

# The Laurens Advertiser.

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## CITIZENS OF LAURENS UNANIMOUS IN ENDORSING THE MOVEMENT

**All Agree Upon One Point and That is That the Issue  
Must be Met for the Time Has Come When a  
Forward Move Must be Made.**

During the past few days The Advertiser has received numbers of letters from interested citizens expressing their satisfaction at the opportunity which is now before the city to secure a college. It is peculiarly noteworthy that not a single discordant note has been sounded in the city since the announcement that Chicora would probably be moved here. There is a unanimity of spirit never before seen in this city and judging by the undivided support that has been promised, it is a foregone conclusion that the amount needed will be successfully raised. Some of the letters follow:

Editor The Advertiser:

It seems to me that Laurens has reached a crisis in its history. The opportunity to secure a Christian college is not given to every town. Our opportunity has come. What are we going to do about it? Shall we seize it or despise and reject it? We are going to do one or the other. Which shall it be? It would be difficult to catalogue the many advantages that would come to us by having Chicora college located in our midst. It would greatly help every phase of our life. For one I sincerely trust that the citizens of Laurens will not sleep over their rights. That they will not allow this valuable prize to slip from them. For one, I shall do all in my power to bring the college to Laurens.

Yours truly,  
W. E. THAYER.

Editor The Advertiser:

The prospect of Laurens securing a woman's college is the best news I have heard in many moons. It means more for the future growth and development of our town than any opportunity that has knocked at our doors since I have been a resident here. Every town that is neighbor to us has its facilities for higher education. Can Laurens longer remain without this powerful magnet which will attract new citizens? Greenwood translated Lander and it has flourished in its new soil. Increased educational facilities added to the natural advantages and business enterprises which we already have and will get, in time to come, will do more to round out and make our development, as a community, symmetrical and well balanced than any thing else we could do. The coming of Chicora will at once benefit every citizen of Laurens and I want to have a part in any movement that will do that. At the foot, in the middle, at the head or anywhere and all along the line, I will work; content to know that I am in line, while the progressive army is moving out to encompass so much that will be of value.

Respectfully,  
H. K. AIKEN.

Editor The Advertiser:

Several times in the history of our city we have had offered us propositions which if accepted would have placed us far ahead of where we stand today. There was given us a chance for locating Winthrop College in our midst. It was located elsewhere.

We could, under certain conditions, have secured for our town the advantages of the Sea Board Air Line railroad passing through and by here, but there were with us those who claimed that it was not necessary for us to put forth effort, and stake money for our chances, because it would come this way anyhow. And as always has been the case in the history of progress, these great forces of material, social and intellectual development went to those who sought after them, and paid for them.

We have another opportunity given us for the location with us of the greatest need of the public of the city of Laurens today in the offer made the town by the trustees of Chicora college. What will we do with it? I can now hear the whispers of that class of our people, who, like those in the past, are not willing to put forth the effort and to count down the cash, which may be necessary to accept at once this, the greatest proposition made us in years, saying: "The amount is too great. We can't raise it. Our people are too poor. How would a college benefit me? I am a bachelor. I am married but no children. I have educated all my girls." Poor unfortunate man! But now my friends, let's pull aside the curtain and see if, as an investment, it won't pay us to go

to work and as a united citizenship, accept this proposition without delay. From a trade standpoint our town is circumscribed by all of our neighbors along the railroads leading out from this point, where they can sell heavy merchandise as cheap as we can; can pay as much for cotton as we can; they lend money at the same rate of interest as we do; but fortunately for us we have that larger segregation of business interest that offers competition to the buyer and seller. Hence, if we will, if we hustle like our neighbors, we can continue to lead as we should do in all the avenues of trade and business.

However, to do this we must offer superior educational advantages. Now, you say, look at our graded school. The building cost fifty thousand dollars. We have a fine corps of teachers. Yes, and so has every township in the county and only once if we remember, has a pupil of our city schools taken the honors in competition over our county graded schools. The county graded school will continue to grow in improved methods and equipment and unless we keep in front, all of our interests will lag and our property decrease in value. No, fellow citizens, we are able to raise the money to secure this college. The job to do it, is a fairly good one and will require the help of every property owner in the city. Seventy-five thousand dollars, as a voluntary gift for the cause of Christian education will advertise Laurens more favorably than all the other business enterprises put together.

