

students at all hours of the day and evening. With such a limited time for the reading of solid literature one soon loses the taste for it and turns his attention to the destructive popular novels, and even if he has acquired a desire for scientific reading it is discouraged rather than cultivated here.

* * *

THE action taken on our appropriation bill, by the members of both houses at the last session of the State Legislature is highly appreciated by the students at Pennsylvania State College. Not only did both the House and Senate committees concur in giving the amount asked for, but they increased the amount to a considerable extent, and through the kindly interest of Senator Keyburne, chairman of the Senate committee, a sufficient sum of money to equip the armory with the "Sargeant System" for athletic training, was included in the bill. For this appreciation of the necessity of physical culture we will ever hold the gentlemen who voted "aye" on the bill in grateful remembrance.

Below is a direct copy of the appropriations as granted:—

APPROPRIATIONS—1889.

For repairing and furnishing the main building, . . .	\$12,500
For removing and rebuilding the old barn, . . .	6,000
For a building for steam plant, new boilers, removing old ones, and providing steam equipment and electric lighting for new buildings, . . .	45,000
For new machinery and additions to building for mechanic arts and industries, . . .	6,000
For erecting, equipping and furnishing a cottage for the ladies' department, . . .	10,000
For alterations to the barn on the Experimental Farm, and erecting a dairy house, . . .	7,000
For a conservatory building on the foundation already laid, . . .	2,500
For repairing roads, laying out and grading new ones, and grading grounds around new buildings, . . .	2,800

For two residences for Professors,	8,000
For additions to the library and for apparatus and equipment for the departments of Mechanics, Electricity, Chemistry, Botany, Horticulture and Civil Engineering, \$2,000 for each of the fiscal years '89-'90, and '90-'91,	4,000
For completing improvements authorized by the legislature but not sufficiently provided for, . . .	17,000
For equipping new laboratory building,	5,000
For gymnastic apparatus,	1,200

* * *

THE many expressions of dissatisfaction in regard to literary society work which we have heard lately and the non-increase in membership make the outlook for the future not at all promising. In some particulars the societies have attained signal success, but we must deplore the general lack of enthusiasm displayed by the members and their consequent lateness or non-attendance. The ultimate success of the societies is largely dependent on the stimulus afforded by large audiences. When we consider that the audiences, such as they are, are in a great measure due to the personal efforts of a few individuals, or to special inducements such as music, prizes, ingenious programmes, etc., we find good cause for anxiety. The literary societies should be made one of the most profitable sources of knowledge that life at college offers. We have heard it remarked by many of our graduates that they owe as much to their training in literary society as to any one other advantage that they enjoyed during their college life. Our societies have at their disposal almost every facility for literary culture and social enjoyment that could be wished for. Of course the prohibition of dancing throws a deep shadow over the social part of the evening, but we should make the best of these our "dark days," and look forward with a steadfast hope to the day when the ideas that have