

tion will produce upon the citizens of Lincoln and the state with regard to the University. Heretofore our students have borne a good reputation among the people of Lincoln. By the constant repetition of acts, even no worse than those already committed, a different sentiment will be created and all students will be looked upon with suspicion—even the name will be applied as a term of reproach. Let us have "fun" but let us be very careful as to its quality and keep it within the bounds of morality and decency.

THE election, as usual, attracted considerable from our students. If we consider that our graduates will probably, in the future, fill many of the prominent offices of this and other states, we must approve of their gaining some experience in the field of politics before leaving the University. Their education would not be complete without it and it is just as well that they learn the art at the same time they do the college branches. But the tendency naturally is to learn all that there is of present politics—the corruption as well as the legitimate workings. We know that purity in the operations of office-seekers and office-givers is rare, or at least that it is difficult to separate the good from the bad. We should like to see our student politicians enter the arena with eyes open and keen to detect each trace of wrong. Instead of learning to look upon the present evils as necessary, they should resolve to use their influence to purify all that can be purified and under no circumstances to lend themselves to dishonest practices. If all those who go from the halls of the U. of N. to mingle in the contentions of parties would go with this determination, an ever-growing influence for the right would be exerted on the political world, which would, in time, help very materially to make the name of "politician" an honorable instead of a contemptuous epithet.

MILLIONS of people have thought, argued and joked about the seven condemned anarchists during the past week. Once more we are reminded that the speediest way of becoming universally known is not to live a good, useful life but to commit some startling crime and be tried for the offense. A man who by his good acts benefits hundreds of his fellows will remain in obscurity while a bold criminal by one evil deed puts his name in the mouth of every schoolboy. This comes, in our opinion, from a depraved public sentiment. We would not like to assert that the fair ladies and cultured gentlemen who so eagerly scan the criminal columns of our newspapers have latent criminal instincts which are attracted by the recital of other's crimes; but it certainly is true that the more bloody the deed and the more detailed the account, the more interest it excites. Our

newspapers, we are sorry to say, minister largely to this morbid appetite. Too often the chapter of murders, suicides and horrors of all kinds seems to transcend all other kinds of news. The press is not entirely to blame, however. If there was not a ready market for such wares they would not be offered. We should like to see the American public take more interest in the advancement of religion, science and pure politics and less in criminals and their atrocities. But the realization of this wish we do not expect much before the millennium.

LITERARY.

To the university library Count Tolstoi's "Sebastopol" has recently been added. It consists of a series of closely connected sketches of life and thought in the besieged city up to the time of its abandonment. Works of this character will do much to bring about the grand time we all hope for, when war shall cease for ever. In "Sebastopol" we are shown not only the cheap halo of brilliant uniforms and well formed columns. We see also the reality of suffering and death, and hear the lamentings of widows and friends. Nor is the true glory concealed, the glory which lies, not in the decorations and newspaper praises, but in the spirit of honor in the hearts of all, commanders and privates, that stern consciousness of individual responsibility and necessary devotion to duty.

But we must not attempt to sketch the work, for Tolstoi alone can tell Tolstoi's story, nor to repeat the lessons he would teach, for his ideas have double force in the way he tells them. We can only say, your time will be well spent while reading "Sebastopol."

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We have heard the decadence of *The Century* frequently remarked of late, and we agreed with the decision. The November number, however, seems fully prepared to meet and silence all such accusations. We sincerely hope it may continue to improve. The American people are certainly able and willing to keep up one magazine, at least, which will contain nothing but articles of the first merit, and among all our millions of educated citizens it is strange if a sufficient number of talented writers cannot be found to enable American magazine editors to be careful in making their selections. We can find no excuse for such negligence as has been shown in admitting some of the articles that have recently been published in magazines which we were wont to consider trustworthy.

In the number under consideration we were particularly pleased with Mr. George Kennan's paper on "The Last Appeal of the Russian Liberals." It is well calculated to throw light on the generally misunderstood subject of the so-called "Nihilistic" movement in Russia. The aim of the paper is neither to discuss the subject nor to give the author's views in relation to it, but to furnish information. Mr. Kennan has spent two years in Russia, and has made "the intimate personal acquaintance of more than five hundred members of this Russian protesting party," many of whom are now Siberian exiles. A plain and clear statement of facts from such a source is certainly of the highest value.

Edward Eggleston begins a serial that gives promise of being his best work. We will not attempt a reply to the statement that there is a striking similarity between his plots, for