

vicinity of the university. Not a few live two or three miles away.

They do not have time to go to their rooms and do any studying, if they get back by the time the library opens. Neither do they wish to hang around town from five o'clock until seven. It seems to THE HESPERIAN, that the reading room might be kept open during this time, in order to afford a place for the students to study. If this cannot be done, some arrangement might be made, whereby students that live so far from the university could take books home with them. Either plan would improve matters.

During the last two weeks the historical, horticultural, and agricultural societies of the state have met at the university. The students should be severely censured for not attending these meetings. When such societies meet at our very doors, we should drop our studies long enough to attend the meetings. Some of us seem to think we have not time to attend meetings during the week. While it is not a good plan to neglect lessons regularly, yet let us remember that we want practical knowledge as well as theoretical. As a rule students know too little of the outside world.

As many historical students as there are in the university, it seems shameful that more of them did not attend the meetings. They work over the shelves of the library week after week to get their lessons. Yet when there is an opportunity to see how history is made, they refuse to improve it. In the future let us partake of every intellectual feast that comes our way.

Another local oratorical contest is upon us. This year there will be three contestants, an increase of one over last year. We thought there would be only two orators until the day the orations were to be handed to the judges. On that day, however, the secretary of the local association received an oration from a fraternity man. This is the first time that the frats have had a representative in any contest whatever. THE HESPERIAN extends congratulations to their orator. We believe that the contest will be better this year than ever before. Mr. Skiles won second place last year on the Chase and Wheeler contest. Mr. Quaintance carried away first honors in the Union contest last June. Since Mr. Chandler has never spoken in public, we know nothing of his oratorical powers. Nevertheless, we believe that he will do credit to himself and to his fraternity. Each of the contestants will do his very best to win first place. Whoever succeeds, we believe, will represent the university ably, in the state contests.

Our orators have always been weak in delivery. We should remedy this defect. The local association,

should at once take steps towards giving the winning orator special training. We have, in Professor Hunt, one of the best instructors in oratory there is in the country. His services should be obtained if possible. THE HESPERIAN believes that the faculty should help the students in this. If Professor Hunt has no time to devote to matters outside of the class-room, why cannot arrangements be made whereby he can be relieved of some of his work for a time? The whole university should unite in this matter, and help our orator in every way possible. Nothing should be left undone that will help to place the university before the public in the proper light, and win for it, at least, the credit it deserves.

#### LITERARY.

##### The Woman of To-Day.

Let others sing the praises of the woman of the past,  
Or canonize the woman of the future coming past.  
I string my lyre for neither. No, I left my little lay  
And sing my song to celebrate the women of to-day.

The woman of the past was good, and better still may be  
The woman of the future; but, oh, good enough for me  
The girl who thro' the mazes of the present works her way  
And stands in her integrity the woman of to-day.

Upon the world's stage she plays roles many and diverse;  
But tho' she may in politics her pretty head immerse,  
Or seek the pulpit or the bar, still shines the sacred ray  
Of love around the hearthstone of the woman of to-day.

No pent-up Utes confines her powers. Tho' prejudice  
Still prowls about her path, no work that's worthy comes  
amiss:

She may not vote, but ballots fall obedient to her sway;  
The conscience of the country 's in the woman of to-day.

She has her faults. Spots big and black the sun's bright  
face do blur;

But who could live without its light, or with it lacking her?  
Against her follies and fads let other folks inveigh,  
I celebrate the virtues of the woman of to-day.

##### Historic Princeton.

Many are the associations which linger among the shadows of Nassau Hall; telling the stirring times of brilliant deeds, of noted men, its graduates, or its friends.

Loyal at first to the "mother country" it received its name from William III of England, "a branch of the illustrious house of Nassau." Among its archives is a quaint old pamphlet entitled "The Military Glory of Great Britain," a dialogue recited by the students at the commencement in 1762, "to the universal satisfaction of a polite and crowded auditory," as we are informed by a contemporary newspaper. And on the wall of the chapel hung a full length portrait of George II., opposite to which was one of the provincial Governor Belcher, "surmounted by a court of arms, carved and gilded."

This spirit, however, was not a lasting one, and the college was soon pervaded by the universal longing for liberty. We learn from a letter of James Madison, then a student here, that in 1770 the letter stating that New York had partially broken the non-importation agreement, was burned by the students in the college yard—all in their black gowns and the bell tolling. In 1771 when Madison, Bedford and other noted patriots were graduated, another poem was recited, this time on the "Rising Glory of America," written by Philip Freneau 1771, the patriot poet of the Revolution; and again an old newspaper informs us that it "met with the highest approbation and applause from a numerous, polite and discerning audience."