

The Abbeville Messenger.

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ABBEVILLE, S. C., TUESDAY, JULY 6, 1886.

NO. 11.

THE PRIDE OF OUR COUNTY.

OUR INSTITUTIONS OF LEARNING OUR RICHEST HERITAGE.

The Exercises of the Due West Colleges, Male and Female, Prove to be very Interesting, and a Large Crowd Gathers Notwithstanding the Weather.

Sunday the 26th of June was Commencement Sunday, and persons who know the nature of the exercises on that day were anxious to hear the Baccalaureate Sermon, of the Rev. Dr. Leftwich, who had come from the banks of the Cumberland River, for this special occasion. The fame of this man of God as a pulpit orator, had gone before him and consequently there was a splendid audience to hear him, the largest perhaps that has ever assembled in the new church. At the last part of the bell the choir opened with a splendid anthem. Rev. J. T. Chalmers walked into the pulpit with the minister. Dr. Leftwich took his text from the fourth chapter of Proverbs: "Keep thy heart with all diligence for out of it are the issues of life." The speaker announced that this would afford the sentiment of the subject which he announced to be "the psychic forces of nature."

The speaker's first sentence was that "Christianity is Christ in character." His leading proposition was that the heart makes the life of an individual. If the heart be good the life will be a noble one; if the heart be bad the life of an individual will be only evil.

The young make two mistakes, the first that life was made up of externals. The second was that the aim of life is to have a good time. The doctor was hard on novel reading and the drama. In the course of his sermon he said that Shakespeare had done more to undermine society than all other writers by his vulgar and immoral poetry.

Dr. Leftwich is very fine looking, a very able man, and preached a very admirable and appropriate sermon.

In the afternoon Rev. Archie Sloan preached a splendid sermon, the one known as the "White Horse Sermon." At 8 1/2 o'clock Sabbath evening Dr. Witherspoon presented the cause of the Seaman's Bethel of New Orleans. Rev. W. L. Pressly and Dr. Grier each thought it a worthy cause and Dr. Grier asked that the deacons take up a collection which was heartily and cheerfully responded to.

One of the largest crowds came in on the trains of Monday that has visited our Commencement in years on that day. This is partly owing to the fact that no trains were run on Tuesday. Among the visitors was the Hon. J. M. Bright, the anniversary orator and Hon. George Johnstone of Newberry, a candidate for Congress.

Monday Evening.
On Monday evening the two Societies held their annual celebration. The trouble about these two occasions is that a person wants to attend both and they meet at the same hour how can he. We were like the little dog that "had two pots to lick." However we made the best of the job, running from one to the other. We first took in the Philomathean. Here the Hon. George C. Hodges presided, Mr. Hodges is an excellent presiding officer. He favored the house with a fine oration, taking for his subject "The Christian Teacher." This was treated in its broadest sense including the teacher in all avocations of life. His application was fitting and appropriate. Mr. Hodges' address was able, polished and eloquent.

We stayed in this society to hear the first part of the debate on the question, "Is the presence of the Negro in the United States beneficial?" Mr. J. B. Cochran's address was a masterly argument in favor of the Affirmative. This is all we heard of the debate. We learn, however, that the decision was given to the Negative as upheld by Mr. W. O. Brice. They say Mr. Brice's argument was very fine. We reached the Euphemian society as the Rev. E. L. Morris arose as the medal orator. We learned that the preceding exercises of this society were very meritorious. Rev. Morris chose for his subject "The Power of Literature." It was a very literary, elegant and high toned address showing much research and large familiarity with history. Mr. Morris was particularly happy in his remarks in handing out the medals. The following gentlemen were the victors:

Junior class, medal for the best essay; Mr. D. G. Phillips.
Sophomore class, best debator; G. E. McAlvey.
Freshman class, best declaimer; Mr. W. W. Bradley.
General excellence in the Preparatory class; Mr. R. D. Moffatt.
Mr. Morris' address was scholarly, appropriate and eloquent.

Hastening back to the Philomathean society we had the great pleasure of hearing Rev. Charles McDonald in a humorous oration delivering the medals. Mr. McDonald is brimful of fun. He has a fine voice and capital delivery. The speaker kept the house in a roar of laughter. His subject was "Look on

the bright side of life." It is very evident that Mr. McDonald practices what he preaches. His choice was a capital one for this occasion. He is a rising young minister of the Associate Reformed church and of much promise. He bestowed in behalf of the medal committee the following medals:

Freshman class, declamation; Mr. R. H. Honorable mention, Mr. J. F. Calhoun.

