

# **CLAY COUNTY ARCHIVES**

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## **ORANGE PARK HAND SCHOOL SOURCE DOCUMENTS**

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2011

## Contents

1892 Jan – Faculty Am.Mi. 46-1.....	4
1892 Apr – Photos of School Am.Mi. 46-4.....	5
1892 May – Account of School Inauguration Am.Mi. 46-5.....	8
1892 June – Congregational Church Photo Am.Mi. 46-6.....	9
1892 July – Annual Report Am.Mi 46-7 .....	10
1893 Sept – Annual Report Am.Mi. 47-9 .....	12
1894 July – Annual Report Am.Mi 48-7 .....	13
1895 Feb – Faculty Am.Mi 49-2 .....	14
1895 June 22 – School History of the Negro Race Richmond Planet.....	15
1895 Aug – Annual Report Am.Mi 49-8.....	16
1895 Sept – Sheats Law Am.Mi. 49-9 .....	17
1895 Nov – Vow to Resist Sheats Law Am.Mi 49-11 .....	19
1895 Dec – Sheats Vows to Close School Am.Mi. 49-12.....	20
1896 Jan – Teacher describes the Sheats tension Am.Mi. 50-1 .....	22
1896 Feb – Faculty Am.Mi. 50-2 .....	24
1896 May – Teachers Arrested Am.Mi. 50-5 .....	25
1896 June – Sheriff Closes School Am.Mi. 50-6.....	26
1896 July – Congregational Church History Am.Mi 50-7 .....	29
1896 Oct 23 – Sheats Law Overturned New York Times .....	31
1896 Dec – Recount of the Sheats Trial Am.Mi. 50-12 .....	32
1898 Mar – Faculty Am.Mi. 52-1.....	33
1898 Mar – Christian Converts at School Am.Mi. 52-1.....	34
1898 June – Photo Inside School Am.Mi. 52-2.....	35
1900 July – W.W. Cumber Funds New Laundry Am.Mi. 54-3.....	35
1902 News of Colored Student Ocala Evening Star .....	36
1903 Student Graduates Whos Who of the Colored Race .....	37
1904 – YMCA membership at school 1903-4 YMCA Yearbook.....	38
1907 Oct – School still open Am.Mi. 61-9.....	39
1907 68 Pupils 1908 Sec of Ed Report .....	40
1909 – Prayers held Am.Mi Annual Meeting .....	42
1911 – School focused on photography Ind. History of the Negro Race.....	43
1911 71 Pupils 1912 Sec. of Ed Report .....	44



## 1892 Jan – Faculty

## Am.Mi. 46-1

FLORIDA

ORANGE PARK

Minister,

Rev. G. S. Dickerman, New Haven, Conn.

NORMAL SCHOOL

Principal – Prof. A. W. Farnham                      Hannibal, NY

Miss Cora M. Farnham                                      “                      “

“    Metta I. Meads    Olivet, Mich.

“    H. C. Bullard    Federal Point, Fla.

“    Anna J. Smith    Painesville, Ohio.

“    Julia C. Andrews    Milltown, N. B.

Mrs. A. W. Farnham    Hannibal, NY

Mr. E. E. McKibban    Macon, GA.

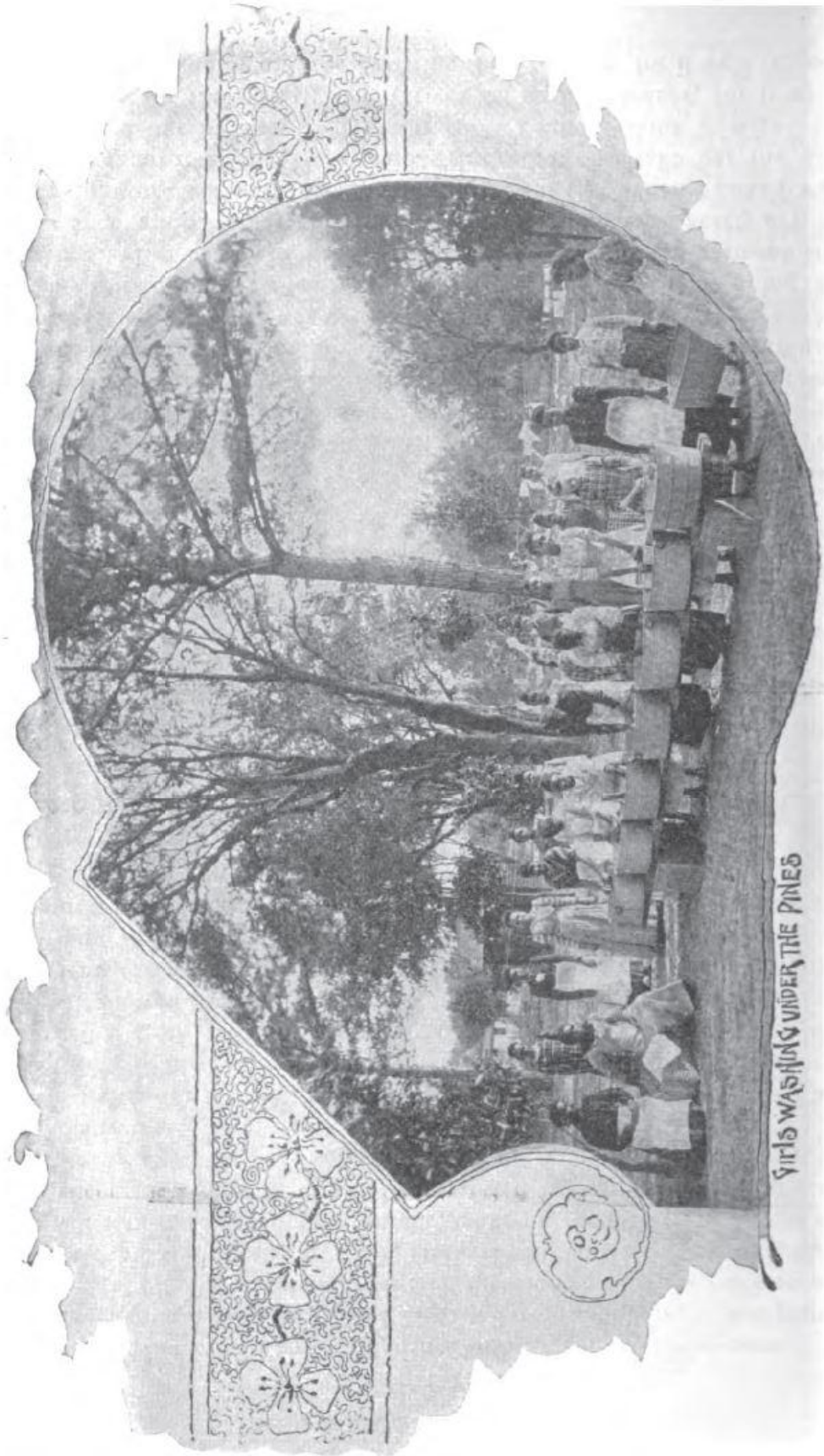
**ORANGE PARK NORMAL AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.**

Orange Park is an attractive village largely of Northern people, on the St. John's River about fourteen miles above Jacksonville. Our new school in this place consists of three commodious halls, one for the girls, to which is attached a dining hall and kitchen; another for boys, and a third for the general uses of the institution.

Since these buildings were completed, a large industrial shop of two stories has been erected and put in complete order by the students of the institution themselves. The school has grown much faster than was expected, and now, only four months after the opening, there are seventy eight students, the boarding halls being well-nigh filled. It is the intention of the Association to give instruction in agriculture and horticulture in their various branches. For such instruction ten acres are connected with the institution, and the purpose is to bring this under a high state of cultivation. The workshop has been thoroughly furnished with tools, and manual instruction of various kinds will be afforded to students. Besides the subjects usually taught in a grammar and normal school, stenography and typewriting have already been introduced. We hope soon to have a printing office in thorough working order. It is our purpose to nourish a healthy growth, so far as we shall have means to do so, and to send out new influences from this industrial school which shall be educative and helpful for a large section of country.



SEWING-CLASS—LAUNDRY-WORK—WORKSHOP.



GIRLS WASHING UNDER THE PINES

ORANGE PARK NORMAL AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

About two years ago the time seemed ripe for the Association to establish one of its training schools in Florida. Where should it be? A number of eligible situations offered and various reasons were given in favor of each. The subject was thoroughly canvassed, and finally the choice was Orange Park, an attractive village, largely of Northern people, on the St. Johns River, about fourteen miles above Jacksonville. As an inducement to locate here, the town offered ample grounds in the center of the place, as a gift to the institution. This is sufficient proof of the interest of the community in the school at the outset. This interest has been further shown by the uniform cordiality of the people toward those engaged in the work and by the attendance of their children at the school.

The site having been selected, an artesian well was sunk and the buildings were at once commenced. These were completed in the fall of 1891, and consist of three commodious halls, one for the girls, to which is attached the dining hall and kitchen; another for the boys, and between them a larger structure for the general uses of the institution, which is named Hildreth Hall, from its generous donor. Besides these, one now sees the shop standing in the rear, which the students have erected since the school opened.

The opening was on October 7th, under the charge of Prof. A. W. Farnham, with whom was a circle of assistants, most of whom, like himself, had been successful teachers in other schools of the Association. The number of scholars at the start was twenty-six, of whom sixteen were boarders.

The dedication occurred January 10th, with very pleasant exercises, in which Secretary Beard was present to take a part, and many others from far and near who are interested in the work.

