THE GREEK LAW-GIVERS.

He who stands by his country in adversity as well as prosperity is her patriot. He who gives his life for his country is her martyr. He who delivers his country from her enemies is her benefactor. But he who gives to his country a systematic form of government is, in the truest sense of the word, "the father of his country."

In considering the value of the works of a law-giver, three things should be taken into account. First, the condition of the country at the time of the appearance of the reformer. Secondly, there ought to be a full consideration of the reforms. And, thirdly, the effect of the reforms on the country's condition and her people should be noticed.
Lycurgus.

The first legislator was in the interest of Sparta. Lycurgus stands forth as pre-eminently the greatest as well as the first law-giver of Greece. The Dorian invasions that had given strength and progress to Argos and Messenia tended to weaken and retard Sparta. The Dorians had overwhelmed Argos, and soon made it the most powerful State in Peloponnesus. It grew into the Argive alliance, which extended over the whole eastern coast of the peninsular. In like manner, Messenia prospered under the Dorian rule; but not as Argos. But Laconia fared differently. The bands of Dorians that had settled around Sparta were weak. They could neither subdue the natives, nor be subdued. They were not strong and numerous, and so had to fight hard for every foot of land they won.

Two kings reigned over Sparta, who kept the State distracted by their incessant quarrels. It was a state of weakness and anarchy. Her dominion did not extend; her wars both with her Dorian neighbors of Argolis and with the Arcadians, were usually disastrous; her people were discontented. Such a condition of affairs welcomed her great legislator—the one who was to save her from herself, and send her forth armed for mighty conquests.

Lycurgus was born of the royal house about 800 B. C. Legends tell how he went abroad in order to avoid the suspicion that he would usurp the throne of his infant nephew, Charilaus; how he travelled in Greece, Asia, and Egypt, and returned only to find the State in even a worse condition than when he had left it. At the hands of the Arcadians she was suffering the worst defeat in war she had ever known. In this emergency, Lycurgus with twenty-eight of the wisest and noblest of the citizens went into the market-place and laid his schemes of reformation before the people. The plans met with high approval by the majority; but there was serious
position by a minority, which resulted in brawls and riots, during which Lycurgus is said to have had one of his eyes struck out.

A knowledge of the world and a wise statecraft practiced by observation are the foundation of the laws of Lycurgus. His lines of reformation were threefold. First, he began to put an end to the feuds among the people, and to restore peace. The second was a just arrangement of the tribes and orders of the State, by determining their mutual rights and duties. The third was the establishment of a political and social system. To effect the first and second the people were arranged in tribes and obes, thirty in number; a Gerousia was established including the two kings; and there was an assembly of the people from time to time to give the decisive vote when the Gerousia decided upon a measure, and who should have the determining voice in all important affairs. Perhaps the most important task in effecting a permanent pacification of the State was the settling of the Spartiatæ. This was a class of Dorians who had settled in the country around Sparta, and were called Spartiatæ, as distinguished from Lacedæmonians. Some of this class had amassed a large quantity of land, and had become arrogant and overbearing; while others had lost their property and were unwilling to bear the burdens of equal taxation with the former. Accordingly, nine thousand lots were divided and distributed to an equal number of them. Thus there were nine thousand men forming a community, divided into three tribes, thirty obes, and three hundred triacades, or bodies of thirty. While thus they held the best land, they were not freeholders of it; they were not allowed to add to, sell, give away, or let any part of it. To each piece of land was attached an obligation for military service. The kings were to watch over it as supreme lords. By the settling of the Spartiatæ there arose of necessity two other classes—the Perìeci, who dwelt around on the mountains; and the Helots, who resided on the fields of the Spartiatæ, and paid tribute to their lords.
As to the political system, the Gerousia, which has already been mentioned, acted as assessors to the kings in the discussion of all public affairs. The Apella, an assembly of freemen, met once a month. Its duty was to ratify or reject the acts of the Gerousia, declare war, sign treaties, depose kings, if necessary, and consider all weighty matters. The duties of the kings as provided by the new constitution were, to be hereditary priests of Zeus Lacedemonius and Zeus Uranius, to consult oracles, and to appoint consuls for foreign States. In times of peace they held the highest seat; in times of war they were commanders-in-chief. When the army marched forth they went out first; when it returned they entered the city last.

The Spartan military system was excellent. The army was divided into the mora and lochos, corresponding to our battalions and companies. The manner in which the commander issued his orders was wholly foreign to any other Greek State. The commands given by the king were passed by the polemarchs and other officers with such order and rapidity, that a Spartan army could execute with wonderful speed and accuracy such movements as were desired.

The social system established by Lycurgus, and especially the camping together, was of great value in unifying the people, and in placing them on equal footing.

The Spartan training was of such importance that its effects were felt even centuries after. The system extended through a whole lifetime. Almost before a boy could reflect clearly he found himself in a system of fixed rules. At the age of seven he was removed to a public training-house; and there the severe course of discipline through which he went fitted him for military life, made him insensible to pain, made him courageous even in the face of death. So thorough was the Lycurgian legislation that it extended even to the household. There were laws in regard to married life, discipline of women, and the nourishment and training of children.
Such was the legislation of Lycurgus. No legislator ever found a more difficult task. In all Greece there was no more chaotic and unhappy State than Sparta. Everything depended on a mediation, on a reconciliation of existing contrasts, on the establishment of a compact advantageous to both sides; yet the brilliant results of his work showed that Lycurgus was equal to the task.

Solon.

What Lycurgus was to Sparta, Solon was to Athens. The people were divided into three classes: Eupatridæ, or "well-born;" the Geornori, or "husbandmen," and the Demiurgi, or "handicraftsmen." The first class practically ruled. Unlike Sparta, there had been several legislators before the great law-giver. An oligarchic government prevailed, and, as elsewhere, showed its misrule. Discontent was universal; lawlessness and recklessness reigned supreme. The legislation of Draco was, however, a great stride in the development of political life. Yet affairs continued as formerly until the revolution of Cylon. While this event was of little importance in itself, it showed the condition of affairs. It showed discontent among the people; it showed that conspirators were at work. On the other hand, it showed the Eupatridæ their weak position. It made them take severer measures for establishing their power; and thus, regardless of law, they heaped crimes and curses upon the heads of innocent men. The situation of the Eupatridæ was at its worst; the guilt of blood was resting upon them; their greatest power lay only in the leadership of the people in matters pertaining to divine and human law. But now they no longer led the people; and there was needed in this crisis a man possessed of the rank and authority of the Eupatridæ, but at the same time possessed of a political wisdom extending beyond the interest of his own class, and a patriotism comprehending the whole of Attica. Such a man, happily for Athens, was found in the person of Solon, the son of Excecestides.
Self-training and love of knowledge were characteristics of his early youth. He was practiced both on the wrestling grounds and in the arts of the Muses. His love of knowledge caused him to explore the world. He at first engaged in the mercantile business, and he clearly perceived that to this class of men belonged the future. As a merchant, he educated himself for a statesman and legislator. His first public act was as mediator in the conflict of the parties at Athens. As he entered manhood he had an opportunity to show that he was also an excellent general. The suppression of the Cylo­nian rebellion had provoked new hostilities between Megara and Athens. The Athenians had allowed themselves to fall into indifference concerning the war, while the Megarians had seized Salamis. Solon was the one to rouse the Athenians, and lead them on to victory. And his victories gave him the confidence of the people he so much needed to carry out his reforms. He aimed not at a few external changes, but at the moral elevation of the whole national body.

He began by uniting the various religious forms; which resulted in unifying Attica and making Athens the capital. However, distress among the Athenian people had become very great. Wars and bad harvests had beggared the poorer classes, and Attica was threatened with the total extinction of her poorer population. The ruin of the State, or a bloody revolution, was inevitable. In this emergency, Solon was the man selected by the rich and poor alike as the one who could keep off the calamity. Accordingly he was, in 594 B. C., elected archon, and entrusted with the duty of drafting a new constitution for the city.

His first legislation was directed to the practical end of alleviating the sufferings of the distressed. He forbade the lending of money on the security of the borrower's person; and he cancelled all outstanding debts. He changed the standard of coinage from that circulated in Pelopponnesus and Bocotia to that used in Eretria and Chalcis, an excellent move both politically and commercially.
THE GREEK LAW-GIVERS.

Although he had some dislike to the democratic form of government, yet his constitutional reforms were the foundation for political liberty. In the division of the civic community he made income from landed property the standard of political rights. The classes were four in number: The "Pentakosiomedimini," or men whose average income was equivalent to five hundred bushels of barley; the "Hippeis," or knights, whose income must range between five hundred and three hundred medimini; the "Zeugitae," or owners of a yoke of oxen, whose income must be between three hundred and one hundred and fifty medimini; lastly, the "Thetes," whose income was less than one hundred and fifty medimini, and who mostly composed the laboring class. The archbishop was restricted to the "Pentakosiomedimini," which practically placed the supreme magistracy in the hands of the nobles. The "Hippeis" and "Zeugitae" could hold minor offices, but the "Thetes" were excluded from public service.

The Ecclesia, or public assembly of Athens, probably a survival of the Homeric Agora, Solon made of great importance. It had the power to investigate the actions of the officers, and thus made them accountable to the people.

There was a council or senate of four hundred, called the Boule, which took care of the political duties of the State, prepared measures to put before the Ecclesia, and received embassies.

The Areopagus, the founding of which dates back into prehistoric times, Solon used to look after the moral and religious affairs of the State.

He was the first to legalize the disposition of property by will. His laws reached into the home, and modified the paternal authority. They sought to encourage filial affection and gratitude. The father was prevented from selling his child, or pledging away his liberty. The laws also provided that the father must educate his son.
Solon zealously encouraged education; for he saw that while legislation provided guidance and order; harmony, unity, and progress in civilization were obtained by education.

A new coinage of money was made. The coin that was stamped with the head of the Euboean ox, was replaced by one stamped with the head of Athens, the protectress of the city; and by close attention to the purity of the metal, and the accuracy of the standard employed, the money of Athens was received and recognized with confidence, not only in her own State, but in other States.

A calendar such as was used in the festivals of Apollo was adopted, which was reckoned in connection with astronomical science. This caused Athens, owing to her favorable position, to become the home of astronomy.

