

The Commonwealth.

E. E. HILLIARD, Editor.
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WAKE FOREST COMMENCEMENT.

It was a pleasure to attend Wake Forest commencement last week.

It was up to the usual high standard for that institution. On Monday night Judge Montgomery, of the Supreme court, delivered a lecture before the law class.

On Tuesday night the alumni address was delivered by E. E. Hilliard. Wednesday at 10:30 o'clock President E. M. Andrews, of Brown University, delivered the literary address. His audience was a fine one and his theme was well chosen—"Character in Higher Education." It was pronounced by all a very fine discourse. President Andrews enjoys the reputation of being one of the most gifted men of the times, and his address sustained the reputation.

Wednesday night, Rev. W. R. L. Smith, D. D., pastor of the Second Baptist church of Richmond, delivered the baccalaureate sermon before the graduating class. A magnificent audience greeted the preacher and the sermon was of a high order, and was regarded by all as strong and powerful. Dr. Smith's reputation suffered none in his effort, for his sermon was well received by the vast audience and would of itself place him among the great preachers of his time.

Thursday was the students' day. There were forty-four in the graduating class.

The following delivered addresses, and the remainder of the class handed in these:

T. H. Lacy—Salutatory.

J. D. Larkins—"Shoot, or Give up the Gun."

S. J. Honeycutt—"Write me as One who Loves his Fellowman."

C. S. Burgess—"The North Carolina Academy."

H. M. Evans—"Poetry and Fact."

C. M. Beavers—"The Danger of Victory."

J. Hamilton—"Anglo-American Alliance."

A. C. Cree—"The Grand Old Man."

T. N. Johnson—"Modern Obstructionism."

J. H. McNeil—"Valedictory."

The orations by the class were said to be good. The writer was away at the Democratic State convention in Raleigh.

Thursday night was given up to concert by the Richmond Band, to hand-shaking, conversation and a general good time.

NOTES.

On Wednesday afternoon, at a mass meeting in the Philomathesian hall, Prof. J. B. Carlyle, for the family, presented the Philomathesian society with the portrait of the late Miss Eva Belle Simmons. The presentation speech was beautiful and touching. Prof. C. E. Brewer, for the society, accepted the portrait in a beautiful speech of tender reference to the subject and the donor.

Miss Simmons was the daughter of the late Prof. W. G. Simmons, and took the regular course in Wake Forest, with a class of young men, graduating with high honors a few years ago. She was the only female member of either of the literary societies, having joined the Phi. society about the time she finished her course at college taking the full degree of membership and being entrusted with the secret of the mystic word "Sentram" like the male members. The scene of the presentation of the portrait was beautiful but sad, Miss Simmons having died a few weeks ago in her strong and vigorous young womanhood.

One of the pleasant features of Wednesday's exercises was the presentation to the college, by Dr. J. D. Hufham, of the portraits of Rev. James McDaniel, Maj. W. V. Vass and Dr. A. E. Vann. Dr. Hufham was happy in his presentation speech, and did it most handsomely. Dr. T. E. Skinner, on the part of the college, accepted the portraits in well-chosen remarks.

At the alumni meeting after the address Tuesday night, it was stated that the trustees had desired that the alumni of the institution build a gymnasium. The matter was at once taken up and a subscription taken over of \$1,100. Mr. Walter E. Daniel, of Weldon, leading with a subscription of \$100.

The editor THE COMMONWEALTH enjoyed the hospitalities of the beautiful and well-ordered home of Prof. C. E. Brewer. It was indeed a pleasure to be the guest of such hosts as Prof. Brewer and his charming wife, together with his gentlemanly old father and queenly mother.

The law department at the college is doing well, there being 88 in the class this year.

The prospects for the institution are fine and the mark set for next year is 300 students.

The Summer School which will open about 30th, promises to be quite successful and interesting.

FUSION DECLINED.

