

EDGEFIELD ADVERTISER.

A Democratic Journal, Devoted to the South and Southern Rights, Politics, Latest News, Literature, Morality, Temperance, Agriculture, &c.

W. F. DUNSON & SON, Proprietors.

EDGEFIELD, S. C., DECEMBER 5, 1855.

VOL. XI.—NO. 47.

THE EDGEFIELD ADVERTISER.

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GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

To the Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 27th inst., and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration. I have also the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 28th inst., and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

payable out of the current fund of the State, viz: the bonds issued to provide for the execution of the law, and the bonds issued to provide for the payment of the State subscription to the Blue Ridge Railroad Company. Bonds to the amount of \$200,000 have already been issued, the interest on which will be \$12,000. There must be during the ensuing year a further issue of bonds to provide the means for carrying on both these works.

The resources of the State to meet the public debt consist of stock in her various railroads, and the surplus assets of the Bank. The nominal value of these stocks is \$1,542,300; their present value in market is \$771,150.

The surplus means of the State in the Bank, over its liabilities, is \$3,923,320.64.

On reference to the Reports of the Comptroller General, it appears that the payments for the year 1855 were \$651,692.93, and the receipts at the Treasury were \$440,142.89.

My predecessor called your attention to the claim of Mr. Anthony Hyde for commissions as agent of the State for claims on account of losses in the Florida war; but on reference to the subject I find that no action was had on the subject. Shortly after, your adjournment, Mr. Hyde urged the payment of his claim.

Upon examining the papers in my department, I found that the late Governor, Seaboard, had appointed Mr. Hyde agent of the State, with a stipulation on the face of the power-of-attorney that Mr. H. was to receive as his compensation five per cent, on all moneys collected.

One of the \$183,000 credit of the State at the United States Treasury, I have paid him his compensation at the rate of five per cent, and a small charge for copying, in all \$9,745. Mr. Hyde thinks he is entitled to five per cent. more for his services. How much equity there is in his claim you will be enabled to determine by an examination of the papers and correspondence which are herewith transmitted.

The balance after deducting \$9,745, amounting to \$800,59 together with \$17,786.95 previously received, I have deposited with the Treasurer of the Upper Division.

A report from the Commissioners of the New State Capitol will be found among the documents accompanying this message. In accordance with your instructions, they have changed the site of the building, and modified their plans so as to remedy the defects in their former structure.

The walk for the foundation has risen above the surface of the ground; and as more than one hundred and forty laborers were employed on the work, its further progress will be rapid and gratifying.

It appears, however, that the masonry is very much superior to the old. The large regular hammer stones, arranged in horizontal layers of equal thickness, form a solid and substantial appearance, which forbids any fear of a catastrophe such as befell the former structure.

The bonds of the State for the purpose of raising money to complete the building, and to meet the wants of the present year, are \$1,542,300. It is not necessary that the State should resort to the sale of its lands, or to the issue of new bonds, to meet the wants of the present year.

It is greatly to be regretted that President Thornwell's determination to withdraw from his government remains unchanged. I regard his retirement a public loss. He has discharged the arduous trust with unequalled ability and success, and in this officially noticing his resignation, I feel that I pay but a merited tribute to uncommon worth and rare endowment.

On the 26th of January, that portion of the College buildings known as the East Wing and Centre Building of Rutledge College, together with the West Wing were destroyed by fire. The West Wing was saved, but in such a damaged condition as to render its continued occupancy extremely uncomfortable, if not positively dangerous.

The inconveniences to which the College was subjected by this disaster were so great, and the demand for the reconstruction of the buildings so urgent, that a special appropriation of \$100,000 was made by the Legislature. It was intended that the buildings should be replaced without waiting for the proceeds of the reconstruction of the buildings to be received.

It is to be regretted that the College was not destroyed by fire. The buildings were in such a damaged condition as to render its continued occupancy extremely uncomfortable, if not positively dangerous.

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I will not on such an occasion enlarged on the necessity and importance of public instruction. All civilized governments recognize the duty, and labor to meet its requirements.

It is, however, impossible that the present system, or any other, can be made to work well without a responsible head. There must be unity and energy. Allow me to urge upon you, as has often been done, the necessity of appointing a Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Select a man suitable for the work. Pay him liberally. Cheap officers usually render cheap service. Make it your duty to visit every neighborhood in the State, and ascertain where schools are needed—where school houses may be conveniently located—where, owing to sparseness of population, they cannot—where those who are able to educate will unite with the State in the establishment of Academies.

In a word, do as has been done elsewhere—have a survey of the field of ignorance, and with the map before you, make a plan. Make at least one school in every township. Make at least one man who will take himself thus generally trained by his State for the duties of life, he will never forget that he has a claim to live for—he will never feel that he has a claim upon him, and in the hour of trial, will regard no sacrifice too dear in defense of his institutions.

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With but a few exceptions, I have reviewed the regiments of the first and fifth military divisions of the State, and the regiments of Charleston and Laurens Districts. I was gratified with the military spirit evinced, and the knowledge of the duties which has been generally acquired by the men, and has always generously responded to the appeals which have been made in their behalf.

For many years a sum was annually appropriated for the maintenance and education of her poor mutes in Northern Institutions. I should urge upon you the importance of keeping up our present mutes system. Our peculiar condition, and the dangers to which we are exposed, both by the mutes and by the deaf, dumb and blind, are such that it is not desirable, nor is it practicable, to make regular soldiers of our citizens, but it is important to teach them to lead the rudiments of that science upon which all people must rely for security and defence.

