The Aurora 14.7

Iowa State Agricultural College

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AMES, IOWA:
IOWA STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.
1886.
REASON'S REVERIE.

C. H. S.

Hail! dreamlike wandering of my thought,
In past and present, in future goal,
Hail! fleeting thoughts, yet so profound,
Thoughts that enraptures oft my soul.

Go! wander where great minds now reign,
Expounding nature's law to man.
Unmask the tyrant's hateful ban!
And prove that human strength is vain.

Free as the lark that soars on high,
In gladsome praise of gentle spring.
The light of reason's lamp must bring
Untrammeled souls to Heaven nigh.

Oh! what is he who's silly mind,
Is blind to reason's light divine!
Can they be free whose souls repine,
For light they seek yet dare not find?

How brilliant luminates the light
Of reason, our progressive age.
Fair science would astound the sage,
Whose star is dimmed that once was bright.

And grander fields than any yet
To benefit the human race,
Are veiled in mystic future's haze,
Than science in research has met.

All prophecies since Moses' time
Have been inspired by vision's dream;
Else death of human frame might seem
The end, instead of life sublime.

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THE BLACK SCEPTRE.

L. V. HARPEL.

The republic is a nation of kings.
Each citizen is an important factor in its stability and welfare, and the average intelligence of all the citizens determines its rank among the powers.
The wise citizen is its perennial fountain of life; the ignorant citizen its greatest source of national danger. The former widens the sphere of human
knowledge, purifies society, and makes fellow citizens as brothers. The latter vitiates the whole social atmosphere with fraud and corruption. The one is the center of national growth and improvement; the other of national decay and degredation.

Glancing over the time-worn pages of history, we find that the ignorant citizen has been a bane upon republics and has kept them from a successful career; and that this obstruction is only removed when he is overpowered by the mighty influences of education. Born of the school room, the republic has become the ideal government of the later-day civilization. The ancient republic of Greece was but the product of its advanced stage in learning—its downfall the result of corruption sweeping this away. Modern republics are but the natural products of the present state of civilization—their success the result of the high standard of intelligence prevalent among the masses. In proportion as this standard of intelligence is raised the nation is strengthened; in proportion as it is lowered the nation is weakened. Should it be reduced to the ancient standard we would expect the republic to vanish as of old—to surrender to ignorance as a lamb in the jaws of a beast of prey. Hence we conclude that when the United States enfranchised four millions of the late slaves it took the risk of a tremendous political experiment. The enfranchisement of so large a mass of new electors, and the instant elevation of so much ignorance and barbarism to complete equality with wealth and intelligence, was never before wrought by a single legislative act. This act, besides enabling the negro often to defeat the white race in its choice of rulers, has involved our nation in a problem that seems almost, if not absolutely insoluble—the problem of the destiny of Caucasian rule in the United States.

Slavery has fixed the negro upon our soil and he cannot be rooted out, yet race fusion is an impossibility, and even were it possible science and history accord in declaring that the result would be a depraved mongrel race representing brain capacity decidedly inferior to that of the genuine Ethiopian.

We must remember that the human family is composed of three distinct races marked off by color: white, yellow, and black. But color is not their only difference. Color is only a label placed upon each individual by the supreme hand as a symbol of what is within. "White and black" are only too true a symbol of the relation of the races which they mark. They cry out with unmistakable voice "opposites." The one stands at the zenith and the other at the nadir of civilization. The white has been trained from time immemorial in the world's university of education and experience, and his present state of perfection in government may be considered his diploma. The negro has ever been down on the animal plain, making no advancement whatever, remaining absolutely ignorant of the first principles of society, and slavery has intensified his condition by strengthening his brutish impulses. Yet he is allowed to share with the white man the control of our delicately adjusted political system—a government founded and brought to its present state of perfection by white men. We demand why? Why should we endanger the life of our nation that the progeny of slavery may be crowned kings? From the depths of a turbulent commonwealth there comes the answer: "It is our nation's penalty for the gross sin of fostering slavery."

"This and nothing more."

Then the cause of this problem is not to be found in the reconstruction era. The enfranchisement of the negro was a necessity, for since human beings cannot make property of human beings, freedom had to be granted, and a mid-
dle ground between freedom and the ballot-box is inconsistent with the principles of our constitution.

We have now but to reap the harvest of our neglect and crime. But it still lies in our power to make this harvest heavy or light, as we please. If we continue in our neglect it may be the downfall of white rule in our nation. If we reform and work prudently with a will we may be able to blot out all the dangers of an ignorant sovereignty and make the negro a responsible fellow citizen. We must study his position in our complex civilization and see what can be done. When the negro first came into possession of the ballot he thought that by some mysterious means it would work him magical individual good, that it would at least lift him from the depths of poverty and degradation and bless him with the wealth and grandeur of kings. On the eve of election these enfranchised barbarians would swarm into the woods in the neighborhood of the polling place, through fear of missing their grand opportunity of wielding the "magic power." They could not tell whether their ticket was headed by U. S. Grant or Jefferson Davis, and would be just as liable to vote for the one as for the other. Against them was arrayed the pride, the wealth, the knowledge and the experience of the white race. Naturally, this resulted in wholesale slaughter in open day, followed by the Ku Klux Klan, which is said to have been composed of the very best men of the South. Then came the shotgun policy, tissue ballots, electoral commissions and such devices, which are among the base political practices that are threatening the moral texture of our government and are fast breaking down American reverence for the ballot-box. Horrible as they are, we have no reason to believe that these practices are at an end, for they are the products of a race contest which has just begun.

The negro has just entered as a fully endorsed sovereign in the race for power and is making the struggle of factions more and more potentious.

The feeling that exists between the white and the black is not strange. Never have two distinct races been known to live side by side without conflict. Even different types of the same race have been known to live in adjoining sections of the same country for a whole century without mixing. But here we have master and slave, superior and inferior, intelligent and illiterate, declared equals made fellow citizens, created partners in government, each struggling for supremacy.

