

and we are now prepared to add to our already well established school, building it up a little here and there, and ere many years making our University the beacon light of the West.

Another college year has passed, a year in which new friendships have been formed and old ones strengthened. The work of the past year has been eminently successful and the future is most promising for the University. But yet the students can do much toward securing a full attendance in the fall, by speaking a good word for their school when an opportunity presents itself. There is much at the present time that we would like to say, but will only say a few words concerning the STUDENT.

During the present year the paper has been self sustaining, and we feel encouraged to take a step in advance. Those interested in the paper have long desired to publish a magazine, and we can see no good reason why this should not be done. With the hearty support of all, we feel confident that a magazine of good size can be published. The labor of issuing a monthly journal is not nearly so burdensome as is usually supposed, and with reasonable support we would not hesitate to take the step. We throw out these suggestions that those interested in the paper may consider this project during vacation, and come in the fall prepared to act.

Some profound teacher has said, that the most difficult lesson to teach a scholar to be that of bringing him to realize how little he really knows. This may be so, but we are inclined to believe that a more difficult lesson still is to bring a student to understand the real extent of the powers he possesses. The cause of most failures is not an overestimating of one's abilities, but rather a lack of self-confidence. All admire modesty, and yet it may be carried so far as to become a stumbling block to a person's advancement. We would of course not uphold that forwardness that seeks to crowd itself into every position regardless of qualifications, this is a greater evil even than an underestimation of one's self. But there is quite a prevalent idea that whoever possesses any confidence in their own powers are vain and conceited. This may be so, but it is better to admit this charge than to seem to say by words and acts that you have no faith in your own abilities. We judge a great deal by appearances, and an individual is generally accepted to be just what he appears to be. So we say don't be afraid to seem to be exactly what you think you are, for the world will give you credit for only what you claim.

OUR EXCHANGES.

In looking over our exchanges, we have come to the conclusion that the STUDENT's greatest fault is the misfortune of being published in Nebraska. If, unintentionally, we publish an article deserving of credit our learned friends remark, that the production possessed considerable merit (for a western journal); or if they observe some imperfection, why the reason is clear enough, the paper is published in the West. For our part we are getting heartily sick of this sort of criticism. If our worthy Brothers of the quill notice faults in the STUDENT, we have no objection to their pointing them out, criticising in a fair, honest manner. Perhaps our Eastern(?) exchanges imagine that we would feel slighted if they

should entirely ignore us, and hence, from a high sense of duty, occasionally condescend to things of low estate. If that is your state of mind we hasten to relieve you, and will state that silence never disturbs us, while that criticism that is based upon the place of publication is decidedly distasteful.

The *Irving Union* offers some good suggestions upon "Criticism," and for the benefit of some of our Eastern exchanges, we quote: "All criticism ought to aim at this object, namely, to benefit somebody, to help some good cause, or to prevent the continuance of something that is doing harm. Criticism should aim at showing faults and virtues in their true light; faults that may be avoided both by the committer, or by others; virtues that may be adhered to and imitated. And not only should it be an object of criticism to point out faults, but also to show why such are faults, and how they may be corrected. Nothing is more provoking to the person criticised, or more useless, than to have the criticism consist of nothing but a broad statement of the fault, of nothing but the verdict, guilty, with perhaps a sneer of contempt added as the Q. E. D. or an appeal to 'ye gods and goddesses' to behold the miserable conceit of this transgressor of the 'critic's' unknown law. Indefiniteness is at once the bane of criticism and the sign of a feeble critic. Unless the point criticised is shown distinctly and the reason of the criticism developed with clearness, little good can come from the criticism to the person in fault. If anyone is unable to give his reasons, he should not criticise; or if anyone thinks it beneath his dignity to give his reasons, it is not proper for him to criticise; or if it is beneath anyone's dignity to show why he finds fault, it is surely beneath his dignity to criticise at all." The *Union* is spicy, notwithstanding they seem to be seriously affected with the spring fever. In fact, we are inclined to think it has had a good effect upon the paper. The piece entitled "Carlyle Carlyled" starts out well.

We have received Vol. I, No. I, of *Our Work*, published at Merow. It is edited by the officers of the school, and starts out well. The remarks upon "Croakers" are sound. Success to *Our Work*.

The *Index* of June 1, we find very interesting. The article headed "College Journalism" abounds in beautiful similes, and shows the high literary culture of the editor. In speaking of the endeavors of some of its exchanges to attain to their ideal of a perfect journal, it says that "they are climbing with the same success with which a shaved swine meets in ascending a greased pole." The same issue objects to the *Alabama Monthly* for publishing an article in which the language is not sufficiently refined. Precept and example seldom go together.

The *Athenaeum* for May 1 was far more interesting than usual. We read with a great deal of pleasure the two columns devoted to historical sketches of the eminent divines of the country, most of whom have at some time been connected with Williams College.

The *Trinity Tablet* of May 13 is received. The writer of "Panticles" makes a very pathetic appeal. The piece entitled "Safety Aspirations" has some good suggestions, but we can not agree with the author. The real danger is that our ideals are too commonplace; we do not aim high enough.

