

COMMENCEMENT BEGUN.

PLEASANT AFFAIR AT THE COLLEGE LAST NIGHT.

INTERESTING PROGRAM BY THE UNDER GRADUATES.

The Art Levee Yesterday Afternoon a Beautiful Display—Some of the More Prominent.

From Daily Citizen June 7. The chapel at the Asheville Female College was crowded to overflowing last night—the occasion of the annual entertainment of the under graduates.

As early as eight o'clock the guests began to arrive and a half hour later all of the chairs had been taken and many were standing near the walls.

Prayer was offered by Rev. H. L. Boyer and the program opened with the fairy cantata of Cinderella arranged especially for soprano and alto voices.

Miss Love Hilliard sang the title role in a highly pleasing manner. Miss Stella Hargan looked charming and sang the part of the White Bird to the satisfaction of every one in the house.

1. Prologue (Chorus of angels and alto solo) "Angel Mother Ever Near Thee."

2. Duet—Cinderella and the White Bird (soprano and alto) "O'er thy Grave, Mother."

3. Trio—"The Wicked Sisters and Cinderella. (Two sopranos and alto), Cinderella—Cinderella."

4. Cinderella's Song, (soprano) "My Sisters for the Ball Prepare."

5. The Fairy Birds and Cinderella (chorus and soprano solo) "High in the Ether Blue."

6. The White Bird's Song (alto) "Under the Hazel Tree."

7. The Virgin's Fete (chorus and alto solo) "A Dazzling Throng of Ladies Fair."

8. Song—Cinderella's Joy (soprano) "So Sweet the Rose Breath is Wafted Along."

9. Finale—(Chorus and alto solo) "Hate and Envy, both Defied."

Part second opened with a well executed piano quartette menuet by Misses Bessie Cannon, Maude Yarborough, Maude McCollum and Daisy Sawyer.

The violin solo, "Caliph of Bagdad," was so prettily played by Miss Annie Zachary that the audience demanded a repetition.

Miss Bessie Reeves told about the heroism of a newsboy in a recitation entitled "Jerry." It was one of the most pleasant features of the evening.

A humorous recitation by Miss Willie Ray, "Irish Kate on the Chinese Question," was well done, and the program was closed with a tambourine drill by twenty-six young ladies of the calisthenic class.

The names of the participants are as follows: Mary Alexander, Sallie Alexander, Mary Atkins, Dottie Atkinson, Lillie Atkinson, Ada Barham, Martha Barwald, Carrie Furman, Blanche Featherstone, Nellie Hynson, Ellen Penland, Willie Ray, Bessie Reeves, Bonnie Reeves, Artie Rice, Daisy Sawyer, Bessie Smith, Louise Smith, Anna Smith, Maggie Smith, Ella Sharp, Carrie Sprinkle, Glennie Tomlinson, Edith Ward, Gertrude Wilbur and Maude Yarborough.

At its conclusion the audience dispersed. Today there are no exercises. Tomorrow the baccalaureate sermon will be preached at the Central Methodist church by Bishop Fitzgerald, and on Monday night will be the annual musical

concert. Tuesday evening the commencement proper will take place.

The college halls were well filled with appreciative observers yesterday afternoon. The special attraction was the art display in the second hall the walls of which were covered with the work of the art students.

Groups No. 1, by Miss H. Tate and No. 2, by Miss Kincaid, both of Tennessee, were the centre of attraction. Miss Tate's marine piece and Miss Kincaid's anticipations were highly praised.

Group No. 6, by Miss Allie Johnston was conspicuous for its life size crayon portraits of Rev. James Atkins and Gen. R. E. Lee. Miss Holloway's screen, in group No. 7, was unique and attracted a large share of attention.

Miss Mary Luther's water-falls, group No. 12, attracted favorable notice. The Castle on the Rhine, group No. 13, by Miss Carrie Nichols was quite picturesque.

Miss Carrie Reynolds, was highly spoken of. Miss Natalie Scale's China plaque and large mirror were much noticed for their fine work.

The committee to decide upon which picture should receive the medal here made their report President Barker, but it will not be known until Tuesday evening when the medal will be awarded.

A PLEASANT MUSICAL.

The Recital at the Asheville Female College.

