

The Tar Heel.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA.

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It is seldom that we have the opportunity of listening to a debate such as that of last Friday evening. Well might we have expected the speaking to be of a high order, since the speakers were supposed to be the best the student bodies of the two Universities could afford; but it is safe to say that the debate on a whole surpassed in excellence the expectations of all. The question was a difficult one, involving great constitutional, economic, and social problems; one on which is turned now the attention of statesmen; but these young men handled it with wonderful power.

While we are rejoicing over the victory, yet we admire the men from Athens for the able manner in which they upheld their side. Georgia need feel no sense but that of pride in her defeat. We are satisfied could she not have sent two men who would have more creditably represented her.

Such contests as these are worthy of the Universities by which they were instituted. Their value is not measured alone by the benefit in the way of training they are to the few who participated in them. They quicken the literary interests of the whole body of students of the two Universities. They are incentives to good debate in the Literary Societies. Men will look forward to the time when they may be sent as representatives in these contests, and will contest for the appointments by better work in the Society meetings. Even if there are those who may never aspire to that honor, there will be a spirit engendered by those who do that will permeate the less aspiring element and incite them to better work.

The art of debating is a noble and a useful art, but one which receives too little encouragement in many of our modern colleges. No matter what walk of life a man may follow, a necessary part of his education is to know how to convince others. Without this power he will be in a sorry plight, even though in learning he may be a walking encyclopaedia. A man may have natural ability as an orator, voice clear and sonorous, manner elegant, gestures perfect; but unless he is able to present his facts in logical order, unless he can choose and arrange ef-

fectually the salient points of a subject, he will lack the power to convince. And this power must be acquired by training. This training is to be had in debating, where men meet each other in argument, each side presenting its points with accuracy that is unassailable, using language that is precise and exact; each side endeavoring to pick flaws in and destroy the argument of the other.

If these contests can as we believe they can, stimulate interest in this kind of work, then they are great forces in the life of the universities.

We learn that arrangements will be made by which the debates of the future will be held on neutral ground. We heartily endorse this movement. One side will feel as much at home then as the other. Where they are held at one or the other universities, the men who are at home have a decided advantage in the feeling of confidence and support that the other men have not.

Dr. Alderman's Letter.

On the Atlantic.

Feb. 15th 1898.

When the Steamship "Aller" left her dock at Hoboken on Saturday Feb. 5 at noon sharp bound for the Mediterranean one could have easily fancied that we were starting on an Arctic expedition, instead of a cruise to the sunny seas. The ship plowed her way slowly through broken ice masses, the wind blew biting cold, the blare of the brass band was a sort of frozen blare but there was much warmth of the human sort about it somehow. One saw hundreds of friends of the voyagers shouting farewells and fluttering handkerchiefs and one saw a small ship carrying over five hundred souls starting confidently over three thousand miles of sea. It is good to have letters from those you care for at such a time, and people were madly answering them at all available places in order to send them off by the pilot at Sandy Hook.

As soon as we reached the open sea rough weather began and the ship which is much smaller than the North Atlantic liners began to roll and pitch. This continued steadily for three days and quickly converted the gay steamer into a noisy hospital. Many plunged straight for their state rooms, some walked about green and pitiful looking, some swathed themselves in rugs and wraps and lay up on the promenade deck in rows like dissolutioned mummies in museums. There were others who sat bolt upright in the smoking room, smoking black cigars, playing cards and acting for all the world as if they were on an excursion from Mt. Airy to Carolina Beach instead of on the angry Atlantic surrounded by human howls and the raging sea. I was not sea sick. Mr. Caldwell and I alone escaped the malady, at least, to the point of its logical and bitter outcome.

I neither missed a meal nor lost one, but there were times one day when I reflected bitterly on my unwisdom in coming and the rocking table and clattering dishes, the sudden drop from the feet of all earthly support produced sensations that were a sort of fine compound of grip, toothache, vaccinated arm, bicycle accident, gun-shot wounds and the pangs of despised love.

A poor fellow died on board the second day out from a congestive chill. His berth was a few doors from mine. I had occasion to stagger down to my berth for something else to wrap with and the scene was awful and the noises sounded like some hideous rite. The poor wife was giving away to her terrible grief and all about men and women were making moan to Neptune. And people do this for fun and recreation and pay for it. The Oriental with his contempt for the traveller seemed the only wise man.

