

Commencement.

A SPLENDID SHOWING AT OUR COLLEGE.

Full Report of the Proceedings—Friendly Strife—Erskine's Day—Excellent Address—Beautiful Essays, by Sweet Girl Graduates—A Brilliant Reception Winds up the Affair.

We left Abbeville Tuesday evening about six o'clock, for Due West. After a pleasant ride of about two hours we arrived at our destination, and found that everything about the classic town had assumed quite a Commencement air. The young men were rushing to and fro in eager anticipation of the pleasure to be derived from the company of some fair damsel, while those of the latter class were doubtless calmly awaiting the crisis, when they should have an important part in wrecking or making some one's happiness. Quite a number of nice turn-outs were seen dashing up the streets, the spirited animals seeming to realize they must do their best at this season of the year.

A FRIENDLY STRIFE.

Dr. Grier called the meeting to order, and after a few appropriate remarks, in reference to the programme for the evening introduced the Rev. H. T. Sloan, D. D., who offered a very fervent prayer to the Giver of all Good, that he would bestow his blessing upon the institutions of learning at this place, the Professors at the head of them, the pupils connected with them, and especially the young men who have been chosen to take part in these proceedings and the committee who were to pass upon their respective efforts. The whole prayer was a beautiful petition, appropriate to the occasion, and closed by ascribing to the Creator all praise for our being, our intellectual progress and our temporary happiness.

After Dr. Sloan's prayer and sacred music by the Due West Silver Cornet Band, the following programme was orderly carried out:

Contest in Declamation.

[SOPHOMORES.] THE NATIONAL ENSIGN.

J. P. Knox.....Huntersville, N. C. Music—Silver Wave Quickstep.

W. P. Lowry.....Louisville, Ga. Music—Wylie Quickstep.

Contest in Essay Reading

[JUNIORS.] NEW ISSUES.

R. G. Peoples.....Columbia, Tenn. Music—Maize Polka.

THE LABOR OF LITERATURE AND ITS REWARD.

C. A. Teague.....Newberry, S. C. Music—Dinah Quickstep.

The young men who were engaged in this friendly contest for superiority, all did well, and when the evening's exercises were over, the friends of each contestant felt confident that their favorite would be successful.

The committee of seven, who had been appointed, deposited their ballots, and the crowd dispersed, feeling well repaid for coming out.

The audience preserved unusually good order, and the young people looked so happy together, that this reporter realized the fact that he was still young, and began to evolve in his fertile imagination, how he could combine work with pleasure, when he remembered the MESSENGER had an unusually good reporter in the place, in the person of Mr. R. S. Galloway, (a married man), and he resolved to turn the rest of the Commencement, as far as reporting its proceedings were concerned, over to the aforesaid versatile local reporter, to whom he is indebted for the unusually full account of the rest of the Commencement given below. When called upon by the right one, we can give a good account of ourselves during the rest of our stay at Due West.

ERKINE'S DAY.

Due West, June 24.—The June breezes are blowing balmy this morning. At this moment the martial strain of the Due West Cornet Band are floating in and filling Lindsay Hall. The procession of young men and ladies, headed by Chief Marshal Teague, are filing in and arranging themselves upon the stage.

This is Erskine's day. Prayer was most feelingly and ably offered by Rev. Leslie Morris, of Edgefield Court House. The following programme, as distributed by the ushers, was carried out:

Options.

(The first four speakers are contestants for the Medal in Oratory.)

T. G. Boyce.....Sardis, N. C. Music—The Daisy—Andante and Waltz.

BRACKENFIELD.

H. H. Brice.....Due West, S. C. Music—Sustained du Homer.

ENGLAND'S POLICY IN REGARD TO THE SUDAN.

M. B. Grier.....Due West, S. C. Music—Pride of the Ocean—Schottische.

THE COMMON PEOPLE.

J. H. Freasly.....Due West, S. C. Music—Sounds from the North—Quickstep.

SHIMMER GORDON.

L. L. Abercrombie.....Sparta, Ga. Music—Johns Quickstep.

NATURALISTIC VIVIDNESS OF FEELING.

S. P. McElroy.....Doraville, Ga. Music—Social Band March.

POWER OF PUBLIC OPINION.

