

THE CONCORDIENSIS.

VOL. II.

SCHENECTADY, N. Y., MAY, 1879.

No. 8.

UNION UNIVERSITY.

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THE
CONCORDIENSIS.

VOL. II. SCHENECTADY, N. Y., MAY, 1879. No. 8.

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N. L. REED, '79. J. N. VAN PATTEN, '79.
F. P. S. CRANE, '80. F. T. ROGERS, '80. J. D. CRAIG, '80.
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CONTENTS:

LITERARY:	
The Changed Title (Poetry),	109
Religion and the State,	110
Song,	112
EDITORIAL:	
Abating Nuisances,	113
Interest of Seniors in Essays and Criticisms,	113
Good Order in College,	113
Disgraceful Act of a Senior,	114
Entrance Examinations,	114
Athletic,	115
The Lecture Course,	115
Criticizing the University Nine,	116
The Garnet,	116
Obituary,	117
CORRESPONDENCE:	
College Matters,	117
LOCAL:	
Local Briefs,	118
Easily Nullified Pretence (Poetry),	121
Base Ball,	121
EXCHANGES:	122
PERSONALS:	122
EXTRANEAE:	123

LITERARY.

THE CHANGED TITLE.

A gay young man at a boarding school,
A long tailed-coat and a fancy cane ;
A Senior, too, I'd have you know,
And "Senior" there is no mean name.
A Freshman now, and nothing more,
And "Freshie," "Fresh," "O-Fresh," they
call.

A change of title great indeed,
From "Senior" down to "Fresh" to fall.
But though he fill a humble place,
And though there come a taunting sneer,
By far than Senior there again,
He'd rather be a Freshman here.

A grave young man on a college green,
A high silk hat and a limber cane ;
A Senior too, with reverend mien,
And "Senior" there is a noble name.
A Freshman into the world he goes,
And "greenie," "only a boy," they call.
A change of title, great indeed,
From "Senior" down to "Fresh" to fall.

But though he fill a humble place,
A brighter, better day is near ;
By far than Senior there again,
He'd rather be a Freshman here.

A gray-haired man on a shady porch,
A trembling hand and a trusty cane ;
A Senior, true, with his frosty locks,
For "Senior" now is a timely name.
The river Death is flowing by,
He almost hears the boatman's call.
"For new and everlasting youth
Let now thy title, 'Senior' fall."

Methinks I see him gently glide
Across the flood, without a fear,
And catch an echo from the tide,
"Than Senior there, 'tis better here."

RELIGION AND THE STATE.

BY THE LATE PROF. TAYLOR LEWIS, LL. D., L. H. D.

[Although we have other articles on hand, we believe we cannot do better than give the following extracts from an admirable paper in the March number of the *Princeton Review*, written by our late beloved Professor. It is said to be the ablest argument ever presented on that side of the question. It was found among his posthumous papers. We are sorry we can give so little of it.—ED.]

A godless state, whatever may be its outward form, whatever may be its written or unwritten constitution, is unmixed despotism. There is no security against any character, however abnormal, it may assume, or any acts, however evil, it may commit. The very thought is enough to make us shudder. There is no need here of any abstract discussion of the question whether the state is a person. For our present purposes that may be laid aside as a pure logomachy, if any choose to call it so. Let us keep our minds upon the matter of fact. It is at all events, a mighty human agent, acting, like the individual, from passions, impulses, volitions, motives, reasons, real or assumed. It has a will and an intelligence. It may be enlightened or unenlightened, rational or irrational. The power may be exercised directly by one man representing a rude multitude who have put every thing into his hands, or by a few representing the influence of wealth and culture, or by vast numbers flattered by the idea of independence, yet, in truth, the instruments of a small portion representing whatever is most corrupt and unprincipled in the community. It may be party, it may be the press, it may be the mob spirit of our great cities. But whatever appearance it may assume, it is still a will and an intelligence, which, whether good or bad, is certainly resistless. If we take it in a higher sense, and say this will and intelligence are not merely the popular impulses for the time being, but the settled laws and institutions of the land, there is, indeed, some relief in that idea, but only as long as we can regard

it as representative of a transcending authority carrying us, ultimately, to the thought of something divine and immutable. In the highest sense does there hold true that dictum of Aristotle, that "law is the mind of the state," its abstract reason separated from the passions, appetites, and impulses of the moment.¹ This abstract reason, in the state as in the individual, first asserts its supremacy as the highest part of our nature. Delivered from passions and animality, it would decide right as a true voice of God within us. It is so in the worst of men. Sitting as abstract legislators, the inhabitants of our state prisons might be trusted to make a code, either for themselves, or the community, which would be, in the main, just and right. Hence the truth of the saying, that laws are in general better than the people, in advance of the people; even in their degeneracy they keep something of this position: they are ever a little better than the popular sentiment toward which they are sinking. There is, however, a constant tendency to draw them down into the lower sphere, and nothing can check it but the feeling, however originated and sustained, that human law, to be true law, must be regarded as, somehow or at some point, uniting with a higher code. As was so clearly seen by that great thinker whom we love to quote, "it must add to itself (associate with itself) either the beastly or the divine." It may be admitted that, even when most revered and most fully acknowledged, this idea of the divine in human government falls short of its due effect. The adversary uses his most subtle argument when he says that a formal religious acknowledgment would not necessarily make us a Christian nation in the highest sense. But what may we become without it, or some-

¹ *Politica*, Lib. iii, ch. 2: "Law is mind without passion." In connection with this there is the remarkable saying: "He who thus acknowledges Law to be the ruler in distinction from the individual despot, or the passions of the multitude, makes God the ruler, and the laws, that is God, the ruler of the laws; he who makes man alone the ruler (man collectively or individually) adds also the beast"—that is, makes passion and appetite, in the end, the sovereign power.

