

# THE BATTALION

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## NOTICE.

All manuscript intended for The Battalion must bear the signature of the writer—no non de plume will be accepted. While the name will not be published, no notice will be taken of pieces if they are not signed.

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 1.

## FOR MORE TENNIS COURTS AT COLLEGE.

The game of tennis is becoming more and more popular at A. and M. Besides the team which we intend to send to Waco, there are many other players from both the student body and the faculty. In view of these facts, it seems advisable that some courts be established here for the use of all players. We now have several courts, but they all belong to clubs and none can be regarded as common property. Through the courtesy of the teachers' club, cadets are allowed to use some of the faculty courts, but there is no understanding that this privilege will not be withdrawn.

At the Sam Houston Normal, as well as at many other schools and colleges, courts are provided on the grounds for the use of all. We believe that the institution and not the students thereof bear the expense of keeping the courts in good condition. We suggest that steps be taken, either by the students here or by the college authorities, to provide ten or twelve good courts near the barracks for general use. Such action would give the cadets much healthful and pleasant exercise, and we believe it would do more to encourage general athletics than anything else that could be done.

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## A. & M. COMPARED WITH CLEMSON.

### One of Our "Campus Girls" Visits Clemson College and Writes Interesting Letter.

It will be remembered that when Senator Tillman of South Carolina gave his talk here early in the session he drew such comparison between the provision for technological education made by what he termed the "grand, rich State of Texas" and his own little wedge of dry sand and red clay, as were calculated to make Texas boys feel that they were indeed badly treated by a parsimonious State Government. The Senator mean well, and it can do harm for our legislators to know that Texas is criticized for niggardliness toward this important branch of education. Still, as the old darkey said, "it's a good thing to count our marcies sometimes!" and the following excerpt from a letter written by one of our "campus girls," after a recent visit to Clemson College, might be of interest to the boys and make them feel that perhaps after all they are not so badly off.

Of course it must be remembered, however, that our institution here is more than twice as old as Clemson. But while it is true that they have an enrollment of approximately 700 now, as against our 500, this includes a preparatory department and possibly the policy of discouraging increase in attendance, without having, not only dormitory space, but adequate mess hall and chapel accommodation as well as equipment, may not be such a mistake, although it makes a smaller showing.

Following is the letter written, as will be seen, strictly in the "comparative degree": "Of course we had a gorgeous time! We left Friday afternoon at 3 and got to Clemson about 7. S. met us at the station and drove us to the college (about a mile and a quarter) and to Mrs. L's. The dance that night was at 10, and I must tell you about the dance hall; I think it is a disgrace. They dance in the 'Gym' and it is just about as large as the space used to clear in our mess hall for our little summer dances. There were twenty couples at the dance, which just comfortably filled the hall, and that is every speck of dancing space they have.

"Sunday we went to the chapel, which is not at all like ours, being built more like a church, with more floor space and less gallery. But I don't believe it seats any more.

"Monday morning Mr. Earle came and took us over the college.

"We went first to the Architectural Department, where Mr. L. is. He showed us some of the free hand drawing, but I don't think it comes up to the work of our boys. From there we went to the shops and there they have us beaten. The wood shop is quite large and they make all sorts of furniture, desks, Morris chairs; mission furniture, and even side-boards. There is a foundry here where they do lots of cast-iron work. We saw the machinery cast iron 'park seats' for the campus. One large room is devoted to steel lathes and they make considerable machinery.

Practically there is no Civil Engineering Department. The professor of mathematics is also professor of civil engineering and the equipment is said to consist of a transit and a level.

The Textile department is larger and more complete than ours, but they have very few students now, although they have had as many as fifteen graduates.

"The barracks are all ugly buildings, but they have the room space. There is a new one going up which promises to be better looking. When it is finished they will have accommodation for a thousand.

"We went to the mess hall, and excuse me, if you please! Ours is a high toned cafe by comparison. It is under one of the barracks and has a cement floor. There are no chairs, only wooden stools

without backs. The table cloths are like cheese cloth and the china enormously thick, and cups without handles. They never see chicken, only beef three times a day. Once a month they have desert—pudding or mince pie. The kitchen is not more than half as large as ours.

One nice thing they have is a room in the Main building comfortably and attractively finished where the boys entertain any friends who come to see them.

The campus is beautifully located, but has wretched roads. The campus people can't get a thing from the college. No meat, bread, vegetables, ice, milk or even flowers. There are three or four houses about as large as our president's house. Mrs. L— lives in one about the size of the brick houses, but the rest are little better than "factory cottages."

The military is hardly considered and the one aim of the boys seems to be to hate the authorities and break all the rules they can. I think "ours" must be a set of angels compared to them."

## THE COSMOPOLITAN CLUB.

A new feature in college life is the cosmopolitan club. While there are several of these clubs now in successful operation at the larger educational institutions, the most important is located at Cornell. The aim of these clubs is to do whatever is possible in the way of elimination of prejudice among people of different nationalities, different politics, different religions, and different social standings.

At Cornell, weekly meetings are held in the club's own rooms at which one of the nations represented gives an entertainment describing the history and the institutions of that country. Often these lectures and talks are illustrated by the stereopticon. Occasionally prominent speakers have addressed the club upon important topics.

The organization of these clubs is still another step toward preserving that democratic spirit which long has been the pride of the American collegiate institutions.—The Circle.

## THE IDEAL AMERICAN COLLEGE.

In a recent address at Columbia University Charles Francis Adams set forth his ideal of a system which should make good the "glaring deficiencies of the modern university."

Taking his alma mater (Harvard) as an example, Mr. Adams would break it up into a number of colleges—all independent—with a master at the head of each who should know every student. These colleges would be limited in size, and each would have its own tuition fee. All, however, would be subject to the supervision of the general board of overseers, and all would be judged by the common test, the conferring of the Harvard degree. The prescribed and elective courses would be pursued under the advice of the master, who would select courses for students, acting on personal knowledge of each individual.

In other words, Mr. Adams would make Harvard a Cambridge or an Oxford. While the system suggested is worthy of serious thought, there are so many objections that it will probably never be realized. Some of the obstacles which would prevent its adoption are, the locations of the present college building, the redistribution of the general endowment fund, the stupendous task of reorganization, the traditions which have become firmly rooted, the opposition of powerful alumni, etc.

This address, however, does suggest that certain changes will probably be made in future to correct some of the present evil collegiate tendencies. There are many educators who firmly believe that our larger universities should be divided into sections, and that there should be some college official who should know each student of his section and to whom the latter could go for advice. The need of such an official becomes more apparent as the age of those who go to college becomes lower and lower. One may well question whether a separation based upon the amount of tuition charged would not destroy that democratic spirit which is the chief glory of the American college.—The Circle.

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## HOWARD R. CAVITT

Magistrate (to witness)—Why were you not in court yesterday?

Witness—I was too busy. Your Honor.

It was my wedding day.—Nos Loisirs.

"Have you sold your country villa yet?"

"No, I'm not going to sell it now."

"How's that?"

Well, I gave instructions to an agent to advertise it for sale and the description he wrote of it was so enchanting that I couldn't make up my mind to part with it.—Felic Mele.

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