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VOL. XVIII.

OCTOBER, 1891.

No. 1.

THE CANNONS ON FORT INDEPENDENCE, BOSTON HARBOR.

Mouth-deep in the long and summer lush grass,
Just idling there, sniffing the winds that pass—
The brine-breeze from sea and the balm-breeze from land,
Their throats unchoked and their limbers unmanned.

No fires are startling their bosoms deep,
And their only voice is the whispers that sweep
O'er their restful lips to the harbor fleets
That pace in safety their watery beats.

O guns that lie on the island green,
Unmanned, untended, almost unseen,
You speak to the peoples of earth great things—
Columbia's peace 'neath the white dove's wings.

A thousand sails and a thousand wheels
Pass daily by on their confident keels;
Behind your ramparts the city sleeps well,
Nor dreams of disaster or danger's knell.

Grow lusher, green mounds, you beds of the guns ;
 Rest on, O guns, 'neath a million suns ;
 Lave on, O brine, at the fort's rocky base ;
 Float on, white fleets, to the mart and the race.

O morning that lifts from the rosy sea,
 O stars that dream on your purple lea,
 Oh, kiss the sweet grass and the guns at rest !
 Sleep ever, O guns, in your grasses bedrest !

Steamer Penobscott, August 11, 1891.

L. R. HAMBERLIN.

THE WELCOME ADDRESS OF THE MU SIGMA RHO SOCIETY.

[DELIVERED SEPT. 25, 1891, BY CLAGETT SKINNER, OF VIRGINIA.]

Mr. President, Gentlemen of the Mu Sigma Rho Society, and Visitors :

In selecting a topic for this occasion, it has not been my intention to seek any new field of investigation, to review the labor question, to solve any mysteries of socialism, nor to take any lofty flights of the imagination, but my purpose is to notice, in a practical and original way, what I beg leave to call

THE USEFUL MAN.

If useful consists in being great, then most of us must abandon the idea of ever being useful ; but if greatness consists in being useful, every one of us may be truly great. But the useful and the great man are distinguishable, though they may be associated with each other.

One may assuredly be useful without being great in the eyes of his fellow-men ; but no one can be truly great without being useful. Great occasions produce great men, but all ages and occasions have called for useful men. A man's birth may make him great, but the patient and daily discharge of duties makes him useful. It is much more the persistence of effort than the performance of pleasant tasks that makes a man of great service. No ties of kindred, no achievements of ancestors, can make us useful. It emanates from within ourselves. When there is some national movement of prime importance, or when the dark thunder cloud of war overshadows our land of liberty, then the crisis calls for great men to seize the helm and pilot the ship of state over the rough billows of disaster safely

into the harbor of peace. But in this busy world of commerce and social intercourse it stretches forth its hand for men of usefulness.

How may men become useful?

Perhaps it would be unwise to prescribe any precise rules by which men may become useful, for just as usefulness in life varies, so must a man's qualifications vary. The preparation which would fit one for life depends largely upon the nature of the service he expects to render. There are, however, some requisites to a proper execution of any performance, no matter how varied its nature may be. An orator may be born, a poet may be inspired by the results of his predecessors, but the useful man is born with his eyes open to his surroundings, inspired by the cry of his fellow-beings, and educated in the great school of experience. Some rare endowment of genius has often made certain men useful to their own times and illustrious to their posterity, but such is rather the exception than the rule. Character is obviously essential to any great service. If a man has a model character, though nothing else, he has the means of being eminently useful. No mental culture can possibly compensate for the absence of those elements of character that make life worth living. Many men with good natural and acquired abilities have left along the pathway of an unfruitful life the record of an immoral character. The rarest intellectual gifts, when associated with profligate men, are but pearls buried in the mud of human depravity. Lord Byron had a clear intellect, and was endowed with a rare poetic genius, but being deprived of those high moral qualities which contribute to a well-rounded man, he disgraced himself with his unrestrainable temper, and led his family to shame and reproach. Was he either useful or great? History awards him the honor of his genius, but leaves him to bear the ignominy of his ill-tempered nature and licentious character. Multitudes of lesser lights, without his intellect or genius, bear his image in disposition and want of self-control, and bury their powers for usefulness in the sepulchre from the door of which no angel ever rolls away the stone.

To be useful, in the highest sense of the word, one must be educated. Still, there must be some natural requirements, for unless a man has some of these qualifications, an education will be of little service to him. I do not mean to say that every man must study the languages and sciences; those are only parts of an education. Beyond all books, behind all class work, is the daily task that edu-

cates and developes men. An eminent writer has said that an educated man is one who has sound judgment and knows how to reason to right conclusions—who is not only educated in college, but is acquainted with his environments, so as to be of some available service. Of what service to the world is a man who lives in seclusion all his life and knows nothing of his surroundings? If a man would have an education that would make him useful, he must keep pace with the times. If there is one thing more than another to which Mr. Gladstone's greatness and usefulness can be attributed, it is due to the very fact that he has kept abreast of the the age in which he lives. The world moves rapidly, and unless we move likewise we cause a discord. A useful man will rotate with the world.

Again, it is very necessary for one who expects to be useful in the highest degree to have some definite object in view. Few men ever accomplish much for the world who have not concentrated their powers. In this active and rushing age all obstacles crumble before the penetrating power of a well-defined purpose. One just entering upon the threshold of life should let his efforts be towards accomplishing some end. A man who has no mission beyond making a living, and whose end is nothing more than personal maintenance, will eventually be weighed in the balances and found woefully wanting. No ray of glory lights the breast that beats for self alone. Men are not so indolent when inspired by a noble purpose. The men who have been of the greatest service have been specialists. They have devoted their time and energy to some single effort. It is necessary that we understand the goal for which we are striving. If we undertake nothing, we will certainly accomplish nothing. Men and women with no aim, no purpose, are said to be "Thieves stealing that which is not theirs, beggars eating that which they have not earned, drones wasting the fruits of others' industry, hypocrites shining in stolen and false colors." The want of employment is truly the most irksome of all wants. Our lives can but prove a failure unless we have an aim. Look at the leaders in the professions. The men of science, who have added to their store of knowledge; the inventors, who have done so much to make this age great; the authors, who have given their thoughts so freely to the listening world—have all been the patient plodders of a single aim, and with fixedness of purpose and concentration of forces have boldly mounted the barriers that lay in their pathway to success.

The world's benefactors have been useful directly and indirectly. Those who spend their lives in striving to benefit others, and whose actions are characterized by a real desire to promote their welfare, are directly useful. Such actions are always praiseworthy, and receive a divine compensation. Mr. Spurgeon is a living example of such a man, for no greater philanthropist has ever favored the nineteenth century with his presence. But our benefactors are not limited to philanthropists, for there are men whose usefulness grows out of their efforts, and is rather the result of their lives than their immediate contact with humanity. The name of Edison will long be associated with those whose results live after them. Such men need no bronze to perpetuate their memory. We do not expect to be as useful as these shining lights; still the relations and circumstances in which we are placed calls for the same earnest effort and faithful activity.