G. P. Neel.....Troy, S. C. Music—Glorious Galop.

BACCALAUREATE.

Music.

Afternoon.

ANNIVERSARY ADDRESS.

Hon. E. B. Murray.....Anderson, S. C. Music.

Evening.

ALUMNI ADDRESS.

Hon. M. M. Duffie.....Princeton, Ark. Music.

ALUMNAE ESSAY.

Miss Jennie Anderson.....Fairview, S. C. Music.

Presentation of Medals.

MARSHALS.

C. A. Teague, Chief, Newberry, S. C.

T. W. Sloan.....Fayetteville, Tenn. J. R. Edwards.....Due West, S. C. R. A. Lee.....Due West, S. C. W. O. Brice.....Windsboro, S. C. R. L. Grier.....Due West, S. C. J. R. Miller.....Rock Hill, S. C.

Dr. Grier stated at the opening, that an Alumni, of the College, had offered a medal for the best oration by a member of the Senior Class, and that seven gentlemen, who knew not each other, were scattered over the Hall and would pass upon the first four speakers as contestants for this prize.

Mr. T. G. Boyce now led off in a handsome manner on this contest, and was followed in good style by the other graduates. Particular attention was paid the first four speeches as it was known they were the contestants for the medals, and various were the opinions expressed as to who the successful one would be. It will be observed that almost all the subjects of these young men were living subjects of the day and striking ones as well. The young gentlemen had their speeches well at command; had written them well, and in their delivery reflected credit upon the Institution. The decision of the committee, as to the successful orator, will be made known to-night. At the close of this morning's exercises each member will deposit his vote in a ballot box on the stage.

BACCALAUREATE.

Dr. W. M. Grier, Erskine's beloved and able President, now delivered the benediction to the young men. In selecting a theme, the speaker said he would impress upon the young men, two thoughts: First, "Every useful life involves the element of what we call routine." The second thought he pressed upon the young men, as requisite to usefulness, was "Faith." Dr. Grier's fiery and eloquent words went straight to the hearts and souls of his hearers. We heard some one say, "This is his best baccalaureate." But the Doctor needs no "big drum of the old woman," to whom he wittingly alluded, to sound his praise in Abbeville County or to State. If you missed hearing the Doctor, you missed a genuine treat.

CONFERRING DEGREES.

This closed the morning exercises. We may say, however, that Dr. Grier announced the following distinctions as conferred by the Board of Trustees: The title of "D. D." upon Rev. E. E. Boyce, of Gastonia, N. C., the degree of "A. M." upon Hon. Chas. Simonton, of Tennessee, and also the same upon H. E. Robinson, of Mississippi.

ANNIVERSARY ADDRESS.

The afternoon was given to the address of Mr. E. B. Murray, of Anderson C. H. Mr. Murray chose as his subject "The Privileges and Responsibility of American Citizenship." Mr. Murray's address was well written and parts of it delivered with a good deal of fire. He paid a high compliment to George Washington, placing him above Caesar and Napoleon. Mr. Murray's address was of very good length, about an hour. He urged upon the young men to make Washington their model. Our American citizenship had produced such a hero.

Upon Mr. Murray taking his seat, there were loud cries for "McGowan! McGowan!" Judge McGowan came forward amid tremendous applause and said that he was taken completely by surprise, and that he had no speech in bank, but would say the few words of making about the first public address ever made upon this stage. It was a very young man, but he remembered closing his address in the very same words of his friend, Mr. Murray. And he would conclude his remarks at present by saying again to the College *esto perpetuus*.

ON THE STAGE.

Upon the stage, to-day, we noted the following honored visitors: Judge Samuel McGowan, Hon. W. H. Parker, Gen. R. R. Hemphill, Hon. E. B. Murray, the venerable Mr. McMurtry, of Ireland, Drs. H. T. Sloan, James Boyce, Robt. Lathan, Revs. J. N. Young, L. S. Morris, W. W. Orr, T. C. Galloway, W. H. Pressley, W. T. Matthews, Messrs. Hugh Wilson, of the Press and Messenger, Perrin and Cotthran of the Messenger, and Todd of the Anderson Journal. Our worthy School Commissioner, Mr. George Hodges, Messrs. Wm. McGowan, J. C. Klugh, L. W. Smith, President J. P. Kennedy and others.

