

of imperfections. Of course there were some who led in the matter, but the students are not mere school children and we do not believe they would have readily indorsed the head of their institution had a belief of misdemeanors on his part obtained much credence among them.

WHY?

We regret that the literary societies have hardly made so good a record this year as usual. The late investigation and the lectures given under the auspices of the students' association, have caused several interruptions during the present term, and the faculty have not been backward in urging the performance of a large share of work on the part of the students; but all this does not entirely cover the case.

When the names of those on performance for declamation and essay are read off, two or three stragglers respond and perhaps a fourth will enter the hall and perform his part when the exercises are half finished. The debates will begin with the old, old prelude that "they are not prepared; had not known which side of the question they were on," etc., etc., *ad nauseam*.

These skeleton delegations, comparable in numbers to the attendance of the faculty at chapel service, fairly indicate the percentage of willing workers in the societies. After recess, a few forlorn, resolute individuals, hardly more than enough, sometimes, to form a quorum, remain to assume the responsibility of the business meetings. It is of course remarked that the members "don't show the interest they ought to;" in short, that "the society has run down."

Is this listlessness unavoidable? Perhaps we have scales on our eyes or wear specs that make things appear in an upside-down position, but we see no good reason why the societies may not be brought to as high a degree of efficiency as they have thus far ever enjoyed. We

venture the opinion that if a student has not, as a rule, time to attend every meeting of a society, and to prepare himself well every time he is regularly placed on performance, he has no time to belong to a society at all.

Why need society work be of no higher a type than off hand debating, and a repetition of old essays and declamations? If class-room work compels this result, we may as well dispense with our society organizations and allow the halls to become repositories for stacks of bones and shells, or vacationary asylums for the broken stoves and rusty mush-pots of the selfboarding students. If this state of affairs should obtain for one or two terms, we would doubtless wake up to a realizing sense of the worth of a literary society and begin anew with fresh zeal.

OUR ADVERTISERS.

The patronage of 250 students in the city of Lincoln amounts to no small sum within a year. Hence we take this opportunity to direct the attention of the students to those firms that advertise in our columns. We do this, partly because they merit the trade of the students and partly because students trading with our advertisers will find better rates at which to purchase. Hence before purchasing, glance at the columns of our advertisements, and see that you appreciate assistance, as well as responsible firms, for we advertise no other.

The complaint is often made by some of our advertisers, that an advertisement in our columns brings them little profit. This however they cannot say with exact certainty; for students, as a general rule, make few acquaintances in the city, and hence are not well known; consequently they are unknown by our business men and treated as strangers, and those, who chance to be our advertisers, are none the wiser than students ever trade with them. This is the case time and again. But those who do not believe that it pays to