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A. F. JOHNSON, EDITOR AND MANAGER

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LOUISBURG COLLEGE COMMENCEMENT

Began on Sunday Morning and Lasted Through Wednesday.

THE VARIOUS PROGRAMMES WELL ARRANGED AND EXECUTED

The Baccalaureate Sermon Was Delivered by Dr. Gilbert Rowe, of Charlotte, and the Sermon Before the Young Woman's Christian Association Was Delivered by Dr. W. A. Stanberry, of Chapel Hill.—Literary Address by Rev. Plato Durham, of Concord.

The nineteen hundred and eleven session of Louisburg Female College closed with the commencement exercises the past week. This will be recorded as the most successful year in the history of this well known institution and reflects great credit upon its management.

The beginning of the exercises was the Annual Sermon at the Methodist church on Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. The weather was ideal and seemed as if fortune had smiled upon the occasion. The crowd from home and abroad who had gathered to hear this sermon was large and composed of Louisburg's most representative people. The services were begun by a beautiful organ solo by Miss Sallie Williams director of music of the college, after which several selections including a pretty quartette by Mrs. A. H. Fleming, Miss Cherry May Preston, Messrs. H. L. Candler and R. M. Beasley. The pastor after making the announcements connected with the commencement exercises introduced Dr. Gilbert Rowe, of Charlotte, who delivered the baccalaureate sermon to the graduating class. Dr. Rowe took his text from St. Luke 10th chapter, 41 and 42 verses. "And Jesus answered and said unto her Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things. But one thing is needful and Mary has chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her." From this text he delivered a strong, forceful and practical sermon, one of the best that has been delivered here in many years. His sermon was interesting, dealing with practical things and showed much research and study. He tried to impress upon the minds of the young ladies the importance of the common things in life and contrasted this with the effect of the frivolities and misdirected efforts of life. That it was too easy for us to forget our soul in the multitude of business activities. He pictured very strongly the advantage of organizing life's forces in order to master the circumstances of life and paid his respects to the beauty of girls, but also pointed out that the prettiest of these was not the ones who had merely beauty of form or appearance, but the one who has the pretty, easy, self possessed manners that is found in the time honored sentence "pretty is as pretty does." Among the needful things, enumerated by him, was absolute faith in Almighty God, the kind that puts everyone perfectly at ease with all things on high. He also made it clear that religion brings schools, but never does schools bring religion. He closed his remarks by saying that culture never produces religion, therefore he earnestly appealed to them that as they were preparing to take up the duties of life by all means remember their duty to God. It was a strong sermon and was greatly appreciated by the large number present.

Sunday evening at 8.30 o'clock at the Methodist church was the occasion of the sermon before the Young Women's Christian Association of the College. This sermon was delivered by Dr. W. A. Stanberry, of Chapel Hill, and was a strong and impressive one. He took for his text the first of the ten Commandments, Exodus 20-3 "Thou shalt have no other Gods before thee," and used righteousness and selfishness for his subject. He pointed out the fact with force that to be selfish was not to be religious or righteous nor would it make one popular with friends but would cause them to detract in nature instead of to expand as was divinely intended. His sermon contained much thought and was listened to by a large and appreciative audience.

At this service special music had been selected and rendered among which was a vocal solo "Abide With Me" by Mr. R. M. Beasley, which was also greatly enjoyed.

Monday's trains were thronged with "old girls" returning in honor of the alumnae reunion and banquet, and these girls of other days if they had cared at all, left them behind and en-

tered whole-hearted into the joys of returned school days. The annual banquet was held on Monday evening at the Lancaster hotel presided over by Mrs. J. S. Barrow, the esteemed President of the Alumnae Association, whose charming personality lent dignity and ease to the occasion. After a greeting and a welcome to the new members of the Alumnae Association the toast mistress proposed a quaker meeting—that is an opportunity for those present to speak if the spirit moved them—and the spirit has a way of moving women's tongues when everything is lonely. Short toasts to the toast mistress the absent, etc., followed in rapid succession until the following was proposed:

Some hae meat and canna' eat,
And some wud eat who want it;
But we hae meat and we can eat,
So let us be about it.

