

The Colby Echo

Vol. XXI

Waterville, Maine, February 27, 1918

No. 15



THE WILLOWS.

PUBLISHED WEDNESDAYS DURING THE COLLEGE YEAR BY
THE STUDENTS OF COLBY COLLEGE

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THE COLBY ECHO

Volume XXI, No. 15.

WATERVILLE, MAINE, February 27, 1918.

Price Five Cents

TRIBUTES TO GEORGE WASHINGTON.

The Personal Side, by Herbert C. Libby.

There is a human side to the character of George Washington, our early notions of him notwithstanding. Unless we so understand him, and cease deifying him, we shall utterly destroy the power of a possible example. Let me touch upon his human side by illustrations.

Witness him when his anger was aroused. It was the day of Braddock's defeat. He rode up and down the field of battle, raging with excitement, face glowing, eyes ablaze, brandishing his sword, and yelling his orders. With his massive form of 200 pounds, six feet in height, he is described in later battles as terrible to see.

Listen to the wrath poured out in his later years upon those whose like we are finding today:

"No punishment, in my opinion, is too great for the man who would build his greatness upon his country's ruin. I would to God that some one of the most atrocious in each state was hung in gibbets upon a gallows five times as high as the one prepared for Haman."

Again, observe that Washington was a very normal man in that within a remarkably short space of time he made ardent love to at least two young ladies. Even the punctilious Washington was not averse to defer great matters of state

"While somebody's horse at the garden gate
Neighed impatience at somebody's wait."

The alleged coldness of Washington was on the face, not in the heart. His heart had felt the pangs of every sorrow.

Ever and again it was General Washington who left the most important cares of country to pay love-vows to the aged mother. Mark this: No greater proof is ever needed of a tender nature than such devotion of a son. Well might the artist paint him on his knees before the mother who gave him birth and station.

Witness again the long weeks of anguish of soul when the son of his adoption dropped, like a flower, by his side.

"'Tis lonely, when the heart first comprehends
There isn't anyone to play with any more."

Witness the scene when he rose in response to a speech of public praise in the House of Burgesses, and stood stammering, heart in his mouth, until Speaker Robinson said:

"Sit down, Mr. Washington; your modesty equals your valor, and that surpasses the power of any language to express."

And that other scene when he bade good-bye to his generals in the old Tavern. When all had gathered, Washington looked up and about him. Back flooded the memories of the dark days of the war—Bunker Hill, Ticonderoga, Trenton, Valley Forge, Brandywine, and Yorktown; victory had come, and these were his generals. His usual self command left him, his voice became for a while uncontrollable, and tears from eyes that usually "saw things steadily and saw them whole," streamed down cheeks that had been smoked in powder on a score of battlefields.

And the last light of proof of his tenderness of heart is that other scene, pathetic to those who watched and listened as to us who read the reliable accounts—when Arnold, the intrepid, dashing, patriotic, loyal Arnold, he upon whom Washington had come to lean most heavily, and he whom Washington had grown to love and forgive—to love next to his own Lafayette; when Arnold, abused, unrewarded, misunderstood, disheartened, but traitorous Arnold, went over to the enemy, and left his Chief at a moment when that Chief had reposed most confidence in him. No news could have cut Washington more deeply. For a moment stunned, he exclaimed at length from the very depths of a grievously wounded heart:

"Whom can we trust now?"

Then with quick military promptness he checked the disastrous effects of the traitorous act; and when all had been done, and evening drew near, Washington bade his officers good-night, and retired alone to his room. And all that weary night through, the sentry heard as he passed the door of his Chief, his slow pacing back and forth while he fought out in that darkest hour of the American Revolution the greatest battle of his life—the battle of courage and faith against waning strength and distrust of fellowmen.

But enough, I think, to give hint of the proof that Washington was a normal human being, that he was in every sense of the word a man tempted as we are, tested in the fires as each of us shall be.

The Historical Side, by President Roberts.

In 1775 when the American colonists raised the standard of revolt against the mother country, George Washington, a Virginia farmer who had learned the soldier's trade in the French and Indian wars, was made commander-in-chief of the colonial army. Sooner or later these colonies would undoubtedly have gained their independence, but had it not been for George Washington this attempt of 1775 would most certainly have passed into history

as a rebellion suppressed rather than a revolution achieved. That the unequal struggle between mighty England and the colonies was kept alive for eight years, and terminated finally in their favor, was due to the military skill, the indomitable fighting spirit, the patience, the persistence, the lofty patriotism of George Washington. That is the conclusion to which every reader of Revolutionary history is sure to come.

