

THE HESPERIAN STUDENT

Published semi-monthly by the students of the Nebraska State University.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 1882.

EDITORS IN CHIEF.

MAY B. FAIRFIELD. N. Z. SNELL.

LOCAL EDITOR.....CLEM CHASE.  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR.....WILL O. JONES.  
BUSINESS MANAGER.....B. F. MARSHALL.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

1 copy per college year . . . . . \$1.00.  
1 " one half year . . . . . .50.  
Single copy . . . . . .05.

RATES OF ADVERTISING.

1 column one insertion . . . . . \$3.00.  
2 squares " " . . . . . .75.  
1 " " " . . . . . .40.

All articles for publication should be addressed—Editor HESPERIAN STUDENT, State University, Lincoln, Nebraska. All subscriptions and business communications, with the address, should be sent to B. F. MARSHALL. Subscriptions collected invariably in advance. Advertisements collected monthly.

Editorial.

TWO-THIRDS of the school year is past and we meet again to enter upon the remaining one. Refreshed by the recess we are all, no doubt, ready for our work. But, before we begin it, let us have a real old fashioned sociable. All will enjoy it. Probably the Faculty will give us permission, and it may not rain.

WE call upon the new presidents of both societies to make order the great policy of their administrations. The time has arrived when a firm stand must be taken against the foolish "sociables" which have from time immemorial disgraced the meetings of the societies and made the rear of the halls perfect pandemonium. The best members are anxious for reform and will heartily aid the presiding officers in their efforts to bring it about.

"LITERARY NOTES" gives some whole some advice to commencement speakers. The pith of it is—"be simply yourself." The assumed importance, the unnatural speech and carriage, only show a lack of true judgment. The inner man, what he is, and what capable of doing, is the test for all. The external part, that which may be worn or put aside, is not the standard by which to be judged. Hence the force of the advice—be simply yourself. Show your true colors and not false ones. *Lit. Notes* also holds that the production should be merely a fair average of what the speaker is capable of doing; that he should not spend much more time upon it than he can afford to give to like work in after life. This is urged

that a correct estimate may be made by the audience of the speaker's ability and of what use he will be to society. Good advice.

It is to be hoped that the graduates this year will remember a long-suffering public and not inflict upon their patient audience either a repetition of former commencements or of each other. Do let one June come and go without dragging Greece and Rome from blissful oblivion or propounding and answering—or attempting to answer—metaphysical questions beyond the depth of an average Senior. "What am I, whence came I, and where am I going" are problems that can never be satisfactorily solved on a warm summer's morning. What you are, ten to one the audience will discover before you're through. Where you come from they probably don't care, and where you are going they will decide according to their creeds. It has been a just criticism of some commencement days that the orations were ~~not~~ because of a general likeness which they bore to each other. The present class is composed of students widely different in character, principles, theories and practices, and there will be little excuse for giving any occasion for a similar judgement.

THE University is old enough and its classes large enough to make a good beginning in the right direction and institute a class day. This in eastern colleges is coming to be the chief event of the commencement. As long as the classes in our own University are small enough to permit all to take part in the graduating exercises, by reading an essay or delivering an oration, the absence of anything more is not so keenly felt. But where it is the custom, as it is at Michigan University, to have no member of the graduating class appear commencement morning except to receive the diplomas, class day becomes a positive necessity as a means of bringing the members of the class together as such, and class day consequently becomes their chief care and pride. Over its programme and general arrangements are waged the pitched battles so dear to a Senior's heart, and to be president of class day is to receive the highest honor. The University has poets and the Senior class has one, so we should not feel the want of an ode. We have orators and historians and possible presidents. We can respond to toasts and applaud them, and we will enjoy a banquet. So let's have a class day.

It is not pleasant for the STUDENT to speak of matters not to the credit and honor of anyone. Much less delightful is the task when friends and class-mates are to be censured. It is no secret that

there are those, and they are known, who at every examination use their notes or ext-book in answering questions. For their good, at least, Moral Philosophy ought to be taught in the Freshman and not in the Senior year. Their standard of right is, "I *must* pass, dishonestly if I can, honestly if there is no other way." It is not a year since a party of students, having obtained the questions of an examination then in progress, deliberately copied the answers out of the book, then went to the examination, sat and fooled with their papers the required time and handed these previously prepared papers to the professor. This *they* do not brand with the name of dishonesty and broken faith, no, not at all. It is called a huge joke. Such are the jokes that destroy confidence—that confidence without which society falls apart. Young man, if there be any virtue you honor, honor that which is the basis of all good and all society. Deceive not yourself with the delusion that what is done in the spirit of lightness and under the stimulating advice of companions is not a wrong.

THE STUDENT is also inclined to believe that some of the professors are lacking in moral courage; that they are conscious all is not well, yet do not seek to know positively. There are none so blind as they who do not wish to see. Such are nothing more or less than cowards. They blunt their own moral nature and give the security of silence to the offenders. Professors, does not a small voice tell you this is so? We trust not, but fear that it is too true.

WE boast of our progressiveness and culture and general "supremeness," and look with great self-complacency upon the superiority of ourselves and the world in general. But in all this self-praise and commendation of personal and national characteristics, we are too apt to overlook the many and sterling excellences possessed by times and peoples other than our own. Fast living, high pressure system, slang, exaggeration and the outre in speech and theories are characteristic of America and the nineteenth century. We cease to be children when we enter our "teens," and are young ladies and gentlemen long before we're twenty. The vocabulary of the street urchins is in daily use in school and home. Eccentric and foolish are too often the synonyms of original, and to run wild over a novel and effervescent style of literature is to be enthusiastic in the cultivation of the emotional nature and in the pursuit of culture. Our exaggerations of life are hypocritical; of speech, false. Veracity and simplicity are not unfrequently considered countrified and childish, while interesting wickedness and pleasant falsehoods are condoned and applauded. It is time that simple and