

The African Expositor.

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ISSUED QUARTERLY

TO OUR WHITE BRETHREN IN NORTH CAROLINA.

ever in mind that I have before me the teachers and mothers of the future. The teachers who must be thoroughly equipped with a thirst for knowledge, an enthusiasm for their work, and such a love for the souls and such an appreciation of the laws of health and of temperance as will compel them to give these things to their pupils. As the future mothers, they must be taught that a woman's sphere is pre-eminently to make her home the most delightful spot on earth to her family; to cultivate the home graces and refinements by the control of temper and the exercise of forbearance; to take an interest, not so much in the affairs of our neighbors as in the things that concern the world in general; to cultivate the mind and train a family to habits of thrift, honesty, and usefulness. I want my girls to feel that it is possible, while engaged in daily toil and in poverty even, to exalt home life into a thing of beauty.

I think I hear some one say, "Are the colored girls capable of this?" In answer, I will mention some of the sacrifices they are willing to make for an education. Several have served in families for five dollars a month, and saved their money to come to Shaw University, wearing only the plainest of clothing; others work in the field, plowing and cultivating cotton. One of our girls last summer worked in gardens, chopped cotton, picked off tobacco worms, and shelled with her hands thirty-three bushels of corn.

She earned in this way twelve dollars. She came to school until Christmas, then found a school to teach for three months, returning to us again the last of March. She never buys an unnecessary article of dress, is faithful, conscientious, and a noble girl. Another one raised last year two bales of cotton, first renting her land, then plowing, planting and doing herself all of the work from first to last; during the intervals of such labor she carded, spun and wove one hundred yards of cloth, specimens of which I have with me. She left us three weeks ago that she might repeat the same experience, and come back to school again in the fall. I might mention many other noble girls who are able to teach, and can earn their money more easily.

I find it very easy to control the girls, securing neatness and good order, and a faithful observance of the rules; but it is owing, I think, to the opportunity I have each day of appealing to their moral sense, of doing right because it is right, inciting them to hold fast to whatever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are lovely, and whatsoever things are of good report. I believe the girls are generally keeping the rules from principle.

After nearly four years of experience as a missionary teacher, I feel greatly encouraged to continue this work, and thankful for the opportunity; and I know of nothing that need prevent these daughters of a downtrodden and despised race from becoming as corner stones, and polished after the similitude of a palace.

THE BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION.

The Baptist State Convention of North Carolina will meet in Winston, Forsyth county, on the 20th of October next. All the associations we have heard from have elected delegates to the Convention. Individual churches can be represented by contributing one dollar.

We hope that all the churches will send their pastors and that as many other brethren will attend as possible. Let all make a little sacrifice and come together once a year to discuss and adopt plans to better unite our strength and carry on the Master's work.

We forward this issue of the Expositor to the white Baptist ministers of the State. Many are asking "how can I help the colored brethren in their efforts to educate themselves and improve their condition?"

I wish to make a suggestion, which we are confident is practical and would result in great good: If from any neighborhood or section one more colored young man or woman, active, industrious, and of good character—could be induced to save money and enter some department of Shaw University, the result would be highly beneficial. At first it may be only for one term, and the expense would not be more than twenty dollars, not including traveling expenses. Our experience has shown that a student once enters Shaw University he will begin to save his money, and will return to continue his studies.

With the assistance in planning and early care and advice, is all that is needed, in many cases, to make a man or woman on the road to usefulness. Often a student turns to his neighborhood in Sunday School work, or in Christian labor, and in other ways we have known of numbers of people where whole communities have been in process.

Anything our white brethren can do by special effort in the way of advising, &c., will be appreciated, and will be sure to result in a blessing to the colored people.

DR. THOMAS E. SKINNER, of Raleigh, has accepted a professorship in Shaw University. He will teach Moral Philosophy, Biblical Interpretation and Homeletics. Both white and colored brethren unite in expressions of joy and congratulations that Shaw University is thus favored and blessed. It is looked upon at the rooms in New York as well as among the two hundred thousand Baptists of North Carolina as the right thing to be done. Dr. Skinner has been in the pastorate more than thirty years a score or more as pastor of the First Baptist church, of Raleigh, and is fully conversant with the character and wants of the colored people, has been accustomed in past years to give lectures to the students of the University and is acquainted with the history of the school from its very beginning. Dr. Skinner enters upon his work at Shaw University under most favorable circumstances, with superior intellectual ability as a preacher and with a wide experience among both white and colored; he cannot fail to become a power for good in this new field of labor.

Prof. W. R. Granger is a colored gentleman, a graduate of the University of Lewisburg, Pa. President Hill speaks of his capabilities in the highest terms.

