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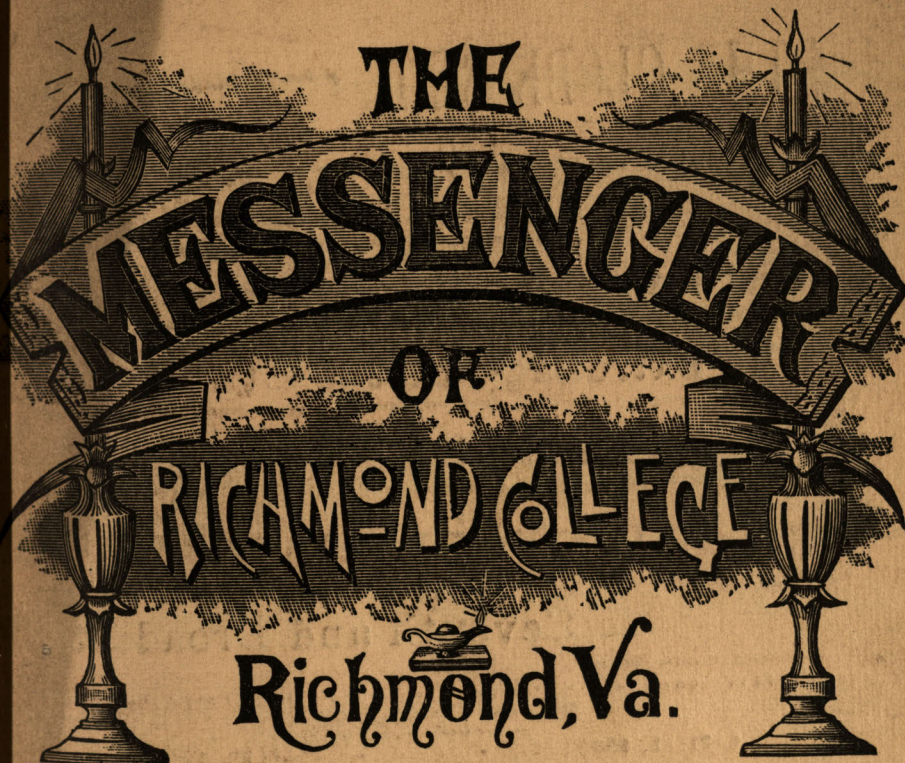


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No. 5

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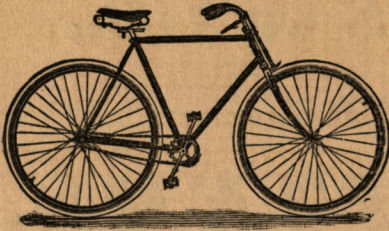
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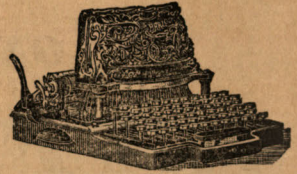
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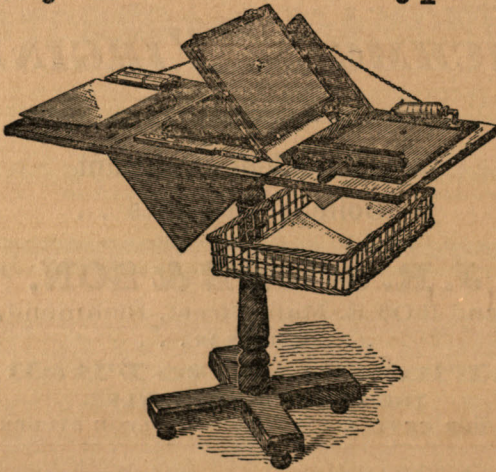
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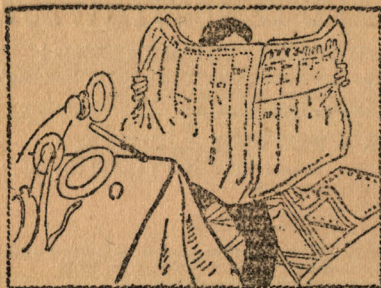
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Clouds.

The King of day shakes off his sleep,
And rises from horizon's deep.
His merry beams with hope appear,
And fill our hearts with joy and cheer.

The mocking-bird, in forest dense,
Weary of night and long suspense,
Breaks forth in song so heaven-born—
She sings to welcome rosy morn.

Upon each blade of tiny grass,
The dew-drop hangs a sparkling mass,
And lifts above its little eye
To greet the sun in yonder sky.

Beautiful morn, how full of hope !
No flaw nor fault in all thy scope,
No sign of storm in all the land,
No cloud so large as human hand.

But ere the sun doth reach half way
The road that leads its course by day,
Look ! angry storm and fury's blast,
They gather thick, they gather fast.

Hark ! lightning's flash and thunder's roar
Shake all the world and hell below,
And farthest stars look on aghast,
To see the doom which comes at last.

* * * * *

The life of man, how much it seems
To pattern after Nature's dreams !
Like Nature's dreams it often ends,
And fails, alas, to make amends.

In youth, the morning of life's day,
The star of hope shines on our way,
And friends and lov'd ones on us gaze
To see us set the world ablaze.

Ever and on this star doth rise
Towards the zenith of the skies,
And strongly beats our hearts within
To think of laurels we shall win.

Oh ! might this star forever shine,
Lighting up that path of thine,
Undimm'd by storm or wintry cloud
Till 'round thy form they wind the shroud.

In vain ! the storm breaks forth at last,
Sweeping all before its blast.
No light, no hope along the way,
Darkness, despair through night and day.

Not ev'ry day by storm is marr'd,
 Not ev'ry life by fate is scarr'd.
 Thanks be to Him who rules on high,
 His helping hand is often nigh.

