

To The Voters of the Graded School District.

GENTLEMEN:—It looks now like a large majority of the voters of the district known as the graded school district are determined in favor of the ratification of the Act and will vote to ratify it at the election to be held at the Court House on the 26th inst. This of course is only an estimate as I have not been either able or disposed to interview every voter personally on the question of how he proposed to vote. I have a right however to assume and I do assume—indeed it is more than an assumption, it is a logical, reasonable conclusion—that the voters of the district knowing as they do the general outlines of the Act, are as able as I am to see the manner and method of clear mathematical calculation by which it is apparent that the ratification of it means dollars and cents saved to them; to say nothing of that much higher and worthier consideration of the incalculable value of a graded public school in this community free to every child between six and twenty-one years old for as much as nine or ten months in the year. I say these people know as much about that as I do and knowing as I do the necessity for it, the inestimable value of it, the everlasting good that looms through every phase, form or feature of the promised boon, knowing as I do the inherent justice in it and the fallacy and sin of the arguments that are made against it, I do not for a minute doubt that the people that I live among see it all as clearly as I do and therefore I say it will be ratified—the vote for schools will prevail, unless inactivity caused by over confidence and a misunderstanding, cause its defeat. I write this therefore to say to the voters that this question is unlike other questions decided by a popular vote, in that it requires a majority of the registered vote—the number registered—to vote in order to carry it. For illustration: if there are a hundred and fifty registered and seventy vote for it and five vote against it, it is lost. It would require seventy-six votes to carry it. So that by not voting for it you are necessarily counted against it. Those who oppose it can vote against it as effectually by staying at home as by going to the polls. It is desired that this may be understood lest you may conclude that as it seems to be getting along all right that it is controlling a majority of the sentiment, it is therefore safe. You must vote for it if you want it.

I trust no citizen of the district will allow his vote to be in this manner counted against this proposed school. If it is lost Plymouth will stand out grand gloomy and alone as the only single example of a community that has cast her vote against education and progress, in this State during the present year. There has never been such an age of public advancement and progress in all the history of the world. The whole civilized world is a-fire with enthusiasm for advanced movement along every line, and chiefly education. A community would be pitiable that allowed itself to be recorded in the minority and the back ground in such important and popular matters. Every other town in the State would point to us with indignation and scorn if we said we didn't want and propose to have the best possible educational advantages. It has been opposed to this measure, that it carried with it the necessity of negro education. Good men have said they would oppose it on that ground. Before you do, my friend, I ask you to stop and think one moment. Do you oppose the education of white children and prefer to see them live in ignorance, for the mere sake of the satisfaction of knowing that a negro is doing the same thing? Must a white child go hungry because to feed him would put a crum in a negro's mouth? You say no, we can feed the white child another way, but my friend is this community doing it? I join you in your opinion of the utility and vanity of the advanced education of that race, generally speaking, admitting some exceptions. I join you in your opinion of the justice of a division of the public school funds between the races according to the amount paid by each; but every time you register you swear to support a constitution that prohibits this. Until this is changed we owe it obedience. The language of the graded school act is that the money collected shall be applied to the support of both colored and white schools in a practical manner having due regard to the necessary cost of running each school. I want to assure you now, though I shall not control the matter myself, that that act if it is ratified, absolute justice will be done to both the white and colored children of this district. The negro will receive what justice and right demands he shall have—only that and nothing more—don't you think he is entitled to that? Instead of hesitating, shouldn't we be anxious to go forward zealously and assure him that he shall have it and is heartily welcome to it? For my part I demand that he have justice and every penny he is entitled to upon the principles of right and wrong. This is the principle that that school will be run upon. It has been said, to the discredit of him who said it, that the school would be run by politicians. I want to say that the Act was drawn with a view of avoiding the evil of factional differences and political shifting and turning on the board of trustees. The best, most representative, most intelligent men in this district will be put on that board. I wish they could be elected now as proof of that, but they cannot until June 1st. They will be men who are its friends and zealously desire its success from the broadest and most comprehensive standpoint. They will be business men, they will be educational men, i. e., men devoted to the cause of popular education. They will not represent any class, clan or faction, but will from every view point, be as representative as it is possible to find, of every shade of opinion, moral, social, religious, educational and political. It will not be a clan. It will not be a ring. It will be strong, broad, liberal and fair, as the citizenship of the district will permit. The man who asserts the contrary is the enemy of the public interest, as he has no foundation for the charge and to try to influence public opinion by unwarranted and unjust arguments based upon the venal rags of action worthy only to be prescribed to the person using it, is harmful to the public interest and is wicked in itself.

