

THE HESPERIAN

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

EVERY mind is more or less susceptible to the elevating influence of education. Yet a college training cannot produce brilliant men irrespective of the quality of material with which work was begun. The common notion to the contrary, yet the fool will only be a graduate fool at the end of his college course and can only be distinguished from the earlier "know-nothing and do-nothing" by the fact that he shows longer training and wider experience in the art of doing nothing. From all reports we are cursed by a very few of this class who are spending time and money to acquire a larger experience in shirking the duties and the responsibilities of the student.

WE are aware of the fact that it is impolitic to ask for very much, though it is clearly seen that you have not asked for more than is really needed. But in the matter of new buildings is it too much to ask the next legislature for both a library building and an armory and gymnasium? We think not. The need is imperative, and just now we are trying to decide whether or not we shall ask for both, or, if we can have but one, which can we best do without. Those in authority have concluded, we are informed, that we will first ask for a library building and funds, acknowledging, however, that both should be allowed us immediately. We believe that a similar decision would have been the result had the question been put to vote among the students. We have begged long

and stoutly, however, for a gymnasium, and are very much averse to giving up all hopes now. The state can well afford to allow us both the needed buildings, and though we yet give the demand for a library building the precedence, we cannot forego our claims to a gymnasium as well.

WE are now in the very midst of another year's work. Unfinished studies lie behind us; before us rises up such and so much difficult work that we grow faint at the sight. It is not necessary to call attention to the fact that we are over-worked. That is, our courses of study are too full. No college in the land requires so many hours as does our own. To be honest, perhaps curt, it requires too much; and everybody that has made a trial is fully convinced of the fact. But that is not the only cause of complaint. The work of the Freshman year, in particular, is not only too heavy, but is also too scattered to give the greatest satisfaction, and the best results. A proper education means something else than a certain number of hours spent in digging out difficult and disconnected subjects. The educated man is something very different from the so-called educated student. Why the idea seems to be that all that is necessary is to stuff his head with a little of everything, label him with a certain sheepskin label which designates him a graduate student, and then turn him out upon the world, an educated man. We have a very different idea of what an education should consist. But so long as we are required to compass so much in the recitation room we can never attain to our ideal.

THE University Oratorical Association long since withdrew from the State Association. We were convinced that neither the time, nor the competitors worthy our metal had come. Our friends of Hastings and York Colleges also withdrew for sundry and various reasons never made known, and left only Crete in the ring. Crete, of course, was equal to the emergency—that is her failing. No one ever before heard of a state oratorical association composed of a single college association, but such a little thing as that could not stagger our friends at Doane College. Donning the robe of dignity and world-wide importance, she constituted herself a state oratorical association. A contest was held and the winning orator sent to the inter-state contest as Nebraska's representative. It is needless to state that he made quite a reputation for himself and state. But now Hastings and York grow jealous and resolve that Doane shall not have all the honors of such a victory. They appeal to us to help them out; our reply is found in the opening sentences of this article. With all due respect, and in all friendliness we beg leave to decline; and, moreover, we are perfectly well satisfied to allow our friends at