

# THE RING-TUM PHI.

BY THE STUDENTS AND FOR THE STUDENTS.

VOL. III.

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY, SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1900.

NO. 13.

## Baseball.

CAPTAIN ANDREWS TALKS.

Nineteen applications for the team have been formally handed in up to date, which presents a most encouraging outlook for a good nine in the spring. The enthusiasm, competition and "ginger" consequent upon and arising from an unusually large number of contestants, will, it is hoped, make up for the loss of such individual brilliancy characterized the team of '98 (not '99), and I believe that the substitution of hard, earnest application on the part of every member of the team for the brilliant yet careless individualism of former years, will result in much good, both this season and in years to come. I am happy to state that I know of no man this year who has a "cinch on his job," nor is it likely to become so, from the fact that there will be such a strong second team to contend with the first that there will always be men ready to "swap" places with very little difference in playing ability. At present there are three candidates for left field, four for centre, three for right, two for third base, one for short-stop, four for second base, three for first, two for catch, and four for pitch. Of course, some of these are trying to insure their chances by means of a first and second choice, but still there will be considerable "dusting" done.

The last few days were fairly mild and instead of waiting until playing time to start work, "voluntary" practice was begun, which consisted entirely in batting—always a weak point with us. At first the work was not inspiringly brilliant, but the last day's practice showed such a decided and surprising improvement that it would be well to add that those who fail to come out now had better "look to their laurels" or they will fall behind the times. The weather is not too cold for light batting practice.

It would be a wise plan for every man to start on his parallel and hardest work while the sun shineth hot, and when it does come forth

let us not hear that poor old over-worked excuse of "no time." It is doing the "Family Fool" act most probably, or fulfilling some other equally pleasant engagement that eats up your time. The above mentioned excuse is only valid for double course law men and with them not always. Don't put off your work until exams, for baseball practice will not stop for them.

As to prospects it is hard to tell what will be the strength of the team this year, as it is too early to "size up" the candidates, so instead of "barking" now we will try to "bite" later on.

The college is to be congratulated upon securing such an excellent business man as manager of the team; truly in him we will not be deceived by a man of "vast and varied views which are but very visions."

## Fortnightly Club.

The professors of the University and the Virginia Military Institute have organized a club to be known as the "Fortnightly Club." The membership is limited to twenty-five. Following are the officers: President, Colonel E. W. Nichols, Virginia Military Institute; vice-president, Professor H. P. Willis, Washington and Lee University; secretary and treasurer, Professor LeConte Stevens, Washington and Lee University. Hon. William L. Wilson, president of the University; General Shipp, superintendent of the Virginia Military Institute, and Colonel John M. Brooke, emeritus professor at the Virginia Military Institute, were made honorary members. The club, as the name implies, will meet every two weeks for the discussion of scientific and literary subjects and the current topics of the day. At each meeting the club will be entertained by one of the members. An invitation to join the club will be extended to the ministers and a few citizens of the place.

Verily, this is a business age. Formerly a business man took his pen in hand, but now he takes his typewriter in his arms.—Ex.

## Some Reasons Why

SOUTHERN PEOPLE SHOULD SEND THEIR SONS TO SOUTHERN COLLEGES.

"Where shall my son go to college?" is a question which often perplexes the anxious father. Fifty years ago there appeared to be but one answer. The great Northern universities had no rivals. The rich man, cherishing the memories of his own Alma Mater, sent his son to Yale or Harvard, gave him a liberal allowance, and at the end of the term received the young bachelor home again armed with his sheepskin and perfumed with the graces and learning of New England culture.

But matters have changed very much in the last three decades. Richly endowed colleges have sprung up throughout the South, well equipped with laboratories, libraries and apparatus, and, best of all, with live teachers, men of brains, energy and zeal. The wonderful impetus given to technical arts and professions throughout civilized countries, have opened wide doors with demands for skilled, scientific work. The South has done its full share in meeting this demand as well as the other older, yet equally imperative demand for the best scholarship in literary pursuits.

These Southern colleges are accomplishing a great work in the preparation of young men either for the professions of law, medicine and literature, or for the engineering professions in mechanical and electrical departments.

In some important particulars they offer to students superior advantages. They are our home institutions and those who enter them can get as good an education as those who go further for the same purpose. It is physically better that a student should spend the formative period of his young manhood in the climate where he expects to live, and among the associations which are to be his permanent environment in the future. After his college course has been accomplished, it

will not then be necessary for him to become acquainted with the people among whom he was born or undergo an acclimation by reason of his long absence in a distant country. If, as we aver, it is possible to get as good an education in the South as in the North, then by all means let us patronize our home institutions. The North has been doing it for many years and in that way has built up its large universities, why should not we of the South profit by that experience?—*Olive and Blue.*

## Mass-Meeting.

At a mass-meeting of the students held in the law room on Wednesday afternoon, the resignation of J. W. Johnson as business manager of the Calyx for 1900, was tendered and accepted, and Mr. A. G. Jenkins was unanimously elected to succeed him.

The customary apathy of the student body was again shown on this occasion, for there were only about twenty students present, but under no other circumstances could a better choice have been made, for Mr. Jenkins is a man of conservatism and not given to being too optimistic. Although laboring under the disadvantage of having assumed control rather late in the year, he will doubtless be successful; and we predict for the Calyx another successful year under his judicious management.

## Wash. Program for Jan. 20th.

Orators: Smiley, A.P.; Boogher, Ott.

Declarers: Jones, Coe, Senff.

Debaters: Question—Resolved, That Brigham H. Roberts should be allowed to take his seat in congress.

Affirmative: McDowell, Goshorn.

Negative: Graybill, Hartman.

E. W. G. BOOGHER,  
Secretary.

Dr. C.—Mr. L-tll-j-hn, you were absent from class yesterday.

L-tll-j-hn—Yes sir, I had to remain at home to have a tooth pulled.

Dr. C.—Well, sir, we can certainly not class that excuse as being too thin.

# The Ring-tum Phi.

A College Weekly.

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All Students are invited to hand in contributions on all subjects of interest to the students or alumni. Such contributions should be handed in to the Editor-in-Chief.

