HISTORICAL CELEBRATION

1764-1939

NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA

The One-Hundred-Seventy-Fifth Anniversary

of the

Founding of the New Bern Public School

6062

Historical Pageant

"The Torch Leads On"

By

MRS. J. S. CLAYPOOLE

One Hundred Seventy-five Years

of

New Bern Schools

in

Historic Review

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JOHN A. WALKER, North Carolina State Director of the Federal Theatre Project, *Producer*

ROBERT L. PUGH, Superintendent of Schools in Craven County, *Reader*

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PROLOGUE:	1710-1764.	Background for founding of School.
EPISODE I.	1764.	First day of School.
EPISODE II.	1775.	Ball at Tryon Palace.
EPISODE III.	1784.	Meeting of Board of Trustees of Academy.
EPISODE IV.	1800.	Dr. Elias Hawes' Free School.
EPISODE V.	1838.	Lancastrian School.
EPISODE VI.	1850.	Griffin Free School.
EPISODE VII.	1862.	Fall of New Bern.
EPISODE VIII.	1800-1900.	Roll of Honor.
EPILOGUE:	1710-1939.	Grand Finale.

Historical Pageant

"THE TORCH LEADS ON"

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Concert ..... NORTH CAROLINA STATE COLLEGE BAND
MAJOR CHRISTIAN D. KUTSCHINSKI, *Director*

"Old Hundredth" ..... AUDIENCE

Song, "New Bern" ..... CHOIR

PROLOGUE

BACKGROUND FOR FOUNDING OF SCHOOL

Place: New Bern. Time: 1700-1764.

CHARACTERS

INDIANS—Hubert Tyson, Ben Hill, Albert Jowdy, Jeff Rhodes, Langell Watson.

HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS—Irvin Weatherly, Dallas Waters, Robert Duffy, Wallace Becton.

SETTLERS—*English:* Gerald Jones, Jean Comins; *French:* Zan Harper, Jr., Camilla Griffin; *German:* John Agent, Sara Mann; *Swiss:* James Lowery, Sara Poole Wadsworth.

OTHER SWISS SETTLERS—Eloise Gower, Bessie Land, Jean Prior, Mary E. Gaskins, Mary E. Henderson, Virginia Bunting, Virginia Daugherty, Isabel Small, Julia Ann Hancock, Mary Ann Bass, Hyacinth Willis, Frances Gray.

CHILDREN OF THE SETTLERS—*English:* Tommy Gooding, Horace Hill, Lamar Sledge, Marie Fulcher, Mary Smith, Robert McClure; *French:* Florence Hanff, Hugh Swan, Guy Rose, Harry Jacobs, Joyce Land; *German:* Caroline Bunting, Hubert Tolson, Julia Fisher, Billy Vendric, Billy Jones; *Swiss:* Nancy Venters, Christine Register, Ed Gorham, Cyril Edwards, Neil Patterson, Ann Baucom.

Slaves ..... ELEANOR SCALES, MARCUS EDWARDS, VERLIN REID

Furnifold Green ..... THOMAS GREEN DILL

Hannah Green ..... JESSIE TAYLOR

John Lawson ..... FLYNN MENIUS

Baron Christopher deGraffenried ..... JIMMY PARKER

The Reverend James Reed ..... THE REVEREND CHARLES E. WILLIAMS

Scene: Out of doors. The characters appear in the order named, and leave the stage in same order.

Reader: The aim and purpose of this historical pageant is to portray one hundred and seventy-five years of New Bern Schools and to honor that great host of trustees, teachers and pupils who have gone on. "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His Saints."

Our story begins in the year 1707 when a colony of French Huguenots sailed up the Neuse River to the confluence of the Neuse and Trent Rivers. These Huguenots—spurred on by dreams of rich and fertile soil for their planting, more freedom for their religion, and better opportunities for their children—were seeking a land of health and plenty described so glowingly by John Lawson, an English explorer who had visited the country several years before.

As pictured by Lawson, Surveyor-General of the Carolinas, the Neuse was indeed a gateway to Shangri-La for the travelers, weary of the Old World and eager for the New. "A delicious country," he had written, "being placed in that girdle of the world which affords wine, oil, fruit, grains and silk, with other rich commodities, besides a sweet air, moderate climate, and fertile soil—these are blessings (under heaven's protection) that spin out the thread of life to its utmost extent, and crown our days with the sweets of health and plenty, which when joined with content, renders the possessors the happiest race of men on earth."

To Lawson everything seemed to come by Nature, the husbandman living almost void of care and free from those fatigues which were an inseparable part of life in the Old World.

When the Huguenots arrived they found, on the tongue of land between the Neuse and Trent Rivers, an Indian village called Chattawka and the new colonists formed two settlements, one above the village on the Trent River and the other below on the Neuse.

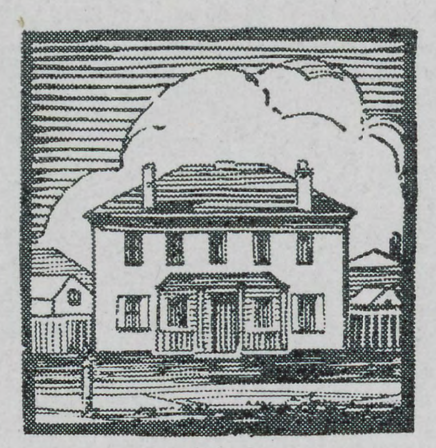
With the Huguenots opening the way there soon followed other colonists—English Quakers, Scotch-Irish Presbyterians, and still later Swiss under the leadership of Baron Christopher deGraffenried. One of the earlier settlers was Furnifold Green, who came with his young wife, Hannah, to take up land on the North side of the Neuse River.

When deGraffenried and the Swiss came up the Neuse they found most of the land surrounding Chattawka already occupied by the earlier settlers and so in 1710 deGraffenried purchased the Indian village from King Taylor and founded the city of New Bern.

Lawson's enthusiastic pen had not written too glowingly. It was indeed a land of plenty and opportunity for the new settlers and they stood their ground although there were but a handful of colonists in Carolina, seated at great distances from one another, amidst a vast number of Indians of different nations.

In September, 1711, Lawson was tortured and killed by the Indians. Three years later Furnifold Green was murdered. He, with one son, one white servant and two negroes, were killed and another son was shot but recovered. "Why do you ask how long had he lived? He has lived to Posterity."

Before deGraffenried returned to Switzerland he made a treaty with the Indians which left the town of New Bern unmolested during the savage Indian wars raging in the surrounding country.



In these early days there was little effort made for public education. Poor boys were apprenticed and were taught reading and writing as well as trades. The more prosperous and cultured people employed private tutors for their children, and then sent the boys to England for higher learning. The advantages of practical education are evidenced in the handwriting of that day, the purity of the language, and simplicity and beauty of style in all their written documents.

(Reed enters, and settlers begin to move back, and very gradually stage is emptied except for Reed.)

Reader: With the hope of arousing the people to the need of a Public School, the Rev. James Reed, rector of Christ Church Parish, appeared before the Assembly here in 1762, and preached a sermon urging the people to take steps to establish a public school to educate the youth of the Province. This sermon was printed here by James Davis, and dispersed throughout the counties.

Mr. Richard Cogdell and Mr. William Cray sponsored the bill in the Assembly to establish the first School House in the Town of New Bern. Governor Tryon tried repeatedly to get assistance from England, and he encouraged the movement all he could.

