

THE FLAT HAT

VOL. I.

COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY IN VIRGINIA, FEBRUARY 13, 1912

No. 16

RICHMOND ALUMNI CHAPTER OF THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM & MARY MEETS

Assembled Last Wednesday Evening at the Commonwealth Club, Chichester Presiding

The Richmond Alumni Chapter of the College of William and Mary Alumni met Wednesday night at the Commonwealth Club in Richmond, with Cassius M. Chichester, President, presiding. The meeting was well attended, and enthusiastic. A new constitution was read and adopted, and steps were taken to permanently endow the scholarship at the College which was first offered last year. The Honor System, which was first established here, in 1779, was discussed and found to be in good and effective condition.

OFFICERS FOR 1912

Officers for the ensuing year were elected, and include the following: Mr. Jackson Davis, president; Dr. E. H. Terrell, first vice-president; Mr. T. J. Fentress, second vice-president; Professor W. G. Jones, third vice-president; and Mr. Cassius M. Chichester, secretary and treasurer.

A buffet luncheon was served after the business session. During its course speeches were made by Dr. Lyon G. Tyler, President of William and Mary College, who spoke of the present prosperous condition of the College, and by Mr. William K. Doty, who represented the Student-body and THE FLAT HAT.

LIST OF THOSE PRESENT

Those present were Messrs. J. H. Brent, E. C. Carter, C. M. Chichester, Dr. C. C. Coleman, Jackson Davis, J. C. Fentress, F. E. Graves, Robt. E. Henderson, Wm. E. Henderson, C. M. Hogge, Dr. P. W. Howle, Prof. W. G. Jones, Dr. P. D. Lipscomb, Jas. C. Page, J. D. Pretlow, Prof. Jos. H. Saunders, Prof. Ernest E. Shawan, Wm. G. Standard, Thos. B. Snead, C. A. Taylor, Dr. E. H. Terrell, S. R. Warner, Frank T. West, J. E. Terrell, E. E. Worrell, A. D. Wright, Dr. Lyon G. Tyler, and Wm. K. Doty.

The next regular meeting of the Chapter will be held in Richmond in March, 1913. The executive committee, however, will meet at any time that may be deemed necessary for the welfare and interests of the Chapter.

Varsity Had Easy Victory Over Scrubs, Rolling Up Score 71 to 11

Three Fast Boxing Bouts Between the Halves Drew Applause from the Spectators

The Varsity ran away with the Scrubs in a poorly attended game on Saturday night. The superior team work of the first string men gave the scrubs no chance, the latter evincing no defense of a definite kind, and being unable to hold the ball long enough to do much shooting. Alfriend and Meredith pulled off a pretty shot apiece, while Thomas made two baskets for the seconds. Jones and Scheie played a scrappy game, but could accomplish little.

GAME FREE FROM FOULS

The game was singularly free from fouls, and but few points were scored in this manner. For the Varsity, Metcalf, Geddy and Mitchell played the fastest game, these, with Capt. Hall, piling up most of the points. Metcalf scored some thirty-odd points, shooting baskets with scrubs squirming about him in every direction. Final score, Varsity 71; Scrubs 11.

THREE MORE BOXING BOUTS

Three boxing matches were pulled off, in the first of which Stone crowned Booth, pounding him at will. "Tubby" Dix and "Long-arm" Mayer gave the best exhibition, full of hard jolts and clever shifting. The first round was a bumper for Dix, but Mayer got his in the second period, when Dix got around his reach. Addison and "Pud" Games also broke about even in two rounds.

COEBURN PLAYERS IN APRIL

The Faculty Committee on Public Activities has completed arrangements for a Shakesperian presentation to be given in the Players' Dell by the Coeburn Players. The date selected is Monday, April 22, and two performances will be given, one in the afternoon, and one at night. "Macbeth" will assuredly be one of the presentations, but the second one has not been definitely selected, the choice being between "As You Like It," and "Taming of the Shrew."

The Department of English was desirous to have the players render the play of Shakespeare that is now being given, with intensive study, by Dr. Hall; but whether this can be arranged is doubtful.

