

UNPLEASANT as it is to be continually nagging the authorities of the University, we must ask for more complete fittings for the ladies' cloakroom. It is no secret that this room has a lack not only of comforts but even necessities. As near as can be learned without invading the sacred precincts, all that the place contains in the way of furniture is a couple of old recitation benches, a few books, a broken mirror, and a wealth of pencil decoration. When we consider that at least one hundred young ladies have no other place to store their wraps and no other refuge when they wish to arrange their toilet, it will be seen at once that in its present condition the cloak room is a failure of the most pronounced character. If it cannot be fitted up as the necessities of the case require the door should be nailed up at once. The University cannot afford to allow the young ladies to continue the use of that "woodshed" one week longer.

## MISCELLANY.

## CHARTER DAY POEM.

Ours is no feast where hoary memories rise  
To pass in grave array before our eyes,  
No feast where we may summon up the names  
Of sages gone and their enduring fames.

Scarce more than four times four the earth has sped  
Around the sun and reeled a circling thread  
Into the skein of time, since dawned the ray  
That brought this Institution's natal day:  
No marvel if this festal hour must be  
Yet more a feast of hope than memory.

And well it may, for ample vistas ope  
With many a glorious promise to our hope.  
Upon these plains unending, which of late  
Were but a desert, waste and desolate,  
Soon millions of a thrifty race shall dwell,  
Soon shall the sun, while coursing o'er our land  
And looking blithely down upon the grand  
Horizon-bounded prairie sea, behold  
One stretch of prosperous homes and waving gold  
Adorn each sloping vale and gentle swell  
From where Missouri's turbid billows flow  
To where the Rockies lift their peaks of snow.  
And in the midst of all the surging throng  
Shall then this fabric rear its walls—a strong,  
A lofty Pharos, pouring blessings forth  
To west and east alike, to south and north,  
Then shall it also do its ample part  
In the domains of Science and of Art,  
And Time's recording genius write its name  
And noble feats into the scrolls of fame.

Were this too bold a dream, yet youth must glow  
With lofty aims, lest manhood reach too low.  
And this needs be no dream, if all that ought—  
The guiding few, the teachers and the taught—  
With one accord of will push bravely on,  
Until the good we seek be fairly won,  
Till we have centered in this beacon tower  
With earnest purpose the electric power  
Of Science and of Culture, both combined,  
That these may kindle pure and brilliant rays  
And guide and gladden many a yearning mind.

God grant us strength to work for that alone,  
And when in time the last foundation stone  
Of what was built lies crumbling in the dust,  
Shall still our work be potent, as we trust,  
For though all earthly forms decay and die,  
Yea, though the sun be stricken from the sky,  
And though a million stars be mown  
From the eternal fields where they were sown,  
Yet living truth, eternal and sublime,  
Shall not be blasted by the breath of Time.

## "HESPERUS."

"Oh! what is yon star that we see in the west,  
All so clear and so fair in its beaming;  
Some beacon which flames from the lands of the blest,  
And rejoices all hearts with its gleaming?"

All eyes which look upward are watching its blaze,  
The benighted gaze at it in wonder,  
And many read comfort and hope in its rays:  
Oh! pray tell us what star is this yonder?"

That star which thou seest serenest and best,  
Looking forth whence thou wilt at its beaming,  
Is our lamp of new learning set up in the West,  
And all lands shall be lit of its gleaming.

That star shall shine on from its place in the sky,  
With its smile two horizons adorning:  
Till time is no more shall this Hesperus vie  
With the stars and the Sons of the Morning.

## WORDS FROM CHARTER DAY.

The celebration of the seventeenth anniversary of the passage of the act creating the University was of a character to justify extended notice in these columns. We can give no estimate of the good done on that occasion and can but feebly describe the enthusiasm, but we can reproduce many of the words that were spoken and let the reader judge of the effect. After the rendition of an anthem by the choir the Chancellor introduced the first speaker, Mr. Will Owen Jones, who appeared

## IN BEHALF OF THE SENIOR CLASS.

This Charter Day is an appropriate time for the University to pause from regular work to look backward for a moment and to look forward long and steadily. One who represents the students cannot go back to the beginnings of our history, for the length of a course is but a small part of the life of the institution. Nevertheless the class graduating in 1886 has seen changes that might well be mentioned on this occasion. We have seen the University pass through a crisis that threatened to destroy its usefulness if not its very existence. We have seen factions among all parties from the student body to the state legislature wrangling over questions of internal government and quarreling over places in the faculty and board of regents with a fierceness that showed too clearly a disposition to ruin if unable to rule. We have lived under one or two years of almost impotent college government, years in which the opposing elements in our administration fought for power, while students were under no restraint and could with impunity jeer at the faculty, as was done in this room four years ago to-night. We have seen the return to strength and growth after the causes of weakness had been pruned away. The courses have been enlarged and made more liberal; a definite policy of government by the manhood of the student has taken the place of the old vacillation between license and petty tyranny.

Above all, we have seen an astonishing change in the moral tone of the whole University. We have not seen all the needed structures building in this campus, nor yet the purchase of more than meager equipments; but we have welcomed from time to time during the last four years men worthy of places in the best institutions of the United States. As students we have often complained of the slow progress during these years—of the dearth of comforts and the lack of apparatus. We now see the wisdom of investing in brains rather than showy material improvements, and feel that although slow our growth has been most sure.

The future promises still better things; but while the University is erecting new buildings, purchasing books and appara-