thing equivalent to it? It is this negative aspect of the question that most strongly presents itself in the fearful experiment we are now trying. To what still lower depths of corruption and lawlessness might we not have descended, had it not been for the influence upon the minds of our legislators, politicians, editors, popular speakers—the silent, almost unconscious influence, it may be—of the thought that we were a Christian nation, and that our political movements, and the shaping of our laws, must have some reference to that grand fundamental fact. Discard it utterly; let it be rejected in all its roots and branches; let a generation or generations be brought under the power of the idea, regarded as settled, that the state, as such, knows no god, no religion, no higher law; let this taint, so negative in its form, so positive in its action, affect all our thinking; let the maxim be constantly taught in our schools, and reiterated by the press, until it has sunk down into the common mind, and become a part of it; let such a training have its due effect, and what security is there that law will continue to be, “mind without passion,” reason uncontrolled by appetite or brutal ferocity? We boast of law as something to be obeyed simply because we ourselves have made it; we worship it as an idol the work of our own hands. What is there to prevent that contempt which, in the end, always mingles itself with such idolatry? How are we to reverence our own work, our own creature? What shall keep it from falling to the level of the worshippers, so that, instead of being an exemplar of the pure abstract reason, the highest thing in man, or that which assimilates him to the divine, it shall become a representative of all that is basest and most earthly in our human nature? Reverence for law is only maintained by some thought, however shadowy, that in its very essence there must be something above ourselves—that however we may shape its

forms and applications, the ground and sanction of government, of the magistracy, of jurisprudence, must be sought in a sphere transcending the human. Banish that thought wholly from the collective as well as from the individual mind, and no substitute that we may call expediency, or political economy, or “an enlightened self-interest,” will ever prevent the speedy degeneracy which must take place, when the power of mere tempting appetite, or of blinding impulse, or, in a word, the ever-magnified interest of the present, comes in conflict with some dimly seen future good.

It is, however, enough for us here simply to present this picture of an omnipotent earthly power, with no acknowledged moral or religious restraints—an agent wholly irresponsible, and disavowing all responsibility to anything above itself. A power of life and death, claiming unlimited and illimitable control over millions of human beings now existing—over generations yet unborn—determining in fact *how* they should be born, or under what conditions, with or without their consent, they should commence their individual earthly existence—above all, an *educating power*, educating by its laws and its political action, educating directly and positively by assuming to prescribe what shall be taught and what shall not be taught in the schools—a power that must, to a great extent, determine the social character and fix the moral standard of an age, or of ages yet to come—such a power as this, and yet wholly irresponsible to any other in the earth, or in the heavens above! Are we not right in calling it a monster?

* * * * *

Is neutrality possible? It is the pivotal question, we say again. Every thing turns upon it; and yet it is one which the writers chiefly referred to, and who gain credit by appearing in the character of religious men, will never look in the face. They have never

bestowed a paragraph upon it, although the right solution of it is of such primal moment. The true answer scatters to the winds all their popular appeals, all their *ad captandum* sophistry about religious liberty and equal rights. Universal toleration, the allowing every opinion, however much it may be out of harmony with the predominant social mind, to gain such weight and credence to itself as it may intrinsically deserve, or that the talents of its advocates may secure this is religious liberty in its widest and most elastic definition. But this, it seems, is not enough; it claims a right beyond this. The state shall favor me, it says, or it shall favor nothing. The negative character it may sometimes assume does not alter the case in the least. It only makes it the more positive, the more bitter and intolerant in its assertion. Stated in the plainest and most undeniable terms, this vaunted religion's "religious liberty" is nothing more nor less than an absolute claim of right on the part of any set of men, however few their numbers, however low their intelligence, however false their principles, however debased and sensual their lives, to veto any thing and every thing which the moral heart of the nation demands as conservative of its highest well-being. All shall come to their level; nothing shall rise above it. We defy any man to show why this is not applicable to education in all its departments, as well as to morality and religion. This veto power may demand the expulsion of the classics, or of any system of moral philosophy, so far as they are taught in any school patronized by the state, on the same ground that it clamors for the exclusion of the Gospels, or of any literature that has ever been deemed sacred. Its course is ever downward, and there is no consistent stopping-place except at that lowest point which sets itself up as the limiting measure for all. Blind indeed must he be who fancies that religion alone will suffer in this process.

It foretokens the doom of every thing that is highest and noblest in human culture.

We have fairly stated this veto doctrine. It is a fearful position for men to take, especially religious men, theological men, who are supposed to know something by experience, as well as study of the depths to which these questions descend in the very roots of our humanity, so fearfully compounded of the animal and the divine. If indifference here, or the assumption of indifference, be, in truth, a most positive and even deadly hostility; if this law of our being must show itself in the social as well as the individual character, if the state must favor religion or irreligion, if this conclusion is involved in one of the most emphatic declarations of the Saviour, if it results inevitably from the nature of man as a rational, moral, and immortal agent—then where are they? On which side of this unavoidable conflict are they ultimately to be counted? If they maintain that we are, in some way, to be regarded as an exception to this law, or that the woes denounced upon nations that refuse to acknowledge God have no application to democratic or republican governments, on them lies the burden of proof. All history, as well as all revelation, is certainly against them. Constitutions, written or unwritten, cannot change the nature of man. Heaven and earth may pass away, but the word of Christ shall stand: "That which is not for me is against me; every human agent that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad"—tends inevitably to evil and ruin. No assumed collective character can modify or merge the awful responsibility.

SONG.

I.

O Robin! blithe birdie of Spring,
Please tell me your message of love;
I listen whenever you sing
In the rift o' white blossoms above.
And out from my window uplifted

To hail the first blush of the morn,
I hear you amid the green branches,
That hang from this neighboring thorn.

CHORUS :—

Then sing, pretty Robin, your wooing,
From thorn and from apple and cherry,
Your bosom of secrets undoing,
Will tell every heart to be merry,
Be merry, be merry, be merry;
Will tell every heart to be merry.

II.

O, Robin! when winter was come,
And ruthless the snows beat severe,
I looked in your tenantless home,
And thought of you, Robin, so dear;
Way down in my heart there was waiting
A welcome for this future dawn,
When Nature should smile in her verdure,
And you should come back to my lawn.

CHORUS :—

III.

O Robin! when naked the bough,
And love had deserted your nest;
I dreamed of the past and the now,
And sighed for that clime of the blest,
Where He, who provides for the sparrow,
Had wisely directed your wing
To fit thro' the orange and holly,
'Mid blooms of perpetual spring.

CHORUS :—

—E.

EDITORIAL.

IF ANY journal succeeds in abating nuisances it accomplishes a worthy work. The evil to which we would direct the attention of the college authorities is the half-filled ditch at the foot of the terrace. This ditch contains a mass of decaying matter, which emits a bouquet of odors not to be rivaled in the city, and a short walk through some of the prominent streets will convince any one how strongly that is stating it. Without being at all facetious, we ask that this offense to our nostrils, and even to our health be removed. No incense of song can rise from the "grand old seat of stone," while there is a background of such vile odors.

