

deavor to make the cost at the University as light as possible. Until then, it is known that compulsory drill and uniforms are demanded by the charter of the University, why not lay them aside? Let the Military department be placed upon the same ground as any other department in the institution, and not build up by force of law what can not stand by its own merits.

This must be done or the University must cease its boasting of free institutions and liberal education.

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#### THE STUDY OF ENGLISH.

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Should not more prominence be given to the study of English in our University? At present, one term of rhetoric and two or three of English Literature, besides three essays a term, is the extent to which this branch is represented. One college at least devotes to it an average of one recitation a day for nine terms, including one essay a week. With us it may not be practicable for some years to give as great a share of attention to it, yet the present facilities are too meagre.

To well understand and properly use our mother tongue, is an object of collegiate training, second in importance to no other. But this, like all valuable acquirements, takes time. The study of the classics, though an invaluable help, is yet a partial one, inasmuch as it deals only with the Romance element of English, and this as found in the original tongues. It is necessary, therefore, to give some attention to the successive stages our language has passed through in its transition from Anglo-Saxon to Modern English. In this way, we not merely gain a necessary knowledge of the native element of our language, but we learn how old words have become obsolete, new ones come into use, and others changed their meaning. This is needful in order to read intelligently even the authors of two centuries ago.

To the improvement of individual style in the use of language, the critical study of standard writers is an important help. Unless this is systematically provided for in a course of study, students largely lose the benefits that arise from it and their literary progress is thereby hindered.

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#### PUNCTUALITY.

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Punctuality has rightly been termed a requisite of a successful business man. But such a truth thus stated is only half defined. For, to meet every engagement promptly at the appointed time is necessary for continual success in every path of life. The professional man knows that the penalty of once missing his office hours, is the loss of an excellent client. And the farmer who enters the field late in the morning, is vexed when he contemplates that the work which he could have accomplished in one day, will now demand his attention for nearly two.

Since, then, punctuality is so essential an agent of success, it cannot profitably be ignored by the student, but on the contrary it is a lesson that he may faithfully study. For while students at college, it is expected that we are forming habits and customs that will cling to us during the remainder of life, and in this formation it is well that only the good be included; for an evil once acquired is difficult to lay aside.

Punctuality is only a habit and with a little care can be easily acquired. So when the student carelessly ignores the opportunity for gaining so great a virtue, it is well that he be reminded of his error. Hence the recent order of the Faculty requiring a written excuse for all absences from classes, is a step in the right direction. For it is evident that he who misses his class one day out of every week, stands little show of completely mastering the work accomplished by the remainder of the class. And but little more can be expected from him who enters the