

*Wm. L. Campbell*  
**The Ring-tum Phi.**

Volume 1.

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY, LEXINGTON, VA., SATURDAY DEC. 4, 1897.

Number 12.

**The Raving.**

I.  
 Once upon a midnight dreary,  
 While I entertained a theory,  
 And beguiled me by recalling,  
 Many a long forgotten score—  
 While I busily was mapping  
 Out the finer points of scrapping,  
 And if need be; too, of tapping,  
 Gently tapping Eli's gore—  
 "This an easy thing," I muttered,  
 "Gently biffing Yale for gore;  
 "That it is, and 'nothing more."

II.  
 Once again do I remember,  
 Ah! 'twas in the bleak November,  
 And each individual member  
 Glided on his gear and swore  
 That upon the bloody; morrow  
 Eli car fare vain would borrow;  
 Eli should sup deep of sorrow—  
 Sorrow that they didn't score—  
 On the gridiron in New Haven;  
 When they poured out gore for gore  
 Gridiron, nameless evermore.

III.  
 "Hasten back," I cried at parting  
 With these heroes gayly starting  
 For the distant scene of tapping  
 Yale for lucre and for gore.  
 Then, unto my chamber turning,  
 Sat I long with eager burning,  
 Confident, but ever yearning  
 For a line upon the score,  
 Till a person who'd been battered,  
 Had, in fact, been really shattered,  
 Moved his remnants through my door.

IV.  
 "Hal!" I cried, upstarting, thinking  
 For the moment I'd been drinking,  
 And some frightful apparition  
 Had returned to fright me sore.  
 "Man!" I cried, "art from New Haven?  
 "Tell me if thou'rt not a craven,  
 "Did you tap deep Eli's gore?"  
 Limp he lay upon the floor,  
 Then at last, with toothless mumbling,  
 As one who for speech is fumbling,  
 Cried he, "Princeton didn't score!  
 "We play football? Nevermore!  
 —Baltimore Sun.

**Mass-Meeting.**

A mass-meeting of the student body was held in Newcomb hall on last Monday afternoon and it was positively decided to get out an annual and plans were adopted to that end.

Mr. Hamner moved that Mr. Barret be made chairman and the motion was carried. Mr. Barret having taken the chair Mr. Faulkner proposed a plan differing from the one of former years. It seems that the large number of editors heretofore composing the board has exerted a tendency to handicap the successful working of the board. To obviate this difficulty Mr. Faulkner moved that the mass-meeting elect an editor-in-chief, his assistant and a business manager, giving power to the academic senior senior class to elect three associates and allowing the senior law class to elect two. This would reduce the number of editors to seven, and the senior class would have the editors from their number. This seemed to be a feasible plan,

but it elicited much discussion. It was finally adopted with the amendment that the two '99 classes, law and academic, should be allowed to select two of their number as editors, one from each class.

This plan having been adopted nominations were in order for editor-in-chief. Mr. Mason in a short but appropriate speech placed Mr. Benjamin Franklin Harlow in nomination. After the nomination had been seconded, Mr. Batchelor nominated Mr. George Cuthbert Powell and made a stirring appeal for his election by mentioning his able work on the Calyx last year. It was the intention to vote on the candidates for the three offices at one time, so nominations for assistant editor were in order.

Mr. Perrow nominated Mr. Livingston Waddell Smith. There being no further nominations for this office, Mr. O'Neal nominated Mr. Alban Goshorn Snyder for the office of business manager. The last two nominees were elected to their respective offices by acclamation, and a ballot was taken in the case of the editor-in-chief. Mr. Harlow was elected by a vote of 65 to 36.

With three such sterling men as Mr. Harlow, Mr. Snyder and Mr. Smith at the helm we can predict a great success to the "Calyx '98." We must not expect too much of them, for they are to arrange the work which others must do. Let every man try to do his part, whether as an editor or as a student or alumnus. We must encourage them in every way; give them our co-operation and our financial support and the success of our Annual is assured.

