

# The Ring=tum Phi.

Volume 1.

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY, LEXINGTON, VA., SATURDAY JAN. 8, 1898.

Number 13.

"Awake, glad heart! get up and sing!  
It is the Birthday of the King!"  
—VAUGHAN.

I HEAR it in the spirit now—  
The songs the angels sang;  
I catch the music full and sweet  
O'er Judah's hills that rang.

I see it in the spirit's sky—  
The new star wondrous clear,  
That shone to seal the love of God,  
And tell that heaven was near.

And so at Christmastide I walk  
To music from above;  
Light streams upon my darkest way,  
And God is seen as love.

Lord ever stir within my soul  
That heavenly minstrelsy;  
Keep shining in my deepest life  
The star that tells of Thee!  
—H. L. WHEELER.

## A Retrospect of the '97 Football Team.

About the best way to get at the merits or demerits of a college team so that the students can form a good estimate of them, is by comparison with former teams. So I will take that means for writing up the work of the present season, and will compare our lately disbanded team with the one that did such good work under Captain Jenkins last year.

Team for team there is very little choice and, although I think '97 would have beaten in the long run, '96 would certainly have scored and would have held '97 very closely. My reason for saying this is that taking two evenly matched teams, the one that can successfully run the ends will win out, for it is a quicker and greater ground gaining game to play flank movements than to pound a line. Ninety-seven could gain at any time around '96's right end, and with the interference they had could have made ground around the left, while with Oberlin and Campbell to buck, the fast backs could be rested while ground was being gained through the line.

Ninety-six was stronger in the line and Jenkins, Campbell and Oberlin would have done pretty gaining through '97's line, and, barring fumbles, could score in time, but it would have been slow work. Added to this '97's advantage would be greatly increased by their quicker and snappier work and Campbell's punting which has greatly improved.

Taking the teams man for man, Michler, Oberlin, Barclay and Campbell had all improved in their positions which were the same both years, especially Campbell, who is

the best fullback Washington and Lee has had in the four years I have been here, totally outclassing Helbig and Bullitt of '94, and Stokes, Willis and Powell of '95. His tackling being cleaner, his bucking harder and his kicking better than any one of the five. Oberlin is a valuable all-round tackle, both on offensive and defensive, and there is sure to be ground gained when he takes the ball through Barclay's hole, which is always big enough even for a man of Oberlin's size to get through. At guard Webb, A. W., by his flank and constant hard playing against the great odds occasioned by his size, showed himself to be the brother of Tom Webb, who played center in '96. Of course '96's three center men could have eaten '97's whole and looked around for another bite, but '97's three little men, Webb, Snyder and McCluer, would have gone down fighting to the last, and no doubt '96's men would have had indigestion the next day. At right end Shields of '97, was much superior to McPheeters of '96, and although smaller, he was much surer, and knowing the game better, played harder and was more valuable to a team.

Among the backs enough has been said of Campbell already, and to more easily compare the halves we will have to transpose them.

Muir of '97, cannot compare with Jenkins of '96, as a ground gainer, but his interfering was as good and both played an equal defensive game, while Muir ran the team quicker, although it cannot be said with more headwork or heartwork than old "Jenks."

At the other half Alford was faster, quicker and an all-round better man than Shields of '96, while their defensive game was about equal.

At quarter '97 has the advantage of having a good tackler, a hard player and a sure handler of the ball, while of '96's quarter can only be said that he could handle the ball.

Man for man '97 has the best, and team for team '97 has advantage. '96 played a different game from '97, and although they played their style as well and were as well able

to carry it through, '97's advantage in men and method would cause them to win in a contest between the two.

Of this year's team Oberlin, Snyder, McCluer, Barclay, Alford, Muir and Campbell will be back, and under the same guidance which proved so valuable the past season, a far more successful team can be predicted without showing that I have a player's too sanguine hopes for the future.  
G. C. POWELL.

## Opening of the Society Halls.

On Saturday night the renovated society halls will be opened and an interesting program has been prepared. There will be a joint meeting of the two societies in the Graham-Lee hall, presided over by Mr. Webb, president of the Washington society. After a speech of welcome by Mr. McClung addresses will be made by President Wilson, Professor Tucker and Professor Howe.

We have two halls of which we may well be proud, and let us all turn out and show our appreciation of the interest shown by our president, the faculty and alumni of the two societies. Everyone come out!

Mr. Henry Villard of New York, who so generously contributed to the Tucker memorial, is greatly interested in behalf of its erection, and with his valuable assistance we hope soon to see a handsome structure reared to the memory of one so dear to us all.

Through the generosity of Mr. Isidor Straus of New York, Washington and Lee is to have an economic library in the new department of economics and political science. This department, equipped with a good library, will be a valuable addition to the splendid courses of instruction already offered in the University.