There is respectable opposition to this school from those who think it puts unfair burdens of taxation upon the taxpayer. It doesn't do it. The proposition to tax property for the support and for the advancement of general education, including the poor alike with the wealthy, is right in itself. It hasn't a shadow of injustice in it. The progress of this world is predicated upon a community of interest. No man ever got rich by his own efforts or because of his own energy only. We build upon the foundations of our brother man. As the gold block of the coal baron represents the sweat of the miner who got only a dollar and a half a day out of it, so in a smaller way the wealth of the rich man of this graded school district, whoever he may be, was coined from the sweat of the great commonality of the community, on the simple principle that that sweat was bought and used at a profit, as are the goods behind the

merchant's counter. I hope the argument of high taxes cannot be worthy of answer. The only class of people who do not pay taxes are the savages. In the jungles of Africa there are those who are free from taxation. If to be measurably free from taxation is so sweet and valued a privilege, logically, to be entirely relieved is sweeter and better. If such is the test of the advantages and fairness of government, let him who thinks so be logical and move down into the Liberian forest where he can rest unmolested by the ruthless hand of the tax collector. It is threatened that property owners will move their capital elsewhere. Be not deceived. There is not a spot in the civilized world inside an incorporated town over 2,000 inhabitants, where they or their property can find lower taxes than here, even after that tax is imposed, and they know it.

I believe that the children of Plymouth are entitled to as much education and to as good schools as those of any other town in the State. Let's do all we can to give it to them. It not only helps the child and makes him better, it makes the parent better also.

H. S. WARD.

A Sure Thing.

It is said that nothing is sure except death and taxes, but that is not altogether true. Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption is a sure cure for all lung and throat troubles. Thousands can testify to that. Mrs. C. B. VanMetre of Shepherd town, W. Va., says, "I had a severe case of Bronchitis and for a year tried everything I heard of, but got no relief. One bottle of Dr. King's New Discovery then cured me absolutely." It's infallible for Croup, Whooping Cough, Grip, Pneumonia and Consumption. Try it. It's guaranteed by Sprull & Bro. Trial bottles free, Reg. sizes 50c, \$1.00.

NOTICE.

By order of the Board of Education of Washington county, this is to notify the patrons of the public schools in Washington county that at their meeting on the 26th Monday in April, 1903, said Board decided that at their next meeting on the 1st Monday in July, 1903, that they would dispense with the district committees and appoint a township committee in the several townships in Washington county, to look after the interest of the public schools in the several townships throughout the county. Those opposing this will make their complaint to the Board of Education on the 1st Monday in July, 1903, and same will be considered by said Board.

This May 13, 1903.
J. O. EVERETT,
Secy. of B. of E.

We beg to announce the
SEMI-ANNUAL SPECIAL SALE
—in our—

Merchant Tailoring Dept.
Friday, April 24, and after
500 STYLES OF
Suits and Trousers,
embracing a splendid assortment of mid-summer goods in
Crashes, Flannels,
Summer Serges
and Cheviots

A practical representative from
The Kahn-Feinberg Co.
The big UNION Tailoring House
of New York,
will be with us to take measurements,
DON'T FORGET THE DATE
Remainder of April, and May.
A. SWAIN & BRO.,
PLYMOUTH, N. C.

JUST A REMINDER

—THAT—
We are still in town, carrying a full and complete line of GENERAL MERCHANDISE,
—Consisting of—
Dress Goods, Laces,
Hamburgs, Insertions, etc. to match.
Also SHOES—
Patent Leather,
Vici Kid, etc., etc.
The latest styles in HATS—
Straw, Felt and Derby.
A complete line of
—GROCERIES—
Always on hand.
Don't fail to enter our store when out shopping. We are to interest and please you.
J. E. JOHNSTON,
ROPER, N. C.

