

Prof. L. Campbell

THE RING-TUM PHI.

VOL. II.

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No. 11.

'BY THE STUDENTS AND FOR THE STUDENTS.'

CONDENSED GEOMETRY.

DEFINITION.

The point, it is a funny thing;
It's neither long nor wide.
It has no base; it is not thick;
It has no other side.
It isn't there, and yet it is.
It has no limb nor joint.
So do not think you're dumb because
You cannot see the point. —E.x.

Washington Society.

Last Saturday night was the appointed time for electing orators, debaters and officers for the intermediate celebration in February. After quite an exciting election, Messrs. E. D. Ott and T. A. Bledsoe were elected because of their unusual fitness. The debaters were more easily chosen. Messrs. McNulty, Goshorn, Wade and McDowell will contest for the honors on that night.

As officers of 'this great event,' Mr. J. P. Allan was chosen President; Mr. T. D. Sloan, Vice-President; Mr. E. P. Bledsoe, Secretary, and Mr. Seig, Chief Marshal. Mr. Perrow was elected to serve with Mr. McNulty in the joint debate in the place of Mr. E. D. Ott, who resigned. The joint debate between the two societies takes place tonight in the Graham-Lee Hall. Let all the students and faculty come out and encourage the speakers by their presence if nothing more.

Class of 1900.

Last Wednesday evening Dr. Quarles's lecture-room was the scene of a brilliant and intellectual assemblage. The class of 1900 was holding their first meeting. Mr. Harlow, because the other members appeared to have a very vague idea of what ought to be done, called the meeting to order and in a few suitable words suggested that the class should proceed to elect officers. This idea was received with enthusiasm and the following gentlemen were elected: Mr. J. K. Graves, of Virginia, President; Mr. G. B. Shields, of Mississippi, Vice-President; Mr. B. F. Harlow, of West Virginia, Secretary and Treasurer, and Mr. F. H. Anschutz,

of Virginia, Historian. Mr. Harlow then reminded the class that it was their privilege to elect one from their number to represent them on the Board of Editors of the *Calyx*. Mr. H. B. Chermiside was chosen to fill this position. Then, after spending a few moments congratulating themselves on their superiority over all other classes, they adjourned for an indefinite period. Mr. E. McD. Moore will hold his old position as class poet.

At Chapel.

The President introduced as the Wednesday morning lecturer Prof. Willis, who discussed in an interesting manner the ideal of the American student in education. He said that the present ideal could not be stated as there was no unity of purpose, no regular system of intellectual study practiced in our country which could be taken as a standard. The preparatory work is neither thorough nor regular and neither the college nor the university succeed in more efficiently performing their separate functions. It seems as though the present causes us to forget eternity. Culture is not sought for culture's sake but for commercial gain, and aside from this fact we are not original, we are intellectual bondsmen slavishly imitative of foreign example.

Mr. Willis then told of the foreign educational policies and finally said that he believed the American ideal of the future should have as its conscious aim catholicity and soundness of thought. The studies should develop mental strength, they should in so far as possible give a foundation for the future vocation and should enlarge the mental horizon. Education should be sought for self culture's sake and commercial gain should not be considered. Practical good, however, would be derived as habits of application would be acquired and the student would better know how to live with his fellowmen.

Though "not to the manor born" Mr. Willis said he believed the South which still clings to her old traditions would first attain the ideal and with becoming modesty

he transferred the burden of perfecting the present to the student body of Washington & Lee.

A Surprise Party.

Last week some of the young men in college decided to give a fancy dress surprise party to the members of the S. R. fraternity who were being entertained at Miss Paxton's. They assembled steadily in the upper part of the Paxton ranch and having rigged themselves out in the most striking costumes, as ducky, dude and dunce, they descended under the lead of the gallant Price, to where the ladies were in the parlor. Here for a few minutes they experienced the rare delight of being the objects of the greatest interest to the girls (would that it were always so). One by one they were recognized, until the mighty man from West Va., standing ten feet high in his brass hat, was alone left unguessed. Music and refreshments came afterwards and then the party broke up, everybody having a great time.

