

"rebellions," the disorders, and the disturbances, either petty or serious, which characterize too many colleges. It is also evident that neither the college nor the parent is willing for the student to pass four years free from all guidance and restraint. The experience of the German universities in granting their members such liberty does not furnish a recommendation for its adoption in the American college. The republican system, however, appears to possess many and great advantages and few and slight defects.

As long ago as 1870 the students of the Illinois Industrial University, at the suggestion of its president, voted to try the experiment of self-government. They made laws regarding all those forms of disorder to which the colleges are generally subject. The penalties consisted of fines varying from a few cents to five dollars. Certain officers for the execution of these provisions were elected by the students, and others were appointed by the president. "Obstinate culprits," writes the president, "and those who refuse to pay the fines, were to be reported to the Faculty, who retained all power to suspend or expel a student." Several years ago Amherst College introduced a similar system into the government of its students. It is based upon the principle that a man admitted to the college "is received as a gentleman, and as such is trusted to conduct himself in truthfulness and uprightness, in kindness and respect, in diligence and sobriety, in obedience to law and maintenance of order, and regard for Christian institutions as becomes a member of a Christian college. The privileges of the college are granted only to those who are believed to be worthy of this trust, and are forfeited whenever this trust is falsified." This principle, so admirably conceived, resulted in granting to the students greater liberties than they had before enjoyed, and also allowed them to elect a representative body who should consult about such matters as the president might bring before it.

Although Williams College and Harvard have introduced no system of such elaborateness as are the methods just named, yet they have provided for a standing committee of the students which consults with the officers relative to questions of mutual interest. The Harvard body consists of twenty-four students, and, if its influence in fostering good order has not been great, the reason is that of late years the college has been free from many forms of disorder with which sister institutions are afflicted. The representative body of Williams' students is composed of three members chosen from each class. Selected at first to consult with the Faculty regarding a serious college disturbance, it has become at the present writing a permanent feature of the administration.

These systems of college democracy differ. Each possesses peculiar advantages and defects. An advantage common to all is that they tend to promote right feeling between the students and the officers. The general method tends to remove that misunderstanding which lies at the basis of most disturbances. It tends to dissipate that sentiment, which students so naturally entertain, of unjust treatment on the part of their officers. It tends to assure students that the Faculty chiefly desires their welfare. In the common relation of professor and student indifference gives way to regard, and perhaps antipathy to friendship. The system, also, is of special worth in fitting students for the

responsibilities of active life. It fosters a proper spirit of independence. By it, moreover, the officers are relieved of many harassing cares and perplexities. The task of administration is greatly simplified and lightened. The greatest advantage, however, consists in the simple fact that the order and discipline of the college are promoted. President Seelye writes that "it is believed by all here that never before was there such good and healthy work done in college, nor such pleasant relations between the students and teachers, or among the students themselves, as since the new system was adopted."

A peril to which this system is liable lies in the danger of over-elaboration. It may be made so heavy as to fall of its own weight; so intricate that only an undue proportion of attention can secure its effective operation. To this peril the method as practiced in the Illinois Industrial University, after thirteen years of use, finally yielded. Other perils also might be pointed out; but the advantages are of so great weight that the system in some form should be applied in every one of the four hundred colleges of the United States.

*Charles F. Thwing.*

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

#### An Attempted Division of California.

IN the History of Lincoln, in the last July (1887) number of this magazine, the authors say:

"Still, the case of the South was not hopeless, . . . there remained the possible division of California."

In this connection it may be of interest to your readers to recall a fact now generally forgotten, even by the oldest inhabitants of this State, that the "division of California" was actually attempted, and preliminary steps thereto consummated.

In "The Statutes of California, passed at the tenth session, begun on Monday, the 3d day of January, and ended on Tuesday, the 19th day of April, 1859," may be found an act, the title and first section of which read as follows:

"Chapter cclxxxviii: An act granting the consent of the Legislature to the formation of a different Government for the southern counties of this State.

"Approved April 18th, 1859.

"Be it enacted, etc.,

"Section 1.—That the consent of the Legislature of this State is hereby given, to the effect that all of that part or portion of the present territory of this State, lying all south of a line drawn eastward from the west boundary of the State, along the sixth standard parallel south of the Mt. Diabolo Meridian, east to the summit of the Coast Range; thence southerly, following said summit to the seventh standard parallel; thence due east on said standard, parallel to its intersection with the north-west boundary of Los Angeles County; thence north-east along said boundary to the eastern boundary of the State, including the counties of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Los Angeles, San Diego, San Bernardino, and a part of Buena Vista, be segregated from the remaining portion of the State for the purpose of the formation by Congress, with the concurrent action of said portion,—the consent for the segregation of which is hereby granted,—of a territorial or other government, under the name of the 'Territory of Colorado,' or such other name as may be deemed meet and proper."

Under this statute the governor submitted the question to the people of the southern part of the State at the next election. The two-thirds vote required by the act was cast in favor of a division of the State, and this result was duly certified by the governor to the President of the United States.

Only the "southern portion" was allowed to vote, and there was the usual beautiful disregard of constitutions. Why the scheme was carried no further, the history of subsequent events shows.

