

The centennial anniversary of the publication of Rougets de l'Isle's famous Marsellaise hymn is to be celebrated at his birth-place, Choisy-le-Roi, with appropriate festivities.

The prospective University of Chicago has just completed one of the largest book deals ever made. The trustees purchased in Berlin a library of 350,000 books and 150,000 dissertations.

The University of Pennsylvania has received from Mr. Maxwell Sommerville what is regarded as the largest and rarest cameo in the world. It is a chrysoprase, measures five inches by seven, and has upon it an engraved head of Jupiter.

Sir Edwin Arnold thus speaks of American English: "Tennyson is, of course, a very great master of the noble language which he has so largely adorned. In Lincolnshire, his native county, the purest English in the world is spoken—with, to my mind, one exception, for I have heard the same English as correctly used in Boston, New England. If I am right, it is a strange coincidence that the capital of Massachusetts, peopled from the fens of England and representing the names of its towns, should also preserve the purest traditions of English speech."

Experts are predicting that the books of to-day will fall to pieces before the middle of the next century. The paper in the books that have survived two or three centuries was made by hand from honest rags and without the use of strong chemicals, while the ink was made of nut galls. To-day much of the paper for books is made of wood pulp, treated with powerful acids, while the ink is a powerful compound of various substances naturally at war with the flimsy paper upon which it is laid. The printing of two centuries ago has improved with age; that of to-day, it is feared, will within fifty years have eaten its way through the pages upon which it impressed. The heartless publisher who threw out this hint added the sardonic comment that the question was highly unimportant to the great majority of authors.

EXCHANGE.

"Of all the fees I ever held,
Fee simple or entail;
I hold the richest fee to-night
Thou precious fee female."—*Ex.*

"Touch elbows" roars the captain,
As before the ranks he strides,
And the men on each side of me
Jab their elbows in my sides.

O 'tis sweet to be a soldier,
But to frankly speak my mind,
If you are to drill with freshmen,
You'd best leave your ribs behind.

—*S. U. I. Quill.*

We see that the Leland Stanford Jr. foot ball team has Sampson to help them. If strength counts for ought, Leland Stanford should take the championship from Yale next year.

Of late the papers have given considerable space to the discussion of university extension. One of our exchanges notes that Denmark and Austria have undertaken the same, and that France is studying the English method of carrying on the work with the idea of organizing a system.

The *Vassar Miscellany* has a new departure in the library line. It has introduced a series of articles about the life and work of the different colleges. These articles are to be written by professors and college graduates. Thus will the Vassar students learn much about other colleges and thereby will they obtain many new and good ideas.

We notice that several of the university and college papers are complaining because the students do not give the papers sufficient support. We hope it may never be said of the students of the State University of Nebraska that their paper is not what it should be because the students do not assist it.

The Leland Stanford, Jr., university starts out in all affairs on a grand and a glorious scale. Its college papers are especially noteworthy. This week we received the *Sequoia*. It is a paper of which its *Alma Mater* may well be proud and in which the students may glory. It is not as showy outside as some of our exchanges, yet inside it fairly shines with wisdom and wit. As far as reading matter is concerned it will take its place among our best exchanges. The articles are well worth reading. That it may continue to shine as brightly in the west as does vesper, is the wish of THE HESPERIAN.

Since snow has come there has blown into many of our exchanges pieces of poetry, if such we may call them, about the "beautiful snow." We, being ignorant of such affairs, thought it was only Colin Clout Normal, who on the Grampian hills tended his father's flocks, and similar persons of a pastoral feeling, if not of a pastoral calling, that wrote about the "beautiful snow," the spring and the flowers thereof. We sadly and sorrowfully see our mistake, and when spring comes we will avoid spring poetry and try to do justice to other writings which although not quite so lofty in sentiment are nevertheless a little more fitted to the college world.

The *Vassar Miscellany* contains nothing but interesting articles. We have read most of the articles of the December number and they are of especial merit. There is one departure from the usual line, in the translation entitled "Violette." The writer has chosen a very pretty story to translate, one which should please and interest everyone. The translation is very good. The translator has been very successful in finding the proper words to fit the thought. Yet there is one little fault, if fault it may be called, some of the sentences are too long. Still we admire the taste and skill, and hope to be favored with another production. Our own paper as well as many of our exchanges would do well to publish similar articles.

Again the *Transylvanian* appears upon our table. It is a bright newsy paper within and it is a thing of beauty without. Many are the pleasing articles which it contains and which we would like to comment on, but space does not permit. We wish to mention one, however. It is a poem entitled, "Kosaline, or the Broken Vow." It is a pleasing poem and shows that considerable time and thought were expended on it. It is a production of which the author may well be proud. We hope to hear from her again. We are glad so many college papers are devoting considerable space to such original articles. We would like to say to our students "come ye and do likewise." We consider the *Transylvanian* as one of our best exchanges and hope it may prosper in spite of the unfavorable circumstances in which it made its appearance.

We were in doubt as to the exact significance of the large redwood tree on the front page of the *Palo Alto*, but an article in the *Sequoia*, from which we take a few extracts, seems to explain it. "A noted landmark, two lone redwood trees, stood in the valley about thirty-six miles from San Francisco—these trees, which were known by travelers as the Palos Colorados (the red trees) towered far above the live oaks, which numerously dotted the valley. Since then one of them has been uprooted by the encroachments of the creek and has been removed; the other is apparently dropping into decay, and, in a few years, will doubtless go the way of its compan-