The school has grown much faster than was expected, and four months after the opening, the number had trebled. On the roll were seventy-eight boarders and day-scholars, of whom forty are boys and thirty-eight girls. The prospect is that the quarters will soon be too small and necessitate an increase of accommodations.





**ORANGE PARK, FLA.**

The Congregational Church at Orange Park was organized in the year 1884. At that time Orange Park, like many Florida towns, was full of promise. It is beautifully located on the St. Johns River opposite Mandarin, and about twelve miles from Jacksonville; when the church was built the people dreamed of a charming suburb of Jacksonville to be connected by a shell road for a fashionable river drive. The steamer plying daily, and the rail cars twice a day to Jacksonville, could not fail to make Orange Park a most attractive residence. Added to this were visions of orange fields, and fortunes for orange growers. The town was laid out beautifully.

The vision was not realized. Those who had invested money in full expectation, saw their hopes grow small by degrees, and unbeautifully less. Nevertheless, Orange Park remained one of the prettiest settlements in Florida, and seemed to the American Missionary Association to be the best position for an institution which should reach the eastern end of the black belt with saving influences. Accordingly, the Orange Park Normal and Industrial School was opened in 1891, and has now completed its first school year with a success beyond all hopes. The Congregational Church in connection with this school has taken on new life and courage, and under the faithful and highly appreciated ministry of Rev. G. S. Dickerman is greatly strengthened, so that its early promise may yet be fulfilled.

ORANGB PARK, FLA.

REV. G. S. DICKERMAN.

The closing exercises of the Orange Park Normal and Industrial school were opened on Sunday, May 22d, by an educational sermon by Rev. G. S. Dickerman. On Monday evening the Literary Society, which has been left to the management of the pupils, surprised us by recitations and original essays, as well as a debate. The chivalrous argument that the girl should be educated because the boy was better able to work his way and obtain an education for himself, won a verdict in favor of educating the girl when there are one of each in a family and the parents are able to educate but one.

Tuesday the morning hour was given to the regular Bible study conducted weekly by the pastor of the church, the rest of the forenoon being devoted to oral reviews. At 2 P.M. the botany class among other exercises analyzed the Spanish bayonet and passion flower, and we were forcibly impressed with the rare facilities offered for pursuing this most interesting study.

One of the large school rooms was used for the exhibit of needle work, maps and drawings produced during the term, that of needle work and maps being very creditable. The boys were able to place little work on exhibition since the results of their terms work are scattered about the buildings and grounds in the shape of needed improvements.

Tuesday evening an original colloquy on Florida Farming was brought out in such a manner as to give evident pleasure to the visitors present.

Wednesday morning was given to anniversary exercises by the younger pupils and the afternoon to the same by the older members, and both elicited warm commendation from the mixed audience present.

The prominent impression made on the minds of the thoughtful ones present, was the large amount of work accomplished in the eight months since the school opened. The start has been well made.



NORMAL SCHOOL, ORANGE PARK, FLA.

BY A. W. FARNHAM, PRINCIPAL.

The second year of the existence of Orange Park Normal School closed May 30th. This date is significant, and it carried our minds back to the events in our country's history that made it possible for the organization of such schools as ours in the South—events which interpret the thoughts of God.

Our closing exercises consisted of a school picnic in Normal Park, a match game of baseball, an entertainment given by the girls' Longfellow Society, another by the boys' Lyceum, a musical concert, an educational sermon, two sessions of public oral reviews interspersed with music and recitations, an exhibition of gymnastics and rhetorical exercises, a drama, and an exhibit of manual instruction. The last was not the least of our school entertainments. It was a source of pleasure and surprise, no less to students and teachers than to visitors. The fine quality and large quantity of work done was unexpected by all who saw it. The work consisted of free-hand and mechanical drawing, maps drawn plain and in colors, relief maps moulded in putty, botanical specimens mounted and classified, entomological drawings from life, work by the classes in carpentry, and a large and beautiful display from the sewing-classes, which consisted of useful and fancy articles to illustrate graded lessons in needlework. All of the entertainments showed a decided gain over last year—a gain that brought rest to tired teachers, and gratification to anxious parents.

During the year seven students have united with the Union Congregational Church, and two with other churches. The Bible study, conducted by the pastor, has been thorough and helpful. Much good has been done in the Sunday-school, in the Christian Endeavor meetings, and in the Thursday afternoon prayer-meetings.

The fifth and last day of our public exercises closed with the drama of Tennyson's "Enoch Arden," rendered by members of the school. When we looked over the large audience, the largest that our school has ever attracted, and saw there Northerner and Southerner, Yankee and Cracker, Ethiopian and Caucasian, Protestant and Romanist, American and Englishman, the learned and the ignorant, surely, we thought, the lion and the lamb have lain down together, and a little child has led them.

Christian education will enlighten and transfigure until the light of truth shall shine as the sun.

## 1894 July – Annual Report

NORMAL SCHOOL, ORANGE PARK, FLA.

## Am.Mi 48-7

BY REV. T. S. PERRY.

At Orange Park Normal School the year just closed has been a prosperous one. Owing to straitened means and hard times, the enrollment has been a little less than last year ; but in the grade of scholarship there has been a distinct advance.

Many pleasant incidents have occurred, notably the Christmas festival. A United States flag, nine feet by fifteen, presented to the school at Christmas, was hoisted over the building February 22d, with great enthusiasm. Appropriate exercises, including such patriotic songs as The Star Spangled Banner, The Red, White and Blue, The Battle Hymn of the Republic, gave added spirit to the occasion.

Of a hundred pupils not one has died or been seriously sick during the year -- a fact that speaks much for the sanitary condition of the school.

The concluding exercises, beginning with our annual picnic, May 29th, have all been interesting. The literary societies have done themselves much credit. The closing day, May 30th, brought together from near and far an assembly of all sorts and conditions, of every hue from fairest blonde to ebony, which completely filled the spacious chapel. The oral reviews or examinations, the music, both vocal and instrumental, were highly appreciated; while the calisthenics showed admirable drill. In the evening came more music, essays, recitations and the like, to the great enjoyment of a crowded audience.

The exhibit made by the industrial department was extremely gratifying. Many specimens of plain sewing, neatly and strongly done, showed that the girls have been making progress in the practical arts of the housekeeper and home-maker; while abundant samples of fancy needlework displayed not only rare deftness of hand, but an artistic taste as well. Pretty quilts, elegant bed-spreads, handkerchiefs of drawn work, tasty tray-cloths, embroidered table-covers, doilies, aprons, neckties, etc., were displayed in profusion.

The boys exhibit of wood-work was no less gratifying. Their numerous picture-frames and book-shelves, of tasteful designs and handsome workmanship, would in many cases have done no discredit to expert craftsmen; while many articles by the smaller boys gave proof that hand, eye and judgment were being trained in an admirable way. The workshop is also an excellent school of applied arithmetic, as well as of practical handicraft. Free-hand, and some surprisingly good mechanical drawings were exhibited; also plain, colored and relief maps, illustrating the geography of our own and other lands.

The botanical work exhibited was worthy of all praise. Fifty varieties of flowers, comprising nearly all the most important orders, have been examined and classified, and half as many handsomely mounted.

This young school is doing a work of inestimable value. On the very spot, where less than a generation ago gangs of slaves toiled under the overseers lash, and within rifle-shot of the plantation whipping-post, their children are now developing into worthy citizenship; and youth, both white and colored, are growing up into enlightened Christian manhood and womanhood.

Many of our students are poor -- very poor and are working out their salvation by efforts none the less pathetic because so bravely and cheerfully made. The truest heroism is unconscious. Touching stories could be easily told. Those who struggle so courageously and perseveringly for an education do not need to be pitied, but they need to be aided and encouraged. May the Lord inspire those who can to hold out a helping hand and so fulfill their own prayer, Thy Kingdom come.

## 1895 Feb - Faculty

## Am.Mi 49-2

FLORIDA. ORANGE PARK.

Minister -- Rev. T. S. Perry, Limerick, Me.

NORMAL SCHOOL.

\_Principal.\_--Prof. B. D. Rowlee, Fulton, N. Y. Miss Edith M. Robinson, Battle Creek, Mich. " Helen S. Loveland, Newark Valley, N. Y. " Margaret A. Ball, Orange Park, Fla. " Carrie E. Bishop, New Haven, Conn. " Mary E. Sands, Saco, Maine. " Harriet M. Smith, Hartington, Neb. Mrs. Julia E. Rowlee, Fulton, N. Y. " Julia E. Titus, Moravia, N. Y. Mr. Otis S. Dickinson, Granville, Mass.

## 1895 June 22 – School History of the Negro Race Richmond Planet


(notice the endorsement from the Orange Park Normal School faculty in last paragraph)

**A GREAT BOOK**

The School History of the Negro Race is now adopted by the  
State Board of Education for use in all the Colored schools  
of North Carolina. AGENTS WANTED EVERYWHERE.

QUICK SALES. LARGE COMMISSIONS.

**SCHOOL HISTORY OF THE NEGRO RACE.**



By E. A. JOHNSON, LL. B., Educator and Attorney-at-Law.

Give interesting sketches of the origin of the race, history of slavery in the different colonies, sketches of the lives of Phillis Wheatley, slave-girl Poosah, Mass.; Benj. Bausker, publisher of the first American Almanac; Crispus Attucks, the first martyr of the Revolution; Thomas Fuller, the Virginia Mathematician; and Toussaint L'Ouverture; statistics of the number of colored troops in the various wars, their pay and treatment; statistics of wealth, religion and education on colored people in the States. Also the biographies of such race men as Douglass, Bruce, Lynch, Price, Payne, Turner, Langston, Elliott and others. It gives the acc credit for what it has done. It teaches race pride and self-respect. No white history gives these facts. They completely ignore or humiliate us.

