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EXERCISES

AT THE

UNVEILING OF THE

Washington Duke Memorial Statue

AND

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

TRINITY PARK, DURHAM, N. C.

JUNE 10, 1908

For
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INTRODUCTION

Soon after the death of Mr. Washington Duke, of Durham, N. C., May 8, 1905, a movement was started to erect a monument to his memory. It was the wish of his friends that this monument should be erected on the campus of Trinity College, the institution to which he had made such generous gifts, and in whose growth and development he had taken so much pride during his declining years. It was a spontaneous move on the part of his friends, nearly two hundred of whom made contributions to the monument fund.

The leaders in the successful movement to erect the statue were Messrs. A. T. Ragland and T. J. Walker, of Richmond, Va. They were especially fortunate in securing for this important commission Edward Virginius Valentine, the distinguished Southern sculptor. Mr. Valentine has done such notable work as the statue of General Hugh Mercer at Fredericksburg, Virginia, a statue of Thomas Jefferson at Richmond, a recumbent statue of General Robert E. Lee at Washington and Lee University, a statue of Stonewall Jackson, and numerous statues of other Southern soldiers, statesmen and men of letters. Here he enters another field in the statue of one of the vigorous leaders in the industrial rebuilding of the South—one of the men who, with undaunted courage after the close of the war, set about restoring the fabric of the material prosperity of his section. Valentine has represented Mr. Duke with a bronze figure of more than life-size, seated in a bronze chair. The sculptor has been

especially successful in portraying the fine forehead and strong features of his subject. The attitude is one of repose and meditation.

The pedestal is made of Vermont granite, consisting of three blocks, the base being a stone eight by ten feet. On the front side of the foundation there is the following inscription:

WASHINGTON DUKE—1820-1905.

Animated by lofty principles he ever cherished the welfare of his country with the ardor of a true patriot; diligent in business he acquired riches, but in the enjoyment of them did not forget to share with the less fortunate; a patron of learning he fostered an institution which placed within the reach of aspiring youth the immortal gift of knowledge; and when the activities of his early life and the sterner struggles of his maturer years had passed he entered upon a serene old age cheered by a lowly piety and sustained by an unfailing trust in God, who in all the vicissitudes of life had kept him single in his aims, sincere in his friendships and true to himself.

On the west side is the word PATRIOT, and on the north side the following felicitous couplet:

*“Friend to Truth! Of Soul Sincere,
In Action Faithful, and in Honor Clear.”*

On the east side in raised letters is the word PHILANTHROPIST.

UNVEILING

On Wednesday, June 10, at the close of the Trinity College commencement exercises in the Craven Memorial Hall, an academic procession was formed consisting of the trustees, faculty, invited guests, alumni, the graduating class, relatives and friends of Mr. Duke. These, followed by the great audience, marched to the site of the statue in the Anne Roney Gardens in front of the Washington Duke Building. A poem expressing the sentiment of the student body, written by Mr. H. E. Spence, A. B., 1907, A. M., 1908, was read by Dr. Edwin Mims. Mr. James H. Southgate, who had been selected to represent the donors, made the address of presentation. The speech of acceptance on behalf of Trinity College was made by President John C. Kilgo.

At the close of Dr. Kilgo's address, Mary Washington Stagg, great-granddaughter and namesake of Washington Duke, pulled the cord which unveiled the statue.

The life-like statue and the addresses by those who knew him intimately served to bring before the vast concourse the striking personality and the remarkable career of Mr. Washington Duke. There were present citizens of North Carolina in the prosperity of which commonwealth Mr. Duke had played a commanding part; citizens of Durham to whose material success he had made such lasting contributions; and the trustees, faculty, alumni and students of Trinity College, which his generosity had largely re-created and refashioned. All alike felt

that there has been no more striking illustration of energy, perseverance and resourcefulness than the life of Mr. Duke. From poverty and obscurity he arose to wealth and enduring fame. Without the advantages of academic training, he became the largest contributor to higher education that ever lived in the South.

