

❖ ❖ ❖ **History of the Law Class.** ❖ ❖ ❖

“Cato's voice was ne'er employed
To clear the guilty and to varnish crime.”



Thus good begins in the hearts of the lawyers who, for the most part, are fond of assuring their friends and acquaintances that witnesses lie, lawyers *never*. However this may be, it is not the function of the present sketch to disclose. But as the Class of Ninety-Six is different in many respects from preceding ones; the delvers in old English and Roman law maxims and fosterers of one of the most elevating and just professions invite more than casual attention. In consigning these differences to the dignified pages of a Class history, bombastic aspirations are transcended, and the sincere wish that the present successes of this branch of the University are but the *avant coureur* of its future, and not merely the *ne plus ultra* of the past, is thereby humbly expressed.

❖ ❖ ❖ **Retrospect.** ❖ ❖ ❖

“A statue lies hid in a block of marble; and the art of statuary only clears away the superfluous matter and removes the rubbish.” So it is with the art of statuary, and so it is with the science of law, and to the chiseling of this fair arm of the University, which has pointed out the intricacies and cleared away the cobwebs for many of Georgia's ablest jurists in their legal infancy, the same principle has been applied. Care and patience and the determined yet erudite touch of the sculptor's mallet has bestowed upon it a shroud of dignity, that commands respect, secures influence and prestige—all of which conscientious effort has attained and accomplishment has bequeathed to the Class of Ninety-Six.

Steady advancement and slow but indisputable conglutination of the elements of success, fettered by financial circumstances, have marked its history, while through the efficient aid of retrospection, we are enabled to see along the line, the good qualities enduring, where the evil have been crushed out and the prognosis of the acme, the Class of Ninety-Five.

This class passed from the demure old Ivy building, carrying with them the impress of a distinct epoch—that of advancement. Another summer's dust settled upon the lawyer's sanctum sanctorum to mark another year and cherish the memories of '95. Everything was joyous and resplendent, presaging the climax of '96.

• • • The Present. • • •

Many events have transpired that might, with strict propriety, be embodied in this pseudonymous history of the Law Class, but with an ordinary appreciation of the extent of human endurance, we shall confine ourselves to the observation of a few of the radicalities.

It is worthy of note that the "Empire State," inculcating the excellent motto *Excelsior*, has thereby lost some of her sons. One of them, amending Horace Greeley's exhortation to read "Go South, etc.," came South, and still clinging to his native motto "higher," found himself very soon thereafter at the University of Georgia, a *student of law*. Every clime has paid its tribute and bowed before undoubted efficiency. From the niveous hills of the north and the piping plains of the southwest; from the land of the lasso, mustang and "puncher," and the flats of the Peninsula State; from the home of the Montezumas and Malinché, of the manga and scrape, from all these our numbers have come, while to old Georgia remains the honor of swelling the ranks to that distinguished proportion, which by demonstrating the cardinal object of its existence, i. e., success, bestows unprecedented credit on the Law Department.

The corn patch and stenographer's desk are deprived of wonted patronizers. Agrestic habits and tastes stride hand in hand with the urban element, towards the common goal. Singleness of ambition and mutuality of woes and blessings cementing the tender bonds of good-will, among the "gentlemen of the long robe," stamped every official act of the Class of Ninety-Six with the unmistakable badge of blandness and unity.

This admirable spirit became one absorbing passion and being evinced on every occasion and under varying circumstances: for example, the stout and stormy career of the Moot Parliament, where having entered into the entanglements and depths of parliamentary law with a zeal worthy of more inspired fanatics, the lawyers soon found it prosaic, and during the flippant discussion of a motion to adjourn to a definite time, the "fiddle and de bo" gave out, the former charm fell flat, and they adjourned in a summary manner.

Two have severed this happy balsamic bond, one to enter a different sphere, and the other to pursue his chosen duties in a different portion of this wide, wide world. The latter, a devotee of the manly game, graced the University gridiron, accomplishing the difficult task of "making the team," and followed its fortunes during the entire season.

