

THE RING-TUM PHI.

Vol. II.

WASHINGTON & LEE UNIVERSITY, SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 1899.

No. 16.

'BY THE STUDENTS AND FOR THE STUDENTS.'

Dr. and Mrs. White's Reception to the Students.

Last Thursday night was the one of one of the most pleasant social functions that has occurred in Lexington for many a day. Dr. and Mrs. Henry Alexander White were giving a reception at their hospitable home. To one who has never attended a reception Dr. White's this mention recalls the happiest memories, for the general hospitality which is dispensed there has become proverbial. The beautiful home presented an attractive and impressive scene as the happy hearts came and went.

It was in response to the invitations sent out last week that so many bright faces were gathered there. Few are they who cannot overcome any difficulty to attend a reception at Dr. White's.

The entire first floor was thrown to one large parlor and in addition to that there were numerous little nooks and corners for a few words of tête-à-tête, but only a few words, as there was continual changing around, meeting new friends and leaving old ones. The exquisite taste marks the beautiful furnishings on every hand, and from the cloak rooms on the second floor there was a continual stream of humanity. The writer watched them with interest as they came one by one or in couples only to be soon lost in the dizzy whirl of the evening's measures.

At the entrance to the front parlor a band furnished delightful music, but music that was inferior to that which the gay voices were making.

Dr. and Mrs. White received the guests and in this they were assisted by Miss Sue Wellford, of Richmond. Others who assisted in receiving were Mrs. Reid White, Misses Daisy, Sallie and Nettie Preston, and Mrs. M. B. Corse.

So much did the boys enjoy the evening that they all seemed loath to leave.

Light refreshments of salads, pies, cakes, chocolate and candy were served in the bright dining room.

It was with much regret that the writer turned to say the parting word and go home to try to

study; but pleasant scenes will long flit before his mental eye. Many new faces appeared at the reception (of course girls' faces are referred to, for the new freshmen is ever with us), but besides these there were those who have gladdened (and saddened) many a student's heart.

As the writer was not present during the entire evening, and even while present he could not see all who came and went, he cannot mention the names of all who were present, but he recalls the following as among the number in attendance:

Misses Mary and Bettie Wilson, Miss Anna Anderson, Miss Arnold, Miss Mildred Myers, Miss Pattie Myers, Miss Mary Moore, Miss Josepha Allan, Miss May Ross, Miss Fannie White, Miss Ellen Glasgow, Miss Watson, Miss Nettie Preston, Miss Howe, Misses Mary and Elizabeth Barclay, Misses Daisy and Sara Preston, Miss Nettie Houston, Miss Tucker, Miss Dillon, Miss McBryde, Miss Anna Jordon, Miss Brockenbrough, Miss Annie R. White, Miss Graves, Miss Dunlap, Miss Lee, Miss Waddell, Miss Ruffner, Miss Pendleton, Miss Glasgow, Mrs. Reid White, Mrs. M. B. Corse, Mrs. G. D. Letcher, Mr. John Preston, Professor W. S. Currell, Mr. E. D. Sloan, Mr. G. D. Letcher, Mr. Nelson Myers, Professor W. LeConte Stevens, Major B. B. Morgan, Captain Hyatt, Captain Watts, S. C. Lind, Professor H. P. Willis, Mr. Frank Moore, Mr. Armistead, Mr. B. Estes Vaughan, Mr. Anschutz, Dr. W. R. Vance, Mr. H. Miley, J. W. Garrow, T. J. Farrar, Ran. Preston, R. W. Withers, J. H. Shively, Hugh McIlhenny, W. D. Cooke, F. W. King, G. B. Capito, L. C. Barret, J. W. Marshall, Page Andrews, Robert Glasgow, H. C. Ellet, Lister Witherspoon, S. L. Wooldridge, S. W. Frierson, S. L. Crebs, Mr. Caruthers, Mr. Lawson, C. C. McNeill, S. B. McPheeters, Dr. Reid White, Mr. M. B. Corse, R. A. Watson, Mr. Harrison, A. B. Winfree, J. E. Arbuckle, V. T. Davis, C. S. McNulty, E. K. Rodgers, D. E. Witt, Mr. Polk, Messrs. Caffrey, R. W. Flourney, H. W. Kirkpatrick, Messrs. Young, R. O. Huff, H. Briton.

