

HESPERIAN STUDENT.

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All communications should be addressed to the HESPERIAN STUDENT, State University, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Editorial Notes.

THE editorial force of this paper has been again increased, this time by the addition of a managing editor. He will only have the general supervision of the paper, and hence he is not to be credited with any good things that may appear, but shall be entitled to all blame for anything objectionable. The various members of our editorial corps will not make the humble acknowledgement that one is accustomed to expect from incoming officers, because we are not modest. Without promises and without acknowledgements we begin our work, and will let that work tell what tales it may.

WHILE there is no one thing so necessary in class work as thoroughness, there is a possibility of giving too much attention to unimportant points, to the detriment and confusion of principles sought. An instance in point is the case of a student who recently presented a theme on Grecian furniture. After weeks of earnest preparation the theme was read, but the next day the student was ransacking the library to find where the mirrors were hung in Grecian houses. While in this particular instance there may have been some religious custom illustrated by their position, such attention to minutiae is generally a waste of time and energy. Facts are important only as they illustrate principles.

THE introduction of the theme system in many of our departments brings with it a necessity for very careful adjustment of study hours. No one can afford, particularly in the early years of his college course, to become a specialist to the extent of neglecting one study for another. A little knowledge of everything is a necessity as a basis for a complete knowledge of anything, and our University work can be only elementary at best. There is a need also for easy accommodation among the departments which require theme work. No more than one theme can be properly prepared at a time, and one subject well worked up is worth half a dozen carelessly done.

"COLLEGE life and college debating clubs, it has been truly said, gives brightness, alertness, wit, candor, fairness, grace, to the intellects which they discipline; but they do not give, they rather take a way, that subduing and overpowering influence which come of brooding thought and purpose—which come, that is, of the tone of mind which has not accustomed itself to look at questions with other men's eyes." The tendency of American students especially is to be continually "spouting," on every occasion they take opportunity to talk, no matter whether they know anything about a subject or not. This is a most ruinous practice to the intellect, it destroys the foundation of true oratory, and begets a superficial habit of weighing things that follow one throughout life. Such men never achieve any success as speakers. We do not want gabblers, we want thinkers.

ANOTHER Mormon Bill has been offered by one of the senators. It proposes to place the government of Utah entirely in the hands of Congress. Whether it will be passed or not is somewhat doubtful, Senator Edmunds says it is unconstitutional, and he is pretty good authority. It would be an excellent plan if it could be put into execution. There are but two ways of settling the Mormon question, either it must be wiped out of existence root and branch by force, or it must be let alone, trusting that the influence of time, education, and communication with the outside world, will finally eradicate it. If the former course is not feasible, then we shall have to accept the latter. But it seems a burning shame that in one of the most enlightened nations of the globe, the boasted land of liberty and justice, that an organization should exist not only defying the laws of the government, but also social and moral law. Mormonism is not merely a religious sect, but it is a powerful and well organized "hierarchy," an "imperium in imperio." It has become a very serious question. It is no use to persecute its adherents, this would only increase their fanaticism. If left to itself, it