HISTORY OF EDUCATION IN OXFORD INTERESTING GRADUATING ES-SAY AT OXFORD HIGH SCHOOL

(By MUZETTE DANIEL) people of this community ever since statution its earliest history; and to this edu-

were constituted a body corporate lege. by the name of Trustees of an Acad-

instruction of pupils of elementary tunity. school age; and the Public Graded The last two principals of this B. S. ROYSTER, A ttorney. 6-9-4w. School, combining the features of

perhaps the one most broadly influ-John W. Hays and Miss Hattie Cousa most talented and versatile woman, and an inspiring teacher. Her spirit will long continue to "live again

In minds made better by her pres-In pulses stirred to generosity,

In thoughts sublime that pierce the night like stars, And with their mild persistence urge man's search

To vaster issues."

begun by Mrs. A. A. Hicks in the Cooper's residence. year 1894, three years after the be-

daily, some means for boarding schools had to be devised. These institutions make up the College Preparatory element of education in Oxford. One of these, Saint Stephen's Institute, was established in 1885, and lasted for only five Horner left the school in the care of the school in the school in the care of the school in the school in the care of the school in the school in the care of the school in the school in the care of the school in the school in the care of the school in the school i years, at the close of which time it was bought by Miss Bettie Clark, who called it the Granville Institute. This school, for girls only, was bought by the Misses Hilliard after the school was left entirely under a few years' supervision by Miss Col. J. C. Horner's control, and con-Clark, and was renamed the Fran-ces Hilliard School. Its very effec-until, in October 1913 while many

School, Mrs. Paris, then Miss Bertha
Luck, came to Oxford.

The third division of Oxford's educational establishments, which is

this institution and Saint Mary's conditions are improved. College were rivals and never would In 1901 all that was necessary the people of Oxford have recogniz- was to have a frame building that ed Saint Mary's as superior to the would accomodate about one hun-Academy. Dr. Kingsbury wrote dred and fifty children, for there that "The Academy had a high rep- weren't so many in Oxford as now, utation from 1833 to the war, and but in eight or nine years there were that many girls from the eastern several times that number of school part of the state came here to boys and girls here. What should school." It seems that up to the be done? The answer to this questime of the war, and probably long-tion stands in brick and stone-a er, the boy's and girl's Academies monument to the enterprise and had the same principals, though the public spirit of Oxford's school truswork was entirely separate.

young woman's college, and agreed are more children in Oxford than among themselves to establish such can be accommodated conveniently an institution. The site chosen for in this building. We of the tenth this was on the lots facing the grade of 1915 can testify that to be southern end of Main street, and a true statement. Oxford greatly the buildings were erected almost needs a High School building separimmediately. There were several ate and distinct from the primary other buildings but these have since and intermediate departments. She then been torn down. Dr. Samuel must have this if she expects the Walt, who had been president of people of her town to be properly Wake Forest College, was the first educated. president of this College, then call- But there is need of some things ed Oxford Baptist Female College. of far more importance than mere On his resigning, Mr. John H. Mills, house-room. First; vocational eduwho had taught with Dr. Walt, suc- cation should be introduced into the ceded him. Mr. Mills remained school, and there are several reasthere until the close of the war, in ons why. In the first place there is 1865, when he bought St. John's a class of children who will never College, which had been opened in have an opportunity to attend school 1857, where the Orphanage is today, other than the High School, and if and converted it into a girl's college under the same title as the one one thing for which they are fitted, of which he was president. Mr. even if it is nothing more than Mills, as tutor, was followed by Rev. mend shoes or tend the garden, the J. H. Phillips and Rev. C. B. Rid- town would be noted for professiondick successively. In 1871, this in- al men and women. A lawyer stitution, not having been success- be no more a professional man than ful in its first situation, was trans- the well-to-do trucker. Neither ferred to a portion of the old Acad- would the great musician be

charge of and conducted very suc-cessfully by Mr. S. L. Venable, as-rules of dietetics, and to sew propersisted by Miss Margaret Mitchell ly. Each of these things can be and Mrs. Grant. They were, in taught, and by having them taught 1875, followed by Mrs. John W. you are able to find out each per-Hays and Miss Hattie N. Cousins. son's calling and have him or her to They taught there for about three pay special attention to that one years, at the close of which time Mrs. Stradley and Miss Bettie Jordon took charge. This school was ceed in this calls for specially train-

under their supervision when Mr. F. ed teachers in addition to those al-Raleigh here and bought and im- and the enforcement of the law for proved the Academy and named it compulsory education.
Oxford Baptist Seminary, after the Now, what kind of town will school that the Baptist people for schools produce that train boys in twenty years had attempted to make agriculture and manual labor, such Education of the young has been successful. Since then Mr. Hobgood as furniture making, and carpentery

great university town of that name liberal spirit of the people of Oxince of educational institu
tions which at various times have following the people of Oxince of Oxince of the people of Oxince of Oxinc tions which at various times have following men: E. T. White, H. M. flourished here, and from the inter- Shaw, S. W. Parker, William Lanest in things educational manifest- dis, J. F. Edwards, James Long, J. ed by its people, Oxford is often G. Hunt, Z. W. Lyon, W. B. Ballou, called the "Athens of North Caro- W. Z. Mitchell, B. S. Royster, R. W. General Assembly of North Caro- and it is no longer called Oxford lina, certain men of the community Baptist Semenary, but Oxford Col-

