

verdict is that a half-dozen of orations with two or three dry, technical theses, constitute a tiresome programme for commencement morning. A commencement address by some prominent man would be much more acceptable. Such an exercise for next June is the proposition of the class of '89, and in this proposition they are in accord with the oft-repeated sentiment of the body of the students. Not only are the students in favor of this, but the idea must commend itself to all who attend the exercises of commencement week, since the class can furnish a more pleasant programme upon the occasion of class day than as now upon commencement day, while at the same time an address on graduating day as suggested would give visitors and all a treat. Moreover, the size of the present senior class is such as to make a programme for graduation day in which all members of the class are represented almost unbearable; yet the number is so few as to make the members unwilling to appear upon a programme which would require perhaps the half of the class while the other half would sit back. There are too many for all to appear, though not enough to make it desirable to elect representatives. If it is maintained that the exposition given by the class upon commencement morning under the present régime is desirable as indicating to patrons of the college the character and extent of the work done in our courses of study, we answer that we can not be persuaded that our *Alma Mater* needs this poor advertisement.

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ONE of our leading state colleges has adopted the plan of having Monday instead of Saturday as their weekly holiday. At first thought this would seem to be an inappropriate arrangement of a week's work; but, when the scheme has been put to trial, it is said to effect a needed improvement. It is one of the most common things to hear students speak of "blue Monday," as if this,

more than any other day of the week, were ill-favored and opposed to his honest endeavors. There may be naught but truth in the statement that Monday is a blank upon the student's calendar; but true or not, it all comes from lack of preparation, and this chiefly from lack of opportunity. Saturday, under the generally existing system, is the one day spent in recreation if not in the completion of some work that has been allowed to drag during the week. In very few instances do the recitations for Monday receive the attention which is given to those of any other day. If the work be allowed to pass over Saturday, what time is there remaining for such needed preparation? Surely no preparation upon the Sabbath is ever justifiable. No student can honestly allow himself to commit such a wrong as to make up upon the Sabbath his neglect of other days. But the temptation is great, and experience with students will lead us to believe that there are some who have just such a careless and thoughtless make-up. The scheme mentioned, and now being tried in different colleges, can do away with this by having Monday's work done at the close, instead of at the beginning of the school week. In this lies its greatest and most striking benefit.

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THIS institution is to be congratulated upon the success of the engineering department. While the courses in Mechanical Engineering and Electrotechnics were but recently established, they have satisfied demands made in that direction and have so far proven to be a success. It is understood that the course in Electrotechnics is to give way to a regular course in electrical engineering, as soon as the facilities of the college become great enough. The facilities for teaching mechanical engineering are gradually becoming better each year. The facilities for teaching civil engineering are now very good. We now think it in season to encourage the