The following resolutions were tendered through a committee from the Populists to the Democratic convention in Raleigh last week:

Whereas, the People's party was organized to remove the causes that produce hard times in the midst of plenty by overthrowing the dominion of the gold ring and its allied trust and monopolies, and by restoring our government on the great fundamental principles of good government advocated by Jefferson, Jackson and Lincoln.

Whereas, to-day rank and file of all parties, (including a large majority of the voters of the United States) unequivocally agree with us on the great fundamental question involved and the results for which we have constantly striven, and

Whereas, the only difference between this great majority of patriotic voters is as to questions of detail and method now therefore,

Resolved 1st. That we most earnestly endorse the address recently issued by the national chairman of the People's party, and the open letter of Hon. W. J. Bryan in the New York Journal urging an honorable and harmonious co-operation of all who oppose the domination of gold and monopoly, and who favor the overthrow of the national bank and railroad influence in controlling legislation.

Resolved 2d. That in the coming State election, we invite the patriotic co-operation of any party or faction of a party, who favors the above general principles and who will co-operate with us to secure the following result, viz:

1. To elect nine free silver and anti-monopoly congressmen.

2. To elect six judges of ability and high character, and free from partisan bias.

3. To elect twelve solicitors, fearless and impartial.

4. To elect an anti-monopoly Legislature pledged to the following measures, viz:

A. A legislature opposed to the demonization of silver by private contract, and which will enact legislation to put a stop to the giving and taking of gold notes and mortgages.

B. A legislature opposed to government by injunction, and which will enact sufficient legislation including a license law similar to the Wisconsin statute, to effectually prevent the removal to Federal courts all cases which should be tried in our State courts.

C. A legislature opposed to the 99 year lease of the North Carolina Railroad, and which will use all lawful and legitimate means to set the same aside.

D. A legislature opposed to free passes, and which will make the present law prohibiting the giving of free passes apply equally to those receiving the same.

E. A legislation in favor of a free ballot and a fair count, and which will enact legislation guaranteeing to each political party the right of being represented on all election boards by representatives of its own selection.

F. A legislature in favor of a system of local self-government and which will enact under proper safeguards sufficient legislation to guarantee the counties the right to elect their local officials.

G. A legislature in favor of a reduction of freight, passenger and express rates, and of telegraph and telephone tariffs in the gold standard level.

That will endorse the action of Commissioner Pearson in taking a stand for such reduction, and which will favor upholding the railroad commission law, making the same effective according to all of its intents and purposes, and which will enact legislation providing for the election of railroad commission by the people.

Resolved, That this convention elect a conference committee, which shall be authorized to confer with any party or faction of a party, that declares its endorsement of the above principles and purposes, and that favors co-operation with the People's party, to carry the same into effect upon such basis as will maintain intact the integrity of the People's party, and as will preserve to it not less than its present representation in both state and national affairs.

RESPECTFULLY DECLINED.

During the sitting of the Democratic Convention the following resolution was adopted by a rising vote in answer to the Populist Proposition:

The Committee on Platform and Resolutions,—by direction of the convention, having had under consideration the proposition for fusion made by a committee of the populist party, recommend that this convention adopt the following resolutions in respect thereto:

"Resolved, 1. That the proposition for fusion submitted by the Populist committee be, and the same is hereby, respectfully declined.

"Resolved, 2. That the Democratic State Executive Committee be, and the same is hereby, instructed to entertain no further proposition for fusion.

"Resolved, 3. That the secretary of the convention transmit a copy of these resolutions to the chairman of the populist executive committee."

Thirty-five years make a nation. That is how long Adolph Fisher, of Zanesville, O., suffered from piles. He was cured by using three boxes of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. —E. T. Whitehead & Co.

DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM.

Following is the platform adopted by the State Democratic convention in Raleigh last week:

The Democratic party of North Carolina, in convention assembled in Raleigh, N. C., on this day, May 26, 1898, do hereby approve, endorse and ratify the last Democratic National and State platform, and pledge our earnest support to the principles therein expressed.

