

which we can see to account for this condition of affairs is that our present source of supply has no competition—in other words, it has a monopoly. College is situated five miles from Bryan, the only place in any way accessible to the students. Also, it costs thirty cents to go Bryan and return. Yet if they do take the trouble to go to Bryan they can purchase necessities cheap enough to nearly compensate them for their fare there and return. We cannot see why a dealer that handles as much as the one at College cannot get stationery, etc., from jobbers as cheap as other retailer. If some of the students could be allowed to undertake a line of stationery, etc., in conjunction with his studies, it would remove the above and might be the channel through which some deserving and poor young man could receive money to perfect his education.

We were very much surprised on reading the sentiments of our exchanges upon oratory. It was the first time that we have ever seen it stated that "oratory is a dead art," and we would beg leave to differ from our contemporary on that point. Oratory is not a dead art, but it, like every other science, profession or art, is improving with the enlightenment of the age. It has only changed; it has not died by any means. Nothing can be said to be dead as long as it is made use of in our every day life, and oratory is certainly made use of to a very great extent. We see from the papers that the societies of the institution which the above journal represents, intend to have their usual commencement oratory. If they believe what they say, why do they persist in using a dead art? What do they want with some one to harangue them for one half hour or more during

their commencement celebration? They have evidently acted without forethought if their reasons for not participating in the oratorical contests are as stated. It is a well known fact that organized effort are the surest means of promoting our sciences and arts, and to that end we have our art conservatories, bar associations, engineering societies, etc., and they all accomplish their purpose. Then why not have an oratorical association? It will certainly stimulate interest in oratory in the societies of the institutions represented. And we are glad to announce that the societies of the A. and M. being ever ready and willing to promote anything that pertains to the advancement of this object, have unanimously indorsed the Texas State Oratorical Association and consequently selected Mr. E. L. Bruce of the Calliopean society to represent them at Georgetown.

AMONG THE EXCHANGES.

B. C. WATKINS, '95, EDITOR.

The unhappy scribe whose lot it is to provide, to the best of his ability, for the success of this department of our Battalion during this term, was exceedingly gratified to find on entering upon his several duties, a large number of exchanges, some of which are excellent.

We hope that by regular work, we may be able to keep the Hamilton College Monthly, and other journals, from inquiring "Where is the exchange column of the Battalion?"

As the life of this department in any journal is dependent upon the promptness with which these exchanges are made, and as of all others, this is the weakest part of our paper, we ask those