

"MEMPHIS EVENING POST"

Friday, May 1, 1868.

OUR COLORED SCHOOLS.

The free colored school under the excellent supervision of Prof. J.H. Barnum, deserves more than a passing notice. In 1863 the first attempt to educate and elevate the colored race was made, by a few devoted missionaries, who followed in the wake of our victorious army. As fast as the slave power was broken, they entered at once upon their work, amidst trials, dis-couragements and privations that in many instances would well compare with the difficulties that presented themselves to the brave warriors proceeded them. But none were discouraged. A few succumbed to the results of exposure and privations.

The great army of missionaries was led by a mightier General than Grant. They fought, not with the sword, but with the Bible for a shield, and the spelling book for the bayonet. They penetrated into the stronghold of the enemy, and proclaimed glad tidings to the down-trodden; so the light spread as each year passed away.

The little spark thus kindled waxed stronger and stronger, until we find to-day its light penetrating the cabin of every colored man in the South.

When we look around us to-day, and witness the rapid progress made by the colored schools in our midst during the past five years, we are astonished at the results. But why should we wonder? If we were to enter one of the great machine shops of the East, and witness the admirable mechanical production of some master hand, we would not be so much astonished at the wonders and perfections of the machinery as at the ability and skill of the mind and hand that created it. Thus it is with our colored schools. No pains have been spared to place in these schools experience and ability, combined with a zeal

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and devotion that must laugh at difficulties and discomforts and insure success. The teachers of the colored schools of Memphis deserve much credit for the great work they have accomplished, and all citizens who are interested in the education of the masses, owe a debt of gratitude to them for their un-tiring devotion to the great work of education.

We hope to see this evening a large turn-out of our citizens to witness the exhibition of the colored schools combined. They will not only be entertained, but contribute much to encourage those who are engaged in this laudable cause one too without expense to the city.

The free colored schools of Memphis are conducted as follows:

The Lincoln High School is under the direct Supervision of Prof. J.H. Barnum, assisted by the following corps of teachers:

Higher Department..... Mrs. J.H. Barnum, Miss Mary Kaman and Miss Lizzie Kulsart; Intermediate department, Miss Bell Smith, Miss Carrie Wilson and Miss Aggie Hill;

Primary Department, Miss Angie Bowen, Miss Henrietta Watson, Mrs. Hattie McGill and Miss Sue W. Maynard.

Miss L.D. Burnett, has charge of the St. John's School, on Washington street.

The Centenary School, on South Street, is under the management of a veteran in the service, Miss Nellie Kimball, assisted by Mrs. Fulton.

The Phoenix School, on Kayburn Avenue, is under the excellent management of Miss Belle Buchan, assisted by Miss C.B. Newton and Miss E. Amanda Trask.

The whole number of pupils enrolled in the above

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schools is fifteen hundreded. About ten have been selected from the different schools and sent to the Fisk University at Nashville, to prepare for the work of teaching.