

THE TAR HEEL.

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The Athletic Debt.

Suggestion as to how We May Lessen It.

It has been with regret that we hear that the Athletic Association is heavily in debt and we have thought over many plans to aid them in paying it off. And not long ago, we were asked by one of the loyal little 'Varsity girls whether or not the ladies could do something to aid the Association. And we, thinking the matter over, came to the conclusion that those who did not help themselves deserved no help.

And we have noticed the success of an entertainment, familiarly known as a "Smoker," at some of the Northern Colleges. And we think a plan, similar to it, could be carried out here with success. We have plenty of local talent here,—musical, minstrel, gymnastic etc.

So why not get them together and give an entertainment for the benefit of the Athletic Association?

Let the admission fee be small, in the reach of all, and at the same time make the entertainment worth seeing. And as there would be no expense to those who were willing to lend their services, we do not see why a handsome sum could not be turned over to the Association. Let those who are interested in Athletics and have talents as above suggested, take hold and help the Association and then we will try to find another plan to help farther.

The Moot Congress.

Increased interest was shown in the second session of the Moot Congress, held Monday afternoon. Several applications from students not members of the Law Class were read and approved.

The resolution of Mr. Bellamy endorsing President Cleveland's position concerning the Venezuelan dispute, was taken up and after a pleasant and interesting discussion was passed.

As this was the time for the regular meeting of the Moot Court, the session of the Congress was short.

The Congress is not loosely managed. Speaker Dalby governs the body according to parliamentary rules.

The members have early realized the great benefit they can gain from active participation, and are using to the extreme their privileges of introducing such measures as they wish, and speaking in advocacy of them.

The Law Class.

The Spring additions to the Law Class are, Messrs. Carr, Park, Presnell, Crank, Stamey, Godwin, Harrell, Ray, Smith and Barrett.

Messrs. Overman, Brinson, Warren, McAlister and Hughes composed the University delegation who were licensed to practice law by the Supreme Court.

The Philosophical Society.

A Much Needed Organization.

There is a movement among those interested in psychological and philosophical work to establish a society whose purpose will be to discuss questions arising in these departments.

At present there are societies in the Scientific, Literary and Historical departments, but none in this department. There is at present, no means by which those interested in these subjects can put up their views and ways of looking at problems, for discussion. The classroom work is not sufficient—the problems are only discussed for a short while. This is as it should be, were all the problems raised and answered on class, in a measure the benefit of original thinking would be lost. You would only have to put your question to have it answered. The only effort on your part would be in appropriating what the Instructor says.

There is in the University a genuine need for such a society. Men who solve these problems would have a way to have their ideas and points of view discussed; they would have them enlarged by coming in contact with those of different views. In the classroom you state your view, the professor explains his and here the discussion ends. Very little has been gained unless you continue to think over these ideas for yourself. The forming of this society will be an incentive to original thinking. Men would understand their own ideas better by discussing them with others.

Are there enough men who are willing to do this kind of work to justify the forming of this society.

No department in the University is growing faster; more men are yearly doing this kind of work. Then is it not reasonable to suppose that those doing this kind of work will be as willing to give thought and time to preparing papers as members of the Historical Society or Shakespeare Club? Were this not the case the need would not exist—there would be no demand for such a society. Were there not a willingness to do the work the forming of the club would not have been agitated. The project has been discussed by many and all show a desire to form the society as soon as convenient.

The initiative steps will, of course have to be taken by the head of the Department of Philosophy. These steps should be taken at once in order to get the society on a sure basis before the beginning of another year.

The dwellers in the New East Building desire a bridge or a ferry across the lake which has been formed in front of their abode. When we have a heavy rain the walks are covered with water. This is unnecessary—with very little trouble a drain could be made which would carry off all the water. This matter should be attended to at once.

The Mitchell Meets.

Some Interesting Papers Read.

The meeting of this organization on Tuesday night was opened by Dr. Venable with a brief sketch of the history of the Society entitled "The Society's Work during Twelve Years."