When independence was won, instead of assuming military dictatorship like Cromwell or becoming King George the First like Napoleon,—and either would have been easily possible—Washington by voice and pen urged upon his fellow-countrymen the necessity of establishing such a union of the colonies, of instituting such a form of general government, as would make secure for them and their descendants the rights and privileges for which they had been fighting. The counsel and advice of Washington soon bore fruit and in 1787 the Constitutional Convention, as it was called, met to consider the great questions of union and government. George Washington was unanimously chosen to preside over its deliberations. So widely and so bitterly did the delegates differ in their opinions that it is hardly too much to say that it is to the tact and sound judgment and great personal influence of Washington that we owe the formulation and adoption of the American Constitution.

This new constitution looked well on paper, but would it work? Nowhere else had the experiment of republican government been tried on such a scale and under such conditions as to furnish example or precedent. The newly built ship of state must be launched on an uncharted sea, and piloted through rocks and shoals to the clear safe water beyond. George Washington was chosen the first president of this republic. Nowadays a newly elected president merely steps into the shoes of his predecessor and moves along a well-worn path; George Washington walked on untrodden ground. Nowadays the newly elected president is put in charge of a highly complex, smoothly running machine of government; it was George Washington's task to install the machinery. In the eight years of his administration he successfully inaugurated a system of government which, with all its defects, is still the best the world holds today.

No other man ever did so much for any country as George Washington did for his. No other people in the world owe such a debt of gratitude to any man, living or dead, as we owe to George Washington.

A man must draw the line somewhere, but the chances are he will get on the other side of it later.

RECENT COLBY GRADUATE GOES AS MISSIONARY TO CHINA

Every college in the country has many young men who responded to the call of their country and are now in actual service; but few colleges have a young woman among their recent graduates who has responded so nobly to the call of service for mankind as has Miss Abbie G. Sanderson, Colby, '14. This young woman has brought honors to Colby and to her many friends, in dedicating her life to the mission fields of China. Although Miss Sanderson has but recently graduated from college, she is already a woman of broad experience and her life has become an inspiration to all who meet her.

She is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Elisha Sanderson, who are well known throughout the state. Mr. Sanderson is a graduate of Colby. Her brother, Arthur, Colby, '19, is now serving in the navy.

Miss Sanderson attended Norwich Academy for nearly three years and then continued her work at Coburn Classical Institute, graduating with honors in 1910, and winning the Elizabeth Foster prize by her brilliant work.

She entered Colby and became very active in the First Baptist Church and the Colby Y. W. C. A. She was a delegate to Silver Bay and was often sent as a Colby representative to speak at different preparatory schools. Miss Sanderson was elected to the honorary Senior society of Kappa Alpha. At commencement she had the double honor of being class prophet at the Class Day exercises and one of the commencement speakers on the following day. She is a member of the Chi Omega sorority.

Since graduation, Miss Sanderson has filled several responsible teaching positions and her splendid work for the welfare of the girls of her schools has distinguished her as a young woman of high ideals and remarkable ability. She has also taken courses in Bible study and theology at Newton and in missions and hygiene at the Gordon Bible College.

Just before Christmas a cablegram came from China asking for two missionaries to come at once to Swatow, China. Miss Sanderson was offered the position, and immediately accepted it. She will sail from Vancouver, the first of March.

A. T. O. OPEN HOUSE.

The Alpha Tau Omega fraternity held Open House last Wednesday afternoon, from 8 o'clock until 5. Many guests were present and all reported a good time. Refreshments, consisting of punch and cookies, were served, and an opportunity was given to all to look the house over. This is the first time that the house has been open to the public since it was built over and refurnished.

THE BOSTON "ALL COLLEGE RALLY."

Attended by about two thousand college men representing the alumni associations of 45 colleges in all parts of the country, the "All College Rally" held February 16, in the Boston Opera House, was a decided success.

The primary object of the rally was the support of the of the American University Union in Europe, the work of which vitally touches every college man in the service abroad. The Union operates a hotel in Paris expressly for college men, where at a nominal price, shelter and companionship can be obtained by the men of all colleges who belong to the league.

The Hon. Herbert Parker presided over the assembly introducing first Hon. Calvin Coolidge, Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts, who greeted the college men in the name of the state. Hon. Andrew J. Peters, newly-elected Mayor of Boston, next gave the greetings, and good will of the city to the assemblage.