Solon was not satisfied until he had systematically arranged his laws, published them upon wooden pillars, and exhibited in public places for every one's inspection.

The legislation of Solon cannot be looked upon as a piece of art for the spectator; it was not intended to theorize upon. But it was for active work, for practical every-day life. Nor can its results be measured by what immediately followed. Solon could have suppressed strife by force; but his wisdom caused him to look into the future and prepare Athens for a glorious career. And while he lived to hear his reforms criticized by his ungrateful countrymen, yet years after when he was dead, his work lived to save Athens from the dangers that threatened her on every hand.

Cleisthenes.

Hardly had Solon completed his constitution when the turbulent clouds of tyranny began to gather over Athens, and when in 558 B.C. Solon died he was the subject of a despotic monarch. Peisistratus, the son of Hippocrates, gradually increased in power as a party leader; and, on claiming an attempt at assassination on the part of his adversaries, he was, in
spite of the denunciation of Solon and the opposition of the Senate, granted by the assembly a body-guard of fifty club-men. These were soon supplied with deadlier weapons and gradually increased in number, until Athens awoke one morning to find herself under a tyrant's rule. The vissicitudes of the life of Peisistratus held in check the progress of Athens. Twice after he had assumed power was he driven into exile, yet thrice was he able to take possession of Athens with great power. However, while Peisistratus was a good ruler, the continual revolutions prevented the constitution of Solon from gaining a foothold. During the reign of Hippias and Hipparchus, sons of Peisistratus, the murder of the latter caused the former to rule with such high-handed tyranny, that an open rebellion resulted. Cleisthenes, the son of Megacles, returned from exile and headed an abortive rebellion. Though defeated by the tyrant, he was determined to accomplish by diplomacy what he could not by force. He instigated the Delphic priestess to give only one reply to Sparta when she sent to inquire of Apollo; that reply was, "Athens ought to be liberated." The superstitious Spartans were easily enlisted, and the final overthrow of tyranny was accomplished. And then the work of Cleisthenes began. Oman says of him, "Few statesmen have ever found themselves in such a favorable position as he enjoyed, and few have ever made better use of their opportunities."

From his childhood he was full of political designs, and was a man of passionate ambition. But he overlooked his personal desires, and strove to uphold the national honor and independence of Athens.

He saw that the future of Athens depended on her free and independent development, and that this could be done by strengthening the legislation of Solon. In addition, he must remove all hindrances to renovating the State from her very foundations. Accordingly, he divided the people not by birth or descent, but by certain rural districts into Phylæ or tribes,
which in turn were subdivided into Demes. He changed the Senate of Solon from four to five hundred, ten from each tribe, of which there were fifty. He also introduced jury courts, and election by lot.

Ostracism was an important measure provided by Cleisthenes. It had had for its object the removal of that which had been a curse to Athens for many years—the strife of party leaders.

Perhaps the most important change made by the reformer was the admission of foreigners to citizenship. By this new blood was introduced into the population, new impulses given to the State, and the defensive power of the State strengthened.

His final act to Athens, if reports are true, is to be deplored. Athens was at war with Boeotia; but was unable to cope with her. Aid had to be sought. An embassy was sent to Sardis to contract an armed alliance with the Persian governor, from whom Cleisthenes had just returned. He urged that the envoys be commissioned to conclude an alliance at any price. This was done, and an alliance recognizing the supreme sovereignty of the Persian was the result. When the envoys returned and reported their action, indignation was universal; it was clear who had originated these measures, and what the designs were. The treaty was immediately annulled, and the power of Cleisthenes at an end. But let us not judge him too harshly. He was but a man. And he did only as many others have done: yielded to a wild ambition. While in disgrace he left Athens, to be seen or heard of no more. Long years after, the prosperity of Athens was ascribed to his reforms.

There have Lycurgus, Solon, and Cleisthenes erected to themselves monuments more lasting than granite; more beautiful than polished marble; more conspicuous than the highest peak of the Greek mountains. Lycurgus laid the foundation of a grand structure, that withstood the tempests of subsequent Spartan history. And if it took Solon to construct the Athenian ship of state, it took Cleisthenes to pilot her over
the rough seas of civil and foreign wars. These are the three mighty ones of Greece. And while others were valiant, and accomplished mighty deeds, and "had an honorable name among three, yet they attained not unto the first three."

These are the three bright luminaries of the Grecian skies. And though they may fade away in the depth of antiquity, yet the telescope of a more complete civilization will point to them oftener, and dwell upon them longer; and they will be admired as the brightest and most beautiful group in the Grecian firmament.

J. A. S.

BYZANTIUM.

Great things often come from small ones. An acorn is a small, insignificant-looking thing, but what may it become? Plant it; it sprouts, then springs up, and as the years roll swiftly onward sends its roots farther and deeper in the earth and its branches higher in the air. In time it becomes a mighty oak, against which the howling winds may blow and the fierce wintry storm may rage, and not be moved. The establishing of Jamestown Colony, in 1607, was a small thing, yet see to what great dimensions it has grown in less than three centuries. It was a favorable omen to the future greatness and splendor of the Western Hemisphere; nor has its brightest expectations failed of realization. The same principle holds in regard to our subject.

In the year 658 B.C., under the special direction of the Delphian Apollo, there went out from Megara a small colony and founded Byzantium. They laid off the city on the shores of the Bosphorus, occupying the most easterly of the seven hills on which the modern Constantinople has been built. It was one of the most magnificent sites for a great emporium that the ancient world afforded, and was strategic ground in ancient as well as in modern times.

Its position on the Bosphorus gave it complete control over the extensive corn trade carried on by the merchants of the
West with the northern shores of the Euxine; the absence of tides and the depth of its harbor rendered it accessible to vessels of heavy tonnage, while the fisheries at the mouth of the Liscus were so lucrative as to procure for the deeply-curved bay into which that river fell the appellation of the Golden Horn.

Its inhabitants were of a miscellaneous character, made up mostly of Lacedæmonians and Athenians. Consequently it was alternately under the allegiance of Sparta and Athens. It was a free and independent city when Philip of Macedon, seeing its importance, tried to make it subject to his power; but not until the reign of Alexandria was Byzantium compelled to acknowledge the Macedonian supremacy. After the fall of the Macedonian Empire it again obtained it independence; then, becoming an ally of Rome, rendered that city valuable assistance in the contests with Philip II., Antiochus, and Mithridates.

Constantine, Emperor of Rome, selected Byzantium as the new capital of the Empire 330 A. D. Multitudes eagerly thronged to the new capital, and almost in a night the little colony grew into an imperial city. In honor of the Emperor, the name was changed to Constantinople. Hereafter we shall speak of it by that name.

The history of Constantinople is almost a record of its sieges. About one hundred years after its enlargement by Constantine there began a series of assaults by sea and land, before which it gave way only three times—viz., when its gates were opened to Dandalo, Michael Palæologus, and Mahomet II. The Russians assailed the sea walls four times from 865 to 1043. In the fifteenth century Constantinople was attacked twice by the Turks. The first attack was made in 1422, and the second in 1453. The date 1453 is a memorable one, because in that year the city was captured by the Turks, and became the seat of their empire. Then the fall of the city before the Turks scattered Greek learning among the Latin
and Teutonic races, and caused a culture that was second to none to be imbibed by people who were capable of appreciating its value. From this time on the records treat mostly of the obstinate struggles in which the Ottomans engaged with the different powers of Europe.

To-day all eyes are turned towards Constantinople. The atrocities committed by the Turks upon the Armenians are unparalleled, and are demanding the highest attention of the Powers of Europe. The three most interested Powers are Russia and Austria on the ground of nearness, and England on the ground of her carrying trade. If Russia interferes and no one molests her, she will surely gobble up Turkey; the same condition of affairs exist in regard to the other two Powers. What will be done?

The Dardanelles fortified so as to make the passage of a hostile fleet impossible, would enable Russia, if Constantinople became hers, to exclude from the Black Sea all ships of war but her own. Her armies could be moved across it without fear of molestation; and as an army carried on steamers moves much faster than one on land, she could not be resisted landing on any country bordering on that sea. Then Roumania, Bulgaria, and northern Asia Minor would become portions of the Russian Empire. The frontier which she would thus acquire would place the eastern half of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy at her mercy, rather than allow which Austria-Hungary would fight. Furthermore, Russia in possession of the Dardanelles could keep the Black Sea as a training lake for as large a navy as she pleased to construct, with which to sally forth and take the initiative whenever she chose. This would give her such a preponderance as would lead other nations to resent it, and, if possible, prevent it.

If Austria owned Constantinople there would not be so general an affront to the rest of Europe, but there would sooner or later be a naval war between Austria and Russia, and if Russia lost it would paralyze her northern empire as well as endanger her southern provinces.
RICHMOND COLLEGE MESSENGER.

England is interested in Constantinople mainly on account of her Indian possessions. The nearest and most direct way to these is through the Strait of Gibraltar, the Mediterranean Sea, the Suez Canal, and so on. Now, if an unfriendly Power has possession of Constantinople, her trade with her Indian territory will be completely at the mercy of that unfriendly Power. The possessor of Constantinople would practically control all of the eastern Mediterranean, and no one is more interested in that than England. India, with its millions of acres of tillable lands and its fertile valleys, is the granary of Britain, and she cannot afford to lose that part of herself which sustains life. Russia possessing Constantinople could do an inestimable amount of damage to England. Russia is already encroaching upon England's possessions, and is colonizing and making her own everything within her reach. Russia, controlling the "Golden Horn," could endanger and completely destroy England's route to India, and eventually, no doubt, become possessor of India herself. Russia will not allow England to interfere, and England will not allow Russia to interfere; and in the mean time the Turk is taking advantage of the opportunity, is pillaging the homes of the Armenians, and committing bloody and cruel massacres.

It is an unquestionable fact that Constantinople has a unique position. It is the only city in the world that controls two continents and two seas. Rome was made mistress of the world by man; Constantinople was made so by nature. The power of Rome soon gave way, but the power of Constantinople never has and never will. Constantinople is a magnet around which clusters the interests of Europe, Asia, and Africa; so that the old problem regarding Constantinople is the greatest problem confronting the present diplomats of the world.

