

# HAMILTON LIFE.

*The Weekly Publication of Hamilton College.*

Vol. III.

CLINTON, N. Y., SATURDAY, MAR. 2, 1901.

No. 18.

## Washington's Birthday.

Washington's birthday was appropriately observed by the college. The greater part of the student body, most of the members of the faculty and numerous others from the village and surroundings comfortably filled the Chapel when the services were begun at 11 a. m. Several patriotic songs were sung, and President Stryker, who presided, read "We are Coming, Father Abraham," and addressed the audience at some length with appropriate remarks on the meaning and purpose of the day.

The Hon. Robert L. Drummond, of Auburn, the speaker of the day, was introduced as a soldier of the Civil War and as a prisoner of war who had known the hardships of Libby and Salisbury. Mr. Drummond addressed the meeting upon "Personal Reminiscences of a Rebel Prison." Rarely have the students been privileged to listen to an address so interesting. Mr. Drummond spoke at much length and held the close attention of his large audience throughout.

Following is a portion of Mr. Drummond's address:

"A little more than thirty-six years ago,—it seems but yesterday,—on an October evening, in company with a friend and comrade, I sat under an oak tree a short distance to the eastward of the city of Petersburg, in the state of Virginia.

"Lest some of you men should hastily conclude that we were a part of some picnic excursion, it may be well to give you a glimpse of the situation.

"We wore the garb of the Union soldier; the loaded Springfield rifles—our constant and trusted companions—lay within easy reach, and a close observer might have seen that the land

to the westward seemed to possess for us an unusual interest.

"We were on the front line of the Army of the Potomac—the advance guard of that mighty host then under the command of 'The Silent Man', who long since was gathered to his rest at Riverside, in the presence of the nation,—whose right rested on City Point, whose left stretched far away to the southward, a distance of thirty miles, and at that time rested on the Wolden railroad in the vicinity of Hatcher's Run.

"To the right and left of us, as far as the eye could reach, extended the lines of the Union army, with their forts and batteries planted in every available position, ready at a moment's warning to hurl death and destruction into the works of the enemy.

"Confronting these lines lay those of the Army of Northern Virginia, commanded by Robert E. Lee, then the idol of the Confederacy.

"The ground where we sat had already become historic, for every inch of the same had been contested by the Union and Confederate armies, in hand to hand conflict, amid the roar of artillery, the rattle of musketry, the clashing of steel and the bursting of shell; the trees bore the marks of thousands of bullets; and silent mounds, scattered here and there among the secluded spots, told of the warrior's burial and were painful reminders of sad hearts and broken homes far away from these stirring scenes.

"But a few days before, this same comrade and myself had cast our first presidential votes under peculiar circumstances and amid strange surroundings; our polling place was a line of earthworks over which floated the Star Spangled Banner; the voters

wore the uniform of the Federal soldier, and all around us were the terrible implements of actual warfare. While discussing the political situation, a large shell from the enemy's batteries came crashing thru the air, buried itself in the ground a short distance from us, exploded, casting its fragments in every direction, and left what seemed a new made grave, large enough to bury all the dead issues of the past and many that ought to be dead in the future.

"Could Father Abraham have witnessed the scenes of thousands of voters at this and like polling places, taking their lives in their hands and pledging to him renewed service and even a more devoted loyalty, it would seem to me that he might well have been proud of these, his constituents.

"Later we occupied a position before Fort Hays. Our picket line was about twenty-five rods from that of the enemy and our only protection from their fire, a low line of rifle-pits which had been hastily thrown up, and, where I was stationed, extended thru an open pasture field. The opposing forces kept up an almost continual fire by night and day, which at that short range was, to say the least, somewhat annoying. To pass from pit to pit was like running the gauntlet; as you poked your rifle thru a loop-hole to fire, a bullet from that of your adversary would come spinning thru the same aperture, strike one of the bands of your gun, glance off into the earth and cover you with a cloud of dust. Occasionally an informal truce was had, when the foes of a moment before mounted their respective earthworks—the one line clothed in blue, the other in butternut—presenting a strange and striking appearance as their rifles glistened un-



der the rays of the October sun, talked together, exchanged the compliments of the season, inquired after the health of the respective commanders, met each other half way and traded in articles possessed by the one side and desired by the other; the curtain falling promptly at the suggestion familiar to all old soldiers, "Down Yanks, we're gwine to shoot."