The Southern white man's belief that the negro is his inferior is instinctive. At the ballot-box he regards him as an intruder and feels humiliated that he is obliged to allow him to intrude. In the South there is a negro alongside each white man, and their lives touch each other from the cradle to the grave. Yet there is an irrepressible race antipathy between them, and the white man would rather die than be a party to the breaking down of nature's insuperable barrier of blood. He shudders at the idea that the social inferior threatens to become the political superior, and we cannot blame him. Who is not so proud of his race that he dreads to have it ruled over by another to whom the child's primer is almost a sealed book?

Besides the ballot-box there is another position in which the negro appears as an equal of the white. He is the peerless laborer of the South. His muscular development, though rugged and ungraceful, is sinewy, tense and powerful. Slavery has so constituted him that he can live almost as cheap as a Chinaman. The poor white is his competitor and must work for the same wages, live on the same diet, and in the same sort of a shed, or give up life and allow the negro full sway. The negro's superstition is no less alarming than his ignorance, which it tends to
render permanent, while his laboring capacity enables him to contest so successfully with the white.

Slavery has solidified the negro vote. It has forged a tie which is more tenacious than kinship and stronger than patriotism. The future negro orators and poets will dwell upon the crimes committed against their race and keep alive for many centuries the greed for revenge. And now there comes from the South a voice telling of an alarming negro increase. In the black belt, where the two races are almost equal, the negro increase bears to the white the ratio of four to three, which means that in sixty years that section will have three negroes to one white man, and that as the centuries roll by the negro race will be predominant throughout the whole United States, that intelligence will be overmastered by ignorance, America ruled by Ethiopia.

Will our judgment permit us further to ignore the welfare of our posterity and allow our nation to drift on toward such an unbounded sea of danger? We cannot remove the negro, neither can we change his skin. What can we do? Let every intelligent citizen take this question home and ponder it well. There is great wisdom embodied in our commonwealth, and as true as there is a way where there is a will some noble statesman will effect a solution. But whatever this solution may be, education must take the lead in all instrumentalities of reform. Nothing but a skillful application of this powerful lever of intellectual and moral elevation can harmonize the antagonistic forces existing in our nation, and for the first time in the world’s history bring about peaceful race partnership in government.

INDIVIDUALISM.

S. A. BEACH.

The present is full of interest. Man has reached the highest civilization yet known. The dreams of ancient philosophers are now realized. But social perfection is still far in the future. Governments perfect in theory still prove imperfect in realization.

This age is developing ideas concerning society and government, and is shaping institutions for the conservatism of these ideas, which shall be as far-reaching in their consequences as were the influences of Egyptian civilization, of Chivalry and of Feudalism.

Everywhere new theories of government, religion and education seem crowding into the places of the old. Everywhere are seen evidences of wonderful advance in all lines of human activity. New ideas, new customs and new powers are being eagerly advanced to crown fitly the glorious achievements of a peerless century.

Yet sometimes the question suggests itself, whether mingling among them there may not be some element of evil or of danger to state and society.

The history of the world teaches that along with the growth of every civilization there have developed the elements of its ultimate decline and death. Who is there with prophetic vision so keen that he can say that the laws which have governed former ages have no effect in the Nineteenth century?

There are sufficient evidences that this is an age of progression. The great question is whether the lines of progress lead in the right direction. The institutions which are establishing themselves in this nation, moulding its character, and the ideas which are at work among the masses of the people are then fit subjects for the careful attention of every citizen who would discharge aright the responsibilities of his age.

Pervading all political, social and even religious movements of the time is the all-absorbing idea of individualism. It finds expression in the phrases “freedom of worship” and “personal
liberty." It teaches that the state should exist only to secure the protection of every citizen. Individualism is the equality of every man before the law. From the age of the Puritan to the time of the Nihilist it has been widening in influence and gaining power among the masses.

From the toiling millions of earth comes, with ever increasing strength, the demand for the fullest freedom and equal rights for all. The brazen-faced, shameless lie that the rich have rights which the poor have not; that masters have rights which slaves have not; that kings have rights which the people have not, like a scared wolf slinks away in the darkness at the presence of this mighty voice asserting the right of every man to liberty and justice.

No longer does the demand come from the masses alone. It comes now from the leaders of the people, the press, the pulpit and the halls of legislation. Its power is seen in the emancipation of the slaves in the United States, in the extension of the elective franchise in England, and in the proposed home rule for Ireland.

It is an influence not confined to one nation, but one which, overflooding all barriers of language and nationality, is rapidly spreading through the civilized world. To attempt to stop its progress would be like trying to dam up the Niagara.

Sometimes, out on the ocean, the sailors see an iceberg—majestic, resistless, moving on its way against the combined forces of wind and surface current; for it sinks deep down below the waves, and resting in a mighty undercurrent of the sea, is borne onward in its course, the silent witness of a power which nothing can resist, or for a moment check.

In just the same way, Nihilism in Russia, Socialism in Germany, and Republicanism in France, are but so many surface indications of the existence of this powerful undercurrent of individualism in the great sea of humanity. The tendency of all Europe is toward popular government. Already it has so far advanced in England that the queen is but a figurehead supporting royal dignity, but having really less control in governmental affairs than the president of the United States.

In Germany, it is true, "the divine right of kings" is something stronger than fiction. In Russia it still holds stern and resistless sway. Yet the doctrine that "kings rule by a divine right" is everywhere yielding to the doctrine of "the divine right of the people to rule themselves."

Once started, these movements among the masses always seem to gain momentum and like the pendulum of a clock, instead of stopping at the golden mean they swing from one extreme to the other. The Puritanism of one age becomes the Liberism of the next. The reign of king Louis in Paris to-day is followed by the reign of terror to-morrow.

Individualism was born a century ago, amid the agony of revolutions. It was a reaction from the despotism of king and priesthood. To-day it reaches the opposite extreme and threatens anarchy and mob-rule.

The extreme of individualism, under the name of "personal liberty" is championed by a class with whom "liberty" means simply "license." The right to engage, under protection of the state, in any business or course of conduct whatever, so long as they do not trespass on the privilege of other men to do the same. It is the one plea of those who either openly or in an underhanded way are at war with public safety or morality.

From this class is spreading the idea that the interests of the individual rise above all interests of state and society; that there is no higher claim resting on man than duty to self.

The progress of this idea is of special significance to the United States.
In the new adjustment of the world's population this country is getting the lion's share of fugitives from prisons and gallows. The doors are wide open to welcome every tribe of malcontents seeking here the "personal liberty" they cannot find at home.