Bon Dight.
“Friendship is the cement of two minds”; two, because, as a rule, deep sincere friendship does not exist between three or more. For conversation is the nourisher of friendship, and there are comparatively few things which are of interest to more than two persons.

It is a union of sentiment between two parties, of all matters whether human or divine; but this is not all—one can have the same opinions as another, and yet be far from his friend—there must be good-will and affection intermingled.

Emerson says that the two essential elements in friendship are Truth and Tenderness. This is eminently true; I know of nothing more necessary in such a union, unless it be faith.

“Friendship above all ties that bind the heart,
And faith in friendship is the noblest part.”

Friendship is literally interwoven with nature, “It is no idle bond, no holiday engagement.” It is a great and complicated mass of machinery, which, under the unskilled workman, worketh ruin, but touched by the master hand it weaveth a thing of beauty and joy forever.

One’s friends come unsought; no one is more detestable than the hypocrite who tries to make friends, or rather of being a pretended friend to others. “Better be a nettle in the side of your friend than his echo; the condition which high friendship demands is the ability to do without it. To be capable of that high office requires great and sublime parts. There must be very two before there can be very one. Let it be an alliance of two, large, formidable natures, mutually beheld, mutually feared, before yet they recognize the deep identity which beneath these disparities unites them.”

The Epicureans of old claimed as one of their favorite doctrines that friendship arises only from the advantage it produces. How much more beautiful, how much nobler, was the belief of
the Stoics. The oracle of Delphi told Cicero to "follow nature." So the Stoics believed we must do in friendship; we should follow the natural inclination of the heart.

If hope of receiving advantage were the only tie that binds friends, as soon as this is dispelled friendship would cease. Was this the case with Orestes and Pylades, Jonathan and David, and hosts of others?

Though friendship is not produced by the baser passions, there are numerous advantages which arise from it. If nothing else, it produces happiness—"From the highest degree of passionate love to the lowest degree of good, it makes the sweetness of life." "It has the power to soothe affection in her darkest hour."

Love and friendship are half-sisters. Friendship is a broad, majestic river, which smoothly flows and is gradually absorbed in the ocean of the future. But the course of true love never runs smooth. Love is a wild, dashing mountain stream, always turbulent, and, sometimes falling into a chasm, is gone forever.

"Love is a sudden blaze which soon decays, Friendship is as the sun's eternal rays."

Bad men can love, for this is a passion which invades all hearts, without regard to their purity; but friendship cannot exist between evil persons, because self-interest is the only tie that binds them, and soon as this is broken their connection is severed; this being the case, friendship never existed between them.

There can be no friendship without love, but there can be love without friendship. For instance, we can love some one whom we have never seen, we can love him for his works, but there is no element of friendship in this.

"A friend should bear a friend's infirmities." He should be faithful; slow to suspect or believe ill, and not love a friend as
much as he is loved, but he must love a friend as he loves himself.

Though friendship is most fruitful in like natures, there must also be some difference, "just as the sweetest harmony arises from a combination of discords."

The superior of two friends must have that gift by which he can place himself on a level with his fellow, and the inferior must be whole-souled enough to recognize his superiority.

Friendship should be made in manhood, when we have become mature and know our minds, and can comprehend the value and sacredness of the compact.

"A friend is gold," but let us remember "all that glitters is not gold." Beware of the fawning, smooth-tongued, oily hypocrite. He will work nothing but harm.

"Forsake not an old friend, for the new is not comparable unto him; a new friend is as new wine, when it is old thou shall drink of it with pleasure."

But what is the underlying cause which breaks friendship? Envy, that serpent of the soul, is probably the greatest destroyer of friendship. If two friends are competing for the same prize and one is victorious, it is envy which makes the other dislike his successful friend. If two men love the same woman it is the direst envy that separates them. And so envy can be traced to the bottom of almost every discord. And yet there are some things that break friendship which envy hardly enters into. Often a friend is asked a favor which, in justice to himself, he cannot grant; he refuses; the other immediately becomes offended, and their friendship ceases. This goes to show that we should make our choice of friends when we are mature, and time cannot materially change our characters; then if the right choice is made in the beginning our bond is lasting.

If we see that our friend is going wrong and we cannot persuade him to do right, our friendship must not cease immediately, for this would harbor ill-feeling and hate, but we must gradually break it by the stopping of familiar intercourse.
Cicero cautions us not to ask of a friend anything that we would not ourselves willingly grant to him. This resembles closely our golden rule, which holds good in every condition of life: "The essence of friendship is entireness, a total magnanimity and trust. It must not surmise or provide for infirmity. It treats its object as a god, that it may deify both."

Lay Dee.

VESPERTIDE.

His task ended, the fast-fading sun,
Sinks wearied to the lap of oblivion.
The golden strands he left behind,
Amongst the clouds are swiftly twined.

Then lovely hues—a crimson cast,
The darkest blues—these soon are past,
For dark'ning shade o'er all is falling,
The night-hawk to its mate is calling.

The moon swift rising from her sleep,
Her twinkling lights casts o'er the deep,
Then day is past and evening done,
And Luna's vigil just begun.  

A. D. J.
In pursuance of the course inaugurated in the March Messenger by the publication of ex-President Ryland's admirable sketch of the ante-bellum history of the College, the Alumni Department is glad to present in this issue some "Recollections of an Old Boy," by Mr. Josiah Ryland, one of the first graduates of Richmond College, and an alumnus whom all delight to honor because of his continued devotion to the interests of his Alma Mater. These recollections appeared in the Messenger several years ago and we republish them in this issue as the first of a series of "College Memories" from the pens of prominent alumni of ante-bellum days, to appear in successive numbers.

RECOLLECTIONS OF AN OLD BOY.

[Degrees were first conferred in Richmond College in 1849. The authority to grant degrees had been possessed since the institution had been chartered, in 1840, but the officers, led by President Ryland, were determined to teach a full college course before honoring any student with a degree.

The first class graduated from the College numbered two. To the joy of their Alma Mater and of a host of friends, both members of the class are alive and in excellent health. This vanguard of the Richmond College alumni consists of Rev. Poindexter Smith Henson, A. B., D. D., LL. D., pastor of the First Baptist church, Chicago, Ill., and Josiah Ryland, A. B., a business-man of Richmond, Va.

Josiah Ryland was born in 1830, and graduated from Richmond College at the age of nineteen. He showed aptness to teach, and taught successfully in Powhatan county, in Churchland Academy, at Charlestown (now W. Va.), and in Stevensville Academy. His ability to impart instruction was marked, and he inspired his pupils with a love for learning. At Charlestown, Postmaster-General Wilson was a pupil, and at Stevensville, Hon. H. R. Pollard and Prof. John Pollard, of Richmond College. Mr. Ryland entered the Confederate army and served as lieutenant of the King and Queen Artillery until captured before the crater at Petersburg. After eight months in Northern prisons he returned to Richmond and opened a book store. He has since continued in active business life.

Mr. Ryland is a man of scholarly instincts, of broad views, and liberal culture. Throughout his busy life he has been a devout and active Christian. He has long been a trustee of Richmond College, and his interest in education and his loving devotion to Alma Mater set a worthy example to all alumni whose names follow his on the ever-lengthening scroll.]

I entered Richmond College in January, 1847. Having previously enjoyed the advantages of a good academic education in my native county—King and Queen—under the tuition of
such men as Fleming W. Berryman, J. H. C. Jones (afterwards judge), Oliver White, and John Henry Pitts, I naturally took my place among the more advanced students.

My uncle, Dr. Robert Ryland, who was universally known as “the old Doctor,” occupied the chair of Moral Philosophy and Political Economy; Professor George Frederick Holmes, for so many years connected with the University of Virginia as Professor of History, filled the chair of Greek and Latin; Thomas Bolling Robertson was the Professor of Mathematics, and Natural Philosophy and Chemistry were taught in lectures by Professor Webster, while Mr. Hardin Massie conducted a sort of primary department in a frame building that stood near the present Broad-street wing of the main building.

My recollection of these gentlemen is that they were scholarly, faithful, and devoted to their work. Professors Ryland, Holmes, and Massie resided in the house lately occupied by Professor Puryear; and, indeed, this was the only building on the grounds of any pretensions, as the basement was utilized as dining-hall, chapel, and recitation rooms. The long building which formerly stood near the site of the present mess-hall, known as “Brick Row,” and two smaller buildings, containing eight rooms each, that stood not far from the northern end of Jeter Memorial Hall, known as “Science Row,” were occupied by the students as dormitories. I had my room in “Science Row,” and had as room-mates the first year John W. Tippitt, of Madison, Josephus Anderson, of Hanover, and “Extra Billy” Smith, of the Northern Neck. After the first session, Poindexter S. Henson, of Fluvanna, and I came together by a sort of natural affinity.

At this period the College was in the country. Only a year or two before, the elegant Mayo residence had been destroyed by fire, and the tall trees and neglected shrubbery around it effectually obstructed the view of the city. Indeed, from this point to Henry street stretched the common, over which
roamed herds of city cows, and across which beaten paths led to different parts of the city. To the north, a heavy growth of pines on both sides of the railroad shut out the view of Mr. Nat Bowe's residence, on the site of which Hartshorn College now stands. All our athletics were practiced on a swing consisting of a long pole attached to an oak on the side of the road—now Broad street.

Near "Science Row," in a plain negro cabin, resided "Old Aunt Aggy," one of the "characters" of the College premises. As I recall her molasses cakes, her scrambled eggs, her hoe-cakes made of flour, I feel assured for the hundredth time that nobody has ever made any like them since, and that her art perished with her. No student ever went home at the end of a session without taking formal leave of her, and she always had something original to say to each one. I remember on one occasion Durfey, of Williamsburg, a student of several sessions, took formal and final leave of her, telling her, with a long face, that he would never return. The old lady, rising from her wash-tub, and lifting her heavy German-silver spectacles, looked at him quizzically for a moment, and replied: "Go way, Durfey, you done tell me dat tale too many times. You gwine to come back here ontwell you is gray." The bad boys occasionally worried her very soul; and as I write these lines, I can recall the scene of her yellow cur flying in terror across the premises, with a tin can tied to his tail, while the rascally "Academic" watched the scene from a safe hiding-place, and Aunt Aggy made the air blue with threats that she "was gwine right straight over to the big house and tell Mr. Ryland what dem little rascals was doin' long her dog."