And now, in conclusion, I must say that it is customary upon this occasion to give advice to our new comers, but I fear that the past record of the speaker will not allow an extensive exultation. But I feel inclined to say that you, as fellow-workers, as students, as men, may be wonderfully useful while at this institution, and while you are being useful here you will also be preparing for still greater usefulness. You will, however, become more useful as well as healthful by using discretion and keeping upon the backgrounds until you are summoned to the place of action.

PHYSICAL CULTURE—WHAT IT HAS DONE; WHAT IT CAN DO.

Not long after the solid columns of Napoleon had crushed the flower of German chivalry, and while the bones of her bravest sons were still bleaching on the battle-field of Jena, there arose a man burning with patriotism, and bent on the restoration of his Fatherland. His methods were novel, and received more than their share of ridicule and opposition. In Berlin and other cities he established schools for physical culture, out of which all the systems of the world have sprung. The German nation has recognized his patriotism and the value of his labors by erecting on one of the most beautiful squares of its capital city a noble statue to the memory of Friedrich Ludwig Jahn. After the decisive battle of Koniggratz Austria learned a lesson from Prussia, and the gymnasiums of Vi-

enna now outnumber those of Berlin. A few years later the brilliant campaigns of Von Moltke taught France a lesson which she has learned so thoroughly that, since Sedan, she has again risen to her former rank among the first nations of Europe. How have these great changes been wrought? Statesmen tell us they are due to improved methods for the training of children in mind and body, and many assert that it is due chiefly to the introduction of liberal systems of manual training and physical culture.

What is meant by physical culture? The end at which physical culture aims is symmetrical development. This is attained by means of scientifically-arranged, well-regulated bodily exercise. Such training has made Gladstone eighty-two years *young*. It not only adds *years* to a man's *life*, but it adds *life* to his *years*, which is more important.

There are systems of physical culture of all degrees of goodness—or badness. One thing is essential. Brain, heart, and lungs—the tripod of life—must be developed. Brain and body are nourished by blood. The heart is only an engine, the lungs are the factory; they are the seat of life. The prime aim of training is to give strong lungs, plenty of chest room, and a vigorous circulation. The additional work of securing symmetry of form, grace of motion, and suppleness of limb is important, but under proper training follows as a matter of course.

Physical culture does not aim to make gymnasts and prize-fighters. It is no part of its business to teach men and women to lift heavy weights, or pit themselves against horses and elephants. That is gymnastics run mad; and the advocates of physical culture are no more to blame than doctors are responsible for the freaks of charlatans and quacks.

Some people think that physical culture is not only a fraud, but is positively harmful. A hand-saw is a good thing, but not to shave with. Tight-rope walkers and contortionists have made a razor out of a hand-saw. The muscles which lift the toes may be developed by raising the body on toe-tips, or by hanging head downwards from a parallel bar. The wise teacher always adopts the former method. Nothing but benefit is to be derived from training under proper direction.

Having hastily indicated what we mean by physical culture, I ask do we need it? The answer comes in a thousand forms: "What-

ever adds an inch to a man's shoulder adds a year to his life. Whatever increases his chest measurement increases his power for good. To-day's exercise will cure, or, what is better, will prevent the dyspepsia of to-morrow. If the past generation had taken more exercise, the present generation would be taking fewer pills." An addition of three inches to the chest implies that lungs which before could contain only 250 cubic inches of air are now capable of holding 300. The value of this increased lung capacity is easily seen. Suppose a man were attacked by inflammation of the lungs, or by pleurisy, or some other form of pulmonary disease; any doctor will tell you that an additional fifty inches of lung tissue would generally tide him over the crisis and save his life.

All classes of people need physical training. The farmer-boy has more advantages than any one else, because he lives in the open air and his work is varied; but even *he* lacks symmetrical development. When he mows or shovels he stoops; the muscles of his back enlarge and throws his head forward on his chest. It is so easy to slouch over when sitting on a rake or mower, that the chest suffers again. When he digs or spades, it is the same thing, and his chest actually contracts. When he plows he lifts his feet too high and walks lopsided. Yet he thinks he is all right because he sleeps well and eats heartily. Yet this proves nothing, for a man might tie one arm to his body, and if he swung a hammer with the other, he, too, would eat and sleep the same way. But what sort of a man would he be at the end of six months?

The mechanic is worse off than the farmer. His range of movement is more limited, and he generally works in bad air. Labor has become specialized. There are dozens of men working in shoe-factories in Richmond, and hardly one of them can make a pair of shoes. Each man knows how to do his part, and that is all. He uses the same set of muscles every day, while the others get weaker and flabbier. We are all one-sided by force of habit and heredity. The boy bats and throws with his right hand, and in many games does not use his left at all. Many tools are made only for the right hand. Are such men symmetrical? Have they full control of their body? They may have health, but they ought to have harmony and beauty. Do children need bodily training? Stand at some school-door as the children file out. Look at the big heads, slim necks, and half-built bodies of the boys, and the flat chests, pipe-stem arms, and

weak walk of the girls, and then answer my question. In the city schools of Richmond we have calisthenic exercises ; but this is not enough. We must have gymnasiums with every school. Vienna has 150 teachers of physical culture alone. London has had them for twelve years. Superintendent Philbrick introduced them into the Boston schools, and they have proved a great blessing.

The greatest need of this country is men. A strong man is the noblest work of creation. What would Luther or Beecher have been, or what would Spurgeon or Brooks be to-day without those magnificent bodies which they have built up by constant exercise? Simply to stand before such a man is to feel his power. Such a physique is in the reach of most men. It looks impossible, but so does the multiplication table to one who has never tried it. Men are beginning to discover that they are living under law. If the seed is not sown, it will bear no fruit ; if the horse is not fed, he will not pull. Nature is kind, but exacting. If I want corn, I must plant corn ; if I want large lungs and a well-developed body, I must exercise.

Dr. Sargent took two hundred students at Bowdoin College and trained them half an hour a day, four times a week, for six months. The average increase was as follows : In height, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch ; in weight, 2 pounds ; in chest, $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches ; in arm, 1 inch ; in girth of hips, $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches ; in leg, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches. This can be done anywhere.

SECTIONAL ANIMOSITY.

[ORATION DELIVERED AT THE REUNION OF THE PHILOLOGIAN SOCIETY,
SEPTEMBER 26, 1891, BY W. R. KEEFE, OF NORFOLK.]

Animosity, with all the baneful inclinations of the heart, had its birth amid the beautiful and blissful bowers of Eden. Just outside of these holy precincts the crimson coloring was given to this newborn influence. Ever since direful deeds, sinful schemes, and pernicious purposes of the heart have been executed by the hand. It has been king against baron, pope against king, people against pope, and each against the other.

This peculiarly noxious and destructive power that moves not only the individual, but the nation, extends to the inferior animal kingdom and pervades the region of the fowls of the air. The game-

cock surveys the extent, marks the limits, and no fowl of the masculine gender dare trespass upon his little domain. Before the irrevocable and resistless power of external hate and intestine prejudice dynasties have trembled, empires fallen, and kingdoms perished.

“Instead of harmony, 'tis jar,
And tumult, and intestine war.”