Mr. Drummond gave a vivid description of his capture and his confinement as a prisoner of war in Libby.

"In due time we were transferred to Richmond and marched thru some of the principal streets of that city, apparently for the delectation of its inhabitants. As the shades of evening were falling we halted before a building in whose identity we could not be mistaken; it was the notorious Libby Prison, over whose portals might well have been written: 'Abandon all hope, who enter here.'

"Here commenced the process of starvation that was soon to swell our death roll to figures that have since astonished the world. Here, I daily witnessed our poor fellows ordered to fall in line and compelled to strip themselves of their clothing in order that their captors might search even the seams for the greenbacks of the government they were seeking to destroy.

"Some of you, perhaps, carry on your faces a cloud, because your mother or your sister has not succeeded in preparing a dinner to your taste; not stopping to think that these boys of your own age, for weary weeks and months had no dinner, went supperless, and, like the Master they served, had not where to lay their heads.

"You have perhaps thot the hands on the dial moved slowly when lying on a sick bed, surrounded by all that money could buy, and with a mother's or a sister's hand caressing your fevered brow; but these boys in their prison life knew what it was to lie on a bare floor, in such a sickness, with no medical adviser, no medicine, no luxuries, no comforts, no necessities.

"After a time we were transferred from Richmond to Salisbury, N. C., where one of the prisons of the Confederacy was located.

"That dreary ride, packed like cattle in box cars as we were, had incident and misery enough to fill a small volume. At one of the towns thru which we passed, the President of the Confederacy stood upon the platform and reviewed our long train of human freight.

"On our arrival at Salisbury, we found ourselves for the first time in one of the prisons called a stockade—an open field enclosed by a high fence, made by planting timbers side by side in the ground, near the top of which, and on the outside, was a raised platform upon which paced to and fro the guards of the prison. Just on the inside and close to the fence, was a wide and deep ditch, called 'the dead line,' to attempt to pass which meant instant death.

"We reached this pen in the night and in the morning I found myself among 10,000 prisoners representing every loyal state in the Union.

"As the morning sun first cast his glances upon this place, what a scene met my eye! There were, as I have said, 10,000 men, nearly all in the vigor of their young manhood, hatless, shoeless, almost naked, exposed to the inclemency of November weather, turned in here like sheep, to starve and die.

"When brought to the prison, each one hundred men were given a certain number of tents which, by the closest crowding, would not accommodate more than one-half that number; the remainder had their choice—to remain out doors or to dig holes in the ground in which to stay. In company with four others of my regiment, it was my lot to make choice between these two methods, and we went into the ground.

"Perhaps you imagine we were furnished with a spade, pickax, and other implements to perform the work, but we were not. We built that tenement with a piece of broken case knife and the hands that Nature had given us.

"In this way, with nothing but mother earth for our bed; with but half an old and worn army blanket for our bed covering; with no provisions on hand and but few expected; with ne lights, no books, no papers, no

time-pieces, no forks and no spoons, we for the first time, on a raw November evening, occupied our new dwelling, which was to prove the coffin for two of our number, and leave the other three living skeletons before we should change it for a better.

"Our quarters were so close that I had to dispose of my four boys, as I used to call them, as follows: We would sit in the darkness and the gloom thru the long evenings and talk of everything but home. As self-constituted commander of that post, I issued an order, that except on rare occasions, this was not a subject for discussion; and when it was tolerated, I turned the line of discussion into the contemplation of how things would be found at home when the war was over and the prison doors were opened.

"Oh, those long weary evenings! Oh, my noble, comrade boys! How patient they were in sickness and in suffering; how loyal they were to themselves, to their country, and to their God.

"Thinking on our necessity, reminds me of my Christmas dinner. It consisted of two small potatoes about the size of partridge eggs—the only ones I saw while a prisoner. I may as well confess that, tho hungry as a wild beast, there was something in my eyes that felt like tears, as I thot of the bounties and festivities hundreds of miles away.

