Hon. J. J. McSwain's Address.
The address by J. J. McSwain, Esq., of Greenville, S. C., delivered at the joint celebration of the two societies of their one hundredth anniversary on January 19, 1903, will be printed in sections, beginning with this number.
The section published at this time is a general introduction to the discussion:

Mr. President, Fellow Alumni of the Clariscopic and Zephyranth Society, Ladies and Gentlemen:

One hundred years is no insignificant span of time! After 100 years of literate literary societies of the South Carolina College, they might give account of their stewardship unto the fostering State, have summoned their sons both near and far to their grand old hall, the student, no man now lives who was present at the birth of these societies; in truth had they been at a time when "the memory of man is but the memory of time," and that they gave the first impulse to many of the distinguished men of Carolina, who have added so much to her renown in the halls of the State and national legislature.

To this sentiment all will agree, and yet upon examination, I believe it will be seen that such a sketch by Dr. LaBarde limits too narrowly the sphere of the literary society. Not only are they in the language the "nursery of eloquence," but in a deeper and wider sense, are the nursery of those principles and ideals of patriotism and citizenship from which in some instances do spring remarkable examples of eloquent men, who voice the highest feelings and dumb desires of their countrymen, but from which in all instances, even those who have no power of speech to stir men's souls, are raised up men to do the daily demands of citizenship in every walk of life.

This, my friends, presents my theme for the evening. "The Literary Society as the Nursery of Citizenship," My idea is that through the college proper may produce scholars, erudite in language, literature, law, philosophy and science, yet these societies prepare for citizenship under a republican form of government where presumably the highest moral and intellectual well-being of all her citizens is the chief consideration. It becomes material to inquire what constitutes, as well as the well-being of collected citizens, called a State.

"What constitutes a State?" All true patriots have agreed, actions and desires of the vast present-day majorities to the contrary notwithstanding, that the virtue, intelligence and domestic happiness of the great mass of the people is the only true foundation for permanency and progress, the only ideals of statehood and citizenship that will stand stress and strain of weaving into human stuff upon the looms of history.

"Men who are their duties know, but know their rights, and knowing, dare maintain. Prevent the long-aimed blow, and crush the tyrant while they rend the chain. These constitute a State; and sovereign law, that State's collected will. Or'throne and globes elate, sit empress, crowning good, representing ill."

Have you so far been benefited by your college career that you can eliminate all objectionable features and distinguish between spontaneous suggestion and hereditary tendencies? If so, elucidate.

Prof. Davis to Fresh Perrin: "Mr. Perrin, how many lines does Milton's Sonnet on his blindness contain?"

"Rat" Perrin (slow, but sure): "Twenty-three."

Fresh Aycock to Very Fresh Hunter: "Who is that lady you were walking with yesterday afternoon?"

Fresh Hunter: "She wasn't a lady; she was a married woman."