Sophomore class, essay J. F. Gram-brel. Honorable mention, E. S. Reid and Mr. Baird.

Junior class, debate; Mr. W. O. Brice. Honorable mention, Mr. J. P. Knox.

Tuesday Evening.
The exercises of this evening consisted of contests in declamation and essay reading by members of the sophomore and junior classes—one of each from the two societies.

Rev. Mr. Rogers, of Greenwood, opened the exercises with prayer, and the young men who took part acquitted themselves with credit. A committee of judges was selected from the audience and the gentlemen selected had never had any connection with either society. Their decision was rendered by ballot, the ballots being counted by the Faculty. The audience, on this evening, was large and well behaved and the young men succeeded splendidly in entertaining them. The following is the programme:

Prayer.
Sacred Music.

CONTEST IN DECLAMATION.—[SOPHOMORES.]
Problem of the age.—I. I. Canterbury, Lower Peachtree, Ala.
Music.—Polka da Concert.
The Progress of Democracy.—W. C. Seawright, Donalds, S. C.
Music.—Eloise Waltz.

CONTEST IN ESSAY READING.—[JUNIORS.]
The Love of Fame.—J. P. Knox, Huntersville, N. C.

Music.—Postillman Schottische.
Gen. Grant's Place in History.—D. Gardner Phillips, Louisville, Ga.
Music.—Beauty Quickstep.
Marshals.—W. C. Metcalf, Hodges, S. C.; T. H. Chiles, Troy, S. C.; R. A. Lee, Due West, S. C.; J. F. Calhoun, Due West, S. C.

Wednesday Morning.

Half-past nine o'clock was the hour announced for the Commencement exercises of Erskine College to begin, but owing to the inclemency of the weather the audience was somewhat late in assembling and it was after ten o'clock when Dr. Grier announced that the exercises would be opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Wilson, of Abbeville.

In a reverent, earnest manner, Dr. Wilson invoked the blessings of Almighty God upon the audience assembled, and implored that the officers of the institution might be endowed with wisdom from on high, and that the institution might continue to flourish and be a well-spring of good for years to come. A special blessing was asked upon the young men who were to graduate; that they might be guided through life, and prove an honor to the church and to the State.

After prayer and sacred music by the band, Dr. Grier thanked the audience for their presence, notwithstanding the unfavorable weather, and announced the order of exercises, stating that the young men were all contestants for a medal in oratory, offered by a friend of the College, and asked the attention of the audience.

Programme.

Prayer.
Sacred Music.

ORATIONS.

Charles Stewart Parnell.—J. S. Stribling, Richland, S. C.
Music.—Lily Polka.
America an Asylum, not a Rendezvous.—W. S. Castles, Chester, S. C.

Music.—Ida Waltz.
Loughlow.—M. A. Cox, Laurens, S. C.

Music.—Libussa Polka Mazurka.
Anniversary Address.—Hon. Jno. M. Bright Fayetteville, Tenn.

Music.—Commencement Galop.

AFTERNOON.

The Scholar's Reward.—R. G. Peoples, Culleoka, Tenn.

Music.—Augusta Schottische.
Unworned Queens.—J. W. Sloan, Fayetteville, Tenn.

Music.—Home, Sweet Home.
Struggles of Authors.—W. C. Bell, Antreville, S. C.

Music.—Shells of Ocean.
Baccalaureate.
Music.

The forenoon was occupied by three young gentlemen, and the anniversary orator, Hon. John M. Bright, of Tennessee. Messrs. Stribling, Castles and Cox all did well, and showed in the manner in which they handled their respective subjects, that great care and thought had been bestowed upon them. Their delivery was good and the respective friends of each were confident of their favorite's success.