Philomathean Literary Society Is Scene of Strenuous Politics

Rival Rings Indulge in Some Subtle but Doubtful Politicking at The Last Meeting

The halls of the Philomathean Literary Society have recently been the scene of some fearful and wonderful "politicking." The ashes of the Phoenix must needs quiver with indignation to find her hard earned title, Mother of Politicians, snatched away from her by the Philomathean Philistines, but she cannot say them nay.

THE STORY OF THE RINGS

Certain among these aforesaid Philistines, chiefly from the hunting grounds of the Braffertonians, having become inoculated with the idea that a "ring" existed in the Society, conceived the brilliant idea of fighting fire with fire, and created a large, majolica, tripple-plated, all-wool, 14-carat ring of their own, which, they opined, could slip it all over the original ring. Having oiled all the "slipping" parts of the ring machinery, they repaired to the fray with a glad song in their hearts and a majority vote in their vest pockets. Ring number one was conspicuous by its absence—most of it had gone to see its best girl, which is of course, the proper thing for a ring. Thereupon, in spite of a small attendance, ring number two decided they had a quorum and proceeded to election. Appalled, however, by the awfulness of their course, they adjourned after electing three of the final men. Verily, ambition should be made of sterner stuff.

WAILS AND LAMENTATIONS

There was a noise as of great lamentation when ring number one heard these glad tidings. Moved to uncontrollable anger, some men even went so far as to pay their dues. This, incidentally, entitled them to vote. Of course there is no connection. A plan of campaign was arranged, and every member of the original ring was around with a double-barrelled, self-cocking right to vote. In addition to this the leaders bore each of them the same weapon with which Sampson slew the Philistines. A special meeting was called, and a combat ensued in which Sampson's weapon did the chief damage. The former election was

(Continued on fourth page)

Origin of the Name of the Flat Hat Club Suggested by Dr. Tyler

Flat Hats were a Popular Style in the Middle of the Eighteenth Century

The origin of the name of the Flat Hat Club, which was founded at the College in 1750, has been a subject of some comment and much interest since the establishing of THE FLAT HAT, last October. Dr. Tyler, who always has a solution for historical riddles, has suggested that the name might have been taken from a contemporary fashion in ladies' hats.

REFERENCE TO SOCIAL HISTORY

As an authority for this suggestion, Esther Singleton's "Social New York under the Georges" was pointed out. In this work appears the following paragraph: "About this time, the flat hat was particularly admired. A contemporary remarks that it 'affords the ladies that arch roguish air which the winged hat gives to Mercury; it animates their faces with a degree of vivacity which is not natural to them.' The arch, roguish air was exactly what the coquettes of the day affected, and naturally, the flat hat with its variety of ornaments was reluctantly given up."

This hat was but another of those novelties which were constantly invented to tempt the purse and set off the charms of the fair. But while it disappeared, the same ribbons, gauze catgut net, Paris net, silver and gold blond and bone lace, and paduasoy and lute-string ribbons still remain to perplex mankind and swell the purses of modistes.

DR. MONTGOMERY'S LECTURE ON DICKENS

On Wednesday last, local lovers of Dickens repaired to the College Chapel, where Dr. W. A. Montgomery delivered an interesting lecture on the life and genius of the great English novelist. He spoke entertainingly of the various epoch-making events in the life of the author, and of his personal characteristics. As a finale Dr. Montgomery read some selections from the works of Dickens. His interpretations were highly sympathetic, and the famous trial scene from the "Pickwick Papers" produced applause and laughter, while the magnificent description of the storm from "David Copperfield" held the attention of the audience.

THE FLAT HAT

Stabilitas et Fides.

FOUNDED OCTOBER 3, 1911

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THE FLAT HAT is published every Tuesday by the Students of the College of William and Mary except during holidays and examinations, at the office of The Virginia Gazette. Solicitation is made for contributions and opinions from The Student-body, Alumni, and Faculty, all of which must be signed, but the author's name need not be published. Advertising rates furnished on application. Subscription price one dollar the year, single copies five cents.

TELEPHONES.....Nos. 73 and 24

Entered at the Postoffice at Williamsburg, Virginia, as second-class matter.

