

belongs to the University, they cannot supply the defects which are so plain both to faculty, students, and in a less degree, perhaps, to strangers who visit us. The crowded condition of our recitation rooms, the necessity of having a better laboratory, the desolate appearance of our chapel, have all been sufficiently dilated upon. And now we wait for the result of our prayers. The legislature is now in session. On its decision will depend our future welfare. It is in its power to grant us our money or withhold it. We hope they will be propitious and come down liberally.

THERE is an old cry resounding through the STUDENT'S columns for many a year which must again find expression; why cannot the work put on our paper be accepted in lieu of essays by our professor of English? The advantages accruing therefrom would be manifold. An editor could not then afford to be careless. He could afford to put more time upon his articles. To induce this concession on the part of the faculty, it might be well to go even farther. To oblige competitors for editorship to enter a competitive examination of a test of their ability would not be a bad idea. - If there be one place in the University where "sticks" have no earthly business it is on the editorial force of its paper, and any means of obtaining the best men for the various editorships is surely worthy of the students' careful consideration. This plan of competitive examination may not be in strict accordance with the theory upon which a college paper is run, but it involves the same kind of a test that is demanded for an editorship in any other publication, and whatever in practical papers brings about the best results, ought to be applied to the theoretical college paper as well.

ALL college journals are full of the liquor question at present. It is a subject worthy of discussion but the discussion is entirely too one-sided. Almost all articles declare openly for immediate prohibition. To be sure all educated men of American birth and training are in favor of suppressing in some way the liquor traffic. But unless they are blinded by zeal their intelligence makes it evident to them, that the majority of American citizens must rule. That the majority of the voters of the United States is not in favor of prohibition, is axiomatic. Now thinking men believe with Dr. Lewis that the people, not the aristocracy of brains or purse, but the people, must be educated up to a prohibition way of thinking before the final blow can be struck. When Hercules was wrestling with his earth-born foe, he did not conquer him by choking him down to the ground, but lifted him from off the earth till his strength was gone and then destroyed him. So to destroy King Alcohol we must

raise men from their low grade of morals, from the slums of wickedness before we can crush the monster which dwells within their souls. Prohibition must be caused by a gradual growth of public opinion.

WAS it Grover Cleveland or Over Production that caused the present commercial troubles? It really seems unfair to attribute to either the whole burden of the blame. A change in administration which in turn changes the commercial relations of our nation with the world, made the capitalists call in their outstanding wealth and necessarily caused a tightness in the money market which, of course lessened the price of all commodities. But it would be folly to attribute to this slight contraction of the circulation the startling reduction of prices in grain. New corn ordinarily running from twenty-five to thirty-cents is a drug on the market at eight and ten cents per bushel. While the democratic victory would have cheapened corn in proportion to all other commodities and manufactures by decreasing the circulation somewhat, it never could have caused such a fall in prices. This year the greed of the farmers and the over-plenty of the harvest is the grand cause of all the discomfort. The farmers in every section of the country thought that the usual drought or mildew would ruin the crops somewhere else and hence planted more grain than could be disposed of, if all parts of the country were fairly productive. Hence the prices have fallen greatly. This kind of hard times, however, is much better than depressions caused by famine and if a panic is not induced by it, the United States will not suffer excessively from the present disturbances.

### *The Students' Scray Book,*

#### THE PROPHET OF ISLAM.

The evening shadows of the Dark Ages were appearing, and the Roman sun was slowly sinking in the west. Five centuries after Christ the Vandal had driven back the advance-guard of his followers, the Magian fire had been kindled on the Holy Sepulchre, and the Christian religion, already polluted by corrupt man, seemed ready to fall to the dust of idolatry and unbelief. In the deserts of romantic Arabia a new prophet had been born; the standard of a new faith had been planted. It fused scattered tribes into a compact nation, fired the hearts of its devotees with frantic zeal and sent them forth, wave on wave like the billows of mad ocean, to beat against all other religions and submerge them. The turbaned and scimitered warriors scattered the hosts of the Persians, broke the emblazoned Syrian ranks, drove the guardians of the Nile before them and wrested the mysterious land of the Pyramids forever from the grasp of the Pharaohs.

Resistless and restless the tide flowed on until Africa had been won, Spain conquered, and an invading army stood under the walls of Constantinople. Europe trembled. A blazing crescent had been seen in