

MISCELLANY.

Through the kindness of Professor Bessey we have received a copy of the report of the botanist on the grasses and forage plants and also a catalogue of flora so far found in the state. By examining the contents of the book one can readily see that considerable labor has been expended by Professor Bessey, J. G. Smith and H. J. Webber in different counties of the state. The catalogue of the flora of the state by H. J. Webber gives evidence of much patient labor by the author. The catalogue is based on specimens in actual existence and are to be found in the herbarium of the University and in the private collections of Professor Bessey, Roscoe Pound, T. A. Williams, J. G. Smith and H. J. Webber. The volume contains much useful information both to scientists and to agriculturists.

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We have been waiting so long to make an item of the opening of the gymnasium that it is not improbable that each editor will have something to say about it. When we heard that, thanks to the efforts of Lieutenant Dudley the "Armory Bill" had passed the legislature, our spirits rose and in imagination we saw a complete gymnasium rise before our delighted gaze, saw in the immediate foreground a vision of a lignum vita ball rolling with the swiftness of a cannon ball along the smooth surface of an alley, and heard or seemed to hear the cry "all down but mine, let'er roll"; to the right of the picture we saw a valiant Sophomore after winning a hotly contested bout with foils throw down his foil and heard him exclaim in tragic tones, "the last one—three." All this we saw, but alas! 'twas a vision in a desert. Time has passed, he has probably ground his scythe several times since then, the mirage has faded the reality is here. The gymnasium is open now for the use of all students who pay the sinking fund fee of one dollar. The gymnasium hours are 9 a. m. to 5 p. m. during this time, with the exception of such hours as are required for other work Lieutenant Griffith will be in the gymnasium, to give general instruction to all who desire it in all kinds of gymnasium work. Arrangements will be made for regular instructions in the Sophomore year and Lieutenant Griffith informs us that in case the students desire it and a time can be arranged suitable for all he will instruct a class in elective gymnastics. Lieutenant Griffith has shown great interest in the establishment of a gymnasium and the students should show their appreciation of his efforts by using the apparatus in the proper manner.

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The college year of '90-91 begins with brighter prospects than ever before for the University of Nebraska. In spite of the predictions of many who maintained that the opening of our sister institutions in East Lincoln would detract greatly from our prosperity, the University has a larger attendance than ever. To compare the number enrolled at present with the total enrollment of the Fall Term of '86, would of course be unfair, yet there are now registered fully twenty-five more students than were enrolled at the end of the fall term. There are many students, especially old ones, here who have not registered yet on account of delay in arranging their work. We can safely say that when the register is closed for the Christmas holidays it will bear the names of seventy-five more students than have been enrolled in any other term during the history of the institution.

The Latin School shows flattering prospects; in '89 Dr. Lees matriculated ninety-five students, having part or all of their work in the Latin School. This year, to date, he has

matriculated 104. The number of students classified as "Preps" last year was about 100; this year it is 150. The Second Preparatory class this year has twenty-five in excess of the number last year.

The Preparatory Greek shows a building up of the classical course and testifies to the energy and success of the principal of the Latin school. In '89 and previous years the class numbered about a dozen; this year the number taking "Prep" Greek is thirty-three.

Quite a number of improvements are noticeable about the buildings. The laboratories have been fitted up and new apparatus received; about 200 volumes of reference books have been added to the library, including bound volumes of the magazines completing the files to date. Dr. Lees has secured several fine pictures of ancient sculpture, for his class room and will also have a map of Europe to assist the "preps" in tracing the career of the illustrious C. J. Caesar during his famous bridge building tour on the continent.

The military department also starts under favorable circumstances. The number enrolled is about the same as last year, but none have been excused so there is a larger number actually drilling than ever before. The cases in the museum have been arranged and present very fine appearance.

The Physics department has received almost all of the apparatus provided for by the legislative appropriation two years ago and a number of new books for the department library. Another improvement deserving of mention is due to the efforts of that energetic and successful tobbyist, his jauntorial highness, John Green. This staunch friend of THE HESPERIAN, has caused the regents to have a small engine placed in the boiler house, to be used in hoisting the ashes and other refuse products of combustion from the furnace pit to the earth's surface.

Crops may fail and politics may boil, the University goes on forever.

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Since new students have been receiving advise from various quarters, THE HESPERIAN ventures to air its views upon one or two topics that should furnish food for careful reflection to those who have been but a few days among us. We hope that the few remarks will be taken in the same friendly spirit in which they are given and that they will cause no one to attempt to do violence to our office "devil" as an irated co-ed did last year. But leaving aside all such considerations we have at heart the welfare of the students, both old and new, and feeling that we have something to say that must be said, here goes, no matter what the consequences: "Now most of you are away from home, probably for the first time," as you have been told before. At home you were held in high esteem; your advise upon great political questions had more weight than that of the whole board of aldermen. You were a moulder of public opinion and no doubt felt the unresponsibility that rested upon you. A few of you seem to feel that responsibility yet, and accordingly have started out to show the world that though but prep or Freshman you have considerable more knowledge than the seniors. You may recover from that notion some day. At any rate we hope that there are one or two professors here whom you will admit, when alone by yourself, are almost your equals in the intellectual world. So much for the "smart" man. He is not very numerous, but yet there are a few of his kind. Most of them will be taking a vacation by and by. Then there is the pretty, charming co-ed who stands around the halls and imagines herself the center of attraction. She is go-