In Graham-Lee Hall.

Last Saturday night while debate waxed warm in the Graham-Lee Hall, three Washingtonians entered. At first one might have thought they had come simply to hear and learn, but their actions soon made manifest that they were bent on a far different errand. Mr. E. D. Ott, the recognized leader of the three, moved slowly to a seat where he began to restlessly look about, from speaker to president, from marble top table to fine curtains, looking hurriedly at everything with glance and manner which plainly told he was conscious of being guilty of having something to say.

This surmise as to the cause of his unrest soon proved to be correct, for the speaker had hardly finished before the gentleman from Wash. was on his feet when he spoke about as follows: "I, sir, as chairman of a committee from the Wash. do inform you that your sister society has decided (in executive session) to withdraw from all future joint debates, and now having done my duty I beg leave to retire."

Of course Graham-Lee's president realized that it would be embarrassing for the committee to remain longer in order to explain, so he at once excused it and debate was again continued in Graham-Lee. This being finished and other matters attended to, the society under head of new business sent a committee of three into the Wash. to enquire why she had withdrawn from joint debate. As a result of the committee's efforts the Graham-Lee feels that the Wash. withdrew because it was afraid to continue the debate.

Law Debate.

On Friday night, the Bradford Law Debating Society was called to order by President Bryan. The question for debate was an appeal from the decision of the Pennsylvania court in the case of *D'Arcy vs. Lyle*. The counsel for the appellant were Messrs. Bushong and Dixon; for the appellee, Messrs. Bartlett and Dillard. The decision of the court was for the appellant.

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In common with the editors of other college weeklies we find it necessary to speak of the failure of some members of the editorial staff to do the work naturally expected of them. That the paper may represent the students it is necessary that there be work done by all the representatives on the board. It is not our purpose to attach any blame to any one for not doing the work assigned to him, for it may be that pressure of college duties prevents his attending to it, but if such be the case may we not ask that he will notify us that another editor may be selected in his place. It is a fact that a few members of the present board have done so little during the past half session that one could not know that they were on the board but for the fact that their names occur in the columns of the paper. On the other hand there are those who have given almost weekly evidence of their interest in making the RING-TUM PHI as interesting as possible. To these the students extend their hearty thanks. There are men in college who will be glad to work on the staff of the paper. Let us know the reason for your chronic indifference to the success of the paper.

In view of the inadequate means of raising sufficient funds to enable the managers of our teams to successfully carry out the programs they arrange, a plan which was spoken of last year has been spoken of again and it is proposed to offer every student the opportunity

of signing a petition which shall go to the faculty and, if endorsed by it, will then go to the board of trustees. The petition will ask the board to authorize the treasurer of the University to collect from each student along with the University fees the sum stated in the petition. This amount will give the managers a definite working basis and will be paid at a time when the men will least miss it. It will further insure a greater interest, for if every man has paid to see the games, he will make a greater effort to be present and if present he will encourage the men who represent us on the teams.

Last year the petition was signed by nearly every man in the institution and it failed of its purpose because it was gotten up too late in the session to permit its being fully discussed and considered. Taken in time it will doubtless gain its point.

The boys in college who have any literary or artistic ability whatever should apply it now in order to help make the *Calyx* a success in every way. We have some good artists and some good writers that we know of, but every man that can contribute to its success should lend his aid. The *Calyx* must be a representative publication and must enlist the greatest number of contributors if it is to be the success it ought be.

Last week the *Courier-Journal* published a very elaborately illustrated account of the Washington and Lee families, including in the illustrations many pictures from our chapel and the President's house and among them some not heretofore published. The article was prepared by Mr. Trueman S. Vance, an alumnus of W. & L. U., who made a special trip to Lexington that he might get materials from first hands. The lengthy article reflects much credit on Mr. Vance's ability to handle with fidelity the work entrusted to his care.