ALUMNAE AND ALUMNI MEET.

After the exercises this evening, the Alumnae and the Alumni met respectively in the Euphemian and Philomathean Halls. In the Alumni meeting, Dr. W. D. Reid read an excellently prepared sketch of his graduating class of 1847. Two sketches were presented to the meeting, the remaining one written by Rev. Lester, of Georgetown, S. C., was ordered to be read to-night in place of the Alumni Oration by Hon. M. M. Duffie, of Arkansas, who failed to be present. Rev. R. G. Miller, of Fairfield College, S. C., was selected as the next Alumni orator and Mr. W. O. Freasly as alternate.

The Alumnae meeting after transacting the usual business, Miss Mattie Phillips, of the class of '52, was chosen as the next Alumnae Essayist.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

At 8 o'clock to-night the audience again assembled in Lindsay. The Alumnae Essay was by the pretty Miss Jennie Anderson, of Greenville County, and was read by Dr. W. M. Grier. Her subject was "Making Brick without Straw" was admirably handled. The essay was excellently written and had many fine points. She applied her subject principally to the life of woman, who was often required to make brick without straw. Miss Anderson's essay reflected great honor upon herself and the College as well.

The sketch of the class of 1849 was

now read by Dr. Grier, though he tried to put it upon Fred McCain. This sketch was most admirably prepared. It had vein of humor running through it that made it pleasing and frequently interrupted by applause. President Kennedy and Arobbald K. Patton were two members of this class.

The "Yardstick Joke" gotten off by Dr. Phillips, of Jefferson Ga., closed the sketch and brought down the house. After the reading of this sketch and music by the band, Dr. Grier, in behalf of the faculty, announced the following distinctions:

In the senior class the distinction in German was given to T. G. Boyce, honorably mentioned, M. B. Grier, R. H. Brice; distinction in English course was given to T. G. Boyce, honorably mentioned R. H. Brice and M. B. Grier; distinction for French, T. G. Boyce, honorably mentioned, R. H. Brice, M. B. Grier; in chemistry, R. H. Brice received distinction, honorably mentioned, S. P. McElroy; distinction in Astronomy given to T. G. Boyce, honorably mentioned, Brice and Grier.

The first honor in the junior class was given to Mr. R. G. Peoples, 2d to T. W. Sloan.

In the contest in sophomore class between the two societies the distinction was given to Mr. J. P. Knox, for best orator; distinction for essayist, C. A. Teague.

The medal in oratory from the senior class and the medal in mathematics being given outside of the faculty was presented by Dr. Quigg, of Ga. The Doctor is "a funny Irishman" and kept the house in a prolonged laughter for three-quarters of an hour. The doctor is also very eloquent and his fine voice filled the house and in the pathos made the cold chills creep over one.

Prof. L. P. Kennedy delivered in person the medals from the preparatory department in Erskine. Mr. Kennedy did this in a neat, eloquent, touching little speech that was a ut favorably received. The honor was shared between Mr. Ebbie Kennedy and Mr. C. C. Parkison.

To-night's exercises were enjoyed immensely by the audience, in fact it was a regular treat.

To-morrow is woman's day.

COMMENCEMENT IN THE FEMALE COLLEGE.

THURSDAY.

The refreshing shower, of yesterday, has brought down the temperature, and this morning's loveliness is only equalled by that of these pretty girls who stand upon the commencement stage.

The exercise of the 24th anniversary of the Due West Female College, was opened with prayer by Rev. W. T. Matthews, of Greenwood, in most concise petitions. Then sang out the chant, "O, all ye Works of the Lord, Bless ye the Lord," sung by the College, assisted on the bass by Dr. E. H. Edwards and a portion of his choir. Prof. John H. Miller now led out on the stage the beautiful salutorian, Miss Lila B. Ketchin, of Winsboro. Miss Ketchin's essay was complete with beautiful, choice and tender thoughts, and was handsomely read by Prof. Miller. Here is the programme:

Order of Exercises.

PRAYER.

Chant—O, All Ye Works of the Lord, Bless Ye the Lord.

SALUTATORY.

Miss Lilla B. Ketchin.....Winsboro, S. C. March from Tanhauser—(3 Pianos and Organ)—Wagner.