On September 24th 1883, some members of the Faculty met and organized a society for the promotion of scientific investigation and research to be known as the Elisha Mitchell Scientific Society. Its purpose was to encourage and stimulate scientific workers in their departments, with the more definite aim of investigating the resources of our own State, and of serving to the world at large as an evidence of Southern progress in Scientific work. At first people all over the State who were interested in science were admitted to its membership. The first list of members included one hundred people outside of the University together with sixty-six students and professors. The first regular meeting was held November 10, 1883, since which time there have been over one hundred meetings held and over four hundred papers presented. The papers presented at first were short and had the disadvantage of not being exhaustive enough for the scientific mind.

During the later years about thirty papers have been presented annually and they are longer and more exact. After a time it was found that there was very little interest in the Society outside of the University, so it was made wholly a University organization, and its membership restricted to those connected with college. The exchange list for the Journal of the Society amounts to three hundred different periodicals, and these come from twenty-three different countries.

The Society has sent out pamphlets aggregating 1500 pages. 200 different papers have been published, of which 54 were productions of students and less than 40 contributed by outsiders more or less related to the University.

Prof. Gore next read a paper on "A Recent Discovery in Photography." It seems that there are differing wavelengths of light, producing different kinds of light. Ordinary light passes readily through glass, but metals, wood, etc., do not transmit it. Prof. Röntgen has a way of producing light which will be transmitted by wood, metals, leather, and flesh, but which will not pass through bone and glass.

Photographs are taken by placing the object between the source of this light and the camera and taking a shadow picture.

"A Note on the Transmission of the Direct and Alternating Currents by the same conductors," was also read by Prof. Gore, in which the above action, though seemingly paradoxical, was seen to be successfully accomplished in certain mills in Maine.

Dr. Whitehead read a short but interesting paper, after which the Society adjourned.

The University Press Company has Writing and Scratch Pads (100 and 170 sheets) for sale at 40 cents and 48 cents a dozen. Call and see the stock of Writing Paper and Envelopes.

Enthusiastic Meeting.

The Freshman Class Contributes Eight Hundred to Y. M. C. A. Fund.

Last Friday night in the Chemistry Lecture Room the class of '99 met to have presented to it and to consider the Building Movement of the Young Mens' Christian Association.

Telling speeches were made by H. S. Lake, '98, Prof. J. W. Gore, George Vick '99 and the President of the class, T. H. Jones.

The opportunity was given for subscriptions. Hearty responses were received. The total amounted to eight hundred dollars; the average subscription being over eighteen dollars.

An unanimous motion was passed to meet again in two weeks in favor of those not present and to urge in the meanwhile the attendance of every man at the meeting.

The class of '99 is doing nobly. Their interest in the University, in themselves, and in those who are to succeed them, could not be shown in a more substantial manner—

A Much Needed Improvement.

[Communicated.]

During the late rain, "G.G." happened to walk out towards the West gate of the campus, and was struck by the ponds which lay along on either hand.

On each side of Cameron Avenue were collected large bodies of water with an average depth of about a foot. It's very pleasant, we know, to have aquatic sports, but you can not do much in the way of boating on these ponds—they serve only as nuisances. The water also collects in an inconvenient place. Any one going from the New West Building to the West gate of the campus has to go nearly to the Old West to avoid fording the pond on that side of the street; while on the other, the water collects on the small field the track team uses, and gets the ground into such a condition that it's useless for athletic practice for several days after every other place is well dried. This is an evil which could very easily be remedied. A couple of "blind ditches" or tile drains would suffice to carry off the water, while on the North side—the worst, by the way,—a plain ditch run down to the hollow west of Prof. Gore's house, and crossed by bridges where it would cut the walks, would be ample drainage.

We don't want to see a ditch put just east of the gymnasium that would ruin the small athletic field which furnishes an excellent place for those sports which require only a small amount of room. Let us have this done, if possible, for truly this is a year of improvements—electric lights, a use found for Memorial Hall at last, and actually a mail box in the campus.

G. G.

It is probable that another Cornell crew will go to England this year to compete in the Henley regatta.