THE Seniors are much interested in the exercise in Essays and Criticism under Prof. Alexander. Our English course now ranks well with the other departments of study, but our class has not had the full benefit which future classes will receive from the late changes in this direction. Still the work of the present term is doing much to supply a lack in our previous drill in composition. The Professor's criticisms are humorous, encouraging and, above all, to the point. The "spread eagle" in oratory and the sentimental in essays are treated rather summarily, but it is the pruning fork that young writers most need. Our only regret is that we could not have met our instructor in this capacity earlier in our course.

Too MUCH cannot be said in regard to the good order in the college. There are many who think that unless there is some mischief on foot a good part of the time the college must be running down and that college spirit is sadly on the decline. Parents, however, who have the sending of sons to college cannot be persuaded to look at things in just this light. They still hold the opinion that young men should go to college to improve their minds and to prepare for the active duties of life. The moment an institution of learning falls short of this, it must decline. It is not sufficient that great advantages are offered and, unless there be some strong incentive to urge the average student to renewed exertion, seldom are the full benefits of a college education obtained. Students are often blamed by the citizens for things of which they have no knowledge whatever. We certainly believe in giving every man his just due, though there is such a thing as overdoing the matter. Generally the faults of college students are not only seen, but much enlarged upon, while their virtues are hardly noticed.

IT IS WITH pain that we refer to a disgraceful act of a member of the Senior class whose desire for personal display seems to have been greater than his love of good principle. According to his own confession this gentleman longs for an appointment to the Commencement stage and it is too sadly evident that he has been ready to sacrifice a good deal for the attainment of the desired end. The first ten men, in point of standing, being the regular appointees to the Commencement stage, and the Senior in question ranking eleventh according to the published list, his only hope of success rested on the displacement of another man. A way seemed open. An Engineering student had, in the early part of the year, made arrangements with the President and Faculty to complete the studies of the scientific course with a view to graduating A. B. He, of course, had not taken the regular oratorical course. He ranked high. Our ambitious Senior goes secretly to the Professor of Oratory and indulges in conversation prejudicial to his classmate's appointment to the stage. He also confesses to have seen the President with reference to the matter, and when asked the nature of his mission, has no reply to make. Some of the facts leaked out and the indignation was great throughout the college. A meeting of the Senior class was promptly called, and after a dignified consideration of the evidence a resolution of censure was passed against the gentleman for having, in an underhanded way and for the sake of selfish ends, interfered with the work of a classmate. We have stated the case as it is. We desire to be just. While we pity any person for such weakness in resisting temptation, we must condemn the act. He had a perfect right to desire an appointment to the stage, and to expect fair competition, but he should have acted openly. Only two effects could result from the course which he took, with the object he had in view, viz: either that an

extra burden be imposed on a student who has done hard, honest work throughout his college course, or that said student be deprived of the degree of A. B.; for it is a well known fact that an absolute zero for his oratorical work could not have reduced his standing below that of the tenth man. It is only another case of a man who for the applause of friends or other selfish purposes has sacrificed his sense of what is right and manly, who makes principle subservient to what seems expedient. Let this lesson be a warning for the future.

AN EDUCATOR of young men said to the writer that if Union College would only make her entrance examinations harder and turn from her doors those students whom she is compelled to drop afterwards, the college would go up "like a rocket" in the estimation of educated men throughout the country. It is a well known fact that the entrance examinations are not as severe as the high standing of the college justifies, and this fact keeps many from coming to the college who might otherwise be persuaded to do so. Let us suppose a case. A young man decides to go to college. He has spent some years in preparation and is thoroughly prepared to enter any college. A companion of his, his inferior intellectually, and some years beneath him in studies, (we have several cases of this kind in mind now,) comes to Union and enters. Even though he may be sifted out in a year and compelled to leave, the very fact that he *had entered* is an argument more eloquent than words. The other does not look at the fact that his companion has been "plucked." He simply will not choose a college which his companion, whom he *knows* to have been insufficiently prepared, has entered.

If this evil was corrected many more would come from the large cities near us. Union presents many superior advantages to them,

but this one fact throws discredit upon the whole work of the college.

The argument may appear puerile or fallacious. It may look upon its face as absurd. It can be readily answered by those who *know* whereof they speak when they say that the students of Union are doing excellent work. Nevertheless it is a reason of great weight. If anyone does not believe it he has but to try and urge certain classes of students to come here and he will soon find the force of the argument.

We would not have our meaning misunderstood. The upper classmen are the equals intellectually and morally of the same classes in any college in the country. Fifty per centum is a large loss of membership in two years, but such is the actual loss, and the greater portion of these students are dropped because they cannot keep up with their work. We have broken very far away from the past, but this one relic remains. We earnestly hope, for the good of the college, that at the coming examinations the standard of admittance may be raised; that the requirements for entering the scientific course be made an adequate test, and that the examinations for the classical course be made more thorough.

PROBABLY the amount of active training in the gymnasium or the interest displayed in athletics generally has not been greater for several years past than during the present season. It would seem that at no other time has there been so favorable indications of a fine athletic contest as this spring. We have several fine runners and walkers and many other athletes who would have made almost any event exciting. Yet when two or three weeks before an announcement was made that the spring athletic contest would take place May 17th, no attention seems to have been paid to it and the appointed day passed without games. What is the matter? A screw is loose somewhere. Many good

athletes have expressed a desire for a spring meeting. The students themselves are to blame. We do not blame them for not striving for prizes which are liable to be tin, silver, gold or brass indifferently, but we do blame them for not perfecting a college Athletic Association in which all might place confidence. We strenuously urged such a step last season, and we predict that no successful field-meeting will be held so long as we have no stable association which shall be run for the students and by the students. With a gymnasium excelled by few in the country, a campus excelled by none, a beautiful park, a fine race course, and plenty of good athletes—in the light of all this, such a failure as characterized the late attempt to have a spring meeting appears and is mere nonsense. There is time for a contest yet, if the right course might only be pursued.

THE lecture course of the present Senior class is especially good. Pres. Potter's lectures in connection with the study of the Constitution have furnished much useful information, and Dr. Coppee's treatment of International Law is highly appreciated by the class. The Doctor has added two lectures on Hamlet in his Shakespearean course. These will be open to the public. We hope to persuade him also to deliver again his lecture upon Romeo and Juliet. It was given before in the morning, and few of the lovers of Shakespeare from the city were present. We can assure the Doctor of a full house and the audience a very pleasant hour if this lecture is repeated.

