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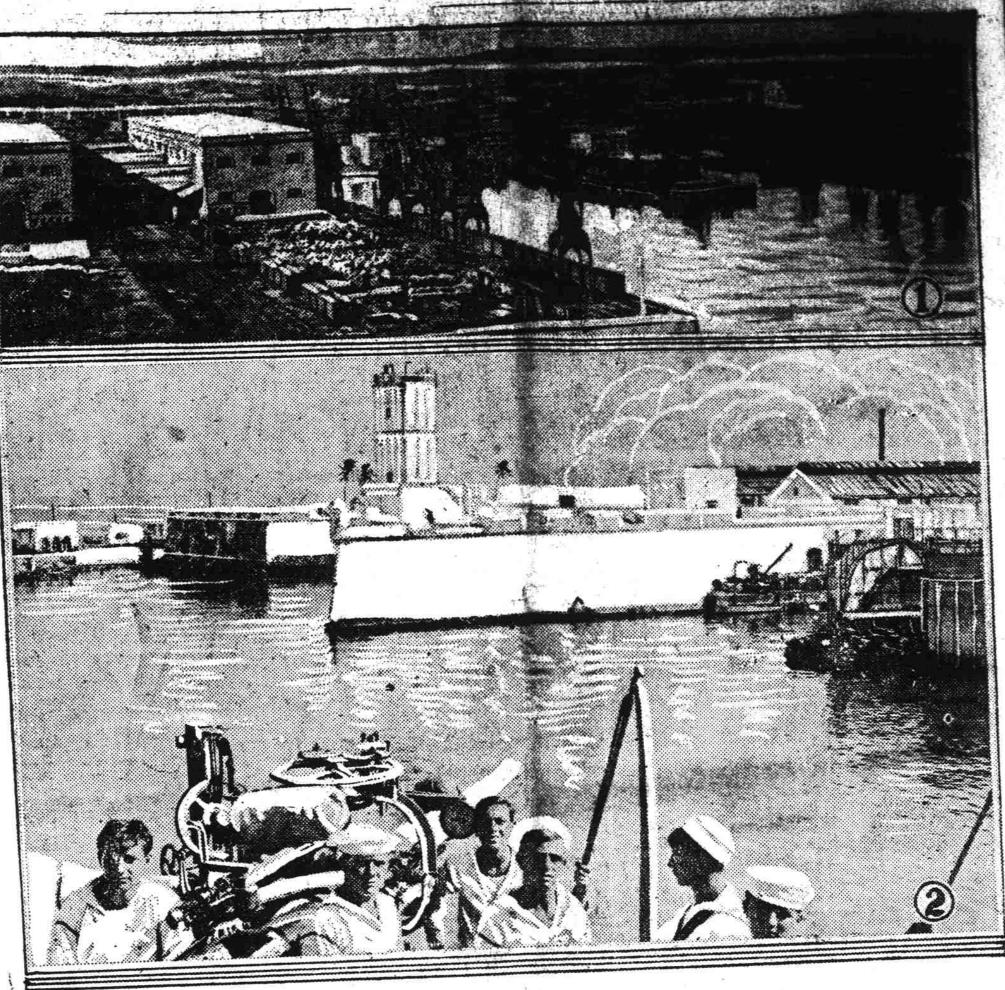
As a citizen of Sylva, interested in all which contributes to the uplift of the town and community, and somewhat conversant with prevailing sentiment of the people, I feel it a duty to speak a word with reference to this School.

It was my pleasure to witness the Commencement exercises of the session just closed, and I can say with confidence that I never saw better evidences of solid progress. In the first place it has behind it

one of the most ardent, energetic promoters of Education in the South Dr. A. E. Brown of Asheville.

It is to be doubted whether there is any one man in America doing more to guarantee the struggling, promising youth of the mountains of our section, an opportunity for Education. He is the general supervisor of a system of similar institutions whose results are already incalculable for efficient and permanent blessing. Here is a genuine servant of his time and his name is secure to immortality with those of Dr. Wiley and Archibald D. Murphy of former times,

In the second place this School has a fine Christian gentleman and wise administrator at its head as Principal. In his labors for the welfare of his school he is as quiet and unostentatious as he is urbane and considerate in his private and personal relations. Prof. Ingram is a man with an eye to business and a mind cast in the serious and judicious mold. There is absolutely no playing at life with him. He has brought this school from a condition of precarious existence to a state of positive efficiency and potency. among the best secondary schools of the country. Prof. Ingram was unanimously chosen to succeed himself as Principal for another term greatly to the delight of his patrons and the citizens of Jackson county with whom he has established an enviab'e reputetion. In the third place, this school has had associated with it in the capacity of music and elocutionary instructor Mrs. George P. Miller of Sylva whose name is a household word in every home in the community. Upon no two factors does a community more truly depend for culture than upon music of a refined character and the social training of the young. It will do no violence to the truth or the proprieties to here assert that Mrs. Miller has done more for the young of this community along these lines than any other individual. This is the universal and cheerful opinion of her patrons and proteges. She is a lady with the graciousness and charm of the old Southern school with the business and dainty aggressiveness of the new. With an unconsciusness as rare as it is pleasing she insinuates her fine, magnetic and matronly personality into the kindly graces with all with whom she comes in contact. Her rare acquaintance with the young added to her grace of speech and French vivacity make her adored by children. It was the good fortune of the community to witness a beautiful Operetta entitled "Moonlight on the



