

THE HESPERIAN

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A CRIMINAL forgery or a criminal dupe, which is it?

THE new pipe organ is now safely deposited in the Armory. We hope the legislature will realize our needs and build us a chapel about it that we may enjoy its melodious strains.

CAN we believe that the Nebraskan expects reasonable people to believe what appears in its columns if it makes no attempt to substantiate what it prints, when it is charged with bold forgery and lying?

THE training for spring athletes has begun. Many anxious competitors for places and positions are showing up. The candidates on the base ball team are many and skilled. This year's team promises a good showing the coming season.

THE improvement in the Library made by the partitioning off of a small space for a girls' luncheon room ought to be greatly appreciated. We can now take a seat in a recitation room without discovering in the middle of a recitation that we have come in contact with a chemical mixture of crumbs and molasses.

THE oratorical outlook is still booming. Nearly twenty candidates are already preparing for the local contest. This year the prospects indicate a more general interest on the part of all organizations in the contest, and interest is the very thing we want. The HESPERIAN hopes to see a contest full of rivalry and one whose decision will give the University a worthy representative. It is to be hoped that the cry of unfair judgment will not be raised over the conclusion of this local contest. The HESPERIAN wants to see Nebraska head the list of states in the inter-state contest.

THE debating association of Missouri State University has sent a modest request to our local association to the effect that

women and negroes be excluded from contesting on these debates. What a request to come from an institution of civilization and progress: Women and negroes! We wonder in our reflections whether they really were in earnest or not. We wonder if they really assumed that we were deteriorating in our ideals to the ideals of the Middle Ages. We wonder, too, if the secretary of that association believed that here in our University we denied to sex or race equal rights. We will say to them in reply that we have some women who *can* debate, and that, perhaps, the Missouri debaters may have a chance to realize this next spring.

THE growth of the Preparatory School to the University under the management of Mr. Wallace has been viewed with pleasure by the friends of the University. All preparatory studies have not yet been eliminated from the University itself, but all hope that such a condition will soon be at hand. The University should be, and is, the place where the higher branches of study are taught. If, nowever, a student comes to the University who is deficient in a single study he can very conveniently make that up in the Preparatory School. More than that, the Preparatory School becomes the feeder of the University. Some thirty students from this school expect to enter the University this semester. The instructors in the Preparatory School are recommended by the heads of the departments at the University, and are as capable men as the University puts forth. Since their connection with this school, A. L. Keith has become principal of the high school at Nebraska City, J. J. Fossler, principal of the high school at Clarinda, Iowa, A. R. Congdon, instructor in the Lincoln High School.

IF THE Nebraskan believes, as it pretends to in a meek way, that it has something genuine in the shape of a signed letter, let it offer just a little proof. Why not be willing to allow the letter to appear in the open daylight and undergo a little testing scrutiny? Why does it cowardly secrete the alleged manuscript? Why not allow a careful examination of it by some expert in testing forgeries? Why do the editors refuse to show the note which they claim accompanied the letter, and to which they did not see fit to publish a name? Why do they skulk behind an imaginary barrier which they have seen fit to throw up, and then in a half-hearted way cry out, "We have the proof to back us up?" Let us see some of the proof. Those who are affected by the dastardly, contemptible crime are not afraid to see a little light thrown on the subject. Take it out from under the bushel and let it be examined. The parties libeled challenge the editors to submit the foolish fabrication to a competent expert, and abide the results. They will go further. They will furnish the editors of the Nebraskan a dozen or more signatures of the alleged author of that letter which were made (and they will furnish proof to this also) long before the letter ever appeared, and a hundred pages of writing of the alleged writer of the "P. S." attachment, and with similar proof of the antecedent date, and then allow the Nebraskan editors to choose any three of the most similar signatures to the