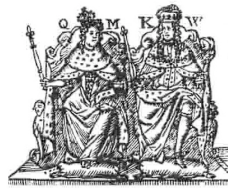


The Throne

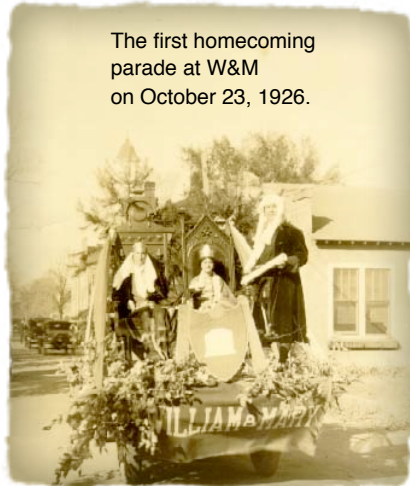


News and Services from Swem Library at The College of William & Mary • October 2010

The Throne welcomes back all the members of the William and Mary family!

Homecoming Circa 700 BC

While preparing for Homecoming 2010, let's not forget about the first recorded homecoming celebration. A guy named Odysseus, after an arduous road trip, was crowned homecoming king at Ithaka. Cunning and tricky he was, and some said, unworthy of the honor.



The first homecoming parade at W&M on October 23, 1926.

Courtesy of the University Archives Photograph Collection

A girl named Penny was his queen. Unlike Homecoming 2010, there was no football game, but a memorable, if one-sided, archery contest. People were dying to see it. Overall, the occasion was marred by disputes involving separation of gods and state.

For further information on early literary homecomings, try searching Swem's Literature Resource Center Database.

Haiku to You Too

Assembled armies,
Terrible battle ensues!
Warriors chase a ball.



Headless Horseman, Averted

A Frenchman writing home in 1816 observed while visiting the College, "I was pleased... with the fine statue in the centre of the yard, which is a figure of Lord Botetourt. ... It seems, however, that taste nor gratitude has been able to preserve the statue from mutilation by these republican students.



Courtesy of the University Archives Photograph Collection

I see they have actually knocked off his Lordship's head... tho' to be sure they have put it on again after a fashion." See what other treasures you can find about life in the New World in our new database Sabin Americana, 1500-1926. BTW, did you know that the statue you see in front of the Wren is a copy, done for the tercentenary celebration in 1993? If you want to see the honest-to-goodness real live Lord Botetourt, you need to go to the ground floor, opposite the Media Center. He was a centerpiece when your library was first built on this site in 1966, but he seems a little lonely now. Go say hi.

Swem's favorite clothes horse dressed for Halloween. We're not saying Lord Botetourt (or the mysterious Frenchman) has anything in common with Frankenstein, but Mary Shelley's novel was also written in 1816. Interesting coincidence, that.



Do you have any suggestions for the editors of The Throne? Email us at throne@wm.edu

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