

SECOND YEAR PASS GERMAN.

To the Editor of THE VARSITY:

DEAR SIR,—The note which you append to my letter in your last issue makes it necessary for me to add a few remarks which I should have made before but for the fear of trespassing on your space.

I hope that no student is so foolish as to wish to make a study of Philosophy without studying German, for, as you say, a thorough appreciation of the philosophical thought of the time is not to be had without a knowledge of German—at least that is what we are told by those who certainly ought to know. More than that, I am not one of those who cry down the study of language. What I do object to is the crowding it on all at once in such shape that the student must devote nearly all his time to it. Referring to the course in Philosophy particularly, we have more language in the second year than in all the other years put together. Perhaps it is necessary that this should be so on general principles, but any theory that it should be so must presuppose a good foundation laid in German in one's Freshman and sub-Freshman career. But how is one to know in all cases before entering the University what course he will wish to pursue here? If students in the high schools were better informed on the nature of University study I think considerable confusion would be avoided. Then, most of the Philosophy men are students in theology who enter the college older in years than are the majority of their fellows, many of them with a gap of several years between their high school and University courses, and who have never had any foundation in German at all. Surely it would be better to give them a little time to get a hold on it. We desire to study the language, but would rather not have it all at once and certainly not so much of it at the period when we are learning the "facts and theories" of Philosophy.

Looking broadly at the whole subject I cannot see how the average man who has not a pretty thorough knowledge of the grammar to start with can get up all the work in German, and all the Greek, French and Philosophy besides, without being what the Scotch call "sconnered" of the German. In fact it is just the old complaint of too much of one subject.

But it is not this which caused me to write to your paper. It is to be supposed that the Senate of the University know very well what they are about when they draft a curriculum, and consequently we suppose there must be some good reason for their refusing our petition; but since they trust to our good sense to choose our own courses why can they not trust the same good sense to understand and appreciate the benefit which is to accrue to us from the course being just thus and so and unalterable? If we have any difficulty in our work an appeal to the professors is always met courteously and kindly. Why cannot the Senate treat us with the same consideration in that department of the work with which it has to do?

Thanking you for so much of your space, I am yours truly,
SOPHOMORE.

COLLEGE ATTENDANCE.

The following tables show the attendance at our large colleges. The figures were collected by the *U. of M. Daily* and are authentic: University of Michigan, 2,377; Harvard, 2,276; Northwestern University, 1,914; University of Pennsylvania, 1,754; Columbia, 1,709; Yale, 1,645; Cornell, 1,356; Princeton, 850; Toronto has 750 in Arts and Medicine. The attendance of the different Law schools are as follows: Columbia, 589; University of Michigan, 580; Harvard, 299; University of Pennsylvania, 173; Northwestern University, 145; Cornell, 218; Yale, 116.

Harvard's athletic organizations cost \$32,378 last year.

THE GLEE CLUB AT HAMILTON.

Owing to the success which the Glee Club had during their previous engagement in Hamilton, they were again requested to take part in a concert given in that Ambitious City in aid of the Newsboys Home.

This will explain what must have struck with surprise any one at the Union Station last Friday when the 2.50 train was about to start. Between forty and fifty members of this flourishing club, in cap and gown, were walking up and down the platform or taking their places in the special car provided, all joking and laughing in expectation of a "good time," many because of former experiences, the rest from a confidence which they found was not at all misplaced.

Never did the journey to Hamilton seem so short! The time fairly flew. During the ride the most noticeable feature (for a Glee Club at least) was the absence of singing. The voices were held sacred for the practice.

From the very moment of arrival our best interests were looked after. We were met by Mrs. Platt, to whom was so largely due the pleasant time spent there before; our luggage was taken off our hands and we marched to the Opera House two by two, girt with the graceful gown, a thing of wonder to the street urchins, a cause of many smiles to the ladies, who perforce walked between. Practice then lasted for two weary hours amid the gloomy surroundings of a stage robbed of its usual glamour and poetry. Then those who so kindly opened their homes to entertain the club took charge of us, and most thoroughly and heartily was it done. We were all made to feel at home and so enjoyed ourselves to the utmost. Marshaling again at eight, we found ourselves before the footlights and facing an audience whose numbers were a very inspiration. Besides the choruses, there was a solo by Mr. Dockray, a duet by Messrs. Dockray and Donald, and an octet by men chosen from the club. Mr. Taylor, as before, ably assisted. Local talent in vocal and cello music, as well as singing by Mr. Schuch, the popular conductor of the club, were additional features in the programme, giving a pleasing balance and variety.

After the concert we adjourned to the supper-room, where most bountiful preparations were made, and the boys tried to do full justice to hospitality so practically shown. Songs and speeches passed the time till midnight, and homeward we took our way satisfied and pleased.

Most of the boys returned on Saturday, every train carrying away a few, the time chosen being such as pleasure or necessity dictated. Some, however, of the former visitors remained till Monday, very willing to continue acquaintanceships so pleasantly begun last term.

Solo—"What's the matter with Hamilton?"
Chorus—"It's all right."

THE COLLEGE WORLD.

The Amherst *Student* is printing a new college song each week, written for it exclusively.

The majority of college professors in the United States receive salaries under \$3,000, while not one receives over \$5,000.

Professors who have served in Columbia for fifteen years and are above sixty-five years of age are pensioned at half their regular salaries.

Statistics show that the 94 universities of England have 1,723 more professors and 51,814 more students than the 360 universities of the United States.

The faculty of Cornell has forbidden the Freshman and Sophomore classes to hold their banquets outside of Ithaca. Too much class spirit caused the decree.

For the first time the University of Leipzig will this season admit women to its privileges. Out of 3,300 students there will be six women, four of whom are Americans.—*Ex.*