Tuesday, February 13, 1912

THE TIPPERS AND THE TIPPED

The common-sense and sage advice in Alexander Pope's trite but sententious couplet,

Be not the first by whom the new is tried,
Nor yet the last to lay the old aside,
is no whit less applicable to modern society than it was to that in the days of its birth. But like all maxims it is not universally good. There are certain gentle manners and polite customs that have so ingrained themselves in the fabric of our natures throughout the centuries that their retention seems to be advisable from the very fact of long and pleasant association, if nothing other, even though there be many who uncharitably class them as threadbare conventions. Among these is the urbane custom of doffing hats.

It has been remarked by travelers that the students of America and Japan were more polite than those of any of the other nations, and more respectful to their superiors and elders, and one of the most pleasing symbols of this ideal relation is the reciprocal courtesy of lifting the hat as a means of accostation between students and teachers. It has existed in American colleges for many years. Until recent years it has been the rule at the College of William and Mary. Now it is the exception. THE FLAT HAT does not make this charge in the spirit of dictating policies, and not for personal reasons. This HAT tips itself because it likes to; because the practice is easier than

not, on account of long habit and training; and because the sensation experienced in observing this rule of propriety is pleasant, while its non-observance is difficult, and even painful, in a hedonistic sense.

The only reason why this mention is made therefore, is that THE FLAT HAT has the advancement and preservation of the College as its chief and only endeavour, and, regarding the decay of this little formality as most regrettable, makes these remarks, but without attempting to give the reasons why, or seeking to discover who is at fault. But certainly the fact of intimacy and cordiality existing between the Faculty and Student-body is not a justification. Familiarity, most emphatically, in this instance should not breed contempt, or to say milder, should not even breed carelessness. No one would think of not taking off his hat to his mother on the street because of his intimate and affectionate association with her, nor be less nimble in standing whenever she entered the room.

If this fault is to be laid at the door of the Student-body, the older men of the College should frown upon it; if it is attributable to the Faculty, patient observance of such politeness on the part of the Student-body will ultimately force them to respond in self-defense, unless the spirit of paternalism is too deeply rooted to permit of eradication.

THE RICHMOND ALUMNI

The meeting of the Richmond Chapter of the College of William and Mary Alumni on Wednesday evening was representative of that ever-growing enthusiasm which typifies the Alumni of this ancient College. It is but seldom that so fine a body of men is brought together. They came from nearly every walk of life, professors, physicians, lawyers, and business men of the various activities, and in each of them was to be found a deep-seated interest in everything pertaining to William and Mary, and a strong love that has increased, rather than faded, during the years of their absence.

The subject of greatest interest to them was that of the Honour System, which fickle rumour had suggested was not now on the high plane of former years, in letter or in spirit. Dr. Tyler assured the Chapter that never in the history of this famous System, since it was founded at William and Mary in 1779, had it been more effective in its workings than it was at present, and never held in greater reverence by the Student-body.

The entire order of things here is permeated by the principles of the Honour System. It is not a matter of rules in black and white but one of feeling. Every man in College unconsciously observes its spirit. He feels, lives, breathes and acts it,

and anyone so treacherous and venomous as to suggest the contrary, is not worthy of audience, not to mention the more serious fact of credence.

It might not be amiss to very mildly suggest to the various athletic managements that it is the custom, generally, to present a certain number of tickets to newspapers which advertise and print news relating to games, and to say parenthetically that THE FLAT HAT is a paper of such propensities and proclivities. The manager of the Academy football team is the only one so far to recognize this delicate duty when he met it.

Let some man immortalize himself by moving the stone ball back before the President's House.

The Colonial Echo is to be congratulated upon the photographic work that is being done for its pages.

Items for diary keepers—'The backbone of Winter is braken,' an exciting entry for those booming environs.

Whether Mistah Groun' Hog saw his shadow or not, it would be to the advantage of every one in any wise interested in climatic conditions to see Dr. Stubbs' weather bulletin for February.

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IN AND OUT OF COLLEGE TOPICS

Mr. Thos. Chapman Tilley spent Friday, Saturday and Sunday at his home in Norfolk.

