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COLLEGE REPORTER.

VOL. I.

ORONO OCT. 19. 1874.

NO. I.

Poetry.

INSIDE THE CAR WINDOWS.

BY M. E. P.

The rushing train comes panting
to a stand,

The load of lifeless and of living
freight

Is hurriedly pushed in, and o'er
the land

The train goes on like stern, re-
lentless fate.

In comes a blooming maiden,
graceful, fair,

And next a widow, clad in weeds
of woe,

Leading a child with yellow, curl-
ing hair;

Then an old man with faltering
step and slow.

Then comes a lawyer tall, suave
and bland,

Who carries weighty secrets in
his mind.

Bowing and smiling upon either
hand,

As one who feels "at peace with
all mankind."

Then the brisk merchant, with
his "Daily Press",

Glancing with anxious eye the
the column down,

Noting how goods are quoted,
more or less,

And reckoning gains and losses
with a frown.

And now a rustle, and ear eyes
all turn

To see a couple, coming through
the crowd,

Her lashes drooping upon cheeks
that burn

With happy blushes and confu-
sion proud.

And all beam kindly on the fair
young wife,

Save one sour-visaged spinster,
who, they say,

Has married all who've asked her
in her life,

But who remains unwed until the
day.

Swift flows the tide of talk, and
on the ear

Fall, strangely mingled, phrases
but half caught.

"It seems like fall,"—"oh, Fannie
did you hear?"—

Smith asks a thousand dollars for
that lot.

"I had a team in eighteen forty-
seven."

"I ought to know, she is our neigh-
bor nearest;"

"I'll tell you now, what's my idea
of Heaven,"

"The air is cold, I'll close the
window, dearest."

"I s'pose she thinks that's going
to last,—she'll see"

"A perfect monomania with him."

"That pink is so becoming, too, to
me."

Hullo! when'd you get back?
seen Jim?"

"So goes the world;" but now the
engine screams,

We gather up our bundles, bags
and books;

The train is stopped, we leave it;
on it steams,

Of all the crowd, none thinks of
us, nor looks.

THE LITERARY SOCIETY.

Within the last year the Literary Society, composed of the members of the two upper classes, has been undergoing a gradual decline; and although the number of members required by the constitution to form a quorum has been greatly reduced, it has become almost impossible to induce a sufficient number to attend the meetings to transact business. There are a few, it is true, who yet retain an interest and who have worked hard to maintain the reputation of the society; but even these are becoming discouraged and a number have already joined the Lambda Alpha Society. The great complaint appears to be that the meetings are not interesting; that the ques-

tions for discussion admit of no argu-
ment, and that the exercises in general
are failures.

These statements are to a certain ex-
tent correct, and are rendered so by
the course of the members who make
them, who appear to regard the Soci-
ety meetings as mere places of amuse-
ment where one may pass a pleasant
hour at the expense of a few, without
ever troubling himself to contribute in
the least degree, to the interests of
the occasion. No society can be con-
ducted in a satisfactory manner with-
out the earnest co-operation of all its
members, and unless this can be secured
the time had much better be devoted
to something else.

The importance of this subject is ev-
ident to every one, and it would seem
that at an institution where so little
attention is paid to literary exercises,
the students would avail themselves
of the opportunities offered by these
societies, to compensate for the appar-
ent deficiency in the regular course of
study. Education avails a man nothing,
unless he has means to express
himself. No graduate should go forth
from any College unless he is able to
express his ideas in public in a cred-
itable manner.

It was our good fortune not long since
to be present at one of the meetings
of the Lambda Alpha Society, and we
could but admire the spirit with which
it was conducted, the arguments were
not confined to the regularly appoint-
ed discussions as they generally are in
the other Society, but each member
participated, and manifested a desire
to make the meeting as interesting as
possible. Viewed in the light of the
present condition of the two societies,
the proposition recently made by the
"Literary" appears simply ridiculous.
As the matter now stands the dissolu-
tion of the Society is merely a ques-
tion of time, and will, if it occurs leave
a stain upon the record of the two

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classes which compose it, not easy to erase.

College Reporter.

