, an' then we'll see how it comes out.  
Now fust I will call on the teacher, an' let him present his idees;  
He goes up to Lansing for schoolin', an' now let him tell what he sees.  
Unless they's a big change in teachers sence I went to school, ye will see  
Thet he'll stand by co-education as clost as the bark to a tree.”  
Then down on his chair by the platform, the president sat with a grin,  
And up from his place just below him, the school-master rose to begin—  
A sophomore—fresh from the college—a senior he seemed from his air,  
With over his upper lip growing the faintest suspicion of hair.  
A student he was of the many who strive Wisdom's pathway to clear,

And eke out their rarified purses by “shooting the youthful idea;”  
Who drop all their sly college antics, and put on a look most profound,  
And lay down the law with much vigor and learning while boarding around;  
Who count the hours languidly passing, and joyously foot up their gains,  
And feel that the world's education has surely been helped by their pains;  
Who shine at the countrified “social,” and such a rare gravity bring,  
Their little world calls them “professor,” and hastens their praises to sing.  
The school-master rose by the platform, and gravely glanced at the crowd,  
The jealous young men and the maidens who murmured his praises aloud.  
No fear of his failing to thrill them; his logic and eloquence rare  
Had oft, on the great college forum, pulled victory through by the hair.  
So now as he rose to address them, with argument oft studied o'er,  
The people all felt that the question would surely be pared to its core.  
With plausible, deep syllogism, the school-master labored to prove  
That woman's life ought to be broadened and raised from the commonplace groove.  
The wondrous unfoldings of science he hurriedly passed in review;  
If man was to share the advantage, then woman should share with him too.  
And he, wondrous thinker, had noticed how surely the masculine mind,  
By contact with feminine fancies, is always improved and refined.  
The college was working for farmers, to broaden and sweeten their lives?  
And why should it not, in all reason, work equally hard for their wives.  
“Shall woman not grasp for more knowledge?” the orator shouted aloud,  
To which very startling conundrum the audience solemnly bowed,  
And round went the gratified whisper, “The teacher is smart as a trap;  
The tongue of the man thet kin beat him hez gut to run faster than sap.”  
And such was the weight of his logic that after he sat in his place,  
The negative speakers seemed silenced, for nobody spoke for a space.  
At last, from his seat on the wood-pile, a little man rose with a scowl,  
That spread from one ear to the other, and covered his face like a cowl.  
Around his thin face in confusion his gray hair stood out like a fringe,  
His mouth seemed the door of a cavern, his voice like a rusty old hinge.  
He stood for a moment before them, and then pushing back his stiff hair,  
And rubbing his rough hands together, addressed his remarks to the chair:  
“I don't s'pose I'm much of a speaker; I 'low when I come to debate,  
I act like a hoppy go limpy, an' allers git started too late;  
But 'taint only them what's gut larnin' ez knows what they're talkin' about,  
An' ez for this co-eddycation, I 'low I hev figured it out.  
Jest count me as dead set agin it; I 'low I kin prove it to you,  
Thet co-eddycatin' the wimmin would be the wust thing ye could do.

I can't talk it off like the teacher, but still I shall arger to show  
Thet larnin' the boys is all nonsense, without throwin' in any  
'co.'

Now pick up the pints of the question, an' see what the teacher  
hez sed,  
The fust is that wimmin needs larnin'—more nonsense put into  
their head—  
The next pint is this: thet the college kin fill the notch slicker  
than grease  
By goin' to co-eddycatin'—can give all the larnin' ye please.  
Now pint number one is all nonsense; I'm speaker enough fer  
ter show  
Thet wimmin don't need no more larnin' to keep up their end of  
the row.  
It don't take no great site of larnin', as nigh as I figger it out,  
To git up a good meal of vittles an' keep the work jumpin' about.  
Ye might talk big words by the cartload, and hev some long  
name fer each flower,  
But sech larnin' won't cook no dinner, ner wash up three dishes  
an hour.  
Ye might know what butterflies lives on, or grasshoppers comes  
to I 'spose,  
But beetles ain't ketched while yer churnin', ner chased 'round  
a wash tub o' cloes.  
Ye can't make pork taste a mite better by telling what comes in  
its make,  
An' knowin' what sugar is made of won't ever improve it fer  
cake.  
The wimmin don't need eddycatin'—their grandmothers, taken it  
right through,  
Done three times the work with less larnin', an' done it in better  
shape too;  
An' as fer their lives gittin' broadened, it's all well enough. but I  
say  
They *might* git so broad that no farmer could live in the same  
house a day.  
I've seen these here talented wimmin, an' heered 'em tell off  
their idees,  
They claim that the men folks should eat less so wimmin kin set  
at their ease.  
Be we to be scrimped on our vittles, an' go without puddin's an'  
pie,  
So wimmin kin have their lives broadened? ef so, I should like  
to know why.  
But s'pose'n' they did need the larnin', I'll arger right on fer to  
show  
That this Agricultural College ain't no place fer wimmin ter go.  
We've paid out our taxes like water; we farmers hev kep it alive,  
An' now them big-salaried pefessors jest set there like drones  
'round a hive.  
You send a boy there, an' no matter how well he may know how  
to work,  
Afore he gits done with them fellers he'll come out a number  
one shirk.  
Now I ain't in favor of reskin' my gals at no place of that kind;  
I don't wanter double my taxes so they kin improve some man's  
mind."  
Then down sat the eloquent speaker, and then came a dignified  
pause,  
In which all the good district fathers gave token of hearty ap-  
plause;  
For who could not see the grave danger which threatened the  
whole nation when,  
By dint of much co-education, the women should know more  
than men.  
And when there's a question of money, to make a man's sym-  
pathies start,  
A blow driven well at his pocket is worth twenty-five at his  
heart.  
And so when the question was voted, the negatives all were on  
deck,  
And co-education at Lansing received a most palpable check.  
The world has its full share of thinkers as far in the rear of  
reform  
As was the brave "Wolf Crick" debater, who took the whole  
"deestriet" by storm.  
But ignorance cannot rule always, intelligence yet will hold  
sway;  
And like some rude, barbarous relic, such speakers will be swept  
away.  
And through the fair portals of knowledge, with dignity, sweet-  
ness, and grace,  
In spite of the "Wolf Crick" decision, shall woman march up  
from her place.  
And with her life narrowed no longer, but broadened and raised  
and refined,  
With cheerfulness, patience, and loving, shall rule like a queen  
o'er mankind.

## A Sketch of Rome.

BY W. BRUMFIELD, PHI DELTA THETA.

The rise and decline of power has been repeated in every historical epoch, and seems the immutable law of national destiny. The career of every past nation has been to complete a definite round of action, to continue the line of social development, and at last, when the spirit which has created and developed it has been subverted by imperfection, to be swept from existence by the ruthless hand of Nature, that there might be place for a fairer form of civilization and a nobler type of man.

The fact merely of the rise and fall of Rome, then, is not that of an exceptional phenomenon in history; but, as a factor in the evolution of society, that nation holds a vital place, for its closing period witnessed the death of one civilization which had existed from the indefinite past, and the birth of another whose destiny lies in the infinite future. The social forces which were there developed were such as characterized no other nation of antiquity. There was a stern virtue and a just government that placed Rome at the very beginning on the plane of the nations of that age. There was a military power that swept before it alike the the numberless hosts of savages and the serried ranks of the Macedonian phalanx. These attributes formed the foundation of the mightiest of states, and wrought the most stupendous national results. From its origin the progress of Rome was in an unswerving line, gathering power as it moved. Victory followed victory. Kingdoms and empires were successively overcome, and the spoils of a hundred nations were displayed in triumph on the streets of Rome. Legislative and military powers arrived at their perfection. Ancient man had reached his consummation.

But at this period the forces which had been gradually unfolding for ages died out. A restless, invincible spirit of conquest was the soul of Rome; but conquest was now no longer a motive to action, for the passion for supremacy had already extended the dominion of Rome over the fairest portion of the civilized world. Beyond the extreme eastern margin were only straggling tribes of savages; the Roman spear had penetrated to the barren climes of the far North, and to the west and south lay the untraversable tract of ocean and the burning deserts of Africa. Over this vast domain, at the beginning of the most memorable of eras, brooded an ominous silence. But at length the forces of dissension and civil strife, which had hitherto been held in check by a sense of patriotism or the fiercer passions of the conquering nation, now gradually began their destructive workings.

Within the walls of the capital were the elements of weakness. The struggles which had brought nations into subjection and filled Italy with slaves were not terminated by the act of conquest, but the infliction of oppression reacted in revolts and wars that sapped the life of the nation. The civil wars preceding and following the accession of Cæsar, the conspired murder of that great dictator, the weakness and irresolution of the senate, and the nameless fear pervading all classes, were indications of the drifting of Rome.

The reign of Augustus seemed the only aversion of ruin; but a selfish ambition could but produce a deceptive show of power, and an empire that was brought into being by weakness and fostered by dissension was but another phase of the impending destruction.

The soldier, corrupted by indolence and plunder, in his passionate outbreaks even turned his arms against his native city. The tyrannical or imbecile successors to the imperial throne were the leaders or the instruments of the contending factions, and the power of senate, consul, and citizen was reduced to formal display.

The final and perhaps the most potent of these destructive agencies was the great revolution in the national religion. The unbroken influence of paganism, the pride and dignity that upheld it, would not tolerate a religion however pure, a philosophy however divine, whose disciples contemplated their hallowed oracles with scorn. The encroachments of the new religion upon the old, the fanaticism of its followers, and the envy of the pagan priests brought forth inquisition and persecution which usurped reason and followed the dictates of the wildest fancy and the most unrestrained cruelty.