We denounce the Republican party for the passage of the Dingley tariff bill, which has increased the burdens of taxation upon the consumers and given the trusts and monopolists greater power to rob the people.

Believing that under our present methods of Federal taxation more than three-quarters of our National revenues are paid by people owning less than one-quarter of the property of the country, we protest against such inequality and injustice, and in order to remedy to some extent this great wrong, we favor an income tax, and favor all constitutional methods to sustain it.

We denounce the Republican party for the defeat of the Teller resolutions declaring our National bonds payable in silver as well as gold, and denounce it for its determined purpose of more thoroughly fastening the single gold standard upon our people, and for its avowed hostility to the free and unlimited coinage of silver, as well as gold, at the ratio of 16 to 1, into full legal tender money.

We denounce the Republican party for its determination to issue bonds at this time, and we denounce the Republican war tax bill which lately passed the House of Representatives as unjust and unequal in its burdens, unnecessary and vexatious, and we demand that the silver seigniorage be coined; that an income tax be levied, and that the Secretary of the Treasury be authorized to issue the necessary amount of full legal tender greenbacks, or United States Treasury notes, in order to meet the expenses of the war with Spain and to supply the revenue deficit under the Dingley bill.

While we deplore the war with Spain, we pledge our earnest support to the Government in all honorable ways to effect a speedy and successful conclusion of hostilities.

We denounce the scandal, extravagance, incompetency and corruption of the present Republican State administration.

We denounce all enactments of the last two Legislatures by which cities and towns in the State have been turned over to negro domination, and we pledge ourselves to enact such laws as will give security and protection to the property and people of every town and community in the State.

We denounce the placing of negroes on committees to supervise white schools, and we pledge ourselves if restored to power, to enact such legislation as will make this impossible.

We denounce all legislation enacted by the Legislature of 1895 and 1897 for carrying out the base and partisan designs of the Republican party.

We denounce the placing of ignorant, irresponsible and corrupt men in office.

We oppose the removal by corporations of suits or cases from our State to the Federal courts, and favor legislation to prevent it.

We favor fair and just election laws.

We favor a government of the people, by the people and for the people—economy in expenditure, the abolition of unnecessary offices, decency in administration, constant improvement of our educational system, charity to the unfortunate, and rule by the white men of the State.

We favor the extension of the powers of the Railroad Commission, and a close scrutiny into affairs in order to ascertain, establish and maintain such rates as shall be fair and just to the people and to the transportation and transmission corporations.

We condemn free passes.

We favor the election of United States Senators and Railroad Commissioners by the people.

We favor the enactment of such legislation as will encourage capital to make investments within our State, and guarantee that the same shall be justly protected.

We favor a union of the silver forces of the country in the Congressional elections, and cordially invite all voters, without regard to past political affiliations, to unite with us in supporting our candidates for Congress who favor the free coinage of silver, thus giving practical force and effect to the recommendation of our Democratic National chairman, Hon. James K. Jones, and to the Congressional committee.

We admire and recommend without stint the great and gallant fight made

Millions Given Away.

It is certainly gratifying to the public to know of one concern in the land who are not afraid to be generous to the needy and suffering. The proprietors of Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds, have given away over ten millions trial bottles of this great medicine and have the satisfaction of knowing it has absolutely cured thousands of hopeless cases. Asthma, Bronchitis, Hoarseness and all diseases of the Throat, Chest and Lungs are surely cured by it. Call on E. T. Whitehead & Co., Druggists, and get a trial bottle free, regular size 50c, and \$1. Every bottle guaranteed, or price refunded.

WAR NEWS.

Key West, Fla., May 28.—It is now almost certain that Commodore Schley has the Spanish fleet bottled up in the harbor of Santiago de Cuba. There is so little doubt about it that the naval campaign is proceeding upon the assumption that Admiral Cervera is incapable of doing any harm. Within a few days, the exact conditions of Santiago de Cuba will be known without a shadow of doubt.

