

*THE CENTURY MARK SYSTEM.*

## A Relic With Us Now.

There's a custom handed down in College history,  
That whenever College boys are caught in larks,  
The only way to settle with them fairly  
Is to deal them out their pay in censure marks.

This is the custom which once was here adopted,  
And I'll tell you how t'was managed different ways,  
So that circumstances, purposely concocted,  
Could be made to answer any "special case,"

It was in an arithmetical progression  
Whose first term and common difference were ten,  
That three misdemeanors in quick succession  
Gave sixty for a sum of series. And then—?

T'was the "painful duty" on the part of our Prex.,  
Since we willingly broke a statute forsooth,  
To kindly send notice our parents to vex;  
For they took, it of course, as they would the gospel  
truth.

One hundred and fifty meant suspension they said;  
Unless we affirmed with a confident look,—  
When down on the carpet to accounts we were led,—  
That sickness or mistake caused those marks on  
the book.

Where absence was noted we said we were late;  
If then to the "Scribe" we made not our case clear,  
Our memory failed us when given the date,  
And most of those marks did straightway disappear.

Like taking a journey by railroad it seemed,  
When every time we stopped at a station,  
Those who failed to have tickets, (plans bold schemed,)  
Took a limited train called the "Probation."

We were told we were given the full length of our rope;  
If further a step we insisted to go,  
It might be construed in the faculty's scope  
That we could have a trip home on a furlough,

Then indeed we were in a most critical state;  
We "looked out the next time for our bacon;"  
We never failed to connect, and arrive too late  
To get a free pass on the "Special Probation."

An "Extra Special" was run as second section,  
And it also was run on the same schedule time;  
We went on the first when we had the selection;  
The first held the road though the time was the same.

A train in reserve called the "Holter Probation"  
Took its name from a special passenger,  
Who safely got through on a special occasion,  
Saved the faculty's stocks and his own legal tender.

Beyond this resort it is needless to say  
Of giving passes the faculty were tired;  
If any small matter came up in the way,  
T'was time to pack up and prepare to be "fired."

*MORE MERCY.*

The number of times a man can "flunk" and still retain confidence in his abilities and maintain his self-respect is a question. Some have little self-respect to lose, and others are careless of the great capacity they possess.

But a man who has only moderate power with great application and pride in maintaining himself before his fellows, suffers very greatly when he cannot grasp the subject with which he deals. It is granted that the teacher should have a thorough comprehension of what he teaches, and it should be the aim of the student to get a greater or less hold upon what he is learning. Now there have been teachers whose delight it has been to give a man a "zip," even when the student succeeds more or less in getting a grasp upon his work. Of course when a man is inclined to be self-conscious, and thinks he knows as much as his teacher, it becomes necessary to show the youth the exact height of his elevation; but when the student does his best to get the subject and fails, he should be treated with some consideration.

The man who is continually brow-beaten loses his confidence and self-respect, and is assuredly crippled for aggressive contact with his fellows in life.

*A NEW VARIETY OF ZINC SULPHIDE.*

A new and peculiar sulphide of zinc was found in Southeastern Kansas a short time since, remarkable from the fact that it is nearly pure white and completely amorphous.

This singular mineral is found on the Moll Tract in the centre of the town of Galena, Cherokee County, Kansas. The ore body, which is reached by a shaft about 90 feet in depth, consists of zinc blende with some large crystals of galena distributed through it. It is about 25 feet wide, 20 feet high, and 100 feet long, so far as explored.

The blende has undergone much decomposi-