The seating capacity of the Asheville Female College chapel was tested to its utmost last night to accommodate the audience present to hear the annual concert. It was given by the young ladies and their instructors, and was an exceedingly pleasant affair from first to last.

The entertainment was opened by prayer by Rev. C. M. Campbell, pastor of Riverside Methodist church. The first number on the program was a piano quartette—Chouer des Soldats, from Faust. It was rendered by Misses Maggie Love, Gertrude Wilbur, Ida Blackburn and Ada Lindsey, and was not only well received but called forth much applause.

A piano solo—song without words—was next on the program, and was played by Miss Mamie Garrett. Her performance was perfect, and shows a great deal of well cultivated talent, which is added to by the skill of touch of which she is possessed to a remarkable degree.

The piano quartette, "Marche Militaire," by Misses Mary Love Stringfield, Ida Holloway, Annie Pleasant and Hattie Kincaid was well rendered. Miss Love Hilliard played as a solo "Mondscheinfahrt," by Bendel. She received a hearty round of applause, and responded to the encore with a bow, but refused to play.

Part second was opened by Morceau, for twelve hands, "Oberon," and was rendered by Misses Addie Charles, Ida Hopkins, Glennie Tomlinson, Allie Johnston, Mamie Proudfoot and Natalie Scales.

The piano solo, "La Fileuse" by Miss Ella Scales, was finely rendered and brought forth much applause. The vocal duet, "Pleasures on the Water," sung by Misses Stella Hargan, soprano, and Mary Love Stringfield, alto, was beautiful. A piano solo, by Miss Hettie Kincaid, accompanied in the orchestral parts by Miss Lillie Way was next on the program, and was well received. The reap-

pearance of Miss Love Hilliard, was received with applause. She sang "Fiore de Margherita." Her voice is clear and sufficiently strong to fill the entire hall. She was encored. The Misses Burmeister then rendered a duo, for two pianos and their playing was up to their usual excellent standard.

Greenboro is threatened with a prohibition paper. C. C. Daniels, of the Wilson Advance, is also attorney for the town.

Mr. David Plonk, of Gaston county, claims to have read the Bible 104 times. The Raleigh Knights of Pythias will soon visit their brother knights at Durham.

The Methodist parsonage at Clinton was sold at auction the other day and brought \$725.

The Statesville Landmark is certainly one of the best weekly papers on THE CITIZEN'S exchange list.

Last year Mr. D. O. Botts realized \$227 from his peach crop at Toisnot. This year it is a failure.

Geo. F. Davidson, of Old Fort, is now said to be the oldest living graduate of the State University. He received his sheepskin in 1823.

A cloud burst occurred at Washington, Beaufort county, and rain fell to a depth of 4.43 inches. Hail and high wind accompanied the squall.

Harry Skinner, of Greenville, is freely mentioned as successor to Judge Whitaker as chairman of the State executive committee of the democratic party.

Many points are trying after the Western North Carolina conference's next session. Concord, Asheville and Salisbury are the most important candidates.

A proposition to issue \$20,000 worth of bonds is now being considered by the business men of Monroe, and were it submitted to vote the indications are that it would pass by a large majority.

The house of a colored man near Williamson was struck by lightning and burned. In the house were five negroes. Two ran out and escaped. The others, a girl nearly grown and two small children, were killed and their bodies consumed in the burning building.

In the United States circuit court at Raleigh the grand jury found three true bills against W. H. Robinson, of Warren county, for using the mails for fraudulent purposes. He advertised extensively for one dollar, and made many victims. The evidence against him is clear.

Col. Dillard has a remarkable dog. He pays no attention to the ringing of Baptist, Episcopal or Presbyterian bells, neither does he notice the high school bell; but at the first tap of the Methodist church bell he appears to imbibe a devotional spirit, to which he gives expression in deep and dolorous baying.

The Jonesboro Leader evidently has no reputation to sustain for it perpetrates the following: At Mr. D. C. Shaw's, in Greenwood township, this county, a wild partridge lays an egg each day in a hen's nest, near the house. The hen eggs and the partridge eggs are taken out regularly, which refutes the theory, that if a partridge nest is touched, she will desist from using it.