The audience counted on a rare treat in the address of the anniversary orator, nor ought they to have been disappointed, for the address was truly a literary feast with its vials selected from every country and every clime. In introducing the orator, Dr. Grier was in his happiest mood and said: More than thirty years ago there came into our little hamlet a young lawyer from the hills of Tennessee. Like David, when he confronted the giant of the Philistines, his face was fresh and ruddy, and like that sweet singer in Israel he could play well upon a harp with a thousand strings; for by his eloquence he could move at will the human heart. Many changes have taken place in that time, many that heard him then are no longer with us. Events of the most intense interest have happened, but I risk nothing in saying that the memory of that day and hour is still fresh and vivid with those who survive. Erskine College still exists and I am

gratified to say that the young lawyer still lives, and though not so young, he has lost nothing in his mastery over the human heart by his burning words of eloquence. It gives me the greatest pleasure to introduce to you Hon. John M. Bright, of Tennessee.

Mr. Bright started out by saying that he esteemed it a very great privilege to be present on very occasion. He remembered well his visit on a former occasion, but many changes had taken place since then. Faces, such as those of the elder Greir, Hemphill, Pressly and Lindsay were no where to be seen now, but younger men had arisen and taken their places. He was mindful of the diversity of tastes to which he was this day to cater. The field was so large and the subjects so inexhaustible he hardly knew where to begin. He proposed, however, to call their attention especially to the "Influence of Literature on Nations." The speaker then went into his subject with a familiarity that was astounding, and left no part untouched. His remarks on the literature of Greece, the works of Zoroaster, the Koran and the Bible, were particularly enjoyed by the audience. He spoke for an hour and fifteen minutes, and showed to every one in that time, that the elements which go to make up an orator were not wanting in him. We never remember to have seen a more graceful speaker. Every attitude, every gesture, was grace itself. The audience paid very good attention, and the speaker can congratulate himself upon his effort. Mr. Bright is a remarkably well preserved man for his years, and has a very classic head and forehead. We trust he may be preserved for many years in his accustomed health, so that he may continue his work in the field of usefulness.

Dinner.
After the close of Mr. Bright's oration Dr. Grier announced that there would be a recess for two hours and requested the audience to assemble promptly at that time, as it was annoying both to the speakers and those who wanted to hear, to be interrupted by persons continually coming in. The audience was then dismissed and the unbounded hospitality of the good people of Due West asserted itself. The invitations were so cordial that one almost wished he could be in half a dozen places at once and eat as much as six men. A more hospitable people do not live upon the globe, than the people of this vicinity, as can be testified to by thousands of visitors to their annual literary feasts.

Wednesday Afternoon.
The audience assembled promptly and the other three young men who were to graduate, Messrs. Peoples, Sloan and Bell, acquitted themselves with great credit. The oration of Mr. T. W. Sloan, on "Unworned Queens" seemed to be particularly enjoyed by the audience, especially the fairer portion of it, as at its conclusion it was greeted by a storm of applause, and the speaker was covered with flowers. After the conclusion of the speeches by the young men, Dr. Grier proceeded to deliver his baccalaureate address, which like every thing he does or says was exceedingly good. We give it in full.

Dr. Grier's Baccalaureate.

Young Gentlemen: It is possible for a man to be a scholar and yet be a very useful member of society. It is possible for a man to be a philosopher, learned in the mysteries of the causes of things, and yet be ignorant of the fundamental elements of a lofty character. Education is valuable just as it contributes to develop and strengthen the moral as well as the intellectual faculties of the educated young man, the public will hold you to a rigid account not so much for what you know, as for what you do.

Are you that you do, the perils of your position and the importance of a right beginning let me suggest to you and commend to you an old rule for your guidance. It is the simplest, safest and most universal in its application. Do what you believe to be right. This will not secure you against wrong-doing—very far from it. The world has seen no men who have entered more nobly than those who were fulfilling the imperative obligations of this elementary principle. But while this is cheerfully conceded it cannot be overlooked that the very mistakes of such persons have been charitably judged just because of their conscious rectitude and their loyalty to duty. Indeed it is the only fixed rule of easy application. As a general rule the morality of an act is its most readily ascertainable feature. All other qualities of character depend on circumstances that are proverbially variable and contingent. What may be laudable in one particular advantage may to-morrow portend embarrassment and bankruptcy. That which to-day may receive universal praise and commendation may to-morrow be denounced as selfish and mercenary. Cast your eye over society and select some one of its temporizing constituents and see with what diligence and anxiety they watch every indication of popular feeling. What subtle calculations there are to reach conclusions in which every body will concur. And then look a little longer and see how often with all their maneuvering they are chastened with disappointment—how often are they reproached not only with their own failures, but with those of others. If then, you would escape this laborious and vexatious accompaniment as it is with the mortifying consciousness of weakness, never be ashamed nor afraid to do what you believe to be right. Having intelligently determined your course of conduct by a reference to the sacred injunction of conscience you will rarely have reason to lament from the path marked out. The rule then is simple and easy.

