

And then one night, quite silent,  
 Below in number seven,  
 There met the noblest little band  
 Beneath the stars of heaven.  
 On this seemingly small footing  
 Of fifty active members,  
 They built a temple that will last  
 Though many bleak Decembers.  
 And thus it was that Delia,  
 A child of noble birth,  
 Found here the sweetest resting place,  
 Upon the face of earth.  
 Palladia and Unio,  
 Two noble parents they,  
 Although engaged once in a while  
 In a sort of family fray,  
 Placed here to grow up strong and fair  
 Her little feeble form,  
 Where she might conquer every foe,  
 Might weather every storm.  
 From o'er Nebraska's grassy plains  
 The people came to hear  
 The pearly gems of wisdom  
 That are promulgated here.  
 And who can look at Lehnhoff,  
 The man of mighty frame,  
 And say we've not like those of old,  
 A Hercules in name.  
 Or who can say that Cupid  
 Remembers not our halls,  
 Or look upon Pillsbury,  
 And say Troubadour ne'er calls.  
 Yes the ancient heroes all are ours,  
 Dressed up in modern style.  
 They make their pleasant little calls  
 At least once in a while.  
 This temple is not built of stone  
 Nor trimmed with leaves of gold.  
 'Tis of a different material  
 Than was the temple old.  
 The temple of Apollo,  
 Although a sight to see,  
 Was built up of those substances,  
 That soon must cease to be.  
 But the little Delian temple  
 That we have here today  
 Is built up in a manner  
 That it cannot pass away,  
 Till all the world is perfect,  
 As it may be at last.  
 Then may this Delian temple  
 Be a memory of the past.

J. C. PORTERFIELD, '92.

#### A National Peril.

[This oration received first prize at the Union contest by A. G. Chapman.]

All history shows that any form of union of church and state, is inimical to liberty, civil or religious. It was the persecutions of ecclesiastical rule, not only at the hands of the church of Rome in the mother country, but also in the Protestant colonial governments of New England, that led the fathers of independence to separate the church from the state.

It is to the interest of our government that the ecclesiastical and the political powers continue disunited, but there are indications that efforts are being made to bring about, at least, a partial union. When cities patronize denominational hospital, or schools, as they do in so many parts of our land; when states found and maintain sectarian institutions, as is done in New York, Massachusetts and in other states; when congress appropriates public funds to the benefit of some particular religious organization; a great stride is taken in the direction of leading the state, indirectly, it may be at first, to support the organization of the church.

exerted by the applicant. As protestant churches are disunited, and their interests diversified, our greatest danger lies in the church of Rome, whose organization is so nearly perfect. I wish it distinctly understood that I say nothing against Catholicism, as a religion, nor do I speak of Catholics, as individuals. I only refer to the church of Rome as a political organization, dangerous to American institutions.

Realizing that it is rapidly losing its temporal power in Europe, the Roman Catholic church seeks to establish itself in free America. To this end it labors with an energy and zeal, evidently prompted by hope of success. If any doubt his, let them tell what means the great interest which the Pope is taking in American affairs. Why should he love our country when everything, that is distinctively American, is in direct opposition to his every interest? Liberty of conscience is most sacred of our constitutional rights. It is the very keystone or the arch of fundamental principles, upon the stability of which, depends our national existence. The attitude of the church of Rome, as shown by utterances of Catholics themselves, is uncompromisingly hostile to this principle. Says Bishop O'Connor, of Pittsburg, "Liberty of conscience is only endured until the opposite can be carried into effect, without peril to the Catholic worship." Says Dr. Brownson, "Protestantism, of every form, has not, and never can have, any rights where Catholicism is triumphant." The infallible Pious IX, in an encyclical letter said, "The absurd doctrines, or ravings, in defense of liberty of conscience are a most pestilential error—a pest, of all others most detested by the state." Loyal Americans encourage education and the public school, but history shows that ignorance and superstition follow close in the wake of Papal supremacy. Loyal Americans believe in the equality of the citizen. The Pope claims temporal power greater than any earthly ruler. Loyal Americans believe in the principle of total separation of church and state. The Pope's ideal form of government has always been a church monarchy. Loyal Americans adhere to Protestantism, and see, in the multiplication of sects, deeper religious study, firmer moral convictions and a more charitable feeling between man and man. The Pope recognizes but one church, and denounces all believers in others as heretics.

In other ways has the pope of Rome shown his hostility to American institutions. When our country was being torn asunder by civil war, the first, and almost the only, foreign recognition of the confederate states was by the pope, who by open letter dated December 3, 1863, blessed the confederacy, and addressed Jeff Davis as, "Most Worthy President." Evidence, admitted at the trial of the murderers of Abraham Lincoln, proves conclusively that the assassination was devised, directed, and executed by subjects of this same foreign power, which had blessed the rebel states. It shows that the deed was plotted at the home of a Catholic, that for months, previous to the assassination, Catholic priests had held daily conferences with the conspirators, that every person convicted of complicity in the crime, was a Catholic, that John Surratt, who escaped, was a Catholic, aided to escape by Catholics, concealed in Montreal, by Catholic priests, from there transferred in disguise to Europe by Catholics, and, when found by detectives, had been installed a member of the body guard of Pope Pious IX, the head and director of the Catholic church.

And yet they say they love America, that they are proud to live in a land where liberty of conscience is guaranteed to every citizen. But realizing that the Bible is the greatest barrier to their ultimate success, they plead, "Since we can-