The Inter-Collegiate Convention of February 1st, made commendable progress towards putting the association on a permanent foundation. The new features are a Board of Regents, composed of prizemen and members of the faculties of the Colleges represented; an Educational Meeting once a year, at which prizemen read theses and conduct discussions on their respective departments; and an attempt to equalize the footing of competitors by limiting the contestants to “those studying for a first degree.” The intent is that this shall mean only general or academic course students, as distinguished from mere specialists. What it means in fact, remains to be seen. This is, and has been, the weak point of the association. No general understanding has existed as to its precise character, and this chiefly because no definite basis of competition has been marked out. This was the one thing which most needed to be settled, and the one thing which the Convention came farthest from settling; for it did little more than to evade it. We raise no issue with any institution—we know the value of the specialist, and respect him—but it is time for the College world definitely to know whether the Inter-Collegiate contests are intended as incentives and rewards for the specialist, or the academic student, or both combined. If for the specialist alone, then let the Colleges of liberal culture courses withdraw; if for candidates for the degree of B. A. alone, then let the schools of technology retire; if for both combined, then let the management pass from the under-graduates over to an independent corporation. Let this be christened by a new name, and let it hold out prizes for excellency in the several departments, to be given to the best man, irrespective of the “where,” or the “how,” he obtained his knowledge. Each of these has its advantages; but the question now is, to which belongs the association, as at present conducted? A decision unambiguous, is what is wanted. For which of these, matters little—for, in any case, the I. C. L. A. will survive; but, by all means, let us have an understanding. The term “first degree,” so far as we can see, may mean anything or nothing, according to the convenience of any particular institution. The restriction which requires the submission by the candidate of a certificate from the president of his institution to the Board of Regents, stating the actual course pursued, is the only saving clause. A discriminating exercise of this power by competent men, will probably secure a much fairer contest than hitherto. It is to be hoped, and seems probable, that by another year the association will have worked out some adequate definition of its own character. Leaving subsequent action to be determined by that decision, we think it the part of wisdom for our own College, in the meantime, to enter heartily and actively into the departments of the contest for which we are fitted. The present bright prospect and

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTENTS:</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDITORIALS...</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONTRIBUTIONS...</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REPORTER...</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HERE AND THERE...</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXCHANGES...</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERSONAL AND CHIPS...</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
flourishing condition of the association, are largely due to the labours of the friends of this institution, and deserve to be actively backed up by the students.

Recently two eminent divines have preached here expressly to the students. If the strong thought, the intense earnestness, the tremendous power of Dr. Taylor did not bring conviction to all, it could not fail to make men think. If the sincere affection for his own "spiritual birthplace," the eloquent appeal of Dr. Cuyler did not draw men, it certainly could not heedlessly be thrown aside. Perhaps these visits are significant, and portend a recurrence of last winter's scenes. If it come in genuine fruitfulness, it is well. But if it bring no higher sense of duty, no keener appreciation of the responsibilities of College life, no greater diligence in the pursuit of those ends for which we are ostensibly here, no stricter attention to some well known disregarded College laws, we hope it will not come. If it be only the transient glow of religious furore, to sink back into the deep blackness of reactive inactivity, content with listless sighing for the return of what has passed, and with a sort of lethargic and satisfied delight, preferring to speak the joy rather than do the deed, we believe and say sincerely, and we hope devoutly, we do not want it to come.

Class-Day Elections have resulted, we believe, in very general satisfaction. And the appointments, without exception, we deem good. The Class-Day "committee" might have been improved; yet not in that one quality without which any committee is of little account, namely, energy. We want here to congratulate the committee which reported the plan of elections, for the truly admirable manner in which they discharged their duty. Never have we seen elections go off with greater dispatch, and less confusion. There was considerable electioneering by candidates for one or two offices, and no end of the aspirants for the arduous but thankless position of committee-men. This cannot be too strongly condemned. It smacks of the method of a local political convention. The elections were free from the usual attempts, we are glad to say, to run men in the interest of cliques. Nothing of the sort was attempted. Nothing now appears in the way of the entire success of '77's Class-Day.

The graduating class has made a new departure in the character of its Class-Day exercises. For the trite and hackneyed Campus Oration has been substituted the Prophecy. Thus, the past of the Historian and the Presentation Orator will be supplemented by a "dip into the future." The expensive, but inexpressive memorial gift to the College, backed up by a didactic oration on its benefits and use, has been dropped; and instead has been revived the interesting and expressive exercise of planting a Class Ivy.

The objections to a Memorial are the increased expense of Class Day and the failure of the Memorial to answer its real purpose, i.e. to express the good will of the class to the College. The expenses of Class-Day have grown, of late years, so enormous as to be an excessive drain on the resources of the members of the class. Last year the amount was something like $1800, of which the Memorial was $1000. The removal of the Memorial lessens the expense at least one-half.

The custom is founded on the principle that a departing class ought to leave behind a substantial gift to the College. This proceeds upon the false assumption that College students are moneyed men, and able to give. On the contrary, the majority of every class are men of moderate means, who can only pay such excessive assessments at great inconvenience, and in some cases only at an absolute sacrifice. It is a principle of ethics that a person should be just before he is generous. Yet the class and College patriotism of these men would make them scorn not to pay their assessment.

The only merit of the custom is its supposed expression of sentiment of the class towards the College. But if paid by assess-
ment, it is not, on the part of many, a free-
will offering; if paid by a few, it is not a
gift of the class, and at best, it is generosity
at some other person’s expense. For but few
students have money in their own name.

The planting of the Ivy is free from all the
above objections; it is a far more poetic ex-
pression of that sentiment of regard which
the alumnus feels toward his *Alma mater*
and it will add variety and interest to Class-Day.

