

the evil-doers in the lower classes, the respectable people of New Orleans have, by their lawless act, placed themselves on the same level with those evil-doers; indeed, they have been relegated to the place of the accused with the mafia as the accusers in a case that will in importance quite eclipse the earlier one. With such a case as the above in view, one may well exclaim, how important, even necessary, that every community in the United States keep its judicial power and machinery pure and clean! How indispensable that with the well nigh sacred jury there be no tampering. Tampering with the jury is tampering with the life of a nation. Nothing can in so short a time bring about such disastrous results to the republic.

EXCHANGE.

The *Niagara Index* comes to our table laden down with its customary conceit. Some departments of this paper are fairly well conducted, but if all the vanity, bigotry and conceit were evaporated from the brains of the exchange editor there would not remain sufficient gray matter to conduct a pop corn stand. He poses as a critic of papers that are infinitely superior to the sheet with which he is connected, and from which his continued vituperation and fault-finding detracts very materially. But let us dismiss him for he must be suffering from chronic dyspepsia, or from the sweet distilled liquors advertised in his journal. We beg the pardon of our reputable exchanges for noticing at so much length any thing so little, for really the complaints of the *Index* exchange man are nothing but the whines and snarls of an insignificant cur.

The article on fraternities, written by Mr. Watkins, of this city, that appeared in the editorial columns of THE HESPERIAN not long since, seems to have aroused the ire of the editor of the *Aegis*. The *Aegis* is the representative paper from the university of Wisconsin. Since the article above mentioned referred to the university of Wisconsin and its literary societies and debating clubs, the editor attempts to show that such societies and clubs are grand and glorious things. In this we agree with him, but we also agree with the writer of the "frat" article when he says that the debating clubs are not what they once were. Where literary societies and debating clubs exist together it is almost invariably the case that the debating clubs are turned into play houses and recreation halls. In the old times only debating clubs were held and the members went there for business, not for wrestling, boxing, jumping on chairs and tables, and performing all sorts of gymnastic feats. They received benefits that lasted them a lifetime. This is one reason why we find so many forcible characters in our earlier history. To-day both literary societies and debating clubs exist in nearly all our institutions of learning. The benefits to be derived should be in proportion to the facilities for bestowing them. Are they? We could not do away with the literary society, nor should we dispense with the debating club. We should revive the former glory of the latter and make the debating club interesting and more profitable to all.

The *Gates Index* has a good deal to say about the state oratorical contest. In fact it says too much. It gives itself away. It declares that a combine was formed in which the U. of N. took the lead. It says, "We were not surprised at the part played by the U. of N. for they have the reputation of taking everything they can get, whether it belongs to them or not." It is one of the laws of nature that one should look out for one's self first, but let us see whether or not what we got belonged to us. There were five delegations in the con-

vention and four out of the five were willing to give us what we asked for. Why should it be more outrageous for us to form a combine, if such you call it, than for the Gates delegation to try to form one? The only difference in that case would be, one would be successful and the other would not be "in it." Again the *Index* says, "A few remarks dropped by the state university delegates at the reception revealed the plan, and one of our boys immediately started to Crete to see if Doane could be persuaded to do the square thing." What was the square thing? Simply that Doane should join Gates and Wesleyan and give Neligh the presidency or if it couldn't get that, the next best thing, the secretaryship. It appears to us as though it makes all the difference in the world on which side of the bread is the butter. We are sorry the Gates man did not reach Crete until after the delegates left for Lincoln. You should have "got wind" of the combine before it was formed and then formed yours. The *Index* is mistaken when it says, "The U. of N., Cotner, and Doane had combined to give both state and inter-state secretaryships to the U. of N." The state association has no authority or power to bestow the inter-state secretaryship on any one. It can merely endorse a certain candidate and this person must be voted on in the inter-state convention by every delegation present. This does not prevent any other candidate's name from coming up to be voted on in the convention. As far as precedent is concerned Gates cannot claim the presidency on that ground. If she will go back a few years in the history of the association she will find that the first precedent established was that the college entertaining the contest did not have the presidency. How can the real history establish a precedent any more than the earlier, especially since the association is only a few years old. The *Index* further states, "No one was at the depot from the entertaining school except two members of the state university reception committee." This was no fault of ours. We tried to learn the exact time that the Neligh representation would arrive but were unable to do so. We did not know whether it would arrive the day before the contest and hence did not go to the depot in force. We are sorry that we could not meet them in royal style with the band, university yell, and all sorts of accompaniments. Let us know when you are coming next time and we will assemble *en masse* at the depot.

ATHLETICS.

If there is any one in the university that has any suggestions to make in regard to athletics in any of its various phases or departments we would be very glad to give him a hearing. This department was not opened for the benefit of the athletic editor (if it was may none of our friends be benefited in the same way) but it was opened for the benefit of all those interested in physical exercise and athletic contests. Let us have your opinion on all subjects pertaining to this department so that the matter contained herein will voice the sentiments of every lover of out-door sports.

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As Mr. Peters has quit school for this year Mr. Marley has been appointed to fill his place on the base ball committee. We hope the committee will see to it that the best players are finally selected to make up the team. So soon as a man outside the team shows himself to be a better player than some one in the team a change should immediately take place. The first question a candidate should be asked is, "Can you play ball?" The next question should be, "Can you control your temper?" The candidate should