All matters of business should be addressed to the Business Manager, and all other matters should come to the Editor-in-Chief.

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## BOARD OF EDITORS:

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We have received during the week several articles in regard to the criticism of the December Collegian which appeared in our issue of last week, over the signature "Jester." One of these articles showed careful thought and good sense, the others seemed to be prompted by personal spleen. The first article we should have been glad to publish but for the fact that we did not care to enter into a controversy on the subject. The criticism of "Jester," which is now being criticised, represents the candid opinion of the RING-TUM PHI on the literary worth of the Collegian, and since it is merely a personal opinion, others have perfect right to differ from it. Being merely a matter of individual opinion, a discussion of the subject would be not only profitless but "boring." In view, however, of the interest which the above mentioned article seems to have created, it may not be out of place to state our position clearly. It is not the intention nor aim of the RING-TUM PHI to belittle or unjustly criticise the efforts of those ambitious young aspirants for literary fame, who are contributors to the Collegian; quite the reverse, but we must remember that the Collegian has occupied an enviable position for many years, not only among the colleges of the South but of the whole country. We all want to see this reputation sustained and sustained ably, and we know that it can be done. The question then is how shall the

RING-TUM PHI do its part in helping the good work along? Is it by sitting idly by and letting the editors carry their burden alone or is it by helping them to the best of our ability (which may not be much, to be sure) by suggestions and friendly criticisms? We think the latter course the correct one, and if some one of our friends is touched on a rather sore point by any of our remarks, we trust that he will not ascribe it to any desire of ours to underrate his effort, but rather to a desire to assist him and elevate the magazine.

## A General Athletic Association for the State.

A letter has been received by the athletic committee during the Christmas holidays from the secretary of the University of Virginia association, concerning a general athletic association for Virginia, composed of the state colleges. As it could not be discussed sooner, this opportunity is taken of presenting the matter to the student body with the hope that it will be thoroughly discussed and understood by them. The columns of the RING-TUM PHI are always open to articles upon such subjects.

The letter asks that we send a representative, with full power to act for us, to a meeting to be held in Charlottesville January 27th, for the purpose of organizing a permanent general association.

That such an organization would benefit college athletics in the state, we have no doubt. The amount of good it would accomplish would depend on its efficiency, but the good results might be many.

As is well known, every college in the state, perhaps without exception, is estranged from some one or more of her sister colleges on account of some athletic trouble. This state of affairs would be greatly improved by the proposed movement, for the colleges would be brought into closer contact with each other. Again, such an organization could enforce the rules against professional players more strictly than is now done. On the whole, the movement is a good one. It has no drawbacks that we can see, and it is our hope that it will be taken up by the students. As to sending a man to Charlottesville, that depends upon the financial condition of the asso-

ciation. We sincerely hope, however, that it may be accomplished.

## The Gymnasium.

The gymnasium seems to be on a boom this year, which adds another remarkable fact to the long list of unprecedented happenings of this session, unique in the history of Washington and Lee.

The faculty is to be congratulated on their wisdom in placing the gymnasium classes on a plane (in a sense) with the academic classes. A beginning has been made and the time will come when the classes in physical culture will not occupy a place inferior to those in mental culture.

The attendance at the gymnasium is larger than that of many years previous. The men enter into the work with more spirit and the whole atmosphere of the place has changed. Instead of a large room, empty save for a few men who were training for one of the University teams or boat crews, the gymnasium is every afternoon crowded by a throng of enthusiastic seekers after brawn and bone. The apparatus is in constant use, a game of basketball can always be found and outdoor runs are coming into fashion. At 5 o'clock each evening Mr. McPheeters, the physical director, calls his class to order and from the noise and confusion and groups of tumbling, twisting men, emerge orderly rows bobbing and turning in unison. It does look foolish and the novice who looks on can not understand how that will do him any good, but wait until he tries it and if there is not a tired novice at the end of the performance, he is an exceptionally strong young man.

Every man in college should avail himself of this opportunity for increasing his physical strength and health. The class, as has been stated, meets at 5 o'clock every afternoon except Saturday, which gives an hour or an hour and a half before supper for good hard exercise.

And let the academic men remember that regular attendance at the gymnasium gives one point on an A. B. degree. It is not much to be sure, but before four years of servitude to books are completed, one learns to appreciate every little point.

Keep your eye on that "tough" freshman from West Virginia.

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## Around College.

Get Sam McPheeters to recount his adventures in the Orient.

President Wilson left on Monday for the West where he will spend the winter months.

Allen Epes, who left college in the fall on account of ill health, is again with us.

Mr. Paul Bartlett of Kentucky, a member of last year's law class, has returned to college and matriculated in the law department.

Mr. "Beef" Robinson has been laid up with a severe cold for several days past. We hope in the near future to see his portly form in our midst.

Messrs. W. B. Nowlin and R. E. Moore of the law class, left for Richmond on Wednesday to stand the examinations before the supreme court of Virginia for admission to the bar.

Robert Glasgow, Jr., has been elected captain of this year's gymnasium team. We understand that the team proposes to demonstrate its abilities at some time during the spring and feel sure that, under the direction of so able a captain, they will make a most creditable showing.

The working library in History and Economics has recently been furnished with electric lights and is now open to students of those departments on certain nights of the week. This is a decided innovation and one which cannot be too highly praised, and we should like to see the plan extended to the whole library and reading room. It would be very easy to have an assistant in charge of the library up to about 9.30 each evening, and it would give those students who are busily engaged almost all day an opportunity to run in and spend an hour or so after supper in reading or looking up references. As it is now, by 5 o'clock in the afternoon it is too dark to read and in mid-winter it is too dark to read with comfort even earlier. Cannot this plan be carried out?

Miss Rosa Anderson of Richmond, is visiting the family of Mr. William A. Anderson.

Miss Mattie Denny of Charles Town, W. Va., is in Lexington visiting Professor and Mrs. George H. Denny.