Men boast of independence. Who is the possessor of an independent fortune? From the neglected wild flower of the desert, “born to blush unseen,” up to the spangled heavens, there is a continual mutual dependence of each object or being upon the other. Then isn't it strange that all professions, every single vocation, should bear such obvious marks of so bitter animosity? Political strife and sectional dislike, not only in this favored century, but through all the ages, have been as strong as the differences in men's opinions. With a heart full of animosity and a head full of destructive plans, some mighty chieftain of the darker days assumed peculiar functions, and assembled his patient followers, and

“On either side with ready heart and hand
His chosen band of bold believers stand;
Young fire-eyed disputants, who deem their swords,
On points of faith, more eloquent than words;
And such their zeal, there's not a youth with brand
Uplifted there, but at the chief's command
Would make his own devoted heart its sheath,
And bless the lips that doomed so dear a death!
In hatred to the caliph's hue of night
Their vesture, helms and all, is snowy white”

The hate of the Pharisee towards the publican is surpassed by the animosity of the Democrat towards the Republican, and *vice versa*. While Republican in one section is equivalent to negro, Democrat in another is synonymous with whiskey.

“Yankee,” in many places, has become an expression of contempt, and “rebel” is disgusting to and its significance denied by every Southern volunteer who still mourns his country's loss.

Thus it goes, “brother *versus* brother,” father opposing son, and mother-in-law arrayed against son-in-law. I need not recite or dwell upon the particulars of that animosity which culminated in the “uncivil” strife of sixty-one, and which caused the Potomac, Rap-

pahannock, and James to run red with the blood of Virginia's martyred sons.

The culmination of that animosity was not its termination, for there lingers still in the Southern heart for the "Yankee" and in the Northern heart for the "Rebel" an appalling hatred, like the volcano smothered within the bosom of the mountain, and which rends the rocks for liberation.

Webster said: "Our country, however, is our own." But instead of a blunder of our Northern brethren bringing a blush to our cheek, we glory over their downfall. If what the minute acorn is to the giant oak, the college is to the world, I don't wonder at the arena of life being so crowded with denominational prejudice, political animosity, and sectional dislike.

Laziness makes sarcastic insinuations about industry and energy. Negligence frowns at excellence, while careless indifference will always find abundant time to regret its ill-chosen course. Unfaltering and well-directed efforts shall ever wear a coronet whose composition is a pleasant success. The laurel wreath is not for the brow that frowns at obstacles. Why reveal a malady incurable? I offer a remedy.

Let individual nobleness execute its philanthropic plans. Often when a people writhe beneath an unabating financial, physical, or moral malady, every person affected may see the remedial course to pursue, but invariably hesitates with the ignoble and unmanly confession: "I would follow this advisable course, but for me to act alone would avail nought."

Why, sir! Individual decision makes popular sentiment. When sectional animosity and foreign prejudice have been buried never to witness a resurrection morn, then no North or South will be known, no East or West will be recognized. "Yankee" will be forgotten, and "Rebel" classed with words that are obsolete. Then will ten thousand worthy immigrants cross the threshold of this vast temple between the huge pillars of the "Declaration of Independence" and "Constitution of the States," and, with a devotion that characterizes the American, worship with us at the shrine of the Goddess of Liberty.

Although these Doric columns have been bombarded and battered with shot and shell, yet they stand permanent and powerful as the gates of the Mediterranean. Base and cruel is that ambition

which to excel will crush every formidable rival and lower the standard of excellence.

Gentlemen, who are about to enter the Mu Sigma Rho and Philologian societies, old fellow-students who come to battle at this rostrum for another year, and you honored men of the *alumni* whose presence is indicative of the interest you still have in your *Alma Mater*, as you go back to the busy, bustling, and excited world, I charge, ~~etc.~~, you fling away such ambition. By that the angels in heaven fell, and how can man, the image of his Maker, hope to win thereby? "Love thyself last; cherish those hearts that hate thee; still in thy right hand carry gentle peace to silence envious tongues; be just and fear not; let all the ends thou aimest at be thy Country's, thy God's, and Truth's!"

THACKERAY—A BRIEF SKETCH OF HIS WRITINGS.

That class of English literature which has been cultivated most assiduously and successfully in the latter half of the last and the first half of the present century is prose fiction. Its authors and their works may be separated into two divisions, viz: 1. Romances, *i. e.*, narratives of picturesque and romantic adventures; 2. Novels, pictures of real life.

One of the greatest writers in the latter branch was William Makepeace Thackeray. He was born in Calcutta in 1811, and at an early age was sent to England for the purpose of getting an education. He was a sensitive, timid boy, and shrank from the brutal fights which were not of infrequent occurrence in the schools of that time. He remembered these fights in after years, and examples of them may be found in his "Slaughter-House Fight" (*Men's Wives*), and the encounter between Dobbin and Cuff (*Vanity Fair*). In 1829 he went to Trinity College, Cambridge, but left the next year without taking a degree. He then went to the Continent, and spent four or five years studying art. The sight of the masterpieces made him distrust his own abilities, but during this time he laid up stores of valuable information, which were a great aid to him a few years after, when he was compelled by the loss of his fortune to throw all his powers into literary work.

His first productions were published in *Fraser's Magazine*, and consisted of tales, poetry, and criticisms. In 1841 *Punch* was com-

menced, to which he contributed "The Snob Papers," "Jeanes's Diary," "Rebecca and Rowena," and many other humorous articles, both in poetry and prose. "Rebecca and Rowena" is not only better than any other of his burlesques, but it is one of the best in the language. In it the author displays to the best advantage his superior powers of wit, pathos, and humor. In 1846 and the two years following "Vanity Fair" was published. The work was no sooner completed than the author took his place among the great writers of English fiction. It is upon the satiric passages of this work that the charge of cynicism against Thackeray is based, and which he, probably anticipating, provided against in the following passage :

"And, as we bring our characters forward, I will ask leave, as a man and a brother, not only to introduce them, but occasionally to step down from the platform and talk about them : if they are good and kindly, to love them and shake them by the hand ; if they are silly, to laugh at them confidentially in the reader's sleeve ; if they are wicked and heartless, to abuse them in the strongest terms which politeness admits of.

"Otherwise you might fancy it was I who was sneering at the practice of devotion, which Miss Sharp finds so ridiculous ; that it was I who laughed good-humoredly at the reeling old Silenus of a baronet—whereas the laughter comes from one who has no reverence except for prosperity, and no eye for anything beyond success. Such people there are living and flourishing in the world—Faithless, Hopeless, Charityless : let us have at them, dear friends, with might and main. Some there are, and very successful, too, mere quacks and fools : and it was to combat and expose such as those, no doubt, that Laughter was made."

In 1849-'50 "Pendennis" appeared. The author's descriptive power is here well displayed in narrating the history of Pendennis, a hero of little merit. As "Vanity Fair" shows Thackeray's knowledge of high life in his own time, so "Henry Esmond" shows his intimate acquaintance with society in the time of the Stuarts and the earlier Georges.

In the "Virginians" he gives a history of the grandsons of Esmond. Like "Henry Esmond," it is without plot, and consists of a number of pleasingly described scenes in the time of George III.