The fall of the Western empire and the destruction of Constantinople, the successful invasions of barbarians, the dissolution of all power, and the ultimate plunge of Rome into the darkness of political ruin, complete the grandest of historical cycles. More than the history of the life and death of a nation, that of Rome is a manifestation of the power that with an iron hand gathered together the struggling forces of civilization and bore the torch of life from the ancient to the modern world, that enlightened mankind might continue in a stronger and more perfect form.

The monuments of the pomp and heraldry of Roman power are gone, and a pigmy race now tread the streets of that once proud capital; but the memory of the might and magnificence of her perfection will ever be revived, and the expiring glory of the sinking nation and the fallen empire will live with perennial brightness in the history of man while her ruins have crumbled to ashes and the forces of time have levelled her seven hills in dust.

### Abuses in Biography.

BY E. P. CLARK, ECLECTIC SOCIETY.

The term "illusions of history" has become quite a common one. People speak of certain histories as being authentic or unauthentic, and so it is a generally accepted fact that a considerable portion of our historical writings are unreliable. It is said that "many of the most striking incidents of history,—scenes and events which artists have been fond of depicting and orators of citing,—are pure fiction. The historian is led by various influences to pervert the truth of his writings, if not by positively false statements, by suppression, exaggeration, and distortion of fact. Much of this has its origin in the desire to be brilliant, to please rather than instruct.

But nowhere in literature, probably, do we find greater abuses than in biography, and nowhere are they more keenly felt than in this department. For the most part the influences which enter in to pervert the truth of history also have their influence in biography.

Many of our biographies of to-day were written either by some member of the subject's family, or their personal friends. From the very nature of this fact we are often unable to obtain an impartial and correct portrayal of life and character. Facts are modified to suit supposed sensibilities in descend-

ants, or to otherwise magnify or save the reputation of the subject. The biographer will be likely to overlook his subject's faults, and in many cases be guilty of untrue and highly colored representations. The life of Lord Macaulay, as written by his nephew, gives the great historian a character entirely different from that he was known to possess, by those who were best situated to know and observe him. Boswell's life of Johnson, though probably the best biography in the English language, is far from being impartial.

We are often led in our estimation of character, by the manner in which that character affects our own interests and passions. If we derive pleasure or instruction from the writings or labors of a person, we are generally ready to overlook his faults or explain them away. It is hard to judge of the life and character of those noble minds, who sacrificed self for principle and right, of those whose genius have left works which will continue to delight and instruct mankind for ages to come, except in the most favorable light. This is an illusion to which the whole human race is subject, and which can only be partially removed. Thus the biographer, in his admiration for the genius of his idol, will overlook his imperfections or seek some excuse for them in the history or times in which his subject lived. It is thus that decisive proofs regarding his subject's character are rejected. The history, state of parties and character of other public men of a country are misrepresented, in order that some person may have a fairer character than he deserves, and it is certain that many of the world's great men do not deserve the respect and affection with which they are regarded. All admire the genius of Lord Bacon and appreciate the great work he did for mankind, but the mean spirit and selfish motives, which marked his whole career, we cannot admire, much less pardon. Yet Bacon's biographer credits him with a strict moral character, a person who through his whole public life was actuated by the most unselfish and patriotic motives.

By the processes of deception which the biographer practices, it would involve little difficulty to make a saint out of the greatest scoundrel, or brand with infamy the noblest character. Under the biographer's pen Napoleon has been made to appear as a great philanthropist, who "immolated self on the altar of humanity." Cromwell has been represented as a ferocious monster, who sought power for the most selfish ends. Some of the most infamous kings of England have seemingly lost both their physical and moral imperfections. Many examples could be given, showing the great extent to which the biographer allows his prejudices to pervert his judgment. Thus not only giving false ideas of history but false ideas of life and character.

We should not be slow in demonstrations of gratitude to those master minds who have done so much to advance civilization and enlighten the world. We owe them an incalculable debt, but why not present them to the world in their true character, as they lived and acted? When a person's life becomes public there is a public interest in him which has its rights no less than private affections, and public morality demands that the truth about him should be known. We do not wish to have heroes and saints under false colors and pretenses. The great element which the people should seek in science, history, biography, and all literature is truth, whatever havoc it might make with fondly cherished illusions. "One good genuine biography

will give of the period which it covers, more real insight into the history of a nation than any so-called history, pleasantly and of its own accord." It will afford not so much a knowledge of the pomp of courts, the intrigues of favorites, and the freaks and squabbles of foppish statesmen, with which history is too much occupied, as the true knowledge of men; what they did, suffered, and enjoyed; the true character of the times and their influence on men, and their surroundings; thus bringing to us truly valuable knowledge, because it is true and will have on men that influence which true example can exert.

When the biographer comes to see the real purport of biography; the influence which example truthfully represented will have on civilization; when he can lay aside his prejudices in his desire to advance the cause of truth, biography will take a higher and more worthy place in the literature of the world, and be more deserving of the name of "philosophy teaching by example."

### Theory and Practice in Life.

BY CHARLES L. GRIMES, UNION LITERARY SOCIETY.

Pope says, "The proper study of mankind is man." This appears to be the richest, the grandest field for thought and study a student can choose. Human nature is a conundrum, and from beginning to end, man's life is a contradiction. Man is the highest, the noblest, the most intelligent type of all animals, yet the most inconsistent; consistent in theory, inconsistent in practice.

The true man is not the individual as we see him clothed in his *established* theories, but as we recognize him while engaged in the practical, every day duties of life.

Men love to boast of their theories, the result of years of careful study. They love to investigate the various phenomena, the deepest mysteries of nature, and upon these investigations establish theories, by which we may study the unchangeable laws of science. The theorist's ambition will be gratified when the evolutionist shall discover the few missing links by which he may complete the chain of his theory, so he can go forth into the forests and claim kindred with the wild, ferocious beasts, without danger of offending the innocent creatures.

Every day's experience teaches and convinces us that though men continue to spend years, and their lives, in establishing and demonstrating theories, which if followed would create more peaceable relations between nation and nation, between man and man, and make life purer, brighter, better, and happier, the world of practical men will still move on unheeding, and even contrary to the simplest and plainest of theories.

Some of the grandest republics the world has ever known, have lived, flourished, and died. Only in history is there even a mark by means of which we can discover where the once proud Republics of Greece and Rome existed. The governments of those republics were founded on the most perfect theories the wisest men could devise, yet the people, like the people of to-day, were but human, and human nature, weak, erring human nature will pursue its own course, irrespective of theory, duty, or consequence.

To-day, we are following in the footsteps of our ancestors, not regarding what we know to be the best interests of the government, society, and the individual, we allow the weakness of our natures to direct us

in the march that is hurrying us onward to repeat the sad story of Greece and Rome.

Less than a hundred years ago our government was established that the people might secure those inalienable rights, "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," instituted by men who had suffered all the wrongs and injuries a tyrant could inflict, by men who were familiar with the necessities of the people. This precious boon of our forefathers was intrusted to the people, who realized that this was the best form of government, and that upon its preservation and protection must depend the future welfare of our country. Slowly but surely the people saw the "ship of state" drift into the possession of men whose characters plainly indicated that its purity and sacredness must be corrupted if not destroyed.

Theoretically we have the best government on earth to-day; practically and truly our government is a mass of confusion and corruption, positively repulsive to one who considers the purposes for which it was instituted.

Political parties, however pure their motives, however correct their theories, cannot save a country from its ultimate end,—destruction. We are told that, from the fall of our first parents in the Garden of Eden, the human race has been depraved. Man has ever and will ever pursue the course which his depraved nature dictates; and history teaches us that this course has ever been contrary to the theories upon which governments are founded.

From earliest childhood we have all been taught to believe that character, those qualities of mind and heart which characterize the individual, alone make the man. In theory this is true; in practice it is true only to a limited extent; for if we study the course of men, as we see them engaged in the practical affairs of daily life, we shall observe unmistakable signs that, to a great degree, men estimate their fellow men, not by character, not by principles, but by outward appearances.

One of the most highly respected students of this College struck the practical key-note when, as several students were discussing the merits of a fellow student whose reputation and character are above reproach, whose position as a student in his class is an enviable one,—he said, "Gentlemen, his appearances give him away." This example illustrates the practice which characterizes every day life, directly in opposition to an established theory. This principle is exemplified by the practice of the various literary societies of our colleges in selecting their members. A student with the exterior polish and manners of an Oscar Wilde would be made eligible to every society at the first possible opportunity, while a second Daniel Webster might not even attract a passing notice.

In general society and in politics the same principle is true. A man's position in society may be determined by his appearances; for it is through this medium, and not through his personal qualities, that he is enabled to gain the position he occupies.

The best men, the best qualified men never have been elected to fill the highest offices in the gift of our government, because such men would use their ability in the interest of the government and the whole country, and not to gratify party and individual interests, as the people demand. The positions of trust and honor are, to a great extent, given to men with little or no regard to qualification and character, thereby contributing to the country, year after year, a bountiful harvest of gamblers, swindlers, forgers, and defaulters.

A majority of students enter college to acquire an education, to qualify themselves to fulfill the require-

ments of actual life. The average student would be perfectly happy if he could but devote his entire time to ball-playing, whist, or theater-going. The best student is he who can devote the least attention to study, and still avoid the necessity of extra examinations; he who can most successfully evade the duties connected with college life.

