

Geo. A. Campbell

THE RING-TUM PHI.

VOL. II.

WASHINGTON & LEE UNIVERSITY, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1898.

No. 1.

'BY THE STUDENTS AND FOR THE STUDENTS.'

I asked a poet once what single word
His soul did wise all other words above;
A far-off look came to his dreamy eyes
As with a sigh, he softly answered
"Love."

I put the question to a student gay;
He smiled and said, In pencil it is writ
Along the margin of some dreary page,
It is the goodly word
"Omit."

Ex.

Foot-Ball and the Athletic Association.

The Foot-Ball season is now on and every afternoon the team practices under Trainer Knight's supervision.

So far the practice has not been of the best but the men are just getting over the soreness of the first week and in a few days will rapidly round into shape.

Of last year's team we have Muir, Dixon, Barclay, Witherspoon, Campbell and McCluer back and McPheeters of the famous team of '96, so with the good material there is no reason why we should not be champions of the South this year. But in order to accomplish this or even have a good team at all it is imperative that we have a strong second team. During the past two years we have had very strong second teams and great credit is due them for the success of the "Varsity" during those years.

There are plenty of men in College who can play foot-ball if they will only try. You never know what you are capable of doing until you make the effort. Therefore let every man who has the success of the "Varsity" at heart come out and back up against it. Who knows but what you may distance some former "Varsity" man in the race for the team? Do not think just because a man has played on the team once that he has a "cinch" on his place for all time.

If you can not help make a team for us in this way, there is another way in which every man in College can and ought to help it along. It is by joining the Athletic Association and giving it your financial support. Manager Farrar has arranged a fine schedule with teams away from here and he is only waiting to see you

support the team before he arranges the final details for games here. Therefore join the Athletic Association and by so doing show your support to Athletic in general. You will never regret it from any standpoint.

Now finally come out and watch the team practice and encourage by your presence the men who are trying to lift the white and blue to the top-notch in the foot-ball fame.

Cotillion Club Hop.

On last Monday night, September 12th, the students gave the opening hop of the session in the spacious Art Gallery of Newcomb Hall. A goodly number of fair ones were present, but the attendance of "stags" was not as large as has been known in the history of the College. However, the floor was in good condition, the music in good time, the dances in good spirits; which coupled with the pleasure of greeting old friends and meeting new ones, served to make the evening one pleasantly to be remembered among the W. & L. hops.

The dancers present were Mr. Mason with Miss White; Mr. Vance with Miss Caldwell; Mr. Garrow with Miss Semmes; Mr. Witherspoon with Miss B. Wilson; Mr. Muir with Miss Caldwell; Mr. Frierson with Miss Shipp; Mr. King with Miss Pope; Mr. Smith with Miss Jordan; Mr. Martin with Miss Wilson; Mr. Johnson with Miss Brockenbrough; Mr. Shipp with Miss Latimer, and Mr. Robinson with Miss Buckner.

Among the "stags" were Professors Fay and Willis, a number of the first class of the V. M. I., together with Messrs. Barclay, Woolridge, Robinson, Withers, Moise, Mullen and Barrett.

The Y. M. C. A. Reception.

The reception given by the Young Men's Christian Association to the new students was largely attended. It was a great pleasure to see so many new faces and to great again those who had been absent for one or two years. Lack of formality is a characteristic

which has always marked those receptions and the one on Friday night showed no variation from the general rule.

Before the reception proper there were some remarks by several friends of the Association.

After singing in a hearty way one of the most inspiring hymns Dr. R. J. McBryde led in prayer. Then Thomas J. Farrar, president of the Association, announced that Dr. Thornton Whaling would give an address of welcome on the part of the pastors of the town. No one who heard the Doctor's address doubted the heartiness of the welcome which he extended in his usual happy way.

On the part of the Faculty Professor H. St. G. Tucker gave a hearty welcome to the new students and greeted the old ones who had returned after their vacation. The happy vein which was so prominent in "Old Ran" is surely present in his son and we all love him.

The president asked Mr. H. M. McIlhany, Jr., to speak of the Y. M. C. A. in general and to state the work undertaken by the Association at Washington and Lee. From an experience with Y. M. C. A. work which is rarely equalled for so young a man Mr. McIlhany gave the audience a clear comprehensive idea of the work.

