

THE CHAPEL HILLIAN.

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THE CHAPEL HILLIAN will be mailed to any address for \$1.00 a year; 75c. for six months.
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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1891.

WE DO not like to be always complaining and finding fault with affairs at the University, yet we long for the correction of sundry and various matters here. We would say nothing intentionally to damage in any way this institution; we do not wish to do anything that may be injurious to her interests. The interest of the University is ours, we love her and rejoice in her well-being; our aim is to be of service to her and not an incumbrance. Although we criticise, and sometimes sharply, certain methods in use here, we do not mean to be impudent or presumptuous. We believe that *criticism is life*. Criticism is certainly needed here. Students are the severest and most merciless critics in the world, and their opinion is nearly always correct. This opinion we endeavor to express, and it is worthy of respect as coming from *intelligent men*. As said, we do not criticise for the mere sake of fault-finding, but that we may be of service. We wish to see the tide of "old fogyism"

prevalent here recede before modern civilization, and criticism will naturally aid this. This critical spirit is sadly lacking here, and not only here but elsewhere in the State; at least, here we see only one side of things, and do not, taking into consideration all things without regard to prejudice or anything else, search for truth and that alone. This spirit is what we need; this imparts life; let us recognize the principle "that the world, it do move," and our University will make more rapid strides. We are surprised at the rumpus our criticism has raised, especially when the editors are called asses by one criticised, and said to resemble "little boys throwing little paper pellets at a huge boulder." Our aim is a good one and, though asses, we hope it will succeed.

SINCE OUR last issue we have learned that original work is done in the University, in the estimation of some; we say this because we have inquired and failed to find traces of any. By original work we do not mean papers which, hurriedly written, are read either in the Literary Societies, N. C. Historical Society or Shakespeare Club, papers which often in language or expression much less in thought bear even the impress of the author. Original work can only be done in the careful, steady and earnest study of some subject, and in this our University is sadly lacking. Emphasis is placed upon text-books and these alone, while the students do little or no original work. We do not disparage the work in text-books; that is very necessary in the careful training it gives, but surely at a University some higher, some original work should be done. Were it a college

it would be otherwise. There is nothing which furnishes better training of the mind than incessant study of some subject one is interested in. Aid is given in many ways, the mind is broadened, power of comprehension is obtained, etc. We are very glad to see that some original work was introduced last term and that some is being done this, and we sincerely hope that work of this kind will be introduced in all the departments.

WE SEE that at the meeting of the Trustees two petitions were presented by the students, one to introduce the study of the Bible as an elective to all courses; the other to equalize the territory of the two Societies. We are in favor of both of these. The only trouble is as regards the first, should the Bible be introduced as a study, who would teach it? There are quite a number of Bible classes around here, taught by the different members of the Faculty, but we know of no one among their number who is capable by long and continuous preparation to enter into a *critical* study of this Book, and should some one be found competent to the task, we are afraid he would be pronounced an infidel and a heretic should he go into a study of the subject as we would any other book and not as an inspired and *infallible* one. We noticed also that an attempt was made to inaugurate a chairmanship of the Faculty; we were not surprised, as there had been a rumor to this effect, but we were very glad that the attempt was unsuccessful, ruinous to the University as it would have been. A President is to be elected on Wednesday of Commencement week, meanwhile the Trustees are looking out for the most competent man.

SEVERAL DAYS ago while looking through the library we found the library committee of one of the Societies busily engaged in looking over magazines of several months back and endeavoring to select books to meet the number required by the Society. We were surprised at the indifference and seeming carelessness in picking out desirable books. We think that a better plan would be to carry a little note-book in your pocket and place in that from time to time the name of any *good* and *useful* book, where published, etc. No little money is thrown away by the Societies in their purchase of books every year on account of this delay and haste, just before the time to order. Often both Societies will buy some trashy novel, sometimes they buy copies of books which they already have, nearly always they buy novels, although even now the department of fiction is the most thoroughly furnished in the library and although scientific, historical and other works are much more desirable. If this matter was attended to the library would be more complete and the Societies would not waste their money.

HURRAH FOR the foot-ball team! Everybody hurt, some with broken noses and thumbs sprained and strained ankles, one with his arm broken and two cannot walk, owing to some strains of the muscles in the leg.

A TRAVELER in the Orient says that the belles of the East are usually old women at twenty.—*Wilmington Messenger*.

[Wouldn't this traveler make the same remark if he traveled in this part of the world?—ED.]

WE ARE sorry to announce that owing to the illness of the traveler Benj. A. Becket (whether caused by what he has seen or the sudden changes in the weather, we do not know) the next chapter of his travels will be postponed until our next issue; however, we are glad to say that he is busily engaged in writing a description of the sights seen in the Mathematical, Modern Language and Geological departments.

ELSEWHERE WE print extracts from a letter written by one of our boys, a graduate of '89, now in Japan. Mr. Wilson has been there about a year and has met with remarkable success, as can be seen from his letter. The students will doubtless be glad to hear from him, as he has so recently left their midst and was sent out as a missionary by the University Y. M. C. A.

THE MOVEMENT among the boys to have an elocutionist visit us has succeeded. The boys should enter heartily into this since such training is very desirable and is wholly lacking here. As this gentleman has come we prophesy that the effect of his teaching will be plainly visible in the speaking next June.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY is almost here. We expect quite a speech from the orator of the day, and this seconded by the handsome looks and natural grace of the marshals will be captivating.

TOWN DOTS.

Prof. Holmes was in Raleigh during the early part of last week.

The old blacksmith shop near the depot has been pulled down and a new one has been erected in its place.

Henry C. Jones, a colored mason of Raleigh, has come to the Hill to spend the rest of his days with his old father and mother.

THE CHAPEL HILLIAN FINED \$3,000 FOR LIBEL.

At the moot court Saturday 14th, the case on docket was "M. J. Pearsall and others against S. A. Ashe, Jr., and others for libel." The damage done was valued at \$20,000. The case was brought about by two articles appearing in the *University Magazine* and in *THE CHAPEL HILLIAN*. Judge Redwine presided. Messrs. Crowell & Eure were clerk and sheriff respectively. The counsel for the plaintiff were Messrs. Stronach & Bailey, for the defendant Messrs. Martin & Gregory. Ransom appeared as the only witness for the plaintiff. He (one of the editors of the *U. M.*) said that he had not been damaged. Argo appeared as witness for the defendant. He said that there had been no malice or hard feelings between the two parties.

Messrs. Stronach & Martin made good speeches for the plaintiff and defendant. The jury having been charged by Judge Redwine, retired for some time. In the interim Mr. Martin issued a writ of *habeas corpus* to be served upon F. H. Batchelor, whom H. L. Miller was keeping in his lunatic asylum, to test his sanity. The jury brought in a verdict of guilty and damages of \$3,000. Upon the grounds that the verdict was contrary to the testimony, Judge Redwine set the verdict aside. The sheriff then adjourned court.

The University of Pennsylvania is building a \$75,000 theater for the use of the students.