A Society was formed to raise money for the school, and the subscribers made their notes payable to Rev. James Reed. He had great faith in the earnestness of these people, and their desire to have their children educated. So he started to build a "large and commodious School House, 45 feet long and 30 feet wide". This structure was put on the site of the present school.

These lots were later disallowed by His Royal Majesty King George III, but the Trustees had already erected their building and Parson Reed had a flourishing school under his supervision. His Majesty's wishes were disregarded.

(Parson Reed alone on the Stage.)

Reader: The subscriptions gave out before the building was completed and James Reed, being a man of great faith and great hope, "preached and begged until he was weary", but to no avail. He could not raise the money from those whose benefit would be greatest. So out of his small stipend he sent a Bill of Exchange for his half year's salary to New York to purchase bricks for the chimney and buy other needed equipment, to realize the fulfillment of his dream.

EPISODE I

FIRST DAY OF NEW BERN PUBLIC SCHOOL

Place: New Bern School. Time: January 1, 1764.

CHARACTERS

First Trustees:

Rev. James Reed ..... REV. CHARLES E. WILLIAMS
John Williams ..... JOHN HAYWOOD JONES
Joseph Leech ..... DAVID R. MORRIS
Thomas Haslen ..... WILLIAM F. WARD
Richard Cogdell ..... HARLOWE C. WALDROP
Thomas Clifford Howe ..... JOHN G. DUNN, JR.
Richard Fenner ..... J. C. BAGG

Thomas Tomlinson, first schoolmaster ..... B. M. POTTER

SCHOOL VISITORS—Mrs. J. G. Dunn, Jr., Mrs. J. C. Bagg, Mrs. D. R. Morris, Mrs. W. F. Ward, Mrs. J. Haywood Jones, Mrs. H. C Waldrop, Mrs. C. C. Pritchett, Mrs. H. A. Patten, Miss Virginia Styron, Miss Margaret Lawrence, Mrs. Nina La Frage, Mrs. Baxter Armstrong, Miss Maria Brinson, Mrs. W. H. Purser, Mrs. G. A. Barden.

PUPILS—Neta Whitty, Dorothy Pugh, Shirley Salter, Billy Barfield, Betty Jean Harris, Joan Bray, Peggy Ann Lee, Sarah Holton, Margaret Dunn, Virginia Daniels, DeLena Hughes, Grace Cook, Harold Jones, Thomas Wiggs, Ronald Smith, George Scott, Bill Pugh, Mary Louise Taylor, Kathryn Maxwell, Celia Lively, Meredith Smaw, Patricia Collins, Celia Hall, Eunice Carawan, Doris Fulcher, Charles Bryan, Frank Allston, Thomas Carraway, Billie Banks, Bradley Hanff, Wilton Block, Charles Weskett, Sonny McKenzie, Joseph Kline, Shirley Tucker, Jean Simpson, Katherine Smith, Marie Register.

COLONIAL DRILL—Mary Jo Ipock, Lenore Barnette, Mary Posta, Billy Lee English, Sarah Tisdale, Margaret Sadler, Winnifred Gunnerson, Joe Eubanks, Roy Holton, Enrico Hamilton, Stamey Everhart, Roger Williams, Ernest Waters, George Smith, George Allen Ives, Penny Ann Tyndall, Louis Daniel, Benny Epting, Roland Stubbs, Charlotte Merritt, Billy Brinkley, Pearl Waters, Rodney Smith, Peggy Ann Reeves, Pete McSorley, Gordon Hollister, Billy Woodruff, Patsy Brinson, Carolyn Godwin, Beau Bremer, Alex Holton, Mildred Ball, Faye Joseph, Herbert Ireland, Louise Harper, Morton Lipman, Pat English, Neal Harrison, Kennedy Ward, Alma Brinson, Etta Mae Daugherty, Clarence Jenkins, Betty Wright, Frances Ball, Jane Ellis, Jewel Ipock.

FOLK DANCERS—Genora Banks, Virginia Clark, Stella Fodrey, Mary Piner, Betty Lou Register, Kathleen Riggs, Iola Taylor, Lovie Thomas, Jo Anne Turnbull, Erma Lanier, Agnes Barden, Sarah Barker, Patricia Dunn, Eloise Dixon, Hazel Prevost, Ruby Hall, Edna Prevost, Jean Williamson, Lois Barrow, Carolyn Liverman, June Boyd, Jarvis Arthur, Billy Avery, Alford Morris, Hilton McDaniel, Everette Nelson, Jr., Bobby Stanley, Edward Lee Sutton, William Bodenheimer, Billy Davis, Joseph Jones, Edward Lee Blanton, Franklin Thomas, Alton Ray Lamm, Patricia Adams, Betty Lou Fales.

Scene: School Room. Trustees and Mr. Tomlinson seated around a table. Children at old-fashioned desks facing Trustees. Ladies seated in chairs at one side. Mr. Tomlinson leaves his seat and reproves a boy who is misbehaving.

Reader: It is January 1, 1764, the opening day of school. The School Trustees are present on this momentous occasion. Some of the mothers also have come to see how their children will be housed and who is to instruct them. Mr. Thomas Tomlinson, the school-master, is trying to remember that this school will be very different from the one he conducted in Cumberland County, England. He has heard of the "excessive Indulgence of American Parents, and the great difficulty of keeping up a proper discipline."

(The children march in and are marshalled to their seats by Mr. Tomlinson.)

(Others take their places.)

Rev. James Reed: "Ladies! Gentlemen of the Board of Trustees. Mr. Tomlinson, and future subjects of His Most Gracious Majesty, King George. Greetings! We are gathered together on this occasion to open our first public school. We have labored long and earnestly that this school might materialize. We have overcome indifference, prejudice and actual opposition.

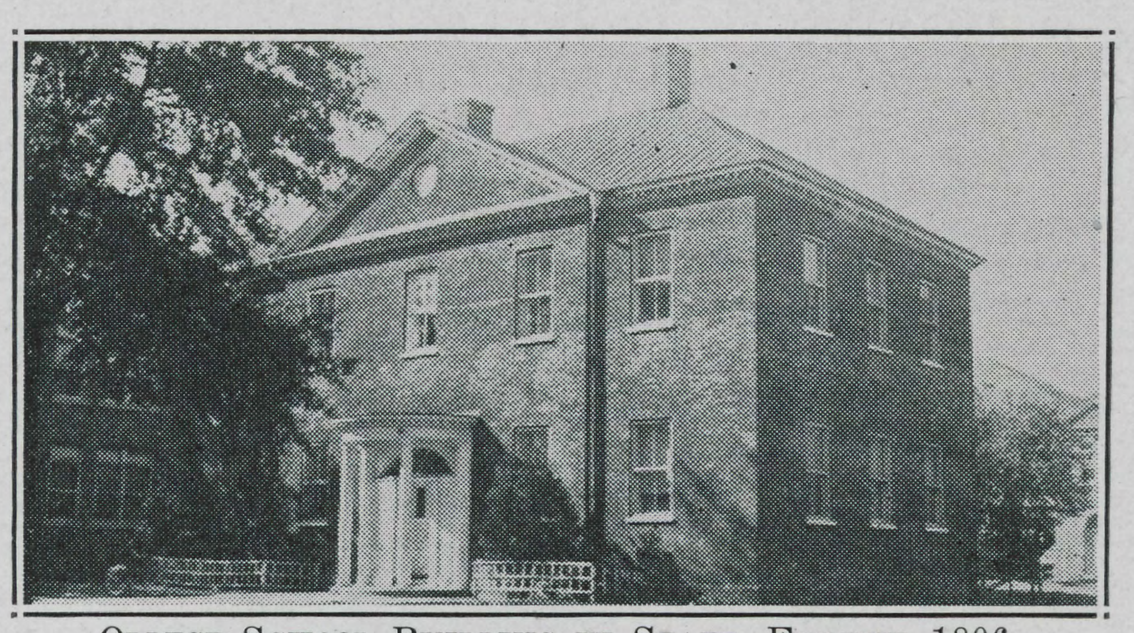
The children of the Parish whose parents can afford to pay their tuition of twenty shillings a quarter are adequately taken care of. The Trustees have very generously allowed five poor children to attend without paying tuition. This is a Public School, but we wish to make it a Free school for those who cannot pay. We need to incorporate a Society for promoting and establishing a Public School in New Bern. We need to ask the Assembly to place a tax on all spirituous liquors coming into Neuse River, and thereby raise a fund to educate the children of the poor. As this fund grows and our little Academy flourishes, we could employ assistants to Mr. Tomlinson. I have in mind Mr. McCartney and Mr. Parrot, both worthy gentlemen, and I feel sure the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel would assume some of the responsibility of this venture in public Education. His Excellency, Governor Dobbs, will intercede for us, with both the Church and the Throne.

