I Only Wished to Know.

Pray, do not take the kiss again,
I risked so much in getting;
Nor let my blushes make you vain,
To your and my regretting.

I'm sure I've heard your sex repeat,
A thousand times or so,
That 'stolen kisses are most sweet'—
I only wished to know.

I own 'twas not so neatly done,
As you know how to do it;
And that the fright outrivalled the fun,
But still I do not rue it.

I can afford the extra beat
My heart took at your 'Oh!'
Which plainly said that kiss was sweet—
I only wished to know.

Nay, I will not give you back the kiss,
Nor will I take a second,
Creme de la creme of pain and bliss,
This one shall e'er be reckoned.

The pair was mine, the bliss was—ours;
You smile to hear it so?
The self-same thought was surely yours,
As I have cause to know.

—F. F. V.

The Kisser's Story.

Now pray don't do that trick again,
It nearly set me crazy;
I own my wits have been since then
At least a trifle hazy.

Why were you in such dreadful haste
To tease a fellow so,
And prove how stolen kisses taste—
Because you wished to know?

T' enjoy a kiss in all its power,
Requires some preparation;
To snatch it as you pluck a flower,
Is naught but aggravation.

Could you not give a fellow time
To let its pleasure grow,
Until it soared to bliss sublime?
That's what I'd like to know.

You need not give me back the kiss,
You can just let me take it;
I'll teach you then what perfect bliss
A little care will make it.

'Twill start the current of your blood
Into a swifter flow,
And prove a stolen kiss is good,
And then, in truth, you'll know.

—Pacific Pharos.
Mr. President and Gentlemen,—It has now been one hundred years since the birth of the Federal Constitution, and from this memorable epoch in the history of political science we may reckon the nation's life. Within no period of similar length since the earliest dawn of man's existence upon this terrestrial globe has progression in every sphere of life been so marked and striking, and retrogression so seldom encountered. Development and progression are laws of life, rendered eternal and immutable by the fiat of an all-wise God. This is a fact just as evident as that of existence itself. In the life and growth of man this is beautifully demonstrated by the smiling, helpless babe, who, after the lapse of years, develops into the stalwart man, with cartilege and muscle that can plunge the axe with giant stroke into the towering oak of the forest and fell it to the earth. Man develops; as the days of childhood lengthen he becomes more sensible of his power, and with proper training his mind expands and unfolds until it becomes almost infinite in conception, grasping at the unknown and unknowable with an agility and rapidity almost superhuman. He delights to revel in the unsearchable mysteries of existence as revealed in the book of nature, and, wrapt in meditation, he ponders with an eye of keenest scrutiny the pictures that hang upon the palace walls of earth. Sometimes he can understand the symmetry and design of these pictures; sometimes he can only say, "A glorious artist painted it, but it is all wrapt in darkness to me." In the highest conceptions of the human soul we find it even attempting to fathom God himself; to demonstrate his existence; the immortality of the soul, and the free-agency of his creatures. But all such endeavors result merely in ideal speculations, worse than useless; for who can comprehend the infinitude of God and his hidden thoughts, even when the majesty of his works is inconceivable and past finding out?

But I will leave this diversion with you, and confine myself more closely to the theme before us, from which I think I was legitimately drawn, as the development and growth of American institutions within this first century of our existence have been gigantic and Herculean in their dimensions. Our past is haloed with glory, and wrapt in undying fame. We, like Jonah's gourd, have sprung into existence in a night, as it were, and our free institutions, like its branches, eclipse those of other nations, as the mellow moonbeams put to shame the tiny stars that blush along the heavens.

Governments have developed from the crudest forms to the most perfected and polished systems. Each system, it is noticed, suited the genius and customs of the people who accepted it, and the time when it flourished. We first start with the patriarchal as the most antique specimen of political life, where the father exercised the authority of a petty king over his household, consisting probably of twenty or thirty wives, two
hundred children, and a numerous troop of slaves. As we look along the political life of the ages, we find system after system, species after species. We see absolute monarchy give place to limited monarchy, this soon supplanted by an oligarchy, and this probably by a republican system in its embryotic state, and in its most severe and despotic administration.

Just one century ago, the greatest specimen of governmental genius the world has ever seen, was originated in this country in the shape of a representative republic. Republics had existed in name before this date, but not in the true sense of the word. Greece and Rome claimed this fair title for their institutions, but they at no time lost their aristocratic tendencies, and oligarchical influences soon blighted the good work which might have resulted in absolute political freedom and equality under the law. The mediaeval republics of Genoa, Venice, and other Italian towns, were republican only in name, and never, to the time of their desolation, were free from aristocratic pride and seduction. Ours is the completed system, and is a model one in every respect. It combines all the invincibility and tenacity incident upon the most stringent monarchy, and all the political freedom and flexibility of a representative democracy. Our government is absolutely the grandest specimen of political architecture the brain of the statesman has ever conceived or devised. Under this system of government we have a constitution to which we are indebted for the prosperity of our past and the perpetuity of our institutions, and on which, to a vital degree, the future of the nation hangs. Encroachments upon the letter and spirit of the constitution must be assiduously guarded against in order to insure to coming generations the blessings of a free government. The vitality of our government is in our constitution. In this respect we stand alone among the nations of earth. The constitution renders ours the strongest government in existence. The finger of this majestic document points out the path in which its citizens shall tread, and with invincible scrutiny shields them from the fanaticism of intriguing legislative bodies.

Great Britain has no constitution, and for this reason is liable at any moment to be overturned by the vengeance of her own people, and tumble into national annihilation. English laws have no stability save as statute laws, which are capable of repeal at any session of Parliament. Suppose, for instance, that at the next session of Parliament the writ of habeas corpus were suspended, and blanks were issued by the Queen for the arrest and imprisonment of all parties within the kingdom offensive to the Crown. This or any similar act could be passed by any session of the British Parliament with the same legality that it could regulate the tariff laws of the Kingdom, or impose fines upon refractory citizens. It is true the opposition would be great to such a tyrannical enactment, but all such opposition would not be that of legality, but of rebellion and revolution. Suppose such an act were passed by the American Congress, what would be the effect of its passage? Would it ever be executed? No, never. It would amount to nothing. It would be null ab initio. For the constitution of the nation places at the doors of Congress a Su-
The Supreme Court, whose jurisdiction is superior to that of Congress, and who inspects with a suspicious eye every act of the legislative body which seems to infringe in the slightest degree upon the spirit of American institutions and its constitution.

The constitution is a living organism. Its life is the life of the nation, and its mandates are the necessities of the people. To assert that the constitution, in its present form, is eternal and unchangeable, is to positively deny all progressive strides in civilization, and assert that the manners, customs, and wants of the people are as firmly fixed as the stars, and as immutable as the pillars of Hercules. No; the constitution must develop and expand as the people attain toward that high plane of national greatness the initiatory of which has already assumed enormous proportions, and its culmination must even startle mankind itself. Changes have been made in the constitution, and others must be made in the near future; but it is wisely provided that all alterations must be brought about only after the most careful and minute considerations, in which the people, in toto, are involved and interested.

Whilst the basis and primary cause of our past greatness and development is to be found in the form of government, granting and pledging constitutional liberty, and the devotion of the people to that Union cemented by the strongest ties of blood and fraternity, yet collateral influences operated largely in rendering the past glorious and the future bright and hopeful. It was the cynical Carlyle who, speaking to a friend in New York, remarked, "You may talk of your institutions, of your democracy, or any other sort of political rubbish, but the reason America is so prosperous to-day is because she has so much land for so very few people." Carlyle was in part right. We seldom appreciate the boundless extent of our domain, and its exhaustless resources. Our Western States are like kingdoms, and from our territories could be carved empires. Luxuriant and fertile, they stretch for miles where the foot of the white man has never trod; threading the plains are placid rivers winding like streams of silver beneath the soft, pale azure of the western skies; beneath the rank turf lie the gems of earth, waiting for the spade and pick of the restless Anglo-Saxon to unearth them and mingle them in the commerce of civilization; health rides upon every breeze, and infuses renewed energy into every creature. O what a luxury to drink in the pure oxygen of the western prairie, and breathe in life, as it were, in this realm of Hygeia! To this land of Paradise, land flowing with milk and honey, the American government has been and is now inviting the care-worn and oppressed pilgrim of Europe to come over and take it without money and without price. By our homestead and pre-emption acts thousands of emigrants flood annually to the inviting fields of the great West, and, by their sterling integrity and honest toil, become our best and most loyal citizens.

