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WEDNESDAY, July 2, 1879.

All communications or letters for publication should be addressed to Biblical Recorder, Raleigh, N. C.

READ THIS.

With this number of the Recorder ends the 43rd volume. New mailing books will be opened with the beginning of volume forty-four.

Don't forget the importance of practicing at home the love, patience and discipline that you preach abroad.

Why speak if you have nothing to say, even though you have been called upon—golden silence is better than leaden words.

Singing schools are all right, provided the little children are not overlooked and forgotten when singing time comes in the Sunday School.

The Examiner and Chronicle of New York has had a weekly circulation of 27,329 during the past six months. A matter for congratulation even to such an able paper.

Bro. Chas. S. Farris, a Wake Forest student, occupied the pulpit of Swain St. Baptist church on Sunday morning last, and Rev. A. D. Blackwood filled the same at night.

Prepare your sermons of your sermons will prepare you—for traveling around to find somebody to hear them. Trusting to the occasion and your impressions may not be in with.

Don't forget when harvest time comes that your pastor's heart would be cheered by a barrel of corn or a sack of flour just as much as an ordinary man. Preachers are like other folks after all.

The Recorder is under special obligations to our country pastors for extending its circulation. Just received a letter from a brother that sends a club of six from one of his churches into there are already going 20 copies.

BETTERS make two sermons from a text that you cannot get over in a half hour, or else much of it will be delivered to many who, between nodding and sleeping, will fall to hear any part of it to profit.

CHOWAN BAPTIST FEMALE INSTITUTE.

The Commencement of this, the oldest Baptist female college in the State, took place on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of last week. Of the Chowan Institute it is needless for us to say much, as every Baptist in Virginia and North Carolina, who has taken any interest in the progress of his denomination, or at all informed himself in our educational matters, has heard of the college or realized some of the benefits of its extended influence.

debt, in fine working order in all its departments, thoroughly equipped and manned, and prepared for the earnest years of prosperity and success we all, with reason, anticipate for it.

As announced in our report of the Chowan Association, the stockholders transferred the property in the Institute to a Board of Trustees appointed by the Association. This transfer was consummated on Tuesday, and the buildings and grounds were leased by the Board of Trustees to President McDowell. Dr. McDowell will, we are assured, continue the school with its present facilities and on the quiet orderly method which has proven so acceptable to the friends of female education.

Of all men, the President of the Chowan Baptist Female Institute is the most guileless, unselfish, gentle and unobtrusive. We have sometimes wished that he was just a little more persistent, if not personal, in his plans and aims for the advancement of the college. The Faculty of the college is about as well known as its President. Most of them have filled the positions they now occupy for years.

The art department is in the hands of Miss Ella Gester, a young lady whose natural talent for painting and wax work early led her to a cultivation of the arts, and have now been cultivated by careful study in some of the best schools of the North, till she is one of the most successful and accomplished teachers in her department.

We did not reach Murfreesboro in time to hear the address of Mr. B. B. Winborne before the Literary Societies on Monday evening. Mr. Winborne is a promising young lawyer, and everybody expected him to make the young ladies a good speech, which he did, taking for his subject, "American Literature."

Tuesday was spent by the Board of Trustees in arranging for the future prosperity of the college. At 8 o'clock p. m. a large audience assembled in the chapel to hear the Annual Sermon by Rev. Dr. Humpham, of Scotland Neck. Dr. Humpham chose for his text the first clause of the 7th verse of the 2nd chapter of I. Peter: "Unto you, therefore, which believe he is precious."

Lizzie Avery, Mary Avera, Emma C. Baker, Lizzie Biddle, Julia Y. Moore, Lucy Peterson and Nannie E. Shaw, were sessions. Mattie E. Baker, one session. Bettie E. Phillips and Peggie N. Prince, four sessions. Lou H. Smith, eight sessions.

After the reading of the essays of the graduating class, the annual address was delivered by Maj. Robert Bingham, of Mebaneville, N. C., on "Some Pivots in History." Major Bingham is a thorough scholar, and capable, as he showed on this occasion, of both entertaining and pleasing the literary public. His address was highly complimented by all who heard it.

