

A HISTORY OF CLAREMONT COLLEGE

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Presented to
The Faculty of the School of Education
Appalachian State Teachers College

In Partial Fulfillment
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Master of Arts in Education

by
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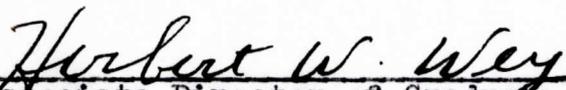
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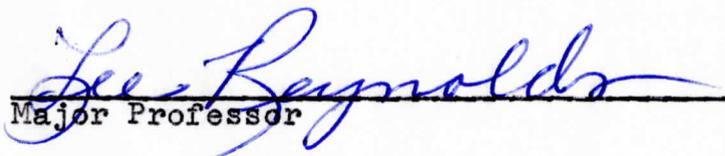
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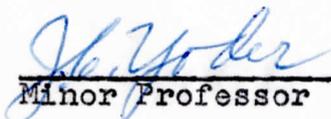
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INTRODUCTION

Dr. D. J. Whitener, Dean of the College, Head of the Department of Social Studies at Appalachian State Teachers College, and chairman of the writer's thesis committee, suggested to the writer that this study ought to be done. Furthermore, he guided the study throughout, making frequent suggestions as to the format of the thesis and pointing out numerous avenues of exploration in the search for facts.

This history of Claremont College is the result of a careful search for written materials and more than a hundred interviews with persons formerly associated with the college in one way or another. Original sources and contemporary accounts have been relied on heavily.

Few records were kept by the college officials. The late Dr. Joseph L. Murphy, writing his "Historical Sketch of Claremont College" in 1916, complained of a lack of written materials. Fire destroyed the records of the Claremont College Board of Trustees in 1906, though the records from that date are intact and were made available to the writer.

The writer feels that this is a much-needed study. Few citizens of Hickory are acquainted with the history of Claremont College. Forty years ago the college closed its doors, and this generation has had no available history of the college to read. The most complete previous history of

the college is Dr. Murphy's "Historical Sketch," which is not generally available. One copy is in the vault of the Corinth Evangelical and Reformed Church in Hickory, another is in the hands of Dr. Murphy's family, and at least two others are in the possession of private citizens of Hickory. Murphy's pamphlet, however, was written before the college was disposed of and is naturally deficient in the details of the disposition of the college property. Further, modesty on his part prevented Murphy from recording many of the things which should have been said about himself.

A careful search was made of the records of the Catawba County Register of Deeds from the standpoint of both grantor and grantee, and the writer believes that every legal transaction involving Claremont College is recorded here.

This history covers a span of fifty-seven years, 1880-1937, or the time from the incorporation of Claremont Female College to the repeal of the charter of Claremont College. No single previous record exists covering the entire life of the college. The writer relied heavily on the Minutes of Corinth Reformed Church and Dr. Murphy's sketch to 1906; thereafter, the Minutes of the Board of Trustees of Claremont College and the Minutes of the North Carolina Classis of the Reformed Church in the United States were the main sources of information. Throughout the period catalogs of Claremont College, contemporary newspaper accounts, the reports of the

United States Commissioner of Education, and the testimony of former students at the college provided valuable information.

It is hoped that this work will result in a greater appreciation and awareness of the role played by Claremont College in the life of Hickory for thirty-six years. The erection of a suitable historical marker, pointing out the site of the college to tourists and local citizens, would be a desirable manifestation of renewed interest.

Space limitations do not permit the listing of all the persons who have so generously co-operated in this study. The writer wishes to thank especially Mr. L. C. Gifford, Publisher of the Hickory Daily Record, for publicity given the study and for making available the early files of the Record; Miss Etta Baker of Hickory, graduate of Claremont College, for pictures, newspaper clippings, and much other valuable help; Mrs. E. B. Menzies, former teacher at Claremont, of Hickory and Mrs. T. B. McDowell, Claremont graduate, of Elizabethtown, North Carolina, for making available the college catalogs in their possession; Mr. Jesse Warlick of Hickory, for making available the Minutes of the Board of Trustees of Claremont College, and for other valuable help; Mrs. Lawrence Fry of Hickory, a graduate of Claremont, for information too great to recount; the library staffs of Catawba College, Lenoir-Rhyne College, Elbert Ivey Memorial

Library at Hickory, and Appalachian State Teachers College, for much valuable assistance. In a special way the writer thanks Mr. William L. Eury, Librarian at Appalachian State Teachers College, who was more than generous with his time in ordering materials from other libraries. Dr. Julian Yoder and Dr. Lee J. Reynolds, members of the writer's thesis committee, read the thesis and made suggestions for improvement.

Much other valuable help came from Mrs. Ella Johnston, Mrs. Maude Yoder Robinson, Mrs. John McFarland, Mr. Joseph L. Murphy, Dr. George Bisaner, Dr. Harry Althouse, Mrs. Mary G. Matthews, and Mrs. R. V. Moss, all of Hickory, and Mrs. Frank Stroud of Mocksville, North Carolina. The Department of Health, Education and Welfare, in Washington, made available six catalogs of Claremont College which were in the Department's files. Dixon Roberts typed the final copy of the thesis.

Finally, the writer gratefully acknowledges his indebtedness to Dr. Whitener for his guidance and untiring criticism, his numerous helpful suggestions, and for giving so generously of his time and interest.

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CHAPTER I

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

I. GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL SKETCH OF HICKORY AND CATAWBA COUNTY

Catawba County. Catawba County was formed in 1842 from a portion of Lincoln County. It was named for the river of the same name which skirts its northern boundary. The Catawba River, in turn, was named for the Catawba Indians, who formerly inhabited the region. Catawba is bordered on the north by Alexander and Caldwell Counties, on the east by Iredell, on the south by Lincoln, and on the west by Burke County. The county lies in the western end of the portion of North Carolina known as the Piedmont Plateau. The terrain is high and rolling averaging about one thousand feet in elevation.¹

Catawba County is 39 miles long at its longest point, and measures about 23 miles north to south. It contains 406 square miles of land area.

Catawba County had a 1950 population of 61,794. The county seat, Newton, located near the geographic center of the county, had a population in 1950 of 6,039. Other cities

¹Bill Sharpe (ed.), North Carolina; A Description by Counties (Raleigh: Warren Publishing Company, 1948), pages not numbered.

and towns in Catawba County include (1950 population in parentheses): Brookford (768), Catawba (506), Claremont (669), Conover (1,164), Hickory (14,755), Longview (2,291), and Maiden (1,952).

Catawba County was settled largely by Germans from the colony of Pennsylvania. The pioneer German settler in what is now Catawba County was Henrich Weidner (Henry Whitener), who came to the South Fork River about 1745. Here he met and traded with the friendly Indians of the region. When spring arrived, Weidner carried his pelts back to Pennsylvania to sell. There he raised a crop, which was sold in the fall before his return to North Carolina. After making five such annual forays into North Carolina, Weidner married Katrina (Catherine) Mull and brought her and a young man, Conrad Yoder, to settle permanently in the South Fork region in what is now southwestern Catawba County.² Other German settlers in time followed Weidner, including the Yoders, Conrads, Reinhardts, Anthonys, Frys, Forneys, Rauchs (Rowes), Ramseurs, Hoyles, Hokes, Bosts, Clines, Shufords, Summerows, Dellingers, Sigmons, Zimmermans (Carpenters), Ikerds, Setzers, Bollingers, Hermans, Wilfongs, and others.

Most of these early settlers were members of the Lutheran or Reformed Churches. Most of the early churches in

²Russell W. Whitener, "The Growth and Development of Education in Catawba County" (unpublished Master's thesis, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 1924), p. 10.

Catawba County were union churches, shared by Lutheran and Reformed congregations. The earliest church west of the Catawba River was St. Paul's, a union church built near the present town of Newton about 1759.³

Products and resources. Catawba County has achieved a near-perfect balance between agriculture and industry. Hickory proudly proclaims itself "Best Balanced City." In 1951, there were twenty-one thousand people in Catawba County employed in industries and businesses where eight or more people worked, a figure exceeded by only eight of the state's one-hundred counties.⁴ At the same time, the county was a significant producer of cotton, wheat, oats, apples, peaches, dairy and beef cattle, chickens and eggs.

Mineral resources found in the county include iron, mica, limestone and clay.

Hickory. The most populous of Catawba County's towns and cities is Hickory, located in the northwestern portion of the county. Incorporated as Hickory Tavern in 1870, the town became Hickory by an act of the legislature in 1873. Hickory is the shopping and industrial center of Catawba County and

³Charles J. Preslar (ed.), A History of Catawba County (Salisbury: Rowan Printing Co., 1954), p. 90.

⁴Jule P. Warren and L. Polk Denmark, North Carolina Atlas (Raleigh: Warren Publishing Company, 1952), p. 41.

portions of the adjacent counties. A recent newspaper article reveals that the monthly volume of state sales tax collected in Hickory more than doubled the taxes collected in any one of the several surrounding cities of comparable size.⁵

II. EDUCATION IN CATAWBA COUNTY

The history of public education in Catawba County dates from about 1845. In that year John Coulter was appointed Chairman of the Board of Superintendents of Common Schools of Catawba County. His bond of ten thousand dollars was signed by John Coulter, Eli R. Shuford, Andrew Killian and J. A. Reinhardt.⁶ Coulter's report as chairman for the year 1846-1847 is in the county records. The report shows that there were thirty-eight school districts in the county with school being taught in thirty-five of them.

This first report reveals some interesting facts about the Catawba Schools. There were no women among the forty-three teachers in the county. The average monthly salary of the teachers was \$12.55. Three districts had a term of two months, twenty had a term of three months, three had four month terms, while the remaining eight districts had terms

⁵Hickory Daily Record, May 22, 1956.

⁶Whitener, op. cit., p. 23.

exceeding four months. The longest term was for six months in one district.⁷

The first woman teacher in the county, Mary E. Cansler, was added the next year. Two districts increased their terms to seven months during 1847-1848. The average term for the county, however, was only three months as late as 1853.

Catawba County's public schools, like those of the remainder of the state, were closed during the Civil War. Whitener writes:⁸

Catawba had a very creditable system of public rural schools until the war with its ruin and devastation. It wrecked the most auspicious system of state aided schools of pre-war days, thereby keeping Catawba from contributing her share in making North Carolina take her proper place in the ranks of the foremost educational states of the union.

Recovery was slow after the war. In 1880 the average length of the school term was three months, the same as in 1853.

1900 to 1920. A new Board of Education was appointed by the legislature in 1903 and Charles H. Mebane was elected county superintendent. His salary was set at \$2.50 per day. This was increased to \$500 yearly in 1904. In 1905, R. R. Williams was made superintendent and the salary was reduced

⁷Ibid., p. 25.

⁸Ibid., p. 29.

to \$350 yearly. In January 1907 Williams resigned and Mebane again agreed to serve. No increase was made in salary. Rev. George E. Long was made superintendent in July, 1907, with a salary of \$300 yearly plus \$1.50 per day for each necessary trip made in the interests of the schools. This salary was progressively increased to \$1800 yearly by 1920.

The progress made in education in Catawba County from 1900 to 1920 is shown by the following comparative statistics:⁹

<u>Year</u>	<u>White teachers</u>	<u>School term</u>	<u>Average yearly salary of teachers</u>
1900	85	74 days	\$92.50
1920	162	94 days*	\$440.42

* fig. for 1919

It is interesting to note that fifty of the eighty-five teachers in 1900 were men, while only thirty-nine of the 162 teachers in 1920 were men.

Since 1920. In the years immediately following 1920, many of Catawba County's rural schools were consolidated under the leadership of Superintendent George E. Long. This consolidation movement was consummated in the early 1950's under the superintendency of M. C. Campbell. The eleven rural schools then in use were consolidated in 1953 and 1954 into the present five completely modern schools. The Hickory and

⁹Ibid., p. 46.

Newton-Conover school systems were notably improved at the same time.

Higher education in Catawba County. Catawba County has been the home of four institutions of higher learning, only one of which remains. The first college in the county was Catawba College, founded in 1851 at Newton. It was moved to Salisbury in 1923.

Concordia College, founded as Concordia High School in 1877 at Conover is no longer in existence.¹⁰

The only remaining college in the county, Lenoir-Rhyne College, was founded in 1891 at Hickory as Highland College. It became Lenoir College the following year, and in 1923 the name was changed to Lenoir-Rhyne. It is a co-educational institution of the Lutheran Church.¹¹

The history of the fourth Catawba County college, Claremont College, is the subject of this thesis.

¹⁰ Charles J. Preslar, (ed.), A History of Catawba County (Salisbury: Rowan Printing Company, 1954), p. 152.

¹¹ Ibid., p. 153.

CHAPTER II

THE REFORMED CHURCH IN NORTH CAROLINA

In the eighteenth century, the colony of Pennsylvania recieved an influx of German, Swiss, and French settlers. The archives of the colony of Pennsylvania list the names of more than 30,000 persons who landed at the port of Philadelphia from 1727 to 1775.¹ When most of the desirable land in that colony was taken, many of these immigrants poured into Piedmont North Carolina, peopling that area with a highly intelligent, industrious and devout folk.

It is with the portion of those immigrants of the Reformed faith that we shall be concerned. They early organized themselves into congregations, frequently building union churches which were shared with their Lutheran kinsmen. By 1770 congregations were formed in Guilford, Mecklenburg (now Cabarrus), Rowan (now Davidson), Lincoln (now Catawba) and possibly other counties in the Piedmont.² They all faced one common problem--a scarcity of ministers. Individual congregations frequently petitioned the General Synod for

¹G. William Welker, "Early German Reformed Settlements in North Carolina," The Colonial Records of N.C., William L. Saunders, editor, (Raleigh: Josephus Daniels, Printer to the State, 1890), VIII, 728.