(2) By adherence to it you will give unity to your character. Conduct by the lex of the heart rather than of the intellect—human action will therefore possess a complex correspondence to the feelings and the hopes of the individual and he who is regulated by no fixed, uniform standard can exhibit no consistency of conduct. The external influences brought to bear upon a man vary as he is guided by interest, by the sentiments and opinions of others, by the advice of friends or impelled by passion so variable and inconstant are these influences that those who acquiesce in them will yield to the influence of principles will not infrequently be placed in the humiliating position of refuting their own arguments and contradicting their own assertions. How lamentable that all this should ever be true of an educated man, one to whom society justly looks as a leader in the path of duty. May I never be true of any one of you. May the reasonable expectation of your fellow men be met in finding you not

only intelligent but thoroughly conscientious.

(3) Another thought in connection with this subject and one worthy of your earnest consideration is the preparation which this rule of conduct supplies against the difficulties and discouragements of an active life. So long as duty and interest harmonize, who could not be zealous, blithe and diligent of consistency. How easy it is in such circumstances to claim and receive honors we do not deserve. But when disappointed, opposed and uncolored, what will sustain us? Constitutional energy; sheer obstinacy and force of will can nerve us only to a spasmodic defiance. There are few who are possessed of this invincibility of character. It proceeds from profound moral principle. The history of our race furnishes but few examples of the kind. It is the result of a long and arduous struggle with the obliquity of conscience. Of all of these pre-eminence in fame and suffering, it is written, "Full of ills, flattery, honor, fame; beyond desire, beyond ambition, full—he died. Died of what? Of wretchedness." On the other hand there is not a hamlet, nor a community in all Christendom, but cannot be recalled to some who with heroic patience and cheerfulness met every form of trial.

This suggests that the principal motive which should induce you to adopt this rule is because that only thus will you act worthy of your moral nature. Conscience puts the law of duty upon the man and the brute. In the animal creation there is nothing akin to the moral faculty. It was given as the arbiter of conduct and the guide of life. It is never to be satisfied until it has done its duty. It is never to be satisfied until it has done its duty. It is never to be satisfied until it has done its duty.

Young gentlemen, society will justly expect something from you as scholars. You have to study. You ought to understand that every year in this Southland the demand for a broader, deeper scholarship is increasing. If you are to do your duty as students you do not appreciate this will find their influence and their usefulness steadily waning. But while this is true, and an important truth, it is not so important as the fact that you are regulated by the rules of a rigid morality and a thorough conscientiousness. There are fields, fields for the harvest, awaiting your coming. If you are to do your duty, you must more will your virtue be put to the proof.

One of the special perils of our situation is the lowering of the moral tone of our society. What are deemed and held to be right that know no law, either civil or moral, are putting to a fearful strain our truth and honesty, and all the kindred virtues of self-sacrificing integrity. Our young men are in special danger of an excess of party spirit. I am glad to refer to this, this strain upon the simple heartedness and honesty of our youth. "We know," says he, "how this party domination sometimes takes on an immense force that will brook no question of its methods and appointments. Let that madman spread far enough and reach men enough to get his party right, or wrong shall be the motto of majorities and no protest will be needed to foretell disaster. When party leaders presume upon the hold they have of the simple heartedness and honesty of our youth, they are in the face of those convictions and that conscience, they need to be put in a wholesome fear of a very real and just retribution. They are to be rebuffed as if we refuse, ought to have wide and deep repentance."

Place yourself at once with those who honor conscience in all things and who are battling with a fearful odds. Each year will widen your influence. It will add to your reputation (though that may come as a minor blessing) but it will make your life a blessing.

Wednesday Evening.
The exercises this evening are usually of a very interesting nature, being an address by an alumnus of Erskine and an essay by an alumnus of the Female College. The exercises were opened by an impressive prayer by Rev. John T. Chalmers, after which Dr. Grier introduced W. O. Bradley, Esq., as the alumni orator. Mr. Bradley took for his subject, "The dangers which threaten our government," but treated it, we thought in an overdrawn manner, many of the fears expressed by the speaker being entirely imaginary.