Misses Legal, Mitchell, Lathan, Ketchin, Moffat, and Mrs. Bonner.

ESSAY—THE VOYAGE OF LIFE.

Miss Jennie H. Bell.....Charlotte, N. C. The Mariners—Vocal—Trio—Bandegger. Misses Legal, McDavid, and Mr. Wideman.

ESSAY—"YOUTH FEELS ON ILLUSION, OLD AGE ON REMEMBRANCE."

Miss Maggie C. Caldwell.....Newberry, S. C. Delta Kappa Epsilon—(3 Pianos and Cornets) and Dr. Pease.

Misses Neel, Power, Erwin, Moffat, and Kerr, and Messrs. Magill and Pressley.

ESSAY—THE MYSTERIES OF NATURE.

Miss Bessie Z. Cox.....Due West, S. C. The Return—Vocal—Solo—Millard.

Misses Hoke, Breton, Roland, Hoke, Newman, Messrs. Magill and Pressley.

ESSAY—SILENT INFLUENCE.

Miss Sallie L. Dominick.....Prosperity, S. C. Il Trovatore—Duo—(2 Pianos)—Alberti. Misses Mitchell and Ketchin.

ESSAY—MOTHER.

Miss Eugenia Douglas.....Albion, S. C. Are Sanctissima—Vocal—Trio—F. W. Rosier.

Misses Grier, McDavid and Newman.

ESSAY—HOME.

Miss S. Addie Caldwell.....Newberry, S. C. Pearl of the Sea—(3 Pianos and Cornet)—Misses Anderson, Teague, Penning, Zealy and Ardrey, and Mr. Magill.

ESSAY—HEAVEN.

Miss Nell Lathan.....Due West, S. C. Toy Symphony—Haydn.

Chorus with Piano accompaniment and Toy Instruments, viz., Lute, Cricket, Quail, Cuckoo, Nightingale, Owl, and two Trumpets.

ESSAY—THE PROGRESS OF THOUGHT.

Miss Lillian Hearst.....Bradley's S. C. Cumberland March—(3 Pianos and Cornets)—Blander.

Misses Hoke, Breton, Roland, Hoke, Newman, Messrs. Magill and Pressley.

ESSAY—L'ESPERANCE.

Miss Eunice Mitchell.....Blackstock, S. C. Bill of Fare—Vocal—Quartette—Karl Merz. Misses Grier, Edwards, Hoke, Ketchin, and Mr. Wideman.

Afternoon.

Chorus—The Alpine Maid—Lee.

ESSAY—POETRY.

Miss Anna H. Moffat.....Rives, Tenn. Polka de Concert—(3 Pianos)—W. V. Wallace.

Misses Moffat, Lathan and Edwards.

In Memoriam.

"ESSAY—WE ALL DO FADE AS A LEAF."

Miss Belle H. Neel.....Troy, S. C. A Night in Venice—Vocal—Duet—Arditi. Misses Jennie Grier and Mr. Wideman.

ESSAY—EVERY MAN THE ARCHITECT OF HIS OWN FORTUNE.

Miss Julia F. Strother.....Chapalla, S. C. Midsummer Night's Dream—Mendelssohn. (Duo—2 Pianos) Misses Legal and McDavid.

ESSAY—SPIRITS OF IMAGINATION.

Miss Lola A. Teague.....Newberry, S. C. I live and love Thee—Vocal—Duet.—Campbell.

Misses Edwards and Miller.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES.

Chant on Rivonoe—(2 Pianos and Cornets)—Berg.

Misses Douglas, Ellis, Caldwell, Brice, Messrs. Magill and Pressley.

VALENTINO.

Miss M. Lois Martin.....Covington, Ga. Sweet Spring has come—Mayor. Misses Edwards, Power, Erwin, Ellis, Moffat, and Bell.

DEGREES CONFERRED.

Solo and Chorus—How Cheerily goes the Day.—L. O. Emerson.

There is a tremendous crowd surging and swaying in Lindsay Hall this morning. Available seats are "non est." Abbeville County has let loose one of her "trash movers," and has deluged Due West with a flood of feminine and masculine beauty.

Upon the stage this morning, we notice the addition of Judge Cotthran, Hon. W. C. Benet, Maj. Wardlaw, Mr. W. A. Lee, Capt. L. W. Perrin and the Hon. Mr. Moffat, of Tennessee.

