

The Tar Heel

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA.

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We have received an invitation from the Franklin Literary Society of the Horner Military School to the Forty Fourth Annual Commencement. May 31st is the date. Josephus Daniels, editor of the *News-Observer*, is the Orator. Subject: "Taking an Ideal."

Whoever is responsible for the scarcity of bats for the ball team will have a heavy load to carry if Virginia beats us next week. For more than ten days the team has been batting with the odds and ends of the small supply procured last March. Not a man on the team has a bat that suits him. The one bat still unbroken and unwrapped, ought to be given a pension and hung in the trophy room at the end of the season.

IT IS WITH a feeling of regret that THE TAR HEEL makes note of an outrage committed in the early part of the week by some cowardly person or persons, in the class-room of one of the professors. It is needless to particularize as to the nature of the deed; suffice it to say that it was the very acme of disrespect and ungentlemanliness.

Such a performance might be thought the very cream of wit in some unfledged boy in some backwoods school, but in a University, where the students are supposed to be men, such conduct deserves the severest censure of all right-thinking minds.

We should be men and gentlemen, and gentlemen do not so, then let us live up to our standard and have no more such things to be ashamed of.

WHAT HAS been the matter with the "Varsity" ball team this last week? Such a lack of interest and hard working enthusiasm has seldom been witnessed in our ball park; and at such a critical time as this, when all our efforts should be bent on the perfecting of our team work and battery strength, such a lack of work is simply suicidal to all our hopes and prospects of winning the game from Virginia on the 18th. Has the team as a whole gotten the big-head because they have beaten Franklin and Marshall and shut out Oak Ridge? If we are to beat Virginia, we have got to play all the ball we know, and then it will be a hard fight, for they play ball and hard ball too, and—what our team seems disinclined to do—they practice hard and faithfully. It is such good practice in batting, to stand up before some "scrub" and bat easy straight balls, isn't it? Or for the fielders to have fly balls batted right into their hands? But of course this may be the way to make a hard hitting, winning team, but to one who is not up to the mysteries of the great American game it doesn't look that way.

To the uninitiated eye it would

seem that what our team needs is long, hard practice games with the best scrub teams that can be gotten, real games, where every man tries his hardest and does his best to play all the ball he knows how. That would seem the way to put the team in trim, but doubtless the management knows best. They should recollect though that North Carolina doesn't wish to carry her score of hospitality so far as to make Virginia a present of the game, simply because it is a visiting team, playing in our State for the first time; and they have never treated us that way.

The Virginia Game.

The game scheduled for May 18th in Greensboro against Virginia is the closing game of our season. At present the team has played ten games, losing three, one of these to the Boston League Team. The other two were lost to Lafayette, one in Raleigh and one here. The first of these two came dangerously near being a shut-out, the score being nine to one, U. N. C. not scoring till the ninth inning. The poor score in this game, or rather Lafayette's large score, is too often attributed to the wrong cause. Hill pitched the game, his only game this season, and with anything like decent support, would have kept the score down to half its proportions. Our fielding was simply wretched and we ran bases like we were walking for a cake. Our record, then at present is seven victories and two defeats, leaving out Boston's slugging party. Will the last game of the season change the seven to eight, or the two to three? We have behind us this season, still unbroken, a record of six straight victories, and one errorless game. Surely we can confidently expect with all this an even chance against Virginia. It will be Virginia's first game with us anywhere but on Virginia soil. There is no more patriotic city in the State than Greensboro. We have a hard-working ball playing team. If these things don't bring us off victorious then—well, 1896 is only a year from now.

The rates to Greensboro on May 18th are published in this issue. They are reasonable and low. Everybody ought to go. It is the only chance many of us will have to see Virginia and North Carolina play ball, as the majority of the contests are held in Virginia. If you have the money to go, and can't go yourself, lend it to somebody who can do so.

A Final Word.

The Commencement and, with it, the final meeting of the board of Trustees for this collegiate year, is but a few weeks off. If we are going to take any steps about a University Senate, we must act at once.

During the past few months, this writer has had a good deal to say on this subject; and he believes now more firmly than ever that a senate would mark a long step forward in college discipline.

Of course, if the students as a whole do not want it, and have no interest in the matter, it would be worse than useless to have such a body. We believe, however, that the apparent lack of interest is only apparent, and is due to the lack of knowledge of the workings of a Senate. A discussion in mass meeting would show definitely what is desired and what can be counted on; then action can be taken or not, as seems best.

Let's have the mass meeting, and do something definite.

There are rumors floating around that the Southern Railroad Co., is to lay the track from Chapel Hill to University Station with steel rails! Just think of it, you who have bumped and jolted and jarred over the present track for several years! Historians and archaeologists differ as to the exact date when the present track was laid but all have declared that it was not in a good state of preservation.

Conservatism vs. Progress.

Occasionally some new measure or some reforms agitated through the columns of our paper, in our society halls, and elsewhere, but the rigid conservatism which predominates among the majority of our pupils seems to check the wheels of progress. In this way many good suggestions are lost sight of, and many reforms once started are suffered to decay. Such suggestions have been the establishment of a University Senate, the representation of the University in the Inter-state Oratorical Contest, and a faint whisper of the propriety of abandoning the system of probation.