Social complications are increasing with the increase of a vast population rapidly approaching the conditions of life in older civilized countries. Among all that part of the laboring classes where the burden of life falls with crushing weight, where existence means simply a struggle for the necessities of life, there lies a sense of injustice in the distribution of the burdens of state and society.

It is this feeling of oppression and wrong that with increasing frequency finds expression in strikes and labor riots.

It is not strange that among these classes duty to self should seem of supreme importance and individualism find its extreme expression. The remedy, fortunately, is not far to seek. It is spoken in the simple word "Justice." Every man who works for its accomplishment counts one.

To what extent in this country individualism shall develop into the extreme of "personal liberty" no man knows. This much is known. It is a question which demands careful thought and prompt action. The call to-day, the same as in all ages past, is for honest, manly hearts, simple, courageous lives to work for justice in legislation and administration and to resist everywhere oppression and wrong.

Whether the cause be successful or not, he who responds to this call gains for himself the noblest success. He places himself with the true men of all ages, whose self-sacrifice and devotion to duty have opened before humanity grander possibilities and made the world purer and better.

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**SCIENTIFIC.**

**SOME FACTS ABOUT LIQUORS.**

G. F. G.

The word alcohol is said to be of Arabic origin. In its long history it has been known by most peculiar and fanciful names. Being derived from wine, in which it was first known to exist, it was called spirits of wine. Because of its effects it was called aqua ardens and aqua vitae, and for various or unknown reasons it has been called spiritus vivus, alcohol vini, etc., etc.

It is said that of all chemical compounds, alcohol is the one which has most materially affected human progress.

There are three great classes of materials from which alcohol is made; the first class contains the sweet fruits, as the grape, which contain fermentable sugar or glucose C₆H₁₂O₆. Glucose, on exposure to the air, by the action of a vegetable ferment, the yeast plant, saccharomyces cerevisiae, is broken up into alcohol and carbonic acid, according to the chemical equation:

\[ C₆H₁₂O₆ \rightarrow 2C₂H₅OH + 2CO₂ \]

The second class contains those substances in which are cane sugar or common sugar, which can be readily converted into glucose.

The third class is the most important and the one most extensively used in manufacture, and contains those substances having starch, C₆H₁₀O₅, such as potatoes, the cereal grains rye, barley, wheat and corn. These substances, when finely divided and boiled in water, can be converted into glucose by the addition of malt which contains a peculiar substance called diastase, a given quantity of which has the power
of converting 2,000 times its own weight of starch into glucose. Sulphuric acid has the power of producing the same change when very dilute. To this latter agent, when imperfectly removed, is due the injurious character of commercial glucose.

Alcohol is the intoxicating principle in all distilled and fermented liquors. The latter can never contain more than 20 per cent. of alcohol, and they vary from one or 2 per cent. in small beers to 18 or 20 in port wine. Of the distilled liquors, brandy depends largely upon its ethers and acids for its value. Cognac brandy is the finest article of its kind, made from the fermented juice of the grape, in a small district by that name in the south of France. Artificial brandies are produced from alcohol, water and manufactured ethers that closely resemble the genuine article, and it is chiefly this kind that can be purchased in the United States. Whiskey is the principal distilled beverage produced in this country; it may consist of any per cent. of alcohol from 55 downward, and the poorer grades contain considerably less. Water and alcohol are the essential constituents, while caramel or burnt sugar is the coloring matter and tannic acid is added to give an astringent taste. Whiskey formerly got its characteristic odor and taste from the smoke of a peat fire, over which it was distilled. Acetic acid is found in sour-mash whiskey, where some of the alcohol in the mash is allowed to oxidize into acetic acid. Fusel oil occurs, especially in the cheaper grades. Cresoate is sometimes put in to give the smoky flavor above referred to.

A normal gin contains alcohol, from 30 to 50 per cent., water and some volatile oil, as juniper or turpentine.

Rum was originally distilled from the fermented juice of the sugar cane, but it is now generally made from alcohol and water, with butyric acid, which gives the flavor of pineapples. The alcohol of commerce is of different grades, containing 7 to 16 per cent. of water and a varying amount of fusel oil. The best druggists' alcohol is 92 per cent. by weight. Proof spirit of the United States government is 43 per cent. by weight or 50 per cent. by volume at 60° F. In the manufacture one bushel of Indian corn will make one quart of 92 per cent. alcohol. Some idea of the production of distilled liquors may be obtained from statistics. In one year there are produced in the United States over seventy-five millions of gallons of distilled liquors, on which the tax is about $75,000,000. Six quarts for every man, woman and child in this country. If all were put in one place it would make a lake one foot deep, one mile long and one-half mile wide. Statistics of fermented liquors are also interesting; for the same time the United States produce over five hundred millions of gallons, taxed nearly $17,000,000. Five gallons for each individual in this broad land; enough to make a sea of foaming beer and sparkling wine four miles long and one mile wide, a foot deep.

Aside from its use as a beverage, pure alcohol has many important uses. As a medicinal agent it forms an important part of the physician's resources. Tinctures are substances dissolved in alcohol which would decompose or are insoluble in water. Its mechanical uses are many; because of its high coefficient of expansion and its low solidifying point, at −95° C., it only thickens; it is a most valuable substance for thermometric purposes, especially in making thermometers to record temperatures below −39° F., the point at which mercury solidifies. In the laboratory it is the most important solvent except water, dissolving gums, resins and some organic acids, besides numerous other uses. Before the invention of the Bunsen gas lamp it was the principal fuel used in the laboratory, burning with a clear, almost non-luminous
flame, with no deposit of carbon and of great heating power. As an antiseptic agent it acts by absorbing water from animal and vegetable tissues. It is thus extensively used for preserving zoological and botanical specimens and much other material for scientific investigation.

Genuine vinegar always passes through the alcoholic stage, by means of the minute vegetable organism known as "mother of vinegar" (mycoderma aceti), which serves in some way to carry the oxygen of the air to the alcohol, producing vinegar by this oxidation.