## Moot Court.

The moot court has been organized for the session and will hold its first meeting this afternoon at 3.30 p. m. The judges of the court are Professor H. St. G. Tucker, dean of the department, Professor Wm. R. Vance, Mr. P. M. Penick, lecturer in the law department, and Mr. E. M. Pendleton of the Lexington bar. Mr. Skyles is clerk of the court. The moot court will meet three times a week for the rest of the session and very interesting as well as instructive proceedings may be expected.

## Notice.

The business manager wishes to again call attention to the fact that the subscription price of the RING-TUM PHI has been reduced to one dollar for the remainder of the session.

Subscribe now and get the advantages of this offer. Those who wish to subscribe now can do so by dropping their names and the number of their postoffice box in the RING-TUM PHI box in Newcomb Hall.

## Notice.

There will be an important meeting of the board of editors of the RING-TUM PHI on Monday afternoon, Jan. 15th, at 4 o'clock, in Dr. Quarles' lecture room. Every member of the board, as well as the managers, are requested to be present promptly, as business of importance is to be transacted.

J. R. TUCKER,  
Editor-in-Chief.

What is the matter with the Calyx? We don't perceive much activity on the part of the editors or management (except in getting rid of the job.)

Cadets Marshall, Epes, Fl-weree and several more of the cadets who were ill with typhoid fever at the Virginia Military Institute last fall, have returned and are regularly attending to their duties as cadets.

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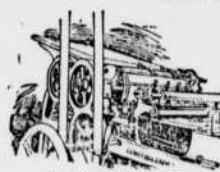
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- Thos. A. Bledsoe, Va.

**All-American Football Team**

Following is the list of players on the All-American football team for 1899, as prepared for Harper's Weekly by Mr. Casper Whitney:

McBryde, Yale, captain and full-back; Sharpe, Yale, and Reiter, Princeton, halfbacks; Daly, Harvard, quarter; Overfield, Pennsylvania, centre; Hare, Pennsylvania, and McCracken, Pennsylvania, guards; Hildebrand, Princeton, and Stillman, Yale, tackles; Campbell, Harvard, and Poe, Princeton, ends.

**SUBSTITUTES.**

In the line—Hale, Yale; Brown, Yale; Edwards, Princeton; Lawrence, Harvard; Wheelock, Carlisle; Slocum, Brown; Hollowell, Harvard.

Back of the line—Sawin, Harvard; Richardson, Brown; Reid, Harvard; Hudson, Carlisle.

The Greek professor sat in his chair, His brow was marked with dire despair.

"When," quoth he, "in this horseless age,

Will the horseless student come on the stage."

—Ex.

**University Directory.**

**General Athletic Association:** President, F. H. Anschutz; Vice-President, Jim Marshall; Secretary, E. R. Preston; Treasurer, M. P. Andrews.

**Executive Committee:** Professor D. C. Humphreys, Professor H. D. Campbell, Messrs. Anschutz, Preston, Marshall and Andrews.

**Football Team:** Manager, I. C. Speers; Captain, S. B. McPheeters. **Baseball Team:** Manager, —; Captain, M. P. Andrews.

**Cotillion Club:** President, J. R. Tucker; Secretary and Treasurer, J. W. Johnson.

**Washington Literary Society:** President, E. D. Ott; Secretary, H. B. Graybill.

**Graham-Lee Literary Society:** President, J. H. Shively; Secretary, W. J. Lauck.

**Y. M. C. A.:** President, C. C. McNeill; Secretary, J. M. Seig.

**Fraternities:** Phi Kappa Psi, Phi Gamma Delta, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Kappa Sigma; Sigma Chi, Alpha Tau Omega, Phi Delta Theta, Kappa Alpha, Sigma Nu, Pi Kappa Alpha, Phi Kappa Sigma, Mu Pi Lambda, Delta Tau Delta, Theta Nu Epsilon.

**Student Publications:** The RINGTUM PHI, published weekly by the students; *Southern Collegian*, published quarterly by the Literary Societies; *The Calyx*, Annual, published by the students.

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'BY THE STUDENTS AND FOR THE STUDENTS.'

VOL. III.

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY, SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 1900.

NO. 14.

### The Writing on the Wall.

'Twas the holy hour of midnight. With a sigh of relief I closed my Xenophon, tossed my Greek dictionary under the table, put a fresh quid of "natural leaf" in my mouth and wandered to my bay window looking down upon Washington avenue. It has long been my custom to bask here in the moonlight, engage in lofty thoughts and spit amber on the pavement below. The disconsolate tom-cat, who had made pleasant the earlier hours of the night, had long since wailed himself wailless. The silence was made more intense by occasional sounds that sifted through the wire screening of a neighboring chicken-house. An aged rooster was protesting with his spouse on the impropriety of laying an egg at that hour. The dull rumble of passing traffic had ceased. No signs of life could be seen, save the unconscious form of a policeman, wrapped in deep sleep and a blue overcoat, who occasionally lifted up his tenor voice in shrill but guileless snore.

My reveries were broken by the stealthy approach of several strange figures. They bore among them what proved to be a ladder. Seeing the dignified posture of the guardian of the peace they paused. But when they heard his labored breathing, suggesting now the thunder of clashing planets, now the dulcet strains of the V. M. I. band, they moved merrily on. Directly opposite my window they halted. Here was a high wall, a wide section of which was devoted to a coat of new white paint. It had been artistically executed—evidently work of a master-hand. This had been done at the command and expense of an ambitious dealer in drugs, tooth-brushes and blue paint. Hereon he cherished the hope of setting forth in six-foot letters his name, his place of business and the beneficent virtues of Wacoma and Coca-Cola.

But the Fates willed otherwise, if Fates they may be called. Hastily, they raised the ladder against this piece of immaculate whiteness.

Cautiously, one of the number amounted it. A tender-hearted freshman hauled him a brush and can of paint. He dropped a tear in the can as he did so, for on it was the druggist's trade-mark. But the painter showed no signs of emotion. He only painted. He painted on this spotless desert of whiteness a name by which many true hearts have sworn.

The policeman unconsciously shifted his weight from one No. 14 to the other, the freshman boldly "shot" the tempting "stump" of the "twofer" which had slipped from the official's fingers and the brush flew faster.

