

# THE BATTALION

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**C**OMMENCEMENT, what does it mean to the college graduate? To some it is the ending of four years spent in earnest preparations for life's work, finally to be rewarded with victory and distinction. For some it is the beginning of a life of efforts and failures, while yet to some it holds no other meaning other than the end of a college career spent in an idle waste of time, and money probably advanced by anxious parents who are in many cases sacrificing comforts at home in order that their boy might not be set adrift in life's torrent with no means whatever to support himself. For this last, we feel only a profound pity, and wonder that ingratitude to parents could be so manifest.

It is not meant to convey the impression that a college life has been devoid of pleasure to the successful graduate—far from it. The four years thus spent are to may the most enjoyable part of life next to that of boyhood at the parents' knee. Indeed, to many graduation brings only the beginning or a most bitter struggle.

Then, can we say that a college course is really worth while? Yes; for we venture that every alumnus, without exception, would testify to the fact that to this life at least is due the broader view of life, which teaches us to take a more tolerant view of our fellow-man. It is a school of experience, which at last binds us into a brotherhood that is becoming stronger and grander year by year. And the ties which bind the graduates of a class are not to be classed as weaker than those that bind Masons, Odd Fellows, or any other fraternal order which has for its motto, "Brotherhood." Indeed, why should it not be so? Together as "fish" we stood the jokes and jolts of the upper classmen, when "college life" was to us only a name; when we were fresh from homes, where our wishes were law and the startling swish of belt leather was unknown. Together we rushed the "cane" through the amazed Sophomores, and our first victory was attained. We stood as one to lead our athletes on to victory. Day after day we were assembled together in the section-rooms to "sink or swim," as our genuine knowledge or ability to dodge, directed. Together, through it all, we have shared our troubles and our triumphs, and, finally, those who have overcome all, who have fulfilled every requirement, stand together to begin the fray which is to test the efficiency of their training.

Though we are not to fight together as comrades, as heretofore, each is happy in the thought that wherever he may meet an alumnus of the A. & M. College, and especially of the '08 class, he meets a friend whose hand-clasp is genuine. Really, then, this is the most beautiful phase of college life, and to us is proof enough that a college course is worth while, even though little else is attained.

## Commencement

Commencement is also to us the initiation into the "club" of independent thinkers. We have, with few exceptions, been living a mapped-out life. At home we were care-free, and our college work has consisted in following the prescribed course of study. While many may have taken advantage of current literature to broaden their knowledge, yet many have been content to prepare, with more or less success, the daily lessons, not seeming to realize that effort should be made to acquire learning otherwise. They have simply tried to pass away the time on the principal of least work.

**T**HIS year the largest senior class in the history of the college leaves its doors to take part in life's duties. These seniors are equipped with the knowledge necessary for them to follow their chosen professions. Some will go forth to build railroads, and strengthen the transportation facilities of our country. Some will have charge of the modern engineering plants that are the pride of every city. Others will superintend the power stations of our great cities, and help to bring about the age of electricity. The textile engineers will further the industry

ary science, sixteen in the department of civil engineering, nine in the department of electrical engineering, seven in the department of mechanical engineering, three in the department of textile engineering, one in the department of entomology, one in the department of chemistry and three in the department of horticulture. The following is a list of seniors, with the subjects of their graduating theses:

### Agricultural Seniors.

W. L. Heller—"Wheat, Its Improvement and Possible Adaptability to Texas."

H. H. Jobson and R. B. Neale—"Study of Cotton, Culture, Varieties and By-Products."

J. R. Lauderdale—"The Dairy Industry in Texas."

E. R. Robinson—"Corn, Its Culture, and a Study of Texas Varieties."

### Animal Husbandry Seniors.

W. G. North and R. W. Faust—"A Test of the Comparative Feeding Values of (1) Indian Corn, Kaffir Corn, Milo Maize and Blackstrap Molasses; (2) Cotton Seed Meal and Cotton Seed for Fattening Steers."