* * * * *

Did not the clouds o'ercast the blue
 Of heaven's high and heavy hue,
 'Twould be a dry and barren land
 With nought of good but burning brand.

Shall Nature's lesson pass unheard?
 Shall not its truth our loins gird?
 Ah, yes! we'll drink thy precept deep,
 Our lives from harm 'twill ever keep.

Then welcome storm, O soul, be calm!
 For ev'ry wound there is a balm.
 'Tis such a glorious inspiration
 To pass on up through tribulation.

Concerning Annexation.

NO American possessing ordinary information of the day, can help but know at least something of the proposed plan of annexing the Hawaiian Islands to the United States, but it is difficult to believe that one one-hundredth part of our entire population even imagine what results are probable from such an adventure. That is the great trouble of all time, tendencies set in so quietly and unobtrusively as to be totally imperceptible to even the acutest observers, and in later generations great forces are developed which are often direful in consequences. Of this class we believe the Hawaiian annexation to be a striking example. Those favoring annexation, in order to attract us, necessarily present some benefits which could ensue. Let us consider them:

Americans are inhabiting portions of the Islands, and a great deal of American capital is invested there. Can an intelligent man unblushingly offer that as a reason for our

assuming protection over a foreign country? It would be just as sensible for the United States to demand control of the city of Paris because a number of Americans live there, or to ask submissiveness of Britain because some of our citizens are commercially interested in that country. It is perverting the good offices of a country to ask so much. American capital is free to seek investment wherever it may be advantageous, and America will protect such adventures against encroachment or oppression of any element, lawless or otherwise. And the same security of life and effects is guaranteed Americans living abroad, but to do more is absurd.

Again it is urged that Hawaii is particularly tempting because the government there is unstable and has expressed itself as desirous of union with us. To annex they should necessarily become an integral portion of our sovereign unity, for democratic principle recognizes no subjection of one people to another, and that would mean that the Islands must govern themselves. Has not the population already shown itself incapable of self-government? It seems quite natural, therefore, that we are rather adding to than decreasing our difficulties. To stand on the wharves of our various ports and see the ships unloading those masses of motley, uncouth steerage passengers into our midst, to be future participants and enjoyers of our glorious institutions, well makes the thoughtful shudder at the power such proportions of dense ignorance may assume. Certainly we shall be adding to it with marvellous rapidity when we begin scouring the oceans for islands of such a class.

But the most harped-upon argument which annexationists produce, is the value of Hawaii as a basis of supplies in case of war in the East. That can be refuted in various ways. As a matter of fact, Hawaii is not, as is usually supposed, in direct line to the Orient; on the contrary, quite a deal out of the way. The Aleutian Islands are much better adapted for such purposes in regard to situation. And Hawaii is so far from our coast that we have not a single vessel which could coal there and reach San Francisco in fighting condition.

If we were to begin annexation as a business enterprise it would be much more advisable to seize Cuba, a fertile island, with inhabitants fired by the democratic spirit already, and itself really a continuation of Florida, but we should oppose annexation as a principle. That often-referred-to history of Rome furnishes a guide just here. Rome was a grand and glorious republic, its citizens enjoying liberty and freedom, but lack of foresight let the government disregard that *vital* principle which recognized all as equal, and adopt the policy of ruling subject provinces. Well did Romans rue that day; loud was the lament, and dreadful was the calamity which eventually overtook the plan of establishing "military outposts."

Now Americans, with nearly twenty centuries of happenings and experiences between them and that ancient republic, are allowing politicians with selfish and narrow ends in view, to even suggest for a moment a reiteration of that very plan, not to mention the possibility of its adoption. What can we be thinking of? What *can* we mean? There are evidences of non-progressiveness about us, and it is easily discerned that affairs are not being conducted as they should be. Like the historian Livy, we usually shrink from violence in any quarter, and are training in ourselves a willingness to be governed, no matter from what source or motive administration may emanate. There may be times when this spirit is very commendable, but when matters of such vital concern present themselves, no matter how limited our influence, it is a duty that we should confront them as men and as Americans.

We must remember that democracy is yet undeveloped, and we must do one of three things, viz.: Do nothing, which stagnation kills the desire for life; give our strictest attention to the study and fortification of governmental ideals; or we must go back into the old forms. For one of three things is *true*, either democracy is right, monarchical rule is right, or man cannot establish a perpetual form of government. Recognizing these conditions let us look at ourselves for a moment.

Our government began with such a force behind it, and in such an interesting way, that should it fall the fragments of its history would be a delight to nations yet unborn. But it is not to arouse sympathies after we have ceased to be, or to excite patriotism by military exploits against peoples differing from us in custom or spirit, that we should strive. We do not need those things, we do not wish them. Don't let them be thrust upon us! Good home government, protection to family, life, property, and the encouragement and fostering of intellectual advancement through the realm of Truth, should be our aim and hope. Now for over one hundred and twenty years our noblest citizens have devoted time and energy in solving how best to obtain these necessities equally for all, and indeed we are startled and chagrined that the man whom we have honored as our last Executive in the nineteenth century, should show such a manifest lack of capacity for realizing what such action would mean as to recommend in his recent message to Congress the annexation of Hawaii.