Rev. Dr. Washburn finished his course of four lectures upon "Old English" on the 23d inst. His subject was one which is each year gaining interest, and which in itself would attract many hearers; but with Dr. Washburn's scholarly treatment and excellent delivery, the lectures possessed unusual attractions. We are glad to state that the

subject will be continued by the same gentleman next year.

It is to be regretted that Mr. Hassard, of the *N. Y. Tribune*, has been called to Europe, and will be unable to appear before the class. Rev. Mr. Griffis is also unable to deliver his lectures upon Japanese Art this year. Those gentlemen who heard him last year will be glad now they did not wait for a better opportunity.

We believe that Mr. E. P. Treadwell, of Albany, completes the list of lecturers for this term. His subject is Decorative Art. This gentleman comes to us with the highest commendations from men who should know his ability. No doubt his lecture will be pleasing and valuable.

IT IS MUCH easier to stand by and criticise the playing of the University Nine than it is to take their places upon the field and avoid making like errors. It is true that in the game with the Daleys there were many very serious blunders, but remembering that this was the first game played by the Nine this spring in which there was need of all possible skill, we think that the bystanders, and especially college men, should refrain from so open and pronounced criticism as was indulged in by a number of dissatisfied persons. Each grumbler has his own favorite whom he wishes to put upon the Nine in the place of some one who makes an error. Now what would be the result if all these proposed changes were made can be better imagined than told. Each class has elected a Director who is supposed to be vested with the power of his class in all decisions, and it would be greatly to the honor of each class and much to the pleasure and comfort of the Nine if such matters were left to those in charge. All may rest assured that the Nine will do its level best; but that does not imply that no errors will be made, for what may seem perfectly inexcusable to a looker-on would be

quite a different thing if the positions were reversed. There are many things conducive to a poor throw besides lack of skill, and there are plenty of chances for a ball to pass a player, particularly upon the campus, even when it would seem to be almost in his hands. The whole of the matter may be summed up in the following advice: Cheer on and encourage your Nine, applaud their good plays, and do not dishearten them by continued adverse criticism.

THE GARNET.

That long-expected issue, *The Garnet*, has at last made its appearance, and is now before us. We had been anticipating much of '79's publication, knowing as we did the amount of editorial ability concentrated upon it, and the result has not disappointed us. It is, in our opinion, vastly superior to any of its predecessors, and reflects very creditably upon its editors. We think it compares favorably with any college publication in the country, both in the tasty appearance of its exterior, as well as in its subject matter. Several graphic illustrations of great local interest, and exhibiting superior artistic talent, form an agreeable contrast to the hideous cartoons which disfigured *The Garnet* of 1878.

The tone of complacent satisfaction which presents itself in the salutatory shows how pleased the editors are with their efforts and betrays a due appreciation of the merits of their work. *The Garnet* is nominally a catalogue of the secret societies, but there is in it much besides to interest all, alumni, students and (we add with hesitation) the Faculty. The privilege of criticism is freely exercised, and of course the Faculty come in for a liberal share, yet there are no offensive personalities, and none of that college blackguardism which so often is the prominent feature of such publications. One poem, and we might add, one poem too many, occupies one

of its pages and forms its one distorting feature. We would respectfully advise the author thereof to retire to some solitary retreat and rest his wearied intellect for a year, at least. More than one such effort a year would, we fear, prove fatal to the writer; it certainly would to us.

The poem is alone well worth the modest price of the catalogue, merely as a literary curiosity.

A new feature of the present issue, and an excellent one, is the representation in the catalogue of the other departments of the University. The summary shows an attendance of 153 students in the Medical Department, and 64 in the Law School.

We think the congratulatory reflections under "*Nunc est pax*" rather premature when viewed in the light of subsequent events. An appendix would be an improvement. The class editorials, which in lofty words and soaring similes parade the victories and conceal the defeats of the respective classes, are as truthful as such essays generally are, and perhaps represent class sentiment as faithfully.

Altogether, *The Garnet* of 1879 is a great success, and we recommend it to our readers as well worthy of their patronage.

OBITUARY.

It is with sincere regret that we find ourselves called to record the lamentable and untimely death of Miss Mattie W. Fuller, of Troy, which has occurred since our last issue of *The Concordiensis*. This estimable young lady was the daughter of Mr. Jos. W. Fuller, one of our Trustees, who has given the college beneficent proofs of his interest, and the sister of Mrs. Potter, the excellent wife of our President.

Social, graceful and unusually accomplished, she had a large circle of warm and admiring friends in her own city, and was

known to many in Schenectady through her ready and charming participation in those simple but elegant entertainments which from time to time have been provided for our students by Dr. Mrs. Potter at the presidential mansion.

Thoroughly educated, and happy in the pursuit of general culture, she had profited by tours of travel in Europe, in the study of modern languages and their literatures, and gave promise of a happy life of great usefulness. Our good Lord, who does all things well, had other and brighter things in store for her, and her friends are left to weep and wonder and bow in resignation to His holy will. To them the tender words of Bryant recur with striking force:

"Death hath come

Gently to one of gentle mould like thee,
As light winds wandering through the groves of bloom
Detach the delicate blossoms from the tree.
Close thy sweet eyes calmly and without pain,
And we will trust in God to see thee yet again."

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editors of The Concordiensis:

There is a large chance that this may be considered by some of your readers as one of that class of communications that "corrupt good manners," but it is because I consider the columns of your paper the best place in which to discuss college matters that I address you at this time. The Freshman who was hazed lately by some Sophomores, and who brought a suit-at-law against his tormentors, has been published as a baby and is being made to feel the odium that attaches itself to a student who carries a college matter outside the college. Now I do not propose to defend his action in bringing a suit for damages, for I think he made a mistake in doing so, but at the same time I wish to say I think it downright brutality to make the man uncomfortable because of an error he

has committed. There is a sort of code of students' ethics, which has never taken any form that is tangible, and it is wide enough to take in, as a breach of it, any thing that happens to offend the student-mind. The whole world is easily divided into Union College and things outside of Union College. Now this imaginary code says that this Freshman must not seek redress for his grievances outside of the college and, inside the college, he must not appeal to the Faculty or any of the college authorities. That leaves him to find champions for his cause among the students, three-fourths of whom he *knows* will be enlisted on the other side if he is a "miserable Fresh" and his opponents are Sophomores. In short, this code provides that he shall not make any defence at all but shall just submit to all forms of abuse, in which case he will be called a baby and coward and come off no better, but rather worse than if he fails to regard this code and seeks any redress that he may fancy. Some Freshmen have come off very well by providing themselves, as a prophylactic measure, with fire-arms backed up with enough grit to discharge them when they thought the occasion demanded. I don't feel like recommending this in all cases, but it's the only way to avoid being abused that the code fails to touch, and has heretofore brought forth better results than anything else that has been tried. This code, as it now exists, is just rank nonsense and the man who will be governed by it ought to be driven from the college. I don't uphold "peaching" to the Faculty, but I do maintain that if a man consents to be governed by this intangible code, that is susceptible to modifications to fit any occasion, he renders his condition worse than that of any slave in existence or in history.

