TRIENNIAL MEETING OF THE CLASS OF SIXTY-ONE, YALE COLLEGE WITH A BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD, AND STATISTICS. 1861

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Triennial Meeting of the Class of Sixty-One, Yale College with a Biographical Record, and Statistics. 1861 by Various

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O, HOURS OF YALE -- VANISHED HOURS! MEMORY, SORROWFULLT SINGING, NAKES A FAR-OFF SOUND, LIKE BINGING OF A CHIME OF SILVER BELLS, WHORE SOFT MCSIC SINKS AND SWELLS, BREATHED UPON BY BREATH OF FLOWERS; FAINTEE, SWEBTER FRAGEANCE BRINGING THAN FROM ODOROUS ISLAND-DELLS, KIBSED ALL NIGHT BY SUMMER SHOWERS. BILL'S VALEDICTORY FORM.

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PREFACE.

MY CLASSMATES :---

When at your request I entered upon the duties of Secretary, I had little conception of the amount of time and attention necessary to their proper performance; and yet, laborious as they have more recently been, I have felt encouraged by the thought that no one of you could read these imperfect records of progress and achievement without receiving a richer and deeper inspiration of enthusiastic love for Sixty-One, and a fresh and powerful impulse in the work of life. It is the peculiar and grateful privilege of our relation as Classmates, that each one of us can contribute much to the permanence and higher development of that hearty classfeeling which has hitherto bound us together. Allow me to make a few suggestions which it is hoped each will act upon. Let every one regard it a duty as well as high privilege to be present at all meetings of the Class. Only insurmountable obstacles in the way can afford a good reason for the absence of any of us.

Again, let it be a standing rule with each one to inform the Secretary, without delay, of every change in residence and occupation; any degrees or honors received; ordination to the Ministry; admission to the practice of Law or Medicine; appointment or election to any position; marriage; birth of children, with the names and dates; in short any and all items of personal history which are of interest to your Classmates or which they ought to know. It is very desirable that any announcements or statements in regard to any member of the Class, which may be observed from time to time in the papers of different sections of the country, or in reports and public documents, or may come to your notice in other ways, should be immediately communicated to the Secretary. The careful observance of these suggestions will add much to the interest of any fature Report.

Doubtless many errors have crept in unawares. You will confer a favor upon all concerned by sending a prompt correction.

With the hope that the perusal will afford you as much pleasure as I have experienced in the preparation, and that it may units us all in ever strengthening ties of class-relationship, I submit this work to your kind appreciation, with my best wishes for your individual welfare.

WINTHROP D. SHELDON.

NEW HAVEN, NOV. 25, 1864.

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CLASS MEETINGS.

A business meeting was held in Professor NEWTON'S recitation room, July 26th, 1861, at which the Class elected WIN-THROP D. SHELDON, Class Secretary, and FRANKLIN S. BRAD-LEY to act in case the former should be unable to serve. A reunion was appointed for the Wednesday preceding Commencement, 1862, of all who could be present at that time. The old songs once more rang out on the breeze, and loud among them all rose a prophetic strain, suggested by an important event of the preceding evening, and afterwards nobly fulfilled.

In accordance with the above vote, twenty-eight assembled at the Lyceum, Wednesday evening, July 30th, 1862. Each member, as he appeared, was greeted with applause, and the climax was reached on the entrance of BRADLEY, father of the Class Boy, when three hearty cheers were given apiece, for the boy, his mother and father. After consuming a bountiful supply of refreshments, the meeting came to order, SHIPLEY in the Chair, and each one present recounted his experiences during the year past, and anticipations for the future, and gave any information of the absent. Thus the evening rapidly and delightfully passed away, and at a seasonable hour we adjourned, looking forward with eager longing to the time when the "wanderers of 61" should once more, in thronging numbers, seek their Yalensian home.

In view of the approaching Triennial, and according to established custom, a business meeting took place July 29th, 1863, at which SIMEON E. BALDWIN, PETER COLLIER, FRANK-LIN B. DEXTER and CHARLES P. OTIS were appointed, in con-

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. junction with the Secretary, to make arrangements for that occasion. On the succeeding day, twenty of the Class sat down to Commencement dinner.

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In April last, the Class Secretary issued a Circular, announcing the time of meeting, and urging all to be present. The large number of favorable replies indicated a goodly attendance, while from camps and armies, and from the Pacific shore and beyond the sea, came many regretful expressions, telling of the now disappointed anticipations of three years, and assuring us that though absent in person, they would still be present in spirit; they would call up in memory the old faces, and sing the old songs, "as though their echoes could possibly cross the continent, and join in with re-united Sixty-One."

As the memorable 27th of July approached, one after another the men of Sixty-One again stood beneath the shadow of old Yale. How like old times it seemed, as they walked "beneath the trees of home." By Tuesday evening, the members of the Class began to flock in in crowds from all quarters. Each new arrival added to the rising enthusiasm, as those already on the ground gathered about, and the hearty grasp of the hand, and the beaming, eager countenance told how strong were the ties which knit our hearts together, all the stronger for the rough experiences of the world. Three years had scarcely produced any change in appearance, except that many had cultivated hirsute appendages, and the recognized torchbearers of Sixty-One had not paled their fires, but, on the contrary, blazed all around the disk with a still more lurid flame.

At an early hour Wednesday morning, universal attention was attracted by large posters, announcing in big capitals the programme of the day. Accordingly the Class met at 12 M., in the President's Lecture Room, to attend to business preliminary to the grand jubilee of the evening. Fuller was called to

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the Chair, and presided with his usual ease and dignity. At tax of seven dollars was voted and immediately paid, with commendable unanimity. Strange as it may appear, the late rebel raid had a wholly unlooked-for and much regretted connection with our Class Meeting. If General Lee did not succeed in relieving Petersburg of Grant's beleaguering forces, he at least deprived us of the presence of two of our Classmates, who patriotically volunteered in the emergency, as members of the 7th Delaware. To one of these worthy men, Ralph O. Williams, had been assigned the pleasant duty of presenting the Silver Cup ; and in consequence of his enforced absence, it now became necessary, at this late hour, to appoint some one in his place. At the earnest and unanimous solicitation of the Class, Robert L. Chamberlain reluctantly consented to perform the interesting ceremony, and I take this opportunity of recording the thanks of all to him, for his kind and disinterested acceptance. Peter Collier was also elected President of the evening.

At the appointed hour, the College Green was all alive with the gathering throng of Sixty-One, moving with a common impulse toward the Lyceum. The elms caught up anew the time-honored Sixty-One songs, which in days of yore were wont to echo among their bending bonghs. Procession was now formed, the President, Orator, Father of the Class Boy, in the advance, with the Committee. All things being ready, at 10 P. M. we marched to the New Haven Hotel, singing that familiar chorus which recalls the scenes of another of our Jubilees :--

> "Then, Ol faithful '61, when our College life is done, And our hearts to all other objects fail, Our memories shall cluster round the friends that here we won, As the elms round our Alma Mater, Yale."

The tables, arranged on three sides of a square, and adorned with numerous boquets, presented a very inviting appearance. At the head sat the President, supported on either hand by the Father of our Class Boy, the Orator, Chaplain, and members of the Committee.