It will revive activity in all our real estate, so as that you can sell if you desire to at an advantage. It will change the social and educational conditions of our city so as that home-seekers will be continually in conference with our real estate men, and force them to take down any and all advertisements reading "To rent", "To sell". Now let us come to the front—let us to a man put our shoulders to the wheel. Let us have but one slogan: "Altogether, forward," so as that we can give our appreciative women an opportunity to raise, and unfurl over many interests a new banner upon which will be written in letters of gold: "Chicora College—Christian Female Education." Victory for Laurens.

W. L. GRAY.

Editor The Advertiser:

I'm sure that I join the great voice of our people in rejoicing that a college is within the grasp of our town. I have the utmost confidence in our people in believing that we shall not let this great opportunity go by. The move from a college to our community cannot alone be measured in dollars and cents and it should not be. Rather let us think of the refining and uplifting influence to the present and coming generations and from the ennobling influences emanating from the "college atmosphere" that we would have in our midst.

The moral, literary and social side of our entire citizenship would be bound to seek a higher level from the effects of having a Christian college in our town. Since we have a chance of securing Chicora college, we cannot afford to do without it. The movement on foot should receive support from every man, woman and child in our community.

Yours very truly,  
B. L. JONES,  
Supt. City Schools.

Editor The Advertiser:

The question of securing the Presbyterian College for Laurens has come to the minds of the people here and with it the best opportunity the town has ever had in its respect. It occurs to me that it is the most opportune

time for every citizen of the county and town to become exceedingly interested in this proposition. A high grade college to be established here would mean more to the people today and tomorrow than possibly any thing that could be done for the prosperity and advancement of the best interests of all the people. This is an opportunity that certainly cannot be overlooked. Meeting the proposition made by the trustees of Chicora college to the people here, and doing it at once, would be the longest stride in the right direction that has ever been undertaken by the progressive citizens of our community. To do this it is necessary to have a bona-fide subscription of probably Ninety Thousand Dollars. This sum should be raised within a day. The young men of small means, as well as the men of able finances, should grasp this opportunity and make their subscriptions in a most liberal manner. Within a few years time the money subscribed by them would not be missed and property would greatly increase in value and the deserved dignity of the community would be bettered and maintained.

Right now is the best time to do the best thing we have ever had an opportunity to do and I trust the good people will not let it pass unheeded.

Yours truly,  
W. G. LANCASTER.

Editor The Advertiser:

The establishment of Chicora college in Laurens should vitally interest every citizen of the town. It doubtless will be an investment that will stay by us, and will yield handsome, and well nigh, immediate dividends to the property owners, as well as the merchants. And surely it will be money in the pockets of those who have daughters to educate. This is self-evident.

The proposition appeals strongly to the young men of the town. They also will reap largely of the benefits, for in a very few years they will be the guardians of the public welfare of our people, and a helping hand now, will prove to be a valuable asset in the future.

Let us have the college. But to get it, the whole town must pull together, and pull in earnest.

C. W. TUNE.

Editor The Advertiser:

I cannot help but feel elated over the prospect of securing a woman's college for Laurens. It means more to Laurens than I dare try to enumerate here—suffice to say that all good citizens regardless of denomination, should join in this great movement which means so much to the educational interests of this community and surrounding county. We have one of the vest counties in the state—backed up by as good and true citizens as any section of the state—and it behooves all of these to take a hearty and substantial interest in this movement. Not only with their money but their influence should all be concentrated in this the greatest enterprise that the Laurens citizens have had the pleasure to engage. Let all true citizens rally to the educational standard and they will be called blessed after this generation has passed and gone.

Respectfully,

D. A. DAVIS.

Editor The Advertiser:

To say that we are in hearty sympathy with the movement recently inaugurated for the purpose of bringing Chicora college to our town should but mildly express the interest felt by every citizen.

We are glad to note that the one urgent need which Laurens has felt for so long is soon to be satisfied in the ultimate perfection of this movement. This is a stupendous opportunity for our people and at the same time one equally as great for the institution itself, in-as-much as it shall be located in a town where denominational lines will be laid aside so far as patronage goes and it shall receive a larger support from a people united in its interests.