Soon the deed was done. The painter descended, the crowd looked proudly on his work and, turning toward the policeman, they raised their hands to their faces in a gesture that lacked the decorum of a military salute.

Swiftly and silently they dispersed and I was left staring at the sign and the slumbering policeman. The signed stared back at me and the policeman slumbered on. The moonlight glittered mockingly on his handsome brass buttons, his "billy" slipped from his wrist to the ground and the wind blew cruelly through his whiskers.

SAM SNOOKS.

### Program Wash. Society.

January 27, 1900, 8 p. m.

Orators—Brown, Foster, Eals.  
Declaimers—Reveley, Wilson, Saunders.

Debaters—Aff., Seig, Wooters, Hamilton; Neg., Burger, Spencer, Cooper.

Question—Resolved, That the initiative and referendum as the best system of legislation.

J. E. SENFT, Pres.

E. W. G. BOGHER, Sec'y.

Mr. B. C. Flournor has just received a raise in his salary from the New York Central railway, showing their appreciation of his services.

Mr. John K. Graves and Mr. John Preston Allan spent their last week's holiday in Lexington.

### Communicated.

#### To the Ringtum Phi:

Although I am a new student, and sometimes called a freshman, of this institution, I have gained some knowledge of and have begun to take interest in the contests between our two boat crews.

Yes, I have also chosen the one in whose behalf I intend to lend my lungs when the time comes, but for fear that a disclosure on this occasion would detract something from the desired result of these remarks, I prefer that my readers forego the pleasure of knowing whether the Harry Lees or the Albert Sidneys are to be so honored.

I have not seen the boats in which our crews pulled last year, but I have heard from reliable sources that one of them is in the last stages of vesperatory consumption and can't possibly undergo the trials and tribulations of training. If this is the case we should certainly get together and raise funds for the purpose of obtaining a new one, and the sooner the better. Unless this is done, there will be no race this year. Must we allow, for the sake of a few dollars and cents, a time honored custom to be broken, and the one of our athletic sports in which most interest is taken, to be dispensed with? I say no! and I am sure that all of you will agree with me.

The writer does not know whose duty, if I may be permitted to call it so, it is to solicit subscriptions for a new boat, but I hope that he upon whom this coveted honor has been conferred is a faithful reader of the RING-TUM PHI, and will cast his optics upon this article and act according to the dictates of his conscience.

Boys, don't wait for the solicitor to catch you but seek him with your patriotism and pocket-books and give as much as you feel that you can afford; that is all I ask.

I am willing to give my share if you can find out who I am.

#### Editor Ringtum Phi:

Is either one of the law classes going to break its heretofore bril-

liant record by having a representative on the ball team this spring, or must they forever consume the season in ceaseless "plugging"? It is true that the whole course furnished three delegates on the football team in the fall, but two of these would not or could not have come out had they not first been trained under the broadening and elevating mental and physical influence of the "academ." The physical side explains itself, and under the "mental gymnastics" (with apologies to Patsy) they learned so to apply their faculties as to be able to take off an hour for recreation every now and then. Some one recently suggested a basketball game between the two schools as an entertainment in behalf of athletics, when some one replied that that never could be carried out because the "lawyers" did not know enough about such games to furnish a team. If this is not correct then let the "lawyers" get up a team at once and give battle; the "academics" throw down the gauntlet,—the "lawyers," doubtless, will throw up the sponge.

BALLIE BASKETUS.

### Graham-Lee Society.

Graham-Lee had a very interesting meeting last Saturday night. The debate, Resolved, "That stricter laws should be imposed upon immigrants into the United States," was very ably debated on the affirmative by Messrs. Young, Preston and Keeble, while the negative was debated by Messrs. Shively, Ott and Gish.

A still more interesting program is expected to be carried out tonight, and all members are earnestly requested to be present and join in the exercises.

The following men are on for duty:

Orators: Brown, Britton, Corbett, Allen, R.

Declaimers: Frierson, Keeble, Lord Hickman.

Debaters: Affirmative, Allen, W., Beale, Lind, Fishburne.

Negative: Shewey, J. H., Davis, Kellinger, Marshall, J. W.

Question—Resolved, "That the state legislature should pass a separate coach law."

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All matters of business should be addressed to the Business Manager, and all other matters should come to the Editor-in-Chief.

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On Monday the RING-TUM PHI board held a meeting and Mr. J. R. Tucker resigned the position of editor-in-chief on the staff. Mr. Tucker's academic duties made his action imperative. In his resignation the RING-TUM PHI loses one of the ablest editors ever connected with it, and one whose place it will be hard to fill; but the difficulty of this situation was happily met by the election of Mr. W. J. Lauck as his successor. Mr. Lauck has been a member of the board for some time, and has fully displayed his diligence and ability, and it is safe to predict that the RING-TUM PHI will continue to be conducted on the sound and discreet policy which has been characteristic of it in the past.

### Mr. Editor:

I pulled on my wading boots and followed the straggle to the college chapel last night. I am glad I went. I heard there was to be an oratorical contest and a debate. I had no trouble in locating the oratorical contest—a half-dozen young fellows in spike-tailed coats, up on the stage were joined in a very uneven match with forty or fifty young ladies and gentlemen gathered under the rear end of the left hand gallery. This latter party had most of the time the efficient aid of some other young men in spike-tailed coats. After the thing had kept up for an hour or two with some interruptions of the stage end of the match by a fuss from Joe Penning-

ton's crowd in the gallery, the young man in the middle of the stage got up and said the prizes had been won by two of his crowd. Now, Mr. Editor, as an unbiased witness I protest against his decision. I can mention a number of people who agree with me that the other crowd had the best of it, for while those on the stage took turns at holding up their end a number of ladies and a few of the gentlemen in the other party kept it up without apparently taking breath. HOOSIER.

### Graham-Lee Celebration.

Rain, rain! it has certainly been pouring down of late. By Thursday evening all the speakers for the celebration had succeeded in contracting horrible voices, destroying colds and answered in a hoarse whisper when inquiries were made about their speeches, that they were miserably prepared and were sure of making a failure. Verily the new members of Graham-Lee must have been alarmed about their celebration, if indeed they were going to have any. But there are others of us who attribute all such statements to that innate oratorical modesty which every man who speaks seems to possess in so marked a degree. The outcome proved that there should have been no ground for uneasiness, as the celebration was fully up to the average and passed off very smoothly.

