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EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE number of students who ride or drive from their homes to the University is quite large, and would be much larger if shelter was provided somewhere on the campus for horses. At present the shady side of a brick wall is the only protection given the animals, and we are sure that were opportunity given they would enter some energetic protests against such treatment. The old fashioned horse shed of the New England meeting house would be an excellent thing to annex to the belongings of the University.

THE recent election of officers for the great and good Freshman class seems to have been no "happy family" affair. We do not know what party is responsible for dragging politics into class meeting, but suppose it is, as usual, the almost inevitable consequence of the existence of party lines in the college. The class of '89 openly boasts of its strength and ability; it would have the rest of the college believe that it is without doubt the salt of the earth. If it wishes to demonstrate the existence of so many concentrated virtues it can easily do so by taking a sensible course in the management of its own affairs.

THE worth of some of the men who have been added to our Faculty during the past few years is quite forcibly demonstrated by the efforts made to secure them by other institutions. Minnesota State University has even now a covetous eye fixed upon one of our Professors and has semi-officially announced that if advantageous offers can be of any avail he will soon take his place as a prominent member of their Faculty. There is no immediate danger of our meet-

ing with such a loss, but the State of Nebraska must not forget that to retain men of national reputation it is necessary to provide liberal support for the University. Buildings, equipments and salaries must be adequate, or we are in danger of a failure to realize the brilliant prospects of the present.

A young man who last week delivered a theme that might fairly be called a failure. philosophically remarked in the hearing of THE HESPERIAN that he had received more benefit from his work on the same than the member of the class whose production merited the highest grade. He was probably right. The value of this kind of effort cannot be measured by results; the man who depends wholly upon himself in writing will, at the cost of a few failures, eventually learn to walk alone. There is no better discipline than the preparation of a thoroughly original theme. When the student is given the "raw material" to work upon and not comments and criticisms upon the same by various authors, his finished theme will be his own and not a compilation. The production may not be very valuable; wrong conclusions will be reached in many cases, but the writer is strengthened, and developed, and made ready for a more successful attack upon a similar problem. In the University there has always been a feeling that the library, and perhaps a few books outside, contain all the the thought extant on almost any subject. Accordingly the proper thing to do in preparing an essay, oration or theme is to read exhaustively and give the results in a dazzling compilation. Would not original failure be better?

STUDENTS in all colleges will watch the experiment in self government by students, now being made at Harvard, with great interest. Not that the fate of this move will in any way affect the general principle that college students should be largely self governing; but after the principle is acknowledged there yet remains the question of means. Various opinions are freely expressed in our exchanges as to the wisdom of the Harvard movement. For our own part, we are inclined to think the movement too formal. It is doubtful whether sufficient interest will be taken in simply a conference committee. The cautious way in which the faculty at Harvard takes hold of the matter shows a lack of confidence in the scheme or in the students. Such confidence in students we regard as absolutely essential to successful self-government by them. When such confidence and sympathy exists, where it is instructors and instructed, not rulers and ruled, any formal arrangement is useless; but where such confidence does not exist any formality only makes the lack more evident.