In every stage of life we recognize the fact that the practice of men does not accord with their teaching, their theories. Theory and practice, instead of being related, are opposite terms. The former tends to elevate man, to make life brighter and better; the latter tends to draw him down to a lower level in the scale of life.

## SCIENTIFIC.

### The Problem of the Sands.

Every country has its problems to work out. The climate, soil, means of transportation, and the market, each contribute a factor to the problem of success. In our own state the question that met us at every step was what to do with our swamps and marshy lands. By drainage, and the selection of the right kinds of grasses, the intelligent farmer has answered this question, by showing that such lands were especially fitted for hay and pasture, and that these despised marshes were often more profitable than the uplands formerly so much in demand.

The most important agricultural problem for our state at the present time is what to do with our light, sandy soils. Shall they be given over to barrenness and desolation, or shall they be brought under successful cultivation?

The question of the agricultural capabilities of our light, sandy soils is an important one in determining the future history of large portions of the northern counties in our peninsula. The following questions have been raised and earnestly discussed. What shall we apply to these soils so that we may produce good and paying crops of wheat, oats, corn, and grass? What shall we use for manure for these unpromising plains? The labor and material for manuring a section, much more a township or a county, are not trifles. Indeed, when one sits down to count the cost, the expense is astounding.

In discussing this question, we seem to have taken it for granted that successful cultivation of these soils necessarily implies that they must be made to produce the same crops that other soils are now producing, that no satisfactory solution of the agricultural problem is reached till we show how Lake and Roscommon can produce paying crops of wheat and clover, the same as Branch and Hillsdale. May it not be that we have been looking for salvation for the sands in the wrong direction? It seems to me that we ought first to ask: What crops are adapted to these sands in their present condition, and without the use of general manures? If we can find crops which will give remunerative returns from these very light sands in their present condition, we may introduce such changes by rotation of crops as will enable us to bring in other crops which we cannot now raise with any hope of profit. Any suggestion in this direction deserves the careful consideration of thoughtful citizens.

#### SORGHUM FOR SANDS.

I wish to call the attention of farmers on light, sandy soils, to the amber cane, or sorghum, as a plant full of promise in this direction. It is a plant that

grows well on soils too light to produce a good or paying crop of corn, will withstand the effect of summer drought far better than corn, so that it will grow and ripen in circumstances where corn will burn up, and its value as a source of syrups and sugar, and as a forage crop, is only beginning to be appreciated. While sorghum will make a large and vigorous growth on heavy soils, and those containing abundance of organic matter, the value of the sugar products from such soils is less than on sandy soils which are deficient in vegetable matter. The syrup made from amber cane raised on such light soils is lighter in color and superior in flavor to that made from cane raised on rich soils. The roots of the cane penetrate deeply in sandy soils, and it is thus able to withstand dry weather in summer much better than corn.

#### SORGHUM FOR SOILING.

As a forage crop it is of great promise, because it is very nutritious and is eagerly consumed by stock of all kinds. It is found by some who have tried sorghum for fattening beef cattle that it has wonderful fattening properties, and that the quality of the beef is very superior. The sorghum must be fed cautiously at first until cattle become used to it, on account of danger of their eating too freely of the material, causing scouring, etc. The seeds of cane are equal in value, pound for pound, to oats or corn.

The plant being so well adapted to sandy soils, and of so much value in itself, it remains to be determined whether it can be successfully raised on light sands, and especially on "the plains." I do not ask anyone to make a large outlay to determine this question, but ask as many as will to raise one or two square rods of sorghum, on various kinds of sandy soil and especially very light sands, and let me know the result at the end of the season or when the seeds are ripe. Let me know how many pounds of stalks grow on the square rod, and let me have two or three joints of the stalks for analysis, that I may determine the value for sugar making, and I will publish the result of the whole inquiry, giving each one credit for his work.

I want the canes to be raised without manure, except the use of a small handful of wood ashes to each hill, or a tablespoonful of superphosphate to the hill. In the report I want it distinctly stated what manure, if any, was used.

#### PLANTING AND CULTIVATING.

The seed should be planted at the same time as Indian corn. The young plant is easily injured by frost, but the canes in the fall will withstand the action of frost much better than corn. In the early stages of growth the plant appears very feeble, and no one should be discouraged by the first looks. Plant shallow, in hills three feet apart each way, and leave four stalks in the hill. Plant close to prevent suckers. Cultivate the same as corn. When the plant is ripe, as shown by the seeds turning black, cut the stalks off at the ground and cut off the head with about one foot of the top of the stalk, and weigh the canes in this state.

#### RESULTS.

If it can be shown that amber cane will make a good growth on these very light and unpromising soils, if we can raise a forage crop where grasses fail, and if we can turn these glittering sands into bright crystals of sugar, we may sweeten the lot of the pioneer in more senses than one. Let each one contribute something to this end, and definitely settle, if we can, the possibilities of these unpromising soils.

### Arsenical Diffusion.

The question whether arsenious acid will pass by the process of diffusion from particle to particle of dead matter has assumed an unusual interest lately from its relation to forensic medicine. All persons know that sugar, salt, nitrate of potash, etc., will thus pass from the surface to the interior of dead matter, as is shown in curing hams by rubbing the surface with a mixture of sugar, salt, and saltpetre. These substances "strike in" and the ham is cured so that the central portion of the ham is sufficiently salted by this process of diffusion. Indeed it would be difficult to cure any kind of meat but for the natural diffusion of these crystalline substances.

The question has arisen whether arsenic can "strike in" by a similar process of diffusion, when applied to dead matter,—whether rubbing the surface of a ham with white arsenic instead of salt would carry arsenic to the deeper portion of the ham? Would it be safe for a person to eat the meat from the interior of a ham cured in this way?

The taxidermist often uses arsenic to preserve the skins of birds and animals from putrifying, and even considerable masses of muscles and tissues are completely preserved in this way from putrefaction.

The process of embalming bodies to preserve them for a period, longer or shorter, so that bodies may be carried to a distance, or a funeral delayed for a time, has become somewhat common. The embalming fluids usually contain arsenic in some form,—the arsenate of soda, the arsenite of soda, or white arsenic suspended in water. These substances are injected into the stomach and bowels of the dead body, and in this way arrest putrefaction more or less completely for a time. The embalming process is becoming so common, and the use of deadly poisons (arsenic and corrosive sublimate) so general, that very grave questions arise if the body is afterward taken from its grave to determine the cause of death by chemical analysis. The case assumes a very serious aspect if a long time has intervened between burial and the post mortem with its attendant analysis, especially if it is assumed that the arsenic or corrosive sublimate injected after death will remain in the stomach and bowels, and none pass into neighboring organs by diffusion.

The older writers on medical jurisprudence claimed that arsenic could be carried to the liver, kidneys, spleen, and other internal organs only by the circulation of the blood, that the blood circulated only during life, and hence the presence of this "imbibed poison" in these organs was proof that the poison had been administered during life.

But if active mineral poisons have been used in embalming the body, and if weeks and even months intervene between burial and the post mortem examination, it becomes a matter of great importance to know whether the presence of such poisons in the liver and kidneys is proof of administration before death, or whether the poison may have passed from the stomach to the liver after death by the ordinary process of diffusion.

In order to cross-examine nature on this point, I performed repeatedly the following experiment: I prepared a dense solution of gelatine, made about as acid as the gastric juice, and holding suspended a quantity of white arsenic. A small quantity of this material was placed in the bottom of a number of test tubes, and the material allowed to become solid by cooling. A thinner solution of gelatine, but strong enough to set in a jelly when cold, and saturated with sulphuretted hydrogen, was poured into these test tubes, which

were then set aside for results. In 24 hours the diffusion of the arsenic upward through the jelly was very evident in all the tubes by the formation of a quantity of yellow sulphide of arsenic, and this change passed upward by progressive changes in all the tubes, so that in a week the arsenic had passed more than an inch through the jelly. If arsenic can thus pass an inch a week through non-living matter, may it not pass in 12 weeks from the stomach into the liver when these organs lie in actual contact in the body? It may be objected that the action of arsenic in jelly may be different from what would take place in the animal tissues. The objection has force, and to test the matter by the substitution of animal tissues, a cat was killed a month ago. A few hours after death the alimentary canal was injected with arsenic and the animal buried. In a short time the animal will be resurrected and the abdominal viscera, other than the alimentary canal, will be examined for arsenic.

It is evident that the use of embalming materials calls for restriction and regulation by law, or else that the dicta of toxicologists on "imbibed poison" require careful revision.

THE WEATHER FOR MAY.—We have all heard of the lady who enjoyed poor health. Most of us when miserable enjoy being very miserable. The very exaggeration of our discomfort seems to make it more comfortable. If the weather is very cold or very hot, it is a comfort to be assured that it is colder or hotter than was ever known before, and we turn to the thermometer as some pitying angel whose sympathy and countenance will render life less a burden.

The month just closed has by very general consent been placed in the pillory as the May of all Mays that may not be tolerated for outrageous conduct, and exclamation points have been hurled at the luckless damsel as freely as the snow flakes she unluckily let fall on the 21st. When we look at her record we find there is good ground for outcry against her manners. In order for intelligent comparison I present the average temperature and rainfall for May for twenty-one years, as observed at the State Agricultural College.

