

## PRIDE OF THE SOUTH

### DISASTER OVERTAKES VIRGINIA'S FAMOUS UNIVERSITY.

The Seat of Learning at Charlottesville, Founded by Thomas Jefferson, Crippled by a Fire—Scheme of the Institution.

THE recent fire at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Va., was a cause of grief not only to the graduates and immediate friends of that institution, but also to a far greater number of the people who know it only by reputation as one of the most honorable seats of learning in the country. The creation of such an institution had long been a dream of Thomas Jefferson, and the just pride that he took in its realization was illustrated by the inscription that he prepared for his

his hope was "to draw from Europe the first characters in science."

In 1819 a charter was obtained from the Virginia Legislature and a location selected at Charlottesville, in Albemarle County. The corner stone of the university was laid in the presence of a great concourse of people, chief among them being Jefferson, Madison and Monroe, two ex-Presidents and the then President. The place was only five miles distant from Monticello, Jefferson's country seat, and Jefferson daily watched the new buildings as they arose. It was the last work of his life, the crowning grace of a career spent in the public service and for good of his country.

A large sum of money had been raised by public subscription, Jefferson himself contributing \$10,000, but it was not Jefferson's idea that it should be a private institution. He intended that it should be a State institution, to be supported largely by the State, and this was where the tug of war

of action, not because such books should not be read, but because they had no place in the library of an educational institution.

Jefferson's idea of college or university discipline was to place the students on honor, trusting them as gentlemen to conform to the rules of the institution. It has worked with admirable success as a rule. A spirit of freedom has been developed, and while there have been individuals who have proved false, the great body of the students have been faithful to high ideals of behavior.

When the Civil War came the majority of the Southern students cast their fortunes with the army of the Confederacy, and the university was subjected to a severe ordeal. When the war broke out the average attendance of students was 650. It fell at once to a score or two, but the institution was kept open, and only once did the war come near it. In March, 1865, General Sheridan and his cavalry was at Charlottesville for a number of days, but during his stay he placed guards around the grounds of the university, and preserved the property uninjured. Since the war the university has regained its ancient prestige, the attendance being larger than ever before.

The present disaster will be a great blow, for it cannot be restored as it was, and many of the historical associations will be destroyed forever. The hopeful side of this melancholy picture is seen in the promptness and zeal with which the faculty have started a movement to restore the burned buildings, and at the same time to provide the university with other buildings that have long been sadly needed. It is proposed to re-erect the rotunda on the old lines, and thus perpetuate the outward evidence of Jefferson's work as the founder of the institution. The estimated cost of this restoration is \$80,000, and a new building is desired to replace the annex which shall cost \$90,000; while other structures that are needed at the earliest possible moment will call for \$76,000, and the purchase of new books and the proper endowment of the library \$50,000 apiece—a grand total of \$346,000, towards which insurance and endowments in hand will provide \$38,000. There is thus required, the faculty estimate, \$288,000 "to rehabilitate our alma mater in a manner not unworthy of her illustrious father and her devoted sons."

A confident appeal for help will be made to the Virginia Legislature, but pending its action, the faculty invite the alumni of the institution to share in the work. "Nor should the call reach only graduates of the university," says the New York Post. "Its fullest importance is a matter of National importance, and no friend of education in any part of the country could do better service for the up-building of the South, and thereby of the whole country, than by a contribution to this fund."

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## FASHION'S FIAT

### CHINCHILLA DECREED THE FUR OF THE SEASON.

Description of a Fashionable Cape of Black Astrakhan—Waists of Brown Crepon and Velvet—New Use for Old Capes.

FASHION declared early in the fall that chinchilla should be the fur of the season, and since then the leading furriers have been putting their experienced heads together in designing new and becoming chinchilla wraps. Great has been their success. The victorine of chinchilla, with its quaint collar and long stole ends, is one of the most effective fur garments imaginable. It is exquisite when worn with a dark velvet costume. Chinchilla capes, which hang in soft, bewitching ripples, are the most correct wraps for

sleeves stand out fashionable above the elbow, with gathered fullness at the top, the close-fitting wrists being plainly completed. Waists of silk can be thus made to wear with separate skirts, of black crepon, silk, satin or velvet.

The quantity of 44-inch wide material required to make this basque for a lady having a 32-inch bust measure is 3½ yards; for a 26-inch size, 3¼ yards; for a 40-inch size, 4 yards.

