

# Louisburg Echoes.

"GIVE ME INSIGHT INTO TO-DAY."

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### COMMENCEMENT.

Baccalaureate Sermon by Dr. G. B. Strickler, of Richmond, Va.—Y. W. C. A. Sermon by Dr. W. B. North, of the North Carolina Conference—Literary Address by Dr. Edwin M. Poteat, President of Furman University—A Large Graduating Class—The Ground Broken for the Memorial Building.

The Annual Sermon on Sunday morning, May 22, was the beginning of the closing exercises of Louisburg College. The day was an ideal commencement day and all nature seemed in sweet accord with the occasion. The music in charge of Misses Williams and Preston, was inspiring, the congregation joining as with one voice in Coronation and True-hearted, whole-hearted. At 11.30 Rev. A. J. Parker introduced the speaker, Dr. G. B. Strickler of the Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Va., who took for his text John 7: 17, "If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself." There was nothing oratorical or flowery in the sermon; it was a clear and forceful exposition of the text by a scholar to a thoughtful people. He dealt, not in poetry, but in nuggets of truth, making it clear that God reveals his word to those who really desire truth.

At 8.30 o'clock, Dr. W. B. North delivered the sermon before the Young Women's Christian Association, taking his text from Psalms 119: 18, "Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law." His sermon seemed a complement to Dr. Strickler's, showing that only spiritual blindness makes the way dark. Dr. North is a profound thinker, thoroughly conversant with the Word.

On Monday afternoon, at 5 o'clock, the First Year Music Class, assisted by the little girls of the primary department, gave a recital. No feature of Commencement showed better training or more thorough work than

did the girls who took part in this concert. Miss Dickens, whose classes so highly entertained the audience, has been a teacher in the College only five months, but her work needs no further comment.

Louisburg becomes the Mecca for many pilgrims during Commencement week. In honor of their return the Alumnae Association holds an Annual Banquet, which is to many the most enjoyable feature of Commencement.

Not being able to secure the services of Mr. Dughi, who has so long been the caterer on these occasions, it was decided that the banquet should be held at the Louisburg Hotel, and long before the appointed hour the lobby was filled with spectators who thronged there to catch a passing glimpse of beautiful gowns and fair women.

At 9 o'clock, 'neath a most artistic combination of lavender and white—the college colors—the guests took their places about the elegantly spread tables in the hotel dining room.

Mrs. J. S. Barrow, President of the Alumnae Association, acted as toast-mistress, and, in her charming and characteristic manner, made everyone forget the passing of the years, and become again the care-free school girl. After her bright address of welcome, she called upon Miss Frances Thomas, '09, to welcome the class of 1910—the youngest members of the Association.

An elegant seven course dinner was served; the Juniors, according to custom, serving the guests. At intervals during the banquet the following toasts were responded to:

The Girls Who Wear the Mortar Boards—Miss Frances Thomas.

To the Comet Seekers—The Fortunate and the Unfortunate—Miss Mabel Davis.

Women's Clubs—Mrs. E. C. Jones.

To the Country School Ma'm—Miss Katie Furman.

The Alumnae—Miss Annie Jerome.

June and Its Possibilities—Mrs. T. W. Bickett.

The toasts were all replete with humor and beautiful in sentiment. Just in time to see the eclipse of the moon the hour for adjournment was announced and the toast mistress, after a brief farewell, proposed a toast to Mr. J. S. Lancaster, Louisburg's new caterer.

The class day exercises on Tuesday afternoon were seriously interfered with by the fearful rain and wind storm which swept over the town just before the hour of beginning. The exercises were to have been held on the north side of the campus under the large spreading oaks. A stage had been erected and the necessary seats provided, but the rain drove all in-doors, there the exercises proceeded in spite of the elements.

The exercises were a surprise to the audience. Instead of the dignified Seniors, clad

in cap and gown, a bevy of romping school girls rushed on the stage, tossed their bonnets to the floor, and a scene from "ye olde time skule" followed. Miss Bessie Norwood, President of the class, played the role of teacher.

The Class History was read by Miss Mary Stuart Egerton; the prophecy by Annie Jerome, and the will by Letitia Midgett. These documents, abounding in hits, were bright and original, and afforded the class a fine opportunity to even up, in a good-natured way, a number of old scores against the various members of the Faculty.

The exercises on Tuesday evening by the Expression Class, consisted of a four act drama, entitled, "A Girl in a Thousand," which was well rendered. Between acts, Misses Floyd, Kearney and Camilla Yarborough gave readings, and a quartette, composed of Messrs. B. T. Holden, W. D. Jackson, L. S. Hale and Dr. A. H. Fleming, sang Annie Laurie. After the play the "Lotus Eaters," a pantomime, was rendered by the Delsarte Class.

Wednesday's program consisted of graduating exercises, literary address and the formal breaking of the ground for the erection of the Matthew S. Davis Memorial Building, completed the Commencement exercises for the current year. The College has never had a more brilliant Commencement.

The graduating class, headed by its president, Miss James Elizabeth Norwood, entered the auditorium, which was already filled to its utmost capacity, at 10.30, and occupied in a body, seats reserved on the rostrum.

Love Divine, that most excellent and inspiring hymn, was sung by the entire congregation, after which the opening prayer was led by Rev. W. W. Rose.

Rev. L. S. Massey then introduced the speaker, Dr. Edwin M. Poteat, President of Furman University, Greenville, S. C.

Dr. Poteat, after laying most effectively, the back ground by his introductory remarks, announced as his subject, "Happiness." He emphasized the different meaning and significance of the word considered from the standpoint of different individuals in different stages of life. It depends upon who is talking as to what kind of a good time they are having, and what constitutes a good time. To swine the word means wallowing in a mud hole; to Newton, working mathematics—at this juncture a loud groan was heard to issue from one of the under-graduates, seated near the front, which gave rise to laughter and applause.

The speaker classified his subject under two heads, viz: enjoying ones self and denying one's self. All happiness, says he, consists in either one or the other. Enjoying ones self from a selfish standpoint is the wrong road to true happiness, the bigger the