Yours respectfully,
CONTRIBUTOR.

LOCAL.

—The following is the official announcement for the approaching anniversary exercises:

UNION COLLEGE, May, 1879.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Alumni Association, the classes of 1809, 1819, 1829, 1839, 1849, 1859 and 1869 are invited to meet at the approaching Commencement for their decennial re-union. The members of other classes also will be heartily welcomed and their presence cannot fail to subserve the interests of our College.

The order of proceedings for Commencement week will be as follows:

Baccalaureate Sermon, by the Rev. Dr. Charles F. Deems, of New York; on Sunday, June 22d, at 7:30 p. m., in the Methodist Church.

Annual Meeting of the Phi Beta Kappa Society; on Tuesday, June 24th, at 8:30 a. m., in room No. 4, South Colonnade.

Meeting of the Alumni Association; on the same day, at 10 a. m., in the Chapel, and election of one of the Alumni to the Board of Trustees. At 1:30 p. m., the *Banquet*, with addresses, will be given in Alumni and Memorial Hall and will be followed by the usual *Class-day Exercises*.

Meeting of the Century Club; on the same day, at 6 p. m., at the President's house.

Prize Speaking by members of the Junior and of the Sophomore Class; on the same day, at 7:30 p. m., in the Methodist Church.

Commencement; on Wednesday, June 25th, at 10 a. m., in the Methodist Church. The University Oration will be delivered by the Hon. John K. Porter, LL. D., of New York. The Procession will leave the College Chapel at 9:30 a. m.

Meeting of Curators of Buildings, Library and Parks; at 3:30 p. m., at the President's house.

Reception for the Senior Class, to which all others are cordially invited; in the evening from 8 to 10, in Alumni and Memorial Hall.

JOHN FOSTER, Chairman
Of the Committee of the Faculty.

Examinations for entrance will be held on the 26th and 27th of June and on the 15th and 16th of September. The completeness of the course of studies and the thoroughness with which it is now carried out, as well as the numerous Scholarships in the institution, offer extraordinary inducements to students who intend to enter college.

—The *Garnet* is out.

—Did John Smith discover America?

—"A painted God is the noblest work of man."—*Garnet*.

—Who took away that section door? It was the cat!

—A Freshman thinks that the *delicious tremers* are a very bad thing to have. We are somewhat inclined to doubt this.

—The cows have been turned into the pasture, and the pump is almost deserted.

—Student: 'Professor, is there any waste in the use of that machine?' Prof.: "None, except it be one of *elbow grease*."

—What Freshman said everybody ought to learn something of the art of drawing, so as to be able to make "diaphragms" of things?

—That irrepressible Junior wants to know how the "archives" are to be put up in the new library—meaning, we suppose, alcoves.

—A Fresh says that when Adam was in the ark he came across the college buildings. We should like to know just when that was.

—On Saturday, June 7th, will occur the trial for appointment to the Junior and Sophomore prize stage. There will be quite a number of competitors.

—Fred Van Dusen has been elected Valedictorian, and John Ickler Respondent, for the Theological Society, at the anniversary exercises in June.

—We understand that the freshmen have petitioned to have the firing on the campus discontinued. It makes the cows so wild that they cannot do anything with them.

—An Amsterdam paper of recent date remarks that "the Garnet, a Senior publication of the secret societies, at Union College, is expected to appear *daily*." Well—hardly.

—The following members of the Senior class have been elected to the Phi Beta Kappa Society: E. P. White, David Sprague, J. E. Muller, Fred Van Dusen, W. B. Roper and N. L. Reed.

—"When a local pedestrian," says the *Argus*, "assumes the title of 'Professor,' it is enough to make a colored whitewasher go out behind a wood-pile and weep for a week." This has a strictly *local* application.

—President Potter has been made Vice-President of the American Evangelical Alliance in place of the late Rev. Dr. Muhlenburg, and has also been appointed American representative at Basle, Switzerland, next summer.

—Any one who says that college students are unfeeling should see the truly kind way in which they enquire after the health of their professors, when sick. They have even been heard to cry aloud, upon being informed that the professor would not be able to meet them at the usual hour, although their cry of disappointment and regret is often limited to the one word *Bolt!*

—Professor, trying to assist the student to think of coal: "Mr. S., what do you burn in your room?" Mr. S.: "Why, my lamp." Prof.: "Well, I wish you had burned it a little more judiciously."

—In the contest for the Nott Prize Scholarship, in the Freshman class, the competitors are Ford, Murray, and Whitmyer. The examination in mathematics occurred May 17, and in languages, May 24. The result is not yet announced.

—J. E. Benedict, '80, left for home May 23, much to the regret of many warm friends here. After a short vacation home, he will join Prof. Webster's zoological expedition on the eastern coast of Massachusetts. Prof. Webster will leave in a few days.

—A wire fence, such as farmers use in swamps, has been strung up in front of the presidential grounds. But this is a grand improvement on the old one and we should be grateful so long as we understand it has been put up for *temporary* purposes.

—The Presidents of the three lower classes are requested to call meetings of their classes the first week in June, for the purpose of electing editors of the CONCORDIENSIS for the following year—*three* to be chosen from the Juniors, *three* from the Sophomores, and *two* from the Freshmen.

—Prof.: "Mr. Y., state the distinction between the words 'purpose' and 'propose.'" Long pause. Prof.: "Well, I purpose going away to-night; is that right?" Mr. Y.: "I thought you purposed going last night, and consequently I don't know." Boys all fan themselves with their hats.

—It is stated, on very good authority, that a student, rooming down town, has been requested not to sit with his feet in the window, as young ladies, passing by, have been frightened. We should like to know the condition of the minds of those young ladies, or that of their mothers, who, we understand, made the request.

