

HESPERIAN STUDENT.

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Communications are solicited from all the students and our friends in general. Address the Hesperian Student, P. O. Box 608 Lincoln, Nebraska. H. K. METCALF, Editor-in-Chief. G. A. WATSON, Associate.

Tuesday evening, May 6, was the occasion of one of the most pleasant entertainments that has taken place in our University—the social given by the Palladian Society assisted by the ladies of the Pierian. The Palladian Hall, at present occupied by these two societies, and which has lately been carpeted and finely furnished, was used as a reception room, while the music room and brilliantly lighted halls gave ample space for conversation and promenade.

At about eight o'clock the guests began to arrive, among whom were several of the Faculty of the University and clergy of the city, besides a number of citizens with their respective ladies. Though the Adelpian Society had been cordially invited to attend, none of its members were present. Notwithstanding this drawback all appeared to enjoy themselves very much and especially after an abundance of choice refreshments had been served. Excellent music was furnished during the evening, and several games helped to enliven the entertainment.

Special credit is due to both the committees of arrangements for the manner in which the affair was conducted.

Our return to the city.

On the first Friday morning of the term, our class in Botany met Professor Aughey in his room to consider "Morphology of Leaves as Foliage," and after responding to the call of our names, a number of the class were seen displaying dry leaves of various kinds in a manner that gave evidence of previous study of the subject to be discussed.

The Professor asked a few general questions, and then directed our attention to drawings of the differently formed leaves on the blackboard; which showed great artistic skill, and presented some facts relative to the science of the vegetable kingdom, in such an attractive manner as to excite the admiration of the class.

No sooner had the class been dismissed than a number of its members, being fired with enthusiasm, determined to proceed at once in search of botanical specimens. Arrangements having been completed, at ten o'clock they could have been seen bending their footsteps westward down S street, en route to Salt Creek with text book in hand, as well as wearing an air of naturalists and hidden mystery seekers, in so dignified a style as to rivet the attention of all organized self-movable matter. The party were made happy by the appearance of an occasional leaflet that had been persuaded by the smiling sunlight to emerge from its winter abode. And now, after a merry walk, they find themselves on the bank of the briny water, which seemed by its sparkling to welcome its admirers; for it was a brilliant day and all nature appeared joyful. Remembering that small parties should make up in diligence what they lack in numbers, our excursionists began their search in earnest. Although this

little stream is not decorated with towering pines and spreading oaks, being, even, almost devoid of shrubbery, thus rendering it unfavorable to Botanists; they were enabled to obtain a good assortment of lanceolate, spatulate and divided leaves.

As they passed on down the rivulet, scrutinizing every herb and plant that showed life and, in fact, also noticing many other things, they came suddenly upon a heap of bones which afterward proved to be in the neighborhood of a slaughter house. There being a Physiological student in the company, this discovery became quiet entertaining, for he at once began to call each bone by name, and to arrange them in order.

But they soon returned to the subject of botany, and were continuing their search when they found themselves approaching a building with the "People's Ticket" printed on a card above the door. One of the party being weary, as it was near midday, stepped up and asked for a ticket to dinner. You can imagine his dismay on being informed that it was a soap factory and slaughter house, and that they did not keep a tavern.

The Botanists upon due consideration, concluded to dispense with further search and return to the City. Entering into conversation relating to the events of the day, time passed pleasantly and the excursionists arrived at the University in safety, feeling that their expedition had not been in vain.

John Stuart Mill

"Among the societies of men, it is ever the greater spirits that morally sustain the less; and, on the scale of realized excellence, the conscience of us all is ashamed to linger and eventually rises too. We are lifted by the souls of righter wing, and are set where otherwise our feet would not have climbed; and were we without this hierarchy of intellectual and moral ranks, there would be nothing ennobling in our interdependence; no healing would flow down, no reverence pass up from link to link. Once upon the flat, upon the flat we stay."

Because of this vital truth, that contact with a higher personality is the prime and essential condition of our own moral insight and spiritual advancement, is that we regard with such inexpressible regret and sadness the death of any of the few great thinkers or actors to whom we feel ourselves especially indebted. Untimely seems always their departure to us; their going makes a void in the universe. We tremble lest their places be never supplied. That their lives and works are of themselves sufficient to raise up children worthy of them, does not, at once, occur to us. That their work was really done, we are always slow to believe. That it can have been expedient for us that it should be done, we ever refuse to believe.

So those Americans, who in some measure understood and appreciated the work of Stuart Mill, at the sad news of his death, exclaimed with one voice: "Too soon, too soon! There was work to be done, problems which he alone could be expected to solve. Why was he not expected yet ten or twenty years?"

For more than forty years his clear, strong, logical mind had grappled many of the greatest questions which concern mankind, questions of philosophy, of statesmanship, of history, of science, and, even, of art. If we cannot say that he solved all problems upon which he

tried his strength, it is at least true that he illumined all that he touched.

He had been trained, not in the English schools, but by his father, himself a philosopher possessing an analytic mind of the very highest order. So complete was his culture, so thoroughly grounded was he in the languages, the sciences, and the speculative thought of the ages that at the time of his majority, he seemed almost mature and complete.