in his army. fies in the Mexican arday mor an twenty years old. Some are the ald black powder, large bore goud American officer who has been wate ing Mexican soldiers for two or th years has said that he has yet to see one of the modern needle pointed bullets, which carry 1.000 yards farther than the round nosed affairs of olden times and which have a flat trajectory that enables the soldier to get his battle sights and shoot on the level at 1.500 yards.

Huerta's artillery, however, is largely modern. He has in all 301 pieces. At least he had that many a few months ago. It is a curious fact, but there are more field guns in Mexico than in the United States. The superiority of American fire, however, is a big factor.

The Mexican regular army has no army service corps, no medical department to speak of. It carries no camp equipment, no supplies. Watch a field force break camp at dawn. First there go pattering off a horde of women laden with pots and pans, blankets, sometimes babies. These are the soldaderas, the camp followers, the commissariat of the force. That they move as quickly as they do is a miracle. Whatever the day's march may be, they are always on the camping ground before the men arrive. They rig up shelters, they cook tortillas and frijoles (maize cakes and beans), they make coffee. You see them mending their husbands' coats, washing their shirts, roughly tending flesh wounds. Without these soldaderas the army could not move. While President Huerta was seizing 40,000, while the combined forces of all the rebel chieftains now operating in the revolution cursed republic total perhaps 43,000. This means that in Mexico today are about \$3,000 men. almost equally divided between the so called Huerta government and the rebels, most of the latter being pretty well concentrated in the north of Mexico under the leadership of Villa and the lesser of the rebel leaders in Chi-

BIRDSEYE VIEW OF VERA CRUZ AND ITS FAMOUS OLD FORT. Photos by American Press Association. 1.-Vera Cruz water front as seen from American battleship. 2.-San Juan de Ulua, oldest fort in Mexico.





Photo by American Press Association. PRESIDENT HUERTA AND ADVISERS.

huahua, Sonora, Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas and Durango. It is in the fact that their forces are more concentrated and accordingly more easily to be mobilized into a single army that the principal advantage of the rebels lies in the present struggle for the mastery of Mexico.

What do these contending forces number? How many pieces of artillery have they? Where are the troops located?

Sonora Rebel Stronghold.

At Hermosillo, the capital of Sonora, there is a rebel force of 3,000 men available for service at any moment and on a direct rail line with Guaymas, the single port in the state held by Huerta with 3,350 men.

Lake," the training for which was exclusively the work of her hand. It was pronounced by every one MEXICO FORCES as one of the finest entertainments put on the boards by amateurs in the history of our town.

It is our misfortune, but we have not space in which to publish the entire programme of this exceptionally spicy and joy-thrilling performance. It is one of the faults of our race that we do not properly appraise the rich values in such personalities as Mrs. Miller until it is too late for the echoes to thrill the heart with the music of gratitude. Long live Sylva Collegiate Institute and munificently may it pros-JAMES H. CATHEY. per.

NEARLY EQUAL. TITE all factions in Mexico united to fight against the United States it was recently figured that the little republic would put about 83,000 troops in the field. Perhaps this was overestimated in view of heavy losses by the federals and rebels in the fighting that culminated in the capture of Torreon by General Villa. It is true that Huerta in characteristic fashion had caused to be spread broadcast that he already had 150.000 men in the field and that he was soon troops. The rehal forces there are well

to add another 50,000 to the number Villa, the victorious bandit chieftain of the rebels of northern Mexico, repeatedly boasted an army that varied in size according to his humor from 25,000 to 100,000.

But from the best information in the possession of the United States government Huerta is believed to have an armed force, that is still loyal to the government in Mexico City. of about

Between Hermosillo and Maytorena and right at the gates of Guaymas is a rebel force of about 6,000 veterans un der General Obregon.

Figures show that in Sonora the rebels have all told a force of about 12.400

supplied with artillery. Adjoining Sonora to the east is the

* Sin - nre simil r

still greater state of Chihuahua, th state that witnessed the culmination Madero's triumphs and the state the gave to the rebel cause the notorio Villa and a host of other and tess portant leaders. Chihuahua from to end is absolutely in the hard rebels under Carranza and Sh Figures indicate a fo 12.000 and 13.000 soldie all fighting under the revolution At Mazatian, the pri the west could, is a re-4.0°C or the white in ve

that, if concentrated, would probably dd another 1,000 to the above total. Durango is another rebel controlled state. In Durango City is a rebel force of 3.000 men under General Contreras, t Velardena are 1,000 rebels, while at aredo is an advance guard of about 00 men.

Mrs. Kate McClean moved this ek to the new residence just comted by Fred McClean.