Alcohol, chemically considered, is the representative of a long series of organic compounds of the genus, primary alcohols having the general formula Cn An+2 O; it is the second in the series and is known as ethyl alcohol, with the formula C2 H 5 OH. The per cent. of its ultimate composition has been determined as follows:

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<td>Carbon ....................... 52.69</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hydrogen .. . . . . . . . . . . . . . 12.90</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oxygen ....................... 34.43</td>
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| Total .................... 100.00 |

Examinations of a few samples of distilled liquors have been made in this laboratory to show the composition of ordinary brands of whiskey, gin and brandy. The method pursued was much as follows: A known quantity of the spirit under consideration, usually 100 c. c., together with half as much water, is placed in a retort over a water bath and connected with a Liebig condenser. A thermometer is inserted into the retort. It is then subjected to distillation at the temperature of a water bath 100 ° C., until as much distillate is collected in the receiver as there was spirit to commence with. The distillate contains only alcohol and water, and the per cent. of alcohol in this can best be determined by ascertaining its specific gravity. This is done by weighing a known volume in a specific gravity flask, as for example one of 10 c. c. capacity, if accurate weighing can be done on a good chemical balance; the flask and contents are weighed at 15 ° C., the weight of the flask subtracted, and the weight of the mixture divided by the weight of the same volume of pure water at the same temperature, which gives the specific gravity. Tables have been carefully prepared by eminent chemists, by means of which the per cent. can be determined from the specific gravity of the liquid.

The whole can be best illustrated by taking the record of an actual analysis: 100 cubic centimeters of good whiskey were distilled in an apparatus as above described. The spirit distilled at about 93 ° C. for four hours and the distillate collected in a receiver and diluted to exactly 100 c.c., so that for convenience it was under the same conditions as before it was distilled, only that foreign matters were all removed and the distillate contained nothing but alcohol and water. By carefully weighing a small specific gravity flask filled with distilled water at 15 ° C. and then finding the weight of the bottle perfectly dry, it was found to have a capacity of 9.9749 grammes. The same bottle was filled with the distillate and accurately weighed, the weight of the flask subtracted, and the remainder found to be 9.3609 grammes. This, then divided by 9.9749, the weight of an equal volume of water, gave the specific gravity of the liquid to be .9373. Consulting tables, this was found to correspond to 40.75 per cent. alcohol. A trace of tannic acid was found by precipitating it as tannate of iron. By extraction with ether from the residue in the retort a little fusel oil was detected. The coloring matter was found to be burnt sugar, and this determined by its reducing power on Fehling's solution, the essential ingredient of which is cupric sulphate. The amount found was about one-half of one per cent.
The remaining 59 per cent. was water.

Another sample determined by the same methods gave alcohol 42 per cent., burnt sugar 0.15 per cent., with traces of fusel oil and tannic acid, and the remainder water. A gin analysis showed alcohol 33.51 per cent., 0.97 per cent. of cane sugar, and flavored with oil of cassia.

An analysis of brandy gave alcohol 41.85 per cent., coloring matter 0.15 per cent., and traces of flavoring ethers.

Analyses of beer have shown alcohol 2.33, 3.9, and 4.5 per cents.

### SCIENTIFIC WORK.

As time rolls on in her rapid flight to the eternity of the future, the people of the different nations are rapidly becoming bound more firmly together by that mystical tie—the band of science. The great cables of steel, ever increasing in number and in importance, stretch across the oceans, and the broad expanse thus traversed is becoming less broad by the constant use of the improved steamships. These are familiar instances of the many wonderful products of the growth of science and the advancement of mechanic arts. Now the days of the present are equivalent to weeks and months of the past. All desire the true unity of mankind, and this end can be attained best by ever straining to promote the true interests of science.

Science may be defined as knowledge systematically organized. We may separate it into two divisions; first, the knowledge of phenomena gained from experiments and observations; second, the knowledge of the laws controlling these phenomena. The universe of the known and the to be known comprises an infinite number of facts, which give a basis to science. He who in nature's kingdom increases the human knowledge is a discoverer of facts and likewise a student of the laws of nature. The scientific advancement of science means the arrangement in a systematic manner of all the facts and observations gained either by simple observation or by experiments carefully conducted. It means the study of recorded facts for the purpose of ascertaining their laws, and the relations of one group to another and of the sciences to each other.

To successfully accomplish so great an undertaking, many workers are needed, and each of whom must be a specialist and give his whole time, his earnest thought, and his entire strength to the life work which is before him. For the study of nature we must have observers naturally endowed and specially fitted to conduct their branch of work. Men are needed to see and explain the relations of the several sciences to each other and their position in the universal science. We need teachers of science, and laborers who apply it in the arts of daily life. Each embrace a large class and each of which are of great importance.

Then there is another class which gives material aid to the work. They have no extensive knowledge of any of the departments of science and no talent for scientific research of any kind. Yet they devote the products of years of toil to the support of the cause. They have given and still are giving their substance to found scientific schools and to establish various departments of science in our schools and colleges. This is only another branch of the great work, and they who perform the task by means of their money are entitled to their share of the honor along with those who devote life, health and strength to the all-important work.

In the work of science, we find a great display of intellectual power, and it might be well to inquire as to the use and object of the knowledge which has
been systematically gained. Why should the advancement of science be the sole aim and end of so elaborate a system? Has science a work to perform? The promotion of the welfare of mankind is its object; and not only the physical and intellectual natures, but also the material and the spiritual share in the benefits arising from the advancement of science.

It should be its aim to better humanity in every possible way, in body, in mind, in heart, and in soul. The sufferings of humanity should be traced to their origin and strenuous efforts be put forth to obtain appropriate remedies. The hours of toil should be lessened and the laborers should be given the aid and inspiration which will enable them to ascend the ladder of intellectual culture. Its great aim should be to perfect our now imperfect civilization.

In the midst of an age of progress, it takes time to observe the manifold changes that are constantly taking place and to reflect upon their origin and progress, their cause and effect. Not alone in the laboratories and in the workshops does the work of science exist. Its work is wider than our mental grasp and extends beyond our vision. In the material prosperity and in the evolution of the higher and nobler attributes of character, we see the manifestations of the fruits of science. Modern sciences are greatly indebted to philosophic methods for their origin. Some one has said: “Art has always gone in advance and science has followed to give the reasons for the phenomena discovered and the methods found best in art.” In times past we find that art has hesitatingly preceded science, and even then we find the greatest, the most rapid progress when both were side by side.

