

## THE HESPERIAN

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Ed. Gordon and "Dutch" Wells have enlisted. The captain and one of the best players leaving at this time of the season is certainly most unfortunate for our base ball team. However, the prospects are not so gloomy as they might be. The team did the proper thing in unanimously electing George Kindler captain for the rest of the year. Mr. Kindler not only thoroughly understands the game but has the energy and executive ability which are bound to develop a strong team before the end of the season. From this on, merit and merit alone, will determine a man's position on the team. Let us then give to Captain Kindler and his men the support a representative team has the right to demand from us, as a student body.

In the Michigan-Chicago debate the three Michigan representatives delivered cut and dried speeches, completely ignoring the arguments of their opponents; the Chicago men argued, refuted argument, in short debated. Of course Michigan won—the decision of the judges. The following from the Chicago

Weekly is not uninteresting:—

"As for the man who makes a hand-me-down speech in a debate, he may be powerful and logical and all that, but he is exceedingly trying. You hear the flourish of his opening sentence and you perceive that you are doomed to oblivion so far as he is concerned. On he sails serenely, saying things which you have carefully disproved. Oh for a chance to stop him and ask a question or two! But he has the floor for fifteen minutes. You have to wait till he's through before those questions can be asked; and when your colleague has asked them the next speaker treats them with the same cold indifference. Your opponents seem to have come to debate not with you but in spite of you.

The scheme of speaking followed at the finals, which originated here with Dean Terry was that all the men in turn should rebut seven minutes. This is a much better plan for a debate than the plan usually followed, and the one which was followed at Michigan, namely, of eighteen minutes straight away for each man. This puts orations at a premium; our plan puts them at a discount. It ought to be at a discount. In a debate there should be less gesticulating and more blows; less waving of flags and more shooting. We are glad that this principal is recognized and established in the University. And we are thankful to our team for following it in the Michigan debate."

Well, we lost two of the three inter-state debates. The result might be discouraging if to win were the all important thing. It is not. The vital question is not as to the success of debaters, but as to the success of debating. Let us then seek victory in defeat; profit by our failures, and endeavor to remedy our shortcomings.

In the meantime we may console ourselves with "it might have been worse." As to the Missouri debate, the decision stands recorded against us. But, after all, it is only the decision. All three of the judges were from Missouri—two of them of but local prominence. Even they gave the debate to Missouri by only three points. Published reports of the debate certainly indicate that Nebraska had the best of the argument; unbiased listen-