Quite a number of the unfortunate delin-
quents who have not yet paid their term bills,
are in receipt of interesting notes from the reg-
istrar, informing them that if they do not im-
mediately respond to the demands of the
treasurer, the Faculty will “take final action
in the matter.” We presume that this no
doubt means the Faculty will *finally* take
action in the matter; but still we beg leave to
inform our impecunious brethren that it is
positively absurd to cherish the hope that they
can let this little debt run on so long as to be
able to take advantage of the statute of lim-
itations. No, gentlemen, that money must be
paid. Times are hard, *we* know. The sum
total of our transferable possessions is a shirt
button, but it is a white one, a symbol of a
clear conscience, for we have paid our bill.
Yes, times *are* hard. But put against that
the picture of unfed families and the shiver-
ing forms of venerable men, grown gray in
the service of literature and science. Maybe
professors don’t eat or ever get cold. We
don’t know. Surely *some* must. You were
made the victim of a monstrous piece of non-
sense and not allowed to sell your room? Oh,
well, remember that we are made perfect—
through suffering. On the whole, we guess it’s
better that a strong and healthy youth should
scrape and struggle, than that a corporation
should have to wait. Reverse the maxim,
and say it is better to receive the approving
smile of the Treasurer than to give the poor
College any trouble.

*Not* for the world would we let it go beyond
the College walls. We have said it before,
and we repeat it, gentlemen of the Faculty,
the way to stop it is to let them meditate on
the matter in the quiet seclusion of their
respective homes. They might, nay, they do,
kick against the seats, but above we put a
prick they could not kick against. *Find*
them—you must find them, or you will find
the fires of devotion will burn lower still.

We have had Inter-Collegiate Literary As-
stitutions, numerous boating and athletic con-
ventions, and now why not have an Inter-Col-
legiate Editorial Convention? If discussion
on various other College interests brings out
better and more enthusiastic work, why
should not a congress of the several “news-
paporial” lights do the same for the press of
the College world? We *could* name trott-
ing journals whose ankle bones need strength-
ing by just that kind of advice we know
the managers of our first-class exchanges could,
nay, would give. Why, the “woman suf-
fragers” have their conventions, the social
scientists theirs, the newspaper men theirs,
and their “swell” dinners, too; and why, O,
why, brethren of the quill, should we not
have our swell dinner, too?

Mr. Fisk, the indefatigable treasurer of the
*Lit.*, is making efforts to complete a file of
that journal for the College library. We
trust he will be able to do so, for there is a
great deal of interest to College men in the
old *Lits*. The following numbers are still
needed, viz.:

All numbers from 1842–1847, inclusive. 1848—March,
April, May, June, Sept., Oct., Nov. 1849—March, Sept.,
—March, May, June. 1852—March, April, May, June,
1856—March, April, May, June, Sept., Oct., Nov. 1857
—May, June. 1858—June, Sept., Oct., Nov. 1859—
March, May, June, Nov., Dec. 1860—April, Sept., Oct.,
Nov., Dec. 1861—March, April, May, June, Sept. 1862
—March, April, June, Nov. 1863—April, May, June,
Dec. 1864—March, April, May, June, Sept. Nov. 1865
—April, May, June, Sept., Oct., Nov. Dec. 1866—
March, April, May, June, Sept., Oct., Nov. 1867—
March, April, May, June.

Any one having any of these numbers, or
able to give any information respecting them,
CONTRIBUTIONS.

ANONYMOUS CRITICISM.

One of the most offensive types of humanity is the man who is ever ready to sit in judgment, but never willing to own his decisions. That too much of our current criticism represents the views of such writers, will not be denied. Our press is overloaded with communications, written by persons who are confident in announcing their opinions, but ashamed to acknowledge them. So true is this, that it has become a favorite pastime to lash men and institutions with scurrilous criticism under the cover of a star or nom de plume.

Now, as testimony to be convincing must be unbiased, colored by no personal feeling, the result of no prejudice; so criticism to have weight should be free from malevolence, spite and personal animosity. And for this reason, all anonymous criticism is vicious and untrustworthy. It is accountable to no one. It may have been conceived by the best of authorities and from the highest of motives, or as is more probable in such cases, by the merest fogy, and from the meanest of incentives. A critic can only speak for himself. Criticism is nothing more than the expression of individual opinion. And so long as the individual remains in cog., we have neither one nor the other.

It behooves the students of Princeton, then, "Irenia" among the rest, to be sure of a case before they present their pleas, and to make such pleas worthy of their signature when presented.

THE NEW LIT.

Punctuality is not the crowning virtue of our "venerable and weighty" contemporary. In fact, the precise date at which a new number may burst upon the community, is as uncertain as the coming of the next snow storm or pair of twins. We can only adopt the "glittering generality" of the almanacs and

There was an old man who said, "How Shall I flee from this terrible cow? I will sit on this stile, And continue to smile, Till I soften the heart of this cow."

will confer a favour by communicating with Mr. Fisk, P. O. box 169.

The Students' Lecture Association announces that instead of the Mendelssohn Quintette Club, as is down on the programme, the next will be a musical entertainment by Miss Emma Thursby and Mr. Arbuckle. This is an opportunity such as is seldom offered in Princeton, to enjoy a rare musical treat. The well-known character of both these artists should insure them a large audience.