—A committee of the College Faculty has been appointed to see about fitting up new base ball grounds behind the College grove. This is a good step, for although our present grounds are beautiful and excellent, yet it is difficult to take in gate money, and their nearness to Memorial Hall renders the existence of its stained glass windows somewhat precarious. The Faculty deserve great thanks for taking in hand what in most colleges is left to the students to do.

—Just one strain of "Pinafore," and you will see every window in college stealthily raised, while logs of wood, coal scuttles, water buckets, boots ink bottles, are poised, ready for the luckless offender. So be warned in time, stranger, as it is strictly forbidden. Better run your chances any time on "Baby Mine."

—The noble Senior, who for four years hath flirted desperately with a pretty maid of Dorp, who hath boasted that he is impervious to Cupid's darts, and who, as the end draweth nigh, findeth himself like the fellow in Pott's Painless Cure—trapped, goeth to the fair one and pleadeth, "Dear Miss—, will you be *ever true* to me?" And the tremulous reply is, "Well, *a-almost ever*."

—We are sorry to chronicle the dissolution of our *brass* band. They had just begun to play nicely together, and had been out on dress parade with the troops but once or twice, when a request to cease from the faculty, disorganized them. The request was founded, we understand, upon the decided aversion of the commanding officer to a *horn* of any kind.

—The Senior class has appointed the following committees: Card Committee, N. L. Reed, L. J. Davids, J. E. Muller, A. A. Browne and W. B. Roper; Music Committee, E. C. Hoyt, F. F. Chisolm, T. D. Palmer, O. G. Brown and J. B. Conway; Floor Committee, W. P. Adams, E. L. Hutchinson, David Sprague, W. F. Lansing, W. A. Waldron, E. P. White; Reception Committee, W. W. Childs, J. A. Goodrich, J. D. Parsons.

—“Ye Union boys, whose pipes are lit,
Come forth in merry throng;
Upon the terrace let us sit,
And cheer our souls with song.”

Yes, that is all very nice, but when one gets nicely seated and inhales several hundred cubic feet of the impurities arising from the foul ditch in the rear, he becomes inclined to cheer his soul by leaving. If “The changing year still finds” that ditch in its present filthy condition, we warn posterity not to let the old terrace find

“Them sitting where their dads have been.”

—’82 still ahead. Freshman R. maintains the reputation of the class by getting permission from the faculty to attend the San Francisco minstrel entertainment, a few nights since. This youth evidently made a great mistake in coming to Union. He should have gone to Williams’ College. D., during this same entertainment, finds out that the change which he received at the door, is 15 cents

short, goes out and insists upon money to that amount being refunded him. Of course he gets it. F., upon being shown some mercury in a bottle, and informed that it is melted silver, remarks, upon weighing it in his hand, “Why silver is heavier when melted than when solid, ain’t it?”

—And now the Y. M. C. A. Coffee Room has enlarged its borders. A new room has been fitted up for gentlemen and the former one is to be used as a ladies’ and ice cream room. Now fellows, take your best girls and sample Mr. Burk’s ice cream. Remember you are aiding a good cause. So most of the clergymen said at the Association Anniversary exercises, and what they say must be so.

—Just now a standard question with a few unhappy men is, “Are you going to wear a claw-hammer coat on the stage?” Two or three want to wear them, and one or two others are indifferent. The rest are disgusted to think that so much needless homage should be paid to a superannuated custom. Are not the speakers of ’79 able to stand on their own footing, and throw overboard an article which is hardly graceful, and which we fancy those gentlemen would have to “pole up” somewhat in order to become familiar with it?” We did not start out to work against Jacob Henry, and yet our love for him is limited.

—It may interest some of our readers to know that John Howard Payne, author of the immortal song “Home, Sweet Home,” conducted a college paper here in 1811. The *Argus* says that while at Union College “he started a periodical called *The Pastime*, which became very popular with the students. He was, however, severely criticised, and one day, as a joke, he sent to one of the papers in this city an article, which was published, berating himself, after the manner of his censors, in round terms. It produced a sensation at Union, many of his old associates turning the cold shoulder upon him. The affair came to an issue at a supper party, where an individual gave as a toast, “The critics of Albany,” and was, in common with the other carpers, decidedly nonplussed by Payne’s quietly rising and returning thanks.”

—The Musical concert and readings given under the auspices of the Base Ball Association May 9, were all that could be desired and were a financial success. We do not intend to make any extended criticism on the music. We do not feel competent to do it. Prof. Jeffrey played as only he can play.

Mrs. Benedict was at her best and rendered her solos, "The Angel Serenade," and "T'el Rammanti," with remarkable sweetness and power. Dr. Coppee's selections from Whittier and "Charles O'Malley," were excellent. The students' double quartette sang creditably. But of Lieut. Best in his almost marvelous manipulation of the violin we must say that he out did himself completely. He was master of his instrument and well merited the unbounded enthusiasm over his playing. The managers of the concert were congratulated on every side after the affair on having furnished so delightful an evening's entertainment. We extend cordial thanks to those who so generously gave their services to make the entertainment what it was.

EASILY NULLIFIED PRETENCE.

I.

There was a certain man,
And he laid a certain plan
To make people think he was wise—wise—
wise;
And he made a pretence
That he could read French,
And shut one or both of his eyes—eyes—
eyes.

II.

The way he went to work
Was, coming from New York,
To buy a "*Roman Francaise*" on the train
—train—train;
And when at home, he'd tell
How he liked the book so well
That he read it through again and again—
'gain—'gain.

III.

This story o'er and o'er,
Came at length to be a bore,
So a lady to test the fable put—put—put;
For she borrowed the romance,
And, at a single glance,
Saw the leaves of it had never yet been cut
—cut—cut.

BASE BALL.

What is the matter with the Troy Polytechnics?

Kill that umpire: he has too much lip.

One of the pretty games of the season was that played May 7th, between the Freshman Nine and the Union Classical Institute Nine. During the first three innings not a run was scored on either side, but in the fourth and fifth innings the Freshmen did some heavy batting, gaining a lead which the Institute men were unable to make up. The final score was 8 to 4. The playing of the Freshmen

was creditable, and we think that with sufficient practice they will become a strong class nine.

On Saturday, May 10th, the College Nine played the Amsterdam Nine on our grounds winning by a score of 44 to 7. The game, as indicated by the score was one-sided and uninteresting and not calculated to call forth very fine playing from our Nine. In the first three innings, however, their fielding was almost perfect, the score being then 33 to 0. But owing to lack of excitement more carelessness was afterwards shown than would have been, no doubt, in a closer contest.