We occupy a strikingly unique position geographically: on the other side of the globe from the insatiable monarchies of Europe, too far away and too powerful in internal resources for them all combined to hope for any degree of success against us in war. Infinitely superior in every way to our immediate neighbors, we have through the Monroe doctrine extended a protectorate over them against foreign encroachment, which they gladly receive and Europe carefully regards. Is not that enough? Suppose we attempt more! An unlimited navy, an immense army, and millions of other burdens will be placed upon us. And it is not to be forgotten that when we leave our present position of safety, and assume the attitude of an offensive power, we lose the very nature which has made us so secure heretofore. We must not be deluded by thinking our naval strength will be increased by annexing distant coal-ing stations when, in reality, we are growing weaker by making possible the necessity of defending a point at which we could not, in the nature of things, use our real and entire

strength. We need an ample navy, and our ports should be guarded well enough to ensure defence, but defence only.

Instead of annexation, and similar preparations for war, let us secure peace and humane relations with all nations; have every port in the world open to American commerce; develop our own industries and forms of government, and leave to others the solution of their own affairs.

W. S. McN.

"Difficile est Saturam non Scribere."

"IT is difficult not to write satire." When Juvenal wrote these words he was living in a time universally acknowledged to have been one of the most corrupt known to man. But since it followed so soon after the good old days of the Republic it seemed to some far more evil than it really was. Among these was Juvenal. This class foresaw the near approaching downfall of Rome, and moved by love for their paternal city were despairing of its welfare.

Let us consider in this brief essay the causes for these distressing times which lead ultimately to the ruin of the empire. There were three main influences: the Imperial system, the introduction of slavery, and the gladiatorial shows.

During the days of the Republic the supreme power was vested in the senate, but this was gradually concentrated in the emperor, whose command became uncontrollable, although the senate was still nominally the head of affairs.

Private accusers and spies arose, who denounced plots against the emperor, and received as a reward a portion of the confiscated property. The remainder the emperor usually managed to obtain, and employed it in conciliating the people, with free corn distributions and games, and in procuring luxuries for himself. In order to invest themselves with a sacred character the emperors began to claim that on dying they became gods. Thus with their uncontrolled power and divinity they were frequently guilty of most atrocious crimes. To such an extent were these indulged in that some of the occupants of the throne

became morally insane. These atrocities, the professional spies, the encouragement to luxury, the distributions of corn, and the games prevented a formation of character like that in the days of the Republic.

The results of the institution of slavery were even more serious. This not only impoverished the free poor, but brought out the cruelty of the masters. The poor citizen found all the spheres in which an honorable livelihood might be gained occupied by slaves, while he regarded trade with aversion. Thus arose corrupt professions, as actors, pantomimes, hired gladiators, and astrologers. From these trades they eked out a precarious existence. The rich were followed by a train of clients who lived at their expense, and spent their time in flattering them.

The gratuitous distribution of corn was carried on to such an extent that the whole free population of Rome was supported by the government. Under these influences the population rapidly dwindled away. Productive enterprise almost vanished. Greece and the principal cities of Egypt and Asia Minor had become centres of wildest corruption. Innumerable slaves from these countries were in Rome, and in every patrician house. They became the companions and instructors of the young. The slave population was the hot-bed of vice and contaminated all with whom it came in contact. The charms of Italian climate and the miserable houses were such as to draw the people out of doors. Idleness, amusement, and a bare existence were alone desired. The destruction of all public spirit in such a situation was complete and unavoidable.

What Rome needed was competition, alone she stood—unrivalled, the mistress of the world. Her armies, no longer engaged in active warfare, had lapsed into a state of idleness and corruption. The soldiers who had been long absent had transferred their allegiance from their sovereign to their general, after having lost all national pride. They now, after a succession of incompetent rulers, urged their commanders to revolt, and thus reduced the empire to a state of military anarchy.

Military discipline now ceased to affect the character of the Roman.

The gladiatorial games give the clearest conception of the Pagan empire. That men and women should have made the slaughter of human beings their habitual amusement is astounding. These games were the most popular sport, and by their very brutality robbed the people of enjoyment in refined employments. They arose with a religious custom of offering human sacrifices at the tombs of the dead, but gradually grew until they reached such enormous proportions that one thousand and four hundred men are said to have fought on one occasion. At the dedication of the Collosseum by Titus five thousand animals perished.

These were not the only things that produced Juvenal's satire, but they were probably the greatest stimulants for the passions of gambling, gluttony, and avarice which were then at their height. There was then no room at Rome for an honorable man, dishonesty was the only means by which a livelihood could be gained. The lot of a parasite was also hard, his patron seldom invited him to dine, and when such was the case he gave him the meanest fare. While one drank wine the other partook of sour grape juice. Poets had no friends but the emperor, while their only patron was the comic actor. Historians and lawyers were no better off, although some great pleaders received large fees, the majority were bankrupt in trying to keep up their dignity. The rhetoricians and schoolmasters were also poorly rewarded.

For much of our information regarding these times we are indebted to Juvenal himself, and also for the following exhortation which is considered one of the finest in ancient literature:

"Is there then nothing for which men shall pray? If you will take advice you will allow the deities themselves to determine what may be expedient for us, and suitable to our condition. For instead of pleasant things the gods will give us all that is most fitting. Man is dearer to them than to himself. We, led on by the impulses of our mind, by blind and head-

strong passions, pray for wedlock and offspring; but it is known to them what our children will prove, of what character our wife will be. Still, that you may have something to pray for, your prayer must be that you may have a sound mind in a sound body. Pray for a bold spirit free from all dread of death; that reckons the closing scenes of life among nature's kindly boons; that can endure labor whatever it be; that deems the gnawing cares of Hercules, and all his cruel toils, far preferable to the joys of Venus' rich banquets, and the downy couch of Sardanapalus."

V. M. M.

The Greatest Advocate of States' Rights.

AMERICA is a great country. When we dive deep down into the archives of her history, we find the names of men who stand as beacon lights, and who are honored and revered not only by her own people, but also by the people of the world. There is a name inscribed on the pages of her history of one who though loved by the South, has been much censured by the North. This name is John Caldwell Calhoun, the greatest advocate of States' rights.