At this time the College fare was severely plain. It was understood that no debts were to be contracted, and the boarding department must pay its own expenses. Unless my memory is at fault, the entire charge for board and tuition was only $125 per session, and this required such close calculation and frugal fare that only the watchful management of the president, who
assumed this extra burden, and the personal supervision of a steward, could make both ends meet.

At morning prayers in the chapel—since used by Professor Puryear as kitchen—after the roll was called, one of the "ministerials" was called upon to read a chapter and lead in prayer. At breakfast, this same student was expected to ask a blessing. Among a set of hungry boys and men, there is too often a lack of devotion; and frequently have I seen a score of hands raised over the plates of biscuits, and when the "amen" was pronounced, nearly every plate on the table would be empty, some students, by a dexterity unknown to the Greeks and Romans, having appropriated half a dozen biscuits, while others had none. The story was told, indeed, on one more enterprising fellow, upon whom devolved the duty of "saying grace," that with an eye to business, raising his hand reverently, and duly intoning the words, "For what we are about to receive may the Lord make us duly thankful," by the time the word "receive" passed his lips, he swept his hand down into the biscuit plate, and when all eyes were opened, it was found that his wants, at least, had been duly provided for.

On one occasion, when the bread ran low, and the mischievous students began to sing out, "Bread, bread, bread," up and down the table in measured cadence, Professor Holmes, who happened to be presiding, having rapped on the table with the most profound solemnity, exclaimed, "Gentlemen may cry 'Bread, bread,' but there is no bread."

Another College character was "Cleber," the Vulcan who kindled our morning fires. Who cannot recall his tall, gaunt figure thrown upon the ceiling by the firelight, as with inflated cheeks he strove to kindle the flame and, resting on all fours, swayed to and fro with the effort? "She's ruther hard to git off this mornin', it 'pears to me," he would say in consolatory tones, as he started to another room, "but de blower will soon make her all right."
Cleber was a philosopher. Walking among a hundred and fifty boys and men at their most mischievous period of life, who ever heard an unkind or impudent word from him, or knew him to get into any trouble with a student? My heart softens towards thy memory, Cleber, as I recall thy humble and yet faithful life. Peace to thy ashes, if death has claimed thee for his own!

And then there was Tom, the cup-bearer, who, with more speed than grace, flew up and down the table, trying in vain to serve fifty hungry men at once. Tom was a sly dog, and enjoyed keenly the honors of his position. Picking up little snatches of Latin he would say, with mock gravity, “Mr. Culpepper Brown, will you take your coffee cum lacte, or sine lacte?”

I think Tom is now selling potatoes and cabbages in the Second Market. If so, surely he ought to get a good share of the College trade, and the Professors and caterers should at once make his acquaintance. Doubtless he is a staunch friend of the College, and regards himself as one of the early graduates.

It may seem trivial to some that I have recalled the names and traits of these humble characters; but who that has been a student does not retain the most vivid recollections of these faithful servants, who did for him many a kindness, and bore for him many a burden?

There was but one society at the College during its early history—the Mu Sigma Rho. I shall never forget the first meeting I attended. It was held in what was known as the “Academic Hall.” The din and disorder that prevailed before the society was called to order were perfectly appalling to a country boy, who supposed that everything at college would be conducted with a sort of literary propriety. Ben T. G——, now a most grave and learned judge in one of our eastern districts, was darting about the room in a short-cut calico dressing gown, yelling at the top of his voice “The society will please come to disorder!”
The secretary will read the roll and call the proceedings of the last meeting"; while P. S. H——, now a learned doctor of divinity in the greatest city of the great Northwest, was standing on one of the benches delivering himself in some such style as, "Romans! countrymen! lovers! lend me your ears. I come to bury Cæsar, not to praise him." For many terms I had the honor of presiding over the society, and Grover Cleveland never assumed the presidential robe with more satisfaction than fills the breast of a college boy when he is called for the first time to such a position. He may be a "Merry Andrew" on the campus, but he is a Magnus Apollo and a Jubiter Tonans in the chair. One evening this same H. came into the society with his face all blacked up, with a full suit of whiskers and moustache, and a large pair of green goggles astraddle his nose, and attempted to address the chair. He was my room-mate, and I had a great struggle within between my sense of the dignity of my position and the ludicrousness of his appearance. I called him to order, and put fine after fine upon him, until at last he strode out of the door, which he slammed behind him, and at once went to work to organize a rival society. The scheme, however, fell through. He returned to his allegiance, and continued, as he had done, to thrill us with his youthful oratory. At the time concerning which I write, much attention was given to declamation. At regular intervals, perhaps as often as once a week, the students were required to declaim before Dr. Ryland in the chapel. These exercises were highly improving, and occasionally very entertaining, especially when some mischievous fellows would prepare a ridiculous dialogue, or declaim some humorous pieces, which convulsed the assembly with laughter, in which our severe critic joined as heartily as any of us.

During the winter of 1847, ten of us were selected to deliver speeches, original or memorized, at the Second Baptist church. Great were the preparations made for the occasion. We styled ourselves "The Decemvirs." We made the chapel ring with
our rehearsals. Up the railroad we walked in pairs, and, separating, thundered our oratory to an audience of one. And when the evening came at last, and we saw the great audience gather, and watched our sweethearts as they took the front seats to cheer us with their smiles and thrill us with their applause, our hearts beat high with ambitious hopes, and every fellow did his best.

Vain college lads! We thought the reputation of the institution was established from that hour.

I did not suppose for a moment that I could find, except in the columns of a newspaper of that date, the names of the students who figured on that momentous occasion; but rummaging among some old college matters, I found a programme made out at the time. The exercises were held December 17, 1847, and I give below the names of the speakers and their subjects:


In some way, the soubriquet of “Lunatics” was fastened on the students of the College at this period. It is said that some passing marketman, who had been teased and worried by the students, finally jumped down from his cart, pulled off his coat, and, throwing it to the ground, declared that “he wasn’t afraid of every lunatic in the old asylum, and he defied the crowd.” The boys adopted the name, and it was in common use for many years.
Politics often ran high at the College. Most of the students were Henry Clay Whigs, and held themselves ready to take part in public gatherings and political demonstrations.

The Hon. John Minor Botts, then in the zenith of his power and popularity, lived on Broad street, near the College, his residence having but recently been pulled down to make way for the march of business. He was a great favorite among the students, and rewarded our admiration for him by occasional invitations to his house. On one occasion, after his triumph over Leake for Congress, when a grand torchlight procession moved up Broad street from the old City Hall to his residence, the students bought a large number of tar-barrels and illuminated the whole upper end of the city. Mr. Botts came out, shook hands all around, and, taking us into his house, gave us more wine than was safe for young heads.

What is now known as Hollywood cemetery—sweet resting-place of our sainted dead—was at this time a dense forest of oaks, with but a single grave. Through these valleys and over these hills, the boys wended their way, in the months of May and June, to bathe in the canal or the river, and, returning by moonlight, made these groves ring with college melodies.

The tone of public morals has always been high at Richmond College. What institution of learning with one hundred and fifty students within its walls, and contiguous to a city, ever presented such a record of good order and gentlemanly deportment? And yet boys will have their fun, and the college is no exception to the general rule. The traditional practices of toe-pulling, ringing the college bell at midnight, or cutting the rope so that it could not be rung for prayers next morning, putting a goat or goose in the lecture-room, etc., were faithfully kept up. One singular freak was indulged almost every session. Dr. Ryland had a milk-white mare named Clara. Every now and then some of the more mischievous boys would shave her tail of every hair; and when, to show his independence, the Doctor would have her brought out and saddled, and mount
her to ride to town, the spectacle would be so ridiculous that even
the gravest "ministerials" could not suppress their laughter.

The walk from the city to the College at night was often
attended with danger. "Screamersville," with its fierce dogs
and low groggeries, was a point at which no one lingered. It was
related of Dr. Ryland, that as he returned late one night from
a meeting at the First church, he heard rapid footsteps behind
him, and at once suspecting danger, quickened his pace. It
happened to be a student who was following him, and who,
recognizing the quick and elastic step of the Doctor, and
knowing his timidity at night, determined to join him. Look­
ing around, and seeing that the man was rapidly gaining on
him, the Doctor hurried on until, almost exhausted, he stopped
on the College stile to catch breath. As the pursuer came up
he recognized in the fancied highwayman one of the oldest
and most pious students at the College, and exclaimed, "Well,
T——, you have frightened me almost to death."

At this period the College classes were divided into Freshman,
Sophomore, Junior, and Senior. As students approached the
senior year they left the institution for business pursuits, or
entered other colleges to take their degrees. At the close of
the session of 1848-'49, however, it was determined that the
degree of A. B. should be conferred upon the students who
had completed the curriculum. The first commencement of
the College was to have been held the latter part of June; but
the cholera made its appearance in the city, and the students
left at once for their homes. At the beginning of the next
session, however, on the evening of the 14th of October, Rich­
mond College held its first commencement, at the Second
Baptist church. This novel occasion brought out the friends
of the institution in large numbers. The programme was
necessarily a short one. After the usual introductory exercises,
addresses were delivered by the graduating class as follows:

"Baccalaureate Address," President Ryland.
There seemed to be a sort of satisfaction in the heart of our Alma Mater that, after so many years of toil and patience, she could at last send forth two sons to bear her name and wear her honors; and one of them, at least, has sometimes indulged the thought, that if he accomplished no other good at College, he helped, as an humble pioneer, to blaze the way for that long line of noble men who have since filled her halls and borne her honors.

NOTES.

President Boatwright, assisted by a committee of the alumni, is arranging for a great reunion of old students at the approaching commencement. Among the features of the occasion it is hoped to have a reunion of the men who graduated or left College in 1877, and also of those who in like manner may be styled the “Class of 1892.” Come back, fellows, and renew old associations. Be boys again.


President Boatwright will be glad to hear from any of these alumni of twenty years’ standing who can make it convenient to attend, and from any of the boys of ’92 who can arrange to be present.

George Braxton Taylor ('81) has recently returned from a trip to Italy.