"My failing health made me turn my mind in the direction of the probabilities of a continuance of our imprisonment. I learned that Kilpatrick's cavalry was sweeping thru the country and might on almost any bright morning be sounding their bugles near the waters of the Yadkin.

"About this time, I noticed an unusual stir on the part of the Confederates, and one morning observed that artillery was so planted around the stockade as to sweep with grape and canister every inch of the grounds within it; we were informed that in case of an attack from our forces, the program was to sweep us all into eternity. But on the 21st of February, I learned that Kilpatrick's cavalry was in the neighborhood of Charlotte,



which was only forty miles distant, and that the Confederates had changed their minds and concluded to parole us on the following day, in order to have us count in an exchange. On February 22d, came our great deliverance. We were informally paroled not to take up arms with our forces in case we met them between Salisbury and Goldsborough, after which the gate of the prison swung open, and we started, closely guarded, towards the North star. As we passed out of the gate, I cast my eye over to the place of burial of our dead and realized that we left in its trenches upwards of 15,000 of our comrades.

"At Goldsborough, we were regularly paroled, and on the next day struck the Federal lines on the Cape Fear River, were passed thru the lines after being counted by the officers representing the respective governments, and in a few moments saw the old blue uniform shine among the trees, and for the first time since the day of capture, saw the flag as it floated from a little hill-top."

Mr. Drummond spoke for nearly two hours, and at the close of his address was vigorously applauded.

—The basket ball game sheduled with the team of the Potsdam Normal School for last Thursday night was cancelled.

—The hearing in the suit brought by Tau Chapter of D. K. E. against the town of Kirkland for the vacation of the assessment upon its property was begun last Monday before Referee Sholes in Utica. The evidence is all in and the case was argued, both counsel agreeing to submit briefs next week. Drummond, 1901, McKee, 1901, and Minor, 1902, were subpoenaed as witnesses.

#### Announcement.

The Bulletin Press Association, established 1890, desires to announce that it has opened a department for the purpose of placing and selling manuscripts, stories, poems, etc., for a commission of 33½ per cent. of the proceeds of such sales. It has also arranged with the Union Associated Press to use the services of those who contribute thru the Bulletin Press, where the same are available. For terms, etc., address E. A. Noble, Manager, New York.

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# Hamilton Life.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

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### Reportorial:

F. S. CHILD, JR.                      F. A. GRANT,  
G. E. MILLER,                         D. K. PEET.

Subscription price, \$1.75 a year. Single copies, 5 cents each. Advertising rates given on application to the Business Manager.

WE wish to congratulate the junior Prom. committee in turning over to the baseball management, to assist in liquidating the debt of that department, the bulk of the net proceeds of the class ball. To be sure, the college expected of the committee such action; but nevertheless it was commendable on the part of the seven men voluntarily to surrender these receipts. It furnishes an example and a precedent that is admirable. The display of a large-minded college patriotism on the part of organizations of the college has been heretofore as rare as the spectacle of such liberality and generous sacrifice on the part of individuals has been frequent; and we are encouraged to hope that in this respect the college is entering upon a new era.

It is with inexpressible pain and sorrow that the college receives the intelligence of the death of the father of one of its most popular and loved members, Edward E. Stowell, of the senior class. Esty was summoned home Tuesday night by a sudden message saying that his father had been taken with heart failure and was not expected to live. Before the boy could reach his father's bedside his father was dead. The sad event has cast a gloom over the whole college. That one of the best known and best loved students in the college, the captain of our football team, one of the indispensable men in college affairs, now just upon the eve of finishing a successful college course, and preparing for his entrance into a noble profession, should meet with this untimely

affliction has filled all our hearts with grief and sympathy. And not alone for him do we sorrow, but for the mother, the sister and the brother, whom all of us have seen and known, and loved for their sake and his. Were we competent to offer and able to give them comfort, it would be of this nature, that the boy who succeeds to his father's place among them is a man of such noble and sterling qualities, so loved and respected by his friends and associates on this hillside. The prayers and sympathy of Hamilton College go forth to those who sit beneath the shadow of this affliction.

