

# THE RING-TUM PHI.

VOL. II.

WASHINGTON & LEE UNIVERSITY, SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 1899.

No. 15.

'BY THE STUDENTS AND FOR THE STUDENTS.'

## Graham-Lee Celebration.

On Thursday night the Graham-Lee Literary Society now in its ninetieth year celebrated with literary exercises, held in the Chapel of the University, the anniversary of the birthday of the great Southern leader whose name it bears. The celebration, considered as a whole, was very creditable, the orations and debates reflecting great credit upon the speakers who represented the Society.

The officers of the celebration performed their respective duties with usual grace and dignity. It is universally conceded that the task of Mr. Caffery, the Vice-President, whose only business was to "look sweet," was the most difficult of accomplishment.

After the V. M. I. band had tried to play "At a Georgia Camp Meeting," Mr. Preston, the President of the celebration, arose, and, after impressing upon the audience that he was not going to make a speech, proceeded, in a somewhat circuitous and periphrastic way, to introduce Mr. West as the first orator of the evening.

With splendid modulation of his sonorous voice Mr. West spoke on "The Reunited States." Somewhere, perhaps in the sunny South from which he comes, he or someone else had found a stone which violated all known geological and mineralogical laws by absorbing the sun's rays until it shone with dazzling brilliance. To this stone he compared the Reunited States, inasmuch as our nation has been absorbing the rays of brilliant "intellectual beams" until to-day it shines as the most brilliant star in the galaxy of nations.

The next orator was Mr. Byran, whose subject was "The Common People." His speech was described by one who is particularly competent to criticise oratory, as one in which there was preëminently excellence of thought, clothed in excellence of language, and delivered with excellence of style.

After the band had practiced ed some more of those "soft Lydian airs, of linked sweetness long drawn out," the debate was opened by Mr. Shively, who seemed to be of the opinion "That the United

States was justifiable in declaring war against Spain." After quotations and citations *galore* he advanced, as his *main* argument, the Maine incident, showing how on account of that act, war was inevitable, and had the United States accepted an indemnity for the Maine she would but have been receiving pay for taking an insult.

The next speaker was Mr. McNeill. After a careful examination of the program the audience came to the conclusion that he must be on the negative side. However, after arranging his vest for the nineteenth time, and "spinning out the thread of his verbosity beyond the staple of his argument he took his seat and became the blushing recipient of a large box of candy.

Mr. McClure closed the affirmative, showing how the conditions which obtain now differ from those which existed when war was declared, and that the United States went to war with Spain not for any material gain, but in the cause of humanity, which, he claimed, was sufficient ground for its declaration.

Mr. Withers closed the exercises with a strong speech in support of the negative. He reviewed carefully the whole chain of incidents leading up to the war, indulged in a few witticisms, attributed the lack of Spanish success to the *guerrilla* mode of warfare practiced by the Cubans, and claimed that the United States violated every rule of International law when she interfered between Cuba and the Mother Country.

After the judges had rendered their decision, awarding the debater's medal to Mr. Withers, and the orator's medal to Mr. Bryan, the band played "Dixie" and the celebration was over.

## The Washington Society.

The Washington Society was promptly called to order last Saturday night with President Perrow in the chair. The debate was good and interesting being participated in by Messrs. Sloan, Ott, Graybill, Seig and others, but the chief object of interest was the transaction of important business. The committee on the constitution

made its report, which was ordered to be laid on the table for a week. Then under the head of new business the Society went into executive session. As a result of this session, it is learned that the Washington has withdrawn from the joint debate with the Graham-Lee. Mr. Ott was appointed chairman of a committee to notify the Graham-Lee of this action, but it was found that that Society had adjourned, supposedly from failing to have a quorum.

