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EDITORIAL

The question has been brought up time and again "Shall we remain in the Oratorical Association." THE HESPERIAN has advocated that we should, for it would be a clear case of cowardice to withdraw. What if we have never reached a higher mark than second, we have certainly derived much benefit from being in the association. At last, we have won the coveted first place, and the question that was asked before will not arise unless based on a different reason than the one heretofore set forth. We wish to bring the question up again and give an entirely new reason why we should withdraw from the association. The reason is this, that when a convention is conducted in the manner the state oratorical convention was conducted last Friday, it loses its significance as a creditable institution and becomes a disgrace to those taking active part in it. If we understand the objects of the association, they are to promote oratory, bring the colleges into closer touch, and stimulate the desire for more extensive knowledge by effecting free social and intellectual intercourse between the representatives of the different educational institutions. The actions of these representatives are supposed to be actuated by fellow feeling for each other—well they were last Friday, but the feeling was all done in a purely physical manner and not in an intellectual way. It is to the students of our higher educational institutions that outsiders look for good examples. Students are in an ideal world when they are attending universities, and it is expected that in their gatherings they will act as nearly in the way in which they have been taught as it is possible for them to do. When dele-