The essays of the beautiful young ladies, Misses Jennie Bell, Maggie Caldwell, Bessie Cox, Sallie Dominick, Eugenia Douglass, Addie Caldwell, Mell Lathan, Lillian Hurst and Eunice Mitchell were each and all charmingly written, clothed in beautiful words and filled with the right sentiment, and were ably read by Dr. Grier, Hon. E. B. Murray, Prof. McGain, Dr. Quigg, Prof. S. P. Kennedy and the Hon. W. C. Benet.

The vocal trio, "The Mariners," was most admired and applauded. The vocal solo, "The Return," by Miss Jennie Edwards, was finely rendered and elicited the attention of the house. The decided hit and sensation of the forenoon, in the music line, was the "Symphony," and was imitable and ludicrously imitated when it broke out into roars of laughter. "Bill of Fare" was like unto the above, and coming just before dinner, the waiters all being dressed in appropriate style and led by Mr. Wideman, was greatly enjoyed.

AFTERNOON.

In the afternoon the exercises began promptly at the hour appointed. The essays were still up to a high standard and the music excellent. "The Ensign Brigade" created quite a breeze in their fancy costume and correspondingly applauded.

The essay, in memoriam, by Miss Belle Neel was sad and touching. It was occasioned by the death of Miss Anna Hood. A beautiful memorial tablet to her memory, in shape of a shield hung upon the centre wall above the stage surrounded with wreaths, in which her name was beautifully wrought. The whole design is to be sent to Miss Hood's mother in Chester county.

The valedictory by the beautiful Miss Louise Martin, of Covington, Ga., was an elegantly written piece of composition and highly appreciated by her sisters, teachers and the audience.

THE BACCALAUREATE.

President Kennedy delivered the Baccalaureate in a most fatherly, appropriate and affectionate manner. There was no lack of display or oratory, but in concise, eloquent language, his sentences went straight to the hearts of the young ladies. President Kennedy chose "Fidelity of Character" for his subject. He fittingly introduced his address by quoting one of Walter Scott's dying remarks to his biographer Lockhart: "Be a good man."

But the great example Pres. Kennedy held up to the young ladies was "That rose of Sharon that lily of the Valley." Conformity to his likeness is the highest beauty of which our nature is capable.

In the latter part of the speaker's address he had an allusion to that veteran teacher, Miss Elizabeth McQueens, which we cannot omit: "But do you ask for example of character, models worthy of your imitation? You have not far to go. There is one in your midst, whose very presence is a benediction, whose heart swells with every generous emotion, whose sympathy is as true as the gentleness itself, and far reaching as the sun. The very virtues on her brow are radiant with a beauty, more than earthly. She is rich with the riches of heaven, beautiful with the beauty of heaven, and must in the course of nature soon be a dweller in 'The land that is very far off.' Let us imitate her as she has followed in the footsteps of her Divine Master."

President Kennedy also had a very touching allusion to the memory of Miss Anna Hood.

There was a good deal of confusion during the latter part of this address. At its close the President awarded in the name of the teachers the following prizes:

Mathematics, Geometry, Miss Emma Perrin.

Algebra, Miss Lilla Ardrey.

Mental Arithmetic, Miss Annie McDavid.

Mental Arithmetic, 1st class, Miss Lula Brock.

Literature, Miss Annie Madden.

The following young ladies took prizes for punctuality in every duty during the year:

Misses Maggie Caldwell, May Teague, Lena Campbell, Maie Brice, Lena Holland, Sallie Patrick, Annie Maddox, Emma Perrin, Lilla Ketchin, Anna Moffat, Belle Lee.

The following took prizes for perfect department in connection with punctuality:

Misses Maggie Caldwell, Emma Perrin, May Teague.

The following took medals for excellence in music:

Misses Eunice Mitchell, Mell Lathan, Maggie Moffat, Mary Erwin, Lillie Ardrey.

In singing, Misses Fannie Hoke, Sussie Ketchin.

Miss Lilla Ketchin took the medal in Latin.

Miss Daisy Stussy took the medal in French.

AIT DEPARTMENT.

COCKSNEY'S, S. C., June 29th 1885.

