

The High School.

PUBLISHED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE OMAHA HIGH SCHOOL.

Legendo, Cogitando, atque Scribendo vere docti femus.

VOL. I.

OMAHA, NEBRASKA, SEPTEMBER, 1874.

No. 7.

POETRY.

THE DAY IS DONE.

BY HENRY W. LONGFELLOW.

The day is done, and the darkness
Falls from the wings of Night,
As a feather is wafted downward
From an eagle in his flight.

I see the lights of the village
Gleam through the rain and the mist,
And a feeling of sadness comes o'er me
That my soul cannot resist:

A feeling of sadness and longing,
That is not akin to pain,
And resembles sorrow only,
As the mist resembles the rain.

Come, read to me some poem,
Some simple and heart-felt lay
That shall soothe this restless feeling,
And banish the thoughts of day.

Not from the grand old masters,
Not from the lards sublime,
Whose distant footsteps echo
Through the corridors of Time.

For, like strains of martial music,
Their mighty thoughts suggest
Life's endless toil and endeavor:
And to-night I long for rest.

Read from some humbler poet,
Whose songs gush'd from his heart,
As showers from the clouds of summer,
Or tears from the eyelids start;

Who, through long days of labor,
And nights devoid of ease,
Still heard in his soul the music
Of wonderful melodies

Such songs have power to quiet
The restless pulse of care,
And come like the benediction
That follows after prayer.

Then read from the treasure'd volume
The poem of thy choice,
And lend to the rhyme of the poet
The beauty of thy voice.

And the night shall be filled with music,
And the cares that infest the day
Shall fall like their tints, like the Araks,
And as silently steal away.

"NOT QUITE FORGOTTEN."

Not quite forgotten, though the years endeavor
To fling a veil between thy soul and mine;
Deep in my heart thy memory liveth ever;
By tears and smiles unaltered is thine shrine.

Not quite forgotten, O, thou first and fairest
Of all my day-dreams, thou who yet must be
Trusted the longest, and still loved the dearest:
Forgotten? there is no such word for thee!

Not quite forgotten, for thy dear reflection
Endured in memory ever most remain,
And there are times when all the old affection
Which I have born thee surges back again.

No, not forgotten! for a chance resemblance,
A voice which rings as thine hath rung of old
Will often bring thee back to my remembrance,
And reproduce the past a thousand fold.

Faint as the fragrance of a flower long gathered,
Such is the love I bear thee: and no sin
I count it for its passion long since withered,
An now 'tis love with naught of earth therein.

CORRESPONDENCE.

DES MOINES, IOWA, Aug. 18th, 1874.

To the Editor of the High School:

I took a trip from here to your city to spend vacation, and stopped there nearly four weeks, during which time I have become acquainted with several young gentlemen in your city, also visited many of the most important schoolhouses, churches, manufactories and business houses, and, thinking that it would be acceptable to you for me to give a few sketches of my stay while there, I have ventured to write you these few lines hoping you will find room for them in your paper.

My first object of interest was your High School Building which I visited and examined thoroughly, being indebted to the gentleman in charge for his kindness in conducting me through. It is the finest and best adapted structure of the kind I have ever seen. I was under the impression that the schools of Iowa, a fair specimen of which is the Council Bluffs High School, were a little ahead of those in any of the older states, but I frankly confess that the High School of Omaha leads the van. Young men of Omaha should feel proud of the fact, and no doubt they do, as they have something to be proud of.

In connection with this I noted the fact that the boys of your town are fully up to the times, as they have a well organized Literary Society, better in fact, than many colleges and universities in older states who make greater pretenses. Upon invitation of an officer of the society, I attended one of the meetings, and if I were to make any criticism it would be that there is a tendency among some of the members to create too much laughter, (the greatest object in the way of a successful organization,) but this is an error that can be overcome with the increase of knowledge, so I see no reason why you cannot, with all your advan-

tages, make one of the best literary societies in your state.

One afternoon during my stay in your city, I thought I would pay a visit to the Smelting Works, and on my way thither I unconsciously found myself in a place which I was afterward informed was known as the "patch." (I had to have my clothes patched after passing through.) When about half way through I was very suddenly brought to my full senses by being attacked by a small dog who made several ugly demonstrations at my heels. I kicked the cur, and hardly had I done so, when I beheld a woman that looked as wild as a Fiji Islander bearing down on me with an upraised broomstick. (It was a dirty looking broom.) Not wishing to get my new clothes spoiled, I took to my heels at my best gait, and while running was attacked by all the dogs in the adjoining neighborhood. Things looked desperate. I rushed wildly on. Out came another volley of dogs, from right, left and front, I jumped a fence, tore my pants on a nail, darted through a pen of hogs, turned a complete summersault over a hog that was half scared to death, and finally got out by running through a lot of soft mud.

By this time I had concluded that I would not visit the Smelting Works, so, cautiously reviewing the situation, I started for my hotel, making it by a very circuitous route.

During the remainder of that day I kept as "shady" as possible, and next morning started for home.

W. J. M.

DEAD LANGUAGES.

Does it pay, we often hear asked by the Student to study the dead languages, before entering any of the professions, or before starting out into the world to commence building that monument that shall stand erected to his memory, either crowned with victory, or else covered with odium, such as shall make the friend shudder as he catches its unpopular influences, while prosecuting his onward march through life. The young man would have been answered yes a few years ago, and elaborate arguments would have been brought to bear, showing the necessity of such a course. But at the present day, the student gets no, for his answer eight times out of any ten. And for a reason he is told, this is a time when theory, fine spun arguments and fanciful ideas dressed up in a language recognized only by a few, is past. What the people of this country want is ideas based upon good sound practical principles.