"Gentlemen of the Board of Trustees: Mr. Cogdell, Mr. Leech, Mr. Howe, Mr. Fenner, Mr. Williams, Mr. Haslen, let me present to you Mr. Tomlinson in the capacity of our First Schoolmaster. Allow me also to present thirty boys and girls, our first pupils in New Bern's Public School."

(Children rise and bow.)

Colonial Drill—"The Snail."

Colonial Folk Dance—"Did You Ever See a Lassie?"



OLDEST SCHOOL BUILDING IN STATE, ERECTED 1806

EPISODE II

BALL AT TRYON PALACE

Place: Tryon Palace. Time: April 3, 1775.

CHARACTERS

Governor Josiah Martin ..... Paul M. Cox
Speaker John Harvey and Lady ..... Mark Dunn and Miss Genevieve Tolson
Rev. James Reed ..... Rev. Charles E. Williams
Joseph Leech and Lady ..... Mr. and Mrs. David R. Morris
Cornelius Harnett and Lady ..... Gerald Colvin and Mrs. G. A. Barden
Col. Richard Caswell and Lady ..... Supt. and Mrs. H. B. Smith
Mr. Joseph Hewes and Lady ..... Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Bagg
Dr. Alexander Gaston and Lady ..... B. M. Potter and Mrs. George T. Willis
Mr. William Hooper and Lady ..... Mr. and Mrs. John C. Duffy
Mr. Lemuel Hatch and Lady ..... William Stanley and Miss Alice Taylor
Col. William Bryan and Lady ..... Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Bryan
Mr. James Green and Lady ..... C. E. Hancock, Jr., and Miss Rose Carraway
Mr. William Tisdale and Lady ..... Mr. and Mrs. John G. Dunn, Jr.
Mr. Richard Blackledge and Lady ..... Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Jones
Mr. Richard Cogdell and Lady ..... Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Waldrop
Col. John Simpson and Lady ..... Wade Meadows, Jr. and Mrs. B. G. Hines
Mr. John Wright Stanly and Lady ..... William Tyler and Mrs. Paul M. Cox
Dr. Isaac Guion and Lady ..... Mr. and Mrs. O. Haywood Guion
Lieut. John Oliver and Lady ..... W. B. Hanff and Miss Anna Hanff
Col. Alexander Lillington and Lady ..... Chas. L. Ives and Mrs. T. D. Warren
Mr. Abner Nash and Lady ..... Mr. and Mrs. John Beaman
Mr. John Easton and Lady ..... William Rawls and Miss Kathryn Richardson
Mr. Daniel Shine and Lady ..... Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Paul
Mr. Edward Salter and Lady ..... Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Carr
Mr. Jacob Blount and Lady ..... Mr. and Mrs. Lester Bray
James Coor and Lady ..... Parker Morris and Miss Frances Roberts
Samuel Johnston and Lady ..... Walter L. Griffin and Mrs. Mary H. Boylan
Samuel Cornell and Lady ..... Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Ward
John Herritage and Lady ..... Mr. and Mrs. Eura D. Gaskins
Edward Vail and Lady ..... J. Wilbur Cummings and Miss Florrie Gibbs
John Hawks and Lady ..... Mr. and Mrs. John H. Parker
John Bryan and Lady ..... Harold Whitehurst and Miss Margaret Bryan
Robert Howe and Lady ..... J. C. Pennington and Mrs. H. C. Lawrence
Edmund Hatch and Lady ..... Albert Taylor and Miss Lanta Winslow
Richard Ellis and Lady ..... John F. Rhodes and Mrs. B. E. Moore
James Gorham and Lady ..... Morrison Barwick and Mrs. Charles Duffy
John Ashe and Lady ..... Bill Pearce and Miss Caroline Willis
Thomas Carraway and Lady ..... Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Carraway
John Tilghman and Lady ..... Jesse S. Claypoole and Miss Mary Ward

And other Colonial Ladies and Gentlemen.

SOLDIERS—Kenneth Dixon, Jim Blow, Thomas Lee Willis, C. W. Hodges, Jr., Joe Stallings, Daniel Strickland.

SERVANTS—Naomi Clark, Katherine Hill, Albert Stocks, Alfred Ward.

MINUET DANCERS—Sophie Sue Duffy, Bill Patten; Enola Sue Flowers, Wesley Conkling; Ollie Meadows, Graham Lupton; Dorothy Odum, Pat Mullineaux; Emma Blades, Billy Lancaster; Elizabeth Godwin, Mike Holton; Lillian Roberts, Joe Anderson; Virginia Lancaster, Jack Harris.

Scene: Ball-Room.

Reader: April 3, 1775. Across the thirteen colonies the people are beginning to inquire into the encroachment of England upon their rights and liberties. Boston harbor has been blockaded. The first Continental Congress, to which North Carolina sent its representatives, has already met and presented its demands to the King. In Carolina the Friends of Liberty have been summoned to an Assembly independent of the Crown Assembly called for tomorrow by Royal Governor Martin.

In Tryon Palace Governor Martin is holding an elaborate ball in honor of the members of the Royal Assembly, many of whom will also attend the other. Against the advice of his council, the Governor has summoned military aid, and Sir Henry Clinton, Sir Peter Parker and Lord Cornwallis are coming south. The Governor is expecting dispatches disclosing the time of their arrival.

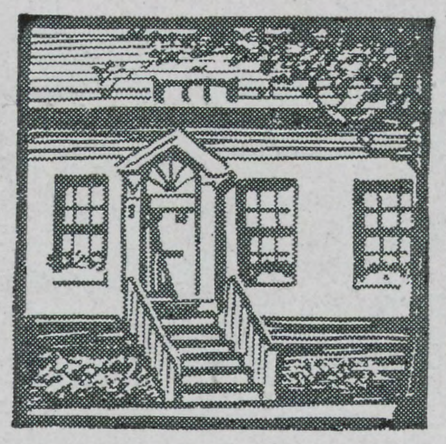
In the meantime, John Harvey, a leader of the patriots, has issued orders for all dispatches to the Governor to be intercepted. The Committee of Safety is watching every move the Governor makes. The embers of liberty are ready to burst into flame.

