

The Elon College Weekly

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And Elon College, N. C.

The Nineteenth Commencement.

The nineteenth annual commencement of the College began with the Class-Day Exercises Saturday evening, May 28. At eight o'clock, the audience, larger than on former occasions, had pretty well filled the auditorium, when the class of eleven, seven young men and four young ladies, all in impressive academic caps and gowns, marched in, amid hearty cheers, and took their positions on the rostrum.

Miss Macie Farmer rendered a piano solo. Mr. C. C. Fonville welcomed the audience in a delightful speech. The class history was then read clearly and distinctly by Miss Nannie Emma Farmer. Mr. Alonzo C. Hall followed with the class poem, which is published in this issue of *The Weekly*. The prophecy, which was read by Miss Macie Virginia Farmer, gave visions of the class in various walks of life and in various degrees of success. Her paper more than once raised laughter and applause. The song, *Co-ca-che-lunk*, was well rendered. Following, was the presentation oration, one of the most enjoyed parts of the program. This was delivered by Mr. Alonzo C. Hall. The mementoes presented to each member of the class varied from a stick of chewing gum presented to Mr. J. W. Barney as an alleged aid to him in discovering the law of perpetual motion, to a baseball bat presented to Mr. W. W. Elder, the ball player of the class, and from a pair of tiny, gay socks presented to Mr. C. C. Fonville because he was accused of liking such gay apparel, to a bridal veil presented to Miss Macie Farmer, whose mind, the orator evidently thought, had been running in this direction. If Mr. Hall's audience counted his presentation oration happy and amusing with a bit of severity in presenting Miss Farmer with the bridal veil, they thought the speech of Mr. J. W. Barney no less happy in presenting Mr. Hall a marriage license, which the speaker thought might be desirable to go with the bridal veil. The last will and testament of the class was much enjoyed, as read by Mr. W. W. Elder.

The mantle of the class was then presented to the Junior Class in a fitting oration by Mr. C. C. Fonville. When he called for some member of the Junior Class to come forward, Mr. Arnold Hall came upon the rostrum, and with fitting words and impressive bearing, received the mantle of Seniority thus handed down to his class. The program closed with the class song, "Loyalty."

This class, individually and collectively, makes a good impression, and they are young people of high culture, noble ideals and excellent habits.

After the completion of the program the class, through their president, Mr. L. E. Smith, of La Grange, Georgia, presented the college with a handsome druggist and rugs for the rostrum. The gift was accepted on behalf of the college by Professor W. A. Harper, acting Dean, in an appropriate speech.

THE BACCALAUREATE SERMON BY REV. A. W. LIGHTBOURNE, PH. D.

At 11:30 Sunday morning, May 29, Rev. A. W. Lightbourne, Ph. D., pastor of the People's Christian church, Dover, Delaware, delivered a most profound and inspiring Baccalaureate Sermon from the text taken from the Book of Job—"Teach me the things I cannot see." Dr. Lightbourne had a magnificent audience, whose attention was riveted upon this masterful gospel speaker throughout the hour. There was a sympathetic stillness in the audience that proves stronger than any word of description the rapt attention of his hearers. The music at this service was as inspiring as the great sermon, the solo rendered by Miss Clements being especially remarked upon by music lovers.

Dr. Lightbourne has partially promised to visit the college next winter and give a course of lectures.

THE SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES.

Monday evening at 8 o'clock, representatives from the three literary societies delivered orations and read essays. The following is the list of speakers and their subjects: Mr. Edgar Thurman Hines, Philologist, "Our New Citizenship." Miss Bessie McPherson, Pspihelian, "The Conservatism of Our Intellectual Resources." Mr. Jennings Sipe Lincoln, Clio, "The Unfinished Voyage." Mr. Marvin Walton McPherson, Philologist, "Flowers." Miss Beulah Francis Foster, Pspihelian, "The Old Dominion's Harvest of Books for the Year 1909." Mr. Rosser Loy Walker, Clio, "Dives and Lazarus."

The program was effectually carried out. Rev. M. L. Bryant, of Norfolk, led in prayer at the opening, and the orations and essays, all of which showed thought and research, were interspersed with music by the College Orchestra.

THE LITERARY ADDRESS.

At 11 o'clock Tuesday morning, the Literary Address was delivered by Rev. Daniel Albright Long, D. D., LL. D., of Graham, N. C. Rev. W. T. Walters, A. M., of Winchester, Va., led in prayer, and Rev. W. C. Wicker, A. M., Litt. D., introduced the speaker. Dr. Long's subject was "The Influence of the Bible as Literature." His extensive scholarship and versatility in the field of both ancient and modern literature, and his familiarity with science, philosophy and law, coupled with his superior gifts as an orator, stood Dr. Long in such stead as to make his address, setting the Bible like a precious gem, as he did, in the midst of all, one of the ablest and most learned ever delivered here.

THE ANNUAL CONCERT.

Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock, the auditorium was crowded to the capacity of the standing room even, by music lovers. The program was exceedingly well rendered and was of a high order. Miss Ethel Du Rant, to take first place on the

program, was absent on account of sickness. All other parts of the program were carried out with such perfection as to reflect great credit upon the performers and singers, and incidentally upon the Department of Music, which has won and held the confidence of a large patronage. The excellent order of the audience and the hearty applause after each part, more prolonged in some cases than in others, was pretty conclusive proof that the concert was genuinely appreciated and enjoyed throughout.

THE GRADUATING EXERCISES.

The chief event of commencement week—the Graduating Exercises—took place at 11:30 o'clock Wednesday morning, June 1. At this exercise was the greatest gathering of the commencement. The crowds could scarcely more than two-thirds be seated even in the ante-rooms. Need of a larger auditorium for commencement is becoming more and more evident. The academic procession began forming at the President's office at 11 o'clock and was in the following order: Board of Trustees, graduates and those to receive certificates, those to take part on the program, the faculty, and alumni, there being a large number of these, making altogether a long and imposing procession as they filed into the auditorium.

Rev. J. O. Atkinson, D. D., led in prayer. The Graduating Class of eleven was represented by four orators and two essayists. The Salutatory was delivered by Mr. W. F. Warren, of Prospect Hill, N. C. His subject was "Goldsmiths or Soul-smiths—Which?" Miss Carrie Hubbard Boyd, News Ferry, Va., read an essay on "The Silences." Following, Mr. A. Liggette Lincoln, of Lacey's Springs, Va., delivered an oration on "The Incoming Tide." Then came Mr. Leon E. Smith, of La Grange, Ga., who spoke on the subject, "Unguarded Gates." Following this oration was an essay by Miss Nannie Baker Farmer, of News Ferry, Va. Her subject was "The Impassable Gulf." The Valedictory by Mr. J. W. Barney, of Clearville, Pa., closed this part of the program. Mr. Barney's subject was "Lest We Forget."

In the absence of President E. L. Moffitt, who, to the regret of all friends of the college, is still too sick to be brought back from the hospital, where he has been for more than a month, the diplomas and certificates were delivered by Rev. Dr. W. W. Staley, Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

DEGREES.

Bachelor of Arts—John Willis Barney, with highest honor, Pennsylvania; William Wytch Elder, with high honor, Alabama; Alonzo Cleveland Hall, with high honor, North Carolina; Asa Liggette Lincoln, with high honor, Virginia; Leon Edgar Smith, with high honor, Georgia; William Franklin Warren, with highest honor, North Carolina.

Bachelor of Philosophy—Carrie Hubbard Boyd, with high honor, Virginia; Nannie Baker Farmer, with honor, Vir-

ginia; Nannie Emma Farmer, Virginia; Macie Virginia Farmer, with high honor, Virginia; Claude Cleveland Fonville, with honor, North Carolina.

Master of Arts—Henry Milton Loy, Ph. B., North Carolina; William Thomas Walters, A. B., Virginia.

Certificates in Music—William Wytch Elder, Voice, Alabama; William Franklin Warren, Voice, North Carolina.

Certificate in Art—Martha Annie Watson, North Carolina.

Certificate in English—Bettie Allena Stephenson, Alabama.

Doctor of Divinity—Rev. J. F. McCulloch, Ph. D., Editor of *Our Church Record*, Greensboro, N. C.; Rev. A. W. Lightbourne, Ph. D., Pastor People's Christian Church, Dover, Delaware.

The Bibles were presented to the Senior Class in an appropriate, happy address, by Rev. H. L. Elderdice, Westminster, Maryland.

AWARD OF MEDALS.

Five gold medals were awarded to members of the Senior Class, and were delivered in a felicitous speech by Prof. Z. V. Judd, Superintendent of Public Schools in Wake county. Mr. J. W. Barney won two of these—the Thesis medal, the munificence of Dr. R. M. Morrow, Burlington, N. C., and the Long memorial medal, given to that member of the class who makes the highest average in scholarship.

The Stanford Orator's medal, awarded on commencement day to that young man of the Graduating Class who makes the best oration, was won by Mr. Leon E. Smith.

The Moffitt medal, given to that young lady of the Graduating Class who presents the best essay, was awarded to Miss Carrie Hubbard Boyd.

The J. W. Wellons Scholarship medal, awarded to that student of the college making the highest average scholarship during the year, was won by Mr. W. F. Warren, his average being 97.5.

ART EXHIBIT.

From 4 to 6 o'clock in the afternoon the Art Department gave an exhibit of upwards of 150 paintings done during the year, which were admired by a great many visitors. The exhibit made a fine impression for the department.

THE ALUMNI.

At the business session of the Alumni Association it was found that nearly enough funds had been secured to yield annually the \$50.00 for the scholarship voted a year ago to be established, and it was ordered that this scholarship be awarded at the present commencement and be known as the Alumni Junior Scholarship. It was voted also to transfer \$100.00 from the alumni treasury to the scholarship fund.

The following officers were elected: President, Professor W. C. Wicker; Vice-President, Rev. C. E. Newman; Secretary, Mrs. W. A. Harper; Treasurer, Mrs. W. P. Lawrence.

At the close of the Graduating Exercises the President of the Association an-

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