The first of commendable *bonbommie*, remembering a couplet universally known and remembered, *i. e.*,

"There is a tide in the affairs of men

Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune,"

grasped the opportunity of advancing himself in the great whirl of business life and shed the legal crust that had begun to overspread his blithesome features, bidding Blackstone a *fond* adieu.

Thus time has voyaged its rosy way, filled for the nonce with hope and again with despair, while the ever riding cavalier, the Present, with his keenest of sabres, stern reality, cuts away the weaklings of our speculative minds. To the lawyer, in his capacity of student of law, this cavalier of checkered history is the sculptor of a laudable ambition as he traces on the adamantine corner-stone of his legal knowledge, Butler's words,

"With books and (money) placed for show
Like nest-eggs to make clients lay,
And for his false opinion pay."

HISTORIAN.



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Law Department--Calendar, 1896-97.

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| <p>Sept. 16, Wednesday, Autumn Term begins. Matriculation.</p> <p>“ 17, Thursday, Lectures on Constitution of United States begin.
Blackstone, Book I, taken up by class.</p> <p>Oct. 1, Thursday, Examination on Constitution of United States.</p> <p>“ 2, Friday, Lectures on Medical Jurisprudence begin.</p> <p>“ 5, Monday, Clark on Contracts taken up.</p> <p>“ 10, Saturday, Examination on Blackstone, Book I.</p> <p>“ 12, Monday, Blackstone, Book II, taken up.</p> <p>Nov. 14, Wednesday, Examination on Blackstone, Book II.</p> <p>“ 15, Thursday, Fishback's Elementary Law taken up.</p> <p>“ 18, Wednesday, Examination on Contracts.</p> <p>“ 19, Thursday, Cooley's Elements of Torts taken up.</p> <p>“ 26, Thursday, National Thanksgiving Day.</p> <p>Dec. 14, Monday, Criminal Law and Code, Part IV, taken up.</p> <p>“ 19, Saturday, Lectures on Medical Jurisprudence suspended.</p> <p>“ 22, Tuesday, Examination on Elementary Law.</p> <p>“ 23, Wednesday, Examination on Torts.</p> <p>“ 24, Thursday, Christmas recess begins.</p> <p>Jan. 2, Saturday, Spring Term begins.
Greenleaf on Evidence taken up.
Fetter on Equity taken up.</p> <p>“ 15, Friday, Lectures on Parliamentary Law begin.</p> | <p>Jan. 19, Tuesday, Birthday of R. E. Lee, Holiday.</p> <p>Feb. 1, Monday, Moot Parliament organized.</p> <p>“ 15, Monday, Examination on Evidence.</p> <p>“ 16, Tuesday, Parliamentary Law concluded.
Statute Law, Code of Georgia, Part II, taken up.</p> <p>“ 19, Friday, Anniversary of Demosthenian Society.</p> <p>“ 22, Monday, Anniversary of Phi Kappa Society.</p> <p>March 1, Monday, Examination on Equity.</p> <p>“ 2, Tuesday, Shipman's Common Law Pleading taken up.</p> <p>“ 3, Wednesday, Lectures on Medical Jurisprudence resumed.</p> <p>April 15, Thursday, Medical Jurisprudence concluded.</p> <p>“ 16, Friday, Examination on Statute Law.</p> <p>“ 19, Monday, Lectures on Constitution of Georgia begin.
Governmental Code, Part I, taken up.</p> <p>May 1, Saturday, Examination on Pleading.</p> <p>“ 3, Monday, Moot Court organized.</p> <p>June 10, Thursday, Examination on Governmental Code.</p> <p>“ 11, Friday, Examination on Constitution of Georgia.</p> <p>“ 16, Wednesday, Commencement Day, Degrees conferred.
N. B. The Code of Practice, Part III, is taken up in detail after Evidence and Pleading.</p> |
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