In spite of assertions to the contrary Commodore Schley was not absolutely sure of his game when he last communicated with Rear Admiral Sampson and the commodore will not take active steps to block up the entrance of Santiago harbor until he is perfectly certain that Admiral Cervera's ships are inside. However, he may have done this already, as Commodore Schley's last communication, forwarded Thursday, only reached Rear Admiral Sampson yesterday.

The commodore stayed three days at Cienfuegos. He signalled to his ships "I believe the Spanish fleet is in the Harbor." On this belief a message was sent to the American admiral.

The details, if Commodore Schley found out that he was mistaken are not yet known. At any rate, acting on the admiral's instructions, the commodore then moved east, arriving outside Santiago de Cuba on Wednesday morning, May 25th.

The topography of Cienfuegos and Santiago de Cuba is almost identical. Both harbors are about six miles long, with narrow entrances about 300 yards wide and protected by highlands. A whole fleet could lie in the harbor of either place and not be visible from the outside.

After his experience at Cienfuegos, it is probable that Commodore Schley was very conservative in deciding whether or not he had caught Admiral Cervera. From the tons of his dispatches it is evident that the commodore soon gained much second hand and external evidence which pointed to Admiral Cervera's presence in the inner harbor. This evidence was apparently strong enough to make the commodore feel certain the object of his trip had been accomplished, but in view of his previous experience, he would not risk a decisive statement until further ascertaining the fact for himself.

Before this dispatch is published it is likely that Commodore Schley has sent some vessel into the entrance of the harbor of Santiago de Cuba, or has obtained from a reliable source ashore information as to the exact number and the names of the Spanish warships sheltered by the hills about that place.

SANTIAGO POORLY PROTECTED.

Contrary to the generally expected opinion, the harbor of Santiago de Cuba is poorly protected. Like Havana and San Juan de Porto Rico, it has its Morro castle, which is even a better target than those of Havana and San Juan. The only danger to be feared is from the mines which have been laid in the channel of Santiago since war was declared. But, countermining would probably render these mines harmless, should it prove desirable for Commodore Schley's ships to enter the harbor. Such a step however, is unlikely. It may be noted that since the commencement of the naval operations, the moral effects of the mines has been great. This condition promises to continue and will probably mark the naval operations to a greater extent than ever imagined in the past.

THE BLOCKADE.

The blockade of northern Cuba continues uneventful and is apparently successful. The measure of precaution which Rear Admiral Sampson adopted up to yesterday to guard the eastern and western passages did not detract from the efficacy of the blockade.

Now that the element of uncertainty regarding the Spanish ships' whereabouts is almost entirely removed, the ships which were solely occupied in watching for the Spaniards have become an additional force for the blockade, and without any inconvenient change of position. Commodore Schley has been reinforced but his position was clearly so strong that the reinforcement which he received made no difference to the strong fleet in northern Cuban waters.

The rumors of the sailing of a second Spanish squadron did not worry Rear Admiral Sampson in the slightest degree. His feelings on the subject were apparently expressed when he said: "I am perfectly satisfied that we have bagged these fellows" (referring to Admiral Cervera's ships).

LATEST NEWS.

The following which was discredited from Washington was printed in this morning's dailies (Wednesday.)

Cape Haytien, Hayti, May 31.—5:15 p. m.—Advices just received from Havana say that since 2 o'clock this afternoon the American fleet at Santiago de Cuba has been cannonading the batteries of Morro Castle, La Zecapa and Punta Garda. At the same time it is added, the American ships have been engaged with the Spanish warships. The firing is extremely heavy. At 3:45 p. m. the cannonading became less heavy against the fortifications, but was more accentuated in the locality where the fleets were engaged.