But this is not the natural order of progression. Science has been in her infancy and knew not of her powers, her mission, or her methods of operation. Soon will the day come when science shall take her place as the leader, directing and guiding all the unfolding processes in the development of the arts. Before the science of magnetism, the art of using the mariner’s compass was known. Ere thermo-dynamics had even an ideal existence, we found the steam engine at work. I think I may safely say that the telegraph, the telephone and the electric light preceded the science of electrics. These instances, together with many more which might be cited, show that science has followed in the footsteps of art. Now the order is being reversed, and hereafter science will assume control. The mysteriously dark ways and workings of the old inventor will give place to the scientific methods of the new. The desired end will be gained by a more direct and efficient way and the old uncertainty will make way for the new certainty.

From earliest time, it has received the support of the nations. The Greeks and the Romans founded schools; and although we find that the study of philosophy was first and foremost, yet we find the germ of the physical sciences. Euclid gave us geometry. Archimedes taught us the elements of mechanics and the principles of hydrostatics and of the lever. Many of the mechanical inventions are the results of the enlightened policy of those times. Experimental science sprang up and contributed to the growth of real knowledge.

For years the light is obscured and stagnation and darkness are in the ascendency. Then westward the seat of science takes her place, and in the home of European civilization, it again appears. Bruno and Galileo, the noble defenders of the Copernican theory, were ready to suffer martyrdom that truth and science might live. The works of Newton hastened the progress of physics and mechanics. Natural sciences rapidly took form and grow with amazing rapidity. Following them we
find the lesser sciences, together with the multitude of facts obtained through scientific investigation. Physical energy, in its various forms, and also the active forces are revealed to mankind. In chemistry and physics, the discoveries take place with such rapidity that one must be on the alert to know the latest information about these sciences. The countless number of inventions, that accomplishes what was hitherto deemed impossible, are presented to our view.

When the mind of man has been free to study, meditate, observe, and experiment, ever has science advanced and the world been improved thereby. These conditions require the assistance of wealth for their highest fulfillment. Whenever and wherever science secures wealth to aid in the securing of permanent and suitable locations in which to continue her researches, then, and not till then, will her progress be more rapid and substantial.

Science teaches exactness and clearness of thought and expression, and independence of mind. It tolerates honestly held and frankly expressed opinions. It produces coolness of action and a deliberation that may be depended upon to yield a correct judgment. The influences of the scientific spirit has been one of the chief agents in producing the changes of our methods of work and of education. Applied sciences have had their origin since the old spirit of contempt for art and the abhorrence for science have become extinct. Without a conception of the true object of science, it was impossible for the applied sciences to exist among a people. In the slow progress of mankind toward the real civilization, it was not until many centuries had passed away that the union of art and science was possible.

The invention of the telescope was the death-knell of Galileo, but it sustained the Copernican system. It was, however, not until Newton's time that we notice the outburst of energy in the useful application of the sciences. Its magic presence was instantly felt in every art and industry, and in all phases of human life. We are now only on the threshold of the new era of applied sciences. The slow progress in the scientific development of matters relating to the useful arts is no more remarkable than the difficulty of firmly impressing upon the minds of the masses scientific principles, which are firmly established and recognized by all scientific and learned men.

Our nation, even in her short history, has witnessed the results of the union of art and science. The invention of the cotton gin, the art of weaving by the aid of machinery, the invention of the sewing machine, together with the telegraph, the telephone, the locomotive, and the steamship, and many others, are familiar examples. By this union we are to gain the means and methods of emancipating mankind from the overwhelming burden of labor now oppressing the race. The cultivation of science in every branch of art and in every division of industry, the discovery of facts and laws constitute the task of the scientific worker. This cultivation must be systematic and aid in the application of science to the daily work of humanity.

HOT WATER ARTESIAN WELL AT PESTH.

The deepest artesian well in the world is that which is now being bored at Pesth, for the purpose of supplying the public baths and other establishments with hot water. A depth of 951 meters (3,120 feet) has already been reached, and it furnishes 176,000 gallons daily at a temperature of 158° Fah. The municipality have recently voted a large subvention, in order that the boring may be continued to a greater depth, not only to obtain a larger volume of water, but at a temperature of 176° Fah.
Few persons, especially those of sedentary habits, pay due regard to physical development. More especially is this true of students. Although it might seem that they, above all others, would make endeavors to secure this end.

Were I to picture the daily experiences of an average student at our own College, the truth would be more manifest. If it were discovered that he rose in the morning, went down to breakfast with no previous exercise; that the forenoon recitations found him invigorated by naught but mental labor; that studious habits consumed his afternoons; supper finds him no better physically; that even recreation hour is but poorly employed to this end, and that the evening study hours again recall him to his studies for the morrow, the great wonder would be how he was able to continue his mental researches at all.

In a school of this kind, the only way to secure good results is to have a regular system of gymnastics. Cornell University, and a few other leading colleges, have come to consider this matter in the proper light. At Cornell the importance of a sound body is recognized as important a factor to the success and happiness as that of a well-stored mind.

In view of this fact they have a most elaborate gymnasium for, not only the gentlemen, but also one for the ladies. In short, there is a full department of hygiene and physical culture, in which every student in every course of study will be required to take exercise. An experienced gymnast and doctor of medicine is placed in charge. He examines students on entering and prescribes such physical exercise as his physical constitution is found to require.

I do not intend to make an attempt to secure an appropriation for a gymnasium, as the most enthusiastic effort must surely terminate in failure, as did the one attempted a few years ago. The public sentiment must change considerably before this can be accomplished.

It is often argued by persons unacquainted with our College and its surroundings that an institution for developing one physically need not be connected with our College; that it is not
like other colleges where there is no farm in connection with it.

Regardless of this, it is evident that there must be some stronger motive than the sight of a beautiful corn crop to induce one to walk far on a warm day; besides, without a proper instructor we are almost as much at a loss as though we had no instructor in mathematics so far as systematic development is concerned.

