

cent number of the weekly *Courier* concerning the remarks of some speakers at the university. Any man in this day and age who speaks of the head of the university as "the professor," and talks about "his policy" in such a connection as appeared in the letter quoted, simply gives himself away from the start. He has in mind, evidently, the old academy with "the Professor" at its head, and under him some subordinate teachers whose work he dictates throughout, and a number of boys and girls concerning whom he determines with absolute authority not only what they shall hear but what they shall think and say. He does not yet understand that the university is a collection of departments at the head of each of which stands a responsible man, skilled in his work and an expert in all that he undertakes; and only asked to constantly seek for the truth, and fearlessly yet kindly and wisely direct his students along the same path. He reports to them what he finds, but he never dictates what they shall discover. Even text-books are almost entirely discarded, and students left to work out for themselves their own conclusions and to form their own convictions. This does not take from the instructor a large influence, but it does take from him every semblance of dictation or dogmatism. No body of people on earth would resent the manifestation of either of these characteristics more quickly than students of the university. Nor does such a writer comprehend that there are large numbers of young men in the university who have cast not only their first vote but several votes, and others who are so near the voting age as to be entitled to the consideration and respect due maturity of thought and character. Nearly three hundred students this year carry teachers' certificates and have been at work themselves for a greater or less length of time, molding thought and influencing character. These are not children to be arbitrarily held in hand and directed in given paths; nor are they easily blown about by every wind of doctrine.

The case of Mr. Herron has been discussed so long and with such acrimony that it

need hardly be referred to again. It is sufficient to say that most of those who have been most bitter in their denunciations of Mr. Herron neither heard his address nor read it as printed. Many others know so little of what is transpiring in the world about them as to class anarchists, communists, communalists, socialists, Christian socialists, state socialists, and socialists of the chair, in one common category; whereas there is as wide a difference between some of these as between heaven and earth.

As to Mr. Sherman's unfortunate remark concerning Mr. McKinley—so far from being a part of "the policy" of "the Professor," it was at once recognized by all university people as entirely uncalled for, unwarranted and inexcusable. It had no relation whatever to the subject-matter which the speaker had in hand, and apparently no reason could be given for its utterance. It was thrown out in an extempore remark in the midst of a plea for the great middle class—Mr. Sherman spoke on "Neither capitalism nor communism, a plea for the great middle class—" and seems to have been the result of a mere freak or whim of the moment. Had Mr. Sherman been examined by a committee prior to his appearance upon the platform this outbreak could not have been prevented. In every other respect his address was thoughtful and philosophic, although by no means convincing.

The writer of the letter referred to by the *Courier*, evidently forgot that in the last three years the university has welcomed to its platform for formal addresses to students such men as Hon. James Whitehead, Hon. John L. Webster, Hon. James L. Woolworth, Major J. K. Hudson (editor of the *Topeka Capital*) Hon. Chas. F. Scott (the strongest member of the last Republican senate in Kansas), President Seth Low of Columbia college, Hon. J. S. Gilham of Red Cloud, Professor W. E. Andrews, Rev. W. H. Buss, of Fremont, Chancellor Crook, Rev. Joseph T. Duryea, Rev. Frank Crane, Prof. Von Holst, Hon. J. H. McIntosh, Hon. G. M. Lamberton, Hon. W. F. Gurley, Hon. C. A. Marple and many others of like standing. And it has