We are progressing so rapidly as a people, and as a nation, with a people always searching out the place where ideas emanate that it is almost impossible to keep in pace with it if we stop to ponder over that which is dead and impracticable, and we become prostrate in the attempt. We therefore recognize the great necessity of man, for the short space he is allowed here on earth, to give his best years and his best talent in the studying for ideas, that he may be the more fitted to assist in the progress of the practical and scientific principles pertaining to our country's good. It is the man of ideas that obtains great wealth, it is the man of ideas that shines in our professions and takes the lead, it is the man of ideas that we admire this day as Statesman. A man of ideas who studies man and mingles with the people is more fitted to represent the masses than the impracticable man, who ponders over his dead languages studying the ideas of our Foreign Forefathers a thousand years ago. It was a rich treat for a scholar to listen to the learned Sumner, while he was delivering a fine cut speech upon some important measure to the country, but with the exception of a few of his learned companions, the same speech would not be understood, nor appreciated, and would never fall with such force as one from the man of ideas, the Self made man, Henry Wilson, when treating upon the same subject. And when Sumner will have one to mourn his loss, Wilson will have fifty at the close of his successful labours. So you will see in

the bright intelligent boy of fifteen, who enters college and devotes six or eight years with his books, coming out a master of languages, a dead, dry, theoretical Book Worm, not practical with but few ideas, ambition gone, and the very elements that go to make up the man, drained to the very dregs. So we say, Young America, be ambitious to get a good education, but study rather how to make a wheelbarrow or a hoe, and the mode of using them, than the dead languages. Reach out for ideas, grasp them and dress them in practical language, so the masses can understand you, and you will then have contributed to the good of your fellow man, and at the same time put yourself in the front rank of usefulness in the land.

CHID.

Written Expressly for the High School.

A NIGHT'S ADVENTURE.

BY ZENO, (A Pupil in the Prep. Class.)

It was a bitter cold night about the latter part of January, that a trio, consisting of Jack Whipple, Frank Eyers and myself, sat around a bright camp-fire smoking and "spinning yarns," before turning in.

It was almost too cold to sleep, and, as it was still quite early, we concluded, after replenishing the fire, to spend some time longer in relating experiences of our past lives.

Jack being called upon first, commenced the following, rather ghostly adventure, which well suited the wild character of that winter night, and spoken in the low deep tones peculiar to Jack's voice, produced a strong impression on his listeners.

"The story which I am about to relate occurred fifteen years ago, when the mad fever for gold filled the brains and hearts of thousands of desperate men, many of whom were doomed to bitter disappointment and often death from exposure and hard work in the mines; while others, fleeing from the just punishment their crimes merited, hailed California as a refuge for themselves and their lawless associates. Men of this character formed themselves into gangs of desperadoes and scouted the country, committing every kind of depredation, and taking the law in their own hands made themselves the terror of the peaceful settlers.

Upon one occasion I was called to transact some important business in a new settlement, situated in the northern part of Torapa Valley. The place was about fifty miles from San Francisco, and being out of the way of stage travel, had to be reached on horse-back.

I started about four in the afternoon, and, as the night promised to be fair intended to ride until morning, expecting to reach the settlement about dawn.

Years have past away since that night; and many strange sights and stranger things have I seen, but never have I beheld a view by orb or nature equal to that moonlight picture of long ago. That part of the valley through which I rode was scarcely half a mile wide, and on the east and west sides of its border rose dark irregular masses of mountains, the outlines of whose lofty peaks glistened and darkened against the sky, as the moon shone upon the snow that crowned their summits, or hid itself behind the clouds that floated around them. Nestling to their abrupt sides and sweeping over the face of the valley the tall grass waved in the evening breeze; while dense growths of trees interlaced their branches, forming long arbors where the light of day never penetrated. In these dark retreats game of every description abounded; and as I rode along, a frightened deer would spring across my path, or a timid rabbit gaze with astonishment at such an unusual intruder. Occasionally the cry of the wolf or hoot of the owl could be heard from up the valley, but with these exceptions, the stillness was most profound.

It is strange what an overwhelming sense of our dependence on each other, and the insignificance of self comes over us, when we have nothing but Nature's outward

forms and brute creation to solace our loneliness! Riding alone through that lovely valley, that Nature had decked with her choicest charms I felt oppressively lonely, and longed for a glimpse of a human face. My wish was shortly afterwards granted in a manner very unexpected.

I had been riding at an easy lope towards a large clump of trees, and had not observed how close I was to them until I was made aware of their close proximity by a sudden movement of my horse, who bounded forward, then stood still, trembling in every limb. I made an effort to ride him through the grove, but snorting wildly, he plunged aside, and refused to move; again I tried to reassure him but without avail. Allowing him to have his own way for a few moments, as he seemed almost frantic with terror, I thought I would dismount and investigate the cause of his unusual fright. I did so, and peered in every direction to discover the object of his alarm, but finding nothing to excite his fears, I took his bridle and gently lead him to the path through which we had to penetrate, and then hastily mounting gave him the spur. He neighed fearfully, and with a quick snort plunged headlong into the darkened way, reared madly, then stood paralyzed with terror before a dark looking object swaying in the pale moon-light that crept through the trees. Raising my head to see what it was, I found the cold, ghastly features, and staring eyes of a dead man almost touching my face!

