

an insult to the intelligence and sense and justice of every man who in the inter-state convention would have voted, if necessary, to put Ferguson on the retired list. It is an insult to these gentlemen to insinuate that any such unscrupulous politician, as the Wesleyans falsely accuse Fogarty of being, could have been able to so blunt their sense of justice as to induce them to perform an unfair act. That Mr. Ferguson is a plagiarist, the gentlemen of the convention knew just as well as did executive committee when they decided that his oration was not "entirely original." But it was unfair for Brown to act as judge. So says our neighbor with a great display of rhetoric and of wounded dignity. We may be pardoned for asking if it was fair for Stuff also to act as judge? Now do not jump at the conclusion that we are going to say that Stuff should not have been permitted to act as judge. Yet he had infinitely more at stake than had Brown. There are more reasons why Stuff might be influenced to make a wrong decision than Brown. But we trusted Stuff. We have the utmost confidence in his honesty. Although he voted to 'acquit' Ferguson we believe he did so from a sense and justice. But perhaps before the matter is settled, we may be able to convince even 'Mr' Law that he too has been laboring under a delusion, and hugging a phantom.

INTERESTING TO FERGUSON, LAW AND COMPANY.

It is with profound regret that THE HESPERIAN takes upon itself to furnish its readers with a few facts in regard to the past life of Mr. Geo. O. Ferguson. We were content to allow him to remain in the oblivion to which the inter state convention assigned him. But since certain of his friends have made an attack upon us, we propose to justify ourselves before the people and show what kind of a man Mr. Ferguson is. We fully realize the grave responsibilities that rest upon us, for those disclosures will, in all probability, result in covering Mr. Ferguson with the infamy he so justly merits. We do not make it an especial point to train young men for the ministry at the U. of N., but when we do send out a man, as a preacher, he possesses an entirely different kind of Christianity from that exhibited by some of Wesleyan's preachers. We send out into the world young men who are content to use honest toil in their chosen professions. What a contrast to the parasitic leech that has always grown fat by preying upon the work of others. If Christianity teaches men to act as some of the Wesleyans have acted, then may heaven preserve the world from such Christianity. We have an entirely different kind of Christianity in the U. of N. The publication of those few facts will result in consigning Mr. Ferguson to eternal oblivion. Eternal oblivion, did we say? No, we were mistaken, rather to eternal infamy! Mr. Ferguson has ever been a plagiarist, in fact, as a plagiarist, his record is unrivalled. Let the facts speak. While in Ord, where Mr. Ferguson once preached, THE HESPERIAN man gleaned a few cold facts which we hereby present to Mr. Ferguson and his friends to digest at their leisure. More might be given. Perhaps in the future Mr. Ferguson may be content to remain

quiet for he, of all men, has a record that will not bear investigation. At one time Mr. Ferguson was called upon to deliver an address to a meeting of the Valley county teachers. He promptly responded, and in beginning made a most profuse and abject apology to the teachers, begging their pardon for so insulting their intelligence as to appear before them without preparation. He then proceeded to deliver a speech which Garfield delivered to the students of Hiram College. The people were so impressed with his powers as an extemporaneous speaker that they bought him a silver headed cane and presented him with a handsome sum of money. In one week the fraud was detected. Mr. Ferguson was compelled to give back the cane, and refund a part of the money. Mr. McDonough of Ord, who contributed fifty cents, told THE HESPERIAN that he received all his contribution back.

On still another occasion, Mr. Ferguson preached an Easter sermon of Dr. Talmage's, and so exactly did he follow the sermon that he spoke of being, as was Talmage, "in St. Paul's Cathedral at London." Said Judge Swift of Ord, "Don't the little fool know that we know that he has never been in St. Paul's Cathedral in London?" These are not all his acts of plagiarism. Space prevents us from giving more. We desire to show what the press thinks of Mr. Ferguson.

Ord Quiz (May 2, 1890):—"No better interest has been manifested in Ord the past few days over the charges of plagiarism against Geo. O. Ferguson, the Nebraska representative in the inter-state oratorical contest. He had his trial Wednesday and was acquitted. His defense was inconscientious memory. George should quit memorizing other men's orations. At any rate it is to be hoped that he will profit by this experience. The gentle reminders he received at Ord seemed to do him no good."

We are reliably informed that the editor of the *Quiz* was one of the leading officers of the church in which Mr. Ferguson preached.

World-Herald:—"Colonel Ferguson of Lincoln who enjoys distinction of cribbing an oration is getting over his attack of mental exhaustion. It is understood that he intends to deliver a two hour speech on the subject, "Why Should the Spirit of Mortal Be Proud in a Soup House."

The *Current*, (Athens, O., May, 1890):—"Mr. Ferguson, Nebraska's orator at the inter-state contest is a plagiarist. He cribbed from the orations that won first and second place at Jacksonville, Ill., 1881.

University Courier (Lawrence, Kan.):—"Had the committee which tried Ferguson—the Nebraska plagiarist—brought in a just and manly verdict, the mimicing orator would have been consigned to disgraceful oblivion. This thing of unconscious cerebration is becoming exceedingly tiresome.

Lawrence Record:—"Young men, don't steal. Don't steal a speech. Don't steal a congressman's speech, whatever you do. Besides being very wicked, it is very stupid. Steal a speech of a councilman, or a member of the legislature, or a Sunday school pic-nic boss, but let a congressman's speech alone! It will do for recitation in kindergartens, but in a contest of college students—really, you should know better. Remember Lot's wife and don't forget Ferguson!"

The *Delphic*:—"The Nebraska orator had received first rank on thought and composition (96, 90, 1) but such a striking similarity was found to exist between his oration and the first and second honor orations (inter state) of 1881 that he agreed not to appear on the program.

WHO LIED?

The Wesleyan college paper, *The Ecritean*, has made a most surprising reputation for veracity. We desire to call the attention of the college world to the spirit of moderation and fairness that so characterizes the columns of that journal. Speaking of events after the state contest, the *Ecritean*, when referring to the proposed second contest between Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Collings, says: "Mr. Collings was person-