

not satisfied with the extent of their field of operations, soared up among the stars to find out what the Creator had done. It is more than most philosophers can do to handle generalities of this nature. Let our orators say something if fate decrees that they must talk.

THE STATE CONTEST.

Nearly everyone in Lincoln interested in oratory, attended the State Contest at the Lansing Monday night, March 19. The Wesleyan students occupied the center of the parquet and there flanked on the left by Doane students and on the right by those from Cotner. The State University occupied the dresscircle. Yells, not on the program, formed a prelude to the ceremonies of the evening. One peculiarly enthusiastic Cotnerite who had evidently taken a course in ghost dancing always gave the signal for his crowd to yell, by rising and uttering a hair raising howl that sounded like the last whoop of a maniac warrior. The curtain went up with Mr. Schell, of Cotner, in the chair. Mr. Schell had lost sleep for many nights, from fear that he would be deprived of the bliss of exercising his prerogatives as vice president, but after the convention, his friends noticed a great change in his appearance for the better.

The first oration was by W. W. Shank, of Wesleyan. Mr. Shank spoke of the "Triumph of Truth." His delivery was quite forcible, and his bearing graceful, but he did not have an oration into which he could put his soul. One of his chief points was that truth is the thought essence of reality.

Adam McMullen followed for the State University. He spoke with feeling and force. He has a resonant voice which was used to good effect in the eulogistic passages of his oration. No one doubted that his oration on "Blaine the Man" deserved high rank.

J. H. Andres of Doane came next with "Lynch Law in the South" To him the

judges on manuscript gave first place. His delivery was rather weak, a consequence of sickness from which he had not entirely recovered.

C. A. Finch of Cotner came last with "The Crucible of Time." His oration resembled that of Mr. Shank. He spoke too rapidly and too energetically for his theme. He was awarded third place.

The judges on manuscript were J. F. Saylor, Chancellors F. H. Snow of Kansas, and W. H. Scott of Ohio.

Judges on delivery, Ross L. Hammond, Rev. E. H. Chapin and Frank Irvine.

Adam McMullen was awarded first place and J. H. Andres of Crete received second.

THE HISTORY OF A CRIME.

OR THE GRAND COUP D'ETAT.

"A man may smile and smile and be a villain"—

The great crowd of students and common people who went out to Wesleyan University on the afternoon of March 19 for the purpose of seeing a scrap were greatly disappointed. There was no scrap. All they had gained when they went home laden with Wesleyan mud—in more senses than one—was a glimpse into realms of rascality they had never dreamed of, and a settled conviction that the devil and some other people are blacker than they've ever been painted.

There is a great deal of local history connected with this meeting of the state oratorical association. It began a long time ago, apparently, just how long ago nobody knows or cares now. But it is history of such importance and such exceeding interest that we really do not see how any "representative college paper" could declare it "not our purpose to go into the details of the fight," unless someone had good reason for wishing the details to remain unknown.

In the light of subsequent events it must be of considerable interest to everyone to