

HARVARD COLLEGE
MAY 17 1893
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Vol 22, No. 5.

MAY, 1893.



SOUTHERN WORKMAN AND HAMPTON SCHOOL RECORD

The Hampton Institute should be pushed steadily, not to larger, but to better, more thorough effort, and placed on a solid foundation. It is big enough, but its work is only begun. Its work, with that of other like schools, is on the line of Providential purpose.

S. C. ARMSTRONG.

THE SOUTHERN WORKMAN

AND
HAMPTON SCHOOL RECORD.

Vol. xxii.

Hampton, Virginia, May, 1893

No. 5.



THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY of the Hampton Institute is to be celebrated on Thursday, May 25. Interesting exercises are hoped for and a large attendance of friends old and new, among them distinguished representatives of North and South from whom we may expect to hear. The first graduating class ('71) will be represented on the platform by Mr. Henry C. Payne, who has made an excellent record as a business man of standing and influence in West Virginia. Mr. Booker T. Washington of the Tuskegee School, Alabama (class of '75) will also speak. The Triennial Reunion of the Alumni Association will be held on Wednesday the 24, and we hope that many will attend it and stay over to the Anniversary exercises and to the Conference of Hampton Graduates and other workers, to be held on Friday the 26, to discuss the the true welfare of their people.

GENERAL ARMSTRONG was attacked on the 25th of last month by a return of the heart symptoms—difficulty of breathing chiefly—from which he has at three or four times suffered since his disablement. His attending physicians, Dr. Waldron and Dr. Boultelle, gladly availed themselves of the opportunity to call in consultation Dr. Titus, specialist and lecturer on heart and lung diseases in the Post-Graduate Medical College of New York City, who was visiting Ivy Home for some weeks. All agreed in diagnosis, and the General's many friends may be sure that he has had and is having the best of care and treatment. He was for some days in very critical condition and imminent danger, but his surprising vitality has again asserted itself, the distressing symptoms have disappeared and it is hoped that they will not return. It is not yet apparent that he will be able to be present at the exercises of the 25th Anniversary of Hampton to which he has so long looked forward, yet it seems best to continue the preparations for them under the present circumstances. If any other course is decided upon, it will be announced in due time.

THE NAVAL RENDEZVOUS of the fleets of the civilized world in Hampton Roads has made red-letter weeks in the history of Hampton and of Virginia. The brilliant, picturesque spectacle prolonged, and growing in interest day after day, in its seldom dimmed, vast setting of blue sky and sparkling waters, has been more than a charm to the eye, more than an education to the mind. The wonderful story that stretches from the tiny, quaint Spanish caravels to the giant Blake and the lightning-streak Cushing, seemed spread out before us on an illuminated page. But yet more thrilling was the heart throb of patriotic pride as our beautiful White Squadron filed into line to receive, with booming cannon and fairy signal lights and waving stars and stripes, the war ships of all nations, not as foes but friends. What heart could but send up the prayer for brotherly concord and universal peace! And on the bright morning when the scene culminated in the grand procession of the departing ships, sweeping out through the harbor side by side in majestic order, through a riot of color, music and enthusiasm—what United States citizen of any state in the Union, of all the thousands that thronged the beach, the wharves, hotel piazzas, ex-

ursion boats, the ramparts of old Fort Monroe, to the furthest standpoint on the water battery and the top of the light house, who did not thrill with exultation to the strains of the "Star Spangled Banner", and say "Thank God that banner is mine. I am an American citizen!" It has been often said—"A foreign war would cement North and South again as nothing else could." This Columbian Feast of all nations says to us "Behold I show you a more excellent way!"

THE SCHOOL was visited during the Rendezvous week by some of the commanding officers and others from several of the ships, American, English, French, German and Russian.

The night before the ship's departure, the General improvised a serenading party from the student choir and went with it as described by Miss Edith Armstrong in another column. It was greatly enjoyed by all who went—by none more than by the General himself. It seemed indeed, as one has well said "an impressive and beautiful thought thus to carry this heart music of a freed race to all the world at once."

THE VICE PRINCIPAL, with a company of Indian and colored boys, has just returned from a trip North in the interest of the School.

