

Life at Princeton

BY "ONE WHO HAS BEEN THERE"

"Don't you hear those bells
Don't you hear those bells
They are ringing out the glory of
the land," etc.

The bell on Old North is striking the hour of eight and intermingling with the timepiece, the gift of a former class, there comes from the Seniors seated below on the steps of Nassau Hall this old refrain familiar to those who for many years have annually graduated from the halls of Princeton.

"Senior Singing" one of the most picturesque and memorable customs of "Old Nassau" dates back through many classes, originating in the small informal gatherings of a few, who in the times of the old college were accustomed to gather at the rendezvous of the "Steps" and there during the twilight hour of the spring day, pass the time in singing and college talk, before the closing darkness reminded them of the time for study and other necessary evils of college days. Now a days "Senior Singing" tends very much to the formal. Every fine evening of the last term of the college year the Seniors are seen strolling along McCosh walk wending their way from the clubs to the central spot on the campus. In a few minutes the class is gathered, while the undergraduates of the three lower classes lie around on the front campus and enjoy for three quarters of an hour the melodies of the class which will shortly be numbered as "Out in the wide, wide world". White flannelled Sophomores, black Freshmen and restless Juniors dot the campus green, while the tall elms smile at the youthfulness of this college generation, remembering the old classes, now with broken ranks, who were the originators of this same venerable rendering of praise to Alma Mater,

"Princeton Spirit", as someone has said, "that indefinable something" which has made Princeton what she is and which will mould her future, can show fewudent activities, productive or more

good and more lasting memories than this evening gathering of the Senior Class.

College spirit is the result largely of college life and in the matter of college life Princeton is unique. Situated in a beautiful New Jersey town, where the University is the only interest, and yet within an hour and a half of New York or Philadelphia, Princeton students have developed a life and customs that are peculiarly their own. There is isolation from the city, yet by no means are the men shut off from urban advantages. Practically all the students live on the campus, campus here meaning the whole of the University grounds. Democracy and a sane outdoor life are the natural results of such an environment and Princeton is very proud of her democracy as well as of her aristocratic position among American colleges. Aristocracy due to her many historical landmarks and to her founding as the fourth college in the new Republic. Harvard, William and Mary, and Yale preceding, in the order mentioned.

There are few buildings in the United States, which are richer in historical memories than Nassau Hall—generally known as "Old North". The building was under fire in the Revolutionary times, while just behind it lies buried muzzle downward in cement a cannon left by the British in the battle of Princeton. The Continental Congress of 1783 met at this building and Washington attended Commencement of the University at this time, making a presentation of fifty guineas to the trustees. This last incident was made the basis of the "Triangle Club's" play of the last spring, which club annually presents a musical comedy written and staged by the undergraduates.

Next to Nassau Hall the cannon holds a place dearest to the hearts of Princeton men. It is the center of all athletic celebrations and round it throughout the year many customs are observed from the Common Rush in September to the Class Day exercise of June, when seated around