THE WEEKLY LEDGER.

SATURDAY, - - - - - July 20, 1878.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION:

One copy, one year, - - - - - $1.50.
One copy, six months, - - - $1.00.

☞ Subscriptions must be paid in advance.

RATES OF ADVERTISING:

One square, one insertion, - - $1.00.
Each subsequent insertion, - - 50c.

☞ Special contracts made for larger advertisements.

FRANK D. WINSTON, ROBERT P. PELL, } Editors.

☞ *NOTICE.—We will be pleased to publish any communications from any person relative to the good of the people; but any communication relative to personal matters or tending to bring about a controversy will not be tolerated.*—ED'S.

TEACHER'S ASSOCIATION.

"In union there is strength," thus spoke one of America's greatest statesmen when earnestly pleading for the Union, politically, of our country. Not only in politics is this true, but in every calling of life.

A combination of all the powers working for the accomplishment of a purpose, and a union of all the forces tending to that end, will of necessity be productive of a greater measure of success than any single effort or force, no matter with what vehemence and strength exerted. For this reason we think the establishment of the "N. C. Teachers Association," augurs well for the educational future of North Carolina. Each teacher in his individual capacity can do much, but a combined effort of all for the advancement of each, will give to the profession an impetus never before felt by the educators of the State. The association is now in its primitive stage. Much remains to be done before any perceptible results will flow, yet we doubt not if the mere fact of establishment has not already produced good effects.

Without presuming to dictate we will mention some things which must be taken into consideration by that body:

1. The public schools demand its immediate attention. The many imperfections of this system can furnish business for a score of meetings. Our common schools lack immediate supervision. Each county should have a school superintendent whose duties shall consist of visiting the schools, giving lectures to each, conducting examinations and having an eye to the general improvement of the school system of each county.

2. Committees must be appointed to mention a suitable system of text books. Uniformity in this matter is indispensable. A teacher who has scholars studying the text books of every author that ever wrote one, can do little towards educating that body of children. Such committees will meet with many difficulties. We do not object to anything written by Northern men, but many of their books are filled with stigmas on the South and ill-tempered references to Southern people and Southern institutions. We would suggest therefore that as far as practicable that Southern books be taught to Southern children, and when a Northern book is used the greatest care should be taken to select one free from all aspersion on our Southern life.

3. Each locality must be allowed the privilege of imposing a tax to support the school. State taxation cannot bring about the same results. But when a single community is taxed for its own educational support a greater interest is manifested in the matter.

4. There must be some uniform number of hours during which the school must be in session. This, of course, can be best regulated by those whom experience has enabled to advise on the subject.

5. Uniformity of pay will demand the close attention of the Teachers' Association.

It is useless to generalize the educational needs of our people. The above suggestions are such as to demand the first work of the Association. Teachers of the association, you are beginning right. You know your wants. Work for them. Give the Legislature a piece of your minds, and all will be well.

A FEW REASONS WHY WE SHOULD NOT VOTE FOR THE HON. JOSIAH TURNER.

Veneration for age, experience and learning has been thoroughly imbued in us from our earliest infancy until now, which still partakes so much of youthfulness that as yet we have not been able to possess the right of a free individual, and shall not for some time to come. Personally we have been taught to reverence Mr. Turner as a great man; in fact, a few years since, our boyish impetuosity swelled with the current of popular hero-worship, and the Hon. Josiah Turner twined himself about our youthful imagination as a paragon of state-manship and patriotism. When a few days since he spoke in disparaging terms of our paper, our feelings toward him were not rendered more antagonistic, but when he spoke ironically and sluringly of our connection with the University of North Carolina and the Normal School as a student, our feelings were totally revolutionized. Perhaps he has forgotten that he himself was once a student of this same University, that his mind received its first adornments here which afterwards rendered him so popular, but thank heaven no such things as party disorganization, a hobb-horsical, obstinate pursuance of unsubstantiated statements, were inculcated in him by its honored instructors; and these are the very things which have made him so unpopular. He stated furthermore that we were inconsistent, having started our paper with the determination not to meddle with politics, but having lately changed our tactics. We did make this statement, but supplemented it by saying that we would work for the good of the country, especially for its education and agriculture, and would under all circumstances adhere to the Democratic party. How can we work for the material good of our country better than by favoring men in favor of improving our education and agriculture, and how, we ask, can we adhere to the Democratic party without discouraging independent candidates and party disorganization? Can Mr. Turner recall no inconsistent action of his own? Does he remember the time when he literally dissected the negro, but now would rejoice to re-arrange his dismembered fragments into some kind of voting individual? We know his memory is failing, but he cannot possibly have forgotten that. But we propose to give a few practical and important reasons why the honest, hard-working men of Orange should not support him.

