

not particular with whom you associate; if you wish others to choose your friends, your bosom companions; if you wish to isolate yourself from the students; if you wish to deprive yourself of all literary advantages; if you wish to deny yourself of all possibility of entering the three choice social circles of the University, then join one of the fraternities. On the other hand, if you wish to enjoy all these good things, remain a barbarian and join a literary society. In the literary society you have an opportunity to become acquainted with the students of the University. You cannot become acquainted with each other in the class-room, or in the halls. Social privileges are not all that are given you in a society. There you can develop your skill as a debator and as an orator. The HESPERIAN believes that half of a college education is lost if a student is denied the benefits derived from a literary society.

In years gone by the frats had a society known as the "Philodicean." This they kept up for a number of years. In '90 and '91 they held only three or four meetings, and in '91 and '92 they did not have a single meeting. Do not forget the fact that during the year of '91 and '92, the University had about three hundred more students than ever before. Notwithstanding that fact, the frats had declined in numbers to such a degree that they could not even go through the form of holding society meetings. During this same period the three literary societies had the largest membership roll that has ever been reached. In spite of the increase in the number of college students last year over the year preceding, the fraternities were the least prosperous. The only explanation The HESPERIAN can give for such a condition, is the fact that most of the new students for '91 and '92 were from the farms and not very well to do.

Do the students that have just entered, wish to give their support and encouragement to a class of people that seek only to bring the rich and "tony" students among them? The HESPERIAN thinks not. We believe in a society that throws its doors open to the rich and the poor alike. The only requirements for admission into one of the open literary societies is that the person shall have a good moral character and stand well in his classes. When a man once becomes a member, he is expected to be a gentleman and perform every duty that devolves upon all the persons in the society.

The HESPERIAN believes that the principle underlying a secret society is wrong. No organization of men or women with a high, lofty purpose, was ever known to hold its meetings behind closed doors. If there is any good to be derived from a secret society why not permit all the students to get the

benefit of it? Why confine it to a few? The face of it certainly looks as though something is wrong. We believe it would not be a bad plan to join an open literary society—something you can enter with your eyes open.

ONE of the duties of every student is to take an active interest in every college enterprise. One of the greatest, if not the greatest, factor in a college education is the training afforded students by participating in college movements. There we learn to use our head work, and rely upon our own judgment. If we wish to be aggressive and take advantage of these things we must post ourselves upon questions that must be solved by the students. The best way to get this information is to subscribe for The HESPERIAN, the only college paper in the university. By so doing we not only learn what is going on around us, but we help to support a college organ. The HESPERIAN relies upon the students for sustenance. Without your help it would soon cease to live. No student of the university would for a moment consent to that. We would like to see a paper published in the university that will not merely equal, but surpass any college paper in the west; even rival those published in the east. The chief characteristic of a western man is push, enterprise, and "good, common horse sense." We can publish a first-class paper if we will. Let us all give our support, both financial and mental, to The HESPERIAN in order that we may raise its literary merit. Do not forget that it is a college enterprise and dependent upon the students for life. With our nine hundred students we should have at least eight hundred and fifty subscribers to The HESPERIAN.

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#### LITERARY.

##### Extracts From a Prep's First Letter Home.

The first thing I did when I landed here,  
Was to master the Uni. yell,—  
That's the first lesson in history  
An Elusian mystery,  
I know you'd adore it my dear,—  
It's performed by a crowd,  
And is usually loud,  
It takes place only three times a year.  
I'd so love to tell you just how it's done,  
But that is a secret, I fear.

There's one thing that bothers me dreadfully though,  
It's to have them all think that I'm green.  
They rush up with a grin  
And just gather me in:  
"Oh, you're a new student, I see."  
Now how do they know it,  
I'm sure I don't show it,  
I'm as stately as seniors should be,  
I walk down the hall with my self-possessed air,  
And don't look at a thing that I see.