

pecially value the increasing influence of December 25th, as proclaiming glad tidings of peace and love and as advancing that righteousness which exalteth a nation. J.

THE INVINCIBLE WEED.

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The surprisingly small per centage of students using tobacco, as found in my class in Physiology numbering 26 members (4 of whom are ladies,) has led me to canvass the several classes now in the institution, in order to determine to what extent the "weed" is being used. I have carried the investigation, as well as the opportunities at my command would serve me in a limited period of time, through the ten graduating classes of the last decade of years.

While I do not consider the figures presented below sufficient or even trustworthy, from which to make proper deduction, yet I think they will serve at least to illustrate a few facts of more or less interest. I must add that in all these figures the ladies have been excluded as not possessing the *right*, even though they may have the desire of being represented.

Greatly to be appreciated are three facts which impressed me during the investigation: 1st, that a very small number of students used tobacco by the base method of chewing it; 2d, that only a few of the smokers practiced the habit in an immoderate degree, although a few years ago excessive smoking was quite prevalent among the younger classmen; 3d, that most of the smokers *acknowledged* the practice to be an evil one by attempting to conceal their guilt.

Barring a few exceptions, the Faculty of the institution is a model corps of instructors, in the light of this question, as will be seen by reference to the following table:

TABLE SHOWING NUMERICAL STRENGTH OF THE VICTIMS TO TOBACCO.

	Members	Number Using.	Number Smoking.	Number Chewing.	Number Abstaining.	Per cent Using.
Faculty.....	15	4	4	0	11	26.66
Class '78.....	5	2	2	0	3	40.00
" '79.....	7	4	4	3	3	57.14
" '80.....	6	5	5	0	1	83.33
" '81.....	3	1	1	0	2	33.33
" '82.....	9	7	7	4	2	77.78
" '83.....	5	1	1	0	4	20.00
" '84.....	4	3	3	0	1	75.00
" '85.....	4	4	4	0	3	87.14
" '86.....	4	1	1	0	3	25.00
" '87.....	3	1	1	0	2	33.33
" '88.....	6	3	3	0	3	50.00
" '89.....	10	6	6	1	10	60.00
" '90.....	28	18	18	7	10	64.29
" '91.....	26	8	7	2	18	30.77
" '92.....	30	14	...	...	22	46.67
" '93.....	26	10	...	...	16	38.46
Total students.....	191	83	...	...	...	43.45
Graduates '78-'87.....	53	29	...	...	...	54.72
Present Students.....	138	79	...	...	...	57.25
Present College Stu. '76	76	37	...	...	...	48.68
Present Prep.....	62	24	...	...	...	38.71

The fact that the percentage of smokers in the Preparatory Department is lower than that in the college might indicate to some readers that the habit of smoking is contracted by many students during their life at college; which, however, I feel confident is not the case. Consult any young man who dates the beginning of his manhood by his first cigar and you will almost invariably find that he became "of age" in his younger teens, or before entering a college.

A few years ago smoking among the lower classmen was so general that there was a precious few of their quarters which were not decorated with disabled pipes, festooned with strings of empty pokes, and perfumed with a foul aroma of "Old Judge" or "Old Durham;" and in which the centre table was not displaced by some more essential piece of furniture as a cuspidor, spittoon or "gobboon."

We do not see so many students now as in former years with sallow faces, inflamed eyes, and that lost-my-best-friend expression upon their countenances, all of which symptoms go with excessive smoking, to say nothing of the indigestion, impure breath and the dulling of the sensibilities engendered by the use of tobacco.

James Parton, in a dissertation on smoking