Leon F. Moss.

LOS ANGELES, CAL.

NOTE.

SINCE the appearance of the paper on Colonel Rose's Tunnel at Libby Prison, in this magazine for March, we have been informed that the address of one of the participants in the escape, Captain John Lucas, is Rowland, Limestone Co., Alabama.

## BRIC-À-BRAC.

## Ole Settlers' Meetun.

BE'N to that ole settlers' meetun!  
An' of all the reg'lar beatun  
Times, I think 'at beat 'em holler!  
I jist bust that paper collar  
Into flinters — I jist laft  
Till I thought I 'd go plum daft!  
Who was there? Now ast me that —  
Tell ye who *wa'n't* there, right spat!  
Ever' man I ever knowed  
Come by the load.  
Down ever' road!  
Oh, the county fair  
Wus jist nowhere!  
I shuk hands, an' *shuk*, an' *shuk!*  
Thought 't wus jist my ornry luck  
To shake my hands off then an' there!  
Blame sight harder 'n shuckun corn —  
Biggest time sence I be'n born!

Well, ole Zenas Gumper thrum  
Hoosierville, ye know, *he* come —  
Ole Squire Truitt an' his darter —  
Reason Brown, an' Increase Carter —  
All the Jinkses! — ole Aunt Sue! —  
Womern' childern, all come too! —  
Amos Cockefair jist sailed in,  
Pullun that long beard on his chin —  
Then Nat Womsley — you know how:  
Chawun the cood jist like a cow!  
Well, I could n' name 'em tho,  
They wus jist a reg'lar sloo  
Of the Hinkles, Potters, Skinners —  
With their famblies an' their dinners!  
An' them dinners 'd cure sore eyes:  
Yaller-legged chickens 'n' punkun pies —  
Dumpluns big 's a feller's head —  
Honey, 'n' *ole salt-risun bread!*

Uncle Johnny tuk the cheer —  
Did n't speak o' him? Don't keer,  
You might *sposun* he was *som'ers* near!  
Think I set the census down  
Of the county or the town?  
Talkun 'bout the census now,  
Ole Squire Truitt ups an' 'low:  
"I jist taken the fust 'at ever  
Ware tuk on the Wabash River,  
'Fore the ole canal ware dug,  
When the Injuns come an' dog  
Fellers jist right outen bed,  
By the top ha'r o' their head,  
Sculped 'em thar an' killed 'em dead!  
Nothun like the ole times now —  
Time goes back'ards anyhow!  
Ole folks mostly passed away  
With the good things o' their day,  
When we all wore homespun clothes  
Jist as happy, I suppose,  
As the young folks air to-day,  
Jist as peart, too, ever' way!

*Schools* ware better when we had  
Jist log cabins an' a gad,  
Winders jist a hole 'n the wall,  
An' no dests or books at all!  
Silver dollars then was scaice,  
Blame sight bigger 'n full moon's face!  
Whisky ware the rulun speart —  
Coon-skins good, but nothun near 't, —  
Run like worter 'at elections  
An' house raisuns, in these sections!  
*Piety* ware stronger then —  
Seemed 'at hardships *mellered* men,  
Made 'em more onselfish like —  
Best uv neighbors you could strike —  
Set on the fence a-whittun sticks,  
Talkun Scripter 'n' polotics —  
An' they sometimes differd too,  
An' I tell *you*  
*Air* was sometimes middlun blue!  
But they 'd smooth it out again,  
'N' 'en swap hosses 'n' part like *men!*"

Uncle Johnny tuk the prize  
As the oldest settler heur,  
An' he dainged a hornpipe thur,  
Right on the platform 'fore our eyes,  
Yessir, 'n' 'at man knows more lies  
'N any feller anywhur!  
Killed more Injuns, wolves, an' bear —  
Built first cabin, raised first corn,  
Hilt first meetun, fit first fight,  
Got up the first county fair —  
Brung first circus 'n' side-show there,  
His son Ben first Hoosier born,  
Uncle Johnny 's jist a *sight!*  
Jist to show ye — some un told  
How they laid some wolves out cold:  
Said one time they met a pack,  
They jist whack 'em in the back  
With the butt-eend uv their gun,  
An' they killed 'em ever' one —  
Well, they said,  
Wus so many laid thar dead  
Could n' count 'em — not one lef', —  
They wus well nigh caved theirse'f!  
Then Uncle Johnny *riz*, an' holler:  
"At 'ere yarn's too tough to swaller,  
But I know one 'at air a fack!  
Somp'm' lack  
Forty yur back, my big dog  
Fell in the worter off 'n a log,  
Jist up heur on Raccoon Crick —  
Jist that quick  
Fish as big as ary a whale  
Grabbed that whelp jist by the tail —  
Well, I *mistook* ef 't did n' swaller  
That dog clean to its arn collar!  
Fish swum off an' dog jist ye'pt —  
I did n' see how 't could be he'pt!  
Purty soon the dog got mad —  
*Fish* ware feelun *middlun* bad!  
What ye think that 'ere dog do?