	TEMPERATURE.	RAIN-FALL IN INCHES.
1863.....	61.°72 Fah.	4.51
1864.....	60.°19	2.87
1865.....	57.°65	1.77
1866.....	55.°04	3.44
1867.....	51.°11	3.81
1868.....	59.°08	2.80
1869.....	56.°02	2.05
1870.....	64.°32	1.16
1871.....	61.°39	1.97
1872.....	58.°48	3.72
1873.....	56.°98	3.05
1874.....	59.°58	1.78
1875.....	60.°82	4.46
1876.....	57.°95	4.13
1877.....	68.°25	2.23
1878.....	54.°57	3.44
1879.....	58.°76	2.45
1880.....	64.°30	5.59
1881.....	65.°24	2.11
1882.....	52.°73	4.04
1883.....	52.°78	5.66
Average for May,.....	58.°43	3.19

It will thus be seen that the temperature for May, 1883, is 5.°65 below the average, while the rain fall was nearly 2½ inches above the average. The temperature was a small fraction of a degree above that of May, 1882. With the exception of last year's May,

the month just closed was the coldest May for 21 years, with the exception of 1867, when the mean temperature was 51.°11F. But the May just dismissed was the wettest of them all, and this is the only May for twenty-one years that had the cool audacity to give us a genuine snow storm. Under all the circumstances we endorse the following from the Cincinnati Enquirer: "We make no bones about it. We are disgusted with May. This weather is the feather that has broken our affection, and hereafter we can be nothing to her but a brother. We have worshiped the maid through golden years, waiting for her step on the lawn with all the impatience that a lover knows. Often has she come to us with blossoms braided in her hair, and her presence a fragrance that is sweet to remember. She has brought us violets and daffodils, and went sailing with us upon the bay. She has led us enraptured on the hills, where the maples, in leaf and bud, hung a crimson curtain on the wood. And now look at the jade! Instead of a gossamer gown, with a rose in her hair and a sprig at her throat, she comes arrayed in hooded cloak and waterproof. Instead of her sweet bare feet and entrancing ankles, behold the unsightly rubber boots! May, we can not put up with this. Take your umbrella and go hence. We propose to make love to June."

A LOCAL ANODYNE.—Burns and scalds by hot substances and corrosive liquids are common in domestic life and in the laboratory. The pain and discomfort call for some thing for immediate relief, and I have found nothing better to apply at once to the burned parts than the following:

Gum Camphor.....	2 parts by weight.
Hydrate of Chloral.....	2 " " "
Chloroform.....	3 " " "

Mix to form a solution. Wet the burned surface with this liquid, and apply in same manner from time to time until the pain and smarting are subdued. The material is volatile, and requires to be kept well corked to prevent waste.

I once used this preparation as a local application when attacked by erysipelas in the temple. All spreading of the disease was arrested, and the burning pain speedily relieved, and a speedy cure resulted. A wisp of cotton wet with the liquid and crowded into the hollow of an aching tooth, often brings speedy relief.

It should never be used internally except under the advice of an intelligent doctor.

Those who are interested in having a full course in chemistry will be glad to know that the laboratory is to be made one of the best in the west. The following resolution passed at the last meeting of the State board will indicate the improvements that are to be made this summer:

*Resolved*, That Dr. Kedzie be authorized to prepare plans and specifications for finishing and furnishing the basement of the chemical laboratory.

Now that the appropriation bill has passed the legislature we may look for many improvements in the College. It has been decided to put in the water-works at once. Pipes with hydrants are to be laid in the different halls and laboratories, the library building, the greenhouse, and engine house. It will not be extended to the professors' houses at present. This is a move in the right direction, for a fire in one day might destroy property to an amount sufficient to sustain a system of water-works for many years.

The State Board have appointed a permanent librarian for the College. Though no rules have been made, it is very probable that the library will be kept open during a large part of the day and that no books will be allowed to be drawn. The appointment made is a good one.

The professor of horticulture is to have a new house. A committee will soon advertise for plans and specifications.

## THE COLLEGE SPECULUM.

Published Quarterly, on the 1st of August, October, April, and June,

BY THE STUDENTS

— OF —

THE MICHIGAN STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

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LANSING, MICH., JUNE 1, 1883.

THE EDITORIAL BOARD take this, the last opportunity, of bidding adieu to the readers of THE SPECULUM, as the present number completes the second volume. Though not regretting the change, they are as solicitous as ever regarding its future prosperity. The task has been an arduous one, and on their part there will be a feeling of relief.

No pains have been spared to make THE SPECULUM a readable paper. To publish all of the interesting current news relating to the college and its graduates has been the earnest endeavor. General topics touching the welfare of the college have received notice. In accordance with the request of several members, the proceedings of the last alumni meeting were published in its columns; in return THE SPECULUM acknowledges the numerous contributions that were received from graduates. Though at times subjected to criticism for ideas advocated or actions taken, yet nothing has been done without first giving the subject due consideration.

The financial condition of THE SPECULUM is exceedingly good. When first instituted there were many doubts as to its being self-supporting. The first year, despite the favorable outlook to the contrary, the SPECULUM barely paid its way. This was of course due to the extra expense necessary in starting its publication. There is now in the hands of the treasurer money enough to meet all reasonable expenses with a surplus sufficiently large to put volume three on a solid basis. Now that all doubts regarding the SPECULUM's financial prosperity have been removed, all that is required is the attention necessary to make it readable.

During the coming year the SPECULUM will be under the control of a wholly new but competent board of editors. Mr. Fitz R. Osborn, '85, of the Eclectic Society, has been elected Editor-in-chief. The Natural History Society, Prof. A. J. Cook, '62; the Phi Delta Theta, Mr. B. C. Porter, '84; the

Delta Tau Delta, Mr. J. R. Abbot, '84; the Union Literary Society, Mr. C. P. Gillett, '84; Mr. C. C. Lillie, '84, was elected business manager, and Prof. S. Johnson again re-elected treasurer. We bespeak for them the hearty coöperation of all who are interested in their work.

IN THESE TIMES one of the things essential to the success of a college is to let the outside world hear from it, and to hear something good quite often. A little every few days or every few weeks is likely to produce a better effect than a large volume once a year or once in two years.

Several of our professors make valuable experiments, the results of which appear in the reports of the Board of Agriculture. Of these reports only 8,000 copies are printed. They are valuable, but few in number, and cannot be read by many. No matter how good, when sent to the press the editors rarely copy anything. Most people on receiving a volume place it on the shelf to read it some more convenient season, which is very likely never to come. No doubt a good, short, readable article, written by one of our professors and printed in almost any political or agricultural paper, finds two or three times as many readers as when printed in our report. Even THE SPECULUM, so small as it is, we see quoted oftener than the report of the Board of Agriculture.

If the professors are able to endure the task, it is well to have a full and original report besides plenty of pithy articles for the press. We believe few colleges have professors who write more for the press than some of the members of our own faculty, and they are nowhere near able to write for all that ask contributions. These articles exert a wide influence, and doubtless a large class of people never know much about our College excepting what they have learned from reading such articles.

The results of an experiment generally make more interesting and valuable reading if printed and distributed soon after the experiments are completed. If experiments are completed in spring, it is generally about eighteen months before they appear in the report of the Board, and in the next report some of the experiments will have been made two years and a half before the books are distributed. In some cases parts of these reports are seen earlier by the notes sent to the press.

The best way to reach the public, it seems to us, would be to issue a large number of small bulletins, taking care to present matter at a season when it would be most valuable to the farmer. This plan is adopted by the experiment stations of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and North Carolina, and seems to work well. These bulletins are sent to the press, which quote them freely. They are also sent to any who apply for them.

Suppose the best portions of the report of the Board were cut up into fifty-two parts, and sent

weekly to the press or the farmers; we feel sure it would produce much better results than it now does; and this plan would require no greater effort on the part of our professors. The whole report could be issued later, according to the present plan.

ONE OF THE saddest events that has ever occurred at the College was the untimely death of Mr. A. M. Bamber, of the senior class. It is never a pleasant thing to think of death. Even when the Reaper gathers in those who have spent a long life of usefulness, and whose life work seems about completed,—under even these circumstances we can but deplore the event. But when he takes one who is just equipped and ready to start out in life's battle, one who has spent years in study and is just prepared to become of use in the world, then it seems doubly hard. We read of such events often; we do not think very much about them perhaps, but when death enters our own college and takes one of our number, the thought is brought to our mind with startling distinctness, that "in the midst of life we are in death."

Such an event we have been called upon to mourn. A link has been broken in the golden chain of friendship. A voice to which we have been wont to listen is forever hushed. Sorrow has been brought upon a happy home.

A few weeks ago Albert Bamber, although not as robust as many, apparently had as good a lease of life as any of us. Bright hopes and prospects were before him. Yesterday we saw him borne away to his everlasting resting-place. As we gazed for the last time upon his face and saw what ravages a few weeks of disease had made, we could not but think of the insignificance of this mortal frame. With what a tremulous glow does the lamp of life burn in the body! No matter how beautiful its proportions, how symmetrical its development, it must sooner or later dissolve into its elements and find a common level in nature's tomb. If this were all of man, if we were like the plant that grows, blossoms, and decays, we might well mourn our friend's untimely end; we might well tremble at the thought of death. But as we listened to the fitting words of President Abbot at the memorial service, we did not think of him as dead. The essence, the soul, still lives and is but transplanted to another sphere. We shall miss him from his accustomed place. We shall think of him at commencement, when the place he should have filled is vacant. But his life, his work, his example, will be long cherished in our memory.

