

WASTE BASKET WAIFS.

Here then the conclusion of the whole matter, oratory is a consummate and colossal fake. The primitive custom of oratorical contests is gray and hoary, and should have been abandoned with the cane rush. It is the most unpractical, stilted, sophomoric sort of oratory in the world and it takes any lawyer several years to unlearn college oratory before he can begin to learn legal oratory. In this busy world no writer has time to spend months upon a production, no speaker has time to shut himself up in his closet and spend hours in devising metaphors or stringing together pearls of oratory. The world wants men with their thoughts at their pen's end and tongue's end. The joint debate cultivates quick uses of thought and pointed expression, impromptu speaking cultivates ease of manner and speech, but college oratory so called cultivates nothing but jealousy and vanity. Let it perish from the land and its memory vanish from the minds of men.

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The University has for a long time been in aching need of a sensation. This need at last the late college "scrap" has filled. It was a royal sensation, it stirred the animals up and set them roaring in their cages. It was the first fight in years that altogether has suspended class work on a school day or that has drawn the professors in to witness a students' mass meeting. It is the first fight since the beginning of time that has abolished the abominably artificial distinctions caused by Greek letter pins and a lack of Greek letter pins and made members of secret and open societies pull together like creatures of the same species, which they really are after all. This is the first rousing war the University has had since it has become a full grown University. There are so many students and so many departments and so many lines of work that we almost begin to forget that we are all members of the same institution until

some thing touches us all alike and makes us all akin. This was a fight in which there were very few neutral participants, everyone had convictions and had them hard, even the Alumni seemed to catch the conviction fever. Heine said that the great cathedrals were built of convictions, well, if the 800 students who assembled in the chapel Monday afternoon had vented their convictions in Gothic architecture instead of in speeches, the big church at Milin would not be in it. The students as students and as fellow students had not had a real live conviction for so long that they hardly knew how to manage one and rather let it get away with them. But enthusiasm is worth while no matter the cost. It is a good thing to have the student conscience sharpened, and prove that honor is not entirely an unknown quantity, nor honesty yet classed with the sun myths.

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It is strange, that erratic tendency of the feminine mind to idealize evil. I suppose it is a fact that all outlaws from Robin Hood to Jesse James were popular among the ladies. Some one has said that the reason the French people are so open in their avowed worship of evil is that in France the woman's mind predominates. It is rather an unpleasant fact to face, particularly when one has the misfortune to be a femineinity. Dear as rascality is to women in all the glittering bravado of its success, it seems even dearer in the pathetic despair of its failures. There was never a crimina^l in Sing-Sing condemned to the electric chair whose path was not paved with floral tributes from women who were supposed to represent culture and the delicacy of culture. The darker the crime, the whiter the roses. There was never a youth who saw fit to bring himself and his college into public and open disgrace who did not have a long train of adoring maidens to minister consolation unto him, Women to whom, in his days of respectable citizenship