The lecture of Hon. Parke Godwin, Monday evening, the 5th, on "Art," was an intellectual treat of a high order. Thoroughly alive to the richness of his theme, and himself inspired by the splendours of the field into which he led the audience, he held, from first to last, the closest attention, and the warmest appreciation of his hearers. We have seldom seen a speaker so closely followed. The lecture attempted exposition, rather than analysis. It lifted for us the veil that hangs before our duller senses, and showed us something of the inner beauties and the spiritual forces of the world of art. Though enthusiastic, it was eminently practical. It differed from a didactic, technical lecture, as a sermon instinct with the essence and the power of religion differs from one that merely rattles the dry bones of doctrine and dogma. But it also contained a thorough mastery of the subject, and suggestions of the highest culture. Mr. Godwin is himself a fine artist of words and of thought, and he could not do other than make intensely interesting his presentation of a subject concerning which too little is generally known, and from which we take quite too little as a forming power in our lives.
say, “about this time look out for the *Nassau Lit.*”

To the majority of its read—subscribers, this little eccentricity may be the most amusing feature of the magazine—always, excepting the editorials—but to the conscientious reviewer it is far otherwise. Having no opportunity to fortify himself by an extra allowance of what Mr. Swiveler was accustomed to call “the balmy,” he is very apt, before proceeding far beyond the “prize essay,” to find himself in the condition so beautifully painted by a *Lit.* editor in a quotation from Tennysen:

> “With half shut eyes ever to seem
> Falling asleep in a half dream.”

Our Reviewer was surprised with an unbound copy of the February number late on Friday evening. Having made the best preparation possible in so limited a time, by putting his feet in a tub of hot water, a wet towel around his head, a pound of cloves and a bottle of “Hankins’ extra” beside him, and requesting the man next door to play a few of his most excruciating airs on the flute, he proceeded to sit in judgment on this “time-honored exponent of the literary talent of the College.”

Article first—“Competitive Examinations in the Civil Service.” Sound, but not strikingly original; sensible, but not remarkably brilliant. The article may not produce an immediate reform in our civil service, but then, as the newspapers say, it helps to “create a public sentiment.”

Article second—“A Sketch of the Battle of Princeton.” The high authority from which this emanates, places it without the pale of criticism—especially if the critic take Greek elective. We must deprecate, however, the introduction of articles written by members of the Faculty into journals which are supposed to represent undergraduate talent.

Article third—a “Pome,” long and slim. Not worth the space it occupies.

Article fourth—“Is Formal Logic a Branch of M-a-th—?” Here the Reviewer’s head sank upon his manly bosom, and he fell into profound slumber, from which he was startled by an unusually vicious blast from the flute. Re-wetting the towel, he went on with his task.

Article fifth—“Types of College Smokers.” It scarcely needed five pages of print to convince us that an energetic man will smoke with energy; a deliberate man with deliberation, and a careless man with carelessness.

Article sixth—“Harold.” Very good. The author has a trick of coining compound adjectives, such as “tragedy-stuff,” “powerful-passioned,” “love-loyal,” that we do not altogether like. Matter of taste, however.

The “Voice of the Alumni” is long, but not loud. Extremely sensible and well written.

“Voices of the Students”—like the ten virgins, some wise and some foolish.

Editorials—extremely funny, except the humorous one, over which the Reviewer again “dropped off,” and awoke to find his fire gone out, and his foot-bath frozen solid. Thawing out his feet with the aid of a kerosene lamp, and taking a pull at the “extra,” to stave off a cold, he started bravely on the “Olla-pod.,” but before reading the first page, sleep overcame him “like a summer’s cloud,” and, as the story papers say, “he knew no more.

Mr. Error:—It is with pleasure that we hear that the old custom of planting class-vines around favorite buildings has been renewed. A custom which will transform the old, cold stones of our buildings into living masses, and which will round off their ruggedness, is one worthy to be revived.

Ivy will surely improve Old North, which so well keeps up its Revolutionary and warlike appearance, and will also complete the needed coating of antiquity.

This custom will surely repay the renewers; as, in after years, they may return to see with wonder the progress which their ivy has made, and to enjoy the memories which will no doubt arise in every mind. For does not the poet say:

> “Tender memories round me twine,
> Like the ivy-green round the ——?"  H.
COLLEGE PAPERS.

A College paper occupies a curious position in the literary world, and one dissimilar to that of any other periodical published. In the first place, we cannot expect the ideas presented to be very original; for how can men who are continually, and without cessation, filling their heads with new founts of knowledge, and having scarce time to acquire it, much less meditate on it, to observe the different ideas and form their own, be expected to utter anything original in its nature? Pick up any College paper you choose, and you will find little that may be called original, in thought or expression. Since this is undeniably so, the province of a College journal, it seems to me, lies chiefly in connection with College matters. It should, of course, record all the College events, and its contributions should be especially on subjects which are personally interesting to students striving to improve themselves. There should be hints as to the best means of carrying out certain schemes for general and individual advancement. The attempts at original thought, in many of our College papers, are sometimes truly pitiable. If we wish to find originality, we would not go to a College journal, but to some of the standard magazines of the day. We advise then, Mr. Editor, that your paper confine itself to such subjects, unless some extremely fine production is offered.

PRIZEMEN.

Ambition is praiseworthy. True ambition, when its hopes are blighted, rises with a bound to new attempts. After a student has entered contest after contest, and has borne out only the feathered spear, and never has won the laurel wreath of success, he begins to be discouraged, and tries for such honours no more. He thinks that his energy is wasted; that no success awaits him. Is it not a greater honour to gain a prize near the close of the course than at its beginning, providing the same men are in each contest? It shows perseverance and application, which are more worthy of praise than natural abilities. Trevely says of Lord Macaulay: "Like all men who know what the world is, he regarded the triumphs of a College course as of less value than its disappointments." Even if the prize is not yours, the benefit is. Even if success does not shine upon you, as on others, you know that what benefit they have gained, you have gained, and what you have lost, they have gained.

