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Vol. I.

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No. 30.

JOB OFFICE

AS PREPARED TO DO ALL KINDS OF

Job Printing

DISCOURAGEMENT OF TEACHERS.

ESSAY READ BEFORE THE TEACHERS' INSTITUTE, JULY 12th, 1879.

BY MISS MINNIE EDWARDS.

It is discouraging to a young teacher when entering an institute for the purpose of obtaining information and increasing the small store of knowledge already in possession to be intimidated on the very threshold by a summons to contribute—what—how or why—it is impossible to know.

It is more discouraging to a young teacher who has in store the agreeable prospect of several pic-nics, three weeks accumulation of periodicals for perusal, the composition of "a thrilling serial" for the press, and whose taste finds expression in brief sketches, like angel visits, few and far between—it is more discouraging I repeat, for the attention to be forced from its legitimate channel and fixed upon so gloomy a subject as the one just announced, and upon which an elaborate essay is probably expected when the notice given is too short even to compose a eulogy to spring in this oppressive climate.

But it is most discouraging, Mr. President, to be expected to rise after the distinguished members of the Institute—journalists, professors, and well known authors of forensic eloquence—have exhausted the themes under discussion to-day by the flow of their beautiful rounded periods and the advancement of thoughtful, earnest truths, and read before this august assemblage the few pitiable lines hastily produced when fairly on the way to the dread tribunal.

Having survived other discouragements, however, I suppose—I hope I will survive these long enough to attend a similar meeting when the committee has allowed longer time for preparation, because, at present I have no suggestions or ideas to offer to older and wiser members, and can only furnish

A BIT OF MR. JOTHAM'S EXPERIENCE.

Mr. Jotham was a nice young man, an exceptionally nice young man, I may say, and not altogether oblivious of that fact himself. Besides, he was possessed of more than ordinary intelligence, for which he found employment in the arduous vocation of a teacher. He was engaged several years in his immediate locality and succeeded very well too, but Mr. Jotham was ambitious, did not like this monotonous, plodding experience, and longed for broader horizons and higher opportunities.

Reflecting that teachers as well as prophets are of more importance abroad than at home, he determined to leave his native place. Accordingly he accepted a situation far removed from the scene of his former labors, and in the year of our Independence when the public schools were in an unsuccessful state of operation, found himself domiciled in the rural districts.

The style of architecture of the Academy over which he expected to preside was not one to elicit a very high degree of admiration when it loomed up before his critical eyes. It was a cold morning in December when he arrived at his destination, and grouped around a straw fire in the open air were several farmers engaged in a conversation which suffered little from his interruption, and fluctuated from the intricacy of political machinations to the present state of the weather.

Seeing that the morning was far advanced, Mr. Jotham introduced the object of his coming and ascertained the number of pupils. An inspection of the interior of the building followed, resulting in considerable dissatisfaction. The winds of heaven were free to sport with the clustering curls of the tiny maid, or toss the elfin locks of the coming man, but in the winter season one cannot grow poetical on the gentle zephyr.

"Gentlemen," said Mr. Jotham, "this will never do. Repairs are sadly needed, and unless the building is made more comfortable it will be impossible to teach here."

"It does need repairs," replied Mr. A., "but I don't know what can be done. The trustees ought to see about it. It cost enough money to be comfortable. Forty dollars of the school money was paid for that heap of poles and clay."

"Have you notified the trustees?" "Why, it's their business, ain't it? Tain't no use telling them, though. They ought to know how it is, I s'pose."

"But it is of use," insisted Mr. Jo-

tham. "Is the comfort, the life of your child of no importance? Do you not know that it is impossible to study when in bodily discomfort, and that a continuance of such exposure as this will cause life-long injury to the constitution."

"That's a fact," echoed his visitors. "Well, gentlemen, what are you going to do?"

Messrs. A., B. and C. hemmed, looked at each other, at the sky, on the ground, waiting, probably, for an idea to arrive gratuitously.

"Could you meet some day, tomorrow if possible, and make the repairs yourselves. A little time and labor will work wonders, and if each will contribute his share, the whole will not be a burden, and will certainly cost less than the physician's fees you may be called upon to pay if you disregard the health of your children."

Messrs. A. and B. supposed they could come, but Mr. C. had to go to town next day, and as it was impossible to accomplish anything without universal co-operation, the work was necessarily postponed. With the parting injunction, "Let us know if the children need books," the patrons sauntered off.