**WELL BOUND, PRICE \$1.00**

"The last year I was in Atlanta University. I had for a time a class in English Literature. I tried to get for them from all sources what you have so beautifully compiled. The race must be greatly indebted for your philanthropic work."—Mary T. Chase, recently teacher of English Literature in Atlanta University. "The book deserves higher praise than I can express."—A. W. Farham, principal Orange Park Normal School. Rev. P. A. Scott, Malden, West Virginia sold 121 in 2 hours, and writes: "It sold like hot cakes." H. A. Hugler & Co., Atlanta, Georgia, writes: "It sells faster than any book we ever handled." Rev. A. Wakefield, Ash Grove, Ky., sold 260 during six weeks of the bad weather. Prof. C. A. White of Tuskegee writes: "I would not take \$10 for mine."

E. A. JOHNSON, Cor. Lenoir & West Sts., Raleigh, N C

## 1895 Aug – Annual Report

## Am.Mi 49-8

**NORMAL AND MANUAL TRAINING SCHOOL, ORANGE PARK, FLORIDA.** BY PROF. B. D. ROWLEE.

This school, located on the bank of the St. John's River, fourteen miles south of Jacksonville, has just closed a very successful year—the fourth year in the history of the school. The attendance has been one hundred and six, a little increase over last year. The health of the students has been excellent, proving that the sanitary conditions are all that can be desired. The work done the past year under a new principal has not abated any from the good record of previous years. The school commenced October 3 and closed May 28, with no break except a short vacation at holidays.' At that time a Christmas tree and a treat was provided by the faculty for such pupils as could not go home. A social was also given in the girls' boarding hall, and many called it the pleasantest Christmas they had ever experienced.

On May 18 the annual picnic was held in the grove adjoining the grounds. Rain interfered some, but they adjourned to the chapel, and later to the dining-room, where lunch was served. On the 21st the Longfellow Literary Society gave its public entertainment in the chapel, followed on the 24th by the Hildreth Literary Society. The house was well filled each night and the program rendered interesting and showed careful preparation.

Sunday, the 26th, Rev. T. S. Perry preached the educational sermon. Monday evening the musical department gave its public entertainment. The interest centered around Tuesday, the 28th, the day for oral reviews, inspection of work, and the school's first graduating exercises. Visitors began to arrive the night before, and large numbers came on the early morning train to swell the number from the town and surrounding country. The oral reviews were from 9.30 to 11.30 A.m. Through the exercises the students showed the result of the careful training they had received during the year, and elicited praise from all the visitors. At 11.30 the visitors were invited to inspect the work of the various departments. The outlines of literary work, etc., relief, colored, and pencil maps, showed good work. The industrial work of the boys was very fine, and consisted of wall cabinets, packets and shelves, letter files, knife work and drawings. Some of the grades had cut their initials and had them mounted, producing a pleasing effect. The girls' display was also extensive, and showed careful training. Among the articles in plain sewing were aprons, skirts, night-shirts, waists, quilts and pillow cases. In fancy sewing were tray cloths, center pieces, doilies, done in outline, drawn work and embroidery, handkerchiefs, etc. All made a good display. The industrial work showed that this department is an important and successful feature of the school. At noon cold lunch was served in the dining-room, to which all did justice.

At 2 p.m. the bell gave warning that the last act on the scene was about to open. The chapel was crowded. The graduates, six in number, led by the principal, marched in and took their seats. The exercises consisted of music, prayer and the orations of the graduates, followed by the conferring of the diplomas. The speakers drew forth applause from the audience. The pieces were well written and showed careful preparation. They were all excellent, but "The Woman of the Nineteenth Century," "The Advancement of the Negro Race" and "Abraham Lincoln" seemed to interest the audience most. At the close one lady remarked she did not know the colored boys could do so well.

The year just closed has been fraught with much self-sacrifice on the part of many of the pupils. The loss of the orange crop and trees took away their dependence. They have shown an anxious desire to learn, have been willing to do any work they could to help them continue in school through the year. By the kindness of some who are interested in the work we have received some money, which has enabled us to keep several with us who otherwise would have had to leave school. The outlook for the coming year is not without its discouragements. There are many who wish to come, and requests are already coming in to know if they cannot work out all or part of their expenses. The loss of the orange trees will be felt harder next year than this. To school and board the pupils requires money. If God will open the hearts and purses of the kind friends, that they may feel the need of helping those who need help, light will shine and the darkness disappear.



## 1895 Sept – Sheats Law

## Am.Mi. 49-9

THE FLORIDA INFAMY.

The Sheats Law and the Orange Park School.

BY A NORTHERN RESIDENT.

[We quote the following article, much condensed, from the New York Independent. We do not know who "A Northern Resident" is, but the article is an admirable summary of the facts of the case.]

The Orange Park Normal and Industrial School opened four years ago with twenty-six pupils. The second year it had one hundred and sixteen, representing nine States; the third year, owing to hard times, only one hundred, from six States; the last year, in spite of the calamitous winter, one hundred and six, from five States. The school has gone on doing its work steadily, quietly, and so successfully as to win high commendation from prejudiced and unfriendly sources. Nearly all the white families in the place and vicinity, having children to educate, have patronized it, and have regarded it with increasing favor and confidence. The white people have always gathered in large numbers to witness the public exercises of the school; and never has there been shown a more general, kind and appreciative interest in the school and its work than during the closing exercises of the last year. Such witness for the school, from those who have every chance to know its merits, counts much in its favor. It may be also mentioned that in the Southern Florida Fair, held last winter at Orlando, over thirty prizes, premiums, or honorable mentions, were awarded for the work of the school there exhibited. Finally, it is the only school for miles around that is conducted with any regularity and efficiency, where children and youth can be educated. The school has a beautiful and healthy location, with excellent buildings, costing the aggregate over \$20,000, and is supported entirely by Northern benevolence, no aid ever having been asked or received from the State. The board and tuition are placed at the lowest possible figures, and many poor and deserving pupils are helped to pay their own way, or are helped along by personal gifts from Northern friends. The school was founded with special reference to the education of colored children and youth, particularly as teachers of their own race; but when many white scholars sought to share in its benefits as the best, and indeed the only school within their reach, they were not turned away. It may here be remarked, however, that white and colored students always occupy different rooms in the dormitories, different rows of seats in the chapel, and different tables in the dining hall.

Among the pupils of the Orange Park School, last year, were two white children, bright and intelligent, of a father crippled in one hand, who lived a mile and a half away in an old tent, with his wife and several other children. The poverty of the family was extreme, and the tuition of the children was paid and their clothing in part furnished by their teachers and by Northern friends. There was also a white boy, the son of an invalid washerwoman. When asked to send her boy to school she said: "We," herself and her mother, "we have nothing but what we earn washing; sometimes we get seventy-five cents a week, and sometimes we get nothing." The boy was furnished with a neat suit, his tuition was paid by a kind lady at the North, who is now willing to pay it for another year, and he was put into the school. He is frail, unlikely ever to earn his living by physical labor; and a chance to learn was to him almost as life from the dead. Two other pupils are colored, children of a fisherman, industrious and honest, who gets a

precarious living for his family of six children, and houses them in a shanty without a pane of glass. For eight months, from exposure to cold and wet, he was almost completely paralyzed. His children cross Lake Tulula every day in order to reach the school; and so interested are they that they sometimes row their boat over in weather rough enough to cause the teachers some anxiety for their safety.

Now the Sheats law says to these parents and such as these, that if they dare to send their children to this school any more, as they have done, then they shall be fined in a sum which they can no more pay than they can pay the national debt. And if those who have kindly and faithfully taught these children shall venture to teach them any more, as they have done, then this law holds up before them—ladies and gentlemen of culture, refinement and the highest Christian character—as the penalty for such a crime, imprisonment for from three to six months in the county jail, along with the thieves and drunkards, ruffians and harlots who may there find lodgment. Is such a law fit for the last decade of the nineteenth century? Is it fit for the statute book of any State that calls itself Christian or even civilized? Can this be the thanks which Florida renders to an association that has never asked of it or received from it a single penny, and only craves permission still to spend, as for years it has been spending, thousands of dollars annually in the Christian education of its children—education which the State itself is not prepared to give?

The need of the school at Orange Park, and of others like it, may be inferred from a few facts. The State of Florida supports one school for every forty-five of her white school population ; but only one for every one hundred and two of her colored school population. One county supports one school for every thirty-three white children of school age, but only one for every two hundred and sixty colored children of like age. Another county with 1,753 colored school population has only two colored schools, or one to 876 children. The State pays in teachers' salaries for each white child of school age \$4.42 annually; for every colored child of school age only \$1.42, or less than one third.

The recent apportionment of the State school fund among the several counties, as the Florida Citizen truly says, "presents some remarkable features . . . The counties in which the school fund has been increased by the apportionment contain twenty-three per cent, of the total negro population of the State; those in which it has been decreased contain seventy-seven per cent. Nineteen counties containing more than three-fourths of all the negro children in the State are compelled to suffer a reduction in their school fund of \$16,364.60, in order that twenty-six counties, containing less than one-fourth of the negro children, may have their funds increased \$5,283.60."

The Citizen also remarks that, during the discussion of this measure, "no attempt was made to conceal the fact that its purpose incidentally, if not primarily, was to deprive those counties having a large negro population of a portion of the school fund, in order that those whose school population is composed chiefly or largely of white children might receive larger benefits."

The meaning of such facts is too plain to be made any plainer. Whatever else they show, they prove that the colored people of Florida need all the educational help they have or can get. They show that the Christian people of the North, and especially the friends of the American Missionary Association, cannot afford to let the Orange Park school be sacrificed.