## Such is Life.

A youth returns to college,  
His bear in another land,  
A picture within his pocket,  
His ring in another's hand:  
Many a pleasant letter  
Makes his heart jump with joy,  
Until he secures an epistle  
Saying, "You know you are only a boy."  
But the ring is never returned,  
While the picture is cast aside,  
For who would care for the picture  
When the woman was another's bride?  
—OLIVE AND BLUE.

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*Handwritten signature or scribble at the bottom of the page.*

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

We are fortunate this week in having a few words from our frequent visitor, Gen. R. E. Morse. His lectures are usually very impressive, if not pleasant, and a line or two from his ready pen will prove none the less instructive. He teaches the ways of pleasantness if not the path of pleasure.

The University of Virginia has sent some kind of an offer over here in which it appears that she wants us to advertise Virginia and in return she will give a scholarship. Go to now! Virginia. Washington and Lee had to send some one to you to teach you Greek, and from the cheek of this offer it seems as if you need for us to send you some one else to teach you the relation of things.

The Wednesday morning lecture found most of the students in their accustomed places though some seats were vacant. A longer holiday was given this year than last in hopes of having all of the men back on time. This end was practically realized. Last year, it will be remembered, there was hardly a corporal's guard present on the opening day, while we are told that in the senior law class there were but four absences on Tuesday, and we suppose the other classes had about the same proportion.

One absence which the RING-TUM PHI will feel more keenly than others is that of Borden Burr, who finished the law course at Christmas. He was athletic editor, and our readers all remember how he helped to keep up interest in the practice games by having a breezy account

of them each week, with commendation where warranted, and advice when needed. He will practice law at his home in Alabama, and, if ones college record is an indication, we feel no hesitancy in predicting a brilliant career for him.

We are sorry not to be able to have a review of the *Collegian* in this issue; but, as it is some time since our last issue appeared, we are unable to give it the room it deserves. We hope to have more about it next week, but in the meantime we will let you read the following extract from one of the exchanges:

"The initial number of the *Southern Collegian*, under the new management, is indeed worthy of emulation and praise. It is undoubtedly the foremost of our exchanges—may, more! in its line of literature it excels all college organs on this side and on the other side of the Mason and Dixon line."

There are some pleasures that seem to be cut out especially for January and the college student all over the country is revelling in them now. The one is the pleasure of making good resolutions. What a good feeling comes over you as you map out how you will quit loafing, and study about nineteen hours a day, and never go calicoing, and lead all your classes, and not get jagged any more, and all those things. The anticipation is so pleasant that we fear the realization will not come up to it, so most of us will break our resolutions to keep from being disappointed, but don't let that marr your pleasure while it lasts.

The other pleasure is far greater than the first, however. We enjoy it after supper when all of the fellows in the house have gathered for a smoke and a chat. You wait impatiently while the others tell their tales and at last you get your turn, and for about an hour you give glowing accounts of that glorious Christmas jag. How you drank down all the others, and after putting them all to bed went out to take an absinthe cock-tail or two. How the others do look at you with wide open eyes! How your bosom swells with pride when you perceive their envy!

Let me suggest a way by which

you may increase this pleasure many fold. Start out with five whiskies and count everything you take as two. Thus, if you have touched nothing, call it five whiskey straights. If you have taken a bottle of beer, call it five whiskies and two beers, and so on. You will find that this rule will aid you wonderfully.

Mr. Editor:

Your scribe is rejoiced to see you once again; he has nothing but kind words for you and assure that you spent a pleasant Christmas—for he has observed that your record in the late contest was very creditable. Not so with others. I say, "taint no use specifine" but there are others who have spent many restless hours, the result of folly's frantic capers. As for these, it has been my painful duty to prick the bleeding sore ever and anon, plying them with R. E. Buke until I fancy they are sorry for the past.

Some show evidence of a genuine repentance and have manifested a determination to "lead a new life." These I am inclined to leave alone; but be ye admonished that I am omnipresent. If not in person I can send deputies to do my bidding. If you depart again from the "straight and narrow way" I will hound you down and beard you in your dens. You know my ways. So beware."

GENERAL R. E. MORSE.

P. S.—I looked in on the dance last evening, but was as quickly invited to go out into the night."

Yours,  
GEN. R. E.

## Baseball Practice.

On yesterday afternoon Captain Snyder had the applicants for the team out on the campus for their first practice. This early in the season the practice can hardly amount to much more than finding out what kind of material we have. The pleasant weather of yesterday cannot last long at this season of the year, but we are glad to see the team taking advantage of every opportunity to practice. Manager Whitside is arranging a splendid schedule of games, so we must have a good team if we want to make a creditable showing.

The universities of France have no papers, no glee clubs, no fraternities, no athletics, and no commencement exercises.

## Senior Law Class.

Pursuant to a call of the president, Mr. V. A. Batchelor, the senior law class met on Monday, Dec. 13th.

