

college journal to lay before its readers a lot of dry literary and moralizing matter. Such work, like everything else, is all right in its place, and one finds enjoyment and instruction in reading it at the proper time. But in a college paper it is husky food; for, when one takes up such a publication, he at once notices those articles which concern the college or its connections; he wants college news; if he does not get it he will be disappointed, and no literary matter, excellent or not excellent, can take the place of it. In our opinion we can not be too wary in keeping before our readers the current college thought, and to this end the literary department should also be devoted or at least inclined. So far we have kept this in view, and it will no doubt continue to be the policy of the editorial board. Our students may some day be able to support a standard literary magazine, but the existence of such a probability is no reason why we should not stick to our sphere. We make these few remarks that misjudgment, which may be prevalent in some minds, may be removed.

THE course in Modern Languages is one which should occupy a more prominent place in an institution like this, where the aim is to give a broad scientific education. Aside from their disciplinary and classical benefits, without a substantial knowledge of French, and especially German, scientific research

cannot be carried to satisfactory results; the advanced student of chemistry and physics is daily under the necessity of consulting French and German periodicals and works of reference. This being the case, by the time one completes the course in modern languages, he ought to be moderately proficient in them, but we find very few who are. We believe that this course, during the greater part of the Freshman year, is quite thorough, but after that for some reason or other the student shirks "Dutch." If we mistake not, a more extended use of the conversational method would be an improvement. Further, with all sincerity, we embody the sentiments of the students at large with reference to most of our departments in three solicitations: Modernization of methods; more congeniality between student and instructor, (with more propriety on the part of the student;) and more earnestness.

THE names of the competitors in the Junior Oratorical Contest, with their subjects, appear in another place. It is regretted that the entire Junior class do not take part, as the affair is looked upon as one of the most interesting features of Commencement week. The contestants are busy with their productions and despite the slight delinquency in quantity, the quality is expected to be there unimpaired.

As for the prize, considered from