## 1895 Nov – Vow to Resist Sheats Law

Am.Mi 49-11

### ORANGE PARK AND THE NATIONAL COUNCIL.

The feeling of the National Triennial Council of the Congregational Churches of the United States declared itself when Rev. R. R. Meredith, D.D., offered the following resolutions, which were adopted by a unanimous rising vote. With such indorsement it is unnecessary to say that we shall go on to maintain our civil rights and Christian privileges:

Whereas, The State of Florida in a recent enactment has made it a criminal offense for our missionary teachers to instruct in schools, white and colored pupils, without caste distinctions ; and for any person to patronize such schools; and

Whereas, The State Superintendent of Education has given public notice that he will subject the teachers of the American Missionary Association to criminal prosecution in case they live in the same building with their pupils or teach white and colored pupils without distinction of caste;

Therefore the National Council of Congregational Churches of the United States, regarding the enactment not only as repugnant to Christian principle, but also as opposed to our civil rights guaranteed by the constitution of the United States to all citizens, do call upon our representative, the American Missionary Association, to unceasingly and courageously resist this wicked enactment in all lawful ways, and to exhaust all legal measures to defend these guaranteed rights and privileges, and to carry if necessary this case to the Supreme Court of the United States, for adjudication, and we pledge to the Association in pursuance of this our hearty co-operation.

## 1895 Dec – Sheats Vows to Close School      Am.Mi. 49-12

### OUR ORANGE PARK SCHOOL AND THE FLORIDA PERSECUTION.

When the time came to open the Orange Park School, Superintendent Sheats printed several threatening manifestoes that in case white teachers should room in the same building with colored pupils, they would be immediately arrested. Or if white teachers should eat their daily food in the same room with colored pupils, then, again, they would be made to feel the majesty of this enactment. Once more, if any white pupil should be taught in the same class, or room, or building by the same teacher at the same time, the terrors of this act would be at once visited upon him. Also, above his own name, he proclaimed that he would prevent the carrying on of the Orange Park School as it had been conducted, law or no law, even if the Supreme Court of the United States should pronounce against the constitutionality of this enactment.

Nevertheless the American Missionary Association began its school with white teachers and colored pupils living in the same building, and awaited arrests. No arrests came, though the sheriff was present ready, and very ready, to make them. The superintendent, who a few days previous was intent to see what would happen, did not see anything. Mother Goose tells us of one who was so wondrous wise that he jumped into a bramble bush and scratched out both his eyes. There may be brambles in Florida.

Next, the Association placed the "white teachers and colored pupils in the same dining-room at the same time," and awaited arrests for this "crime." No arrests came. When patience ceased to be a virtue instructions were given to conduct the school in the ways of righteousness exactly as before the Florida legislature voted that this is "crime." Now the white and colored pupils are in the same classes at the same time and place.

This we have done, backed by the National Council of the Congregational Churches of the United States and by the Christian sentiment of the country, in order to test the question whether righteousness is "crime." We do not believe that such legislation as is the expression of human prejudice or human passion, when it sets its foot on the sanctities of justice, is really law, and we believe that such legislation, when it stands in the way of Christian work, is to be lawfully opposed. We have put our hand to the plow, and we shall plow the furrow through, even if it takes us from Florida to Washington.

Our Orange Park school is proceeding now in the same manner and on the same basis as formerly, though with somewhat reduced numbers. New pupils, however, with new courage are applying, and we expect soon to see the usual quota in the school.

The colored people in the South have taken on fresh hope from action with respect to the Orange Park School. The Conservator—a paper with a colored editor—has this comment: "The American Missionary Association has done noble work in the many years it has labored for the education of the downtrodden, but nothing it has done for the cause of education can eclipse its efforts against the Sheats school law, if successful."

A FURTHER WORD FROM FLORIDA.

The pastor of our church in Orange Park writes as follows: "This State offers only the scantiest and most shamefully inadequate chances for colored youth to fit themselves for teaching, and then exacts of them precisely the same qualifications-as of white candidates. The white student has the State Agricultural College, white Normal, East and West Florida Seminaries, Jasper Institute, Florida Conference College, Rollins College, Stetson University, etc., open to him, while the colored student has no school of similar grade for his help except the colored normal of small capacity supported mainly by the United States under the " Merrill Bill," and benevolent schools like this. It is no marvel that at a recent examination, out of seventeen colored candidates, not one received a certificate. Of course without colored teachers, colored schools are closed, and the county saves the expense. And both races need the gospel in all its purity and power. Almost every day brings some illustration that though slavery is dead its barbarism survives."

## 1896 Jan – Teacher describes the Sheats tension

Am.Mi. 50-1

### EXTRACTS FROM ADDRESS BY MISS HELEN S. LOVELAND.

I have come to tell you something of Orange Park, the town, the school established there, and the trouble connected with it. The village is situated on the west bank of the St. John's River, which at that point is a beautiful expanse of water three miles wide. Nature has been very prodigal in that section. The trees and plants are of a luxurious growth. Flowers are numerous. Every kind of fruit is plentiful. Because of these natural advantages, general climate and apparent fitness for orange growing, a Northern settlement was made. The people were from various Northern States. The principal industry was orange growing.

Five years ago when the Association was looking for a favorable place in Florida in which to locate a school, attention was drawn to this town. The place was selected because of its healthful situation and beautiful surroundings. The people in the town were anxious such a school should be established. To secure this the town voted the Association a considerable tract of land on which to build, and in addition a large wooded park. This was done with the understanding that all children in the town should be allowed to attend school.

The buildings belonging to the institution are a church, in which both white and colored people worship together; the Girls' Hall, in which the girls, teachers and matron live; in the rear of this, connected by a passage way, is the dining-room and kitchen; next, to the west, is the school building, containing the chapel, study room and recitation rooms; yet farther to the west of this is the Boys' Hall, in which the principal and his wife live, in charge of the boys. Back of the two last mentioned buildings is the shop where the boys do the industrial work.

The school has entered upon its fifth year. It has grown steadily and surely. The work done has been thorough and of a high grade. Up to the present time there have been in all 252 pupils connected with the school. There have been five teachers aside from the music, sewing and manual training teachers, principal and matron.

The students are instructed in the common school branches. The work in the normal grades is designed to prepare them for teaching. The girls have classes in sewing, are taught to care for their rooms, and each one does her own laundry work. A certain amount of time, [Pg 19] whether in the dining-room, halls, kitchen or laundry, is required. In this plan there are two objects; to aid the pupils in paying their school expenses and to teach them the arts of housekeeping. Each boy is required to give especial care to his room. A certain amount of work is also required of them. It consists of yard work, carrying mail, sweeping school buildings, attending to the lamps, etc.

When there have been white boarding pupils they have had separate rooms and a separate table in the common dining-room.

Bible lessons are given twice a week by the pastor. A school prayer meeting is held every Thursday afternoon in the school chapel. In this meeting the majority of the pupils take part, and much interest is shown. The Christian Endeavor, however, is the most enthusiastic meeting in which the students

engage. It is held in the chapel of the church, and attended by both town people and the school. The colored students have shown themselves efficient committee workers and leaders. There have been several conversions in the society, and there is great reason to be encouraged. It is in this field that personal work is needed and is effective. So the school is educating the pupil in different lines, industrial, intellectual, and religious.

Last May the Governor of Florida signed a bill, now well known, framed by Superintendent Sheats, of the State Educational Department, which was aimed directly at the Orange Park school. What Mr Sheats' real intentions are in regard to the colored race is but too plain. One can but perceive, if his policy is followed, that their education in Florida practically ceases. During the last session of the Florida Legislature he requested it to enact a law prohibiting any others than negroes from teaching schools for negroes, except in normal instruction in institutes and summer schools. This did not become a law, but it was not the superintendent's fault.

Last May in Lake County only nine candidates obtained certificates. There were sixty-seven schools to be supplied with teachers. This closed the schools. During last year one hundred and sixteen schools in the State, mostly colored, for the want of teachers were not held at all. A county official remarked that this examination law would probably "result in retiring nearly or quite all the colored teachers in a few years." Such a law "is a barbarous souvenir to make the country remember its bloody dealings with its black brother." "Though slavery is dead, its spirit yet lives; 'the serpent's head is crushed, but his tail still writhes, and sometimes it lashes out spitefully.'" We who are engaged in teaching in Orange Park are glad that the American Missionary Association is to test, and is already testing, the validity of this law. In contesting this law aimed at the Orange Park school, the Association takes up a question which has arisen before, but has never been settled. Theoretically, in the United States all men, whether white or black, enjoy equal civil liberties; practically, in the South, they do not. If the law is found to be unconstitutional, that will go a long way in establishing equal liberties for all.

Meanwhile the school continues as before. The school and the Association need your assistance. The great work before the Association requires both the money and the prayers of the Christian people.

**1896 Feb – Faculty**

**Am.Mi. 50-2**

FLORIDA.

ORANGE PARK.

Minister,

Rev. T. S. Perry, Limerick, Me.

normal school.

Principal.—Prof. B. D. Rowlee, East Woodstock, Conn.

Mrs. Julia E. Rowlee " " "

Miss Caroline Wandell, Phœnix, N. Y.

" Edith M. Robinson, Battle Creek, Mich.

" Helen S. Loveland, Newark Valley, N. Y.

" A. Margaret Ball, Orange Park, Fla.

Mrs. Julia E. Titus, Moravia, N. Y.

Mr. O. S. Dickinson, West Granville, Mass.