MY DEAR MR. EDITOR:—I believe it was in the log-book of an old Salem brig that the following eccentric record appeared: "Jan. 25th, Joe Tyson sick; Jan. 26th, Joe Tyson sick; Jan. 27th, Joe Tyson sick; Jan. 28th, Joe Tyson sick; Jan. 29th, Joe Tyson dyed." How the interest of the vessel must have focued in Joe as he neared final dissolution, that the changes of weather, of latitude and longitude, and the vicissitudes of a sea-faring life, were wholly neglected, or at least thought unworthy of comment until Joe Tyson "dyed." And when he was finally pitched overboard, what a sigh of relief must have escaped the lips of the crew. Now this tale, unlike that of the persimmon tree, has a point; but its moral, like that of the horse and dog story which appeared in the New York Tribune after the May-Bennett pleasantry, is no superficial one, and lying beneath the surface, it is none the less valuable to those editors who unwittingly are forever in the beaten track of eclecticism.

Pardon a dismal comparison, but I have a foreboding that a bound volume of the average Princeton journal would present the appearance of a literary cemetery of defunct ideas—defunct, because the vitalizing principle of vigor and originality has departed them; this cemetery lined with grave-stones, "College Walks," and "Our Present System of Grading;" taking the place of "Requiescat in Pace," and "Pax Vobiscum." In commenting thus gravely, I find I have fallen into the very error which I would avoid, for my mental conveyance has unconsciously wheeled into the bog and rut of plagiarism, or into the same
road already taken by another on these pages. But may I not go further, and attempt a partial solution of the problem which my predecessor has left unsolved.

The physiologist would, on examination, immediately compare College life at Princeton to the human circulatory system. The well-beaten round is certainly as complete and regular in one case as in the other—three times strengthened at Commons, twice oxidized, (especially on these cold mornings,) and, we hope, purified in Chapel, new elements infused in their recitations, and all this occurring as regularly as the pulse beats, and within the narrow limits between the post-office and the scientific school. We allow, of course, for ramifications at McGinness’ and Snook’s. Was ever similitude more complete?

The Princeton student breathes none of the aroma of antiquity and hand-organs of the Latin Quarter, nor the musty atmosphere of the London Temple, nor is his aesthetic taste enlightened by the gay follies of a Soldene Troupe. And what is the conclusion of the whole matter? Not that our course of study is too confined; not that our libraries are insufficient; not that our minds are sterile—oh, no! Not that man is the victim of circumstances, and that this “world within a world” of ours bears the unmistakable impression of sameness, which is unceasingly reflected upon ourselves.

A deep metaphysician might, to wit, call the above secondary causes; but I insist that they are essentially primary, and as such demand prompt attention from the worthy committee on morals and discipline. * *

Curran was pleading before Fitzgibbon, the Irish Chancellor, with whom he was on terms of anything but friendship. The Chancellor, with the distinct purpose, as it would seem, of insulting the advocate, brought with him on the bench a large Newfoundland dog, to which he devoted a great deal of his attention while Curran was addressing a very elaborate argument to him. At a very material point in the speech the Judge turned quite away, and seemed to be wholly engrossed with his dog. Curran ceased to speak. “Go on, go on, Mr. Curran,” said the Chancellor. “Oh, I beg a thousand pardons, my lord,” said the witty barrister, “I really was under the impression that your lordships were in consultation.”

A SLIGHT MISUNDERSTANDING.

LETTER No. 1.

To Bridget O’Brien, washerwoman:—

“I really can stand this no longer,
My shirt bosoms ain’t fit to be seen,
And are always—to say nothing stronger—
Limp, crumpled and not very clean.
So, old girl, you really must shoot your
Present custom, or else we must part,
And you won’t get a chance in the future
To muss up the shirts of

E. Harte.”

LETTER No. 2.

To Julia Primrose, who was to have been Mrs. H:—

“Dear Julia:—
The sleighing is splendid,
And to miss such grand nights would be mean,
So to-night I’ll be greatly offended
If you won’t take a ride with

Eugene.”

Answer of Bridget O’Brien:

“Many thanks to ye, sur, from me doter—
I praysume it is her that ye mane—
And I told her that she hadn’t orter
Be scared o’ ye, Mister Eugene;
For what if ye should squaze her hand, sur,
Or slide yer arm around the girl’s waist?
She’s no need to be scared, fur good land, sir!
Ye would do it as fine as the praste.
So, sur, ye can trust me fur Julia,
For shure an’ I know she’s a dyin’
For to go, and I’ll see she don’t fool ye.
Your servant, sur,

Bridget O’Brien.”

Answer of Miss Primrose:

“Miss Primrose returns you your letter,
And begs leave to inform you, ‘E. Hart,’
With her kindest regards, that you’d better
Find another ‘old girl’,—for we part.
Your allusions are so coarse and low, sir,
No lady would give them a thought:
And ‘Eugene Harte,’ you may as well know, sir,
Since you can’t act towards me as you ought,
You’ll not get a ‘chance in the future’
To insult me with your low wit;
And, to use your own slang you may ‘shoot’ your-self—for all that I care a bit.”

Moral.

“Number 1” should always be directed
Before even you start “Number 2,”
For should this plan by chance be neglected,
There’s no telling what you won’t do.
You may not get you girl in a passion,
Or ask Biddie out for a ride,
But it’s at least a comfortable fashion
For one to be on the safe side.

Eugene.”
REPORTER.