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In placing this, the first number of the Reporter, before the great reading public, we beg leave to offer an apology, a privilege to which, under these circumstances, we believe no one can object. At the same time, we console ourselves with the fact, that all great papers have sometime labored under difficulties more or less embarrassing.

It is, perhaps, no more than justice to our selves to say, but less than three weeks ago, the idea of publishing a paper at the College was first advanced, though we have for a long time felt the need of something of the kind. The success which has always attended the publication of the "Crucible", has led us to believe that this cannot prove a failure.

An annual paper did well enough in its time; but since our members have been increased, new buildings erected, side walks and streets being laid out and built, and in fact every thing growing and prospering; such a communication with the outside world is wholly inadequate to the call. Science

and art are often turning up new discoveries in our midst, and demand an open channel, through which their waters, rich with educational fruits, may flow out to the feet of the public. Dame Gossip too, has found her way among us, and calls loudly

for help in her department.

But besides the demands above mentioned, it is a duty we owe to the founders and supporters of the institution, to make known through some medium our prosperous condition. The great obstacle attending this enterprise, viz. that of advancing funds and putting things in working order have been overcome. We only ask the support and co-operation of our friends and fellow students.

The Agricultural Department

The majority of the people of this state are looking, at the present time, to the Agricultural department of this College, and making that a special test of its prosperity and usefulness.

This results partly from the fact that it is called an "Agricultural" College, and that the farmers of the state have had an indefinite idea, that something they hardly know, what, is to result from it, that will benefit the Agricultural interests. This department has not been so fully developed as have the others; hence, has arisen the feeling that the college is nearly a failure; for it has been judged by it's weakest point.

Another reason why the college is considered a failure, is that people have expected full fledged farmers to come from it's halls, prepared to make fortunes speedily by scientific farming.

Such have not appeared, and consequently many are disappointed.

Every where the question is asked; "WHERE ARE YOUR FARMERS?" In older colleges a student takes a high rank in his class, has a superior theme at graduation; then nothing more is heard of him for several years, when he comes forth showing the result of his silent toil. Wait a few years, and the Maine State College will show you sons who are working grand changes in agriculture. What is needed now is money to carry out the design of the Institution.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

The College Scientific Society held its semi-annual meeting at the College on the 6 inst. At 10 o'clock the meeting was called to order by the President, Prof. G. H. Hamlin, and after electing A. M. Goodale secretary pro tem, the society proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, with the following result, viz.:

Pres. G. H. Hamlin, Vice Pres. G. M. Shaw. Sec. A. M. Goodale. Assistant Sec. G. J. Moody. Treasurer. W. Webb. For chairmen of the several sections, the following named gentlemen were elected. Section A, J. R. Farrington. Section B, Prof. C. H. Fernald. Section C, Prof. M. C. Fernald. Section D, Prof. W. A. Pike. It was then voted to adjourn until afternoon.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The first hour was devoted to the transaction of business peculiar to the Society. It was voted to levy a tax of fifty cents, on each member, the money to be used in carrying out the experiments already commenced, and such others as may be deemed advisable by the board of managers.

On recommendation of the committee that was appointed to select candidates for membership the following were elected members.

Messrs. Beckler, Lothrop, Reynolds, Foss and Rogers of the Junior class Bunker, Burns, Elkins, Harvey, Lunt Phillips and Shaw, of the Sophomore class, Chamberlain, Fernald, Miller and Stewart, of the Freshman class. Rev. W. R. Cross and Angus Allen Esq. of Orono, G. S. Atkins, of Back-sport and Miss S. M. Hallowell, of Bangor were elected honorary members.

PUBLIC MEETING

At three o'clock a public meeting was held in the College chapel and a goodly audience was present.

A report was made by Mr. Farrington, on a potatoe experiment, conducted by J. H. Williams; also, one on a grass crop, conducted by W. B. Barstow. In each experiment, the object was

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to ascertain the condition of the soil after applying for a series of years the same amount of mineral matter as taken from it by the plant.

G. O. Weston, B. S. presented a paper on different methods of planting potatoes.

In Section B, a paper was presented by F. L. Scribner B. S. on the Flora of different parts of the state.

Prof. M. O. Fernald of Section C, gave the results of his experiments on the velocity of sound & on his barometrical observations in ascertaining the height of Mt. Katahdin.