It therefore behooves every citizen of Laurens and Laurens county to measure up to this privilege. Our zeal must know no bounds. Our efforts must be commensurate with our needs. We want it. We must have it. We cannot live without it. Chicora, rah, rah, rah.

CHAS. H. HICKS.

Editor The Advertiser:

There are many reasons why we cannot let up until we see Chicora college in Laurens. Heretofore, we

have looked too much to direct dividend paying investments without expected results. We bring into our town men that have money already to invest in other enterprises by having educational advantages to offer that otherwise will go to other towns that have them. We enhance the value of our property at least 25 per cent. by giving to the college. We elevate the moral standard of the town. We put into the reach of many of our townspeople an opportunity of graduating at an institution of standing that otherwise would be deprived of their real rights and privileges. We start with at least \$100,000 advantage over a new college if we had the money to build one that was yet to establish her standing. We start with 200 students that we would have to hunt for, if we were starting a new college.

A. ROSS BLAKELEY.

Editor The Advertiser:

Recently this question was propounded by one of the local newspapers. "What is Laurens County's greatest need?" Varying answers might be given, but if the proposition be reduced to "What is the greatest need of the city of Laurens?" spontaneously should come the answer, "Crystallized sentiment in favor of laying aside everything else until this college matter is worked out." The people over the state are now looking on to see what Laurens is going to do toward complying with the plan that has been submitted whereby Chicora college may be removed to this city. Shall we go forward and meet the proposition like the game little city Laurens is?

All agree that it is an opportunity. Perhaps we have had them before, but that is not the question now. We are dealing with the present and planning for the future. We have provided adequately for the preparation of our girls for college, and now that the college can be brought right to the very doors of the graded school, we candidly believe the men of Laurens will see to it that it shall not be thrown up to future generations that we fell down in 1912 when Chicora college knocked at our door for admission. What say the men and women of Laurens now, TODAY?

W. L. TAYLOR.

Editor The Advertiser:

Why we need the college: Being a business man, one of the reasons I would give for wanting the college in Laurens is that I realize that it would be the cause of bringing a great many families to live in our town, in order that their children might be educated, and by so doing it would increase all business interests in the city.

Another reason, is that I myself have four daughters to educate and should like to have them educated at a college in my own town and county.

Another reason, bringing the college to our town would not only be an educational advantage, but it would also be a great moral uplift to our community.

E. H. WILKES.

Mr. Thos. D. Lake, a member of the board of trustees of the city schools, said: "I am positive the town will use her best efforts in securing the college and after it is here and doing the great work laid out for it, the people of all denominations and professions in life will rally to its support and stand by it in prosperity and adversity. Laurens is geographically the logical place for the college and by reason of the fact that she has no other institution with which to vide support Chicora's growth and expansion will be anxiously watched and zealously fostered."

Editor The Advertiser:

Laurens stands today on the threshold of a new era—if the people will measure up to the full duty of true progressive citizens.

Little did we think that such an opportunity would be offered us, yet today we can claim Chicora college—a college of high rank and established reputation—if we will work together with one object in view—success.

Out of all proportion to its cost, Chicora college would, in every way, benefit Laurens:

First—The attraction of the most desirable class of people to become residents and thereby adding to the business prosperity of the entire town.

Second—As a general advertisement for Laurens, not only by the students

## CITY COUNCIL HEARTILY ENDORSES THE MOVEMENT TO SECURE THE COLLEGE

As an evidence of the unanimity of the citizens of Laurens upon the vital question of securing Chicora college is instanced the resolutions just passed by the City Council endorsing the movement and calling upon all citizens to render their assistance for the accomplishment of the purpose in hand.

State of South Carolina,  
County of Laurens,  
City of Laurens.

Whereas, The citizens of our city have inaugurated a movement to secure the location of Chicora Female College at Laurens, South Carolina, and recognizing the geographical advantages and superior healthful con-

ditions of the city, and foreseeing the many advantages that will accrue to our city and people of the county generally by the establishment of such an institution in our midst,

Therefore, Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Laurens, That the movement to establish Chicora college at the City of Laurens be and the same is hereby heartily endorsed, and the people of our city are urged to make every reasonable effort for the accomplishment of said purpose.