(Enter gentlemen and their ladies.)

Reader: The gentlemen of the Assembly are arriving with their ladies.
(Trumpet. Enter Governor Martin and escort.)

Reader: Governor Josiah Martin—"he is indeed a sovereign,—aye, every inch a king."

(Ladies and gentlemen pay homage.)



Reader: Speaker John Harvey and lady.

(They advance to dais and bow.)

Col. Richard Caswell and lady
Mr. Joseph Hewes and lady
Mr. Joseph Leech and lady
Mr. William Hooper and lady
Mr. Lemuel Hatch and lady
Col. William Bryan and lady
Mr. James Green and lady
Mr. William Tisdale and lady
Mr. Richard Blackledge and lady
Mr. Richard Cogdell and lady
Col. John Simpson and lady
Mr. John Wright Stanly and lady

(Dispatches arrive for Martin. He does not open them.)

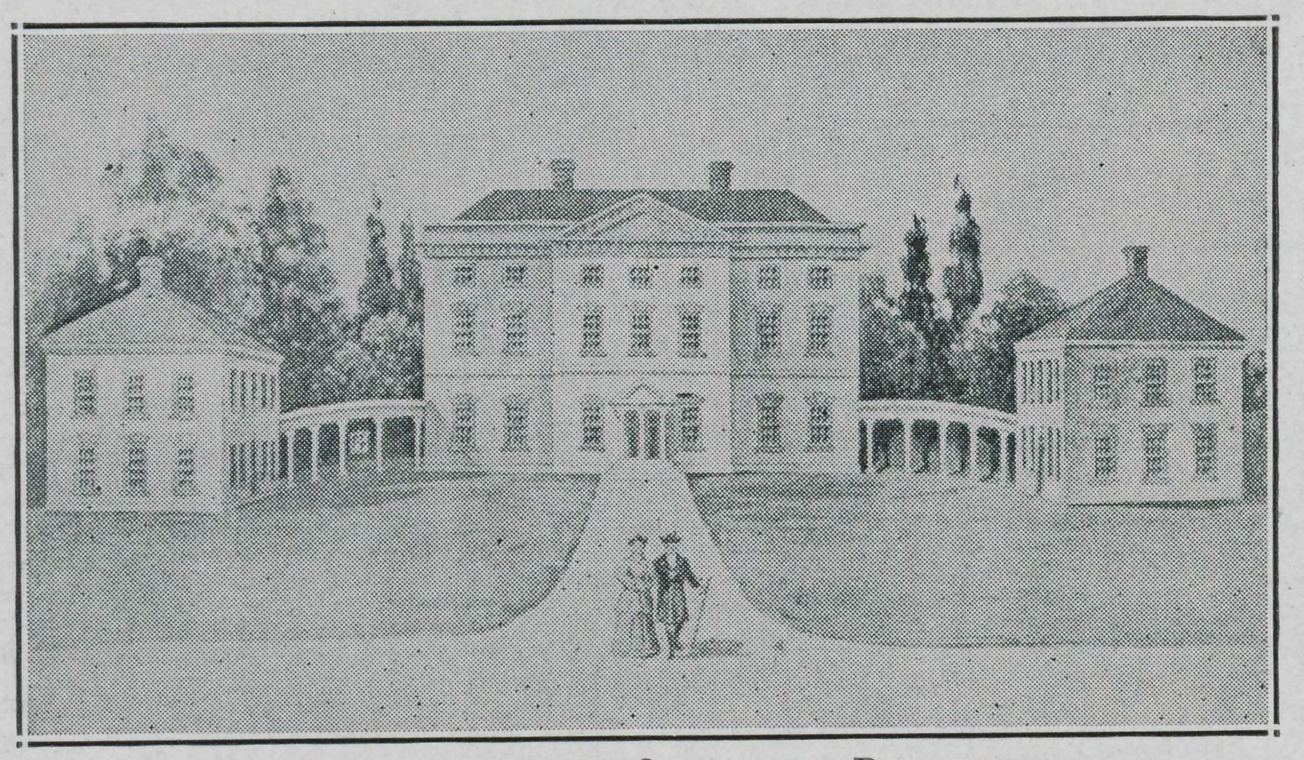
Reader: Lieut. John Oliver and lady
Col. Alexander Lillington and lady
Dr. Isaac Guion and lady
Mr. John Easton and lady
Mr. James Coor and lady
Mr. John Hawks and lady

(Dispatches arrive for John Harvey. He opens them. Men crowd around. Ladies draw away.)

Dance—Minuet.

Reader: The Royal Assembly met the next day, but the Governor had already lost. On a fair April morning in Lexington, far to the north, the struggle was transferred from the forum to the battlefield. In a few weeks Governor Martin was driven from the Palace in New Bern. Royal rule in Carolina was ended forever.

But the Reverend Mr. Reed remained ever faithful to his King. His school was disbanded, but he continued to hold services in the little church and to pray for his sovereign. The schoolboys would go to the church door and beat their drums to drown out the prayers for England's King.



TRYON PALACE AS ORIGINALLY DESIGNED

EPISODE III

MEETING OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF ACADEMY

Place: New Bern Academy. Time: 1784.

CHARACTERS

Trustees of New Bern Academy:

Hon. Richard Caswell	SUPT. H. B. SMITH
Hon. Richard Dobbs Spaight	JUDGE R. A. NUNN
Hon. Abner Nash	DR. Z. V. PARKER
Hon. William Blount	CHARLES L. IVES
John Wright Stanly	ALBERT L. HIBBARD
Gen. William Bryan	WILLIAM M. BRYAN
John Sitgreaves	JOHN F. RHODES
Dr. William McClure	A. M. FRANKLIN
Spyres Singleton	CARL F. BUNTING

Scene: Trustees seated around a table.

Reader: The seven years of revolution brought to an end the work of the early leaders in public education. The schools, like many other institutions of normal life, were forgotten and neglected as the state poured all of its energies into the fight for freedom. But with the close of the war, with freedom won, far-sighted citizens again turned their attention toward the education of their children and the pursuits of peace.

(Enter Board Members.)

Reader: It is now 1784—twenty years since the Rev. James Reed opened the first public school in the state. Earlier in the year the state legislature had amended the act establishing the New Bern Public School to broaden it as an academy, the goal first set by the Rev. Mr. Reed.

(Enter Caswell.)

Reader: A meeting of the Board of Trustees has been called to organize the new academy. Richard Caswell, who has served four terms as Governor and later will serve three more years in the Governor's chair, is present to preside over the meeting. He greets the members of the board.

Reader: Former Governor Abner Nash.

General William Bryan, who figured so gallantly at the Battle of Moore's Creek.

Richard Dobbs Spaight, first native-born Governor of North Carolina, Congressman and a signer of the Federal Constitution.

William Blount, also a signer of the Constitution, and later Governor and Senator in Tennessee.

John Sitgreaves, a Federal Judge and a distinguished member of the Continental Congress.

John Wright Stanly, who gave generously of his time and his fortune in the struggle for Liberty.

Dr. William McClure, the only surgeon in his regiment.

Spyres Singleton, scholar and soldier, who had a prominent part in the famed case of Bayard versus Singleton here in 1786, when it was held for the first recorded time in America that the Legislature is limited in power by the Constitution.