"The Newcombs," probably the most popular of Thackeray's works, shows the folly of forced or ill-assorted marriages. His "Lectures on English Humorists" and "The Four Georges" are the best models of style in the English language. He died in 1863.

As a novelist, Thackeray's plots are not of the best, but his descriptions, wit, humor, and pathos have never been surpassed. In respect to moral character he was ever the courtly Christian gentleman, and throughout his life practised the motto which he so aptly expresses in the following lines :

"Come good or ill, come wealth or want,
Let young and old accept their part,
And bow before the Awful will,
And bear it with an honest heart.
Who misses or wins the prize,
Go, lose or conquer as he can,
But if you fall or if you rise,
Be each, pray God, a gentleman."

D. P. H.

GOVERNMENTAL CONTROL OF RAILROADS.

The question of railway control is one of the great problems of the age. The growing dissatisfaction on the part of the public with the present system, caused by the deeds of oppression and dishonesty practiced upon them by the railway tyrants, is a strong indication that a change in the method of control is necessary. We make no complaint because of the *existence* of railroads in our country. We acknowledge that they have contributed much towards lifting the United States to the exalted position she now occupies among the nations of the world. But, while we have derived from them incalculable benefits, they have ever been a fruitful source of corruption and oppression. Think of the fact that one-half the litigation that has occupied our courts during the last fifty years, and more than three-fourths of the legislative corruption from which our people have been suffering during the same period, are directly chargeable to the railroads. And what are the results? Have the evils of the system been removed? Have we a perfect railway system to-day? Alas! far from it. Matters seem to be growing worse every day. Far more rapidly than our country has developed, these railroads have multiplied, until to-day our country is covered with a network

of railroads, disputing and fighting with each other, and bitterly practising extortion upon our people at large.

And the cry is coming from every quarter of our land: "Give us a better system of railway control." Look for a moment at the financial condition of our country for the past fifteen or twenty years as it has been affected by the railways, and we shall get some idea of the suffering they have occasioned. The panic of 1873, which caused so much excitement in the business circle, so much litigation in the courts, so much suffering among the masses, was caused by overbuilding railroads.

The excitement in the business world in 1877 was caused largely by serious difficulties between the railroad property holders and their operatives. In 1881 came another collapse, caused by overbuilding, which so demoralized business that in 1884 there followed another dreadful panic. This, aided by many railway wars, caused the loss of many millions of dollars and created great excitement. This was followed by continual strikes and serious monopolies, until, in 1887, it was reported that another panic was near at hand. Since that time there has been continual disorder, strife, and warfare among the railroads.

But these are only a few of the most serious disasters which the present system of railroads has caused. Throughout this entire period the Congress and Senate have been chiefly occupied in efforts to regulate and restrain railway difficulties which were caused by overbuilding and underbuilding, combinations and consolidations, bankruptcies and reorganizations, instability of the tariff, wars, strikes, and monopolies, all of which have tended to overthrow and demoralize the business interests of our country.

Then, in the light of the past, may we not guess what will be the future should this system continue? Can we hope for better things without a change? Shall we submit to such cruelties when we may so easily obviate them? Are we to act as mere tools for the enrichment of a few railroad "bosses"? Shall we sacrifice our property upon the altar of railroad oppression? I but voice the sentiment of suffering millions when I say, No! no! forever, no! Our country is for its people—all its people—and not simply for a few rich tyrants. And the railroads should exist for the convenience and prosperity of the people. How can this be accomplished? Not by allowing them to remain the property of a thousand different cor-

porations whose only care is their own enrichment. One general, if he be an efficient man, can lead an army to victory better than a thousand can. So the United States can more effectually manage this huge system than can its thousands of corporations. This, then, is the surest remedy for the many evils from which we are suffering. Then could the building be easily regulated. Wars could not exist, for there would be no conflict of interests, no combinations and consolidations, but, as our postage system of to-day, it would be a mighty power used for the enrichment of our people and for the development of our natural resources.

But we desire to notice more closely some of the evils resulting from the present system, and to show how these evils will be removed by our proposed change in the system of government.

One of the most disastrous consequences of the present system is discrimination in rates. The power of railway managers to foster or to injure particular branches of trade, localities, or individuals by discriminations in their freight rates is a monstrous element in the railway problem. It is an acknowledged fact that, other things being equal, the power of railroad combinations, if persistently exerted, can condemn the industry of one city or locality to ruin, and stimulate another to great activity.

It is stated that to ship butter to New York a distance of one hundred and sixty-five miles it costs from sixty-five to seventy-five cents a tub, while from Elgin, Ill., to New York, a distance of one thousand miles, it costs only thirty cents a tub. Are not such discriminations enough to demoralize the industries of the most heaven-blessed land on the globe?

But this is not the only form of the evil. The numerous discriminations against certain men and certain companies in favor of others is one of the worst phases of this evil. And the blackest thing of it all is that it is secretly done. Giving secret rates, drawbacks, and rebates are the heinous practices of almost every railroad corporation. In some cases it has been found that not more than one-third the regular tariff rates were charged, while at Syracuse a notable instance occurred in which not more than one-fifth the regular tariff rates were charged. We could cite you a score of such discriminations were it necessary.

But can we not stop this by legislation, even though the present system continue to exist? No. The statute books are already filled

with such legislation, and yet the practice is growing worse. Never will the existing state of things be stopped so long as the railways continue to be governed as they are to-day. Let the suffering party sue for damages, and he will not secure one-tenth of what he has lost, while he has made an enemy who, by delays in shipping, technical objections, and even by corruption, can defeat his every business plan. The mysterious dispensations of railway providence, such as delays and blockades, can soon divest him of every vestige of success.

It is a common maxim among business men that to quarrel with the railroad is commercial suicide. Shall the citizens of America quietly submit to such cruelties? How shall we remedy them? Legislation cannot do it. Shall a set of commissioners be appointed to regulate the tariff? This has more than once been tried, and proven a failure. Would such a commission be free from corruption? We think not. Scarcely could one expect it when he learns "that the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, so long eminent for ability and integrity, has become proverbial for its services to the Pennsylvania railway." Never can such a body of men, subjected to such temptations to dishonesty as can be exerted by \$4,000,000,000 of railway capital, restrain so mighty a tide of dishonesty until it has been successfully demonstrated that a maiden's hand can roll back the tides of the Atlantic, or that an infant's breath can extinguish the light of the noonday sun.

Nothing remains, then, but to try placing the railroads into the hands of the general government. Let the government own the railroads, and if it be a good government, as we believe it is, it will care for the interests of all parts of our country and for the interests of all its people alike. There could be no occasion for discrimination against one section or one company in favor of another.

But the greatest evil of our present system exists in the rapid tendency which it produces toward the congestion of wealth. The most fearful barrier to the peace and prosperity of our nation is the rapid accumulation of wealth into the hands of a few men. That the present system of railroads has done more than any other agency combined to effect this disastrous state of things is manifest. An increase in wealth in this country means a corresponding increase in power. It is contrary to the very form of our republican government to invest enormous power in any one person. The framers of

our government aimed at securing a distribution of power. The President, chosen from the people and by the people, and responsible to them, elected for a term of four years and then retiring to private life, may exercise but little authority. But the tyrant who rules our land to-day, and makes millions do him homage, is the money king. The plutocrat is the man who sways the nation and rules his subjects with an iron sceptre. Talk of power! The Governor of his State is not to be compared to him. He has his representatives sent to the senates and legislatures of a dozen different States. He even surpasses the President in power. *His bills must be passed.* He has the cash. He is a despot, and no man dares dispute his authority. He is no constitutional monarch; he is czar. His power continues for life if he only holds his grasp upon his golden sceptre.

