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Short correspondence of subjects of interest to the public is solicited; but persons must not be disappointed if they fail to see their articles in our columns. We are not responsible for the views of correspondents. Anonymous communications go to the waste basket.

WHAT SHALL WE DO TO BE SAVED!

We do not mean to preach a sermon but as one of our principal duties is to look after and warn our people of those things concerning their material, moral and intellectual welfare, we trust each one will ask himself this question—not saved spiritually, but removed from the old time-served position of hewers of wood and drawers of water. The problem is easily solved. Let us take this as the genuine and proper answer to the question: "Get morals, get land, get learning."

The prosperity of any people depends upon their morals, without which, there is no substantial advancement. While thousands of our people have made rapid progress in every particular we regret to say there is much more immorality among us than should be. As we have said before, our leaders should be unspotted. When a teacher, preacher or leader in society loses the confidence of his followers, and his character is questioned, he should be dropped at short notice and be no longer trusted as a leader. We must do this to have pure women and brave men, and have them respected by all good people and in order to save ourselves from the curse of God's law laid down in the ten commandments.

The Negro must become owners of more land. They must stop smoking cigars, drinking whiskey, pleasure riding, wearing fine jewelry, fine dress; and first of all, stop going to law with his neighbors. Fine dress and fine dinner are luxuries for the rich. Too often are our preachers in the way of morals and material advancement. They are themselves too fond of big dinners, fine cigars, &c. The preacher that walks the streets smoking cigars sets immoral and dangerous examples to a rising and dependent generation.

This is the scientific age of the world's history and the people must become educated in the sciences and arts. Our boys and girls must be encouraged and urged upon to become educated and to read all the professions as well as make themselves proficient in all useful trades. The heart and the hand must be educated as well as the head. With an educated, wealthy and moral colored population, we are safe at all times and places. Safe from poverty, ignorance and vice, and to a great measure safe from the dangers of a future punishment.

The character, the habit and destiny of the youth are fixed by surrounding influences. If the home, school and church training is such as will animate and inspire the youth to possess the moral, Christian virtues of the best men and women of our land, we will bring up an abundant crop of intelligent, industrious Christians from the present generation. The youth must be taught that idleness is not only wrong, but exceedingly dangerous; that ignorance and idleness are burdensome with no hope of reward. That for all sin and wickedness both statute and divine law stands always ready to punish, for "the wages of sin is death."

A child should be compelled to attend school every day during the session unless he has a lawful reason to remain at home. Punctuality is one of the essentials for a child to learn early in life and practice till death. Children should attend Sunday School every Sunday and go to the Church of the family and sit in the family pew. Then to be saved from the death of ignorance and poverty: Be sober, honest, industrious, economical, intelligent, and the Negro will soon be recognized as the peer of other men.

MEMORIAL DAY EXERCISES

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

Livingstone College.

Early Monday morning the town presented quite a lively appearance. You could see people coming from all quarters to join in the grand memorial services. The procession was formed at the Methodist Church and marched to the cemetery, accompanied by the Statesville band. They marched to the steps of selected funeral dirges, which reflected great credit on the band. The town was crowded with people, and much of the exercises were dispensed with, owing to the rain.

The address of Rev. David Brown was good and well rendered—purely original. He was frequently applauded, and gave entire satisfaction to all. Quite a number of distinguished gentlemen were present.

The Commencement exercises of Livingstone College were opened by Rt. Rev. T. J. Lomax, Sunday, by preaching the annual sermon. It was a scholarly effort, and deserves special mention. As we received such a rare scriptural treat from the Bishop, we look forward to the future exercises with pleasure.

The Junior contest came off Tuesday. It was a grand affair. The contestants waging a fierce literary war on each other. Dr. Plum, of Boston; Prof. Strahr, of South Carolina, and Bishop Moore were appointed Judges. The prizes were awarded to Miss G. L. Blackwell, J. D. Bibb and I. D. Hardgett.

At night the Garrison Literary Society was a very enjoyable feature of the programme.

Rev. Smith, of Raleigh, delivered the annual address. We need not say it was good—the term is too mild. We have not the language to express the fiery eloquence of this distinguished divine. As his lofty imagination soared heavenward, and then given to us with such magic power, it made all rejoice, and feel glad, and proud, that we have such a noble representative in the cause of Christ in our race.

The anniversary exercises of the Hood Literary Society came off Tuesday night in the College Chapel, in the presence of a large and appreciative audience. The members of this Society could not afford to allow the former Society to excel them, and hence they did extraordinary work. Would that we had the time and space to speak of each one separately, as they deserve special mention, but we must conclude by saying that they did unusually well. After the conclusion of their exercises, Prof. D. A. Strahr, LL.B., of South Carolina, was introduced by Mr. I. D. Hardgett. This representative and scholarly gentleman came forward amid outbursts of applause, and addressed his hearers on "Industrial" in the way that none save Strahr could do. Mr. Strahr sustained his good name, and showed to all present that he truly is a man of brain and thought. He was frequently interrupted with outbursts of applause. Owing to a heavy storm a great many were obliged to leave before his remarks were concluded. His subject being as broad as it was deep, and as deep as it was long, it took some time for him to get through. As his lecture was so well spiced, no one scarcely knew how long he had spoken. On the announcement of the benediction all retired, to be wet by a drenching rain, and enjoy a refreshing sleep, and prepare ourselves for final exercises on June 1st.