The *Chronicle* we find very interesting, notwithstanding the fact that the *Index* does not seem to be exactly suited with its editorial management. It seems that in the *Chronicle's* election considerable difference of opinion is manifested. The suggestion that only those who are subscribers should be entitled to a vote, is good; we have seen the evil effects of placing no restrictions upon elections, and also experienced substantial financial aid by restricting the ballot to subscribers. The paper is well filled with editorial matter.

The *Denton Collegian* starts out with a page and more of a (to be continued) poem, subject, "The Paradise of Fools." After carefully reading the production we were convinced that Granville is the place meant. To those that read the poem it is unnecessary to say that the *Collegian* comes from a sectarian school. The poem gives to the whole paper the taint of brimstone. Well, Mr. Collegian, we would advise you to add another member or so to your editorial staff; then you would be able to furnish at least a column of editorials.

Modern Gossip.

"People will talk." Yes, it appears to me as though the *Poet* struck exactly the right subject when he gave our gossiping friends a sly nudge in his good humored off hand style. How easy it seems, how natural it seems for some, to be continually hunting out, separating and comparing, the thoroughly winnowed virtues and vices of their neighbors; always being sure to have the latter in excess; or, per chance if the former should be of greater number, he, (or she as the case maybe,) is perfectly angelic, absolutely an angel who has condescended to come down and take up its abode among mortals. Gossiping is an art, I have an idea, cultivated and admired, especially by a great portion of the fair sex; and we, poor, plodding mortals of the opposite gender, form the most immediate point of attack.

This is an old and time honored institution, founded, I am inclined to believe, by our maternal relative, Eve herself; but be that as it may, I have a suspicion lurking within me, that the Imperial courts of fashion surrounding some of the monarchies of the middle ages, and of more modern times, were of rather inferior stamp than our modern fashion circles. At the present period when something new is heard by a few inquisitive old ladies, an evening gathering is had, to which they take their sewing or knitting. Mrs. A. asserts with assumed dignity, that if she was in such and such a ones place, she would do so and so; then "every thing would be calm and serene as a summer's morning." Life would be worth living for; and, finances would take a new start, (for snuff, camphor and dry goods) and in fact, the whole world would be bettered considerably, by the change. An audible "amen" echoes from each of the surrounding group, and again the veterans bend to their needle work, and the needles fly swifter than before under the new impulse given them.

These prying and officious busy-bodies absolutely thrive and fatten on the food of scandal, bits of which, belong to every ones business except their own. Whatever may be an honest man's occupation, no matter how prosperous it is, it could invariably be bettered by them; his few family secrets are hunted out with as great precision as the grey hound tracks

out the timid deer; and, when fully understood, they pounce upon it, rend it into shreds, and devour it atom by atom, gazing with eager, and longing eyes for another victim.

"Woe unto you blind guides and hypocrites." Already, it seems to me, the curse has been passed upon these deceiving tormentors. "Vast and high reaching, as is the horrid roof of hell" pictured by Milton, "its thrice three fold gate, three of iron, three of brass, and three of adamantine rock, impenetrable," will swing loose upon its ponderous hinges, and be filled to utter repletion. Although not being so extremely orthodox as Milton, we can, perhaps, excuse a little that their glib tongues lead them to.

Try to conquer and quell this indomitable spirit of evil, and crush it beneath the iron heel of persevering energy, or trounce these old veterans, who still hold on to their heinous art with a death like grasp, and if possible, force them to relinquish their hold upon this superstitious art they have cultivated from their youth.

W. H. N.

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES.

ADELPHIAN ENTERTAINMENT.

The Adelpian Society gave their third annual entertainment, Friday evening June 16, to a large audience of Lincoln's best citizens. The evening was cool, and fine, so that the audience did not suffer from the heat, which is to often the case at this time of the year. The first thing that attracted attention on entering the hall, was the neat, and tasty trimmings on the walls, which plainly showed that the ladies of the society had been at work; over the rostrum, and facing the audience, was the society motto, *Per ardua ad astra*, wrought in evergreen letters, over the motto were four stars, to represent their four graduates, we presume. Under the motto on the right was a picture of Daniel Webster, and on the left one of Henry Clay. The walls were decorated with evergreen crowns, harps, lyres, &c, and a string of oak leaves extended in festoons entirely around the hall, and there was a profusion of bouquets ornamenting the stage. The audience from some cause did not arrive very early, and it was nearly nine o'clock when the first performer, Miss Alice M. Frost, came forward, and delivered the salutatory. Miss Frost had a fine production, which was replete with good thought, but she did not speak quite loud enough, as she could not be heard in the back part of the hall. The next was an oration by C. W. Rhodes; subject, "Charles Sumner, the Defender of Humanity." Mr. Rhodes had thoroughly studied his subject, and presented his ideas in a clear, concise manner. We consider it one of the best productions we ever heard him deliver, but Clarence never undertakes anything unless he knows he can do himself, and the society he represents, an honor.

The third performance, was select reading, "Paddy Maloney's travels in France," by Miss Lillie S. Fisher. Miss Fisher is one of the best readers in Lincoln. But the piece selected was too long, and was read in most too low a voice; it could not be heard halfway back in the hall, we presume the reasons are that Miss Fisher has been in the habit of reading in a small hall, and the Chapel is very hard to be heard in. Next was an essay by Miss Cora Thomas; subject, "Building." Miss Thomas had a fine production and we were particularly pleased with the way she read it, she read