

ORPHANS' FRIEND.

Wednesday, June 27, 1877.

THE CELEBRATION.

On last Thursday evening the ladies of Oxford gave a very elegant and elaborate entertainment in the Chapel of the Orphan Asylum. A large audience attended. Gov. and Mrs. Vance, Hon. J. C. Scarborough and Grand Master Munson were also present.

On Friday morning a vast concourse filled the spacious chapel. Two dozen orphans stood on the rostrum and sang, "O worship the Lord." Rev. Mr. Gibbs then offered prayer, and the children sang "The Old North State."

Mr. A. H. A. Williams then introduced His Excellency, Gov. Z. B. Vance, who delivered a manly and sensible address, heartily endorsing the orphan work and all our educational interests. He counseled industry, and economy, and commended home enterprise and our State institutions.

The children sang "I was a Wandering Sheep," and Hon. J. C. Scarborough, Superintendent of Public Instruction, was introduced. Mr. Scarborough devoted most of his time to the wants and condition of the vast multitude of children growing up in ignorance. He pointed out the inadequacy of the provision made by the Legislature for the supervision and for the support of public schools, and told how these limited advantages are denied to many children. The facts he stated are painful; but the people ought to know them, and we are glad that Mr. Scarborough does not deal in flattery. The children sang "A Foolish Little Maiden," and dinner was announced in the grove. The orphans all went in as dead heads and feasted very heartily. After dinner, the people reassembled in the chapel and interesting addresses were delivered by Rev. R. H. Griffith, of Charlotte, and Rev. J. E. Thompson, of Tally Ho.

At night the ladies were giving another entertainment when a burning stable in town gave the alarm of fire. As five large doors were open the people were soon out in the grove and the exercises were closed.

Grand Master Munson made no speech; but inspected the premises and all our operations, and was very pleasant and agreeable.

Mrs. Elliott and a corps of young ladies had charge of Jacob's Well, and dispensed ice cream and lemonade. Mr. W. R. Turner and Mr. J. K. Wood had charge of the dinner, and labored zealously and faithfully for several days. But a very large number of our prosperous citizens forgot to send in any supplies and had big dinners at their homes. Two of the beeves and five of the sheep promised, could not be caught. Some Granville sheep can out-run a wild antelope when they are wanted for the orphans. It was therefore necessary to purchase supplies at the highest prices, and feed the hungry at fifty cents a head, and some of them were very hungry.

It really is a losing business to pay Oxford prices for little tomtit chickens and make them up into pies, according to Mrs. Elliott's most tempting style, and then feed hungry men at fifty cents, not for a pie, but for as many as a man can eat. The receipts at the gate were good; but when expenses were paid the committee could have met a doz-

en robbers in the Dismal Swamp without the slightest fear.

The ladies also expended a vast amount of mental and bodily toil on their entertainment. Then some of their preparations were very expensive. The "Mulligan Guards," and the "N. C. Coat of Arms" would of themselves have been cheap at double the little quarter which was charged for admission to all. Hence their receipts after deducting expenses will be light.

But the orphans learned many things they did not know before. They saw the Grand Master, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the Governor of North Carolina. They had more lemonade than they could drink and lived for three days on the dinner and on the fragments taken up. No public collection was made because it was manifest that the people had come together to have a good time for themselves, and they paid but little attention to the orphans. The water melon was not ripe.

THE COMMENCEMENTS.

It was not our privilege to attend any College Commencement as we desired and intended. But we are glad to know that many of our ablest men were present and delivered orations of great eloquence and power. Among the distinguished divines who addressed large audiences, were Drs. Deems, Haygood, Dosh, Jones, Smith, Lacy, Tupper, Eaton, Norman, Witherspoon, Yates, Hudson, Brown, Hulham, and others. Among the distinguished statesmen delivering addresses, were Gov. Vance, Col. Steele, Judge Fowle, and others. We were sorry that so little was said on education. But we were consoled when we read an address delivered before a college in Virginia. Here is an extract:

"You are all lovely, perfectly lovely, and vacation is the cause of it. The fact is, (I wouldn't whisper it outside for the world) the fact is, education is an awful bore, makes a body unhappy and ugly, and for my part I never did believe in it. The proper thing to do, is to do nothing but eat plenty of candy and pickles, and wear heaps of good clothes. That's the way and the only way to make good wives and really useful women."

The shower of degrees was moderate, and mostly merited. Drs. Hiden and Smith were re-doctored by the University. We have one earnest regret. Dr. Braekett the gifted divine of Charleston who was to have spoken at Peace Institute was not able to come. We once dropped in upon him as he was preaching in the mountains of our State. He had come as a stranger in quest of health; but his sermon was a model of grace and eloquence, and the man was a model of meekness, wisdom, and devotion.