### **ARREST OF OUR TEACHERS IN ORANGE PARK, FLORIDA.**

Rev. T. S. Perry, of Limerick, Me.; Mr. O. S. Dickinson, of West Granville, Mass.; Principal B. D. Rowlee, of East Woodstock, Conn.; Mrs. B. D. Rowlee; Miss Edith M. Robinson, of Battle Creek, Mich.; Miss H. S. Loveland, of Newark Valley, N. Y.; and Miss Margaret Ball, of Orange Park, Fla., with two patrons of the school (white) residing in Orange Park, were all arrested by the Sheriff at Orange Park, Fla., on Friday the 10th of April, charged with the crime of teaching young people of two races under the same roof. They were not taken to jail, but were given until Monday—the intervening days of Saturday and Sunday—to procure bail. This esteemed pastor of the Congregational Church in Orange Park, the most worthy teachers and the patrons are awaiting trial for this crime! and are only saved from jail by the bail which has been procured for them. This is as far as the State of Florida has descended in its shame at present.

This enactment, which we have been careful not to call a law, was pronounced by the National Council to be "not only repugnant to Christian principles, but also opposed to the civil rights guaranteed by our Constitution," and the Association was called to persistently resist it with all legal measures.

Senator Hoar of Massachusetts writes of it: "I am amazed that even in Florida such things can be done. I think that this cannot stand a moment before the Courts of the United States."

Arrests of Christian teachers because they instruct a few white children under the same roof with colored children will not only call[Pg 147] the attention of the Nation to the gross darkness which dwells in the minds of those who could make such an enactment, but it will bring about a public opinion which will hasten the progress of the State from its present low condition faster than almost any other agency.

Meanwhile Florida remains in shame.

### **ORANGE PARK NORMAL AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL IN FLORIDA CLOSED BY THE SHERIFF.**

It will be remembered that on Friday, the 10th of April, seven teachers and two patrons of the Orange Park School, at Orange Park, Fla., were arrested for violation of an enactment legalized a year ago by the State Legislature under the instigation of William H. Sheats, the State superintendent of education.

The enactment, which we protest is in no just sense a law, forbids not only white and colored persons to be instructed within the same building at the same time, but it also forbids a white principal or matron or guardians of the school rooming or living within the same building where their pupils are.

This enactment against the personal rights of education in a private Christian school not supported or aided by the State, if sustained, would destroy nearly all of the institutions carried on by Northern benevolence in all of our Southern States. It would take the guardianship of manners and morals out of the hands of those who have planted and sustained the institutions until now, and who, in view of the millions yet uneducated and untrained, are now needed as much as ever. It is not surprising, therefore, that the National Council of Congregational Churches at Syracuse in October requested the Association to take this question to the highest courts, nor that the General Conference of the Methodist Church in Cleveland has just passed a resolution denouncing this iniquitous enactment, or that we are receiving constantly from our State and local associations assurances of sympathy and support in our contest against this reversion to barbarism. We quote a few of the opinions which have come under our observation.

From the Congregationalist:

"The ethics of Christ, Pilgrim traditions, and the U. S. Constitution seemed paramount to the opinions of Florida legislators, and the highest officials of the [pg 180] American Missionary Association decided to defy and test the law. That the denomination stands back of them may be reasonably inferred from the resolution passed by the last Triennial National Council. Let the American Missionary Association have the sinews of war with which to employ the ablest counsel."

From the Outlook:

"The State of Florida not long ago took action which is a disgrace to itself and a blot on the fair fame of our republic. Let our people squarely face this issue. While we are protesting against the treatment of missionaries in Turkey and calling upon the Government to use all its power in their protection, Christian teachers widely known and honored in one of the great States of this republic are arrested simply because they presumed to instruct a few white children under the same roof with colored children. It is hard to speak of such conduct in mild words. The question as to whether this is in reality a free republic is once more at issue. The action of the State of Florida is as barbaric as the persecutions of the Middle Ages."

From the Independent:

"Let the reader observe that this is not a law applying merely to the public schools of the State. Such a law we condemn, but we could not be surprised at it. This law is directed at this particular institution, which is not a public school but a private academy supported by the American Missionary Association. We have been amazed that in this nineteenth century Christians could be massacred by the thousands for not accepting the Moslem faith and no hand raised to defend them. But that was in Turkey. Here in the United States more than thirty years after the Proclamation of Emancipation in one of the sovereign States of the Union, half a dozen men and women are arrested for the crime of treating black children and white children alike, for not drawing a caste line in their own private grounds in a school they conduct at no expense to the State. It is a curious humiliating occurrence for this Jubilee year of the American Missionary Association."

From the Advance:

"Florida's disgraceful Sheats law, specially designed for the teachers and supporters of Orange Park Academy, has at last been put in force. The teachers of the Academy, the pastor of the church, and the parents of the white pupils have been arrested for violation of this law, which forbids any one to maintain or patronize a school in which white persons and Negroes shall be taught or boarded within the same building.

And this is the State of Senator Call, who is declaiming so eloquently in behalf of the Cuban insurgents, more than half of whom are of Negro blood."

From the Boston Standard:

"A year ago the unconstitutional and vile Sheats law was passed by the legislature of Florida. It was understood that this law was particularly aimed at the Orange Park School, of the American Missionary Association, whose fiftieth anniversary is to be celebrated in this city next fall. This villainous statute was enforced in the case of the Orange Park School on the entire body of teachers, white men and women of spotless character and self-sacrificing devotion to the mission, because of educating teachers for the elevation of American citizenship. The normal school is one of the best and most useful of the educational agencies at work in the South, but had dared to ignore the outrageous statute which makes it a crime for any school, public or private, to teach black and white scholars in the same building or have any white teachers to eat and sleep in the same house[pg 181] with their Negro pupils. If these discretionary rights are not guaranteed by our national Constitution to American citizens, then the professed abolition of slavery and of the color line in citizenship is a wretched farce. Nobody can question the intent of the proclamation of emancipation of the constitutional amendment that places the Negro on the same legal plane with the white citizen of this country. We do not doubt the supreme and binding authority of this legislature. We mistake the temper of the American people if a blaze of indignation is not kindled by this outrage from the Atlantic to the Pacific."

From Frank Leslie's Weekly:

"Under these provisions no citizen of Florida, it will be noted, can under certain conditions educate his child. He is excluded absolutely from the best educational institutions in the State if these admit pupils

of both white and colored parentage. The defiance of the law was in obedience to a definite determination on the part of the American Missionary Association to make a distinct test of the statute."

From the Boston Daily Advertiser:

"The Sheats law in Florida was passed through the influence of malice, prejudice, and partisan venom. Efforts have been made in other Southern States to perpetrate similar outrages, but for the most part without avail. The better public sentiment all over the South is strongly against such meanness. This better sentiment has asserted itself successfully elsewhere, and we do not doubt that it will do so very soon in Florida."

From the Boston Journal:

"The American Missionary Association will be sustained by an enlightened public sentiment in fighting to the last resort the outrageous Florida law which makes it a crime to teach colored and white pupils in the same school."

These comments are but samples of the sentiment which comes to the Association respecting this attempt to challenge the constitutional amendment which came with the emancipation of the colored people from slavery. But now there is

#### A SECOND CHAPTER.

After the teachers were arrested it was supposed that this would be the end of the persecution until the statute should be tested by the courts. Accordingly they returned to the work in the school as before. On the 4th of May the Sheriff was instructed by the State Attorney to inquire into this continued violation of the law, and if he found the school to be going on as before, to arrest and rearrest, as long as the school should be continued. In consequence the school was forced to close its sessions, as the teachers were informed that they would be arrested over and over again, and that new bail would be required for every successive day; this not only for the teachers but for the patrons, which would be impossible in the case of those who are colored. This is in accordance with the published pronouncement of Supt. Sheats that he will prosecute and persecute this Orange Park School out of existence.

### CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ORANGE PARK, FLA.

BY REV. T. S. PERRY.

The town of Orange Park occupies the site of the great Mackintosh estate. In antebellum times that was the model plantation of Florida, being some nine thousand acres in extent and having a dusky population of some seven hundred slaves. Far around the lands whitened with cotton or rustled with cane. Near a group of noble Spanish oaks, some of them more than twelve feet around, stood the plantation house; near it the building where the planters children were taught; and not far away the overseers house and the servants quarters. In 1873 Mrs. Stowe found here the manor-house, the schoolhouse, the cotton-gin and packing-house, and about thirty Negro cabins. Only the schoolhouse now remains perhaps a survival of the fittest. It is still in tolerable repair, and though the roof is thickly covered with mosses and parasitic plants, it is fairly tight. Other memorials of the old time still remain, where, amid the pine forests, may be traced even yet the cotton rows from which the last crop was gathered by the hands of bondmen many years ago. A rather gruesome relic has somewhat recently vanished -- the last remains of the whipping-post. It stood under a large oak, a gun-shot away from the Normal School, where the grandchildren of those who once danced and howled to the strokes of lash or paddle now learn the lessons of liberty and peace.

The town of Orange Park was founded by a colony from the North, about twenty years ago. It is very beautifully located on the west bank of the St. Johns River, is admirably laid out, and is exceptionally pleasant and healthful. Its copious supply of artesian water is a great advantage, both to the comfort and health of its people.

Upon May 15, 1883, The Union Congregational Church was organized with seven members. Of the Congregational churches in the State, now seventy in number, only those at New Smyrna (1875) and Pomona (1882) were then in existence. Those at Mt. Dora and Orange City were organized the same year. On January 1, 1884, Rev. William A. Benedict became its first pastor. That year the building of a church edifice was undertaken. Three years later the church, with a very pleasant vestry attached, was finished at a cost of about \$4,500. The bell, pulpit, Bible, and other furnishings, as well as most of the beautiful stained windows, were the gifts of friends. The title to the property is now in the hands of the American Missionary Association. In 1891 Mr. Benedict was succeeded in the pastorate by Rev. George S. Dickerman, who labored here two years with marked success. In 1893 the present pastorate began.