The directors have appointed Mountain as first substitute on the College Nine. Mountain has done the heaviest batting of the season.

It was confidently expected that the Williams College Nine would play us on Saturday, May 24th. They had expressed a willingness to visit us; but at a late date they informed us that they could not, owing to the fact that their Faculty would not let them come to Schenectady, Troy, or Albany. We do not require any apology from the Williams men, and shall not consider it a "back-down" on their part. But we think the Faculty of Williams College owe an apology to the good sense of the public for the exacting, narrow-minded manner in which they treat their students. There is reason in all things, and their refusal to allow the nine to visit a neighboring college on Saturday is simply contemptible. We have no patience with that class of philosophers. They belong to the tenth century.

On Thursday, May 15th, a match game was played on our grounds with the Daleys, of Troy, which resulted in the first defeat our nine has met with since its organization. The game opened favorably with good fielding and batting on the part of our men, who gave their opponents a "blinder," and made three runs the first inning. Fortunes were reversed, however, in the second inning, by a score of 4 to 3 in favor of the Daleys. It was then, in the third inning, that our men began to show signs of fright—of utter demoralization, which manifested itself in such a brilliant and long-continued series of wild throwing, peppered with muffing and fumbling, as had never before been witnessed in a match on our grounds. The Daleys scored 7 runs. Notwithstanding this "crusher" our men "picked up" and did some good fielding and excellent batting to the end of the seventh inning, bringing up the score steadily from

3 to 11 to, 10 to 14. But in vain. Good batting from the Daleys and bad fielding from our men gave the Daleys 7 runs in the last two innings. Although the game was a poor one and many errors were made, yet there was some fine playing. Our men held their own at the bat, making 16 base hits to the Daleys' 13. Pearson's pitching was effective and Beattie's catching fine, although he displayed unusual weakness in throwing to second base. The following is the score :

UNION COLLEGE.							
	R.	I. B.	T. B.	P. O.	A.	E.	
Rodgers, 1b.,.....	2	2	4	12	0	5	
Fairgreive, 2b.,.....	2	2	3	2	1	2	
Ford, lf.....	1	2	2	3	0	1	
Heatly, rf,.....	1	2	3	1	0	0	
Moore, cf.,.....	1	3	4	2	0	2	
Beattie, c.,.....	1	2	2	4	2	5	
Fancher, 3b.,.....	1	2	2	3	3	2	
Pearson, p.,.....	0	0	0	0	1	5	
Taylor, ss.,.....	1	1	3	0	3	5	
Total.....*	10	16	23	27	10	27	

DALEYS							
	R.	I. B.	T. B.	P. O.	A.	E.	
Mansion, lf.,.....	1	2	1	2	0	3	
Bingham, c.,... ..	0	0	1	3	0	2	
Harkin, 1b.,.....	2	2	3	8	1	0	
Byron, p.,.....	3	3	4	0	2	3	
Fearey, ss.,.....	4	1	5	1	1	2	
Lawlor, 2b.,....	3	1	4	2	2	2	
Furlong, cf.,.....	4	2	5	3	0	1	
Otterson, rf.,.....	3	1	4	0	0	2	
Grose, 3b.,	1	1	1	8	2	5	
Total	21	13	28	17	8	20	

INNINGS.										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Union College.....	3	0	0	0	2	2	3	0	0	—10
Daleys,	0	4	7	3	0	0	0	6	1	—21

The Nine are to play Hamilton College on their grounds, May 29th, and Syracuse University at Utica, May 31st. No game has been arranged for the 30th at the present writing. Cornell has been challenged twice but has displayed her courtesy by making no reply. Madison University accepted our challenge to play at Utica but has since asked to be released on account of a Senior vacation and a geological expedition at that time. All success to the boys.

EXCHANGES.

—Spring fever has set in and the Exchange Editor is suffering from a severe attack, and so would humbly beg his fellow critics to deal very gently with his productions in this issue.

—First upon our table is the *Alleghany Campus*, a new visitor. It abounds in literary articles, some of them of real merit and

others not deserving of particular mention. The local column is not very complete and to fill out the issue there are numerous reviews of late books and periodicals. The most sensible article is found in its Exchange Department relative to the negligent manner of most college papers in copying notes from other periodicals without acknowledging their source, and thus giving rise to unfounded reports as "Tuition is free at Williams," "Infidel Club at Cornell," etc.

—We clip the following from the *Williams Athenaeum*, and would respectfully ask how the Nine is to do the college credit if it is unable to play other colleges away from Williamstown? Rumor says that the ball grounds at the latter place are a little peculiar and that may account for some of the credit. We understand that the College Nine is not allowed to go away from home to play. "We are very glad that it is not the painful duty of the New Board to chronicle the death of base ball, as our predecessors have done of boating. The Nine are now well organized, and are doing good work in practice. As several of the men are from the under classes, a longer time than usual may be required. The material, however, is good, and we are sure of having a first-class Nine, which will do the college credit. The 'interest' which our correspondent last week so earnestly desired, seems to be increasing. It is to be hoped that the Nine will continue their systematic practice, and should this be done we shall have a Nine able to contest with other colleges in the fall, if not before."

—The *Hobart Herald* contains a very pertinent article upon "College Spirit," and it contains a few ideas which are applicable to our college. The spirit of wantonly destroying the college property is largely prevalent with us and not content with this the disturbers demolish such things as are for their own good and particular use. We quote from the article in question: "The phrase, College spirit, is in everyone's mouth, and yet how often it is used without any definite meaning. As frequently employed, it is a vage expression covering a little of everything, and not meaning much of anything. A student turns the boat-house window into a target, or by way of mere pastime, stuffs up a keyhole, which results in the breaking down of a door, and assessing the damages upon the students; or, to render himself perfect in the art of throwing, he chooses a hall window for his mark. All this he does, and excuses himself upon the

plea of College spirit, and take a great deal of credit to himself for being a public-spirited youth. But people who are not accustomed to consider an action a worthy one on the simple ground of its author trying to pass it off under a specious name, would be rather inclined to call this rowdyism, and between rowdyism and genuine college spirit there is a wide difference."

PERSONAL.

'58. Joseph B. Graham has recently been elected Mayor of the city of Schenectady.

'54. Hon. Miles Beach has been appointed by Governor Robinson as Judge of the Court of Common Pleas in New York to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Judge Robinson.