POEM

H. E. SPENCE

*To-day we gather, friends, from far and near
With joy and gladness at our Mother's call,
To pay our tribute to our patron dear,
Not drop a tear upon his mournful pall—
No tears save those of gratitude may fall—
But to his memory love's incense burn:
With this one purpose in the heart of all
To contemplation of his work we turn
And hang our laurels gladly on his honored urn.*

*Man's worth is measured not by laurels won,
But by the struggle made to reach the goal;
Not by the petty deeds which he has done,
But by the master will and firm control
Which holds hope's wavering needle to the pole,
And bravely stems the stubborn tide of life,
Withstands the billows that overwhelm the soul,
Nor weakly falters when oppression's rife,
But boldy fights courageous 'mid the fiercest strife.*

Of such heroic mettle was he made.

*That "fairest land that e'er fired poet's lays"
By devastating warfare had been swayed,
And while men falt'ring stood in dire amaze
And naught save hopeless ruin met the gaze;
Hope's rainbow stood above the sad defeat;
And from the ruins of the dead to raise
New life, he set himself, and through the heat
He patient toiled until the structure stood complete*

*Nor in that struggle did he strive alone;
A band of ragged comrades with him fought,
And naught remained which they could call their own
Save that great legacy which can't be bought:
A love for freedom both of deed and thought.
These heroes to his aid with gladness came
And patiently with tireless zeal they wrought;
Upon the list who shared his work and fame
Behold our worthy founder, Braxton Craven's name.*

*O that his zeal which nothing could appall,
Like to the mantle of the prophet old,
Upon thy sons, O Trinity, might fall,
That they with hearts sincere and spirits bold
Might seek and tell the truths as yet untold,
Might battle with the force of low desires,
And shape complete within high manhood's mould
A character full worthy of their sires,
And zealous keep aglow the patriotic fires.*

*O Alma Mater, not of ivied walls
We boast, nor lakes, nor placid streams;
Nor mountain peaks nor hoary classic halls;
Nor through luxuriant groves the moonlight beams
With magic hint of mediæval dreams;
We've few suggestions of the days of yore,
Our city's bustling mart with commerce teems,
Upon our ears falls industry's dull roar,
The Young South's daring footsteps enter at our door.*

*Yet not the Old South's prestige we forget,
And not the truths for which our fathers bled,
Their memories are sacred to us yet,
We pay obeisance to our honored dead
When twining laurels on our patron's head.
Yet turn we forward to the future's call,
By beacon-lights of progress onward led,
And dedicate, whatever fate befall,
Unto our country's need, our lives, our strength, our
all.*

ADDRESS OF PRESENTATION ON BEHALF OF THE DONORS

JAMES H. SOUTHGATE

Mr. James H. Southgate, in behalf of the donors, presented the statue to the College:

“There is no valid reason why the good that men do should be buried with them. Rather it should be conserved as a spiritual asset of the race, should be transmitted to succeeding generations as a perpetual blessing among men, and thus constitute a sort of earthly immortality.

“A college is pre-eminently a storehouse for this precious heritage of personality. At Trinity College Washington Duke will always live, not simply because of his large contributions to the material equipment of the institution, but chiefly because he contributed to it the qualities that made his own life a success—energy, courage, helpfulness and catholicity. To the friends of Washington Duke it has seemed fitting that this abiding influence in this place should be bodied forth in visible form. And with this feeling they have had constructed by a famous American sculptor this statue which, in their behalf, I now formally present to Trinity College. To the youth of this commonwealth and this nation may it stand through the years as a reminder of the splendid virtues that adorned the life and character of Washington Duke, and may it point the generations from age to age to the ways of true character and genuine excellence that alone lead to worthy success and real greatness.”