After some remarks by the president as to the Sunday afternoon meeting he announced that the ladies of the town and college had contributed generously to show their pleasure at having the students among them. The cordial way in which this announcement was received showed that the men appreciated their kindness.

Besides the students there were present the pastors of the town and every member of the Faculty. This latter fact was especially pleasing to the members of the association.

The receptions are given with an idea of making the men become acquainted better than they would otherwise do and of bringing them in contact with the Y. M. C. A. work.

To all who contributed to make the occasion pleasant and happy we extend our cordial thanks.

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It is with no little misgiving that the board of editors of the RING-TUM PHI for '98-'99 undertake the responsible task which their position imposes upon them. They believe, however, that the readers will be inclined to forgive mistakes. The kindest way of showing an interest in and correcting our mistakes is by telling us of them personally.

We trust that the students will feel free to hand in contributions at any and all times. The RING-TUM PHI is for the students and they should feel free to contribute to its columns. If you can not or will not write for it yourself you may wish to call attention to some topic of interest and let one of the editors write it up. It is the purpose of the RING-TUM PHI to offer no opposition to the Collegian. They occupy entirely different fields and may be mutual helpful. They are certainly supplemental in the relation they bear to each other. We cannot be too urgent in our desire to have you contribute essays or poems to the Collegian but we are even more desirous that the students one and all shall feel called on to make the RING-TUM PHI a vehicle for the expression of their thoughts and for the recording of the happenings of the week so that

it may indeed be a weekly journal of college interests.

The students can be of great assistance in accomplishing the above object but they can not do all. The alumni will have it in their power to be of considerable aid in bringing to fulfillment the purpose for which the journal is in existence. The faculty even may find that they have something to contribute. To all, students, alumni and faculty, the columns are open.

It is earnestly hoped that every student in the college will become a regular reader of the RING-TUM. Last year we noticed that men were very free in borrowing their neighbors paper. This year we want every man to have one for it may be that some weeks you would like to send it home or possibly preserve it for articles worthy of future reading.

We regret very much that circumstances over which we had no control prevented the appearance of the RING-TUM PHI on Saturday, but hereafter it may be expected promptly on that day.

Don't forget the meeting of the Athletic Committee, Tuesday, September 20th, when the base-ball Manager will be appointed. Be sure to hand in any names for the position. According to the Constitution of the Association, the Manager is appointed and not elected.

It has been gratifying to see how much interest the old boys are taking in the RING-TUM PHI. The boys away from college want to see what is going on since they left, and they realize that they can do so in no better way than by taking the college weekly which will from week to week give the correct happenings at college and now and then tell some bit of news about the boys of old. It is hoped that when sending in their

subscriptions the alumni will mention anything of interest about themselves or others of the old boys.

Wednesday Morning.

On last Wednesday morning Mr. Wilson gave us one of the best addresses we have heard from him. He did not follow his usual plan of discussing some subject of current interest but gave in what he was pleased to call an informal talk, some inspiring advice to us as we begin the duties of the year. Seldom does it fall to the lot of students to listen to a more practical and kindly talk.

It was Mr. Wilson's effort to define a liberal education. To say that he succeeded is far from necessary for Mr. Wilson does not undertake what does not succeed. On this occasion, however, he outdid himself.

He showed the meaning of a liberal education in Athenian times and then in the times of Rome. Passing through the middle ages he showed how in modern times the range of studies has become so varied that it is almost impossible to define a liberal education. He did, however, show that the idea of having Latin, Greek and Mathematics as the *sine qua non* of a liberal education had passed away. True these studies have taken their proper position, but history and literature and science and philosophy have become absolute necessities for the man who would be considered liberally educated.

Varsity vs. Scrubs.

The game between the Varsity team and the second team yesterday showed considerable improvement in all the players. It is quite encouraging to see this improvement for there are only two weeks before our first game and we must defeat the V. M. I. Next comes our game with the University of Virginia and in this we are equally anxious for success. One thing is very manifest and that is that we need a good second team. Hard training is well enough in its place but we can not expect to have a good first team if it does not have actual practice against an opposing team. The second team can do much to make foot-ball a success this year and it remains to see

whether or not the college spirit is great enough to make men come out and help to make old W. & L. stand in the fore-front in athletics.

Ten-Pin Roll.

Last night was the time and the bowling alley at the opera house was the place. The occasion was the delightful ten-pin roll given by the young men to the young ladies and their guests.