I shall never forget the dumb feeling of horror that slowly crept over me as I viewed that defiant face with the dreadful expression of mocking hate and scorn gleaming from out the black eyes and wreathed about the palid lips; an expression so intense that even the awful hand of death was unable to change. The mortal heart had hurled its challenge of defiance even into immortality and though its throbs had ceased, its pulsations, as it seemed, were still reacting in the outward expression of the dead face when inward emotion was powerless.

I remained, for a moment motionless, transfixed with astonishment at the sight before me, but recovering my composure, I became aware of a strange figure, at a short distance from where I stood. At that point the trees grew in such a manner as to leave a small circular spot, on which the full light of the moon streamed, revealing to my excited fancy a scarce less pitiful sight than the one I had just viewed.

At the foot of a large tree, whose outstretched branches seemed to offer a vain protest against the horrors of which they were silent witnesses, crouched a woman, her upturned face as pale and rigid as that of the dead man. Indeed, at first, I thought she too had been made a victim of some fiendish plot, until, utterly unconscious of my presence, she slowly got up and tottered towards the corpse. Her long black hair hung in dishevelled masses about her shoulders, presenting a striking contrast with her marble features, which were set and shrunken as if death had touched them, while her large blue eyes wore a strange expression of despair. Her hands were tightly clenched, and as she walked, she waved them up and down, uttering a low moaning cry. Suddenly she paused, and peering through the trees, while a pitiful hunted look came into her eyes, she sought to discover her enemies still lurking in ambush. Satisfying herself that none remained, she again advanced to almost where I stood concealed by a clump of thick underbrush, when, alarmed by her approach, my horse wheeled about and faced her.

The woman sprang forward, while her eyes seemed to blaze with the light of fiendish insanity, she threw her clenched hands over her head, then uttering the most unearthly wail that ever came from mortal lips, disappeared into the thickets. I attempted to follow her, but, completely unmanageable from the fright her sudden appearance and cry had given him, my horse flew along the path at a mad rate for about a mile before I could control him. Knowing it would be useless to attempt to return and find the poor woman, I deter-

mined to reach the village as soon as possible, and return with a party to the fatal spot.

Ever and anon, as I sped along, the sound of that hopeless wail would be wafted towards me, borne by the pitying night-wind; fainter and fainter seemed each repetition, until the sad notes were lost in the increasing distance.

I arrived at the town about sunrise and hastened to acquaint the authorities with the particulars of that night's adventures, and beg their assistance. This was readily granted, and an excited party of ten set out immediately. It was near four when we reached our destination; I led the way and we soon came to the fatal tree, but our feelings may be better imagined than described when approaching to take down the corpse, we found it lying at the foot of the tree, and motionless beside it, lay the poor woman I had seen the night before. We compassionately lifted the senseless form from its sad resting place, and attempted to restore it to life, but vain was our effort, for the poor head had been crushed under its weight of grief, and life had become extinct some time before. Nothing could be done except to bury the unfortunate victims, and discover if possible the perpetrators of the murder. The latter effort was unsuccessful, for it was not until years after that one of the party concerned in that night's work, a notorious desperado, being brought to justice for murder, confessed to having been implicated in the hanging of the same man, years ago, whom I discovered. His name was Mervin, and had met his death in that way because he had put the police on the track of his fellow murderers who belonged to the same gang. The unfortunate woman was Mervin's wife; Totally unconscious of the dreadful fate that had befallen her husband, and becoming alarmed at his prolonged absence, she had walked from her home, a mile or so up the valley, in hopes of meeting him returning from San Francisco. Thus it was she had discovered his lifeless body, a short time before I did, but the shock proved too great for her mind and life, as she fell a helpless victim. The desperado also stated that his gang offered money and life to Mervin if he would consent to join them, but he refused the proposition with unutterable scorn, saying he preferred death a thousand times rather than such a life as he would lead with them. So they hung him. Mervin was a perfect stranger to the people surrounding him. He and wife had bought a little farm up the valley and were very exclusive. But though the knowledge of himself and wife was very limited, the tragedy of that night was never forgotten; and the remembrance that this poor unknown stranger had preferred death to dishonor is still as vivid as ever.

—Caution to Young Men—Because you find a young lady playing the piano in the parlor, it is no sign her mother is not at the corner grocery running in debt for a peck of potatoes.

—She can stand it pretty well once or twice; but when you spill a saucer of raspberry jam into her lap the third time, things get uncomfortable, and she works her countenance as if she wasn't born to be an angel.

—A paper innocently asks if there is any harm in sitting in the laps(e) of ages? George thinks it depends upon the kind of ages selected. Those from seventeen to twenty-five are extra hazardous.—Ee.

—A Terre Haute editor, who speaks with the air of a man who has discovered a new fact by experience, says that the way to prevent bleeding at the nose is to keep your nose out of other people's business.—Ee.

—"Phairest of the phair," sighed the lover, "phaney my phelings when I phorce the phearful consequences of our phearing phrom your phather's phanily. Phew phellows could have placed the music with so much fortitude as I have; and as phieckle phortune phails to smile upon our love, I phind myself phoreed to phorege the pleasure of becoming your husband. Phair Phrancis, pharewell phorever." "Hold, Phranklin, hold!" screamed Phrancis, "I will phollow you phorever." But Phranklin phled, and loving Phrancis phanted.

The High School.

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THE AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL.