²J. C. Clapp (ed.), Historic Sketch of the Reformed Church in North Carolina (Philadelphia: Publication Board of the Reformed Church in the United States, 1908), p. 27 et. passim.

ministers, but the synod was unable to meet these requests for many years. As late as 1887 there were only fifteen Reformed Church ministers in North Carolina.³

Welker gives the following description of the ecclesiastical organization of the Reformed Church:⁴

In the Reformed Church each congregation is governed by its consistory, composed of the pastor, elders and deacons, elected by the congregation. The several congregations in a charge have a general consistory, composed of the several congregational consistories. Three or more pastoral charges in a defined contiguous territory make a classis. Four or more classes make a district synod, and all the classes in the United States constitute the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States.

I. THE CLASSIS OF NORTH CAROLINA IS FORMED

Prior to 1831 the Reformed Churches in North Carolina were organized only to the extent of having pastoral charges. The previous year the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States had met at Hagerstown, Maryland, and had taken action as follows:⁵

Resolved, that these brethren of North Carolina be permitted to organize a Classis of North Carolina; and that the brethren in Virginia be advised to connect them-

³Welker, op. cit., p. 757.

⁴Ibid.

⁵Jacob C. Leonard, The Southern Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church (Raleigh: Edwards and Broughton Company, 1940), p. 31.

selves either with the North Carolina Classis or with the Classis of Maryland, until prepared to organize a classis of their own.

The North Carolina Classis of the Reformed Church was organized the following year at Clapp's (Brick) Church in Guilford County. Four ministers and four elders representing congregations all over the Piedmont met there on May twenty-first. Two days and evenings were devoted to religious services, during which time the congregation heard eight sermons preached--five in English and three in German.⁶

On Monday, May 23, the eight men began the formal organization of the Classis. Present at this meeting were the following: Elders Adam Roseman of Rowan County, Colonel Philip Hedrick of Davidson County, and Daniel Clapp of Guilford County. The ministers were Rev. William Hauck, of Davidson charge, Rev. John G. Fritchey of Lincoln charge, Rev. Daniel B. Lerch of Rowan charge, and Rev. John H. Crawford of Guilford charge. Rev. George Boger was absent and without a charge.⁷ Rev. William Hauck was elected first president of the Classis.

A question which arose at this first meeting of the Classis was how to secure additional ministers. The recurrence of this problem year after year illustrates the plight of the Reformed Church during its organizational period in

⁶Ibid., p. 32.

⁷Welker, loc. cit.

North Carolina. The four ministers listed above were the only Reformed ministers in the state in 1831, with the exception of the Rev. George Boger who was without a charge. At the fourth annual meeting at Grace Church in Lincoln (now Catawba) County in 1834, the Classis formed itself into an Education Society for the purpose of aiding "indigent and pious young men" in their efforts to train for the ministry.⁸

The church seminaries in Pennsylvania sent trained ministers south to such an extent that in 1843, for the first time, every Reformed Church in the Classis had a regular pastor.⁹ A year later one of those seminary-trained ministers coming south would be Jeremiah Ingold, whom destiny chose to lead the congregation which founded Claremont Female College.

The Classis grows. Ever hampered by a lack of ministers, the Classis nevertheless moved forward. Twelve years after its organization, Rev. David Crooks wrote:¹⁰

Of the German Reformed Church in North Carolina, the record of more than eighty years is now entered upon the table book of eternity.... On the twenty-third of May, 1831, our Classis first drew the breath of organic life. Of the ministers whose prayers and efforts then warmed it into being, but two remain in its connection. From its organization up to the present time it has passed

⁸Leonard, op. cit., p. 35.

⁹Ibid., p. 45.

¹⁰Ibid., pp. 45-46.

through a variety of trials. True, however, in its devotion to the interests of the church, it has maintained its existence and bids fair to increase both in stature and wisdom.... Our pulpits are now regularly filled. Our churches enjoy stately the means of grace and the ordinances of the house of God. We are growing in numbers, as well as in moral and religious strength. This to us will constitute a year of years. Its record will ever be regarded as a bright spot on the pages of the past, upon which memory will love to linger.

From seventeen congregations in 1831, the North Carolina Classis grew to thirty-six congregations in 1887. These congregations, organized into nine pastoral charges served by fifteen ministers, boasted 2,313 communicant members.¹¹ The North Carolina Classis was a part of the Synod of the Potomac, which was formed in 1872.

Union with the Evangelical Synod of North America. On June 27, 1934, in a meeting at Cleveland, Ohio, organic union between the Reformed Church in the United States and the Evangelical Synod of North America was consummated. Since that time the church has been officially known as the Evangelical and Reformed Church. This union was retrieved from a wrecked plan of union involving The United Brethren in Christ in addition to the other two bodies named.

II. THE SOUTHERN SYNOD IS ORGANIZED

Some one-hundred years after the formation of the North Carolina Classis of the Reformed Church, the affairs of the

¹¹Welker, loc. cit.

church had advanced to such a point as to warrant the organization of a synod in the South. Accordingly, the General Council of the General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church appointed a Convening Committee for the Southern Synod. This committee met at Charlotte, North Carolina, on February 7, 1939. The Convening Committee consisted of the following: Rev. Harry D. Althouse, Hickory, North Carolina; Rev. Henry A. Dewald, Atlanta, Georgia; Rev. Jacob C. Leonard, Lexington, North Carolina.¹²

An organizational meeting was set for May 30, 1939, at First Church, Salisbury. Responding to the call were thirty-five ministers, twenty-six laymen, and three licentiate.¹³ Rev. Harry D. Althouse, pastor of the Corinth Church at Hickory, was chosen first President of the Southern Synod.

Thus was brought to fruition a movement which was begun a quarter century earlier. In 1912 the North Carolina Classis had overtured the Synod of the Potomac to request the General Synod to constitute a North Carolina Synod of the Reformed Church. This Synod would comprise four classes, viz.: Guilford, Davidson, Central and Catawba.¹⁴ This plea was

¹²Leonard, op. cit., p. 9.

¹³Ibid., p. 10.

¹⁴Ibid., p. 51.

rejected, but it represented a beginning in the effort to secure a synod in the South.

III. CORINTH EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED CHURCH

Since May 22, 1869, the Corinth Evangelical and Reformed Church has been a spiritual force in Hickory. It was on that date that the congregation was organized in the so-called "Free Academy" in Hickory Tavern.¹⁵ There were twenty-two charter members (see Table I). The congregation was actually begun about a decade earlier.

Henry W. Link and Adolphus L. Shuford, pioneers in the Hickory Tavern area, took the initiative in inviting Rev. Jeremiah Ingold to conduct services in Hickory as early as 1860. Rev. Ingold was at that time serving churches in the Catawba County area. He was at the peak of an eminent ministry to the Reformed people of North Carolina. Twelve times from 1845 to 1882 he was chosen President of the North Carolina Classis. Ingold accepted the invitation. A shelter, known as a "stand" or "arbor," was constructed and services were held there in the summer and at the home of Mr. Link during the winter months. This practice was continued until the stand burned, after which services were held at the home

¹⁵Ibid., p. 349.

TABLE I

CHARTER MEMBERS OF THE CORINTH REFORMED CHURCH
HICKORY, NORTH CAROLINA*

Emaline Fry	Mary L. Reinhardt
Henry Fry	William P. Reinhardt
John Fry	Adolphus Rowe
Isaiah Ingold	Andrew N. Rowe
Lavinia Killian	Martha C. Rowe
Amidas Link	Peter L. Rowe
Catherine Link	Abel L. Shuford
Etta Graham Link	Adolphus L. Shuford
Henry W. Link	Abel Whitener
Caroline L. Ramsaur	Eliza Whitener
William L. Ramsaur	Susan Whitener

*Leonard, op. cit., p. 349.

of Mr. Link the year round.

The North Carolina Classis lends encouragement. The congregation at Hickory early charted a course leading to the erection of a house of worship. A subscription list was started and an appeal was made to the Reformed churches of the state. The North Carolina Classis, meeting in Davidson County in 1871, responded as follows:¹⁶

Whereas, the prospects of the Reformed congregation at Hickory Station are of unusual promise, and as the effort at that place deserves support, Resolved, that this Classis approves of the effort to erect a house of worship at this place, and will do all it can to encourage the important work; and that this enterprise be recommended to the church and people under the care of Classis as worthy of the bestowment of their means upon it; that the ministers of Classis be not unmindful of this claim and bring it to the notice of their people; that the appeal of our brethren to others abroad be endorsed by this Classis as an urgent one and a worthy object of liberality.

That a response was forthcoming is illustrated by the statement of J. F. Murrill in the minutes of Corinth Church when he wrote, in 1877, that the congregation,

though weak both in a numerical and pecuniary way, by the encouragement of small contributions from distant friends and their own unfaltering efforts, succeeded in building a house of worship, the second in the town.¹⁷

The first church building. Henry Weidner Robinson, who was the benefactor of other denominations in Hickory,

¹⁶Ibid.

¹⁷"Official Minutes," Corinth Reformed Church.

gave a lot of one hundred feet frontage to the Reformed congregation. On this lot a church building was begun in the fall of 1871. This wooden structure was completed, save for painting, in the spring of 1874.¹⁸ This would be the home of the Reformed congregation for thirteen years. Six years after its completion, it would be the temporary home of Claremont Female College.

A second building. Sometime after midnight on March 26, 1887, the church was destroyed by fire. Immediately the congregation set about the task of rebuilding. The new church, a brick structure, was built on a part of the old Hickory Tavern site. A forty-foot frontage had been donated by Henry Weidner Robinson in 1880, (see page 22). It was ready for occupancy early in 1888. The dedication was delayed until such time as the church was completely finished, a bell and an organ were in place, and all debts were paid. This service of dedication was held on June 29, 1890.¹⁹

In the ten-month interim between the burning of the old church and the building of the new, the Reformed congregation was welcomed into the Presbyterian house of worship. On February 12, 1888, the minutes of the Reformed Church

¹⁸Clapp, op. cit., p. 317.

¹⁹"Official Minutes," Corinth Reformed Church.

expressed thanks to the Presbyterians for permitting the use of their church for the past ten months. This was subsequently published in the Press and Carolinian, a Hickory newspaper.

The third building. The third structure built by Corinth congregation, and the church still in use, was occupied in 1910. It was dedicated on December 10, 1911. The service of dedication was conducted by the pastor, Rev. J. L. Murphy, with Rev. J. C. Leonard delivering the sermon.²⁰

Early religious life. Religion, to these early Germans, was no mere mantle donned on Sunday morning and cast down after church services. It permeated their very beings, and was, in short, an every-day affair. The minutes record several instances of members being called to public account for a variety of charges, ranging from "playing falsely" in a lumber deal to adultery. Several members called before the Consistory were subsequently suspended for a period of months. Others escaped with a verbal admonition to mend their ways, while one offender seems to have redeemed himself by pledging five dollars towards the pastor's salary.

The minutes of the church in 1886 record the minister's way of dealing with latecomers. Apparently the problem had become rather acute. At a meeting of the Consistory, it was

²⁰Leonard, op. cit., p. 351.

decided that the pastor would suspend his remarks and stand still until the latecomer had seated himself.

Ministers of Corinth. One would be hard put to find a church of any denomination which has been served by a more eminent group than the dozen men who have pastored Corinth. Indeed, their names would comprise a sizeable chapter in a who's who of the Reformed Church in the South. Among them they held twenty-nine presidencies of the North Carolina Classis of the Reformed Church. The present pastor, Dr. Harry D. Althouse, was first president of the Southern Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church. At least five had been college professors, and three of these were college presidents. They represent a combined total of about two-hundred eighty years of ministering to the Reformed people of North Carolina. Table II lists the names of the pastors of Corinth Reformed Church and the dates of their pastorates.

TABLE II

MINISTERS OF CORINTH EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED CHURCH
HICKORY, NORTH CAROLINA*

Jeremiah Ingold, D.D. (supply 1860-1869), pastor	1869-1874
Julius H. Shuford	1874-1876
Jacob C. Clapp, D.D., and Rev. John A. Foil, Ph.D.,	supply 1876
Jeremiah Ingold, D.D.	1877
A. S. Vaughan	1878-1881
Alfred P. Horn	1881-1883
G. Dickey Gurley	1883-1884
Lewis Reitner	1884-1885
Joseph L. Murphy, D.D.	1890-1917
Walter W. Rowe, D.D.	1918-1924
George Longaker, D.D.	1924-1929
Harry D. Althouse, D.D.	1930-

*Leonard, op. cit., p. 351.

"Earth's noblest thing-a woman perfected"

CHAPTER III

CLAREMONT FEMALE COLLEGE IS BORN

Sometime in the fall of 1880, a rather strange procession led to the Reformed Church in Hickory. A group of girls and young women, numbering perhaps forty, had come to school. Some, those under six years of age, were going to be merely "taught, trained, amused, and interested." The older girls would pursue a course of study modeled after the great Wellesley College of Massachusetts, a curriculum embracing vocal and instrumental music, Greek, Latin, Bible lectures, history, even Sanscrit.

Excitedly they entered the two story frame building, and found the first floor divided into three rooms--their classrooms. One would be for the Primary Department, which included a few boys under the age of ten. The other rooms were for the Preparatory and College departments, and here one would find only girls and young women. Co-education was looked on with disfavor. Those who were to take music would do so at the home of J. F. Murrill, Elder in the Reformed Church and Editor of the Press and Carolinian.

The faculty consisted of the president, Reverend Albert S. Vaughan, late of Pennsylvania and a former president of Catawba College at Newton, Miss Edwina Shearn and a Miss More. We can only surmise what took place that first day in the history of Claremont Female College. There must have been a great deal of excitement, and, as on opening day in most schools, not a little confusion. With equipment scarce and facilities limited, it was probably not an auspicious beginning. It was a beginning, however, and for thirty-six unbroken years following that day, Claremont would exert an incalculable influence on the cultural and educational life of Hickory and environs. In the remainder of this chapter, we shall concern ourselves with the people and events that made that influence possible.

I. CORINTH CONSISTORY

The Consistory of the Corinth Evangelical and Reformed Church met on April 24, 1880, at the home of John Wilfong. The purpose of the meeting was to accept or reject a lot being offered by Henry Weidner Robinson as the site for a new church, and to determine the future use to be made of the old church and lot. Mrs. Wilfong called the meeting, for she had contacted Robinson personally and had obtained a promise of a forty foot frontage on the old Hickory Tavern lot. Robinson desired an acceptance from the congregation, and

also wanted to know what would be the disposition of the old church and lot.