An elegant eight course banquet followed throughout which bright toasts and fair women made it a memorable occasion. The toasts all applied to the college or women. They were as follows:

To The Class of 1911—Miss Mary Stuart Egerton.
Our Husbands—Read by Miss May Holmes.
The Evolution of Women—Mrs. M. C. Pleasant.
The Path Finders—Miss Maggie Floyd.
The Blayed Trail—Mrs. J. E. Malone.
The Alumnae—Miss Edna Allen.

There were some absent this time whose presence usually adds much to the pleasure of others, among the number were, Miss Cora Bagley the very efficient Secretary of the Alumnae Association, Mrs. J. E. Malone, Mrs. E. C. Jones, a sudden illness made necessary the absence of Mrs. Malone, the other two were not in town. Mrs. Malone's toast, "The Blazed Trail" was read by Miss Mattie Ballard.

On Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock in the College Chapel was the occasion of the Art exhibit. In this a number of pictures were displayed showing that a masters hand had played a great part in training the minds and hands of the many students of this profession. This department is under the management of Miss Matilda Foster, who has won an enviable reputation in her chosen work. Her intricate knowledge of art has been reflected through the students who have had the good fortune to be under her and a decided personality was evident in each production on exhibition. Quite a large number of our people were present to treat their mind's eye to the many pretty reproductions.

After the hour for the art exhibit and at five o'clock on the same afternoon the class day exercises were held on the campus. Everything had been nicely arranged on the south side of the campus for this occasion and the weather was ideal. Although the sun had been shining bright and hot all day it seemed to take on the life of the evening and hide its face for an hour to lend comfort to the occasion. After the procession of the pretty school girls to the impromptu stage. The exercises were opened with a song composed by Miss Mattie E. Martin of the class of 1911 entitled "Hail Louisburg College." The song was well composed and the singing was much enjoyed. The programme was then taken up by the reading of the class history by Miss Maggie Floyd, which was a paper that was well written and very interesting. It contained paragraphs, that at the time of their occurrence were not very pleasant, but are now matters of much interest and amusement to the young ladies, and also gave the undergraduates an incite to what they might expect by the time they became graduates. The prophecy by Miss Matthe Martin was indeed an excellent piece of work. The paper had been so arranged that it was full of fun and life and at the same time threw out "hints" to the young ladies that would be both profitable and elevating. It gave to each their share of good things, but informed them they would have their share of the bitterness in life's pathway sufficient to cause

them to more fully appreciate the better ones. Miss Mamie Dickens presented the College with a nice divan and two chairs in mahogany and beautifully upholstered, a present from the class to their alma mater. As all things come in their own sweet time, so the time had now come when the girls should have a chance to even up, in a good natured way, any old scores between them and the faculty, which was done in a most interesting and amusing manner. It was in "the last will and testament of the class of 1911" by Miss Jessie Flythe that the girls made use of their privilege and it was a paper that deserves much credit. It was a document that gave evidence of much thought, study and effort and the local hits were fine. The respects of the class were paid to all in a most masterful manner. This concluded part one of the programme after which part two was ushered in with the witches scene from MacBeth. This was indeed pretty. A huge pot had been suspended around which the girls all marched or danced and deposited their treasures, which was saturated and the act of burning gone through with. After this interesting scene the class of 1912 was ushered in and installed with very pretty and interesting ceremonies, after which the valedictory address was read by Miss Evelyn Clarke. This was a masterful piece of literature and, although joyful of the thoughts of going home, pictured the sad partings of the girls with their school days and college associates. The entire programme was well arranged and well executed and the class deserve to be congratulated upon their selection as a motto: "Virtue alone, ennobles."

