

of removal interferes materially with the efficiency of the teachers' work. School matters in every department are demoralized for at least two months. The clash between the incoming members and the old board, which inevitably comes, only emphasizes this demoralization. This year there has been, if anything, more uneasiness on account of the election of new members of the board, and many of the teachers will be very much disturbed until the new board is finally installed and matters have settled down once more.

It seems that there could easily be an improvement in the present system of employing teachers. There is no real necessity for having to go through the formality of hiring every teacher in the city over again once a year, and thus putting the teachers to a severe nervous strain. Why would it not be practicable for the board of education to hire teachers, not for one year, but until removal for cause? No teacher in fear of momentary dismissal can do good work and the demoralization under the present system comes at a very critical time in the spring, when examinations are held. It is believed that if teachers were hired on this proposed plan and the board would make careful investigations and keep itself apprized of the work being done in the different schools and order removals from time to time and only for cause, that the general efficiency of the educational work being done in Lincoln would be materially improved.

Major J. D. Calhoun, over the familiar signature, Peter Doubt Young, had a very interesting article "On to the Southland," the first of a series we hope, in last Sunday's *Journal*. Calhoun is one of the daintiest writers Nebraska has known, and his friends in this state will be much pleased to hear from the "exile" frequently.

That there is a vast amount of difference between tweedle dee and tweedle dum has been demonstrated many times. A few weeks ago Adam McMullen, a student in the University of Nebraska, was charged with having attempted to procure an oration, which he was to have delivered as his own. There was an immense hullabaloo. Mr. McMullen's case was allowed to go before a mob meeting of students and he was publicly branded as a scoundrel, and his character was further smirched by a resolution adopted by the faculty of the institution. Apparently there was no punishment too severe for Mr. McMullen. The other day another student of the university offended. He opened a letter addressed to a fellow student and extracted a draft for \$25, presented it to the First National bank and received the money. This man stole \$25. McMullen was charged with having attempted to do a dishonorable thing. McMullen was disgraced. The man who stole the draft escapes scot free. Despite the fact that the case was promptly brought to the attention of the university authorities, there was no attempt made to discover the guilty person; in fact the offence seems to have been regarded in a particularly light manner. The bank officials were told that thefts of this kind were a matter of ordinary occurrence in large institutions, and it would be impossible to discover the culprit. The additional excuse was made that students have frequently been notified to have no mail left at the university, and that the institution has repeatedly disclaimed any responsibility for mail matter sent to the building.

It would seem to an unprejudiced observer that the man who secured the \$25 intended for another student committed a far greater offense than that with which McMullen was publicly charged, and that the university should have made some attempt to investigate the matter and punish the thief. If matters of this kind are common occurrences at the State University it is time that steps were taken to prevent the same. A good deal has been heard in the last year or two about the discipline at this institution. The draft case, it would seem, and by the way, there are two of these cases of recent occurrence, furnishes excellent opportunity for that much wanted discipline to assert itself, but it is altogether probable that nothing will be done. Adam McMullen has been publicly branded and the righteous indignation of the university authorities seems to be entirely satisfied.

There are some men who are not suffering from hard times. The removal of Rev. Mr. Patterson, pastor of the First Presbyterian church in Omaha to Detroit, called thither by a more flattering

offer, serves to empathize the fact that the lines of many ministers fall in pleasant places. Mr. Patterson came to Omaha a year ago, succeeding Dr. Harsha. He was given a salary of \$5000; and we believe a parsonage, office rooms in the New York Life building, and the services of a stenographer, in return for which he was to preach two sermons a week, attend one prayer meeting and make the usual social calls upon the members of his congregation. But this apparently, was not rich enough for Mr. Patterson. He probably wanted a larger salary, a handsomer parsonage, a larger office and two or three stenographers; so he serves formal notice upon the congregation, quits Omaha, and goes to Detroit. Not many men these times throw up \$5000 jobs with attractive side inducements, but ministers of city churches have got used to soft snaps. One of the alleged reasons why Mr. Patterson left Omaha was that the trustees would not agree to build a new church. It is asserted by those who are in a position to know that the present structure is entirely adequate to meet all the demands made upon it through the eloquence of the retiring pastor.

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#### A HINT TO THE BASSO.

The lot of the singer in a church choir in Brooklyn, when he consents to take up his abode in a boarding house, is not always one of peace, especially when he is detected in mispronouncing a word in his rendering of a set piece. Mr. Henry Brown, of the Holy Trinity church on the Heights, learned this recently, when he found on his breakfast plate a few days ago a card with this legend on:

There was a young fellow named Brown,  
Who was the best basso in town;  
But he would say Apost-*le*,  
The mistake was colos-*tle*;  
This remarkable singer named Br*cn*wn.

Mr. Brown now sings Apostle with the correct pronunciation—Apos*le*.

#### AN EXALTED GALLING.

"Your business is that of a disreputable cheat," remonstrated the forger.

"Maybe it is," replied the professional check raiser, "but no one can deny that it is an elevating occupation."

#### NOT SO BAD.

Hicks—By the way, you remember Jennie Draddles? Well, she has been traveling about the country under an assumed name, and with a married man, too.

Wicks—The deuce! You don't mean it? Who was the man?

Hicks—The man? Oh, yes! He is her husoand. It was his name she assumed before starting out.

#### BAD MANAGEMENT.

"And you are giving up your plans for going on the stage?"

"Yes," she replied with a sob.

"It's too bad. The drama was the ambition of your life."

"It was. But I am obliged to relinquish it."

"What is the trouble?"

"The evidence in my divorce suit didn't appeal to the popular taste."

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