#### COMMUNICATIONS.

Editor Nebraskan-Hesperian: In a recent issue of your paper I noted a proposition to remove the university to the state farm. It seems to me that the new housing of our alma mater is a matter in which every student and every alumnus must feel the liveliest interest. Nothing is more inspiring, nothing more truly educating, than they shall be for one worthy the Newe hope ours is to become.

Unity and harmony of place, such as satisfying, ought to be provided for, and on no less scale. The Chicago fair now giving eastern cities really beautiful buildings, and is to give the Unitimes.

Here at Penn, as at many other universities, the effect of piecemeal growth is in evidence. Penn has been moved more than once in its history. but is now settled to stay. Fifty-five acres of heterogenous buildingsmany of them magnificent, but without any harmony among themselves or any proper landscape setting. The campus is an irregular piece of land with no room for expansion except by tearing away blocks of houses. Doubtless, once it seemed very large; now it is full, and the university buying wherever it can. The fine, new law building, soon to be opened, is sep- Drawing Papersarated from the campus front by a row of houses, and the campus itself is cut up by the city streets.

But Penn has waked up. Only within the fortnight has been opened the new museum of archeology, by odds the most beautiful building in the city; and yet what is done of it is only a fraction of the whole design. When completed, as it may be a hun- Fountain Pensdred years from now, it will stand without a peer among museums-at least such as are now in our ken.

That is the way to build. That is the way Nebraska ought to build-

Lack of money, need of room, discomfort-yes, but it is better to wait and endure the need and discomfort awhile than to keep to the hasty, cramped, barn-like style of architecture that has heretofore characterized us. Let us have a great plan-expend appropriations on architects awhile if need be. Let us build not for twenty-five years from now, but for five hundred; and if we have that great plan, and if it is kept before the eyes of the students and the people of the state, we shall surely have its realization bye and bye. Generations of students believing in it will at last bring a generation of legislators-or a capitalist-which will give it to us. And if we must build now it will be almost as easy to build a few arches of our great house as many barren stalls. Of course, the legislature-but, we are the people.

Let us unite. Why, even the great ideal will work wonders for a "university spirit" such as we have not dreamed of. It will create, when once it takes hold of us, an enthusiasm that will a hundred times more than compensate for the discomfort that may last a little longer. And if we gain anything at all in the beauty of our house we will know that we are serving in the best way possible not

only our university, but our people and state as well, for nothing is more the people's or more of value to them than great architecture.

H. B. ALEXANDER. University of Pennsylvania, December 31, 1899.

#### AN OFFER TO STUDENTS.

The offer has been made to seventeen of the leading universities of the beautiful surroundings. And we ought country of the sum of \$2,000, either in all to exert ourselves to see that when gold medals or checks, as the recipthe plans are laid for the new house lients may prefer, for the ablest presentation of the subject of "Modern braska that is to be and the university Education; Does It Educate in the Broadest and Most Liberal Sense of the Term?" To this discussion many make Columbia and Leland Stanford of the leading educators of the country, including President Gilman of Johns Hopkins, President Dwight of and, in a lesser way, that at Omaha Yale, President Hadley of Yale, Presihave shown what can be done when dent of Chicago university, President one great conception rules an archi- Andrews of Brown, have already contectural design. They have resulted tributed in the pages of the Cosmopolin a stimulus to architecture which is itan. The debate is now transferred to the province of the student. A gold modal or check of \$100 will be placed versity of California the most superb at the disposal of the students of each and extensive series of buildings of of the following universities: Yale, any institution of ancient or modern Harvard, Johns Hopkins, Michigan, University of Wisconsin, Princeton, Brown, Pennsylvania, Chicago, Cornell, Columbus, California, Leland Stanford, Jr., Notre Dame, Georgetown and University of Virginia. After these have been awarded the successful contestants will be invited to meet at Harvard university before a board of judges of national reputation and an award of \$300 will be made to the student who shall present the ablest final discussion.

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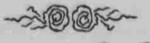
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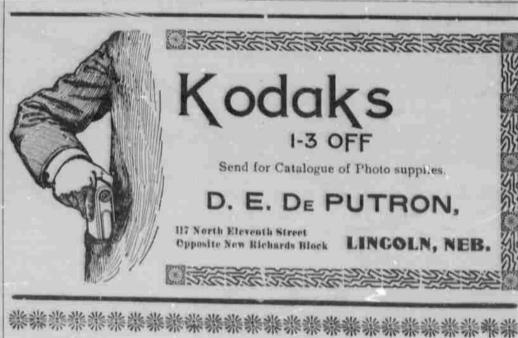
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