The recital by the school of expression was had at the Opera House on Tuesday evening in the presence of a large audience. This was under the supervision of Misses Dickens and Williams and was an enjoyable success. The programme was well arranged and the young ladies did credit to themselves and their instructors. Two features deserve especial mention in the fact of the beauty of scene and splendid performance, however leaving no reflection upon any, as the entire evening's programme was especially good. These two were first the pink drill by fourteen little girls, their acting was fine and their time was perfect. The second was the naids. This was indeed beautiful in the whole and was composed of a number of young ladies who formed themselves in many pretty groups which together with the effect of the colored lights presented scenes of extreme beauty. The programme for the evening was as follows:

May Day—Cantata.
I Choosing the Queen—Chorus, With Baritone, Tenor and Bass Solos.
II The Hunt's Up—Chorus.
III The Queen's Greeting—Recitative and Song With a Burden.
IV—May Pole Dance.
V The Revels—Chorus.
Pink Drill, Primary Class—Maria Irish.
Wise and Foolish Virgins, Bible—A. Tennyson.
The Naids' Expression Class—E. A. Middleton.

The graduating exercises were held in the College Chapel at 10:30 Wednesday morning. After pretty vocal and instrumental music and a number of announcements relative to the next session of this well known College each member of the graduating class was presented a diploma and a Bible. After these had been presented the following medals were awarded:

English and Latin—Miss Evelyn Clarke.
Mathematics—Miss Mary Hayes.
Music—Miss Julia Wetherington.
Scholarship—Miss Mary Phelps.
Prizes were offered in other studies and were won by the following:
For Musical History—Miss Clyde Singleton.

The winning of these medals and prizes denote study and hard work, and reflects credit upon the winners. It is an honor sought by all and the recipients should feel proud of the distinction.

The Annual Address, by Rev. Plato Durham, of Concord, N. C., on Wednesday morning, was a masterpiece. His theme "North Carolina Literature" was peculiarly fitting to one with such literary attainments as that of the speaker. His command of the English language together with his familiarity of the works and lives of the World's Literary Geniuses made this selection a most charming one for the occasion.

The English race, said he, has given to the world the absolute masterpiece in literature, and while through our very veins this self-same blood continues to flow, yet for some unknown reason we have almost become silent and inactive in the literary world. Our Southland has given to literature of the nation two great voices, but in

North Carolina there is still to come a masterpiece in this important field. We have not only inherited the blood of Masters of expression as well as the blood of master builders but we live in the most beautiful spot in the world. And while it is true that inheritance and beauty without something to tell are not alone producers of literature, yet we can boast of the fact that North Carolina's resources are not so limited; for in addition to the treasured inheritance, grandeur and beauty there remains yet to be told by a masterpiece the story of our early settlers, the strugglers of our forefathers, the visions of our grand-mothers and thousands of other fabrics that could be interwoven into masterpieces. All that is needed is the appearance of a genius. And while we ourselves cannot create a genius, yet it is within our province to make ready for his coming, to make his part easy when he arrives. This we can do by cultivating a true sense of the value of literature, by knowing and appreciating its real genuine worth. This is of the utmost importance, for if we would live with the heritage of mankind we must live through literature.

We North Carolinians are prone to look upon and think of literature and poetry simply as evidence of culture; something to know, something to quote and something to feel proud of. That does not go far enough. We should contribute some song to be sung by nations yet unborn, we should add to the nice treasury of our mother tongue some masterpiece of literature that will go ringing through the ages.

In closing the speaker paid a most beautiful and splendid tribute to the lamented Jno. Charles McNeal and to Isaac Irvin Avery. North Carolina, said he, is most unhappy because of their departure.

On Wednesday evening at 8:30 o'clock in the College Chapel an immense audience had gathered to witness the grand concert or the closing exercises of the commencement. This feature of the commencement each year is always looked forward to with much pleasure and anticipation. It is always of a high excellence and is greatly enjoyed by the many who attended.

The programme was well arranged and full of pretty music, fine recitations and excellent singing. The perfect rendition of the many pieces gave evidence of the splendid training they had received and careful preparation of the students for the occasion. Where the entire programme was good and well executed we feel that special mention is due little Misses Mary Exum Burt and Beatrice Turner in the splendid rendition of their instrumental duet, and also the recitation "Sam's Letter," by Miss Laetitia Midgett. This recitation was splendid and owing to its peculiar composition was extremely difficult to recite, however she mastered it with ease and did credit unto herself. The many repeated encores was sufficient to prove the appreciation of the audience, of the evenings entertainment and the fact that it was the recital of Miss Sallie Williams music class and Miss Preston's vocal class is sufficient to assure the public of the success of the evening program. The reputation of these young ladies as masters in their departments is too well known to need our comment and when their names are announced in connection with programmes their success is always conceded.