The essay of Miss Phillips was a fine production and was splendidly read by Dr. Grier.

The most interesting feature of the evening was the awarding of the distinctions and the presentation of the medals. The latter was very happily done by Dr. Leftwich, who took occasion to pay a glorious tribute to South Carolina, and said he was not surprised at the reputation of this State when she had such institutions of learning in her midst.

Programme.

Alumni Address.—W. O. Bradley, Esq., Abbeville, S. C.

Music.—Wide Awake March.
Alumni Essay.—Miss Mattie A. Phillips, Louisville, Ky.

Music.—Then You'll Remember Me.
Awarding Distinctions and Delivery of Medals.

Marchals.—H. H. Robison, Chief, Cotton Plant, Miss.; R. A. Lee, Due West, S. C.; W. C. Seawright, Donalds, S. C.; J. K. Hood, Due West, S. C.; J. B. Miller, Rock Hill, S. C.; D. G. Phillips, Louisville, Ga.; J. W. Baird, Aduka, Tenn.

No Flowers.

Thursday Morning.

This is always considered the "big day" at Due West, but it opened quite gloomily for the Commencement in the Female College. It seemed that the windows of heaven had literally been opened and the rain was coming down in sheets, not in drops. The ardor of those present in Due West was unabated, hacks, buggies and vehicles of all descriptions being called into service to transport the fairer portion of the population to Lindsay Hall. When President Kennedy announced that the exercises would be opened with prayer by Dr. Leftwich, the hall was comfortably full, though not crowded. Dr. Leftwich made an earnest, fervent prayer which was reverently listened to by all present.

At the conclusion of the prayer President Kennedy announced that owing to the inclement weather the whole programme would be executed without intermission, and he asked the attention of the audience in behalf of the participants while the following programme was being executed:

Prayer.
Anthem—Mighty Jehovah—Bellini.

Salutatory—Miss Lizzie J. Brice, Due West, S. C.

Music.—Tancred—(3 pianos and organ)—Rossini, Misses LeGal, Brice, Leftwich, Blake, McDavid, Teague, and Mrs. Bonner.

Music.—They Never Shall We Die in a Great Cause.—Miss Lizzie M. Belk, Lancaster, S. C.

Moonlight Will Come Again—Vocal—Quartet—Thompson, Misses Thompson and Anderson, Mr. Wideman and Dr. Edwards.

Essay—Yesterday, To-day and To-morrow.—Miss S. Leona Blake, Greenwood, S. C.

The Lily Bells—(3 pianos)—Jean Paul, Misses Brownlee, Hammack, L. McDavid, Anderson, Brice and Dale.

Music.—Never Stop to Conquer.—Miss Carrie Calhoun, Due West, S. C.

Life Has No Power—Vocal—Trio—(Bellisario)—Donizetti, Misses Leftwich, McDavid, and Mr. Wideman.

Essay—The Great Unknown.—Miss Claudia E. Ellis, Due West, S. C.

Marche des Jeunes Dames—(3 pianos)—Goldbeck, Misses Tompkins, Martin, Lindsay, Holland, Lee and L. Gal.

Essay—Hope, Its Universality.—Miss Emma L. Fleming, Due West, S. C.

Ring the Lily Bells—Sudds, Trio—Misses Dale, Betha and Hammack. Duett—Misses Holland and Dear. Solo—Miss Claudia Ellis, Full Chorus.

Essay—Sunshine.—Miss Eula L. Haddon, Due West, S. C.

Whispering Wind—(3 pianos)—Wollenhaupt, Misses Leftwich, Blake and Lindsay.

Essay—The Impulsive—Miss Maggie Lee Hale, Flat Rock, S. C.

Eventful Journey—Vocal—Solo—Verdi. Miss Claudia Ellis, Due West, S. C.

Music.—Waterloo was Won at Eton.—Miss Ina J. Kirton, Georgetown, S. C.

Marche Militaire—(3 pianos)—Muller, Misses Mitchell, Anderson, Pierce; Misses Hood, Brock, Henderson; Misses Brownlee, Dale, Drehan.

Essay—My Own, My Native Land.—Miss Lizzie B. Miller, Due West, S. C.

Chorus—A Very Bad Cold—R. S. Taylor, Essay—Venice.—Miss Sullie E. Patrick, White Oak, S. C.