James M. Beck, former assistant attorney-general under Roosevelt, made the chief address and brought a message of warning against parleying with the enemy to secure "a peace by accommodation" when "the only way to get peace is to win the war."

The 45 colleges represented in the rally were Amherst, Assumption, Bates, Boston College, Boston University, Bowdoin, Brown, Chicago, Colby, Colgate, Cornell, DePauw, Georgetown, Hamilton, Harvard, Haverford, Holy Cross, Johns Hopkins, Illinois, Lafayette, Lehigh, Maine, M. A. C., M. I. T., Michigan, Middlebury, Minnesota, N. H. State, Norwich, Oberlin, Ohio State, Pennsylvania, Princeton, Purdue, Rochester, Syracuse, Trinity, Tufts, Vermont, Wesleyan, Western Reserve, Williams, Worcester Tech, Union, Yale.

INTERESTING RESEARCH BY PROFESSOR FRANKLIN.

The next issue of the American Folk Lore Magazine will contain an interesting article by Professor G. Bruce Franklin. It seems that Charles Sumner once asked Longfellow if the expression "Why don't you speak for yourself, John?" were original. Longfellow replied that it was not original but he did not know where it came from except that it had been handed down. Professor Franklin, while at Harvard, had access to the private correspondence of Longfellow and began a search for the origin of the expression. He has found a possible one in an old fourteenth century ballad and the research on the subject will be published in the Folk Lore Magazine.

OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN NAVAL RESERVE.

The Bar Harbor Section of the United States Naval Reserve Force has recently been authorized to enroll 70 men to rate as seamen, second class. Men between the ages of 18 and 30, in good physical condition, and who can show certificate from their local exemption board that they are not within the present quota are eligible. Men between the ages of 18 and 21 must have the written consent of their parents to enroll; and all men must volunteer for general service.

There are many attractive features of the Naval Reserve, such as opportunity for advancement and higher ratings, education along mechanical lines, opportunities to qualify and through study to become commissioned officers in both the merchant marine and in the regular navy.

Any men who are thinking of joining the Naval Reserve and wish information should address their communications to Section Commander, Bar Harbor, Maine.

PROFESSOR FREDERICK G. FASSETT RESIGNS.

The resignation of Professor F. G. Fassett, instructor in journalism and freshman rhetoric, has been tendered and accepted. Mr. Fassett has all his life been well known in journalistic circles, being at one time editor of the Waterville Sentinel, and his loss will be keenly felt at the college.

His classes for the next semester will be taken by Herbert C. Libby, and it is rumored that the work of the journalism course will be materially changed.

PRESIDENT ROBERTS HEADS NEW ROTARY CLUB.

The first meeting of representative business men of Waterville to form a local Rotary Club, resulted in the election of President Roberts of Colby to the presidency of the organization.

This is a bad year for business. The Echo is sending about 250 copies each week to soldiers. The college is paying nearly one-half the cost of these subscriptions. The Echo will be able to continue sending the boys in uniform these papers only if the men who are now in arrears on their subscriptions will pay promptly. They will by so doing be helping to send the college weekly to some soldier. Otherwise their own subscriptions will be discontinued immediately.

Come across.

THE MANAGEMENT.

THE COLBY ECHO

Published Wednesdays During the College Year by
the students of
COLBY COLLEGE

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The ECHO is devoted to the interests of the student body and Colby. All contributions should be in the ECHO box in the Library before 5 P. M., Monday.

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PRESS OF THE CITY JOB PRINT

Presumably as a direct result of an ECHO editorial, the chapel clock has again been set in motion. Let us see if a second reminder will cause the operator to set the hands a little nearer the correct time.

HOW ABOUT IT?

The lack of social affairs at Colby, this year, has been extremely noticeable. The only break in a long hard grind of study was the famous Thanksgiving dance which is still talked about; and even then many of the students were out of town. To be sure, some of the fraternities have held parties of one kind and another, but these have necessarily been limited to a favored few. They do not satisfy the need for an all college rally or give much opportunity for acquaintance between the two divisions of the college.

We have all been urged to remain in college until called by Uncle Sam for service. Many have done so, perhaps directly in response to this appeal.

Certainly none of us consider ourselves slackers because we have decided to continue our studies; and it is safe to say that only a handful would be left to begin the new semester if we began to think we were being thus considered.

The point is this, that while we are preparing to give our country a greater service at a time when she may need it even more than now, and while we are doing our best to this end in the class-room, we have a right to some form of social enjoyment, or, rather, we have no right to deny ourselves of it. And where can such enjoyment better be found than among our own classmates and college companions?

