

THE FREE PRESS.

E. D. OSLIN, EDITOR.

Southern Pines, N. C.

THE UNION HOME SCHOOL

SITUATED AT VICTOR, NORTH CAROLINA.

TWELVE MILES NORTH OF SOUTHERN PINES.

We do not remember to have witnessed a more unique and interesting exhibit than that of the Union Home School, under the management of Prof. J. E. Kelly, at the Piney Woods Inn, during the Business Men's Convention.

The school is, in fact, an art and industrial institution, situated in the centre of a tract of land comprising 1,200 acres, with a natural lay of scenery, not to be seen elsewhere in the state. There is nothing in the way of calling it a college, but to some it would sound just as well to say that it was an institution for preparing and finishing for exhibits, with art, music and manual training, especially along the line of industrial development.

No one could help admiring the exhibits simply from a standpoint of its unique display to say nothing of the great aid given to the pupils of the school in the way of practical knowledge. We noticed beautiful carvings of wood, plants, flowers, fruit, birds, fish and animals, all from nature, as well as wood turnings, mallets, boxes, bats, dumb bells and many other carvings on beautiful specimens of hard wood, also made on the grounds from material which could be picked up around the place, no tools of any kind being bought or allowed in their manufacture. Special in the number of manufactured articles were the hand forge, turning machine, chisels, etc., and a three panel screen made from 18 different kinds of timber cut on the grounds, which are owned by the school.

The painting of a partridge nest in the field was perfect and the holly hand carved small table with a glass top in which a spray of native vine was painted in delicate tints was indeed an attraction worthy of note; and especially interesting was the paint-

ing of the branch of an orange tree framed in cedar, by Prof Kelly's wife, and one can readily realize how perfect the paintings are when orders are readily received at \$10.00 each for the Cape Fear Shad, on cedar boards.

We speak of this as a fine exhibit, and at the same time we wish to make emphatic such splendid work the Prof is doing along the line of industrial training, teaching so plainly the advantages derived, not alone from industrial training, but the art of rendering a more perfect degree of efficiency along all lines of trades.

The North Carolina Agricultural Society has given this school a handsome diploma for "best display of art work," and as the school is in need of funds for further development the management is endeavoring to negotiate a loan of \$10,000 for ten years, repayable in 3 installments of five, eight and ten years, interest to be six per cent., and payable semi annually, and as a security a first mortgage on the entire property will be given consisting of school, lands, buildings, machinery, etc., carrying a stipulation that the money is to be used for improvements.

Here is a splendid opportunity for a good investment for some one with a little spare cash.

EXPORTS.

The growing prosperity of American manufactures appears in the March figures of the Treasury Bureau of Statistics. For instance: March, 1896, exports of manufactures \$19,125,795; March, 1897, \$25,876,861; March 1898, \$28,214,450; March 1899, \$36,025,733. A gain of nearly ninety per cent. in four years is not bad. But the great American export period is only beginning. The United States produces so much that it must export. The extension of its commerce in the Pacific and access to the Oriental markets are indispensable. The fortune of war has put into American hands opportunities and facilities for increasing their export trade and finding markets for their surplus products. They have got at small cost and in good season what they might have had to fight for under great disadvantages later.

The export of American manufactures has already reached respectable figures, and in a few years it will be enormous. A remarkable expansion, not merely of territory, but of American industrial and commercial energy, has begun. —New York Sun.

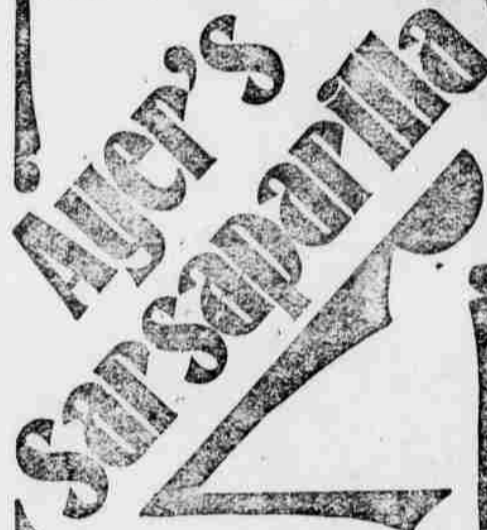
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