

WAYNESVILLE COURIER

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NO. 11.

OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS HAVE OPENED

MONDAY MORNING AN ARMY OF CHILDREN GATHERED AT THE ACADEMY.

Good Speeches Were Made by Gentlemen Present and the Year was Begun Auspiciously.

Monday was the opening day of the city schools at Waynesville. Bright and early on that morning hundreds of children in and around Waynesville wended their way to the two school buildings. Teachers were there to receive them and soon had the young people segregated into grades.

At the Central building, in addition to the large number of children, a few parents assembled to see the start. At nine o'clock the whole school marched into the chapel for the opening exercises. There were some four hundred present to take part in the singing and scripture quotations.

After the brief opening exercises Superintendent Allen, called upon those present to make speeches to the school. Hon. W. T. Crawford was the first called out. He went into the matter earnestly and eloquently. Mr. Crawford spoke, of course, extemporaneously, but he delivered one of the best short speeches he has ever made.

Mr. Crawford was followed by Colonel W. W. Stringfield, who is always ready with word or work when it comes to the Graded School. Rev. W. B. Morton, of Columbia, N. C., was also present and made a few remarks. He was followed by Prof. G. C. Briggs and Mr. S. C. Welch, both of whom made some profitable and interesting remarks.

For an hour and a half the children listened attentively to this speech-making, when they then marched to the recitation rooms and had the work assigned them for next day.

Judging from the way everything passed off Monday morning the school has had a good start and will probably do a fine years work. About 500 children have already been enrolled.

Annual Picnic.

The twenty third annual picnic meeting of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist church, which was announced for September 3rd, but which was unavoidably postponed, will be held Friday, Sept., 24th, at the home of Mrs. W. B. Ferguson of this place.

In addition to the social features of the occasion a devotional and business meeting will be held giving interesting information of both Foreign Missionary and Home Mission work of the church, closing with Memorial Services.

The Society extends a cordial invitation to members of its own and other churches to be present.

ALMOST SUPPORTS A COLLEGE.

Waynesville Graded Schools Have a Large Number of Young People Off at School.

There is perhaps no other school of the same size which has more young people away at college than the Graded Schools of this town. Almost since its foundation ten years ago the school has had dozens of its graduates away at school.

This year there are more attending the colleges of this state and others than ever before. The following ones who are graduates of our school, are now off at college:

Messrs. Eugene Ward, Rufus Morgan, John Queen, State University; Horace Hyatt, Thurman Williams, Harry Shenck, Troy Wych, Jack Way, Trinity College; Joe Turbill, Washington and Lee University; Cola Allen, Wake Forest; Will Coble, A. & M. College; Mark Killian, Davidson College; Lillian Allen, Olive Boone, Lula Ditmore, Meredith College; Bruce Landis, Lelia Mock, Evelyn Lee, Elizabeth College; Merrill Shelton Mazie Kirkpatrick, Normal and Industrial College; Hortense Moore, Randolph Macon College; Marguerite Briggs, Nina Howell, Shorter College;

Leona Seabrook and Juanita Seabrook Lucerne, Switzerland; Maud Francis, Gaffney; and perhaps others.

Besides these, the following, who were students in our graded school for a few years, are now off at college: Lillian Ferguson, Columbia, Tenn.; Clarence Ray, Wake Forest; Raymond Hyatt, Evanston, Ill.; Hester Francis, Gaffney; Sam Queen, Weaverville; and perhaps others whose names have not been obtainable.

Verily, Waynesville might support a college.

CENSUS REPORT NEXT YEAR.

Should Show Waynesville Increased Three Hundred Per Cent.

Next year the census of the United States will be taken. It is expected that the census of Waynesville will be taken at the same time. That reminds us that the census of Waynesville has been taken four times before, in 1880, 1890, 1900 and 1903.

In 1880 the census report showed less than 300 people. In 1890 the enumerators found 455 people in the incorporate limits of the town. The census of 1900 showed 1307 inhabitants, and the census of 1903, taken by authority of the board of aldermen, 2076 people were counted.

Next year when the enumerator takes his rounds in Waynesville he should find over 3000 people here. If the population has kept pace with the growth in taxable valuation of property there ought to be over 4,000 people. For it is well known that the total valuation of property in Waynesville in 1900 was less than \$300,000. It is now more than a million, having increased more than three hundred per cent.

Alike increase in population would put the number over 4000. It is not at all probable, however, that the population will reach that figure. It is thought it will fall a little below 3500.