Since its organization the church has received fifty-three members, but has been weakened by many removals. Its present resident membership is twenty-three, with ten or twelve non-residents. It has a very active and useful Endeavor Society, of which fully one-half are colored students of the Normal School.

That institution was founded here five years ago by the American Missionary Association and is its southmost school of normal grade. The church has been closely connected with the school, and its work

has thus been quite largely educational. The students regularly attend its services, and the pastor has been the religious instructor of the school, giving regular Bible lessons to the higher classes.

The church has shared in the reverses of recent years. The people of the Park at first put much money and labor into orange culture. The groves were badly damaged by the freeze of 1886, and were almost destroyed by the calamitous winter of 1894-95. Here, as elsewhere, many families have become discouraged and left. Of our resident members, hardly more than half are living in their own homes. Like everybody else in this State, they find the times very hard and have not a little difficulty to make the two ends meet, or even one end meet and the other bread. But our people, though cast down, are not destroyed. Patient and persevering, they are trying a more diversified agriculture, and especially more food crops. With its beautiful location, its delightful and healthful climate, its latent resources and rare attractions, the town must have a future.

And in that future, the church promises to have a prominent part and share. It has already had no mean history. For years past it has been the only one on this side the St. Johns, where so far as I am aware a pure and intelligent gospel has been regularly preached, and a resident pastor sustained, from Jacksonville to Green Cove Springs, a distance of thirty miles. There is an Episcopal Church at the Park, which has recently been reopened, but for years it was closed. The combined influence of the Congregational Church and school has been an inestimable boon to all the region round. The country is mostly covered with pine forests and oak hammocks, but there are more inhabitants than at first appear, and they need the gospel more than they need their lives. Though they do not often attend the morning services of the church, they frequently come in to evening worship, sometimes walking three or more miles to do so. They always welcome a call from the pastor.

Those who once owned the land here, and also many of the people, have, almost without exception, gone to the cities. This change has given a chance to the poor whites and the colored people, which, to some extent is being improved. Both crackers and Negroes are on the upgrade. By little and little in property, in intelligence, in the decency of their homes, they are improving. In their practice of the moral virtues and in their experiences of religion, there seems to be a moderate gain. They are inching along. Of course they need help. To help them, in Christ's name and love, is the earnest endeavor, both of the church and school. The morning has dawned: may the Lord speed the new and better day.

## SHEATS LAW INVALID.

### Florida Measure Against Teaching Whites and Blacks Together.

BOSTON, Oct. 22.—The following telegram was received to-day by the officials of the American Missionary Association:

"Orange Park, Fla., Oct. 22. To Dr. A. F. Beard, Jubilee Meeting, A. M. A., Boston—Sheats law this day declared unconstitutional and void. Will write.

"Rev. I. S. PERRY."

The Sheats law referred to was engineered through the Florida Legislature by W. N. Sheats, State Superintendent of Public Instruction. It provided that it should be a penal offense for any individual, body of individuals, corporation, or association to conduct within the State of Florida any school of any grade, public, private, or parochial, wherein white persons and negroes should be instructed or boarded within the same building or taught in the same class, or at the same time, by the same teacher.

The test was made at Green Cove Springs in the case of the State of Florida versus B. D. Rowley, teacher in the school of the

American Missionary Society at Orange Park, where it was alleged that negroes and whites were taught by the same teacher in the same class at the same time. It was held by the Judge that the title of the act was not broad enough to cover the contents of the bill. The title of the act is "An act to prohibit white and negro youths from being taught in the same school."

The act says that white and negro persons shall not be taught in the same building, in the same class, or at the same time, by the same teachers. It punishes whoever teaches in or patronizes such a school by a fine not exceeding \$500 nor less than \$150, or imprisonment for less than six months.

The ruling was made upon the motion of Bisbee & Rinehart, attorneys for the defense, to quash the indictment. The case, therefore, did not come before a jury. State Attorney Hartridge held that the defect in the title of the bill may easily be remedied by the next Legislature.

The passage of the law caused great indignation on the part of the Northern Missionary Societies, which have schools in Florida, and they announced their intention of fighting it in the United States courts. Superintendent of Education Sheats, who secured the passage of the law, was bitterly fought because of his course, by a few people in Florida, but he was overwhelmingly re-elected Superintendent at the recent election.

OUR ORANGE PARK SCHOOL AND THE FLORIDA

PERSECUTION.

In the immense gatherings of our Jubilee Meeting nothing so excited the enthusiasm of the people as the tidings which came during the meeting in which subscriptions were being pledged for Jubilee Shares and the Jubilee Fund. It was simply a telegram from Florida, which read as follows:

*"Sheats law this day declared unconstitutional and void."*

No explanation was required for the understanding of these few short words. As if touched by electricity the sensation which ran through the audience from the floor to the upper galleries made itself instantaneously visible. The audience was carried off its feet, but was not carried out of its head. It had a clear comprehension of the case. Cheering, clapping of hands, and waving of handkerchiefs made such a scene as is seldom witnessed in any audience. The Jubilee was on indeed, in grateful joy. These good tidings had come in a solemn hour of consecration, but the feeling expressed was not foreign to it. The great congregation realized at once that Christian religion and Christian civilization had scored a point. It did not take many seconds to remember how the greatly agitated State Superintendent of Education, with uncommon vigor, in turn had agitated the Florida Legislature until it found relief in voting that white and colored pupils should not say their prayer "Our Father who art in heaven" together "in the same building and at the same time." Memory recalled the curious production which was baptized with the name of law, but which was nothing more than an enactment; there was no law in it.

Before proceeding to the trial, our eminent attorney actually had to help the prosecution to fix up their indictment to make it legal. Two of our teachers gave information against themselves to strengthen the indictment so that it might not be quashed, and there be failure of a decision on the main question.

This main question once before the Court, was argued by our attorney with the contention that this statute was invalid and unconstitutional; that it created a crime where none existed; that it went beyond the police powers of the State, which can be exercised only for the morals, health or peace, or some good of the community; that it abridged the natural laws of property and personal association and contract, thus conflicting with the Fourteenth Amendment; that it discriminated against teachers, unlawfully laying restrictions such as are passed on persons of no other profession, or calling, or business; that it was founded solely on distinction of color, and consequently infringed the Fourteenth Amendment.

The State Attorney responded, but the Court sustained the first point made against the constitutionality of the statute, and pronounced it unconstitutional, null and void. Thus ended that notorious enactment.

We are glad to believe that the decision is a grateful one to the thoughtful people of Florida who have the interests of their State at heart. They cannot wish that Florida should be a reproach among sister States, and doubtless will rejoice with us that this stain upon its legislation has been taken away.



**1898 Mar – Faculty**

**Am.Mi. 52-1**

ORANGE PARK.

Minister,

Rev. Ernest R. Latham, Huntsburg, Ohio.

NORMAL SCHOOL.

Principal,

Rev. Ernest R. Latham, A.B., Huntsburg, Ohio.

Teachers,

Mrs. O. O. Latham, A.B., Huntsb'g, O.      Mr. A. P. Laughlin, A.B., Oberlin, Ohio.

Miss A. E. E. Patton, Waupun, Wis.      Mrs. M. A. C. Downs, New Haven, Ct.

" J. I. Goodrich, A.B., Sp'gf'd, Mass.      Miss H. Rosa Burwell,      "      "

**ORANGE PARK, FLA.—A WONDERFUL DAY—CONVERSIONS.**

BY REV. ERNEST R. LATHAM.

Yesterday was a wonderful day for us. We observed the day of prayer for schools and colleges, devoting the whole time to religious services. In the forenoon I preached from Eccl. 12:1, "Remember thy Creator in the days of thy youth," urging upon the students the importance of accepting Christ at the beginning of life. After the sermon we had a prayer and testimony meeting, in which a large number took part with great earnestness and deep feeling. At the close all but two of our boarding students rose either to indicate a desire to be given up more fully to Christ's service or to say that they wished to become Christians at once.

In the afternoon a meeting for the girls was held in the Girls' Hall, conducted by the lady teachers. The boys had two meetings in their own rooms. All these meetings were very helpful.

In the evening in the chapel I preached on the "Rich Young Ruler" and urged immediate decision and full surrender to Christ. The meeting for testimony following the sermon was one of the most remarkable I have ever attended. Several of our brightest students came out clearly for Christ and nearly every one of those who were not Christians spoke voluntarily of their desire to enter the new life. The meeting was very quiet, but many were weeping, and there seemed to be a deep sense of sin.

Every student above the eighth grade is now a Christian, I believe, with possibly one exception, and that one is a young man of fine promise, who said publicly last night that his supreme desire was to be a [Pg 33] Christian, and that a great burden had been upon him, night and day, for many weeks. We think that his only difficulty is that he desires the experience he has seen in others and does not see that faith is the door by which he must enter that experience.

I know that you will rejoice with us in this great blessing.

**1898 June - Photo Inside School**

**Am.Mi. 52-2**



Industrial Room, Orange Park, Fla. A Sample

**1900 July - W.W. Cummer Funds New Laundry**

**Am.Mi. 54-3**

FLORIDA, \$60.58.

Daytona, 22.08. Jacksonville, W. W. Cummer, for New Laundry, Orange Park, Fla., 30. Tampa, First, 8.50.