Our base ball is limited to a few of the boys, and totally excludes the lady students. Lawn tennis is still more narrow than base ball. Croquet affords but little recreation physically, so that the principal resource of physical development is walking, and walking with no other object in view than exercise, is sure to result in that inelastic step by no means a stranger to us.

The military drill, as now practiced, may relieve the aspect some, as it gives exercise, on a small scale, to a few of both ladies and gentlemen.

Whatever means are adopted to secure a more extensive physical culture will be greeted as a great good.

The Iowa Agricultural college can well feel proud of the head of the veterinary department. It can also congratulate itself that it was not compelled to seek a new head by the resignation of Prof. Stalker for a financially better position.

During the latter part of last spring term Prof. Stalker was called to Chicago by the board of regents of the University of Illinois, who offered him the chair of veterinary science in that institution, with a salary of $1,800 per year. There were other inducements besides these. On accepting this position it was arranged that he was to be appointed state veterinarian, for which services the stipulated amount was $8 per day actual service.

This was, financially, an increase on what Iowa is doing. But the professor has kindly concluded to remain in the institution, the veterinary department of which owes its origin and progress mainly to his energetic and proficient labors.

"Not the quantity, but the quality!" This is a maxim used generally to express the truth contained therein. It is believed by some that a student can, and generally does, accomplish more by being forced to work under the strongest pressure possible; arguing that if he has but little to do, he will fail to do justice to it.

Some colleges are conducted on this principle, and consequently to the detriment of the students. We are unable to master any subject to perfection either in science or art. But if we take up a subject for the purpose of investigation, it is evident that the more time, study and thought we put upon it, the better we will succeed in our object. Then the only question is, will a student slight what he has to do simply because of the small amount? I think a real student will not. There may be a person occasionally who will answer to that order, but they are exceptions, and it would be a hasty generalization to conclude that because a few students were disposed to do so that all were likewise disposed.

Those who were the victims of crowded courses, who had such an enormous amount of work to do that they had no time to think upon their subjects or to make original investigations, are those who leave school without being proficient in any branch; they are the class of students who have a general idea of a great number of subjects, but are wonderfully inefficient in any particular branch.

It is gratifying to know that a great number of colleges and universities recognize this fact, and still more gratifying to know that this
Among the many needs of this College is that of a hall, or at least a room, where those desiring to practice upon musical instruments extensively could find a refuge. This ideal refuge should possess the quality of agreeing with the maxim, "Distance lends enchantment." More especially is this need apparent for the louder instruments. Say, for instance, a student desires to study on Saturday. Now, it is a matter of impossibility to do so if in the next room, or on the same floor, or, I might say, in the same building, a number of such instruments are being used at the highest and shrillest tone. This would not be so desperate if there were even a pause during the day in which one might collect his scattered nervous force. In lieu of such a hall or such a room, I think I express a common sentiment when I say that where the gentle zephyrs would not injure the blower or the blowet, that it would be highly proper and more highly appreciated if the aforesaid musicians would pattern after Demosthenes, or, in the absence of the sea, enchant the "joli petit bois" for at least part of that day.

It is not a settled question with many persons whether or not department libraries are more beneficial to all concerned than one central library. It seems that circumstances would determine this to a great extent. For instance, if each department can afford a complete technical library, situated in a convenient place, and then have a good general library to refer to, this, it seems, would be an ideal arrangement. It has the advantage of being convenient to refer to, as it would probably be situated near the halls of that department.

It also has its disadvantages. When all the different department libraries would make but an imperfect general library when combined, surely, were they separated they would make but very imperfect ones. Again, they would require a librarian for each department, thus incurring some expense additional.

A much greater difficulty would be to distinguish between the works belonging to the different departments. For instance, suppose our library was to be divided up in this way. In the division there would be difficulty in discriminating between what should fall to the geological department or to the zoological department; to the civil or to the mechanical departments, as each would border on and overlap the other.

A further objection would be that few persons care to read exclusively from the works of any one department. In a general school like ours, especially, one has occasion to read from every department in the subject matter of his daily studies. The general course student finds daily access to the departments of veterinary science, zoology, chemistry and literature an absolute necessity. Now, were these departments distinct from each other, or each having a more limited number of library hours, as they probably would much trouble would be experienced in his researches.

Experience has shown that there need be as great a number of library hours as possible. This demand has increased so much that each year we have added to their number. This would be a great objection in the way of this division, and probably the most precious hours, the evenings, would be lost.

The difficulty of references would be an item of no small account. A student in his study would find references to different departments, causing him the loss of time in going from one hall to another, or probably would be compelled to discontinue his researches for
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a time on account of conflicting library hours of the different departments.

It seems apparent, then, that for our college at least, where we have only a limited library, the best policy is that which is now in vogue, namely that of a main central library, with a librarian who can devote the most of her time to its welfare, and where the number of reading hours are advanced to a maximum. This will be in reality an advantage to both students and instructors; a condition by which we can accomplish the greatest amount of good in the least amount of time.

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EXCHANGE NOTES.

The Eastman's Journal comes this month as an exchange, as a fair representative of a business college journal. Although its courses are short compared with our regular college course, yet it seems to have been doing good work. The Journal presents the fact that "more than 33,000 of the prosperous business men of to-day were trained at The Eastman's College." The Journal is now a monthly paper, but proposes to change it to a quarterly this fall.

A new exchange on our list is that of the Agricultural Students' Gazette, England. It is edited by the students at the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester. The greater portion of its space is taken up by an article on "Results of Experiments at Rothamsted on the Growth of Barley." The article contains much useful information to a scientific student. Its college notes are principally concerning its games and their successes of the season.

The August number of the Pacific Pharos greets us pleasantly from San Jose. The paper is a semi-monthly, in neat form and possessing the quality of simplicity. Its editorials are mostly short articles upon home topics, and very well arranged. The literary, local and exchange departments all partake of the same nature.

The Woman's Standard is a new paper published in Des Moines, by Mary J. Coggeshall. It is a radical woman's sheet, containing contributions from many prominent ladies of Iowa. From its tenor, it means to materially change the political ideas of the present to a condition where their "rights" will be realized.

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NEWS FROM OTHER COLLEGES.

There are 18,000 women students in the different colleges of this country.

Yale College library increases yearly at the rate of 1,000 volumes.

The aggregate income of all the colleges in the United States is $4,500,000.