Who are the money kings of our land, and how did they secure their wealth? Of the seven great fortunes of the East, it is said that five have been made by railway investments; of the eight on the Pacific coast, four are the result of the same business. These are the men who handle our finances, paralyze our property, and run our government. They create monopolies, impose fictitious securities upon the public, and demoralize the financial world.

Some men oppose governmental control of railroads on the ground that it creates political tyranny. Is there any worse form of tyranny than this which is thrust upon us by these railroad kings? Shall we continue in submission to such tyranny when it is in our power to remove it?

But how shall the government secure the possession of the railroads? By seizing them? Not at all. Let it purchase them from those who now own them. But they would charge exorbitant prices. It would be better to pay large prices for them if in that way the evil may be removed. That the government's purchase of the railroads would tend to a more uniform distribution of the wealth of our country among the people is manifest to every one. But there are other benefits to be realized from this change, such as creating a more cautious, regular, fair, and systematic system of railroad construction. It would also obviate much of the too frequent building of parallel lines. Many localities which now have no railroad would be supplied, and the expense of keeping up two or more parallel lines in some places would be removed.

Had the government had the management of the construction for the past twenty years many millions of dollars would have been saved which have been spent in building and maintaining unnecessary railroads. Of course this money uselessly spent must come finally from the hard earnings of the poor people of the country.

Besides, this change would destroy much of the political corruption from which we are now suffering. That this is true can be shown in a word, Look for a moment at the nature of the corruption caused by the railroad authorities. What means the presence of railway representatives at every meeting of our Senate and Legislature? Why is every senator given a free pass over every road in the State which he represents? This is too plain for deception. It is an effort at bribery. But worse still, it was alleged that one of the members of the President's Cabinet of 1885 secured his appointment by the use of hundreds of thousands of dollars out of the profits of one of the most defiant and unscrupulous monopolies yet established by railroad favoritism. It was also charged that a contribution to a campaign fund raised an eminent corporation lawyer to the Supreme Bench of the United States. The presence of corporate influence in the United States Senate is well known. A few years ago it was asserted in public papers that nineteen senators (one-fourth the whole body) came to it from active connection with railroads, and largely as the result of that connection.

Straws show the direction of the current. Can we not foresee the result of these evils? We are rapidly drifting on to a plutocracy.

But the greatest advantage to the people which will result from this change is the reduction of the tariff rates. That the charges on freight and for passengers are extortionary is clearly shown by the rapid amassing of fortune by those who invest in railroad stocks, by the immoderate fluctuation which frequently occur in freight rates, and by the sudden reduction of tariff when competition forces it. Positive examples of this have come under my own observation.

Until a few months ago the passenger fare from Richmond to Petersburg was one dollar, and you are now charged fifteen cents for riding one-half mile through Petersburg. Yet a young man came daily from Petersburg to Richmond for eleven cents a trip, and he was in no way connected with the railroad. It was evident they could afford it, or they would not have made the offer.

That a transfer of the property to the government would reduce

the tariff may be concluded from the low rates in those countries where this system is in vogue. In France the railroads are managed by the government, and passenger rates are less than one cent a mile. Here they vary from two and a half to thirty cents. How can we account for the difference? Perhaps labor there may be some cheaper, but land is higher. Material and fuel are nearly the same in both places. It can be only in the matter of control. Look at our postal system. Who would say it would be better for it to be run by private corporations, as are the railroads? Whereas it now costs two cents to send a letter anywhere in the United States, then it would cost five, ten, or fifteen cents. We do not hold that there would be so great a reduction in the railroad charges, but it would certainly curtail the charges very considerably. Then in the light of all these facts one would be led to conclude that it is for our happiness and prosperity that our government should own her railroads. The existing state of things is unworthy of our nation. The change must come soon or late. Let us arise like true patriots and secure for our fellow-countrymen that which will insure them the greatest prosperity and the sweetest happiness.

WALTER.

Editorial.

Again the doors of the College are thrown open, again the crowding footsteps of a throng of young and ardent knowledge-seekers echo through the halls, and again the old bell, silent for three long months, calls to "duty every hour." And no one of the many students who return to renew old friendships and make new ones, experiences more pleasure than the MESSENGER, as it begins once more to pay its round of monthly visits.

And as we meet our former friends again we assure them that they will find the MESSENGER the same as of yore in its devotion to the interests of every part of the College community and its efforts to advance the literary culture of the students.

And now a word as to our purposes and your duties for the session upon which we are entering.

It is admitted on all sides that last session the MESSENGER was better than ever before in its history. In this volume we hope to make like progress.

The magazine is published in a new and better form, the editorial corps has been enlarged, and in the increased attendance at College this session there should be a corresponding increase in literary talent. We have the promise of several interesting articles by distinguished *alumni* of the College, and special efforts will be put forth to make the MESSENGER a medium through which old students may keep posted as to the progress of *Alma Mater* and the fortunes of her sons.

But all of our efforts to improve the MESSENGER will be unavailing without the support of the students, and especially the members of the literary societies. The MESSENGER is yours; you have elected its editors and managers, and on you it will ultimately depend whether or not your magazine is a success.

There are two ways in which you may show your interest in the MESSENGER. First, by contributing to its columns. The acquisition of facility in composition is no small part of our collegiate education, and nowhere can better practice be had than in writing for the MESSENGER. And, in the second place, ~~then~~, every one can and should subscribe at least for his own college paper.

Let us all work together this session to make the MESSENGER a worthy representative of the honored institution from which it hails.

The MESSENGER is glad to see the number of students at Richmond College grow larger year by year. Progress reported to the world is indicative also of a solid internal structure. You, fellow-students, have come this year mainly for the broadening and expanding of your minds, and to make a full rounded man to fight the battle of life. Some of you have come with the idea of "studying hard," and that phrase meaning to devote yourself *entirely* to your books. Let me urge upon you not only the necessity of preparing your lessons—for this needs no urging—but of taking an active part in the several institutions of the College. God has given us three divisions of our organism, of which we should take the greatest care. These are our mental, physical, and moral faculties. The first we *shall* attend to; but the latter two are what we wish to place before your minds, that you may see the necessity for growth in them and fulfill our most sanguine hopes.

Recently, in asking the boys—great strapping men they are—to come out and engage in field sports a frequent answer has been, "I

have not the time ; I must spend all my time on my studies." This is said with honest intent, but how many of these boys *will* spend the afternoon in study? The president of Bowdoin College has an article in the June *Forum* which all of you should read. His main argument is that first class in scholarship *generally* co-ordinates with first class in athletics ; second class with second class, and so on. This he proves to our satisfaction, and sets forth a table gathered by experience in his own college, of which he has been leader for years. He urges upon young men to engage in those sports of the field where judgment, skill, manliness, and self-control are constantly brought into play. What a dull life any man must lead who absents himself from the games and sports of college life. Men go into college with the idea of taking advantage of everything that the institution affords.