**COLORED FOLKS COLUMN Feb 22**

Miss Sarah Ada Butler the charming and accomplished daughter of Mr and Mrs F K Powers who is now a student in the Orange Park Normal School is expected home to day to remain until her mother recovers from her present illness which al hope will be soon.

**COLORED FOLKS COLUMN Mar 4**

Miss Sarah Ada Butler, a student of Orange Park Normal School, who came to remain at the bedside of her mother during her sickness, has not returned to her studies yet.

**COLORED FOLKS COLUMN May 1**

Miss Belle LaRoche the accomplished daughter of Mr J S LaRoche who has been attending the Orange Park Normal School returned to the city yesterday on account of sickness after having a good night's rest and securing the careful attention of mother she is feeling better today

## 1903 Student Graduates

## Whos Who of the Colored Race

*(graduated, perhaps, a little earlier than 1903)*

GOODWIN, Milliard Edward, circulation manager, manual training supt.; born at Selma, Ala., Jan. 13, 1883; son of Hilliard Reuben and Mary (Black) Goodwin; attended public schools, San Mateo, and Orange Park Normal School, Fla.; grad. Manual Training School, Orange Park, 1903; B.S., Talladega (Ala.) College, 1906; studied methods of manual training at Bradley Polytechnic Institute; married Helen Whitefield Headen, of Birmingham, Ala., June 26, 1909; 2 children: Hilliard, Jr., Patti May. Supervisor of manual training of Emerson Institute, Mobile, Ala., 1907, at Fisk Univ., Nashville, Tenn., 1908; contractor and builder, St. Augustine, Fla., 1909-11; supervisor manual training in public schools, Mobile, 1911-13; manager of colored circulation for the Mobile Item (evening newspaper, white) since 1913. Congregationalist. Member Knights of Pythias, and Cooperative Progressive League. Home: 2 Gaston St. Office: Mobile Item, 510 Congress St., Mobile, Ala.

# 1904 - YMCA membership at school

# 1903-4 YMCA Yearbook

(Yearbook and official roster of the Young Men's Christian Associations of Canada and the United States of America, 1903-04)

TABLE VI. COLORED MEN'S

DEPARTMENT-STUDENT SECTION \*

Institution	Location	President	Secretary	Young men in institution	Members of evangelical churches	Total membership	Active members	Members on committees	For young men only									
									Religious meetings	Bible classes	Training Classes	Number entering	Men in mission study classes	Cash paid out last year for current expenses				
									Number sessions per week	Aver. attendance per week	Number entering	Number continuing two months or more	Number entering	Number continuing two months or more	Number of missionary meetings	Men in mission study classes	Cash paid out last year for current expenses	
<b>Alabama</b>																		
1	Trinity School	Athens	Elijah Pryor	Charles Louis	1	24	16	17	14	4	1	8	17	17				
2	State Normal School	Montgomery	W. F. Madison	Robert Dandridge	2	25	25	40	25	9								
3	Peoples Village School	Mt. Meigs Village	Elliott Crockett	Richard Murdock	3	39	16	39	16	6			38	38			9	
4	A. & M. College	Normal	S. E. Trammell	E. J. Brown	4													
5	Alabama Baptist Col. Univ.	Selma	N. A. Scott	W. C. McCullough	5													
6	Snow Hill Institute	Snow Hill	G. C. Kidd	J. A. Benquito	6	200	36	57	36	3	1	40	30	26			15	
7	Talladega College	Talladega	P. F. White	H. L. Cox	7	107	80	82	80	25	1	43				7		
8	Stillman Institute	Tuscaloosa	W. A. Young	Robert D. Roulhac	8													
9	Tuskegee Normal School	Tuskegee	A. R. Stewart	Aaron Piper	9	800	660	300	250	40	5	78						
<b>Arkansas</b>																		
1	Philander Smith College	Little Rock	I. W. Whitmore	W. E. Robinson	1	310		20	30	4								
<b>District of Columbia</b>																		
1	Howard University	Washington			1													
<b>Florida</b>																		
1	Orange Park Normal School	Orange Park			1													
2	State Nor. & Industrial Coll.	Tallahassee	O. F. Wiles	E. Chandler	2	85	30	40	30	17	1	20	20			2	15	
<b>Georgia</b>																		
1	Atlanta Baptist College	Atlanta	J. M. Mells	P. M. Davis	1	25		60	54	25	1							
2	Atlanta University	"	Augustus G. Dill	William R. Banks	2	92			90	4	53						3	
3	Morris Brown College	"	S. J. Guess	A. Ambrose	3	75	63	32	20	14	1	15					5	
4	Faine Institute	Augusta	R. M. McKendie	M. B. Gray	4	15	18	18	16		1	14						
5	State Industrial College	College	W. H. West	C. B. White	5	301	326	89	85		2	40	110	80			12	
6	Dorchester Academy	McIntosh	James Edwards	C. C. Frasier	6	39	24	39	24	9								
7	Central City College	Macon	Charles H. Copeland	L. W. Bell	7	100	30	32	30	16								
8	Gammon Theological Sem.	South Atlanta	J. C. Prince	E. W. Kinchen	8	50	50	50	50		1	25						
<b>Kansas</b>																		
1	Western University	Quindaro	Bishop P. Snoddy	George K. Williams	1	60	35	50	40		1	25	40	40			5	4
<b>Kentucky</b>																		
1	Eckstein Norton Institute	Cane Springs	Walter R. Burden	H. P. Alexander	1	26	16	26	16	13	1	15	4					
2	State Normal School	Frankfort	Abraham Madison	A. R. Harris	2	64	50	37	31				26	26			14	
<b>Louisiana</b>																		
1	New Orleans University	New Orleans			1													
2	Straight University	"	Whitfield M. Magee	Ernest Druilh	2	100		30	15	6	1	12						
<b>Maryland</b>																		
1	Morgan College	Baltimore			1													
<b>Mississippi</b>																		
1	Jackson College	Jackson	L. R. Carey	E. D. Jones	1			35	30	6			30					
2	Natchez College	Natchez			2													
3	Tongaloo College	Tongaloo	Newman D. Taylor	Cassius S. Leadbetter	3	78	35	78	30	13	1	40	28	28			15	
4	Alcorn R. & M. College	Westside	H. C. Heidelberg	A. E. Perkins	4	520	325	184	150	18	1	175	150	120			75	
<b>Missouri</b>																		
1	Lincoln University	Jefferson City			1													
2	Western College	Macon			2													

\* The city section follows Table V.

**1907 Oct - School still open**

**Am.Mi. 61-9**

ORANGE PARK NORMAL SCHOOL .

The Orange Park Normal School is situated on the west bank of the St. John's River, fourteen miles south of Jacksonville, Fla. It is a place of unusual natural beauty, a charming winter resort, and an ideal spot for an educational institution. A fine dormitory for girls, another for boys, with a beautiful central school building, together with an excellent industrial building, laundry, etc., constitute the plant. This school, under the principalship of Prof. George B. Hurd, who has been remarkably successful at Beach Institute, Savannah, Ga., will, we trust, take on increased life and prosperity. Prof. Hurd and his corps of teachers have our best wishes.

TABLE 156.—Secondary and higher schools for the colored race (excluding

Location.	Name of school.	Religious denomination.	Teachers.					Pupils enrolled.				
			White.		Colored.		Total.	Total.		Elementary grades.		
			Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
<b>ALABAMA.</b>												
1	Athens.....	Trinity School.....	Cong.....	0	5	0	2	7	77	128	77	128
2	Calhoun.....	Calhoun Colored School....	Nonsect....	2	10	2	4	18	102	155	102	155
3	Corona.....	Corona Industrial Institute....	Nonsect....	0	0	4	5	9	71	143	55	109
4	Marion.....	Lincoln Normal School....	Cong.....	0	11	1	1	13	80	295	70	275
5	Cottage Grove.	Cottage Grove Industrial Academy.	Nonsect....	0	0	3	3	6	121	101	114	95
6	Normal.....	Agricultural and Mechanical College.	.....	0	0	14	10	24	109	114	47	45
7	Snow Hill.....	Snow Hill Normal and Industrial Institute.	Nonsect....	0	0	13	10	23	132	155	101	122
8	Talladega.....	Talladega College.....	Cong.....	11	19	1	4	35	253	378	194	293
9	Tuscaloosa.....	Stillman Institute.....	So. Presb.	4	0	0	0	4	60	0	0	0
10	Tuskegee.....	Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.*	Nonsect....	0	0	90	50	140	1,095	525	624	268
11	Waugh.....	Mount Meigs Colored Institute.	.....	0	0	3	4	7	120	218	101	197
<b>ARKANSAS.</b>												
12	Arkadelphia..	Arkadelphia Baptist Academy.	Bapt.....	0	0	3	4	7	52	53	48	47
13	Argenta.....	Shorter College.....	A. M. E....	0	0	5	4	9	150	200	0	0
14	Little Rock...	Arkansas Baptist College...	Bapt.....	0	0	9	8	17	189	179	133	142
15	do.....	Philander Smith College....	M. E.....	1	2	8	9	20	320	357	220	270
16	Pine Bluff.....	Branch Normal College....	Nonsect....	2	0	4	4	10	179	190	150	160
17	Texarkana....	Union Industrial Academy.*	Bapt.....	0	0	2	2	4	26	34	10	13
<b>DELAWARE.</b>												
18	Clayton.....	St. Joseph's Industrial School for Colored Boys.	R. C.....	5	4	3	1	13	79	0	50	0
19	Dover.....	State College for Colored Students.	Nonsect....	0	0	5	2	7	66	52	0	0
<b>DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.</b>												
20	Washington...	Howard University.....	Nonsect....	46	6	38	7	97	833	207	0	0
21	do.....	Washington Normal School No. 2.	.....	0	0	2	18	20	7	94	0	0
<b>FLORIDA.</b>												
22	Fessenden....	Fessenden Academy*.....	.....	0	0	3	5	8	150	153	145	128
23	Jacksonville...	Cookman Institute.....	M. E.....	1	4	2	3	10	243	233	213	198
24	do.....	Florida Baptist Academy..	Bapt.....	0	0	5	12	17	128	216	103	176
25	Orange Park..	Orange Park Normal School.*	Cong.....	0	6	0	0	6	13	55	0	0
26	Tallahassee....	Florida State Normal and Industrial School.	.....	0	0	13	12	25	114	191	58	103



public high schools)—Teachers, students, courses of study, etc., 1907-8.