The commencement exercises as a whole were a glorious success and continues to show great strides of advancement in educational lines. The present management should feel congratulated upon the success of the past session and we bespeak for it continued progress in the future. Its officers and faculty have shown a decided capacity in the management and the Board of Trustees are to be congratulated upon securing their services for another session.

The Marshals were as follows: Chief—Miss Mary Hayes assisted by Mr. Cade Hayes. Assistants—Misses Clyde Singleton and Julia Wetherington assisted by Messrs. Jones Macon and D. P. Smithwick.

REPORT OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees held their meeting in the parlors of the college on Wednesday morning. Their report showed the year just closing to be a very satisfactory one.

All the members of the present faculty were re-elected except Miss Roberta Dickens, who, upon request, was granted a year of absence. Miss Dickens will spend the year in New England. She will rest a few months and then take up an advanced course of study along her special line in some University. Her return will be hailed with delight as she is quite popular both with the faculty and the student body. Her successor will be selected.

(Continued on eighth page)

CLOSING AT GRADED SCHOOL

The Sixth Session the Most Successful One In Its History.

MR. R. D. W. CONNOR DELIVERS INTERESTING AND INSTRUCTIVE ADDRESS

Exercises Began on Thursday Afternoon With a Debate in the Literary Society and Reading Essays of the Graduating Class—Concert Under Direction of Mrs. J. S. Barrow, Friday Night.

The closing exercises of the Louisburg Graded School began on Thursday afternoon at 4 o'clock with a joint debate in the Matthew S. Davis Literary Society at which time the graduating class composed of Misses Jessie Taylor Harris, Mattie and Ora Lee Jones, Genevieve Thomas and Mr. Raymond Taylor read their essays. Through the courtesy of the society the graduates were extended the first use of the meeting and their essays were interesting and well prepared, although the time for their preparation had been rendered very short. The young people presented themselves well and did credit to themselves and their school. It was evident they had received the most careful instruction of an efficient corps of teachers. Miss Ora Lee Jones' paper treated of the wonderful growth of the school and contained many interesting facts that had been overlooked by the average citizen. Misses Harris' essay on class history and Mattie Jones' on class prophecy were rich and interesting and in the valedictory address of Miss Thomas she did much credit to both herself and her school. Mr. Taylor's, the class poet paper, was entitled "Best-Mills" and much amusement was created at the expense of the Superintendent and Professor. The papers were all fine and did much credit to their authors.

After the reading of the essays the President of the Society, Mr. Smithwick, called the meeting to order and the Secretary read the query for the discussion:

"Resolved, That strikes are justifiable." Messrs. Thomas Ruffin and Russell Harris were given the affirmative and Raymond Taylor and Henry Strickland the negative side of the question. The discussions that followed showed to the people of Louisburg that in all probability some one of the members of this Society will make the name of his town and State famous. The judges Messrs. Green, Fleming and Thomas decided that Mr. Ruffin made the best speech of the evening and that the negative won the debate. The people of Louisburg are justly proud of the record her sons are making in this society and wish for it a most brilliant future.

Friday morning was the occasion of the literary address by Mr. R. D. W. Connor, Secretary of the North Carolina Historical Association, when quite a large number of our people had gathered in the spacious Auditorium to partake of the treat that was in store for them. At the appointed hour the exercises were opened by an instrumental duet "Militaire Caprice" from J. Leybach by Misses Julia Barrow and Ruby Lancaster, after which Rev. R. W. Bailey, of the Methodist church, lead in prayer.