J. H. Gore ('77) has been appointed by the President to act as commissioner of the United States at the International Exposition to be held this year at Brussels.
H. Allen Tupper, Jr., D. D. ('75), is the author of a recent work on Armenia, which is highly praised by the reviewers. Dr. Tupper has been lecturing this winter to large audiences in Ford's Opera House, Baltimore.

C. T. Kincanon ('90) has been invited to preach the commencement sermon at Mt. Lebanon College, La. He is also to preach the annual sermon before the next Louisiana Baptist Convention.

Among the largest gifts the College Museum has ever received is a collection of Mexican curios of great ethnological value recently donated by H. P. McCormick ('79). Not satisfied with this handsome gift, Mr. McCormick sends a liberal contribution for the science fund.

A suggestive paper on "The Relation of Alumni to Alma Mater" will appear in the May issue, from the pen of Dr. W. C. Bitting ('77), pastor of the Mount Morris Baptist church, New York city. This, we trust, will be followed in future numbers by letters from other alumni on similar themes.

A DEATH.

Cold and dark, dark and cold,
The night wind tosses the white-capped waves,
The ice forms fast on the bark so old,
As the wind through her shrouds like a demon raves.

The sea's huge mountains fall and rise,
While the shattered hulk through the gale drifts fast,
Now soars aloft toward darkened skies,
Now lost to view is her slim top-mast.

Down, down she goes to her watery grave,
No vested choir her sad requiem chants,
A prayer to God their souls to save,
And he gives heed with pitying glance. A. D. J.
COLLEGE SYSTEM OF EDUCATION.

Whether the present college system educates in the best sense, is attracting an unusual amount of discussion just now.

In the April No. of the *Cosmopolitan* there was begun a series of articles upon this question. Presidents Dwight and Eliot will contribute to this series, and we eagerly await all these articles.

This question is not only an interesting one to carping critics, but is of vital importance both to students and professors, and to many citizens who pay little regard to it. We do not mean to say, however, that there are many of our students and citizens who ought to go into public discussion of the question, for it is only just to say that they would not know what they were talking about. The results of any system of education will not be all focused into the day or the year following the student's graduation; and to be able to discuss it thoroughly, comprehensively, and fairly, one must be familiar with the methods as well as apparent results of college education.

Scholars and statesmen may discuss the question alone, but the rest of us are intensely interested in what they say, and may be greatly affected by the results of their study and discussion. It is important to every student and every child who will become a student, and to the guardians of these youngsters, that their education should be the best possible. We do not say that it should be as much as possible like that of the sixteenth century, or that it should be as far as possible removed from "the new learning" of three hundred years ago. One must admit the possibility that the best methods of the eighteenth century are not the best for us, and that the best methods for us will not be the best for the twentieth century,
and that the most approved European methods might not be the best for America. But we are sufficiently optimistic to believe that the fittest will survive, and that of all the new fads and schemes proposed no worthless one will be allowed to take root.

SECTARIAN SCHOOLS AND CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

The support of sectarian schools and charitable institutions has recently been discussed in Richmond, both by the city fathers and by the representatives of different denominations. The occasion of this discussion was the proposition to reduce the annual appropriation from the city to two charitable institutions under the control of Catholics. Catholics, of course, opposed the reduction; and Protestants, through representatives of different denominations, seized the opportunity to declare their opposition to any such union of Church and State as the support of any sectarian institution by the civil government.

The question is a broad one, and some of its phases offer food for thought to any one who is willing to stop talking long enough to reflect.

To those who claim that denominational institutions should not receive support from the civil government, the question applies, "By whom shall they be supported?" and the answer is not hard to find: they must be supported by the individual and united assistance of the adherents of the respective denominations or sects. The answer is very easy to give, but its meaning is too poorly understood, and its application too little regarded.

Since an abstract principle is often best taught by means of a concrete example, pardon a word about Richmond College, which is, of course, the most familiar and dearest example to her students, alumni, and friends. It is a duty incumbent upon every Baptist in Richmond, in Virginia, and in the Union, who would be loyal to the faith which he professes to hold more dear than anything else in the world—it is his duty, we say, to support Richmond College, unless some other Baptist
school is, for some reason, more entitled to his support. This
means, that he is to use his influence to encourage every young
man possible to attend this College instead of some other that
is not a Baptist college and offers no better advantages; that
he is to give of his means to endow this College rather than
some other; that if he is able to help some poor young man
through college he will send him here; that in all his walk and
conversation he will uphold this College in every matter in
which it is right.

**CIVIL SERVICE** is of interest to every college-man, whatever
**REFORM** his political affiliations:

Just now it seems to be in certain danger of being seriously
crippled, and every one who has escaped the clutches of the
selfish idea that to the victors belong the spoils, is sorry for its
peril, and prays for its deliverance.

Every college student has learned, as well as business-men,
to appreciate the truth and meaning of the declaration that,
“to him that hath shall be given, and from him that hath not
shall be taken away even that which he hath.” But one who
has been assiduously trained to distinguish the true from the
false, understands that the possession of the ability to perform
the duties of any office is quite a different thing from sworn
fealty to the party that controls that office.

Neither of the most powerful political parties in our country
stands as an unbroken line in defence of civil service reform.
Every one of the parties has in its ranks some advocates of
this modern doctrine. And it is to be hoped that no college-
bred man will ignore whatever arguments there may be on
both sides and blindly take a partisan stand, either for or
against the adoption into our political economics of this vital
principle, which proposes to establish a secure government by
putting in each position the best man for the place.

The next number of the **MESSENGER** will appear about the
last of May, and the succeeding one in July, after Commence-
ment.
The Jollification was a decided success.

J. F. Wood ('94), of Bristol, Tenn., paid us a short visit some time ago.

What is the name of the new science? Ignorance.

We are much pleased to see Dr. Tupper so improved in health as to be able to meet his classes.

J. D. Lea ('96), who is now at the University of Virginia was in our midst last week.

Mr. P. (in Senior English): "The people of South Africa are educated to be cannon balls" (cannibals).

"Why is Richmond College a good pilot?"
"Because it keeps the boat right (Boatwright)."

Who says that the Spiders cannot play ball? They have won nine out of ten games.

"I fear you are forgetting me,"
She said in tones polite.
"I am indeed for getting you,
That's why I came to-night."

T. H. Athey ('89-'93), was with us for a short time recently. His mission to Richmond was one of pleasure. Athey is at present attending Crozer Theological Seminary.

Prof. (in Chem.): "How is gas made?"
Mr. P.: "By passing the gas works through water, Professor."
Dr. J. M. Pilcher, of Petersburg, conducted the devotional exercises on March 26th. Dr. Pilcher is Richmond College's first M. A., having received it in 1861.

Mr. Pichegrew Woolfolk, son of our Matron, Mrs. L. P. Woolfolk, who has been in Denver, Col., over a year for the benefit of his health, is much more indisposed than formerly.

"Have you ever been around the world?"
"No, but my arm has."
"Why, what do you mean?"
"My girl is all the world to me."

Leslie Bagby ('94-'95), of Farmville, with his bright smile, was on the campus a few days ago. He is taking a business course in Baltimore.

Prof. R. E. Gaines spent several days in Lynchburg recently.

"What part of speech is egg?"
"Noun, sir."
"What is it's gender?"
"Don't know till it's hatched."

Rev. J. L. White, of Macon, Ga., was with us a few mornings since. He has been very successful in a revival at the First Baptist church.

The Graduating Class of '97 met some time ago and elected the various officers. They are as follows: Academic Class—Orator, W. E. Gibson, Virginia; Law Class—Orator, J. R. L. Johnson, Virginia. The two classes, jointly, elected the remaining officers: President, E. B. English; Vice-President, C. E. Stuart; Secretary and Historian, J. B. Kaufman; Advisory Board—L. D. Grant, J. R. Stafford, T. B. McAdams, E. V. Riddell, J. A. Sullivan.
A short time ago Mr. A was visiting a gentleman friend out on the suburbs of the city. He and his friend were conversing earnestly about the accomplishments of a certain young lady, when a lean and ill-looking fellow looked in.

“What do you want?” asked Mr. A’s friend.

“Nothing,” said the other.

“Then,” replied Mr. A’s friend, “you will find it in the demijohn where the moonshine was.

Miss Willie Gregory, of New Kent county, is visiting Mrs. Woolfolk. She has been quite ill, but at present is convalescing.

W. J. Knight (‘94) received his M. D. at the Medical College of Virginia last week.

“Irish” was out in the country some time back. Seeing opposite him a bull bellowing and pawing a clay bank, he thought it would be fine fun to run up behind the bull and push him over on his head. The idea was so amusing that he lay down and wallowed on the ground in a fit of laughter. He jumped up and sprang over the fence, but before he knew what he was about he found himself flat on his back on the side of the fence that he came from. Getting up and rubbing his bruised limbs he said: “Faith, and ’twas good I took my laughing first.”

A doctor’s work fills six feet of ground, but a dentist’s fills an ac(h)er.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The first lecture in the second series of public lectures by the professors was delivered by Prof. John Pollard in the Thomas Memorial Hall on March 18th. His subject was “Thomas Carlyle.” Among other things the speaker made a very close criticism of Carlyle as a man, a citizen, and a scholar.
A Rooters' Association was organized at the beginning of the base-ball season.

Field-day takes place Friday, May 14th. There are quite a number of entries for each event, and the contest bids fair to be unusually interesting.

Prof. S. C. Mitchell is making all the necessary arrangements for his trip to Europe this summer. He will leave about the first of June. Several of the students will accompany him.

The chapel has recently undergone thorough repairs. Many additions have been made in the way of interior decorations and trimmings.

It is stated that work on the new Laboratory building will begin about May 1st.

The Joint Oratorical contest was held on the evening of April 22d, and many admirers of the young Demostheneans were present, often expressing their satisfied anticipation in vigorous applause. The contest was participated in by Messrs. K. Wolsey Cawthon and C. G. McDaniel, of the Philologian Society, and Messrs. W. Ernest Gibson and J. R. L. Johnson, of the Mu Sigma Rho.

The orations were all good, making the fight very close. After much consultation the judges announced Mr. C. G. McDaniel to be the successful contestant. Judges—Governor C. T. O'Ferrall, Hon. James Keith, and Hon. B. B. Munford.