The highest object of the American High School of today is to prepare a student for a college course, and hence, at most, it now occupies but an intermediate position as an institution of learning.

Prof. J. H. Roberts of Indiana, in a paper read before a convention of Illinois School Principals, advances the proposition that each stage of education should be complete of itself. As a reason he says, if High Schools afford the means of preparing for college, they should do it as an incidental and not as a main work. A student who expects to take a college course wants to do a very different sort of work from that of him who is to go immediately into business. The latter class exceed the former in a ratio of about six to one. The needs of the many should take precedence over those of the few. Why not then, for the benefit of the greater number, let the High School prepare an independent course,—one that will finish a student for business life,—and at the end of that time issue a graduating certificate, instead of, as at present, compelling every attendant to follow the established course, which is simply preliminary to entering college?

Five-sixths of the school attendants at this time have perhaps not the means at command to follow a college course, but can afford to spend two or three years in the high school at home, and generally manage to devote that much of their early life toward that end. They enter the school with the fond idea that perhaps they may have an opportunity to finish an education in the common English branches, and then commence life as the builders of their own fortunes. But no. Such a thing can not be allowed, even if it did benefit five-sixths of the school population. If you venture to raise above a primary grade, or if you have a desire to finish a common education, by going to a high school, you are started in to an entirely new course of study, in which you may exhaust the little time allotted you by your situation, and finally be compelled to leave, and go to work. What are the consequences? You are but little farther than when you left your graded school. You cannot follow the course begun, you could not think of calling yourself proficient in English branches before you entered the high school, and in short, you have spent probably two years to no end, while you might have been graduating with a very fair stock of general knowledge, and an education that would be practical through life.

It is expected however, that the idea of graduating in the English branches will be laughed at, and we will not feel surprised if such be the case, for the modern mind has so long been educated in the present system that any new suggestion on the subject, is apt to provoke a laugh before a serious thought. Yes, the idea would be ridiculed, for "who ever heard of such a graduate?" "Whose biography ever yet contained the statement that the subject graduated at a high school?" Great changes have taken place in short times, and it is by no means folly to hope for a change in this matter at no distant day.

Will the law never be changed which compels an ambitious young man, who, although poor, has made an effort to get a little over a primary grade by entering a high-school, to take up Latin, Geometry, Trigonometry, or preparatory studies for college life, when he has no hope of ever entering a college? Would it not be a wise reform if the American high-schools would discontinue the present plan of serving as preparatory work-shops for colleges, (which are generally private institutions, and conducted with a view of making money,) and instead establish a complete course of study that would be independent of any college?

It is a well known fact that colleges dislike to maintain preparatory departments, but nevertheless many are compelled to do

so in self defense, as the number of students annually prepared in high schools is very small. As an illustration of this fact the record of the Boston Latin School, probably one of the most favorably situated public preparatory schools in the country, show that during the last sixty years it has sent out an annual average of only about thirteen students fitted for colleges. Chicago and Cincinnati, each, with from four to six hundred high school pupils, succeeds in getting off to college yearly a squad of from five to seven young men.

Our own high-school, whose superintendent not long since expressed a happy satisfaction at its prospect of sending off to college in '76 a class of about thirty, now witnesses the solemn fact that about twelve or fourteen of its smartest boys, and half that number of girls, have dropped out of the class already, and, if the past can be taken as any criterion of the future, the indications are that, with the most hopeful results, there may be two or three girls, and perhaps a stray boy left in another year.

The lesson from these facts is this: *The high-school, must do its own work without reference to the college*, but in a few favorably situated instances it may attach a preparatory work as an addendum. In justice to ourselves let us here remark that we do not wish to be construed as having no regard for any thing higher than a common school education. We recognize all true culture as pre-eminently practical. Still it cannot be denied that some kinds of knowledge are more immediately related to the question of bread and butter than others. Where mere existence is a struggle, as is the case of a great majority in such newly settled countries as this, many considerations must be waived in deference to the one important question, "What shall I eat, what shall I drink, and wherewithal shall I be clothed?"

Therefore it should be the duty, if not the choice of the American high-school to prepare a course fitted to the requirements and situation of the great majority—the men and women who must form the greater element of our future society,—and to this end, should furnish in every town and village throughout the land, that complete and "generous education" which, as Milton says, "fits a man to perform justly, skillfully and magnanimously, all the offices, both private and public, in peace and in war."

In the words of an eminent living writer, "We want to rear men fit and ready for all spots and crises, prompt and busy in affairs, gentle to little children, self reliant in danger, genial in company, sharp in a jury box, tenacious in a town-meeting, tender at a sick-bed, not likely to jump into the first boat at a ship-wreck, affectionate and respectable at home, obliging in a travelling party, shrewd and just at the market, reverent and punctual at church, not going about with an air of perpetual apology for being in the world, brave in action, patient in suffering, fervent in spirit, and serving the Lord." This is the manhood that our age and country are asking of its educators.

THE HIGH SCHOOL LITERARY SOCIETY.

Everyone in these days should be able to act in, or preside over very important meetings. Ignorance of the simple rules for the procedure of such assemblages is inexcusable in any young man, and more so in an older person. The study and observance of these parliamentary rules is very instructive and entertaining, and the way to become proficient in them is to attend a good literary and debating society, if the city you live in affords such a one.