The University Normal School will open on July 3, and continue six weeks. One thousand dollars will be distributed among those who need it. Text-books free. Board \$12.50 a month, washing \$1.25. The Normal Institute, announced to be at Greensboro, and the Normal Schools of the Friends (Quakers) will all retire from the field and give the University Normal School their support. With such advantages it surely ought to accomplish a good work.

A minute is a very little thing; but it is long enough to pull a dozen aching teeth, or to get married and have your own mother-in-law.

NEW RAIL-ROADS.

Jamesville and Washington wish to be united by rail. Jamesville is a prosperous village on the red Roanoke, and Washington is a large town, about the size of Asheville, on the tawny Tar, just where it spreads itself and opens its balmy bosom to the commerce of the world. The Tarboro Road extended to Williamston, thence to Jamesville, and thence to Washington, would transport the produce of a dozen counties and be sure of an immense business.

Many hands are grading the narrow-gage road from Milton to Sutherland, and as it is only seven miles long, it will soon be completed.

Major Wilson is also imparting new life to the work in the tunnel through the Blue Ridge, and in a few months will bore a hole in the body of that venerable mountain, and trains will blow their whistles on the beautiful banks of the swift Swannanoa. The Spartanburg Road is also nearly to Hendersonville, and will come thence through the rich valleys of Mul Creek and Cane Creek and then down the fertile valley of the French Broad.

The old Chester and Yorkville Road has been changed to a narrow gage and has been run up to Gastonia, on the Piedmont Air Line, and now it is pushing its way to Lincolnton, thence to Newton and Hickory and Lenoir. Dirt has just been broken on the road from Mt. Airy to Greensboro. This road will carry a large trade from the valleys of the Ararat, Fisher, Mitchell, Roaring, Reddie's and Yadkin Rivers. Thus our facilities for transportation will be very much increased during the next twelve months.

"There is no Asylum for destitute children in the Western part of our State."—H., in the N. C. Presbyterian.

The Orphan Asylum at Oxford is "for destitute children in the Western part of our State." We are doing our best for those we have, and are ready to receive an other dozen from the same section. Possibly the writer meant that there is no Asylum in the Western part of our State for destitute children. If so, his statement is a little unkind. The Grand Lodge of Masons had one first at Mars Hill and then at Asheville, and kept it up for about two years. But Mt. Hermon Lodge, at Asheville, and prominent citizens, advised that the work be turned over to Rev. L. M. Pease. We did so, and he has erected additional buildings and has been receiving children, though we are not informed as to the particulars of the progress of his work. "H." should inform himself carefully before making any general and sweeping assertion.

BAD BOYS.

Ninety boys, of the Freshman Class, in the College at Princeton, N. J., have been persecuting new students and serenading the Professors with tin pans until Princeton patience was exhausted, and the offenders were suspended and sent home to be admonished by their parents. All this has occurred just as their illustrious President, the learned Dr. McCosh was starting across the ocean to harmonize a world-wide denomination in a Pan-Presbyterian Council. But it often happens that men fail with one generation and succeed with an other.

"It would be a blessing to the people of Mexico if their country was annexed to the United States, and placed under the control of a government which would ensure peace to that distracted country. We have always thought Mexico and Canada properly belonged to the United States, and hope to live to see the day when the Stars and Stripes will float over every foot of North America. A little brush with Mexico would do more to establish good feeling among the people than any thing we know of."—Raleigh Register.

Please wait a little. Let us make sure of peace and good government in Louisiana before we disturb the present quiet in the republic of San Salvador. Canada has an efficient government, and her citizens respect law and order. Those who have moved to North Carolina are amazed at the wiles of our place-hunters and at the corruption illustrated in our courts. Besides, some of our people (brother Palmer and Sitting Bull, for example) have moved to Canada for the sake of permanent peace. Now why should we throw our arms around them and bring them back in spite of all their efforts to escape us?

Our hands are full at present. We have not established any respectable government at Sitka, nor even opened a summer-house there; and the everlasting, all-exploring Yankee has not explored Alaska. President Hayes has already more victuals on his plate than he will ever be able to eat.

But the last sentence is too bad. A little booty and plunder must unite our people! When all turn robbers, then there will be "good feeling among the people." Better feel mean a while longer than to feel good over our meanness.

THE GRADUATING CLASS OF TRINITY COLLEGE.