THERE IS A great tendency on the part of some of the best students to think that a four year's course in this College, is a longer one than they can profitably take. Acting accordingly we now and then see students leaving college, perhaps when they are about to take those studies from which they derive the most benefit. Very often there are circumstances existing which render it impossible for one to

remain in college. Ill health, the inability to procure the means or pass the studies are decisive reasons, but such an instance is the exception rather than the rule. There are many who leave for reasons that are very inconsistent. No one should be enticed by opportunities for entering business, there will be other chances in the future. Some think they are too old to stay and graduate; that by so doing they will have a late start in the world. Every one will concede that it is better to start well and under proper circumstances, even if it is late. More silly still to leave because one has a dread for public orations, yet it has been positively asserted that students have left for no other cause.

This is a matter that should receive calm consideration, since it is something that is to affect the whole of one's after life. An education in itself, if properly sought, will do one untold good, and then to there is a great advantage derived from the conferred degrees. Let every student who is undecided as to what course of action to take, make a desperate attempt to stay and graduate. Not only will he be amply repaid, but it will be very likely in the future to save him many a vain regret.

THERE is nothing about the college more attractive in the summer or more admired by visitors than our lawns, when they are kept in a good condition. If it is wished to have them so kept they will not be likely to be improved by being used as a general play-ground. Almost every night a number of boys are engaged in playing ball on the lawn in front of Wells hall. There is, we believe, a rule of the faculty forbidding ball playing in front of this hall. Is it to be enforced? The new boarding system causes a part of the students to eat at Wells hall, and they naturally linger in front of it after meals. But it is only a few steps from there to the play-ground in front of the old boarding hall, and it is but reasonable to expect ball playing to be limited to this place.

There is, we believe, a salaried official, whose business it is to look out for such things as this. If this person would only let it be understood that this violation must be stopped at once, that would end the matter. If, however, it is allowed to continue, it will soon be considered legitimate play-ground, and the lawn will be forever ruined. It might be added in extenuation of the students, that the carelessness exhibited in preserving the lawns is very much increased by the poor condition of the walks, and their failure to lead directly to any desired point. There is scarcely a path between places where there is much travel that does not have a beaten track on one or both sides of it. The path is not fit to walk in, and the student cannot be blamed for walking on the lawn at the side. He thus naturally falls into the habit of walking across the lawns without regard to paths.

It would be rather uncertain business for a stran-

ger to attempt to go from one building to another by means of the paths.

It is an established principle laid down in landscape gardening, that a walk should never end nowhere. But if he should attempt to go from Wells hall to the chemical laboratory by the walks, he would be much more apt to reach nowhere than he would be to arrive at his destination. Again, suppose one doesn't get up until fifteen minutes after the breakfast bell, and starts for the other hall at a three-minute gait? Instead of following the beautiful winding curve of the drive between the halls and wade through the two inches of glittering sand it is usually preferred to take what is commonly known as a bee-line across the lawn. Winding walks may be very desirable to follow when promenading with one of the opposite sex. When co-education is established, all walks leading to the co-eds' dormitory should curve as much as possible. But for the present a few good straight walks between the buildings, made of some material besides mud in wet weather, and loose sand in dry, would be much appreciated.

IN THIS, the age of reform, would it not be well for the authorities of this College to consider the present method of carrying the mail, with the purpose in view of making it more convenient and efficient. During all the years that have passed since the institution was founded, this is one of the things that have remained the same. It is very probable that the system worked well when the College was in its infancy. Its professors were fewer in number then and the extent of their work was much less than it is at present: the library was small to what it now is when it receives over one hundred and fifty papers and magazines each week; then, too, the road between here and Lansing was so nearly impassable that it was almost of a necessity that the mail carrier go on foot.

The larger part of the mail that comes into the Lansing office arrives in the evening, so that all papers, save the two morning dailies of Detroit, are a day old when received. The same thing is true of the letters, the bulk of them being received after they have laid in the postoffice nearly twenty-four hours.

The remedy is a more effectual, though perhaps a more complex, system. In its present prosperous condition, the college ought to have two mails each week-day—one in the forenoon and the other in the evening after the last mail arrives, which would be about six o'clock.

The mail is becoming so large that it is often impossible for the mail boy to bring it all at one time. The weight of the mail was taken each day last term. The lightest, ten pounds, was Tuesday's mail, while that of Friday, thirty-six pounds, was the heaviest; but the average weight of the mail for these days, during the term, was respectively fourteen and one-half pounds and twenty-three and one-half pounds. The

daily average during the term was nineteen and one-half pounds.

It seems as though the College might adopt a plan that would be more suitable, and that, too, with only a moderate outlay of money. A man with a suitable team and wagon could make two trips to Lansing each day. In addition to the mail he could carry visitors and students to and from the College; express and freight packages bound for the College could also be brought out. By having rather a multiplicity of duties, which still might be fulfilled without neglect, the expense of any one would be small. This is a matter of some importance, and should be operated on business principles. Any reasonable plan that would place the mail before the students at the close of the evening meal would be gladly accepted.

TEN YEARS AGO the graduating class placed a large bowlder on the lawn as a mark of respect for its alma mater. Several classes have planted groups of trees that are known to-day as the result of their handiwork. For the past few years nothing of this kind has been done; yet it would be well if this was an established custom, to be followed by the successive classes graduating.

When four of the best years of one's life have been spent in college, he cannot but form many associations, and have pleasant recollections regarding them. Indeed, no one, unless he is of a very cold temperament, can be wholly indifferent to the college from which he graduated. Such persons are found occasionally, but they are not the most worthy. There are so many pleasing things about college life that are ever afterward fresh in the memory and cherished by it, that something is due in return. To commemorate those days in a worthy way should be one of the last duties of the senior class. Let them in some way beautify the surroundings, or aid the college itself in doing more efficient work. Objects placed on the lawn that will create interest and draw the attention of visitors are beneficial to the school. It will tend to attract those who are contemplating about going to college; for a student prefers not only a good school, but one that is pleasantly situated. A contribution to the library or museum is a project that would reflect credit on any class. A gift of apparatus to some of the different department would result directly in much good in many ways.

The motto of the present senior class is, "Deeds not words." They now have a splendid chance to exemplify it, which we hope they will not be slow to accept.

IT IS ALWAYS difficult during the summer term to get a good attendance of students at the Sunday exercises. Indeed, this statement is true to a certain extent all through the year. Some Sundays nearly every student will be present, on others only a small proportion. The threat is often made to call the roll on Sundays. We have no idea that

this will ever be done, nor do we think it would improve the attendance. To endeavor to make attendance at church compulsory, in a State institution, supported by all sects and persons of no sect as well would hardly be desirable. But anything that can be done to improve the attendance should be encouraged.

There are a very few students who will attend church every Sunday, simply because it is the customary thing to do. There are many more who will not go unless they expect to hear something that will repay them. Most of our preachers come from the city of Lansing, and we believe there is a custom of inviting from each denomination in a sort of rotation. Now, there are certain preachers, we might name them, who always attract a full house; there are others who seem to exert a repelling influence. We do not say that one class presents a better theology or possesses more ability than the other. We merely know that the students like to hear some men better than others, as is shown by their attendance. We know the institution is intended to be kept on a strictly non-sectarian basis, and that speakers are invited from every denomination for this reason. We belong to no sect, nor do we wish to see any one denomination represented more than any other, but if it is wished to have a regular, good attendance at church, it would be greatly aided by having those speakers that we all like to hear more often, and letting those whom we are not able to appreciate remain with their parishioners.

PLANS ARE nearly completed for improving our course of study. The term of laboratory work in vegetable physiology is placed in the spring term of the Sophomore year. The studies taught by Dr. Kedzie and his assistant are all moved along two terms, and one of them more than two terms. In the spring term of the Junior year the students can elect a second term of horticulture in place of the third term in analytical chemistry. In the senior year there is a chance to elect more of agriculture, botany, zoölogy, geology, and civil engineering, while logic, chemical physics, psychology, constitution of the United States, political economy, meteorology, veterinary, astronomy, moral philosophy, history, and quantitative analysis are all electives.

The following resolutions relating to labor have been passed:  
 "That it be required of those in charge of labor at the Agricultural College that they keep a labor record book, similar to their class books, in which the class of workers shall be entered and rated each day as scrupulously as for a class-room recitation, according to the performance and merit of each day's labor, on a scale of tenths, from zero for a wholly unsatisfactory performance to ten for a perfect one."

"That wages shall be graded proportionally, from nothing for an average standing of four to maximum wages for an average standing of ten."

"That students employed in ditching in water or wet places, may be paid in the discretion of the officer employing them at a maximum value of 12½ cents per hour."

"That Seniors employed as foremen of gangs of students at labor may be paid a maximum rate of 12½ cents an hour, in the discretion of the professor in charge."

## COLLEGE NEWS.

There has been quite a demand for seed corn this year.

The wheat on the farm is looking well ; much better than was expected.

Rev. J. Morgan Smith lectured before the Y. M. C. A. on "The Life of This Age."

And now the season cometh when the junior taketh the bug net in hand and wildly chaseth the butterfly o'er the lea.

The college orchestra is a great success. We had no idea that so much musical talent could be found in the College.

About 40 students spent the vacation at the college. Immense fortunes were doubtless made in the ditch at 17 cents per hour.

Dr. E. A. Grange of Guelph, Ontario, is lecturing to the seniors in veterinary. This course has been lengthened so as to last the full term.

The College herd consists of about 80 head of excellent cattle. There are about 40 Short-horns. A great many sales have been made of late.

Saturday the 26th of May Dr. Beal lectured at Ionia to the teachers of Ionia and Montcalm counties ; subject, "Ornamenting School grounds."

