

the previous lecture, he said, "Unfortunately, the gas gave out in the previous lecture; had I been here such would not have been the case." Somebody laughed. *Harvard Educator*.

The *Comp D'Etat* amuses itself by giving THE HESPERIAN the benefit of a column of its wordly knowledge. We would say to the worthy editor that if he had had his specks on when he read the article on "Frats," he would have noticed some quotation marks which he evidently overlooked. The paragraph which he clipped was quoted. Our stand on the oratorical question coincides with the stand taken by the brainy editor, but he don't seem to be smart enough to see it. We excuse you this time. But look before you leap.

It is amazing to see the manner in which the editorial on fraternities was regarded by our exchange. Some became as enraged at it as a bull does at a red bandana. The majority said it was about right. We thank both of them for their remarks. The West is with us; the East is against us. The eastern colleges always were behind their western sisters. We hope they will wake up some day and get a little push and life in them. Ann Arbor and Chicago will soon be the leaders and Yale and Harvard will have only a past record to look back to. They'll not be "in it."

We take the following clippings concerning the inter-state contest from the *Ariel*: "The third speaker was the lady orator from Indiana, Miss E. Jean Nelson, and she was received with enthusiastic applause. She gave an oration which was truly eloquent, on "Industrial Freedom." The production was excellent, philosophically, historically, economically, rhetorically. Her sentences were admirably balanced, and the climaxes of the oration were managed with great skill. Miss Nelson had the good taste to dress with classic simplicity. Her deliverance was graceful, the movement was rapid and continuous, and the audience was borne along with her train of thought. Her gestures had the rare excellence of spontaneity, giving emphasis to the thought without drawing attention to themselves. \* \* \* Miss Nelson well deserved the first place on the contest."

"Again a different type of orator was manifested in the oration on 'The Optimism of History,' by Mr. G. E. Geyer of Ohio. His delivery was forceful, with vigorous gestures and strong, well modulated voice. The historical subject lends itself well to such delivery. It takes power to marshal the heroes and the mighty happenings of the past before our view. The chief defect in Mr. Geyers was his gesture, which was lacking in grace, and in his voice which was somewhat harsh. He handled his magnificent subject well, and both by the marks of the judges and the opinion of the audience, was a close second."

"A subject of the day is always interesting, and Mr. D. F. Matchett of Colorado chose a good theme, 'The Czar and the Jew.' His oration was well written, but his voice was heavy and his delivery was slow, tending to monotony, so that in spite of his stirring description of the miseries of the unhappy Jew, he failed really to move the weary audience. His good mark on composition will probably bring him to third place."

"After a welcome interval of music Mr. Chas. E. Winter of Nebraska delivered an oration on "War and Reason." Unfortunately Mr. Winter's faithful work as secretary left him little time to attend to his oration since he has been in Minneapolis; which will account for his slip of memory. He has a peculiarly pleasing voice, which is also not devoid of power. He was, however, unnatural and sometimes he was rather "jerky." His gestures were remarkably graceful. As his tones deepened in the delivery of his beautiful peroration, every movement in the audience ceased, and he closed well."

The *Ariel* has also printed the orations in full. We commend it for its push and energy.

With great regret and sorrow we heard of Mr. Winter's slip of memory. We did not expect much from him on composition, but we hoped he would make a showing in his delivery.

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#### ALUMNI AND FORMER STUDENTS.

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Bay St. Louis, Miss., April 24, 1892.

As it is Sunday and raining, and we are too religious to work (under the circumstances) I will improve the time by writing you a few lines, as I may not get a chance again for some time. I arrived here all right at 10 p. m., April 20. I found Mr. Baily in bed and so I did the same trick. We met at the breakfast-table the next day and soon became acquainted. He is 27 years of age and something after my own make up, so you see we get along capitally together and have had considerable fun at the expense of the natives already. Bay St. Louis is a summer and winter resort combined. It consists of cottages strung along the beach for five or six miles, each with its own bathing and boat house in the bay. The bay is several miles in extent, shallow and peaceful. We rowed across it and out into the Gulf of Mexico on Friday. The sun was shining, the tide out, and a cool breeze blowing, so it was very pleasant. We were looking for a good place to trap small mammals, but did not find it, so we came back and moved our grips to a Creole boarding house out near the timber. Yesterday was a nice day so we improved it by taking a walk out in the pine woods and setting 60 traps for small mammals (we caught one mouse), and killing a few birds, thrushes, flycatchers, one church will's widow, etc. We also got about a dozen lizards, three cottonmouth snakes (the most poisonous snake here), two moccasins, one viper, and a few harmless species. Birds are plenty, but small mammals, for which we care more than anything else, are scarce since the rain has drowned a good many of them. So far I have collected more than Baily and am getting somewhat skillful in making them up. The department furnishes everything even to ink, pens, paper, etc. We are taking things easy, as it rains so much that we have only had two good days to work. We shall stay here for a week or so and then go to New Orleans to investigate the markets there; then to Homma, La., for a few days, and from there to northern Mississippi, Arkansas, Kansas, Indian Territory, Texas, etc. I am enjoying the work very much and am getting fat already, though the cuisine is nothing extra. The natives are mostly "niggers" and Creoles or French Indians, badly mixed, and the language is as badly mixed as the blood. They treat us with great politeness, though probably on account of our fierce looks. Everybody moves here as if they had all eternity and one day more to do it in, which is somewhat annoying, especially about meal time. We have stirred them up a little, though, and may get along all right with them. We are going to try to board at farm houses away from the towns, and if that does not prove a success we shall get a tent and camp as soon as it gets dry enough to be out. As the water has been high all over the country it would not be very comfortable out at present. We are just now housed very comfortably, having a good room with tables to work on, shelves to dry our skins, and a big fireplace, which we have at present filled with pine knots, which are blazing nicely and makes it quite comfortable although the rain is falling outside. Very truly yours,

GEO. A. COLEMAN.

'88—Rev. D. D. Forsyth passed through Lincoln on the 5th on his way to the Methodist conference at Omaha.