Much earnest discussion followed, and a motion was offered by Abel A. Shuford that the offer by Robinson be accepted and that the old church building be converted into a female school. This motion was seconded by A. C. Link and adopted by the Consistory.

Two gentlemen, Hugh Blair and a Mr. Ivey, were at that time conducting a school for boys and girls in the Reformed Church building. Elder J. F. Murrill suggested that for the scholastic year 1880-1881, a competent lady teacher be employed to co-operate with Blair and Ivey in the mixed school. This plan was adopted, but events of the approaching summer would preclude its implementation.

The next day, April 25, the Consistory met in the basement of the church on call of the Pastor, Rev. Jeremiah Ingold. The clerk read and won approval of the following letter, which for some inexplicable reason was dated April 23:¹

Hickory, N.C.
April 23, 1880

Mr. and Mrs. H.W. Robinson
at Home
Kind Friends:

At a meeting of the officers and a number of the members of Corinth Church in the house of Bro. John Wilfong in this town on yesterday, I was requested and

¹"Official Minutes," Corinth Reformed Church, Hickory, North Carolina.

instructed by a vote of said meeting to make known to you an acceptance of the lot so generously donated to our Congregation for the purpose and on the terms proposed. Further, I am to be the weak and inadequate means of conveying and expressing to you the unfeigned thanks of the whole Congregation for so valuable a gift, so desirably located for our purpose--the proposed church. The site is the more highly appreciated as being a part of the Old Historic Spot which gave name to our prosperous village, while it loses none of its value in being the second exhibition of your liberality towards our beloved church. Regretting my lack of language more fully and fitly to express our gratitude for your repeated acts of kindness, I will only add the assurance of our united hope and prayer for our continued happiness in both this and the future state.

Your Bro. in Church,
J.F. Murrill, Clerk of Consistory
of Corinth

II. REVEREND ALBERT S. VAUGHAN

Shortly after the above plan for the school was formulated, Rev. Samuel R. Fisher, D.D., of Philadelphia, visited the Reformed churches in North Carolina. Paying a visit to the Corinth congregation, he learned of the plans afoot, and on returning to Philadelphia, wrote several articles in the Reformed Church Messenger, of which he was the editor. These articles described the wonderful opportunities for Christian education in Hickory, and occasioned a letter to Pastor Ingold from the Rev. Albert S. Vaughan, a Presbyterian minister. Vaughan had been President of Catawba College on the eve of the Civil War, when he returned to the North.

On July 10, 1880, Pastor Ingold called a meeting of the Consistory in the home of A. L. Shuford for the purpose of "considering a proposition of Rev. A. S. Vaughan to return to North Carolina and build up a female school of high grade in or near the town of Hickory."² The project met warm approval from the members present, and Pastor Ingold was instructed to correspond further with Vaughan and determine more fully his plans. Apparently the plan previously decided upon was held in abeyance pending the outcome of this correspondence.

Vaughan visits Corinth. In July it was decided to invite Vaughan to visit Hickory for personal consultation with the Consistory. Vaughan came and appeared before the Consistory in a meeting which determined the ultimate character of Claremont. The school was to be patterned after Wellesley College--would, in fact, become the Wellesley of the South. Further, it would be broadened in scope beyond the limits of a single denomination. Only in a non-sectarian school, Vaughan felt, could he achieve the results to which he aspired. We are told that "Bro. Vaughan spoke fully in favor of the enterprise and of his desire to return to North Carolina and spend the remainder of his days in the cause of Christ and female education--Christian culture."³

²Ibid.

³Ibid.

Thus the character of the school was set. The Consistory assented to Vaughan's plan. The origin of Claremont in the Consistory of Corinth Reformed Church is unquestionable, but Vaughan must be assigned credit for the outstanding curriculum and non-sectarian character of the school. Whether the latter was beneficial or not is a disputable question. Financially, perhaps, it was fatal. At any rate, Claremont Female College was inaugurated in financial straits, a plight from which it could not extricate itself through thirty-six long years.⁴

Pastors Ingold and Shuford resign. Vaughan indicated that he could not think of giving up his work in the ministry. Rev. Jeremiah Ingold and Rev. Julius H. Shuford, accordingly, Pastors of Hickory and Grace charges, respectively, resigned their charges in favor of Vaughan. It was decided to reunite the four congregations in the old Grace Charge, calling Vaughan as Pastor with Ingold, as assistant, doing services in all four churches two Sundays in each month.

With that, Vaughan returned home briefly "to settle up matters thus and secure the services of a lady teacher for the proposed college."⁵

⁴In the Report of the United States Commissioner of Education for the scholastic year 1909-1910, the author could find only one college of comparable size in the country with an income smaller than Claremont's \$3800.

⁵"Official Minutes," Corinth Evangelical and Reformed Church.

III. THE CHARTER

Claremont Female College was chartered by the State of North Carolina on August 25, 1880. The Charter reads as follows:⁶

North Carolina
Catawba County

We, J.F.Murrill, J.G.Hall, A.M.Peeler, R.B.Davis, A.A.Shuford, A.S.Abernethy, A.L.Shuford, W.P.Reinhardt, J.W.Robinson, M.L.McCorkle, S.T.Wilfong, R.W.McComb, Rev. J. Ingold, Dr. J.T. Johnson and A.C.Link, all of the County of Catawba, and the State of North Carolina, being desirous of forming ourselves into a private corporation, for the purpose of promoting female education and establishing a female college in the town of Hickory, in the county and state aforesaid, of high grade by the name of Claremont Female College, and by that name shall have a perpetual succession and common seal and shall be able and capable to sue and be sued in law and equity and to plead and be impleaded and shall take, demand and receive and possess all goods and chattles, lands and tenements which may be given to said corporation, or said trustees and their successors for the use and benefit of said corporation, and shall take and receive all donations made and appropriate them according to the wishes of the donors and to the purpose hereinafter declared, and by the purchase or otherwise shall take, hold and possess to themselves and their successors in office forever any lands and tenements which may be sufficient for said college, and college purposes, and may purchase and hold for the purpose of said institution such personal property as they may deem necessary, provided the said real and personal property shall not exceed in value at any one time the Sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000).

II. That said trustees of said corporation and their successors in office shall have power to elect such president, professors and tutors for said college as they may see fit and proper and have power to remove

⁶Catawba County Register of Deeds, Book 14, pp. 58-60.

the same for misbehavior, inability or neglect of duty or any other sufficient cause as to them may seem expedient.

III. That upon the death or resignation or removal of any member of the Board out of the State of North Carolina, his place shall be filled by the congregation or church to which he belongs or is a member, provided, that in case of the failure of any church or congregation to appoint a trustee after reasonable notice of such vacancy, the Board of Trustees may elect, provided always that three-fifths of said trustees shall be members of the Reformed Church, formerly known as the German Reformed Church, and provided further that said trustees shall have power to remove any one of their number for misconduct, neglect of duty, inability or other sufficient cause.

IV. That said trustees shall have power of conferring such degrees and marks of Classical and literary distinction as is usual in colleges and universities.

V. That said trustees may admit into said college, as pupils, boys under the age ten years, in the Primary Department.

VI. That said trustees, or a majority, may make such By-Laws, Rules and Regulations for the government of said college as they may deem best for the same, not inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of North Carolina and those of the United States.

VII. That whenever either of said trustees shall remove from the State of North Carolina or cease to be a member of the church or denomination to which he belongs at the time of appointment, or election, or to be a member of the church from which he may have been selected by his respective congregation, his place shall be vacated and filled as is heretofore provided in case of death or resignation.

VIII. The officers of this corporation shall be a president, secretary, and treasurer to be elected by the Board of Trustees.

IX. That the said trustees shall make such rules and regulations as to the duties and the manner of electing their officers as they may see fit.

X. The individual corporators shall not be individually liable for the debts of said corporation.

XI. No person of color shall be admitted a pupil in said institution.

Attest:

E.L.SHUFORD

J.F.MURRILL,
 J.G.HALL,
 A.M.PEELER,
 R.B.DAVIS,
 A.A.SHUFORD,
 A.S.ABERNETHY,
 A.L.SHUFORD,
 W.P.REINHARDT,
 J.W.ROBINSON,
 M.L.McCORKLE,
 J.INGOLD,
 R.W.McCOMB,
 A.C.LINK,
 J.T.JOHNSON,
 S.T.WILFONG.

Catawba County.

The execution of the foregoing paper writing by the parties signing the same was this the 28th day of July A.D. 1880 duly proved before me by the oath and examination of Ed. L. Shuford subscribing witness thereto. Therefore let said agreement and certificate be registered.

M.O.SHERRILL,
 Judge of Probate.

Of the trustees listed above, Johnson and Abernethy were Methodists, Peeler a Lutheran, Davis an Episcopalian, while Hall and McComb represented the Presbyterians. The remainder were members of the Reformed Church.

IV. THE SCHOOL IS OPENED

When Vaughan returned from his trip to settle up matters at home, he brought with him the makings of a small but talented faculty. Miss Edwina Shearn, later Mrs. Chadwick, was an 1880 graduate of Wellesley College. She taught

Latin and vocal music. Miss Shearn would later study with Mme. Edna Hall of Boston, Mme. Louise DuBarry and Mrs. Sumner Salter, both of New York. She would teach at St. Mary's Hall in Minnesota, the Classical School for Girls on Fifth Avenue, New York, and give many years of devoted service to Claremont College.

Little is known of Miss More, except that she must have been a graduate of Wellesley or Smith College, as it was Vaughan's policy to hire no one other than graduates of those schools. She was from Potsdam, New York. Mrs. Ella Johnston, the first baby born in Hickory and a student in the first class at Claremont Female College, has told the writer that she remembers Miss More as a very lovely woman and a highly capable teacher. She taught mathematics.

Vaughan himself brought a great deal of training and experience to the presidency of Claremont. He was a graduate of Franklin and Marshall College. He and his wife had conducted a successful female institute at Doylestown, Pennsylvania, before the Civil War. In 1860 he became President of Catawba College. He left this post to return to the North after the firing on Fort Sumter, largely, it is said, to placate his wife who was afraid she would be unable to return home.⁷

⁷Jacob C. Leonard, History of Catawba College (Trustees of Catawba College, 1927), p. 77.

These three comprised the faculty of Claremont College at its opening session. Later in the administration of Vaughan, they were augmented by a Miss Batchelor, Ida Pettit, Belle Haven, Alive Eversten, May Ramsaur, Amelia McComb, and Sarah C. Perrin.

The students came largely from the homes of Reformed Church members in or near Hickory. Many came from the South Fork section of Catawba County. Table III lists the names of some of the students in the first class as recalled by Mrs. Ella Johnston, a daughter of Adolphus L. Shuford.

Classes were begun in the Reformed Church building in the fall of 1880, pending the completion of the permanent home of the college which is the subject of the next chapter. Ironically, that same year two young ladies were admitted to Catawba College at Newton, ten miles away. That marked the beginning of co-education at Catawba, a policy which virtually sealed the fate of Claremont ere it opened its doors.

Who founded Claremont Female College? It seems impossible to assign credit to any one individual as the originator of Claremont Female College. It was the obvious answer to a great need felt by the Reformed Church families in and near Hickory. Many of these families were large, and their daughters lacked educational opportunity. These industrious Germans were determined to provide that opportunity.

TABLE III

SOME MEMBERS OF THE FIRST CLASS AT
CLAREMONT FEMALE COLLEGE*

Mattie Abernethy	Mary Robinson
Anna Bridges	Etta Settlemyre
Mamie Fawcett	Ada Shuford
Carrie Holden	Ella Shuford
Ida Ingold	Florence Shuford
Elizabeth Klutz	Katherine Shuford
Novella Lawrence	Belle Sides
Carrie Link	Mary Alice Whitener
Amelia McComb	Susie Whitener
Lizzie McComb	Lula Whitesides
May Murrill	Cora Wilfong
Annie Rhyne	Dora Wilfong
Laura Robinson	Genevieve Wilfong
Martha Robinson	Mattie Wilfong

*As recalled by Mrs. Ella Johnston, Hickory, North Carolina.

Those present at the meeting of the Consistory which formulated the first plan for the college were Pastor Jeremiah Ingold, F.D.Ingold, A.C.Link, J.F.Murrill, W. P. Reinhardt, Abel A. Shuford, Adolphus L. Shuford, John Wilfong and Mrs. Wilfong. They must all share in the credit.

Finally, the influence of Rev. Albert S. Vaughan must be counted heavily in broadening the scope of the school. That Claremont became far from local in character was amply illustrated in 1898 when President Stuart P. Hatton was able to write:⁸

Last year there were in attendance students from every Southern state but four, also from Canada, and some of the Northern and Western states. The present faculty is composed of fourteen teachers from leading colleges, conservatories, and universities. The school is looked upon as being permanently established, and has within the past few years entered upon a wonderful career of usefulness to the State.

⁸Charles H. Mebane, Biennial Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction of North Carolina for the Scholastic Years 1896-'97 and 1897-'98 (Raleigh: Guy V. Barnes, Printer to Council of State, 1898), p. 108.

CHAPTER IV

A NEW CAMPUS

The Reformed Church building in Hickory was never intended to be the permanent home of Claremont Female College. In casting about for a lot on which to build a permanent building, the friends of the college once again turned to Henry Weidner Robinson, whose generosity they had already experienced.

I. ROBINSON DONATES LOT

Robinson gave the school the very valuable and beautiful property on which the Claremont Central High School now stands. Mrs. Maude Yoder Robinson gave the writer a prepared statement concerning this event as related by Abel Shuford Robinson (1861-1953), a son of Henry Weidner Robinson. That statement read in part:¹

In 1880 several men from Hickory approached Henry Weidner Robinson to give them land for a female college there. He gave a number of acres with the understanding that his granddaughters have free education. He gave them a deed, requesting that the board be composed of one member selected from each denominational church represented in the town and the same number with one additional be selected from the Reformed Church, thus giving the Reformed a majority.

