

The Gold and Blue Fencing Class.

ON THE coming of Dr. Dawson to Delaware College not a few of the students became highly interested in the graceful art of fencing. Dr. Dawson is a graduate of Heidelberg, where, instead of teaching "close formation" and other tactics of hand-to-hand encounter on the gridiron, they teach how to wield the foil. I am afraid that we all had visions of scars obtained in mortal combat, but, of course, one's wildest hopes are never realized, for which we, at least, should be thankful.

The first thing we did on learning that Dr. Dawson would act as instructor was to buy foils, masks, gloves, hair-mattresses, and all the other paraphernalia used. Each man provided himself with the following articles: One mask, one foil and one-half dozen extra blades, one right-hand 8-ounce boxing glove, one hair-mattress (sometimes called plastrons), one dozen first aid bandages, one ambulance and one special hospital made to order. Then came the great day, after all our equipment had been assembled and buckled on, when we strode forth to our first lesson. The first point we were taught—and one which is well worth remembering—is to always hold your foil by the handle. This may also apply to men who are sometimes surprised to find themselves grasping a handful of air and in due course of time the foil falls to earth. We were told that this little stunt is called "unhorsing a man."

After this we were taught how to stand and then came an endless number of thrusts, lunges, parries and feints, until we could *parry of quarte* and *riposte*—the fencing book says that if you riposte accurately, he is "your meat." We hope he is; he ought to be, if he is not.

After getting some of the simpler strokes and parries we got down to business, and many an evening the clink and whir of blades could be heard on the "*Roxe*" settling old disputes of long standing with the "*Den*." It was during these bloody mortal combats that we saw the advantage of our hair-mattress armor, for without it, I, for one, would be very much like a sieve.

Fencing certainly is a beautiful sight, especially when you see some one who is a master of the art, standing up in a graceful position, whirling his blade by a slight turn of the wrist; whirling his blade so fast that it dazzles the eye to watch it, and after a number of feints and parries

he lunges forth in *Tierce* and strikes! Yes, he strikes, but it is only empty air. Then is the time when the graceful art of fencing shows up to the best advantages.

No doubt some of our Gold and Blue fencers will soon be seen in all the large fencing tournaments of this country, and if they are, then Old Delaware will come off with honors.

The following is a list of officers and members:

DR. DAWSON, *Instructor.*

F. C. CLARK, *President.*

H. H. HICKMAN, *Vice-President.*

L. W. HICKMAN, *Secretary and Treasurer.*

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J. L. SOPER.

E. D. NEHL, JR.

M. T. GRIFFITH.

J. B. FOSTER.

A Member.





THE FENCING TEAM.

The Mask and Wig Club

IN THE fall of 1901, through the efforts of a few men, a College Mask and Wig Club was organized. Under this were included the Glee Club, the Banjo and Mandolin Club and the College Orchestra. We seemed to have struck the right chord, for men flocked together to take some part in the show. Notwithstanding this, there was much hard work connected with it.

We decided to give a minstrel show, as that was probably the easiest to get up, and besides, we seem to have men just suited for the places. McDaniel, '02, as interlocutor, received all the jokes and bits of fun told at his expense with unvarying equanimity. Huxley, '02; Hickman, '03; Jackson, '04, and Groves, '04, took the positions of end men, and always pleased the audiences.

After the overture there were several very good specialties. The College Quartette, including Huxley, Cooper, Kyle and Jones, was delightful, and truly made the greatest hit. The Banjo and Mandolin Club were a revelation to our audiences, and between the acts the Orchestra furnished good music.

Our first appearance was before a crowded house in the College Oratory. Our Newark friends turned out in full force to see our performance. We gave a good show there, and then during Easter vacation we went down the State to Milford, Seaford, Dover and Smyrna. This trip was a mutual revelation to our down-State friends, and to many of us. Our friends did not know we could get up such a creditable performance in the College, and many of us from the northern part of the State did not know how many very nice people lived down the State, nor that they could be so hospitable and do so much for us. We enjoyed ourselves immensely, and received many and pressing invitations to come again.

