

THE HESPERIAN

(HESPERIAN STUDENT.)

Issued semi-monthly by the HESPERIAN Publishing Association, of the University of Nebraska.

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TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:

One copy, per college year,	\$1.00
One copy, one half year,50
Single copy,10

ADVERTISING RATES ON APPLICATION.

Address all communications to THE HESPERIAN, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Neb.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE members of the Junior and Senior classes are more or less bothered in their elective work this term by conflicts in recitation hours. It is hard to arrange these electives in such a manner that all may be accommodated, and the students who are now discommoded will do well to be patient until such a time as better arrangements can be made.

Now that the number of students is yearly increasing, and promises soon to be very large, and the military department has become so large that it can dispense with the good old argument which has done such grand service in pressing in the "raw recruits," now that we are in such a fair and prosperous way, why can we not talk about a gymnasium and an instructor in gymnastics? We certainly are very much in need of an opportunity for systematic and thorough exercise. Every body knows the arguments in favor of good exercise and plenty of it. All these things are conceded. But the one thing upon which we are not agreed is, a good reason why we cannot have a gymnasium. The HESPERIAN would always emphasize the just claims of the students; and considers none of greater importance, or more worthy a favorable action by those in authority, than this claim for a gymnasium.

THERE are numbers in the history of every college paper of which the editorial column seems to be but a series of complaints. The HESPERIAN is no exception. Indeed, it has more than its share of the growl series. And now to the subject of discontent

—our campus. But the old plea for adornments, the just claim for good sidewalks, the timidly expressed wish for gates of a modern style, all these claims we waive for a moment. But seriously and specifically, aren't we to have a walk laid between the old building and the Chemical Laboratory? And aren't we to have the excavated dirt now piled up in unseemly heaps around the building nicely graded down, and things in general cleaned up before the ground freezes up for the winter? It would not take a very great deal of time or labor to accomplish this now; and it would prove that there is yet some thrift and energy lurking about, where everything appears the perfect image of sloth and listlessness.

THE attempt of the college student to write productions which shall be characterized by great originality in thought and treatment is more or less disastrous. He fails, first of all, to be entirely original because he will not choose simple subjects, such as his limited experience will allow him to discuss from personal observation and reflection. He fails, again, because he will not write down just what he thinks, but deems that too commonplace and hence attempts to pen thoughts which have no well defined existence in his mind. Perhaps he succeeds sometime in his own estimation—writes an original essay. It is not long usually until an article appears in some college paper bearing the same title, and showing a suspiciously common method of treatment. Such things are of peculiarly frequent occurrence, and are widely noticed and remarked. In such a case the student gives up in despair—Our conclusion is that our productions cannot be quite original; and the sooner we can bring ourselves to write what we think, no matter whence those thoughts come, so much the sooner will we acquire the power to write well. Our inheritance in the field of literature is the result of the toil and genius of many generations. Let us accept it all at their hands, and apply our energies to fit ourselves for usefulness further on,—in new combinations of thought extant, in the discovery of new relations, in fine, to original work, acknowledging it to be but consequent upon the knowledge imparted to us by those who have preceded.

THE young man preparing for college is first confronted with the question Where shall I attend? If he is wise he reasons thusly: "I must attend where the best facilities for good work are offered me; where I shall meet with men of liberal views, broad culture, —able and learned men; but they must be also educators of some renown. A bachelor's degree from such a college will be of much more value to me than one from a college seldom mentioned with those of