

1912

To the visiting members of the Council of Federation of Women's Clubs, the local Federated Clubs and other visiting friends, I esteem it a great privilege to have the opportunity of saying a few words of welcome to you.

We are glad to see you in our progressive town of Greenville and especially am I glad to see you in the Training School.

The slogan of our town/^{was} never more aptly used than when you stepped from one of our ten daily passenger trains, "Our Greenville, Yours if you come." Last week this was our Greenville, this week it is your Greenville, yes, literally your Greenville. I understand the Mayor has handed you the keys to our town, this was figurative for there are no keys to Greenville. When such womanhood comes, every home is open to you, and every heart in every home is yours. I will not say our town is "wide open" for we try to prevent that, but our hearts and our homes are yours while you stay with us.

Not only are these things true about Greenville, but they are true about the Training School. As I stand here on the same rostrum with one of the architects, Mrs. Hook, who planned these buildings, Madam, I can not refrain from saying, "You builded better than you knew." Will you pardon me while I outline the splendid support this town and this county gave to her architectural plans?

By 1909 the State had appropriated \$5000.00 for this school. The town of Greenville with 4101 inhabitants had appropriated \$49000.00 and the county of Pitt had appropriated another \$49000.00 for buildings and equipment. Thus you see the county and town gave \$33000.00 more for the completion of the school than the whole State. This is no reflection upon our beloved State, but it is to the credit of our home people and it shows to the whole world what we can do when we determine to try. The first ground was broken July 2, 1908 and the school opened its doors for the reception of students October 5, 1909 with these

six magnificent buildings almost completed and furnished. What this town and county have done so far as I know has never been surpassed by any town and county anywhere in our country, certainly never surpassed by any town and county in our State.

This school is the expression of our people for an adequate method of meeting one of our state's greatest needs, efficient teachers. We have but one purpose, we attempt to do but one thing; to supply trained teachers for the schools of North Carolina. This is the one thing that every true North Carolina woman knows we need, for education is the one thing the women of every Club, every sect and every creed are agreed that we must have. What the women are agreed upon the men will agree to.

In the beginning God created man, or "male and female created He them." God gave man two great missions, To replenish the earth, and To subdue it. The first of these man has about done, but the second we are only in the beginning.

We will never subdue this world until man, male and female, unite upon the task; for this must come through the proper development of the mental powers of humanity.

For many centuries it was thought that the woman brain was not capable of much development. In fact, it is only quite recently that educational institutions were experimenting to see if woman could be educated. It was less than a hundred years ago. Listen to this certificate dated March 8, 1826.

Elizabeth Crane

"This is to certify that ~~English Crane~~ ^{*Crane*} (I know a person who knew English ~~Crane~~) has been engaged during her attendance at this school in storing her memory- that strong and capacious storehouse of mankind, with useful ideas,- lessons,-- and information generally.

"Pursuant to this end she has deposited in her memory for future use, the multiplication and other arithmetical tables.

"She has repleted the principal divisions,- oceans, islands, etc., and answered a hundred and nien questions on the map of the world.

"She has also recited the principal vidision,- lakes, rivers, bays, gulfs, etc., and answered forty one questions on the map of North America.

"She has defined the boundaries of twelve of the United States, and repleted ninety-five of the chief towns and thirty three of the principal rivers, belonging to those twelve states.

"She has answered eighty six questions corresponding to the geography of that fine country.

"On the map of South America she has committed to memory the different countries belonging to that great peninsula, and repleted fifty eight of the chief towns, and thirty three of the principal rivers, and answered thirty nine questions corresponding to its Geography.

"Let no one say hereafter that females can not learn, for that is an assertion without foundation, for Elizabeth is a living proof ~~af~~ t the contrary, and she merits the approbation and encouragement of her parents and friends.

Signed,

P. Warden."

Morristown, New Jersey,
March 8, 1826.

"Pursuant to this end she has deposited in her memory for future use, the multiplication and other arithmetical tables.

"She repeated the principal divisions, - oceans, islands, etc., and answered a hundred and nine questions on the map of the world.

"She has also recited the principal divisions, - lakes, rivers, bays, gulfs, &c and answered forty one questions on the map of North America.

"She has defined the boundaries of twelve of the United States, & repeated ninety-five of the chief towns & thirty three of the principal rivers, belonging to those twelve states.

"She has answered eighty six questions corresponding to the geography of that fine country.

"On the map of South America she has committed to memory the different countries belonging to that great peninsula, repeated fifty-eight of the chief towns, and thirty three of the principal rivers, and answered thirty nine questions corresponding to its Geography.

"Let no one say hereafter that females can not learn, for that is an assertion without foundation, for Elizabeth is a living proof to the contrary, and she merits the approbation and encouragement of her parents and friends.

Signed,

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Morristown, New Jersey,
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From the day of Elizabeth Crane no one has doubted that women as well as men may be improved by being educated. Yet the first college for women in England was not established until twenty-two years after the date of Elizabeth Crane's wonderful fate. Queen's College, London, was established 1848. It was established "with the special purpose of preparing teachers and governesses."

led to greatness in men have, in almost every instance, come from the women. Until recently the power of womanhood has been seen through manhood. There is to-day throughout the world a shifting of the base of action and the power of womanhood is beginning to assert itself direct. Here let me say to you in all candor is where the danger lies. There was a time when man was the head of the home and questions were referred to the man for settlement. In many a home to-day there is no head. The danger here is that children will grow up not knowing the meaning of authority, and no person is capable of commanding who does not first know how to obey. I only wish to point out the danger not offer a remedy; for I do not know what the remedy should be. This I do know, with this "power direct" comes to womanhood a "responsibility-direct" that you have never had before and the advance of the race depends upon how you use your power. I believe it will be used for the best. God grant that it may. So I welcome you as the advance guard of a new and a nobler womanhood.