

THE "OLD BOYS" HERE AGAIN

MANY "BEFO DE WAH" GRADUATES ON THE HILL.

Delightful Reunion Exercises Held in Gerrard Hall, Followed by Alumni Luncheon.

Monday was called "Alumni Day," and alumni day it was. The "old boys" were here in full force and they were having the time of their life. They were boys once more, these old men with the snows of winter in their hair, they addressed their comrades as "Boys," and their meeting after so many years of separation had in it something peculiarly touching to the younger students. They roamed everywhere, their badges of white and light blue the fluttering ensign of their rank. Some were revisiting for the first time since their graduation the scene of their youthful labors and pranks, and in their feelings many elements were blended. The buildings did not look so large as to their youthful eyes, and here were a score of buildings where formerly there were but two.

Class reunions were the order of the day. The list began with those who took their diplomas in their hands in '58, '59, '60, and '61, only to cast them aside for the musket when their country called for their service on the field of battle. Besides these, reunions were held by the classes of 1883, 1898, and 1903.

The hero of the day was Mr. James P. Coffin, '59, of Batesville, Arkansas. He read the history of his class at the reunion exercises held in Gerrard Hall in the morning, presided over by Col. Thomas S. Kenan, president of the Alumni Association, and by his irrepressible wit and humor he kept the people in a constant uproar of laughter.

CLASSES OF 1858 AND 1859.

The name of the class of 1858 was first called, and Messrs. F. M. Johnson, of Mocksville, and R. O. Marsh, of Oxford, mounted the platform amid applause. Then was read the roll of members. Nearly all were dead. "Killed in battle," "killed in battle," was the recurring phrase expressing each time in but a trio of words the life tragedy of a University graduate.

Then came the class of 1859. Of this there were present: E. D. Foxhall, Tarboro; J. M. Fleming, Raleigh; Frank D. Koonce, Richlands; Wells Thompson, Bay City, Texas; P. B. Bacot, Florence, S. C.; C. W. Morrow, Mebane; J. P. Taylor, Columbia, Tex.; James G. Whitfield, Whitfield, Ala.; James P. Coffin, Batesville, Ark.; Sidney Smith, Dallas, Tex., and J. E. Beasley, Memphis, Tenn. The history was read in fine style by Mr. Coffin. With fiery ardor he set forth the valorous conduct of his classmates in the war between the States, as they breasted the storm of national conflict and fearlessly hurled themselves into the breach in defense of country. When the tocsin of war pealed forth, it was Edward S. Satterfield, of this class, who broke through the enemy's lines "Farthest at Gettysburg" and "sealed the glory of North Carolina with his life blood." "If you can take the Federal pension roll as the criterion," said Mr. Coffin, "I don't believe they have any idea how many men were in the Union army. Add to the list of 25 years ago those who were killed in the war. Why, mathematics is lost in speculation."

As the name of each member present was read, it was greeted with applause.

CLASSES OF 1860 AND 1861.

Four members of the class of 1860

reported: George W. Askew, Meridian, Miss.; R. A. Bullock, Williamsboro, S. C.; Thomas W. Davis, Raleigh, and A. S. Barbee, of Chapel Hill. No history had been prepared.

By request Mr. Coffin read the history of the class of 1861. Those present were: B. M. Collins, Warren county; J. C. Bellamy, Whitakers; J. W. Hunt, Townsville; W. R. Bond, Scotland Neck; C. H. Barrow, Edgecombe. This history, which was prepared by Mr. Bellamy, was an exceedingly able effort. The frequent intermixture of Latin phrases with its English testified to the scholarship of the student of the old school.

At the conclusion of the reading of this and the class roll, the exercises were declared concluded, as the hour for the alumni luncheon was close at hand.

