

EARLY GUILFORD HISTORY

(Among the many old papers which Miss Emma King found in her effort to collect a record of the people who have made donations to Guilford College in the past, she found a manuscript written by Mrs. E. H. Wilson, who was one of the first students to register at the New Garden Boarding school after it was established. This manuscript was published in the Guilford Collegian for May, 1892. It is so full of human interest that we are reproducing it for the benefit of those who are too young to have noticed it when it was run 33 years ago.—The Editors.)

Now that the Editors of the Collegian want reminiscences of the early days, and request those who were among the first students to send them some items, I have endeavored to recall some incidents. Though mostly trivial and commonplace they may serve to interest you of the present time, as giving a glimpse of things in the early years of the school now so far back in the past. Indeed when I think of the vast sweep of events in the world's history in the more than half century, and of the events and changes in my own life, it would seem that I ought to date back to the days of the pyramids, at least, instead of only 1837, a date, the first, with one exception, that was impressed on my memory. That exception was 1833, the year of the great meteoric shower, and there was cause to remember that grand and fearful sight, for we were awakened in the night by the cries and lamentations of an old colored man who had run half a mile across the fields in that shower of fire, frightened almost to death, to tell us the stars were all falling and the world was burning up. At first sight it looked like he was right, for stars appeared to be falling as thickly as we sometimes see large snowflakes, only they fell more swiftly. The old man sat up all the rest of the night and 'till long after daylight, in the chimney corner, with his face in his hands crying and praying, not daring to look up for fear of seeing everything in a blaze, and even when he did venture to raise his head and saw the world unharmed and everything going as usual, he was not reassured for he was certain it would be burned the next night.

The year of 1837 was an important and eventful one to all the region around about New Garden, and had been looked forward to with much interest as the time for opening the boarding school.

For a good while in passing the place we had watched the progress of the walls going up, with the expectation that when it should be finished I was to be sent there to school. So all the vague unknown and untried future was bright with limitless possibilities to an imaginative young mind. In process of time Founders hall was completed and everything pronounced in readiness for opening the school. The day and hour finally came when my trunk was packed with not a very elaborate wardrobe, for

the rules of the school limited supply and quality, as to dresses, two were allowed for everyday wear and one for the "best." The ride on the memorable day along the old Salisbury road was quite as important and all absorbing to me as that other occasion in 1781 was to the soldiers who fought and retreated over the same road the day of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse.

When I saw my parents drive away from the school house and I, not yet ten years old, was left among entire strangers, it took all my courage to appear brave, as I wandered about the house and grounds, ill at ease and half homesick, with some strange little girls. To my unpracticed eye all was so strange new and on such an immense scale, literally a place of "magnificent distance." As I remember our teachers from the "North" they looked the embodiment of grace and ease in their lovely lawns and dainty slippers, as they cheerfully and kindly greeted the students. In a few days the foreign feeling wore off and I became acquainted with several of the little girls of about my own age, one from Philadelphia in particular, with whom I grew intimate. We were in the same classes, and it was not long until we were put into a Child's Philosophy and we were quite elated over the name of studying Philosophy. Among other things we learned something about the construction of the Aeolian Harp, and though our ideas were rather crude, we had occasion to remember that for though knowing music was not allowed upon the premises, we took it into our heads to construct one, so one windy day we went down in the woods north of the house and tied some silk threads between two little trees and hastily ran back to the house to await results. To our dismay we soon heard some musical tones from that direction, and feeling guilty, began to wonder what would be done to us for we were sure to be found out. Imagine our relief when we saw a teamster driving around the back of the kitchen with some supplies, and found it was the bells on his horses that made the music and not our harp at all.

(To be continued next issue)

CONSTITUTION RATIFIED

(Continued from page one)

it decided to offer to the group for acceptance. After a number of readings the document was adopted unanimously.

The following men who were elected for temporary terms at the first meeting held, were confirmed by popular vote to serve until the time for the next regular election: J. Wesley Frazier and Robert Marshall, for the senior class; Nereus English and Elton Warrick, for the junior class; Gilmer Sparger and James Joyce, for the sophomore class; and Carey Reece and Robert Giin, for the freshman class. Frank Casey was elected to fill the vacancy created by the election of Robert Marshall to chairmanship.

The constitution as adopted in mass meeting, Monday, follows:

- 1.—The name of this body shall be the "Men's Student Council."
- 2.—The Council shall be composed of nine members, one of which shall be designated chairman. Except as provided in article 9.
- 3.—Each college class shall elect two representatives to represent it on this Council of nine.
- 4.—The chairman shall be elected by ballot from and by the men's student body and shall be designated as president of this body.
- 5.—A vacancy created on the Council shall be filled by the body which was previously represented by the absent member.
- 6.—Each Class representative shall be allowed one vote; the chairman shall not vote only in case of a tie.
- 7.—The chairman shall be elected on the last Tuesday in April; the class representatives shall be elected on the Wednesday following the last Tuesday in April.
- 8.—The freshman class shall elect one representative during the first collegiate month of the year; he shall serve until December 15th, on which day there shall be a new election in which two representatives shall be elected to represent the class on the then existing Council.
- 9.—A secretary shall be elected by the Council and from their number at the first meeting of the Council after elections.
- 10.—The chairman shall serve for one year.
- 11.—The term of office of the three upper class representatives shall be for one year, except in the case of senior representation.
- 12.—Representatives from the senior class shall serve until day of graduation.
- 13.—No man shall be eligible for chairman if he has less than sophomore standing.
- 14.—Each Councilman is eligible for re-election.
- 15.—The chairman of the Council shall have the power to call a mass meeting of the men, or meeting of the Council, at such times as it is deemed necessary.
- 16.—Two-thirds of the College men shall constitute a quorum of that body.
- 17.—A majority of votes shall constitute a decision of that body in the election of officers.
- 18.—A two-thirds majority of votes cast shall constitute a decision of the men on matters pertaining to their interests.
- 19.—The powers of this Council shall be only as an official voice of the Men's student body.
- 20.—An amendment to this constitution may be made in accordance with Rule Eighteen, (18).

SOMEDAY

"Someday," said a boy, young and gay,
 "I'll be a man some glad day;
 And then I'll take my strength and
 fight
 The evils of life with all my might;
 I'll make the strong to the weaker yield,
 And fight for the Master on the mission
 field—
 These are the duties that will lead my
 way
 When I'm a man, some glad day."
 "Someday! someday!" said a young
 man tall,
 "I'll give my best for the wretched, and
 all
 Those who are beaten and trampled
 upon,
 I'll make men suffer who treat them
 wrong.
 But I'm young yet, and I'll not haste
 Lest the spice of my life I shall waste;
 But I'll gain the time, when an older
 man
 And work so hard, as only a lad can,
 "One day," said a man, so feeble and
 old,
 "I said I'd fight with a courage bold,
 That I'd strive for the right with all my
 might,
 And visit the heathen with a living light.
 But those glad thoughts were in days
 gone past,
 And, oh! the time has flown so fast,
 That I am swiftly passing away,
 And living now in a sad, sad day."
 Ruth Hall, '08.

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The Virginia Robins

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