

So with the many questions that present themselves to us, he who relies upon his own judgment is led to investigation.

It is a matter of economy that as subjects are presented for consideration we should decide upon some course and pursue it. Often, time enough is wasted in indecision as to which of many duties shall be performed, to have performed them all. Alexander, when asked how he conquered the world, replied, "By not delaying."

Decision is not stubbornness. It is not necessary, because you have an opinion, that you should seek to inflict it upon others, or fail to see the justice of criticism. Only speak boldly your convictions, and if convinced of error show decision by acknowledging it and accepting the truth. Under the cloak of stubbornness indecision often lurks.

An opinion prevails that upon undecided questions it is safe to remain neutral. True policy does not dictate such a course. It is not the neutral men who advance society. Neutrality is idleness, waiting for the issue of a struggle between two principles that may increase the highest interests of mankind. The men who enter into the contest are borne along and become a part of the progress of the times. Those who remain outside are left behind and when the decision is reached they find they are not in sympathy with the age. Neutrality is a sign of weakness. All admire a man who represents not only himself but also some idea, some principle, and are disappointed in the man who has no principle upon which his feet are set.

If there is a character a fit object of contempt, it is one made up of doubts, indecisions, hesitations. Wavering, where every true interest demands firmness, stubborn about trifles. No quality adds such strength to character as decision. It is a positive virtue, it keeps all the faculties in action and makes progressive while indecision retards. A. W. F.

THE UNIVERSITY.

There are some people in the state of Neb. who are continually harping upon the inefficiency of this institution. These are either persons too ignorant to see any good in education or else chronic grumblers, two classes which may well be placed in the same scale as regards any good which they accomplish, and concerning which it is unnecessary to say anything, as their own words and actions condemn themselves. But there is another class which to some may not appear to be working harm, though, in reality, we believe, are doing more injury than the others. This class would make an infantile nursery out of Nebraska's noblest institution. Their plans might be good enough if it was the object of the University merely to give boys and girls a smattering of French, Italian, music, and detestable airs, or, in other words, to fit them to be drones and numskulls, instead of aiding them to become noble men and women. These have an idea that the University should be a grand high- or boarding-school, and that it is more of an honor to send their children here than to have them attend home high-schools, which are the proper places to send *children* until they have learned enough, and are of a suitable age to enter the University.

But probably we would better give some specific reasons for referring to this matter. Undoubtedly many of you have read several editorials in one of the leading dailies of the state, in favor of erecting a building (which would, really, be nothing more or less than a boarding hall,) for the young ladies, or rather girls, and of placing over them some ideal (?) matron.

Now we are not discussing this with the hope that anything we may say will shield the girls from the scrutinizing eye of this ideal matron, but, merely because of the principle involved. Undoubtedly there are many boys as well as girls here who would better be in a school governed in a different manner; but their presence