

THE TAR HEEL.

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THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

The One Hundred and Eighth Annual Commencement.

LARGEST GRADUATING CLASS SINCE THE WAR.

Commencement Address by Wm. J. Holland, LL.D., of Pennsylvania—Sermon by Rt. Rev. Alfred Magill Randolph, D.D., of Virginia—Alumni Address by John Sprunt Hill—Address by Chief Justice Walter Clark—Number of Visiting Alumni.

At eleven o'clock Sunday morning the graduating class lined up in double file at the Old South Building and marched to Gerrard Hall where, after a strong prayer by Bishop Cheshire of Raleigh, N. C., the Baccalaureate Sermon was delivered by Right Reverend Alfred Magill Randolph, D. D., Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church of Virginia, from the Epistle to the Romans, Chapter 8, verse 3, "For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin condemned sin in the flesh that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."

It was a masterly presentation of the strength, the restraining influence and the disciplinary effect on character and life of law, with reference to the further aim of living, that this majestic force is after all weak and it cannot transform the heart out of which are the issues of life. The great Roman civilization was based on the perfect outward administration of the most remarkable code of laws, and the civilization becoming rotten to the core had no saving virtue in itself. The most learned and accomplished jurist of his age, one of the intellectual wonders of the world, Lord Bacon, in his last prayer bewailed the fact that he himself who had studied and "practised" the law so thoroughly had violated grossly its spirit and its precepts and could cast himself only on the forgiving grace of Him who is the Source and Creator of all Law. The evidence goes that the proclamation of law and its execution cannot regenerate the affections and vitalize the soul. The weak "flesh," the sinful "self," needs the transforming touch of divine grace and love, the re-creative power which Christ alone can impart. It is well that the University education gained here gives more for the appeal to the conscience by way of the heart, for vain would all your culture be if you did not

with a full sense of your sin bring your guilty nature to the cleansing blood and the atoning sacrifice.

The Bishop's closing sentences were charged with the tenderest feeling of a father in Israel. His spiritual unction, his stately eloquence, the vigor and depth of his exposition of Scripture and his attractive personality combined to give a deep impression to a noble Gospel Message.

He was the guest of Rev. Dr. Meade, to whose saintly grandfather, Bishop Wm. Meade, he is in spirit and character a true descendant.

Y. M. C. A. SERMON.

A new feature in the program of Commencement this year was the sermon before the Young Men's Christian Association delivered by Rev. Thomas R. English, D.D. of Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Va. It was an able presentation of a great topic.

The sermon of Dr. English was on the great question, is life worth living?

He contrasts the views of Job in his grief and sorrow; of Solomon in Ecclesiastes with his cry, "Vanity of vanities; all is vanity;" of Paul exulting in the crown of righteousness he shall one day receive. Job's life had been one of peace and prosperity; he had rejoiced in the things of this world and then when adversity came upon him in his bitterness and grief he declares that life is not worth living and curses the day on which he was born. Solomon's life had been one round of pleasure. He had drunk deep of the cup of folly; and then he looks back on his life, the cry of his heart is, "All is vanity and vexation of spirit." So it is with all those who live this life for what there is in it and have no thought beyond the things of the world.

There have been others like Solomon. Byron, Goethe, and many others well known in history, have gone into this life to get the most

out of it and the final verdict of all is, "Vanity of vanities, all is vanity."

Then against these we have the opinion of Paul. He lived a life of unselfishness and self-denial; he kept his eyes fixed on things above and when his labors were nearly ended he looked back on his life and felt that he had fought a good fight—"Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness."

So we find that life is not an end in itself but only a means to an end. Life is like a scaffold to a great building. It is not a great thing in itself, but as a means to an end, it is great. So we come to the conclusion that life is worth living, not for what we can get out of it but as a means to an end.

INTER-SOCIETY BANQUET.

The annual joint banquet of the Di and Phi literary societies held in Commons Hall Monday evening was a source of much pleasure and entertainment. Thirty minutes before the appointed time the alumni, faculty and active members gathered in front of Commons Hall. Hearty handshakes and cordial greetings were indulged in on every side and the meetings of "old" college boys added genuine liveliness to the scene.

At 8 o'clock the doors were opened. The members marched in, and a sense of joy thrilled them as they looked upon the long tables, couch-



CHIEF JUSTICE WALTER CLARK, '04.

ed in roses and shrouded in dainty white linen spreads. The Di men took their seats on the right and the Phi men took theirs on the left. It was a great sight to see a hundred and fifty old college boys, among them many of the State's leading men, indulging in the fond renewal of old acquaintances and the happy greeting of their younger fellow society members. It was more than a great sight—it was a grand sight—to see men who have been out in the world, gray haired men, captains of industry and leaders in the various professions, seated beside the young fellows, telling them rich experiences of the past, cautioning them with advice and lighting their hopes and youthful expectations.

Mr. Graham H. Andrews proved a wise selection as toast master and conducted himself with ease and dignity. An elaborate banquet of a number of courses was served by Mr. Dughi, of Raleigh.

The following toasts offered be-

tween courses, were fitting and appropriate:

Address of Welcome, Toastmaster.

Response, Hon. Frederick Phillips.

"The Societies Today," Mr. Chas. Ross.

"The Place of the Societies in the University," Mr. R. W. Herring.

"Literary Value of the Societies," Dr. C. A. Smith.

"Reminiscences," Dr. K. P. Battle.

Address, Judge Walter Clark.

Judge Clark spoke with force and earnestness for the "Greater University."

"The State," said Judge Clark, "has never made a better investment than what she has done here. What she has done for her sons here has been repaid by them a thousand fold in every sphere of activity. But this State has never yet done her duty to this great institution."

The speaker showed himself to be deeply moved and sincere in his statements. He gave statistics showing what other states have done for their great Universities. Beside these appropriations our appropriations are pitifully small.

CLASS DAY.

Tuesday, the day of class exercises, opened fair and bright. The rain clouds that had been hanging overhead were gone. The rains had laid the dust and made the air cool and refreshing. It was an ideal day.

The exercises were begun at 9:30 with a prayer for the graduating class, in the chapel, by Dr. Hume.

After reading suitable passages from the Holy Writ and commenting on them, Dr. Hume talked to the class tenderly and feelingly as a father to his children who are going out into the world to fight life's battles, and every one present was touched by his words. The passage he gave as a motto he wished to be written on every heart is found in the 31st verse of the 40th chapter of Isaiah: "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; they shall walk, and not faint."

Before an audience consisting of our most honored alumni and the first citizens of the state, the class day exercises of the class of 1903, were held in Gerrard Hall. The hall was tastefully decorated in the University colors with two large United States flags in the back of the room. Excellent orchestral music was furnished during the exercises.

At 10:30 the Senior Class, in caps and gowns, marched into the hall, lead by the Chief Marshal. Their president, Mr. R. S. Stewart, made the address of welcome to the audience and alumni. Mr. Stewart's address was full of affection for his Alma Mater and of gratitude

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