In the first place, we want no hobby-horsical individual to attend to our public affairs. Mr. Turner has taken upon himself, isolated and alone, to stand guard for us against corporations, rings, &c., and we advise our people to let him retain his post until the frost of public opinion shall freeze him out. We are in favor of letting him have his fun, but would rather propose a co-partnership with Josh Billings, &c. We cannot afford to let our children and farmers starve and remain ignorant to humor the whims of one man, and that, too, when, although the men whom he calls thieves may be guilty, no direct proof can be brought against them, and the people will never convict a man unless there are undoubted proofs, (and he being a lawyer, should have found out this long since.)

In the second place, Mr. Turner instead of proposing to foster our education and farming, attempts to raise a popular convulsion by slandering our public officers, such men as Vance, Jarvis, &c., and holding up before the people the ingratitude of his party, just as the old Roman soldier did in the forum by exhibiting his scars, wounds, bitter feelings, &c. It would be monotonous for us to enumerate the great necessity of an improved system of education and agriculture, for every sensible man cannot fail to recognize this, and we should support men whose whole hearts have been bent upon this purpose, in whom it forms an essential part of their existence. Capt. Hutchins is such a man; Mr. Angier is such a man; Mr. Graham is such a man. We want a man who knows how to say nothing when he has nothing to say, and not one who is always saying something which he has no business saying.

In the third and last place, when you, sturdy farmers of Orange, vote for Josiah Turner, you hammer one more nail in the cross upon which Orange County Democracy is to be crucified. Do you believe in firm party organization? Then you cannot conscientiously vote for him. Do you in all your actions consult the grand principles which well up in the breast of every true man, or are you bound down into a base servility to selfishness, personal preferment and passion? If you belong to the former class you cannot vote for Mr. Turner, and if you belong to the latter class you are traitors to the great principles of our national government.

STATE NORMAL SCHOOL.

SECOND ANNUAL SESSION.

FRIDAY—NINETEENTH DAY.

Besides the different classes regularly conducted by the Professors, a special class in reading has been formed, headed by Mr. Hinton, of Wilmington, who has obtained a fair reputation as an elocutionist. In this class the principal object to be promoted is correct and distinct pronunciation. It is composed of some very intelligent ladies and gentlemen and bids fair to attract much attention.

In the department of Geography conducted by Prof. Owens, lectures full of interest and instruction are delivered daily, on the great natural curiosities and their influence upon climate and the general condition of mankind. A new system of oral examination has been adopted. The whole class is divided into different sections, and examined, first by some particular member of the class; then each member propounds some question to his nearest neighbor, and thus the examination is simply an interchange of opinions. No day of the Normal School has been more fraught with interest than this one. It witnessed the permanent organization of that grand association which will in the future become not only a motive power in the cause of education but the garner and promoter of every educational enterprise.

According to a previous announcement the North Carolina Teachers Association held its first meeting this afternoon at 3 o'clock, for the purpose of affecting a permanent organization. The following officers were elected and entered immediately upon their respective duties:

President—Hon. Kemp P. Battle, LL. D.
Treasurer—Prof. Alex. McIver.
Secretary—Capt. John E. Dugger.
Assistant Secretary—Benj. W. Hatcher, Esq.

The further election of officers as required by the constitution, was upon motion of Prof. Winston, deferred. There being a quorum present, the association proceeded immediately to business.

The following resolution introduced by Captain Dugger, was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the President whose duty it shall be to draw up a memorial to the next Legislature in behalf of the common school interest of the State, together with the interest of the Normal School, and that a joint memorial be presented to the association for their signatures.

