

It is well enough to publish some of the productions delivered during commencement week, and, occasionally others; but, in general, it is much to be desired that the contributions to our paper shall not be those that have previously appeared. Though this is desirable, it is nevertheless not easy to accomplish. Who of our predecessors will not testify to the interesting times they have had in obtaining "copy" in sufficient quantity and good season?

When one is asked to contribute an article, without delivering the same in public, he usually replies that he hasn't time to get one up. He must write an essay for the rhetorical exercise next week, and he has a performance in the society the week after. While admitting the force of these or similar arguments, we wish to present a few on our side of the question. Now we admit that the essays which you offer us, after reading them in public, may be good enough for publication, but they are not new to many of the readers. Your classmate glances over the contents of each number of the *STUDENT*, as it "comes out," recognizes by their titles essays or orations that he has lately heard, and don't stop to read them. A piece intended for publication is not always the most suitable to read in public, and *vice versa*.

Then can you not make a little extra exertion now and then to gladden the editor's heart by a fresh production? Remember that those individuals are themselves expected, each month, to write four or five pages of editorials, solicit much more than that amount of abstract matter, correct the proof-sheets of the whole, and attend to their lessons and other work besides. Now can you not occasionally spare a little time during the month, for the editor can usually give you that much notice, in preparing an article. We do not wish to make an unreasonable request, for some of you may have too much of other work to do to admit of writing for these columns.

Such persons we will of course excuse.

When it is understood that the *STUDENT* seldom contains an article previously delivered, the contributed column will possess more interest to local readers.

To many persons the contributed articles are more interesting than the rest of the reading matter. We cannot therefore subscribe to the opinion that a college paper should be confined chiefly to local news. It then possesses little attraction to outside readers. You are quite as likely to give the public an article as interesting and profitable as many of the hastily written ones found in the average newspapers. It is of course necessary to take pains with the subject matter of one's productions.

Then don't be afraid to get up something a little new. There is not diversity enough we think in the range of college journalism as usually found; it is too apt to follow well-beaten tracks.

THE LITERARY REVIEWER.

There is no study that exerts more original and impartial investigation than in pursuing in a critical manner the literature of a language. Carrying in its dark folds the thoughts and actions of men that have lived and passed away, it brings continually to the surface the links of a long intellectual chain. The wild and harsh accents of the rude savage, the playful dactyls and thundering spondee of a Homer, the drowsy verse of a Chaucer and the philosophy of a more developed mind, all, stamp with their particular traits the characteristics of their respective ages.

The literature of a people is their life preserved. It exists in their poetry, their dramas and their novels. Read them and you are irresistibly carried into the spirit of their day. You see before you the great chain of action that has held together the vital interests of society. Every word, every action is life in its transparent form.