Rev. Mr. Richardson, the Baptist pastor at Matthews, had a very singular accident. He was walking along trimming his finger nails with his knife, when he stumbled and fell. He fell on the knife and a severe wound in his side was inflicted. The sharp blade of the knife struck a rib, and but for this the physician who attended Mr. Richardson says that the injury might have been serious.

Information has reached Charlotte of a difficulty and probable duel between Colonel George W. Croft and Mr. P. A. Emanuel, of the Aiken clan. Col. Croft has been acting as the legal representative of Treasurer J. E. Murray, of that county, and criticisms passed upon him by Mr. Emanuel in regard to the case led to an altercation. The differences were renewed and although efforts were made to effect a settlement they failed, and it is believed a duel has been arranged.

In the United States court at Raleigh the grand jury returned three true bills against W. H. Robinson, of Arcola, Warren county, for using the mails for fraudulent purposes. Robinson and his brother advertised that for \$1 in currency they would send \$10 in "C" money. These sharks caught many fish, and letters poured in upon them. They enjoyed the fatness of the land for a time, but at last the detectives "pinched" them. The "C" money was "Confederate," and not "counterfeit."

The weekly weather crop bulletin of the North Carolina experiment station and State weather service for the week ending the seventh says the reports of correspondents show that the weather has been quite warm and dry during the week. The maximum temperature reached 90 degrees on several days at many places and 92 at Raleigh. The amount of sunshine was above the average, although very dry. The excessive rain of the preceding week prevented any material damage being done except perhaps in the extreme northeastern part of the State. Where rain is especially needed copious showers fell Friday.

The Wilmington Review tells of the predicament a negro got himself into a few nights ago in attempting to rob the store of Mr. John E. Henry, in Pender county, by slipping down the chimney. He got nearly to the bottom and there the fire narrowed and he stuck fast utterly unable to move in any direction. On realizing this fact he began to scream for help. Mr. Henry heard his cries and went to the store. He was at first unable to tell from whence they came, but finally saw the man's legs hanging down into the fire place. He procured assistance and the thief was drawn up to the top of the house by means of ropes secured under his arms and about his waist, and sent to jail.

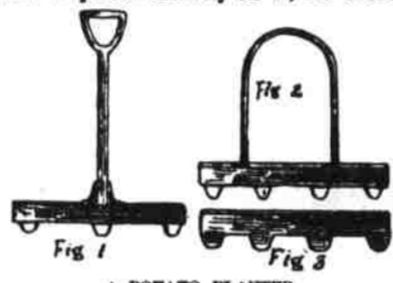
FARM AND GARDEN.

SUBJECTS OF INTEREST CONSIDERED IN A PRACTICAL MANNER.

A Home Made Potato Planter Which Country Gentleman Recommends for Farmers Who Plant by Hand as a Successful Labor Saving Implement.

In order to give seed tubers sufficient depth and to place them at perfectly uniform distances apart in the row, Country Gentleman has contrived a very simple implement, which, for farmers who plant by hand, is destined to give more even crops, larger returns and prove economical of labor. It is represented in the accompanying engraving (Fig. 1).

It consists of a bar of wood about thirty inches long, and made of a piece of pine scantling or other light wood, three inches square. It has a handle set in at right angles, consisting of the handle of a worn out spade. On the lower side are inserted short, thick wooden teeth, as far apart from each other as the intended plants in the rows—a foot or nine inches, or any other distances. When this tool is taken in hand by its handle, and the foot is placed heavily on it, its short,



A POTATO PLANTER.

stubby teeth are sunk into the soil in the bottom of the furrow, forming holes into which to drop each potato cut. The planter moves it onward, with the last tooth in the last hole, and so advances nearly as fast as he can walk. The man who drops can move on much faster than if he had to measure every distance with his eye before dropping every piece. The planting will be about two inches deeper than without it. This simple contrivance is not of course intended to supersede costly and finished potato planting machines used in large fields.

There may be modifications of its form. Instead of the spade handle, for instance, something like an ox bow may be used, as shown in Fig. 2. Instead of scantling, a strip of two inch or two and a half inch plank may be employed for the bar, and, by sawing in and splitting out portions, the short blunt teeth left, as shown in Fig. 3. For this purpose some kind of wood should be selected which is not liable to split.