When will the medieval man put on the modern garb? Of course conservatism has been the saving brake which has been applied to the wheels of the car of progress, when urged on by the whims and caprices of those who go to the other extreme. But to apply this brake when the car is ascending a hill is not only to check progress altogether but also descend gradually to the common level. Let us, in avoiding the one extreme, not go to the other. Conservatism has its place and radicalism has its place. Both are necessary. But let us not oppose every new measure that is introduced simply because it is not in conformity with the paths which our fathers trod in their day and generation. What suited them may not suit us. Conditions change as time moves on, and unless we change in proportion we may expect to bring up the rear forever. It is just as easy and far more honorable to be among the leaders of needed reforms as to be a simple private in the rear ranks of the opposition.

Push and energy guided by good judgement are the characteristics of the typical modern man.

Our Lectures.

The next thing the lecture committee of the Di society has to offer to the public is that of ex-governor Bob Taylor, of Tennessee. Tickets will be on sale next week. This will be the last lecture of the season. The committee has secured several excellent lecturers, but this promises to be the best of all. The lecture of Mr. Haws was humorous, that of Mr. Sempers was thoughtful, but the lecture of Mr. Taylor, from all we hear, will combine something of both. We were much pleased with the lecture of Mr. Sempers, because it presented to us a subject about which we have hitherto known but little. It showed us the duty of college men towards that class of beings who are suffered to grind out their miserable existence in the slums of our cities, without the care or consideration of the higher and more intelligent classes who could and ought to do something for the betterment of their fellow beings. It is a duty we owe to society to level up the condition of the lower classes to that of the higher or, at least, to as high a standard as possible. This work must be done by college-bred men, if done at all. The way to do it is to settle among them, and by personal influence and force of character show to them the beauty of a higher and purer life.

Work in Memorial Hall.

Under the supervision of Prof. Gore, curtains are being hung in Memorial Hall in order to make the acoustics of the Hall better. It is to be hoped that this will have the desired effect, for the hall is the finest building we possess, but unfortunately it was only in a few favored spots that words spoken on the stage could be heard. The screens will add much to the hall also, as they are artistically draped, and are in the college colors, white and blue, the upper part of the dome being in white, and the lower in blue.

This change will add much to the pleasure of many of those attending commencement.

THE SHAKESPEARE Club will hold its last meeting on Wednesday evening, May 15. This meeting will be under the control of Prof. Toy, and will be devoted to the consideration of the German drama. Papers will be presented by Messrs. Horne, Weil and Yount.

Conflict of Good and Evil.

Some one has said, "There is a fool in every crowd," and the adage has applied with emphasis here during the last fortnight. There may have been more than one of them, and we hope there were, for misery loves company.

Everybody except a cynic enjoys a good joke once in a while, and we like to laugh and grow fat; but the fools have failed, and *nemo ridet*.

Since it was such an utter failure as a joke, it would be an imposition on the reader to describe the scene and circumstances; and if the *dramatis personae* were known, we should be ashamed to see them written on the same sheet with him who was the butt of the would-be joke. Nor would it be edifying to the out-of-town subscriber.

However, if we are to sustain a reputation for good behaviour and manly conduct, it seems evident that those who claim to have the 'Varsity and this reputation at heart, must do something to repress such outbursts of lawlessness as one of the recitation rooms witnessed last Monday morning. At other institutions we know of instances of like character, which provoked the students themselves to summary action, and the measly members were cordially invited to go elsewhere, and the invitation was accepted. Why can't the same thing be done here?

The authorities, of themselves, can't possibly keep up with everything, and in this instance it is a case for the student body, by all means, and the culprits should be exposed.

When a student involuntarily takes a notion to have a little fun, and then is summoned before the faculty for some slight offence, the whole student body sympathetically pleads for his pardon. But does that mean we should promote the most pusillanimous, diabolical, premeditated lawlessness? Our better selves cry "Down with it!"

STUDENT.

Vandalism.

The Old Rock Wall.

Since the founding of the University one hundred years ago, this old boundary has marked off from the village the land owned and controlled by the University. It is one of the most picturesque institutions of the village. Mosses, lichens and stains of age have transformed its ruggedness into softness, and blended it indissolubly with a stranger's first view of the old college-seat. The statute of limitations expired on it long, long ago, and the solicitor of Time entered a *nol. pros.* in its case before any of us were born. Therefore it ought to be as much of a crime to tear down part of it as to tear down part of the old South building. But somebody not having the love of beauty in their heart, nor the fear of public opinion, has calmly demolished part of the old wall to put the hoary old rocks to better use. The attention of the Faculty is called to this matter, and we hope that no more of the old wall will go to make the curbing of a well or the pillar of a house.

The work done by Mr. J. H. Faber, for the University will come Friday night. All those having pictures ordered will please call at my room for them. No one can get any pictures unless he pays for them when gotten.

J. A. MOORE.

Y. M. C. A. Leaders for Next Week.

Monday night there will be a missionary meeting.

Tuesday night—J. M. Oldham.

Wednesday night—Geo. Stephens.

Thursday night—L. M. Bristol.