Among those present were Misses Mary Moore, Fanny White, Anna Anderson, Louise Brockenbrough, May Ross and Belle Webb; Messrs. Pancake, Moore, Bledsoe, Goshorn, Price, Preston, S. R., Arbuckle, Winfree and Preston, E. R.

The boys especially went away with an increased admiration for the S. R. and hearts full of gratitude to Miss Paxton and Miss Webb for their charming hospitality so freely extended to a marauding party.

Rip Van Winkle.

The old play, Rip Van Winkle, was presented at the opera house Monday night. The audience thoroughly enjoyed the good acting by Mr. Glenn who was the first man to introduce Rip Van Winkle on the stage. He is of course quite old now but his acting was very good. The rest of the troupe was not his equal.

Institute Hop.

The cadets of the V. M. I. gave a very pleasant hop Wednesday night. A few of our students were present and enjoyed it.

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Retrospective and Prospective.

Now that another season of athletic sports is past we may justly take a look backward that from our failures in the past we may gain success for the future. That experience is a severe teacher is a trite saying and yet how few of us really profit by her instruction!

There are many things in the life at Washington and Lee which deserve hearty commendation but in her athletics there are many things which justly have a hearty condemnation. It is with regard to her athletics that we propose some reflections and hope to draw from them some supply of help which will make athletics at Washington and Lee on a like high footing with the standard of intellectual life which it proposes and carries out to a striking satisfactory degree.

The times have fully demonstrated the fact that college athletics have a place in college life; that the institution that ignores this very patent fact will lag behind however much it may do for intellectual development. Never before in our country was more stress laid on "a strong mind in a strong body." Along with this fact comes the responsibility of helping our college athletics to the highest plane of pure athletics.

It is with pardonable pride that we point to the fact that no one of our men who has played in any game this season has received consideration of any sort whatsoever. The splendid team of which the

V. M. I. is justly proud is also made up of *bona fide* students. We are, however, debarred from making this assertion about any other respectable team in the state. We would that facts were to the contrary!

A good system of athletics must be a growth, must have the faulty limbs pruned away, and the fruitful limbs pushed. All vicious tendencies should be overcome as speedily as possible and every effort made to produce a wholesome system which offers a pure stimulus to healthy, friendly rivalry and a safety valve for the outlet of the repressed spirits of the vigorous student.

Whatever force the remarks here made may have is applicable to either football or baseball and in some measure to the other branches of work which the general athletic association undertakes to do.

One of the most noticeable of the distinctive features of athletic life in this institution is the fact that the entire responsibility for the proper or improper conduct of the athletics of any particular season is turned over to the care of one man. In managing the teams he has to be responsible,—is in duty bound to be responsible,—to at least three. He must manage the affairs of the team with judgment for the men who support athletics, with credit to himself and team, and with honor to the institution which he represents.

According to the present system, if a man is found who is willing to give his time and attention to the management of the team, he is expected to bear all the financial losses which may occur, to undergo all blame which students of ready tongue and slow purse may offer, and to be the one man who is chargeable with the shortcomings of his team or the shortcomings of other managers. Of course the manager every year deserves much blame to which his own errors or his own delays lay him liable.

There is need of a radical change in the system which now hampers a healthy form of athletics. The first, and because of its principal importance, possibly the greatest, need here is a change in our financial arrangements. It is a striking fact that while institutions of much smaller pretensions have successful athletic associations ours lacks that *something* which can give it success. There is need, absolute need, of a system which shall provide more adequate means for the carrying out of our obligations.

Let the session just past illustrate. An extensive schedule was arranged before the middle of summer but for purely financial reasons the schedule had to be largely changed. We do not desire to be misunderstood in this our last statement, we merely express it as our opinion that the trouble is traceable to the cause just mentioned.