Dr. Lyon G. Tyler was the chief speaker at the Richmond Alumni Banquet on last Wednesday evening.

Mr. Raymond Meredith has returned from Norfolk where he spent several days with his parents Dr. and Mrs. Meredith.

Mr. Max Blitzer was in New York City last week on business.

Mr. William Elliott Dold returned to William and Mary from New York last Wednesday, and is rapidly finishing the drawings and paintings which he is making for the Colonial Echo.

Among the distinguished visitors at THE FLAT HAT Office Saturday were Messrs. Sergeant Chief Wilkins and Heningham Harrison.

Messrs. Peachy and Daingerfield Spencer are back from Washington, D. C., where they attended their father, Mr. J. B. C. Spencer, who is now rapidly recovering.

Mr. Theo. Barrow, Jr., has gone to Smithfield to attend the leap-year german which will be given there tonight.

An utterly utter young lady of Williamsburg wears one of the ultra fashionable cobweb veils, it is reported, in order that she may have a radiant face.

Miss Virginia Peachy went to Smithfield yesterday to be the guest for several days of Miss Georgie Barrow, and to attend a german to be given there this week.

Mr. B. D. Peachy, Jr., entertained with a dinner Wednesday evening before the Dancing School. His guests were Messrs. John Tyler, Baby Garth, Sook Spencer, Bob Jackson, Joe Hall, Fred Goodwin, Bish Lee, and Tommy Geddy.

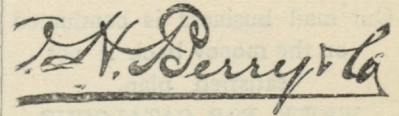
It has been learned from a reliable source that George Clinton Batchelor, LL. D., of New York, will visit Williamsburg in the near future. Dr. Batchelor is an earnest friend of the College, having aided materially in the erection of the Library, and it is understood that his proposed visit has to do with some improvements to the College which are now under consideration.

CUT COPIES ORDERED FOR ELIZABETHANS' PLAY

Owing to numerous delays in receiving copies for the Rivals and the approach of examinations the Elizabethans have not been able to put on their play as soon as was expected. However, the copies of the Rivals are expected in a few days and then it is thought that the play will be put on before Lent. The costumes have been arranged for and the dramatis personae selected. All is in readiness to compete in the gay round of society, vaudeville, minstrel, etc., which will take place this month.

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PHILOMATHEAN LITERARY SOCIETY

(Continued from first page)

set aside, and ring number one ran its machine ruthlessly over the bodies on the field of carnage.

Rumor has it that ring number three is now in process of making. It is worth noting, however, that all good circuses now-a-days have four rings.

MANAGER GEDDY STRIKES HARD LUCK

Manager Geddy struck some more hard luck with his basketball schedule. Wake Forest having cancelled the game scheduled for Friday last, he secured Newport News Y. M. C. A. for that date, but was informed on Friday that the seaport boys could not get their team together, and would be unable to play here. A Scrub-Varsity game was substituted. The original schedule was one of the strongest ever offered here, and it is generally regretted that it could not be carried out.

Dr. Young is planning a big athletic tournament for this month. See notices on the bulletin boards.

Y. M. C. A. CABINET ELECTION

At the meeting of the Y. M. C. A. on Tuesday last, the following officers were elected: President, Womack; vice-president, Barnes, secretary, Griggs; treasurer, O. Deel; chairman of committee on missions, Hubbard; chairman of committee on delegations, James; chairman of committee on Bible study, Cooper; chairman of committee on membership, Vaden; chairman of music committee, Taylor; chairman of hall committee, Cook.

The work of the Y. M. C. A. has been justly commended at the College, and with the new officers its continued progress is expected,

WILLIAM AND MARY MOTHER GOOSE

DIDDLE, DIDDLE

Diddle, Diddle, Little Diddle
Had a voice just like a fiddle,
Diddle said,—I know it's funny.
But it makes me get the money.
I don't care.

MY SON JOHN

Hickory, Dickory, my son John
He came to school with no collar on;
One sock off, and one sock down,
What a young scarecrow, my son John.

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