

seems that in this age and in this land, having put down all other forms of oppression and tyranny, we should cling so tenaciously to a scheme like this! Do we not know that it is antiquated, moss-grown, effete, useless? Do we not realize that it is productive of far more evil than good? How can our college authorities with all their wisdom and experience in other things fail to see that students chafe and groan under this baleful system and insist that they would be better off—oh, much better off—if this relic of barbarism were shattered into fragments? What teacher of any experience, what parent, what man of good judgment can doubt for a moment that if left entirely to themselves all students, especially those in the lower classes, would eagerly avail themselves of every opportunity offered in college for mental culture, punctually attending all regular exercises. Under the compulsory system of attendance there are frequent absences it is true, but these, we are sure, all arise from one cause—hostility to the system. But abolish that system, remove all restraints, make all exercises voluntary, and attendance upon them would thenceforth be regular and punctual—an ideal arrangement—a college Utopia—who can doubt it?

And yet this unreasonable and oppressive system is in vogue everywhere, in this country and abroad, from the primary school to the great University, and instead of relaxing its grip it appears to be getting a firmer, tighter hold than ever upon the student community. Even "Fair Harvard" having experimented for nearly twenty years with the voluntary system, is now taking back water and declaring that nothing will do but the good old way of requiring day by day attendance upon college class-room exercises; that nothing but this will secure the ends for which a college education is designed; and the conviction of our American educators generally is to the same purpose—sad, is'nt it?

What is the good of this compulsory-attendance-short-cut-censure-mark-system? What's the good of a college training anyhow?

Go to, what's the good of anything? Sure enough.

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PERSONALS.

'83. L. H. Krebs has returned from the West, where he has been engaged for several years past in the mining-interests and has accepted a position on an engineer corps of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, stationed at Burnside, Pa.

'85. D. C. Jackson was recently promoted to the position of chief engineer of the Sprague Motor Co.

'86. Wm. Enterline is engaged as a partner with his brother in the manufacture of flour and feed in Big Run, Jefferson County, Pa. He was recently married to a lady of the same place.

'86. George L. Holter, as a representative of the State Experiment Station, read a paper on "Various simple methods for determining fat in milk" at the last meeting of the State Dairymen's Association at Meadville, Pa.

'87. We would correct a statement made in our last number that W. F. Strouse was drafting for the Baltimore and North Central Maryland R. R. Co. He is drafting in the main offices of Maryland Central Railroad Co. at Baltimore.

'89. U. S. G. Keller recently obtained a position as clerk in the offices of the Census Department at Washington, D. C.

'90. John Mitchell has been signed as pitcher for the coming ball season by the Minneapolis team of the North Western League.

'91. H. V. Holmes has lately gone to Birmingham, Alabama, to engage in business.