President Ott, in a few brief, well chosen words, greeted the audience and referred to him on whose birthday the celebration was held, and then introduced the first speaker, Mr. W. W. Glass, Jr., whose subject was "The Assimilative Power of the Republic." Mr. Glass spoke first of the greatness of our government and of the wonderful things America has accomplished in a little over a century of national life. Next he took up the dangers she has to face and then asked whether or not she could meet them successfully. The answer, he said, rested with the youth of our land, if we but return to the paths our forefathers trod there need be no fear for the future.

"Reflections at the End of the Century" was the subject of Mr. Causey's oration. It was along very much the same line as Mr. Glass's. He spoke of the glory of our country and of the many trials through which she had passed successfully. He also touched upon some of the

many things which happened during the century that is almost gone. He then turned his attention to imperialism, which he denominated as the greatest evil of the day. He reviewed graphically the rise and fall of the various modern nations which have adopted an imperial policy, and prophesied a similar fate for England. The oration closed with an appropriate quotation, "The Building of the Ship."

The debate was, resolved, "That there should be municipal ownership and operation of public franchises."

Mr. W. J. Lauck of West Virginia, opened on the affirmative. He declared that a municipality exists for the purpose of conferring the greatest good on the greatest number, that private franchise was in reality a sort of protective tariff that the government has a right to operate anything, if in so doing it benefits the public and that public operation of water works, electric light plants, etc., proved a blessing to all the cities where it had been adopted.

Mr. Pendleton of Virginia, although alone, ably defended the negative. His statement of the case was perhaps the clearest of the three. He gave five arguments for the affirmative, and then taking each one separately he answered it, very effectively, using numerous illustrations to show what he meant. He dwelt at some length on the political corruption of our country, which was certainly a well taken point. Mr. Pendleton's speech was clear and thoughtful throughout.

Mr. Biggs, the last speaker, closed for the affirmative. He was much at ease on his feet and his flow of language was smooth and uninterrupted. It was a source of regret to his friends that he had not had sufficient time to memorize his debate more perfectly, as it was a very convincing one. He paid his respects to monopolies, which he said were robbing the people, that franchises which were gold mines in themselves, were constantly being given away and the people were unduly burdened on this account. He also treated of corruption from another point of view, and gave some examples of the workings of the public franchise.

After Mr. Biggs had finished the band played. After that the president announced that the judges had awarded the orators medal to Mr. Causey and the debaters medal to Mr. Lauck. After that the audience broke up to enjoy the stroll home in the mud.

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### President Thwing's Lecture.

The regular Wednesday morning meeting was postponed until today in order to have the pleasure of hearing from Dr. Thwing, president of Adelbert college, who is the guest of Prof. H. St. G. Tucker.

President Thwing began by saying he thought it appropriate in view of the present time to consider the problems and duties that will confront the college man in the first half of the century soon to be entered upon. The nineteenth century, he said, has been a great century, the twentieth is to be infinitely greater, to live in which is a great privilege as well as a great responsibility. The nineteenth century has been marked by the advances in science and material development, the twentieth will see greater progress in both directions.

But some very grave questions are to be met and solved. All who are ablest to look into the future agree that the time is not far distant when we shall be face to face with serious issues, those which may menace the very foundations of our government. One of the most important of these questions, and one which we may be called on to consider in the immediate future is the social problem or the relation of man to community. Already, both in Europe and America, communism or state socialism is attaining startling proportions. And the gravity of the situation is brought home when we consider that individualism, personal and in the community, is the product of thousands of years of all the struggle of humanity toward civilization up to the present time. The conditions that confront us are dark and mysterious, but who is so fit to solve them as the college man, on account of his training to meet problems and to do accurate thinking. As great talents are given to the college man so his responsibility is great, and his duty is apparent. He is the product of the wisdom of past and present, he has the brain that is trained in channels of broad culture, and to him the country is to look in seasons of perplexity.

Furthermore, we have great material problems to settle, we have the resources of a country to develop, and one of the first messages to college men is, be business men. The

training of a college man when turned in this direction, or any other, must bring him that success which others fail to attain because they lack the trained brain.

And again, the material progress and luxuries of the present are liable to lead us away from the simple and true principles of living. But the college man is the one to have the clear head to stick to principles of truth, honor, duty and country. The college man of the past has never neglected the call of country, wherever it might lead him, and we find him still most responsive to every call to duty. With him duty should be more than life, and while every man may not be called on to die for his country, he is called on to do the infinitely harder task of living rightly for it. And this is the duty of the college man who is to be the leader in the affairs of the twentieth century.

### Personals.

Miss Tina Patton of Blacksburg, is visiting Miss Margaret Graham.

Mr. J. M. Mason came up from Spottswood to attend the Cotillion Club hop.

Cadet Clark of New York city, died at the V. M. I. hospital Tuesday morning of cerebro spinal meningitis.

Mr. T. H. Webb of the engineering class of '97, is employed in construction work on Briar river on a new branch of the C. & O.

Mr. J. R. Tucker will represent Washington and Lee at the athletic meeting to be held at University of Virginia on the 27th of this month.

Dr. Glasgow Armstrong, a Washington and Lee alumnus, and now surgeon at the Bellevue hospital in New York city, is on a vacation of a month with his parents in Lexington.

Mr. John Palmer Walker, C. E., of class of '95, is in charge of a force of eighteen men at Muskogee, I. T., engaged in a government survey of Indian Territory.

President Thwing of the Western Reserve University, is the guest of Professor H. St. George Tucker, dean of the law school. Last evening Dr. Thwing was presented to the Fortnightly Club by Mr. Tucker and later attended the celebration of the Graham-Lee society.

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**The German Student "Loafer."**

In the absence of President Wilson, Professor Tucker introduced Dr. Crow as the speaker of the morning, on the subject of the "German Student Loafer," which he treated in a very happy manner. Dr. Crow spent his German student days at Gottinger, and based his reminiscences on the Gottinger loafers.