Calhoun was born in South Carolina, in the month of March, 1782. His father died while he was still a boy, but the ardent temper of the zealous revolutionary patriot seems to have exercised a marked influence on the formation of the character of the son. He had but a meagre school education in boyhood, but was prepared for college by his brother-in-law, a Presbyterian minister, entered Yale College in 1802, and graduated with high honors. Then he studied law, but from what can be learned he did not make much of a success in this vocation. Nature had destined him for a political career.

Calhoun served a short time in the State Legislature of South Carolina; he was for six years in Congress, as a member of the House of Representatives; was elected to the vice-presidency of the United States for two terms; and occupied a seat in the United States Senate from 1833 to 1850. He filled all of these positions with marked ability and dignity.

While in the United States Senate it is claimed that Calhoun became disloyal to the Union. But was he disloyal to the Union? Yes, he was opposed to the preservation of the Union, if it was to be maintained to the enriching and building up of the North, at the expense and overthrow of the South. He loved the Union, but he loved South Carolina and the South more; he loved the Union, but he loved principle and honor more; he was disloyal, if standing for the rights of his constituents was disloyalty. Long before any other man in the country saw which way the discussion and feeling of the people were trending, his prophetic eye saw what would be the consequences if the North continued to encroach upon the rights of the South. And never did he fail to raise his voice in solemn protest and warning.

States' rights have been acknowledged since the formation of the Union. When the original thirteen colonies banded together and became the United States, the rights of the separate States were not taken from them. If New York or South Carolina had not wished to join the Union, they could have withheld their consent. Calhoun contended that any State could withdraw from the Union, because the Union is a federal Union, a Union of *sovereign* States. The State is paramount to the Union, and not the Union to the State. The powers of each State are sovereign, and neither derives its powers from the other. In their spheres they are co-ordinate, and, being co-ordinate, each has the right of protecting its own powers from the encroachments of the other. The line of demarcation between the powers delegated to the Federal Government and the powers reserved to the States is plain, inasmuch as all the powers delegated to the General Government are expressly laid down, and those not delegated are reserved to the States, unless specially prohibited.

Slavery is thought by many, but inaccurately, to have been the sole cause of the conflict between the North and the South. Slavery was rather the occasion, the incitement, which developed widely divergent, fundamental differences as to the

character and functions of the Federal Government. The North interpreted the character and functions one way and the South another way. In the contest, the greatest champion for the interests of the South was Calhoun. He was a veritable Samson, strong, bold, fearless, and uncompromising, and like Samson, did not succumb to the cold finger of death until he had brought great havoc into the camp of his enemies. His fight was long and bitter and fierce. He sounded the tocsin which afterwards led to one of the greatest conflicts known in the annals of history, one which devastated the sunny South, and made her sons spill their life-blood in the defence of their principles, their homes, and their loved ones. As matters then existed the conflict was inevitable; the great "Nullifier" only hastened its coming. Maybe this was for the best, for if it had come later, it would have assumed much longer proportions, would have caused the destruction of more property, and the loss of more lives.

The great advocate of Southern rights did not live to see the South rise up and stand for her own. The last day of March, 1850, with the burden of the whole South upon his shoulders, he tottered to the grave a most unhappy man, for though he saw the "irrepressible conflict," he also saw that the South, even if successful, as he hoped, must wade through a sea of tribulation. But he passed away feeling that he had done his duty.

Calhoun was one of the greatest men that America has produced. He is a great historical character—the peer of Webster and Clay in congressional history, more unsullied than either of them in the virtues of private life. He detested the system of making politics a game, since it would throw the Government into the hands of political adventurers and mere machine politicians. Whatever he said or did was in obedience to his convictions. He was above and beyond all conceit and trickery and selfishness; his contempt for wire-pullers amounted almost to loathing; and he was incapable of doing a mean thing. He might be wrong in his views, but he was always honest.

In moral character he was as reproachless as "the Father of our country," and could neither be bought nor seduced from his course.

The South is loyal to him, and still cherishes his memory. He was the great champion of her rights, and did more than any other one man towards upholding her honor and glory. The great cause which he advocated has been irretrievably lost, but his unparalleled example has left an indelible impression upon the hearts and minds of every loyal son of the South. We still cherish his memory with veneration and respect and love. His name has yet lost hardly anything of the lurid intensity with which it glowed in the political firmament of the United States towards the end of the first half of this century, nor will it as time progresses. The mountains may fade and pass away; the valleys may be blasted and their luxuriant vegetation become a thing of the past; the waters of the mighty and boundless deep may dry up and be no more, but the memory of John Caldwell Calhoun will ever live embalmed in the hearts of men. He was a man of one *idea*, and this idea is the pivotal point on which has turned the history of the United States from 1819 to nearly the end of the first century of their existence as an independent republic.

Dreaming.

Sitting idly reading here,
In between the pages come,
Faces flitting old and dear
Soon to vanish in the gloom.

Places far and places near,
Recollections sad and sweet,
Lingering still in memory dear
Banished not by years so fleet.

I call the names of those I see,
And wish I could these visions stay,
I'd right the wrongs that once I did,
Forgive the wrongs of those away.

I'd have a chat with her of yore,
Sure that was once a source of bliss,
But now she seems to heed me not,
And does not yield the farewell kiss.

O cruel time reverse thy wheel !
Why should the past be but a dream ?
Let her whose heart was true as steel,
Forever be my lovely queen.

But now another face appears,
And now my wandering mind returns,
My breast expands with manly pride,
My heart with joy and ardor burns.