The president having called the meeting to order, Mr. Slicer upon request stated the object for which it had been called, which was to elect two associate editors for the *Calyx*, to represent the law class in conformity to the rule as laid down by the mass-meeting on Monday, Nov. 29th.

Mr. Anderson then moved that having two editors to elect, we should designate them as first associate editor and second associate editor, voting upon the first associate editor first and then upon the second. This motion having received unanimous support, the president declared that nominations for first associate editor were now in order, and the names of Messrs. Slicer, McSween, and Faulkner were presented to the class. Mr. Slicer having received a majority was declared by the chair elected as first associate editor.

Nominations for second associate editor being in order, the names of Messrs. McSween and Faulkner were again presented and Mr. Faulkner receiving the majority was declared by the chair to be elected second associate editor.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

## Election of Football Captain for 1898.

At a meeting of the football team of '97, Mr. Muir was unanimously chosen captain of the team of '98. This honor was a well merited one, and a man more suitably qualified for captain could not be found.

He is an energetic and enthusiastic worker, thoroughly acquainted with the game and familiar with the duties of a captain.

Under his leadership we can feel assured that the football season of '98 will be one of many victories.

The gifts to Harvard last year amounted to \$250,000.

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Ten hours of study, eight of sleep, two of exercise and four devoted to meals and social duties is what President Elliot of Harvard recommends a student.

### The Holidays.

Frank Nelson came home for a little rest and fun.

Mr. Anschutz spent a few days in Staunton.

Mr. Bouldin and Mr. Stuart went to Washington for a few days. They saw the sights.

Jake Armistead, Sneed Powell and Boppel all happened around about Christmas time. It is rumored that all three were bent upon the same purpose.

Mr. Levin Powell of West Virginia, who had his jaw broken here in a game of foot-ball W. L. U. and Miller's School in '05, visited Mrs. Tucker for a few days.

There was very little gayety and excitement in Lexington during the holidays. Only a small number of students stayed in this happy Valley and those few remained quietly at home as a general thing. The first break in the monotony was on Christmas night when several crowds amused themselves with fireworks. But as Christmas fireworks need some accident to make them complete it fell out that Messrs. G. B. Shields and C. F. Myers suffered considerable pain consequent upon the explosion of fire-crackers in their hands.

The days seemed to pass slowly but they were gone all too soon. Some of the very studious boys who were left expected to study hard: One well known leader of society used to start from home every morning to go to the laboratory but he always spent his days in Cupid's work shop. The last days of the old year were enlivened with a tennis roll, and a party at the home of Professor Nelson. The New Year was started well on its way with a party at the home of Dr. Quarles. On January 3, Miss Nettie Preston entertained a few friends at tea in a very enjoyable and delightful manner.

### The Editors and Illustrators of the Calyx '98 Hold Meetings.

On Thursday the board of editors of the Calyx met in Mr. Harlow's room, when work was assigned the different editors.

On Friday the illustrators met for the same purpose. Both Richard and Ben Flournoy have written offering to help out in this line, which guarantees us several first class drawings.

### Junior Law Class.

A meeting of the Junior Law Class was held last month for the purpose of electing an editor as its representative on the editorial board of the Calyx of '98.

Mr. Winn was elected chairman of the meeting, and after stating its object declared nominations in order.

Mr. Withers nominated Mr. O'Neal for the position of editor and there being no opposition he was unanimously chosen their representative.

Mr. O'Neal then moved that the class be permanently organized, which motion was carried, and they proceeded to the election of officers.

Mr. Muir of Kentucky, was nominated for president; Mr. McCluer of West Virginia, for vice-president; Mr. Winn of Alabama, for secretary and treasurer. There being no further nominations for these positions the gentlemen were elected by acclamation, after which the meeting adjourned.

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**A Northern Friend of W. & L. U.**

Not long since an unknown friend of Washington and Lee wrote to Mr. Campbell for a copy of the inaugural number of the *Collegian*. It was Rev. Horace L. Wheeler, Harvard 1881, of Burlington, Vt. Mr. Campbell complied with his request and lately received a most friendly letter from which we take the following extracts. He enclosed one of his beautiful poems which appears on our first page. We would like to publish the whole letter, but must content ourselves with these extracts:

*My dear Sir:*—I see by the *Collegian* that "it is hoped that no one will withhold his contribution, however small," to the Randolph Tucker memorial. I cannot help mine being small but should much like to have the enclosed amount accepted for the fund. There are no times when I so much wish I were rich as when I consider the brave educational activity of the South in the midst of her manifold difficulties.

I shall always be glad to receive anything you may have to send showing the progress of the University that bears the names of the two Virginians great in ability and greater in character, and is now presided over by one whom in the later time has shown himself not a politician but a statesman.

I venture to mail you an old magazine, and I enclose one of my homemade Christmas cards I have just been sending out; and with earnest wishes for the successful work of your President and all his fellow laborers, I am

Sincerely yours,  
HORACE L. WHEELER.  
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Sec'y W. and L. U.



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