Adopted July 6th, 1912.

C. M. BABB,  
Mayor.

Attest:  
JAS. A. ROLAND,  
City Clerk.

## THE PRIZE IS IN OUR REACH IF WE ONLY TAKE IT DOWN

In Friday's issue of The Greenville News appeared the following:

That Chicora College has gone by Greenville, so to speak, or that there is little or nothing the city can do to prevent the removal of the institution to Laurens, is the frank statement made to a representative of The News yesterday by one of the trustees of Chicora College.

As the trustees stated in the communication printed in The News of yesterday, the matter is now "taken out of the hands of the board and placed into those of the citizens of Laurens and the Presbyteries of the Synod." The citizens of Laurens speaking through their committee which appeared before the trustees Tuesday night, stand ready to meet the conditions named by the ways and means committee for the removal of the college—"an acceptable site and a contribution of \$75,000."

Laurens Can Meet It.

There seems to be little or no doubt but that the people of Laurens will raise the \$75,000. The town has no college to support, whereas Greenville has three big ones—G. F. C., Furman and Chicora—two business colleges, a Catholic school, a hospital and other institutions. Laurens there. And at the same time, the money for public improvements,

erected two one million dollar cotton mills in one year, contributed nearly a half-million dollars to an electric railway—in other words Laurens people have had nothing for which to spend their money and consequently they have plenty of it and will have no trouble in raising \$75,000. That Laurens can furnish the site—one of 81 acres—is practically certain. Land is plentiful about there and not so dear as it is about Greenville. Eighty-one acres of land about Greenville would cost something, and then some.

Go Before Presbyteries.

Since the matter is now up to the various Presbyteries of the Synod and the people of Laurens, there is but one way by which Greenville could retain the college, as was explained the trustee yesterday. It will take two-thirds of the Presbyteries of the Synod voting to remove the college. There are seven Presbyteries, and five of them have the power to move the institution. The only way Greenville could combat the movement would be to go before the various Presbyteries and fight the matter out. The trustee said, Greenville would have to show those Presbyteries where Greenville could better the proposition from the Laurens people.

## COLD BUSINESS PROPOSITION JUSTIFIES MOVING CHICORA

(The Greenville News.)

A member of the board of trustees of Chicora College in commenting yesterday upon the probable removal of this institution from Greenville to Laurens stated that the matter was purely a cold, business proposition, and cited the following conditions if the college remained at Greenville, and if it should be removed to Laurens:

Remaining Here Means:  
Debt of \$45,000.  
Present inadequate plant.  
Site of 41-2 or 5 acres.

Removing to Laurens Means:  
All debts wiped out.  
A \$100,000 plant, \$110,000 endowment.  
Site of 81 acres.

"There was absolutely no feeling toward the people or the city of Greenville in the action," continued the speaker. "We stated that if Greenville could show us a proposition that came within \$50,000 of being as good as the one from Laurens, we would not recommend the removal of the college."

The speaker went on to state that he could give out no official information further than that contained in the statement which the board of trustees furnished the Greenville News Wednesday night, and which was published in Thursday's issue of this paper.

He then took up the report of the ways and means committee and went over paragraph at a time and pointed out the committee's reasons for advising the removal of the institution to Laurens. As the committee stat-

ed in its report, four propositions touching the removal of the college from its present site to the suburbs of Greenville were presented. Greenville's representation at this meeting of the board consisted of the four Greenville men who are members of the board of trustees and President Byrd. The committee later reported that none of the four propositions offered by Greenville were acceptable. The four propositions mentioned above could not be found out yesterday by the reporter.

The speaker then went on to point out the reasons given by the committee for regarding it as imperative that the most careful consideration be given to the proposition of removing the college from Greenville. This was published in the report of the ways and means committee in yesterday's News and need not be reprinted here.

but the visiting parents, speakers, etc.

Third—The intellectual stimulus it will awaken in the whole town.

Fourth—The culture in art and music that would directly or indirectly reach probably all classes.

Fifth—A vital factor in the moral

and religious life of the town.

The securing of so great a prize cannot be accomplished without the united efforts of all the citizens of Laurens. So let everyone do his full duty and Laurens will have one of the best colleges in the state.

E. P. MINTER.