I fled this scene quickly and on my way up encountered a young woman standing in a passage way. She gazed on me in a shameless, indignant way as if I were partly responsible for the state of things and suddenly emitted a howl that compared quite creditably with the fog-horn which was blowing at the time. She kept it up so steadily and at such symmetrical intervals that I began to fear that she had lost her mind and was playing fog-horn. I saw her today at church in smart gown and bridling her head and declaring her delight at the beautiful voyage. And so it is with all.

When the sea calmed and the sun shone and the air grew balmy as it did by Wednesday out they came in scores to be made happy and strong by this noble medicine of the sea. And such eating. An awful horn with a sort of truncated tune blows all the time and people eat all the time. It is quite the easiest place to procure food off hand that one can fancy. Swift stewards bring it from somewhere on a wink.

Dinners are quite solemn affairs and are served with some show of style by quiet Teutonic waiters. There is no stupidity on earth however quite equal to Teutonic stupidity which proposition may be thus illustrated.

One night in my berth I had difficulty in finding the switch to turn off the electric light. I called a steward and in excellent North Carolina German bade him put out the light. He gazed on me with a look of swift sympathy and intelligence and quickly rushed out and brought and thrust under my chin a villainous looking tin contrivance. He seemed very much hurt when in crisp English I told him to go hence and leave me be.

There are some three hundred and fifty passengers on this boat from all parts of America. My room mate is from California. Preachers predominate. Of course the majority are gentle, cultivated people but there are many on board who are to be shunned. You find yourself wondering why they came. One man was so ignorant that he thought Palestine was in Cairo. I wondered why he came. I found out later in conversation with his wife. He came to carry things and to be useful.

[To be Continued.]

The Philanthropic and Dialectic Literary Societies desire to thank Prof. Gore and Mr. May for their kind assistance in preparing for and entertaining the Georgia debaters.

The Vanderbilt Letter and Meeting of the Shakspeare Club were crowded out this week.

Carolina Debaters Win.

(Concluded from first page.)

reach by means of coaling at sea. He showed farther that the Pacific coast is already well fortified and does not require so great a sacrifice to be made for its defense.

But even granting that Hawaii is the only base and that our western coast is weak, there is but one strategic position in the whole group of islands, Pearl River Harbor. According to the report of the United States Commission, it is the only possible naval station.

The speaker argued that the United States already had the perpetual ownership of Pearl River harbor, with the right to use it as she would; and that with the acquisition of this right all strategic advantages that Hawaii could give was already obtained. He then considered the strategic result that would follow should the United States annex the islands, and endeavored to show that under a policy of protection by adequate naval and coast defences, there would be tremendous expense and greater weakness than now, while under a policy of non-protection, which would be the probable course, there could be only strategic disaster.

It was then claimed that annexation could give no possible advantage beyond those of either neutrality or control. The claim that England or Japan had designs on the islands was briefly considered. "Their neutrality is for the interest of all nations," it was said. He laid emphasis on the fact that by joining Germany and England as was offered in 1888, the United States could guarantee their independence. This proffered compact was refused, however, only because the United States considered her own guarantee sufficient. She had made a bond of commerce that was inviolable, enormous benefits by reciprocity had made the islands all they are—"We are their very life."

But added to this commercial union was the great potential force of the country behind the declaration that the islands should not be molested. This declaration had in all other cases proved sufficient; it had been sufficient as to Hawaii for sixty years, it would be sufficient in the future.

REJOINDERS.

Mr. Roberts.—He challenged the negative to show another island commanding the strategic position of Hawaii. He discussed several other solutions of the Hawaiian problem, and showed them to be either impossible or suicidal to American interests.

Mr. Brogden in a humorous manner proved some of his own points by the argument of the affirmative. This policy of annexation would, according to their argument, make it our duty to annex China, Japan, and France. He showed the inability of the Hawaiians to exercise either territorial or state government.

Mr. Upshaw made a cool and pointed rejoinder, strengthening his side by bringing out several new points. Our present treaty with Hawaii is liable to be abrogated at any time. By having possession of Hawaii we might, in case of war with England, transport the seat of war to Australia, the enemies own country. Educational facilities are greater in Hawaii than in any of our own states. Annexation would save the Hawaiians from the Asiatic inundation that threatens to overflow them.

[Continued on 4th page.]