

During the holidays Professor H. H. Nicholson went to Philadelphia, as a delegate of the society of official chemists, to meet delegates from all other societies to establish a national chemical society. All the committees will meet again in Washington, D. C., next September, at which time they will probably have a plan formulated for the national society. While in Philadelphia the professor attended the American Chemical society which was in session there. He also looked through the state college of Pennsylvania and its experiment station. On invitation the society visited the Franklin Institute, the Baldwin locomotive works, the Welsbach Incandescent Gas Light Company and several other manufacturing institutions.

EXCHANGE.

During the past week, the Y. M. C. A. has made itself known through many ingenious advertisements.—*University News*. Ought that to be necessary in a Methodist college?

For the first time, the University of Leipsic will this season admit women to its privileges. Out of 3,300 students, there will be six women, four of whom are Americans.—*Ex.*

In one exchange it is stated that only one third of the students of Cornell are fraternity students. To believe some people one would come to the conclusion that in the East there is nothing but frats. Some people, are sorry to say, can not be believed.

Vassar Miscellany carries the largest stock of ads of any college paper that we have yet examined. It will be necessary to make another concession to the co-eds that they are "rustlers." And, by the way, it will now be in order, since this concession has been made, to construct a feminine form of "rustler."

The *Syracuse News* presented the finest Christmas number that we have seen among college journals. Along with other attractions were group-pictures of the college foot ball team, and of the glee and banjo clubs. Such a number is worthy of an energetic and thriving college newspaper. Would that we all might do as well as the *News*.

College journals for the past month have been rather dry picking for the exchange man. Nearly every paper devotes a large share of its space to foot ball, almost to the exclusion of every thing else. The game seems to have become more firmly fixed in the affection of college men in America than ever before. The foot ball enthusiasts are outdoing even base ball cranks. But the more foot ball the better.

When we read the different exchanges, it seems as if nearly every college except our own has a lecture course. They differ in quality according to the size of the college or the progressive spirit of its students. Not every university can have such men as Stanley. University of Michigan can. But it does seem as though U. of N., with its 500 students, and a town of 55,000 inhabitants, should have at least men of the second rank among lecturers.

In an editorial in the *Rainbow*, the organ of Delta Tau Delta fraternity, we notice the following: "The fraternity system is based on a definite idea—the promotion of spirit of true brotherhood among a chosen set of congenial fellows. It is for the benefit of its members, and not outsiders." In the above *ex cathedra* statement, there is food for reflection to any one considering the fraternity question. We happen to know that one person in this university refused a fraternity because the system was based on such an idea. We should like to have some one explain to us how a system, based on

such an idea is not one of selfishness, and out of all harmony with the advanced thought of the age looking toward the brotherhood of the entire human race, congenial or not. Should colleges, the supposed seats of advanced thought, foster a system inconsistent with the principles of such thought?

The *Aegis* contains the following noteworthy item concerning University of Wisconsin: "A very interesting intellectual tendency among the students is revealed by the fact that while the attendance in the physical science course has increased only about 30 per cent, the increase in the classical and English courses has been over 100 per cent in the years from '86 to '90. This shows that the more literary courses are at present growing in favor among the students."

Vanderbilt Observer evidently has before it a goal toward which it is striving. If that be a ponderous literary magazine, it certainly is succeeding remarkably well. If that be its purpose, we have no criticism whatever to make; but if, as it says, it believes in a college journal being an instrument in training students in journalism, we fail to see that it is accomplishing its object. Rather it is giving an opportunity for literary training and plenty of it. It is however magazine of weight.

The *Earlhamite* deals in poetry; of very fair quality too. "Cupid at the College" by an alumnus is the latest. Hoping that we shall some day be able to look back at college days and feeling well assured that the sentiment of this poem will be our own, then we do not hesitate to make some selections.

With hope replete, with gladsome feet,
We trod the paths of knowledge,
And owned full well the magic spell
Of Cupid at the college.

* * * * *
Though we remained but briefly chained,
By each love (we are human).

* * * * *
We prize the pearls, the various girls,
That knew our youthful favor,
And memory brings no bitter stings,
Or sharp unwelcome flavor.

Among the many agencies which mould and influence the undergraduate life at Princeton, none play so prominent a part as the two great literary organizations, the "American Whig" and "Cliosophic" societies. Their aim is a far higher one than that of the average fraternity—improvement in speaking, essay-writing and debate, and is well expressed in the motto of Whig, "Littera, Amicitia, Moris," while the element of secrecy is introduced only that the spirit of Clito's motto may be carried out, "Prodesse Quam Conspici." The keenest rivalry for college honors exists between the societies, and an honor conferred on a member is considered a victory for all. The places of meeting are exactly alike externally, about one hundred feet apart, and when the new buildings now in progress of erection—Greek temples of white marble—are completed, they will be among the handsomest buildings on the campus.—*University Magazine*.

According to this, one might well believe that the literary society is not an institution that has outgrown its usefulness. We're not alone in that opinion, as the increased discussion of the fraternity question in the college press bears witness.

For the information of the *Iowa Wesleyan*, asked in such charming simplicity, we will say that some of our Greeks really have condescended to smile upon us; and on several occasions within the past year, we have a vivid remembrance of several urgent invitations. At different times, we have actually been inveigled into the mystic halls of several of our fraternities; within those we were surrounded by oily-tongued flatterers, who flashed upon us in all its glowing beauty the enticing nothingness of fraternityism. But even then though