Miss Bridget Graffort in 1800 gave the first plot of ground ever given in the United States for public schools.

Miss Elizabeth Thompson has given $1,000 toward the endowment of the observatory of Vassar college.

The class of '86 of West Point was the largest in number and the highest in efficiency that was ever graduated from that institution.

At Haverford College each member of the two lower classes is compelled to spend at least one hour of each week in the gymnasium under the direction of a competent instructor.

The graduating class of '84 at the University of the Pacific, San Jose, pledged themselves to present, as a class, a cup to the first one "embarking
upon the sea of matrimony.” This seems like California is a good place for ministers.

The old order of colleges of arranging students in the order of their recognized social rank had its last at Yale in 1767, in the “triennial.” The last of this rank classification had its last in 1772, in the “quinquennial.”

Chas. W. Sever, Cambridge, announces for publication, at the opening of the college year, a series of French text books which is to differ materially from anything of this kind before offered. It will consist of texts of reproductions of original or characteristic editions, complete and unexpurgated, and designed more especially for colleges.

The students of the Agricultural College of Michigan are thrown into an unusual state of excitement by the suspension of eighteen seniors. The article which appears in The College Speculum was evidently written for the students of that place, where all understand the circumstances, and the article is not sufficiently clear in giving particulars. But it says “beginning with certain charges brought in good faith against the professor of agriculture and his methods of teaching, the week has ended in the departure of eighteen highly respected seniors.”

It seems further that a student had been expelled for refusing to testify in an affair in which he was not engaged, and stated to the board what they considered their duty in regard to class day and commencement exercises unless the expelled student was reinstated. The board not acquiescing to the proposal to reinstate, the boys concluded to depart.

We can sympathize with the students for the loss of a portion of its members and also for the general standing of the college. The affairs of college government and the relations existing between the authorities and students is ever a perplexing question, and where constant good judgment and patience need be exercised on both sides. The impatient and impetuous disposition may, in an ungarded moment, materially injure itself. It necessitates careful discriminations to determine the expediency as well as the rightfulness of many actions.

Grapes.
Brown bread.
Co. Q, Fall in!
Three new I. C. pines.
“Got a 4 in Analytics.”
“Yes Billy, do!” and Billy did.
Where did Julia get her scull-cap.
If you must talk about you neighbors, close the transom.

There are some Sophs who certainly don’t understand the meaning of the proverb, “much cry little wool,”

The young ladies on the first floor had better speak a little more gently in their confidential talks, for they might disturb the slumbers of the young gentlemen overhead, tra, la, la!

What is the matter with the bumble-bees around North hall. They seem to have reversed the order of things, for in several instances lately they have been madly persuing the entomologist, instead of the entomologist persuing the the bumble-bees.

Is there any reason why the social hour Sunday, may not include the time from chapel until supper and be limited to
the same places as during the week, instead of being confined to the hot and dreary lab walk.

The nucleus of our new gymnasium i.e. a turning pole, has been erected near the machine shops. Tho' having such an unpretentious origin, we hope it may in a short time surpass the one of the past.

The Junior civils broke the new transit the first time it was used and the Soph civils are mad in consequence, they having to use the old one.

Table No. 9 had a new dish for a change, i.e. fried frogs. They are preparing to challenge some other table probably, and expect to improve their record. They ought now to be better runners at least.

The literary societies have been discussing the problem whether we shall declare war against Mexico. There are very few who would not now give "four years of Cleveland for four weeks of Jim Blaine."

The Y. P. C. A. have secured the money and purchased about forty numbers of Gospel Hymns with notes, quite a good deal of the funds being donated by persons not members of the association. Are not the members of the faculty equally able to get new books for chapel use?

The use of cigars and the "stern, stinking, nasty pipe" are forbidden, but one can chew as much as he pleases as long as he refrains from spitting on the wall or in his neighbors hat. The tobacco that finds its way into the borrowers mouth is usually "nine days warning," or perhaps "sudden death."

Grapes won't ripen in a room, worth a cent. Even if they are a little green they will be sampled, especially if every one in that section knows where they are kept.

What would you think of a teacher who accuses a young lady of forging the preceptress' name. "We measure others by our own yard stick."

The peacock which was recently placed in the museum, was donated to it by Miss Stockmann. It is a splendid specimen and adds very much to the appearance of the museum.

The foolish virgin ariseth early in the morn that she may get a 4 in geom, while the wise one sweetly sleepeth till the jingle ringeth.

Quite a number of the students are using Indian clubs—the girls as well as the boys. It not only strengthens the arm but tends to keep the shoulders square.

A base ball nine picked up for the occasion played a nine from some where in Boone county. No very good playing was done on either side, the score standing 18 to 36 in favor of the college. The Boone nine acted as gentlemen, but had with them an excuse for an umpire, a person who was anything but fair, and who had probably never seen a curved ball. But our boys being much ahead, and as he was disabled bodily and weak mentally, let his absurd decisions go by with a little good natured tho' sarcastic "chaff."

Little Donald Stanton recently introduced a new course at dinner. It is needless to add that it was enjoyed by all. Ask Reynolds how he liked it.

The Sophomore civils surveyed the Ontario school yard and charged it up to "loss or gain."

Most of the officers of the college battalion spent one day at the encampment of the First Brigade and reported enough fun could be had in one day to satisfy anyone. That is probably so, but those who spent the whole week did the learning and are satisfied to let the others have the fun.
To the students here chapel is compulsory. Whether any good can come of a compelled religious worship or not is very doubtful. As it is here, it is the cause of more lies, ten times over, than all the other college regulations together. The more absurd the lie the quicker is an excuse granted. Besides out and out falsehoods, it leads to indirect ones. For example; getting an excuse for one date when there are several and adding the other remaining absences. Or when you have only one and when signed the excuse is not dated, keep it and stay away from chapel when you choose and set down the date for that day, and when the paper is full enough hand it to the proctor. If it is dated, say 9-4 put a "one" before the four, making fourteen and use as before.

If we were allowed to take studies amounting to fifteen hours a week with chapel, or eighteen hours without chapel how many would take the fifteen hour course.

A little eucher now and then, Is relished by the best of men.
But when it comes to poker our V. S. takes the cake, or perhaps better, the "pot." His method of playing is peculiarly his own.