The Originator of County Fairs.

Mr. Elkannah Watson is credited with being the originator of the widespread and popular institution known as the county fair. He was born at Plymouth, Mass., Jan. 23, 1768.

In 1779 he was sent by the United States government to France in charge of dispatches from congress to our minister, Benjamin Franklin. He remained in Europe till 1784, during which period he traveled extensively in England, France and Holland.

In 1807 Mr. Watson purchased a farm of some 320 acres thirty-six miles from Albany, in the town of Pittsfield, Berkshire county, Mass., and there located. That fall he purchased the first pair of Merino sheep that had appeared in the county and perhaps in the state. He



ELKANAH WATSON.

subsequently introduced choice varieties of cattle and swine. So great was the curiosity of the farmers to see this new variety of sheep that he decided to exhibit them publicly on a given day, under the great elm tree on the public square at Pittsfield.

The exhibition was a great success. "If two animals are capable of exciting so much attention, what would be the effect on a large scale, with large animals?" thought Mr. Watson, and from that time forward for the next fifteen years his attention was devoted to the subject of agricultural fairs. In 1810 he induced some twenty or more farmers to join with him in a call for the first Berkshire county cattle show. The exhibition proved very successful. The interest awakened by this fair resulted in the formation of a county agricultural society, chartered by the state of Massachusetts in the winter of 1811, the first county agricultural society in America, of the modern type. Mr. Watson died in 1848 at the age of 80. We are indebted to Southern Cultivator for the excellent portrait here given, which is from a painting at the time of the first fair.

Cutting Seed Potatoes.

The question of relative profit as between the use of small cuttings and whole potatoes depends upon the cost of seed potatoes, the date at which the crop is to be harvested and sold and the condition of the soil at planting time. In ordinary practice it will usually be found that neither extreme as to quantity of seed used will be found to be profitable. The safest plan is to use large, well matured, healthy potatoes and cut to two and three eyes. A sufficient quantity of flesh to the eyes also much the same as measure in the soil.

A foreign exchange writes of admirable results obtained by bagging specimen tomatoes, plums and pears. What next?

AN CONVENIENT HOUSE FOR POULTRY.

A Poultry House Constructed with a View to Moving It About.

There is nothing easier than to move a poultry house occasionally in summer, if constructed with that object in view. Moving to a fresh spot of earth is the quickest way of keeping the building, and particularly the soil near it, free from taint.



A MOVABLE POULTRY HOUSE.

In the cut is shown a movable poultry house suggested by Stoddard in his manual on poultry architecture, and which may be used to advantage in many cases. By frequently shifting it during the warm season to a new place the birds can always be supplied with fresh grass and untainted soil, the best preventives to disease known. By thrusting poles, indicated by the dotted lines in the cut, through strong wrought iron staples bolted to the corners of the building four adults can move it with ease a few feet every few days.

It may be placed on a sled and drawn by a team any distance, and, by the use of movable fences, an entirely new site may be occupied by the poultry yard at will. The dimensions of the house illustrated are: Six feet from the ground to the eaves, and 9 feet to the peak; width upon the ground, 6 feet; length, 8 feet. A small door 14 inches high, within the larger, serves as an exit for the fowls. The front of the building, not shown in the cut, is glazed. The arrangement of nests, perches and other fixtures within, may be made to suit the preferences of the owner.

Artificial Fertilizers on Wheat and Corn.

From a bulletin issued from the Ohio experiment station it is learned that Ohio farmers do not generally cultivate wheat continuously on the same soil, but alternate wheat with other crops. Those who use commercial fertilizers on wheat believe them of special service to the grass crop following, clover being considered a "grass" in farm practice. On the station grounds, however, upon small plots, cultivated in wheat for six years, the result has been that, as a rule, no more wheat has been harvested from the plots treated with commercial fertilizers than from those receiving none, whereas the manure of the farm have produced a marked increase of crop when judiciously used. So far as can be learned from these experiments, the conclusion is that in the majority of cases neither wheat nor corn will return sufficient increase of crop to cover the cost of any artificial fertilizer at the present ruling prices.

Double Walled Bee Hives.

