

EDUCATIONAL

Compulsory Education.

The Atlantic Educational Journal, a continuation of the North Carolina Journal of Education, formerly published at Greensboro but now in Richmond, but now in Richmond, and edited by Prof. P. P. Claxton, in a recent number says:

"The best school will never eradicate fully all illiteracy until there is an effective attendance law in every State.

"To be effective the law must be compulsory, with sufficient penalties to cause it to be obeyed. This has been the experience of all the other States and counties, and we may not expect a different result here. The sooner we profit by their example the better.

"At present Austria, France, England, Scotland, Hungary, Italy, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, the Swiss Cantons, the German States, British Columbia, New Zealand, Prince Edward Island, Tasmania, Queensland, South Australia, the provinces of Canada, and 32 of the United States have compulsory attendance laws. With a few minor exceptions, these laws require attendance six, seven or eight years, from twelve weeks to ten months annually. In all the States in which such laws have been enforced longer than twenty-five or thirty years the percentage of illiteracy has been reduced to a minimum. These States and counties contain a population of more than two hundred and fifty million people, the freest and most progressive in the world—more than 80 per cent. of all the people we call enlightened and progressive. Of the 32 having such a law only two—Kentucky and West Virginia—are Southern States. But what has been found good in all these great States and countries will probably not prove otherwise for us; and it is noted with pleasure that sentiment in favor of such a law is developing rapidly in all parts of the South.

"Universal education is essential to the material, intellectual and moral welfare of the State. Illiteracy is a burden and constant menace to public morals and civil liberty and threatens the very existence of the State. The State provides schools at public expense, collecting money for their support by law and by force if necessary. It therefore has a right to enforce attendance, that its money may not be wasted and that its interest may be protected.

"Individual welfare depends on the general welfare. Having taken the money of one man to educate the children of another, the State must protect that man and his children from the oppression and dangers of illiterate neighbors and fellow-citizens.

"Children have rights as well as parents, and the State must protect them in their rights. Chief among these is the right to such education as will enable them to live useful and happy lives and become intelligent and self-supporting citizens. The importance of this right and the necessity of its being recognized increases as competition becomes more fierce, the use of machinery more common, the demand for intelligent labor greater, government more democratic, religious liberty more perfect, and the obligations of the individual to himself, his family, his country, and the world more complex and binding. Especially must it be regarded in those States in which the right of suffrage depends on educational qualification.

"Such a law cannot interfere with any right of parents; for no parent has a right to make a slave of his child or to rob it of the opportunity of gaining an elementary education. Parents who would commit this crime against their children should be restrained and punished. Such a law cannot be a burden to those who would educate their children without it. As the laws against stealing are not burdensome to honest men, so a reasonable compulsory law cannot be burdensome to parents who desire to deal honestly and justly with their children.

"The experience of other States and countries has demonstrated that such laws may be made effective, and that they need not work any hardship on individual citizens."

For character building the first twelve years of the child's life are worth all the rest. If the work of these years is not what it should be, all subsequent teaching is of the nature of reformation rather than education.—Horace Mann.

Concerning Rural Libraries.

Another praiseworthy movement that ought to be considered by every wide-awake community in this State is the rural school library plan proposed by the last Legislature. It ought not to be necessary for us to repeat that it provides simply that when the patrons of any public school raise \$10 or more for the establishment of a public school library the county and State will give an additional \$10 each for this purpose. But only six schools in each county now have this privilege—the first six that make application for this State and county aid. In the following counties this quota has been reached: Anson, Beaufort, Bertie, Durham, Guilford, Iredell, Nash, Rutherford, Union and Wake. Persons residing in any other county, if work is begun without delay, may take advantage of the opportunities afforded by this school library plan. The official figures given us last week by Superintendent Toon show that at this time applications for State aid have been received from the following thirty counties, the figures following the name of each showing the number of libraries to be established:

Bertie 6, Wilkes 1, Yancey 1, Wake 6, Alleghany 1, Gaston 2, Buncombe 1, Anson 6, Rowan 3, Watauga 1, Onslow 2, Brunswick 1, Dublin 1, Lincoln 1, Columbus 1, Orange 1, Franklin 1, Wilson 4, Mecklenburg 1, Caldwell 1, Bladen 1, Henderson 1, Warren 4, Greene 2, Guilford 6, Union 6, Nash 6, Beaufort 6, Durham 18, Iredell 6, Rutherford 6.