**THE THOMAS LECTURES.**

The tenth course of lectures known as the Thomas Memorial Lectures, were delivered in the College Hall on March 29th and 30th and April 1st and 2d by G. Stanley Hall, Ph. D., President of Clark University, Worcester, Mass. The lectures are provided for by a fund given by the children of the late James Thomas, Jr., in honor of their father. The subject of the course was "Modern Psychology." The lectures had the
charm of novelty and freshness, for it is the newest of the sciences. In fact, as Dr. Hall says, the new psychology, which makes a scientific study not only of the nature and laws of the mind, but also its relations to the brain, nerves, and body, has not yet reached such a stage of development as to deserve the name of science.

In the first lecture—"The New Psychology"—Dr. Hall said that from a study of the senses, it has been widened to include the intellect, the will, the feelings, the brain, a study of children, of savages, and of animal instincts. Scores of scientific men are spending days and nights, which expand into weeks and months, with their eyes glued to the microscope, studying and recording with minutest detail the psychic activities of one-celled animals.

The second lecture—"Mind and Body"—treated of the exceedingly delicate experiments by which scientists have been studying the constitution, structure, and functions of the brain, the location within very definite limits of speech centre, and the like.

These experiments have rendered invaluable service to the science of medicine. It was also stated that as education, whether of muscles, mind, or will, is brain-building, the old plan of cultivating simply the memory educated only a small part of the brain.

"The brain," says Dr. Hall, "is the mouth-piece of the absolute, through which every revelation has and must forever be made. To keep this wonderful organ at the top of its condition is the consummation of hygiene, the school, the church, and civilization."

"The Border Land" was the subject of the third lecture. It considered the many kinds of mysticism, represented by theosophy, mind cure, faith cure, spiritualism, hypnotism, symbolism, and others. There is an almost universal belief in disembodied spirits. To make a scientific investigation of this
matter, one must be familiar with the art of conjuring, and understand all the possibilities of illusion.

The fourth and last lecture was on “Child Study,” one of the newest and most fascinating branches of modern psychology. Dr. Hall stated that a child is the bearer of heredity, and brings into the world the traits, not only of its parents, but of its ancestors for many generations. He said the study of child began, not at its birth, but long before this—thus endorsing the old adage, that it takes twenty generations of men to make a gentleman. The period of adolescence, beginning at the age of thirteen or fourteen and lasting about ten years, is also quite interesting.

Dr. Hall is an exceedingly attractive speaker, being engaging, lucid, and sympathetic. Large and appreciative audiences of many of Richmond’s best cultivated people greeted the distinguished lecturer every evening.

THE “SPIDER” OF ’97 IS ALMOST HATCHED OUT.

The first No. of this Annual is nearing completion. Mr. Evan R. Chesterman, the editor-in-chief, has, he says, a superabundance of first-class matter, and Mr. Allan D. Jones, in behalf of the business managers, has secured subscriptions, contributions, and advertisements sufficient to guarantee freedom from financial embarrassment. Most of the copy is in the printer’s hands, and the illustrations are in readiness.

The book is to be 7½ x 9½ inches, with about 125 pages. The cover will be full cloth in Richmond College colors (navy-blue and crimson), and ornamented with silver title and artistically-colored spider. The illustrations (mostly line-cuts and half-tones) will be profuse. The Spider will be the best possible souvenir of Richmond College.

The first issue will be 300 copies, and the book will be sold by subscription at $1.50 per copy—a surprisingly low price.
A regular meeting was held on March 16th. The principal paper, "England at the time of the Norman Conquest," was read by Mr. Thomas B. McAdams, of Richmond. The subject was well treated, and enjoyed by all present.

"Current Events" was discussed at some length. Some very interesting facts were brought to light by Prof. Mitchell and others. This feature of the programme is becoming more and more popular.

The next meeting occurred on the 13th of April. Mr. H. M. Fugate, of Washington county, Va., read an excellent paper on "Gladstone Prior to his Election to Parliament." He discussed his topic in a clear and forcible manner, bringing out many facts about Mr. Gladstone's early life.

It was decided by the Society to invite Prof. Herbert B. Adams, of Johns Hopkins University, to deliver the annual oration before the Society at the beginning of the next session.

The Society runs its annual excursion next Friday, April 23d. The excursion this year will go to Washington. A grand time is anticipated.
The Greek Club has held two meetings since the last report. At the March meeting the principal paper, by Mr. Hall, treated of Sophocles and this was followed by a paper on the Antigone, by Mr. McDaniel. At the April meeting Mr. Edwards read a paper on the Alcestis of Euripides. A number of articles in current magazines bearing on Greek subjects were reviewed at both meetings. We append an abstract of Mr. Hall’s paper:

**SOPHOCLES.**

**HIS LIFE.**

Sophocles was born at Colonus, a suburb of Athens, 495 B.C. He was educated in all the learning of the Athenians, and accustomed to move in the best social circles. The poetic flames within his breast were daily fanned by the myths of the long ago, by a study of the ancient poets, and by the high estimation in which poets of his own day were held. At the age of twenty-seven, he contested with Æschylus at the festival of Dionysus, and was awarded the prize.

Though essentially a poet, he did not refrain from his duties as a citizen. He was often sent on embassies, and once elected a general; but he was not born a general, and gladly exchanged the sword for the pen.

His last days were spent beneath the shady groves of Colonus. The home which was his inspiration in youth became his consolation in old age, and in his nintieth year he came to a peaceful end.

Throughout his life he was very popular; genius, beauty, and piety had formed about him a texture through which not even the darts of the satirist could pierce. After death he became an object of worship, and a bronze statue was erected to his memory.
Athens produced three great tragic poets—Æschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides. They represent successive stages in the development of Tragedy, which varied with the change of religious thought in Athens. Sophocles found the Athenian drama in a crude stage of development; there were only two actors, and they were secondary to the chorus. He increased the number to three, and then to four, and made the song secondary to the dialogue. He modified the attire of the actors, adorning them with robes of saffron and purple.

As an author, his genius was prolific; within sixty years he produced about one hundred and thirteen plays, of which, however, there remain only seven—(1) The Trachiniae, (2) The Ajax, (3) The Electra, (4) Ædipus the King, (5) Ædipus Colonus, (6) Antigone, (7) Philoctetes.

He was peculiarly indebted to circumstances; there was the almost boundless sea of fable; the Greeks were credulous, imaginative, and reverent; it only remained for him to breathe into these legends the breath of life in order to make his characters pass in living form before assembled Athens.

His Religious Views.

In accordance with the spirit of his age he differed from his predecessors in religious and ethical ideas. Sophocles set forth the doctrine of free will as opposed to the fatalism of Æschylus. In each of his plays he shows how passion, deep-seated in men, brings about their weal or their woe.

His idea of retribution is much more moderate than that of his predecessors. He views human suffering in a manner entirely different from theirs. He finds that the gods love men better than men love themselves; that evils are often blessings in disguise; that even the Olympian deities chasten whom they love. He discovers that all things work together for good, not so much to those who love the gods, but whom the gods love.
Our devotional services are more largely attended now than they have been for some time. We are sorry to say that our Wednesday-night services are not as well attended as they ought to be. It would be a great pleasure to us if every student in College would attend these exercises. While we are preparing ourselves for our life's work, let us not neglect the most important part of all, but see to it that we prepare ourselves spiritually; because it is only those who live near God that have much happiness and are fitted to accomplish anything for the Master.

The work at the various Mission stations is prospering. It is very gratifying to us to see so many of the young men take part in this noble work. Nothing aids a Christian student more than participating in Mission work. If we spend our whole time while in College at hard work; laying aside everything but text-books, we shall become cold and indifferent; but if we go to a Mission and clasp the hand of some old Christian, from whose eyes we can see the love of Christ bubbling, our souls will be lifted up and the Savior will seem to be nearer us.

One thing to be regretted is the inconsistency of some of the students. Instead of living exemplary Christian lives, we keep ourselves in the back-ground and do nothing at all. Inconsistency is something that God cannot endure, neither can man. Let us, then, be men; be what we profess to be, and we shall accomplish great things for the Master, and shall be respected more highly by our fellow-students who are out of the ark of safety.
A great number of the resident students this year, we are glad to say, are soldiers of the Cross, and we hope before the school year shall have closed that the few who are still following in sin may cross over and enlist in Christ's army, and may thereby gain the crown of righteousness which the great Judge gives to all who love and serve him.

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**THIS YEAR'S COMMITTEES.**

The following are the standing committees of the Association for this year:

**Bible Study**—A. J. Hall (chairman), E. W. Provence, and R. S. Garnett.

**Mission Study**—S. M. Sowell (chairman), A. A. Yoder, and G. T. Lumpkin.

**Finance**—J. P. Scruggs (chairman), R. E. Loving, and J. D. Frazer.

**Intercollegiate Relations**—J. D. Gwaltney (chairman), C. E. Taylor, and F. W. Moore.


**Mission Stations.**

**Almshouse**—G. C. Smith (chairman), G. Frazer, and J. W Cammack.

**Soldiers' Home**—R. W. Neathery (chairman), A. C. Harlowe, and E. C. Peed.

**Penitentiary**—B. O. Hutchison (chairman), T. B. Spencer, and B. H. West.

The reports from the past year's committees were all very gratifying. The new committees have begun their work. There is much to be done. We bid them Godspeed, and urge the young men to take part in this work, and thus help to carry forward the Master's work and make the hearts of those among whom they work rejoice in the Lord.
W. S. McNEILL,
Manager and Captain Baseball Team, 1897.
We proudly present our readers with a likeness of Manager and Captain McNeill in this issue.

As manager, he combines Scotch taciturnity and persistency and Yankee shrewdness with French civility. And yet he is a hot-blooded South Carolinian.

As captain, he has brought the team to its high state of efficiency. At the opening of spring there were many croakers who expressed their fears that our '97 base-ball team would be a failure; but by patient, persistent efforts he has subjected every player to judicious training and brought the whole team under almost military discipline. They have had no special hired trainer or coacher, but they will play ball for their captain; and, following his example, they are gentlemanly, and play clean, fair ball.