Later we went over to Elkton, where we found how hospitable Marylanders could be and how appreciative an audience they made. After much debate in the Executive Committee it was decided to take the show to Wilmington. We did so, and made a great success of it, having a

larger audience than any other College clubs which have visited that city. And the dance afterward was greatly enjoyed by us all.

The officers for the season were:

Manager—J. E. GROVE PARDEE, '03.

Stage Director—CUMMINS E. SPEAKMAN, '02.

Treasurer—CHARLES W. BUSH, '02.

Executive Committee—CLIFTON, '02; CANN, '02; PARDEE, '03; BUSH, '03; JACKSON, '04.

This, our first venture in the dramatic line, was a success as a show, and a success financially. It was everywhere received enthusiastically, and we made a very good sum of money. We all felt that we were to be congratulated on our first year's work.

This year we started out with nearly the same management, namely:

J. E. GROVE PARDEE, '03, *Manager*.

GEORGE I. LOCKWOOD, '03, *Assistant Manager*.

BASSETT FERGUSON, '04, *Stage Director*.

CHARLES W. BUSH, '03, *Treasurer*.

Executive Committee—PARDEE, '03; HICKMAN, '03; BUSH, '03; FERGUSON, '04; POWELL, '04.

We debated long as to whether we should give a minstrel show or a comedy, but when one of the students wrote a two-act comedy, "The Little Freshman's Minstrels," we decided to give that. We have never regretted our choice. Of course, we gave the first performance in Newark, and were greeted by a large and appreciative audience. During Easter vacation we went down the State again to Milford, Dover and Smyrna. This trip was enjoyed as much as that of last year, and the only thing about which we could complain was the bad weather. We went to Elkton again, and were treated as royally as before. We went to Wilmington, but not succeeding so well as we thought we could, we went up again and did far better. We yet have an engagement at Delaware City, and, although this is new ground to us, we have been promised a full house and a good time.

There has been some complaint that too much time was lost in fooling with the Mask and

Wig, that it took our minds from our studies and prevented us from doing as good work in the class-room as we otherwise might. But we firmly believe that time spent in this manner is not wasted. On the other hand, it is beneficial. It trains the boys to go before audiences without embarrassment, and to think and act for themselves. If one confines one's self to books alone, a narrow mind will be the result, and while the Mask and Wig is not especially adapted to broaden minds, it is one of the many things about a College which helps to do it.

The future of the Mask and Wig can not be predicted, but next year there will surely be a show of some character, and, from present appearances and by the promising material we have, it will reach, or even surpass, the present organization.





Leader—HENRY L. MAIER, '01.

First Banjos.

A. W. POWELL, '04.

G. W. HESSLER, '05.

First Mandolins.

J. T. ANDREWS, '04.

W. S. KENNEDY, JR., '05.

J. P. THOMPSON, '05.

Second Banjos.

H. L. WRIGHT, '03.

H. H. HICKMAN, '05.

J. S. GROVES, '04.

Second Mandolins.