As a field for education, America's past has been one of growing prosperity and development, and her future promises to be one of unequalled splendor. It is a noted fact that those men of our nation who have been leaders in political life, during this first century of the na-
Education has been the handmaid of politics in instilling into American youth the principles of self-government and equality under the law, together with a deep reverence for our country's institutions. It is related that a certain English statesman was visiting this country not many years ago, when he desired to visit with his friends a certain college in Virginia. They entered the first lecture-room, and, behold! the instructor was depicting in glowing colors to admiring pupils the defeat of the British army at Bunker Hill by a handful of ragged Americans. His friends perceived the evident embarrassment of the English gentleman, and, offering some excuse, they retired to another room, where, to their chagrin, Washington was crossing the Delaware 'mid floating ice, and storming the country before him. Of course, the sooner gone the better, and they were ushered before another history class whose theme was "Old Hickory," laughing in his sleeve behind cotton breastworks at New Orleans, and shooting down like dogs the best-drilled army of the British empire. With national pride deeply offended, he left the building, and remarked to his friends, "The youth of your land, reared in this style, will undoubtedly, by the memory of former days, preserve eternally within your country a system of free government." Education has been a potent factor in accelerating our national growth and affording stability to the other institutions of our land, and its future must depend to a great extent upon the education of our citizens.

Lincoln defines our government as one of the people, for the people, and by the people. Certainly in its latter sense, if not in all three, the education of the people is indispensable for their proper government. If a people uneducated and illiterate attempt their own government, the result will be barbaric nonsense, and the attempt an impossibility, resulting in the creation of great political rings and cliques, which inevitably terminate in the subversion of the appointed ends of government, and the ascendancy of an oligarchy. Education is indispensable to a democratic government, where the burden of government falls upon the shoulders of the people. We have seen the need, and wisely provided for the emergency. The day has long since passed when American boys are necessitated to attend European universities in order to receive a technical and scientific education. When they do attend German universities, it is simply for the sake of travel and the gratification of an aristocratic pride. American colleges rank equal to any in existence, and the free-school system is so complete and adequate throughout the country that knowledge reaches, or may reach, every home. What brighter prospects could be presented for America's future! What means more adequate to accomplish the sublime end! Can it be, with such fair prospects and with such an excellent past, America can betray herself? Her institutions are mild and beneficent; her climate is salubrious; her mountains are covered with timber, and the torrents that leap down her valleys gurgle through plains of matchless beauty and unsurpassed fertility. Along the banks of her streams often the solid earth is
worn away, and revealed to the eye of commerce, the matchless coal-fields extend for miles, enticing the millionaire by their rich lustre, and inviting the capitalist to come and replenish the coffers of his insatiable appetite.

American development has but attained its morning hour, and flushed by the pride of youth, must ever grow onward and upward. Can we bear the thought of retrogression in political life? Can we imbibe the ideas of false theorists, and believe that the nurseries of our childhood, the institutions under which we were reared, and the government that educated and fostered us, is soon to be no more? No; impossible. No punishment of heaven could be so severe; no scene more terrific; no convulsions so bewailing, as the death-throes of expiring liberty. No; advancement is the watchword of our people; and the only regrets of this generation should be that death leaves unrevealed to the enthusiastic patriot the glory of his country’s future. To this future it is the privilege and duty of each of us to bequeath our portion, and as the immortal English tragedian has expressed it, “My son, let all the ends thou aimest at be thy country’s, thy God’s, and truth’s.”

Salutatory.

[Delivered by Mr. O. L. Martin, final president of the Philologian Society, before the Joint Celebration, June 20th, 1887.]

Ladies and Gentlemen,—It does not lie in my province to-night to give you any demonstration of my acquisitions in the world of thought. It is not mine to roam Olympian heights, to muse in Turpe’s vale, or walk Arcadian groves. Out yonder hangs a bell that has called us so early and so loudly that we have had no time to invoke the Muses, to cultivate the Aesthetics, or go crazy. No time to woo beauty in early morn, or list at dewy eve to the music of fairies in folded flowers. We have had by sheer compulsion to dig for roots in the uninviting fields of Classics, and attend the meeting of the Hyperbola with its Asymptote in the far-away, mystical, unexplored, incomprehensible, unknown, and uncaref region of mathematical infinity. It is a grand thing to finger among the constellations and hear the music of the spheres. It is a grand thing to turn somersaults in the milkyway of thought, and build castles in the air. It is a delightful thing to loiter in the mystic fields of fancy, to go with Newton to the moon, with Darwin into the caverns of the earth, with Cowper to the cool shades of the forest, with Moore to the spicy groves of eastern romance, and Shelly to the changing visions of the infinite. It is sweet to dream, to bathe the fancy in the seas of novelistic and poetic fiction, but sweeter far to be awake and hear the music of nature, and feel the thrill of ecstatic joy breaking in-upon the soul which he alone can feel whose privilege it is to extend a warm heart and hand of welcome to this cohort of angelic forms, this halo of glory, and catch inspiration from a thou-
sand smiling faces of sweet sixteen. And now, ladies and gentlemen, while it is not my pleasure, like a brilliant meteor, to dance in grandeur through the starry dome of thought, yet I am not without a pleasant duty to perform tonight. It is my pleasure, in the name of the Mu Sigma Rho and Philologian Literary Societies of Richmond College to extend to you, one and all, a hearty welcome to this our joint final celebration. You who have been so kind to respond to all our calls, who have come to all our entertainments, not with an air of idle curiosity, but with an expression of appreciation and kindly interest on your faces, we welcome you here to-night. It is the custom of the Societies, at the close of their session's work, to join hearts and hands in a final celebration. The public is invited first to the exhibition of the Societies' talent, and finally to enjoy an address by some renowned man of the Societies' choosing. You are invited here to-night to the exhibition of the societies' talent. The literary society is the place for reducing the acquisitions of the class-room to practical account, for training the student to work out what his college training has wrought in him. It is the place for whetting the intellect by clashing it with intellect. It is the miniature world in which the student learns to grapple with questions and strive with men in preparation for the great field of life. And the student is sadly deficient on leaving college without that practical training and experience of a well-conducted literary society. Besides, the literary societies here are the highest deliberative bodies, to which are referred all questions of vital concern for final and unquestionable settlement. When such questions arise as, "Is electricity a thing"? they are promptly referred to the societies, where it is decided, if it is not a thing, what is it? "Whether or not the iconoclasm of Alcibiades was the primal cause of the downfall of Athens," was submitted, and while little was known of Alcibiades and less of the iconoclasm, yet it was decided that it was the primal cause of the downfall of Athens. Here also has been considered the question of co-education, and all further discussion of this subject is out of order.

And in pursuance of the decree of this authoritative body, I hope, young ladies, to have the exquisite pleasure of welcoming you here next September fully equipped for the introduction of a new departure in education at the South.

And now, citizens of Richmond, whose latch-strings have always hung on the outside of the door for us, in behalf of these Societies I extend to you as warm and hearty a welcome here, if possible, as you have always given to us at your homes. I believe in putting into practice that beautiful sentiment, rejoice with those that rejoice, and weep with those that weep. And so whenever your cordiality shall culminate in a breach of your family circle, I shall have a heart to sympathize with you, and as to that matter with the one snatched away, too, but at the same time I shall not forget to congratulate my fortunate fellow-student.

And last, but not least, you, priceless jewels of heroic Richmond, it is my unspeakable pleasure in the name of these Societies to welcome you with open—heart. We hold in tender memory the visits you have made us in our loneliness, when we have been aroused from
our gloom and despondency as by the voice of angels. Your coming has been as a reminder and harbinger of better days. And if in your visits a dozen windows have been filled with gazing eyes, it was because we were glad to see you—“Only that, and nothing more.” And if sometimes you heard the voice as of some one saying Calico, with protracted emphasis on the coin, it was meant as no fling at your costume, but in the college dialect is only a term of endearment. You were welcome then, you are thrice welcome now. We will always make room for you in our halls, on our campus, and in our hearts, and some time, we hope, in our homes.

There are many things Richmond College students don’t like. Some don’t like to work; some don’t like mathematics; some don’t like Latin, and so on. Some don’t like for a young lady to inform them that it is time to depart; some don’t like for the old man to kick like a young mule on the floor above nor the door beneath; and some don’t like to take their girls by an ice-cream saloon or a confectionery shop (without going in). But there is one thing they are all agreed in liking: they all like the girls, because they like their sisters and some other fellows’ sisters, and sisters are all girls.

Again I say, Welcome to all, and I hope you will all be richly rewarded for your coming.

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From Washington to Baltimore.

It is very grand to view, from the dome of the Capitol, the beautiful picture spread out before us, especially when we know the points of interest in and around Washington. To see on one side the mighty steamer, which, from our high perch, looks very small, and on the other side the rapidly-approaching train of cars. That engine has just come from Baltimore, and in a short while it will return; see how straight it comes toward us, and how rapidly, but as it strikes the city it turns so as to follow the avenues and streets, and about three hundred yards from where we stand it draws up in the Baltimore and Ohio depot. But it is necessary to descend from our “Aerie” in order to board the train we have just seen safely “into port.”

After having seen the many beautiful sights of the capital, one would be apt to think the ride to Baltimore rather dull, but quite the contrary is the case. To one with an eye for rural beauty, the Corcoran Art Gallery, Smithsonian Institute, and Botanical Gardens, are equalled, if not excelled, by the lovely and fertile counties of Southern Maryland.

But as we are on the train now, and our tickets have been taken up, we will leave our fellow-passengers, and things generally, to the tender mercies of the engineer, and bestow our attention more particularly to what may be seen from the windows. We notice that there is a double track all the way, and before we reach our destination not a few times will we be startled by the momentary
FROM WASHINGTON TO BALTIMORE.

