THE HESPERIAN.

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA.

VOL. XXV. LINCOLN, NEBRASKA, DEC. 20, 1895. No. 7.

THE HESPERIAN.

ssued semi-monthly by the HESPERIAN Association of the University of Nebraska.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

One copy, per college year (in advance) - - - $1.00
One copy, one semester - - - - - .60

ADVERTISING RATES ON APPLICATION.

ALUMNI AND EX-STUDENTS.

Special endeavor will be made to make THE HESPERIAN interesting to former students. Please send us your subscriptions.

☞ Subscriptions on our books will be continued until ordered stopped.

Address all communications to THE HESPERIAN, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska.

BOARD OF EDITORS.

O. H. ALLEN - - EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

ASSOCIATES

H. E. NEWBRANCH, - - EDITORIAL
P. H. THOMSON - - LITERARY
IDA W. HEISE - - - LITERARY
CLINT M. BARR - - - ATHLETIC
J. N. SHREVE - - - - LOCAL
C. E. MATSON - - - - LOCAL
LULU W. BURROWS - - - LOCAL
JOE BOOMER - - - - ALUMNI

L. J. ABBOTT, JR., } - BUSINESS MANAGERS.
NED. C. ABBOTT }

EDITORIAL.

THE MONITOR indulged in its last issue in a final despairing yawp against the "degenerate and decadent" literary societies. This last tirade is only in accord with the belief which has marked its brief and painful existance—"Nothing good can come out of the literary societies."

They are behind the times, they are fit only for lower classmen; they accomplish nothing and attempt nothing; their career is drawing to a close, all this quoth the pessimistic sage of the *Monitor*.

All this talk is arrant nonsense—the veriest drivel. The literary societies are now in the best state of their existence—and promise to become still better. In point of their membership, enthusiasm and loyalty, as to their belief in their own aim and policy, there can be no question. But, the *Monitor* says, they accomplish nothing. Their litterary work is inane, embryonic, unsatisfactory.

Granted, we are not finished writers or orators or elocutionists. If we were, there would be no need for literary societies. It is true, we are in an embryonic stage, and our work, to the cold, critical eye of the genius of the *Monitor* may appear inane,—but we are growing. We are developing. The poor essayist of one year, under the guidance of the societies, becomes the popular writer of the next. The awkward, stammering youth who tries to speak as a freshman and fails, gains through practice, succeeds through failure, and as a senior is an easy, graceful, fluent talker. And it has been a noticable fact that the *Monitor* itself has supplied its really bright and interesting literary columns from the pens of literary society members almost exclusively. The writers and the speakers of the University, as THE HESPERIAN has said, will be found in the literary societies. The society membership, all told, is less than two hundred—not twenty per cent of the students. Yet this twenty per cent contains at least ninety per cent of the literary and oratorical ability of the University. Why? Because they have developed raw material. They have followed the rule that "practice makes perfect." They have kept plodding steadily along, and the result is seen in the work they do.

No, no, oh esteemed pessimist, the societies are not "dying." They are not out of date. On the contrary, they are very much alive, and right up with the times.

Chauncey Depew says that the great fail-