Morro Castle is at the entrance of the harbor of Santiago de Cuba. La Zecapa, also shown on the maps as La Zecapa Castle, is a short distance inside the harbor entrance, and Punta Garda is situated on a point well inside the harbor of Santiago de Cuba, showing that the American fleet has entered the harbor according to the Havana advices, via Cape Haytien, and has engaged the Spanish fleet in those waters.

MODES OF PATRIOTISM.

Philadelphia Record.

When a war breaks out so many and so varied are the forms in which love of country manifests itself that it is quite impossible to enumerate them. All cannot go the front if they would. Many cannot pass the examining surgeon; many more are above or below the age of enlistment, while many can better serve their country in some other capacity than by carrying a musket. Colts P. Huntington shows what kind of stuff his patriotism is made of by charging the Government two prices for transporting troops to Manila in his ships. Others who cannot go to war themselves are willing to sacrifice all of their wives' relations, and still others show their love of country by securing commissions for their sons and nephews in the quartermaster and commissary departments of the military service. The abolition of sutlerships in the army has deprived many another aspiring patriot of a profitable place.

But by reason of their sex more than half of the population are debarred of the privilege of taking up arms for their country. The women of America, however, are at no loss for effective means of manifesting the intense patriotism which animates their bosoms. In every camp of the army, from Chickamauga to Tampa, the soldiers are receiving substantial proofs of their love and tender care. While some are nursing the sick in hospital, others are busily engaged in providing for the comforts of their brethren in tent and on the march.

In the midst of these practical proofs of the universal patriotism of American women in this war it was to be expected that sentiment would take a flight beyond the ordinary range, and we learn that right here in Philadelphia a society of women is in process of formation in which each member is pledged to wear no more Parisian costumes and millinery. The French have certainly been saying some very saucy things about us, especially the yellow journals of Paris, which supply gossip to the loungers of the boulevards. This proposed boycott would serve 'em just about right, provided that it should hit the right mark. But the probability is that the French dressmakers and sewing girls who prepare the dainty for our women of fashion are not giving themselves the slightest uneasiness about this Spanish-American war. They have enough cares of their own, poor things!

While the sentiment of patriotism which inspires this boycott cannot be too highly appreciated, there may well be misgivings as to its success in view of the great sacrifice involved. We have seen candidates for Congress attire themselves in suits made of domestic cloth from pure love of country; but to expect our women to voluntarily give up the costumes, hats, gloves, ribbons, flowers and corsets of Paris is

Every day strengthens the belief of eminent physicians that impure blood is the cause of the majority of our diseases. Twenty-five years ago this theory was ironed as a basis for the *Formula of Brewer's Iron Bitters*. The many remarkable cures effected by this famous old household remedy are sufficient to prove that the theory is correct. The *Formula of Brewer's Iron Bitters* is sold by all druggists.

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too much! Roman women laid their jewels upon the altar of their country, and American women would do the same whenever necessary; but it may be readily imagined how the delicate limbs of a woman of fashion, accustomed to the latest Parisian styles, would writhe under a garment bearing the mark "Made in Hoboken!" Think of her laying off Jouvins' kid gloves for what the Germans call the "hand shoes" of Gloversville, New York!

Admitting that the French deserve this boycott for their impudence, and that our women are able to make so great a sacrifice of fashion under the inspiration of patriotism, it ought not to stop with the dresses, hats and ribbons of Paris. Consistency would require that they should also give up yellow covered translations of French novels, French works of art, and, above all, French champagne. This would be a great trial. Could there, in fact, be a greater test of the patriotism of this French boycotting society than the surrender of Roederer and Venve Cliquot for the champagne of California?

ANTHONY REJECTED.

Dispatches from Washington Friday, announced that the Senate had decided not to confirm the appointment of C. P. Anthony as postmaster for Scotland Neck, and the President withdrew the appointment. So after all Anthony will not be postmaster, and the place is open for a new appointment.

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