Hampton's Boston Committee thought it advisable to hold another meeting at the Old South similar to the one called soon after Gen. Armstrong was taken ill.

President Eliot, Governor Russell, Lieut. Governor Wolcott; Mr. Capen, Prof. Peabody; Mr. E. D. Mead, Dr. McKenzie, Dr. Moxon, Pres. Drcher of Roanoke College, Virginia; Mr. B. T. Washington of Tuskegee and Mr. Frissell from the school were among the speakers announced. Prof. Peabody and Gov. Russell were prevented by illness from being present, and President Eliot found himself unable to leave the University at the hour of the gathering, but the meeting was a notable one.

It has been thought that it would be of interest to the friends of the school to have a report of the speeches made at the meeting. So far as possible they have been collected and published in a *SOUTHERN WORKMAN* extra.

Another large meeting was held in the First Baptist Church of Boston, where Rev. Dr. Moxon presided, the students sang and spoke and addresses were made by Rev. C. G. Ames, Rev. E. G. Porter and Mr. Frissell. An interesting incident in the meeting was the statement made by Gen. Carrington, who has been collecting statistics for a government report of the work done among the Indians, as to the satisfactory character of Hampton's returned Indian students.

On the evening of Sunday April 23rd, there was a large gathering in the interest of Hampton in the Beneficent Congregational Church, Providence, R. I. Still another Sabbath was spent in Philadelphia, where Rev. Dr. McVickar opened his church, and he and Mr. Ogden arranged for meetings on Sunday and Monday evenings. The week day evenings were spent in smaller New England cities and towns. It is interesting to note the continued interest which the people show in the simple stories of our Negro and Indian boys who go North and in the plantation melodies.

THE THANKS of the school are due to the members of the ladies' committee in New York who, after having devoted much time and labor to the meetings and concert given earlier in the year, came to the help of the school again when there was need of aid toward the school's World's Fair exhibit.

One of their number, Mrs. Jno. G. Curtis, who has for many years conducted an orchestra for the purpose of giving to those who might not otherwise have the chance, an opportunity to learn to render the best sort of music kindly offered to give a concert for the benefit of Hampton's World's Fair exhibits. At Chickering Hall, New York, on the evening of Wednesday, April 27th a most delightful entertainment was given; the house was well filled and substantial aid rendered.

AS WE GO TO PRESS we receive news of the death of Miss Susan Longstreth of Philadelphia, who with her sister, the late Miss Mary Anna Longstreth, has long been enshrined in the grateful affections of Hampton. We must wait an opportunity to say more of what we can never fully express of the love with which their names are here cherished.

HON. CARL SCHURZ has kindly written out for us a draft of his eloquent speech for Hampton in the Madison Square Garden. Our readers will find it on p. 82; they will also be interested in Mr. Turner's report of the new Missionary Department, and in Miss Folsom's lively Columbian Fair notes, both of which we are glad to say will "be continued."

THE BOOK "Twenty-two Year's Work of Hampton Institute" (see advertisement on page 84) has received from individuals and from many leading journals most appreciative and encouraging reception, showing the extent of public interest in the work and in the book's presentation of it.

The price of the book was originally fixed at \$1. besides postage but it is a hundred pages larger than when that price was thought of, and, at the Boston meeting, our friends decided for us that \$1.50 was little enough for it, and all that could be had sold freely at that price. We feel therefore justified, on bringing out, as we are about to, a second edition, in believing that those who are enough interested to want it at all, will be willing to pay what will make the book more nearly clear the expense of the years of preparation as well as the mechanical work on it.

The price of the second edition will therefore be \$1.50—with no extra charge for postage.

WE HAVE RECEIVED for notice a little book entitled "A Voice from the South by a Black Woman of the South," which we commend to the careful reading of all interested in the Negro question. Its author is Mrs. Anna Julia Cooper of Washington, D. C. an Oberlin graduate and now a teacher in the colored high school in Washington. Mrs. Cooper's work shows broad scholarship, logical thought, and a clear and wonderfully patient view of present conditions. We hope to give, in a future issue, a fuller review of this unpretentious but most valuable work; but our space this month only permits us to say that we regard it as throwing more light on certain aspects of the race question than anything that has yet been published. We append the titles of a few of the essays—The Status of Woman in America—Has America a Race Problem; If so How can it best be Solved? The Negro as presented in American Literature—what are we worth? The Gain from a Belief. The book is published by the Aldine Publishing House, Xenia, Ohio.