Our space will not admit of our outlining the subject with anything like detail, and we are confined strictly to its most prominent features. As there are no classes and no games at the German universities, and the loafer is essentially social in his nature, we find him at his best, or worst, in the clubs. He rarely finds time to attend classes, as his day is taken up with the various meetings. Each club has its own colors which are worn in their small round caps set far back on the head, in their colored jackets, and form a prominent feature in all their public costumes. The object of the clubs is to promote conviviality and bravery by drinking and dueling.

Beer is the universal beverage and is taken at all the meetings which occur several times during the day; it does not fail even during the duels. The clubs also have a great weakness for parades and celebrations. But dueling is the most interesting feature. Regular practice duels are fought before the club members as well as challenged duels. A light sword is the usual weapon, though sabres are used in case of grave offenses. The vital parts of the body are protected and as all strokes are made from above, the results are wounds on the face and head which are rarely very serious, but which afford the much coveted scars.

Club men are divided into two classes, the *freshmen* and the older members, who have fought as many as five duels, when they are allowed to assume the sash and the third color of the club. Dueling may almost be said to be tolerated by the university and state authorities.

German students have many privileges, are exempt from arrest as long as they bear their student cards. Imprisonment can be enforced by the university authorities, and every university has its own jail, which is usually well filled.

Feminine society is not much sought after. A man is rarely seen

on the street in company with a woman, unless he is engaged to her. The one exception to this is on the Saturday afternoon holidays at Mariaspring, when the student loafer rouses himself, walks up to any chaperon, introduces himself and leads out the lady of his choice for a *valse*.

There are no intercollegiate games, and no intercollegiate clubs, corresponding to the American fraternities, but two clubs in different universities may form a kind of alliance. But the life within the club is very intimate. Some club houses have been recently built, but before each club had its own beer-garden and restaurant, where strangers came only on invitation. Beer feasts are held once or twice a month, in summer in the open air, in winter in the taverns.

The time that the German student usually spends in this "easy living" is the period immediately after leaving his school up to the time he does his army service. The life of the loafer is picturesque and romantic, quite medieval in its spirit, but is slowly giving way before the stress of modern ideas.

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# THE RING-TUM PHI.

'BY THE STUDENTS AND FOR THE STUDENTS.'

VOL. III.

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY, SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 1900.

NO. 15.

### Class Meetings.

A meeting of the class of 1902 was held on January 18th for the purpose of electing officers for the year. The following officers were elected by acclamation: President, H. B. Graybill; vice-president, C. R. Blain; secretary, C. S. McNulty. It was considered unnecessary to choose a treasurer, inasmuch as there is yet nothing to treasure, save proud memories of the past and the brightest hopes for the future, and these are treasured up in the heart of every member of the class. President Keeble, in a brief address, expressed his feelings of deep emotion upon resigning the chair. Mr. Graybill, upon taking it, expressed his appreciation of the honor conferred upon him.

The question of a class cap occasioned much discussion. It was finally decided, however, that with caps of the class color the worthy members of "noughty-two" were much too likely to be mistaken by those who know them not for members of that class to which the color was deemed more appropriate. To avoid such mishap the colors were changed to black and old gold, and a committee appointed to arrange for getting caps embodying those colors. After transacting some other business of importance the meeting adjourned.

Scarcely had the intention of the class of 1902 as to wearing caps as a distinctive mark become known, before the class of 1903, with the usual freshmanic lack of originality, called a meeting Tuesday evening for adopting the same program. After Mr. Sam Glasgow had been elected president, Mr. S. C. Bageley vice-president, and Mr. McPheeters secretary and treasurer, the cap question came up. At this juncture, when the freshmen in their verdant imaginations, were already picturing themselves as strutting about in the splendor of a class cap, the class of 1902, assisted by some members of 1901, having secured a key from some unknown source, locked them in so that they might

have sufficient time for considering the momentous question of purchasing caps. The freshmen finally forced their way out with a crowbar and after the excitement had subsided passed the cap resolution.

After much fooling with the freshmen on the part of some of the members the class of 1901 was called to order by the president with a fairly good attendance. The first business was to take action on the resignation of Mr. J. W. S. Tucker, of Virginia, from the Calyx board. This was accepted, and Mr. W. B. Wade, of Virginia, was unanimously elected to fill the position thus made vacant. Then came a somewhat lengthy discussion of the cap-emblem question, which was referred to a committee. There being no other business on the inside, and the freshmen howling madly on the outside, the meeting was adjourned.

### Miss Arnold Entertains.

Welsh rarebit and poetical effusion were two of the many delightful features of the party given by Miss Arnold on last Saturday night.

After all the guests had arrived they were startled by a sharp knock at the door and the unexpected advent of an express package. It goes without saying that the curiosity of all present was aroused as to the contents of the mysterious bundle, to satisfy which the hostess decided to open it and share its contents with her guests. After the distribution of the contents each guest was required to write a short poem on the present received. In this line Mr. Allen proved to be a poet of the highest genius and was awarded the prize—a large box of candy.

In obedience to a summons from the hostess the company then repaired to the dining room where all their energies were soon employed in the delightful task of making and consuming Welch rarebits. After a short time spent in conversation the guests reluctantly took their departure, delighted with the evening's entertainment.

Among those present were: Misses Ross and Booker, Messrs. Crow, Allan, Moore and Anschutz.