SPIDERS.

The winter has passed away, and the Spiders have once more crept from the crevices of Richmond College, and have already made webs sufficiently strong to catch a few "flies" in the new base-ball park on Broad street. Yes, our boys have begun to play ball, and those who are connected with the College, or anything pertaining thereto, will be proud to know that the Spiders are as strong this session as ever before.

Out of the ten games played this season, Richmond College has won nine. The one lost was no discredit to the Spiders, for in playing a league team they were expected to lose.

Nine of the games were played at home. The other was played at Hampden-Sidney College.

The old players have found it difficult, in many instances, to regain their former places on the team; for the many new ap-
Applicants have worked diligently, and have thus played an active part in making the team what it is.

Our players are as follows: Ellyson, p. and c. f.; Hirsch, c.; Rea, 1st b.; McNeill, capt. and 2d b.; Wills, 3d b.; Leonard, s. s.; DeCamp, c. f. and p. There are Cunningham, Bagby, Robinson, and Kaufman, who can play the outfield. Cunningham is also good on third bag, and is especially trustworthy at the bat. Bagby plays left field splendidly; his batting is not as good as that of others on the team, but is pretty sure. Kaufman is a beautiful fielder, but is weak when it comes to batting. Robinson does well both in his batting and fielding, but is a little slow and inaccurate in his throwing. White, one of our last year's players, is back. Give him a little more practice, and he'll "do a plenty." He has a mighty arm, bats well, and is a splendid outfielder. Leonard plays short-stop at times very well, then again he appears to be a little careless. Wills, on third bag, plays hard. McNeill, on second, is well up on team work, and plays to that end. He makes a fumble occasionally, but at the bat he is a "corker." Rea, at first, can always be depended upon, and with the stick he is all right. Hirsch is always in the game, catches well, and easily cuts a man off from second by a slight movement of the wrist. 'Tis a treat to see him throw.

The box is exceedingly strong. Ellyson's wonderful speed and accuracy, with DeCamp's puzzling curves, is what makes it so extremely hard for the other side.

The only criticism that can be made upon the team, taken as a whole, is that it is an all-round good one. There is not a weak place in it. Captain McNeill seems to have put the right man in the right place, and the team is solid throughout.

After perusing the score appended it is obvious that the Spiders are as good as represented to be. But in the several games there occurred many brilliant plays and general happenings of note which will have be left unchronicled.
ATHLETICS.

GAMES.

The following shows the number of games played up to date and their respective scores:

March 27th—Richmond College vs. McCabe’s University School; score, 3 to 0.

March 29th—Richmond College vs. The Stars; score, 11 to 7.

March 30th—Richmond College vs. Wake-Forest College, N. C.; score, 9 to 2.

March 31st—Richmond College vs. McCabe’s University School; score, 15 to 7.

April 1st—Richmond College vs. Roanoke College; score, 7 to 6.

April 2d—Richmond College vs. University of Maryland; score, 8 to 6.

April 3d—Richmond College vs. Richmond (league team); score, 3 to 11.

April 10th—Richmond College vs. Hampden-Sidney College; score, 6 to 2.

April 15th—Richmond College vs. Medical College of Virginia; score, 15 to 2.

April 17th—Richmond College vs. Columbian University; score, 11 to 1.

Our opening game of the season was played with McCabe’s University School. The students, being very anxious to see how our team was going to show up, marched out in a body to the park with the College colors streaming about them. The chief rooter, “Herr” Williams, led the way, bearing the College banner of navy blue and crimson. The fair sex was well represented, and enthusiastic to the point of an occasional squeal. For the first two or three innings some thought it was “nip and tuck,” but, unfortunately for the McCabites, it ended “nip and nothin’.” Only once it seemed that they might score. Wills dashed after a fly in the left field, and, in turning to catch it, the ball struck him on the shoulder, bounced high in the air, but, on descending, was gathered in by Bagby, who
came to Wills’ assistance; he threw it to third and cut off the McCabe man, who hoped to score. Thus was shut out the only run for McCabe’s that seemed probable.

Next we played the “Stars,” a Richmond team. DeCamps did the twirling for our boys. This being the first opportunity the boys had to see him in the box, they noted his every movement, but soon saw that he could be depended upon. The game was not an exceedingly interesting one, as our boys had everything their own way from start to finish.

On Tuesday, the next day, we defeated the Wake Forest College team. DeCamps was again put in the box, and instead of being weakened from the pitching done the day before, he seemed to possess even more strength than ever. He not only distinguished himself as a pitcher, but in his all-round work he proved himself surpassingly strong; e.g., he lined out a three-bagger, stole four bases, and made three of the runs.

Wednesday we had another game with McCabe’s. McCabe’s rooters gathered about the park early in the afternoon, and the air was filled with discords from their forty-eleven dozen horns. But of no avail. Their pitcher, Hines, was batted out of the box, and Gordon put in. He was wild, and also liberally hit. Ellyson pitched a good game. The Spiders continued piling up runs till at length they had crossed the plate fifteen times. The McCabe boys have a little ginger, but that is not the only thing required in a game of ball, especially if they have the Spiders to deal with, who have the ginger to burn, plus the ability to play ball.

Thursday we met the boys from Roanoke, and won the fight by a score of 7 to 6. The score indicates that it was a close game. And, verily, it was. They held full sway up to the seventh. Rea was knocked out in the second inning. Ellyson took first base. DeCamps was in the box. The Spiders realized that their only chance was to play ball; this they did, and the Roanoke colors fell.
ATHLETICS.

In a game with the University of Maryland on Friday, we were again victorious. Ellyson went in the box the first two innings, but was somewhat disabled by a sore arm, so Wills was put in the box and "Puss" on third. Wills had plenty of speed and curves, but was wild, and the boys from Maryland managed to pile in five runs. "Puss," forgetting his sore arm, went in the box and pitched with tremendous force and great effect. Up to the seventh it seemed as if we had already lost the game, when Cunningham coolly walked to the bat, drove out a three-bagger and started the runs. This put new life into our boys, and 'tis wonderful how they played ball! Our rooters, who had been cramped almost to death, revived, and at the ending of the ninth they went wild, for our flag waved for victory.

Saturday the Richmond league team did us. But every one knows that the "Spiders" do not arrogate to themselves the power to weave a web that will hold "Bluebirds." Ellyson and De Camps twirled for the College boys. The Richmond's divided the time between their three best pitchers. The Spiders played an excellent game, and kept the Bluebirds busy.

Another scalp was added to our string April 15th, when we easily defeated the boys from the Medical College of Virginia. Our battery in this game up to the seventh inning consisted of Kaufman and Robinson. They held the Medical College boys down to one run in six innings. They got only five hits off of Kaufman, who was in the box, and he struck out five. "Puss," in the box, gave them the finishing touch.

ALMOST A SHUT-OUT.

The boys from Washington just did squeeze in a run in the ninth inning. Here is the score by innings:

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After each of the following names their runs and hits appear respectively: McNeeil, 3, 1; Wills, 3, 2; White, 0, 1; Rea, 1, 3; Ellyson, 1, 0; Leonard, 0, 0; Bagby, 0, 3; Hirsch, 2, 0; De Camps, 1, 2.

The Columbians got three of their hits in the ninth inning, and managed to score.

This is our last game played up to date. The team showed considerable improvement in batting. As seen above, only two errors were made in the field. There is an all-round improvement; all the boys are well up on the game, and base-running is approaching perfection.

The Spiders made a trip to Baltimore to play the University of Maryland, on April 9th, but rain prevented.

Two games have been cancelled with Johns Hopkins University, one was to be played at home and the other at Hopkins. Two games with Randolph-Macon were also cancelled, one there and the other at Richmond.

Manager McNeeil has arranged another game with the Richmonds (league team), to be played here April 22d, and the following to be played abroad: Norfolk, at Norfolk, April 24th; Columbian University, at Washington, April 25th; Catholic University, at Washington, April 30th; Georgetown College, at Georgetown, May 1st; and the University of Virginia, at Charlottesville, May 4th.

The manager is now working on a trip comprising games with the following teams: Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Roanoke College, Virginia Military Institute, and Washington and Lee University. He is arranging games with the following to be played at home: Locust Dale, Catholic University, and McCabes.

Nothing could please us more or fill us with more pride, than to march out to the Broad-street park beneath the flag of navy blue and crimson, that waves in honor of our invincible Spiders, to witness a game of ball, which means only another victory for them, and a death blow to the opponents. We do
not wish to flatter ourselves by saying that we are contemplating the championship of the South, but suffice it to say our aim is high, and should such an opportunity present itself, the Spiders would gladly enter the contest, and being encouraged by the prominent position already secured in the base-ball arena, we are looking forward with no small degree of pleasure in seeing our team defeat every college and university team in the State, and all other such teams that dare cross bats with them on the diamond.

FIELD-DAY.

The annual Field-day will be held on Friday, May 14th. There have been forty-one entries made, and the prospects for a successful day have been so far very encouraging, yet there is a lack of interest on the part of many students. With the abundance of material that we have, there can be no reason why the Field-day this year should not be the best we have ever had. As loyal students of the College, we cannot afford to let Field-day receive any less attention than is usually given to it. It is one of the departments through which the College is known to the outside world, and hence we must use our best efforts for its success.

The Committee of Arrangements consists of Profs. Mitchell and Hunter, and Messrs. Owens, Kaufman, Lee, Loving, and O'Bannon. The events, officers, and prizes for the day have already been decided upon, and the committee is looking to the student body to interest themselves in the occasion. One of the encouraging features is that the officers of the College seem to be more interested in Field-day than ever before, and are anxious to co-operate with the Association in preparing for it. We feel duly grateful to President Boatwright for the instructive and very appropriate talk made by him upon this subject in the chapel a few mornings ago.

In order to stimulate interest and ensure good records, the committee has decided that those entering any of the contests
for Field-day shall be required to take the same training that
the track team undergoes. March the 15th all entries for Field-
day were closed, so that those entering should have one month's
training. These requirements are not unreasonable, and much
will depend on the extent to which they are adhered to.

The new events for this year will be the fence-vault and ham-
mer-throwing, both of which are very popular in other colleges.
The authorities have consented to have a quarter-mile track
made, which will be done at once.