#### NEW USE FOR OLD CAPES.

So many women are just now groaning over the possibilities (or impossibilities) of their fur capes, which have been left over since last season, or longer, that a timely suggestion, says the New York Herald, might be offered for using them. Often these garments are of good fur, and presentable as to outside, but the shape is hopelessly out of date and the lining worn. There is so little fur in one that it will only make a small collar if remodelled and

## CRAILO MANOR HOUSE.

Supposed to Be the Oldest Dwelling in This Country.

Contrary to general expectation, says the New York Times, the famous Crailo manor house is not to be demolished. This will be extremely interesting news to many people throughout the United States, but more particularly those of Eastern New York. The historical old place



OLDEST DWELLING IN THE UNION.

stands in one of the picturesque streets of Greenbush, just across the Hudson River from Albany. It was near this house that "Yankee Doodle" was written. For years the old block house has been fast decaying under the ruthless ravages of time and the elements. The Society of Colonial Dames, recognizing the value of this, the oldest house in the United States, has leased it for a term of fifteen years. When the improvements now in progress shall have been completed a custodian will be placed in charge. By the payment of a small entrance fee it will be accessible to all visitors.

The building was erected in 1642 as a manor house and place of defense, and was known as Fort Crailo. It was General Abercrombie's headquarters while that doughty warrior was marching to attack Fort Ticonderoga, in 1758. It was at the cantonment east of this house, near the old well, that the Army Surgeon, R. Shuckburgh, composed the immortal song, "Yankee Doodle." The house is the original homestead of the younger and larger branch of the Van Rensselaer family, after whom the county was named. According to the best histories, the building was erected by Killian Van Rensselaer for his son Johannes between the years 1630 and 1642.

The building is a two-story and attic brick structure of most substantial construction. The walls are of great thickness, and are still pierced with two of the nine stone loopholes which once commanded the approaches. The beams of hewn pine are of unusual size, some of them being sixteen inches square. About the middle of the eighteenth century the rude fortress-like dwelling was transformed into a handsome residence, and an addition was made in the rear in 1740. The main entrance is in the middle of the river front and gives access to a small hall, from which open doors leading to the main rooms on either side. At the end of the hall springs an arch, the impost and soffits of which are ornamented with delicate garlands in low relief. A second and much larger paneled hall, opening upon the porch at the left, intersects this hall at the centre of the house. The old Crailo manor house is most curiously planned. All the rooms connect with each other, usually by means of closets, but as there are several levels on the same story the doors in some cases open several feet above the level of the floor of the lower room. There is no apparent reason for this difference of level, unless it was purposely designed to increase the difficulty of capture in the event of the house being taken by an enemy.

The building some years ago passed out of the hands of the Van Rensselaers, and the property was in litigation for nearly two years. During that time it was the retreat of a band of young ruffians who broke the windows, defaced the woodwork, and demolished the mantels and balusters. Prior to that time the old manor was visited by people from all parts of the United States. It is famous in history and song.

#### A Chicken Kills a Hawk.

A spring chicken is not always tender game, as a bloodthirsty hawk found to his sorrow at Samuel Weaver's farm, at Reigelsville, Penn. The hawk pounced jauntily upon the fowl, which at once began to peck and claw the bird of prey fiercely. Mr. Weaver found the hawk dead half an hour later.

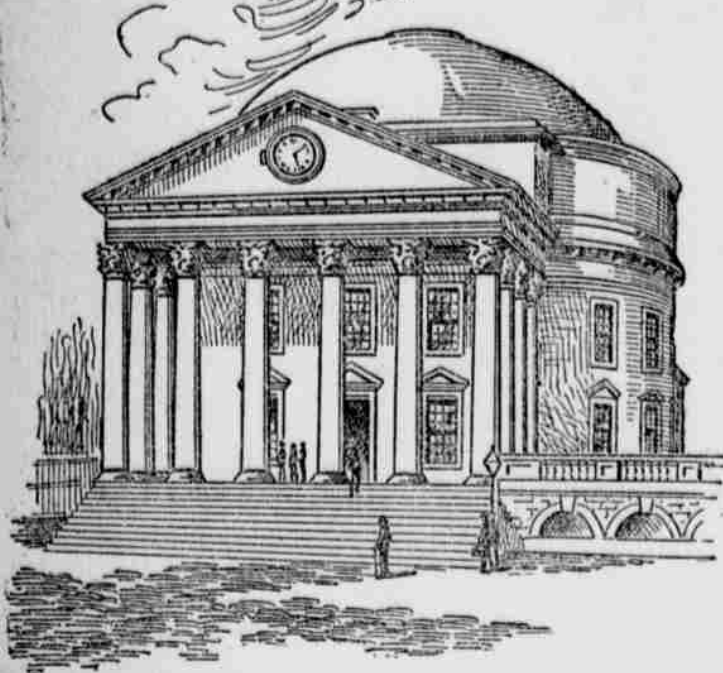
#### A Hospitable Invitation.