Mr. W. H. Ruffin, in behalf of the Board of Trustees, made a very interesting statement regarding the financing of the school and the interest the members of the Board had taken in the affairs of the school, all of which reflected great credit upon the excellent management they had rendered. In his statement he showed where they were making every cent of the taxes of the people carry its full proportion of the burden and assured the patrons of the fact that the Board would use the same tax levy this year imposed last year, which will be remembered is a neat reduction, however this will in no way reduce the efficiency of the school. He announced to the extreme satisfaction of the audience that the Board had re-engaged the same efficient Superintendent and corps of teachers for the coming year. Their services need no commendation on our part as their work shines out as evidence of their efficiency, as no words could so forcibly express. After making the above reports Mr. Ruffin, in his usual easy and graceful manner, presented, with a few appropriate remarks, the Certificates of Proficiency to the Graduating Class, Misses Jessie Taylor Harris, Mattie and Ora Lee Jones, Genevieve Thomas and Mr. Raymond Taylor.

Supt. W. R. Mills then addressed the audience in a few remarks that gave a finishing results in the advancement of the school and its aims. From his re-

marks we take the following facts:				
1906-6	Enrollment	205	Average attendance	138
1906-7	"	232	"	140
1907-8	"	232	"	154
1908-9	"	261	"	177
1909-10	"	256	"	178
1910-11	"	263	"	198

"The number of tardies has grown less each year. During the first year it was no uncommon thing for a teacher to report as many as 100 tardies in her room in one month. During the past year the number of tardies was small, in one or two rooms sometimes not a one was reported for an entire month." "At the close of the year just ended twelve pupils received certificates certifying that they had not been absent or tardy during the year as follows: Aubrey Waddell, David McKinne, Williamson Beasley, Clifford Smith, James Allen, Joseph Hale, Charles Cooke, John Harris, Annie Bell King, Roxie Harris, Cheatham Alston, William White."

"The matter of being late at school seems to become a fixed habit with some children. The teacher soon learns where to expect tardies. On the other hand being on time becomes a fixed habit with a few children. In this school there are perhaps a dozen boys and girls who have never been late."

At the close of his remarks he made an earnest appeal to the parents to assist himself and the teachers in reducing the tardies and pointing out that as 'punctuality in business was the secret of business success so was punctuality in the attendance upon school and things pertaining thereto the secret of a successful education.'

As in most other things so it was in this—the best had been saved till last. At the conclusion of Supt. Mills remarks Senator B. T. Holden came forward and introduced the speaker of the day. In his remarks he fully equipped the audience for what was in store for them and his presentation of Mr. Connor was pretty. Mr. Connor came forward and after a few complimentary remarks toward the school and its management he entered into his subject "North Carolina's past" and did full justice to it. Never before have we heard the past history of our State so largely enumerated and so beautifully pictured. Mr. Connor has it on his fingers ends and tells it in most interesting language. It would have been almost impossible for even the most distant person toward history to have heard him without it creating a burning desire to read the history of our glorious State which will in all probability be published by him in the near future. To the average person it would possibly seem that for poetic, romantic and honorable deeds old North Carolina stands far in the back ground, but from the many incidents which are truly facts cited by him she is deserving a place in the front rank, and as sure as truth cannot be crushed she will soon take her place in the very front. Among his illustrations was the Boston tea party which he said a similar occurrence took place at Wilmington two years before only that the brave men of North Carolina made their demands without being disguised, and to the record of the brave soldiers of the State who received the commendation of Gen. R. E. Lee at the surrender. He also mentioned several instances illustrating the noble and heroic deeds of our noble women. They have truly played a great part in the progress of the State. His contrast of the State three hundred years ago and of today were such as would make anyone feel proud of the fact that they were a North Carolinian. At the close of his address he turned to the graduating class and said: "This then is my message to you today: Remember that you do not have to go back to the days of Greece and Rome to seek for inspiration in the heroic deeds of brave men; and that Thermopole and Bunker Hill and Waterloo were not the only places where men have fought and died for liberty. Here in North Carolina, your own fathers have performed deeds that would have enabled Greece and Rome in their best days, and have won victories for the liberty and uplift of mankind that deserve to be enrolled among the world's great deeds along with Macedonia." (Continued on eighth page.)