

If there is a spot within her borders where loyalty to the State should be supreme, that place is within these walls. The recipients of the privileges here offered are asked to make no other return than that of good citizenship. Governments are said to be entirely selfish and no expenditure justifiable except it promises an ample and complete return to the State. Hospitals for the insane and other unfortunates are maintained to fulfill the duty the State owes to its unfortunates.

Penitentiaries and reformatory institutions are supported that violators of the law may be punished, crime reduced, criminals reclaimed, life and property protected and the state rewarded in securing a law abiding community. Schools and universities are maintained upon a different theory. It is no more the inherent duty of a state to provide for the education of the children within its borders than to provide them food and raiment. States support schools and universities and proffer education to its people in the hope and belief that for all expenditures it will be amply rewarded in the better citizenship of those who partake of its proffered advantages. All those who receive these benefits are under especial obligation to the state. They owe to her more than common loyalty. Upon them, whether they will it so or not, rests the responsibility of justifying the state in her outlay for their behalf. The state makes no demand that every one who may have sought knowledge at our free schools should be a statesman, or attempt to be one, but that the strength and vigor acquired at her mental gymnasiums should be employed in her behalf, guarding her good name, protecting her interests, in times of need her strength.

In reading over the charter the adoption of which we are celebrating this evening I discovered the cause for a condition of things that existed in this institution in the years gone by. Section 18 of the charter provides that "Provisions shall be made for the education of females apart from male students, in separate apartments or buildings: Provided that persons of different sexes of like proficiency of study, may attend the regular college lectures together." This provision of the statutes was religiously observed by the students. I recall distinctly the gravity with which the females and the males entered this room for chapel exercises. How the females occupied the apartments on the left. No case is recorded of a male having the femerity to venture into the sacred precincts set apart for the females, or vice versa.

The cause for this separation of sexes had always been attributed to the natural modesty of the students of those days, but the cause seems to have been hidden deeper and lies in the wisdom of the governor and his friends who originated this charter. We are under lasting obligations to the charter makers for the proviso: without it the condition of the student would be very deplorable. It reads: "Provided that persons of different sexes of the same proficiency of study may attend the regular college lectures together." By universal consent all exercises connected with the University outside of chapel exercises are termed college lectures and all students for the purposes of the provision are of the same proficiency of study.

If memory serves me rightly the origin of the observation of this day dates back to the year 1877. The programme for the exercises was not announced until the assembling of the students in chapel, when the chancellor kindly remarked that in view of the day being the anniversary of the day upon which the law establishing the anniversary was approved we should be granted a holiday. Extemporaneous flights of oratory were indulged in by the orators of the different classes and the school dismissed for the day. Charter Day has been in great favor with the students ever since.

The friends of the university need harbor no fears for the liberal support of the institution in coming years. The crucial time has passed. It occurred in the seventies, when to the financial panic of the country was added the scourge of the grasshopper, when every dollar for its support came from direct taxation from a people already heavily burdened, when less than half a hundred students answered to the roll call and not more than one third of these were in the college classes, when every student in attendance was costing the state a thousand dollars a year for his schooling. If at such times and under such circumstances the state never faltered we can certainly indulge in hope now, with general finances beautiful, with the school prospering, attendance increasing, with at the next meeting of the legislature \$100,000 cash on hand in the temporary fund available for the wants of the university, and with the prospect that thereafter the income from the endowment fund and lands will make the school self sustaining. The outlook is certainly flattering for the University of Nebraska.

At the conclusion of this address Prof. Edgren read the Charter Day poem, which will be found at the head of these columns. It was most thoroughly enjoyed, and deserves a permanent place in the literature of the University.

Dr. Merriam of the Medical College followed with an earnest plea for the sustenance of that important department of the University. At the conclusion of his remarks the Rev. A. F. Sherrill, of Omaha, was called upon to speak in behalf of the other colleges of the state. He began by saying that there could be no rivalry between the University and the denominational schools, and closed with a tribute to the work done by Prof. Aughey in the early days of the University. This was the last regular speech of the evening, but before announcing the last exercise, the college song, the Chancellor occupied some minutes with closing words that were most fitting. The song, "Hesperus," composed by Prof. Sherman, was given by Messrs. Eddy, Frankforter, Falmer and Wheeler. It is really a University song, and not specially designed for Charter Day, though no better time could have been chosen for giving it to the public. The society halls and the art room were thrown open and the audience occupied them and engaged in social converse, until eleven o'clock put an end to the most successful observance of Charter Day ever held at the University.

HEARD IN THE HALLS.

Suppe!

Did you get a valentine?

Our Nondescript has been killed.

The laboratory roof is being slowly covered with slate.

Miss Anna Keys of Roca, spent a few days in town last week.

Miss Kate Scothorn has abandoned her University work for the remainder of the year.

Howard B. Beecher of Kearney made his brother a short visit during the last month.

Remark of Dave Forsyth as he entered for a history examination: "Look at me for the last time."

We are pleased to mention the return to Lincoln of Miss Alma Benedict, who has been spending some months in St. Louis.

If you wish to make some startling discoveries, just ask the librarian why he goes to the laboratory so many times during the day.