We are glad to see our friends of the V. M. I. first-class back again. The penalties which they will have to undergo while serve will teach them a valuable lesson. We trust that the relations between the students of Washington and Lee and the cadets of the V. M. I. will always continue to be as cordial as they have been this year.

It is a gratification to see that the very unpleasant and unsavory comments which Prof. Sedgwick's speech elicited have been satisfactorily explained. It was indeed unfortunate that the Professor's remarks should have been incorrectly quoted.

The address which Professor Nelson gave on last Wednesday was fully appreciated and he has our thanks for bringing to our minds facts which his long acquaintance with the institution make him preëminently fitted to relate.

Gymnasium.

The Director is at present working with several of the students preparatory for an exhibition which is to be given some time in the near future. The boys are attending the gymnasium much better now, and it is hoped that a larger number will come and attend regularly. The classes are running every evening and doing good work. Mr. N. L. Dold has started a class in boxing for those who wish to learn that art. There is nothing to hinder all the boys from coming down every evening. It is a duty which they owe themselves.

Professor Nelson Wednesday Morning.

In the absence of President Wilson Professor Nelson addressed the students Wednesday morning. Being the oldest member of the faculty and a former student, he was requested to give some of its past history, and this he did in a pleasant and highly interesting way.

He spoke of the University in the "antibellum" days, of its faculty, and the difficulties which then beset a student's life as compared with the present. Then came the tumult of being aroused by the war, Washington College sending its band of student patriots under the name of "Liberty Hall Volunteers." To their bravery during the war the Professor paid a worthy tribute and recommended that a day should be set aside each spring and ceremonied observed in honor of their memory.

He then described the weakened condition of the College during the war, and told how the library was scattered and physical and chemical apparatus was destroyed by the union army. This loss,

however, was in a measure wiped out thirty years later by the United States Government through the efforts of the Hon. H. St. George Tucker.

After peace had been restored the College was in a deplorable state. The buildings which had not been destroyed were sorely in need of repair, the library was scattered, the chemical and physical apparatus was wrecked and all funds had been used up. In this connection the Professor spoke of the important meeting of the Board on August 4th, 1865, recalling the circumstances of General Lee's election to the office of President and the difficulties with which Judge Brockenbrough was equipped and sent to urge the General's acceptance.

Mr. Nelson then told of General Lee's administration and how the college was soon built up and started on the road to the high state of efficiency reached by his successors in office.

Lack of time forbade his finishing his highly interesting recollections, but we hope an opportunity will come later when he can tell us further of his experiences and observations.

Basket-Ball.

Why should we not have basket-ball? All know that last year when we had basket-ball games that there was much more interest taken in the gymnasium and also that many more took exercise.

By playing for an hour or more each afternoon sufficient time would be left for the regular as well as the special work. It is a beneficial and enjoyable form of exercise and will lead to more interest in athletics during the entire season.

By using proper care nothing in the gymnasium would be injured and thus the one objection is removed.

In other colleges the teams have been organized and have played match games in many places. We cannot hope for anything like that soon but we can have games between "ranch" teams and start the ball to rolling.

Let us have basket-ball.

The Daughters of the Confederacy announce a grand society cake walk and soiree musicale at the Opera House Tuesday evening. The proceeds are for the benefit of their worthy objects.

**Washington Literary Society
Program, February 11th.**

For Orations:
Roark, C. N. Moore, W. C.

For Declamations:
McDowell, W. C., Jr.
Chermside, H. B.

Debaters:
Aff. Wade, W. B.
Neg. Senft, J. E.
Barnes, C. M. Sloan, T. D.
Graves, J. K. Leffel, W. T.

Question: Resolved, That a lawyer has no moral right to defend a man whom he knows to be guilty.

M. G. PERROW, President.
H. B. GRAYBILL, Sec'y.

Graham-Lee Program, Feb. 4.

For Orations:
Preston. McCluer, J. S.
McNeill. McClure, J. A.