ADDRESS OF ACCEPTANCE FOR TRINITY COLLEGE

PRESIDENT JOHN C. KILGO

In the name of the authorities of Trinity College, I wish, through you, sir, to heartily thank the committee and the friends who, with a desire to perpetuate the memory and celebrate the noble virtues of Washington Duke, have erected here this superb monument. It is a fine deed on the part of his many friends, and shows how deep were the friendships and esteem which he inspired in his fellowmen. It is not only a monument to him, it is equally a monument to those who erected it. As an illustration of sincere friendship and as a valuation of the virtues of manhood it will always be a striking example.

I wish to congratulate the committee that assumed the delicate and difficult task of executing the wishes of the friends who united in this labor of love. Not only have they met with complete success the large responsibility upon them, but the enthusiastic spirit with which they performed their work and the wise care with which they watched its progress do them rare honor. To them is due most largely the success of the sacred undertaking, and for their faithful and joyous services all unite in giving thanks.

And, sir, it is eminently appropriate that you who knew Mr. Duke so well and duly appraised all of his exceptional traits should present this gift to Trinity College. You were his neighbor, his friend and his esteemed fellow citizen. The words you have spoken are

fitting words and rich in all the sincerity of a long friendship.

This is a unique monument—unique in the heartiness of the contributors to its erection, but in a more marked way it is unique in that it is erected in honor of one who never held public office or gained fame in some startling event. Washington Duke was a quiet civilian. He was a business man. Yet in the retired spheres of a business career he did things of such great worth and exemplified virtues of such a high quality that his friends spontaneously rose up to celebrate his name. So far as I know exceedingly few men in the South, if indeed any, have become monumental figures in the industrial spheres of life. However, this achievement stands as a proof that any sphere of human activity is large enough through which to express the greatest genius and to show a love for mankind.

Mr. Duke was a Southerner, and it seems highly appropriate that the expert hand which carved the famous recumbent statue of Robert E. Lee should have employed its genius in shaping the statue of this good man. Trinity College is glad to have in its possession this specimen of the work of the South's greatest sculptor. So, sir, for every reason we appreciate this great gift.

I need not tell you that this College for the most sacred reasons holds in everlasting esteem the memory of Washington Duke. His name is wrought into its very existence, and gratitude to him is one of the abiding feelings of its spirit. To us it seems natural that the friends who have provided this monument should have chosen Trinity College to be the custodian of it. We pledge our honor to guard it with just appreciation, both on account of

the man whom it represents and the friends who have committed it to our care. We do not need it to keep alive our love of Washington Duke. That cannot die so long as the human heart has the least genius for gratitude. Here under the shadow of the lofty tower of the building that bears his name, within the sound of the great bell that calls youth to fields of thought, and baptized with the fragrance of the flowers that bloom in the gardens about it, his placid and strong face shall welcome all comers and remind the generations of Trinity College students of virtues which they should diligently cultivate at all times.

Neither time nor the occasion permits an extended analysis of the character of Mr. Duke. However, I may be permitted to make reference to some of the strong characteristics that made him a distinguished man.

Not the least among the remarkable things in his history is the fact that he was more than seventy years of age when he took upon his benevolence the cause of making a larger Trinity College. He was too far advanced in years to have been inspired in this unselfish and patriotic work by the ambitions which possess youth and vigorous middle age. His grip upon life was slackening. The weariness of the years and the toils of life were deep marked upon his brow. He was in the full eventide of life. Yet in the glow of the far descended sun, without the inspiration of promised years, he rose to the hard task of moving a Southern college into a new field and building it upon a broader and a deeper foundation. The years had not overcome his courage, they had not dulled his faith, they had not quenched his love of young manhood. Where in all this land of wonderful history and

marvellous men is there another example of a man more than three score years and ten, a man who had retired on account of age from the burdens of active business, rising to such a height of benevolence as to undertake the task of rebuilding a college? The project was enough to give pause to daring youth, the necessary benevolence imposed a task that would have halted one long trained in such large enterprises. Yet he, a man more than seventy years old, took up the cause of this college which will stand forever as a rebuke to the sentiment that men grow too old to be builders of mighty enterprises.

