

the class nines during the past two weeks; the Sophomores however are much the strongest, and have the season in their own hands.

At the oratorical contest held in the Lecture Hall on the 22nd inst., for the Phoenix prizes, Eloise Mayham of New York won first, and James W. Ponder of Delaware second; the prizes were elaborately finished gold medals.

The Phoenix staff spent a very enjoyable day in the city on the 27th instant, attending a lecture by Dr. Stoddard.

Professor William C. Day will have an assistant soon in the chemical department.

Instead of the regular exercises at the class tree, the class of '89 will have an ivy planting, the vine being planted in front of the Centre College building, and the class ode sung. The spade will then be handed down to the class of '90.

George W. Stone, of Wilmington, Delaware, lectured in the lecture hall on the 28th inst. His subject was "the Life and Times of Sidney Smith."

A committee has been appointed by the Board of Management to make arrangements for the coming commencement, as this year marks the end of the second decade of the college.

Among the most prominent educators who are now taking part in the discussion of examinations, as conducted in American colleges, is President Magill. He has recently contributed an article to the Nineteenth Century on the subject. E. C. W.

### COMMENTS ON CANADA.

[In an article with the above heading in Harpers Monthly for 3rd mo., written by Charles Dudley Warner, one of its editors, we find the most just and intelligent exposition of the present state and future possibilities of this Canada of ours which it has ever been our privilege to read from the pen of a citizen of the United States. A widespread circulation of these papers will

be of much benefit to both countries. A better understanding between the two countries will certainly follow a more intelligent knowledge of both. The following extracts may be followed by others in future numbers.—EDS.]

Medicine Hat, on a branch of the South Saskatchewan, is a thriving town. Here are a station and barracks of the Mounted Police, a picturesque body of civil cavalry in blue pantaloons and red jackets. This body of picked men, numbering about a thousand, and similar in functions to the *Guarda Civil of Spain*, are scattered through the northwest territory, and are the Dominion police for keeping in order the Indians, and settling disputes between the Indians and whites. The sergeants have powers of police justices and the organization is altogether an admirable one for the purpose, and has a fine *esprit de corps*.

Here we saw many Cree Indians, physically a creditable-looking race of men and women, and picturesque in their gay blankets and red and yellow paint daubed on the skin without the east attempt at shading or artistic effect. A fair was going on, an exhibition of horses, cattle, and vegetable and cereal products of the regions. The vegetables were large and of good quality. Delicate flowers were still blooming (September 28th) untouched by frost in the gardens. These Crees are not on a reservation. They cultivate the soil a little, but mainly support themselves by gathering and selling buffalo bones, and well set-up and polished horns of cattle, which they swear are buffalo. The women are far from a degraded race in appearance, have good heads, high foreheads, and are well-favored. As to morals, they are reputed not to equal the Blackfeet.

Some of the Indian tribes of Canada are self-supporting. This is true of many of the Siwash and other west coast tribes, who live by fishing. At Lytton, on the upper Fraser. I saw a village of the Siwash civilized enough to live in houses, wear our dress, and