Following in the regular order of business several communications to the Society were read. In a letter to the President, Mr. John Preston Allan resigned as President of the Intermediate Celebration, the onerous duties of the officer on that occasion being too great for the said gentleman to perform. Recognizing the burdensome responsibility involved in the task but deploring the probable loss of any chance for beholding that famous dress suit, Mr. Allan's resignation was accepted. Mr. M. G. Perrow was elected to succeed him. A debater in the contest having withdrawn on account of "ill health," Mr. Seig was elected to supply the vacancy, and Mr. John K. Graves was the unanimous choice as Chief Marshal.

## Prof. S. T. Ford Again.

We were much disappointed that at the last moment Prof. Ford found it impossible to give his entertainment last Saturday. He was suffering from such a severe cold that he could hardly speak above a whisper. We are fortunate in having an engagement with him for Wednesday the 25th. The entertainment will be at 8:30 p. m. in the Chapel. This hour will allow all who wish to do so to attend the prayer-meeting services and then come.

Twinkle, twinkle, Uncle Sam,  
How I wonder what you am,  
Stretching out your boundary lines  
Clear into the Philippines;  
When the grass with Dewey's wet,  
How you make those Spaniards get.

—Ex.

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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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It is hardly ever the case that better order is observed by any than was observed by those in the galleries Thursday night. Such splendid order cannot be too highly commended on some occasions. To the ordinary student with life and appreciation in him there are times when decorous applauding is excusable and praiseworthy while its absence is painful. Taken all in all the celebration Thursday night was highly creditable and yet no outburst of oratory or clinched point in debate seemed ever to move the motionlessness and noislessness of the spectators above. Decorous but generous applause encourages the speakers and manifests appreciation of the efforts of those who represent us.

The announcement of the progress which the *Calyx* board is making, ought to be an encouragement to every student and friend of the University. We congratulate them on the selection of the gentlemen who are jointly to manage its business affairs and we bespeak for the enterprise the hearty support of the students *one and all*.

The New York *Evening Post* of January 13, had the following editorial comment on an example of "newspaper enterprise:"

"Journalism" has seldom cut a worse figure than in the announcement made by several of the morning newspapers that William L. Wilson, now President of Washington and Lee University in Virginia, has been elected President of

Yale University. In one journal the announcement of Mr. Wilson's selection is accompanied by the statement that he is to have a salary of \$25,000 a year in his new position, and his picture is thrown in, "as a guarantee of good faith," we suppose. Examination shows that the whole story rests upon an alleged letter received by a man in Morgantown, W. Va., who was not seen by any reporter. It was preposterous on its face that the Yale corporation would do such a ridiculous thing as to raise the salary of the presidency from \$4,200 to \$25,000, in order to get any certain man in the country. It was in the highest degree unlikely that Mr. Wilson would come within the range of possible choice at any salary. It was known by all familiar with the situation that no choice was likely to be made for some time. In short there was every reason for an intelligent editor to reject the Morgantown story as a "fake," and yet respectable newspapers treated it in such a way as to make their readers believe that the question of the Yale Presidency was really settled. It is a humiliating exhibition of "newspaper enterprise."

**At Chapel Wednesday.**

After the agreeable announcement that Thursday, Gen. Lee's birthday, would be observed as a holiday by the University, President Wilson spoke of the many interesting questions at present before the public. As chief among these he pointed out the approaching debate in the Senate over the ratification of the treaty with Spain and in connection with this subject he reviewed the history of the race question in Europe and America.

He showed that wherever different races have been associated under the same form of government, either amalgamation has taken place or a position of superior and inferior has been reached, the dominant race always evincing its superiority while the subordinate races have taken an inferior standing, these conditions bringing confusion and misgovernment to the State.

Amalgamation can occur only when the races are allied in language, customs, traditions and origin. This fact is clearly illustrated by the present racial conditions in Austro-Hungary, Switzerland and America. These considerations

were suggested in connection with the policy of annexation brought into being by the late war, and simply point out some of the difficulties that we have for the future.