**Joint Debate.**

The second of a series of joint debates between the "Wash." and Graham-Lee societies came off last Saturday night. There was a very good attendance of both students and faculty. Mr. Thos. J. Farrar presided, and the judges were Professor Tucker, Professor Hogue and Professor Howe.

At a quarter to eight o'clock the president announced the debate and

called on the secretary, Mr. McClung, to read the question and call the name of the first speaker. The question as debated was:

*Resolved*, That it should be the settled policy of the United States that there be no further extension of their territory.

Mr. Pancake and Mr. Faulkner upheld the affirmative in a very able manner. Their speeches were of an exceptionally high order, and great praise is due them. The negative was upheld by Mr. Burr and Mr. Webb and they, too, did themselves credit, and were an honor to their society. They showed great study upon the subject and handled their arguments in a masterly way. Never have we heard four better speeches. It was hard to decide which side won, and the judges experienced some difficulty in finding out, for after a hot discussion they decided two to one in favor of the negative.

We are glad the "Wash." won this debate, for they are now even with the Graham-Lee, and it will be a spicy contest for the best two out of three of the series.



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Entered at the postoffice at Lexington as second-class matter.

When the seats in chapel were divided according to seniority, we were glad to see that a step was being taken toward making the class distinction at Washington and Lee more marked. And at the mass meeting on Monday we saw that the student body wished to have that distinction carried further. During the last few years there has been literally no distinction whatever, except that the Senior classes have had more or less of an organization. No class pins, no class ring, no cap and gown, no demarcation of any kind has been made between the upper and lower classes. The consequence is that when a freshman has been here two weeks he thinks himself the biggest man in college. He paces the same track with the man who has been here for three or four years, with the difference that he holds his head a little higher. The consequence is that at the end of the year he feels that he has long since reached the zenith of his college career, and he feels no inclination to return. On the contrary, if he feels during the first year that he is on the bottom round, he has a desire to climb higher.

In putting the editing of the *Outage* into the hands of the Junior and Senior classes, one honor has been placed where the lower classman feels that he must climb if he would win it. But as yet no demarcation has been made between the Freshman and the Sophomore (a word gone into desuetude at Washington and Lee, but which we hope will be revived).

One of the first persons the new student meets is the man who is canvassing for a candidate for final ball president. He is a very nice fellow,

this canvasser is, and takes the freshman straightway to the nearest fountain, where between sips of strawberry milkshake the unknowing one is told of the many charms and graces of the canvasser's candidate, and sometimes, we are sorry to say, something a little better is thrown in about the opposing candidate, in order to bring out the flavor of his own candidate; and, before their conversation is ended, the new man is pledged to vote for a man whom he has probably never seen, and of whom he knows nothing except what he has heard.

That this makes the election almost entirely a matter of canvassing is evident, and what we would like to ask you is: Would it not be a good plan to limit the vote to the old men? It would add honor to the man who was elected, as he would feel that it was not a gift given him by a few of his friends, who were good wire-pullers. There would be less room for that "dirty work," which we hear of at nearly every ball election. (We are glad to say that we heard of none of it at the last ball election). The supporters of the candidates would not feel that necessity of watching every train to see if there might not be a new man whose vote they might get. There would not be those nightly raids on ranches in order to find out if some one there had not yet been pledged, and altogether, we think it would make the ball election a more honorable affair.

Think about this question some time, and the next time we have a mass meeting let it be put before the student body to find out what we will do about it.

## "Trial by Jury" at the Opera House.

Despite the inclement weather a large and enthusiastic audience greeted the charming rendition of the comedieta "From Four to Six," and the operetta "Trial by Jury," on last evening. First on the program was the comedy "From Four to Six"—like the bicycle "built for two." The curtain rises on an attractive drawing-room scene, with Esther, impersonated by Miss Janet Allan, looking radiantly lovely, reading the love letters of her two admirers, then Professor Fay, as Harold, her long absent lover, enters and is greeted by a round of ap-

plause. A very interesting and life like love scene occurs over the tea cups, and as the play progresses both manifest such intimate acquaintance with the duties of the lover as to lead the audience to suspect they had "both been there before many a time."