(Richard Caswell addresses the Board.)

Caswell: Gentlemen of the Board of Trustees of New Bern Academy:

At a General Assembly held at Hillsborough in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty-Four, and in the Eighth Year of the Independence of the State of North Carolina, with Alexander Martin, Esq., Governor, the following amendment was enacted:

(Unrolls Scroll and reads.)

Whereas, the school house heretofore established under the before recited Act has answered very valuable purposes, but in the course of the late war, by the death and removal of many of the Trustees, and from other unavoidable accidents, the building is much impaired, and the education of youth neglected.

Be it therefore Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby Enacted by the authority of the same. That from and after the passing of this Act, the said school shall be distinguished and known by the name of New Bern Academy; and that the Honourable Richard Caswell and Abner Nash, Esquires, John Wright Stanly, William Blount, John Sitgreaves, William McClure, William Bryan and Richard Dobbs Spaight, Esquires, be, and they are hereby appointed Trustees and directors of the said Academy, and shall be and they are hereby incorporated into a body politic and corporate by the name of the incorporated society, for promoting and establishing the New Bern Academy, by which name they shall have perpetual succession, and a common seal, which they may alter or amend at discretion.

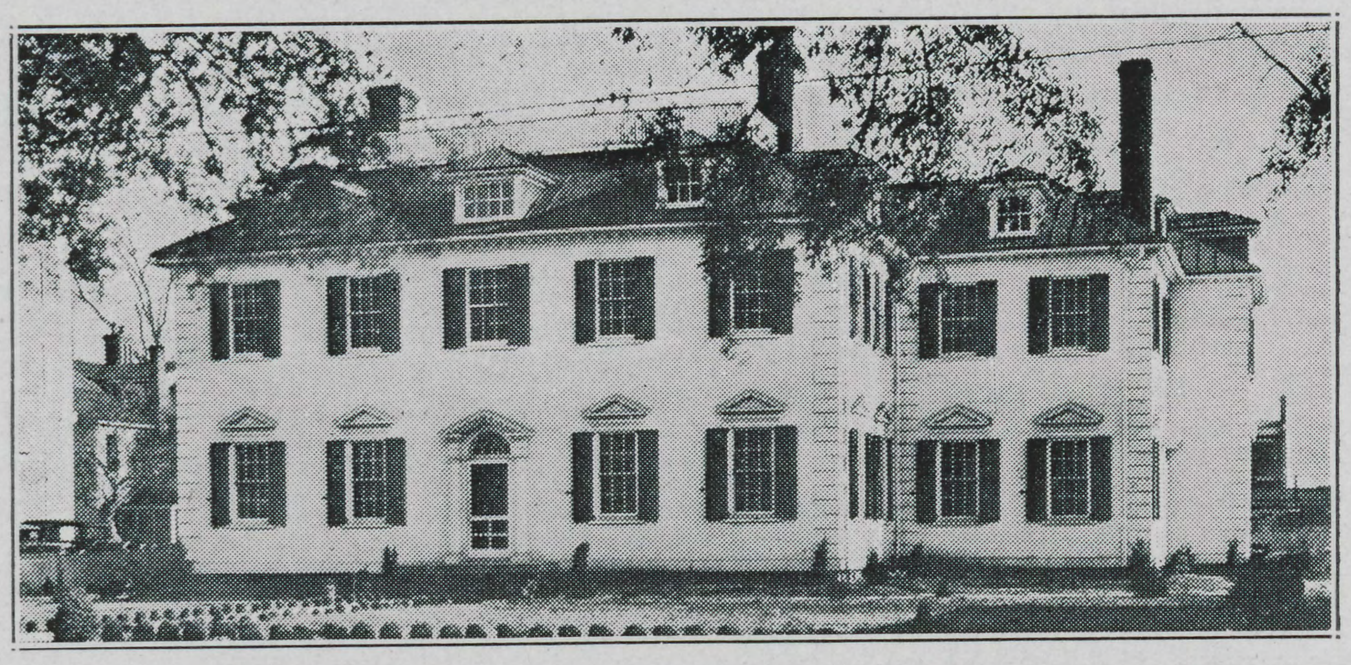
Caswell: And be it further Enacted by the authority aforesaid, That on the death, refusal to act, or removal out of the State of any of the Trustees, the remaining Trustees or a majority of them, shall elect other Trustees in the room and stead of those dead, removed, or refusing to act.

Caswell: And be it further Enacted by the authority aforesaid, That nothing in this Act shall be construed to prevent the Trustees from distinguishing their public hall, museum or library, by the names of such persons or Societies, as may give the most liberal donation to the Academy.

(Pause)

Caswell: Gentlemen, it is now your burden—and may it be your glory.

Music: "America" ..... CHOIR AND AUDIENCE



HISTORIC JOHN WRIGHT STANLY HOME, NOW PUBLIC LIBRARY

EPISODE IV

DR. ELIAS HAWES' FREE SCHOOL

Place: Dr. Elias Hawes' Lawn. Time: 1800.

CHARACTERS

Dr. Elias Hawes ..... THOMAS E. BASS
Mrs. Hawes ..... MRS. H. M. HILL
Slave ..... MARVIN POTTER
PUPILS—Roy Setzer, Roark Patterson, Charles Rhodes, Frank Fagan, Raymond Maxwell, Elizabeth Guion, L. M. Lancaster, Dan Smaw, Vaughan Griffin, Geraldine Miller, Mary Louise Moulton, Betty Wilkie, Martha Simpson, Basil Pafe, Bobby McLean, Peggy Mohn, Lois Rouse, Betty Ann Parsons, Ann Brothers, Ann Edwards, Rosamond Meadows, Sara Morris, Ella Meadows, Margaret Hope Smith, Emma Katie Guion, Mary Louise Edwards, James Land, Robert Gaskins, Donna Horton, Betsy DeBruhl.

Scene: Side yard of Dr. Elias Hawes' home.

Reader: By the turn of the century the little school of 1764 has become a flourishing academy. Now the boys and girls who once sat on the long, wooden benches are going out and making their influence felt in the state and in the world.

Now the school has as master, Rev. Thomas P. Irving, able but ill-fated. In 1795 the beloved school house burned to the ground. Then the legislature had turned over to the school a large room in the Palace, which contained life-sized portraits of George First, Second and Third. But three years later, the palace itself burned and the school was again without a house. Undaunted, however, the Rev. Mr. Irving set to work to raise funds to build a brick school house, thinking to make it more permanent than the previous one.

But the vision of the Reverend Reed—which has come so far—has not yet been fulfilled. For the good parson saw in his dreams a school in which every child should be welcome whether or not he could pay. He saw a land of equal opportunity that extended alike to the children of the rich and the poor. The Academy was a public school and open to all, but it was not free.

To fill this need, there came to New Bern a physician whose faith in man was as steadfast as his faith in God . . . Dr. Elias Hawes. Soon afterwards he married the widow of the tutor of John Wright Stanly's children. This doctor believed in training children's bodies and characters as well as their minds, and with the aid of his devoted wife and an assistant he opened a school for children who could not pay.

It was the first free school for white children in North Carolina.

Dr. Hawes taught these children obedience and perseverance through physical drill. He showed them the joy of living in music and games, and he awakened their curiosity in the expanding knowledge of the sciences.

(Children march out with Dr. and Mrs. Hawes. They divide up into squads and start moving brick.)