FROM year to year we find it advisable to repeat suggestions, to reiterate our urgings and exhortations in certain matters, not from the desire to fill space, but from a sincere appreciation of the importance of those matters and of the necessity of the college attending thereto. Every year the advertising managers of the college publications find more and more difficulty in securing advertisements for their respective papers or volumes. There are a certain few merchants in Utica and Clinton who support our publications regularly. Beyond these few there are none to speak of. What we urge and have urged upon the college is the necessity and advisability of dealing with these merchants exclusively. The college men can easily ascertain the list of college advertisers; and with these they should trade, first, because these advertisers keep the best goods of all kinds, hence there is no excuse to deal with non-advertisers; and second, because it is a return of favor, fair and just. It is essential to the life of the college publications that they secure advertisements, but this is not difficult if the men deal with those who advertise in our publications.

WE fail to see any justice whatever in the treatment received by one of the fellows recently. For five weeks he was in bed with blood poisoning. He returned to college before it was safe to do so for fear of not being allowed to go on with his work. It happened that a review in law was set for a certain day and this he thought

would enable him to pass up the term's work in that subject if he could devote all the intervening time to it. He found, however, that he was on debate and he had to drop his law and prepare to appear the next day. This is where the justice, the equity, comes in. Upon reaching the place appointed for debate he was told that he could not appear, that there were but three more debates to be held this term and that as every man was to appear more than that number of times it would be impossible for him to make it up. He might be allowed to take one hour extra next term instead. Now, no man will have debated more than three or at the most four times this term. A man doesn't necessarily have to appear at every one of these times to make passing grade. Will a man who rises and says nothing on one debate out of four be counted as having debated his full required amount, or will he be given an hour extra next term to make up a delinquency? Why could not the man in question have been allowed to try to make a passing stand in the three debates that remained? He could have done it easily. But that isn't Hamilton justice just as it exists today. He was allowed to spend valuable time preparing a debate which it must have been known he was not to be allowed to give. He was told that he might take one hour extra next term, which is an impossibility as there are only two- and four-hour subjects offered. This is one of the most flagrant cases of injustice which has occurred recently. The faculty has not met. How was it known what would be decided? Who is the faculty? When a man is unfortunate he is generally supposed to be aided, not pushed further down. All he asked was that bare justice be done him. He expected no privileges. But instead of that he is loaded down when he is already carrying as much as he can stand. Every effort is made to keep him from graduating, and all in the name of justice. It is a new theory, this of disciplining a man for illness, new every where except here.

WE commented a few weeks ago on what we believed to be a real defect in



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our college life, namely, the absence of the fullest and freest intercourse between student and professor, and we spoke of the desirableness of filling that vacuum and establishing the most cordial and intimate relations between the faculty and student body. It certainly was not our design or desire to question, in the slightest, the hospitality which always awaits students at the homes of our professors. Certainly those who have had the good fortune to partake of it, will support the statement that it leaves nothing to be desired. Especially is this true of the efforts of the wives of the members of our faculty, to whom we are indebted for so many of the social triumphs of Hamilton and who have contributed so greatly to make our social life what it is.

It has occurred to us that our motive and meaning in the article to which reference is here made, may, perhaps, be misinterpreted. It was farthest from our intention to attribute to the members of our faculty any lack of the hospitable spirit or of the qualities of host. Our sole purpose was to encourage in every possible way, so far as it may lie within our power, the strongest and most cordial rapport between student and professor. The advocacy of whatever may contribute to this is, we trust, highly laudable, and will always be the burden of our endeavors.

—"Pretty" held a review in Municipal Law last Thursday.

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## Local Department.

F. S. CHILD, JR., Editor.

### New York, Ontario & Western R. R.

Trains leave Clinton for Utica, 7:50 a. m., 11:20 a. m., 2:40 p. m., 6:25 p. m. For Rome, 11:30 a. m., 6:30 p. m. For South, 8:30 a. m., 12:40 p. m., 5:24 p. m., 11:50 p. m.