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flash of an engine running in the opposite direction.

There are trains leaving almost every hour, and several roads between Washington and Baltimore, but the B. & O. seems to be the most popular, and carries us through a more beautiful section of country. The depot buildings along our route seem to be built elegantly, and the grounds laid off tastefully, with flower beds in many places.

Just as we leave the city we see on the right a small white church, and painted on the side facing us these words: "Prepare for Eternity." There it stands, like a monument, pointing upward, and its message to future generations, stated clearly and briefly. Alas! alas! the tooth of time shows itself only too plainly on that dear little church, and soon it must fall.

The famous nurseries of John Saul are very near now, but on account of the unevenness of the country, it is very hard to get even a glimpse of them.

Just before reaching Rives we see on the left an old dilapidated brass factory.

At Highland, named from the hilly condition of the surrounding country, we notice that the earth seems to wash very much, and in many places, along some deep cuts, there are embankments made from old ties, and even stone, to keep the earth from sliding during rains and covering the track.

The next station is not called "Lowland," but the land is very level, especially near us, and the place is named Riverdale. If there was a river within ten miles we could not see it, so we concluded that the first settlers thought there ought to be a river there, and so named the station.

Now, as we get near the next stopping place, called "College," we see the significance of the name when there comes into view on the left the stately towers of the Maryland Agricultural College. There it stands, about one mile away, and though the lower part is somewhat hidden by a forest, still we imagine it is a model building, as we do all colleges. The college is eight miles from Washington and thirty-two from Baltimore.

There seems to be a reason for the name of many of the stations, as we have seen; so when the station of Mills comes on we look out on the right, and what should we behold but a large flour mill.

At Annapolis Junction the train from the capital of Maryland comes in, exchanges some passengers, and adds a sleeper to our train.

Bridewell is the next station, and as we approach, looking out for some explanation of the name, what should we see but a huge pad, and at the farthest edge, on a hill-top, the Maryland House of Correction. 'Tis true it is a beautiful building, and the park is exceedingly neat and well kept, but why the station was named Bridewell we will never understand. As the House of Correction is almost the only building to be seen, we wonder why the station was not called "Correction."

There seems to be an innumerable number of stations, and very near to each other. Jessups is about one mile from Bridewell, and if it is in season the whole place seems to be alive with tomatoes and large canneries.

Near Elkridge is the famous Catholic school of St. Dennis, almost hid from view by a magnificent lawn of "Mary-
land cedars.” This beautiful cedar seems to be the peculiar possession of Maryland, and though they are creeping into Virginia, and are quite numerous along the Potomac river on the Virginia side, still it is known to all as the “Maryland cedar.”

The next station has the most romantic situation of all, being upon a high bluff rising directly from a narrow but deep river, with falls just in sight. We cross by a high iron bridge, and passing a monument, which we wished to examine more closely, draw up at the massive gray-stone hotel and waiting-room of Relay. Here there is another track crossing ours, but no train in sight. How pleasant it would be to “lay” over here until that other train comes in, but we are only nine miles from our destination now, so running over some railways and under others, passing innumerable brickyards, and Camden Junction, before we know it we are gliding along the streets and into the depot of the Monumental city.

QUADRAGINTA.

Dedication of the Thomas Museum and Art Hall.

Thursday evening, September 22d, 1887, will long be remembered in the annals of Richmond College. Its coming had been looked forward to with fondest expectations of what it held in store for the friends and students of the college, and when the time for the fruition of their cherished hopes had come and gone, it was felt by all that their brightest anticipations had been realized. The occasion of this rejoicing was the dedication of the James Thomas, Jr., Museum and Art Hall. The weather was propitious, and long before the time for the exercises to begin, crowds of Richmond’s best and most intelligent citizens had filled the spacious hall. A description of the hall and its dimensions has been given in these columns several times, so we will not speak of them now.

Chairs had been provided on the floor, and a stage, running out about twenty feet and extending entirely across the eastern end of the hall, had been erected for the speaker, faculty, trustees, alumni and distinguished guests. Just in the rear of the platform hung a magnificent life-size portrait of James Thomas, Jr., by De Santis, of Italy, which had been presented to the college by Mrs. Thomas. The scene was illuminated by the light from five superb chandeliers besides numerous smaller groups of lights which had been fitted up during the past summer at considerable expense and labor. On the platform were seated trustees, faculty, alumni, city aldermen, and last but not least, representatives from sister colleges who came to join in our rejoicings.

The exercises of the evening were opened with prayer by Dr. J. L. Burrows, of Norfolk. Dr. C. H. Ryland, Secretary of the Trustees, then called the body to order and requested Dr. W. E. Hatcher, Chairman of the Memorial Committee, which had had charge of the erection of the hall, to preside. In taking
the chair, Dr. Hatcher made reference to
the work done by his committee, and
their especial pleasure at being able to
turn over to the college this stately hall.
Before taking his seat he called upon
Professor H. H. Harris, Chairman of the
Faculty, to make an address of welcome.
This Professor Harris did, and in a man­
er eminently well suited to the time and
place. We are very glad to be able to
give his admirable

ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

"My part is to address to the assembled
audience a simple word of welcome to
these academic shades and this new hall.
Let me first, in behalf of Trustees and
Faculty, greet these young men who have
gathered from far and near—one from
the resounding shores of Massachusetts
Bay, another from the golden sands of
the Pacific slope, a score from the inter­
vE:>niug States, from Pennsylvania to
Texas, and last, though not least, these
sturdy sons of the Old Dominion. His
Excellency the Governor of the Com­
monwealth will pardon me if I assume
for the nonce to speak for Virginia in
congratulating these young gentlemen
on the auspicious opening of the session, and
welcoming them to this capital city to
pursue a course of mental and moral
training for the duties soon to devolve
upon them as citizens and as men. These
reverend gentlemen and city fathers will
join me in welcoming you to the rare so­
cial and religious privileges of Richmond,
and in hoping that during your sojourn
you may enjoy them to the full. Other
sweet words of welcome some of you will
hear—they will come best in softer tones
than I can use.

Next, I beg to greet with peculiar

pleasure these representatives of our sis­
ter institutions who sit with us and take
care of this evening. One of
the most pleasant things in our educa­
tional system is the loving sisterhood, the
generous emulation between the colleges
of the State. We accept your presence,
gentlemen, as a token of your interest in
us, which we most heartily reciprocate.

And now, in behalf of the three estates
of the college—trustees, faculty, and stu­
dents—I greet most heartily this galaxy
of talent and wisdom which adorns the
platform, and this compact array of man­
liness and beauty which fills the floor. A
college must keep aloof from the whirl of
the busy world enough, at least, to give
its strength to those recondite matters of
science and of literature which form the
unseen foundations of all real and reliable
progress in civilization and enlight­
enment. But our situation, as it were,
in 'the fierce light which beats upon a
throne,' our view from these towers of
historic fields and undying monuments,
our proximity to the throbbing heart of
this railway and manufacturing centre,
puts us morally as well as locally in the
line of improvement, and keeps us in vi­
talizing contact with the political, com­
mercial, social, and religious thought of
the world. Thus, while our courses of
instruction are specially for the benefit of
the students, we covet the hearty sympa­
thy of the good people of Richmond, and
shall often open this hall, as well as our
chapel, for popular lectures, at which all
present will be most heartily welcome.

One other group is here for whom this
occasion has the deepest interest. To
most of us the evening is one of unmixed
rejoicing; to them it recalls the memories
of an irreparable loss. The trustees have fitly shown their appreciation of a liberal benefactor, a wise counsellor, a faithful officer, by dedicating this hall to his memory. They have spared neither time nor money in trying to finish it with something of the massive strength, the hearty genuineness, and the artistic taste of him whose name it bears. To her who was the partner of his inmost thoughts, and to the children around whom his affections clustered, Richmond College will always offer its warmest welcome."

Dr. W. E. Hatcher then presented the keys of the Thomas Memorial Hall to Hon. H. K. Ellyson, president of the Board of Trustees. In doing this, Dr. Hatcher was in his best vein, as he is very apt to be on an occasion like this. Mr. Ellyson's reply was faultless, and called forth ringing applause. We may have heard him speak as well; no one ever heard him speak better.