First let us speak of our boat crew, which has covered itself and its *Alma Mater* with such glory. How we pity those of you old students who were not present to flaunt the "Garnet and Cream" in the eyes of our numerous opposers on that long to be remembered Fourth! How we longed to cover our heroes with the laurel and to gaze forevermore at that triumphal cup which ornaments so handsomely our Library Hall! How we pressed them to our breasts when they returned from the fray, and thought of them in the sentiment of Horace : " — *pulvere Troico nigrum Menonen* — "

Next year we expect to have the annual regatta in the latter part of June, when there will be a goodly number of crews engaged, and all of us will have an opportunity to see the sport.

Our foot-ball team this year should be one to be known and feared, considering the large number of fine-looking, strong, and healthy men we have. Go into it to make yourselves strong men, and you will be repaid. We shall get an expert to train us in the rules of the game, and with our material we should and must do good work. We have already received a challenge from Washington and Lee University, Alexandria High School, Randolph Macon, and Virginia Military Institute, and others are waiting for us. The Y. M. C. A. gymnasium of this city wishes to compete with us, and from all accounts we shall have a year of enjoyment. You that have not the inclination of becoming members of the team, give us your *pulmonary* and *pecuniary* support, and we shall not forget it when we stand, *erectis auribus*, awaiting the onslaught of the enemy.

Having said this much of our athletics, I would add a few words, last but not least, of the moral obligation we owe to each other and the community. Let us have a year of perfect harmony in our social intercourse. Anything else is dangerous to the principals, as precedent will show. Last session we had one fight on the premises, and now, what would you think?—both parties are married. So beware of such a fate, ye bloody-shirt wavers of an older *regime*.

The part of this paper devoted to the Y. M. C. A. matter should be read and heeded. In this last our hearts turn sadly to our Y. M. C. A. martyr of last session, one of the finest specimens of humanity that ever graced these classic halls. A *man* in body and soul. We shall not all be such as he, but let us all do our duty to God and man, and we shall as surely enter that eternal land.

This number is unavoidably delayed by causes incident to the opening of College. The MESSENGER will appear in the future soon after the first of each month.

The article on "Physical Culture—What It Has Done; What It Can Do" is by an *alumnus* of the College, who has given much attention to the subject. It will fully repay a careful reading by any one interested in this practical question in modern education.

Locals.

Yell at midnight : "What can it be?" "Pshaw, nothing but a rat."

Young lady at base-ball game : "Isn't that fellow behind the bat contagious?"

Mr. J. to Librarian : "Please get me Pickwick Papers."

Librarian : "What case is it in?"

Mr. J. : "It is in the nominative case, I suppose."

At Robinson's circus a man was hurt, and the city ambulance was called out. A rat seeing it pass the College, exclaimed : "Some one is hurt; yonder goes the avalanche."

Mr. P. to Mr. M. : " If all the children Herod had put to death were buried in the sand up to their necks, how could one distinguish the girls from the boys?"

Mr. M. : " Don't know. I never was much of an Old Testament scholar."

Mr. C. wants to know if Blackmore's " Lorna Doone" is any kin to " Big Doon and Little Doon."

Prof. P. to Mr. B. : " What is metaphysics?"

Mr. B. : " It is the science which treats of the uses of things."

Rat H. was standing near some bananas, when he turned to the fruit-dealer and said : " Please pass me one of those pineapples."

New student from the country returning from a visit : " Dr. Hatcher was not at home, for I knocked and knocked at the door, and there was no reply."

Old Student : " Why didn't you ring the bell?"

New Student : " What would I be ringing a bell for?"

Prof. P. : " Here is a piece of beautiful limestone. What will you do with it?"

Mr. S. : " Turn it over to the sculptor." (Sculptor).

Mr A. to Mr. B. : " How can they talk through those telephone wires; are the wires hollow?"

Prof. P. to Mr. B. : " What does biology treat of?"

Mr. B. : " Of animal life, sir."

Prof. P. : " What other kind of life?"

Mr. B. : " Figurative life."

THE OPENING OF THE SESSION.

Hurrah for 1891-'92 !

Matriculates to date, 195, the largest in the history of the College.

Hard work all along the line has paid. Many of the old boys are back, and there are heavy reinforcements of new-comers. They come from far-off Iowa, from the shores of the Gulf, from New York to Texas and the distant land of the Montezumas.

The graduating class next June will be unusually large, as there are three candidates for M. A., eight for B. A., and nine for B. L. All things point to a most prosperous and successful session.

SOCIETY REUNIONS.

The Mu Sigma Rho Society held its annual reunion on Friday, September 25th. The Society was called to order by E. C. Laird. He then introduced T. Clagett Skinner as orator of the occasion, who had chosen as his subject: "The Useful Man." He delivered his oration in a very pleasing manner, and made quite a fine impression on the old as well as new students.

Professor H. H. Harris spoke of the feelings that the members of the society should cultivate for each other. He read several extracts of letters from several old society-men, expressing their warm sympathies for their old society.

After Professor Harris closed his address many of the old students made enthusiastic speeches. Several new students were called on, and replied in a very happy manner.

Saturday evening at 8 o'clock the Philologian Hall was filled with new and old students, and visitors, who had come to join in the reunion of the Philologian Literary Society. The president, Mr. C. G. Trumbo, called the meeting to order, and with carefully chosen words welcomed all to the reunion. He next introduced Mr. W. R. Keefe, the orator of the evening.

Mr. Keefe selected as his subject: "Sectional Animosity." He handled his subject well, and at times grew very eloquent, and well sustained the reputation of "Keefe the Orator."

Hon. H. R. Pollard and Professor H. H. Harris delivered very pleasing and profitable addresses.

Several students of this and the Mu Sigma Rho societies made short but ornate speeches on the importance and advantages of society work.

MEETING OF THE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Athletic Association of Richmond College was held on Friday, the 2d of October. The secretary read the constitution and by-laws for the information of the members.

Dr. Charles H. Ryland then delivered a very interesting address

before the body. A challenge from Washington and Lee foot-ball team was read and referred to the Foot-Ball Committee. The association then adjourned to meet on Friday, the 9th, to elect officers for the present term.

Pursuant to adjournment the meeting was called to order by the chairman on the 9th, and the following officers were elected: President, Frank W. Duke, of Richmond; Vice-President, J. L. McGarity, of Atlanta; Treasurer, W. H. Anderson, of Nashville; Secretary, Harvey Hatcher, of Atlanta. On motion, the colors of last year (garnet and cream) were retained for the present year. The initiation fee, which was 50 cents, was increased to \$1. A petition was presented by the president of the association from the boat club, requesting the association to admit them under the auspices of the association, which was favorably considered.

Dr. C. H. Ryland presented the association with a book for the secretary's record and other matters pertaining to the association, with the understanding that when filled it was to be placed in the library of the College. This was agreed upon. The association then adjourned.