Prof. Pike, chairman of Section D, also Prof. Hamlin, gave interesting papers on various subjects.

The meetings will be held in the future on the fourth Tuesday of Mar, and the third Tuesday of Oct.

The Maine Board of Agriculture will hold its fall meeting, in this town on the 27, 28, and 29, of this month.

The attendance promises to be large and the meetings will probably be interesting to those who take an interest in this branch of industry.

The Juniors, no doubt, will regret to learn that there will not be an opportunity for them, to impress the worthy gentlemen with their knowledge of Waring's "Elements of Agriculture." We understand that the meetings are to be held at the College a portion of the time.

Cross handed rowing is a common boat betoken skill, but in a 15 inch shell, should be tried with caution.

We are led thus to ponder by a little occurrence that came up on the river the other day. A Junior being out in a shell, and going along smoothly, he thought he'd try a little of the science of rowing. He crossed his hands on his ears, gave one look at the sun moon, stars and things and took a stroke, and the rapid waves of the stillwater closed over his manly bosom, leaving a considerable trace, how ever, where his feet went in.

This was unavoidable.

He swam ashore, sent four Freshmen after the boat and has forsworn rowing. Moral: Don't borrow that shell.

The senior who caused his classmates so much anxiety, by his non-appearance at the College after the temperance lecture, last Tuesday night, was picked up in this vicinity the next morning. He states that he was induced by a certain young — to cross the railroad bridge. From that time until about two o'clock on the following morning there seems to be a blank in his existence.

On returning to his senses, he found himself seated on the doorstep of a large two story house, on North Main street. Fool play is suspected.

That ambitious member of last winter's legislature whose zeal for re-renchment caused him to oppose the appropriation to the college has been re-elected. It is hoped that he will direct his efforts in the right direction the coming session and practice political economy in those departments where it is needed.

Did you go to the sociable last night? Who is there in this enlightened age that has not heard this often repeated query. And we are hearing it oftener as the season advances, making outdoor sports out of the question and indoor amusement necessary.

The latter is furnished in a measure by societies, which to persons socially inclined, seem very acceptable, especially to students. The societies of the neighboring villages have already begun to hold their annual course, thus affording ample opportunity to all those who wish to spend a few quiet hours very pleasantly and agreeably.

A number of snelling faces and such questions as the above suggests to our mind that some of these gatherings have already been patronized, and in no small degree.

It is evident that we have a professional thief in our midst. Who is he?

LOCALS.

"It's all right"

Mr H. F. Hamilton recently received a present of a fine dog from friends in Boston.

Comedy of errors — first proof sheet of the Reporter.

The interest of the Students in the military department has somehow been rapidly increasing of late.

It is rumored that C. E. Reed C.E. member of Class '73, now in the employ of the United States Coast Survey, is expected home soon.

A party lately returning from Pusshaw lake say that, while there, their eyesight became so sharpened that they could easily see the convexity of the water; though they would set it at a little less than eight inches to the mile.

It is recommended that a covered walk be built from the College to the Village in order that student attendance may not be prevented by the inclemency of the weather. Poor boys!

Owing to the nervous condition of one of the Editors (Mr. C.) brought on by over exertion in the office; the publication of the first number of the Reporter has been somewhat delayed.

Quite an important addition to the College library, has recently been received by the Librarian. It consists of the private library of the late C. B. Abbott, of Glenora, and a valuable set of Pacific Railroad Reports presented by Hon. Hamble Hamlin.

Many of the volumes are rare and supply deficiencies in the library which would be found difficult to fill.

Mr. Southard, the leader of the orchestra, having left, it is now conducted by Mr. Blackinton, who fills the office in a very creditable manner.

Their treasury is in a low condition, having just laid out rather heavily for their double bass. We hope all those who have not subscribed will do so at once, as they wish to purchase new music.

Practice makes perfect.

Our columns are open for correspondence.

The Executive Com, from both Literary Societies are making all necessary arrangements for the mock trial, which will take place next Friday evening at the College.

We are informed that the Methodist Society will render the beautiful drama "Among the Breakers" in the Town Hall in about two weeks.

RUN AWAY!

An Oldtown horse ran away from one of the students on Sat. evening. The carriage was badly smashed.

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