

does not do justice to the possibility of mistake. If, we say, the student commences study, not with the intent of reaching the simple, unvarnished truth, but to reach an opinion already attained, by travelling the same rut already used, the method advocated by our Catholic friends is the correct one. If, however, he does not wish to let another do his thinking, if he desires to discover truth himself that he may call it his own, in short, if he wishes to fairly investigate—not merely accept the results of others' study—if he wishes to do this, he cannot accept dictation as to what he shall or shall not read. To reach fair conclusions it is imperative that both sides be heard. The case seems to illustrate the fear, that Catholics frequently show, to fairly contest the field with opposing thinkers. The *Index* may be correct in stating that nowhere have the emptiness and sophistry of infidel systems been so thoroughly sifted and clearly exposed as in Catholic colleges, but it is equally certain that, if they have exposed the evil, they have also ignored the good that exists in these same theories. It becomes papers like the *Index* to give us argument not simple denunciation.

The *Vanderbilt Observer* contains sentiments in its March number which are somewhat similar to those commented on in a late number of THE HESPERIAN, yet which we consider deserving of farther notice. It seems late in the day, after all the cry that has arisen north and south regarding the "bloody shirt" to manifest the slightest degree of sectional feeling; but our friend from Tennessee does it. The first mistake the *Observer* makes is a common one, not alone to the South; both north and south, more or less misapprehension and misunderstanding of others' opinions on these questions has existed; each has imagined the other to be the incarnation of all that is bad. They are equally unwise, whether they be from north or south, but it should be remembered that a retort to such a misunderstanding given in the same spirit only makes matters worse. When the *Observer* says, for instance, that most of the people north of the Ohio river actually expect a "rebel raid" once a year it states what every college journal should know to be without foundation. The statement is unreasonable for, judging by past events, the probabilities of dangerous raids are the other way.

The *Observer* asks that northern college journals work to dispel the wrong impressions that have taken hold of the minds of the people. Yet, since prejudice is stronger than reason, what can be accomplished when the *Observer* and others like it are stirring up northern prejudice by such passionate utterances as lie before us? If it demands that its action be relieved from all stigma of treason cannot the South grant to the North a right to respect its own principles and honor its own heroes? If the *Observer* fails to see anything of the hero in Grant, must it say, therefore, that a eulogy on him is an insult? Have not others also an appreciation of the heroic? But, if we grant the charge, why should the *Observer* desire to requite one by another? Surely to write a eulogy on Robert E. Lee—if it be an insult—would not be following the golden rule.

Our friends of the south are unnecessarily sensitive and constantly alert for an offered insult. Such wounds as the civil war caused are soonest cured by ignoring so far as possible; but it does not become necessary, on this account, that a noble character, whether of south or north, cannot be eulogized without insulting.

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#### HEARD IN THE HALLS.

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"On to Lawrence" is the cry.

Query: How did Forsyth escape drill?

J. O. Breech will not be in school this term.

The cadets look as though they had had a hard winter of it.

W. J. Marsh, a student of two years ago, is again in our midst.

Ask Gerwig how it feels to be mistaken for a Bible Class teacher.

T. A. Williams '89 has resumed his studies after an absence of about a year.

C. G. McMillan has charge of the Sophomore Class in Entomology this term.

Miss Susie Fisher is one of the few who have not returned to school this term.

Now that the city elections are off our hands, this paper will appear promptly on time.

H. Elton Fulmer, a former member of the editorial staff, has gone home for a short vacation.

J. G. Smith becomes captain of Co. A this term. "Capt. Smith" has rather an historic sound.

The Commencement HESPERIAN will be double the usual size and will take the place of an annual.

L. H. Chapin, whilom wrestler with Trigonometry, is now teaching an Indian school in Burt County.

Miss Cora Miller has left school for the remainder of the year and will teach in Falls City, this state.

Two enterprising members of '87, Messrs. Polk and Perrin took an active part in the city election on the sixth.

Where, oh, where was O. B. Polk, the veteran who never before had missed a society, on the night of April 9th?

D. T. Smith has a fine opportunity to lead in Junior Physics. He is at present the only member of that once famous class.

I. C. Gambee replenished his purse and recruited his failing(?) health by steady work at the tinner's bench during vacation.

Wheelock, once of '86, may now write his name O. E. Shylock. This means that he is a prosperous banker in Blue Springs.

A new and comprehensive Latin Dictionary is expected in the near future as an addition to the classical department of the library.

The Polk brothers are fast becoming adepts in the culinary art. Their experience in keeping bachelors' hall may be useful in the future.

Our Bus. Man. has got a new hat and we are all celebrating, which fact will account for any ambiguities which may occur in this issue.

Professor Nicholson's investigations in Golden, Colorado, have satisfied him that the use of gasoline in the new laboratory here is undesirable.

We are sorry to learn that our friend L. A. Tillson is under the weather. At this writing he is recovering and will probably be out in a few days.

The class of '86 promises to be nearly as large as any previous one of this institution. From present appearances it will contain eleven members.

Frank P. Manley, who is now in the west with a surveying party, writes glowing letters to his friends here about the "sorghum lappers" of Custer County.

John Green announces as a part of his new policy that he will cover the walks leading up to the front steps with ashes. John thinks anything preferable to mud.