To our many loyal friends, to a sympathetic college world, and to criticising enemies, we present this first volume of *The Ouachitonian*. Herein we have endeavored to implant the westwind-like, throbbing spirit of college life; its disappointments, its surprises, its sorrows, its pleasures, its failures, its triumphs.

The first Annual of our College was *The Bear*. Owing to financial conditions, we did not publish it last year, and we have constantly striven to ameliorate that deficiency by attempting to make *The Ouachitonian* the best of its class in the South.

To our many students and alumni, who have graciously tendered their loyal support and loving assistance; to the business men of the town, who have so kindly aided us with finances and words of good cheer; and to our many friends and associates throughout the State, who have been an ever-present help in the time of need—we, the Staff of '09, extend to you our tenderest thanks, and sincerely trust that our efforts to fulfill your fondest hopes have not been altogether uncrowned.

In the future years, when trials and temptations shall arise, when hopes shall fade into despondency, and trust shall become despair, may these pages cause Memory’s eye to review with pleasure the sacred scenes of brighter days, and may “your joys become as deep as the ocean, your sorrows as light as the foam.”

Signed:

- C.H. Seres, Hermesian
- Mary Rudolph Alpha Kappa
- P. MacInnis, Skenan
- Emma Edwards Polymian
- J.B. Luck Athenean
- J.J. Miller, Philomathean

Signed:

- Vera Hunt, Alpha Kappa
- Emma Goodwin, Commellian
- W.G. Halloway, Skenan
- Edith Hoplern, Commellian
- Ella King, Polymian
To him whose charmed magic pen portrays
In images of comic mirth the schemes
Of college days, and writes the serious dreams
Of Life to be; whose smile has cheered our days;
Whose brush has kissed the canvas rough, and ways
Of beauteous Nature, true, with tints and gleams
Appeared. Whose happy honest life all seems
Enwrapped in good: We dedicate in praise
This book. His genius has touched each page.
His thoughts will brighter grow with coming age!
The Ouachitonian's whole staff now greet
Our President, and friends all think it meet
With us to drink a health of cordial grog
To our esteemed, beloved—Doctor Hartzog.
An Ode to the Ouachitonian.

By W. P. Wilson, Class ’05.

Half in truth and half in jest,
Full of things the very best;
Pulsing through the youthful mind
I come, the child of Nineteen Nine.
A creature strange indeed am I,
Born of laughter, oft a sigh,
Born of hope, and then despair;
Born of visions sweet and fair.
A paradox I seem to see,
And yet your friend I hope to be.
In happy days I ’ll smile with you;
When sorrow comes, I ’ll still be true.
Through life’s young spring,
And summer’s bloom,
Through autumn’s gloom,
I ’ll speak and sing.
And when life’s winter cold and drear
Shall sift its snows, and dull your ear,
And friends like roses shattered, all,
Have heard the tender heaven call;
When you grow weary, tired and old—
Then call on me, I ’ll never scold.
Within my heart I ’ll keep the gleam
Of Ouachita’s soft purling stream;
The bugle’s call, the band’s wild joy,
The face of many a girl and boy
You loved and knew; societies,
And contests warm; sweet ecstasies
When love was young; “exams,”
And hurried, arduous crams,
And scores of other things I ’ll keep
To make make you smile and cure your weep.
This child of vision, love, and jest,
Now greets its friends from far and near,
It’s not the worst, nor yet the best,
Just Ouachitonian, your friend so dear.
The Main Building.

What 's hallowed ground? 'Tis what gives birth
To sacred thoughts in souls of worth!—
Peace! Independence! Truth! go forth
Earth's compass round;
And your high-priesthood shall make earth
All hallowed ground.

—Thomas Campbell.
Eight Ouachita Buildings.

"It is an honorable employment and worthy of glory for them that create for future centuries the monuments which will be the admiration of posterity."—King Theodoric.
A Campus View in Summer.

"The finger of the Lord has dimpled it for our use; we have only to clothe it with a mantle of green and adorn it with trees to make it a college home of surpassing beauty."—Dr. A. S. Welch.

Campus View, Looking North.

"Ever charming, ever new,
When will the landscape tire the view?"—Dyer.
Three score years and ten, a wise man said,
Were our years to be;
Three score and six I give him back,
Four are enough for me;
Four in these halls of ours,
Four in these corridors,
These give me heavenly powers;
'Tis life for me.