The High School Literary Society of this city meets again,—after a recess during the summer months,—on the first Friday in September. It comes together for the winter term under very favorable auspices, having a commodious room, well carpeted and furnished, and a membership of about thirty-five. Since its commencement, this society has made rapid progress, and undoubtedly been the means of educating many young men of this city in parliamentary etiquette and extempore speaking. We hope it will continue in its work so well begun, and not be content until it shall be a shining-light in the city of Omaha as well as the state of Nebraska.

To do all this it has only to avoid the one great error of all young societies—that of deteriorating into noisy scenes of disorder. We feel assured however, that nothing of the kind will be allowed to obstruct the society in its progress, as the majority of the society see its folly and are ever

ready to discountenance it. The days of foolishness and levity are over with a great many old members of this society, and they have commenced to appreciate the advantages offered by a membership in it.

Young men who have just been honored with a membership should keep in view the fact that they were not admitted for the benefit of the society, but themselves, that in return they should conduct themselves as becoming as possible, and show their appreciation by trying to learn something. By pursuing this course the society will continue to merit the appreciation and support of the citizens of Omaha, who have on several occasions shown their interest by turning out in large numbers to its entertainments.

LITERARY.

We take special pride in calling attention to Thalheimer's new work on "Medieval and Modern History," by M. E. Thalheimer, *family teacher of history and composition in the Packer Collegiate Institute, Brooklyn, N. Y.* 480 pp., full 8vo. 12 Double-page Maps, price \$2.50, WILSON HINKLE & Co., Publishers, Cincinnati and New York.

This manual contains an epitomized sketch of the most important events of the last fourteen centuries, embracing the rise and fall of every great Empire and Republic from the commencement of the middle ages down to the last conquest of Prussia. The dawn of civilization in many great countries, the gradual change of customs and manners, the confluence of German ideas with Roman civilization and religion, and finally the correspondence of Bismark with the Vatican, are all treated in a brief yet comprehensive style. The work is divided into five books, viz:

- I. The Dark Ages, A. D., 476-1096.
- II. The Middle Ages, A. D., 1096-1492.
- III. Discoveries in America and rise of states-system in Europe, 1492-1648.
- IV. From Peace in Westphalia to the beginning of Revolution in Europe, 1648-1789.
- V. From the French Revolution to the German-Empire, 1789-1871.

The book is intended as a companion volume to "Thalheimer's Ancient History," the two volumes forming a valuable and complete history of the world from the earliest times to the present. These books are adapted to the use of Schools and Colleges as well as the general reader.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

—By referring to another column it will be seen that Arthur and Bird Wakely intend to leave for Cornell College, Ithica, New York, about the first of September. The students of the High School, while rejoicing that the young gentlemen will enjoy the facilities of so good a college, cannot but regret their departure from Omaha. They are both smart and intelligent young men, having been members of the highest class in the High School, and we shall feel proud of them as representatives of Omaha abroad. We commend Messrs. Arthur and Bird to the young gentlemen of Cornell College as good, industrious, and strictly honorable young men.

—The Nebraska Teacher for August produces the graduating essay of W. Stewart Black, the young gentleman who, while bathing in the Missouri river some time since, was drowned. He had been a student in the Normal School some time and would have graduated with the highest honors in another week had he been spared. The essay in question had been prepared for commencement day, and was read as a token of respect by a fellow student. It served to show that Mr. Black had a finished education.

—Elsewhere we publish a well written article on "Dead Languages," from the pen of an able and accomplished young lawyer of this city who very modestly signs himself "CHID." The author whose opinion is well worth having, incidentally coincides with many views expressed by us in another column under the caption of "The American High School." Attention is also called to an extract from the "Common School," which shows the drift of eastern opinion on the subject.

—The Board of Regents of the State University at their recent meeting made another appropriation to carry on the publication of the Hesperian Student. From this we infer that the Hesperian boys can recline at ease on their cushioned chairs while their less fortunate cotemporaries are looking up "adds" to pay expenses.

—Our first page contains a very interesting narrative entitled "A Nights Adventure," by "Zeno." "Zeno" is a young lady attending the High School in this city, and this is her first effort as an imaginative writer. It is decidedly good for an amateur, and while thanking our fair contributor for favoring the HIGH SCHOOL, we hope that she will continue to write, and above all, to send her articles to this paper, as our columns shall ever be at her disposal.

—An excellent article from the pen of our valued correspondent "S. C." is unavoidably crowded out of this issue, as our forms were in press at the time it was received. The communication of "G. R. R." also goes over until next number.

—Our business manager says the first time a girl kissed him he felt as if he were sliding down a rainbow with a streak of lightning in each hand.

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- The above have appeared in THE COLLEGE COURANT since January 1st. The publishers having a limited number of sets containing the articles, would forward them post paid on receipt of 75 cents. Address COLLEGE COURANT, New Haven, Conn.

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LOCAL NEWS.

Local Advertisements, ten cents per line.

THE STATE NORMAL INSTITUTE.

SUCCESSFUL BEGINNING.

According to announcement, the Normal Institute opened on the 19th inst. The Hon. J. M. McKenzie was elected Conductor. Teachers from all parts of the State had arrived, and the number enrolled at the commencement was 46. The following are the names:

Hon. J. M. McKenzie, H. E. Heath, C. A. Gordon, G. A. Compto, Jr., T. Compton, W. V. Miller, E. H. Mason, Wm. H. Talcott, A. Radtke, J. H. Lynch, W. F. Bechtel, C. M. Whitney, Supt. Saunders Co.; John Rush, Supt. Douglas Co.; Stafford Plunkett, J. W. Lewis, J. G. Sanborn, J. S. Shoop, J. D. Patterson, F. A. Cogswell, C. L. Hill, J. M. Taggart, Jno. Cayton, Supt. Dodge Co.; Mattie J. Tobias, Allie T. Gale, Lola Harris, Cynthia Parks, Anna Abbott, Anna Watt, Ella Kittle, Anna Herron, Maggie Gilchrist, Lizzie Miller, May Marvin, Emma Van Anda, Adelaide Inlay, N. E. McCarn, M. J. McDonald, Celeste Field, Ella Whelpley, S. E. Edler, Addie M. Clark, Rosa Wagner, Lulu Blackman, Eoline Clark, Edna M. Reed, Lydia Doyle.