### Freshman's Letter.

The following was picked up on the campus a few days ago, and from its tone we imagine it is from one of the class of Junior English:

*Dear Mamma:*

I have been so busy since I got back I haven't had no time to write to you. Most of the fellows is back except Silas. You had ought to have known Silas. He and two other fellows here was peaches. The other two is back. They all used to run together a good deal, but wouldn't take no notice of a little fellow like me. One of them is a great long tall fellow. I don't reckon they feed him much at his ranch, for he always looks hungry and smokes cigarettes. I forget his name but I heard some one say he was going to graduate this year, but I don't believe it. He don't look like a graduate. The other fellow is the only dude in college, except a freshman named Foster, but Foster says he aint a dude, he says he's a sport. Mr. Jenkins says he is something else that don't sound much like sport. But that other fellow is a real dude. Just as nice and perky and brushes his hair and wears good clothes, even if he is from Texas. By the way they have the most expensive books here I ever seen. The new books for this term costs \$38.15. Please send the money at once so as I can buy them. The most peculiar boy here aint a boy at all, he's an old man, and his name is Airship, or something like that funny, and he sings in church and plays billiards. Some folks around here say he's a gospel shark but I believe he's a heathen, for he swears by some Hill whenever the other fellow makes a good shot. They is a fellow here what makes the most peculiar noises, sounds like a cat fight, and he goes off most any time. He talks a lot but don't say nothing. He and a fellow named Beef runs together lots. That Beef has a big fat red face and belongs to a fraternity. You don't know what a fraternity is do you? Well its a gang of fellows what wears pretty

pins and wont tell you about them. A fellow has to be something particular to join a fraternity, but some takes in most anything. I belong to one, the Alpha Sigma Sigma. A feller named Collins and Squable they belong too. We don't have any pin or meetings, only honors. They is one whose peculiarity seems to be ugliness. Dave Barclay used to belong to it, but I guess he's been fired since he's got good looking. By the way, all the fellows is giving \$5.00 to a blow-out they is to have in June. Please send me my \$5.00 so I can pay my part. Goodbye, love to all to home and say, mamma, don't forget the money for books, etc.

Your loving son,

(The name for various reasons is left blank.)

P. S.—My bill is due on Thursday. I had more clothes than ordinary last week, what'd make it \$1 more. Don't forget the money.

### Graham-Lee.

We are glad to be able to report that the last meeting of Graham-Lee was much better than usual. More men were present, more took part in the exercises and there was an increase in the snap and vim with which the program was carried out that was very pleasant to see. The subject of the debate was one that awakened much interest and many phases of the "Jim Crow" car bill were discussed, the decision being in favor of it.

It is our hope that more men will come this term than did last. A Saturday night spent in a "good" literary society is a very enjoyable thing and Graham-Lee men are going to make its meetings good in every sense of the word so that it will be worth while for the members and those who are not to attend regularly.

Clarence W. Robinson, B. L. '96, has recently been appointed commonwealth's attorney of Newport News, Va., to fill an unexpired term.

# The Ring-tum Phi.

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All matters of business should be addressed to the Business Manager, and all other matters should come to the Editor-in-Chief.

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In response to the invitation extended by the Advisory Committee of U. Va. to send a delegate to represent Washington and Lee in the forming of a Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic Association, the Athletic Association selected Mr. J. R. Tucker, who left for Charlottesville yesterday. So far as we have been able to learn Randolph-Macon, V. P. I., V. M. I., Roanoke College, Richmond College and Hampden-Sidney will also be represented. That there is need of such an organization no one will deny. The athletic resources of Virginia are unequalled by any other Southern state but the lack of organized effort has prevented our reaching the standard which rightly belongs to us. It is hoped that this movement in the right direction will prove permanent and secure the good results of co-operation.

The famous feast of Belshazzar was mild as compared with the University these days. Again the handwriting has appeared on the wall. This time the graduating class made a bid for prominence by painting class '00 on the pillars of the main building last Tuesday day night where it was admired by all the chapel goes on Wednesday morning. The work was artistically done, but its glory short-lived. Scarcely had the sun reached his full strength when the janitors armed themselves with ladder, brushes, etc., and the laborious work of a

night was blotted out in a few moments. We trust that this little incident is not a presage of the future of the class, but when next June it rises above the academic horizon it will shine prominently before the public for many years to come.

## Washington Literary Society.

The program on last Saturday night was carried through very satisfactorily. President Senft and Mr. Jones delivered their declamations which were interesting and instructive to all the members present. Boogher and Ott, who were the orators for the evening, made speeches which cannot be criticised. The question for debate, Resolved, That Brigham H. Roberts should be allowed to take his seat in congress, was argued on the affirmative by McDowell and Goshorn, and on the negative by Hartman. Mr. Graybill, who was to help Mr. Hartman, being absent, the duty of sustaining the negative fell upon the latter gentleman. This fact seemed to fire the speaker to such a degree that he undoubtedly made the winning speech of the evening, and succeeded in getting two votes of the three judges.

It is sincerely hoped and urged that every member be present at the meeting tonight. There will probably be a joint session of the two societies at which a very important election will take place.

## Wash. Program February 3.

Orators—Smiley, G. R. Robinson, McNulty.

Declaimers — Schwabe, Witt, Graybill.

Debaters—Aff., Turner, Lamar, Collins; Neg., Woodson, Webb, Whipple.

Question — Resolved, That a statute should be adopted in Virginia to require a property and educational qualification for suffrage.

J. E. SENFT, Pres.

E. W. G. BOOGHER, Sec'y.

Phil. L. Wilson, B. L. '99, is engineering with the Mountain State Construction company on the West Va. Short Line Railroad. W. C. Hattan and J. L. Morrison, graduates of the same class, are in the same neighborhood. Postoffice, Portor Falls, W. Va.

The senior law class is indulging in moot court work now in the afternoon.

## Communicated.

Editor Ring-tum Phi:

I read with much interest an article written by a "Freshman" in your last week's issue, in which the bad condition of one of the boats of our annual race was commented upon and it was urged that funds be at once "drummed up" for the purchase of a new one.

This is first-class sentiment, and he also calls "upon those whose duty it is" to start the ball rolling, which is also good sentiment, but the writer fails to bring up a very important point which I will try to set forth here.

It has been the steadily growing conviction of many persons that owing to the carelessness of those "old men" having charge of the "crafts" and who are chiefly concerned in the race that they do not deserve a new boat.

These boats are very expensive and very frail and yet they have been left in a practically open shed where any careless or maliciously disposed person could easily injure them from a trifling damage to absolute wreck, besides being exposed to any accidents of wind or weather.

Perhaps a committee of investigation will some day saunter down to the above mentioned shed to find that two boats "costing a few dollars each" will have to be bought instead of one, and then they will regret that they did not store these valuable vessels in the "loft" of the gymnasium, as always heretofore.

