

# NORMAL OPENING

## THE GRAND OLD INSTITUTION

Is Now a City In the Bloom  
of Prosperity.

At an early hour Tuesday morning we entered Science Hall and passed in review each room from the furnace in the basement to the water tank on top of the building, and found every spot in perfect order and ready for the work of the ensuing scholastic year.

We took a seat in one of the spacious windows and watched the students marching up and winding their way along the broad avenue, by twos, tens and twenties and soon the vast building was packed with young ladies and gentlemen eager to enroll under the banner of the grand, old Third District Normal.

After passing through the Library, where we found sixteen hundred and forty volumes, the nucleus of the new library, the old one having been destroyed by the fire. The selection of these works have been made with great care by a scholar and student.

At this stage of our pilgrimage we were invited to the Chapel by President Dearmont, where the opening exercises were to take place. We found the Chapel fairly well filled; and judging from the space occupied, we are safe in placing the first day enrollment at, about two-hundred and fifty pupils, a large enrollment for the first day. With such a favorable beginning we may safely count on four, maybe five hundred during the new session; for the reputation of this school for perfect work has spread both far and wide. To accommodate the incoming tide our people will have to open up their spare rooms and bid the strangers a warm Missouri welcome; until the Albert Dormitory is opened.

President Dearmont call the audience to order and Miss Celia Campbell, that matter of music, both vocal and instrumental, opened with the grand national anthem "America" well selected and well calculated to inspire every patriot, young and old, with a deep seated love for our native land.

Then the President taking as his text "Truth" delivered an impressive lecture on that subject, charging the students that it was the foundation of all virtue, the solid corner stone of perfect manhood, and true womanhood. The lecture was well timed and delivered in an earnest, impressive manner, reminding us of that noble soul who gave his life for knowledge President Lucius H. Cheney; and dear old Uncle Dick Norton.

After comment on the rules and order of study the President invited the Rev. Duva, the Baptist minister, to the stand, who in a short but well chosen

address gave the students some good advice. Mr. Duva is an educated gentleman, and impressive speaker, one well worth going to hear.

Then Rev. Dr. Brown was persuaded to make a few remarks, which he did in a mirth-begetting strain, and soon brought "down the house" with laughter.

We examined the swimming pool and found it full of clear, cool water. This is a great addition. Every boy and girl ought to be taught the art of swimming, for one never knows when their life will depend on it.

So much for the opening year, which we trust will be the best the school has passed through.

-- from the Weekly Democrat, 17 September 1904, Page 1.

Located August 1983 - Cape Public Library