He stayed a whole month with his friend in Paris, and on his departure shook his host warmly by the hand, and thanked him effusively for his hospitality, saying: "If ever you are out my way I shall be very offended if you don't come straight to me, and let me find you a good hotel!"

#### In the Same Boat.



"Is it true that you caught the richest man at the beach last summer? I heard you were engaged to him." "Of course I was engaged to him! Do you think I wanted to be the only girl that was not?"—Truth.



THE BURNED ROTUNDA, UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA.

tombstone, which cites the fact that he was "Father of the University of Virginia" as a claim to remembrance worthy to be joined with "Author of the Declaration of American Independence, and of the Statute of Vir-

came. The Virginia Legislature was not accustomed to appropriate money for such objects. The people were poor, money came hard, and party passion was not extinct.

A very respectable and influential minority in the State were opposed to Jefferson on many grounds, but more particularly on the ground of religion. Orthodoxy was still powerful, and it was feared that an educational institution fostered by Thomas Jefferson would teach freethinking in religion, if not atheism. He finally conquered, however. Goodly sums were appropriated to erect the handsome buildings that Jefferson planned. Three hundred thousand dollars in all were given for the buildings—a large sum of money in the early days of this century—and \$15,000 a year was devoted to the support of the institution.

Jefferson was the Chairman of the First Board of Trustees, and it was the work of the last years of his life to superintend the buildings as they were erected. He engaged workmen, selected timber, bought bricks, and even hired workmen to come from Italy to make the carvings in stone. In the buildings he endeavored to give examples of every style of architecture.

Then came the time for selecting professors. There was to be no President, all of the faculty being of equal rank, except that one should be chosen as Chairman. At that time Dr. Thomas Cooper, a refugee thirty years before from England, was the foremost chemist of the time and noted for his scientific attainments. Four States were competing for his services in their schools of learning, but when Jefferson invited him to Charlottesville he accepted. The orthodox Virginians,



STATUE OF MR. JEFFERSON—BY GALT.

ginia for Religious Freedom." The chief building of the university was the rotunda, which was planned by Jefferson and erected under his supervision, and which gave the institution a distinctive character that elevated it above the usual conventional environ-

ment of our colleges. The rotunda was destroyed by the fire, and so was the annex, the next building in importance, and with them was lost the greater part of the library. The damage, so far as it can be expressed in money, probably reaches \$150,000.

The university was the favorite project of Thomas Jefferson for forty years. As early as 1779 he conceived the idea, but the public demands upon his time for many years were so great that it was not until after the peace with England in 1815 that he could give his undivided attention to it. He proposed to found "a university on a plan so broad, liberal and modern as to be worth patronizing with the public support and be a temptation to the youth of other States to come and drink of the cup of knowledge and fraternize with us." Such was his language to Dr. Priestley in 1800, and

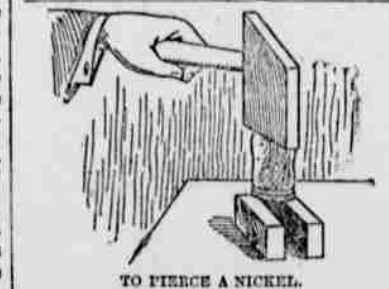
however, would not stand it, for Dr. Cooper was a Unitarian, and a storm was evoked that threatened the well-being of the university. Jefferson was obliged to yield and relinquished Dr. Cooper to one of the other institutions competing for his services.

The main body of the professors were engaged in England, only the chairs of law, ethics and chemistry being filled from the United States, and in March, 1825, the university was opened with forty students. Before the beginning of the second year there were over 170 students in attendance. From the date of its opening down to the beginning of the Civil War the average attendance was larger, there being representatives from nearly all the States, though, of course, mainly from the Southern States.

Jefferson, of course, selected the library, excluding therefrom all works

#### An Interesting Feat.

Here is a simple little experiment that any of you may try. We know that steel is much harder than nickel or silver, but a steel needle is so very slender it seems impossible to force it through a coin. In the accompanying illustration, found in the Philadelphia



TO PIERCE A NICKEL.

Times, it is seen how easily the feat may be accomplished. The first thing is to insert a needle in a cork so that the point barely comes through. If the large end of the needle projects at the upper end of the cork, snap it off with a pair of heavy shears, so that it may be flush with the surface of the cork. Place a nickel upon two blocks of wood, and put the cork on it with the sharp end of the needle down, of course. Give the cork a quick, sharp blow with a hammer, and the needle, being unable to bend, owing to the support given it by the cork, will easily go through the nickel. A silver quarter may be used in place of the nickel.