In his earlier years he was a frequent contributor to the British Reviews, and in 1835, at the age of twenty-nine, he became the editor of the London and Westminster Review in which he published many of his most elaborate essays, reviews and criticisms. Five years later, he relinquished the conduct of this Review in order to superintend the publication of his great work on logic, which was brought out in 1843. In this work, we have bodied in the clearest most unmistakable manner Mill's complete philosophy. Of the two modes of thought which have divided philosophers from the time of Aristotle, the *a priori* and *a posteriori* or, let us term them, the transcendental and scientific, both the original constitution of his mind and his culture led him to adopt the latter and in him it found its ablest exponent. Denying the existence of *a priori* truths, truths, that is, supposed to be given by the mind independent of observation and experience, affirming that all our knowledge is limited to phenomena, their resemblances, coexistences and successions, he conceived of logic necessarily as something quite other than a childish formulation of syllogisms. As he has developed it, it is an organon or body of rules for observing coexistence and sequence in phenomena and thereby discovering laws. The larger part of his great work is therefore devoted to an exposition of the inductive method which he reduced to a strict system. He brings to light the important fact that, while all the sciences are tending to become more and more deductive they are not the less inductive, for all deduction is founded on a previous induction of which even in a chain of reasoning it is only an extension. Again since induction can deal only with the results of observation or experiment, it follows that a knowledge of anything beyond phenomena transcends the fixed limits of human faculties. The nature and laws of the phenomenal world, science is surety and steadily unfolding; but the laws of things in themselves or the hidden causes of the phenomena mankind have no faculties for ascertaining. While thus placing himself unmistakably upon the positive or scientific side in the great controversy he did so in no narrow exclusive sense, but was ever ready to do full justice to the views of the opposite school. If he did not prove the negative of Kant's theory that we have *a priori* synthetic judgments independent of experience, he showed that all our knowledge is exclusively inferences from experience, and that all that could be either rejected or expected.

G. E. C.
(to be concluded.)

Reminiscence of '49.

As our guide conducted us to camp three hours earlier than we had expected as to his manner of answering questions. Affairs went on badly,

and we all began to complain of our guide. It was noticed that he was in frequent and long consultations with the Indians who now came very often into our camp. Toward evening of the eighth day, while passing up a small valley, a band of Indians appeared at its head and immediately the wagons were placed in the form of a circle, the animals driven within and the camp placed in readiness for a skirmish. Our guide superintending everything, and after the preparations for a fight were completed he strove to calm the fears of the women. But the Indians made no attack on us that evening. During the night a bugle was heard several times, and our little party thought aid was near; but somehow it seemed a little curious that no one made his appearance and although our guide went out and stayed several hours each time to find the supposed aid, he came back with the news that he had not seen a soldier.

At break of day the Indians instead of charging the train came up in a body just outside of rifle range and sent an Indian with an old piece of white cloth for a flag, for the surrender of "White Lily," which meant the officer's daughter, or proffered the alternative if we did not let her go, that they would kill every man, woman and child in the camp.

After a hurried consultation, we sent the Indian back with the reply, that they could not have White Lily, as they called her, and then prepared for an attack; but the Indians withdrew for a couple of miles, and held that position the rest of the forenoon. We therefore remained in camp.

Our guide tried very hard to get us to let the officer's daughter go, with the promise that he would allow and bring her back at the end of his life; but his manoeuvres were beginning to disgust us and we prepared to "shoot or burn" him. That afternoon he was arrested, and our little party, some had allowed at his mysterious departure, appointed another leader, and then we all went to work and placed our baggage under the wagons as a means of defence.

Later in the day the Indians came up in a body, as before, and halting for a few minutes, divided and came sweeping down on both sides of us with the most hideous yells; and firing a shower of arrows into our stronghold, passed on, and then turned and came back as a ball wheels in its flight.

Our leader had commanded us not to waste any ammunition unnecessarily, but as the enemy came charging back we fired at them and had the satisfaction of seeing three riders fall who were snatched up by their comrades almost as soon as they touched the ground.

The Indians after this little affair stopped and held another consultation, and then they divided again, part remained still and the other circled round until the train was between it and the other band. At a given signal, both bands rushed at the train; sent showers of arrows which made havoc with our "beasts of burden." Then they came right up to the train but were received by a deadly fire which sent them flying over the prairie, to be urged back by their leader, who, by his yells and commands, seemed determined to put an end to the camp this time. Then incited, the Indians came back to the contest and for five minutes our affairs looked dark. But a woman's head rose cautiously above the side of a wagon and then a rifle, and after that a report was heard and the chief fell headlong from his horse dead. Immediately the Indians tried to regain him; but a shower of leaden bullets sent them off over the plain.

We were troubled no more by the Indians after the death of their chief. The animals were found in a very disordered condition. A few had been killed, others wounded and some merely bruised. Next day, when we were examining the dead bodies of the Indians we found that of the chief to be white, and you can conceive our amazement when it proved to be that of our late guide.

When we arrived at the mountains we were told that, the deceased was the chief of road agents and cast-away Indians.