

quite so interesting, but fully as important is the preparation for examination. So many things stand in the way of our studies at this time, that we almost forget what is the chief object of our being here. To meet fairly and satisfactorily all our duties will require persistent work. Then let us exert ourselves as though we appreciated the fact, that "there is no excellence without labor."

OUR EXCHANGES.

The *Denison Collegian*, that comes all the way from Granville O. is a most welcome visitor. Among the many interesting productions of last month, we would especially notice the article headed "The Church Property Question," and "The Literary Societies." The *Collegian* paid the STUDENT a very handsome compliment, the following is a specimen "The HESPERIAN STUDENT comes all the way from Neb. and has, at otherwise much of interest."

Among all our exchanges we see the nearest approach to our ideal of a college journal in the *Bates Student*. Each number has many carefully prepared articles. Without claiming that distressingly refined literary taste that so seriously affects some of our other exchanges, we find it filled with matter full of interest. For instance it was really refreshing to read a letter in the April number from the Capitol, in which the writer tells us of the broad, clean streets, the enterprise of its citizens, stating his firm belief that the country, impatient and criticising the work of its leaders, is yet safe in its hands.

The *Reporter* after giving the STUDENT a very favorable notice remarked that if we have a failing it is that we are inclined to be a little sober. Well Brother we acknowledge the corn and would suggest that the *Reporter* offer some suggestions as to the means by which this evil can be remedied. We are led to make this remark by reading an editorial on Sociables, in which that nuisance is most graphically described. We think you could offer some sound advice on this subject.

The *Alumni Journal* makes a fine appearance and has a good deal of life. The *Journal* suggests that the College Editorial Fraternity have a grand convention at Philadelphia June 29th, and asks for some one to second this motion. In the January number of the STUDENT a similar proposition was offered and we are glad to see that others are of our opinion. We will consider the motion as carried and hope to see a representative from every college paper in the country present at the time and place mentioned by the *Journal*, 29th of June, at 10 o'clock A.M. at the Reading Room of the news-paper exposition building. The writer of the article headed Mispronunciation has our sincere sympathy and we hope he is recovering. Not that we would offer any unjust criticism on the production, for truly the author has shown proof of the possession of one talent at least—perseverance. If there is any thing that will congeal ones conversational powers it is the presence of an individual that is excruciatingly perfect in his pronunciation, or correct in his grammar. No one would deny the beauty of correct pronunciation, and a proper use of the English language, but whenever an effort to secure these results manifests itself in conversation it is an evil.

The suggestion that the different classes elect a historian made by the *College Journal*, is very well in theory,

but we think it would not do very well in practice. A few years ago the societies of our school added the office of Historian, and have continued regularly to elect a person to fill this office, but the society histories are yet to be written.

It seems that our Pittsburg friends have been having some bad dreams and are trying to solve the question as to whether or not there is anything portentous connected therewith. We think B. takes a very sensible view of the subject. The editor points out some of the evils arising from sending boys to college before they have minds sufficiently matured to meet the demands of a college course.

The *Qui Vice*, in commenting upon the part taken by the students in some local political contest makes the following observation:—"The last candidate to address the independence of manhood must endure the boys votes." What a recommendation for the Shurtleff boys.

One of the newsiest spiciest exchanges of the last month was the *Targum*, the well written articles on the first and second pages the pleasing advice upon the subject of matrimony, some sensible editorial matter, large amount of college and personal news makes the April number full of life and interest.

From the first exchange that we noticed we have found but little to criticise, and here comes the *Adrian Recorder* upon which we had intended to give vent to some of our reserved adjectives. But as we find it entirely up to its usual standard of excellence. The remarks upon school government exactly hit the mark. The idea that seems to prevail in many schools—at least in the number is decreasing—that when a person enters a college he loses all self-respect, cannot but be followed by pernicious results. We think one of the chief reasons for preferring state to sectarian schools to be the fact that in the former the students are placed more on their honor. From the general tone of the article we should judge the powers of Adrian have been exerting a little "paternal" government over the boys.

The *Trinity Tablet* has much readable matter, yet we think the author of the article entitled "The duty of our colleges" went to great amount of extra labor merely for the purpose of saying a few words against the working system. To reach his conclusion he lays down this proposition that: "The object of each and every institution and individual engaged in educating the young is to instill principles of truth and justice into the minds of those whom they profess to teach" and after establishing this he concludes that the working system should be abolished. "The mountain abored and brought forth a mouse."

The *Central Collegian* reviews two articles that appeared in the STUDENT, and points out wherein, as he thinks, they err. We are always glad to read such criticisms, and if all would adopt the same tone our exchange columns would be greatly improved. It is not our purpose to defend each and every production that may be published in our columns; with many we would not agree, and none are perfect.

Some one has been stealing the hat that once adorned the noble brow of our Brother editor of the *Chronicle*, and he is indignant,—at least we come to this conclusion by reading an article in which he proposes that a man be hired to give checks for a hat every time it is removed from the head.

