

It is often a source of wonder why so many students come to the University for so short a time as one, two, or three terms. Some could go longer, no doubt, but they either get married or are too lazy, both of which are very bad. It is true that the knowledge gained from books in six months or a year must be very slight. But this is not the only matter to be taken into consideration. It may be the first time the student in question has been away from home. If so, that which he learns outside of his books is no small addition to his stock of knowledge. Again, the sphere of labor that is made known to him, by even a year's course at a University, is altogether of a different nature from that in which he has been accustomed to move. His conceptions of life are enlarged, his ideas broadened, his whole nature changed. Stimulus is given him for a better and higher condition of life. This, then, is the greater benefit that one obtains by so short a college course—a benefit increasing as the number of years spent in study. It is advisable for every young person to attend some college, if not for one, two, or three years, at least for as many terms; then, if possible, complete the course. Not for the sake of getting a diploma, but for the good that it will do the individual in obtaining it.

THE STUDENT does not hear very often of the meetings of the different classes as such, and fears that the class organizations are not as well kept up nor as popular as heretofore. If a class comes to commencement day with no class feeling and pride, or very little, at least, and does not feel that its members occupy a peculiar position with reference to each other, and that among them there will be especial bonds of fellowship and good feeling for all time to come, it is the fault of the members themselves, and they have failed to avail themselves of privileges which they can never enjoy again and which in the observance furnish a student the source of many of his pleasantest social honors in college and afterwards are the most genial and longest-cherished memories of those youthful, happy, care-free days. The members of a class, too, can be mutually helpful to each other in their studies, reading and general literary work and by the discussion of many questions of interest to them arising out of their class work and the reading pertaining to it. The earlier the class organization is begun the deeper will be the class feeling as the outgrowth of their long association in the class room, the literary society and these social meetings which we are advocating. A class can surely afford one evening once a month or six weeks for this purpose, and the little time and trouble may repay one a thousand fold.

WE have often wondered why it is that so large and overwhelming a majority of college graduates nowadays step from the commencement platform to dingy, empty law offices where with a few ponderous yellow books and talents that, at best, can scarcely rise above mediocrity, they begin the plodding, unprofitable life of a pettifogging lawyer—a third or fourth rate attorney—with not even that knowledge of men which is so often better than genius, or that tact which rises to the acme of a talent and even inspiration. Sturdy youths from the rural districts come to college, fresh and strong. They are carried away by the new ways and life of the town, praised it may be for a good hit in society—a bright essay or well worded debate—and charged to the brim with a desire to do something, they imagine that all that is necessary to accomplish this is to study law, and so win fame, fortune and political preferment. Thinking themselves gifted with genius they are inclined to the "kangaroo style of progressing," and imagine that with their abilities nothing will be easier than for them to early gain distinction in a profession which offers unrivalled facilities for the brilliant display of oratory. They regard their genius as a sort of seven-league boots by which they may at once gain the greatest heights, which are, in reality scaled only after tiresome years of weary, painstaking self denial and hard study, and which even with these aids few ever reach. It was Salvini, the great Italian actor, we think, who said to his pupils, "Above all, study, study, STUDY." "All the genius in the world will not help you along," he adds, unless you become a hard student." Many a young man spoils what might be a useful, profitable life as a farmer, mechanic or tradesman, by supposing that he is unusually gifted as a speaker or writer, mistaking youthful exuberance and brightness and enthusiasm for decided talent. Not a few lawyers spend their entire lives on petty cases in the courts of justices of the peace and gain a scanty livelihood increased occasionally by successful campaign services or shrewd bargains with Uncle Sam and his contractors. Young men are too much inclined to look down upon and repudiate their father's blacksmith shop or carpenter's trade which proved most profitable financially—a merit which, ten to one, the son's chosen profession of law will never possess. Nothing is more foolish than to dream of success without the ability and talent to begin on unless it is to suppose that one can accomplish anything worthy of himself without faithful persistence and a wise patience.

"The heights which great men reached and kept were not attained by sudden flight; But they, while their companions slept, were toiling upward in the night."

### Exchange Bric-a-brac.

The number of required hours for the Seniors at Yale is seventeen. A petition for a reduction was recently vetoed by the authorities.

Amherst College has enjoyed a small-pox sensation. A student down with varioloid and a number of exposures to the same caused the excitement.

The first Senior class of Colorado University will be graduated this year. It has six members. The whole number of students now in attendance is 118.

Five Cornell students have "walked the plank" for connection with the abduction case mentioned in our last issue. Forty others are implicated and on the anxious seat.

More than half the institutions in the United States which profess to give university education and confer degrees now admit women on equal terms with male students.

During the past twenty years only two students have been entered in the agricultural department of Wisconsin University. This year, however, the department has six students.

The STUDENT has reason to complain of a lack of courtesy from our contemporaries in the matter of exchanging. A very few exchanges reach our table, compared with the number of papers we send out for that purpose.

The Faculty and Trustees of Illinois Wesleyan University fear that the students are spending too much time on their society work. They therefore impede the workings of the societies in many ways, and even threaten to close them altogether. A more short sighted policy could not be devised.

The Crawfordsville college boys recently advertised a lecture by the funny man of the *Detroit Free Press*, in a rural town and one of their number personated the gentleman to the entire satisfaction of the audience. The collegians pocketed the proceeds and enjoyed a sumptuous repast furnished by the citizens in honor of the distinguished lecturer. This is the best thing of the year.

An item of news when once started on the rounds among the papers is destined to be kept in circulation for ages. Three or four years hence the papers will still bring to our sanctum the startling information that "the Regents of Nebraska University have removed three—" etc., etc. It is proposed by an exchange that items of this kind be dated and called in at the expiration of two years. A good move, and one which the STUDENT takes pleasure in seconding.