

man who paid the freight for them, instead of being a benefactor of his kind was a mistaken philanthropist. There have been more symptoms of total depravity in the University since those benches were constructed than ever before. On nice spring days last year the classes which met there were the most regular in attendance. No one ever skipped that class, and the unfortunate digs inside the brick walls could hear their silvery laughter floating up on the breeze, and catch distinct chapters from their silly chatters. There never was a student who could resist the temptation to be silly when he or she was out on those benches on a spring day. And now it is just as bad. Some of us will land in the penitentiary sure this year unless the demoralizing influence of those benches is at once shut off by cold weather.

There were the most glad people around this campus a week or so ago. We'll take no risks as to what they are now, but know there was not a one among us a week ago who was not gladder than he'd ever been before in his life. Everybody was glad to get back, and everybody was glad that everybody else was back, and they all were glad they all were back. The chancellor was glad to get us all here under his eagle eye again. He told us so formally and then we know it too when he stands there in chapel and smiles around on us. And the chancellor is glad he's here and not in Ohio, and so are we. Our amiable professors and their wives are glad they are here. By the way, did it occur to you what a deal of patience and kindness and thoughtfulness those professors dispensed to all of us free of charge while the clans were gathering in the armory? No one but educated men could have kept their heads and their tempers while piloting such an unskillful crew through the whirlpools of red tape. We could scarcely help being glad they were here then, but ah woe! when examination time comes around. But till then we'll all be glad. We'll continue to drink in every-

thing we can eagerly and voraciously. We'll laugh at the prof's. old stories and smile at the senior boy's puns, and study some and have fun a good deal, and make good resolutions and break them, and keep up the whole old program till June comes again when we shall all of us be glad as possible that school is over.

THE KANSAS-NEBRASKA DEBATE.

Last May the debating association of the University of Nebraska was organized. The purpose of the organization as stated in the preamble of the constitution was that "of attaining a higher development in extempore speaking and the wider culture acquired by healthy contact with the students of other like educational institutions."

A few of the circumstances which led up to this organization may be of interest, especially to new students. Last winter some correspondence passed between Professor Adams of the English department of our University and Professor Hopkins of the same department of the University of Kansas as to the desirability and feasibility of a joint debate between the students of their respective institutions. The idea of a joint debate was communicated to the classes in public speaking, to the debating clubs, and to the students generally. It was much discussed and met with the general approval of students and faculty. A very considerable amount of enthusiasm was worked up. The students held a largely attended mass meeting, and unanimously voted that it be the sense of the meeting that a debate be held with Kansas University. At a later student meeting rules for the regulation of the proposed debate were submitted, a constitution adopted, and the local organization perfected by the election of officers.

It is unnecessary for me to state the benefits that would come to the individual students who might take part in the preliminary and the final debates. Nor do I need to speak of the healthy intellectual stimulus to the whole University which would surely result from such a contest as is contem-