Exercises commenced with a lesson on the mysteries of Anatomy and Physiology, conducted by J. M. McKenzie. The number of bones, muscles, &c., in the body, were discussed, after which the Prof. made a few remarks, instructing the teachers as to the position which should be kept by both them and their pupils. In this line he also spoke of the injuries resulting from the wearing of tight vests by young gentlemen. (Although he did not mention it, we presume the ladies present were allowed any benefit they might derive from the above remark.) During the afternoon, Algebra, History, Geography and Mental Philosophy were taken up, after which a general debate was had on the question. "To what extent should the teacher study the lessons before the pupils recited them?"

In the evening, interesting lectures were given by Chancellor Benton and State Supt. J. M. McKenzie.

GERMAN IN THE GRADES.

Heretofore opinion has been somewhat divided on the subject of German as a study in our public schools, some taking the view that it should be taught in lower grades, while others maintained that the High School should be the only place to take up such a study.

Matters took a definite shape, however, when the Board, at a special meeting held last week, resolved that German be adopted as a study in the 7th and 8th grades.

Professor Decker will have charge of these German classes, and will receive a salary of \$800 per year. This places the opportunity of learning the German language within the reach of all.

The Seminary of the Sisters of Mercy in this city will not be opened as a school this year.

The building has been used during the past Spring and Summer as an Orphan Asylum and is now occupied as such, having from twenty to thirty homeless waifs to shelter at present. The support of this institution so far, has come from the citizens of Omaha.

Arrangements are now being made for the erection of a separate building to be used as an Orphanage, and when completed, which will be about six months hence, the old Convent building will be refitted, and opened as a Seminary and Boarding School.

Among our new advertisements will be noticed the millinery establishment of Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Waldo. "Waldo's Bazaar of Fashion" contains a new and well selected stock of ladies' hats, flowers, trimmings, millinery and fancy goods of every description.

A student of the High School in the German Class sends us the following touching poem illustrative of the benefits of his first term's study of the language and showing conclusively its practical advantages over its rival Latin.

H. D. E.

GRETCHEN.

"I have many dollars, Gretchen— More than you ever saw; Would you like to have them, Gretchen?" Softly she answered, "Yah!"

Trembling, hoping I asked again, "What else—who else, my dear?" And she innocently answered, "Swei glass lager beer."

"O most cruel Gretchen!—dearest! Speak me fair, wilt thou be mine?" And I bowed, my ear to hear her, As she blushing answered, "Nein!"

We acknowledge the receipt of Peters' Musical Monthly for August. This magazine is the most popular, and without a doubt the best musical publication in the United States. Each volume contains from eighteen to twenty-four of the latest songs and instrumental pieces, finely set to music, and we only wonder, when looking over its contents, and considering its cost, that people will pay for single pieces of music what they could get twenty of the same kind for, (\$3.00 per annum). Subscribe for the MONTHLY, and you will have at the end of the year a valuable collection of music.

Commencing with this issue we will send the HIGH SCHOOL free to every School Superintendent in the State. All we ask of them in return, is to hand a copy to some smart and competent young men in their respective districts who will be willing to act as our subscription agents or get up clubs in their schools. We are working to get a larger State circulation, and we assure our friends outside of the city of Omaha that any assistance they may give us in this respect will not go unappreciated.

C. J. Emery has gotten up a club of thirteen subscribers for the HIGH SCHOOL. Charley is not so bad a boy as some are disposed to think. It has always been his father's wish to make a great and good man out of him, and with this great object in view it is related that he has always kept a good supply of old hatchets laying around the house, hoping Charley would some day take one out into the orchard and make a George Washington of himself. The scheme never worked.

Attention is called to the advertisement of Miss D. C. Senter, successor to Mrs. C. Wood, fashionable milliner, 236 Douglas street. Miss Senter has been associated with Mrs. C. Wood for a long time, and this fact is assurance that she is well qualified to maintain the high reputation of this popular establishment.

The Superintendent of the city schools has sent a letter to Ann Arbor College, Michigan, asking if the Faculty could recommend some Graduate of that institution who would be competent to fill the position of Assistant Principal of our High School.

Mr. John Rush, of Elkhorn Precinct, has been appointed Superintendent of Douglas County Schools, in place of S. D. Beals, resigned. We are glad of it. We have known Mr. Rush for several years, and can safely say that he is well qualified to fill the office.

It is with no less pleasure than thanks to our friends that we note the general satisfaction with which they received our paper on its appearance in new form last month. Kind words and well wishes from all sides are by no means unappreciated.

The State Fair comes off this month, in this city, and among the premiums to be awarded are several for the best specimens of penmanship, pencil sketches, crochet, and embroidery work, &c., by boys and girls under 18 years.

Cassius Gise, Fred Knight and Fred R. McConuell are going to study Latin this Fall and Winter under the instruction of Prof. Ralph Gaylord, who has consented to give a portion of his time for that purpose.