U. D. C. Meeting.

There will be a meeting of the United Daughters of the Confederacy held at the home of Mrs. S. A. Jones, Tuesday afternoon, Sept. 21st at half past three o'clock.

Important matters will be discussed requiring a full attendance of the members; also the election of delegates to represent the Chapter at the State Convention at Wilmington, Oct. 13th, and at Houston, Texas, Oct. 19th. Veterans and sons of veterans are invited to be present.

WAYNESVILLE CHAPTER AMERICAN WOMAN'S LEAGUE

Met at the Academy Wednesday Afternoon With a Full Attendance.

Waynesville Chapter of the American Woman's League held its regular meeting at the Academy Wednesday afternoon.

At this meeting the Chapter was permanently organized, there being five members paid up in full.

The temporary officers who were elected some weeks ago were retained. The phonograph, which is given for five paid up members has been ordered and will be installed in a booth in the Woman's building during fair week.

A magazine Festival was planned to be held on Wednesday evening Oct. 6th.

The Chapter is working hard for Chapter House No. II.

Mr. and Mrs. Jellard, organizers of the American Woman's League, visited the chapter at this meeting.

Presbyterian Church.

Services 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. Sunday School 9:45 a. m.

The subject of the pastor's sermon Sunday morning will be, "Jesus Christ Our Master". In the evening, "The Blood Atonement."

In the evening discourse the subject of "The Religion of the Future," as outlined by president Elliott, will be discussed.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Love, left Monday for Gallion Ohio, to attend the wedding of Miss Eda Alsteatter to Mr. Leslie Thorn.

FAIR NOTES.

The American Flag Act to be given by Prof. Mack in connection with his balloon ascension during the fair is one of the most spectacular aerial acts ever seen in America. Prof. Mack ascends with a huge flag bundled beneath the parachute. When at a height of several thousand feet there is a terrific explosion and out of the smoke comes Old Glory. As the flag unfurls there is a silver shower which resembles a large flock of birds flying through the fair. In addition to this feature, Prof. Mack will present the celebrated Cannon Act which is almost beyond description. This will have to be seen to be understood and appreciated. Other spectacular acts will be given during the week by Prof. Mack.

Another contribution has been received for the Baby's Booth at the fair. This is a generous amount of samples and advertising matter from the Horlick's Malted Milk Company. The utmost care and pains will be taken to make this booth one of the most attractive at the fair. One of the largest magazines in the country will run an article on this feature after the fair is over, with illustrations of same. This magazine has instructed the Secretary to have photographs of the booth made at its expense.

One of the attractive features of the fair will be a magazine booth of the American Woman's League, presided over by the ladies of Waynesville Chapter. Don't fail to visit this booth and hear the Grand Concert Phonograph, and see the model for Chapter House No. II, for Waynesville.

Special Rates to School.

The Fair Association will sell tickets to school children under fifteen years of age at the rate of ten cents each, provided they are purchased in quantities of not less than 25, and before Saturday night October 2nd. They must be purchased by the teachers of the schools for which they are intended. These tickets will be good for one admission during the fair. The day on which they are used will be left to the children entirely as they will not be required to attend in a body.

Special Premiums on Haywood County Horses.

The following special premiums on horses have been offered by the gentlemen named. The entrance fee in these classes will be \$1.00 each.

Mr. C. W. Miller, the Harness Man, offers a handsome bridle for the best Saddle, foaled and raised in Haywood County shown at the fair.

Capt. Alden Howell offers \$5.00 in gold for the best combination Mare or Horse, foaled and raised in Haywood County shown at the fair.

Mr. S. C. Welch offers \$5.00 in gold for best Single Harness Mare or Horse foaled and raised in Haywood County, shown at the fair.

Wants Music.

Editor Courier.—In all of the advertisements about the fair, we have seen nothing about music for the Woman's Building. Are we not to have music?

Last year the music by the Italians was very much appreciated especially by the ladies who served in the different departments. It was a drawing feature, and many of them would like to have the music again.

MANY LADIES.

Surveyors at Work.

We learn that surveyors are at work on the line of the Transcontinental railway between Waynesville and Dellwood. That route has been surveyed two or three times, but there appears to be some difficulty in locating the best route.

It is also learned that the work will be begun some time in the near future. The Courier has said as much so many times in the past that we feel some hesitation in saying it now, but we still have faith in the proposed road and expect to see it a reality.

WAR TIME REMINISCENCES.

Story of the Twenty-Fifth Regiment North Carolina Troops From Their Organization in 1861 to the Surrender at Appomattox.