Messrs. Editors: I am in receipt of a letter from the Adjutant General, of the United States Army, which contains the following paragraph:

You are invited by the Secretary of War to nominate, at your earliest convenience, a legally qualified candidate for appointment as cadet to the United States Military Academy, from the Third Congressional District of South Carolina, who must be at West Point no later than the 11th day of June 1886, but whose appointment is required by law to be made as nearly one year in advance of that date as is practicable. To select such candidate a competitive examination will be held at Abbeville Court House on Thursday, the 21st of July, at 1 o'clock a. m. Said examination will be held under the control of Prof. Geo. C. Hodges, of Abbeville, Prof. W. M. McCaslin, of District of South Carolina, Pickens, and Dr. Thomas J. C. of Abbeville Court House. The candidates will be subjected to a physical

examination, and then an academical examination. The latter will comprise reading, writing, orthography and arithmetic with which last they must be sufficiently acquainted to enable the successful candidate to take up, upon his entrance at West Point, the higher branches of mathematics without further study of arithmetic, English grammar, geography and history of the United States.

The questions will be submitted in writing to the candidates and an allotted time allowed for their solution.

Respectfully,

D. WYATT AIRKEN.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.

Are you disturbed at night and broken of your rest by a sick child suffering and crying with pain of cutting teeth? If so, send at once and get a bottle of Mrs. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP FOR CHILDREN TEETHING. Its value is incalculable. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Depend upon it, it cures dysentery and diarrhea, regulates the stomach and bowels, cures wind colic, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, and gives tone and energy to the whole system. Mrs. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP FOR CHILDREN TEETHING is pleasant to the taste, and is the prescription of one of the oldest and best female nurses and physicians in the United States, and is for sale by all druggists throughout the world. Price 25 cents a bottle.

A beautiful line of gloves at Bell & Galphin's. Lace! Lace!! Lace!!! in endless variety at White Brothers. The best black silk ever shown in this market at White Brothers. Neck wear, linen collars, collarettes, Fish-eyes, Crapes, Laces and Ruching in great variety at Bell & Galphin's. All over Embroideries, all over Hamburg, all over Swiss, all over Valt very pretty and cheap at Bell & Galphin's. Do you know the cheapest place in the up-country to get a stylish hat or bonnet? It is at Bell & Galphin's. Laces, Oriental, Torchon, Breton Valenciennes, &c., in the greatest variety at Bell & Galphin's. Jet, crochet, crochet and jet, Taylor-covered, Something in black laces to match any black dress at Bell & Galphin's. Fans, fans, fans, from 25c. to the best in real hand painting at Bell & Galphin's. Fine Table and Hall Lamps at W. S. Cotthran & Co. Something new for Abbeville, an artist in millinery at Bell & Galphin's. You can get a nice pearl Button for 5c. per doz. at Bell & Galphin's. Parasols. We can show you something handsome in this line. Bell & Galphin. Parasols, Parasols, another lot of Parasols just received R. M. Haddon & Co. A good assortment of the following named articles may be had at the store of White Brothers: Table Linens, Towels, Blankets, Sheets, Bed Tickings, Counterpanes, Furniture Prints, Carpets and Rugs.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

The general verdict is that there were more beautiful women here than ever seen before.

The August and Knoxville R. R. has lessened the number of luggage and carriages that came to commencement as these friends come now by rail.

It was an universal remark that this was one of the most pleasant occasions we have ever had.

There was no dust at this commencement. The showers kept it down and the shower Thursday evening ruined a good many hats and silks. There was a great rush for umbrellas by the gallants. However the delay in leaving the hall, gave many a timid beau a chance to make that last speech.

Abbeville Court House had a fine set of young men present, who took in the whole occasion, and were especially gallant at the reception at the Female College Thursday night.

On the heels of commencement comes Mr. John Wren with another wonder—a cucumber four feet long! We have seen a specimen, it is the new variety and is just the shape of a snake, but has the same flavor of a common cucumber.

One of the young men ran home from the soiree, Thursday evening, to put on a new bosom, but just as he got back the bell tapped, and the fair ones vanished up stairs.

Commencement is over and A. S. and L. D. Kennedy call W. C. Haddon "Cousin Willie."

Prof. Cowper Patton, of Columbia, is still