¹Personal interview with Mrs. Maude Yoder Robinson, Hickory, North Carolina, September 24, 1955.

After several years it was decided to ask Robinson to release the promise of free tuition and pay him a small amount for same. Robinson released them, but the money was never paid. He never pushed the matter, as the college had a hard time meeting expenses.

The deed and agreement. The writer found the deed and agreement already alluded to in the office of the Register of Deeds of Catawba County in Newton, North Carolina. Robinson conveyed twenty-one and three-fourths acres to the Trustees of Claremont Female College in return for the following:²

1. One dollar in hand paid.
2. Free education in the college for the four daughters of John W. Robinson.
3. Free education for the two sons of John W. Robinson until such time as they should reach their tenth birthday.
4. The stipulation that no person of color should ever be admitted to Claremont Female College.

This indenture was proved before Judge of Probate M. O. Sherrill, witnessed by Ed. L. Shuford, filed and registered at 2 P. M. on July 28, and signed by G. W. Cochrane, Register of Deeds.

It is interesting to note Robinson's insistence upon the exclusion of Negroes from the institution. The end of the carpetbag era lay within the easy memory of these men. The bitter fruits of that tragic episode in American life

²Catawba County Register of Deeds, Book 14, pp. 56-57.

were fresh in their memories. Add to that the Northern flavor the school would have in the person of Rev. Albert S. Vaughan, and Robinson's motivation becomes clear. The reader will recall that the policy of excluding Negroes from the school found its way into the charter, section XI (see page 29).

Description of the lot. The Catalog of Claremont College spoke thusly about the campus:³

The main building is....situated in the middle of a beautiful campus of twenty acres, on a gently elevated knoll, overlooking the city and surrounding country.... The location is an ideal one. With healthful surroundings, the building stands on a gentle elevation, convenient to the town, yet far enough away to be free from the noise and confusion. From the college towers the eye of the observer can look out upon one of nature's most beautiful scenes; the town seems to sleep beneath us, the streams and valleys stretch away in every direction, while the distant mountains outline their rugged peaks against the sky.

The campus was ideal indeed. The sponsors of the college did not stop there, though, in singing its praises. The catalog further declared:⁴

Hickory is a noted health resort. In fact, this whole section of the state is beginning to be known far and wide for its beautiful and healthful climate, its fertile soil, its romantic scenery, and its mild and even temperature. Hickory is warmer in winter and cooler in summer than Raleigh; its winter climate is that of southern France. The sudden changes from warm to cold, so common to the Atlantic Coast region, are seldom, if ever, felt here.

³"The Twenty-Second Annual Catalog of Claremont College," 1902, p. 7.

⁴Ibid.

To this were added the statements of two physicians and a minister attesting to the healthfulness and pleasantness of the college location.

A second deed. The trustees quickly became dissatisfied with the conditions in the deed to the property. They asked John W. Robinson, himself a trustee, to release the college from the obligation to educate his daughters and sons free. Robinson agreed, and on January 31, 1881, he joined the other trustees in deeding the property back to Henry Weidner Robinson.⁵

On February 1, 1881, Henry Robinson made a second deed to the trustees in which he acknowledged the receipt of three hundred and nineteen dollars as payment for the property, about fourteen dollars and fifty cents per acre. There were no conditions in the deed. The property belonged to the Trustees of Claremont Female College without qualification.⁶

Part of campus sold. In 1888 when W. H. Sanborn became president of the college, a part of the campus was sold to help finance the addition of a new wing to the main building. John M. Shuford, a trustee of the college, purchased about five acres of the campus for eight hundred dollars.⁷ Later, other lots were sold to pay the debts of

⁵Catawba County Register of Deeds, Book 32, p. 242.

⁶Ibid., Book 27, p. 522.

⁷Ibid., Book 37, p. 308.

the college.

On July 9, 1913, J. E. Barb made a survey of the campus, dividing it into lots.⁸ This survey was used as the basis for selling part of the campus (see Figure 1).

A lot was sold to J. L. Riddle on September 19, 1913. Riddle paid fourteen hundred dollars for lot number one in the southwestern corner of the campus. The deed contained these two restrictions:⁹

1. No business building of any kind could be erected on the lot.
2. Any residence erected on the lot must face eastward towards Claremont Female College.

On May 21, 1914, two other lots were sold. These were lots two and three of the survey. They were sold to Mrs. H. C. Dixon and Mrs. M. S. Monroe for thirteen hundred and twelve hundred dollars respectively. The deeds contained restrictions similar to the Riddle deed, though they did not bar business concerns. For further disposition of property see Chapter VIII.

II. THE MAIN BUILDING

While classes were held in the Reformed Church, work was begun on the permanent college home. It was built under

⁸Catawba County Records, Book of plats Number One, p. 24.

⁹Catawba County Register of Deeds, Book 117, pp. 307-309.

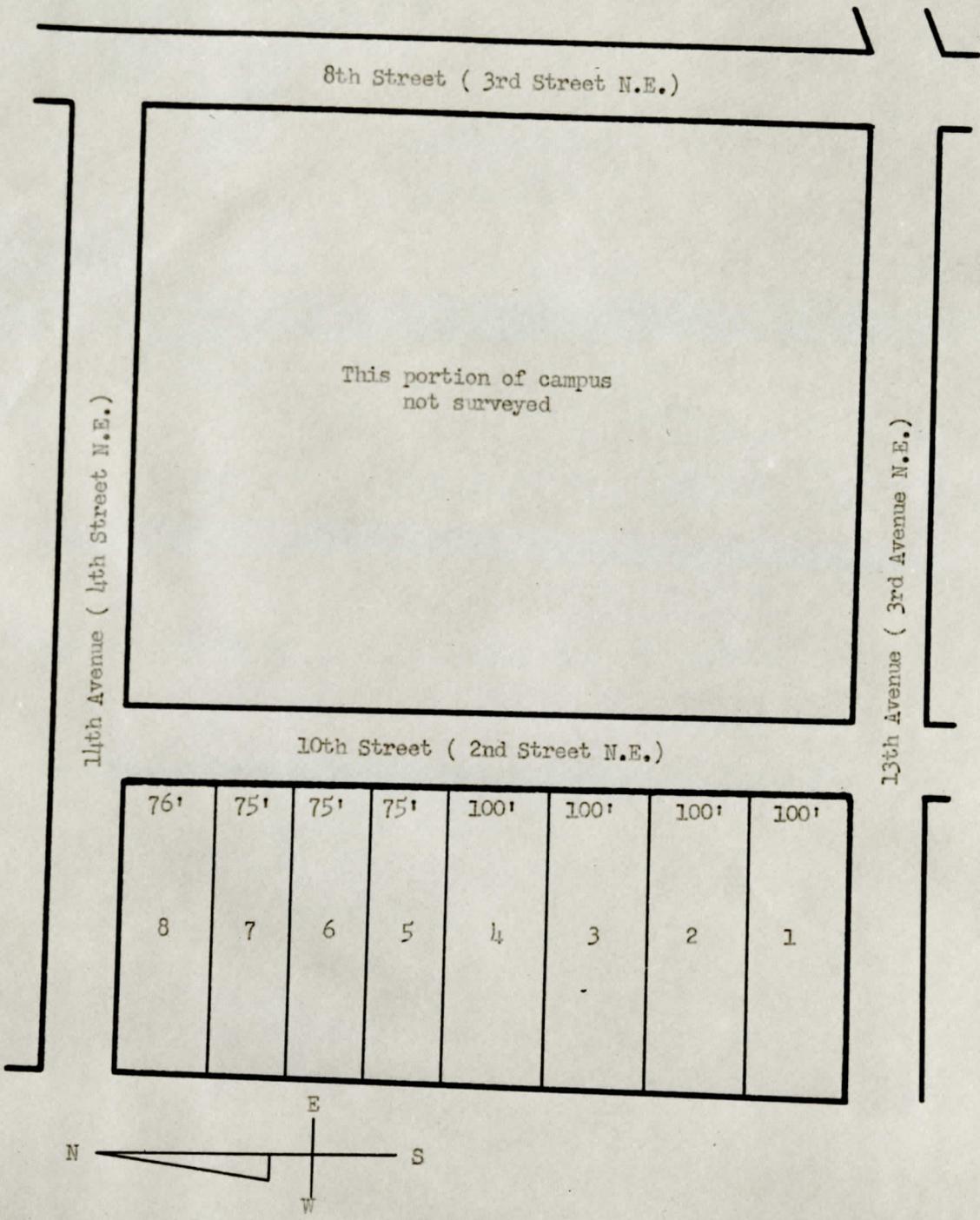


FIGURE I

SURVEY OF CLAREMONT COLLEGE CAMPUS MADE BY J.E.BARB JULY 9, 1913.
CURRENT STREET DESIGNATIONS ARE IN PARENTHESES. NOT TO SCALE.

the supervision of A. L. Shuford on the lot donated by Robinson. It was located on the southeastern corner of the campus facing south.

Funds for the erection of the brick building were raised by soliciting the entire community of Hickory.

The building was a three-story brick structure and was ready for occupancy in the fall of 1883. It was intended that this building would be the south wing of the future main building, and it contained a chapel, library, classrooms, a laboratory, parlor, reception rooms, art and music rooms. A committee appointed in 1907 by the North Carolina Classis of the Reformed Church to inspect the property reported to the Classis as follows:¹⁰

Substantial brick buildings in a reasonably good state of preservation occupy a central position in a campus of native oaks. The buildings contain recitation rooms, kitchen and dormitories sufficient to accommodate fifty girls. These buildings have water connections with the city mains, and a private sewerage system. A conservative estimate places the value of the property at twenty-five thousand dollars.

Several dormitories were to be erected. One would house those preparing to teach; another would be for future missionaries; still another would be reserved for orphan girls. This plan, unfortunately, was never brought to completion.

¹⁰"Official Minutes," North Carolina Classis of the Reformed Church, 1907, p. 31.



FIGURE 2

MAIN BUILDING OF
CLAREMONT COLLEGE

New wing added. In 1888 the east wing was added to the main building, being the wing to the right of the picture on page 41.

Other improvements were made later. In 1907, a new kitchen was added, a new roof was put on the front porch and the rooms were refinished.

III. THE TITLE TESTED

When J. L. Riddle bought lot number one, he refused to accept the deed until the title to the property was tested. Therefore, a friendly suit was instituted with Claremont College as plaintiff and J. L. Riddle as defendant. The case was heard in October, 1913, before Judge E. B. Cline, who ruled for the plaintiff. The case was carried to the Supreme Court of North Carolina with Justice Hoke confirming the decision of Judge Cline. It was determined that the Trustees of Claremont College, with the Consistory of Corinth Reformed Church concurring, could make a valid deed.¹¹

¹¹Ibid., 1915.

CHAPTER V
THE CURRICULUM

I. THE COLLEGE DEPARTMENT

The curriculum of Claremont College was modeled after that of Wellesley College, considered the country's outstanding woman's college of that day.¹ The aim was to offer instruction comparable to that obtained in the finest colleges for men in the country. Claremont continued to operate on that high plane during most of its existence, but there is evidence that it was thought of, during its latter years, as an intermediate step between the high schools and the more advanced colleges.²

By describing the curriculum of Claremont as it existed in 1902 we may get a good picture of the college at its height. The curriculum was divided into the following courses of study:³

- (1) CLASSICAL. A four-year course leading to the degree of Bachelor of Arts, B.A.
- (2) SCIENCE. A four-year course leading to the degree of Bachelor of Science, B.S.
- (3) LITERARY. A four-year course, lighter than the Classical or Science, allowing the student more

¹Joseph L. Murphy, "Historical Sketch of Claremont College," (privately printed in 1916), p. 11.

²See Chapter VII.

³"Twenty-Second Annual Catalogue of Claremont College," 1902, p. 9, et. passim.

time in music, art and elocution. This course leads to the degree of Bachelor of Literature, B.L.

- (4) LITERATURE AND FINE ARTS
- (5) GRADUATE COURSE. One year above the regular course and leads to the degree of Master of Arts, M.A.
- (6) NORMAL COURSE. A three-year course leading to the title of Bachelor of Didactics, B.D.
- (7) TEACHERS' COURSE of two years.
- (8) COMMERCIAL COURSE of bookkeeping, shorthand, and typewriting, leading to the title of M. Accts., Master of Accounts. One-year course.
- (9) MUSIC.
- (10) ART.
- (11) ELOCUTION AND ORATORY.
- (12) PREPARATORY.

In connection with these courses of study the college maintained the following departments:⁴ English and Anglo-Saxon, Ancient Languages, Modern Languages, Germanic Languages and Philology, History, Mathematics, Science, Graduate School, Normal, Commercial, Music, Art, and Elocution and Oratory.

A more detailed description of the work in each of these departments follows, based on information contained in the 1902 college catalog.

⁴Ibid., p. 17.

English Language and Literature. Great emphasis was placed upon the study of English at Claremont. Grammar was especially emphasized. The inductive method was employed, and Buehler's, Kittredge's and Meiklejohn's grammars were used.⁵ Literature and reading twice a week accompanied the study of grammar.

The study of rhetoric was included in the sophomore and senior years, with emphasis on the construction of figures, analysis of selections and the writing of essays.

In the senior year Anglo-Saxon, historical grammar and the history of the English language were studied. This study covered the years 900 A.D. to 1400 A.D., where the literature began with the study of Chaucer.

Ancient Languages. In this department were taught Latin, Greek, Latin and Greek literature, and the geography, mythology, antiquities and history of the Greeks and Romans.

Modern Languages. French, Spanish and Italian were taught in this department. Students were taught to read, speak and write the languages. The seniors studied classical authors in connection with grammar, composition and original exercises.

⁵Ibid.

German and German Philology. Two years of German were offered, with an advanced course available to graduate students. This course consisted in a survey of German literature, poetry, drama and history.

Also available to those who were qualified were courses in Kindred German languages, Gothic, Icelandic, Old High German and Philology.