The Graduating class of Trinity College, twelve in number, average 22 years and three months of age. Ten of the class are active members of Temperance Societies, and eight of the twelve are members of the church. Five are Methodists, two belong to the Christian church, and one to the Lutheran. Six of the class will study law, three medicine, two divinity and one very sensibly selects farming as his vocation.—Raleigh Observer.

These appear to be a fair sample of College graduates of the present year. Six lawyers, three doctors, two preachers one farmer, and no teacher. Then remember that Trinity has usually furnished more teachers in proportion to its graduates than any college in the State. Yet the people say there is a great educational revival. Well, there is one excellent sign; the papers of the State are taking more interest in schools and in education than we ever knew them to manifest before. And the influence of the press will be felt among the people. The schools will probably be more largely attended next session than they have been.

A good start was certainly made in Raleigh when the people voted to levy a tax for the support of free graded schools. Now if other cities, towns and townships will follow the example, a wonderful progress will soon be apparent and new life will be imparted to all our higher schools and colleges.

St. Johns, a prosperous city on the bay of Fundy, near the mouth of St. John's River, New Brunswick, has been nearly destroyed by fire. The telegram says:

Fifteen thousand people are homeless. No household effects of any account were saved. About five hundred acres were burned over. Thirty bodies have been recovered and as many more are missing.

NEWS-PAPER ENTERPRISE.

C. M. Brown & Bro. have started the *North State Press*, quite an interesting paper, at Washington. These are dull times for papers; but surely a paper is needed in that large and prosperous section of the State.

The *Durham Herald* has been sold to the *Tobacco Plant* which promises to enlarge its operations.

Capt. J. R. Hutchins, the new agricultural editor of the *Biblical Recorder*, is a copious and vigorous writer, and most of his views are worthy of serious consideration and adoption.

Mr. James H. Emiss, of Raleigh, has sold his book-store and now devotes himself entirely to *The North Carolina Farmer*, and is making an agricultural paper which honors (as it carries) the name of the State. It is a model of typographical skill and tasteful arrangement.

The *Rocky Mount Mail* is getting up a business directory, both laborious and expensive. We hope it will pay.

The *Dailies*, *Raleigh News*, *Raleigh Observer*, *Charlotte Observer*, and *Wilmington Star*, *Wilmington Review*, and *Newbern Nutshell*, seem to be lively and vigorous, though none but the *News* comes to the orphans.

The *Western Expositor*, the *Good Templar*, and the *Cape Fear* are suspended, and possibly dead. Several papers which have used patent outsides are now doing all their own work.

"We do not believe that Gov. Hampton will attend—he promised to be at Trinity College last week, but did not go. Great men should not make promises and then neglect to fulfil them."—Charlotte Democrat.

We feel better now; for the inference is that small men, such as we are, may sometimes fail to meet appointments and the people will consider the offense a small one. Some appointments were recently published for us without our knowledge or consent, and we felt guilty, because we could not go to meet them. Little fish have some advantages after all.

PAY FOR MIXING.

The bar-keeper charges high profits for mixing drinks. The baker doubles his money for working and cooking, and the man who handles fertilizers is entitled to a liberal profit; and if he is cursed with a sensitive nose, his profit ought to be large. Prof. Ledoux announces the commercial value of the compounds of certain fertilizers that the people may readily see how much they pay for mixing and handling. Here are his estimates:

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| Soluble Pacific Guano, | \$29.20 |
| Zell's Tobacco Fertilizer, | 42.40 |
| Maryland Fertilizer, | 31.30 |
| Poppleins', | 20.00 |
| Anchor Brand, | 30.60 |
| Soluble Pacific Guano, | 27.00 |
| Sea Fowl, | 31.80 |
| Navassa Am. Sol. Phosphate, | 33.40 |
| Whann's Raw Bone, | 30.40 |
| Soluble Pacific Guano, | 32.60 |
| Cotton Fertilizer, | 33.60 |
| Atlantic Acid Phosphate, | 26.60 |
| Compound Acid Phosphate, | 29.40 |
| Whann's Raw Bone, | 33.40 |
| Wilcox, Gibbs & Co., | 33.20 |
| Pure Phosine, | 32.60 |

—The *Central Protestant* gives some interesting sketches of the Convention in Baltimore to consolidate the Methodist and the Methodist Protestant churches. Here is a morsel:

"You outrage Quackenbos," said one of the members to a noisy and persistent speechifier, "by the use of such a phrase here." "Who is he?" replied the orator. "A distinguished author on rhetoric," was the answer. "I never heard of him before," responded the self-confident orator.