It is the habit of the young men to have these rolls from time to time during the fall and winter and spring. They are very informal and this very fact adds inexpressibly to their enjoyableness. One is reminded of a jolly picnic crowd. It is certainly easy to become acquainted there.

Last night the crowd was thoroughly congenial and everything conspired together to make it a pleasant occasion, while the night was very warm it was in no way oppressive.

Some of the best rolling seen for years was a feature of the evening and the score showed good averages by all the rollers. The highest score by any of the ladies was by Miss White who made ninety-two. Mr. Nelson Myers made the highest score among the men and led the score with seven strikes and a clean "max" of one hundred and fifty pins.

It is too funny to see how Cupid flits around the hall. Between calls of "your turn" couples promenaded, or groups gathered about the seats and wit sparkled. There were only two games. The first was the ten-pins and the second cocked-hat. Every one seemed to enjoy them.

When the evening was about half spent a number of boxes of Lowney's delicious chocolates were handed around and gave much pleasure and enjoyment.

Perhaps the most valuable result of all education is the ability to make yourself do the thing you have to do when it ought to be done, whether you like it or not. It is the first thing that ought to be learned, and, however early a man's training begins, it is probably the last lesson that he learns thoroughly.

HUXLEY.

The secret of success in life is for a man to be ready for his opportunity when it comes.

D'ISRAELI.

Personal Mention.

Not a few of the old boys were back at the beginning of the session.

For several days Mr. Robinson, '79, of Louisville, Ky., was with us. Probably no alumnus takes greater interest in his alma mater than does Mr. Robinson.

Rudolph Bumgardner who has been recently appointed lieutenant in the army was with us for a couple of days.

W. H. Keister came to bring some of his freshman and spent a few days. He went out to see the foot-ball practice every day and had he remained much longer he might have gotten into it so much that he would have stayed to try for the team.

J. D. M. Armistead, '97, has a position in the High Schools of Lexington. He seems attached to Lexington.

Jay Oberlin, much to the regret of his friends in Lexington, is teaching school in Winchester. All hoped he would be back to help out the foot-ball team.

Gordon Houston, Editor-in-Chief of the RING-TUM PHI last year, spent several days with us at the beginning of the session. He was on his way to the school of which he was principal.

J. M. Mason, who will assist Mr. Houston in his school was here this week. "Jim" was looking quite thin and upon inquiring it turned out that he had fallen off until he weighs only 226.

D. M. Hammat came over to be sworn in by Judge Letcher of the Circuit Court. He is looking well and seems to have very well stood the trying ordeal of saying, "I do."

B. F. Harlow, Jr., last year's editor of the Calyx, is with us for a short stay. In his mustache he is striking. "Pat" can't stay away from Lexington.

Dr. H. A. White is still absent in Europe. During his absence Dr. Fay and Dr. Currell are meeting his classes.

Prof. Brown Ayers, '74, professor in Tulane University of Louisiana, is visiting in Lexington.

Mr. H. W. Pratt, who has so acceptably filled the position of Physical Director, is assisting Mr. L. C. Barret the new Director in the gymnasium work. For Mr. Barret we predict a marked degree of success.

Mr. C. J. Faulkner, Jr., our popular base-ball player and captain of '96, was in town early this week. He will commence the practice of law.

Mr. Ran Graham, Princeton '96, is visiting Mr. Ran Shields.

For some days Mr. Kirkpatrick, of Atlanta, has been visiting at Professor Graves's.

We are glad to see Mr. Cabell Tutwiler at home on a visit. He has been in successful business in Philadelphia since last winter.

Gran. Campbell, our brilliant short-stop of last year has been elected Base-Ball Captain for the ensuing year.

The Misses Christian, of Richmond, after a delightful visit to Miss Campbell, left this morning much to the regret of their friends.

Miss White, of St. Louis, is visiting at Professor Humphreys's. To her was due the credit of the largest score by a lady at the tennis roll last evening.

Miss Nettie Preston, who has been on a visit to friends in Southwest Virginia, is expected home today.

Miss Mary Turner Graves has Miss Pope as her guest.

Around College.

The regular morning Chapel services are being fairly well attended. Dr. Whaling is conducting the exercises this month.

The attendance at college this year is much better than that of last year. So far the attendance is 27 per cent. greater than at the same time last year.