History. American, English, Grecian, Roman, medieval and modern history were taught at Claremont. American and English history were taught in the Preparatory, Sophomore, and Junior Classes in connection with a study of literature. English history--ancient, medieval and modern--was taught in the sophomore year. As might be expected, the Protestant Reformation was taught with thoroughness.

Mathematics. In this department were taught arithmetic, algebra, geometry, trigonometry, calculus and analytical geometry. The catalog declared, "Geometry is the first branch of higher mathematics, and no pains will be spared to make it the most interesting subject in this group of studies."⁶

Science. This department included geography, physiology, zoology, botany, physics, chemistry, geology and astronomy.

⁶Ibid., p. 21.

The Graduate School. The Graduate School was maintained especially for those who were planning to teach. Courses offered in this school were Anglo-Saxon, Semi-Saxon, Icelandic, Gothic, German, English, Latin, science, economics, moral philosophy, science of teaching and Bible studies.

The Normal School. The college made a specialty of this department. School methods, school management, school economy, organization and psychology were taught, while the student teacher obtained actual experience in the Model School maintained by the college. No other woman's college in the South offered that advantage.⁷

The course for teachers lasted three years, but could be completed in less time by advanced students.

The Commercial Department. The Business Course included a study of bookkeeping, arithmetic, English grammar, commercial law, penmanship, theory of accounts, commercial arithmetic, rhetoric, letter writing and orthography. This course lasted one year.

A Typewriting and Shorthand Course of eight months' duration was taught. Students completing both the Business Course and the Typewriting Course were granted a diploma with the title of Master of Accounts.

⁷Ibid., p. 24.

The European-American Conservatory of Music. If Claremont College could be said to have had a specialty, it would certainly have to be music. Year after year the college obtained outstanding musical directors and voice teachers. The college catalog proudly proclaimed:⁸

No conservatory of music in the country is becoming more celebrated for the superiority of its work than is that of Claremont College. The ability of its director gives satisfactory assurance of its excellence in every respect. Pupils are placed under the same systematic drill and use, for the most part, the same studies that would be given them in the best conservatories in Europe and America.... The course is for those intending to teach, and furnishes a more extended course than is given by such schools generally. Graduates from other schools may thus take a post-graduate course here, and qualify themselves more perfectly for teaching. The full pianoforte course covers four grades.

Some idea of the high standards in music may be obtained by noting the requirements for the four degrees the college offered in music.

For the degree of Graduate in Music, candidates had to have the equivalent of two years' study at the conservatory, generally as post-graduate work. Candidates were required to study ensemble playing one year, and theory two years. The following tests were strictly required: Examination in harmony, theory, counterpoint and history of music; tests at the piano; paper work away from the piano; reading

⁸Ibid., p. 28.

at sight; transposition; reading of vocal scores; and questions on general musical knowledge.

To obtain the Musical Baccalaureate degree the student had to complete the Graduate in Music course plus the following: Composition, instrumentation, history of the piano, organ and all other musical instruments, orchestration, reading of orchestral scores, analysis of form, and other work at the discretion of the director.

The degree of Mistress of Music was awarded to those who had four years' study at the conservatory, had received the two degrees mentioned above, and had mastered the following: Elements of acoustics, tone quality, vocal aesthetics, advanced history of music, survey of musical works, and other studies at the discretion of the director.

Finally, the college offered the Doctor of Music degree to those who had obtained the three degrees above, spent five years at the conservatory, completed additional studies, and composed an anthem, service or cantata for full choir with organ part and full orchestra.

The college maintained its own glee club and orchestra.

Art. Claremont College also excelled in the teaching of art. All branches of art were taught, including sketching, crayon, oil, water colors, pastel, china decoration, embroidery, drawing, etching, portrait painting and wood carving.

The course in art lasted three years, but advanced students were allowed to finish in less time.

Elocution. This department, which we would call dramatics today, was also emphasized at Claremont. This was a three year course based on the Shaftsbury course of instruction. The student studied such things as breathing, articulation, gestures, recitations, pantomime and humorous readings.

Degrees offered. Claremont College offered the degrees of Bachelor of Arts (A.B.), Bachelor of Science (S.B.), Bachelor of Literature (L.B.), Bachelor of Belle Lettres (B.B.L.), Master of Arts (M.A.), Graduate in Music (Grad. M.), Musical Baccalaurea (Mus. Bac.), Mistress of Music (M.M.), and Doctor of Music (Mus. Doc.).⁹

In addition, those who completed courses in music, art, elocution, normal or commercial received diplomas.

Graduates in bookkeeping, shorthand and typewriting, or in violin received a certificate.

Private help free. The college advertised free private help by the faculty for those who needed it. The students were told that they were just as free to ask for private

⁹Ibid., p. 40.



FIGURE 3
STUDY HALL

assistance as they were to go to their classrooms.

Outlines of college courses. Claremont offered four college courses of four years duration. Outlines of each of these courses, in addition to the one-year graduate course, follow:

CLASSICAL, A.B.¹⁰

Freshman Class

English.....	5
Latin.....	5
Science, first term.....	5
Mathematics-algebra.....	5
Elocution.....	2

Sophomore Class

English.....	5
Latin.....	5
History.....	5
Mathematics.....	5
Science.....	5

Junior Class

English.....	3
History.....	2
Latin.....	3
Science.....	3
Mathematics.....	5
Electives--French, German, Spanish or Greek.....	5

Senior Class

English.....	3
Philosophy and Economics.....	3
Astronomy, second and third terms.....	3
Electives--Science, Latin, French, German, History, Greek.....	3

¹⁰Ibid., p. 11.

SCIENTIFIC, S.B.¹¹

Freshman Class

Science, first term.....	5
Mathematics--Algebra.....	5
English.....	5
Latin.....	5
Elocution.....	2

Sophomore Class

Mathematics.....	5
Latin.....	5
English.....	5
History.....	5
Science.....	5

Junior Class

Mathematics.....	5
History.....	2
Science.....	3
English.....	3
Latin.....	3
Electives--French, German, Spanish, Greek.....	5

Senior Class

Mathematics.....	5
Science.....	3
Philosophy and Economics.....	3
Astronomy, second and third terms.....	3
Electives--Latin, French, German, History, English.....	3

¹¹Ibid.

LITERARY, L.B.¹²

Freshman Class

English.....	5
Mathematics--Algebra.....	5
Science, first term.....	5
Elocution.....	2

Sophomore Class

English.....	5
Mathematics.....	5
History.....	5
Language.....	5

Junior Class

English.....	3
History.....	2
Mathematics.....	5
Science.....	3
Electives--French, German, Spanish, History, Latin.....	3

Senior Class

English.....	3
Philosophy and Economics.....	3
Astronomy, second and third terms.....	3
Electives--French, German, Spanish, History, Latin.....	3

It is noted that in each of the courses outlined above one elective was permitted in the Junior year, one in the

¹²Ibid.

Senior year of the Scientific and Literary courses, and two in the Senior year of the Classical Course.¹³

In the Fine Arts Course, outlined below, students were allowed five hours of electives per week in the Freshman and Sophomore years; ten hours per week in the Junior and Senior years.¹⁴

FINE ARTS COURSE, B.B.L.¹⁵
Belle-Lettres

Freshman Class

English.....5
Science.....5
Language.....5
Electives--Music, Art, Elocution.

Sophomore Class

Rhetoric and Literature.....5
Languages.....5
Science.....5
Mathematics.....5
History.....5
Electives--Music, Art, Elocution.

Junior Class

Literature.....5
History.....5
Science.....5
Mathematics--Geometry.....5
Electives--Music, Art, Elocution
German, French, Spanish, Latin, Greek.

¹³Ibid.

¹⁵Ibid.

¹⁴Ibid., p. 12.

Senior Class

Anglo-Saxon Literature
 Astronomy and Geology
 Language
 Electives--German, French, Latin,
 Spanish, Greek, History, Music, Art,
 Elocution.

GRADUATE COURSE, A.M.¹⁶

Anglo-Saxon.....	3
Semi-Saxon.....	3
Icelandic.....	3
Gothic and Germanic Philology.....	3
Latin Literature and Philology.....	3
Greek Literature and Philology.....	3
French Literature.....	3
German Literature.....	3
Spanish Literature.....	3
English, Elizabethan Drama.....	3
English, Nineteenth Century Literature.....	3
English, English and Scottish Ballads and Scottish Poetry.....	3
Mathematics, Analytics, Calculus.....	3
Science, Geology, Minerology.....	3
History--Ancient, Medieval, German, French, American.....	3
History of Education, Science of Teaching, Etc.....	3
Moral Philosophy.....	3
Music, Art, Elocution.....	

Students doing work towards the Master of Arts degree were required to take not less than twelve hours per week.¹⁷

¹⁶Ibid.

¹⁷Ibid.

II. NON-COLLEGE DEPARTMENTS

The Preparatory Department. The college maintained a Preparatory Department to which boys under ten were admitted along with the girls. In the earlier days of the college's existence, this course lasted four years.¹⁸ The students were put through a course of studies up to but not including a study of Latin.

The department was modified through the years, so that by 1902 it consisted in a two year course. The students studied grammar and composition, arithmetic, geography, history, reading, writing, spelling and physical culture, or selected studies from this list.¹⁹ In the second year of study, Latin was added to the courses above.

The Preparatory Department at the college was discontinued at the end of the 1912-1913 school year.

The Primary Department. This department covered four years in addition to a one year Kindergarten School for those under six years of age. Little evidence exists concerning the curriculum in this department, except that the kindergarten children were to be "taught, trained, amused and interested."²⁰

¹⁸Murphy, op. cit., p. 13.

¹⁹"Twenty-Second Annual Catalogue of Claremont College," 1902, p. 10.

²⁰Murphy, loc. cit.

III. ACTIVITIES AND AWARDS

Concerts. The college made a practice of presenting several concerts yearly to which the public was invited. The faculty usually presented a recital early in the term, to be followed by student recitals at about one-month intervals. Many residents of Hickory recall attending these concerts.

Societies. Among the early societies of Claremont was the Argonaut Literary Society, organized in 1881. On January 15, 1882, the society publicly debated the subject, Resolved, That women should vote. The affirmative team was composed of Emma Ingold, Dora Wilfong, and Amelia McComb, while Lizzie McComb, Mattie Robinson and Inez Hiller discussed the negative. It is said that the negative team won.²¹

Musical and missionary societies were organized at Claremont later. Two other literary societies, the Minervian and the Columbian, came still later.

By 1902 the Irving and the Factotum Literary Societies had appeared. They met weekly.

Awards. Rev. J. L. Murphy offered a gold medal to the members of the Junior and Senior Classes for the best original oration, provided there were as many as four contestants. A gold medal was also given in the Music Department.

²¹Ibid., p. 14.

Beginning in 1902, the college offered a four hundred dollar Lakeside piano to the outstanding candidate for the Bachelor of Music degree in a class of not less than five.

Later, Mrs. W. W. Nelson of Queenstown, Maryland, offered a gold medal for the best original composition in the Freshman Class.

The School Calendar. An examination of the school calendar reveals some of the typical activities at the college. The following is the college calendar for the 1902-1903 school year:²²

Fall term begins Wednesday, September 17, 1902.

First Monday in October, picnic at the Cliffs.

Second Monday in October, Faculty recital.

First Monday in November, first student musical recital, to be repeated each month.

Third Monday in November, first elocution recital, to be repeated each month.

Thanksgiving services.

Winter term begins the last Monday in November.

School closes for Christmas holidays December 20th.

School opens after Christmas holidays January 6, 1903.

Senior reception, first Friday in March.

Spring term begins the first Monday in March

²²"Twenty-Second Annual Catalogue of Claremont College," 1902, p. 52.

Junior reception, first Saturday in April.

Easter Services

May the first, picnic at the Cliffs.

School closes the last week in May.

Church attendance. All boarding students at Claremont College were required to attend Sunday school and church services each Sunday. They were permitted to select their own church, of course, but a faculty member accompanied each group of students to their respective churches.

Recreation facilities. The college had its own bowling alley and tennis courts (see Figure 4 on page 69). The students also participated in gymnastics, croquet, golf and basketball.

IV. RULES AND REGULATIONS

In its earlier days Claremont College had some rather strict rules in force. Following are some of those rules.²³

No student was permitted to eat between meals. Students were not permitted to receive packages of food from home, and immediate dismissal awaited the violator of that rule. Students were not permitted to have escorts to or from public places. Young men could not visit the students,

²³Murphy, op. cit., p. 14.

except from four to six o'clock on Fridays in the college parlor.²⁴ The girls were required to show written permission from their parents sanctioning such visits. No callers were received at the college on Sundays, and walking or driving for pleasure were forbidden. Under no circumstances could a student attend a dance.

The college's philosophy on rules changed tremendously through the years. In 1902 the catalog of the college declared:²⁵

Our school is a well-organized home, and is governed as such. Few, if any, households are successfully governed by a host of nonsensical rules and regulations, much less a boarding school or college. The thinking public is waking up to the fact that those colleges which insert in their catalogues the longest and most pretentious list of 'rules and regulations' are the very colleges whose discipline is questionable and dangerous. The hearts and consciences of the young must be influenced for good and right by a higher power than a code of meaningless 'rules and regulations'. College girls know right from wrong, and will go right if led right.

The uniform. The boarding students at Claremont were required to wear a uniform to church and other public places. For winter they wore a black dress of woolen material and black Oxford caps. In fall and spring this was exchanged for

²⁴There are several Hickory "dandies" still living who personally accounted for some rather flagrant violations of this rule.

²⁵"Twenty-Second Annual Catalogue of Claremont College," 1902, p. 40.

a dress of white Indian linen and white Oxford caps.

The college advanced as its reasons for requiring the uniform:²⁶

First, economy. Second, no body of students will or can look half so well or neatly dressed without uniform as with it. Third, and last, but not least, a uniform forever banishes from a college that most ruinous hindrance to good progress, extravagance in dress, and saves hours of useless worry over how the next dress shall be made when lessons should be studied.