Mr. Jotham wrestled through the day endeavoring to class the little arches, no three of whom had the same text books. On the third day he found several gentlemen at the school house, sitting around unconcernedly and conversing in a manner quite satisfactory to themselves, so he thought they must have had considerable progress with their work, and made a remark to that effect.

"We are waiting for D. to come," said A. "He promised to come early and bring some plank."

So they waited several hours, but as D. did not come, C. went to find him, and he found him a half mile distant trying to hire a man whom he met on the road to labor on his farm that year. Of course, he had no plank, which had to be sent for, and Mr. Jotham retreated at mid-day leaving them with nothing accomplished. He suffered severely for a week from the exposure which paste and paper helped but little, and had scarcely moral courage sufficient left to encounter his next discouragement, which was the difficulty he experienced in procuring books. Several bought immediately but as the pupils were classed, it was desirable for all to commence at the same time, and very few children are willing to allow others the privilege of handling their new books, being very ready with the inquiry, "Why don't your pa buy a book like mine for you?" but some never did, and Mr. Jotham's horizon closed in around him darkly.

After several months public schools were closed and reports handed in, but there was no money in the treasury, and Mr. Jotham thought of continuing it as a private school. Therefore he sent notes to all the parents, but spring was advancing, and the little heads and hands had other training in store for them.

On the opening morn, many empty seats confronted him; he glanced around at the furniture and beheld several logs split in two for seats, a desk, that is, two boards inserted in the wall—only these and nothing more—no blackboard, no teacher's desk, not even a friendly chair for his weary frame, Mr. Jotham sighed, and turned to the perusal of a note handed to him.

"Mr. Josox.—I have received your note—I want my children to get an education, but it is hard times and I can't afford to pay your price for teachin'." It is too much—the livin' are all on one side. If you will teach them for one dollar a month I will send and will pay you next fall."

"Too much!" mused this ambitious young man. "Board at \$8 per month, eight scholars at \$1.25 each—incidental expenses. Truly 'the livin' are all on one side!'"

In this decidedly practical sketch, some of you, at least those who have taught in the country, will recognize the discouragements most commonly met with by teachers, and which I have endeavored to illustrate in this manner. They can be summed up in few words: The indifference of parents, their shifting of all responsibility on the instructors of their children, the insufficiency of wages, the difficulty of getting payment, the need of books and apparatus so essential in conducting an orderly, successful school, and the apathy, aloofness of public interest, almost as deleterious in its influence as direct antagonism. These discouragements are outward in their effects, but where can consideration for the teacher be found when he receives no sympathy with his arduous tasks, no appreciation of the sacrifices made, or of what avail are the aspirations of the soul when he sees himself considered merely a part of the school machinery for which the price is paid in dollars and cents and of no more consideration than the implements he employs in imparting an education.

Minutes of Teachers' Institute. ORANGEBURG, July 12, 1879. The Institute was called to order by the President, Hugo G. Sheridan, and the proceedings were opened with prayer by the Rev. J. E. Penny. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. On motion Samuel Dibble, W. L. Glaze, Mrs. S. J. Penny, Miss Mollie Smith, Miss Minnie Edwards, Mrs. S. N. Dannerley and S. R. Berry were elected members of the Institute. On motion, Gen. James F. Izlar, who tendered such beneficent service in the organization of the Institute, was elected an honorary member of this body. The following names were also added to the list: Mr. Fredrick, Representative, J. J. May's, John R. Thomas, John Jones, S. K. Sasportas, and O. S. Herbert, all colored. After which the regular programme was opened by an essay read by our worthy County School Commissioner, D. L. Connor, Esq., who certainly enlightened the house very much on the public school system. Next followed our young friend, Mr. Willie Glaze, who made a few appropriate and practical remarks on the unconscious influences of the teacher. I think Orangeburg can justly remark that she has lost one of her best tutors in Mr. Glaze. Then followed an able address from our estimable President, Mr. Hugo G. Sheridan, taking for his subject the newspaper as an educator. It is unnecessary for me to say he did more than justice to this important topic. He analyzed it thoroughly, showing the many advantages and the responsibility resting on the editor. Among others may be mentioned Rev. S. J. Penny and Mr. Walsh, who gave the teachers many practical ideas in regard to general school discipline, &c. Next followed an essay by Miss Minnie Edwards, on the "Discouragement of the Teacher." She certainly did more than justice to this gloomy subject. She pictured the past in such attractive colors as to cause many present to scratch the cranium more than once, and exclaim to themselves, "that's so." Her description of Mr. Dolphin's school is certainly a very striking one in my case. Last but not least was an address from Mr. J. B. O'Neall following on schools, schoolroom department, &c. I suppose to say he utilized the subject thoroughly would be unnecessary as his far famed reputation gains for him a name that will ever shine in Orangeburg with glory, fame and honor. Long may he live to teach the young idea how to shoot. Orangeburg can boast of him as one of her most efficient instructors. After these exercises there were a great many questions asked in regard to the true definition of a verb, also how many tenses are really essential, which is correct seven times five are thirty-five or is thirty-five. I would like to hear from some outsider on this point. I think are. What do you think? These little things caused some of the experienced heads to reflect more than once. A full attendance is solicited at our next meeting. These meetings are not intended for the teacher alone. Don't think it is a teachers' clique and no one but such can attend. It is open to all of those who are desirous of advancing this noble cause. I am sure, you will be pleased and profited. The invitation is free: come one! come all! Just here allow me to be a little pastoral. The preachers say you must do as I say, but not as do. Therefore, let me insist on the teachers in assisting our brother in keeping up the Educational Column. It is impossible for one man to do everything. Therefore, commence at once. Don't be embarrassed because you have never done like, but make an effort and no doubt success will be your reward. Persons that do much can afford to say but little, therefore, I will close. May the Orangeburg Institute or teachers' school ever flourish in the sincere and heartfelt prayer of your brother Secretary, J. M. BOOKHART.