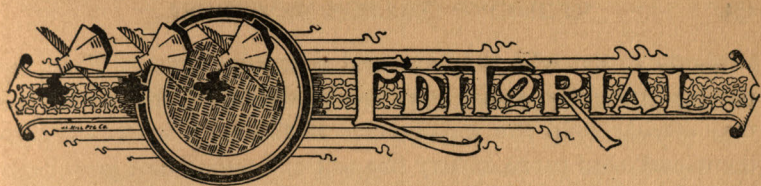
O Thou who markest the sparrow's fall,
And mouldest the destinies of man.
Why should I dream thus of the past ?
My lot's most pleasant in Thy hand.

Let faces old be far removed,
Another now is dearer far,
A peep in future thrills my soul—
"Thou art my only guiding star."

A. C. H.

R. C. V., *January 22, 1898.*





It is with many misgivings, and with a clear realization of the difficulties of his position, that the new editor-in-chief assumes the responsibilities the office carries with it.

We believe the MESSENGER has taken its place among the best college papers of the country, and our desire is that it may always hold high rank. The only way that this desire may be fulfilled is for the students to co-operate with the board of editors and the business managers. At present this help is needed by both.

The editors cannot do all of the writing, and so we would urge upon all of the students the importance of giving us plenty of material from which to select. Our students have the reputation of doing good honest work in the College. Let them also learn to do good work in the literary line. Be sure to write something for the MESSENGER, but be sure not to hand to the editors some hastily-prepared piece; for few are able to write a readable article without honest, hard work, and not even those few should be satisfied to hand in a piece for publication until it has been made the best article they are capable of writing on the given subject. It may often happen that the piece submitted will never appear in the MESSENGER. Sometimes this may not be from lack of merit, but because the allotted space has been filled with matter more suited to the purpose of the editors. Sometimes it may be the piece is unfit for print, but instead of discouraging the writer this should only make him the more determined to write a good piece the next time, and to that end he should bend all of his energies. This will never be useless labor on the part of those by whom it is honestly done.

The business managers need your assistance in keeping the advertisers satisfied. We have the advertisements of the leading houses in the city, in all lines, and we urge upon our

students to see who they are and patronize them. Then, by paying promptly your own indebtedness to the paper you may greatly help the managers. If the help in this department had been more hearty the editors would not now be so limited in space.

We call upon all of the students to heed these suggestions, and we promise to do the best we can to keep the MESSENGER at the top. But unless there be hearty co-operation on the part of all we feel this can not be, and we know upon whom the blame must fall if we come short of our aim, and—it will *not* be upon the student-body.

THE UNITED STATES AND THE EAST. We respect the wisdom of Washington in advising that we always steer clear of entangling alliances with foreign powers, and we believe that except when our national honor is at stake, we should never consider the question of going to war. Yet we naturally feel the greatest interest in the settlement of the trouble now existing in the East. England has spoken in no uncertain tones in regard to the encroachments of Russia in China. And at present a small war cloud may be seen upon the horizon. We do not believe the two powers will resort to the arbitrament of the sword, and we sincerely hope they may not. But if it should come to the worst, and if China is to be partitioned among the great powers of Europe, the United States should devoutly wish that England may get the greatest part, and we should lend her our moral support and unfeigned sympathy, because wherever England goes she opens her ports to the trade of the world. We can scarcely estimate how disastrous the result would be to our commerce should Russia or Germany gain control of the Chinese ports, for our trade in the East is enormous, and is rapidly increasing.

We frequently complain of the great greed of England, and there may be good ground for the charge, yet, for our part, if there is any new territory to be acquired by any of the European powers, free-traders that we are, we say let free-trade England have the lion's share.

WAR WITH SPAIN AND PENSIONS. We do not intend to enter into a discussion of our strained relations with Spain, as this subject is being discussed on every hand. We will simply say that we hope war may be averted, and ask to be allowed to add one objection to the many we have heard offered.

Our pension list now exceeds the army cost of Germany or of France by many millions each year, and is only a little short of the amount annually expended by Russia upon her vast army that patrols Europe and Asia from the Baltic to the Yellow sea. Now, we ask, if we should go to war with Spain, what would our pension list amount to a third of a century later? For then we suppose there would be as many more pensions at the North as now and in addition a vast number from the South, these together with the *ever increasing* number of those who served (?) their country during the Civil war would require a sum too large for our arithmetic. So on behalf of the tax-payers of the middle of the twentieth century, we wish to protest against war.

HAWAIIAN ANNEXATION. We publish in this issue an article opposing the annexation of Hawaii, and for the most part we agree with the writer in his position.

So far as we are able to judge, there is a good measure of selfishness at the bottom of all of this talk in favor of annexing this island. But even if we simply desired to increase our wealth or our commerce, we fail to see that annexation could help us much, for it has been estimated that citizens of the United States now own more than three-quarters of the property of the island, and that more than 90 per cent. of her commerce is enjoyed by us.

But we will refrain from discussing the subject, and simply commend to the consideration of our readers the objections offered in the article referred to above, and especially urge them to think over what the writer says as to tendencies, and as to our deserting the position taken by Washington and so carefully maintained by us ever afterwards.

HISSING. It is coming to be a very common thing in some quarters to hear people express their disapproval of or their dislike to any particular subject or person by hissing. We have heard in political meetings a storm of hisses when some name would be mentioned. We recently noticed that in Congress this was resorted to by members to express their disapproval of some sentiments uttered by one of the representatives. We have heard students at the College resort to this *serpentine* manner of showing their dislike to some utterance made from the public platform. It seems to us that this is never allowable under *any* circumstances. We can conceive of people becoming very indignant and justly, but we cannot conceive on any case where men are justified in resorting to this manner of expression so peculiar to snakes and so unbecoming in any other member of the animal kingdom. Let us think of this, and never allow ourselves, no matter what the provocation, to resort to this abominable practice.