Later the acting became so excitingly realistic that words fail Harold as he grasps the fair Esther's hand, until recalled by a still, small voice from the rear. The success of their excellent presentation of the scene caused great enthusiasm and the house re-echoed with applause.

After a short intermission the scene changed from a *courtling room* to a *courtroom*, and the "Trial by Jury," a bright operetta began. It would be difficult to find such a choice assortment of citizens as was empaneled on this jury. Prominent among them we noticed the duke who divided his attention between his mustache and the brides maids; the mechanics, the fisherman, the farmer, the banker, all showing such phenomenal hirsute growth as to recommend this climate as a natural hair restorer. The usher, Mr. Robert Nelson, who is the fortunate possessor of a delightful bass voice, charged the jury that "from bias free of every kind this trial must be tried."

The defendant, Mr. Anschutz, pleads his case in a voice sweet enough to win any cause; but this time the beauty of the poor, rejected bride captivates both judge and jury. She is preceded by her eight bridesmaids, Misses Gillock, Smith, Eliz. Ross, Anderson, May Ross, Moore, Nelson and Barclay, looking dainty and lovely in white, carrying garlands and singing a bright chorus. Then comes Miss Janet Allan as plaintiff, beautiful in a magnificent bridal costume, and claims the damages Edwin must pay in such an exquisitely modulated voice as to charm both audience and the judge, who vows he will marry her himself and the curtain falls amid wild applause that shows the delight of the audience.

The handsome judge, Mr. Frieron, deserves especial mention at his fine rendition of his part, and Messrs. Pratt and Vaughan acquitted themselves with great credit. The music was delightful, the acting all that could be desired, and we feel ourselves indeed fortunate in having such fine talent among us, and hope

they will feel inspired by their success to give us a similar pleasure.

A vote of thanks is due all who participated, but especially to Miss Janet Allan, who so gracefully filled both her important roles, and to those who worked so faithfully with her in arranging such a charming entertainment.

This number is the last appearance THE RING-TUM PHI will make until she heads her page January 1898. The examinations will be with us in about a week, so that the editors will have no time to get out the numbers and the subscriber may spend the time that might be spent over THE RING-TUM PHI more profitably by studying his book. Thirty numbers is what the management offered at the beginning of the year, and you will see from the title page that nearly half that number have made their appearance already.

We heartily wish you a merry Christmas, the pleasure of which will not be alloyed by the memory of a single flunk. Give our love to all of them at home, and tell them we hope to see them soon. Give your "baby mine" one good old buster for us, and tell her we hope to see her at Commencement if not sooner.

## Chapel Exercises.

Last Wednesday the exercises were opened with brief devotional exercises. After the reading of the Nineteenth Psalm, the students joined in singing "My Country, 'tis of Thee," and then Dr. Quarles led in a short prayer.

In beginning his remarks President Wilson spoke of the great pleasure he had once had in dining one evening with the Saturday Club of Boston. During the course of the evening President Elliott of Harvard, remarked that he had never understood how the hymn mentioned above had ever become so popular. The author of "The Poet at the Breakfast Table" explained that its popularity was due to the personal character of the hymn, to the my's and I's, in stead of the our's and we's.

Proceeding then to give some account of his recent absence in Washington and New York, Mr. Wilson spoke at some length of the growth and present condition of the Smithsonian Institute. Mr. Wilson as

member of the Board of Regents, had just returned from a meeting of the executive committee of that board.

To those who had hitherto known nothing of the origin and growth of this institution, which has recently reached its fiftieth year of prosperity, Mr. Wilson's remarks were very instructive.

James Smithson, an English scientist, bequeathed to the United States a sum which amounted to about a half million dollars. This was to establish at Washington an institution for the "increase and diffusion of knowledge among men." Since its establishment in 1846 it has grown steadily and rapidly along the two lines indicated in the will and now it is second to no institution in the world in the particular work which it undertakes and accomplishes.

Although these remarks were gladly and appreciatively received, still Mr. Wilson was generously applauded when he made two announcements.