SHAW UNIVERSITY opens with encouraging prospects. As we go to press students are arriving upon every train and the probability is that we are to be crowded as never before. The extent of our present accommodations is for about four hundred boarding students, possibly our recitation rooms are sufficiently large and numerous to accommodate six hundred. After the fifteenth of October, students should write before leaving home and ascertain if they can be admitted. Especially young ladies wishing to enter Estey Seminary.

H. B. BATTLE assistant State Chemist has accepted the position as professor of Chemistry in the Leonard Medical School, of Shaw University. He was educated at the University of North Carolina. His practical experience as a Chemist in the State Chemical Laboratory at Raleigh, renders him a valuable accession to our medical faculty and his appointment was well received and may be regarded as indicative of a determination on the part of the Medical Faculty and Trustees to provide our students with every possible facility in their efforts to acquire a thorough knowledge of the different branches of Medicine.

THE DEATH OF MRS. W. W. KEEN, OF PHILADELPHIA.

The sudden death of Mrs. Keen in Philadelphia, brought sorrow to a large circle of friends outside the afflicted family.

Her name was familiar to many of the students and teachers of Shaw University. Her husband, Dr. W. W. Keen, died in Philadelphia, is still fresh in memory.

A deep interest was awakened in the welfare of the school and last session when in somewhat poor health and with an usually heavy financial burden resting upon the President of the institution she came to his relief, and for several weeks solicited funds forwarding contributions constantly, and her letters that accompanied the money were even a greater treasure. From week to week the writer read her letters to those who assembled each Friday night to pray that God would open the hearts of Northern friends.

In the twenty-one years that we have been connected with the school, no such letters so full of sympathy with such self forgetfulness and abiding faith in the promises and goodness of the dear Lord have ever been received, and they left an impression that never will be effaced. It was almost her last Christian work. She had already caught the language consecration and spirit of the heavenly land. She was fast ripening for a higher and holier service. We understand now the inspiration that she referred to in her letters and that seemed to actuate her in all she attempted. As we have mourned her death the thought has irrepressibly come. Upon whom will her mantle fall. Who will take her place. Who will be our guarding angel when financial embarrassment and distress arise; in hours when we shall need such an inspiring and triumphant helper.

WE insert the following from the *Helping Hand*.

Mrs. W. W. Keen, who for years has been one of the leaders in foreign mission work in Philadelphia, has been called to enter into "the joy of our Lord."

Before the summer vacation, she was moving among us, inspiring, encouraging, and strengthening any whose hearts were faint; constantly guiding and directing the Mission Bands of the First Baptist Church, whose head and heart she was, and filling her own home with sunshine in her beautiful, winsome way.

Mrs. Keen was the daughter of Deacon Jefferson Borden, of Fall River, Mass., who was for many years a trustee of Brown University. When only eight years of age she became a Christian, and her life has since been a constant growth in grace. Her own youthful experience led her to labor with zeal among the children, who she believed were included in the promise, "Whosoever will may come."

Her heart was so large that it took in every good work. "Oh!" she said, when speaking of what ought to be done, and the few there were to do it, "sometimes I wish that I might be a dozen women at once." Her wish will be realized in its broadest sense, for many of the young people who have felt the helpful influence of her life will grow, in time, to take her place in the work for the world. Her four daughters have inherited much of their mother's zeal and earnestness, and, in the sweet home life, have learned her winning, unselfish ways.

In the midst of a busy life, Mrs. Keen occasionally found time to write the words that burned in her heart, and what she has written, like her life, has stimulated both young and old to greater effort for Christ and his church. Her "Thoughts concerning Young Ladies' Mission Bands" was printed in a little tract published by our Woman's Board, and also by the

Through its influence, new bands have been organized, and its valuable suggestions have aided those already in working order.

Though her life was so bright, useful, and happy, yet when she was told that she could not stay here much longer, she replied with a smile, "The Lord is my Shepherd; I am not afraid to die."

LEONARD MEDICAL SCHOOL opens November 1st, with every prospect of a prosperous year. The faculty for the present session consists of seven professors. The school now is in a condition to give a completeness and unity to the course of study not hitherto attained.

The Normal Course connected with Shaw University is worthy of special notice by any that are looking forward to teaching as a profession. Two Normal Institutes will be held each week, in order to give special attention to the best methods of imparting instruction. With so large a corps of teachers, graduates of a half dozen of the best schools in the country, Shaw University has some special facilities for Institute work, and for the best methods of Normal drill in the recitation room.

—Mrs. Florence K. Harris, instructor in dressmaking, &c., is a colored lady from New Bedford, Mass. She is thought to be admirably adapted for her position.

—Dr. L. A. Scruggs enters upon his new sphere of labor with every prospect of usefulness and success. He needs no introduction to the readers of the Expositor.