A correspondent in American Bee Journal has the following to say on the subject of bee hives: "I have read with interest the discussion for and against double walled hives and cannot help giving my experience, for I have used nothing else for the last five years, and have not lost a colony. I make mine out of half inch lumber, planed on both sides, with seven-eighths inch dead air space and loose bottom boards seven-eighths of an inch thick. In winter I simply fill the cover with chaff, first putting canvas on top of the brood frames. These hives are no heavier than hives made of seven-eighths inch lumber and are much cooler in summer. They are the easiest for tiering up for comb honey, for the tiers can be run to any height, or can be used for extracting, as I do, by putting on extra brood chambers on top in place of the sections.

Soft Soap for Fruit Trees.

There is no better preventive against bores and insects that infest the trunks and limbs of fruit trees than soft soap, if applied in May and June each year. Notwithstanding the very general substitution of the factory hard soap for the domestic article formerly so commonly made in families, soft soap from the leached wood ashes is still made to a very considerable extent in districts where wood is yet the common fuel, so that it can easily be obtained at small cost by any orchardist who may need it. It should be diluted just enough to allow its being readily applied with a broom or a mop. Besides being obnoxious to insects of all kinds, it serves to keep the bark clean and in a healthy condition. Its uses need not be confined to the orchard, but it may be applied with great advantage to trees and shrubs of all varieties infested with insects.

Here and There.

The first fair on the new state fair grounds, at Syracuse, N. Y., is announced to be held next September.

An Alabama correspondent claims that the farmers of his state are learning that it pays to raise sorghum for sirup, and that early orange cane is the preferred variety.

Professor Fernow figures that the annual revenue from the forests of the United States is over \$1,000,000,000.

The state entomologist announces the appearance in New Jersey and Pennsylvania of the cowhorn or buffalo fly. The worst effect apprehended is a decrease of the milk supply by worrying the cows. He advises the bathing of the animals' hides in oil as a preventive.

Sugar beets are attracting considerable attention in Colorado and Nebraska. The production of oil is increasing in California, both for the manufacture of oil and for plowed olives.

A Boston correspondent says that he seldom fails to root slips of the most tender and rare kinds. He credits his success to a layer of oak placed under the usual layer of sand in which the slips are planted. When moistened it acts as a stimulant and feeder to the tender roots of the slips.

Bank Cashier's Sudden Death.

Special to The Citizen. KNOXVILLE, June 8.—Sam House, cashier of the State National bank, died suddenly this morning of a congestive chill. The funeral will be held to-morrow afternoon. He leaves a large family and was one of the best known men in the city, having formerly been cashier of the Mechanics' bank for twelve years.

Resolutions of Respect.

June 2, 1890. Whereas, On the 19th day of May, 1890, it pleased Almighty God to remove from our midst our esteemed brother, J. J. Gudger, and whereas, as it is meet and proper that we pay this last and last tribute of respect to his memory.

Resolved, That we bow in humble submission to the will of our Divine Master knowing that He doeth all things well, and we deeply feel our loss and realize that in the death of Brother Gudger not only French Broad Lodge but the entire fraternity has lost a useful member and the community at large a benevolent citizen. Being a charter member of our lodge his sound judgment and logical mind aided materially in carrying the lodge through many trials and difficulties to its present state of perfection and prosperity—the guide of its members and the Masonic fraternity of the county.

Resolved, That in his death the world has lost a man who in his business relations with his fellowman was honorable and just and who lived up to that valuable tenet of our order which taught him that the square should be his rule and guide in his transactions with all mankind. His hand and purse were ever ready to aid those in distress. None were turned away empty-handed. It can be truly said of him that the poor and needy have lost a benefactor.

Resolved, That as we think of the grand character and nobility of nature of deceased brother, the incentive should be to zealously imitate his many excellent qualities. Resolved, That to his widowed wife and children we extend our heartfelt sympathies and wish them to look to the Great Comforter God the Father, in whom he put his trust. Resolved, That we wear the usual badge of mourning for 30 days; that these resolutions be recorded in our Lodge book and a copy be sent to the family of our deceased brother.

J. A. NICHOLS, P. M. H. GIBB, F. B. L. WALK, Z. V. FISHER, JOB BRANK, Com.

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