IMPORTANT NOTICE. At the time we wrote the first editorial in this issue we hoped to be able to secure a number of good pieces in time to publish them in this number. But now we are forced to complain that there is not enough of first-class matter in our possession to fill up even the limited space we are allowed for this issue. The students must come to our aid if they desire us to get out a paper that will do credit to our institution. Let us have good matter of various kinds—especially do we feel the need of fiction and poetry. We appeal to the students to write for the MESSENGER.

A MODEST HINT.

There is a little matter that some of our advertisers and subscribers have seemingly forgotten. To us it is an important matter: it is necessary in our business. We are very modest and don't wish to speak about it.—*Ex.*



COLLEGIANA.

Friday evening, March 4th, the Mu Sigma Rho Literary Society held its annual public debate in the assembly hall of the College. Though the day had been quite bad, a large audience had gathered when the debaters were ushered in.

At the request of the President, Professor Mitchell led in prayer. The address of welcome was made by President McNeill in a very pleasing manner. Mr. Oscar L. Owens, of Nansemond county, was then introduced as the reader, and his selection, "Hulda's Pies," was received with pleasure by the audience. The recital of the "Chariot Race" by Mr. George P. Bagby, of Baltimore, elicited marked applause from his hearers.

At this juncture the President introduced Mr. N. G. Woodson, of Botetourt county, as the first debater of the affirmative side of the question: "Should a College Education be a Pre-requisite to a Professional Career." This gentleman's oratorical flights held the closest attention of the assemblage, and his forceful logic was evidence of the thought he had spent on his subject. Mr. G. T. Lumpkin, of Essex, followed him, taking up the cudgels in defence of the negative, and right well did he wield them. His opening remarks were quite humorous, but in a few moments the depth and breadth of his argumentative presentation of the question was attested by the generous applause bestowed. Here Mr. Robert L. Williams was led to the front as the one who would close the argument for the affirmative. He was greeted with much pleasure by the audience, and a hush of expectancy awaited the oracular words of our honored member from Smyth. He lifted his towering form to its majestic height, and with graceful gesture and amusing anecdote brought forth much applause. He discussed at some length the fine points of the question. Indeed his peroration was excellent, particularly where he took occasion

to place his predecessor and opponent upon a bed of roses, crowned with unfading flowers, and in a Patrick Henry flight of forensic fervor bore him upward, placing him upon a lasting pedestal of undying fame. Amid prolonged applause Mr. Williams concluded. Now came the last speaker of the evening, Mr. B. Mercer Hartman, of Richmond, one whose oratorical successes are so well known that it is idle for us to add one word of praise. His clear and comprehensive grasp of his subject was soon perceived. His arguments were forceful and eloquent.

The programme was delightfully interspersed with music by Trimmer's string band. The committee in charge of the debate was composed of Burnley Lankford, Allan Jones, John Kaufman, Henly Fugate, Thomas McAdams, and Benjamin Lacy.

Upon the conclusion of the exercises in the assembly hall the audience wended its way to the rooms of the Society, where Mrs. Frederick W. Boatwright with Misses Maude and Elizabeth Pollard, Jeffress, Greever, Julia and Marion Ryland, and Daisy Winston received for the Society. Flowers, palms, charming music, and pretty girls contributed to make an evening to be remembered. Cakes and ices were served by the young ladies. The committee for this portion of the evening's entertainment was Allan D. Jones, Benjamin W. Lacy, and Thomas B. McAdams.

The Intercollegiate Oratorical Association will meet at this College on Thursday, May 6th. This contest took place at Hampden-Sidney last year, where we were represented by Mr. McDaniel. The officers appointed to have charge of the gathering of the contestants are: Oscar L. Owens, president; J. W. T. McNiel, vice-president, and K. Wolsey Cawthon, secretary and treasurer. The winner of the joint-orators medal given by the Societies will represent us in this contest. It would not be very discourteous if our representative should capture the prize, though in his own house.

Shortly after this issue will begin the various contests in the Societies for the medals. The Improvement Medal is the goal

of many ambitious and persevering members. The contest around which centres the most interest is the one for the Best Debater's Medal. The "Joint Writer's Medal," given to the writer of the best article contributed to the MESSENGER during the year is awarded by three judges, selected by the Societies, the latter part of May.

Beta-Beta Chapter of Kappa Sigma Fraternity was established at the College on Saturday night, March 5th, with the following charter members: W. L. Prince, C. C. Barksdale, R. L. Williams, J. H. Rew, W. Gary Bidgood, R. O. Norris, Jr., Robert M. Pollard, and N. G. Woodson.

The W. G. S., Herbert M. Martin, of Danville, and the W. G. T., Stanley W. Martin, also of Danville, arrived early on the 4th and made preparations for the initiation. There were present at the ceremonies many alumni from Richmond, and also delegates from neighboring Chapters. The exercises attendant upon the creation of this new Chapter of one of the largest fraternities of the country lasted until a late hour.

On the night of February 24th, the Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity tendered to its members and their lady friends a reception in honor of Miss Virginia C. Heflin, of Hollins Institute, who was visiting here at that time.

MARCH.

O March! thou month of daffodils,
Of wintry winds and changing ills,
To-day a lamb and all a smile,
A lion to-morrow full of guile.

J.