Trains arrive at Clinton from Utica, 8:30 a. m., 12:40 p. m., 5:24 p. m., 11:50 p. m. From Rome, 8:20 a. m., 5:10 p. m. From South, 7:50 a. m., 11:20 a. m., 2:40 p. m., 6:25 p. m.

### Clinton Post Office.

Mails Open—From Utica, 9:00 a. m., 1:00 p. m., 5:40 p. m. From Rome, 9:00 a. m., 5:30 p. m. From South, 11:40 a. m., 6:30 p. m.

Mails Close—For Utica, 7:30 a. m., 11:00 a. m., 6:00 p. m. For Rome, 11:00 a. m., 6:00 p. m. For South, 8:15 a. m., 12:25 p. m.

Sunday mail open from 12:00 to 1:00 p. m. Sunday mail closes at 5:20 p. m.

Mail leaves the Hill at the convenience of the Carrier, and comes up after the Carrier gets down.

F. E. PAYNE, P. M.

LIFE is entered at the Clinton Post Office as second-class matter.

### College Notes.

—The track team begins work March first.

—Abe Macardell was out of town for a few days last week.

—Mills, 1904, and Carter, 1903, are both ill with the measles.

—Skinner, 1901, has returned to college after a long illness.

—Dick Drummond was called to Auburn last week on pressing business.

—Prof. Andrews went north Sunday to visit friends and relatives in Watertown and vicinity.

—Stowell, 1901, was called home suddenly Tuesday night by the serious illness of his father.

—Whitnall and the Stubbs brothers, of Colgate, visited the chapter of D. K. E. last Tuesday.

—Catlin and Stryker left Thursday for Ithaca to attend the funeral of the father of their classmate.

—At a meeting of the senior class last Wednesday morning, a committee was appointed to purchase caps and gowns.

—"Pretty" had occasion to write twice on the board the word "hereditaments". He spelled it "hereditaments."

—At the meetings addressed by Mr. Sayford this week there has been a large attendance, both of the audience rooms in Silliman Hall being filled.

—Saturday evening at the Chapel

will take place the usual preparatory service. Owing to the communion service at four Sunday the regular Y. M. C. A. meeting will be omitted.

—Drummond, 1901, Harwood, 1902, with Barnes, Tate and Mangan, attended as delegates from Tau Chapter of Delta Kappa Epsilon the banquet and meeting of the Central New York Alumni Association of D. K. E., held at Syracuse, Feb. 22.

—We regret that owing to a mistake on part of printer and of proof-reader, in last week's issue there was omitted the name of Miss Jane Lewis, of Syracuse University, as a guest of Delta Kappa Epsilon at their house party given during junior week.

—The question for the inter-class debate to be held in the Chapel on the evening of March 13 has been stated thus: "Resolved, that trusts are an evil." The junior debaters, Gilbert, Warren and Campbell, have chosen the negative of the question.

—A meeting of last year's baseball team was held Tuesday afternoon to elect a captain for the season of 1901. In the absence of Dunn, Keogh, 1901, was elected. He immediately issued a call for candidates, to which a large number responded; and practice will begin at once.

### Y. M. C. A. Meetings.

When fraternities, professors, and Y. M. C. A. all direct their attention to the same point, it is needless to say that the College has interest there. Therefore college interest has this week centered at Silliman Hall. Two-thirds of the men on our hill surely make a quorum, and certainly two-thirds were out at the meeting last Tuesday evening.

Promptly on scheduled time order was called. In the next few minutes Prexie's hymn book was used as only college men can use it. After old 170 the boys were nerved for something good, and strong, and with a true ring; and it came. Mr. Sayford gave the address. In his "Fellows!" there was felt the appeal of one who knew our way, our aims, our trials, and our ideals.

By vote of Tuesday's assembly, Mr.

Sayford was asked to stay over a day or two. Soon after seven o'clock on Wednesday a large gathering was again listening to a vigorous and attractive personality. Attention was quiet and close; and, as a true ambassador is but more heartened by intelligent inquiry, so Mr. Sayford was now aroused to his best. No side issues carried him away from his message; he showed how all questions could be settled and all aims defined at once: "Man's life is to honor God."