JOLLIFICATION.

The jollification on the night of March 25th, gotten up for
the benefit of the Athletic Association, was indeed a success.
There was nothing lacking to make it excel in every feature
any that have preceded it in the history of the Association.
Despite the difficulties necessary to be surmounted in order to
render an entertainment of this kind free from stale, flat, and
ill-bred jokes, it was done absolutely; and the committee, by
their persistent and untiring efforts, arranged a complete pro-
gramme.

The large audience that crowded the Thomas Memorial Hall
seemed by their presence to inspire each participant to do his
best, which would often bring forth the loudest applause.

But what interested the Athletic Association most, perhaps,
was the strengthening of its treasury. The eyes of many of
our leading members beamed with joy when Mr. Jones, chair-
man of the committee, reported before the Association that
they had realized from the jollification, clear of all expenses,
one hundred and six dollars. This strengthened our finances
considerably.

TRACK TEAM.

Mr. J. B. Kaufman, chairman of the Track-Team Commit-
tee, is at work in this department. And with the interest
generally manifested by him in athletics, we have no reason to doubt that he will exert every effort to have a track team that will do credit to the Association. This is a very important matter, and we must not expect the committee to get up a creditable team without our support. We have the material requisite for doing honor to ourselves in this department as well as in the tennis department, the foot-ball department, or in the base-ball department. All that we are required to do is to put it to use. Let each one give the matter due consideration and apply for this team, so there may be a large number of contestants in the field.

Taking the training offered here is advantageous for many reasons. It prepares for the foot-ball team next session, for the base-ball team, for the Field-day contests, and finally, it gives plenty of exercise. This is an excellent training, and all have the opportunity to take it.

GYMNASIUM.

The two gymnasium classes have consolidated, and Instructor Owens devotes more time to outdoor exercises. For the past two months the gymnasium students have been very enthusiastic over basket-ball. There is nothing they could find more profitable than the exercise they get in playing this game.

TENNIS.

At a meeting of the Athletic Association it was decided that the prerogative be allowed the Tennis Committee to form a tennis club, under the auspices of the Association, provided the club should not expect the Association to defray any of its expenses. The members of the committee, with Dr. W. Ralph Clements as chairman, have organized their club very systematically, and have already received thirty-five members. They have been given three beautiful courts, and are
amply equipped to begin playing in earnest. With the material they have, and the rapid progress they are making, there will surely be some good records made in tennis on Field-day.

FOOT-BALL.

Mr. W. C. Stone tendered his resignation to the Athletic Association as captain of the foot-ball team for '97-'98, which was regretfully accepted. A committee was appointed, however, to find another man suitable for captain, and at the last meeting of the Association Mr. D. B. Wills' name was presented and he was unanimously elected.

The manager has not as yet been elected, but the committee is looking out for him, and it is hoped that it will make as good a selection for manager as captain, for upon these two our success or failure to have a crack foot-ball team next session will largely depend.

Spalding's Base-Ball Guide for 1897, which has just been published, is especially interesting to college-men, as it contains a complete record of all the games played by the leading colleges during 1896, and portraits of the most prominent college base-ball teams of the country. The new playing rules have the alterations and amendments printed in italics, which is a decided improvement, and the lists of averages of all the leagues and associations are very complete. Besides the college portraits, the book contains pictures of all the leading teams of the country, embracing altogether nearly five hundred separate photos. The Guide will be sent on receipt of 10 cents to any address in the United States or Canada by the American Sports Publishing Co., 241 Broadway, New York.
The college publications for March, and some April issues we have received, are in the main, excellent. The editorials are reasonably strong, and occasionally we find articles full of thought, and sometimes real literary gems.

No exchange editor should be too severe in his or her criticisms. That is, we cannot criticize college periodicals as we would the Forum, Review of Reviews and other large magazines. Few young men and young women within college walls have the experience and learning, necessary to a very thorough and deep discussion of any subject. Besides, the best students have not the time to put the full force of their ability into such efforts. Moderately adverse criticism is, however, sometimes necessary, when a palpable fault or error is discovered; but never let a criticism be extreme. We should ever bear in mind that more than one spirit, even excellent in its nature, has been broken and lost, by harsh criticism. By all means, if an effort deserves a compliment, give the author all the encouragement he deserves. The true office of a college critic, as we see it, is to encourage, and endeavor to bring in all criticisms the art of moderate praise even in adverse criticism.

We note with pleasure the importance given in many of the magazines to literary contests. We find several stirring articles, urging students to attach proper importance to these events.

"The Destiny of The English Language" in the Eatonian, is well written and contains strong argument favoring the idea of the future universality of the English language; this, with the excellent article on "Chaucer's Influence on the English Language," renders the February issue of the Eatonian quite readable.
The Mnemosynean devotes too much of its space to criticism of fiction.

The "Harris Memorial" issue of the Seminary Magazine appeals to every student of Richmond College. Those who enjoyed the rare privilege of listening to this great teacher, of catching his words of wisdom, even as they fell from his lips, of course loved him; and those of us who never enjoyed the above-named privilege, love him from reputation. In reading the many tributes to his life and works we sanction them as just, and say: All honor to one of the greatest of the Alumni of Richmond College.

The Stetson Collegiate has a short biography of Henry W. Grady. Every one who knows anything about Mr. Grady can heartily endorse the words: "Fathers will teach their sons to emulate his virtues; philanthropists will copy his generosity; statesmen will adopt his incomparable methods; while the entire country will study his peerless life as a perpetual object-lesson of peace."

"One Nation Evermore" in the Hendrix College Mirror, has a decided flavor of truth. That there are existing in our midst great evils, which in times past have caused the overthrow of nations, and if there were no counteracting influences would cause the downfall of our own Government, cannot be doubted. But, "Christian principles still underlie the foundation of our social circles, and our laws and institutions are still leavened with certain elements which insure the stability of our Republic."

"Illustrious lineage, vast territorial domain, religious toleration, universal education and the glory of distinguished deeds," are attributes which should cause the most apprehensive to hope for the permanence of the Union. The article, "The Temple of Justice," in this magazine, is also excellent, and probably more able than "One Nation Evermore."
Of the magazines which contain excellent efforts, more thorough examination of which space forbids, the following are prominent: the Villanova Monthly, the Georgian, Blue and Gold, William and Mary Monthly, the Vassar Miscellany, the University of Virginia Magazine, and the Baylor Literary.

The simplest things oft turn to greatest good,
As sturdy oaks from modest acorns grow.—Ex.

A maid, a man,
An open fan,
A seat upon the stair;
A stolen kiss,
Six months of bliss,
Then twenty years of care.—Ex.

The Father of His Country. Proudest name
A grateful people in their love bestow,
Whose glorious lustre will forever glow;
A beacon to all men of deathless fame
Whose lofty inspiration wakes the flame
Of holy fires within the patriot breast;
Whose memory the hearts of those he blest
With honors crown and hail with loud acclaim.

Even so for those whose valor crowned we see
With ivy chaplets of success. But how
When sad misfortune clouds the noble brow?
What of the hero of the Lost Cause, Lee?
The Father of His Country still is he,
Even though that country died in infancy.—Ex.
Mastery of Books. By Harry Lyman Koopman (American Book Company). "Read, read much, read very much, read as much as possible." This maxim of Fredrich Wilhelm Ritschl, one of the most eminent classical philologists of modern times, well deserves to become the motto of every student. And every student worthy of the name desires to be a great reader and to profit by his reading. The puzzling question to him, however, is how to go about it. To all such we can heartily commend the Mastery of Books, by the librarian of Brown University. The aim of the work is to provide the student with a knowledge of the tools of his trade. In carrying out this aim, the author gives advice well adapted to individual capacities and of such a nature as to stimulate the student to read with purpose, method, and judgment. Titles of chapters, such as "What to Read," "How to Read," "Reference Books and Catalogues," "The Place of the Library in Education," indicate the nature of the work. Perhaps the most valuable chapter in the volume is that concerning courses of reading, which is followed by a classified list of about fifteen hundred books comprising the most valuable works in the fields of philosophy, religion, history, travels, social science, arts, language, literature, etc. The latest and best editions are specified and the relative value of the several works mentioned is indicated. The book will be found a practical and stimulating handbook for every student who has realized the importance of reading much and who feels the need of definite and systematic guidance.

Briefs for Debate. By W. Du Bois Brookings and Ralph Curtis Ringwalt (Longmans). In the preparation of this volume the editors, as stated in the preface, have aimed "(1) to furnish a text-book for formal courses in public speaking and discussion; (2) to provide a manual for literary and debating societies, and (3) to give the ordinary worker, not a specialist in the subjects treated, suggestion and assistance." The work presents outline arguments pro and con on a large number of current political, economic, and social topics, together with working bibliographies on these topics; and concludes with a list of some two hundred "Additional Topics
The basis of the work is a collection of briefs prepared in recent years by students of Harvard University, under the direction of instructors. The introduction written by Prof. Albert Bushnell Hart is an admirable essay on the art of debate, containing useful suggestions on the selection of a question, use of materials, preparation of briefs, management of debate, and similar themes. The work will be a useful manual for literary societies and stimulating to the average reader and speaker. A perusal of its pages will afford many suggestions to the student for the preparation and delivery of debates, and a consideration of the pithy themes presented will prevent the continued repetition of the hackneyed questions that have so long held their own in our literary societies.

*Harper's Dictionary of Classical Literature and Antiquities*, edited by Prof. Harry Thurston Peck, of Columbia University, with the co-operation of many distinguished American scholars, supplies a long-felt want in the classical field. The work is an attempt to embrace the whole field of classical learning in a single volume—literature, antiquities, mythology, biography, and geography. Here tofore we have had to depend on the seven volumes of Dr. Smith—three of biography and mythology, two of geography, two of antiquities—or the two volumes of Dr. Anthon. These works are sadly out of date, as the past twenty years have seen wonderful progress made in every department, especially in epigraphy and comparative philology and archaeology. The volume contains over 1,700 pages, and is abundantly supplied with maps, plans, and pictures. We can heartily commend the work to the student for information on any of the questions, not strictly grammatical, that suggest themselves in reading classical authors.
RICHMOND

Straight Cut No. 1 Cigarettes.

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