The history of the 25th, Regiment is so intimately connected with that of the Brigade, that from the organization of "Ransom's Brigade" to the

(By J. C. L. Gudger.)

close of the war, the history of the one is practically that of the other, for during all of the years following its organization, the Regiment was never detached, nor ever marched or fought as a separate command, but always as a part of that justly famous organization.

In my statement of the formation of the brigade at Kinston, the types, by an oversight which escaped both the type setter and the proof reader, makes me say, 35th Regiment, James Sinclair," instead of Col. James Sinclair. I feel sure that none of my comrades of that gallant old Regiment will in the least criticize either myself or the printer, for the omission; for the very inefficient management of its Colonel and Lieutenant Colonel, at the battle of New Berne, caused it in the language of General Branch in his official report, "to quickly follow the example of the militia and retreat in the utmost disorder." Captain Burgwyn, the historian of the Regiment, (see North Carolina Regiment, Vol. 2, page 595) thus characterizes the conduct of these two officers: "That it was attributed to want of leadership that the 35th Regiment did not behave better, on this its first field of battle, is established by the fact that in every subsequent battle of the war, in which it was directly or remotely connected, it never failed to act in such a manner as to deserve and win the encomiums of its commanding officers; and that the conduct of their Colonel and Lieutenant Colonel at New Berne, was such as to cause the officers and men to lose all confidence in their military capacity to lead them, is evidenced by the fact that in the reorganization of the Regiment, (10 April 1862,) neither of these officers were re-elected; while the one who had shown both capacity and bravery, the youthful Petway, was advanced higher in command and elected Lieutenant Colonel.

The rank and file of the Regiment felt very keenly this conduct of their commanding officers, and the injustice done them by this want of leadership, and were impatient for an opportunity to redeem themselves." In April 1862 the Regiment was reorganized, when that gallant soldier, Matt W. Ransom was chosen its Colonel, and under his splendid leadership, at Malvern Hill, Sharpsburg and Fredericksburg, it did redeem itself, and acted so gallantly that it made Matt Ransom a Brigadier General, as early as the spring of 1863.

The discipline to which the whole Brigade was subjected at Kinston after its organization, and in the campaign of the seven days before Richmond, on the march to Maryland and to Fredericksburg, and thence to North Carolina, is a subject which is unpleasant to write about even after more than 40 years have gone by since then. This harsh and cruel discipline was that of Brigadier General Robert Ransom, our brigade commander. It was the discipline of a martinet over helpless men, men of as much character, as much intelligence and as high a sense of honor as the commander himself, and a discipline unnecessary and unjust to volunteer soldiers whose patriotism was of the highest and whose honor was of the dearest. Any real or fancied infraction of this discipline was followed by punishment, many times of the most unjust, degrading and humiliating character; and it is no matter of surprise that Judge Ferguson should characterize it in his history of the 25th Regiment, (History of the North Carolina Regiment Vol. see page 295) as producing hate on the part of the men of the Regiment. Of the other side of General Ransom, of his skill, his bravery and splendid leadership in battle, I will write later on, and hope to give him full credit and praise

THRILLING INCIDENTS OF PEARY'S TRIP

for his superb bearing in battle.

In a conversation I had with General Ransom since the time he told me that his unnecessary discipline was the great reason of his life; that coming as he did from the old army, made up as it then was of the very lowest ranks of the worst element of men, he could not for a long time realize that the men under his command came from the ranks of the best people of the state, and that it was only after observing their patient endurance under the greatest hardships, and their superb bearing and high courage in battle, that he came to realize that he commanded men fit to be commanders themselves, and rulers among men.

From the organization of the Brigade early in April to late in May, when General Ransom was detached, only to join us again at Richmond, just before the seven days battle below that city, it was one continuous drill every day, all under the eye of that officer. It was company, skirmish, battalion and brigade drill, varied by frequent inspections and reviews, till in truth it was indeed "a weariness to the flesh."

To be under arms six to eight hours each and every day, in the broiling sun of May and early June, in the lowlands of Eastern North Carolina, is no light task, and especially with so hard a drill master as old Bob Ransom, as he was almost always called when we were where he could not hear us; and many of the weak and unhealthy failed and had to be sent to the hospitals.