The decided increase in the number of freshman is a commentary upon the entrance examinations. If boys could only be kept in the fitting schools until prepared for college we would have more mature men and better work by the students.

Crab-grass has largely taken the upper part of the campus and has almost killed out the pretty blue-grass. Hands are digging it up so that it may be effectually killed out. Grass seed will be sown and next year we hope to see a nice stand of lawn grass.

The tennis courts are as popular as ever. Every afternoon since the opening day the courts have been filled, and considerable talent seems to exist among the freshmen. The courts are as usual in excellent condition.

The Ring-tum Phi.

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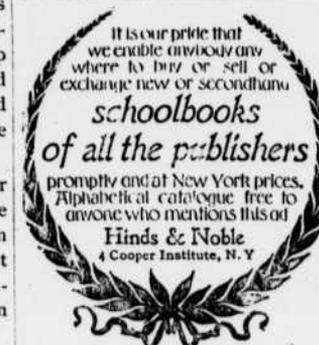
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Gymnasium.

We have a new Physical Director this year but he has already shown by his activity that the Gymnasium is to be kept up to the past standard. The physical examination of the students will soon be completed and charts made out giving each one full directions as to the exercise for him to take.

Some changes in the gymnasium and appliances have already been made and others are promised for the future. The baths have been moved and also increased in capacity. New chest-weights will be put in as also combination locks on all the lockers. The classes will be organized in a few weeks when regular instruction will be given. Let every student attend these classes as there is nothing more necessary or more beneficial to the hard student than regular exercise. With a well equipped gymnasium and a competent instructor there is no reason why we should not have a fine class of students physically.

Base-Ball Manager.

Under the new rule the Athletic Committee will meet September 20th for the purpose of appointing a Base-Ball Manager for the ensuing year. All those who are candidates or have names to purpose will hand their names to some member of the Committee before this date.

The Literary Societies.

Many successful men have testified to the fact that there is nothing in college life which is more real benefit than the training in speaking which the Literary Societies afford. Our commencement speakers and our professors are constantly trying to impress upon us the importance of this work and the great value in after life of being a ready and fluent speaker. Every man that comes to our college needs to learn to speak and the literary society is the place to learn.

Although we have much good advice given us on this subject we are like those who hear and heed not for there is no college we know of which takes less interest in this sort of work than we do. Not that we mean to say that those who do belong to the societies do not do excellent work; but the trouble is that so few of the students are members of either of

them or take any interest in their work.

Now that our college has made such a promising beginning this year and everything seems to have a new life in it, the Wash and the Graham should not be allowed to fall behind but must be built up along with the other college interests.

The only way we can do this is for each man to take an active part in the exercises and debates and be a regular attendant. Come always and speak often, irregular and silent members do not make up a good society but they are the essential park of a bad one.

The new men who have come to college this year for the first time will find a welcome and a pleasant reception in either one they decide to join. All of them should at least come up next Saturday night and see for themselves what is going on for we believe it will be well worth their while.

"Wash" Society.

Mr. Allan, the last year's president called the society to order and spoke a few words of welcome to the new students and also the old ones who have returned. He was followed by Mr. Ott who in his speech sketched briefly the past history of the society and outlined its policy for the future, calling upon all present to join the society and help to build it up, by earnest and faithful work. Mr. Ott was followed by Messrs. E. P. Bledsoe and C. T. Smith who favored the society with excellent speeches. The society then proceeded to election of new members and other business of importance after which it adjourned to meet next Saturday night at 8 o'clock.

Graham-Lee Society.

The first meeting of the Graham-Lee Society for this year was held last Saturday night. President Withers presided and there were quite a large number of students both new and old present. Our policy of imperialism was the subject proposed for discussion and it was debated very ably by many of those present. Mr. Faulkner who graduated last year in law was in the hall and made a strong and vigorous speech against imperialism. Mr. Bushong of Virginia made a very neat speech in reply to a call from the members of the society.

The Society turned its attention

towards initiating new members. About a half-dozen were introduced and while this is a good beginning there should be two or three times that number at the next meeting.

Bradford Debating Society Reorganized.

The Junior and the Senior law classes met in the Lecture Room last Wednesday, and reorganized the Bradford Debating Society which will hold its first meeting for this year on Thursday, September 22.

The Constitution and By-Laws under which it was conducted last year were adopted.

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