As I have mentioned above, the "new man" has the right principle. His class in general has shown a commendable amount of college spirit and enthusiasm which argues well for the future.

In conclusion I should like to state that despite the value and usefulness of this most attractive feature of our college life, it ought to be borne in mind that this annual struggle does not represent the University in competition with other institutions as in football or baseball, and for this reason, while it should be enthusiastically supported, it ought not to be "the one of our athletic sports in which most interest is taken." Such a view of the matter would result in injury to the representative teams and the invaluable benefits which accrue to the University through them. '07.

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## Chapel.

On Wednesday morning at chapel Professor Tucker announced that Hon. William Draper, our ambassador to Rome, had endowed a scholarship in International Law, to be called by his name, and which is a valuable acquisition to our university.

He then introduced Dr. Parker Willis, the speaker for the morning, who began by saying that he had no reminiscences of German student life to relate, but wished to speak on a subject which was to him very interesting, i. e., the conflict of the so-called natural sciences and the liberal. He said it was important that all sides of the question should be presented in order to form a just opinion concerning the relative value of these branches.

It is a common occurrence for the educated men of today to decry the work of others, and for some time effort has been made to decry liberal education. For years the liberal sciences fed the natural, now the advocates of the latter are seeking to broaden their field at the expense of the former. It is claimed that the mental sciences are unscientific, that the natural are more exact. But the student of sociology and such sciences may by careful investigation obtain results equally certain and exact. Business men hoot these studies as unpractical; but they estimate the value of an education merely in terms of dollars, with no regard for the high culture to be obtained.

The movement to cast aside these liberal sciences and substitute the natural is not new, but it is very strong. As a result Harvard no longer requires the study of Greek or Latin for the B. A. degree, and colleges are making their courses elective so that these are omitted by the students. Are technological and scientific schools to take the place of the schools of literary culture?

It is the undue stress laid on these sciences that is responsible for the scarcity of good literary productions in our day, for with the wider spread knowledge of the language we find fewer masters of it.

As soon as the genius of a writer is shown he is bought by magazines and newspaper syndicates and in the hope of pecuniary reward soon exhausts his natural genius. Finally

the Ladies' Home Journal buys him and then he is "done for." Calm, historical judgment will be the result of scientific spirit and will purify politics and cast off the bonds of political slavery.

The idea that science should be restricted to the narrow field of technology is absurd and what makes this age unequal from the standpoint of literary production to the age of Moore in England and other great ages of culture is the lack of pious hearts seeking the truth for truth's sake alone.

## Personals.

"Duffy" Nowlin is back in college again.

Mrs. Gertrude Logan is to entertain the Euchre club next Tuesday evening at "Blandome."

Captain Andrews has been sick during the past week but is out again.

Miss Fannie White entertained some of her friends last week in honor of her guest, Miss Bumgardner.

At a meeting of the Cotillion club held on the 14th, Mr. J. W. Garrow was elected president, Mr. G. C. Powell, vice-president, and Mr. J. W. Johnson, secretary and treasurer.

Miss Margaret Graham entertained a few friends very delightfully last Tuesday in honor of her guest, Miss Patton of Blacksburg.

Chas. Caffery met with a painful accident last Saturday at the gymnasium by falling from the ladder and breaking his arm.

Mr. McLeod was called home to St. Louis this week by the sudden illness of his father, who died before he arrived. The RING-TUM PHI extends its sympathy to him in his bereavement.

## Another Law Scholarship.

It is pleasant to record that through the munificence of Gen. Wm. F. Draper, the present ambassador at Rome, another scholarship has been established in the Law department, making a total of three. This one is in Constitutional and International law, and will constitute a reason for more than ordinary endeavor by the members of the class on that subject in the attainment of efficiency.

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**Regulations for Athletics.**

ADOPTED BY THE FACULTY JANUARY 20TH, 1900.

(A) That the Faculty Committee on Physical Culture be enlarged so as to consist of three members.

(B) That the following regulations governing athletics be adopted by the faculty and published in the catalogue:

1. The Faculty committee on Physical Culture is intrusted with the general oversight of field and track athletics, boat races and other competitive sports, and is charged with the management of the gymnasium and tennis courts, boats and boat house.

2. No one shall be a member of any University athletic team, or act as such in any intercollegiate contest, who is not at the time of such contest a regularly matriculated student and eligible under the *amateur rule*.

3. No student will be permitted to play upon the University football or baseball team, or row in the annual regatta except after examination by the physical director, and with the approbation of the committee on Physical Culture.

4. Leave of absence may be granted, by the president, to the baseball and football teams for the purpose of playing intercollegiate match games, such leave not to exceed four days in the session in the case of either team.

5. No game shall be finally arranged, in Lexington or elsewhere, until the Faculty Committee on Physical Culture shall have approved the final arrangements.

6. The athletic teams shall not be permitted to leave Lexington to play a match game except on the following conditions:

(a) Every outstanding obligation of the athletic association must have been already paid.

(b) There must be in the treasury of the association to the credit of the team an amount of available cash sufficient to cover the necessary expenses of the trip to be made, as estimated by the members of the Faculty Committee on Physical Culture. Any amount guaranteed by a competing team, or other responsible parties, may be regarded as available cash.

7. No student under twenty-one old will be permitted to leave Lex-

ington with either team to play in a match game, either as a regular member of the team or as substitute, except upon written permission of his parent or guardian addressed to the President of the University.

8. Permission will not be given students to accompany athletic teams except on holidays, and even then only at the discretion of the president.

9. Any member of any athletic team who is reported for neglect of his studies or failure to attend his lectures will be required by the faculty to sever his connection with such team.

10. Athletic teams shall not have contests elsewhere than upon the University grounds with any except teams from other institutions of learning.

11. Experts for purpose of instruction may be employed on the University grounds, but only with the written permission of the chairman of the Committee on Physical Culture.

Hogan—"Do you believe in dreams, Mike?"

Dugan—"Faith an' I do! Lasht hight I dreamt I was awake and in the morning me dream kem true."  
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