Pupils enrolled.						Weeks in school year.	Value of benefactions or bequests in 1907-8.	Volumes in library.	Value of library.	Value of grounds, buildings, furniture, and scientific apparatus.	Amount of State, United States, or municipal aid.	Amount received from tuition fees.	Amount received from productive funds.	Amount received from other sources.	Total income for the year 1907-8.	
Secondary grades.		Collegiate and professional courses.		Industrial training.												
Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.											
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
0	0	0	0	77	128	32		200	\$100	\$8,000		\$400			\$460	1
0	0	0	0	88	142	30	\$1,000	2,000	975	43,059		765	\$3,320	\$25,535	29,620	2
16	34	0	0	24	48	36		300	250	10,000	\$700	26		3,200	3,926	3
10	20	0	0	40	215	32		200	150	15,000		750		450	1,200	4
7	6	0	0	29	32	28		300	75		255	150	200	550	1,155	5
60	69	2	0	0	0	39		3,131	500	94,445	4,000	767	13,474		18,241	6
31	33	0	0	101	122	32	40,092			38,869		1,001	429	12,708	14,138	7
27	73	32	12	156	149	32		10,000	10,000	219,920		3,117	5,752	7,461	16,330	8
30	0	30	0	0	0	32		6,000	4,500	75,000		450		8,550	9,000	9
471	257	0	0	0	0	34	256,154	12,600	7,899	895,392	4,500	9,878	53,634	174,105	242,117	10
19	21	0	0	41	72	32		1,000	1,500	15,000		500		2,000	2,500	11
4	6	0	0	0	0	32				2,500		341		503	844	12
150	200	0	0	0	0	36		500	1,000	35,000		2,000		10,000	12,000	13
51	36	5	1	25	15	32		1,000	750	75,000		2,000		8,000	10,000	14
70	81	30	6	17	160	32		3,500	2,500	57,000		4,415		3,267	7,682	15
11	10	18	20	134	140	37		1,800	2,000	20,000	14,500	400		8,182	23,082	16
16	21	0	0	2	4	16		300	300	10,000		100	150	250	500	17
29	0	0	0	50	0	37		700	500	80,000		500	5,000	12,000	17,500	18
40	30	26	22	0	0			800	300	33,000	8,500	5,000			13,500	19
240	100	593	107	163	188	36		50,630	106,700	2,000,000	59,700	29,213	7,982	6,568	103,463	20
7	94	0	0	0	0	40		1,000	600							21
5	25	0	0	150	153	32		1,000	1,000	10,000	360			2,220	2,580	22
30	35	0	0	0	0	36				35,000		1,897		2,000	3,897	23
25	40	0	0	45	70	31		500	250	40,000		1,560		6,180	7,740	24
13	55	0	0	0	0	35		300	300	50,000		200		700	900	25
56	88	0	0	114	191	34		1,000	800	75,000	5,000			15,531	20,531	26

## 1909 – Prayers held

## Am.Mi Annual Meeting

ORANGE PARK NORMAL SCHOOL ,

ORANGE PARK, FLORIDA

Our school held a fellowship and prayer service in our chapel Tuesday afternoon, at the hour for the Prayer Service for the Annual Meeting of the American Missionary Association at Burlington, Vermont. With a large map of the United States before us, I led them in thought over the 1,400 miles from Orange Park to Burlington, Vermont, and told them who were gathered there and why, and of the request that we join them in prayer at this opening hour. I read your letter of request for such a meeting. I told them of the anxieties of the New York office many times when the necessary funds failed to come in. I told them of the thousands of people of small means who give to the cause. I told them of the scope of the American Missionary Association's work among the different races, pointing out the sections of the United States where they are located.

I then read the names of the speakers on the program, calling attention to the names of the colored speakers, and pointing out states represented on the program. My pupils were deeply interested in all these matters, and when we came to a season of prayer, the teachers individually and some of the older pupils took part.

Our several new boarding pupils from country homes were greatly interested. Some of them had never heard of the A. M. A. schools to remember them. The meeting had a very decided result in arousing interest in the American Missionary Association, which we bear believe is one of the great manifestations of God's work and his love for humanity.

**1911 - School focused on photography  
Negro Race**

**Ind. History of the**

Curry Normal and Industrial Institute, Urbana, Ohio, class-room and industrial work.

Dorchester Academy, Thebes, Georgia, examination papers.

Georgia State College, College, Georgia, industrial exhibit.

Harlem Academy, Tampa, Florida, class-room work.

Henderson, Kentucky, Public School, class-room and industrial work.

Lincoln Public School, East St. Louis, Illinois, class-room work.

Memphis Public School, Memphis, Tennessee, examinations.

Orange Park Normal School, Orange Park, Florida, photographs.

Owensborough, Kentucky, Public School, class-room work.

Portsmouth, Ohio, Public School, class-room and industrial work.

St. Joseph, Missouri, Public School, industrial work.

St. Joseph's Industrial School, Clayton, Delaware, industrial work.

St. Paul's Normal and Industrial School, Lawrenceville, Virginia, industrial exhibit.

St. Peter Claver's School, Tampa, Florida, class-room work.

Talladega College, Talladega, Alabama, literary and industrial work.

Terre Haute, Indiana, Public School, class-room work.

Thyne Institute, Chase City, Virginia, class-room work.

Western University, Quindaro, Kansas, class-room work and industrial work.

Whitted Graded School, Durham, North Carolina, class-room and industrial work.

(Report of the Commissioner of Education made to the Secretary of the Interior for the year 1912)

TABLE 15.—Statistics of

Location.	Name of institution.	Instructors.				Students.					
		Number.		In teachers' training courses.		Number, counting none twice.		In teachers' training courses.		In business courses.	
		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1 Berkeley, Cal.....	Oakland Kindergarten Training School.	2	7	2	7	0	28	0	28	0	0
2 Bridgeport, Conn.....	Fannie A. Smith Froebel Kindergarten and Training School.	1	5	1	3	0	24	0	24	0	0
3 Madison, Fla.....	Florida Normal Institute.....	3	2	3	2	140	207	80	120	0	0
4 Orange Park, Fla.....	Orange Park Normal School (colored).	1	4	1	1	31	40	6	16	0	0
5 Social Circle, Ga.....	Negro Normal and Industrial School.	2	3	1	1	58	119	6	8	20	25
6 Chicago, Ill.....	Chicago Kindergarten Institute	6	17	6	17	0	87	0	87	0	0
7 do.....	National Kindergarten College.	2	10	2	10	0	104	0	104	0	0
8 Hoopston, Ill.....	Greer College.....	8	7	4	2	54	64	4	24	27	12
9 Oregon, Ill.....	Wells School for Teachers.....	1	0	1	0	38	102	38	102	0	0
10 Angola, Ind.....	Tri-State Normal College *.....	13	2	2	0	191	309	125	250	30	35
11 Danville, Ind.....	Central Normal College.....	17	9	17	9	449	413	449	413	0	0
12 Indianapolis, Ind.....	Teachers College of Indianapolis.	0	30	0	15	0	416	0	416	0	0
13 Rochester, Ind.....	Rochester Normal University.	3	5	3	5	81	99	22	38	14	16
14 Bloomfield, Iowa.....	Normal and Scientific Institute	5	5	1	2	96	101	20	29	19	9
15 Shenandoah, Iowa.....	Western Normal College *.....	5	6	4	5	328	320	165	256	121	28
16 Louisa, Ky.....	Kentucky Normal College.....	6	3	3	0	103	124	71	104	14	6
17 Morehead, Ky.....	Morehead Normal School.....	5	5	5	5	197	290	50	40	.....	.....
18 Boston, Mass.....	Froebel School of Kindergarten Normal Classes.	2	4	2	4	0	25	0	25	0	0
19 do.....	Lucy Wheelock Kindergarten Training School.	1	11	0	4	0	140	0	140	0	0
20 do.....	Perry Kindergarten Normal School.	0	6	0	1	0	36	0	36	0	0
21 do.....	Symonds Kindergarten Training School.	0	7	0	7	0	12	0	12	0	0
22 Cambridge, Mass.....	Lesley Normal School.....	0	15	0	15	0	33	0	33	0	0
23 Springfield, Mass.....	Springfield Normal Kindergarten Training School.*	0	4	0	4	0	20	0	20	0	0
24 Grand Rapids, Mich...	Grand Rapids Kindergarten Training School.	1	7	0	4	0	108	0	108	0	0
25 Madison, Minn.....	Lutheran Normal School.....	5	3	2	0	51	97	13	42	0	0
26 New Ulm, Minn.....	Dr. Martin Luther College.....	9	0	2	0	110	12	14	2	0	0
27 Tougaloo, Miss.....	Tougaloo University (colored).	6	20	4	6	78	94	13	31	9	16
28 Kansas City, Mo.....	Froebel Kindergarten Training School.	0	8	0	8	0	36	0	36	0	0