Dance Ecossaise—(3 pianos)—Baker, Misses Haddon, Dear, Whitesides, Betha, McDavid, and Calhoun.

Essay—Westminster Abbey.—Miss Julia Phillips, Louisville, Ga.

Duett—Vocal—St. Jancheza.—Verdi, Miss LeGal and Mr. Wideman.

AFTERNOON.

Chorus—Pit Pat, There Falls the Rain—Ballet.—Essay—Obsta Principia.—Miss Clara L. Sharp, Donalds, S. C.

Chinese Serenade—(3 pianos)—Muller, Misses Betha, Cowie, Pierce; Misses Carson, Duffie, Lyles; Misses Stussy, Erwin, Iutt.

Essay—Great Painters.—Miss May L. Teague, Mountville, N. C.

Greeting to Spring—Quartet—Vocal—Wilson, Misses Leftwich, Edwards, McDavid and LeGal.

Essay—Things that Money Can Not Buy.—Miss Bessie N. Thompson, Mountville, S. C.

Our beautiful Mountain Home—Glover, Misses Dale, Holland, Tompkins, Cowan and Lee.

Essay—Books.—Miss Nannie W. Todd, Due West, S. C.

Chorus Galop—(3 pianos)—Groscurth, Misses Leftwich, LeGal, McDavid, and LeGal.

Essay—"On the Pathway of Duty Lays Many a Thorn"—Miss Carrie R. Tompkins, Camden, S. C.

Chorus—Evening Chimes—Gabriel. Distribution of Medals and Prizes.

Valuedictory.—Miss Allie L. Pratt, Due West, S. C.

Firewell, oh, Farewell.—Senior Class.

Sweetest rest we ever know
Follows after work we done;
Brightest crowns in Heaven that glow
Are the badge of victory won.
Those that wear white robes were tried
In the fire of trouble long;
Now they join the purified
Chanting the angelic song.

Christian, sweet will thy rest,
And thy work shall follow thee:
In the mansion of the best
All thy work of heart and mind
Has been done for God alone,
And thy footprints left behind
Still are pointing to the Throne.

Notes by our Correspondent.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the Due West Female College was opened by the grand soul stirring anthem "Mighty Jehovah" by Bellini, sung by the school, Dr. Edwards' choir and Mr. W. P. Wideman. The Salutatory of the Senior class was won by Miss Lizzie Brice. This was a delicately worded sweet and beautiful essay, abounding in loving, sisterly sentiments aptly spoken. Prof. P. L. Grier read it in fine style and distinct pronunciation. An elegantly executed instrumental piece followed, when Prof. McCain lead out on the stage Miss Lizzie M. Belk, of Lancaster, S. C., and read for her an excellent essay both as to choice thoughts words and language. Prof. McCain has a clear voice and gained the close attention of the house.

Misses Hancock, Anderson, Dr. Wideman and Mr. John Edwards next sang a touching, pathetic and well received song. "Yesterday, to-day and to-morrow," was an elegant composition written by that choice young composer, Miss Leona Blake and most forcibly and clearly read by Mr. A. M. Blake, who was well listened to. Choice instrumental music followed.

Capt. M. L. Bonham was now seen upon the stage with the pretty Miss Carrie Calhoun upon his arm. Miss Carrie had a charming composition, well written with choice thoughts and well read by Capt. Bonham who is indeed very fine looking.

"Life has no Power," a choice vocal trio was much applauded, for it was sung by those two charmingly pretty ladies Misses Leftwich and McDavid assisted by Mr. Wideman.

Prof. J. H. Miller, the talented young professor of South Carolina read for the beautiful Miss Claudia Ellis her excellent essay. They presented a fine appearance on the stage.

Prof. P. L. Grier now read a short, sweet, choice essay for Miss Fleming, of Laurensville and did it well.

The school at this point joined in singing the Lily Bells, Misses Holland and Dear singing the duet and Miss Claudia Ellis the beautiful solo.

Prof. J. H. Miller read for Miss Eula Haddon the charming daughter of our esteemed fellow-citizen Mr. R. W. Haddon, an excellent essay on "Sunshine." This was a beautiful "sunshiny" composition.

Miss Maggie Lee Hale received the honor of reading the French composition. Capt. F. W. Dawson read this essay. We have never read French but on good authority, that of Prof. McCain, we can assure the public that this composition was good and well and faithful-

ly read by Capt. Dawson. It was applauded during its progress.