After this came the orator of the day, Dr. John A. Brodus. He was equal to the great undertaking, and was heard with keen interest. We give the following extracts from his splendid oration:

Dr. Brodus said that to build a museum in connection with a public library, and as part of an institution for higher education, is but a return to the original elevated application of that term. A museum among the Greeks was primarily any haunt of the Muses; next, a place for the study of objects dear to the Muses, such as art, poetry, history, and eloquence. Plato and Aristotle erected each a building called a museum, containing rooms for the study of philosophy, and then first in the history of culture—a public library, open to students and visitors. This was imitated on a much larger scale by the great museum at Alexandria, collecting a library that became one of the wonders of the world, and furnishing to the students lecture rooms, grand porticoes, and beautiful out-door walks, suited to the favorite Greek method of peripatetic instruction, together with a common hall or mess room, in which the professors and students might dine together, and thus at the same time supply to each other a feast of reason. From this celebrated model of a museum down to the now current use of the term to denote a mere collection of curiosities and monstrosities, is almost as great a degradation as in certain current uses of the term professor. But there are still instances in which a museum, though no longer comprising halls of instruction, denotes something elevated and dignified. The British Museum contains one of the great modern libraries, far surpassing in number the collection at Alexandria. Even when the library is excluded there are not a few great museums in Europe and America which are designed to furnish means of education. They do this in two principal ways. They collect objects of natural history in its three great departments of mineralogy, botany, and zoology, and arrange these according to strict scientific classification, so as to offer facilities for scientific study. In the foremost collection of this kind in America, the Agassiz Museum, at Cambridge, there is in the first room a complete set of skeletons and preserved objects, beginning with the very lowest forms of animal life, which it is difficult to distinguish from vegetable, and ascending in regular order to the highest animal—
DEDICATION OF THOMAS MUSEUM, &c.

i.e., man. What a privilege for eager students of biology or for juvenile classes with their instructors to enter freely, again and again, this noble "Synoptic Room." In the Metropolitan Museum of New York and in the Smithsonian Institution pains are also taken to render the grand collection accessible and available for the instruction of visiting classes by their teachers. Elementary knowledge of natural history is easily within reach of pupils ten or twelve years old, or even younger pupils where they can behold the actual objects; and it is worth considering whether elementary botany and zoology ought not to be much studied by such children, especially those who can occasionally visit a museum, instead of pushing them into English syntax, which scarcely any child of twelve can really understand, or into mathematical studies, for which only a few are at that age prepared. Perhaps it will not be many years before various classes from private and public schools in Richmond and vicinity will be repeatedly seeking access to the collections that shall here be formed. At any rate the college students and all adult minds disposed to inquire into geology and biology will find such collection not only helpful but necessary.

COLLECTION OF ANTIQUITIES.

The other way in which a museum furnishes material for education is by the collection of antiquities. There is perhaps no department of knowledge in which object lessons are of greater value. The implements of ancient warfare, the utensils and ornaments of ancient life, the shrunken features of some mummied Egyptian, will give wings to historical imagination, and in a moment transport the student into the very midst of ancient life. Nor is our comparatively new country without its objects of antiquarian interest. That relics of the Indians and of the mound-building race in this country may form an extremely interesting collection, very stimulating to historical inquiry and reflection, may be seen at the home of a well-known Richmond gentleman. There are also many relics of ancestral history in Virginia and adjacent States that might be gradually collected, and would greatly help in reproducing the life of the early settlers and the colonial times. Our gifted and lamented romance writer and historian, John Esten Cooke, appears to have fairly proven in his volume entitled Virginia that the story of Pocahontas saving the life of John Smith must, after all, be accepted as historical. The skeptical mode of dealing with history which Niebuhr rendered fashionable has led to much valuable research, but has gone to greater extremes, and the inevitable reaction is already visible in many directions. No part of American colonial history is so thoroughly romantic as that of the Old Dominion; and much remains to be done in collecting its antiquities and digesting its documents and traditions. In like manner there must be many memorials of Virginia's share in the Revolution, and of her great series of Presidents and other statesmen, that ought to be collected into a museum at the State Capitol. And there is another great and mighty conflict, in which Virginia bore an unequalled share of suffering and was not backward in achievement, which already for the rising generation is a thing of the past, and whose precious and often perishable relics ought to be rapidly gathered.
The conflict is over, its animosities have been quite laid aside, and we are contented and patriotic citizens of the United States; but the relics of that great civil war are sacred for us and for our children, and its heroes, its splendid heroes, shall be famous forever.

We greatly need in this still new country to cultivate the historical spirit—to cherish a glowing love of the past; and to this end antiquarian collections are of real importance.

**ART IN HIGHER EDUCATION.**

But, he said, this room is opened both as a museum and an art hall, and he proceeded to discuss very ably the educational value of art, art studies, and fine specimens of art, and then said:

Now, what part have such collections of art in the work of higher education? We need not dwell upon the fact that at least a few students of every session will be naturally capable of artistic creation, and upon them these collections and instructions will exert the most delightful and inspiring influence. You will never know, as you casually enter such a hall, but that one of the quiet youths who may perhaps make way for the visitor and retire, or perhaps remain in absorbed contemplation, may be just now receiving impulses that will carry him in coming years to high artistic achievements and fame. Let no one think lightly of these few. Some of the older States of our Union would have been able to retain during the last two or three generations many choice young men who have gone West, if the controlling public opinion had more strongly favored the development among themselves of the industrial arts and the fine arts and of the artistic in literature, and all the complex pursuits and products of high and complete civilization. But a point of more general interest would be the educational effects of art collections upon the students at large. Nearly forty years ago a young Virginian, who had never before been out of the State, went to spend some days in Philadelphia, and twice gave several hours to the old Academy of Art, and especially to the paintings of Benjamin West and to plaster casts of the most celebrated Greek statues. It was a revelation; it opened up a new world and invested life with new possibilities of delight. Such single and powerful impressions are more distinctly remembered, but unspeakably greater in educational value is the opportunity of frequent and leisurely observation of such inspiring objects. Familiarity never breeds contempt where the object is one of elevated character and interest, and where the soul is at all susceptible, but the frequent contemplation becomes an ever-growing educational force, shaping the intellect, coloring the imagination, stirring the deepest, sweetest emotions. Happy those whose childhood and youth are spent in full view of great mountains or beside the sounding sea; doubly happy if they enjoy both together, like the people of Palestine, Greece, Italy, Scotland. In like manner, happy the students who, just at that interesting point when intellect is approaching maturity, when culture is broadening the range of imagination and varying the objects of passion, spend several years amid the perpetual influence of architecture and landscape, and with the opportunity of daily visits to an inspiring collection of statuary and painting, and let it be remembered that a few works of high ex-
cellence, even a few good plaster casts or marble copies of the great statues and a few copies of the great pictures, will kindle the susceptible observer and awaken those unutterable but quenchless yearnings which become a moulding power in the character and life, while a mass of poor stuff would but degrade the taste, if it did not fortunately repel and disgust. May it be not many years before the young of both sexes who come on some brief visit to Richmond shall not only delight in its varied hills and splendid streets and noble river and beautiful, peaceful Hollywood; shall not only gaze on the exquisite symmetry and homely grace of the old Capitol, and search out the Houdon statue; not only stand entranced before the equestrian Washington and his Revolutionary comrades—a work of art with which not many of its kind in all the world can be compared—but shall presently come out along a street that more and more deserves its name, to behold the new statue of one whom all Virginians to the remotest ages must delight to honor, and then entering Richmond's own college, shall find that all these beauties of nature and glories of architecture and triumphs of the modern chisel have but prepared them somewhat better to appreciate even copies of those immortal works in which the old Italian painters and the ancient Greek sculptors still reign supreme in the highest domains of art.

JAMES THOMAS, JR.

He then said that as this hall is now formally opened as a memorial of James Thomas, Jr., who for more than forty years was a trustee of Richmond College, he deemed the occasion appropriate for offering some account of his life and character, with special emphasis upon his interest in higher education, and particularly in Richmond College.

Dr. Broadus then gave an exceedingly interesting sketch of the life and character of James Thomas, Jr., which we regret that we have not space to reproduce. He traced his life from the time he came as a poor boy from Caroline county to Richmond; told of his early struggles and his gradual success until he amassed a large fortune, and brought out the fact that he was governed all through his career by the strictest business integrity and high Christian principle. He was always active in his church (the First Baptist), as well as in his business. He was for years superintendent of his Sunday school, and especially active and liberal in the religious instruction of the negroes, and in securing to them the old First African church.

Dr. Broadus drew a very fine analysis of Mr. Thomas' character, and spoke of his charities, which were wide-spread and often unknown to the public or even to the recipient of his benefactions. He always took the deepest interest in higher education, and besides being the life-long benefactor of Richmond College, he was the founder of the Richmond Female Institute, and a liberal giver to the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

After speaking of various occasions on which Mr. Thomas had liberally helped Richmond College, Dr. Broadus concluded his every way admirable address by saying: Mr. Thomas' last gift to the college was made in 1881, a year before his death, being an endowment of $25,000 for a professorship; and the school of philosophy was subsequently designated. The total amount of his gifts
to the college first and last cannot be accurately determined, and has been variously estimated at from $50,000 to $60,000.

Learning that the trustees proposed to set apart this museum and art hall as a memorial of James Thomas, Jr., his family have united in giving $10,000 to found "The Thomas Museum Lecture Endowment." The income of this endowment is to be used annually "to secure the delivery at the college (and, if practicable, in the Thomas Museum) of a course of lectures on subjects either of science or philosophy or of art." These lectures are to be delivered by "really eminent men of our own and of other countries," and are to be open to the public.

CONCLUDING WORDS.