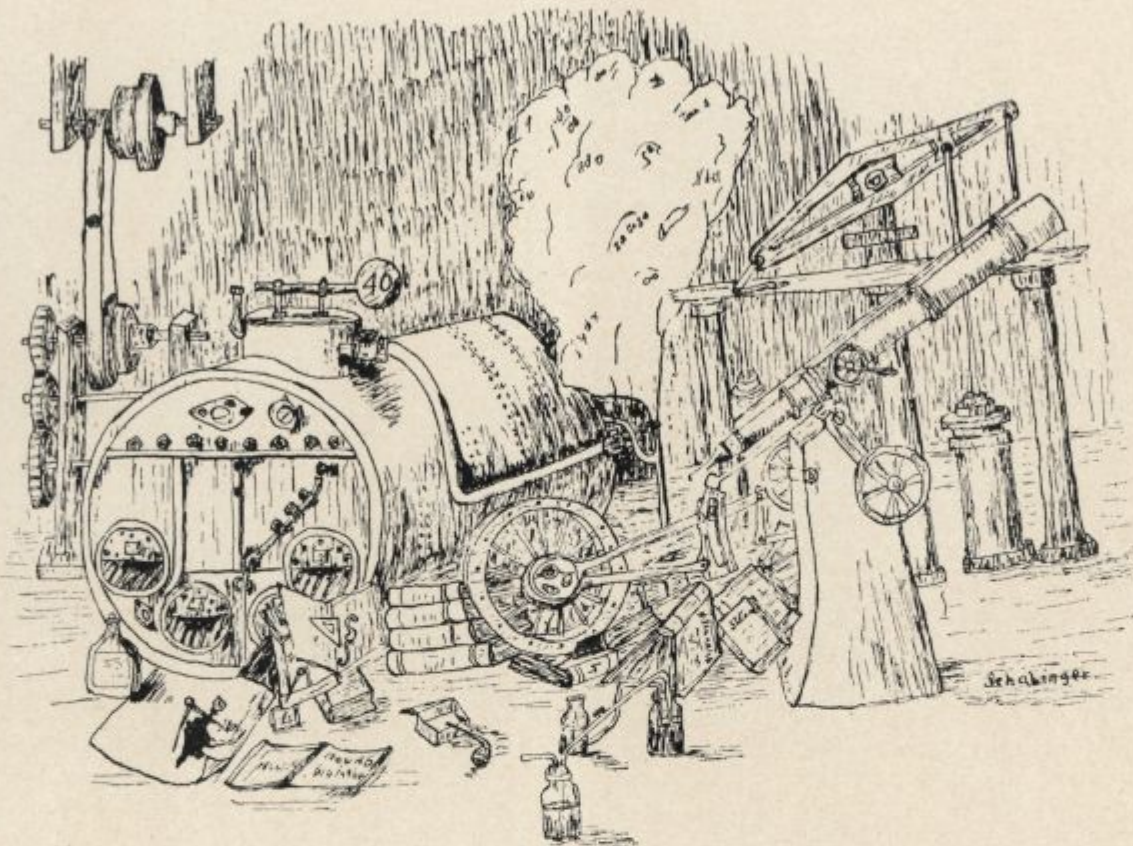
J. F. CARRICK, '05.

A. F. FADER, '06.



THE BANJO AND MANDOLIN CLUB.

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A. J. WOOD, M.E.

The Engineering Society

PROMINENT among the new enterprises at Delaware College this year has been the organization of the Delaware College Engineering Society. It appears to be the spontaneous outgrowth of a feeling of long standing in the minds of several, and which has finally taken form in this society.

The first regular meeting was held November 17th, 1902, at which time the present constitution was adopted, and the first President, F. C. Clark, '03, was elected. Since that time the society has held its regular monthly meetings, at which papers have been presented by the members.

Among some of the topics presented and discussed we note the following: "Electric Train Lighting," "Manufacture of Incandescent Lamps," "Development of Power at Niagara Falls," and many others of interest.

Two lectures have also been given before the society, one by Mr. T. C. Martin, editor of *Electrical World and Engineer*; another by Professor Spangler, of the University of Pennsylvania, and at the present time arrangements are being made to establish a course of lectures to be given at regular intervals during the year.

This society furnishes the only opportunity for training and practice in speaking and debating outside of what may be afforded in the Literary Societies, and on this account is doubly valuable to its members.

As only members of the Junior and Senior Classes and special students in Chemistry are eligible to active membership, its roll can never be very long, but with the few from each class who really are interested in the welfare of the society, there is no reason why its career should not be a long and eminently prosperous one, especially since we have the hearty sympathy and approval of the faculty.

This society now has a recognized place among us; it fills a long-felt want; let all give it their support and wish for it a long and useful existence.

Delaware Song

Come ye forth all ye sons to greet her :
To your *Alma Mater* sing ;
Let our song rise to tell here glories,
Let each voice with gladness ring.
Of her fame let us ne'er tire singing,
Let her victories be told ;
We can well be proud of dear Old Delaware,
So cheer the blue and gold.

CHORUS :

True her blue as the skies of heaven,
Purity and worth her gold ;
They stand forth a banner emblematic,
Truth and knowledge they unfold.
Raise this flag to the starry heavens,
All, when they her folds behold,
Off will come all hats, and then just once again
We'll cheer the blue and gold.