The master file, like the school house, has its lessons. It inculcates the duty of obedience, and the increasing demands of the institutions, and without these elements, the standard of character can never be high.

The Free School system will receive at your hands that consideration which its importance demands. Its results have fallen so far short of its object, that it may be pronounced a failure. Its defects have been long felt, and nothing has been done except to deny the sum of money to be wasted under a bad system. It requires thorough and entire reformation.

It is unfortunate that the end which was evidently contemplated by the act of 1811 has been abandoned, and that what was intended to introduce gradually a general system of common schools has been perverted to the exclusive education of paupers. In my judgment, we would rather have the sum of money expended in a system which, in its ultimate development, should bring the means of education within the reach of every family in the State.

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Our incipient measures should look to the double end of creating a popular demand for education, and of furnishing instructors able to supply it. Normal schools, as being the best means of preparing teachers for the former purpose, and until that is accomplished, nothing is gained by the preparation of teachers. It seems to me that in conformity with the principle that knowledge descends, and that the supply creates the demand, the first step should be to establish a high school in each district in the State, in which pupils could be prepared for the colleges and universities, and in which a certain number of intelligent young men of industry and promise should be sent to college at the expense of the State, upon the condition of devoting themselves to the office of teaching for a specified period after their graduation.

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In a matter of such vital importance to the State, district and parish lines should be disregarded. Whether we live in a mountain or on the sea-board, in the midst of light or surrounded by ignorance, we are all equally interested in the noble work, and into whatever benighted part of the State the rays of knowledge can be made to penetrate, we should feel as citizens of the same State, enjoying one renown, and linked to one destiny, that the partial blessing of the State should be extended to the enlightening of all its children. They check honest industry, and they will consult true policy by contributing liberally to the cause of education, where suffering is universal, and government rests directly on the public will. Superfluous knowledge is better than no knowledge, for, after all, the truths that regulate the relations of life are plain,

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PROSPECTUS OF THE SOUTHERN LIGHT.

A RELIGIOUS JOURNAL.

EDITED BY E. L. WHITLEY.

Published every Monday or Wednesday.

Price, \$2.00 per annum, in advance.

W. F. DUNSON & SON, PUBLISHERS.

Edgefield, S. C., Oct. 14th, 1855.

Such is the nature and scope of this Journal, that the publication of which we propose, is the Lord willing, to commence on the first Monday in January next. The main design of the Journal is to disseminate the truth, to promote Christian faith and practice. Additional to this, we shall present articles of a literary character, original and selected, as well as a tendency to reform the taste and elevate the sentiment of the reading public. Politics also, considered as a science, and as affecting the principles of Law and Government, and more especially the mighty movements of the nations, as they work out the designs of God, will claim due and proper attention. But politics directed to the acquisition of knowledge and facts, will be severely checked and repudiated.

As respects matters purely religious, we shall, of course, advocate the principles of the Baptist Church, as derived from the Scriptures, and republicanism in standard and other religious works, our fields pertaining to our own literature, and our country will be.

Open to all of Every Name.

For the defence and advocacy of their principles, claiming only the right to judge of the suitability of all articles for insertion, and to make such criticism on them as may be deemed expedient.

In this undertaking, we have the assistance of many of the most eminent and able writers and attainments have kindly engaged to render us occasional assistance.

The Journal will contain FORTY PAGES of reading matter, and such advertisements as our friends may favor us with, in connection with the character of the work, making at the end of the year a neat volume of 480 pages, suitable for binding in book form.

With regard to the mechanical execution of the work, we desire the announcement, that this will be under the direction of W. F. DUNSON, a sufficient guaranty for its faithful and tasteful performance—and without further words, encouraged by the expressions of good will and promises of substantial aid from many friends, we throw the matter to the printer, and request that you will direct your orders to the printer, and that you will be pleased to send us, and respectfully ask them to let the "LIGHT" shine.

Our terms of subscription are TWO DOLLARS per year, in advance, or receipt of the first number. Ministers of the Gospel, and those who are unable to supply with the terms, will be supplied with one copy each, on application.

A list for the signatures of all who wish to encourage the work, may be found at the Post Office, and also at the Advertiser's office, and all communications addressed to the Editor will receive prompt attention.

E. L. WHITLEY, Editor and Proprietor.

Edgefield, S. C., Oct. 14th, 1855.

Carryon Academies.

THE MALE DEPARTMENT of these Academies is under the supervision of Mr. J. L. LEWIS, Assisted by Mr. BASS.

The FEMALE DEPARTMENT will be supervised by Mrs. A. P. BUTLER, assisted by competent Musical and other Instructors.

Rates of Tuition.

First Class, Primary Department, per Sem on \$29.00

2nd " " ordinary English branches, " " 12.00

3rd " " higher English branches, " " 15.00

4th " " Greek and Human Literature, " " 18.00

5th " " higher Mathematics, " " 20.00

Music, " " " " " " 20.00

Pupils are charged from the time of entering until the end of the Session. Tuition in advance.

This year is divided into two Sessions of five months each.

Good board can be had in the neighborhood at from \$5 to \$10 dollars per month.

ROBT. MERRIWEATHER, Chairman of Board of Trustees.

Feb 14

FURNITURE AND CHAIR WARE ROOMS.

WE would call the attention of the public to our NEW and WELL SELECTED Stock of CABINET FURNITURE.

UNDER THE AUGUSTA HOTEL, BROAD STREET, where we are prepared to supply all orders in our line at the most reduced Prices, and

UNSURPASSED QUALITY!

We would invite purchasers to call before buying.

LARGE Devotion from Old Prices.

HENRY & SKINNER.

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