Mr. E. S. Antisdale was recently elected steward of club "A," and Mr. Page received a like compliment from the members of club "E." The other stewards were re-elected.

The latest case of stern devotion to the principles of the labor system is that of a Sophomore, who, not hearing the bell, worked with unflagging energy till half-past five o'clock. Such devotion will not go unrewarded.

Congressman Horr recently visited the College and spoke to the freshmen in the agriculture class. He thought he was formed more for theoretical than the practical agriculture. His remarks were very good indeed.

The College appropriation bill, as amended by the House committee, has passed both Houses and has received Gov. Begole's signature. There was but little opposition to it. Total amount of appropriation, \$51,089.

The two wagon boxes recently constructed by Mr. Mohn, the College carpenter, are examined with much curiosity by visitors. By a most ingenious contrivance they can be changed into a sheeprack, hayrack, or plain wagon box.

E. E. Vance, pitcher of the College nine, had his leg broken in a ball game during vacation, and will be unable to return for some time. Mr. Vance is one of the best amateur pitchers in the State, and his loss will severely cripple the nine.

The College farm has been wonderfully improved in the past three years, the result of careful and systematic work. Fields have been cleared up, stumps removed, and much tile laid. In another year the lane will be extended to the railroad.

The lecture by Dr. Kedzie on "The Problem of The Sands," is attracting considerable attention. If the experiments it suggests are successful, and we think they will be, the debt of gratitude due from the farming classes will be largely augmented.

Last Saturday at Capital Grange, Professor Grange who is our new and popular professor of veterinary, took part in the discussion on the value of different breeds of horses. He has accepted an invitation to give one or more lectures to the members of the grange.

Some time ago the College received a pair of Jersey Red hogs. It has been the policy of the State Board heretofore to keep nothing but Essex hogs on hand. Some excellent specimens of this breed are on exhibition. We think it would be better to keep specimens of the various breeds on hand so that students might study and compare their characteristics.

Club "F" is the name assumed by a small party of students who are boarding themselves. They have hired a small house on the road to Lansing, and have reduced boarding to a positive science. A student can live very cheaply in this way, but we do not consider it the best policy. One loses much of the good fellowship and kindly feeling that go to make up character.

The Michigan chapters of the Delta Tau Delta fraternity will hold a State convention at Albion June 1st and 2d. An open literary entertainment will be held in the College chapel on the evening of June 2d. Delegates from Ann Arbor, Adrian, Albion, Hillsdale, and Lansing will take part. Lansing will contribute a poem by Mr. Collingwood, and a debate by Mr. Herrington.

After considerable discussion the Seniors have decided to hold their class day and commencement exercises at the College. It was proposed to hold them at the Opera House at Lansing, but this idea did not meet with much favor. It seems most fitting

that the class should hold their last public entertainment at the College where all the old memories that are called up at such a time, can be brought nearer home.

Mr. W. C. Stryker is preparing a series of sketches illustrating student life, which show considerable originality. The best that we have seen are two sketches of the dark and bright sides of a life of a steward. In the "dark" side, a group of these unfortunate individuals are in hot pursuit of eggs, butter, etc. In the "bright" side the steward, forgetting all his trouble, is most gallantly wiping dishes for the waiter.

President Abbot recently delivered a most interesting lecture on the history of the College. The present student can hardly appreciate the difficulties attending a course here 15 or 20 years ago. The College was not located here by its friends, but rather by its enemies. It was thought that it never could live in such a swamp hole as this was at the time. That it has reached its present proportions is argument enough in favor of the management.

The third annual convention of the Inter-Collegiate Society Association was held at Hillsdale, May 3d. Our college was represented by the Eclectic Society. The various methods of conducting literary work were discussed at length, and an open literary entertainment was given in the College chapel. Mr. Redding and Mr. Law, of this College, read papers on "Critics and Criticism," and "The Conservatism of Scholarship." Quite a number of our students attended the convention. They report a success in every particular.

Shortly after the last SPECULUM was issued, a College Base Ball Association was formed with D. C. Holliday, Jr., as president, and C. F. Lindsley, '83, C. E. Smith, '84, T. O. Williams, '85, and G. E. Brown, '86, directors. The College nine is composed of the following players: c., Sage, '84; p., Vance, '84; s. s., Gammon, '86; 1st b., Morris, '85; 2d b., Collingwood, '83; 3d b., Ross, '86; l. f., Welch, '86; c. f., Lindsley, '83; r. f., Hinnebaugh, '84. Several practice games have been played, and the nine is pronounced a strong one.

The winter's experiments, in feeding ensilage were very successful. Ensilage will, without doubt, prove a most important factor in stock feeding. The College experiments go to prove that it is a very valuable food for stock. We notice that prominent agriculturists, both in this county and in England, are paying much attention to this subject. Not long ago the English consul at Washington was directed to note what progress has been made in the science in this country. Prof. Johnson's report will be published in a short time.

A friend recently requested us to give a fair statement of expenses for a year at this College, and also how much a student can expect to earn during the same time. The following statement is, we think, fair enough. The item for board can be reduced if students are willing to board themselves. This practice is not to be commended however.

### EXPENSES FOR FRESHMAN YEAR.

Matriculation .....	\$5 00
Room rent, fuel, and incidentals.....	17 25
Books, stationery, etc.....	25 00
Board at \$2.40.....	84 00
Sundries.....	20 00
Washing.....	9 00

Total..... \$160 25

The means of defraying expenses open to the ordinary student are work on the farm, and the opportunity for teaching during the vacation. He may expect to earn :

Work on farm.....	\$48 00
Teaching.....	90 00

Total..... \$138 00

Students can do more work on the farm if they wish, but it is not advisable to attempt too much. Most of the students do far less work than the above. We speak of what a student can do. Many students have paid their way entirely through college, but we consider it better policy to put more time into one's reading, and borrow the small amount of money required.

We have been quite modest in our praise of the new system of boarding thus far, we think, but now we feel somewhat disposed to bray. We have finished one term, and the hardest term of all, and can now present figures and facts to prove our assertion that this is the ideal system of boarding. Board for the past term averaged about \$2.45 per week. In some clubs the price fell a little below these figures, and in others it was a trifle over. It must be remembered that this result was reached under the management of students. The various stewards were without experience, and were obliged to learn every detail of the business. Last year at this time we were called upon to pay \$3.15 per week for board that caused much dissatisfaction.

Seventy cents per week will make quite a difference in the expenses of the ordinary student. He will appreciate it. But the reduced price is not the only advantage of the new system. Board gave such general satisfaction that hardly a word of grumbling has been heard. This we consider quite remarkable, when it is remembered how ready students are to find fault with their food—often times without reason,—and how many “chronic grumblers” are to be found in every college. Then again, there is a feeling of security. Students feel that they are in a certain sense boarding themselves. They have the right to examine the books of their steward, and, if necessary, remove him from office. Another great advantage is found in the improved behavior of students in the dining room. An old student would feel lost in one of the new club rooms. The clatter and bang of the old dining hall is forgotten. There are no more duels at long or short range with pickles or crackers for weapons. Everything is orderly and quiet. Then again we are far better able to provide comforts for the sick than ever before. In short the new system has proved a grand success. It has surprised even its most enthusiastic supporters, and deprived its opponents of all argument. We think that eventually the system will be so changed that those desiring the best board can form a club of their own. In this way the price can be graded to suit all parties.

The State Board insists that the township of Meridian shall pay for the horse that was drowned in the Red Cedar river sometime ago, by falling through the bridge.

Prof. Satterlee is to have an office in the botanical laboratory, directly over Dr. Beal's office. When this is fitted up the horticultural department will be in good running order in every way.

Hereafter the officers in charge of Williams, College, and Library Halls are authorized to have the halls mopped once a month during the term.

There will be no “grange picnic” in the grounds this year. Capital Grange has decided to recreate at Pine Lake. With the new boarding system under full sail, we do not think the dinner baskets would be in danger.

Williams Hall is to receive a new roof. It is something that has been needed for some time, since many rooms have been damaged by water. A hip roof will be put on above the mansard, which will add much to the looks of the building.

Should not the bridge over the Red Cedar be strengthened? The spring flood weakened it considerably, and its evident weakness is shown when the College herd passes over. A strong wall of masonry should be built at the end where the river has washed out the sand.

It is an established fact that the club system of boarding is a success. The State Board at least seem to think so, for they have authorized the club rooms to be painted and calcimined. This will make them assume a more homelike appearance and more surely satisfy the students.

“The College Stove Wood Co.,” consisting of three Seniors and one Freshman, spent last winter in the pine woods, making the mighty trees fall before their axes. During the winter they gave a series of most remarkable entertainments. The lumber camp was for the time converted into an opera house, and the wintry air was filled with recitations and college songs. The inhabitants of that region doubtless look upon the Agricultural College as a school of oratory and a conservatory of music.

On June 13, 1883, the State Board of Agriculture will meet at this College, together with the executive committees of the State Agricultural Society, Pomological Society, and State Grange. This will be for the purpose of viewing the college and suggesting improvements for the future. They are all practical men, who have the best interests of the college at heart. The students are glad to have the opportunity of listening to them once each year. A table will be spread to accommodate all of the friends of the college who are present.

Quite a serious accident occurred last term that came very near resulting fatally. Mr. E. D. Millis, the foreman of the gardens, in company with several students, was driving over the bridge about a mile above the College, when the flooring gave way, and the whole party fell into the river. Mr. Millis was caught between the wagon and the horses, and had a very narrow escape from drowning. The students escaped with some difficulty, while the garden teamster, unable to swim, was obliged to cling to the horses for support. One of the horses was drowned. The bridge was pronounced unsafe some time ago.