We judge from the talk of Cabinet officers in Washington and from the remarks of the Republican press generally, that there is absolutely no hope for the grand party in the South except from the confiscation of illicit whiskey by deputy marshals.

OUR FREE SCHOOLS.

TEACHERS POORLY PAID—MALE VS. FEMALE TEACHERS.

Editor Orangeburg Democrat.

In our efforts to improve the condition of the public schools, the matter which deserves our most careful attention seems almost to be totally neglected. I mean the kind of teachers employed. Since its inauguration in this State, the system of free common schools has been a failure, pure and complete. The whole attention of the Radicals was absorbed in the collecting and squandering of the appropriated funds. Worthless teachers were employed at large salaries. The whole thing in their hands was a means to an end, which end we all know well. When the Democrats came into power, they wished to accomplish a great deal with a very little money. This raised the well remembered howl about the reductions of salaries. Of course the salaries of teachers were with others reduced, and I think they have been reduced to an extreme. In Elizabeth Township, for instance, a first grade certificate commands a salary of only \$25 per month. The third grade, \$18. Is that enough difference between the grades? Can a first-class teacher, in the true sense of the term, be hired for that amount? I answer, no. There is an old saying that "where there is poor pay there is poor preach," which is quite applicable in this case. Of course there are "school marm's" who may be hired for such salaries, but are they competent? Does not the very fact of a man's accepting such a salary argue that he is not fit for anything else, and that he is trying to make a living at the public expense to the detriment of the children of a community? Some teachers, to whom the people actually refuse to send their children, are persistently employed simply because they are widow ladies or cripples, or some how or other deserve the charity of the community. Other things being considered, this is all well enough, but when there are glaring cases of qualification, this is altogether wrong. Moreover, as I think charity one of the brightest of virtues, the public might provide for the latter, another way. But for heaven's sake, don't let present charity become the source of lasting detriment to rising generations. The only schools we have had in our community since the war worth the name were taught by men who were secured at a salary of \$50 per month. Nor can a man who is really competent to teach (and I never heard of a woman being guilty of such a thing) be employed for a less sum now. I see that our School Commissioner agrees with Dr. Cook in that beginners should have the very best teachers. Teachers who know their business will bear me out in the assertion that a child who has been thoroughly taught in the rudiments and has laid a good foundation upon which he may build the superstructure has passed the most critical and the most important point in his education. Can other than the very best teachers so teach even the rudiment? A school trustee told me that a third grade teacher could teach all the children in the community. But I make bold the assertion that he can neither teach them as well nor advance them as much in the same time as the first grade teacher. Again, if we never employed other than third grade teachers, will we ever have other than third grade schools? Supply always creates demand. Now, let the trustees supply a first-class teacher, which can be done only by giving him a good salary, and there will certainly be a demand. Don't understand me as finding fault with the trustees. I fully understand and appreciate their position. They wish to run the schools as long as possible on the amount allowed them. But I hold that it will pay to close the schools and thus end the whole thing rather than to employ the kind of teachers which they are compelled to hire at such salaries. I know a school teacher who can't write down in Arabic notation one million. Neither can he read it when written. Gentlemen of the Board of Examiners, raise your standard. ESCULAPIUS.