The following clipping is apropos just now that our library of Economics and Political Science is receiving such large additions:

"The recent action of Washington and Lee University in founding a school of Political Economy and Science, and the steps taken by different colleges to provide free scholarships for worthy young Cubans, are timely reminders of the part our universities and colleges can play in helping to solve the grave questions with which the expansion policy has confronted us. Hitherto the charge has been brought with considerable truth against our institutions of learning, that beyond the general training in the sciences and humanities nothing has been done by them to prepare their students for the duties of citizenship. At Harvard to-day only two courses relate to the machinery of our governments, state and federal, and nowhere is there, we believe, a professor who devotes all his time to American political methods. Now that even under our military occupation a demand for able and trained administrators has arisen, prompt establishment in our leading universities of chairs and schools of government, which shall deal with the lessons and teachings of American experience at home, and of English and French failures and successes in India, Egypt and Algeria, would do much towards stimulating and enlightening public opinion. Even the most fiery annexionist cannot deny that it is our plain duty to give to our wards a better kind of government than the machine brand, and if our colleges will but turn out at least theoretically trained men, they will deprive the politicians of one familiar excuse for the appointment of political favorites and failures in life. There could be no better chance for the various faculties to show how carefully they watch the public needs, and their readiness to perform a national service of a high order.—*New York Evening Post*.

The largest library in the world is the national library at Paris. It contains forty miles of shelves, holding one million four hundred thousand books.

**Y. M. C. A.**

Mr. W. K. Mathews, of New York, one of our College Secretaries, was present at the last meeting of the Association and spoke on the highly interesting subject of the "Students' Mission." Mr. Mathews gave a brief outline of the development of the College Y. M. C. A. from its origin at the University of Virginia, but more particularly recent work along distinctive lines, emphasizing as one of the greatest and most important of these, the student volunteer movement. This is for many reasons the greatest work ever entered into by the Associations, primarily among which is that it is the most far reaching in its results, and one which has already borne the largest returns. It has not only secured more men for the foreign field than the finances of the board could send out, but it has greatly aided in the increased interest of missions among college men who expect to remain at home.

Mr. Mathews emphasized the fact that the spirit of Christianity is the spirit of missions, and the same spirit must characterize the Christian whether in the field or at home. Also that our college days are the most momentous of our life, greatest in opportunities and possibilities. The men of our colleges are the future leaders of the world, and the masses of humanity can best be reached through them.

**Vocations of College Graduates.**

A Summary of the Statistics Compiled by Prof. Schwab.

A set of valuable and probably unique statistics showing the proportional changes in the vocations of college graduates has been prepared by Prof. J. C. Schwab, of Yale. The figures cover the period of the present century down to 1893, and, although compiled from the academic department of Yale, they are probably typical figures for most of the Eastern colleges and universities. They refer to the vocations of about 7,500 graduates, of whom about 1,000 graduated before the year 1840.

The statistics show some very striking changes in the choice of vocations. At the end of the last century 39 per cent. of each class entered the ministry, while during the first half of the present century each class was represented in the ministry by 28 per cent. of its

members, which percentage decreased during and after the Civil War.

The figures for lawyers vary slightly during the century and are greatest after the time of our three wars. The law has enlisted about one-third of each college generation. Before the Civil War the profession of teacher shows odd variations, but since that time, the variations are much less, proving that teaching has become a more regular vocation. Medicine, starting high in the early part of that century, fell about 1841, and since then has uniformly attracted about 10 per cent. of the graduates. There has been a striking increase in the number represented in mercantile careers during the last fifty years.

There is a decrease in the number who take up farming, due probably to the falling off of graduates from the South.

A very significant part of the statistics is that they show an almost inappreciable number of graduates who have taken up no definite vocation.

"PRINCETONIAN."

**Program of  
Washington Literary Society,  
Januray 28th.**

**Orators:**

Leffel, W. T. Graves, J. K.

**Declaimers:**

Barnes, C. M. Sloan, D.

**Debaters:**

Aff. Neg.

