

CARLISLE FITTING SCHOOL

CLOSING EXERCISES OF THE FIRST YEAR'S SESSION.

Interesting Report of the Head Master, Showing the Flourishing Condition of the Institution, Its Objects, Etc.

BAMBERG, June 9.—Special—This has been a gala week for Bamberg. The double attraction of the closing exercises of the first year of the Carlisle Fitting School and the meeting of the District Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars have filled the town with visitors.

The Fitting School is the pride of Bamberg, and the first commencement exercises have been as brilliant as schools ten years older. Wednesday evening the beautiful chapel was crowded to the utmost capacity with visitors to listen to an educational address by the Rev. John C. Kilgo of Wofford College. Mr. Kilgo's address lasted for an hour or more, and was replete with wisdom and wit, which was much enjoyed. He is a great favorite in Bamberg, and when it is announced that Kilgo is to speak it is a signal for a "crowded house."

The closing exercises proper took place last night before a highly appreciative audience. The programme was tastefully arranged and superbly rendered, and was as follows:

Prayer, Rev. C. P. Ervin; Music, duet, Miss Effie and Mary Bamberg; Declamation, Master Emory Hooton; Declamation, Master Vernon Brabham; Declamation, Master Willie F. Fairey; Declamation, Master Robert S. Cauthen; Music, Miss Florrie Black; declamation, J. Crum Smoak; Recitation, Miss Lella Black; Recitation, Miss Geraldine Adams; Declamation, Patrick Mears; Music, duet, Miss Cora Sheridan and Miss Carrie Brabham; Recitation, Miss Cora Sheridan; Recitation, Miss Florence Hooton; Recitation, Miss Florrie Black; Recitation, Miss Minnie Johnson; Music, duet, Miss Minnie Johnson and Kathlene Copeland; Essay, Miss Clara Riley; Declamation, P. Kistler Rhoad; Recitation, Miss Kathlene Copeland; Recitation, Miss Effie Bamberg; Original speech, Edgar L. Culler; Music, vocal solo, Miss Augusta Adams; Valedictory, Master Graham Copeland; Music, chorus by the young ladies of the senior class, led by Miss Gussie Adams in her soft and musical voice, which won a double encore. Benediction.

After this, Professor Riley read the first annual report of the Head Master, and to show the excellent condition of the school the following extracts are taken from it:

"The town of Bamberg, with its 1,500 inhabitants, saw farther in the future than most towns in this section of the State, and knew better what is the true basis of wealth and what are the proper inducements to draw population. Her citizens calculated the financial problem wisely and discovered that when money was placed in a splendid school building, with all the appointments necessary to make a successful and permanent school, the investment would pay in the advancement of their children for generations to come—pay in the material prosperity of their town, and pay in the uplifting of their entire community. Drawing heavily upon their resources, they offered to the trustees of Wofford College the magnificent gift of \$10,000 in cash and four and five acres of a beautifully located section of the town, upon which the buildings were to be erected. These buildings have been located in the most eligible site in the town of Bamberg, and they can be seen from every approach, and where they will remain a lasting monument to Christian benevolence, the glory of Methodism and the permanent blessing, not only to Bamberg, but to the whole Southern Carolina.

"The design of the school is to take a child from the beginning and train it up through its entire primary and secondary courses, until it is able to step from its doors to the doors of the college, or the arena of actual life.

"The Carlisle Fitting School of Wofford College opened its doors on the 3rd of October last, with only forty-five students enrolled in both departments, under the direction of its present head master, H. G. Sheridan, assisted by Professor J. J. Riley and A. N. Attaway in the fitting school department, Miss Ellen Murphy in the primary department and Miss Eva Sams in charge of the department of instrumental music. In a short while the numbers ran up rapidly to nearly one hundred students, and continued to increase until it reached 114, twenty-five of whom are boarders.

"The Kilgo Literary Society (so named in honor of John C. Kilgo) was organized some months ago by the young men of the school, and is now in successful operation.

"The school has a most excellent library of some eight hundred or one thousand volumes, the magnificent gift of our large-hearted fellow townsman, Gen. F. M. Bamberg, which will be ready for the students next session."

During the summer the grounds and buildings will be put in good condition for the next session, which opens in September.

THE GOOD TEMPLARS.

The Lower Edisto District Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars held their summer meeting here on Wednesday and Thursday. The representation from the lodges in the district was very good, much business was profitably transacted, and the attendance of the local members was very good. The next meeting of the district lodge will be held with the Round O Lodge at Cottageville, Colleton county.

Rev. E. O. Watson, Grand Chief Templar of the I. O. G. T. of South Carolina, was present and presided at the session on Thursday, instructing the members in the district degree and installing the officers. Mr. Thomas Black of Bamberg was elected District Templar.

Mr. Watson delivered a public lecture in the town hall yesterday morning at 11 o'clock to a good audience on the subject of the "Dispensary." The citizens of Bamberg were specially delighted to have this lecture, just at this time, for the dispensary question is being discussed pro and con by the people. Mr. Watson is a Methodist minister, now stationed at Bennettsville, and is considered one of the strongest preachers in the conference. He is a debater of recognized ability; but after knowing all this, the audience was not expecting

such a strong and unanswerable exposition of the deceptions of this subterfuge, blood revenue measure. He simply handled the infamous dispensary with "gloves off," and captured all who heard him. He showed how an attempt was being made to make the traffic "respectable," and proved it to be a "revenue measure," a dangerous business only changing hands and converted by the State into a monopoly.

Mr. Watson's address is considered by those who were present as the strongest ever delivered in Bamberg, and a few such speeches in different sections of the State would have a wholesome effect. He is fighting for prohibition, and will not compromise his principles by accepting a measure which he conceives, in many respects, to be much worse than the present system. Many persons who at first endorsed the dispensary system are denouncing the deceptive and misleading measure.

The Edisto District Lodge of the I. O. G. T., will meet in Blackville Thursday and Friday of next week. State Lecturer J. P. Gibson will be present and deliver a public address on Thursday night.

COUNTY TEACHERS INSTITUTE.

The Barnwell County Teachers Institute will be held here the week commencing Monday, June 19. An elaborate programme has been made out for each day, and a great many teachers and visitors from all parts of the State are expected. On each evening public addresses will be made by the following prominent educators. Monday, Prof. Bathwell Graham, of the Georgia Technological Institute; Tuesday, Dr. Jas. Woodrow, president of the South Carolina College; Wednesday, Hon. M. C. Butler, United States Senator; Thursday, Hon. W. D. Mayfield, State superintendent of Education; Friday, to be supplied.

The county board of examiners has been authorized by the Superintendent of Education to hold an examination on Friday for those wishing to secure certificates. The railroads have offered reduced rates for the institute, and Bamberg, with her usual hospitality, will offer free entertainment to all visitors.

A PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The special Presbyterian service which was held for the past two weeks by the Revs. W. E. Beattie and J. L. McLees has resulted in the organization of a Presbyterian church here. The organization was made by Rev. J. L. Daw of Aiken, last Monday, at the residence of Mr. A. V. Eaves. A movement is already on foot and it will not be long before the Presbyterian congregation will erect a handsome church in town.