We should remember that not even the largest donations of this faithful friend were probably so helpful to the college as his frequent smaller gifts at critical periods. Many times, both before and after the war, when the finances fell short and the trustees were utterly at a loss, he quietly said that he would pay the debt, or that he would give so and so upon such conditions, and thus the wheels were kept moving. Ah! there are few who will ever know the long and sore struggle by which our higher institutions have been sustained and gradually strengthened, especially in the trying years that followed the war. Thank God for the devoted men who have persevered in their ill-paid task of high instruction, for the many who have given something amid poverty and embarrassment, and for the few devoted friends of one or another institution who have stood by, and at whatever inconvenience to themselves, have stepped forward in every season of peril. But most of all did Mr. Thomas aid this college by his wise counsels, and by the inspiration of his elevated, broad, cheerful views as to the aims and possibilities of higher education. A great institution of this sort cannot be suddenly created; it must be a growth. Much has been done for Richmond College by earlier and later and present teachers—some of them highly gifted and very noble men; much by the diligent students, who have furnished an inspiring example to their fellows during college life and are reflecting true honor upon their Alma Mater by subsequent usefulness and renown; much by the wise management of the trustees in the city and throughout the State, and by the popular interest awakened through the very necessity of repeatedly appealing for current support and endowment, but among the most potent elements that have entered into the very constitution and gone to determine the vital influence of Richmond College have been the spirit and temper of the remarkable man whose career we have this evening surveyed. It has long been true, and will long continue to be, that students going forth from this place must carry with them, among those unconscious impressions which are often so powerful, some impress from the character of Jas. Thomas, Jr. This college is fortunate in its location. In many another State are excellent institutions, whose wisest friends now keenly wish that they, too, had been established at some large and growing city. The old idea that college life ought to be secluded from the temptations of a great city, whether wise or not, is simply impracticable. We might say that those
who are willing to be overcome by the temptations of incipient manhood will be amply tempted in any quiet village or country neighborhood. But certainly at the present day no secluded college can prosper without a railway to bring the students; and this railway can bring temptation in many forms from nearest cities or carry students on perilous visits. We have come to see that for the real and terrible dangers which beset the period usually embraced in college life there is no true remedy but in correct principles instilled during childhood, in home influence kept vivid by diligently sustained correspondent, in better aspirations that exalt humanity, and in the grace that comes down from heaven. The great advantages to a college of location in a large city are numerous and obvious. Each can greatly aid the other in the promotion of true culture, in the real elevation of society. In the chequered history of this widely useful and richly promising institution it has frequently received unspeakably important assistance from the wise counsels, the generous gifts, the hearty support in every sense, not merely of one extraordinary man, but of many noble citizens. Let us hope that the example on which we have been reflecting will prove contagious; that many prosperous dwellers in Virginia's chief city and fair capital may cherish a living and practical interest in Richmond College; that they may cause it to grow every year more beautiful in its outward appointments, more ample in the endowment of its instruction, and stronger in every element of wholesome influence. The history of civilization shows that the safest and most permanent investments men ever make are in institutions of education and religion. These live amid revolutions and social changes. Long centuries after a man has been otherwise forgotten and his influence is no longer discernible amid the rushing tide of human affairs, what he once thus invested will still abide, a perennial source of good to mankind and of glory to God.

The following is from the Religious Herald, of this city, whose editor, Dr. A. E. Dickinson, was largely instrumental in securing the means to build the wing of the college building in which the Thomas Hall is situated:

"As Dr. Broadus closed, the great hall rang with applause. Then Governor Lee was called out and made a neat little speech. "Splendid success" were the two words which seemed to be upon almost every one's lips as the audience dispersed. We congratulate the family of Mr. Thomas. They have done a thing which, besides honoring a name so dear to them, will do good in many ways. These dedicatory services will be worth, we hope, many thousand dollars to the college, and to other colleges in this and other States. If Bethany's alabaster box of ointment is still being told of as memorial of her who did what she could to honor her Lord, this thing that the Thomas family have done shall bear fruit through coming generations.

We congratulate all the friends of Richmond College, and especially those who gave the money with which this building was erected. We happen to know better than some others something of the sacrifices that were made in bringing this to pass. When the appeal was made at the North for contributions with which to erect this Jeter Memorial building, there was not that good feeling and good under
standing which now exists between the Baptists of the two great sections. It seemed to many a daring impudence to come North for any such purpose, and only one man will ever know how many hard knocks were given in the place of the money for which he applied. One never knows until he tries a thing like this how many ways there are in which you may discourage a beggar. You can answer him roughly or not answer him at all; you can look up at him or not look at him at all; you can point to the door or shake your head; you can ask him why he does not go to some one else instead of coming to you; you can ask him why he did not take better care of his own money, or why he was not more loyal to his own country. But there were an elect few whose ear and heart could be reached. It was a new thing—the idea of helping the Southern Baptists in this way had scarcely dawned upon many of our brethren of the North at that early day.

But much has been done since. Some who gave their first dollar in this direction to this building, have since given very generously to other Southern colleges and to our Theological Seminary. We wish all such could have been present last Thursday night and seen how our people are now helping themselves. Scores of times, when doing that pioneer work at the North, we were asked: "What have your own people done?" and as often we told of James Thomas, Jr., and of the many thousands he had given. Now that he has laid down life's burdens and entered upon his rest, we can point to what his wife and children are doing, and we can point to generous sums that others are giving to Richmond College. It is a time for congratulations, and we congratulate the friends of education throughout the whole country and the whole world. As in former years efforts to help Richmond College helped other colleges, so now, what is being done here to-day will be felt everywhere. The cause is one. We help everywhere when we help anywhere.

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise him all creatures here below."

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EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

Into this number of the Messenger a new department has been introduced, which will bear the name of Breezes FROM OUR CAMPUS. Under this head we hope there will be published every month short articles from the students at large touching the various matters which enter into or affect student life at college. Its aim is to afford each student an opportunity to offer suggestions or make criticisms which have for their object the improvement of any of the diverse phases of college life. This is not altogether a new feature in college journalism. Similar departments have been found upon trial in other colleges to prove interesting and helpful, and why should not the Breezes which in the future shall blow from our campus be just as exhilarating, helpful and suggestive as those from any other college, North or South? We believe that their gentle whispers
will be as effective in bringing about good results and introducing improved methods in the management of matters pertinent to our physical, social, mental and moral improvement, as the Voices heard from among the classic shades of a Northern university, the Acorns that drop from a Southern oak, the Chips or Leaflets of Western colleges, or any other one of the numerous channels through which the fertile brains of college men bring into objective existence their ideas and plans for the betterment of college environments.

Breezes sometimes create a rustle among the leaves or a ripple on the waters, and if such should prove to be the case with those which blow from our campus, we must remember that dry bones rattle when they are shaken, and that the same breeze which dislodges a sere and faded leaf brings life and strength to its more worthy fellows. If there are evils which should be eradicated, let the axe be laid to their roots with unflinching hand. But it is to the suggestions in regard to improved methods of work which its columns shall contain that we look forward to with the fondest expectations. It remains to be seen whether these bright anticipations are to be fulfilled or allowed to perish.

This department has been started in the Messenger with the belief that it will create an interest in our magazine heretofore unknown. The students as a body have for some time past manifested very little concern about the welfare of their college organ, some going so far as never to peruse its pages, and assigning as their reason for such a course that it contained nothing of interest to them. Should not, then, the few faithful friends of the Messenger see to it that they support and encourage any innovation that promises to awaken an interest in the paper? We believe that Breezes from Our Campus can make this promise and fulfil it. Come on now, Mu Sigma Rhonians and Philologians, with your ideas on such subjects as we have indicated, or such others as you may deem appropriate. Express yourselves freely, and withal concisely, and be sure you will be heard and felt. Be brief, or altogether we might have a gale. Blow breezes, blow, and may your gentle zephyrs instil fresh vigor and renewed energy into all the enterprises usually attendant upon the session's work, and be the means of setting on foot schemes which will be pleasantly remembered as fraught with both pleasure and profit.

With this issue of the Messenger the term of office of the present corps of editors expires. Although the phrase has become trite, it is true of us as of many of our predecessors, that we lay aside our editorial pen with mingled feelings of pleasure and regret. We are glad to be free from the cares inevitably attendant upon the position of editor, but the ameliorating features of the office are many, and cannot be overlooked in forming an estimate of the situation. We feel certain that our experience has not been far different from that of those who have held the place before us. All the world is strangely alike, in the editor's chair of a college magazine as well as in any other department of human life. Those of our readers who have held like positions can fully appreciate our feelings as we retire from the sanctum. To all others we can only say you must try
it yourselves if you would know the varied items which enter into the sum total of an editor’s experience. Our retrospective glance brings painfully to mind how far short we have fallen of what we set out to accomplish. But we find consolation in the words of one of the world’s true heroes, “Low aim, not failure, is crime.” What we have done has been performed with willing though unskillful hands. It has been a pleasure to write for the columns of the Messenger, and we feel amply repaid for all our trouble by the experience we have gained, and the new ideas we have received, as we have looked at the world at large and the college world in particular, through the editor’s glasses. The survey has been pleasant, and we are glad that it has been our fortune to behold the picture.