NOTICE.

There will be an election held at the Court House in Plymouth on the 26th day of May, 1903, wherein the qualified voters of the district as hereinafter defined are entitled to vote on the question of whether a tax shall be levied on the taxable poll and property of all persons, firms and corporations in the graded school district as defined in an act of the Legislature of 1903, entitled an Act to Establish Graded Schools in Plymouth, ratified March 3rd, 1903. Election will be held under and by virtue of said act. There will be new registration of all votes in said school district, and books will be open at the Court House from Monday, April 27th, until Saturday, May 24th. Polls open and close at sunrise and sun-set, and all other qualifications and regulations as under the general law. Those in favor of levying the tax vote "For Schools," those opposed, "Against Schools." This April 25th, 1903.

Board Councilmen,
Town of Plymouth,
Per S. B. SPRULL,
Mayor.

Good News to Our Customers.

and to bargain seekers. Just received a mammoth stock of Silks and Fine Organdies; also the prettiest assortment of Hamburg trimmings you have ever seen. These goods were bought at exceedingly low figures from underwriters' sales, and will be sold accordingly. All we ask is that you call and see them.

We also have the most exquisite line of Dimities, Lawns, and white goods to be found in town.

Our madras cloth and satin striped waisting is just unsurpassed and, to those who desire ready-made garments, can be supplied at our store. We have a splendid line, especially in ladies goods.

If you feel interested in Towels and table linen, we don't take any back seat in saying we will sell them to you much cheaper than you can buy them elsewhere, as we get them from manufacturers and pay cash down, and don't buy on long time, as some merchants do, entailing an extra cost, which I always give the customer the advantage of.

Now in Ribbons you can almost get them at your own price of us, as we have such a mammoth stock of it. Just come and see for yourself.

Some good bargains in Bed-tick at 10c.; a good feather tick, just slightly soiled; it is a bargain—36 inches wide—only 10c. Come quick as there is a limited quantity. And again, some blue dotted Duck at 5c. Knocks all out. We are here to stay. Come and see us.

Yours truly,

W. C. Ayers.

New Spring Millinery.

Our store is now full of the newest and prettiest goods to be found. There are so many different kinds of goods for the ladies and children that it is impossible for us to name them here. You must come and inspect them in order to appreciate the truth of our statement. Then we have Miss Thurmond with us again. She pleased you last season, she can please you even better this, so don't do yourself the injustice of placing an order before visiting our store. Mail orders will receive the most careful attention. You know that you will always find what you want, and get the best goods at the price from
MRS. W. B. WARD & CO.

We hope to keep ourselves in the minds of our friends and patrons. Those of you who have been to see us know that we are carrying, this season a splendid line of Millinery, Dry Goods, &c. To those who have not been to see them we wish to say 'COME' and to those who have we would say 'COME AGAIN.'

Thanking all for past favors and hoping for their continuance, I remain,
Very truly,
MRS. A. M. AYERS.



DR. MOFFETT'S
TEETHINA
(TEETHING POWDERS)
Costs Only 25 cents at Druggists.

Cures Cholera-Infantum, Diarrhoea, Dysentery, and the Bowel Troubles of Children of Any Age. Aids Digestion, Regulates the Bowels, Strengthens the Child and Makes TEETHING EASY.

Send for a free trial bottle or mail 25 cents to C. J. MOFFETT, M. D., ST. LOUIS, MO. Florence, S. C., Nov. 26, 1902.—I was first advised by our family physician in Charleston to use TEETHINA with our baby when he was but a very young infant, as a preventive of colic and to warm and sweeten the stomach. Later it was useful in teething troubles, and its effect has been found to be so very beneficial and so free from dangers that our constant use of the use of drugs and soothing syrups, that we have come to regard it as a necessary for all children, as one of the necessities when there is a new baby in the house, and until the teething troubles are over, and we have pleasure in recommending it to our friends. Instead of the horrid stuff that so many people use to keep their baby quiet.
HARTWELL M. AYERS, (Manager Daily Times and Weekly Times-Messenger.)