

HESPERIAN STUDENT

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA.

VOL. XI.

LINCOLN, NEB., OCTOBER 15, 1882.

No. II.

Miscellaneous Mention.

Carlyle's father was a man of very great austerity and reserve. Even his mother, says Carlyle in his Reminiscences, never felt that she was acquainted with him.

Sydney Smith never recovered from the horror of a dream which he once had when ill, when he thought he "was chained to a rock and being talked to by Harriet Martineau and Macaulay."

We wonder how many of our students have enjoyed the literary treasures contained in that rare, quaint, old volume Burton's Anatomy of Melancholy. Those who are of a literary and antiquarian disposition will find scarcely a keener enjoyment than in his pages.

Students at the Wisconsin State University have been constrained by a despotic city council to leave off practicing on conch shells and now employ their loose time in petitioning the faculty and robbing the college orchard, the latter being first.

Education is a companion which no misfortune can depress, no climate destroy, no enemy alienate, no despotism enslave. At home a friend, abroad an introduction, in solitude a solace, in society an ornament. It lessens vice, guides virtue and gives at once a grace and government to genius. Without it, what is a man? A splendid slave! A reasoning savage! vacillating between the dignity of an intelligence derived from God and the degradation of passions participated in by brutes.—Phillips

We like to meet the man who commiserates us on "wasting" the best period of our life in a college; who Gorgonizes us with a Palaeozoic gaze while he assures us that a boy becomes unfitted for the active duties of life by a college course; who bids that we seek the "practical"—(great stickler he for the word)—by practice and eschew the ornamental; such an one we like to meet, to fancy ourselves his offspring and if we can't find him—a something rare in this utilitarian Now—we look at his portraiture in Mr. Dicken's Gradgrind.

There are lecturers and there are lecturers. One man has the power of holding the attention of a class, and of exciting their interest, whatever he may talk about. Much depends upon the subject of course. The most brilliant genius could not arouse much interest in a mathematical demonstration, unless he were talking to class of enthusiasts on the subject. But the man is the main factor in the work. It is in his power to attract or repel the students; to encourage, or to disgust them with the whole subject.—*The Occident.*

There is a discreditable disposition among many of our students to regard everything connected with the University as in some way divided on "society lines." They would

struggle for Palladian or Union supremacy in every plan that is suggested and imagine a necessity for the existence of one or the other in the respective class organizations, in the gymnasium, the columns of the STUDENT, the Cadet promotions and even in the Cadet Band. This feeling not only mars the true pleasure to be had in those departments of the University, but also degrades and belittles the character of those who indulge in and foster it. Whenever our societies learn to substitute the worthier spirit of emulation for this petty and all pervading jealousy a great step will have been taken towards elevating their standard of excellence.

If the Congress have power to pass general laws on the subject of commercial bankruptcies would it not be well for it to have authority over that species of domestic bankruptcy calling for divorce laws? The present conflict of state enactments on the subject results in litigation, rancor and trouble, without end. This, however, according to the view of some late Eastern writers on the topic should be the perpetual condition of those unfortunates who seek to free themselves from the miseries of wedded discord. It is something phenomenal that the same 'doxy which entrenches its hostility to divorce in general and *fortissime* against the marriage of divorced persons behind the words of the Bible should have arrived in these latter days at the conclusion that the injunction from speaking in church given to women was simply St. Paul's individual opinion for a particular age and country and entirely *sans* inspiration.

WEAK LUNGS.—The *Echo* says:—"It is grievous to find so many young people, especially at this season of the year, suffer from chest affections. Exercising the lungs and vocal organs, either in speaking or singing, is admitted by the medical profession generally to be a beneficial practice for the strengthening of the lungs and the clearing of the bronchial tubes. The voice in singing should so act upon the chest that itself becomes a kind of sounding board for the voice, the voice proceeding from the larynx, and reverberating in the chest. This is the grand Italian method of voice production, which so thoroughly and completely exercises the lungs. Therefore, I think young people should know the great benefit from practicing the voice, not merely in speaking, or even in singing a song, but by practicing certain vocal exercises daily. Twenty minutes or half an hour's practice a day would considerably strengthen the lungs, and at the same time greatly improve the voice, both in quality of tone and power. Speaking from experience I can assure all those who suffer more or less from weak lungs that, by taking a scale of notes and singing each note to a breath, and sustaining it as long as the respiratory organs will permit, they will find in a very short period the breath prolonged, which will be one of the first symptoms of the lungs being strengthened.