At 8 o'clock, p. m., Wednesday, the graduating exercises took place in the chapel. The young ladies, whose names appear above, each received a diploma, after which the usual programme of annual concert was varied by giving the public in its stead a Cantata, "The Flower Queen." The "flowers" looked as beautiful as nature's own, and after much consultation among themselves they selected and crowned Miss Julia W. Moore, as their queen. The young ladies taking part in the same are as follows:

Rose, Miss J. Moore; Recluse, Miss Phillips; Sunflower, Miss Griffin; Snowdrop, Miss R. McDowell; Dahlia, Miss Powell; Lily, Miss Asker; Morning Glories, Miss R. Prince; Sweet Peas, Miss J. Prince; Violet, Miss Pope; Clematis, Miss J. Prince; Heliotrope, Miss Worrell; Tulip, Miss Jones; Dandelion, Miss P. Prince; Touch me not, Miss G. Spencer; Poppies, Misses Brinn, E. Prince and Council; Heather Bells, Misses Holland, Webb and C. Spencer.

The entire programme was well rendered. Good order prevailed, and almost everybody seemed to be pleased. Mrs. Myrick, who had so faithfully taught her classes through the session, and who had arranged the programme for the musical concert of Wednesday evening, was taken sick on Wednesday morning, and on the first time in her connection with the institution failed to meet her engagement. Her place was admirably filled by her assistant, Miss Annie Asker, who, to the satisfaction of everybody, and with credit, assumed the responsibilities of the hour and rendered the evening's entertainment a splendid success, which will, to all music teachers at least, demonstrate her capacity and readiness as a performer.

OUR CHILDREN AND THEIR EDUCATION.

Very few parents have failed of interest, to some extent at least, in the education of their children. Every parent, worthy of the name, loves his child and wishes to see it educated and useful. The poor of the land have made noble sacrifices for their children's education, and many of the most worthy and honored of our public men have thus acquired the means and attainments that have won for them wealth and distinction.

children are in their way. But the facts memorized are comparatively useless, while the long hours of strict confinement are exceedingly damaging to the children's constitutions. Many a man and woman has reached maturity only to die of disease contracted in the crowded, unventilated school-room and from hardships imposed by a senseless school teacher.

It is after all better that a boy or girl should reach maturity well and fully developed physically, than to be an educated invalid. We exceedingly doubt the propriety of shutting our children up in a school-room six or eight hours a day, at any period of their lives; and it certainly should not be done when they are young.

Neither do we believe in sending mere boys to college. A college is a school for men, and a university is a school for men who are preparing themselves for the learned professions. Boys should be kept at home and under the control of their parents until their characters are formed and settled. To send a boy off to college or to the university is an exceedingly dangerous experiment.

The ratio of ministers to churches among the principal denominations in this country is said to be as follows: The Baptists have 23,908 churches and 14,599 ministers; the Methodists Episcopal Church, 15,099 churches and 11,267 ministers; the Congregationalists, 5,508 churches and 3,338 ministers; the Presbyterians, 5,120 churches and 4,801 ministers; the Episcopalians, 4,700 churches and 3,380 ministers; and the Catholics, 3,298 churches and 4,973 ministers.

and the universities charge less than the teacher of the academy or high school does, then the people will send their small boys who should be in the academy to the universities and by so doing damage or destroy the little schools and academies as well as cripple the colleges. The high schools and academies are worth more to the people of the State than are its colleges and universities.

Dr. Tucker and Henderson, of the Georgia Index, with writers in the Alabama Baptist, the S. C. Courier, and other papers of the South and West have bewailed the smallness of the contributions of Southern Baptists to the cause of Missions, especially Foreign Missions.

The Rev. C. H. Wiley told me sometime since that a Presbyterian Missionary, writing from China, said that Dr. M. T. Yates was physically, mentally and morally at the head of the Protestant Missionaries of that country; of whom there are several hundred.

Thomas Alexander, in his "Game Birds of the United States," the best book I have ever read on hunting, Donnelly, Cassatt & Lloyd, Chicago, price 20 cents, says as to handling a gun. Be careful you do not get your feet in the muzzle of your gun. A very slight impediment near the muzzle will, almost certainly cause the barrel to burst. It may seem incredible that a handful of light snow, for example, forced into the muzzle, will cause a barrel to burst that can usually withstand the force of an unlimited number of heavy charges, but it is nevertheless a fact.

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too many ministers, and therefore, grow red in educating others. The country is sadly wanting in successful, or if you please, effective ministers. More of the right sort are needed and can always be had. Spurgeon says, he thinks he is doing well, if one out of three of his young ministers becomes a really useful man. We have done a great deal better than that at Wake Forest.