Mr. Gaither, of Perquimans, introduced the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed which shall constitute a Teachers' Bureau. It shall be the duty of the said committee to keep a full and correct record of the age, sex, qualifications, name, county and post office of each teacher desiring a situation, provided such teacher, if a member of the association shall pay the sum of 50 cents, and if not a member the sum of $1, and that it shall be the duty of every member of the association to co-operate with this bureau by reporting every place within their knowledge where a teacher may be wanted, together with the leading qualifications desired.

On motion the association then adjourned.

At night, the Debating Society having postponed its meeting, Miss Coe delivered a lecture on "Form and Color," illustrating it by diagrams and pictures.

Saturday morning the Debating Society met, and discussed a threefold query, "Which affords the most interesting field for investigation, the animal, vegetable or mineral kingdom?" The question was decided by the audience in favor of the animal. We must insert here that Prof. Smith made a most effective, ingenious and humorous speech in favor of animals.

At 8 o'clock, Rev. Calvin H. Wiley, former superintendent of Public Instruction in the State, and now Agent for the Bible Society, delivered an address on "North Carolina education, what it is and should be." This address was in keeping with the reputation which this gentleman has obtained by his varied and thorough attainments.

MONDAY—TWENTIETH DAY.

This morning the school was opened with the usual exercises and prayer by Rev. Dr. Pritchard, of Raleigh.

We have not heretofore made mention of Miss Coe's special class in the Kindergarten system. This class is composed of ladies who intend to become familar with the system, and if possible carry it into execution. The children of Chapel Hill are especially fortunate in having the direct superintendence of Miss Coe, who is continually drilling them in some profitable calisthenic exercise. Lately the class has been inaugurated into the regular Kindergarten system, and this comprises recitations in poetry, scripture quotations, weaving, various gymnastic exercises, singing, &c. Miss Coe for sometime has been lecturing on Natural History, but recently has begun a series of lectures on Form and Color. In conducting these exercises a proper position is exacted from every pupil, and gracefulness of movement and deference to teachers are impressed upon them. Miss Coe has a peculiar way of making herself popular among the children, but at the same time exhibiting a firmness which commands respect and obedience from each one of them.

At 12 o'clock Prof. Ladd lectured on school government. Never expect your pupils to be still, but keep them constantly employed. While engaged in hearing other classes, give the little children something to do. When tired, use gymnastic exercises, singing or counting. Have a speaking recess of ten minutes, and two if you teach only one session per day. Never have prompting. Always depend upon self-reporting, illustrated by instance of falsifying. He ended by giving a plan for obtaining a weekly report. After sending this report home require the children to bring it back with the signature of their parents.

At 3 o'clock a meeting of the Teachers' Association was held which was well attended. Memorials and resolutions were read, and a teachers' bureau was established at Chapel Hill, consisting of three.

At 8 o'clock, Rev. Dr. Pritchard, of Raleigh, delivered an address on the English Language. He said: Reason and Religion are God's best gifts, and in order to express them God gave men language. Whence originated language? Was it a spontaneous production of man or did God give it to Adam? God gave us the capacity for language and evoked that capacity. We believe that Adam received language from God in a living voice. What was the original language? Some say Roman, others German, Phoenician, Hebrew, &c. I believe from many indubitable proofs that it was the Syro-Chaldaic. A pure language does not exist, but is found in all languages. Each language has a life of its own. Our language is composed of seven different kinds principally: Saxon, Norman, Latin, Greek, French, German, Spanish, Italian, and many others. It possesses 40 per cent. Saxon, 30 Latin, 5 Greek and others in smaller proportion. The characteristics of a nation are seen in its language. It is the exponent of a nation's moral character. The English language is eminently speculative. It has blended the excellencies of many of the enlightened languages into one grand speaking tongue. Vitality, expansion and conquest were never obtained by any other language. We look forward to the time when the English language will be understood by everybody. The destiny of the English language in our conviction will be a most glorious one. Look at the physical intellectual and moral energy of those who speak this tongue. The dominion of those who speak this language extends over 1-4 of the habitable globe. The great mind and heart of the Anglo-Saxon race are more thoroughly imbued with christianity than any other. Dr. Pritchard in addition to the intrinsic merit of his composition adds to it also his effective delivery. He possesses a deep toned voice, and in his eloquent tribute to the Anglo-Saxon language was loudly applauded. He has at heart the thorough cultivation of it in our various institutions, and would, if possible, establish a chair of higher English at every institution in the country.