This looks like business. The almanacs for 1880 are beginning to appear. There will be seven eclipses in the year which may be counted on as a certainty—four of the sun, two of the moon, and one of the Republican party.

Edisto Rifles.

The following is a complete roll of the above company from 1861 to 1865 inclusive: Company A. First Regiment South Carolina Volunteers: Officers—Thomas J. Glover, Captain, afterwards promoted to Colonel; First South Carolina Volunteers, killed at second Manassas; J. V. Glover, First Lieutenant, afterwards Captain; J. H. Felder, Second Lieutenant, afterwards First Lieutenant, died Aug. 1861, from typhoid fever contracted in Virginia; J. F. Izlar, Junior Second Lieutenant, afterwards First Lieutenant; S. N. Kennerly, junior Second Lieutenant, afterward Second Lieutenant; S. Dibble, Orderly Sergeant, afterward Junior Second Lieutenant; G. H. Elliott, E. J. Felder, T. K. Legare, W. Ray, J. A. Williams, D. Zimmerman, Mortimer Glover, B. P. Izlar, J. H. Hook, Sergeants: T. C. Andrews, J. P. Frederick, T. S. Fox, D. J. Rowe, B. M. Shuler, R. H. Wiles, F. M. Wanhakamer, Corp'l's; E. A. Andrews, M. F. Antilly, J. H. Arant, Jno. Ashe, M. L. Austin, S. Bullentine, J. H. Baxter, E. J. Baxter, M. V. Black, M. P. Boyd, J. C. Bozard, V. V. Brickle, A. F. Brooker, J. Brooker, Wm. Brunson, F. J. Bayce, Jas. Cannon, B. A. Carson, A. Champey, W. A. Church, A. Collins, A. A. Connor, F. Connor, W. E. Crawford, G. B. Crider, J. H. Crider, D. J. Culclease, G. H. Curtis, D. W. Dantzler, M. J. D. Dantzler, E. C. Deaux, M. Dolen, F. Eber Doscher, P. Doyle, W. L. Elney, T. T. Elney, E. Ezekiel, John Fanning, S. J. Felder, D. Gardner, W. P. Glover, C. L. Glover, M. L. Gramling, S. P. Hall, S. P. Hook, J. Hook, L. W. Hitchcock, E. M. Houser, F. D. Houser, J. D. Houser, F. S. Inabinet, A. J. Inabinet, C. G. Inabinet, J. M. Inabinet, L. A. Irick, A. M. Izlar, B. W. Izlar, L. T. Izlar, P. B. Jandon, S. W. A. Jandon, L. W. Jenkins, Thos. Kelley, T. A. Kemmelin, W. King, W. P. Law, W. W. Legare, A. Lucas, A. V. Miller, W. A. Moody, J. C. Murph, O. H. Murrow, E. W. Myers, T. P. Norris, T. W. Papi, J. C. Pike, T. C. Pool, E. E. Poozer, J. P. Poozer, W. H. Poozer, W. H. Poozer, Jr., J. H. Poozer, William Prussner, M. A. Rawlinson, A. S. Rawlinson, J. D. Ray, J. Y. Reed, J. M. Reed, F. S. H. Reynolds, M. Rickenbacker, J. W. Riley, M. Robinson, A. G. Rowe, A. J. Ruppel, H. M. Rush, B. H. Sanders, J. D. D. Sanders, Ira T. Shoemaker, L. Shutt-night, J. M. Shuler, J. W. Shuler, B. F. Slobake, H. O. Slobake, E. S. Staley, D. P. Strouman, M. G. Stroman, P. B. Stroman, J. W. Summers, William Summers, J. S. C. Tatum, W. W. Taylor, J. R. Tucker, A. Tyler, W. V. Valentine, Jas. Van Tassel, W. E. Williams, S. W. Williams, Z. M. Wolfe, E. M. Wolfe, J. J. Wolfe, R. Wright, H. H. Zeigler, M. C. Zeigler, John A. Zeigler, A. Champey, Privates.

