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## MISCELLANEOUS MENTION.

The American Note Books give a clue to Hawthorne's success as a writer. Constant, untiring perseverance made him so perfect a master of the pen. All great writers have been great workers.

Important discoveries have been made in Greece by the recent excavations. According to Mr. Waldstein, it will lead to a change in the conception and interpretation of some of the productions of Greek art.

Susan B. Anthony and Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton are in England laboring for their sex. The youngest nation on the globe is becoming the leader in education and reform. The east is learning of the west.

George Eliott says "no one thing is as true an index of one's culture as the kind of wit he appreciates." What each one finds ludicrous is an unerring test of his attainments. If this is so, it reflects somewhat severely on college students whose height of enjoyment is in "hazing" and class "melees."

Henry Ward Beecher is making considerable stir among the ministry of our country by his open views. Many are afraid that such liberal tenets proclaimed over the country will undermine the people's faith in religion. But there is no danger of this, no truth can be demolished by criticism. The greatest enemies of religion, thus far, have been its supporters. They sought to keep it out of strife, but that is contrary to nature. The principles of truth, like plants, are more vigorous when they are kept stirred up.

Carlyle says "the true past departs not, nothing that was worthy in the past departs; no truth or goodness realized by man ever dies or ever can die." The radicals would do well to remember this. Because a thing is old is no reason why it is false. The weakness of the conservative is, not because he holds on to old truths, but the garment of old truths. All principles are eternal, but they change their external appearance to fit the wants of each generation. Many things we deemed true in our childhood, appear differently in a more advanced age, but the principle remains unaltered.

Charles Frances Adams Jr. says in his address before the Phi Beta Kappa society, that the Greek he studied in college impaired his reason. He attributes the difficulty he has had in his R. R. calculations to this cause. But he afterwards asserts that he had only a little smattering of that language, had read a few lines of the Iliad, etc. This admission vetos his right to criticize Greek. The logical inference would be, if he had acquired a thorough knowledge he would not have experienced such difficul-

ty. This illustrates a large class of the opponents of the classics, they either have only a superficial mastery or have not studied them at all.

The question as to whether or not the University of Nebraska should introduce eastern college customs, has been decided by the late "cane-rush." This will now be an established contest. If it is carried on in good humor as was the late one, it will be a good thing. Such contests stir up a college spirit as nothing else can. While "hazing" should be forbidden, a few strifes such as this are no detriment. There has been a lack of interest toward the University thus far. The students need waking up. A few more college enterprises would aid very much to increase the attendance. Many people in the state do not seem to be aware of the fact that there is a University at Lincoln.

There seems to be a lack of moral earnestness on the part of the American people in regard to politics. Although under a Republican form of government, where it would seem that all would take an active interest in public affairs, yet there is a feeling of indifference in this direction. No combinations are made to secure fit men for offices. As a consequence conventions and caucuses are controlled almost exclusively by political "bosses." Offices are bought and sold like hogs and cattle. We have heard Nebraska politicians boast, that give them so much money and they will secure any office in the state. There is a great deal of truth in this, and the people are to blame for it. They should take more interest in, and have more to do with campaigns.

The tendency of Americans, as has often been remarked, is to superficiality. This is particularly noticeable in our educational institutions. A large class of our students seem to be unwilling to lay a broad, solid foundation by earnest, hard labor. In colleges they take the easiest and shortest course, the one that will cost them the least effort. In this University the majority of students are in the Literary course. Now this would be a good supplement to one's education after a thorough general training. But as a disciplinarian it is one-sided, it is almost exclusively history. This is a very important study, but it does not cover the whole ground of education. A man whose learning consists entirely of facts gleaned from others, is like a patent music box, he can sing the tune that has been beaten in him, but he is powerless to create one of his own. Some claim that history studied philosophically gives a training equal to the classics, but crude, undeveloped minds are not able to take it up in this way. What discipline they gain from it is principally strength of memory. The report of the Faculty of the German Universities shows conclusively the advantages of "gymnastic training."