



CHEERING THE ALMA MATER, HEIDELBERG UNIVERSITY.

he feels like "letting up" a little before he puts himself into harness again. The would-be student has had to undergo for nine years a thorough grinding in a preparatory school, figuratively called a *Gymnasium*. Latin, Greek, French, German, history, mathematics, and the sciences must be fairly well mastered before the aspirant is admitted to the sacred halls of the university, where nearly all the courses are strictly post-graduate courses. During his preparatory studies at the *Gymnasium* he has been subject to the strict discipline of the school, and the not less severe supervision of the home, but as a university student he enjoys for the first time absolute freedom in every respect. He can live where he pleases and how he pleases, for dormitories are unknown. Free from parental restraint, he is very apt to mistake license for liberty, and to sow his wild oats with a

vengeance. He is absolutely free to study or not to study. There are no roll-calls, no recitations, and no examinations until after the whole course of three to five years' study. The young student is therefore conspicuous by his absence from most or even all lectures for a time, varying according to personal inclination or the study chosen. It would not do for the student of medicine to absent himself too often or for too long a period, while a student of law may study from books altogether.

German student-life finds its most picturesque expression in the smaller university towns like Halle, Jena, Göttingen, Freiburg, and dear old Heidelberg; while in the larger cities, like Leipzig, Munich, and Berlin, the student is but one of the important factors of city life.

Nearly every student belongs to some social organization. The most distinguished ones among those