Seuft, J. E., Moore, W. C.,  
(open.) (open.)

Wade, W. B. McDowell, W. D., Jr.  
Roark, C. N. Chermiside, H. B.

Question: *Resolved*, That a pledge by which one's life is saved, even though given under duress, should be kept.

FEBRUARY 4TH.

**Orators:**

Goshorn, F. W. Joliffe, W. P.

**Declaimers:**

Ott, E. D. Theobald, J. M.

**Debaters:**

Aff. Neg.

Allan, J. P. McNulty, C. S.  
Brown, V. M. Smith, E. C.  
Lee, J. W. Seig, J. Mc.  
Bledsoe, E. P. Bledsoe, T. A.

Question: *Resolved*, That Stephen A. Douglas was superior in intelligence to Daniel Webster.

M. G. Perrow, *President*.  
H. B. Graybill, *Secretary*.

**Personal Mention.**

Miss Nettie Pratt is visiting friends in Richmond.

Rev. Dr. R. J. McBryde is assisting in a series of services at St. Paul's, in Lynchburg.

Prof. W. S. Currell will address the University Y. M. C. A. tomorrow.

Miss Watson, of Coveseville, Va., is visiting Mrs. W. T. Shields.

Misses Martha Campbell and Mary Irwin are visiting friends in Richmond.

Professor W. S. Currell recently delivered an address before the Library Society in Martinsburg, W. Va.

Professor D. C. Humphreys and Dr. H. A. White attended the burial of Major Jed Hotchkiss, in Staunton, Thursday.

Cards are out announcing that Major Mallory, of the Institute faculty, will be married in Baltimore next Wednesday.

Dr. and Mrs. Henry Alexander White will give the students of college a reception on next Thursday night.

H. B. Chermiside, we are glad to see, has returned to college after a short absence at home on account sickness.

Mr. W. K. Matthews, College Secretary of the International Committee of Y. M. C. A.'s, after a very helpful visit of several days, left on Monday to visit Roanoke College.

Dr. H. A. White delivered an address before the Lexington High School Thursday morning. He is now in New York, where he will preach to-morrow in the Fourth Avenue Church.

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### Meeting of the Calyx Board.

The editors of the *Calyx* met last Tuesday in the room of Mr. Perrow, editor-in-chief. The primary object of the meeting was the election of a new business manager, which since the withdrawal from college of Mr. J. Randolph Tucker, Jr., has devolved upon the board of editors. For various reasons and owing to the great responsibility, it was deemed advisable to elect two managers, who should act with joint power and responsibility. This being decided on, Messrs. James S. McClure, West Virginia, and James H. Shively, Indiana, were unanimously elected. Both these gentlemen were well qualified for their positions, and if backed by the solid support of the students they promise to furnish us with an annual equal in mechanical work, if not superior, to that of any past *Calyx*.

The editor-in-chief stated that he had received promising support from various persons of artistic talent. Particularly to be mentioned is George Cuthbert Powell, better known to his intimates as "Cud," who writes from a sick bed in Washington, that his pencil is ready and eager for embellishing *Calyx* pages. The board discussed new ideas and plans, and all came to the conclusion that prospects are very bright. Every student will have a *Calyx* worthy of his *alma mater* to keep as a memento.

On Thursday Dr. H. A. White addressed the pupils of the Lexington Public School. In his usual happy style, he sketched the life of Lee briefly but comprehensively, and delighted his hearers.

The great practical lesson which was selected from the many that may be drawn from the great Chieftain's career, was *unselfishness*. This was made attractive to the pupils by numerous anecdotes and scenes from General Lee's life, which with their great moral will live long in the memories of all.

Columbia is realizing more fully the importance of having only men we can stand the strain enter its contests.

A new regulation requires football and crew men to make a total strength test of 700 or over. Baseball men, class teams, etc., must make 600 points, and men in track athletics, tennis and lacrosse must make 500 points.

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—Ex.

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