A. J. Smith and C. E. Jones—"A Test (1) to Determine the Comparative Feeding Values of Indian Corn, Spanish Peanuts and Blackstrap Molasses; (2) to Ascertain the Feeding Value of Skimmed Milk as an Addition to Straight Corn Ration for Fattening Hogs."

C. M. Evans—"Stock Raising in the South."

J. H. McLeod—"Swine Industry of Texas."

### Veterinary Science Seniors.

H. Schmidt—"Comparative Anatomy of the Brain of the Horse and the Ox."

### Chemistry Seniors.

S. Lomanitz—"The Determination of Crude Fiber in Feeding Stuffs."

### Horticultural Seniors.

T. E. McElroy and E. A. Miller—"Improvement of Our Native Pecan and Hickory by Grafting and Budding the Paper Shell Pecan on Them."

N. W. McGinnis—"Testing Different Methods of Planting Pecan Nuts and Transplanting Pecan and Hickory Trees."

### Civil Engineering Seniors.

L. Adams and M. C. Spivey—"Triangulation and Stadia Survey of the College Farm."

V. Z. Beall and G. F. Moore—"Plans and Specifications for Pavement of College Roads."

T. S. Buchanan—"Design of a Railroad Bridge, Span 183 Feet 9 Inches."

A. L. Cornell and C. P. Wilson—"Plans and Specifications for a Street Car Line at Groesbeck, Texas."

W. W. Washburn and J. B. Crockett—"Surveys and Estimates for the C. & W. Railway."

I. Dale—"Design of a Railroad Bridge, Span 189 Feet 6 Inches."

C. W. Homeyer—"Design of a Railroad Bridge, Span 189 Feet."

L. R. Jones—"Design of a Railroad

## Program

### Sunday, June 7th

8:00 A. M.	Guard Mounting
8:30 A. M.	Inspection of Quarters
11:00 A. M.	Commencement Sermon
	Rev. William States Jacobs, D. D.
5:00 to 6:00 P. M.	Band Concert
8:00 P. M.	Address Before the College Y. M. C. A.
	Rev. William States Jacobs, D. D.

### Monday, June 8th

8:00 A. M.	Guard Mounting
8:30 to 9:30 A. M.	Individual Competitive Drill
10:00 A. M. to 12:00 M.	Inspection of Departments
2:30 P. M.	Annual Business Meeting Alumni Association
4:15 to 6:00 P. M.	Battalion Drill
6:30 P. M.	Dress Parade
8:00 P. M.	Celebration Austin Literary Society
10:00 P. M.	Alumni Banquet

### Tuesday, June 9th—Commencement Day

8:00 A. M.	Guard Mounting
8:30 to 9:00 A. M.	Exhibition Drill by Ross Volunteers
10:30 A. M.	Graduating Exercises
	Prelude
	Prayer
	Solo
	Commencement Address
	Solo
	Valedictory Address
	Music
	Conferring Degrees
	Postlude
4:00 to 6:00 P. M.	Competitive Company Drill for Howell Flag
6:30 P. M.	Graduating Dress Parade
9:30 P. M.	Final Ball

These are the men who are generally found in the list of "ex-students."

The graduation of the class of '08, gives more trained minds to the State than any previous year in the history of A. & M. Men, too, who have probably worked under more difficulties than any class heretofore.

But in the brightest days we stood by our school, proud of the distinction of being one of her sons. In the darker days, when older heads than ours were puzzled, we did that which was thought best, and will yet, as alumni, stand by her, and labor untiringly for the advancement of the noblest institution in the South.

which will soon make the South as famous as the New England States—the manufacture of cotton goods. The agriculturalists will teach the people of the State improved methods of farming. From them the rising generation will learn that the name Farmer is one to be proud of. However, no matter what these men may do in future life, we can rest assured that their efforts will be directed in the upbuilding of their State, and the community in which they live.

There are fifty-three members of the present senior class who are candidates for degrees in June. Of these 12 are in the department of agriculture, one in the department of veteri-

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