

ETO: Elias Carr Raleigh, N.C. 7

OXFORD ORPHAN ASYLUM,



N. M. LAWRENCE, SUPERINTENDENT.

Hon. Elias Carr:

Mar. 30th, 1896.
OXFORD, N. C.,

Raleigh, N.C.

My dear Sir,

As there is a great deal of ignorance existing in many portions of our State in regard to the Oxford Orphan Asylum it occurred to me to write some information and put it on the back of all my letters. As I know you are particularly interested in this Institution as manifested by your acts in many ways I desire to submit for your criticism the "information" which you will find on the back of this letter. I have already submitted it to the Board of Directors and they heartily approve of same. Our friend Mr. Broughton of Raleigh made a criticism on one paragraph. I submit you his letter in regard to same. As I am not particularly wedded to any particular idea and only wish to do the best for the Institution. I submit you his letter on the point which you will kindly return to me with your answer. Possibly that sentence might read: The reason why the state makes this appropriation is that more than four fifths of all the children received into the Asylum are not the children of Masons but children for whom the state ought to care; and the further reason that Masonry is composed of men of all religious faiths and all political parties.

Kindly give me the advantage of your good level head on this and any other point. Thanking you in advance for your kindness I beg to remain,

Yours faithfully,

N M Lawrence Supt

INFORMATION.

THE OXFORD ORPHAN ASYLUM is the property of the Grand Lodge of Masons of North Carolina.

It was started on its great mission at the meeting of the Grand Lodge, held in Raleigh, December 1872, by the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved 1, That St. John's College shall be made an asylum for the protection, training and education of indigent orphan children.

2, That this Grand Lodge will appropriate \$—— annually for the support of this institution, but will not assume any additional pecuniary responsibility.

3, That this Grand Lodge elect a Superintendent who shall control the institution and solicit contributions for its support from all classes of our people.

4, That orphan children in said asylum shall be fed and clothed, and shall receive such preparatory training and education as will prepare them for useful occupations, and for the usual business transactions of life.

It is to the honor and glory of Masonry that the Asylum was established, not for the children of Masons only, but for the destitute and homeless orphans in the State, regardless of the creed or party affiliation of their parents, to the extent of its capacity.

The Asylum is managed by a Board of eight Directors, five of whom are elected by the Grand Lodge and three appointed by the Governor of the State.

The State appropriates \$10,000 annually for the support of the Asylum. For this generous donation the Grand Lodge tendered to the State the appointment of three Directors to represent her in the management.

The reason why the State makes this appropriation is, that Masonry is composed of men of all denominations, and of all political parties; and the further reason, that more than four-fifths of all the children received into the Asylum are not the children of Masons, but children for whom the State ought to care.

The glory of the State is her citizens, and to make good citizens ought to be her highest ambition. Money spent for this purpose is not only a most judicious expenditure but economy in the best form.

To make good citizens is the object and aim of the Oxford Orphan Asylum.

In doing this it is a monument to Masonry more enduring than brass, more lasting than time, and more glorious than all the honors and riches of earth. It is the great object lesson to the world of the broad charity which it teaches, and of the tenets and principles which rule and govern the Order.

OXFORD ORPHAN ASYLUM,



N. M. LAWRENCE, SUPERINTENDENT.

Mar. 31st, 1896.

OXFORD, N. C.,

Hon. Elias Carr.:

Raleigh, N.C.

My dear Sir,

Our friends Mr Broughton was here yesterday and I discussed his criticism in regard to the paragraph of which I wrote you yesterday. The principal opposition to the Oxford Orphan Asylum is from our Baptist friends. A great many of them persist in the statement, and circulation of it, that this is a Methodist Institution, and as I told Mr. Broughton reasons were demanded from his own people why the state should appropriate money for this Institution. This idea was in view when this paragraph was written.

I enclose you letters from other Directors in regard to the matter which kindly return to me when you have read them.

Yours faithfully,

N. M. Lawrence

Sup't.

1888, Jan 18, 1888

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