Mr. Frank W. Duke was elected captain of the foot-ball team for the present season.

The Foot-Ball Committee consists of Charles Clement, F. W. Duke, and John H. Read.

SOCIETY OFFICERS.

PHILOLOGIAN.—President, E. E. Dudley; Vice-President, J. E. Hixson; Censor, J. B. Bailey; Recording Secretary, J. H. Read; Corresponding Secretary, J. W. Reynolds; Treasurer, Charles Clement; Chaplain, J. S. Ryland; Critic, W. M. Jones; Sergeant-at-Arms, C. G. Trumbo; Hall Managers, J. M. Street and J. R. T. Marsh; Monthly Orator, J. Peter Jackson.

MU SIGMA RHO.—President, E. C. Laird; Vice-President, J. C. Harwood; Censor, C. W. Duke; Recording Secretary, B. W. Coleman; Corresponding Secretary, H. St. John Coulter; Treasurer, W. Duke; Sergeant-at-Arms, R. Gregory; Critic, R. E. Chambers; Hall Manager, E. T. Gregory.

The editors of the MESSENGER elected for the first term are as follows:

MU SIGMA RHO.—H. Hatcher, H. S. Corey, J. R. Murdock.

PHILOLOGIAN.—E. E. Reid, W. R. Keefe, E. M. Whitlock.

At a joint meeting Mr. Garnett Ryland, of Richmond, was elected by acclamation editor-in-chief of the MESSENGER, and Mr. R. W. Hatcher was afterwards selected for the position of assistant business manager.

THE FIRST COLLEGE CREW.

Through the efforts of our indefatigable friend, Mr. Henry T. Louthan, we are enabled to present to our readers a picture of the first college crew. This is the crew which won the challenge cup of the Virginia Association of Amateur Oarsmen on July 4th, in the first race ever rowed by a Richmond College crew. The crew are grouped in the following order, beginning on the left :

Dana H. Rucker, bow, weight 165 pounds, height 5 feet 10 inches ; Thomas H. Athey, No. 2, weight 170 pounds, height 6 feet 3 inches ; Charles Clement, No. 3, weight 180 pounds, height 6 feet 3 inches ; John H. Read, stroke, weight 154 pounds, height 6 feet. Hon. James C. Lamb, coxswain, who is standing in the background, is the energetic gentleman to whose training the success of the crew was in a large measure due. In the centre stands the "French Cup," which is held in the custody of the last winning crew. It is of silver, and cost \$650. On the plates at its base are engraved the names of the crew by whom it has been won. The cup is kept in the Library Hall of the College, where it has attracted much attention from the numerous visitors.

The mile and a half course was made by our crew in nine minutes eighteen seconds, distancing by six lengths their opponents, the Virginia Boat Club of this city. The racing-gig, built expressly for our crew, cost \$260, and is a triumph of the maker's art. Two of the oarsmen, Messrs. Clement and Read, are back at College. With two others like them, and Mr. Lamb to train the crew again, we should have no difficulty in repeating our victory of last July.

THE BOAT RACE.

'Twas on the Fourth of July ; the Chambers and Hall[s] of the College were well-nigh deserted ; but a few remained. Formerly contests have been decided by Warren and the Indian's Bowe, but now

in the days of Fones and telegraphs we try to get along without Quarles, and so we wended our way, not through Ryland[s], but through the peaceful street and Park[er]. The weather was Clement and the Hayes[y] Light of morning had given way to the evening sun. There was no Marsh, and but a solitary Reid stood upon the bank. Not the Robins of Spring, but other birds chirped upon the Britt[le] twigs of the Grove. The north was the Fairbank, for it was covered with Richmond's fairest. The Duke of Manchester and other Duke[s], the Dean of the College, and full many a Dude was there. There they were from Grandpa to the Todd[ling] Childre[ss]n, and many young Laird[s]. It was a Prince[ly] array. The dusty Miller in the Mills near by looked on. It was warm and all felt like Melton, and a Coleman was not to be found. The Broad[dus] James ran smooth before us; there was suspense; even the Fox was not Wise enough to Read the issue.

The boat was ready,—built of Redwood with the careful skill of the Boatwright, the Smith[s], and the Joyner; it was Long & [Nor] fleet. The race began; all was excitement; see the white oar blades glistening in the sun! Great Scott! how they Rowe! swift as a Hart they come. Our Cox[swain] did his duty. It is over. They were not Mercer[ful] to the Virginians. They are Dunaway with; their Doom is sealed. Our young Cockerell's throat was not big enough to crow over the result. The Blair of the Hunter's horn was not there, but the crowd all seemed to have *two* Lungs and made a Scanl[an]ous fuss. Our boys were as proud as a German Keyser or a French lord, and made the Wood ring with their shouts. When we left the river it was Evan[s], and a glorious sunset illumined the West. It is not in our Provence to talk about Cook[s], but they had to wait our suppers for us. A boat race is rather Tricky.

"ALUMNI LILTS"

is the name of a new volume of verse, dedicated to Richmond College, by Mr. L. R. Hamberlin, instructor in expression at this institution.

The work, containing about one thousand five hundred lines, takes its name from the three poems which Mr. Hamberlin has, during the last three years, delivered before the Alumni Association of Richmond College. Besides these, however, the book will contain a

fragment from a poem, "Memnon," read at Chautauqua, N. Y., a college song (words and music), and about four hundred lines of other poems.

The volume—beautiful, heavy papered, cloth-bound, gilt-titled, and from the University press—will be out in January, 1892. Only a limited number of copies will be printed and furnished to subscribers who will send in their names and price of book before that time. Price per copy, \$1.25. *Special price to students of Richmond College, \$1.* Address Mr. L. R. Hamberlin, 301 Lombardy street, Richmond, Va.

The following preamble and resolutions were adopted by the Philologian Society, in a regular meeting, in honor of its deceased member, Egbert Bolling Winfrey :

WHEREAS it has pleased Almighty God, our all-wise Father, to remove from among us by death our beloved friend and faithful fellow society-man, Egbert Bolling Winfrey, whose interest in the welfare of the Society was deep and abiding, and whose Christian character was worthy of emulation—

Resolved, That while we bow in humble submission to the will of Him who rules all things well, yet we recognize that in the death of E. B. Winfrey the Philologian Society lost one of its most valuable and promising members.

2. That we shall ever cherish his memory, take pleasure in honoring his unblemished character, and endeavor to emulate his integrity and manhood.

3. That we unite with his wide circle of friends in tendering our heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved family.

4. That these resolutions be published in the RICHMOND COLLEGE MESSENGER, and a copy sent to the family.

E. E. DUDLEY,

C. T. TAYLOR,

M. J. HOOVER,

Committee.

Y. M. C. A. Notes.

The Y. M. C. A. held its annual reception in the College chapel on the evening of September 28th. The new students had been welcomed by the old ones in their individual capacity; they had next listened to words of greeting by the literary societies, and now they were to hear words of welcome from another organization that has a deeper and more lasting interest in their welfare.