Mr. E. C. Bank, '84, attended the 25th convention of the Y. M. C. A. at Milwaukee, May 18th. He went as a delegate from the society here. He reports a most successful meeting, and a very enthusiastic convention. The college work was a marked feature of the convention. There are 107 colleges that support a Y. M. C. A., and of these 104 were represented. These included colleges in Canada. Work has been done in colleges for only about six years, and yet there is to-day a mem-

bership of 9,000, of whom about 1,600 are studying for the ministry. The college boys had charge of the meeting on the afternoon of the last day. Prof. A. E. Haynes, of Hillsdale College, is the present corresponding secretary for Michigan.

The Agricultural College student, while working out the problems of the labor system, is an object of curiosity to the college visitor. As seen by different eyes he assumes numberless shapes and colors. The æsthetic young lady riding through the grounds considers him a perfect poem. His working boots and hat are to her mind simply picturesque. The student from a literary college sees his fellow working in the sun, and goes away thankful that his lot is cast in easier places. The friend of the system points with glowing eloquence to the modest workman. He fondly thinks of the coming Garfields and Lincolns who are running lawn mowers or raking drives. The man who does not believe in the college comes on the grounds, and perhaps stumbles onto some seeker after science who is “cooling off” under a tree. He of course pronounces the whole thing a failure, and goes away grumbling that he is obliged to pay ten cents in support of an institution to teach boys to “shirk.” Meanwhile the poor student, unconscious of the fact that he is the object of so much curiosity, goes through his college course, and comes out with a clear brain and a good muscle.

When with hurried haste the ringer runs along the College green,  
With such speed that straight behind him are his coat tails  
standing seen,

Then the weary Freshman gazing through the cloudy window  
pane,

Knows the dinner hour is coming and he taketh heart again.

Slow and stately walks the ringer to ring out the study chime,  
How he crawls with lagging footsteps to proclaim the chapel  
time,

But as starts the timid rabbit when he hears the red-mouthed  
hound,

Does he rush to ring for dinner with a wild, gazelle-like bound.

Various charges having been made against the management of President Abbot, the State Board of Agriculture decided to make a complete and thorough investigation. As a result of such investigation the following resolution was passed June 1st:

“WHEREAS, Certain charges have been made through the press, and addressed to this Board, affecting the management of T. C. Abbot as President of the College; and

WHEREAS, We have carefully examined these charges; therefore,

*Resolved*, That we hereby express our entire confidence in the ability and integrity of President Abbot, and his continued usefulness in the capacity in which he has so long and honorably served the State as President of the Agricultural College.

This resolution was passed unanimously.

Mr. A. M. Bamber, of the class of '83, died at the college on Friday evening, June 1st, after a lingering illness of several weeks. Mr. Bamber had not been well for some time, but was able to attend to all his duties. About a month since he was taken with malarial fever, which settled into typhoid. He seemed to be gaining until a short time before his death, when he was taken with a sudden relapse, from which he never rallied. Mr. Bamber was born in Oakland county, and had resided there until he entered the Agricultural College four years ago. He was twenty-three years of age. He was a young man of more than ordinary ability, and was held in high esteem by faculty and students. He was chosen last spring as one of the commencement orators, was also president of the Delta Tau Delta fraternity chapter here, of which he was an esteemed member. Mr. Bamber was one of the leaders in the Y. M. C. A., and was a thoroughly Christian gentleman. His remains were removed on Saturday to his home in Oakland county, attended by delegates from each of the organizations of which he was a member.

The following resolutions were adopted by his class:

WHEREAS, In view of the loss we, the members of the class of '83 of the Michigan State Agricultural College, have sustained in the decease of our esteemed friend and classmate, Albert M. Bamber, and of the far greater loss to the many who were nearer and dearer to him; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That it is but a just tribute to the memory of the departed to say that in the death of Mr. Bamber the class of '83 has lost one of its best and most honored members, and the college a student of ability and influence; that he will always be remembered by his classmates in connection with his energy, his enthusiasm, and his constant desire to do right, being inspired in all his actions by those qualities which always characterize a true Christian.

*Resolved*, That we extend to the bereaved family and friends, in this their deep affliction, our most heartfelt sympathies.

*Resolved*, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of our deceased classmate; that a copy be placed on the class records, and that these resolutions be printed in the *Milford papers*.

Resolutions passed by Chapter Iota of the Delta Tau Delta fraternity:

WHEREAS, It has pleased the all wise God to remove our beloved brother, Albert M. Bamber; and

WHEREAS, We have been bound to him so long by such strong yet tender ties; and

WHEREAS, We feel that his death makes vacant a place in our hearts that time can hardly fill;

THEREFORE, We, the members of Chapter Iota of the Delta Tau Delta fraternity, do offer the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That in the death of Albert M. Bamber we lose one of the truest friends and noblest brothers man could ever have. One who stood for the right, hopeful in trouble, joyous yet forgiving in victory, ever ready to champion the right or to do battle with the wrong, leading us by his simple stand for all that was noble and just to gentle purposes and purer lives.

*Resolved*, That while we cannot understand all the ways of our Father, yet we feel that this life, so full of good and manly purpose, so full of pure and noble aims, so founded upon truth, has not been in vain, but has left influences and memories that can never die out, but shall speak to our hearts forever.

*Resolved*, That we tender our most heartfelt sympathy to the family of our dead brother, and ask them, in this their hour of grief, to feel with us that this noble soul will not be lost, but will live forever in some higher and grander sphere.

Resolutions of the Young Men's Christian Association of the Agricultural College, Lansing, Michigan, June 2, 1883:

*Resolved*, That we record as far as possible our appreciation for the excellent work, and our deepest sorrow for the early death of Mr. Albert M. Bamber, in the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That as the deceased has faithfully performed some of the most responsible duties, and continually held important offices in our society, we feel in his death the loss of a faithful worker, a wise counselor, and brother of true christian character.

*Resolved*, That we acquiesce with the dealings of our Heavenly Father in this affliction, believing that "all things work together for good to them that love God."

*Resolved*, That we deeply sympathize with the bereaved parents and friends, and that a copy of these resolutions be presented to them.

*Resolved*, That a copy of these resolutions be published in the local papers near the home of the deceased, and a third copy recorded in the transactions of this society.

## PERSONALS.

THE Editor of this Department desires the earnest co-operation of the alumni in aiding him to fill these columns with interesting items. Give occupation since graduation, what offices held, whether married or not, etc. Let this receive prompt attention from every alumnus.

C. W. Crossman, '82, is a carpenter in Benton Harbor.

J. W. Beaumont, '82, is studying law in Saginaw, Mich.

C. A. Dockstader, '81, has returned to Centreville, Mich.

Chas. McGill, once with the class of '83, is farming in Dakota.

John A. Poucher, '77, is farming at Morenci, Lenawee Co., Mich.

J. B. Leonard, once with '85, is surveying in St. Joseph county, Mich.

C. W. Garfield, '70, and wife are taking a trip through New England.

James L. McClear, '82, is studying law in Howell with L. Montague.

W. H. Draper, once with '81, has taken up a squatter's claim in Dakota.

J. R. Shelton, '82, is here taking a post-graduate course in agriculture.

Wm. Cook, '74, is a farmer in St. Johns, Mich. He and wife teach winters.

A. G. Gulley, '68, is superintending a vineyard in Fowler, Fresno Co., Cal.

M. D. King, once with the class of '71, is a successful builder in Hudson, Mich.

Carl R. Dart, '81, is at Marquette, Mich., where he is surveying and draughting.

C. I. Goodwin, '77, was married last December to Miss Sophia Furgeson, of Ionia.

W. I. Lillie, '81, is still pursuing his law studies. He tried two suits last week.

R. H. McDowell, '74, is assistant superintendent of the Lansing Reform School.

Rob. H. Baker, once with '84, is working in the office of the Union City Register.

T. O. Shattuck, who entered with '85, is book-keeper for a firm at Bangor, Mich.

Wm. Thum, Jr., once with '84, is engaged in the drug business at Grand Rapids.

Chas. H. Flynn, once with '84, graduates in the Iowa Agricultural College this year.

T. P. Caulkins, '78, is now operating a machine shop in Thornville, Lapeer county, Mich.

Dr. L. F. Ingersoll, '74, has removed to Traverse City, where he is following his profession with success.

Jeff. Irish, '82, is traveling in the west. He returns to Ann Arbor in the fall, to finish his course in law.

J. Q. Thomas, '79, is doing an extensive business in stock-raising and farming at Junction City, Kansas.

W. H. Burgess, '81, was admitted to the bar last April. He is thinking of going west to locate in the fall.

Frank Benton, '79, is attending a Greek college at Athens. He is noted as a linguist as well as a bee-keeper.

Dr. Byron D. Halsted, '71, was married, January 7th, to Miss Susie E. Howe. They now live in Passaic, New Jersey.

C. L. Bemis, '74, supt. of schools in Portland, is president of the Teachers' Association of Ionia and Montcalm counties.

Geo. E. Lawson, at one time a member of the class of '82, is now receiving teller of the People's Savings Bank, Detroit.

C. R. Schlappi, formerly a member of the class of '84, went from here to Colorado. He is now farming in northern Dakota.

W. S. Delano, '81, and F. E. Delano, '82, have bought a pair of Holsteins, with the hopes of having a herd sometime in the future.