COMMENCEMENT at the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Tuskegee, Ala. occurs Thursday, May 18th. T. McCants Stewart Esq. of New York will deliver the annual address. Mr. Washington kindly put his own Commencement day a week earlier than usual in order to accept the invitation to speak at the Hampton School's Anniversary.

Our New Missionary Department.

VISITS TO THE GRADUATES' HOMES AND SCHOOLS.

The Missionary Department has in its employ, in the field, George W. Brandom, a graduate of 1882, a part of whose work is to visit the graduates of the Institution in their homes and schools, informing himself as to what they have done and are doing, encouraging them to the best and largest use of what Hampton Institute gave them, and stimulating them to practical missionary work in the neighborhood of their homes.

Hampton's aim is to make of its students earnest Christian men and women, to train them to be teachers among their own people, south and west, and to educate them to respect work and be able to earn a living for themselves, and to be a helpful and uplifting influence among their neighbors.

It may be interesting to the readers of the SOUTHERN WORKMAN to hear from some of the graduates recently visited by Mr. Brandom, and to learn what they are accomplishing and how far their work and efforts are in the line of Hampton's aim.

Mr. Brandom makes weekly reports to the Missionary Department and from these the following information is gathered.

Rev. Frank L. Hall of the class of 1879, lives at Drake's Branch, Charlotte Co., Virginia. His wife, Miss Daisy Hicks, left Hampton a "Middler" in 1885 to teach before entering upon her senior year, but at the close of her school term she married Mr. Hall. Both Mr. Hall and his wife teach in a public school near their home. He has charge of two Baptist churches and also cultivates a farm of 50 acres of fertile land from which he secures good crops of wheat, corn and hay. He has a good horse, a cow, and raises his own pork. Mr. Hall states that in the vicinity of his churches, whose membership is about 1,300, 25 per cent. of the colored people live in their own houses, but they need home-training. They need to learn how to live at home and how to keep their houses neat and clean. Mr. and Mrs. Hall set them a good example in their plain and simple but pleasant home and in its Christian living. Good literature in the homes of the colored people and especially for the young would be a very helpful influence toward neater and better home living. Mr. Hall states that the Hampton graduates who are teaching in his county show a genuine interest in the welfare of the people. They look out for the neatness and personal appearance of their children in the school-room in a way to stimulate self-respect and consequently better home-living. They visit the parents in their homes and suggest how they might be made more attractive and pleasant. Mr. and Mrs. Hall are faithful workers whose good influence is widely felt in their community.

Mr. Brandom writes that he found Miss Nannie C. Ragland, of the class of 1892, in her little new log school house, which is situated in the woods near Midway, Halifax Co. She has 70 students, all of whom are faithful scholars. Their teacher seemed quite at her ease in the schoolroom, though she graduated last year and is doing her first teaching in this place. Her excellent control of the school, her manner of teaching and the appearance and recitations of the children indicated faithful and effective work on her part. Her school is far off in the country, where the people are poor, but self-denying for the sake of their children. It is a lonely place, but she is too busy to mind its loneliness. On Sunday her time is given to Bible teaching, and once each week, during the term, she has held a prayer meeting with her scholars. This, in few words, will show what one of the graduates is trying to do for her people.

Mr. James H. Bailey of the class of 1876 lives at Scottsburg, Va. He is building himself a new house of seven rooms, after a plan of a "Pennsylvania Farm cottage." This, with his ten acres of land, he values at \$15,000. He has also an improved town lot worth \$500, half interest in a business lot worth \$600, and thirteen acres of woodland half a mile from his house. He taught in the "Butler" at Hampton one year after graduating. In one school of his county he has taught fourteen years. This year he was transferred from his home school to the school at Clover, which required a teacher of large experience and a good deal of tact. In his school he has 90 pupils and a term of six months, which is a longer time than is often given to the district colored schools. He is an active worker in the Sunday school and church, having been recently successful in secur-