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CURRENT REMARK.

The HESPERIAN is very much gratified by the recent change in the management of the *Democrat* of this city. Mr. Calhoun, its new editor and publisher, is a man well known among old students; and, moreover, is favorably known as the champion of the University against its foes. Thus, by the change, the *Democrat*, hitherto our bitterest enemy, is made a staunch and, we hope, a faithful supporter.

The enterprising citizens of Lincoln, realizing the real worth of our suggestions, and appreciating the spirit of partiality and great friendliness in which those suggestions were given, have made great efforts at improvement during the summer. And, should they continue as "per stipulations" we shall be the more firmly convinced that our predictions of future greatness for Lincoln were not mental mirages, but things within the bounds of reason and probability.

It does not matter in what terms you characterize their actions, the Republican papers of the state are all more or less affected by the course adopted by the state convention on the prohibition question. The antics they now cut are of course just those consequent upon their previous stand on this question,—but aren't they laughable. And among those worst confounded, and least able to account for its actions, or the actions of its party, is our old friend the *State Journal*.

Those who have watched the progress of the new chemical laboratory from a distance and with a strictly western idea of the time it requires to construct a good substantial building probably think that an unusual amount of time has been spent in its completion. But to those however, who are familiar with the solid, substantial manner in which the structure has been built, and the immense amount of fixtures consisting of a perfect net work of gas pipes, water pipes, waste pipes, steam pipes, soil pipes, special pipes for hot water and special gases, besides tables, cases, and racks, the time of construction seems short enough. And now as the building is just being completed and put in order for doing chemical work we take pride in saying that the facilities for work both in the arrangement of building and apparatus are not excelled in the west and by but very few laboratories in the country.

The college of "William and Mary" founded in 1692 was the second institution of learning endowed on American soil. Its beginnings are of historical interest to Americans. Its first commencement was held in 1700, and was attended by those interested in educational matters from all the colonies of the new world, from the Carolinas to New England. In return for the rich endowment made by the crown, it was asked to present to the governor of the colony of Virginia two copies of a latin poem each opening college year. The old corporation still continues. Fire has often destroyed its buildings, but its president, it is said, still rings its bell at the opening term, in recognition of a past usefulness, though not a student now appears within its walls. It has served its time:

according to the old endowment it can have no part in modern systems of education unless its charter be entirely changed. But let us remember it at its best.

The Street Railway Company refuses to make the reduction in carfare heretofore made in favor of University students and those attending the city schools. Their plea is certainly a good one, viz., there is no money made by the reduction. Moreover much trouble is occasioned by the carrying of two systems of accounts. Yet as students of the University we have a right to demand some favors of Lincoln and Lincoln's business men.

Setting aside for a moment the value of her public schools, colleges and the University, for advertising purposes, aside from the good influences of such institutions,—for purely business reasons Lincoln can afford to favor us. We have made a careful estimate, and state without fear of contradiction that University students alone bring in from seventy-five to one hundred thousand dollars each year. If then, reductions in car fare, whether on street railway or general passenger railway can be made without positive loss to the stockholders, we as students of the University are in justice entitled to demand it in exchange for the increase in circulation caused by the addition of our mite. Lincoln can well afford to act less selfishly in these matters.

The Republican party of Nebraska is having a particularly hard row to hoe this year. Factions within the party itself are proving troublesome: Men of disrepute are gaining important nominations. The people at large are waking up to the fact that government, and the offices of government, are no longer controlled by that body; but are rather usurped by a class of political tricksters. Some few, more penetrating than the masses, have discovered that there no longer exists any difference between the avowed principles of the Republican and Democratic parties. The same policy is announced on all live issues by each of the parties. Ultimately they have pursued exactly similar courses of action on all subjects of state importance. The question of a prohibitory amendment had been sneered at, alike by Republicans and Democrats. The consequence was the formation of a third party, whose ultimatum was the submission of the question of a prohibitory amendment to the vote of the people. But as a stroke of policy to save itself from defeat the Republican party pledged itself at the last convention to submit this question to a vote. The Third Party then has not been a failure. If nothing else is ever accomplished, its work has not been without results. But there is yet a work to be done. The Republican party is to be held to the fulfilment of every promise, and forced to pledge itself to the execution of prohibitory laws when adopted. The time is ripe, and we are glad to see the grand old party forced, as a party, to take a stand on this question. But we are tickled to know that it must further stand by its action on this question, and redeem its pledges to those who have so long lent it their support. It is reformation or destruction, no matter what figure of rhetoric may be employed to characterize these alternatives.