SCIENCE LECTURE.—The new departure taken by the members of the Nassau Scientific Society in furnishing Princeton with a course of Popular Science Lectures has met with an abundant and we think deserved success. Although we are in danger of being lectured to death on almost every theme, the subject of science divested of its jaw-dislocating names and made simple and interesting, has not been among the number. The first lecture in the course took place on Thursday evening, in the Second Presbyterian Church. Although the subject of “Green Leaves and their Work” has not a remarkably fascinating sound, yet the way in which it was treated by Prof. G. L. Goodale, of Harvard, the lecturer of the evening, differed from what we have here heard on the subject. Prof. Goodale was introduced to his audience by Mr. MacPherson, who, in behalf of the society, stated the objects of the lectures and their evident appreciation by the College and the town. The lecture was admirably illustrated by means of a stereopticon, which projected the specimens on a large screen placed on the stage. There were about forty of these illustrations, which were so clearly cut on the canvas that they could easily be seen from all parts of the house. To ensure no delay the stage was connected with the gallery and with the stereopticon by telegraph, so that by a touch of his finger the Professor could have the gas turned down and the illustration projected on the screen. Prof. Goodale himself, remarked that he had never been at a lecture where everything was so well arranged and carried out. We confess our scientific development is not sufficient to attempt to give anything like a critical review of the lecture. Suffice it to say that the Professor began with the structure of the leaf, producing some curious specimens, which, with the illustrations on the screen, showed plainly to the eye the organs he was describing. He then passed to the starch-making and lifting power, together with various other functions of the leaf. We trembled when he mentioned protoplasm. Fearful that some dreadful sentiment would escape his lips, possibly evolutionary, we carefully listened to his description of that mysterious “what is it.” He spoke of the wonderful tenacity of life that enabled it, after lying dry and seemingly dead for years, to spring up, under favorable conditions, into renewed life and vigor. He told of the slow, but ever-ceaseless motion of the little particles floating in it; but the dreadful sentiment didn’t escape. He only said it was a topic that of late years had provoked many angry words and then left the subject with an air and manner that seemed to say: “Did time and place permit, I could a tale unfold.”

It was with peculiar interest and pleasure that we listened to his account, and gazed upon its representation on the screen, of that wonderful flower that is wont to vary its diet by entrapping unwary insects into its deceptive folds and then digesting them at leisure. But our wonder was still heightened when he showed us another flower that secreted a sweetish substance in the upper part of its folds; upon tasting this, the insect experienced a sort of intoxication, upon which it fell into the trap prepared for it. In other words this carnivorous plant actually got the poor fly drunk and then gobbled him up. Besides the views of the stereopticon the Professor had a number of diagrams illustrating his points. Altogether, it was a very instructive and enjoyable lecture.

INTER-COLLEGIATE CONVENTION.—An adjourned meeting of the Convention of the Inter-Collegiate Literary Association was held in New York upon February 1st. The following Colleges were represented in the convention: Princeton, Cornell, Syracuse, Hamilton, St. John’s, College of the City of New York, New York University, Rutgers, North Western University, Williams and Wesleyan. Messrs. Jacobs, Townsend and McDonald were present as delegates from Princeton. The joint committee of College Presidents and Representatives of the association reported a plan for the future management of the association. Dr. McCosh, as chairman of this committee, explained and advocated the plan of the committee. The convention adopted, with slight modifications, the recommendations contained in the plan as amendments to the constitution of the association. These amendments provide that hereafter the I. C. L. A. shall consist of three separate electoral bodies, viz.: Those students pursuing a general course in the Colleges and Universities composing the association; the members of the faculties of the associated Colleges and Universities, and a body of fellows. This latter body shall be composed of those College graduates who are prizemen of the association; of those persons who have served as judges or examiners in the contests or examinations of the association, and of such other persons, not exceeding, at any time, twelve in number, as shall be elected by the fellows, as members of the body of fellows, on account of their eminence in science, literature or philosophy, or on account of having rendered valuable service to the association. The management of the association is to be vested in a Council of Regents. This council shall be composed of members chosen annually by the three electoral bodies. In the Council of Regents the under-graduates of each associated College and University shall be represented by one regent, chosen by and from the junior and senior classes of their respective institutions; each faculty by one regent, chosen by and from the academic department of the associated College or University; and the body of fellows by regents, who shall be chosen in number the associated Colleges and Universities, and who shall be chosen by the fellows by and from their own body.

The constitution also provides that only those students shall be allowed to compete for the prizes and fellowships of the association who are pursuing a general course for a degree, or shall have taken their degree in such a course within a year. A committee of five was appointed by the convention to embody these amendments in the constitution of the association, and to draft by-laws which should conform to the provisions of the amended constitution. The convention then adjourned to meet as the Council of Regents upon March 20th, 1877.
The College Library.—During the present winter the College library has received a series of desirable augmentations, following each other in greater rapidity than ever before. It is the policy of the librarian to make his purchases of the scientific books nominated by the several professors, at the bookstores where only can a stock of such books be found, but to buy all the rest, as they may be offered for sale by auction. Auction houses often receive consignments from London book-sellers, obliged to raise money, or desiring a change of stock, and the best of books are thus obtainable at low prices. Besides this, the vicissitudes of life bring to the hammer rich and rare collections, made by wealthy men, and institutions of moderate means may innocently profit by their misfortunes. Instances of both kinds have occurred this season, and our library has pushed its advantage. Elegant editions of classic English authors, in handsome, and sometimes superb bindings, have been purchased at prices which, at other times, would be paid for plain copies, in homely dress. Additional sets, also, of such historians as Hume, Malon, and Macaulay, have been placed upon the shelves, either to render more easy the finding of a desired volume, or to enable the librarian to keep one copy always in the room. Another object has been, by multiplying editions of Chaucer, Spenser, Shakespeare, Milton, and other classics, to give wider opportunity than ever before for students required to study these authors.