'78. J. F. Greene, formerly an editor of the CONCORDIENSIS, has left his place on the *Amsterdam Democrat* and entered on his duties as sole proprietor and editor of the *Baldwinsville Gazette*, a copy of which we have received. It is a well edited, newsy sheet and deserves success.

'29. Rev. Dr. Joseph Alden, Principal of the State Normal School at Albany is the author of an excellent book entitled "Thoughts on Religious Life," published recently by G. P. Putnam's Sons. It contains an introduction by Wm. Cullen Bryant who was an old friend of his.

'68. Schenectady may again feel proud of the scientific exploits of her sons. Mr. Westinghouse, of air-brake renown, has invented an electric light to be used in the head light reflector of locomotive engines. It is said that by its rays, one can read find print with ease, at the distance of one mile and a half; so says a lecturer on the various electric lights, Mr. Chester Wilson of Altoone, Pen., who is chief electrician to the Pennsylvania company.—*Union*.

'47. Ex-Judge George G. Barnard died in New York city April 27, 1879. He was born in Poughkeepsie in 1829. After practicing law in Poughkeepsie and San Francisco he opened an office in New York city. He was elected Recorder in 1857 and Justice of the Supreme Court in 1860 and re-elected in 1868. His career became clouded about 1870 and in 1872 a trial for impeachment and disqualification resulted in his conviction. The crimes committed by him were more out of

ill-considered kindness toward friends than from venality. He was a man of remarkable ability and shrewdness and his readiness in decisions in Chambers was proverbial among the members of the bar as was also his ready wit.

'69. Chas. C. Knowles, C. E., died at South New Market, N. H., March 13th, 1879. "A first man in his class," says the *Eastern Argus*, of Portland, Me., "a student under the late Professor Gillespie of Union College engineering department, taking higher rank in some branches than any predecessor, he carried into the world a talent and training that would have conducted him to the first rank of his profession. Already he had attained to high positions in several engineering enterprises, notably as assistant engineer on the great bridge crossing the Mississippi river at Louisville, Mo., and division engineer on the Nebraska Southern Railroad. Two years ago he entered the employ of the U. S. Engineering Department under Gen. Thom, and was located at Massachusetts bay."

'32. Hamilton W. Robinson, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, New York city, died April 7, 1879. He prepared for college at Albany Academy where he was distinguished for industry and ability. After graduation at Union College he studied law with James McKnown, afterward became the partner of Attorney-Gen. John Van Buren, removed with him to New York in 1848, and in 1870 was elected to the office which he filled till his death. Harper's Weekly of May 10th, which contains a fine portrait of him, speaks of him as follows: "At the bar Judge Robinson attained eminence not only as counsel and adviser in business affairs of great scope and importance, but as a studious, learned and impartial referee. On the bench he was faithful, prompt and courteous. No man had more of the affectionate respect and confidence of the bar or the public than he—a respect and confidence which his clear intellect, thorough knowledge, strong sense of duty, and genial and even temper never failed to inspire in all who knew him as a man or as a judge."

EXTRANEAE.

—Prof. (in Physiology): "Mr. Y., have you ever put your head on any one's breast and listened to the heart beat?" Mr. Y. (blushing): "Yes, sir." Mr. Y. couldn't see why the class laughed.

—Princeton has no reading room.

—Syracuse University has eleven Brazilian students.

—*P. Scipio equestri genere natus:* Publius Scipio was born at a horse-race.—*Ex.*

—*Prof. in logic.* "What is the universal negative?" *Student.* "Not prepared."—*Ex.*

—Friends of Princeton College offer to pay its debt of \$120,000 on condition that no more be incurred.

—There is a rumor that Drew Theological Seminary may be joined to the Wesleyan University at Middletown, Conn.

—"How doth the busy little Fresh
Work 'till he thinks he's hunk,
Then goes up to his little "Ex,"
And makes a beastly flunk."—*Ex.*

—Wanted:—a philanthropist to "set it up" for the Senior class, of Union College! They never had a class supper.—*Rochester Compus.*

—Two Sophomores enter a horse-car; the first takes the only vacant seat, and the second sits in his lap. Presently a young lady enters, and the second Soph. rising says, "Take my seat madam,"—*Crimson.*

—*The Professor* (in illustrating a point in Rational).—*Mr. G.*, your arm is more closely united to yourself than to any one else, is it not? *Mr. G.* (confusedly).—Yes, sir.—*Largum.*

—They were walking home from a rehearsal; said he: "Lovest thou me?" Said she: "Thou knowest, I love thee!" Then they measured noses, while the trees sighed, the lake murmured upon the pebbly beach, and the moon shone in soft splendor.—*Vidette.*

—Cornell does not consider it any honor to win a victory in a boat-race over Bowdoin, Princeton and Union. She prefers to snatch the laurels from Harvard and Yale.—*Ex.* We wonder if they would regard it any honor to beat us at chess.

—He used to call his girl "Revenge,"
Cognomen rather neat,
For when one asked him why, he'd say,
"You know revenge is sweet."—*Crimson.*

—There's a metre dactylic, there's a metre spondaic,
There's a metre for a laugh and a groan;
There's still yet a metre by no means prosaic,
'Tis to meet her—by moonlight alone!—*Ex.*

—The man who carries his railroad ticket in his hatband makes a fair display.

—M. Rabinet, of the French Academy of Sciences, gives the following tests for distinguishing colorless gems from diamonds. If a person looks through a transparent stone at any small object, such as the point of a needle, or a little hole in a card, and sees two small points, or two small holes, the stone is not a diamond. All white colorless gems, with the exception of the diamond, make the object examined appear double; in other words, double refraction whenever exhibited by a stone, is conclusive proof that it is not a diamond.

AT THE PLAY.

"Two Hearts That Beat as One."

SHE.

Harry dear. I hope the actor
Who is Romeo to-night,
Has been in love in earnest—
Else he cannot play it right.

HE.

So you think it necessary
To love for love's own sake?
By this rule, just think a moment
What a Romeo I'd make!

SHE.

What a thought! Oh, how delightful!
Naughty Harry, silly pet!
If you could play sweet Romeo,
Why couldn't I be Juliet?

HE.

Why, of course, for I would be
The moon and balcony in one,
And to kiss you'd be a duty—
There now darling! yum! yum! yum!
—BACK SEAT.—*Era.*

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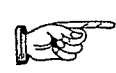
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