Mr. Duke was a man whom wealth did not hurt. I do not intend to give the slightest tinge of encouragement to that insane pretense of virtue which delights itself in raving attacks upon the rich, which feeds its inordinate covetousness upon blind jealousies, yet it is obviously true that large riches are attended with sore temptations. They tempt a man to withdraw from the scenes of human toil, to indulge himself in a luxurious indolence, to assume a new weight of authority, to forget the intensity of human sufferings, to become less concerned about doing his fair share to relieve humanity, to lose that sense of sympathy that should bind man to man, and in many other ways to destroy the high virtues that should adorn human character and furnish the motives of unselfish service. These temptations come, but they need not conquer. There may be riches of heart along with wealth of the purse; there may be sanctified interest in mankind where no sign of poverty abides; there may be the noblest type of simplicity amid the splendid scenes of costly comforts. Of all this Washington Duke was a living example. No temptation of wealth ever found in

him the least response. He illustrated a beautiful simplicity of living, he was profoundly interested in all the affairs of the working world, he carried in his heart the problems of all classes of men, he prized the industrious as the ideal man, he felt that needless waste was an evil, he went among all classes of men without a sign of assumed superiority, and he valued everything that gave the less fortunate an opportunity to improve themselves and their condition. His example shall teach the sublime lesson of a complete mastery of wealth and the highest use of money. This lesson, I am sure, will be taught as long as the bronze and the granite of this monument shall endure.

The designers of this monument have chosen to inscribe on either side of the granite pedestal the words, "PATRIOT" and "PHILANTHROPIST." What exalted virtues these words imply! They are not simple but complex virtues. It requires many other of the highest virtues to make either patriotism or philanthropy. What a sublime record they have made in every age, among all races, and in all quarters of the globe! They have been the impelling power in the loftiest heroism of human deeds, they have been the force behind all the immortal sacrifices that give glory to human history, they have been the sources out of which have come man's best efforts for mankind, they have been the stay of the country, the sentinels of the home, the pioneer of history, and the brightest ornaments in human character. Are they not twin virtues? Can they be separated? Is it not true that no man who lacks patriotism can be a philanthropist, and no man who lacks the virtue of philanthropy can be a patriot?

Speaking with full knowledge I say that both of these virtues may be claimed for Washington Duke. He loved his country and he loved his fellowman. It was not that shallow type of love that masquerades in noisy pretenses or exploits itself in public places. Nor yet that immoral feeling that flatters every weakness and fondles every conceit. With these he had little patience. His patriotism and his philanthropy were founded in truth and sincerity. Quick to see the wrong and faithful enough to rebuke it, he sought to promote the real good of his people. His attachment to the South, his faith in it, had many tests, but in every instance it was unwavering. What he believed was for its best welfare he did, and never counted the cost to himself. And in the last days of his long and busy career he gave utterance to his love for his country, and his love of men in building and endowing this College. I would not cast a shadow upon a single example of patriotism amid the din of battle and the scenes of carnage, but Trinity College is the story of a patriotism and a philanthropy as genuine as any that was ever recorded in the smoke of battle. It is an expression of, an everlasting witness to, the love which this good man bore for his land and his fellowmen. And inspired by his example I earnestly trust that the young men who come hither to study will carry away from Trinity College the spirit of true patriotism and philanthropy, and that through them his benevolence shall have unbroken succession.

I shall not say more about the distinguishing traits of this good man's character, though very much might be said and the temptation to say it is hard to resist. The moment is crowded with sacred memories. While among

us a commencement occasion was to him an enjoyable event. He entered into its spirit with the enthusiasm of youth, and his fine face and uplifting companionship contributed a distinct joy to the occasion. Our memory of him at such times is accentuated by the purpose of this instance. Above his material gifts we hold in grateful remembrance his friendship and his confidence.