In honor of this composition Prof. De Camps, of Greenville, S. C., sang the grand old French song "The Marchalls." Miss Leftwich accompanying him on the piano. This song was outside of the constitution and created considerable excitement. It was well rendered.

The accomplished Miss Claudia Ellis sung with sweetness and power a splendid vocal solo, which was cheered during its rendition.

The next essayist Miss Ina Kirton was so unwell that she could not come out. Dr. Leftwich read her essay with great acceptance throwing in sallies of pleasantry that brought down the house. The essay was an admirable one. In its honor, as of the French composition, Dr. Leftwich requested Mr. W. P. Wideman to sing the "Mosquito," which he did amid much laughter.

Miss Lizzie B. Miller, daughter of our worthy townsman, Dr. J. L. Miller had a beautiful essay most finishingly written and well read by Capt. Bonham.

Chorus—"A very bad cold," was sung by the school, Dr. Edwards as singing master. His pupils however having such bad colds he was compelled to renounce much, and amid great applause the pupils took their seats.

Miss Sallie Patrick in a nice essay beautifully and charmingly portrayed the beauties of "Venice." Rev. J. T. Chalmers read it in fine voice and manner.

The beautiful Miss Julia Phillips of Georgia, had chosen for her essay "Westminster Abbey." This was one of the choice essays of the occasion, splendidly written and received the closest attention of the audience. Rev. Chalmers read this excellent verbal description of Westminster.

Miss LeGal and Mr. Wideman sang a duet of great power force and beauty. Their superb voices rang out over the audience and were heartily cheered.

President Kennedy announced that as the weather was so bad the programme would not be observed as to intermission, but that they would go through with the exercise. So Miss Sharp, who should have read after the intermission, had read by Rev. S. L. Morris her well worded, well thought essay. Rev. Morris read this essay with much energy.

One of the appropriate and fitting songs of the occasion was "Pit pat, there falls the rain." It was falling too. "Great Painters," the essay of Miss Teague was well given to the audience by Dr. Grier and much appreciated. She touched up her portraits with a skilled brush.

"Greeting to Spring," was sung by those four matchless birds of song Misses LeGal, McDavid, Leftwich and Edwards. The verdict was "ain't that fine." For power, pathos and beauty where can you excel them?

Dr. H. T. Sloan read Miss Thompson's essay very well indeed. It proved to be a good one and war well received. "Books" was the charming and elegantly written essay of Miss Nannie Todd and was read by Prof. McCain, of Erskine. They were heartily applauded.

Dr. Leftwich read the essay of Miss Tompkins, of Camden, S. C. This young lady was unable to be present. Dr. Leftwich read this essay most ably and with humorous remarks, at the last, at the expense of the lady teachers, which the audience enjoyed.

Distribution of Medals and Prizes.
One of the most interesting features of Thursday's exercises was the distribution of prizes and medals. The young ladies who had studied hard all year were looking forward to the time when they should receive their well merited rewards. The successful ones were greeted with a storm of applause as in their maidenly modesty they blushing received the tokens of their faithfulness. The following was the result:

Medal for excellence in essay writing in the Junior class presented by Miss Clark—Miss Carrie Boyce.
Honorable mention—Misses Mary Anderson, Mamie Lindsay, Nannie Lathan, Susie Whitesides, and Bessie Mitchell.

Medal in painting, offered by Miss Anna Young—Miss Sallie Patrick.
Honorable mention—Miss Mary Cochran.

Drawing—Miss Julia Phillips.
Medal for best execution of scales and exercises—Miss Macie Brice.
Honorable mention—Misses Zula Brook, Nannie Hood and Leona Blake.
Medal for best mathematician in Senior class—Miss Allie Pruitt.
Prize for best mathematician in Junior class—Miss Sallie McGee.

Medal for the greatest number of perfect lessons in scales and exercises, offered by Miss Leftwich—Miss Mamie S. Lindsay.

A prize was offered to any young lady who would discharge every school duty during the scholastic year. This included regular attendance at roll call, church, walking, dictation, recitation, meals, study hours, practice, calisthenics and prayers. The following won this prize:—Misses Ella Carroll, Mamie Lindsay, Eliza Scott, Mamie Scott, Emma Fleming.

A prize offered to any one who would keep all the rules punctually included.—Miss Ella Scott.

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