Mr. J. M. Wolfe, author and publisher of numerous Directories, Railway Gazettes, &c., is now writing up a historical sketch of Omaha, which will be published in pamphlet form, and appear about the first of October.

Don't fail to subscribe this month. Back numbers always on hand.

Miss Cushman and Miss Fawcett of Blair, Miss Morse of Plattsmouth, and Miss Houghton of this city have been added to the list of teachers in the public schools of Omaha.

A copy of Thalhamers New Work on "Medieval and Modern History" now adorns our library, and if our testimony is worth anything we must say that a better treatise on the subject we would not wish.

We acknowledge the receipt of the "Great Western Business College Journal" for September. The journal is edited by Prof. Rathburn, and makes a very creditable appearance.

G. L. Bowers, the enterprising butcher, cor. 10th and Dodge streets, is out in a new "add." Give him a call.

Parties receiving copies of the High School this month will take it as a special invitation to subscribe, and we hope they will do so without any further notice.

We send free copies of the HIGH SCHOOL to every Superintendent, Principal, and school officer in the State.

The office of the HIGH SCHOOL is 508 1/2 13th street. Office hours, 9 to 10 morning, 5 to 6 afternoon, and 8 to 10 evening.

Subscribers not receiving their paper will please report the fact at this office as soon as possible.

Communications to secure insertion must be handed in before the 20th of the month.

PERSONAL.

Miss Stacia Crowley will please accept our thanks for favors received.

Mr. Chas. Saunders is now taking a pleasure tour through the State of Illinois and will be back in about a week.

Miss Celma Balcome, who has been teaching a school in the interior of the State, has returned to this city.

Fred Millard, who went East last month, has, we learn, entered the Graylock Institute, South Williamstown, Massachusetts.

J. E. Bailey, of Chicago, has been elected Assistant Professor of Chemistry at the State University.

Arthur and Bird Wakely leave on the 1st of September for Ithica, New York, where they will attend the Cornell College.

Mr. H. D. Estabrook intends to leave for St. Louis the 1st of October. He will take a course of law in the Washington University.

The genial countenance of our young friend Mr. Chas. McDonald, now radiates the somewhat dismal atmosphere which had heretofore prevailed the locality of Tootle and Maul's dry goods store.

John Creighton has returned from a trip up North in this State. While in the vicinity of West Point he came very near dying, as he said the grasshoppers were very destructive to everything green in that section.

Charlie Redick will be back from the surveying expedition of Chauncey Wiltz, about the first of September.

Last week we were honored with a call from Howard Painter, M. E., a young gentleman who was going West to engage in his profession. Mr. Painter inquired if we knew of J. H. Painter, a relative of his, whom he had not seen for seventeen years.

MISCELLANEOUS.

—There were forty American students at the University of Berlin last winter.

—The subject of mixed schools is now agitating the people of Memphis, Tennessee.

—An insane student made a desperate attempt to assassinate Bishop Whipple of Minnesota the other day, because that dignitary refused to ordain him.

—Mark Twain says that a woman is unrivalled as a wet nurse.

—The President of Harvard College, in a lengthy paper read before the National Educational Association, presented some strong arguments in favor of a national university.

THE LITTLE FOLKS.

OMAHA, Aug. 24th.

MR. EDITOR—My papa gave me a dollar and told me I could spend it any way I pleased. After thinking what I would like best I told my mama I would subscribe for the HIGH SCHOOL, and she said I might, so I sent you the money in this letter. ELLA WILTON.

OMAHA, Aug. 24th.

MISTER EDITOR—I never wrote a letter before but I wrote a composition at school, and if you print compositions I will send mine to you. CARRIE BELDEN.

Miss Carrie is informed that we will be very glad to publish short and neatly written articles of any nature from the little folks.

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POETRY.

REVELRY OF DEATH.

We meet 'neath the sounding rafter,
And the walls around are bare;
As they shout to our peals of laughter
It seems that the dead are there;
But stand to your glasses steady,
We drink to our comrades eyes:
Quaff a cup to the dead already,
And hurrah for the next that dies!

Not here are the goblets glowing,
Not here is the vintage sweet—
'Tis cold as our hearts are growing,
And dark as the doom we meet;
But stand to your glasses steady,
And soon shall our pulses rise—
A cup to the dead already,
Hurrah for the next that dies!

Not a sigh for the lot that darkles,
Not a tear for the friends that sink,
We'll fall midst the wine-cup's sparkles
As merrily as the wine we drink;
So stand to your glasses steady,
'Tis this that the respite buys;
One cup to the dead already,
Hurrah for the next that dies!

There's many a hand that's shaking,
There's many a cheek that's sunk,
But soon, though our hearts are breaking,
They burn with the wine we've drunk;
So stand to your glasses steady,
The thoughtless are here—the wise;
A cup to the dead already,
Hurrah for the next that dies!

Time was when we frowned at others,
We thought we were wiser then;
Ha! ha! let them think of their mothers
Who hope to see them again:
Ho! stand to your glasses steady,
'Tis here the revival lies;
A cup to the dead already,
Hurrah for the next that dies!

There's a mist on the glass congealing,
'Tis the hurricane's fiery breath;
And thus doth the warmth of feeling
Turn ice in the grasp of death.
Ho! stand to your glasses steady,
For a moment the vapor flies;
A cup to the dead already,
Hurrah for the next that dies!