The uniform caps were sold at the college at moderate prices--white, 90 cents; black, \$1.45--and students were told to make their own uniforms at home or after coming to the college.²⁷

Things to bring. Students and teachers who expected to room at the college were instructed to bring with them one pair of sheets, one white counterpane, one pair of blankets, one pair of pillow-slips, one pillow, towels, table napkins and ring, a bag for soiled clothes and appliances for lady's toilet.²⁸

Books, stationery, sheet music and such items were sold by the college at regular prices. Each student made a deposit of five dollars for book rent. At the end of the

²⁶Ibid., p. 39.

²⁷Ibid.

²⁸Ibid.

year, any surplus from that amount was returned to the student.²⁹

Optional studies and fees. The college required extra fees for certain optional studies as follows:³⁰

Music (any instrument), or Art (any kind), or Vocal Music or Private Elocution, if taken with a set of studies, or with other optional studies, \$20 each; but if taken alone, each.....\$40.

Bookkeeping, Shorthand, Typewriting or Harmony, each..... 20.

Use of piano, one recitation period per day..... 5.

Use of library books (obligatory)..... 2.

Meals carried to rooms, twenty-five cents each; meals carried to infirmary free.

A reduction was made to the daughters of active ministers. A reduction was also made when there was more than one student in attendance from one family.³¹

V. PUBLIC PERFORMANCES

The first concert given by Claremont College performers was held at the Reformed Church in Hickory on December 21, 1881, with the following program:³²

²⁹Ibid.

³⁰Ibid., p. 42.

³¹Ibid.

³²Murphy, op. cit., pp. 15-17.

- Chorus--Swiss Mountaineer
Piano trio--March Militaire, Op.75, Streb.
Miss McComb
- Chorus--Praise of Singing, Hiller.
Piano duet--Studenten Lied, Kretzman.
Miss Shuford
- Song--King Christmas, Hatton
Miss Emma Ingold
- Chorus--Ivy, Ivy, Winter Green, Mozart.
Piano trio--Scotch Airs, D'Albert.
Miss Etta Settlemyre
Miss Ida Ingold
Miss Lizzie McComb
- Quartette--The Triton, Molloy.
Piano Duet--Kahufahrt, Op. 14-9, Lowe.
Chorus--Loreley. Sitcher.
Misses Whitener
- Piano--Valse Duett, Op. 14-7, Streaborg.
Miss Nelia Lawrence
Miss Carrie Holden
- Vocal Duet--O How Sweet the Hunter's Song, Kucken.
Miss M. Whitener
Miss S. Whitener
Miss S. Shuford
Miss M. McIntosh
- Piano duet--Boildieau (from Calif of Bagdad)
Miss Mattie Abernethy
Miss Etta Settlemyre
- Vocal duet--Lightly May the Boat Row, Watson.
Miss Ella Shuford
Miss Etta Settlemyre
Miss A. McComb
Miss Mary Robinson
Miss L. McComb
- Piano duet--A.B.C.
Misses Robinson
- Chorus--(a) Nobody Asked you to, (b) We Bid Thee
Welcome.
- Chorus--Thy Flowery Banks, Meyerbeer.
Piano duet--For two pianos. Polonaise,
Op. 9, Schmidt.
Miss S. Whitener
Miss M. Whitener
Miss M. Abernethy
Miss Etta Settlemyre

Vocal duet--From the opera of Il Trovatore
 Home to our Mountains, Verdi
 Miss May Ramsaur
 Miss M. Abernethy

Vocal duet--The Land of the Swallows, Masini.
 Chorus--The Little Bird, Soederbery.
 Solo by Miss Emma Ingold

Piano trio--Op. 27, Mozart (From the opera
 of Don Juan)
 Miss Etta Settlemyre
 Miss Ida Ingold
 Miss Mattie Abernethy

Rounds--(a.)The Birds Around me are Pouring,
 (b) Hark! the Distant Clock.

Chorus--Good Night.

Throughout the history of the college the departments of Music, Art, and Expression were exceptionally strong. On December 19, 1910, the Department of Expression presented the following program under the direction of Grace Warren:³³

Music - - - - -
 Signor D'Anna

Reading--A Pound of Jumps - - - - -
 Louise Cilley

Pantomime--When Pa Gets Sick - - - - - Werner
 Sterling Menzies and James Whitener

Reading--Little Friend in the Mirror- - - Philley
 Miss Constance Bost

Reading--He was a Trifle Disturbed- - - -
 Alice Cilley

Reading--The Kittens- - - - -
 Mary Stewart Menzies

Who's Old Santa - - - - -
 Mary Murphy, Janie Menzies, Louise
 Cilley and Ellen Stewart Menzies

³³From a printed program in the possession of Mrs. R. V. Moss (former Constance Bost), Hickory, North Carolina.

Reading--The Boy's Christmas Dinner - - - - Riley
Miss Ruth Campbell

Reading--The Theatre Party (Mrs. Wiggins of the
Cabbage Patch)- - - - -
Miss Mattie May Stroupe

FARCE--THE GREATEST PLAGUE IN LIFE

Characters:

Mrs. Bustle - - - - - Miss Aileen Henderlite
Mary Bustle - - - - - Miss Ruth Campbell
Grandmother Bustle- - - - - Miss Susie Burton
Biddy O'Raffety - - - - - Miss Mattie May Stroupe
Kitty Clover- - - - - Miss Ollie Meador
Miss Moonshine- - - - - Miss Elizabeth Holbrook
Miss Bridget McGuire- - - - - Miss Mattie May Stroupe
Hazy Black- - - - - Miss Pearl Miller

The college presented plays from time to time to which the public was invited. The Hickory Daily Record in 1916 carried an advertisement of one of these plays, "A Virginia Heroine," presented at the Hub Theatre in Hickory. Prices were fifteen and twenty-five cents.³⁴

On December 13, 1915, the college presented "A Girl in a Thousand," which was described as follows:³⁵

Claremont College girls last night presented "A Girl in a Thousand before a fair sized audience at the Hub Theatre, and as a result a tidy sum was realized for purchasing chairs for the college auditorium. The weather was against a large out-pouring of people, but those

³⁴Hickory Daily Record, May 9, 1916.

³⁵Ibid., December 14, 1915.

present enjoyed the performance.

The young ladies made the audience feel that there are at least 1,000 girls in a thousand; at least of the Claremont kind. The play was a rollicking comedy with wholesome love scenes, clever acting and ultimate joy. Misses Clara Kilgore and Mabel Sides, if one may be pardoned for mentioning two out of so good a cast, showed to advantage.

The Claremont girls also engaged in athletic competition before the public. The Record reported one of these games as follows:³⁶

The Hickory high school girls and the Claremont College basketball quint will meet in the armory tonight at 7:30 o'clock and a good game is expected. The girls are pretty players and have the points of the game down fine.

Two days later the Record gave the results of the game which, by modern standards, had a score of baseball proportions:³⁷

The Hickory high school and Claremont College five played a fast game of basketball Saturday night in the armory. Both sides did good work, the score being 8 to 6 in favor of the Hickory high school girls.

The high standards held by the Music and Expression departments were maintained through the last year the college operated. On March 3, 1916, little more than two months before the college was permanently closed, a public perform-

³⁶Ibid., January 29, 1916.

³⁷Ibid., January 31, 1916.

ance was given which drew the following comments from the

Record:³⁸

On Friday evening the departments of Music and Expression of Claremont College gave their mid-season recital in the beautifully decorated auditorium of the college, to a very large and appreciative audience. Despite the ferocity of the weather the audience was large, and the entertainment given there was, to use their expression, one of the best in the history of the institution.

The entire program reached nearly to the perfection mark, and if we are to judge the department by the performance, Claremont certainly should be proud of the fact that it ranks foremost among the colleges in these two strong departments, under the guidance of Mrs. Hatcher and Miss Lyerly. The departments of Music and Expression have always been unusually strong at Claremont, and the performance Friday night was up to the standard formerly set. The college is to be commended for securing the services of these two instructors, who rank well among the first in these departments. Special mention is made of the entire program, for to say it was splendid would be putting it mildly.

³⁸Ibid., March 6, 1916.

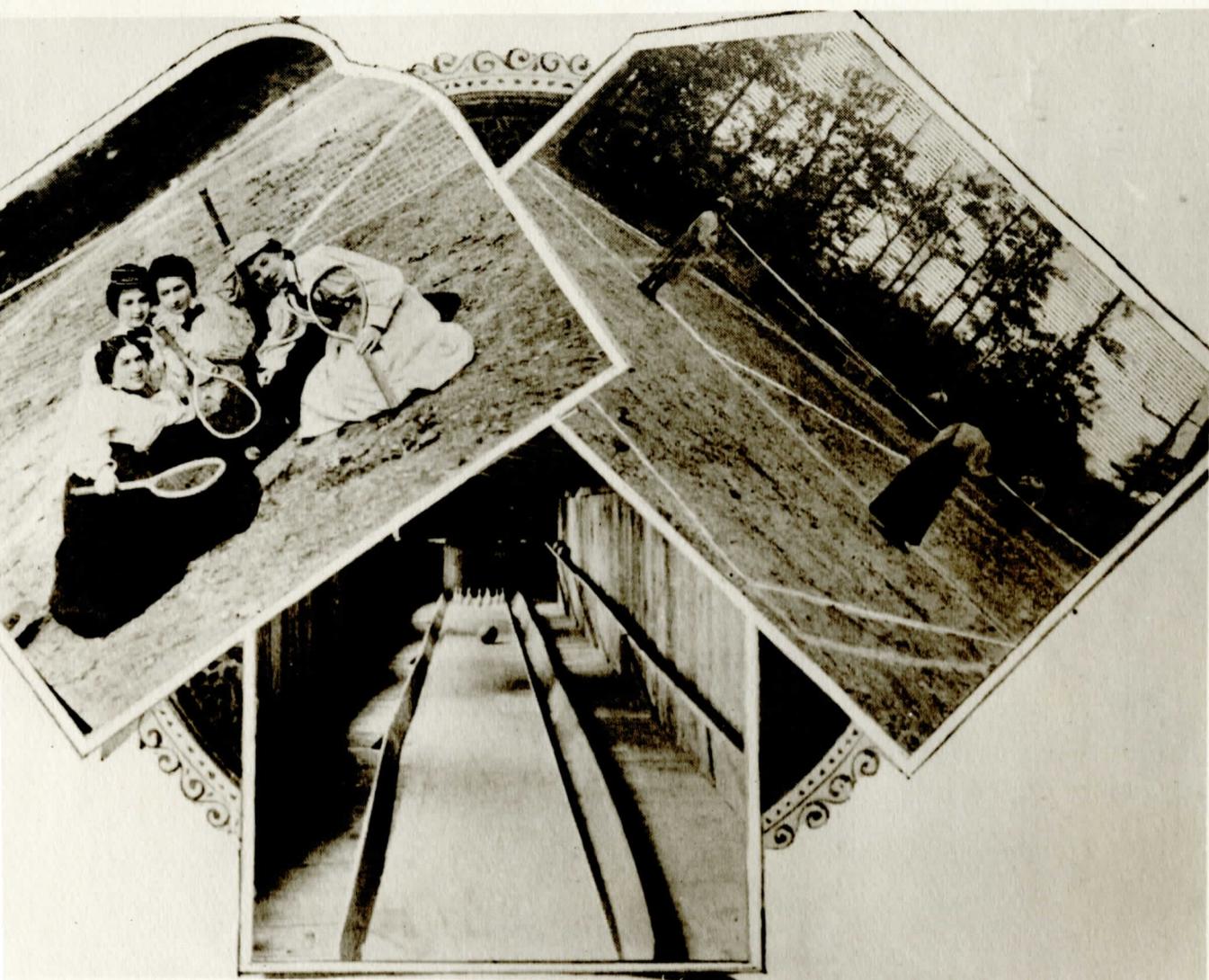


FIGURE 4

RECREATION AT CLAREMONT COLLEGE

CHAPTER VI

VARYING FORTUNES, 1884-1907

This middle period in the life of Claremont Female College is a natural division. The resignation of Rev. A. S. Vaughan in 1884 brought to an end the initial phase of the college's history. The period covered in this chapter begins with Vaughan's resignation and ends with the acceptance of Claremont by the North Carolina Classis of the Reformed Church in the United States in 1907.

I. REVEREND ALBERT S. VAUGHAN RESIGNS

Vaughan resigned as President of Claremont in the middle of the 1883-1884 scholastic year. The term was completed with Florence L. Chase in charge. Concerning Vaughan's action Murphy says:¹

Unable to fulfill the promises he had made to the trustees to secure money from the North to build the school, disappointed in realizing his expectations in other directions, discouraged and disheartened, Rev. A. S. Vaughan resigned the presidency of Claremont at the end of 1883 and left the school at the beginning of 1884. It is just to say that those who knew Mr. Vaughan best think that he was self-deceived, that he had led himself to believe that in this great undertaking to establish a great school for the Southern girls he would meet with a ready response from the philanthropic souls of the North. He was honest, but disappointed in his honest expectations.

His resignation was a great disappointment to the trustees and the community. Their high hopes vanished like the mist before the morning sun. They were left without any fixed policy and no definite plans for the future.

¹Murphy, op. cit., p. 17.

II. PILLAR TO POST, 1884-1888

With the resignation of Vaughan, the trustees of the college adopted the policy of leasing the school to some competent person. This policy resulted in frequent changes in the administration of the school, particularly during the years 1884 to 1888. Unfortunately, whatever records or minutes the trustees may have kept of their actions from 1880 to 1906 were destroyed by fire.² Not until 1888 was the school listed in the reports of the United States Commissioner of Education. As a result, information on the period 1884 to 1888 is very scanty. Murphy, however, lists three different administrations during the four-year period.³ His dates appear to be inaccurate, as he states that each president remained only one year. Possibly he omitted a year. It is known that the school operated continuously during that time, for the writer found numerous references throughout the history of the college stating that operation had been continuous since the fall of 1880. Murphy lists the following administrations for the dates indicated:⁴

Mrs. Alice Thurston 1884-1885

²"Official Minutes" of the Claremont College Board of Trustees, 1906.

