

THE GLEANER.

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THE GLEANER, Lasker, N. C.

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For the six largest clubs we will send by mail postage paid, a copy either of "Pilgrim's Progress," "Bible Pictures," "Our Children," "The Coming Kingdom" or "The Christian's Secret of a Happy Life." The books are handsomely bound and printed on good paper with clear type, and range in price from 75 cents to \$2.00 each.

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This offer holds good till May 15th. You need not wait till 15th of May, but send along the subscriptions as fast as you get them and all you send before May 15th will be credited to you as one club. Address THE GLEANER, Lasker, N. C.

We think the people should know more of the teachers who have the training of the children, and to that end we have decided to publish occasionally brief biographical sketches of our teachers. In another column will be found the first of these articles.

WHAT a good school will do for a place, has just been happily shown in the case of Lasker. When Mr. E. W. Gerrish, the Superintendent of The Cummer Company's business in this county, decided to move his family and locate in this county, he naturally wanted to move to the place where his children would have the advantage of a good school; so, after mature consideration, he decided to locate at Lasker, which means much for this place. He not only entered his children at once, but has gone to work with the managers to improve the school, and make it better than ever before. Besides the advantage to the school and from a social standpoint of having Mr. Gerrish and family and other members of the firm located here, it will be a great

advantage in a pecuniary way to the entire community, as the company's pay roll now amounts to about sixteen hundred dollars per month, which is all paid in cash and distributed through this community, enabling the farmer to sell all his surplus products at a good price for cash, opening a market for many things which has heretofore had no money value with us, and giving employment at good wages to all in this community who desire work. Besides this the company will establish here a depot, and build here their shops, engine house, etc., and erect several dwellings for use of those in their employ, as they desire all who work with them to be located here at headquarters.

No place or community, not even from a business standpoint, can afford to be without a good school, as no man who has any care for his children or his country would live long in a place where there are no schools.

WE need more professional teachers, those whose chief business is teaching, and the way we can have them is to employ them for longer terms, and as we have more schools in this county than teachers it would be well to employ one teacher to teach more than one school; that is after the term closes in one district employ the teacher for another. It would be to the school's interest to prolong the time for opening the school if by doing so a good teacher could be employed, one who makes teaching a business and a study.

During our last Institute at Jackson, Prof. Melver said it was a source of pleasure to him and a sign of improvement in our schools that such a large number of the teachers he found here two years ago still remained in the profession.

Another cause that drives away so many of the best teachers from us is the poor salaries paid them. North Carolina pays her teachers less than any other State in the union with one exception, and our school terms are shorter than those of any other state or country in the civilized world.

Until we pay our teachers reasonable salaries and employ them for longer terms we can not expect them to devote their whole time and talent and the best years of their lives to the onerous work of preparing themselves to become expert teachers.

The future greatness and prosperity of this country depends upon its teachers and therefore

we should secure the best talent possible for our schools.

The teacher is a character builder and each day the child gets some impressions that will last it through life.

TEACHERS TO THE FRONT.

The conception, organization and outward work of the "County Teachers' Association" has clearly evidenced the fact, that this is the right move. The first object before the work should be to get a full attendance of the teachers of the county, for where there is a multitude of presence, the output, will be of interest and profit to all. If the individual teachers, scattered as they are, throughout the county, will only canvass the object of these meetings in their several communities, then these quarterly assemblages will be places and occasions, that will naturally be inquired of, and fully attended by the people. And should not this be one of the chief aims of the teachers, to get the people out, in order that they may be talked to and shown the urgent necessity, of a quickened interest in the important work of "popular education?"

Surely at present the most lamentable thought which comes to our mind, is that the masses of our people are so indifferent to this work. The average of school attendances as compared with census report, in many districts, are almost at a zero point.

The question is, How shall we reach the parent; because if they are reached, then they can be "tempered to the wind," and made to move together in sympathy and aid with the teachers. Let this be the mainspring of the work, invite all the people out. Get them interested—talk to them—your school will be full—your effort encouraged—victory will be yours—ignorance will be conquered. Push the work.

R. W. ASKEW.

Bertie Co., N. C.

One of the best books for supplementary reading in schools, and one which should be read by every man, woman or child who owns or ever expects to own a horse, is "Black Beauty." It was highly recommended by Mrs. Melver during the Institute at Jackson. It is a book of 245 pages, paper binding, good type, and cost only eight cents per copy by mail, postage paid. Send orders to

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Strength of character consists of two things—power of will and power of self-restraint. It requires two things, therefore, for its existence—strong feelings and strong command over them.—F. W. Robertson.

We inadvertently failed to mention in last issue of THE GLEANER that Misses Johnnie Vicks, of Margarettsville; Eva Spiers, of Murfreesboro; Courtney B. Keanon, of South Gaston; were excused for satisfactory reasons from attendance at Institute held at Jackson.

We are particular to mention the names of all those who attended, or were excused from attendance, because school committeemen are prohibited by law from employing anyone to teach in the public schools of this county for twelve months from the time the Institute was held who failed to attend, unless they were excused for satisfactory reasons which must be mainly in the line of Providential hindrance.

These Institutes are held to teach teachers how to teach and to harmonize the school interests by presenting the subject to the people in its true light; and the State cannot afford to employ teachers to teach its schools who have such an utter disregard to the plain mandates of the law as to fail to attend these Institutes, which are held at the expense of the State for the betterment of its teachers and the improvement of its schools; and besides, it would be a great injustice to those who willingly sacrifice their time and money to attend these Institutes that they may become more efficient teachers, and thereby more useful to the State, teaching by example as well as by precept, for those who remain at home disregarding the plain mandates of the law, thereby setting a bad example for the children to follow, to be employed to teach to their exclusion.

We must put faithfulness to duty at least on a par, and we cannot do this if we give preference to those who fail to fully discharge their obligations to the State and their duty to the community in which they teach.

What is it to be wise?
'Tis but to know how little can be known,
To see all others' faults, and feel our own.

Education in the widest sense of the word is the regenerator of human society. To it we must owe the intellectual habits we form, the power which the reason and conscience have over the will, and the strength we possess to regulate the desires and to subdue the passions.—J. D. Marcell.

It is the struggle, not the attainment that measures character.

The chains of habit are generally too small to be felt, till they are too strong to be broken.

Hurry and Worry were two busy men,
They worked at their desk till the clock struck ten;
They gained high station, power, and wealth,
And lost their happiness, youth and health.
—Farm Journal.

He who does not learn from events, rejects the lessons of experience.
"We must not hope to be mowers,
And gather the bright gold ears,
Until first we have been sowers,
And watered the furrows with tears."