Thursday evening Mr. Sayford dealt the amusement question a blow which made it much less important in bearing. He showed it a contemptible thing for a man to need to be amused. He said the only relief worthy to be sought by a man who valued life was recreation. Men enjoy what makes demands on them, else they would not be athletes, or fraternity men, or successful business men.

Friday is the last meeting with Mr. Sayford in this series. Though we write before it has occurred, we may safely say, according to the approved journalistic method,—"It was a grand success." Mr. Sayford does what he says he will do. He is to be counted upon. His talks never carry a meeting beyond an hour. He begins and ends on time. From his coming Hamilton has received good which will last, and many men will bear in mind to the up-building and ennobling of their characters.

### Hamilton 42; Colgate 14.

The return game with Colgate in basket-ball was played Saturday afternoon last, on the Gym. floor. To the event was attached additional importance and interest owing to the defeat which we sustained in the previous game, and because of this being our final chance to retaliate.

There must have been some misunderstanding between those delegated to announce the time for which the game was scheduled, either locally or by placard, for despite the intimation that the game would be called at 2:30, it was at least a half hour later before any agreement was reached.



After a protracted palaver, those vested with authority determined no longer to suspend the anticipation of the spectators, and consequent upon their determination play was declared on.

The game began with a vigorous rush, which culminated in a basket thrown by the elder Mac. This enlivened the contestants perceptibly, but Hamilton by superior team-work managed to retain possession of the sphere the major portion of the time, and at regular intervals one of our representatives would lodge the ball within the coveted receptacle. Tommy, with marvelous agility, out-manœvred and eluded his opponents and by aid of Mac's cooperation succeeded in scoring now and then. The score mounted and the points in our favor accumulated with regularity to the extent of at least 8 before Colgate succeeded in placing any score to her credit. No inconsiderable number of fouls were called and thereby each side increased its number of points by two. During the entirety of the first half Hamilton outplayed Colgate. Our team work was superior to that of our antagonists and the efforts of our men to throw baskets met with surpassing success.

The score at the conclusion of the half stood 25-5 in favor of the Buff and Blue.

While the first half had been in progress, Vose, who regularly filled the position of centre for the supporters of the Maroon, had been hastening to the scene of action and arrived opportunely to assume responsibilities at the beginning of the last half.

The men presented a jaded appearance as they answered the summons of the referee's pipe, but appearances were according to the rule, deceptive, for the dash and energy of the contestants proved to be in no way diminished. Tommy sets an example by immediately throwing the basket. Vose now inspires his constituents by cleverly landing a basket from the side line. The game now becomes so fiercely contested that the commission of a foul is an occurrence frequent and at times apparently intentional. Holding is penalized and results in Colgate's scoring an additional unit. As the

close of the game draws nigh the participants, aware of its approach, exert themselves most strenuously, but Mac and Tommy carry off the palm by scoring three consecutive baskets in rapid succession. The ball darts down stairs and time is up before the truant sphere is recovered. Game ends with final score 42-14 in favor of Hamilton.

A good game had been expected, and no one was disappointed. In view of the close score made in the game played at Colgate, everyone anticipated a repetition of the same occurrence. But Hamilton had during the interim vastly improved her team-work, and as a consequence Colgate was unable to best us in that respect. Every champion of the Buff and Blue contributed his labors and his mite to the general fund, and thus collectively they won the game.

J. B. Millham and Augsburg, '01, officiated as referee and umpire, respectively. The contending teams lined up as follows:

Hamilton (42).                      Colgate (14).

	Guards.	
Peet.		Murray.
Evans.		Sweet, (Capt.)
	Forwards.	
McLaughlin, (Capt.)		Smith.
T. McLaughlin.		Burt.
	Centre.	
Hunter.		Marsh, (Vose).

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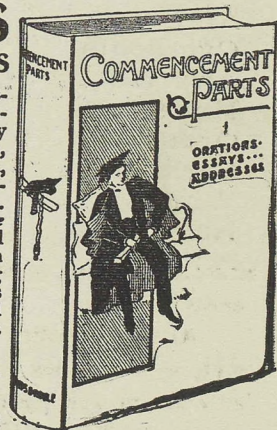
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