According to the system now in practice here every man is *expected* to buy a season ticket. As a matter of fact forty have, we are told, purchased tickets. This small provision works wrong in two ways: First, as every team which comes here entails a loss upon our finances, it makes an unreasonable drain upon the manager; and secondly, as no manager in our recollection has given a number of games which from a financial consideration justify the student in making the purchase, it destroys the students' co-operation in athletics. These considerations are very important but of greater importance still is the demoralizing effect it has upon our players themselves. With a flexible and incomplete schedule (the necessary consequence of prevailing conditions) the element of uncertainty has more than its proper weight in reducing the enthusiasm of the players and in making proper training a secondary matter.

The considerations just mentioned are serious indeed but they are with regard to our internal athletics. As "no man liveth to himself alone" we must realize that we bear certain well defined relations to other institutions and that these relations are of such a character that they cannot be easily overlooked and reflect credit upon ourselves.

The freedom with which our men seem willing to have engagements broken is more than noticeable, is it deplorable. They do not consider what light it puts us in from an outsider's standpoint or else none would be more opposed to it than they themselves. Laxity in arranging and executing the details of the game is not a fault confined to our institution alone, but it is a fault which should be eradicated for all time from our institution. It can reflect no credit on a college; it does however bring discredit.

It is a serious question to consider the best method of putting our athletics on a sure financial basis, one which neither hampers the management of our teams nor brings fear to the merchants whose goods we need and the workmen whose help we cannot do without.

If some arrangement is found (one was suggested last year) by which practically *all* of the students become contributors we feel sure of the success of the financial conditions, the success of the team, the hearty *co-operation* of the students.

If we have viewed the situation in the true light (and we have used such light as experience and hearty interest afford) we are forced to confess that all our athletic ailments are traceable more or less directly to a lack of a sure financial basis.

Is it expecting too much to hope that the season of '99-'00 will mark the beginning of a new era in the athletic life of our dear alma mater? It is within the power of those who care for her interests to see that such will be the case.

A Pretty Wedding.

At noon on last Wednesday Miss Margaret Preston Allan became the wife of Mr. Hamilton Snead Powell. The beautiful ceremony took place at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Elizabeth P. Allan, and was performed by Dr. Thornton Whaling of the Lexington Presbyterian Church assisted by Dr. James P. Smith of Richmond.

Mrs. A. D. Estill at the piano and Mr. G. B. Capito with the violin rendered the wedding march from Tannehauser.

The bridesmaids, Misses Ella Cocke, Amanda Frierson, Agnes Ross, Evelyn Nelson, Nettie Preston, Nettie Pratt, Hope Stuart and Josepha Allan, entered first and were followed by the maid of honor, Miss Janet Allan, after whom came the bride.

Mr. James Fishburne, of Staunton, was best man.

The room beautifully decorated with holly and ivy and chrysanthemums and brightened by the soft light of wax tapers, presented a very pretty scene.

After the ceremony their many friends congratulated the newly married couple and partook of delicious refreshments.

The board of editors of the *Harvard Advocate* has voted to give this year from the proceeds of the paper, two hundred dollars to be awarded through the Faculty as "Harvard Advocate Scholarships" of one hundred dollars each. No conditions are to be attached to the gift, except that in case of doubt, preference is to be shown to the student who has done well in English composition.

Personal Mention.

Mrs. James Bullock and Miss Virginia Bullock are visiting the "Pines." They are visiting Mr. J. W. Garrow.

Mr. J. W. Johnson's severe illness from appendicitis has caused his friends much anxiety but it is with the greatest pleasure and relief that they hear of his improvement. It was feared that an operation would be necessary to afford relief.

Mrs. Johnson, of Florence, Ala., is at the bed-side of her son, Mr. J. W. Johnson.

Mr. J. Ran Tucker who had entered college was forced to withdraw this week. His health demanded a milder climate and he goes to New Orleans where he will enter the Tulane University. We are sorry to see him go. He carries with him the best wishes of many friends.

Mr. Barton Johnson is in town owing to the sickness of his brother.

After an absence of some weeks due to an attack of fever, Mr. R. A. Watson is back with us. He returned last night.

Mr. G. B. Shields, who has been sick for about a week is getting much better and will soon be out again.

Miss Olivia Helm is visiting Miss Bettie Wilson.

Miss Lucy Effinger was visiting at Colonel Poague's this week.