While in Washington he had seen friends who were pushing the work of procuring the funds necessary for completing the law building. From what they had told him he felt justified in saying that the building need not be delayed much longer.

In his inaugural address Mr. Wilson had spoken of his desire to see a school of political science established here. He announced that the history lecture-room (which has recently been refitted) would be well supplied with a good working library. To the surprise and delight of the students and the professor of political economy, Mr. Wilson announced that some friend in New York had directed him to buy a good library of political science and send the bill to him.

#### The Class of Ninety nine Organizes.

The class of ninety-nine held its first meeting in Professor Nelson's room on Wednesday. Much enthusiasm was manifested by all present, and intense excitement prevailed during the entire process of organization. After hotly contested elections the following officers and functionaries were elected:

H. S. Dixon, W. Va., president; Preston Allan, Va., vice president; C. N. Roark, Ky., secretary; Will Graves, Va., poet; S. C. Lind, Tenn.,

historian; C. H. Burke, Ala., associate editor of the Calyx.

The organization being completed, it was thought proper that a class-flower be selected. Many beautiful flowers were brought before this august assembly. The violet appeared, but was compelled to droop its head in defeat; the rose was not to the taste of these gentlemen, and even the proud-peony was compelled to pass by without even hearing the mention of its own name. At last the class thought themselves to be such daisies that nothing would snit them but the *ox-eye*, familiarly known as "*buphthalmum*." To the proud ninety-nine, however, let it be remarked that, if he compares himself to his flower, let him remember that it has a lot of yellow in it.

The motion was then made that a pet animal be adopted, the choice to be limited to a quadruped of the genus *bov*, but the vice-president had had his name played upon enough for one evening, so that, after a strong objection being made to such a move by him, the motion was overruled by a small majority.

After the appointment of a committee to get up a class yell, and to submit some colors to the class at its next meeting for its adoption, the meeting adjourned.

Professor Brown Ayers and Assistant Professor Douglas Anderson of Tulane University, left last week for New Orleans to attend the opening of Tulane. The yellow fever has delayed the opening of Tulane and kept these gentlemen in Lexington for quite a while.

The Thanksgiving hop given in Newcomb Hall was not as well attended as the previous dances, but was quite a success notwithstanding. The size of the crowd seemed to make each one enjoy the dance all the more. The only ones who had cause for regret were the ones who were not there.

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**The Senior Academic Class Has a Called Meeting.**

The Senior Academic Class met in Dr. Quarles' lecture room on Wednesday at 4 o'clock, it being a special meeting called by President Hamner.

At the appointed hour, a quorum being present, the President called the class to order and announced the object of the meeting, which was to elect three associate editors for the Calyx, according to the rule made at the mass-meeting on Monday. Nominations were then put in order and the names of Messrs. Hamner, Whitside, Barret, Perrow, and McClung were put before the class. It was moved that the nominations be closed, and the vote be cast. Barret, however, wished his name withdrawn; so that when he was dropped Houston's name was put up, and the meeting proceeded to ballot.

Then the question was how to proceed. Was any one elected? If so, whom? It was undisputed that Whitside was elected, but the question was not solved as to the others. After a good deal of talk a motion was made that Perrow and Houston be considered elected. The motion was carried, but there is yet room for doubt about that thing. It is confidently believed that there was an election fraud, and a committee of investigation should be inaugurated.

The business for the day being over the meeting adjourned.

The action of the faculty of the Washington and Lee University in disbanding the football team of that University for substituting an outsider for a college boy on the team in the Central-Washington and Lee game is worthy of the highest praise. The aid this action has given to clean college athletics cannot be estimated. The good results that will follow will be felt by every college and university in the country, and by Washington and Lee in particular. We congratulate the faculty and students of that University in this matter and take pleasure in informing them that the faculty and students of Central University fully appreciate the action taken in this matter.—*Central News.*

We see by the *Baltimore Sun* that Gen. G. W. C. Lee will spend the winter at "Ravensworth," the home of the late Gen. W. H. F. Lee.

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