

THE TAR HEEL

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA

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THE students are grateful to Dr. Battle for his series of talks this week on the revival of the University after the war. A subject so interesting in itself is given a peculiar charm when looked at through the eyes of one whose fortune it was to guide the University through that trying period and whose recollections of it are so rich with personal and humorous details. Who will not remember longer the story of those days of struggle and unsalaried heroism from having been told, with intimate recollection, how one professor, who was allowed a hundred dollars to go home on, went and was never heard from any more; and how it was told of another member of the faculty that he would work in his garden barefooted?

We hope that the University's historian, who is not above pleasing the boys with his never-failing joke and genial humor, will be seen in chapel often this year.

SOMETHING in the way of a publication for college men is the "College World," a monthly magazine published in New York, the first number having appeared in October. It claims to be "the only periodical which represents American university life in all its phases." In the November number appear such attractive subjects as "The College Man in Congress," "Student Versus Professor," and "College Men Who Are Making Good." The athletic department deals with the big teams and star players of the larger colleges and is made attractive with numerous cuts. There are also articles of a more general interest, stories, and an amusing series of letters on "Shakespeare's Garden," attributed to travellers representing various temperaments and points of view. Whether or not this magazine fills a "long felt want," it has at least chosen an attractive field in which to circulate and to gather the material which it publishes.

President Stewart has called for a meeting of the Athletic Association to be held in Gerrard Hall Saturday at 2:30. The purpose of this meeting is to elect two men as assistant editors-in-chief of the Tar Heel. The two elected will serve in this capacity until next May, when one of them will be elected by the Association as editor-in-chief for the following year. These men are to come from the junior class. Some additional associate editors are also to be elected at this meeting.

Other business may be brought up. New men who have joined the Association are especially urged to come out and acquaint themselves with the organization.

CHAPEL TALKS

During the past week Dr. Battle has been giving a series of talks at the chapel exercises about the history of the University in the critical period of Reconstruction.

Monday, he began by stating that in 1868 the University was at a low ebb having no money and only 60 students with the professors leaving all the time. A committee composed of Governor Graham, Charles Phillips, and Dr. Battle, chairman, reorganized the University, doing away with the office of president and substituting that of chairman of the faculty, and also making the courses of study elective. While many professors resigned, the University managed to go on till the commencement of 1868. Then the State passed into reconstruction hands, and a gloomy meeting of the trustees re-instated the faculty under the old system before going out of office. Such men as Morehead and Ruffin composed the old trustees.

The reconstruction governor had a great dislike for the University, consequently the new Board of Trustees made a new president, and expelled the old faculty. Governor Swain had been killed by falling off a horse.

Tuesday, Dr. Battle recounted the many changes in the faculty men at this time, many of the professors being relatives of the new trustees. There were a few good strong men among the faculty, however. Brewer, a brother of Judge Brewer, being professor of Greek.

Continuing his remarks on Wednesday, Dr. Battle stated that the constitution of 1868 was one of the worst ever drawn from every standpoint, the Governor having power to fill all vacancies. McIver held the office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, receiving only \$1500 a year and being required to correspond with 96 counties.

There were no public schools at this time, the people not understanding the need of them. The University deserves credit for bringing about an efficient school system, by means of its summer school for teachers. Such men as Alderman, C. D. McIver, Noble and Joyner created public school sentiment in the State. The University, however, was only moderately successful, having only three students, although the president said nine, and about 30 preparatory students. The University then invested all of its money, \$125,000, in North Carolina bonds, only \$60,000 of which proved good. In 1870 it was moved that the doors of the University be closed, when they were closed till 1874.

Dr. Battle began his Thursday talk by declaring that he wished to contradict the widespread rumor that negroes had ever been students at the University. While true that it was proposed to devote some funds to the education of negroes, the school was not to be at Chapel Hill. The Davie Poplar was now struck by lightning, and people said this was foreshadowing the fate of the University. It was noticed, however, that the old poplar continued to flourish. A great forward step was taken when the appointment of the Trustees was placed in the hands of the Legislature.

Continuing Friday, Dr. Battle said that Governor Caldwell claimed the right of appointing the trustees under the constitution of 1868. This brought on a suit, which was finally decided in favor of the legislature. A committee was appointed to come to Chapel Hill and report upon conditions, which were found to be bad. Finally \$7200 was available, and the University was to teach Latin and Greek and branches of agricultural and mechanic art at the same time.



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