Two special acquisitions, made of late, deserve to be particularly commemorated. The appointment of a professor of Architecture and Applied Art, seemed to demand the beginning, at least, of a collection of books appropriate to that department. Opportunity was taken, just before the holidays at the close of 1876, when sales took place of illustrated books, to buy, at very low rates, some representatives of classical sculpture and architecture, as well as of modern painters. Among these may be specified Newton's Vitruvius, Wilkins' Antiquities of Magna Grecia, Paoli's Pestum, Wood's Palmyra and Baalbeck, and De Rossi's Vetus Arcus Augustorurn, exhibiting ancient art, with such specimens of modern painting as Raphael's Loggie, Durer's Life of the Virgin, Landon's Dominichens, Scott's Murillo and the Spanish Schools, Turner's Liber Fluviorum, the Vernon Gallery, the National Gallery, Lacroix's Middle Ages, and Pınor's Chateau de Heidelberg. Books ordinarily costing from ten to twenty dollars, were thus procured at a less average price than five.

A grand opportunity for cheaply augmenting many departments in the library, has just occurred. A private collection, gathered by two former engineers of the Croton aqueduct, amounting to twenty thousand volumes, has just been disposed of by auction. The friends of the College, in Trenton, authorized the College librarian to attend "the Hastie and Tracy sale," and buy according to his judgment, to the limit of two thousand dollars. He has brought home from that sale, an aggregate of more than thirteen hundred volumes, at an average price of one dollar and thirty-eight cents. Of these, biography occupies one hundred and seventy-eight volumes; history, one hundred and twenty-four; voyages and travels, one hundred and five; poetry and the drama, three hundred and thirty-four; fine arts, forty-eight; miscellaneous science, one hundred and three. A much more spirited competition than was expected, in respect to the chief rarities of English literature, made him give up many things he desired to have; but in respect to the illustration of Shakespeare and Milton, he thought it right to secure the best books, at whatever expenditure of money. The aggregate of purchases this year, will be at least twenty-five hundred volumes, making the whole library, at commencement, number thirty-four thousand.

Class-Day Elections.—The class-day elections are over. No convulsions, either mental or physical, preceded or followed the momentous event. The monetary market remains unshaken, foreign consols, for some days in a fluctuating state, have now regained their equilibrium. The attention of the people, in the eloquent words of an autograph effort, "from the rock-bound coast of Maine to the pebbly shores of the Pacific," turned for awhile with eager gaze to these classic shades, is now again absorbed in the Electoral Bill. The Senior again walks erect in all the conscious freedom of a man, who feels he has nothing more to gain from his fellow man. Owing to the excellence of the plan proposed by the committee, the voting was done quickly and quietly. The class met at twelve o'clock on January 31st, in the English room, and with the exception of an hour for dinner, remained in session until four o'clock. The officers are the same as last year, with the exception of Prophet instead of Campus Oration, and an Ivy Oration in the place of the usual Memorial Oration. The results seemed to give general satisfaction, and the Seniors rejoice that it is, at last, over. The following are the officers:


Mr. R. B. Kimball is Historian. The matter of a poem is left to a committee, who are empowered to make selection from the competitive poems handed in to them, or to reject them all if a satisfactory standard of excellence is not reached. The following gentlemen compose the committee: J. B. Wardlaw, W. E. Slonmons, Jotham Potter, A. E. Rowell, M. W. Jacobus.

Prof. in Political Economy—"Now let us take distilled liquor——" Then every man murmured mournfully: "No, thank you—member of the Nassau Temperance Society."
Seminary Items.—Mr. Whiteford of the Senior Class has received a call to one of the Presbyterian Churches of Peru, Indiana, at a salary of $1500 per year. Mr. Moran, a Senior, has for some time been supplying the Churches of Cream Ridge and New Egypt. Mr. McCurdy, Tutor in Hebrew, who was compelled by ill-health to be absent for a while last term, has resumed his duties, apparently much refreshed by his rest. '75, Decker, who was the poet of his class, (72, Princeton College,) and from the Seminary in the Class of '75, was recently injured by the explosion of a lamp. Since our last items were handed in, the Annual Catalogue of the Seminary has been published. The summary of those in attendance is as follows: Resident Graduates.............................. 3 Senior Class........................................ 42 Middle ............................................. 35 Junior ............................................. 34 Total .................................................. 114 Of the various Colleges represented, Princeton has the largest number, 41; Wooster University comes next with 9; Lafayette has 7; Dalhousie and Monmouth 4 each; Hanover and Westminster, (Pa.) 3 each; and 2 each from Dartmouth, Highland University, Rutgers, Stewart, Union, University of Miss., and Yale; rest scattering. The present Academical year will close on Wednesday, April 25th. The Juniors now preach in divisions of four every Thursday evening, in the Oratory, at 7 o'clock. Dr. Lord's lectures before the faculty and students of the Seminary, draw large audiences to the Chapel every Wednesday evening. It is a rich treat to listen to such able lectures. The Juniors have, for a few weeks past, been on the qui vive as to the selections of rooms, which was to take place on February 1st. Everybody wanted a south-side room, and, as there were more students than south-side rooms, of course somebody was destined to be disappointed. The selection was on the principal of "first come, first served." Two individuals, it is said, stayed up till after midnight, then wrote their applications dated 12:10 and 12:15 A.M respectively. They got first choice. The work on Stuart Hall progresses slowly. The workmen are now engaged in building platforms in the several recitation rooms, and in fixing the chairs and desks in position. The Oratory is to be furnished with combined seats and desks similar to those used in some of the College recitation rooms. All the other rooms are to have desks with locks and keys, and each student is to have a good, comfortable chair. Hurry it up, gentlemen! Hess, H. McDonald, and Dickens constitute '78's photograph committee. "Intellectual Suicide—Its Relation to Chaos and Pantheism," was the subject of a man in the Eighth Division, who, unfortunately, did not speak.

Here and There.

American Eagle on the 14th.
Arbuckle and Miss Thursby on the 15th.
Still another letter in the Tribune. Now let us have a rest.