#### Ancient Hearts.

The transfer of Kosquisko's heart to the castle at Rapperswill, Switzerland, recalls many stories of the Crusaders, who, dying on the Holy Land, sent their hearts to friends at home. So, afterward, Sir Robert Peckham died out of England in 1563, but his heart was not buried until 1586. The heart of John Ballou was embalmed by his widow's desire, and inclosed in an ivory casket enameled with silver. And she, the loving Devorgilla, placed this casket on her table every day at meal time and ordered it put on her own heart when she was borne to the tomb. Then there is the heart of the Bruce, dear to elocutionists and stump speakers. For strange tales about hearts see the "Lives of the Troubadours" and that dreadful story by Barbey D'Aurevilly, "At a Dinner of Atheists."—Boston Journal.

#### The Queen's Birthplace.

By the Queen's wish, the room in Kensington Place where Her Majesty was born, and which was closed for years, has been specially done up this year, so as to present the exact appearance as it did in 1819. It is understood that Her Majesty will in future allow the room to be visited by special friends of the Court. The gold and brass work of the room, although much worn, is still in a fair state of preservation.—New York Press.

theatre wear, not only because of the popularity of the fur, but because it is light enough in weight not to crush the voluminous sleeves beneath. Chinchilla as a trimming is much in vogue this year in the form of wraps.

Among the other furs in favor with fashionable women are Russian sable, stone marten, sealskin, wolverine and Persian lamb.

Black astrakhan is the material represented in the handsome and comfortable cape pictured in the double-column illustration, the lining being of rich brocaded satin, which is rendered soft and fluffy by an interlining of wadding. The storm collar is made double and stiffly interlined, to be worn raised or rolled over, as the weather indicates. The cape is of fashionable length, extending to the hips, and is of ample although not exaggerated width. From its circular shaping it fits smoothly at the neck and falls around the body in rippling folds. The cape can be cut with or without a seam in centre back, as best suits the fabric used. The mode is especially well adapted to heavy, warm materials, such as seal or fancy plush, velvet, astrakhan, Persian lamb, or other furs, reversible cheviot, or other cloakings that can be seasonably trimmed with fur or plainly completed.

The quantity of 54-inch wide material required to make this cape for a lady having a 32-inch bust measure, is 1½ yards; for a 36-inch size, 1¾ yards; for a 40-inch size, 2¼ yards; for a 42-inch size, 2 yards.

#### A HANDSOME WAIST.

The materials used in the waist represented in the second double-column illustration are shaded brown crepon, combined with velvet of the darkest shade, handsomely dec-

is scarcely a foundation for one of the new long wraps, the cost of transforming being almost the same as the price of a new cape. For the many women who would be glad to utilize this left over material this design will be just the desired thing.

The lining should be ripped out and saved for a pattern. Then the fur



A TIMELY SUGGESTION.

should be cut up in long points, one in the back, one in the front, one over each shoulder and others between, making eight in all. The lower portion of the cape is made in velvet, and may be cut by any good circular pattern and the fur laid on and basted into place. The points should be outlined with a fancy jet passementerie, covering the raw edge of the fur.



WAIST OF BROWN CREPON AND VELVET.

orated with twine-colored guipure over yellow satin and jet sequins. The fashionable bertha, with slashed front, is the distinctive feature of this stylish basque, the rather fanciful arrangement of which is made over glove-fitted linings that close in centre front. The full fronts droop slightly in centre, in French blouse, and join the full back and smooth underarm gores. The upper portion of front is covered to round yoke depth with yellow satin that shows through the guipure lace, the smooth fitted high collar being covered to match and closed under a bow of satin ribbon in back. The bertha and slashed front of velvet is lined with yellow satin, a stiff interlining of crinoline the edging of jet sequins. Twisted velvet finishes the lower edge of basque with bow on side. Full gigot

After this trimming is all sewed on firmly the lining is to be put in. This may be easily contrived by using the old lining, with the pattern by which the velvet is cut, combining the shape of the two.

#### SATIN BEAVER.

The new material for handsome cloaks and teagowns is the satin beaver, which combines the lustrous effect of satin with the depth of color in plush or velvet, and, wonderful to say, it does not crush in wear and is moderate in price. So many advantages are certain to insure its prompt adoption and consequent success.

There are 181,000 foreigners living in Paris, including 45,000 Belgians, 26,000 Swiss, 21,000 Italians, 13,000 English, 9,000 Russians.