Let us look back for a moment and see what we really are missing this year. We have no "gym nights," no faculty teas, no Dramatic Club, no Colby Day celebration; in fact we have had remarkably few of the affairs that serve to break up the monotony of a long Maine winter and infuse a little college or community spirit into our hearts.

The President properly deploras the fact that so many boys and a few girls attend the public dances, yet no solution is proposed. It is barely possible that informal inexpensive college dances or parties held twice a month in the gymnasium would satisfy the social craving to some extent. In having such, the college would be blazing no unbeaten trail, since most colleges have supported entertainments of this kind for years.

If the powers that be are not sufficiently interested in the matter, or are too busy to attend to it, why wouldn't this be an excellent opportunity for the Student Council to prove its *raison d'être*?

SERVICE DE L'AIDE AUX PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE.

Paris, July 14th, 1917.

(Report of Clarence R. Johnson on visit made with Prof. Anthony W. Chez among groups of Austrian Prisoners of War.)

Together with Prof. Anthony W. Chez I have visited within the last seven weeks groups of Austrian prisoners of war at Caen, Cherbourg, Roche Maurice, La Pallice, Blaye, Bordeaux and Trompe-loup. There are about a dozen different nationalities represented among these prisoners and Mr. Chez with his excellent knowledge of Czech and his acquaintance with Slovak, Hungarian, etc., was able to talk with practically all of them. This was the case at Roche Maurice one evening at sunset, when the commanding officer had the different groups lined up so that Mr. Chez might address them separately. He didn't talk twelve different languages, to be sure, but he did talk so that they all seemed to understand. Their faces beamed with joy. For many of them it was the first time that someone from the big outside world had come to

them since they became prisoners and addressed them in a language they understood. One Czech said that it was like dew coming down from Heaven and falling on a parched ground.

Music.

Music is always the one great solace of these men and everywhere we went they had some instruments and on a few minutes' notice they were ready to play for us. Sometimes they played on instruments of their own make, sometimes on instruments they had hired, or again on those we had furnished. The music was always good, for the musicians did their very best to entertain us. "We, too, want to give something" a prisoner once said to me and these different prisoners put their very souls into their playing.

Books.

By far the greatest need of the Hungarians, Czechs, Slovaks, Serbs, Croats, Roumanians, etc., is books. "Give us books," "Give us books," "Give us books," is the cry everywhere from these prisoners. We have organized circulating libraries for the German prisoners of war which is meeting their need even in the small detachments but for these different races we have been unable to get the books, except for a few Roumanian-French dictionaries, and some Serbian-French dictionaries, grammars and manuals of conversation which have recently been published in Paris. We have cabled to New York for some publications in these various languages and we hope that with our cosmopolitan population in America we shall be able to find some books, novels principally, for these men who are destitute of reading matter. We, who have been used to large libraries all our lives, let us try to put ourselves in the place of men like the Serbian prisoner, who one night in the arsenal at Cherbourg followed us to the door, and once again, as he reluctantly said goodnight, telling us how hungry he was for something to read urged us not to forget to send some books.

* * * * *

Cinema.

In lieu of a social hall, the commandant at Hautes Founaux put a barrack, soon to be occupied by prisoners, at our disposal and in the arsenal at Cherbourg the prisoners hurriedly took down some of the hammocks in which they sleep in order that we might give our cinema show. The happiness of those men as they enjoyed the pictures is beyond description. They assured us that they would gladly stay up all night if we would only keep on repeating the pictures. Some of them had never seen a cinema before, none of them had seen one since that tragic march through Serbia and Albania to Italy when all but seventeen thousand out of their sixty-five thousand strong that had been made prisoners by the Serbs, were mowed down by cholera

and famine. A medical student in one of these Detachments told us that during the retreat as far as Old Serbia they were guarded as prisoners, but after that, each one whether guard or prisoner looked out for himself. They had very little to eat and he himself saw men eat horse meat, cut from a horse that had been dead a couple of months, rather than die of starvation. Many of their band, without record as to name, were buried in a big hole. Others were not even buried, for from sheer weakness they fell over the dizzy mountain heights into the valleys below and were never seen again. These prisoners said that nothing in life could be hard after all that they went through during that retreat.