This constant drilling however, made Ransom's Brigade one of the very best fighting commands in the whole army, and the work so well commenced under Dearing and Rutledge, was continued to almost perfection, and well prepared all of us for the hard marching and fighting that was to follow. One of the many things General Ransom did at Kinston, was to cross the guard lines at night without obeying the challenge of the sentinel or giving the countersign, but he met his match on one dark drizzly night, when he attempted to cross the line of private Mease, who called to him to halt and to give the countersign. The General made no response but started across the line, when Mease cocked his gun and commanded him to halt, (Mease was a stutterm) The General announced his name and attempted to cross, but Mease said s-s-stop or I'll shoot. The General asked do you not know me? Saying I am General Ransom. The Sentinel replied I do-do-dont know General Ransom when I am on guard, stop right there or I'll shoot you, and there he held him a prisoner till the relief came. It is needless to say General Ransom made no complaint against that sentinel or had him arrested.

We made a few advances on New Berne, but never attacked the place, as it was too well fortified to warrant it, but we kept General Burnside pretty well cooped up in that city. In May Col. Clingman was promoted to Brigadier General; Lieutenant Colonel Rutledge to full Colonel, Maj. S. C. Bryson to Lieutenant Colonel; and Captain John W. Francis, of Co. D, was promoted Major of the Regiment. This caused the promotion of 1st Lieutenant L. B. Tatham, to Captain of Co. D. Other promotions in that company I do not remember, nor have I any data from which I can state them. Tatham remained Captain to the close of the war.

Clyde Items.

The farmers are busy cutting corn and gathering apples. They need good men to help them. Mr. D. M. Cagle has had a prosperous sale, closing last Saturday. Miss Bessie Wilson returned last Saturday to attend school at Haywood Institute. We hope she will have a successful year.

Messrs. Lowell Haynes, Tom Osborne and Emery Woodall went back last Monday to Wake Forest to attend school.

TO THE NORTH POLE AS GLEANED FROM THOSE IN THE PARTY.

Only Two Men Reached the Top All Others Having Turned Back.

By Associated Press from Battle Harbor, Labrador, under date of Sept. 13th:

"From members of the Peary Arctic expedition on board the steamer Roosevelt, a number of details of the dash to the pole have been gleaned. These details are as follows:

The only men to reach the pole were Commander Peary and one Eskimo, Eging Wah by name. The other white members of the various parties that left Cape Columbia were sent back one by one as Peary drew nearer daily to his objective. Matthews, Henson and three Eskimos, the only other members of the reduced party that made the final dash, were left one march south of the pole.

Captain Robert A. Bartlett and George Borup started February 27 from Cape Columbia, with a number of Eskimos and dogs on the march across the ice, heading north. On March 1, Commander Peary left Cape Columbia with his party, consisting of seven white men, seventeen Eskimos and 136 dogs. On March 4, Peary came up with Bartlett, who had pitched his camp at the side of a lead of water which it was impossible to cross. The combined parties had to wait until March 11, seven days, before further progress was possible. The sun was seen for the first time March 5th and a short way from the 84th parallel. The supply of alcohol was running short, and Borup returned to Cape Columbia for a fresh stock. March 14th Borup overtook Peary again and brought a supply of oil and alcohol. The division under Prof. R. G. Marvin joined Peary the same day. At this point Prof. Donald B. McMillan was sent back, his feet had been badly frozen. Borup returned to land from 85.23 with two Eskimos.

The party now consisted of twelve men, ten sledges and 85 dogs. Bartlett was still beating out the trail two days ahead of Peary. Marvin took observations at 85.48 and then started on his return march. On the next march Bartlett made a record trip, covering 20 miles. This brought him to 85.38. The party now consisted of Peary, Bartlett, Matthew Henson, the negro man, who has been Peary's personal assistant on so many of his expeditions, the Eskimos, seven sledges and sixty dogs and the journey northward was resumed. The ice was perfectly level as far as eye could see. Bartlett took the observation on the 88 parallel on April 6 and then reluctantly returned, leaving Peary, Henson and three Eskimos with provisions for 40 days to make the final dash to the pole.

This reduced party started on the morning of April 3. The men walked that day for ten hours and made 20 miles. Then they slept near the 89th parallel. While crossing a stretch of young ice 300 yards wide, the sledge broke through. It was saved, but two of the Eskimos had narrow escapes from drowning. The ice was still good, and the dogs were in great shape. They made as high as 25 miles a day. The next observation showed 89.57.

The pole was reached April 6, and a series of observations were taken at 90. Peary deposited his records and hoisted the American flag. The temperature was 32 degrees below zero, Fahrenheit. The Pole appeared as a frozen sea. Peary tried to take a sounding but got no bottom at 1,500 fathoms."

Rev. W. B. Morton, of Columbia, S. C., was a visitor in Waynesville last Saturday and Sunday. He preached two very able sermons at the Baptist church Sunday morning and night.