CHORUS :

CHORUS :

Rah ! rah ! rah ! hurrah for Delaware !
Rah ! rah ! rah ! with name and fame so fair.
Rah ! rah ! rah ! may her glories never
grow old ;
Boys, let's cheer that name so dear,
Rah for the blue and gold.





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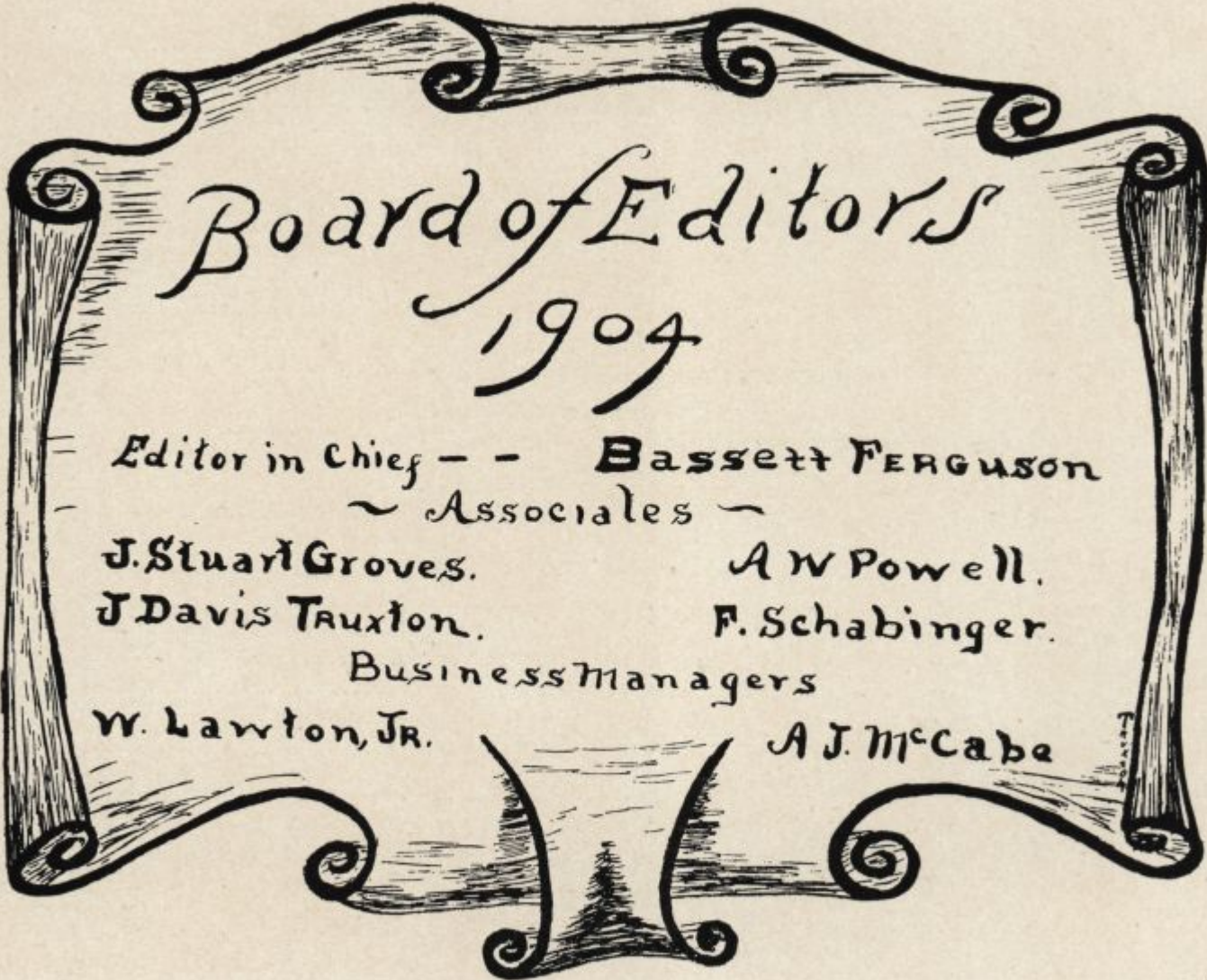
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