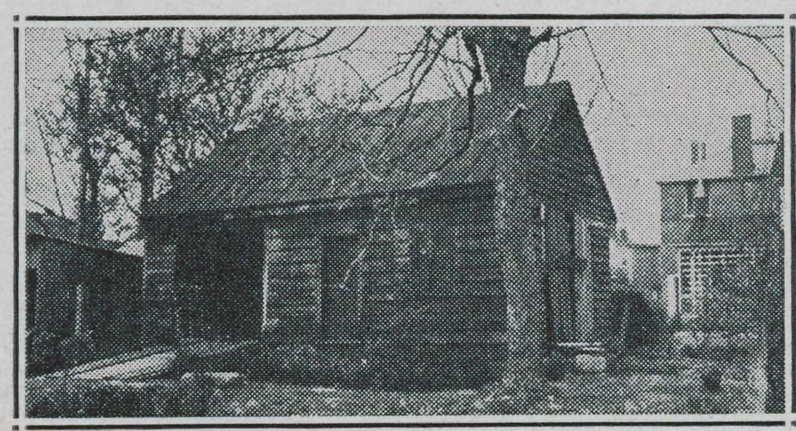
Reader: One of their drills is moving brick from one side of the school yard to the others. Tomorrow the brick will be returned to the other side. This is good exercise, and certainly takes perseverance.

(Children play Looby Loo.)

Reader: Dr. Hawes is telling the children they have exercised and played long enough. If they will close their eyes and rest twenty minutes he will show them a wonderful new, scientific invention—something they have never seen, or even heard of before.

(Children sink down to rest. Slave prepares paper for a fire. Mrs. Hawes claps her hands. Children awake, and gather around. Dr. Hawes strikes a match and lights the paper.)

Reader: It is the first lucifer match they have ever seen!



WILLIAM GASTON'S LAW OFFICE

EPISODE V

LANCASTRIAN SCHOOL

Place: Lancastrian School. Time: 1838.

CHARACTERS

Alonzo Attmore, the schoolmaster ..... BURKE H. TAYLOR

Judge William Gaston, a visitor ..... T. WALLACE BRINSON

PUPILS—Katherine Ives, Alice Page Daniel, Rudolph Jowdy, Jack Morton, Frances Burke Taylor, Sheldon Crump, Billy Fitzgerald, Billy Hollister, Jr., Doris Brinson, Sammy Torrence, Edward Posta, Jimmy Williams, Doris Mae Willis, Billy Pugh, Herman Coplon, Louis Cramer, Mercer Tyson, Doris Harper, Bobby Boyd, Helen Aarons, Jane Morton, Gordon Huffines, Opal Waters, B. G. Harker, Douglas Cannon, Leroy Smith, Larry Warrington, Bobby Potter, Myrtle Piner, Susan Brinson.

CHORUS FOR SONG, "THE OLD NORTH STATE," written in 1840 by William Gaston, and officially adopted as North Carolina's State Song in 1927—Bessie Emma Hall, Sally Hargett, Constance Newton, Nellie Tisdale, Mildred Jones, Joann Frank, Peggy Simpson, Peggy Gillikin, Anna Lancaster, Leila Bell, Alton Harper, Gladys Ballanger, Joe Hardy Ferguson, Ray Potter, Lucille Daughety, Tommy Williams, Violet English, Billy Conner, Sylvia Joseph, Eva Brinson, Allen Harper, Fetter West, Virginia Boyd, Neil Armstrong, Harry Cramer, George Bowden, Evelyn Lilly, Beverly Morrison, Myrtle Koonce, Beatrice Littleton, Agnes Hooker, Elizabeth Dishaw, Vivetta Jenkins, Dolly Abernethy, Billy Williams, Mary Elizabeth McCoy.

Scene: School Room.

Reader: "Grave is the Master's look; his forehead wears
Thick rows of wrinkles, prints of worrying cares.
Uneasy lies the heads of all that rule,
His worst of all whose kingdom is a school.
Supreme he sits; before the awful frown
That binds his brows the boldest eye goes down;
Not more submissive Israel heard and saw
At Sinai's foot the Giver of the Law."

Reader: This is the Lancastrian School of Mr. John Alonzo Attmore. The rules are punctuality, attention, order and prompt obedience. For a slight infringement of the regulations, a child is called up for a "sugar plum". This is a stroke of the rattan across his palm. A boy may offer to take this punishment for a girl. If she happens to be a pretty girl sometimes many boys rush up to offer themselves as a sacrifice. The punishment for a great offense is the pillory. Girls were never put in the pillory.

(Mr. Attmore takes his place and the children march in.)

Mr. Attmore: Look!
(He swings rattan and they are seated.)

Mr. Attmore: Unsling slates. Sling slates.
Unsling slates. Sling slates.

Will Mistress Mary come forward for a sugar plum? Hold out your hand, Mistress Mary. Will any young gentlemen have the chivalry to take the punishment in Mistress Mary's stead?

(Three boys rush forward.)

Mr. Attmore: (After administering blows to one.) Back to your places.

(One boy trips another and is placed in the Pillory.)

Mr. Attmore: Look! We are expecting a visitor this morning. Judge William Gaston will come to examine your work. It is my hope that you may make a creditable showing. At the conclusion of his visit you will rise and sing the beautiful song Judge Gaston wrote for you.

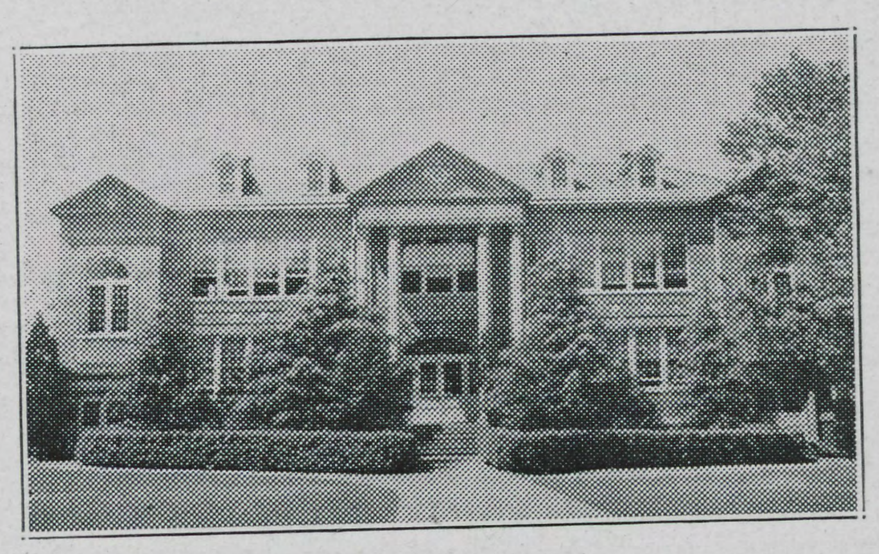
(Business of the School.)

(Enter Gaston.)

Mr. Attmore: Look!
(Children rise and bow. Attmore swings the rattan and they are seated.)
(Judge Gaston looks over their work, then consults Attmore.)

Mr. Attmore: Look! Sing.

Music: "The Old North State"..... CHILDREN AND AUDIENCE



MOSES GRIFFIN HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING

EPISODE VI

GRIFFIN FREE SCHOOL

Place: Griffin Free School. Time: Christmas Eve, 1850.