Exeunt omnes chapel stage orators.
About this time, buy your girl a valentine.
Dr. McCosh will lecture in New York on the 19th.
The Registrar now has his office in the room formerly occupied by the Treasurer. Walk up and get your absences excused.

President's library meeting, Jan. 24th. W. B. Green read a paper on the "Relativity of Mind."

When a person is tired, why should he retire?
When a man "can't contain himself," is he too large or too small?

Prof. Brackett lectured on "Acoustics," before the State Teachers' Association in Trenton, last Saturday.
Princeton is favored with three courses of lectures, this winter—miscellaneous, scientific, and historical.

Two nuisances—he who puts his nose in other men's affairs, and he who persists in putting his affairs under other men's noses.

"Frozen water pipes" explain the lack of warm water at the Gymnasium. Those who aspire to "godliness" must take a skip until warm weather.

The next article in the "College series" of Scriber's, will be upon Princeton, and will be from the pen of Dr. Alexander, of New York.

Recitation in English Literature—Prof.: "Who at length dispelled the cloud from Cowper's mind?"
N.: (apparently in deep thought, but really listening to his next neighbor.)
N.: (sotto voce) "Mrs. Unwin."
N.: (bracing up) Mr. Underwood, sir."

A "revival" is in progress at the Witherspoon M. E. Church. Some of the brethren are fervent in prayer, but get slightly confused in their metaphysics, as witness the following petition: "Send de fire, Lord. We hab a fire ob wood, a fire ob coal—an immaterial fire, but, oh Lord, we want a material fire."

Notwithstanding the solicitation of many friends, the author of that memorable sentence, "It is a well-known fact that G. Washington is dead," will not orate on the 22d.

Some of the Sybarites who room in the new dormitory, are fitting up their rooms most luxuriously.

The recherche music furnished by the Seventh Division was the feature of the occasion. The "Selection from Fra Diavolo" strangely reminded us of "Pull for the Shore."
The following gentlemen have been chosen by their respective classes to stir up our patriotism on the natal day of George Washington: S. H. Hamil, '80; W. D. Van Dyke, '78; W. B. Lee, '79; W. F. Dunning, '77.

The Freshmen have decided to train a crew to compete in the next Inter-Collegiate Regatta. Mr. McLauren has been elected temporary Captain, and under his leadership the "aspirants" are doing solid work.

At the President's Library Meeting, on Wednesday evening, Feb. 7th, Mr. H. A. Todd, '76, read a translation from the Zeitschrift fuer Philosophie of Dr. Ulrici's review of Dr. McCosh's Logic.

The list of resident alumni of Princeton College who live in Washington, includes a good many well-known names, among which are Professor Henry, of the Smithsonian Institute; Senator Kelley, of Oregon; J. Donald Cameron, Secretary of War; W. W. Belknap, ex-Secretary of War; George M. Robeson, Secretary of the Navy; J. L. Cadwallader, Assistant Secretary of State; J. C. Welting, President of Columbia College, Washington; and Representatives F. H. Teese, of New Jersey; Heister Clymer, of Pennsylvania, and T. L. Jones, of Kentucky.

Two rooms in North College have been fitted up for the convenience of the Art School, and students in this department may be found there at all times, practising mechanical drawing. Amateurs in free hand drawing may also be occasionally observed in the Museum, standing in picturesque attitudes, and sketching the "Venus of Milo," "Flying Mercury," "Megatherium," and other objects of beauty.

In the trial at Albany a few days ago, of the Alleghehny (N. Y.) students for illegal voting, Judge Wallace held that no student has a right to vote in the place or town where the College he is attending is located, unless he has gained a legal residence there previous to such attendance, or will make oath that it is his intention to make such place his residence on the completion of his studies.—Evening Post.

EDITORS' TABLE.

Through the kindness of Mr. Fisk, we are furnished with advance sheets of the February Lit, and we congratulate our esteemed contemporary on its sustained excellence. In the literary department we find a prize essay on Competitive Examinations in the Civil Service, a thoughtful and well-written paper; an interesting sketch of the Battle of Princeton, lately celebrated here; a suggestive paper on Mathematics; "Types of College Smokers;" a Critique of Tennyson's drama, Harold, and, we grieve to say, a page and a half of rhyme, headed "The Story of the Wind," which last is of a piece with the metrical stuff that passes with the College press for poetry. The Voice of the Alumni is entirely occupied by Nassorius, who, with more length and force than terseness and brilliancy, defends the College against the recent attacks on it. The Voice of the Students gives the usual space to growers and reformers, who improve their opportuni-
ties in the average way. The editorial department is cleverly and opportunely filled. We are sorry, however, to learn "that the hearty support which we had been deceived into believing was being tendered the Lit., is nothing but a chimera, a dream, a castle in the air." Our "time-honored exponent of the literary talent of the College," certainly deserves cordial support, and, we trust will abundantly get it. But we suggest to the writer of this editorial, that a more vigorous and less poetic treatment of the subject would probably "pan out" better. Delinquent subscribers et id genus omne, are not to be reached by elegant circumlocutions and quotations from the poets. Our experience teaches (we give the lesson free) that they must be poked up by sharper sticks than the Lit. man's smooth-running quill, and prevailed upon by more energetic logic than his. For our own part, we never jest nor talk sentiment with our unregenerate debtors. We always mean business with them. Turning to the Olla-Pod., we find it not especially new, but rather interesting, and brief enough not to be boring. The Book Notices are written with considerable discrimination. On the whole, the Lit. is about as solid a thing as we have seen in College journalism. We have but one suggestion to make, respected old friend: give us a little less of didacticity and a trifle more of entertainment. You are strong, dignified, elegant, but not exactly happy, not excictingly readable. A little amendment in this respect, and we will doff our hat in unmixed admiration.