³Murphy, op. cit., p. 18.

⁴Ibid.

Mrs. Emma Bonney	? -1887
A. C. Hottenstien	1887-1888

Since Murphy states that each administration lasted only one year, this would appear to leave the 1885-1886 scholastic year unaccounted for. The writer could find no other reference to that term.

According to Murphy, Mrs. Thurston and Mrs. Bonney were widows of Presbyterian ministers, while Hottenstien was a Pennsylvanian who had conducted a school in the Daniels community in Lincoln County.

III. WILLIAM H. SANBORN'S ADMINISTRATION, 1888-1892

In the fall of 1888, the trustees leased the college to William H. Sanborn, who had been the President of Davenport College at Lenoir. Sanborn took the initiative in having the college listed in the reports of the United States Commissioner of Education. Claremont was listed intermittently in the reports from 1888 to 1910. This proved to be a valuable source of information concerning the college enrollment. Occasionally the college would fail to return the blanks sent out by the commissioner. It was in the report of the commissioner that the writer found the earliest written record of the college enrollment, which was placed at eighty-seven pupils for the 1888-1889 scholastic year.

Sanborn was an accomplished musician, having been trained in the conservatory at Leipsig, Germany. His wife had studied at Leipsig also and taught music at Claremont. She was born April 20, 1859, at Leipsig. When she was nineteen, she came to the United States and taught voice at St. Mary's School at Raleigh. She died two months before her ninety-seventh birthday in February of 1956.⁵

Among the other teachers at the college during Sanborn's administration were Judge C. A. Cilley, Mrs. Von Bulow and Laura Norwood.⁶

In January of 1890, a special edition of the Press and Carolinian carried an article written by Sanborn about Claremont College.⁷ From this article several things were learned about the addition to the main building made the previous season (see Chapter IV). According to Sanborn the lower story contained a chapel, forty-two by sixty feet, and two music rooms. Three art rooms and seven recitation rooms occupied the upper story. The old part of the building was used by the president, teachers and boarding students as living quarters.

Sanborn had special praise for some of his teachers. He referred to Laura Norwood as a great artist and "the best

⁵Hickory Daily Record, February 4, 1956.

⁶Murphy, op. cit., p. 19.

⁷Press and Carolinian, January, 1890.

known and most accomplished teacher in North Carolina."⁸ Of Judge Cilley he said:⁹

In Latin and higher mathematics the school has a teacher whose services could not be obtained for the limited salary it could pay for such instruction were it not for the love of teaching and interest in the school's welfare possessed by Judge Cilley.

Concerning the food provided at the College Sanborn said: "The table fare is as good as an excellent market can afford, and the rates for board and tuition are as low as those of any respectable college in the country."¹⁰

Sanborn conducted the college for four years, after which he took a school in Tennessee. His administration appears to have been successful in every respect except for the matter of finances. The report of the commissioner lists the college income in 1888-1889 at only three thousand dollars.

IV. MURPHY'S FIRST ADMINISTRATION, 1892-1896

When Sanborn resigned in 1892, Rev. Joseph L. Murphy was asked to take charge of the college. Murphy accepted and was president during the next four years. He acquired an excellent faculty. During the 1892-1893 term, Rev. C. E. Woodruff was Dean of the College. Murphy describes him as

⁸Ibid.

⁹Ibid.

¹⁰Ibid.

a profound scholar. Woodruff left at the end of that year and entered the University of Chicago to do graduate work.¹¹

Woodruff was replaced by Dr. P. C. Mensch, who had studied in Germany. At Christmas he left Claremont for a new position as Professor of Chemistry at Ursinus College, and was replaced by Byron G. Cole, Ph.D., who had just completed graduate work at Cornell.¹² Cole remained at Claremont until the end of the 1894-1895 term when he became associated with the Mount Airy City Schools.

Some of the other faculty members during Murphy's first administration were May Ramsaur, Amanda Clarke, Julia Gregory, Elizabeth Krider, Carolina Link and Edna Farlow.¹³

Enrollment figures for two of the four years under Murphy are available and are listed below. Figures were compiled from the reports of the United States Commissioner of Education for the years indicated.

YEAR	PRIMARY	PREPARATORY	COLLEGIATE	TOTAL
1893-94	-	50	30	80
1895-96	20	20	40	80

It is noted also that during the 1895-1896 term, four young ladies were receiving training as teachers.

The earliest reference to the college library was in the report for the same year. The library was reported to

¹¹Murphy, loc. cit.

¹³Ibid., p. 20

¹²Ibid.

contain one thousand volumes valued at five hundred dollars.

This same report of the commissioner listed the value of grounds and buildings of the college at twenty thousand dollars.

V. THE HATTONS, 1896-1902

Following the resignation of Murphy in 1896, Claremont College entered into its most prosperous era. Successive administrations by Stuart P. Hatton and his brother, M. Wesley Hatton, more than doubled the college enrollment and income. This may have been partly due to the upsurge of education in North Carolina around the turn of the century, but wide advertising by the Hattons also accounted for part of the increase. Testimony of living witnesses is that Claremont College advertisements competed with the tobacco advertisements along the state's roads.

Stuart P. Hatton, 1896-1900. Stuart P. Hatton had been a member of the faculty of Kee Mar College at Hagerstown, Maryland, and took charge of Claremont in the fall of 1896.¹⁴ Within three years the enrollment of the college had more than doubled. The college was not listed in the report of the Commissioner of Education during the first year of Hatton's administration. For the three succeeding years,

¹⁴Ibid.

however, the reports listed the enrollment as follows:¹⁵

YEAR	PRIMARY	PREPARATORY	COLLEGIATE	GRADUATE	TOTAL	GRAD- UATED
1897-98	20	30	100	5	155	7
1898-99	15	25	120	3	163	14
1899-00	0	40	110	0	150	9

Apparently Stuart P. Hatton instituted the graduate program at Claremont since no previous reference to it could be found.

The commissioner's report also reveals that the library grew from one thousand volumes in 1897-1898 to fifteen hundred volumes in 1899-1900. Scientific apparatus was valued at forty dollars during the latter year.

The tuition, as shown in the commissioners reports, was forty dollars per student for each of the years 1897-1900. Additional fees varied from two dollars in 1897-1898 to five dollars in 1899-1900. Annual living expenses were put at eighty to one-hundred dollars in 1898-1899. Thus a boarding student could attend Claremont a full year for about one-hundred and forty dollars.¹⁶

A special report from Hatton to the North Carolina Superintendent of Public Instruction in 1898 read as follows:¹⁷

¹⁵Compiled from reports of the United States Commissioner of Education for the years indicated.

¹⁶See Report of the United States Commissioner for the years indicated.

¹⁷Mebane, loc. cit.

It was the purpose of the founders to establish a college which would furnish the very best advantages for the higher education of women. This purpose has been kept constantly in view, and the institution, though it has had its struggles and varied success, has moved steadily forward until its permanent establishment among the leading colleges of the state and South.

The buildings and grounds consist of a large three-story brick structure situated in the middle of a beautiful campus of twenty acres. Also there are several out-buildings, such as barn, store-houses, bowling alley, etc., all conveniently arranged for the comfort of the students.

The aim, as stated in the charter, is to furnish the very best facilities for the higher education of women. To this end there are sustained ten courses of study: Classical (A.B.), Scientific (S.B.), Literary (L.B.), Normal (B.D.), Music, Art, Elocution, Shorthand and Typewriting, Business, and Preparatory.

At no time since its founding has the institution suspended work. The patronage and enrollment varied and even waned at times, but on the whole the institution moved steadily forward until it was permanently established and placed on a self-supporting basis.

This report was written by Hatton on September 28, 1898, just as the term was getting under way. It would be the most auspicious year in the history of Claremont College. The enrollment was to reach a peak it would never again attain. The faculty was truly outstanding. It was made up of the following persons:¹⁸

STUART P. HATTON, A.M., Pe.B., PRESIDENT
(McGee College, Missouri; Missouri State University)
English and Anglo-Saxon

MRS. STUART P. HATTON, L.B., VICE PRESIDENT
(Woodland Academy, Missouri; Missouri State University)
Commercial Branches

¹⁸Ibid., p. 124.

W.C. CROSBY, A.M., L.I., DEAN OF NORMAL DEPARTMENT
(Grand River College, Missouri; University of Nashville)
Latin and Greek

LULA R. KAMMERER, A.B.
(Western Female High School and Woman's College, Baltimore, Maryland)

Science

(To be supplied)
German and French

MOSES W. HATTON, A.M., Pe.B.
(McGee College, Missouri; Missouri State University, Harvard University)

Mathematics and Astronomy

AGNES SHEARER
(Huntersville High School; Claremont College)
Assistant in Mathematics

ANNIE L. PITTS, A.B.
(Catawba High School; Claremont College)
History

ELIZABETH VAN WAGNER
(Omaha High School, Nebraska; Bardstown Institute, Kentucky)

Elocution and Physical Culture

B.F. WHITESIDE, M.D.
(University of Maryland; Post Graduate Medical School and Hospital, New York)

College Physician, Lecturer on Physiology and Hygiene

SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND ART

JANIE E. PRICE, DIRECTOR
(Johnson's Female College, West Virginia; Cincinnati Conservatory; Studied with Hugh A. Clark, Mus.Doc., Philadelphia)

Piano, Harmony and History

BURNIE DEARMOND
(Huntersville High School, North Carolina; Due West Female School, South Carolina)

Piano

LOIS SEAGLE
(Claremont College)
Piano

EDWINA CHADWICK
(Wellesley, Class of 1880; studied with Mme. Edna Hall,
Boston; Mme. Louise Du Barry, New York; Mrs. Sumner
Salter, New York)

Voice

ANTOINETTE EWING
(Famous Mrs. Willard's Seminary, New York)
Art

In addition to teaching English and Anglo-Saxon, Stuart
P. Hatton played the violin and conducted the college or-
chestra.¹⁹

The thinking of Hatton and his faculty in regard to
the public schools was shown in a letter to Charles H. Mebane
in 1898 which read as follows:²⁰

Claremont College
Hickory, N.C., September 26, 1898.

To the Honorable Superintendent of Public Instruction:

We, the Faculty of Claremont College, recognize the
public schools as the chief feeders of our college and
all the other colleges in the state. As such they are
markedly deficient in three particulars, Viz.: (1) Length
of term, (2) ability of teachers, (3) adequateness of
salaries. We think that 'local taxation' is the best
remedy in sight for (1) and (3) and, indirectly, for (2).
We would respectfully recommend that the number of public
schools be sacrificed, if necessary, for their efficiency,
and that the matter of local taxation be doubly emphasized
before the people.

By order of the Faculty.

(signed) S. P. Hatton, President

¹⁹Letter to the writer from Mrs. Frank Stroud,
Mocksville, North Carolina, November 20, 1955.

²⁰Mebane, op. cit., p. 108.

M. Wesley Hatton, 1900-1902. At the end of the 1899-1900 term, Stuart P. Hatton resigned as president and the trustees leased the school to his brother, M. Wesley Hatton. The latter had been Superintendent of Public Instruction in Boone County, Missouri; Professor of English and Anglo-Saxon at McGee College, Missouri; President of Hatton College, Higbee, Missouri; President of Ruston College, Ruston, Louisiana, and Vice President of Grand River College, Missouri.²¹

The college appears to have been only slightly less prosperous under M. Wesley Hatton than under his brother. Enrollment figures for the first year of his administration are not available, but the commissioner's report lists the enrollment for 1901-1902 as follows:²²

PRIMARY	PREPARATORY	COLLEGIATE	GRADUATE	TOTAL	GRADUATED
10	15	85	3	113	15

The college continued to enjoy a wide patronage. The student body of 1901-1902 came from Canada, the District of Columbia, and the states of Georgia, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina and Virginia.²³

²¹"Twenty-Second Annual Catalogue of Claremont College," 1902, p. 2.

²²Report of the United States Commissioner of Education (Washington: Government Printing Office), 1902, p. 1490.

²³Ibid., p. 45.

The Music and Art departments were especially noteworthy under M. Wesley Hatton. The former was headed by John H. Norman, Mus. Doc., who had studied at Oxford, England and Leipsig, Germany. He had been a pupil of Sir John Goss, W. T. Best, Anton Rubinstein, and Charles Halle. During Dr. Norman's tenure, the college offered the degree of Doctor of Music after five years of study.²⁴

The Art Department was headed by Martha Henkle, who had studied at Luray College, Virginia; The School of Fine Arts, Philadelphia; Art League of New York, and the School of Art, Baltimore.²⁵

M. Wesley Hatton resigned at the end of the 1901-1902 school year, and the trustees next leased the college to A. J. Bolin.

VI. A. J. BOLIN, 1902-1905

Adoniram Judson Bolin became president of the college at the beginning of the 1902-1903 scholastic year. He was a graduate of Wake Forest College and had been Professor of Mathematics at Thompson School and Business College at Siler City, North Carolina; Principal of the Polkton High School,

²⁴Ibid., p. 29.

²⁵Ibid., p. 3.

Polkton, North Carolina; and Co-Principal of the Taylorsville Collegiate Institute at Taylorsville, North Carolina.²⁶

The college enrollment showed a slight decrease under Bolin. Claremont was not listed in the report of the United States Commissioner of Education for the 1903-1904 scholastic year. For the first and last years of Bolin's administration, however, the reports listed the enrollment as follows:²⁷

YEAR	PRIMARY	PREPAR- ATORY	COLLEGIATE	GRADUATE	TOTAL	GRADUATED
1902-03	15	25	60	0	100	5
1904-05	0	15	85	1	101	17

The Commissioner's reports show that the college library reached a size of two thousand volumes under Bolin. The library had never before been that large, nor would it reach that size again. Scientific apparatus was valued at one hundred dollars for both of the above years.

During this era the college went all out in singing the praises of Hickory in an effort to attract students. The 1905 college catalog declared:²⁸

The college owes its existence to the liberality and enterprise of the citizens of Hickory. It owes its prosperity to the excellent advantages it has always afforded

²⁶Ibid., p. 2.