TUESDAY—TWENTY-FIRST DAY

In all of the beneficial exercises of the Normal School there is none which takes precedence of Prof. Ladd's lectures. The Chapel is crowded daily at 12, M., to hear his experience and instruction on school discipline. His subject for to-day was Communication and its Preventive. Never has it been our fortune to listen to a more amusing and at the same time instructive address. He seems to have a talismanic influence over his audience. Eyes glisten and countenances beam attention whenever he rises to speak. There is a fascination about his style which never wearies, but ever charms. Few men can draw together a large and appreciative audience daily for six weeks. Prof. Ladd is one of the few. We shall not attempt even a synopsis of his address to-day. It would be folly in us to do so, because that peculiar vigor and charm which he infuses into all of his speeches can not be transferred to paper. After showing the many ways in which children could and would hold communications, he suggested as a remedy that they be kept busy. Give them something fresh to do. Never let the school-room grow monotonous. Vary your exercises. Infuse life into all your works. Don't keep children in the school-room too long. Give them talking recesses. Never permit them in any manner to prompt one another on the class. Watch them closely; not obviously. "Eternal vigilance" is the price of good order.

To-night at 8 o'clock Major Seaton Gales delivered a superb address on the progress of the 19th century. Without disparagement to any of the gentlemen who have preceeded him—for we have had many excellent speeches—we must say that it was altogether the finest oration which it has been our pleasure to hear during the Normal School. In purity of diction, grace of style, and polish of delivery, Major Gales has not a superior in the State. Throughout his speech he was greeted with rounds of applause, and when he paid a passing tribute to the immortal Stonewall Jackson,—"that silent man of prayer; but very thunderbolt of war,"—even the ladies could not forbear to clap their delicate little hands. The 15th century, said he, fairly bristled with momentous events—the discovery of America, the perfection of the printing press, and the birth of Martin Luther; but even these pale before the eclipsing splendor of this century. The Suez Canal, the cable, the telegraph, the steamboat, the railroad, the phonograph, all belong to our century. But we will not mar the beauties of this splendid emanation of genius by giving its mere outlines; since it is, we hear, soon to be published in the University Magazine. Such speeches are as rare as they are rich, and we congratulate our brethren of the Mag. on their success in obtaining it.

WEDNESDAY—TWENTY-SECOND DAY.

Many distinguished visitors arrive daily to witness the proceedings of the Normal School. In addition to the regular instruction, and lectures by distinguished gentlemen, and the many other operations which are conducted, one of the greatest things which has been accomplished is the permanent organization of the North Carolina Teachers Association.

Again at 12 o'clock, Prof. Ladd delivered one of his plain, illustrative, practical lectures before the school. We would give a synopsis of it, but are compelled to devote our space to the programme for the Normal Commencement:

THE NORMAL SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT.

PROGRAMME.

Wednesday Morning.

At 9 1-2 o'clock, the Kindergarten School will assemble in the University Library, where a special programme exhibiting the full working of the Kindergarten system will be held until 12 o'clock, M.

Wednesday Night.

At 8 1-2 o'clock a Grand Vocal and Instrumental Concert will be given by the pupils of the Normal School under Profs. Eugene and Charles Wilson.

Thursday Morning.

At 9 1-2 o'clock a procession will be formed in front of the South building in the following order:

Chief Marshal.
Music.
Military Escort.
Normal Students.
Children belonging to the Kindergarten School, their Superintendent and Teachers.
Visitors.
Residents of Chapel Hill.
Members of the Press.
Officers of the N. C. Teachers' Association.
Faculty of the University of North Carolina and the Normal School, and Lecturers.
State Officers.
Trustees of the University.
Board of Education.
Representatives of the Normal School Debating Society.
President of the Normal School Debating Society.
Governor, President of the University, Superintendent of the Normal School and officiating Clergyman.

The procession will halt at the door of the Chapel, and file into it in reverse order. No one will be allowed to enter the Chapel until the procession has entered.