In the afternoon private reunions were held by the classes of 1898 and 1903. The following of the former were registered: H. F. Pierce, Warsaw; I. E. D. Andrews, Chapel Hill; R. H. Lewis, Durham; R. S. Busbee, Charlotte; P. D. Gold, Jr., Raleigh; Archibald Henderson, Chapel Hill; E. K. Graham, Chapel Hill; F. M. Miller, Ensley, Ala.; P. C. Whitlock, Charlotte; F. W. Foscoe, Trenton; Bartley Skinner, Kuttowa, Ky.; and James D. Parker, Smithfield.

Those of class of '03 present were: I. B. Foust, Clarksville, Tenn.; B. H. Bridgers, Wilmington; Hazel Holland, Camden, N. J.; J. W. Horner, Oxford; W. J. Gordon, Williamston; N. W. Walker, Chapel Hill; J. L. Morehead, Durham; W. A. Graham, Warrenton; N. F. Farlow, Randleman; E. A. Hawes, Jr., Atkinson; R. O. Everett, Durham; J. E. Pearson, Kinston; Z. V. Judd, Raleigh; N. F. Carr, Durham; J. R. Giles, Wilmington; and W. P. Wood, Elizabeth City.

THE ALUMNI LUNCHEON.

The Alumni Luncheon, which came at 1:30 in Commons Hall, is always a pleasant feature of commencement. Here the alumni, including the Seniors, and the visitors gather round the festive board, and when the cigars have been brought speeches are the order of the day. And speeches there were in abundance, most of them by the men who graduated before the war.

President Venable spoke a few words of cordial welcome, and his remarks were heartily applauded. Colonel Kenan then appointed Maj. W. A. Guthrie, of Durham, toastmaster. He called one after another of the alumni to his feet for a speech. Judge Thompson, of Texas, said it was his purpose not to miss another commencement if attendance was possible. Then Mr. Smith, of the same class and also from Texas, made a humorous speech, yielding to Mr. Coffin, whose rising was greeted with riotous applause often repeated during his inimitable speech. He took issue with Dr. Battle's history on a minor point or two as to why a certain student left college. He charged his classmate Beasley, another Texan, with having tied a William goat in the student's bed, this being but one of the means adapted to make life miserable for him (the man, not the goat). Mr. Beasley was called on by the congregation for an explanation, but in his happy speech goats figured not.

Many other speeches were made before the gathering disbanded at 4 o'clock.

TRUSTEES MEET.

The trustees met during the afternoon. They made several important changes in the faculty, which were announced Tuesday morning by President Venable, and designated to whom honorary degrees should be given.

TWO CONVINCING SERMONS

BY DRS. THOS. F. GAILOR AND EGBERT W. SMITH.

Dr. Gailor Preaches Baccalaureate Sermon, and Dr. Smith the Y. M. C. A. Sermon.

It was the privilege of the people here Sunday to hear two strong and convincing sermons, the first by the Rt. Rev. Thomas F. Gailor, Episcopal Bishop of Tennessee, which was delivered in Memorial Hall in the morning before an audience of about 1,200 people; the second by Dr. Egbert W. Smith, of Louisville, Ky., preached at night in Gerrard Hall, to a very large audience.

BACCALAUREATE SERMON.

In the morning the preliminary service was after that of the Episcopal church, Rev. Dr. W. H. Meade, rector of the Chapel of the Cross, assisting. A choir of ladies assisted in the music. The Seniors were present in a body.

Dr. Gailor's effort won wide approbation. The personality of the man, so suggestive of strength and force of character, combined with an easy enunciation, contributed an effectiveness which a synopsis cannot reproduce. That there is a decided contrast, said the speaker, between the profession of religion and its practice is felt by all. It is easier to have right convictions of truth than it is to live up to them. Many business and professional men have one code for Sunday and another for the week. There are breaches of ethical rules in the habits of the people and in the ways of society in which even Christians sometimes acquiesce and by which the soul's loftiest ideals are contradicted. Men go on acting as though God could be mocked with impunity, and the eternal law of righteousness could be altered to suit individual notions of right. There are some things, as the matter of temperance, purity and honesty, which we say come naturally within the sphere of our religion as sins against God. But how many would admit that the mere misuse of time and failure to perform college duties is a part of our religion? The cause lies in a vague impression that Godliness has nothing to do with reason; that the fear of God and faith in Him can be passed without the use of the mind.