And, sir, this new expression of confidence in the loyalty of this College to all the interests of human progress greatly increases our obligations to render a faithful service. This we shall try to do. And while we shall diligently guard this gift, we shall always be mindful of a deeper charge committed to us. He earnestly desired to do something to push back the shadow of ignorance from the minds of men, to send forth a clearer and a fuller light of knowledge, and to do this he endowed Trinity College. So, it is not amiss for me to remind all who have to do with the destiny of the College, that they must administer his faith as well as his material gifts. And, again, sir, I assure you and the many friends in whose name you have spoken of our inexpressible appreciation of their superb gift.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH*

Washington Duke came from the hardy small farmer class of old Orange county, a locality which has been prolific of strong men in the history both of our State and of other States. His father was Taylor Duke and his mother was Dicey Jones. Both were earnest Christian people, honorable, faithful and industrious. Around them people lived soberly, contentedly and happily. Nobody was very rich and nobody was very poor. The community was a dozen miles from Hillsboro and twice as far from Raleigh. To one town or the other the people took their produce to exchange it for their necessary supplies. There was not much in this region to suggest that it would soon be a greater center of trade and industry than either of its two neighboring towns. Yet such seems to be its destiny. The long drill in habits of thrift, industry and integrity gave to the people of this community a personal strength which, when once the chance came to them, could not but show itself.

Taylor Duke was well respected among his neighbors. He was captain of a militia company and deputy sheriff, both positions requiring a level head and a reputation for strength of character. He was as prosperous as most of his neighbors, but he had a family of ten children, and when his son Washington came to face the world it was empty-handed. He set bravely to work. For four

*This sketch is composed of extracts from the article on Mr. Washington Duke in the Biographical History of North Carolina. These extracts are reproduced here by permission of the publisher.

years he rented the land of other people, and then he had saved enough to buy a farm of his own. To this small beginning he added as the years went by, till at the outbreak of the war he owned 300 acres. When we remember that the average size of farms in this region up to the present time is about ninety acres, we shall see that he had done well.

Although he became a very wealthy man, Mr. Duke looked back to these early days of battling with life with great interest. They were, in fact, the formative period of his life. When he built up a great fortune in the field of manufacturing, he but did over again what he had done before in the field of agriculture, with this exception, that in the former field the opportunity was vastly greater. His first success was won, as every man's business success is won, by industry, economy and character. He believed in work. He was careful not to go into debt. He was sober, and he did not gamble. He did not put off a duty for a pleasure. More than all else, he was an earnest Christian. He was a constant attendant on his church, having been converted early in life in a revival service, and having become a member of the Methodist church. He took delight in the religious services, and from that day to his death, unless prevented by sickness, he rarely missed one.

Mr. Duke was born December 20, 1820. He was, therefore, forty years old when the war began. He had up to this time been a Democrat, and in his loyalty he had named his youngest son James Buchanan, after a Democratic President. But he was strongly opposed to secession. He foretold the evils which would follow an attempt to leave the Union. It was with a sad heart

that he saw how useless were his words. In 1863 he volunteered for the Confederate army. He was sent first to Camp Holmes, where he was placed on guard duty. Next he was transferred to the Confederate navy and sent to serve on a ship which was a part of the defenses of Charleston harbor. Later he was transferred to the artillery and attached to Battery Brook, one of the defenses of the city of Richmond. Here he served till the city was given up; but in the retreat from the place he was captured by the enemy and sent to Libby Prison. A few days later, when the war was over, he was released from captivity. The government sent him to New Bern, North Carolina, and from that place he walked to his home, a distance of 135 miles. Arrived there he had, besides his farm and two blind army mules, which had been given him, fifty cents in silver, for which he had exchanged a five dollar Confederate bill.