We have received several new publications of late: The Cheltenham Record, the Inghamensis, the Montpelieran, et al. Our exchange list is about as large now as we care to have it. But, as the two last come from young ladies' Colleges, we can't, it behooves us to suppose, be impolite enough to decline their tenders, even with thanks. So, with what urbanity we can, we'll try for awhile to exchange courtesies with these pretty, gushing new acquaintances. The Record starts out with a plucky sounding, and rather sensible salutatory, which leads us to expect something from it, and induces us to take the youngster into probationary exchange relations. To all these literary fledgelings, maecatri virtute.

The Southern Collegian declares authoritatively that Washington and Lee University will withdraw from the State Inter-Collegiate Association. The Collegian thinks that such contests "engender jealousies and rivalries which cannot be conducive of any good to those engaging in them." There is something in that.

The Yale Lit. for January is at hand. The most notable thing in it is a very readable criticism, or rather eulogy, of Deirdre, the recently published poem of the "No Name Series." It glows with a white heat of enthusiastic appreciation. The writer is powerfully under the spell of the genius with which the poem is instinct, and does not hesitate to use the most extravagant praise. But, while he is less a critic than a eulogist, he appreciates and enjoys the poem, even while he writes of it, in a way that bespeaks a more than ordinary culture. In these days of shallow cynicism, and of popular sneering at deep
feeling, it is almost as delightful to meet with so honest and hearty an admirer as it is to find so charming a poem. The style and spirit of this article are admirable, and we put it down for the best thing we have met in our exchanges for some time.

The Courant, with a disclaimer of responsibility, publishes extracts from a recent publication at Yale, which claims to make known the mysteries of Skull and Bones Hall. A plan of the interior of the building, and details of the furniture are given, and certain knowing hints are thrown out, to the effect that the authors of the expose could, an they would, show up Skull and Bones, from alpha to omega. Indeed, it boldly said: "Part of our memorabilia has been seen by Senior neutrals, and the remainder will be put where it will do the most good, as soon as the protection of a sheep-skin has been placed between us and the Faculty and the law." All this seems to us a first-class cock and bull story; but, if there's anything in it, somebody, it is evident, has been engaged in a very unhandsome and rather risky piece of business. The upshot of it cannot be of more consequence than a temporary sensation to the society in question; but, on the discovery of the perpetrators, if such there be in esse, it might easily be turned to their discomfort, if not to something more serious. A burglarious entrance into the private hall of an honoured society, is not exactly a clever nor amusing trick.

PERSONALS.

'30, John S. Hart, fell on the icy pavement in Philadelphia, January 25th, and was seriously injured.

'41, Theo. Cayler, delivered an address in the College Chapel January 29th.

'41, Thos. T. Kinney, of the Newark Advertiser, elected Vice-President of the N. J. Editorial Association.


'49, Prof. B. L. Gildersleeve of John Hopkins University, will deliver the annual oration before the Societies next June.

'59, T. C. Lyon, Judge of the Circuit Court in the First District of Miss.

'68, Barry Mathews, raising cattle in Texas.

'72, "Tobe" Johnston, full-fledged lawyer in Columbus, Miss.

'72, Scott, practicing law in Lexington, Ky.

'72, Lyon, Professor of Mathematics, Kansas.

'72, Ogden, assistant in office of U. S. Express Company, Chicago.

'72, Willis, tutoring in Green Bay, Miss.

'73, Van Dyke, ("Big Van,"") practicing law in Milwaukee.

'72, Cary, assistant attorney for Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul R. R., at Milwaukee.

'74, "Jai" Stuart has hung out his shingle in Carlisle, Pa.

'73, "Nat" Goodwin oscillating between the Court House and his law office.

'76, Webster has been on a visit to "Duff."

'77, "Smike" Johnson perpetrated a joke on "inflation."

'79, Howard Ridgely was recently in town for a few days. Living in Baltimore.

'79, McFee and Katzenbach are training for a "pair-oar."

'70, D. R. Sessions, Principal of Elko University, Elko, Nev.

CHIPS.

A sub-editor and a reporter were quarrelling one day in the editor's room. "You are a donkey!" said the sub-editor, "You are another!" replied the reporter, promptly. "Pooh! Pooh!" retorted the sub-editor; "you are the greatest donkey I know!" "Gentlemen, gentlemen," said the editor, looking up from his desk, "you forget, I think, that I am present!" The sub-editor apologized.

LITTLE THINGS.—A kross word iz a little thing, but it iz what stirs up the elephant.

A kind word iz a little thing, but it iz just what soothed the sorrows ov the setting hen.

An orange peel on the sidewalk iz a little thing, but it Haz upset menny a giant.

An oath iz a little thing, but it iz reckored in the grate ledger in heaven.

A serpent's fang iz a little thing, but death iz its viktory.

A baby iz a little wee thing, but a constable waz once a baby.

A hornet's sting iz a little thing, but it sends the schoolboy home howling.

A star iz a little thing, but it kan hold this grate world in its arms.

The tung iz a little thing, but it fills the universe with trouble.

An egg iz a little thing, but the huge krokerdile kreeps into life out ov it.

A kiss iz a very little thing, but it betrayed the Son ov God into the hands ov his enemy.

A spark iz a little thing, but it kan light the poor man's pipe, or set the world to burning.

The akorn iz a little thing, but the blak bear and hiz family live in the oak that springs from it.

A word iz a little thing, yet one word has been menny a man's destiny, for good or for evil.

A penny is a very little thing, but the interest on it from the days ov Cain and Abel would buy out the globe.

Life iz made up ov little things. Life itself iz but a little thing; one breath less, then comes the phuneral.—Josh Billings.