CHARACTERS

Miss Areta Ellis, schoolmistress ..... HELEN JOHNSON

PUPILS—Margaret Faison, Alice Lou Flanner, Shirley Flowers, Frances Hall, Helen Margaret Duffy, Mary Elizabeth Burrus, Betty Montgomery, Mary Daniels, Lois Crump, Helen Bowman, Selma Perry, Colleen King, Ruth Paul, Janet Latham, Johnice Miller, Erna Rowe, Jane Small, Dorothy Lee Taylor, Elizabeth Willis, Jewel Wade.

PARTY GUESTS—Otis Godley, C. B. Edwards, A. O. Gaskill, Billy Gaskins, A. D. Grady, Claye Frank, Pat Coward, Jim Blades, Darrel Daniels, Richard Bengel, James Nichols, Pete Kemp, Preston Jones, Jimmy Menius, Paul Mengel, Mike Posta, Garland Riggs, Rudolph Rowe, Harry Venters, Clifford Williams.

Scene: Girls in blue and white uniforms. Boys in coarse clothes of period of 1850. Games and dances at the Christmas party.

Reader: Who Moses Griffin was, no one ever knew. Nor where he came from nor how he lived other than that he ate and slept and worked alone. He was a quiet, inoffensive man who mingled little in the busy life of the thriving town. He was a poor man, too, so people said, but he worked hard and asked charity of none.

Then one day Moses Griffin died. And people were surprised to find that he had left a small fortune, accumulated through long years of thrift and sacrifice, to be used in organizing a school for the less fortunate children of New Bern.

As so many trades were open to poor boys it was decided by the Trustees to give the advantages of the Griffin Free School to girls only. Very strict rules and regulations were laid down as to the training of these twenty girls. They were to be taught a trade or means of support, as well as the fundamentals of plain English. These girls were taught to knit, to card, spin, weave, and sew their own clothes. They were also taught to cook, to milk a cow and tend a horse, to do house work and wait at table, to tend a garden, and to love wild flowers. Every afternoon at four o'clock Miss Areta Ellis, the mistress of the school, would take the girls walking in the woods to collect and study wild flowers. They were always accompanied by her big St. Bernard dog.

It was a pretty sight on Sundays to see a procession of these children, all in dresses exactly alike, with Miss Areta at their head, march through the town to church.

Tonight the Griffin Girls are having their usual celebration. It is Christmas Eve, 1850.

Dances—"Pop Goes the Weasel" and Virginia Reel.

(Boys and girls form a semi-circle around Miss Areta, while she recites to the audience):

Miss Areta: "The twig is so easily bended
I have banished the rule of the rod.
I have taught them the goodness of knowledge;
They have taught me the goodness of God:
My heart is the dungeon of darkness,
Where I shut them for breaking a rule:
My frown is sufficient correction;
My love is the law of the school."

EPISODE VII

FALL OF NEW BERN

Place: Academy Building. Time: March 14, 1862.

CHARACTERS

"Vegetable Martha" ..... MARTHA ROYALL

"The Red-Hot Peanut Man" ..... GARFIELD DOVE

Colored vendors, musicians, clog and tap dancers.

Henry Thompson, schoolmaster ..... J. B. LOVELACE

PUPILS—Gale Turnbull, Joan Bratcher, Mary Ellen Hill, Betty June Riggs, Patsy Miller, Eleanor Lanier, Shirley Parris, Audrey Adams, Marie Hargett, Alma Laughinghouse, Helen Howard, Jack Edwards, Ben Gurganus, Billy Rawls, Paul Wetherington, Joe Piner, Allen Ross.

MOTHERS OF PUPILS—Mrs. R. G. Turnbull, Mrs. R. E. Hill, Mrs. J. P. Miller, Miss Evelyn Lanier, Mrs. R. J. Parris, Mrs. W. A. Adams, Mrs. P. J. Wetherington, Mrs. Myrtle Laughinghouse, Mrs. A. Smith.

CONFEDERATE SOLDIER—Bobby DeBruhl.

UNION SOLDIERS—Fred Dickinson, Bill Holland, George Horner, Preston Hughes and Bruce Sapp.

SLAVES—Billy Crawford, Durwood McDaniel, Claud Noble, Marine Stanley, Louise Wood, Virginia Maxfield, Margaret Owens, Paul Griffin, Dewey Waters, Clenton Harrison.

CHORUS—Faye Jenkins, Peggy Carter, Georgia Mercer, Mildred Blanton, Eloise Jones, Elizabeth Hill, Jean Blanton, Elizabeth Thomas, Erma Hall, Mildred Heath, Nettie Small, Dorothy Koonce, Lucille Turnage, Louise Pate, Macie Westbrook, Joyce Wade, Hazel Sweat, D. M. Parker, Jr., Robert Lupton, Jack Jennings, Richard Hardison, Herbert Ross, Eldridge Lanier, Bob Mercer, Glenn Barrow, Virgil Dixon, Roland Hill, Edwin Lee Thompson, Audrey Bengel, Phillip Edwards, Manly Moore, Ernest Brite, John Clem Thomas.

CHOIR—Members of St. Cyprian's Colored Episcopal Church Choir and other local colored singers.

Scene: Street scene, then opening exercises in schoolroom. (Four bars of "Dixie" played softly.)

Reader: It is March 14, 1862. The vendors are on the streets as usual. The children are filing into school utterly unconcerned. They are unaware of any approaching danger. The Yankees are coming, but they will never break through the defending lines.

Discipline is the order of the day in school life, but for boys, in this mixed school, there must be courtesy at work as well.

(Singing.)

(Confederate soldier enters.)

Reader: Confederate soldiers bring news of the battle. Gunboats are coming up the river and are shelling the town. The children must be gotten to their homes as quickly as possible. Hurry them. Please. Hurry, children, hurry.

(Enter mothers.)

Some of the mothers are coming in for their children. No one knows where to go for safety. There may be a train to carry them away. Suppose they can't all board one train. What will they do about leaving their homes unprotected? What will happen to their valuables? They can't take everything. Can they take anything? Invaders swarming in from the west, gunboats to the east. And only one train. Maybe not even one. Hurry, children, hurry. The Yankees are here.

(Enter Union soldiers.)

The slaves are told they are free. Hear them singing in the streets.

(Negro spirituals.)

Reader: The Yankees are ordering the negroes to take away the school benches. They are clearing away everything. There are some of them bringing in cots. There is a wounded Yankee. They are setting up a hospital. Our school building which our children have attended and loved, where they have learned to read and write. There we have sung songs and played games and been peaceful and happy,—a Yankee Hospital.

EPISODE VIII

ROLL OF HONOR

Place: Academy Green. Time: 1800-1900.