In a few appropriate words, President George F. Hambleton, on behalf of the Association, cordially welcomed all the new students, not only to the halls of this institution, but also to the meetings of the Y. M. C. A. He expressed his earnest desire that this year many may join the Association and become active and efficient members. He then introduced Mr. H. W. Provence, who had been selected to outline the work of the Association. This was handsomely done. In beautiful and touching language he mentioned the different fields of labor and urged the necessity of carrying the Bread of Life to those who are really in need of it. Men are perishing daily from lack of the food which, if they eat, they will never die. He then added some reasons for joining the Association. One was for companionship in Christian work. How companionship assists the laborer in the Lord's vineyard! The Master knew the value of it. He had his companions—his chosen followers—and when he sent out his disciples to preach the kingdom of God he sent them out two by two. So in any kind of Christian work there comes pleasure from companionship. Another was for enthusiasm. In union there is a consciousness of strength. Though some may be weak, and none very strong, the fact that we are banded together for a common purpose is sufficient to infuse courage into the faint-hearted and make all enthusiastic.

Professor Harrison, who had been invited to speak, made some very interesting remarks. To him, he said, this was a very interesting occasion. He was always glad when he had an opportunity to address young men, and especially so when it was a body of young men preparing themselves for life's work. He insisted upon strengthening our faith. How important! For it is thought by some, and perhaps not without foundation, that a few years' course at college, away from home and home influences, is very trying to a young

man's faith in Christ. He called attention to the motive which brought such an organization into being—the salvation of young men. He closed by mentioning the comfort and consolation obtained by coming together under such circumstances. Christian young men united for a common cause is an inspiring thought; and as we have so many this year we ought to see, ere long, some grand results.

Having finished this part of the programme, the Association adjourned to Lombardy Hall, where the Reception Committee had prepared refreshments.

The officers and committee of the Y. M. C. A. deserve great credit for the success of the evening. May this first impression upon the new students be conducive to their lasting good.

Personals.

F. F. Causey, our orator's medalist of last session, is practicing law with Col. Thomas Tabb, at Hampton, Va. True to his instinct for politics, he has taken the stump for the fall campaign, and we have no doubt we shall see him in the gubernatorial chair some day.

The government, too, must have our boys. J. Garland Pollard ('91) is at the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D. C., assisting to prepare for an exhibition at the World's Fair.

W. B. James ('91) stopped here a few days on his way to S. B. T. Seminary.

John E. Etchison, Jr. ('91), surprised his friends by a romantic elopement with one of Richmond's fair daughters. "Etch" is now in business in Baltimore, where he has located, but still keeps a soft place in his heart for Richmond College and the boys.

W. H. Ryland, B. A. ('91), is a professor in Broadus College, Clarksburg, W. Va. He is teaching girls! How do you like it, old boy?

George W. Quick, B. A., is rapidly coming to the front among the rising ministry of the North. He has recently built a magnificent church at Springfield, Mass.

W. McS. Buchanan, M. A. ('91), is pursuing his studies in theology at Hampton-Sidney College, Virginia.

B. T. Gunter, Jr., B. L. ('91), is practicing law at Accomac C. H. W. O. Carver, M. A. ('91), decided not to return this session. He remains in his native State engaged in the noblest work to which man is called. The MESSENGER, especially, regrets the loss of one of her most brilliant contributors and editor-in-chief elect.

John G. Winston, M. A. ('91), is studying law in the office of Jackson Guy, Esq., in this city.

We miss from our number this session our genial friend and companion, Frank Williams. He is in historic Fairfax, and by his indefatigable energy he hopes to make the wilderness (?) blossom like the rose.

W. B. Loving ('91) has gone to Berkeley, Va., where he expects to open a first-class academy.

Nor do we see Athey with us. He, too, decided to try his lot at pedagogics.

E. M. Pilcher, B. A. ('91), is principal of the Luray Academy. We learn he is winning the hearts of both young and old.

Exchanges.

October is upon us, and but very few exchanges have yet made their appearance. The *Guardian*, of Waco, Texas, has been our most frequent visitor, and was enjoyed, partly because it came during a destitute period, but more especially because of its interesting contents. The *Guardian* has always ranked among the best exchanges the MESSENGER receives.

Among the less frequent periodicals has been the *Student Life*, of the University of St. Louis, Mo. Its editorials are first-class; but brevity is its chief characteristic.

The following is the opinion of the "Exchange Editor" of the *Transcript*:

"Much comment has been going through the several college exchanges concerning the duty of an exchange editor. Some say criticise and comment upon your cotemporaries; others say give quotations from the best authors, while still others say 'clip,' 'clip.' The exchange editor of the *Transcript* does not believe that students care to read criticisms upon a paper or production that they have

not seen ; nor do they turn to the exchange column for quotations. Students read exchanges to find out what is happening in the college world about them. Consequently the editor of this department believes that it is his duty to present to his readers short newsy notes concerning neighboring colleges and also concerning the best institutions of the land."

The MESSENGER is a believer in the helpfulness of mutual criticism, and sees no reason why this should not be interesting reading, either, though it does not slight the "short newsy notes," which can be made very interesting reading.

Our Animal Friend, the magazine devoted to the discussion of cruelty to animals, comes out with an attractive frontispiece and a thoughtful article on barbed wire fences and its damages to live stock. Some very practical suggestions are made in regard to preventing accidents.

We are under obligations to the staff of the *Hesperus*, of Denver University, for a beautiful copy of their magazine.

It is somewhat encouraging to know that other exchange editors are in the same predicament as ourselves :

Few seminary or college papers, except weeklies, are published before October. For this reason a woefully short string would be needed to tie up our bundle of exchanges.—*Dicenson Seminary Journal*.

The MESSENGER, of Richmond College, Virginia, has passed beyond the bounds of college journalism, and its commencement number is, in make and shape and contents, a high-class magazine. It is creditably illustrated with cuts of places and persons connected with the College. There are several pieces of pleasing poetry, while the prose articles comprise select essays on literary subjects, prize orations, valedictories, and a succinct and interesting account of the annual commencement exercises. The MESSENGER is a worthy evidence of the moral and intellectual training given by Richmond College to its students. The faculty is to be congratulated on the high standard of true education that has been reached, and the managers of the MESSENGER on the very successful manner in which they have put before the public the achievements and capabilities of their *Alma Mater*.—*The Owl*.

The best spent money in college is that which goes for the college paper.—*Ex*.

A student makes a fool of himself when he grumbles ; when he poses as a "masher" ; when he imagines himself the centre of the universe ; when he uses profane language to emphasize an ordinary remark ; when he thinks another student a bigger fool than himself, and when he tries to go through on his "cheek."—*Ex.*

With the incoming class Princeton University will number over one thousand.

Northwestern University will have in the neighborhood of two thousand three hundred students this session.

The Princeton faculty have decided that no special student will be allowed to play in any university athletic team until he has been in college at least two terms.

It is said that Mrs. Leland Stanford has purchased one hundred and fifty handsomely-bound Bibles to be placed in the students' rooms at the Stanford University. The same authority states that there were a thousand more applicants at that place than could be accommodated.

Sam W. Small has tendered his resignation as president of the Utah Methodist University.

The University of Michigan will erect a Grecian temple as her contribution to the World's Fair at Chicago.

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