The incoming staff of editors have our best wishes for their success. If they but keep before them the maxim that hard work is the price of success in any undertaking they need have no fear about their untried fortunes in their new position.

Financially the Messenger is on a firm basis. There is a surplus in the treasury, and from the hearty endorsement given it two weeks ago by the Societies in joint session, we have no fear for its future.

With our interest in the paper only intensified by what we have tried to do for it, and with a confident trust that under a new management it will make greater advances toward its proper place in the front rank of college journalism, we say adieu to all, magazines and patrons, while the door of our sanctum has closed behind us forever.

We would urge upon the students the obligation resting upon them to do their dealing, as far as possible, with those firms which advertise in the Messenger. This is a duty you owe to the firms themselves, to your business manager, and to your magazine. Were it not for the revenue thus emptied into your treasury you would have no paper at all. You are largely indebted to the men who advertise in your columns for the maintenance of your magazine. Ought you not, therefore, to see to it that they feel that their interest is appreciated and will not remain unrequited? You have promised them your patronage. See that they receive it.

**SCIENTIFIC NOTES.**

We return thanks to Professor Ormond Stone, Director of the Leander McCormick Observatory of the University of Virginia, for a copy of his report for the year ending June 1st, 1887. The following extract will indicate the importance and value of the work done by Professor Stone:

“*The observations of the Nebula of Orion, made at this observatory in 1885, were made without a knowledge of the existence of the photograph by Mr. A. Ainslie Common, of Ealing, England. This beautiful photograph, without doubt, gives the form with an accuracy which is unattainable by any other known means;*
still I am inclined to agree with Professor Holden, "that the figure of the Nebula of Orion has remained the same from 1758 to now; but that in the brightness of its parts undoubted variations have taken place, and that such changes are even now going on;" and it may be taken as an axiom, that any changes in form will be at least accompanied, if not preceded, by changes in brightness. If this be true, it is not to photography, but to photometry, that we must look for the earliest positive evidence of changes in this the most remarkable nebula in the heavens. During the past year the brighter portion of the nebula has been repeatedly examined, for the purpose of determining the relative brightness of the various condensations of which it is composed. The region A preceding the trapezium has been especially observed, and the brightness of its condensations compared with one another and with other portions of the Huyghenian region. The difference of brightness has been estimated in "steps," as was done by Argelander in his observations of variable stars, each condensation being usually compared on the same night both with brighter and with fainter condensations. In connection therewith, estimates have been made of the relative brightness of the stars in the brighter portion of the nebula in order to trace, if possible, any connection which may exist between them and the nebula.

The examination and sketching of southern nebulae has been continued. Three hundred and fifty-one observations of miscellaneous nebulae have been made, resulting in a large number of sketches, and in the discovery of two hundred and seventy nebulae which are supposed not to have been hitherto detected.

Our knowledge of the motions of the so-called fixed stars is steadily increasing; but astronomers have practically no knowledge of the motions of the nebula. A knowledge of these motions is essential, if we are to know the relation of these bodies to the rest of the universe. Their faintness and their diffuse appearance render it possible to make accurate meridian observations of only an exceedingly small number of them. The positions of the remainder must be determined by comparison with neighboring stars, and for most of them the most powerful instruments are required. Such observations are made very slowly, but are exceedingly important. A working list has, therefore, been prepared containing all known nebulae, north of 30° south declination, which are as bright as the fourteenth magnitude and condensed at the centre. Comparisons of right ascension and declination are made with the filar micrometer. The wires are illuminated with red light, the brightness of which is easily regulated by a switch situated at the back of the observing chair. During the year, one hundred and seventy-six such observations have been made. The nebulae thus far observed, with only two exceptions, are south of the equator.

**Alum for Bad Water.**—The use of alum to clear muddy water has long been known, but Professor Leeds, in the course of an investigation on an outbreak of typhoid fever at Mount Holly, discovered another value in the use of alum, which, if his observation proves correct, may be very important. He found that the water which was supplied to the
inhabitants of Mount Holly was swarming with bacteria, about fifteen drops being capable of forming 8,100 colonies of these microscopic vegetal germs when spread upon a suitable surface. He tried the experiment of adding a minute amount of alum to this water in the proportion of only half a grain to a gallon, and found that not only was the dirt and coloring matter precipitated, but that instead of the same quantity of water containing 8,100 colonies of bacteria, it contained only 80, and these were all of a large form.

On filtering the water through two thicknesses of filtering paper, he found that the filtered water contained no bacteria, but was "as sterile as if it had been subject to prolonged boiling." This amount of alum is too small to be evident to the taste, and is not harmful to health. If his observations shall remain unrefuted, they may form a valuable method of purifying polluted drinking water. Of course it does not follow that, because bacteria are removed, therefore the obscure cause of diseases due to impure drinking water is also removed; but bacteria and these diseases appear to be coincident, even if not linked almost as cause and effect, according to modern theories, and it is not too much to hope that if the bacteria are removed the virus of these diseases will be removed with them.—Public Ledger.

Dr. Goldschneider lately presented and explained to the Berlin Physiological Society plates illustrating the topography of the sense of temperature. The sense of heat and cold was determined for the whole surface of the body, and arranged in a series corresponding to twelve degrees of intensity. As a general result, it was found that the sense of cold is more extended than that of heat; that both senses are more developed on the trunk than on the extremities; that the sense of temperature is less acute in the median line of the body; that the distribution of this sense over the surface of the body is quite different from that of the sense of touch; and that the points of exit of the nerves possess little or no sense of temperature.—Scientific American.

Coffee acts upon the brain as a stimulant, inciting it to increased activity and producing sleeplessness; hence it is of great value as an antidote to narcotic poisons. It is also supposed to prevent too rapid waste in the tissues of the body, and in that way enables it to support life on less food. These effects are due to the volatile oil and also to a peculiar crystallizable nitrogenous principle termed caffeine. The leaves of the plant likewise contain the same principle, and the inhabitants of the island of Sumatra prefer an infusion of the leaves to that of the berries. Its essential qualities are also greatly changed, the heat causing the development of the volatile oil and peculiar acid which gives aroma and flavor.—Scientific American.
THE PREP'S SOLILOQUY.

To pass—or not to pass—that is the question;
Whether 'tis nobler in the mind, to suffer
The slings and taunts of outrageous examinations;
Or to take flight from a sea of troubles,
And, by leaving, escape them? To flee, to skip;
No more; and by a skip, to say we end
The many heartaches, and the thousand natural shocks
That students are heir to,—'tis a consummation
Devoutly to be wished. To pass,—to stick;—
To stick! perchance to swamp!—ay, there's the rub;
For, in examinations who knows what questions may come,
When we have shuffled off uncertain text books,
Must give us pain. There's the respect
That makes the monkey paper a necessity;
For who would bear the whips and scorns of the good
Students' jeers, the professors' contumely,
The thoughts of despised lessons, the shortened grades,
The insolence of seniors, and the spurns
That patient merit of the unworthy takes,
When he himself better grades might make
By simply knowing? Who would this labor bear
To grunt and sweat in a weary examination
But that the dread of something after this term,
Puzzles the will, and makes us rather stand
Those examinations that we have, than wait for others that we know
not of.
Thus ignorance doth make cowards of us all.

—University Echo.
BREEZES FROM OUR CAMPUS.

[Not very many breezes are blowing this month. They are hardly under way yet, but the season for windy weather is approaching, and we may hope that some breezes will be set a-movin from our campus. We ask the attention of the whole body of students to the following suggestions from their ranks:]

The students have taken hold of the Athletic Association with more vigor than usual. It bids fair to accomplish the object set forth in its constitution: "To furnish the students of Richmond College with that physical exercise which is necessary to their best health and development." The Association gains dignity and importance from the probability that the gymnasium, both hall and apparatus, will be under its control. It behooves every student to become a member, feeling assured that the small membership fee will be returned to him a thousand-fold in increased health, strength and manliness.

The Association is also the patron of tennis, base-ball, and foot-ball, and proposes to consider the institution of athletic games.

Foot-ball, which is the most seasonable sport at present, may be expected to receive a decided impetus from the adoption of the inter-collegiate rules. Everybody seemed to be "down" upon them at first, but as they are more fully learned the beauty of the new game will appear.

Tennis also is on a boom that promises well for the season of 1888. Base-ball has received valuable additions in playing material.

It is to be hoped that the students will learn the importance of moral and pecuniary support to Athletics. Especially in the matter of the gymnasium it is necessary that when we receive the new build-
they consider their mental training of little importance. To all such—with re-

pect to Athletics—we would remain in peaceful silence.

Mr. We would, then, earnestly advise all, with an almost breathless audience, a "rat" was gazing with admiration at the new candelabra, and whispered to his friend, "Wonder why those candles don't melt?"

Mr. M., finding his oil can needed re-

plenishing, went over to the treasurer's house and rang the door-bell. When the servant appeared, Mr. M. said: "Tell Professor P. that I came to get some oil." Professor P. generally keeps on hand a supply of oil, but for a later period of January, 1886, fresh in my memory, but heartily recommend the scheme as one prospective of the most enjoyable and profitable recreation.

