

THE HESPERIAN

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Had the 'powers' decided to extend the time of the final examinations until the middle of July, and the students protested, the 'powers' no doubt would have been willing to compromise the matter by giving three or four 'holidays.'

The passing of Gladstone takes from the stage of the nineteenth century its chief actor. Politics has lost its greatest constructive statesman, religion its strongest defender and humanity its firmest friend. He stood not for "blood and iron" but for love and faith: he scorned the narrow patriotism that upholds national selfishness and comprehended the welfare of the whole world's people in his masterful mind. More than any single man he contained within himself the ideals of the world-student of today. He was great, he was grand, his breadth of charity was immeasurable, his depth of love unfathomable. Truly he, above all others, "listened to the heart-beat of humanity" and heard the heart-throb of a suffering world.

The offer of Mrs. Manning to arrange spec-

ial classes and special work for next year's contestants in debate and oratory and the unanimous acceptance of that offer by the debating and oratorical associations, is an encouraging fact for next year's forensic workers and for public speaking in the University generally. There are no longer any dissenters from the belief that delivery in debate is an absolute essential; and the better the delivery the more effective the argument. This action insures careful training and correction of defects: it means a study of the art of using gracefully and effectively the materials of argument. It unites the two elements and harmonizes the results. Mrs. Manning will faithfully perform her part of the agreement; we believe that the active men in these two two organizations will do theirs.

To retain an inefficient head of a department on personal or other grounds is to impair the highest usefulness of the University. Merit alone should be the grounds for retaining any member of the faculty. This is especially true of the library which has become the great laboratory of the academic college of the University. The most skilful training is required properly to conduct this department. Upon the wise management of the library depends to no small degree, the real efficiency of the work of a number of other departments. Lack of careful training is easily detected here. What we want is a trained librarian whose knowledge of library methods and service is commensurate with our needs. It is earnestly hoped that, in the choice of a new librarian, all personal considerations will be cast aside, and that merit alone will be the guide.

The efforts of the debating and oratorical associations to have regular university credit given for work done in forensic contests are to be heartily commended. No one acquainted with the amount of work done by the average debater in preparation for the finals or for an inter-state contest, will deny that such credit is earned and re-earned. Moreover, the only way to give our debaters and orators the much needed training is for the university to make such work a part of the curriculum; to make such training systematic.

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