The annual debate of the Philologian Society was given March 18th at 8:15 o'clock. The following was the programme as announced: Declamation, "Eugene Aram's Dream," by J. C. Cone, of Ohio; Reading, "One Niche the Highest," by S. P. De Vault, of Tennessee; Debate, "Should the Women of Virginia be Allowed the Right of Suffrage?" affirmative,

John E. Johnson and George W. Clarke, of Virginia; negative, Hugh T. Musselman, of Virginia, and Edward D. Turner, of West Virginia. The committee of arrangements was William L. Prince, Wortley F. Rudd, and Robert O. Norris.

We learn from the editors of the *Spider* that they are getting along nicely with their work. They say they have a great deal of good matter, and that the drawings and illustrations are going to be of a very high order. We are all hoping that the book will surpass the one we got out last year, but we will say well done to our editors if they equal our first attempt, and we are very sure they will.

When first I kissed sweet Margaret,
She blushed rose-red
And sternly said :
“You musn’t ! Stop !”

Last night I kissed sweet Margaret ;
She blushed rose-red
But simply said :
“You musn’t stop.”—*Ex.*

Buckle, in his famous “History of Civilization in England,” quotes from a bright Frenchman, who had spent some time travelling in Russia, the tart remark that “in Russian society it is a rule never to say anything that can possibly interest any rational soul.” It seems that the Russians have not taken out any patent upon this invention; or, if they have, that the “society” people in other parts of the world are open to the charge of infringing upon the “patent rights” of the Russians.—*Ex.*



Again does the athletic editor find himself endeavoring to draw out a few copious notes, and again does he find himself almost unable to decide upon anything worthy of your perusal. In fact there is naught to tell you, but that which you yourselves know. There was published in a previous issue of the MESSENGER an article whose purport was to advise the athletic editor how to conduct his department. It recommended that he have a plan of his own, and that he treat subjects which have more immediate relation to the general interests of the College, taking care, however, to avoid mentioning the petit occurrences on the campus, leaving such matters for the local column. This we consider excellent advice, and yet how difficult it is to keep in the road prescribed. But, taking it for granted that you will pardon any repetition of statements, the editor will first discuss in brief the prospects of the base-ball team of '98. Of course we cannot predict as well for this year's team as we did for last year's, since most of the material is new, and hence very little is known of the stability of the men.

In Powell, Coon, and Robinson, we have an excellent trio, and it is indeed hard to say which of these will "hold down" catcher for the team of '98. Our box is rather weak, yet we are almost certain that De Camps, who made such an enviable record on last year's team, will return to College as soon as he fully recovers from a short spell of sickness that has necessarily detained him at home. Of the applicants for first base Sanford is showing up best. He throws well and fields well, but needs to be more certain at the bat.

At second we find Whitehead, Anderson, and Kaufman. Whitehead is showing up in good form. He has a good arm, and handles himself nicely. Anderson has just come out, hence the editor is not prepared to criticize his playing. As

for Kaufman, I can only repeat what one of his competitors for second base exclaimed: "O, he's not so warm."

At third Bagby and Taylor are about the most promising. Taylor fields quite well, but still needs to squeeze the ball a little tighter. Bagby fields well, has an excellent arm, and is fairly sure at the bat.

Shaw is playing gilt-edge ball at short. He is very quick on his feet, and a very good hitter.

Then comes the usual scramble for the out-field. This being likewise the refuge of the "cut-down" infielder, the list of applicants is largely increased. Graves, Robinson, Mabry, Hudson, Taylor, and Anderson, are all excellent men; most of them are good hitters, and the job of picking the lucky three is not an enviable one.

Since the last issue of the MESSENGER the Association has seen fit to entrust the management of the Base-Ball Team of Ninety-Eight to your humble servant, the athletic editor. Being somewhat late in the season, he feels like making the fact known that it is indeed difficult to obtain very many desirable games, yet he intends to perform the functions of the office to the best of his ability. It may be well to state that he has been so fortunate as to obtain the opening game with the Richmond Club of the Atlantic League, to be played either on March 29th or March 30th. Paul Bagby has been chosen by the Association as captain. Paul played out-field on last year's team and showed a remarkable ability. He has already made two cuts in the number of applicants, diminishing the number from thirty-odd to sixteen. If all will work together we can foresee no reason why the team can't be a success.

With this issue the athletic editor leaves "for other fields to roam." Though he has found the work quite difficult, he can not but help expressing that it has been a pleasant task.

To the incoming editor he cannot offer as an example his efforts, for he is conscious of having been somewhat deficient in his work, yet he does beseech of him to "buoy" this department.

JNO. B. KAUFMAN.



The State Convention was held in Lynchburg this year, and owing to the distance our delegation was somewhat smaller than usual. However, we had four men present—John E. Johnson, George W. Clarke, W. B. Daughtry, and H. B. Sanford. They gave us a good account of the great work done in behalf of the young men of our State during the past year.

The Student Volunteer Convention is held every four years. This year it met in Cleveland, Ohio. We were very fortunate in having four good men at this session—Arthur J. Hall, S. M. Sowell, G. T. Lumpkin, and C. H. Strong. The report they gave was exceedingly interesting. We cannot help but feel the greatest interest in a movement that is playing so great a part in the evangelization of the world. But aside from this, we cannot afford to be wholly ignorant of a movement in which more than five thousand students, from all over Great Britain, Canada, and the United States, are engaged.

At our Wednesday-night prayer-meeting, March 8th, Professor Thomas preached to us on the "Temptations of Jesus." It was by special request that Dr. Thomas preached to us from this subject. He delivered the same sermon to the students several years ago, and those who heard it then wanted that we should all get the benefit of the very helpful and instructive lessons Dr. Thomas has found in this subject. We are exceedingly glad to have heard the subject so simply treated.

The annual election of officers of the Association will be held the first Saturday night in April. It is well to think of this before coming into the meeting, as very much depends upon the officers we elect.

LOSSES.