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was the Bible. Through life he always carried a Bible with him on his journeys, and almost every day, his Secretary says, made fresh notes on the margin. He knew by heart almost the entire text; for he had a prodigious memory, and yet seemed always to read with as much attention and interest as if he had never read it before. His preaching abounds in felicitous Scripture quotation and remark. And who can tell how much this passion for Scripture, beginning with Isaiah, did to foster his eloquence—to develop that chastened splendor, that subdued, but sublime, magnificence of imagery and diction which makes him the very perfection of the best kind of French eloquence? This story of his reading the Bible might remind one of Luther and it is to be noticed that these greatest of Catholic preachers all showed loving familiarity with the Bible. But the difference also is great and characteristic. Luther found his strength and faith learned from it justification by faith; Luther found the book of Isaiah and was fascinated by its poetry. And through his life difference was made. Luther drew from the Bible sublime sentiments; Luther drew from it the central truths, the very life blood of the Gospel of salvation.

PERSONAL & OTHER ITEMS.

Bro. H. L. Davis, of Wilmington, says: "Our pastor was away last week, and Bro. W. T. Jones, a student of Wake Forest College, filled his pulpit on last Sabbath, much to the satisfaction of all who heard him."

Bro. A. L. Stough, in a note of the 25th, says: "We have one of the most interesting meetings here I have ever attended." The meeting continues with increased interest. The house cannot accommodate all that want to hear. Frequently large numbers fail to get in. 40 persons have made a profession; 17 baptized, 5 males and 12 females. Others are expected to join this morning. We have conversions at nearly every service, and an increase of penitents, a large number of whom are heads of families. Very few boys and girls among the number.

Friday the 13th Sabbath was a happy day with the Sabbath School under the first care of Riley's Creek in Wake county. On that day the general public gave a dinner at the church for the teachers and scholars who for twelve long months through heat and cold had met on each Sabbath at the house of God for the purpose of giving and receiving instruction in the things which make for their eternal peace.

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nate in the selection of their subjects, "The Perils of State Disunion," and "Bismarck" were the themes presented.

The hakeney theme of repentation did not receive much applause, not because the speaker did not say many good things and say them well, but because the Virginia people are worn out with speeches on this subject. "Bismarck" was too Germanistic for some of us and we knew so little of him and his history that it was hard to keep interested in the speaker. Still this oration was pronounced by an A. S. M.ator for college as able. The "Salutary" and "Valdatory" were both good. They sparkled with wit and were received with hearty approbation by the vast audiences.

The next feature in the programme was the presentation of Society Medals by Judge Geo. L. Christian. After a factitious allusion to the speaker who had just preceded him, he intimated that Dr. Broadus had made his (Judge's) speech, but would not claim the distinction for a short time, and proceeded to make a most admirable speech, bristled in chaste language, full of happy hits and abounding with sound advice. In conclusion he presented medals to the following gentlemen: Best debaters, E. H. Holland and A. P. Staples; best writers, W. T. Hudgins and M. B. Curry; improvement in debate, W. B. Hainlip and Geo. C. Knudick.

The Commencement exercises proper took place on Friday night. A large and brilliant audience was present. Prof. E. P. Payne, L. D. Chairman of the Faculty, presided. The "Woods Medal" for best declaimer was presented to Mr. J. W. Fleet, of King and Queen, by S. B. Witt, Esq. The "Steel Medal" was received by Mr. H. P. McCormick, of London, from the hands of Rev. Thos. Hume, Jr. This medal was founded by Dr. Geo. B. Steel, of this city, and is given to the best reader. Rev. Moses D. Hoge, D.D., of the Presbyterian church, delivered the Frances Gwin Medal to Mr. Boife E. Glover, of Richmond, the best student in Philosophy, and in very interesting and instructive speech. He closed by saying substantially that there was doubtless some special young lady who with him agreed that a medal was a good thing, but he was sure she was saying that, "The medal is nothing to the man who wears it."

The past session of the college has been a very successful one. There were ten graduates in the Law School, two Bachelors of Arts and four Masters of Arts. The streets leading to the college have undergone great improvement since the last Commencement, and will continue to be still further improved. The Board of Trustees of the College conferred the degree of D. D. on Rev. T. C. Crawford, of China. It is supposed that Rev. B. H. Griffith, the beggar of reputation in your State, who is working for the Southern Baptist Seminary in this city now, and who will probably continue here in this work for a month to come, will secure bonds for at least ten thousand dollars from the Richmond Baptists. But this amount is small for a city of such numerous wealthy Baptist population, and this sum will not meet the wishes of the sanguine friends of the Seminary for Richmond, by at least one half of the expected amount.