The situation which confronted him was gloomy, but he was no worse off than the others. In fact, he was somewhat better situated than some of them, for he accepted the issue and set about repairing his fortune. Before the war he had been twice married, first, in 1844, to Miss Mary C. Clinton, of Orange county, and she dying in 1847, he was married to Miss Artelia Roney, of Alamance county, December 9, 1852; but the latter had also died on August 20, 1858. By the first marriage he had two children, Samuel T., who died at the age of fourteen, and Brodie L., who still lives. By his second marriage he had three children, Mary Elizabeth, Benjamin Newton and James Buchanan. These children had been left with friends and relatives while he was away in the army. His first care after his return was to send for

them. There on the farm they formed a kind of partnership which neither time nor prosperity ever dissolved. Each took his part in the arduous labor before them. Father and sons cultivated the soil and manufactured the tobacco, and Mary, the daughter of twelve, was the housekeeper. He was now forty-five years old, an age when many men suppose that they have a right to begin to take their ease; but he not only continued his activity, but embarked in a new field of enterprise. He had the good fortune to be associated with capable children. When his own powers should begin to fail, theirs would be strong enough to help him. Not many enterprises have combined so fortunately the wisdom of old age and aggressiveness of youth as that about which I am going to speak.

The eastern part of Orange was in the famous bright tobacco belt of North Carolina. It was here that Johnston's army surrendered to Sherman. The incident served to advertise the tobacco which was to become famous as Durham tobacco. The name was derived from the name of a railroad station about two miles from Mr. Duke's farm. At that time the place was but a railroad crossing; now it has about 25,000 inhabitants, and its business relations are established around the world. Many men were, in 1875, about to launch their crafts in the manufacture of Durham tobacco, but of all of them the name of Duke was to prove itself the master name.

Washington Duke's first tobacco factory was on his farm. It was a log house 16 feet by 18 feet in size. Here in the fall and winter, he prepared by hand the leaf tobacco which he had raised in the preceding season. The business prospered, and in 1873 it was moved to

Durham, where his eldest son, Brodie L. Duke, had already set up a factory. The factory which was now built was 40 feet by 70 feet. It was built of wood and was three stories high. The plant began operations with fifteen hands. In 1875 the business was enlarged by the addition of another building the size of the first. This was necessitated by the growth of the enterprise and by the fact that a consolidation was made with Brodie L. Duke. Then followed a long series of enlargements. In fact not many years have elapsed since 1875 in which one or more new buildings have not been erected. The W. Duke branch of the American Tobacco Company now covers with its buildings many acres of ground in the town of Durham, and it manufactures more tobacco than any one plant in America. Such has been the culmination of the small enterprise which began on the Duke farm in 1865.

Mr. Duke himself gave much credit for his success to the efforts of his sons. These gentlemen have been very active business men. When they arrived at maturity their father offered to fit them for professional lives if they desired it, but they chose business careers. They had begun in their childhood in the enterprise. They had loved it with an enthusiasm born out of their boyhood struggles. No other kind of life seemed so attractive to them as the glory of building the Duke enterprise up till it filled the full measure of its opportunity in the world. Thus deeply had their father instilled into their natures the pride of the common undertaking.

Mr. Duke was ever a benevolent man. It was a part of his religion to help needy ones according to his ability. But he had no sympathy for lazy and improvi-

dent people. His charities were, therefore, directed along the lines of self-help to those who were worthy of it. He always sought to avoid public display in his gifts. Besides the gifts he made, as those to education, he gave numerous sums to struggling young men, to unfortunate men and women of every kind, and about these the public received no intimation. Thrift in others always won his sympathy. Of his life he once said : "I never paid interest on money. I never went in debt to such an extent that I could not pay when the time came. It is paying interest that ruins most men that fail."

Although the subject of this sketch was a Democrat before the war, he became a Republican after that event. He himself accounted for this change on the grounds that he believed, on the return of peace, that the policy of internal improvements which the Republicans advocated was the best calculated to advance the interests of the South. His change was certainly not due to any selfish consideration, for he never sought office or took an active part in party politics. His activity was no more than that of the quiet citizen who views his country's existence with the interest of one who loves it.

Into Mr. Duke's life there fell, in 1893, a great sorrow. It was the death of his only daughter. About the time he removed to Durham she had married Robert E. Lyon, of that place. But no tie separated her from her father. He was deeply attached to her, and the mere mention of her name to the day of his death stirred the deepest feelings in his heart. From her twelfth year she was his home-maker. Hers was the thrift which had stopped the doors of waste in the early days of struggle; hers was the housewifely hand which had put a woman's

touch of comfort into the life of widowed father and motherless brothers. Child-woman as she was, she gained strength of mind and balanced judgment beyond her years. Father and brothers sought her advice, and in the business she was looked on as an equal partner.