Our chairman is one of the best of men to lead a party of this kind. The whole track from here to Washington is laid on the most historic soil in America. The things of interest on the route from Richmond to Washington are worth the trip, while in the city itself there are places of interest too numerous to mention. A student can spend a month in the National Museum, a month in the Smithsonian Institute, a month in the Capitol, a month in the War Museum, and a month around (on the outside before he gets in) the White House. So he sees five months' worth in a day. Besides it is worth, to a man who never saw them, a trip to see the Potomac, and Pennsylvania Avenue. No American really knows the greatness of his patria until he goes to its capital city. No American ought to die till he has seen Washington. No student who has never been there ought to let this session pass without an effort to get up this excursion.

OUR CHAIRMAN IS ONE OF THE BEST OF MEN TO LEAD A PARTY OF THIS KIND. THE WHOLE TRACK FROM HERE TO WASHINGTON IS LAYED ON THE MOST HISTORIC SOIL IN AMERICA. THE THINGS OF INTEREST ON THE ROUTE FROM RICHMOND TO WASHINGTON ARE WORTH THE TRIP, WHILE IN THE CITY ITSELF THERE ARE PLACES OF INTEREST TOO NUMEROUS TO MENTION. A STUDENT CAN SPEND A MONTH IN THE NATIONAL MUSEUM, A MONTH IN THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTE, A MONTH IN THE CAPITOL, A MONTH IN THE WAR MUSEUM, AND A MONTH AROUND (ON THE OUTSIDE BEFORE HE GETS IN) THE WHITE HOUSE. SO HE SEES FIVE MONTHS' WORTH IN A DAY. BEZIDES IT IS WORTH, TO A MAN WHO NEVER SAW THEM, A TRIP TO SEE THE POTOMAC, AND PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE. NO AMERICAN REALLY KNOWS THE GREATNESS OF HIS PATRIA UNLIL HE GOES TO ITS CAPITAL CITY. NO AMERICAN OUGHT TO DIE TILL HE HAS SEEN WASHINGTON. NO STUDENT WHO HAS NEVER BEEN THERE OUGHT TO LET THIS SESSION PASS WITHOUT AN EFFORT TO GET UP THIS EXCURSION.

VIATOR.

"Rat." Rat Rat. Rat R-rat R-r-r-at. Hello! Old Boy, are you back again? What's your ticket? I "bet" you'll "flunk."

A "Rat" says of the electric lights that they are the brightest candles he ever saw, and if they don't sell 'em too high, he is going to buy one and send it home to the old man.

On the door of a would-be boarding-house near the college campus hangs the following: Notice—"Rats for Board." Cook them well.

A youth of the "long tail genus" being of an economical turn of mind, was very much offended because the street-car conductor would not wait until he could bring his trunk on board and have it carried to the college for the same precious nickel he paid for himself.

Sixteen things we would like to know:

1. Who is the best looking "rat"?
2. Who will get the "calico medal" this year?
3. Who will get on the first nine?
4. Why Mr. W. did not return to college?
5. Why Mr. A., of Virginia, watches
the mail-box so closely, and then looks so dejected after the postman passes?

6. Which of the "Rats" consulted the the Chairman about his love affairs?

7. Why Mr. P. spent his summer in Richmond?

8. What caused Mr. M. to stop counting cross-ties?

9. When will the "House of Commons" be completed?

10. Who ascended the tower to find "the northwestern corner of Africa" and did not get down in safety?

11. Who slid down on the lightning-rod when the fire-bells rang and some: body cried fire!?

12. Why Mr. P. didn't get on the "Bord"?

13. If Mr. B. has found out from the schedule how often "boss day" comes?

14. Who was on his knees, begging his darling to write to him, at our last commencement, and why they don't speak now?

15. The solution of the following problem: Mr. C. has a toe two inches long. It is midnight. Four chairs barricade the door while two lend additional security to the window. Outside in the corridor with bated breath stand seven boys with a rope exactly twenty-nine feet long.

Required: 1. How many chairs can be moved before C. awakens? 2. Where will he be at 2 P. M. if the number of feet he is dragged equals the number of chairs multiplied by the number of yells he utters plus the number of times his "old lady" says "keep cool and cut the rope"?

16. If the "Knights of Dark Lantern" should on one of their nocturnal excursions accidently entangle the longest projection of Mr. H.'s pedal extremity, and should unthoughtedly run away, how long would it be before H. found it out, and how far would his foot be when his head moved?

We are glad to see that an effort is being made to enlist all of the student body in the Athletic Association of the College.

Nothing is more necessary to mental development than daily exercise. One has a strong physical and mental desire for it.

Often has the question been asked why Mr. B. walks with such a stately step and always wears on his face a pleasant smile; but we do not wonder that such is the case when we remember that he is no longer the "old Bocun" of former years, but Prof. Boatwright. Congratulations.

Professor to Mr. H.: "Where is the organ of taste?"

Mr. H.: "In the mouth, sir."

Professor: "Be more definite, Mr. H."

Mr. H.: "The tongue."

Professor: "Be more definite still."

Mr. H.: "On the back, sir."

Two Senior Latin men in conversation; one asked: "Where did Cicero go when he was banished from Rome?" The other replied: "To his dinner."

Mr. K., giving an account of the shooting of a negro, in answer to the question...
was he badly shot, said: "Yes, he had to be carried home in an avalanche." Hurrah for Charlie.

At the dedication of the Thomas Memorial Hall, while Dr. Broadus was holding an almost breathless audience, a "Rat" was gazing with admiration at the new candelabra, and whispered to his friend, "Wonder why those candles don't melt?"

Mr. M., finding his oil can needed replenishing, went over to the treasurer's house and rang the door-bell. When the servant appeared, Mr. M. said: "Tell Professor P. that I came to get some oil." Professor P. generally keeps on hand a good supply of oil, but for a later period in the session.

Mr. X., upon his return to college, took his girl driving, and when they had driven for some time she informed him that she could never be the same to him that she once was, whereupon Mr. X. replied: "Well, I am nearer the college now than I would be at your house, so I will leave you here." Good for X.

REUNION OF THE LITERARY SOCIETIES.—One of the most brilliant reunions ever known in the history of the Literary Societies took place Friday and Saturday nights, September 23d and 24th. On Friday night, 23d, the hall of the Mu Sigma Rho Society was filled with a large and attentive crowd of both old and new students. At 8 o'clock Mr. M. A. Jones, vice-president, called the Society to order, and in a short but eloquent and impressive speech welcomed the new students to the reunion of the Mu Sigma Rho Society, and impressed upon the audience the importance of being able to express clearly their thoughts in language, and that nowhere were greater facilities to be found for acquiring this end than in a Literary Society. Mr. Jones then introduced as orator of the occasion Mr. H. W. Straley, of West Virginia, who entertained the audience for some time with an eloquent and able address on American development, which we are glad to be able to publish in this issue of the Messenger. After Mr. Straley finished, the crowd listened with delight to quite a number of brief and spicy speeches from both old and new students. Everybody seemed to be in their happiest mood, and determined to make the occasion as joyous as possible, and were thereby prepared to enjoy to the fullest extent the pleasure which the occasion afforded.

Saturday night (24th) the students assembled in the hall of the Philologian Society to take part in and enjoy its reunion exercises. At 8 o'clock the Society was called to order by the president, Mr. J. D. Martin, who, in his simple and happy style, greeted the old students upon their return to their accustomed places, and extended a hearty welcome to the new students and impressed upon them the importance of joining one of the Literary Societies, and hoped soon to greet many of them as fellow Philologians.

The president then introduced Mr. O. L. Martin, of Henry county, Va., as orator of the occasion, who took for his theme "The Demands upon the Southern Scholar." Mr. Martin spoke in his usually happy style, entertaining the audience with a speech of rare eloquence, interspersing it with happy hits and humorous jokes, fre-
quenty bringing down the house, and closed in a round of applause.

Many were now called out, both old and new students, and the Society was highly entertained until the late hour of ten, when the meeting adjourned with an audience loth to leave the hall because of the pleasure of the occasion.

Thus passed a pleasant and profitable reunion, leaving the Literary Societies with, we trust, the most brilliant prospect of many years past.

The Y. M. C. A. held its reunion on Thursday night, Sept. 29th. Mr. J. D. Martin presided, and after devotional exercises introduced Mr. C. T. Kincannon, who, in a brief but well-worded speech, welcomed the new students to the work and privileges of the Association. Mr. Martin then very briefly set forth the workings of the Association, and urged upon all the importance of joining and putting their hands to the work to sustain the past record of the Association as a band of Christian workers. On Saturday night, October 1st, the Association held its first regular business meeting, when a large number of new students joined. The officers of the Association for the ensuing term are: President, H. W. Jones; Vice-President, J. G. Dickinson; Corresponding Secretary, S. T. Dickinson; Recording Secretary, F. C. Johnson; Treasurer, S. C. Dorsey. The prospect before the Association is good, and we hope that every effort will be put forth for a profitable session.

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PERSONALS.

S. W. Dorsett, 1886-'7, now pastor of the Baptist church of Williamsburg, Va., was married on the 26th of September to Miss Cora Slater, of Williamsburg. We wish you much happiness, Watson.