Amos Troupe, '81, has been practising medicine, but returns soon to the Rush Medical College, where he is to complete his course.

L. K. Woodman, for a time with '84, spent the winter at Kalamazoo Business college, but is now on his father's farm at Paw Paw.

A. W. Bahlke, once with '83, was married April 10th, to Miss Nettie Hess, of Pewamo. His old classmates anticipate a bright future for him.

L. A. Hurlbut, '67, of Crescent City, Fla., will spend the summer in Bismarek, Dakota Territory, where he has large real estate interests.

Geo. Sprang of '84 has been at work for the city engineer of Lansing, during the past year, but intends returning to college again in the fall.

Mary J. C. Merrill, '81, is teaching school at Marilla Center, Manistee county, Mich. She has recently been appointed librarian of the College.

Honnee W. Meeker, lately with '85, left college this spring and now we know the cause. He was married, May 30, to a young lady of Olivet, Mich.

David Howell, one of the early students in this college, has been made superintendent of schools in Lansing, a position he is amply qualified to fill.

Dr. Kedzie's article on "Improvement of Sandy Soils" is attracting considerable attention. The people are already sending to him for sorghum seed.

Henry Palmer, once with the boys of '83, has returned to take a special course in chemistry. He then goes to Ann Arbor for a course in pharmacy.

L. W. Hoyt, '82, has made two trips to Northern Michigan to locate lands for some parties in Grand Rapids. He expects to turn his attention to Colorado soon.

L. B. Hall, '82, has taken his prospected tour through the west, but has returned with the idea that Grottan possesses more attractions for him than any place he found.

Jacob M. Hollingsworth, '82, who it was thought for a long time was married, will soon be in that state of bliss. He is to be married June 6 to Roma J. Folger, of Ridge Farm, Ill.

Geo. D. Moore, '71, owns one of the finest farms in southern Michigan. He is secretary of the Lenawee county Pomona grange and one of the directors of the county agricultural society.

W. E. Hale, '82, is farming at Eaton Rapids. He is starting a herd of Short-horns and having good success. He is also successful as a politician, having been elected clerk of his township.

W. T. Langley, '82, is farming in Centreville, Mich. He is already making use of the military knowledge gained while a student in this college: he acted as marshal at the St. Joseph county fair.

D. C. Oakes, '74, who has been practicing law at Ionia for the past year, will soon embark in a new enterprise, in the establishment of a bank at Shelby, Ionia county. He commences business about July 1st.

Dan. W. Andrews, once with the class of '79, is engaged in the insurance business at Stanton, Mich. He is happy in his prosperity, and has many grateful remembrances of the time spent at college. He is married.

C. C. Georgeson, '78, owns a farm in Northern Texas; he has a crop of new potatoes now ready for market. He is going to engage in the seed business. Since December 22d, he has been the father of a handsome girl baby.

Jay Woodman, '81, is working his father's large farm on good terms for Jay. He is a good farmer, and destined to become loaded down with wealth. He was married some time ago to Miss Fanny Buckout. His address is Paw Paw, Mich.

Arthur Lowell, '74, is a promising lawyer and a partner of Geo. A. Farr, '70. Mr. Lowell was elected recorder of Coopersville this last spring, which we hear was wholly unsought, and if true is probably the first case on record. He is still unmarried.

Albert A. Robinson, '78, who has been engaged in farming, and dealing in lumber at Wayne for several years, is about to close out his business at that place. He has accepted a proffered partnership in a lumber business in Detroit, where he will locate for the present.

Geo. W. Mitchell, '74, has spent the past year prospecting in California and Oregon. Had a most enjoyable time, and returns to Indiana to sing the praises of the west until he can make arrangements to take up his abode in the "land of promise." Will locate in Oregon.

W. L. Snyder, '82, and T. F. Nelson, for a time with '84, have formed the great newspaper team. Snyder will write the heavy editorials, while Tom will preside at the press. They are at present looking for a location where the people are intelligent enough to appreciate their efforts.

W. S. Hough, once with the boys of '83, now of the University, was a delegate to the 25th annual convention of the Y. M. C. A. which was recently held in Milwaukee, Wis. While attending the convention, he received a telegram stating that he had been elected president of the Y. M. C. A. in Ann Arbor.

H. B. Elliott, better known as "Sam," did not return to college this spring. He was suffering from an attack of inflammatory rheumatism, and thought a summer on the farm would be beneficial. He is located at his home near Jackson, and drives into the adjoining villages after his fast horses in a manner that would do credit to a millionaire.

John I. Breck, who would have graduated this year, has left his class on account of failing health, and is now traveling agent for a Chicago book firm. He travels in the Western States, and finds his work very agreeable. He expects to go to England with an uncle some time next month. '83 loses a good man in Breck, and will deeply regret his absence at commencement.

Leroy Wilcox once with '82, is now a full-fledged physician. The following from the Chicago *Medical Times* is very complimentary: "Prof. Henry Olin's prize, consisting of an elaborate eye operating case, valued at \$50, to the student of highest attainments in the department of ophthalmology and otology, was awarded to W. Leroy Wilcox of Michigan, whose general average in all departments was the highest ever attained by any student of this College."

James Cassidy, for several years the florist here, has received and accepted the appointment to a position in the faculty of the Colorado Agricultural College. The following from the *Detroit Free Press* is worthy of notice:

"The Colorado officials who were here yesterday speak highly of the good work being done by Prof. Cassidy, late of the Agricultural College here, but now professor of agriculture and botany in the Colorado School of Agriculture at Fort Collins."

L. H. Bailey, Jr., '82, is always on hand with his contribution to the *SPECULUM*, but this time it comes in this form:

MARRIED,

L. H. Bailey, Jr.,  
Miss Nettie Smith.

You are requested to attend the marriage ceremony to take place at the residence of the bride's parents, Pine Lake, Mich., at 8 P. M., Wednesday evening, June 6th, 1883. After June 5th he may be addressed at Cambridge, Mass.

The *SPECULUM* extends its hearty congratulations.

Charles E. Bush died at his home in Lansing May 8th. He had been sick for over a year. He graduated in '81 and at once went to Pentwater to engage in business with his father. While there he contracted the disease from which he finally died. Charlie Bush was universally respected by students and faculty. During his long illness he hardly uttered a word of complaint, but at last patiently, bravely, and willingly dropped the burden of life,

"Like one who wraps the mantle of his couch  
About him and lies down to pleasant dreams."

## COLLEGES.

Oberlin celebrates her fiftieth anniversary this season.

The province of Shanghai, China, is governed by a graduate of Yale.

At Oxford and Cambridge Universities a student is a freshman only two months.

An enterprising Cornell Freshman has turned up missing with \$35 of the money subscribed for the class supper.

Subscriptions for the endowment of the Harvard Annex, the women's college, have reached the sum of \$56,000.

Private individuals in the United States have given \$70,000, -000 to the cause of education in the last twelve years.

Prof. Murray of Princeton has been invited to deliver the commencement address at the University of Michigan.

The University Hotel at Princeton, which was built at a cost of \$280,000, is to be turned into a dormitory for the students.

Johns Hopkins University has furnished the colleges of the country over one hundred professors during the six years of its existence.

The six prizes given at Williams for literary excellence were, without exception, received by students connected with the college papers.

The hazing for which five Sophomores were recently expelled at Bowdoin, consisted in violently cutting off one-half of a Freshman's moustache.

At the recent meeting of the Western College base ball association, held in Chicago, the University of Michigan severed its connection with the league.

President Porter, of Yale, testifies emphatically in favor of college athletics, stating that they not only benefit the students physically, but even morally.

A National Catholic University is about to be established in the vicinity of New York, which the founders intend to make the equal of Yale or Harvard.

At a recent examination at the University of London, the men were found superior in abstract practical science, but the young women excelled them as linguists.

At the request of the Chinese government, five Chinese youths will be admitted next September to West Point, and five to Annapolis. All of them are of the rank of princes.

The Williams College glee club has under consideration the feasibility of giving a series of concerts in the principal summer resorts of the East and West, during the coming vacation.

It is stated that Columbia College has asked the assistance of Edison in establishing a chair of electrical science in that institution. Mr. Edison likes the idea and will do all in his power to further it.

While President Arthur was on his fishing excursion in Florida, young Chet., who is a student at Princeton, entertained the Glee Club of that institution at the White House, and it is said made things lively in that vicinity for a few days.

The students of Princeton took part in the last city election supporting and electing the Democratic candidate. This action was in retaliation for the fines imposed by the Republican mayor on some students, who broke some of the street lamps in the city.

No available man being found to fill his place as President of Princeton College, Dr. McCosh will be requested to withdraw his resignation, with the understanding that a vice-president or other officer will be appointed to take charge of the most burdensome part of the work.

A student was expelled a few days ago, from one of our colleges for studying in chapel while the religious exercises were being performed. We have read of "seeing through a glass darkly" but this indicates that a Prof. can see through his hands while rendering the chapel prayer.

At a meeting of the trustees of Columbia College, held recently, there was discussed the project of appealing to the citizens of New York and of the country at large, for aid to enable them to convert the college into a metropolitan university, where students, who are now compelled to go to European universities, can obtain thorough instruction in the higher branches of learning.

Of late years there has been a large increase in attendance at the German universities. From 1,500 in 1872, the number of students has increased to 23,834 in 1882. Some alarm has been caused by this, showing as it is denied, that the demand of modern life for men of education has increased in like proportion. An official warning has been promulgated among the students taking up the study of law as a profession, since its ranks are already hopelessly crowded.

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