When she died the light went out of her father's life, for she was almost his idol. Says one who knew her well: "Truly, to know her was to love her. In her later years her feeble health seemed to be a ministering angel to refine and sweeten her already lovable spirit. Her brothers generously divided their honors and profits with her, and 'Mary' was ever regarded by them as equally with themselves worthy to share in the profits that came as a reward of their thought and labor, and it was right and just that it should be so. She was a woman of most remarkable common sense, and her judgment was of a very superior order. She managed her own affairs with a master's hand, and in her case 'wisdom was justified of her children.' . . . She was generous and charitable in religion, wise in counsel and sweet and polite in her social life. She combined womanly grace and sweetness with a comprehensive intelligence; and if her health had been equal to her intellect, she could have managed an empire. Her place can never be filled."

Mr. Duke became widely known as one of the South's greatest philanthropists. This came about through his large gifts to Trinity College. In 1890 it was decided to move Trinity, which belonged to the Methodists of the State, from its old home in Randolph county. Mr. Duke offered to give \$85,000 if it was brought to Durham. The offer was accepted, but when the college opened its doors in its new home in 1892 it was found

that he had greatly exceeded the amount he had promised. His whole contribution was \$110,000. In 1896 he gave \$100,000 to the endowment fund on condition that women should be admitted. In 1898 and again in 1900 he gave a like sum to the same fund. These gifts, with others which I have not mentioned, brought his benevolences to this institution till 1904 up to the sum of \$480,000. Besides his gifts to Trinity he gave generously to other educational institutions. In 1892 he paid the debt on, and acquired the ownership of, Louisburg Female College at Louisburg, North Carolina. It was an old and useful seat of learning, and the generous action of Mr. Duke saved it from having to close its doors. In 1898 he further showed his interest in education by giving the land and a handsome building for the establishment of the Southern Conservatory of Music in Durham. The marked success of this institution has justified the gift.

His educational ideas were sound. He believed in an education that develops character. For shams he ever had a great contempt. No reform was made at Trinity College which had for its purpose the attainment of honest and solid educational ideals that did not win his hearty approval. To his college community his presence was ever a source of sincere pleasure. His quiet smile heartened their spirits, and his excellent common sense yielded them advice in many difficulties.

In his prime Mr. Duke had the appearance of a man of great physical strength. He was about six feet tall, with a large frame and a deep chest. He walked with a firm and deliberate stride. He spoke without excitement or passion. His face was characterized by a broad fore-

head, strong grey eyes, a firm chin and mouth, and the gentle air of a man who had perfect control over himself. He lived regularly and temperately, preserving the fine physique which nature had given him. . . . His career is a witness of the truth of the saying of the Psalmist in regard to Wisdom, "Length of days she giveth thee."

Mr. Duke's strong frame was destined to withstand the attacks of disease for many years, and to yield only to the insidious decay of old age. In January, 1905, he had a fall, and sustained a slight fracture of the hip, from the effects of which he did not recover. But his cheerfulness did not forsake him, and for the many friends who saw him he had ever a ready word and smile. He died on May 8, 1905, and was buried in the Duke Mausoleum in Durham. His funeral was the largest ever seen in the city. Thousands of people of all ranks of life lined the streets and awaited the arrival of the remains at the cemetery. It was a tribute of the people, who knew best his life of modest and continuous virtue, and an expression of loss by a whole community, which had a hundred reasons to feel that they had lost a wise friend and servant. There has lived in the South in the generation since the war no man who has better understood the problems of the individual man in the great process of upbuilding our life. No one has better utilized the wonderful opportunity which the overflow of old inequalities has brought; and no one has better used his own success to allay passion and to promote future progress.

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