

# THE BATTALION.

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### Freedom.

Is true freedom but to break  
Fetters for our own dear sake,  
And with leathern hearts forget  
That we owe mankind a debt?  
No; true freedom is to share  
All the chains our brothers wear,  
And, with heart and hand, to be  
In earnest to make others free.

\* \* \*

They are slaves who fear to speak  
For the fallen and the weak;  
They are slaves who will not choose  
Hatred, scoffing and abuse,  
Rather than in silence shrink  
From the truth they needs must think,  
They are slaves who dare not be  
In the right with two or three.

—JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL.

### Patriotism.

Breathes there a man with soul so dead  
Who never to himself hath said,  
This is my own, my native land?—  
Whose heart hath ne'er within him burned,  
As home his footsteps he hath turned  
From wandering on a foreign strand  
If such there breathe, go, mark him well;  
For him no minstrel raptures swell,  
High though his titles, proud his name,  
Boundless his wealth as wish can claim,  
Despite those titles, power and pelf,  
The wretch, concentrated all in self,  
Living, shall forfeit fair renown,  
And, doubly dying, shall go down  
To vile dust from whence sprung,  
Unwept, unhonored and unsung.

—WALTER SCOTT.

### He Played a Strong Part.

Cadet Mathews (at meeting of dramatic club),—"Professor, I think we should know the part each man can take, so we can give him his part when the books arrive."

Professor P—"All cadets that can take the part of heavy tragedian, hold up your hands."

Cadet B.—"Professor, I think that part would suit me to perfection."

Prof. P.—"Did you ever take such a part before?"

Cadet B.—"Yes sir."

Prof. P.—"In what company did you play?"

Cadet B.—"I play the bass violin in the orchestra."

## THE LITERARY SOCIETIES.

### Calliopean Society.

The society was called to order on October 14th. A good attendance present. Mr. Joe Gilbert was sworn in the office of Librarian. Sergeant Wm. Finlay was elected an honorary member, after which the society proceeded to take up the exercises for the evening.

The Orator being absent, First Lieutenant and Private Secretary Bittle kindly volunteered to fill the vacancy, which he did with much credit to himself, subject of his oration was a eulogy on Stonewall Jackson. He portrayed in vivid colors the pure, manly, christian and heroic spirit of the man so beloved by every Southerner.

The Reader, Mr. Bruce, came next. Mr. Bruce has an excellent voice, and is a good reader, and together with the excellence of his selection he delighted the hearts of lovers of literature for ten minutes or more.

Mr. Jordan succeeded Mr. Bruce on the floor with a declamation, so well delivered that no critique could find fault with him.

Mr. Carson was to be esooyist, but he stated he had not understood the part he was to take in the exercises, and he prepared an oration instead, which he delivered with telling effect upon his hearers. When he concluded, he was highly complimented by the president.

The debate was next in order. Subject: "Resolved That the Stage Is On the Decline." Mr. Merriwether upheld the affirmative so strongly that the showing for the negative seemed rather slim, but, after the applause succeeding Mr. Merriwether's speech had subsided, Mr. Ross appeared with a smile that greatly encouraged all believers in the negative side of the question, and his exceeding well applied points completely restored the battered appearance of the negative. Mr. Ross was succeeded by Mr. Ruddy who made some telling points on the affirmative, which were disposed by Mr. Fitzgerald, on the negative. Mr. Gilbert then arose and undertook to rescue the now sinking affirmative on an equal with the negative, but placed it a little higher. But Mr. Lowery in his humorous style again placed the negative side on top, and with the assistance of Mr. Leon Cushing, who repounded to the call for volunteers, the affirmative side was made so leaky that it was fast losing all its points when Mr. Todd jumped to its rescue, but too late. It had been proven beyond a doubt that the stage was as flourishing now as ever, and so the tribunal decided. This closed the exercises.

The society decided to meet on October 21st, and attend the special meeting of the Austin Society in a body. And on the 21st there was nothing done but to thank Mr. F. Ross for his efforts and taste in decorating the Calliopean Society Hall.

The hall is to be nicely curtained and together with the nice pictures and fine new tables and covers, there will not be a more tastefully decorated society hall in the state.

The Calliopean Society is flourishing now as never before—a fact that gratifies the heart of every member in it, but no society can help but prosper when she can point to such men as Wright, Wilson, and O'Bar as having learned the art of wielding their pens, and that power of speech that distinguishes man so much, within her walls.

SCRIBE.

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