The divorcement of religion from reason is encouraged by people of two classes. Those of the first think that the best kind of Christianity comes with ignorance. They have set their hearts on what they call inward peace. The other class contains those who call themselves the enlightened people of the world. They rail against dogma, and yet the great truth they are always quoting, the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man, is mere dogma, the definite intellectual exposition of Christian faith.

The object of Christians then is not to discourage the use of the intellect, but it emphasizes the solemn obligation to pursue the brightest knowledge. It is the eternal sense of the obligation within us to know every masterpiece of literature, every discovery of science, every beauty of art sprung from the fountain of eternal knowledge. The distinction between sacred and profane in things intellectual has been outlived. Every university is religious which tries to inspire the young with love of truth.

Two temptations beset one. The first is impatience. All the intellectual errors of the world have come from impatience. Patience is the first quality the true scholar has to master. Christian character is a matter of gradual growth. In Christ was no start-

ling precocity. He waited thirty years before beginning the work which He came to earth to do. The contrast between His life and ours is a truism. We live under high pressure. It is a time of abstracts, outlines, encyclopedias, speculation. We must find the shortest and easiest way to scholarship. In religion we would reduce it to a single formula. The second tendency is to ask ourselves what bearing this or that course will have on our future life. If persisted in, this induces the study of unrealities. The

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THE CLASS DAY EXERCISES.

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Rand contended earnestly that the education of the average citizen in all that makes for an enlightened, unclouded mental horizon and a high conception of the duties of citizenship is a duty which should hold primary in the lives and thought of educated men. It was a thoughtful effort.

The class history was read by Mr. T. W. Andrews, of Chapel Hill. There are few higher tributes that can be paid anything of this sort than to say that it is new and original. Both, with truth, may be said of this, with as much originality of theme and treatment as the subject allowed and with a phraseological treatment which can be guaranteed as entirely the product of his efforts. Mr. Andrews held easily what some one has described as "undivided attention." The best of taste, too, characterized the whole; for, though humor and pathos alternated repeatedly as the lights and shadows of class life were thrown upon the mental screen, so skilfully was it done that the one faded away into the other, all blending into a harmonious whole.

Mr. H. B. Gunter, of Sanford, read the class prophecy. He made no attempt at seriousness, but "buted" his classmates individually and collectively in a good-natured way. Mr. Gunter claimed that his prophecies were founded on logic, but it seemed to be the opinion of his classmates that the feature of the prophecy was the inexcusable way that he played with the laws of reason. Time will tell.

Mr. J. W. Hester, of Hester, made the announcement as to the class gift. Following the custom hit on by the past three classes, each member will give not less than \$2 a year for the next ten years, the same to be put at interest. This may be applied to a building to be erected for use by the literary societies and for an auditorium.

Mr. M. L. Wright, of Greensboro, read the last will and testament, which abounded in "digs" at the faculty and at his classmates. He made confession of the many sins of the class, and in so doing caused a blush to cover the face of more than one of the faithful. He willed to the rising Senior class many of the things that have been held sacred by the men of Naughty Eight, and with much feeling he willed to Prof. Palmer Cobb all the strong and weak verbs, all the transposed and inverted sentences, etc., etc., that have caused the life of those Seniors who were confronted with German 2 to be anything but a flowery bed of ease.

UNDER DAVIE POPLAR.

The final exercises of the Seniors were held under Davie Poplar at 5:30 in the afternoon. The men realized that the class of 1908 would soon end its existence as an undergraduate class, that soon, throwing aside the cap and gown and bidding a sad farewell to the place that has meant so much to them, they must go forth

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