

moderate more students; yet, there are many whom they cannot accommodate.

One, if not two, new literary societies should be formed. In fact such action is demanded by existing circumstances. The new literary societies should take as their model the literary societies as they now exist in the university. Experience has proven that the principles they maintain are eminently the proper ones.

Some energetic persons should put their heads together and aid in the formation of these societies. All sacrifices made will be amply rewarded. The greatest difficulty to overcome at present would be in securing a suitable hall. Without a doubt the faculty and Regents would furnish temporary quarters. There is a room on the fourth floor over the Union Hall that might be profitably made use of. This suggestion will, at least, it is hoped, receive careful consideration by all parties interested.

LITERARY.

"Harry's Career at Yale" is the very attractive title of a story now running through the *Outing* magazine. It is a story of college life in the days when class fights and cane rushes were the proper thing, the abolition of which the author takes occasion to cite as a proof of the declension of college spirit. The story is told in a spirited way and is well worth the attention of a college student.

It is said that one of the sensations in the book world will be Max O'Rell's volume of novels under the title of "A Frenchman in America." It is claimed that in this book he has not repeated himself but is as fresh and racy as if he had never written a line upon America. His inimitable humor has been given full play in relating his experience as a lecturer, while his impressions of certain prominent Americans are unusually spicy and interesting.

The *Century* magazine announces that it will celebrate the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America by publishing a life of Columbus, written especially for that magazine by Emilio Castelas, the famous Spanish statesman, orator, and author. It will be written in Spanish and will be carefully translated. Senor Castelas, whose interest in and admiration for America are well known, has made a careful study of the new historical bearing upon the subject. The articles will be richly illustrated. Other articles dealing with the discovery of America are being prepared and will be published in the same magazine.

In the October *Century* will be found an interesting letter on a winter journey through Siberia by George Kennan, the noted Russian explorer, whose exposures concerning the convict system of Russia has given him world-wide fame. The letter is a description of a winter journey from Iokutsk, the capital of eastern Siberia, after the investigation of the convict system. As he was carrying a great number of legal documents, letters and political incendiary matter, and as he believed himself to be an object of considerable suspicion to the police, the journey was by no means devoid of exciting incidents, and will be read with interest by those who heard Mr. Kennan's lecture on "Russian Political Exiles," on October 26.

"John Auburntop; the history of his development in a fresh-water college" is the title of a novel by one of our former students, Anson Uriel Hancock, which appeared during the summer and which, naturally, has attracted more than a passing interest from the students and friends of our university. The events take place in the seventies, in and around Lincoln, while the characters, a number of university students, are easily recognizable even though there is a slight attempt to conceal their identity. For instance, who will fail to recognize in young "Coldcistern" he of "the small frame and large blue eyes," our own Professor Caldwell; who is "Werl" but the Reverend Worley, now in the western part of this state, while "Mordaunt" and "Dave" represent respectively H. W. Mordaunt and the Hon. David Mercer, of Omaha. Professors "Aw he," "Limberberry" and "Pluck" are also remembered as former members of the faculty.

The story hinges upon the mutual affection supposed to exist between the hero and heroine, John Auburntop and Miss Minerva Jackson. The conversation of these two and the other characters are so unusually deep and thoughtful, especially on the part of John Auburntop, as to suggest that they had been previously prepared and committed to memory. There never yet has been, within the knowledge of the author, a company of students in the University of Nebraska who made a practice at all times and in all places of discussing philosophy, art, and literature. In fact the entire book is a curious medley of love, philosophy, science, and literature. Very little persuasion is necessary to set John Auburntop to discussing topics not at all interesting to the reader, entirely foreign to the subject matter, and which tend to lessen interest in the story, which is supposed to be the main attraction of the book. No wonder that the love between these two becomes strained and morbid and leads to their final separation. Small wonder is it that the author, believing, as he evidently does, that many students are liable to be affected in the same way as Auburntop was, incidentally cites this liability to meet one's fate in college as one of the disadvantages of a co educational institution.

The book is by no means a picture of university life. It is true that the author gives a good description of a recitation of a geology class under Professor "Aw-he," and an interesting description of an evening in the Palladian hall. But other really interesting things as the "student riot," so called, caused by the compulsory drill in the military department, it pleases him to pass with a few words.

Of the story in general, it may be said that the events are strung together in an extremely illogical way; that the characterization is very poor. The actors talk but leave no impression of their individuality. Even the hero himself makes but a slight impression upon the mind of the reader. The author's object seems to have been to spring a volume of essays upon the public and to insure at least a local sale by attracting a local interest to its events.

CURRENT COMMENT.

Will his holiness, the Pope, come to America? Every well-informed person knows that recent occurrences point to such an outcome. But at the mere suggestion that the Pope will leave Rome and come to America, a host of inquiries arise in everyone's mind. "What is Rome without a pope?" will become a by-word. And the equally expressive query will be bandied about, "What is the Pope without Rome?" Suppose, then, that he comes to America. Will it be possible for a pope to be a pope in reality in these United States? Removed from Rome, will the Pope still be able to sustain