CHARACTERS

TRUSTEES, TEACHERS, PUPILS OF DISTINCTION—Parts played by members of the New Bern Junior Woman's Club)—Mrs. Jack Aberly, Mrs. Benny Baxter, Mrs. Robert Baxter, Miss Armetta Bland, Miss Emily Bunting, Mrs. Russell Burnham, Mrs. Paul Cox, Mrs. Sam Dill, III, Mrs. Reid Fuller, Miss Daphne Gaskins, Miss Elizabeth Gaskins, Mrs. Eura Gaskins, Mrs. James Gaskins, Miss Helen Grantham, Mrs. Kermit Guthrie, Miss Sylvia Gwaltney, Mrs. Ben Harker, Mrs. Bill Hunnings, Mrs. William Lansche, Mrs. Tom Maultsby, Miss Kathryn May, Miss Virginia McSorley, Mrs. Glover Merritt, Mrs. Joe Miller, Mrs. Kenneth Morris, Miss June Neely, Miss Sheila Nelson, Mrs. Seth Parrott, Mrs. Otis Peterson, Mrs. Rembert Rivenbark, Miss Amy Lee Rhodes, Miss Iris Rhodes, Miss Grace Robbins, Mrs. Fred Shipp, Mrs. Joe Slater, Miss Frances Smallwood, Miss Alice Taylor, Mrs. Henry Tyson, Miss Caroline Willis, Miss Rosa Willis, Miss Barbara Younginer, Mrs. Singleton Ford, Mrs. Guy Hamilton, Jr., Mrs. Charles Burgess, Miss Margaret Chapman, Mrs. G. H. Gurganus, Miss Amy Gwaltney, Mrs. Ralph Harrison, Mrs. Ernest Johnson, Mrs. Robert Joyner, Mrs. Herman Mattocks, Mrs. Chas. Nelson, Mrs. Earl Peterson, Miss Corinna Simons, Miss Johnette Smith, Miss Eleanor Sutton, Miss Elizabeth White, Miss Lily Willis, Miss Marjorie Stephens, Mrs. Max Munford, Mrs. Frank Almon, Mrs. B. H. Conger, Miss Emmie Louise Gaskill, Miss Rena Handy, Miss Katie Bell Smith, Miss Kathleen Stallings, Mrs. Weston Willis, Miss Rosalie Richardson, and Miss Mary Anderson. Assisted by a number of young men of the city.

Scene: Parade of the characters.

Reader: As the century rolls on, the Griffin Free School merges with the Academy. The Academy merges into the Graded School. The destiny of these schools has ever been guided by a long line of distinguished Trustees.

The teachers have been men and women, who by precept and example, strict discipline and loving kindness, have upheld the highest standards. Sometimes "the world knows nothing of its greatest men."

(Actors enter.)

Reader: The Roll of Honor: those educators and missionaries who have gone to all parts of the world from New Bern and the New Bern churches and schools.

March: "America the Beautiful" ..... ORGAN

Song: "America the Beautiful" ..... CHOIR AND AUDIENCE

EPILOGUE

GRAND FINALE

Place: Academy. Time: 1710-1939.

CHARACTERS

All participants of the pageant.

A teacher of today ..... MISS LIZZIE HANCOCK

A little school girl of today ..... GEORGIA DUFFY

A little school boy of today ..... GEORGE ALLEN IVES

Miss Hancock is completing her 40th year as a primary grade teacher in New Bern schools. Little Miss Duffy and Master Ives are descendants of Furnifold Green, one of the first settlers of the region.

Reader: "Our dead are greater and more truly alive than we are. When we forget them, it is our whole future that we lose sight of; and when we fail in respect to them it is our own immortal soul that we are trampling under our own feet."

As our story draws to its close we look back over a long period of growth in education.

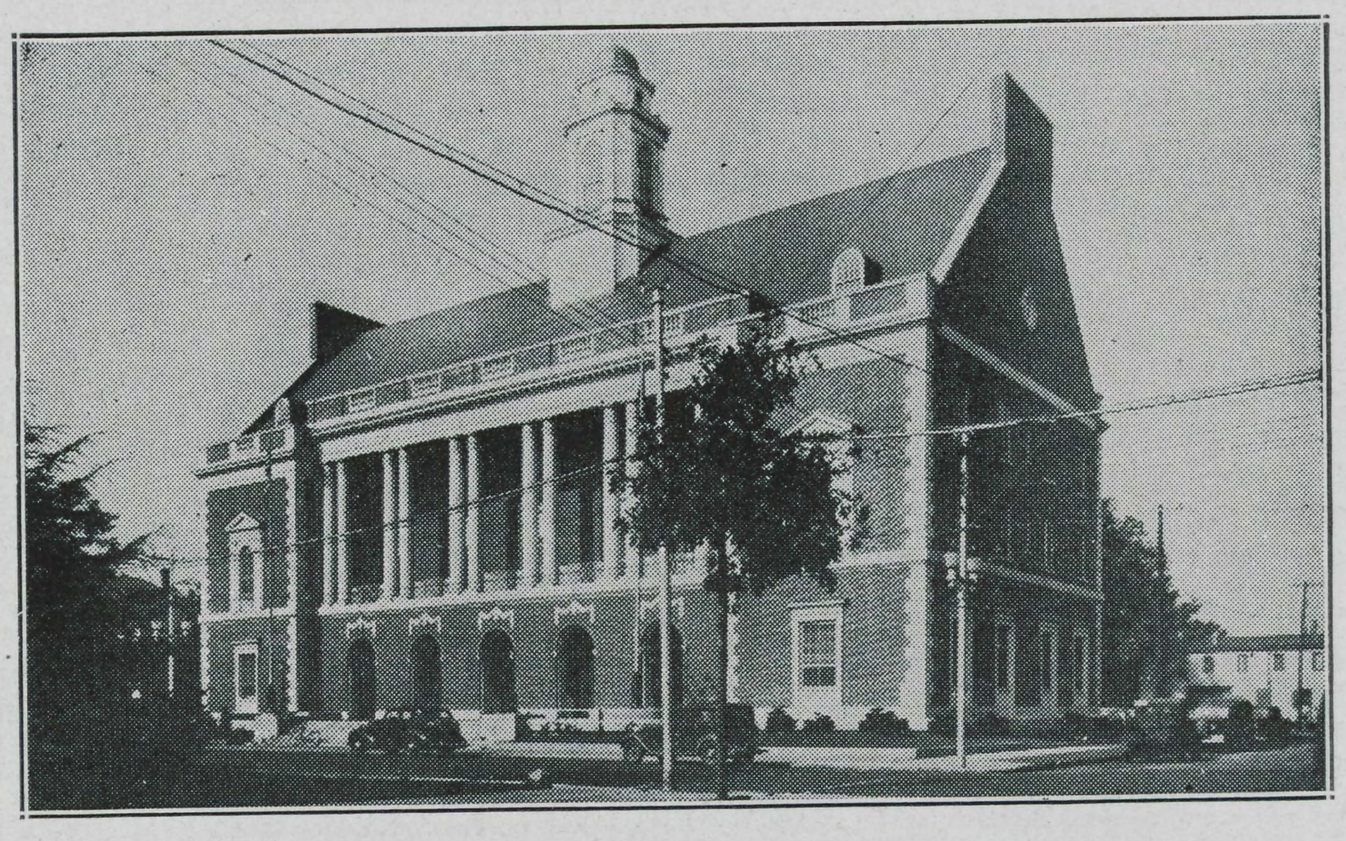
(Enter Actors.)

Reader: The New Bern Public School is proud of its noble heritage. Proud of its sons and daughters who have gone out into the world to found institutions of learning, to man hospitals in the mission field, and to do their part in making the world a better and happier place in which to live.

(Little boy and girl and teacher stand forth.)

Reader: The boys and girls of today, cognizant of their illustrious past, inspired by understanding teachers, will pass from the portals of this school to heights yet undreamed of in the world of tomorrow.

Music: "The Star Spangled Banner."



NEW FEDERAL BUILDING OF COLONIAL DESIGN