Historical Sketch of Ouachita College.

Among the picturesque hills of Clark County, on the high bluffs of the Ouachita River, in an old-fashioned Southern town, famous for its culture and hospitality, there is a group of four brick and four wooden buildings, known collectively as Ouachita College. This institution enrolls about five hundred students annually, and has thirty teachers in its Faculty. It is without endowment; its campus is not apoplectic with surging throngs of students; and there are no massive and venerable buildings to excite the admiration of the visitor.

If the worth of the college is to be determined by its size and equipment, Ouachita College would have but modest claims upon the respect of the educational world. If, however, a college is to be judged by its efficiency in producing men qualified to discharge the duties of the age in which they live, I am sure the impartial historian would give Ouachita College a very high and honorable place.

From this little institution there have gone out four hundred and fifty graduates and five thousand undergraduates. Many of them are occupying positions of conspicuous usefulness in the business, professional and religious spheres of activity.

The history of Ouachita is a record of heroic struggles and personal sacrifices. It has weathered the storms of earlier years, and has struck its roots deep into the affections of the public.

In the years 1852 and 1853 the Baptists of Arkansas co-operated with Louisiana in supporting Mount Lebanon College, but an awakening spirit of pride prompted our people in 1857 to discuss plans for the building of their own school in Arkansas and in succeeding years the agents, W. R. Trawick and W. R. Lea, raised for endowment $42,000.

Unfortunately, the War for States Rights intervened and put a stop to the work. In 1868 an attempt was made to establish a college for women at Helena. In 1870 the Arkansas Baptists adopted Mississippi College and for awhile abandoned the idea of building a denominational institution in Arkansas.

When our State began to develop rapidly in population and industries, the Baptists concluded that the time was opportune for the founding of a great institution to promote the cause of Christian education. A few years of enthusiastic agitation followed and the Arkansas State Baptist Convention at Hope in 1885 adopted a report to establish a college, and elected the following Board of Trustees: Jas. P. Eagle, A. B. Miller, B. R. Womack, A. J. Kincaid, J. B. Searcy, A. J. Fawcett, J. M. Hart, J. Dumaguin, J. K. Brantley, C. D. Wood, W. E. Atkinson, M. F. Locke, V. R. Izard, W. A. C. Sayle and A. W. Files.
After careful consideration of bids from various towns for the location, Arkadelphia was chosen, and time has fully justified the wisdom of the decision.

Dr. J. W. Conger was elected president, and to his energy and foresight, with the cordial cooperation of the Board of Trustees, are due largely the present development of the college.

Ouachita opened September 6, 1886, with a faculty of six teachers and with an enrollment of one hundred students.

The main building was completed in 1889 at a cost of $45,000.

The building formerly occupied by the State Blind Institute was enlarged and used as a Young Ladies' Home.

This building was burned in 1890, and the citizens of Arkadelphia with generous alacrity raised money for the present commodious building, valued at $25,000.

In 1898 the Conservatory Building, valued at $15,000, was erected. The Mary Forbes Home, valued at $2,500, was added in 1906. The President's Home was erected in 1898, at a cost of $8,000. The Chemical Laboratory was erected in 1905, at a cost of $5,000. The present valuation of the buildings, campus, and equipment is $150,000.

We have no apologies to make for the character of work that has been done in Ouachita. The school is yet young. It was established twenty-three years ago. A college must run half a century before it is known well. Considering the age of Ouachita, our graduates have made remarkable records. In looking over the list of our graduates, we do not find one who has proved false or recalcitrant to the ethical principles instilled into him at Ouachita College. Ouachita has stood consistently for high scholarship, especially for that scholarship that blossoms into high character.

The building at the end of this article shows Ouachita in 1887, and the group pictures show Ouachita in 1909. The progress made in twenty-two years should give all encouragement for the future.

The First Building at Ouachita.
Our Board of Trustees.

(The name Wats should read Watts.)
The Executive Committee.

E. M. Hall.      R. E. Major.
Tommy Russ Brings the Mail.

The Campus Skating Rink.

Glad School's Out.

December in the Sunny South.

Cupid and the Girls at the Fountain.

Just Back from Practice.