

HESPERIAN STUDENT.

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Editorial Notes.

WE have received an article for publication which the writer assures us is written as an editorial, which is accompanied by the modest request that we insert it as such in these columns. We do not care to have other people write our editorials for us, even when we are assured by them that what they have written is "appropriate and timely;" but had we not already made other arrangements for filling this issue, should have inserted the article as a communication. The writer dwells upon the difficulty of getting good judges for oratorical contests, and speaks feelingly of the dearth of sound criticism. Certainly those having the choice of judges in the local contest that is to take place shortly, should do the best they can to secure persons thoroughly competent to decide fairly. We fancy, however, that they appreciate the situation.

THE legislature has been fairly liberal with the U. of N., but what has been received is looked upon by many as though it were so much stolen from the treasury, by Lancaster Co. wire-pullers. The amounts asked for were cut down not because of educational but because of geographical reasons. In the biennial log-rolling, this part of the state has so many logs to be rolled that some are necessarily neglected. Many of our legislators go back to their homes feeling that this institution amounts to little more than a leak in the state treasury. Those who feel this way are certainly fools, but yet they may be of the class that can exert considerable influence, and their apathy or hostility may almost neutralize the good effects that

should come from the expenditure of the money appropriated for our use. If it could only be everywhere understood that this University is preeminently an institution designed to benefit every precinct, and directly or indirectly, every individual in the state we should have less nonsense about getting our appropriations, and less ill-humor to contend against after they were obtained.

THE local columns of this issue give an account of a thrilling entertainment given by five scalawags who also happened to be the editors of this paper. Having advertised a most enchanting programme but being "gone back on" by some of the principle performers, they merely ordered up their reserve force of cheek and went on with the advertising. They told people to stay away, but as each person heard of this warning he simply gave himself credit for a great deal of shrewdness, because he discerned at once that it was merely an advertising dodge, and straightway prepared to go. When the assembled audience, after getting wofully sick of orchestra music, at last found out the flight and subsequent "scatteration" of the rascally five, there was a chance for a student of human nature to have filled a very fat note-book in a very short time. Every passion from the direst thirst for revenge to the most abject sheepishness was given expression in the faces and language of the disappointed crowd. The fact that the managers of the performance could not meet their engagements may be an explanation of such a trick, but it certainly cannot be its justification. If justified at all, it can only be by the fact that it was a good joke well carried through. That it was well carried through we leave our opponents to confess. Whether or not it was a good joke cannot be properly decided by those who are at present so very decided in their opinion that it was not, until they have further recovered from their chagrin and from the loss of their admission fees. The press being omniscient it would, of course, be perfectly in order for us to settle the question at once, but owing to our unbounded modesty we prefer to wait until our editorial impartiality shall be less biased by the remembrance of how much fun it was to slide down the rope while the orchestra played "Many are the friends that are waiting to-night!"

ONE of our Iowa exchanges has been inspired by the recent State Oratorical Contest to make some observations on the subject of college oratory. The conclusion reached is that it is a peculiar sort of stuff, that is practically worthless, except by affording a certain chance for discipline while being got into existence. After Macauley had taken the prize for the best English poem he felt free to remark that a