Who dreads to the dust returning?
Who shrinks from the sable shore
Where the high and heavy yearning
Of the soul shall sting no more?
Ho! stand to your glasses steady,
The world is a world of lies;
A cup to the dead already,
Hurrah for the next that dies!

Cut off from the land that bore us,
Betrayed by the land we find,
That the brightest have gone before us
And the dullest remain behind;
Stand, stand to your glasses steady,
'Tis all we have left to prize;
A cup to the dead already,
Hurrah for the next that dies!

AN EDITOR'S MARRIED EXPERIENCE.

After an editor had remained a bachelor until thirty-five, one would suppose he was able to select a wife whom one could live with without quarreling, at least; but such was not the case with Ned Williams. After dreaming of earthly bliss, he concluded to try love in a cottage. He found a place to suit, and began housekeeping. Never was an editor so happy. It was "my love," "duck," "sweetness," etc., in every sentence. Shortly after house-keeping began, trouble too began. Some evil genius put it into our "duck's" head to have some pudding for dinner, just to please her lord. After partaking of a heavy dinner of substantial, the pudding moment arrived, and a huge slice almost obscured from sight the plate before him.

"My dear, did you make this?"
"Yes, love; ain't it nice?"
"Glorious—the best bread pudding I ever tasted in my life."
"Plum pudding, ducky," suggested wife.

"Oh, no, dearest, bread pudding. I always was fond of 'em."

"Call that plum pudding, if you please!" exclaimed the wife, and the lip slightly curled with contempt.

"Well, my dear, I reckon I've had enough bread pudding to know what it is at least, my love."

"Husband, this is really too bad; plum pudding is twice as hard to make as bread pudding, and is more expensive and a great deal better. Besides I had enough plum pudding to do me a lifetime while I was at the boarding school, and never intend to make it. I say this is plum pudding, sir!" and the pretty wife's brow flushed with excitement.

"My love, my sweet!" he exclaimed soothingly, "do not get angry. I'm sure it is very good if it is bread pudding."

"You mean, low wretch!" fiercely exclaimed the wife, in a louder tone, "you know it is plum pudding."

"Then, madam, it is so meanly put together and so badly burned that the devil himself would not know it. I tell you, madam, most distinctly and emphatically, and I will not be contradicted, it is bread pudding, and the meanest kind at that."

"It is plum pudding!" shrieked the wife as she hurled a glass of claret in his face, the glass itself tapping the claret from his nose.

"Bread pudding!" gasped he, pluck to the last, and grasping a roasted chicken by the left leg.

"Plum pudding!" rose above the din, and then was heard the crashing of two plates across his head.

"Bread pudding!" he moaned in a rage, as the chicken left his hand and landed in madam's bosom.

"Plum pudding?" responded she, and she hurled the gravy dish and contents upon the enemy's head, and a plate of beets landed upon his white vest.

"Bread pudding!" shouted he in defiance, and darted out of the house, leaving madam upon the field alone. Moral—beware of the first quarrel.

— A Detroit boy propounds the awful query: "Which had you rather do, be eaten up by a tiger, or have all the maple sugar you can swallow?"

— Augustus Leonore dressed up like an Indian, and descended on the cabin of a Missouri family for fun. They kept the body on ice three days for his father to arrive.

—"Beg pardon, sir," said a colored waiter to a stranger at a Lake Geneva hotel the other day, "but Mr. Chittenden am undevitably obtained wid a transum guest in de exception room."

—Why are ladies kissing each other an emblem of Christianity? Because they are doing unto each other as they would men should do unto them.

—Why is a lawyer the worst sleeper in the world? Because he first lies on one side, then he lies on the other, and he is wide awake all the time.

—Newspapers are getting up a discussion about the number of apples eaten by Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, for lack of something better to talk about. One exchange makes the result as follows: "Eve 8 and Adam 2, a total of 10, only." Another gives it: Eve 8 and Adam 8 also; total 16." A third declares the above figures entirely wrong, arguing "that if Adam 8 and Eve 8 2, certainly the total will be 90." Scientific men however, differ. Some reason something like this: "Eve 8 1st and Adam 8 2; total, 163." But a Massachusetts paper inquires: "What could be clearer than Eve 8 1 and Adam 8 1 2, the total was 893?" Not right—Eve 8 1-2 1st, and Adam 8 1-2 2, total 16,243.

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The Trustees of the Louisville Medical College, (Louisville, Ky.), appreciating the impoverished condition of the whole country, have determined to grant a Beneficiary Scholarship to any young man, who, sufficiently educated to study medicine, and of good character, is unable to pay for his education. To secure this valuable aid, application, with a full statement of the facts, should be made without delay to Dr. E. S. GAILLARD, Dean, Louisville, Ky.

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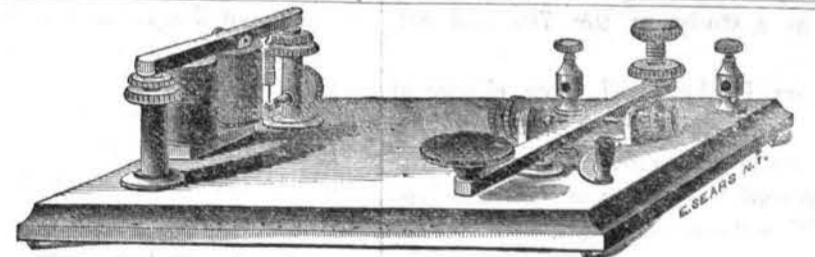
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