It rained quite all night, and when the darkness had all disappeared, and we beheld the glorious dawn of day, we found the clouds dark and heavy, and rain falling steadily. A great many hearts were made sad, but pretty soon carriages, buggies, phaetons, hacks, &c., could be seen hither and thither, loaded with passengers, bound for Livingstone College. All seemed to be more happy when the beautiful sun shone forth with all its brilliancy, illuminating the universe, dispelling the clouds, drying up the mud—so that young and old, rich and poor, might alike enjoy the literary feast which was in store for them.

At eleven o'clock we found quite a large and enthusiastic crowd assembled. Prof. Price ascended the rostrum, and introduced Rev. A. H. Plum, D.D., of Boston, as orator of the day. Certainty of religion was the chief theme. He proceeded at first in a very calm and delicate manner. As he worked his way into this all-absorbing question, he grew extremely eloquent, and with his natural skill and knowledge of addressing his hearers, he soon won their closest attention and held them spell-bound throughout his entire discourse. He showed clearly the difference between religious feelings and religious principles. Religion and education, he claimed, must be taught together—they cannot be separated. Unless morality prevails, our religion must be broken up. He approved, and most heartily supported, a higher education of the Negro, and that given him by general taxation. He claimed it necessary for the preservation of the Union, for the advancement of civilization, for the good of a community, and hence we must have cultured, Christian men among us to make our laws to govern us, &c. We dare not attempt further to express an idea of his, for fear we will do the Dr. an injustice. A better man could not have been selected. His address was plain, eloquent, and pointed. All enjoyed it; all well pleased.

The time being up, and luncheon was ordered, we strolled about and found a large number of distinguished visitors—among them we saw the several Bishops of the A. M. Z. Church, elders Grimes, Mann, Ferriby, Mattox, Walters, W. C. Colman, Esq., Rev. F. R. Howell. Among the fair sex we noticed Miss Celia Adams, of Laurens, S. C., recently of Florida; Misses Sarah Johnson, of Charlotte, L. G. Lomax, Isadore Lomax, Miss Sims, of Charlotte; Miss A. A. Harris, of Raleigh, and Miss O'Kelley, of Raleigh, and a host of others too numerous to mention.

At this juncture the bell rang, and all were again called to assemble in the chapel to listen to the closing exercises of the graduating classes and diplomas awarded. Miss Ada McKnight having had the pleasant task of delivering the salutatory address, made an excellent appearance, and delivered her address in a neat and appropriate manner. She is truly a bright scholar.

Mr. Newby delivered his address on "American Literature," in a calm and deliberated manner. One of Salisbury's bright and fair young ladies was the next to ascend the rostrum to tell us "How to make a living." This subject she handled with fortitude. She told the boys they must live within their income. If not they would be always poor. Economy, she said, must be practical, and watch carefully the small things. Her advice, if followed, would lead to a fortune.

America—Her glory and her shame, by Mr. W. E. Houser, to say the least, was well rendered, and he deserves credit for his manly effort. Miss C. V. Banks, on "Fashionable Society," was good. We hope all were benefitted, as we have too great a tendency to reach after this frivolous style.

We noticed a decided improvement in Mr. E. V. Davis' manner of delivery, as he addressed his hearers on the "Present Age." It is with pleasure we make special mention of Miss M. Sumner on the "Demands of the Times." She seemed to be as much at home on the stage as in class. Well done, Miss Minnie, as you have been well applauded all along we will pass on to the valedictory of Mr. J. W. Hood—"Overcome Difficulties by Perseverance." He has a very easy and polished style of delivery, and commanded an attentive audience. Mr. Hood, we hope, will take to himself some of the noble ideas of his father and make for himself a great name. What shall we do, was listened to with marked attention. This was answered by Miss Jennie Harris. She received a handsome bouquet. "Public Life." This important but hard life was thoroughly discussed in all its different phases, and pointed quotations from able writers were given to show young men the necessity of being to patriotic sentiments and if need be, die for it. We congratulate Mr. Lee on his noble effort. The last but no means least rare treat was given by our

much esteemed Mr. J. A. D. Bloice who delivered the valedictory. The all absorbing he discussed was "What is your aim in being educated?" Notwithstanding the fact the audience had been sitting for more than two hours yet Mr. Bloice so well discharged his duty that time and fatigue were not considered, and applause after applause showed the high esteem and appreciation which he commands. His parting words were sympathetic and touching and we noticed many sad faces and tearful eyes. The diplomas were, in a pathetic and scholarly manner. His advice was practical logical and instructive. He told them to place their hands in the hands of the "unseen" and follow his guidance. All the exercises passed off pleasantly and all seemed to enjoy themselves. Quite a number left in the night and morning trains. Our town will soon present a dull appearance. Miss Celia A. Adams is the guest of Mrs W. E. Henderson and will remain in our city for some time. Misses Johnson and McGee will leave soon for their respective homes, Charlotte and Mocksville. We were sorry to note the absence of the able Editor of the "Messenger" as we have no doubt he would have enjoyed himself beyond expression, as the town was graced with quite a number of sweet and charming girls.

Time forbids further mentioned of the feasts of reason and flow of soul which many greatly enjoyed.

OCCASIONALLY.

COMMENCEMENT.

The high schools and colleges are all closing and we have had pleasure of witnessing a portion of the exercises at Biddle, Bennett and Fayetteville Normal. Each of these schools were very good. We were unable to get to Livingstone, but our correspondent there tells of the exercises, &c. Biddle sends out three theological graduates and three college graduates and Livingstone sends out one college and ten normal graduates. Fourteen graduates go out from the Fayetteville school and two from Bennett seminary. Week after next Scotia will turn out about twenty four higher and low normal graduates, making in all seven collegiate and about fifty normal graduates from the schools in the western part of the State.

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