Captain H. E. Hyatt, of the V. M. I. accompanied the football team of that institution on its trip to Annapolis.

Mrs. Charles A. Graves is on a visit to New York.

Mr. W. C. Preston and Dr. J. P. Smith, both of Richmond, were in town this week. They came to be present at the marriage of Miss Margaret Allan to Mr. Powell.

Dr. George Ben Johnston, of Richmond, was in Lexington this week on a professional visit.

Mr. L. A. Coulter, General Secretary of the Virginia Young Men's Christian Associations, will address the students at the regular meeting to-morrow afternoon at four o'clock.

Of the 2000 students at the University of Nebraska, nearly 1000 are women. Out West education is advancing most decidedly.

Hugh W. McCrum Dead.

Mr. Hugh White McCrum died in Denver, Colorado, last Sunday and was buried here last Wednesday.

For some years Mr. McCrum had been in the western states in search of health, but unable to overcome it he finally succumbed to consumption.

Mr. McCrum was educated at Washington and Lee and afterwards studied pharmacy and entered the drug business with his father. To a rare degree he enjoyed the confidence and good will of those who knew him. His genial manner and kindly disposition easily won him the popularity he so largely enjoyed.

The Sad Death of Mrs. C. J. Boppell.

The sad news of the death of Mrs. C. J. Boppell in West Africa reached Mr. and Mrs. T. E. McCorkle on Tuesday. She was an only child and her death will be a great shock to her parents. It will be recalled that she was married last June and left for the West African Mission in the latter part of July.

Twenty-three thousand dollars have been subscribed by the students of the University of Virginia, for the erection of a memorial hall to the memory of the student who lost his life in the fire which destroyed the Rotunda several years ago.

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Y. M. C. A.

The weekly meeting of the Association was a very interesting one from the fact that there was present the Rev. Mr. Basmajian, a native Armenian, who spoke on Providence in Missions, particularly as it applied to Armenia. In addition to showing how persecution and war had only promoted the growth of Christianity in Armenia, he gave a very interesting description of the native Armenian church which was founded in the 3d century, of the present era.

Mr. Basmajian has been for a number of years in America and is very favorably known in many of our cities. He is only awaiting the time when he can return to Armenia as a missionary among his own people.

Board of Editors of the Calyx.

The board of editors of the *Calyx* for '99 met in the rooms of Mr. M. G. Perrow, Editor-in-Chief, last Wednesday. They discussed the plans and prospects for the annual which they will endeavor to make the best yet published.

Second Team Wins from Valley High School.

The second team went down to Raphine last Monday to play the Valley High School a second game, the result of which was that our boys again won from them. The boys seemed to have enjoyed their trip and are highly appreciative of the treatment which they received.

W. & L. U., 5; St. Albans, 48.

On Thursday our team played against St. Albans in Roanoke with the above result.

St. Albans was in a splendid condition and played good ball but Washington and Lee was crippled beyond any game this fall and could do little. Occasionally the men braced up and did good work but it was an easy take for St. Albans to run up the score.

For W. & L. Campbell made a beautiful kick which saved the team from a shut out.

For St. Albans Walker, Dabney, Mallory and Moran did splendid playing.

A driving wind and bitter cold kept the game from being well attended but still there were some four or five hundred present.

The conduct of the men of both teams cannot be too highly commended. No action was noticed but what would reflect credit upon either of the institutions. The relations of the players were of the friendliest.

Recent Football Scores.

Virginia, 0; Annapolis, 6.
Virginia, 2; North Carolina, 6.
Michigan, 12; Chicago, 11.
Illinois, 11; Minnesota, 10.
Alabama, 18; Georgia, 17.
Sewanee, 19; Vanderbilt, 4.
Lafayette, 11; Lehigh, 5.
Annapolis, 21; V. M. I., 5.
South Carolina, 0; Davidson College, 5.
Harvard, 17; Yale, 0.

In order to prevent rushes at the University of California, the faculty has selected ten men from the Junior, Soph and Freshman classes as hostages, who will be suspended if another rush occurs. It is stated that the gentlemen selected did not covet the honor.

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