An evening of cinema is always an occasion for an improvised concert and the music together with the pictures is a sort of wedge that opens up the possibility for heart to heart conversations with the prisoners. Some of them have been in the United States and they like to gather around the Secretary for a chat in English while their comrades look on in admiration. They seem to remember our American slang especially well as I remarked one night at Hautes Founaux when after having shaken hands with some twenty-five of the men a certain Austrian came up for his hand-shake and told me that he had been in McKeesport, Penn., six years before going back to Austria in 1911. It was a "Son-of-a-gun" that he had then, he said, for it resulted in his becoming a prisoner of war. He almost broke down as he told me that he had been a prisoner for nearly three years, but then he cheered up again and we had five jolly minutes together. He said his name is "Mike" and when I told him that, according to my Big Brother, mine is "Jim," he said that was a "Son-of-a-gun." I asked him if he had ever seen the Y. M. C. A. in McKeesport, and he said he had. Then I mentioned that I was a Y. M. C. A. secretary and his one expression was "Son-of-a-gun." All I could say brought forth the inevitable "Son-of-a-gun" and he seemed to enjoy saying that as much as Roosevelt would saying "Bully." What this man lacked in vocabulary he made up in the expressiveness he gave to his words and in the kindly spirit which made his face glow.

It is to men like "Mike," men like the medical student, both of whom are young like ourselves, it is to their brave comrades of the Serbian retreat, many of them older than we are, men who are the fathers of children and who see one year after another slipping away while they are still prisoners of war and unable to provide for those children,—it is to such men that the Young Men's Christian Association is ministering. It is to such men that we would send not only games and instruments, but books that they can read and barracks in which they

can have something of a home during their captivity. The kindness with which the French Government is looking out for the physical welfare of these Austrian prisoners, as well as of its other prisoners of war, is a credit to the French nation. The mission of our society is to supplement that kindness by adding some of the sweetness of life which governments can hardly be expected to give.

One French officer kindly thanked us for our devotion to the prisoners of his camp, but it is we who are thankful for the privilege of bringing a ray of sunshine and a hearty laugh to brave men like these. Another officer struck the right chord when he said, "It must be wonderful just to go around making people happy."

CAMPUS CHAT

The Maine Masque will open its twelfth season this Friday night when it will present its play at the Insane Hospital at Bangor.

—Maine Campus.

Colby Dramatic Club please take notice. Perhaps a certain Augusta institution would appreciate "Ferguson of Troy."

A. T. Ω.

Olin K. Porter, '20, called at the house, Saturday. He was on his way to Portland in response to a call from the Navy Department.

Alfred Fraas, '20, has returned to college after a few days' trip to his home in Fitchburg occasioned by the illness of his mother.

Tom Urie, '20, was in Boston for several days last week on business for the fraternity.

H. Δ. Φ.

The Rev. Mr. Miller of Crystal, visited Tracy, '18, Friday evening.

O. O.

Waldo C. Lincoln, '16, sub-master of the East Maine Conference Seminary at Bucksport, is in town, called here for physical examination.

WOMEN'S DIVISION

Edited by the News Editor of the Colbiana,
Doris Andrews, '18.

Assistants: Gladys Twitchell, '18,
Josephine Rice, '19,
Esther Power, '20,
Dorothy Rounds, '21;

Sunday, February 24, the Universal Day of Prayer for Students, was observed by a short meeting in Foss Hall parlor, led by Alberta Shepherd, '18, president of Y. W. C. A. This week in place of the usual chapel exercises, short prayer services are conducted by members of the faculty at Foss Hall.

Hazel Loane, '18, has been called to her home in Fort Fairfield by the illness of her mother.

Kappa Alpha held a meeting Friday evening and enjoyed a "feed" of oyster stew and apple pie with ice cream.

Marion Lewis, '18, has been called to Fryeburg by the illness of her aunt.

A very interesting Y. W. C. A. meeting Thursday night was led by Alice Barbour, '19, the subject being "Mountain Whites."

Dorothy Roberts, '18, has been obliged to leave college for a short time on account of the illness of her sister.

Those awful mid-years! Heard during morning prayers while repeating the twenty-third Psalm! —"My head runneth over."

Signs found on Foss Hall doors during "exams:"

"Keep the home fires burning,

And we'll do the same."

"Leave your card

And take your leave."

"Absence makes the heart grow fonder,

Take the hint, don't linger longer."

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8.30 to 9.30 P. M."

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Dr. Phelps's topic:
**"My Experiences
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What he saw in the Forts and
Camps at Newport, R. I.

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Sunday Evening

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Methodist Episcopal Church, Pleasant Street

Ernest A. Legg, Pastor

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Episcopal

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