

THE ELON COLLEGE WEEKLY.

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A CHART OF CONDUCT.

A prominent merchant of New York carried these rules of conduct in his purse accompanied by a memorandum to this effect: "Read these rules at least once a week."

- Never be idle. Make few promises. Always speak the truth. Never speak ill of anyone. Keep good company or none. Live up to your engagements. Be just before you are generous. Earn money before you spend it. Drink no intoxicating drinks. Good character is above all things else. Keep your own secrets if you have any. Never borrow money if you can possibly avoid it. Never play at any kind of a game of chance. Keep your promises if you would be happy. Make no haste to be rich, if you would prosper. When you speak to a person, look him squarely in the face. Save when you are young to spend when you are old. Never run in debt unless you see your way out again. Avoid temptation for fear you will not be able to withstand it. Ever live (misfortune excepted) within your income. Small and steady gains give competency with tranquillity of mind. Good company and good conversation are the sinews of virtue. When you retire, think over what you have done during the day. Your character cannot be essentially injured by any but yourself. If any one speak ill of you, let your life be so that no one will believe him. If your hands cannot be usefully employed, attend to the cultivation of your mind.—The Business Philosopher. "Please Post."

I love thee, dear, for what thou art, Nor would I wish thee otherwise; For when thy lashes lift apart

I read deep-mirrored in thine eyes The glory of a modest heart. West thou as fair As thou art good, It were not given to any man, With daring eyes, of flesh and blood, To look thee in the face and scan The splendor of thy womanhood. —T. A. Daly.

CLASSES OF STUDIES.

We find in classifying our studies from a general standpoint, that there are two classes—the elementary and the higher studies.

First, let's take up the first class and see what the elementary studies are: They are speaking, reading and writing. We might consider speaking first as it comes first under this head. Of course when the child comes under the teacher's care, he is able to speak; but that is not all. He must reach correctness, if not perfection, and therefore, it takes all of his school life to do it. Learning to speak is a continuous process from infancy to maturity. How does the infant learn to speak? He learns it by imitation. At first he tries to imitate what someone has said without understanding it; but as time goes on, understanding follows, and imitation and apprehension are combined in the beginning of real speaking about the end of the first year of his life. Slowly he is led to naming objects. Then is when his control of words begins; and he is led further to abstract ideas. From here the child reaches out for those words that are needed to express his meaning. Now the use of the verb and the form of the question set in. The pronouns, adverbs, the conjugation of the verbs are to be conquered. At this stage he reaches the organized completed sentences. This degree of forming sentences is obtained between the third and sixth year. Now the time has arrived for his school life to begin. The first thing he should be taught is words. The time has been, and is yet in some places, when the child is taught the letters first; but modern psychologists tell us that the child should be taught words, first because of the fact that he can grasp a word as quick as he can a letter. I believe that this is true, because it matters not what we are going to study, we first have to study the whole before we can study its parts. After the child has learned a few words, and then the letters that constitute them, he can begin to read. Then if the teacher will put forth a little further effort to teach him how to write, he will soon be writing.

As time goes on, the child takes up the higher studies. This class of studies is divided into two sub-divisions—the realistic and the idealistic studies. Here the question might arise as to which is the better. To my mind the realistic are better, but if the child wishes to have a broad knowledge of the practical and theoretical things in life, he should study the idealistic studies also.

Let's now consider what some of the realistic studies are: Botany and Geography are realistic studies, and music and art are idealistic. In realistic studies, we study the practical things, that is to say, the things as they are. In idealistic studies, we study the theory of things only.

Now as I see it, the child should be taught the practical things first, and let the theoretical part come on later in his

life. So, as the child passes from the elementary to the higher studies, he should begin with the most practical and most beneficial studies that are needed to lay a good foundation for a broad education.

There are some institutions about over our land that teach both, the realistic and the idealistic studies, while there are some that do not teach both. According to the tendency of the times, I believe that the former institutions are preferred; because the student who gets a knowledge of both the realistic and the idealistic studies is far superior in the educational line to the one who has a knowledge of one kind only.

F. F. M.

AT THE THROAT OF THE REPUBLIC.

(An oration delivered in the Philological Literary Society April 7, 1911, by D. C. Holt, winning a gold medal over 8 other competitors.)

The basic principle of the United States Government is Freedom, and the fundamental basis of Free Government is a written Constitution. The constitution of the United States incorporates three essential elements of Free Government, first, an honest method of administering justice; second, freedom of choice of public officials; third, popular representative legislation. It was for these fundamental principles of Free Government that our forefathers suffered and bled and died. It has been for these that American statesmen, through the past century, have fought with tongue and with pen. It is for these that we stand today, and it is upon the honest defense of these that the preservation of the American Union depends. In fact, the destiny of the American Republic rests upon the preservation of these immortal principles of Free Government.

But the danger that threatens our Government today is the corruption in American politics. Political graft and public scandal flourish in the political arena of the United States.

At the judgment bar of civil justice, there stands a bank account, a political ambition, or political favoritism to hinder the honest administration of justice. Money or politics can gain an acquittal in the lower courts for almost any political favorite; and if he should fail here, confused technicalities (on account of money and politics) are almost sure to win a new trial in the higher courts, which is equivalent to an acquittal. For example we need only to mention the Thaw case of New York, or the Cooper case of Tennessee. The former remained in court for over two years because of Thaw's wealth and the latter is a disgrace to civilization because the Coopers go free as a result of their intimate political friendship with those in power.

Then, an appalling weakness in our system of elections, comes through the use of money in politics, through fraudulent voting and through the groveling schemes of ambitious politicians. Office seekers first buy their nominations, and then are often elected by means of bribery and fraud. United States Senators are often elected by fraud and through corruption. Senators Depew, Platt, and Lorimer, each gained his seat by means of the "Almighty Dollar." Is this not intruding upon the sacred rights of our people, the sacred trust of our Free Government? Therefore, does not such an intrusion endanger

one of the fundamental elements of American Free Government?

Likewise, the legislative halls of the United States are infested with those vicious little insects that creep in our government through bribes and graft and form a powerful monster in the form of Government corruption. While in the Senate, Senator Foraker received thousands of dollars to legislate for, and defend the interest of, the Standard Oil Company. Marion Butler turned a traitor to his native state, betrayed the sacred trust of his people and brought suit against the state and people he was serving as United States Senator, simply that he might gain a commission from the collection of the South Dakota bonds. And now, with such men as Lorimer in the Senate, we must blush and confess that our Congress is no longer honestly representative of the people. The "Free Will" of the American people is being impeded upon, and the fundamental elements of Representative Government shall perish unless honesty shall take the place of graft and corruption in the Congress of the United States. Our Senate is almost within the grasp of mighty trusts and scheming poli-

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