Upon the white sea sand
There sat a pilgrim band,
Telling the losses that their lives had known,
While evening waned away
From breezy cliff and bay,
And the strong tide went out with weary moan.

One spake with quivering lip,
Of a fair freighted ship,
With all his household to the deep gone down;
But one had wilder woe,
For a fair face, long ago
Lost in the darker depths of a great town.

There were who mourned their youth
With a most loving ruth,
For its brave hopes and memories ever green;
And one upon the west
Turned an eye that would not rest
For far-off hills whereon its joy had been.

Some talked of vanished gold,
Some of proud honors told,
Some spake of friends that were their trust no more,
And one of a green grave
Beside a foreign wave,
That made him sit so lonely on the shore.

But when their tales were done,
There spake among them one,
A stranger, seeming from all sorrow free—
“Sad losses have ye met,
But mine is heavier yet,
For a believing heart hath gone from me.”

“Alas!” these pilgrims said,
“For the living and the dead,
For fortune’s cruelty, for love’s sure cross,
For the wrecks of land and sea!
But, however it came to thee,
Thine, stranger, is life’s last and heaviest loss.”

—*London Athenæum.*

EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT

The *Wake Forest Student* is one of the best magazines found among our exchanges.

In the March number there are several very good contributions. "His First Case" deserves special mention. "Losing a Deer to Win a Maid" is an interesting story, and might have been made longer without becoming tiresome.

In the *University of Virginia Magazine* there is a short sketch of "John Randolph of Roanoke." This is both interesting and instructive.

We think it would be well if our college periodicals would often have such sketches of men who have been prominent in our State and country.

OUR OWN.

(MARGARET E. SANGSTER.)

If I had known in the morning
How wearily all the day,
The word unkind would trouble my mind,
I said when you went away.
I had been more careful, darling,
Nor given you needless pain;
But we vex our own with look and tone,
We might never take back again.

For though in the quiet evening,
You may give me the kiss of peace,
Yet it might be that never for me
The pain of the heart should cease.
How many go forth in the morning,
That never come home at night,
And hearts are broken for harsh words spoken,
That sorrow can ne'er set right.

We have careful thoughts for the stranger,
 And for the sometime guest;
 But oft for our own the bitter tone,
 Though we love our own the best.
 Ah! lips with the curve impatient,
 Ah! brow with the look of scorn,
 'Twere a cruel fate were the night too late,
 To undo the work of morn. —*Ex.*

“Literature—Its Toils and Rewards” is a well-written article in the *Baylor Literary*.

We think too much cannot be said about the good influence of the study of literature. By this means, as by no other, can we commune with the great and good both of the past and present.

St. Johns' Collegian for February contains a good article entitled “A Study of the Three Locksley Halls.” The author deserves thanks for giving us the third poem by Pittmans. Some parts of this are certainly not far behind Tennyson “in spirited expression and feeling.” We may be pardoned for clipping the closing lines:

Let the realist dip his falcon in the boiling blood of life,
 Tracing in heartrending horror all the hoary wrongs and strife,
 Till the world shall sick and sadden of its folly and its sin,
 Harkening through the roar of traffic to the still small voice within—
 Voice which murmurs Christ's own message as we circle round the
 sun;

That, though greed and creed divide us, still humanity is one—
 One in all its godlike longing, one in all its hope and fears,
 With its calvaries, scaffolds, hemlocks, and its seas of unshed tears.
 Then this star of sorrow swinging through the vast immortal void
 Shall, regenerated, slumber while man's heart is overjoyed,
 Thrilled with yearnings altruistic, triumphing o'er clods of clay,
 As we march into the love-light of the grand Millennial day.

The first number of the *Iris* comes to us in quite an attractive form. With the hearty co-operation of its contributors, the *Iris* may, we believe, look forward to a bright future. We wish for it much success.

Among our exchanges for this month we are pleased to find the *Semi-Annual* from Hollins Institute. All of the articles in it are good; but we would make special mention of "Our Ex-Lady Principal," "The Outlook for Educated Women," and "Blue-prints from the Kodak of a New Girl at Hollins."

The *Gray Jacket* is one of the most interesting magazines that comes to us. "The Divided Cloud," a continued story, is quite interesting. "Snow Drops," and the article on the "Holy Grail" are both well written.

Of the exchanges perused this month we think the *Georgetown College Journal* stands first. The article on the advantages of a classical as opposed to a scientific education is one of the best discussions of the subject that we have seen.

"The Interdependence of Men in Society," is a strong and well-written article in the *Furman Echo* for February. "There is nothing horrible or revolting in such dependency," the author tells us. On the contrary, he who utterly despises all obligations to his fellows, shows himself a smaller and a meaner man than he who recognizes this mutual dependence of human society, and who, while he does not always disdain to accept the help of his fellow-men, at the same time seeks to make his life helpful to those around him.

The following quotation from Frank Stockton appears in one of our exchanges:

" This world that we're livin' in
Is purty hard to beat,
You get a thorn with every rose
But ain't the roses sweet? "

The world stands aside to let the man pass who knows where he is going.—*Ex.*



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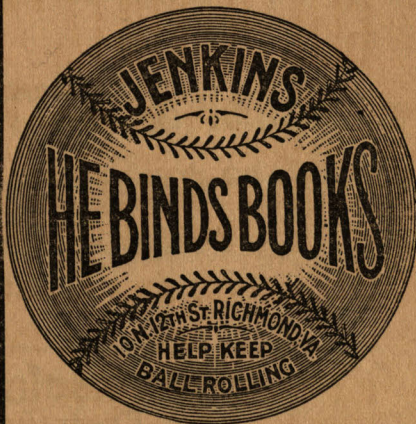


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