The ten counties having six or more applications are the only ones in which State and county aid can no longer be given. If yours is not one of these, there is no reason why you should not raise \$10 among the patrons of your public school, get the \$20 additional from State and county funds, and give the children of your neighborhood the benefit of a library of well selected books, such as will be recommended by the State Board of Education. If the money cannot be raised privately set a "library day," as suggested by Gen. Toon, get the patrons of your school together, and raise the \$10 needed.—Progressive Farmer.

Summer School at Chapel Hill.

On Monday, June 16th, I left home for Chapel Hill to attend the Summer School.

Chapel Hill is a very beautiful place. The streets are all shaded by pretty trees. There are a great many handsome dwellings in the town. The people are so kind and social to everybody, (especially the Summer Girls), and if you board at the "Best House" in town you are in the boat.

They have electric lights and were putting in the pipes for the water system.

When you get very warm just step in the drug store and take one of those nice ice-cold, sugar-sweet drinks and you will be ready for those lectures.

The bell rang at 8:30 a. m., and you finished morning's work at 1:30 p. m. The lectures were 45 minutes in length. You just march from one lecture room to another until you were somewhat tired, then came the long looked for hour, (dinner).

There was a lecture from 5:30 to 6:30 every day on History. We had a lecture nearly every night. Some of those who lectured at night were Prof. Collier Cobb, Rev. J. William Jones, Mr. Holmes, State Geologist, Prof. Sledd, and Dr. Hume. They were all fine lectures.

Those who had work in the day were Professor M. C. S. Noble, of the State University, the Graded School at Wilmington, on Arithmetic, Pedagogy, and Algebra; Mr. Moses, Superintendent Graded Schools at Raleigh on Primary Work and Literature for Children; Mr. McKie, of New York, on Expression; Mr. Gore and Prof. Collier Cobb on Geology; Mr. Pearson, of Greensboro Normal College on Zoology; Prof. Mangum, of Wilson, on Geography; Mr. Atkinson of Cornell University, on Studies in Nature; Mr. Graham, of Charlotte, on Physiology and History; Mr. Euler B. Smith, Superintendent of Graded School at Athens, Ga., on English; Mr. Pane, Latin; Prof. Lustrat, on French. There were some others.

If you want to go to a place to learn something go to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. I went to school every day I was up there, not even excepting Sunday.

The Library has more than 20,000 volumes besides all good

magazines and newspapers. All the good literature you are looking for can be found there.

The principal buildings of the college are the South Building, Chapel, Memorial Hall, Commons Hall, Carr Building, New East, Old East, New West, Old West, and the two that are nearing completion, Alumni Hall and the Students' Building.

It was real amusing to see every one asking which the buildings were, then get lost before they reached the one for which they were looking. Oh, well, we learned them after awhile.

Mr. M. C. S. Noble, Professor of Pedagogy at the State University, superintended the Summer School.

I think every person who teaches or expects to teach should attend the Summer School, Teachers' Institute and Association. The session was only three weeks long, the expenses were small and the advantages very great in more respects than one.

If the teachers will attend all the meetings they will be more accomplished, better qualified, therefore should be able to do better work.

MARY MAGDALENE STALLINGS, Clayton, N. C.

The Kaiser and the Child.

During the late residence of the Austrian Emperor at Budapest his attention was attracted to a small boy who always awaited the royal carriage at a particular spot in the Albrecht road and enthusiastically waved his cap as it passed him. The Emperor became so accustomed to the fervent loyalty of his little subject that he always looked for him at the same spot. It happened one day that the police formed a cordon down this street, and the boy was backed into the crowd. The Emperor noticed his absence, and even looked up to the windows of the house above in the hope of seeing him, but in vain. The next day a royal equipage stopped at this house and an official sent by his Majesty inquired of his mother, the pensioned widow of an officer, as to the child's whereabouts, and was evidently gratified to hear that no evil had befallen him. The boy is now a pupil in a distinguished Government Academy at Vienna.—London Telegraph.

