

*Commencement,**UNION EXHIBITION.*

The Union exhibition opened the Commencement season of this year. After the invocation Miss Potvin rendered that exquisite piece "The Recollections of Home" in her usually brilliant manner. Mr. Robinson then delivered an essay on "The Innovations of Science," in which he showed that in every department of thought there is a tendency toward realism. The innovation of modern science has purified religion, revived literature, greatly changed poetry and fiction, and revolutionized the method of history. In education it has to a great extent taken the place of classics by proving that as a study it has greater advantages and is also practical. To science we owe our mental escape from superstition. Science is the foundation of modern civilization. There may be limits to her progress but we cannot impose them. The time will come when our whole being will be in harmony with nature's laws and then we shall better understand them. In her oration, "Destined," Miss Dell Stratton took the ground that woman has an arena destined by the inviolable laws of nature and then she will justify her position. Her advancement has been marked by the appearance of women who by example and precept have extended indefinitely the limit of woman's field; she will never again be shackled by these old notions of propriety and woman's sphere, but will justify her aspiration in literature and science, organize her beautiful hours and are to her honor, better, nobler, and more cultivated class of citizens. Miss Lillie Peck next favored the audience with "Birds in Dreamland Sleep." Miss Annie Aldrich then reviewed the poet Keats and said that he felt beneath the blows of the unjust and fault searching criticism of the close of the 18th. century. Though not profound, he possessed that gift which enabled him to wreath graceful garlands of verse. Endymion is by far the longest and most fantastic of his poems. The passion of the young god for a dream his wanderings through Elysian fields while divine music thrills his senses, all lend an irresistible enchantment. Keat's fancy was unfettered. As the reviewers desired he was silenced—it was the silence of the grave. Miss Hawley in her introduction to her criticism on "The New Phase of Fiction," declared that aggressive criticism has been superceded by a constructive system, the result of modern thought. In England and in this country there is much discussion regarding the new school of novelists as represented by Mr. James and Howell. The realistic spirit of the age has at last created a conscientious and artistic system of story-writing. By this our modern novelist portrays the inner workings of the mind and the outward movements of his people. He attempts to create sympathy between the reader and men in like circumstances with ourselves. Knowledge of what life is and ability to impart this knowledge to others is a difficult art. It is easier to create than to analyze and lay bare hidden motives. However it is possible that this new school gives too much of the crabbed harshness of fruition and too little of the fragrance of blossom time. Be this as it may this literature is paving the way for higher triumphs and will make every American proud of his birth, proud of his nationality. An instrumental solo the "Bovata Palhetique," by Frank J. Benedict

greatly pleased the lovers of artistic music. The subject for debate was resolved, that England's foreign policy is Unjustifiable. Mr. Frost held that people have a right to independence, to make independence depend upon power is a principle dangerous to small states; one nation has a right to interfere with another only when its own independence is in danger; England's policy is violation to her principle; it is impossible for many separate nations to be governed by one; civilization is necessarily of gradual growth and dependent upon a sympathetic relation between those introducing it and the subjects. England systematically antagonized her conquered subjects, her policy endangers the peace of Europe and her own future welfare. Mr. Lewis on the other hand contended that the strength of England consists in her laboring colonies, she must care for them; hence her interference in Egypt. Nations have a right to freedom only in so far as they can pursue that freedom. As to moral right, the result is one which is of advantage to the human race and increases human happiness. No where is there a people whose condition has not been bettered by being under English rule. England has done more for humanity than all the other nations of her time. Mr. Frankfurter claimed the "Theater" has existed in every nation from the most remote ages. From the character of the drama of China to the South Sea Islander and farther it is evident that a great drama goes hand in hand with a great literature. It is impossible to compare our theater with that of the Greeks, being instead of equal diametrically opposed, we can compare it with the modern novel. The drama surpasses the novel both in grandeur and morality. In the rendition of "To Savilla," Miss Seacord made the University proud of her being connected therewith. "The Rhyme of the Dutches May" was delivered by Miss Carse in a very pleasing and appropriate manner. Her gesture and voice were well adapted to the delivery and the recitation furnished a very fitting close to the evening.

*PALLADIAN EXHIBITION.*

The twelfth annual exhibition of the Palladian society given at the opera house Monday June 11th, was good, in many respects better than any of previous years. The productions contained much original thought, and bore evidence of thorough preparation.

In his review on "The Realism of Henry James" Mr. Lichty said the portrayal of things as they are, as opposed to creating them anew, has become prominent in the literary world. Henry James is an apostle of this new school and as such he is to be considered in reviewing In "The Europeans" and "A Portrait of a Lady," Mr. Lichty thinks Mr. James was unfair in his selection of character. The author even admits that such characters have more salient points, and invite criticism. It is only too evident that the author sneers at American strength of character and dotes upon its absence in the European. Why not bring into strong relief the nobler and more enviable character? It is not expedient to sacrifice this better purpose for the sake of realism. Miss Chapman's subject was Shakespeare's "Fools and Clowns." Miss Chapman thinks that in no other of Shakespeare's writings is seen originality so clearly as in this work. In the most serious part of his plays we find circumstances