The following will be the order of exercises in the Chapel:—

1. A chorus by the Normal School Music Class.
2. Prayer.
3. Music.
4. Oration by C. W. Howard of Lenoir county, subject—The Eastern Question.
5. Music.
6. Essay by R. P. Pell of Orange county—subject—Not Men but Principles.
7. Music.
8. Debate—Query, "Should the State Adopt a Compulsory System of Education?"

Affirmative.—J. M. Baudy of Lincoln county; C. B. Aycock of Wayne county.

Negative.—R. S. Arrowood of Lincoln county; J. H. Small of Beaufort county.

9. Music.
10. Essay by R. E. Caldwell of Guilford county—subject—The True Nature and Object of Education.
11. Music.
12. Oration by W. R. Slade of Georgia—subject—What Shall be Done with the Indian?
13. Music.
14. Presentation of Prize.
15. Formal Closing of the School by his Excellency Gov. Z. B. Vance.
16. Closing Hymn.
17. Benediction.

At eight o'clock to-night we heard a lecture in the Chapel by Prof. C. D. Grandy on "The Spectroscope." We only wish we had sufficient space in which to give a full synopsis of his lecture.

It was especially valuable as a scientific paper, and undoubtedly proves that our *youthful and inexperienced professors* (?) are old as adepts in their departments. Prof. Grandy graduated at Lexington Virginia Military Institute with the highest honors, and by his energy has not since failed to prosecute to their greatest extent his scientific studies. Popular, young and indefatigable, he has a brilliant future before him.

THURSDAY—TWENTYTHIRD DAY.

Hon. J. C. Scarborough. This gentleman delivered to-day at 12, M. a telling lecture. He discussed the public system of our State in relation to education. The system is a poor one. The people take but little interest in the public schools, because they are so poorly managed. It appears to be nobody's business to attend to the matter. Our system of examination is a failure. The country is filled with teachers who are totally incompetent for the great work which they have undertaken. Many of our school committee-men cannot read their names. How can we expect any educational advancement under such circumstances? The Board of Commissioners constitute the county board of education. This is tacked on to their other duties and is rarely attended to. Consequently the people have become apathetic, the legislators imbibe the same sad, dangerous spirit and nothing, almost worse than nothing, is done. On all sides there is an apathy that is alarming and appalling. It is through the teachers that this must be corrected. The legislature will do nothing until the people command them. Exert every influence; arouse your people; demand of your legistors that they do more. Make it disreputable for any man who is able not to educate his children. Parents are responsible for the ignorance of their children. To refuse an education to a child is to rob him of his birth-right and the people must learn that it is necessary to educate their farmers as well as their lawyers and doctors. They must demand that the provision of the constitution requiring that the legislature by appropriate legislation and taxation provide and maintain a free public school for four months in every year be carried out. During his speech Mr. Scarborough paid a handsome compliment to the lady teachers—asserting that they were much better teachers than the men for children, and perhaps for older ones as well. We have thus given an imperfect sketch of a speech which should have its impression upon all.

To-night our efficient Commissioner of Agriculture, Col. L. L. Polk, treated the assembled Normalites to a rich intellectual repast. Col. Polk had received and accepted the invitation to speak only a day or two ago, yet we question whether his effort could have been improved upon at a month's notice. His whole speech abounded with beautiful and finished sentences which showed a scholarly polish well worthy of the distinguished position and reputation of the speaker. His subject was "what are the demands of our State upon us; and how shall we meet them.?" This is a question fraught with momentous interest to every North Carolinian. We have emerged from a bloody war scarred and smoked; we have passed through the fiery ordeal of oppression; we have seen the menial slave of yesterday made our political master to-day;—have we learned patience and perseverance? We have seen our venerated institutions handed down from sire to son for generations destroyed as by a breath—have we learned patriotism or State pride? Granting that we have learned all these, there is yet much to learn, much to unlearn. We must learn that education is the only hope of our State. Our old ship has long been tossed by the mad billows of war and fratricidal strife; but now white-winged peace is hovering over us and a "great calm has fallen on the sea." Still we need a pilot to guide us to the haven. Let us have that beautiful, symmetrical, seaworthy craft whose pennon is *Education*.

At the conclusion of Colonel Polk's speech "Carolina" was sung.