J. V. Dickinson, 1885-'6, is preaching at Rocky Mount, Va. John became weary of single blessedness, so last July he took to himself a better half. Joy be with you and your bride, John.

E. B. Hatcher, M. A., 1885-'6, is at Johns Hopkins University. Go it, "Hatch," we bet on you.

W. A. Harris, M. A., 1885-'6, is teaching at the Alleghany Institute. "Bill," how is football?

O. L. Stearns, M. A., 1885-'6, is still principal of the Alleghany Institute. How are you, Oren? How do the boys serve you?

R. C. Stearns, M. A., 1886-'7, is teaching at the Alleghany Institute.

H. F. Cox, M. A., 1886-'7, is teaching at Middlebrook, Augusta county. He is very much pleased that his associates in the faculty are young ladies.

W. C. Robinson, M. A., 1886-'7, is teaching at the Homestead Academy, in Chesterfield.

T. R. Corr, M. A., 1886-'7, is at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, in Louisville, Ky. "Tom," do you get anything to eat, now?

A. H. Hill, B. A., 1886-'7, has been elected principal of the Scottsville Graded School. How is lawn tennis now, old fellow?

W. C. Tyree, B. A., 1886-'7, is at the University of Virginia, taking an
academic course. Go it old fellow, we bet on you.

J. P. Massie, B. A., 1886–’7, is taking a course in medicine at the University of Virginia. How are times now, "Pogue?"

E. B. Pollard, M. A., 1885–’6, is at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, in Louisville, Ky.

W. H. Washington was called home a few days after his return to college by the death of his father. He has our deepest sympathies.

J. L. Brown, 1885–’6, is in business in Danville. How are the girls, "Lute"?

J. E. Potts, 1886–’7, is in the clothing business with J. R. Sheppard, on Broad street, Richmond. Boys, give him a call.

Edwin Barbour, 1886–’7, is editing a newspaper in Culpeper. Send us a copy, "Ben."

L. B. Fountaine, 1886–’7, is at the University of Texas. How are you, "Lannie"?

W. F. Lewis, 1885–’7, has been elected to a professorship in Kingston College, North Carolina. Old boy, we congratulate you, but we need your help very much this Messenger.

J. R. Thomas, 1885–’6, is applying for graduation at the Virginia Medical College this session. Good luck to you, "Tom."

W. S. Catlett, 1885–’7, is at the Crozer Theological Seminary.

L. C. Catlett, M. A., 1880–’1, is editing a newspaper at Gloucester Courthouse. We wish him great success.

It is with sadness that we note the death of Harry L. Price, 1885–’6. He died during the last summer of typhoid fever. We deeply sympathize with his family.

T. H. Edwards, 1885–’7, is reading law in King William. "Squaw," how are the girls serving you?

R. D. Tucker, M. A., 1886–’7, is teaching a private school at Ducker’s, Woodford county, Ky., and we understand that is a very private one, too. He is doing well and having a nice time.

We have received advance sheets of "Etowah, a Romance of the Confederacy," by Francis Fontaine. The author sets forth his purpose in writing the book in words to the following effect: "I will write a book which will show the South as it was and is—the domestic life and customs of the people, both white and black, both slave and free—a book written to give the true history of that remarkable struggle which so puzzled foreigners, without pandering to Northern or Southern prejudices." That such a book as this proposes to be, is needed, there can be no doubt. It is true, as the author states, that we have no book which impartially and adequately describes the domestic life of the Southern people under the regime of slavery. We are glad to have such a book promised the present generation, and glad, too, that the book is written with such a noble aim, viz.: to assist in building a home for disabled Confederate veterans in the city of Atlanta, to which object one half of the proceeds of the book will be applied.
The interest that has recently been manifested in literary circles in regard to Southern domestic life and customs, and the eagerness with which everything tending to shed light upon the ante-bellum civilization, has been sought out, presages for this book a warm and hearty reception in the North, as well as among the children of the people whose home life it undertakes to describe. That the author has adhered to his resolve to give an impartial view, and one untunged with bitterness, in so far as lies within the power of fallible man, is evinced in the chapters which it has been our pleasure to read.

The book opens with a scene in New Orleans at that memorable time when the South was confidently arraying herself for a conflict which she deemed would be of but short duration, but which for four long years drenched her sunny plains in blood. In the first few chapters of the book we have an interesting picture of Creole life. The scene then shifts to the capital city, and then to various points in the South. The author does not fail to touch at length on the life and condition of the slave population. Harriet Beecher Stowe has portrayed one side of this factor in Southern civilization most vividly. Our author undertakes, and so far as we have read, successfully, to give us both sides, the bright as well as the dark.

The book is written in a simple, easy style, and its contents are so absorbing that one forgets the artifice of the thought in his eagerness to pursue the thread of the story.

Our first impressions of this book are very favorable, and we hope that we may soon have the pleasure of having them confirmed by a careful perusal of the entire book.

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EXCHANGES.

The Exchange department feels the loss of its faithful editor, Mr. W. F. Lewis, who is now a professor in Kinston College, N. C. This is our excuse for any deterioration this department may have undergone.

Quite a number of college journals have found their way to our table this month. At intervals all through the summer we were receiving belated issues of various college papers. Only one of our exchanges, however, possessed sufficient vitality to make its appearance regularly despite the enervating heat of the summer months. This was the Hillsdale College Herald. This paper has a very large and deserved circulation,—the largest, we believe, of any college paper published in the United States. It is an admirable local paper.

The editor of the University Voice is possessed of a candor and frankness which some others dare not imitate, and which we fear some college faculties, while they would do well to profit by it, would not always commend. Listen to what he says:

"Dear new students, we beg of you don't let your restless curiosity lead you to go peregrinating about in search of the museum, 'the playing fountains,' fresh
lake air, wings and other things, which you have read about in the catalogue. There is a certain piquancy of mysticism clustering these, which we do not care to have dispelled by your rude inquisitiveness."

The September number of the Niagara Index is before us. The first thing that comes into our mind when our eye falls upon it is, "Who has incurred the wrath of its exchange editor this month?" For billingsgate and opprobrious epithets the vocabulary of the editor of that department is unsurpassed. Such talk as one finds there is a disgrace to a college magazine.

We are glad to greet once more the Pacific Pharos. After an enforced suspension it comes forth from its slumbers with promises of renewed and increased usefulness. We are sure that the news of its resurrection will be received with genuine pleasure throughout the entire college world.

The editorials of the College Olio are sensible and to the point.

We have received a copy of the first issue of the Blue Ridge Student, published at Globe, N. C. Its chief article, entitled "How I Didn't get Wealthier but Wiser," is highly realistic. We would advise any one who imagines he can get rich by selling books, to sit down and read the experience of one who has tried it.

Wake Forest is justly proud of her magazine, The Student. It is doing much to raise the standard of college journalism to the place it ought to occupy. Its matter, as well as external get-up, is first-class.

The Student Life contains a sensible article on the Indian club and its use. We believe the claims made for this valuable aid to physical development are confirmed wherever they have been properly used.

We have not found time to read all of the Hollins Annual, but what we have read makes us regret that the young ladies do not find it expedient to publish a magazine regularly. The prominent place given to English studies at that institution is evinced by the merits of the paper on "Some Aspects of Womanhood in Chaucer, Shakspeare, and Tennison."

The Scientific American and The Educational Journal of Virginia are valued exchanges. Every issue of each is full of information which no teacher ought to be without.

COLLEGE NEWS AND FUN.

"REALISM."—A correspondent writes us as follows: "Sir: In reading Mr. W. D. Howell's story now running in Harper's Monthly I found the following sentence referring to the manner of a young lady in taking a gentleman's arm at an evening party: 'She did it with a cold, bright smile, making white rings of ironical deprecation around the pupils of her eyes.' Will you kindly give me the recipe which she used in making white rings of ironical deprecation around the
pupils of her eyes?” We really do not know how she did it, but she got there just the same.—Life.

The ancient and famous city of Damascus, which was a place of some importance 1900 years B.C., is busy with plans for laying railroad lines through the streets. Street-cars in a city said to have been founded by Abraham would be a startling novelty. The place has 120,000 inhabitants.—Exchange.

Senior to Prep: “Say, H., what are you getting rattled on that girl from— for? I didn’t think that of you. Oh, you needn’t try to get out of it. I thought you had better sense than to do that.” After a pause, “By-jingo! Ain’t she a nice girl, though?”

There are over 1,000 Young Men’s Christian Associations in this country, with a membership of 140,000, expending for Christian work $780,000. The aggregate of property in buildings, libraries, etc., is over $5,000,000.—Exe.

A little girl was overheard to read with much earnestness the other day: “To err is woman; to forgive, divine.”—Exe.

A new university is to be established at Wichita, Kan. It is to be named in honor of President Garfield, and is to cost $2,000,000.—Exe.

At Illinois College the rule that a student who obtains a grade of 80 per cent. need not pass the examinations has been in force a year, and both students and faculty are satisfied with it.—Exe.

—THE—

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