Our first rain since the last Monday in the spring term occurred Sept. 14, causing us to miss the drill the second time this year and the third in the last three years.

At the last session of the Hayseed society the program was by the honorary members. The hall was crowded and the articles were of unusual interest to all, as shown by the discussions on each at the close.

All that is necessary (?) in order that a young man may receive an invitation to join a literary society, is that he belongs to Co. O.

The senior class has made a compromise between a Des Moines and a Monticello artist by selecting the home one, Mr. Crook. As it is now the class can go to Des Moines to Edinger's studio and have the three dozen taken for very little more than it will cost here, and have artistic work done, too.

The peat bed near the wind mills caught fire from a passing train and burned a strip about sixty yards long and twelve yards wide. The ashes are being used as a top-dressing for the meadows and lawns.

The battalion, for the first time in the history of the college, probably, went thro' the ceremony of guard-mounting. It is proposed to continue it until we have thoroughly mastered it.

The battalion has begun target practice.

Some startling conclusions in political economy:

"If sixty men in the course of a day lose five minutes each, there is a total loss of three hours."—Roscoe Conkling.

"If one man in a certain time can do a given amount of work, ten men, by division of labor, can do ten times that amount."—Susan B. Anthony.

The latest rule affecting all the students forbids one being in another's room during study hours. May it be rigorously enforced. There is nothing more demoralizing than consulting your classmate about some difficult point in to-morrow's lesson.

A resolution adopted by the faculty during the absence of the president forbids any one attending lodge in Ames. This debars three Masons and four S. V.'s., with possibly one or two Good Templars, and this by a faculty which permits two secret organizations to exist in the college, with a membership of twenty, and meeting anywhere from two weeks to twice a day. Which breaks into study hours the more? Consistency, thou art a jewel.
Fred Carr spent Sabbath at his home in Des Moines.

Frank Andrews was absent a week from school visiting in Kentucky.

Mr. Smith of Clinton visited his cousin, Mr. Curtiss. Mr. S. informed us that a Clinton boy whom we older students all remember, "Reddy" Gerhard, is trying to sober down on one of the Dakota big farms.

Mr. Allen of Blairstown spent a couple of days with Bert Felt.

Scott Bradford keeps fresh candies, all the fruits of the season, and the latest patterns in carpets.

President Chamberlain has been absent a couple of weeks, part of the time lecturing in Iowa and the remainder attending to business in Ohio. Rev. Barrows took his place here during his absence.

Prof. Delong, formerly of Pella, but recently elected to the chair of ancient languages in the I. W. U. at Mt. Pleasant, visited this school, in company with Prof. Chevalier.

Prof. Ranier’s sister and her son spent Sabbath here. Her father accompanied her here, made a brief stay and returned home.

Capt. Lincoln has been on the sick list, something uncommon for him. He was prevented from attending the old soldiers’ reunion, where he was to have delivered an address.

Nat Spencer’s sister paid him and her particular friend, Myra Whited, a very pleasant visit. She was greatly disappointed in not seeing the battalion drill. One of the agreeable features of her visit was a well-filled box which she bro’t Nat.

Dr. Knapp is here delivering to the students taking the agricultural course, a series of lectures lasting three weeks.

Thos. Hogan has left school to teach in Shelby county.

Marcus Farwell visited a couple of days in Glidden while the other boys were in camp.

E. S. Richman didn’t seem to appreciate the kindness of the boys in securing him a roommate.

One of the old members of class ’86, Mr. Dennis Kelly, was married to a fair Jasper county school marm, Miss Anna Hughes, Aug. 25. The happy pair immediately went to housekeeping in Prairie City, where Dennis is principal of the city schools. Here’s lifelong happiness to you and your bride, old friend!

Mr. Peterson, a graduate of the Danish Agricultural College, is visiting the I. A. C. for the purpose of learning our methods and carrying them home with him.

A friend of Myron Reynolds, from Glidden, has been spending a short time here.

Miss Lizzie Schaal has been laid up for nearly a week with a lame tooth.

Mrs. Stanton’s sister, Miss Etta MacDonald, is visiting her.

Miss Julia Wentches brother stopped to visit her over Sabbath while on his way to the state fair.
A mistake occurred in the last issue of *The Aurora* regarding the editor of the *Farm Journal*. It should have been S. A. Beach instead of G. W. Greene. The latter was elected president of the association, and not editor.

Pat and Peck have each decided to take a special course in botany, and have commenced by naming the plants in herbariums of some of the Sophomore girls.

“Mike” Flannigan has returned home to take charge of the grammar room in Garden Grove. Whether Mike’s getting taken in—by the proctor remember—on his first attempt at “mashing” had anything to do with his leaving school or no we cannot venture to say.

The battalion’s major, Billy Hunter, performed his duties at the encampment in such a creditable manner that he unanimously received the nomination of major for the First regiment in the Second brigade, I. N. G. If elected, and he surely will be, we will venture to say that the brigade never had a major who better understood the duties of that position.

84. Archie Clark was re-elected superintendent of the Deer Trail schools, but resigned to take a position in a real estate office in Denver.

77. J. B. Hungerford stopped over night on his way to his home in Carroll county.

84. Miss Fannie Wilson visited friends here several days. Miss Fannie makes us think of old times, and we half suspect we are still freshmen.

79. Prof. Osborn has been quite indisposed for a week, but was not unable to hear his classes.

83. Miss Jessie E. Frater spent nearly a week with her brother and sister here. She is home on her summer vacation.

81. Hop Hopkins expects to visit for some time at Clarence, Cedar Co., during this month.

76. W. F. Gilmore holds down the important position of second sergeant in Company H, I. N. G., from Tipton.

85. W. M. Hays spent a week at his old home in Hardin county.

84. Miss Aggie West is spending her vacation at home in Ames. She goes soon to Minneapolis to resume her duties in the school room.

84. Morris Vincent visited the college during the session of the State Horticultural Association.

84. Fred Huntly visited the college a couple of days. He is on the editorial staff of *The Farmer*, in Minneapolis. He conducts the horticultural department, also the apiary and the markets.

84. Miss Edna Bell has been spending several days visiting friends here.