The *Packer Quarterly* for Apr. comes well filled and looking neat, in fact the general appearance of the *Quarterly* would compare favorably with magazines of much greater pretensions.

The *Trinity Tablet* of Apr. 22nd is crammed full of billiard, base ball, and boating news. It is well to keep the boys posted on such matters, and then it helps to develop the literary taste of the writer, which is the object of college journalism. However as the editor makes an apology for this issue we are not disposed to criticise, as we sometimes find ourselves in the same condition. The *Tablet* is generally among our best exchanges.

"When We went a Maying" in the *Argosy* is at least a change from the general tone of college poetry. We liked it, something not entirely unnatural about it.

The *College Olio* has quite a variety of reading matter and as a consequence is interesting. The poem by Nic O. Teen is sound, the writer has a philosophical mind.

Here is a specimen of the manner in which the *Volante* criticises the merits of its exchanges. "Go on, *Index*. Little, ranting exponent of a rotten system that has survived the days when men sell their bodies and souls to the devil, and their liberty of thought and action to a corrupt priesthood, whose only power lies in the superstitious and cringing fear that they may be capable of inspiring. Rant on, little one! Lie, pervert the truth, and try to breathe life into the rotting, perishing catholicism, for you would not be faithful to your trust if you did not." How any paper claiming respectability can indulge in criticism such as the above, is beyond our comprehension. In the same number the editor speaks of the great good that the *Volante* has brought about which we would suggest might be greatly increased if they would adopt a tone in which a little more of the christian spirit might be manifest.

The HESPERIAN acknowledges the compliment offered by the *High School*. We were happy to meet the editor of that well conducted paper, and shall endeavor to return the call. In all its labors to advance the interests of education throughout the state, the *High School* will find a friend in the STUDENT. Mr. McCartney, the editor deserves credit for his perseverance and enterprise. Success attend you.

An Agricultural Error.

In all civilized countries each branch of industry receives the attention of a certain share of the people, but no country can be eminently prosperous, in which a single industry, without sufficient support, is made predominant. Agriculture, manufactures and commerce will all be in a prosperous condition, only when so distributed that each will aid and sustain the others. Let us take agriculture as an illustration. The object of the farmer is to furnish food to those engaged in other occupations, and from the proceeds thus derived, to obtain those articles which are essential to his comfort, and those implements which he finds indispensable in the pursuit of his calling. Suppose agriculture to be followed by two thirds of the people, when there is no important foreign trade, or none at all, to supply. In such a case it cannot prosper, for, having but one half of its own numbers to supply, the farming community would not find a suf-

ficiently remunerative market for its products, and would thus be kept in a straightened condition. And this we find to be the case when agriculture is followed by much more than one fourth of the entire population of a country. Now here is where the farmers of the West and South fall into a serious error.

Taking first the former instance, we find the West to be in a spasm of indignation against railroad monopolies, heavy transportation, and the exorbitant profits of middlemen. These are serious evils, no doubt, but even if remedied, a cause for complaint would still exist for reasons that we will presently show. In the extreme Western States the raising and marketing of wheat receives the attention of three fourths of the population. Much of the manufacturing industry is directly dependent upon the wheat crop; many of the professional men expect their income from wheat; many farmers depend almost entirely upon their wheat crops for the liquidation of heavy debts, incurred by purchases of land and machinery. An immense area is yearly laid out in this crop. And, while in fact, nearly everything is dependent on wheat, the cost of production is large, the market is often glutted, and the market price is frequently very low compared to what it is elsewhere. Of course the result is hard times; professional men are "starved out," to use a common expression; farmers grumble, fall still deeper into debt, blame the country and the railroads, and are dummed by tradesmen and farming-machine agents. Finding that their hopes of becoming comfortably situated appears somewhat dubious, they conclude that farming in the West does not pay, and resolve to go elsewhere. Now the fault lies mainly with themselves. No one can reasonably find complaint either with the fertility or the productiveness of the West. And just here these questions are pertinent. Why is so great a majority of her people engaged in wheat raising? Who are to be supplied by the immense amount produced? The foreign demand is given as the reason. Early in the season we often hear rumors of drouths, floods, and prospects of war in Europe. An immense foreign demand is talked of, and Western farmers are jubilant accordingly. In fact they are never happy unless some European country is in danger of starvation. Now this foreign demand is an uncertain and insufficient reliance. Who can tell whether five million or fifty million bushels will be required, whether the price will be fifty cents or one dollar, whether some other country will not have a surplus with which to supply the demand? Great Britain is the only regular and extensive purchaser we have. In ordinary years all the other European countries produce enough grain, or nearly so, for their own consumption, for it is the interest of every country to do this. Besides, they often have a surplus for export, particularly Russia, who always stands ready to compete with us for any deficiency that may arise. For several past years, the average annual demand of Great Britain has been about sixty-six million bushels. Of this amount our country has supplied less than three tenths, or one sixteenth only of our entire wheat production. More than one of our states alone produces a greater amount than this, and as long as the West relies on this demand for the sale of her immense wheat crops, it will be kept in comparative poverty for reasons already given. Why is it that in the North Atlan-