

from the year 1819. Its buildings were erected under that statesman's supervision, and largely from his own plans, within sight of and about four miles from Montecello, his picturesque home, among the foothills of the Blue Ridge.

The limits of this sketch will not allow me to refer to the beauties of this most charming bit of Virginia, amid which the University lies: nor can I go minutely, even were I able, into a history of its work. I must confine myself to the general characteristics that may possibly be interesting to students of another country.

In comparison with our own Alma Mater, the first noticeable difference is that this University is practically in the country. It is true the town of Charlottesville is close at hand, but the University is outside the limits and almost independent of it. For this reason the Professional Faculties seem to me to be at a disadvantage. The Medicals have no hospitals to visit, and the Law Students no courts to attend. It may be for this very reason, however, that their courses are so much shorter than ours. But it seems to our advantage to apply our theory to actual practice as we acquire it. What we do is much more easily remembered than what we read.

Another difference, this time to Virginia's credit, is that, there, there are students' residences. To describe them it will be necessary to give some account of the grouping of the buildings, an arrangement that does credit to Jefferson's architectural ability. The main building, from its shape called the rotunda, is topped by a glistening dome that can be seen for miles around, and has a portico modelled after the Parthenon. Although the pillars of the portico are imitation marble—bricks painted white—the capitals are Italian marble, carved, as tradition saith, by Italian workmen brought over by Jefferson, and whose descendants are still in Charlottesville. This building is used for class rooms and offices, and also holds the library, a spacious circular hall just under the dome. Immediately behind the rotunda and connected with it by a Grecian colonade is the Convocation or Commencement Hall, under which are more class rooms. In front of the rotunda stretches a terraced and tree-bordered lawn or series of lawns, several hundred yards in length and about one hundred in width. On each side of the lawn are Professors' houses, opening into wide arcades and separated from one another by occasional students' rooms. Above the arcades are long terraces, the cool resorts of the "Powers that be" on summer evenings, and vantage grounds whence the stranger catches glimpses of peerless Virginia scenery. The Professors' gardens lie just behind their houses. They are enclosed by brick walls, that for reasons of economy are but one brick in thickness, and for increased strength have been built in regular curves. At the foot of the gardens, and separated from them by grassy lanes, are the main-body of students' rooms. They are but one storey in height, and, like their superiors' houses, open into long arcades, of course much less pretentious than those on the "Lawns." These rooms are called the "Ranges," and if you have been able to follow my halting description, you will see that there are two "Ranges,"—the East and West—corresponding to the East and West "Lawns."

These do not include all the residences nor all the College buildings; there are others in different quarters of the extensive grounds that would be sufficiently difficult to describe even had I more accurate knowledge of their position, so I shall merely say that there are others. There is a Medical building separate; an observatory on the summit of a neighboring hill, Mount Jefferson; and a charming chapel, where the University chaplain, assisted by a student organist and a students' choir, conducts service every Sunday, has recently been built quite near the Rotunda.

The *esprit de corps* that this close companionship gives was ably discussed in a previous issue, and I need only remark that it produces the same results in Virginia as in every other University that is fortunate enough to have this system. There are societies without end,—literary, social and musical. There are practical jokes and hazings, and secret societies whose initiations are wrapped in awful mystery. One of the recognized usages, productive of much mirth among the tormenters and maledictions on the part of the tormented, called "dyking," is never met with up here, at least so far as I know. The unfortunate object issues from his room in serene anticipation of an evening to be passed amid the entrancing delights of waltzes and rosy cheeks and smiling lips. But no sooner has he locked his door and pocketed the key, than every pillar along the Arcade sends out a man, and the air resounds with the ominous cry of "Dyke! Dyke!" and blasts from tin horns and thumps on tin pans. He is seized and hurried to the Rotunda steps, where he is ordered to make a speech, while his every utterance is drowned in indescribable hubbub. When released, he is late, his tie is soiled, his shirt is crushed and his temper is ruffled. Such was the custom some years ago, and I suppose such is the custom still.

Of athletics the students are not neglectful. A few months ago I had the pleasure of seeing them play the Pennsylvania College Football Team, and give them—a team that has beaten Princeton—only 32 points. They have a Gymnasium, a Boat House on the Rivanna about three miles from the University, and large though rather heavy grounds. Football and baseball fields and numerous tennis courts have been laid out as well. The subject of athletics is under the general control of a committee of the Faculty, and under the special direction of the Students' Athletic Association.

"Of every one hundred students," says an Undergraduates' publication, "sixteen play tennis, fourteen play football, thirteen play baseball, and twenty take the gymnasium work." If you multiply these figures by five or five and a half you will have about the actual number of students who support the different sports.

The Y. M. C. A. is a large and influential body. It is the oldest Association among the Universities, and has been in active operation since 1858. It has special tennis and football grounds, and supports separate teams for baseball and football. This Society is erecting or about to erect a building for its members—a movement that we hope McGill will soon follow.

But we must pass on to a glance at the Staff and the