

world to God may easily persuade himself that if men will not return by persuasion, it is his duty to coerce them by the sword if need be, that their soul's salvation may be procured.

What then is to be concluded concerning his sincerity? Considering the marked piety of his earlier life and the vices and crimes of his latter days, the most probable conjecture is that he was the victim of mania; that he saw much in the world that caused him sorrow, and believed that God had sent him to recall mankind from their sins. Not alone in his own country was religion debased and the cause of mending strife. The Christianity of his age was not deserving the name. Not without reason did Mahomet charge Christians with "giving sons and daughters to God." The use of images was spreading. The distinctive mark of one sect was the worship of the mother of Christ. Fine points of doctrine were being decided in assemblies which often broke up in armed contention. The devout Mahomet, addicted from youth to solitary contemplation on religious subjects, saw only the worst side of Christianity. There is no theory more worthy of belief than that his lone vigils, acting upon his susceptible constitution, produced within his brain hallucination. No other theory accords with the facts of the early years of his mission; while it is not at all unlikely that he, who could mould his countrymen to his will, was so elated by victory that his subsequent life was tarnished by what so often has characterized reformers when victory has suddenly rewarded them,—unscrupulousness as to the means henceforth employed. While there is nothing to justify his claims as a prophet, it is unjust not to accredit him with sincere belief in his divine mission.

MISCELLANY.

An observant freshman discovered one Friday night that two fair co-eds had escorted each other to society. Seized with remorse at his own neglect of the slate he resolved to repent and make amends. But there were two. To overcome this difficulty he entered into negotiations with a notorious senior offering to divide the prize. The senior refused the tempting offer because both he and the freshman wanted the same girl. He started down the hall just behind the co-eds, in company with a friend. At this juncture his rival offered himself to the young ladies, (for an escort) and being accepted, he turned to the senior who was just behind and coolly remarked, "Come on H—", of course taking his pick of the co-eds. It worked. H— came. Consider what the situation would have been if he had not. But why criticise the schemer? Who wants to quarrel with a successful man? Moral—Scratch the slate.

Too much cannot be done toward entertaining the visitors to the inter-state contest. Such a contest has never yet been held in Nebraska, and it will be some time before another such meeting will be held in the state. Our reputation for hospitality depends upon this effort. Those who visit us will remember the University of Nebraska as they see it now. Let us take pains to show them the best we have. We believe that all regular school work should be suspended, so that all may devote their time to our visitors. Classes, if held, will be attended by only a few. Would it not be better to throw open the entire institution—libraries, laboratories, classrooms, etc., and make the university general headquarters for all interested in the advancement of oratory. This is not merely a students' affair, the faculty should take as active an interest as the students. If we wish to make the meeting of

the association a success, if we wish to convince the members of it that Nebraska has a university worthy to be ranked with those of neighboring states, we must enter energetically and harmoniously into the work of preparation. When the work of preparation is over the work of entertainment must begin. Let us have perfect freedom to devote our time to showing our visitors the university and the city. Let the class and laboratory work for the week end Thursday noon, thus making it possible to meet the different delegations when they arrive and entertain them while they remain. Kansas and Iowa will probably come in force; other states will be well represented; may they return home feeling well repaid for their trip and be able to praise Nebraska's plans for higher education.

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We have no drill grounds! The battalion this term will consist of four large companies. The commandant desires to give practical instruction in battalion drill, and in order that this may be done properly the companies must have room to maneuver without allowing an opportunity for stragglers to get lost among the trees. What trees there are on the north-west corner of the campus are irregularly placed and certainly lend no great amount of beauty to it. The drill grounds now comprise about half a block, and two or three trees on this make it necessary to break the line of a company in passing them. No one knows just what is the "mission" of those trees, but we strongly suspect that it is to demoralize company drill. If all the trees on that part of the campus north of the S street line and west of a line connecting University hall and the boiler house were removed we would have an entire block for military exercises and field athletics. Two years ago all the cotton-wood trees on the campus were converted into hitching posts and statue pedestals. Why not continue the work and clear off the drill grounds.

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The governor and other state officers deserve the thanks of the university for their kindness in allowing the capitol building to be used for entertaining the visitors to the inter state contest. The capitol building is the very best for that purpose in the city and in casting about for a suitable place in which to hold the banquet and ball the committee naturally looked towards it. By a unanimous vote the state authorities decided that the request of the committee should be granted notwithstanding the fact that the scheme was opposed by some of our citizens on account of the proposed ball. Well, even though the students have decided not to hold a ball the state officers none the less are entitled to our gratitude, for by granting the use of the building in the face of the opposition, they have shown that they have the good of the state university at heart and are ready to do all they may be able for its advancement. The university has ever regarded the governor as a friend and his conduct on this last occasion adds one more act of kindness to the many for which it is indebted to him. But while expressing our thanks to the state officials we should not forget that Lieutenant Griffith took a personal interest in seeing that the capitol was secured, and it is largely, if not wholly, due to his efforts that the plan succeeded. J. E. F.

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After considerable discussion the mass meeting of the students decided by a good majority that there will be no ball given by the university at the interstate contest. This decision was made in order to please as many as possible of the visitors and also because the students did not think it advisable to give any such entertainment with the understanding that it was a university affair. As may be seen in another col-