Company G. Twenty-fifth (Eutaw) Regiment South Carolina Volunteers: Captain, J. V. Glover, afterwards Major, died at Howard Grove hospital, Virginia, June 16, 1864; First Lieutenant, J. F. Izlar, afterwards Captain, captured at Fort Fisher, North Carolina; Second Lieutenant, S. N. Kennerly, afterwards First Lieutenant, killed at Weldon Railroad, Virginia; Junior Second Lieutenant, S. Dibble, afterward First Lieutenant, captured at Long Island, South Carolina, July, 1863, also at Town Creek, North Carolina, Feb. 1865; Junior Second Lieutenant, G. H. Elliott, afterward Second Lieutenant, killed at Drury's Bluff, Va.; Second Lieut. Jos. Graves wounded at Weldon Railroad, Virginia, captured at Fort Fisher, North Carolina; Orderly Sergeant, B. P. Izlar, wounded at Drury's Bluff and Weldon Railroad, captured at Fort Fisher; Second Sergeant, J. H. Hook, wounded at Drury's Bluff, Virginia; Third Sergeant, J. E. Rast, killed at Waltham Junction, Virginia; Fourth Sergeant, W. V. Izlar, captured at Town Creek, N. C.; Fifth Sergeant, L. H. Culler, captured at Town Creek, N. C.; First Corporal W. Pauling, wounded at Weldon Railroad; Second Corporal, T. Kohn, wounded at Drury's Bluff; Third Corporal, Jude Robinson, wounded at Drury's Bluff; Fourth Corporal, J. R. Kennerly, killed at Drury's Bluff; Privates—A. M. Adger, M. L. Austin, killed at Drury's Bluff; J. H. Arant, wounded at Drury's Bluff, captured at Town Creek; M. F. Antilly, captured at Fort Fisher; John Ashe, wounded at Drury's

WOFFORD COLLEGE.

APPEAL TO THE METHODISTS OF THIS SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.

On Monday of Commencement week at Wofford College, a meeting of the trustees, alumni, friends of the college, preachers of the South Carolina Conference, in attendance, was held to discuss the interest of the college and to further its endowment. A full account of the condition of the institution was presented to the meeting. A committee was appointed to prepare a paper to be presented to a meeting, to be held the next afternoon, appealing to the Methodists of South Carolina in behalf of the college. Rev. J. T. Wightman, D. D., was made chairman of the committee, and, at the meeting on Tuesday, presented the following appeal to the Methodists of the South Carolina Conference:

"Having had carefully set before us the interests of Wofford College, and the embarrassed condition of its financial affairs, we, as members of the Church, are profoundly impressed that the prosperity of the College depends now on the personal and united efforts of the Church, and we do hereby, by most solemnly, in view of these imperative demands, respectfully and earnestly make this appeal. The Conference at its last session, adopted a plan of mass meetings, to be held in every Station and Circuit, for the purpose of enlarging the endowment fund, and it was recommended that, together with securing bonds for the endowment, at least one dollar for every member of the Church be raised. In carrying out this plan, we urge upon every preacher to make arrangements, as soon as possible, to hold mass meetings within his charge; and we respectfully suggest to Presiding Elders to bring the plan prominently before the Church, at Quarterly Conferences, or other occasions; and we earnestly request the Alumni, and all friends to make personal appeals, and to lend their aid in any way by which the plan may be best carried out. To make these mass meetings more successful, it is suggested to the preachers to secure, as far as possible, the personal presence and co-operation of the financial secretary, the president, or one of the professors of the college, and that they endeavor to make the occasion one of stirring interest. Should any circumstances prevent the holding of a mass meeting, it is recommended to the preachers that they make personal and public appeals, so that the charge shall raise an amount at least equal to its former educational assessment. In view of the fact that there are now but a few months before the Conference, and seeing, as we do, the urgent necessities of the College, this meeting would call upon the preachers and members of the Church earnestly to unite their efforts in carrying out the plan of the Conference. Could we, by a word, give more emphasis to this appeal, we would say to every member of the Church, that the life of the College and its future usefulness are now in your hands. Do your duty, as in the sight of God." Short and earnest speeches were made by several present, after which the report of the committee was unanimously adopted. Rev. John M. Carlisle then offered the following: Resolved, That the paper adopted be printed in the Southern Christian Advocate and in such secular papers as are favorable to the cause; and that each preacher be requested to read the same in every one of his congregations, and to second the appeal by earnest remarks, and to solicit contributions from all classes of our people; but that this reading and solicitation shall not interfere with the proposed mass meetings, where such meetings are practicable. After unanimously adopting this resolution, the meeting adjourned.

Borie's Errand.

Mr. Borrie says he traveled twenty-five thousand miles for the express purpose of dissuading Grant from being a candidate in 1880, but never found a chance to speak about it. If Borrie is a truthful man, that was the largest and most useless errand we ever heard of. If not, he is a bigger liar than Eli Perkins or Jim Anderson.

A Northern college has made Zach Chandler an LL. D. Whether this is most honorable to Old Zach or most disreputable to the college is a question we do not undertake to decide. But the act ought to make John Logan ambitious for literary honors.