A Confederate Negro.

"I had an unusual application for a pension the other day," said Mr. A. B. Stronach, chairman of the Wake County Pension Board. "It was from a Wake county negro—Kadar Morgan, from Auburn—and I'm going to get him on the list if I can. He's an old-time darkey, and he came into the store with his hat in his hand. I asked him what his war record was, and he said he was in Capt. Bryan's company, from Auburn, with the Thirty-first North Carolina regiment, of which Gov. Fowle was Lieutenant-Colonel. He went to Roanoke Island and was there captured, and with many others of the regiment taken North. Never once would he agree to swear allegiance to the Union but took his parole with the rest, came back South and again joined his old regiment.

"And, he went on to tell me," added Mr. Stronach, "that he remained with it until the seventeen-year-old boys were conscripted and brought into the army. This included a young son of Kadar's master, and so Kadar was then sent back home to care for and support the family. This, I understand, he did to the best of his ability and was always faithful to every trust reposed in him. Isn't such a man as that entitled to a pension in his old age when he can no longer support himself?"—News and Observer.

Speaking of how baseball started a confirmed Fan says: "The devil was the first coacher. He was on the line and coached Eve when she stole first, and then Adam stole second. Rebekah was walking with a pitcher when Isaac met her at the well. On meeting the Philistines Samson struck out many times and some of the runners died on their way home. The first run that Moses made was after he slew the Egyptian. Cain earned a base hit when he killed Abel and Abraham made a sacrifice. The prodigal son made a home run. David was a long distance thrower, and Moses shut out the Egyptians at the Red Sea."—Ex.

An Australian fortune of forty million dollars is to be divided among heirs of the late Josiah Tyson, residing in Georgia and Alabama.

The Vision.

It rained misfortunes; he but smiled,
He lost his wife, his babe, his throne.
Last ordeal, through the sandy soil
He crawled, a leper and alone.

There God in His compassion gave
A palm for food, for drink a spring.
For roof a cave, Beside the cave
A dervish found the fallen King;

Gazed long on that untroubled brow,
Those eyes serene; then murmured low,
"Lord, what hath this man done that
Thou,
O Merciful! shouldst use him so?"

In sleep the dervish saw that night
The King asleep; and o'er him grew
A tree; and from its boughs of light
A child strove roses drenched in dew.

—G. D. C. in Good Words.

On the Boardwalk.

"What a sad old dog Fantastics is to be sure."
"He'd feel mightily flattered if you told him so, dots on such a reputation."
"Oh, I don't know; he seemed rather put out when Caustique told the flirtatious old beau he was more cur than puppy."—New York Times.

Got the Information.

The great criminal lawyer was questioning the witness in the murder trial as to the exact location of the wound in the murdered man's body.
"You witnessed the shooting, you say?" he asked.
"Yes, Sir; I did."
"Where was Brown shot?"
"On the second floor, Sir."—New York Times.

The Power of Niagara.

If every able-bodied man in Greater New York were working together turning a crank they would not equal the power to be developed in the two stations of the Niagara Falls Power Company; and they could work only eight hours a day, while the great current there flows forever.—Currents Work.

Hoax—"I see Rocksie, the gambler, is going to retire on his fortune and sell out his place. There's a chance for some fellow with a little capital to get in the swim." Joax—"Ah! Take a dive to get into the swim, eh?"—Ex.

Our incomes are like our shoes; if too small they gall and pinch us, but if too large they cause us to stumble and trip.—Colton.

The census figures, just issued, give the District of Columbia 101,532 whites, 87,186 blacks; total population, 278,718. Florida has 297,333 whites, 231,209 blacks; total population, 528,542. Georgia has 1,181,109 whites, 1,035,222 blacks; total population, 2,216,333.

J. M. Barrie, author of "The Little Minister," is to make another visit to America, but does not intend to appear in public to any considerable extent. He has a strong dislike to lecturing.

"It is reported here," says the Paris correspondent of the London Daily Mail, "that John D. Rockefeller and J. Pierpont Morgan have decided to establish a banking house in Paris with a capital of £10,000,000."

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J. M. BEASLEY.