To Debate:
Sullivan, (op. af.) West, (op. neg.)
Tucker. Winfree.
Watson. Withers.

Question: Resolved, That praises of the American heroes of the late war have been carried to obnoxious success.

To Orate Feb. 11: McPheeters, Moore, Ott, Parrish, Shively.

To Orate Feb. 18: Pancake, Shively, Sullivan, Tucker.

E. B. PANCAKE, President.
J. A. McCLURE, Sec'y.

Y. M. C. A.

One of the most delightful meetings of the year was that of last Sunday afternoon when Dr. Currell was present and spoke to the Association on the subject "Model Bible Readers," citing as an example the Bereaned Christians.

After explaining the meaning of the word *searched* as used in this connection, he gave very many valuable suggestions, both as to the importance, the methods, but particularly the spirit in which we should study the Bible. He then enumerated some of the hinderances to our searching the scriptures; prominent among these he mentioned slothfulness, sin and self-satisfaction.

A six pound shell from the Maria Theresa, Cevera's flag ship, has been in the reading room of Newcomb Hall for several days. The powder is removed and the cap exploded so that it is harmless but it is of interest to those who are not familiar with the big guns.

Personal Mention.

Misses Agnes and Elizabeth Ross left Wednesday to visit friends in Richmond.

Cadet Burgdorf died this morning at the V. M. I. His home is in Washington, D. C.

A card party was given by the Misses Graham last night. Miss Rosa Tucker carried off first prize.

Miss Evelyn Nelson is visiting her sister, Mrs. Gaines, in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Messrs. Gordon Houston and J. M. Mason, of the Valley High School faculty, spent Sunday in Lexington.

President William L. Wilson has been attending a meeting of the board of regents of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington. He is a member of the board.

A high compliment is paid to the talent of Mr. Wm. H. Wilson, son of President William L. Wilson, in that the Harpers have purchased for publication in the *Round Table* the serial story "Rafnaland" which Mr. Wilson has quite recently completed. Besides a liberal consideration for the story as a serial he will receive a royalty when it is published in book form.

"Tempus fugit," said the Romans,
Yes, alas, 'tis fleeting on,
Ever coming,
Ever going,
Life is short and soon 'tis gone.
But as I think of next vacation,
Poring over these lessons huge,
Even harder,
Even longer,
All I say is "Let her fuge."
— Yale Record.

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The Way of the Transgressor.

"So mote it be!" Thus quoth the mighty mogul, and the heroes of a thousand cannon-crackers, of a hundred sky-rockets and of roman candles ten feet long, wended their faltering steps homeward. The mighty mogul smiled a wicked smile and watched with unwonted satisfaction the spectacle of thirty-five coat tails fanning the circum-ambient breeze. "Reciprocity and Home Rule," ejaculated the mighty mogul and his smile broke out into a laugh. "Them's my sentiments. As a man fireth so shall he be fired. Behold I have turned a sky-rocket into a boomerang to say nothing of the devil-chasers" and the mighty mogul chuckled in his glee. "As for home rule" continued the mighty mogul "that will come later." There the mighty mogul succumbed to his pent up feelings and broke into a long, lingering, athletic horse laugh and retired to the confines of his room. Thus endeth the first lesson.

Moral. "Do not kick against the pricks."

Ode to the Billiard Room, \$9.00.

Break, Break, Break,
—How I wish that pool were free;
And I would that my tongue could utter
The thoughts that arise in me.
O, well for the pool-room shark
Who does nought else but play;
But woe, indeed, to the guileless lad
Who falls his easy prey.
And the ivory balls roll on
To the haven in the side—
And oh for the touch of the vanished "coin"
—A recall of the shot that I tried.
Break, Break, Break,
Another game "on C,"
And the welcome clink of vanished "tin"
Will never come back to me.

—A. N. C.

Notice.

All persons wishing to join the dancing class will please hand their names and money to me at once, so that we can get started by Tuesday.

The price is one dollar, in advance, for eight lessons. The class will meet on Tuesday and Friday nights from eight to nine-thirty in the gymnasium.

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