

is to his best interest every way. Now that compulsory attendance has been varied, though little modified, we hope that more will feel that in being allowed to attend where they please, their own choice has been so far taken into account as to make Bible class a privilege rather than a requirement. We could wish, however, that compulsion in the matter might be entirely removed. We believe that in most students it creates a prejudice which destroys appreciation of the Bible class as such, and in many cases this prejudice becomes an odium. With more than one-half who would not, if left to themselves, attend religious exercises, these exercises are by compulsory attendance made an actual farce. Of course in such cases there is inexcusable wrong on the part of the students, but we are sure that even the most punctual attendants upon religious exercises, those who appreciate them most as a privilege, much prefer to consult their own choice rather than an arbitrary requirement.

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IT is interesting and sometimes alarming to conservative virtue to notice how ready college men are to waive their own personal independence, convictions, and conscientious scruples to the drift of their associations. Assent to the crowd seems to be given, and purpose of conduct abandoned on the part of many individual students without a feeling that it is self surrender. This

is perhaps owing to the fact that college students in their unorganized associations collectively consult their own impulse of pleasure and idle choice more, and strive less to give character to their doings, than does any other collective body we could name. As an illustration of this we might mention the practice of hazing. This is representative college action which seems not to be the offspring of principle, good or bad. It is anomalous action. We hardly know whether to call it amusement or outlawry. To this sort of conduct, having its character masked or ill-defined and its purpose and consequences hidden or ill-defined, the individual student often assents with the feeling (or perhaps absence of conviction) that while nothing is to be gained yet perhaps nothing is to be sacrificed.

But there is another class of college action and influence not good, among students, which we think is more defined in character, and is different, though students are apt, with a little wounding of their own consciences, to be unconsciously led by their associations to indulge it with as little serious reflection. To this class of action belongs "ponying." We do not stop to enumerate its evil effects; they are well known and if they be taken into account, direct and indirect, their name is legion. We do not believe we have more students at the Pennsylvania State College who "pony" their way through than have