

usual per cent. of not-much-of-anythings. If here isn't inspiration, where do you find it? Don't lead us too suddenly though, you might stumble over an ugly Soph and he might kick; they do occasionally. Don't undertake to capture the town or church, or any of the public institutions by storm; it might end in a shower, or even a fizzle. Remember the place has seen people belonging to the freshman class before; not so many nor so handsome a lot, but still average mortals, who had to live and breathe the same old air and tread the same old streets. Write home to your friends that you are "sweeping things." they will feel pleased, and the world will still revolve on its axis every twenty-four hours the same as usual. Its wonderful train will still stand these sweeping changes, these maddening revolutions. Follow up the Athenæum meetings, and practise oratory. There is not the slightest necessity for you to shave your head and go under ground, like poor old Demosthenes; you can just as well make other people retire while you hold the fort. Never forget a reception, patronize them my dear boy. Of course its a little boring at first, but then you will become accustomed to it in time. The greatest of men have sometimes to submit to small affairs. Try and not forget to put your cap and gown both on whenever you appear in public; they look well, especially if new, and strangers won't be misled. Its sinful to deceive strangers, sometimes dangerous, if they carry pistols. Study well the poets; some of you might condescend to become a Shakespeare by and by, such second rates as Milton, are out of the question. If any of you think of becoming editors, study horse-racing literature and go West. Whenever you go to the library bring back at least four volumes, and five if possible—great big books, you know. About half-past eleven Saturday is the busiest time, hence the proper season to want all your books entered. By studying the Seminary time table you will learn when to call during the remainder of the week. Make as much noise and fuss as possible at the table. It gives you the air of one who has turned up his nose before, and this breeds respect, or perhaps fear; the next best thing after being a hero is to growl at the grub. "Love your neighbor as yourself," and don't steal his coal. neither his kindling wood, nor his hatchet, nor anything whatsoever that pertaineth to him; for all these things are accounted by the just as wrong in the sight of men. *Get engaged if possible; an engaged*

freshman is just lovely. Go out into society (you will probably be invited, but if not got a skating rink ticket) and study character, a knowledge of which is a great factor in a man's success. Carve your name on every convenient fence; scribble it all over the walls, climbing to the coiling if possible; always write it in full, and your P. O. address. You accomplish by this means a double good; immortality is yours, and in case anything happens to you, (accidently) we will know where to send your fragments. Study nature, especially the fool, he's a wise kind. Be virtuous and you will be happy, honest, and you will be doomed.

### NATURE, VERSUS BOOKS.

WERE we asked the question, "What is Nature?" we would doubtless point to the changing seasons, the fruitful fields, the leafy woods, the rolling seas, and the spangled heavens as parts of the great undetermined something we call Nature. But these are only the manifestations of some of the forces which she holds under her control. We see, not the hand that moves, only the objects moved. Perhaps one of the best definitions extant may be found in "Thompson's Seasons," where he addresses Nature thus:—

"Hail, Source of Being! Universal Soul  
Of heaven and Earth! Essential Presence, hail!  
To Thee I bend the knee; to Thee my thoughts  
Continual climb; who, with a master hand  
Hast the great whole into perfection touched.  
By Thee the various vegetative tribes,  
Wrapt in a filmy net and clad with leaves,  
Draw the live ether and imbibe the dew.  
By Thee disposed into congenial soils  
Stands each attractive plant, and sucks and swells  
The juicy tide, a twining mass of tubes.  
At thy command the vernal sun awakes  
The torpid sap, detruded to the root  
By wintry winds."

The study of Nature, then, is the study of the multitudinous aspects which her forms assume and the countless methods by which her forces act.

Books are the petrified records of the phenomena of nature and the sepulchres of the thoughts of bygone ages. In them are laid down many of the discoveries in Nature, and records of many of the events that have transpired in past ages. To them we go to obtain the rudiments of any science and the records of the phenomena of Nature. They thus aid us in our study of Nature; for without their aid we would be unable to record and arrange the multitudinous forms and phenomena of Nature. As the