While the female department, of emy for girls and boys, to have per- the Academy, was passing through petual succession, to hold property the various stages of development, for the use of the Academy, to make until it has come to be the Oxford by-laws and regulations, to fill vaca- College, the boys' department, situncies in the board, and to have pow- ated on the grounds adjoining that er to raise, by lottery, a sum of of the girls, though it did not have money not exceeding \$2,000 for so high a reputation as the girls', ing results you will get in return. erecting buildings, etc., for the until 1850, has experienced equally Academy, on land granted by Mr. as interesting a development. It was B. Littlejohn, adjoining not so progressive as the girls' the court house of Granville county. Academy, yet its influence is worth the Superior Court of Granville Coun-Since the establishment of the old Academy, Oxford has met the educational needs of her people by means of various institutions, which may be roughly divided into three classes: Home Schools, for the training of young children: College though place at which the young men of this town and community might be training of young children: College though parents of the said estate are retraining of young children; College prepared for college, though, perpersons indebted to said estate are re-Preparatory Schools and Academies, haps, not so large a number of boys ment. This June 5, 1915. some of which provide also for the as of girls made use of their oppor-

school were Mr. Edward Hubbell Hicks, father of Mr. E. T. Hicks Of the home schools, the first, and who owns Brantwood, the beautiful summer home on the northern surential, was that taught by Mrs. burb of Oxford, and Mr. James H. Horner, the founder of Horner's ins, at the Old Hays homestead on school, and father of Mr. J. C. Horon College street. Mrs. Hays was ner. Mr. Horner spent only two years there and then opened a preparatory school for boys at the place now occupied by Mr. C. D. Ray and Dr. R. H. Marsh. It has been stated that Mr. Horner was partner with Mr. Ashbel G. Brown in Saint John's College, and if so it In deeds of daring rectitude, in scorn was between 1857 and the Civil For miserable aims that end with War, at which time, on account of failing health, Mr. Horner moved to Hillsboro, North Carolina.

While he was away the town bought the property, at present belonging to Dr. T. L. Booth and Mrs. Pinnix, and opened a boys' school Another of these schools was under the management of Mr. Fred taught by Miss Bettie Jordon, who A. Fetter who taught here probably succeeded Mrs. Hays at the Acad- until 1878, when Mr. James Horner emy, taught with Mr. Hobgood for and his son, J.C. Horner, came eleven years, and on leaving the back and established a school on the College began a home school which hill known as "Horner's Hill." Mr. she continued until three years ago. Horner lived on the hill beyond the The last of the home schools, and school, and students roomed in the the only one that exists today, was cottages situated opposite Mr. H. G.

In 1880 the military department ginning of Miss Jordon's school, and was added and a new barrack was continues its excellent work at Mrs. built. Mr. Horner had also built, Hicks' home on College street.

Since the home schools offered an opportunity only to girls and boys who lived near enough to attend

tive work was successfully carried of the boys were off enjoying the youthful pleasures of a holiday, the At about the same time as the new barrack had the terrible misestablishment of the Granville In- fortune of being burned to the stitute a Presbyterian boarding ground. In spite of this disaster Mr. school for girls was founded on the Horner was able to complete the lot now occupied by the Graded school term, but with decreased at-School Building, by Rev. T. U. Fautendance. Now that the school was cette and his wife. This school to be rebuilt, offers came from cities lasted only four years, closing after both in Virginia and the Carolinas; the death of Mr. Faucette. It was Charlotte, North Carolina being finas a teacher in this school that the ally victorious in securing this present principal of the Graded school.

Of the other College Preparatory represented by the public Graded Schools, the Academy, being the School is the one of most vital imfirst educational institution estab- portance to Oxford's present citizenlished in the town, was, of course, ship. This school is to make the the oldest. The buildings provided Oxford that will be in years to come. for in the charter were erected What shall it be? Shall it be a where the Oxford College now is, in-cluding the sites of Mr. C. W. equipped to meet the demands of Bryan's and Mrs. Ellen Bryan's res- modern life? No-No-Never. But idences. The female department of this will be the case unless certain

tees and citizens. Only four years In 1850 the Baptist people of this have passed since this new brick community perceived the need of a building was erected and now there

thought to have accomplished more In the meanwhile, in 1860, the than the woman who had learned to girls' Academy had been taken keep house, a neat and clean house,

. Hobgood moved his school from ready engaged in academic work,

a predominant principle with the has held the presidency of this in- book-keeping, and business courses and girls in house-keeping, which In 1904 that terrible monster, includes domestic science and docational spirit is due the name chos- fire, swept away the buildings of mestic are, as well as in the same en for the town—Oxford, after the this school, but did not burn the business courses as the boys? Such

The death angels visited the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Critcher, June 3, lina."

Lassiter, J. S. Brown, and Professor Hobgood immediately organized a stock company and had the school place of learning antedates the incorporation of the town by five years. In 1811, by an act of the General Assembly of North Caroprecious one from us has gone, A voice we loved is still; The little chair is vacant in our home That never can be filled. Sleep on beloved, sleep and take thy

rest; Good night, good night. The funeral was conducted by Dr. H. Marsh. A FRIEND. RUN an advertisement in our

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