²⁷Compiled from the reports of the United States Commissioner of Education for the years indicated.

²⁸"Twenty-Fifth Annual Catalogue of Claremont College," 1905, pp. 7-8.

its patrons, its charming surroundings and almost unparalleled health record, and the high standards of excellence it has always maintained.

Claremont College is located at Hickory, North Carolina, one of the most beautiful and moral towns in the State, possessing unsurpassed advantages as a seat for an institution of learning. Hickory, with her schools, has long been looked upon as a literary center whose reputation is now more than state-wide. It is, in fact, a city of schools and churches, Christian homes, high culture, and hospitable people, and, as such, is commending itself to every young woman who expects to attend college. The town has a population of about seven thousand inhabitants. The morality of the community is proverbial. A more refined, cultured, and hospitable people can nowhere be found.

Bolin remained at Claremont for three years, resigning at the end of the 1904-1905 term.

VII. DANIEL W. REED, 1905-1907

Daniel W. Reed, a graduate of the University of Virginia, became President of Claremont in the fall of 1905. He remained with the college for two years. The enrollment during the 1905-1906 term, as listed in the report of the United States Commissioner of Education, was as follows:²⁹

YEAR	PRIMARY	PREPAR- ATORY	COLLEGIATE	GRADUATE	TOTAL	GRADUATED
1905-06	15	20	60	5	100	6

The college was not listed in the report the next year, owing probably to the resignation of Reed.

²⁹Report of the United States Commissioner of Education (Washington: Government Printing Office) 1906, p. 557.

Apparently the college library was reorganized in 1905. The commissioner's report showed that the library contained two thousand volumes during the last year of Bolin's administration. The following year, when Reed took charge of the college, the library was reported at only three hundred volumes. No satisfactory explanation for this change could be found.

When Reed resigned in 1907, Claremont College was about to enter a new phase in its history. The trustees of the college had apparently tired of the idea of leasing the college to individuals, and they felt the need for the backing of a larger organization. As a result, Claremont College was offered to the North Carolina Classis of the Reformed Church in the United States. This offer was accepted, and Claremont entered the third and final stage of its existence, which is the subject of the next chapter.

CHAPTER VII

A NEW BEGINNING

I. CLAREMONT TENDERED TO NORTH CAROLINA CLASSIS OF THE REFORMED CHURCH

The Board of Trustees of Claremont Female College met on February 8, 1907, to determine the future policy of the school. Daniel W. Reed had notified the Board that he would not conduct the school after the close of the 1906-1907 school year. F. A. Clinard offered the following resolution which was adopted:¹

Resolved, That the Trustees of Claremont Female College tender to the Classis of North Carolina, Reformed Church in the United States, for a girls or young ladies school Claremont Female College, free of rent; said Classis to make all repairs necessary and build any additional buildings they may deem proper and keep the property insured, and said Classis is to retain said college as long as they maintain it as a girls or young womans school.

Reverend J. L. Murphy was appointed by the Board to communicate the resolution to the Classis and report the action taken.

At a meeting of the board of trustees on March 11, 1907, Reverend Murphy reported that he had met the Classis in a special session at Corinth Church on February 28, 1907.

¹"Official Minutes," Board of Trustees of Claremont Female College, 1907.

The Classis looked with favor on the proposal and appointed Reverend J. C. Leonard of Lexington, Reverend W. B. Duttera of Salisbury, and Reverend W. W. Rowe of Rockwell as a committee to confer with the Trustees of Claremont Female College and make arrangements for the transfer.²

This committee met with the trustees at Lexington on May 1, 1907. After some discussion, F. A. Clinard offered a motion, which was subsequently adopted, setting forth the terms of the transfer as follows:

- (1) Articles II and VI of the charter were to be amended so as to vest in the North Carolina Classis the authority to elect three-fifths of the trustees of Claremont College.
- (2) The remaining two-fifths were to be elected by the classis and the Board. Thereafter, the Board alone would elect the two-fifths.
- (3) Should the Classis fail for two years to maintain a female college as provided in the Charter, the property would revert to a Board of Trustees elected in the manner used before the transfer.
- (4) The action was to go into effect upon legal ratification by the classis.

At the next meeting of the board of trustees, on June 10, 1907, a letter from J. C. Leonard, Stated Clerk of the North Carolina Classis was entered in the minutes. The letter indicated that the Classis had approved the terms of the transfer and had elected nine trustees in accordance with

²Ibid.

the terms. These nine trustees were A. A. Shuford, C. C. Bost, J. L. Murphy, W. H. McNairy, J. A. Foil, J. C. Clapp, L. A. Carpenter, P. J. Kluttz, and J. C. Leonard. The Board as it was originally constituted then joined with the nine men named above in electing the remaining six trustees, in fulfillment of the terms of the transfer. The six elected were G. H. Geitner, F. A. Clinard, C. M. Shuford, N. M. Seagle, J. W. Robinson, and E. L. Shuford. These fifteen men constituted the first Board of Trustees of Claremont Female College under the North Carolina Classis of the Reformed Church.

Before taking the above action, the old board voted to maintain its organization and perpetuate itself so that there would be a board of trustees to which the property of the college would revert should the Classis fail for two years to maintain the school.

Immediately following the adjournment of the old board, the new board met and elected J. L. Murphy chairman, G. H. Geitner secretary, and C. C. Bost treasurer. The board then elected an executive committee empowered to lease the school to some reliable person. The chairman was instructed to correspond with several teachers in regard to conducting the school.

II. THE CHARTER AMENDED

On January 5, 1909, the trustees met in Corinth Church and appointed J. L. Murphy, W. C. Link and C. C. Bost as a committee to change the charter of the college in accordance with the terms of the transfer.³ A bill was introduced into the General Assembly of North Carolina and in Chapter fifty-eight, Private Laws for the year 1909, the charter was amended to read as follows:⁴

Whereas on the twenty eighth day of July, 1880, J. F. Murrill, A. A. Shuford, J. G. Hall and others obtained a charter from the Superior Court of Catawba County incorporating an institution for the promotion of religion, morality and learning therein, named Claremont Female College, and have maintained a school and acquired valuable real and personal property at Hickory, North Carolina, held by them as trustees under said name; and whereas, in the promotion of the objects of said charter, desire to place the said school and its property under the control of the Classis of North Carolina, Reformed church in the United States, and have reached a satisfactory agreement with said Classis to that end, and desire to obtain from the General Assembly of N. C. ratification of its said Charter, with certain amendments thereto:

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DO ENACT:

now, therefore,

Sec. 1. That the name of Claremont Female College, at Hickory, N. C., shall be and the same is hereby changed to "Claremont College."

Sec. 2. That articles three and seven of the original charter of Claremont Female College, obtained in 1880, be and the same are hereby stricken out and the following inserted in lieu thereof: "That the trustees of

³Ibid.

⁴Murphy, op. cit., p. 24.

Claremont College shall be 15 in number, the present board being Rev. J. L. Murphy, D. D.; Rev. J. C. Leonard, D. D.; A. A. Shuford, Dr. J. C. Clapp, C. C. Bost, L. A. Carpenter, F. A. Clinard, H. D. Warlick, E. L. Shuford, C. M. Shuford, G. H. Geitner, W. H. McNairy, J. E. Wilfong, J. W. Robinson, and N. M. Seagle, and they and their successors in office shall constitute the board of trustees of Claremont College; that said trustees above named shall continue in office until the regular annual meeting for the year 1909 of the Classis of N. C., Reformed Church in the United States, and at which time said Classis shall elect three members of said board to serve for one year, three to serve for two years and three to serve for three years, and annually thereafter three members for a term of three years; and the board of trustees of said college shall themselves elect six of their own successors in office, beginning with their next annual meeting in such way that the term of office of two members so elected by them shall expire annually: Provided, that in the event, the said Classis of North Carolina, Reformed Church in the United States should fail to carry out the conditions of maintenance and preservation of property assumed by said Classis, then such failure shall vacate the offices of the nine trustees elected by said Classis, and they are hereby declared so vacated, and Corinth Reformed Church at Hickory, North Carolina, shall have full power and authority and it shall be the duty of the congregation of said church in meeting assembled for that purpose, to elect nine members of the board of trustees of Claremont College to take the place of those whose offices are vacated by this act, and thereafter said trustees shall be elected annually by said church, as hereinabove provided for by said Classis; and they, with the other members of said board shall take possession and control of all Real and Personal property belonging to Claremont College; and either the Pastor, the Consistory or any three members of said Church may by proper notice call a meeting of the Congregation of said Corinth Reformed Church, and those present at said meeting shall have the power to elect nine Trustees under this act.

Sec. 3. That said original charter of said College is in all respects wherein the same is not inconsistent herewith recognized, ratified and confirmed.

Sec. 4. That this act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

Ratified this the twelfth day of February, A.D., 1909.

It will be noted that under the provisions of the amended charter, the official name of the college was changed from "Claremont Female College" to "Claremont College," though in practice the latter term had already been used for many years.

III. MURPHY'S SECOND ADMINISTRATION, 1907-1916

Rev. J. L. Murphy, having been instructed by the new Board of Trustees to find a suitable person to operate the school, called a meeting of the executive committee on June 17, 1907. The committee voted to offer the school rent-free for one year to Rev. J. M. L. Lyerly. For some reason the offer was not accepted. On July 6, 1907, Murphy reported correspondence with several persons. Then on July 22, 1907, the trustees elected Reverend W. B. Duttera president and Rev. J. H. Keller Dean of the College. An agreement was drawn up and plans were made for school to open September 17, 1907.⁵

However, on September 9, 1907, the executive committee learned that Duttera would be unable to operate the college because of poor health. To meet the emergency, Murphy himself took charge of the school, securing as a faculty N. E. Aull, Grace Kirkpatrick, Adelaide Boyd and Ora Huffman.⁶

⁵"Official Minutes," Claremont Female College Board of Trustees, 1907.

⁶Murphy, op. cit., p. 21.

Though the trustees of the college appointed no president, Murphy served in that capacity during the 1907-08 scholastic year.

When the trustees held their annual meeting on June 10, 1908, Murphy reported that no suitable person had been found to take the college.⁷ Thereupon, Murphy was appointed Acting President of Claremont College with authority to employ teachers. His income would be the amount, if any, the school took in above expenses.

On May 9, 1910, the trustees elected Murphy to a five year term as president, holding the buildings rent-free, and with full power to employ and dismiss faculty members.⁸ This arrangement was continued until June 17, 1912, when the trustees gave Murphy a new ten year contract (to June 1, 1922) under the same terms as his previous contract.⁹

President's reports to trustees. Unfortunately, Murphy's reports as president were not incorporated into the Minutes of the Board of Trustees until 1911-12. At the end of that year, Murphy reported to the board as follows:¹⁰

⁷"Official Minutes," Claremont Female College Board of Trustees, 1907.

⁸Ibid., 1910.

⁹Ibid., 1912.

¹⁰Ibid.

The school opened last September with every available room taken by boarding students. We did not hold all of these but a good number remained throughout the year. Among the student body we have some very fine young ladies, and the entire student body is about the average found in similar schools.

The faculty has been as follows:

J. L. Murphy, J. H. Keller, Mrs. J. H. Keller, Miss Bessie Holtzendorff, Miss Ruth E. Woodward, Miss Mary Barringer, Miss Ruth Abernathy, Mrs. E. B. Menzies and Miss Mary Ramsay.

The following courses of instruction have been maintained: the literary course,....art, domestic art, music, expression, and a dramatic club. I would speak well of all the departments, but feel that the Department of Art under Miss Barringer deserves special mention as well as the Department of Music under Miss Ramsay.

The faculty recommends the following young ladies as candidates for certificates of graduation at the coming commencement: Miss Susie Estelle Burton, Miss Vera Elizabeth Green, Miss Mary Margaret Rudisill, Miss Alda Meade Killian, Miss Elizabeth Milne McDowall, and Miss Margaret Ingold Bost.

It is with a sad heart that I make mention of the death within the last few days of John M. and Abel Shuford. They were founders and supporters of this school, and my personal loss is so great that I have not dared to trust myself to speak of them further than to mention the fact of their deaths.

The insurance on the buildings for three years has been paid. The interest on the sixteen hundred dollars has been paid and the teachers' salaries also. There are no debts on current expenses....

Claremont offers a fine opportunity for education of the young women of the town and community. It needs many things. Among others it needs a little more interest manifested by the local trustees as well as the trustees away from town. Some repairs must be made this summer on the buildings. The debt, while not large, should be paid. The furniture used at this time in the building belongs to Professor Keller. I think the trustees should keep a closer oversight of the school and make suggestions and corrections when needed.

The past has been the hardest year's work your president has ever done and while he feels a degree of satisfaction at the result, he confesses that the school is far from the ideal which he had in mind a few years ago.

I place this report in your hands for consideration and such action as in your wisdom you think conditions demand.

In his report for the 1913-14 scholastic year, Murphy gave his interpretation of the mission of Claremont College as it then existed. He wrote:¹¹

The real mission of Claremont is this: to be an intermediate school between the high schools and the higher colleges. Many of our girls go from the high school into the higher schools and fail because they have not had a sufficient preparation. The mission of Claremont is to supplement the work of the high school.

Another mission is to provide a school for the girls of our country people who do not wish to put their daughters through the course of the higher schools.

Concerning the students themselves Murphy wrote:¹²

The conduct of the student body has been the best we have ever had at this school. The students are a fine set of young ladies. In most part they come from splendid families and represent the cream of society in that they are children of Christian parents. The following denominations are represented: Reformed, Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian, Episcopalian and Universalist.

The following year Murphy had praise for both students and teachers. Reporting to the trustees he said:¹³

These teachers have done most excellent work and it has never been my privilege to work with a corps of

¹¹Ibid., 1914.

¹²Ibid.

¹³Ibid., 1915.

teachers who have been more loyal and devoted to their work....The body of students have been an excellent set of girls whose lady-like bearing have marked them in their deportment.

Enrollment. The school's enrollment during Murphy's second term is shown in Table IV.

TABLE IV
ENROLLMENT DURING MURPHY'S SECOND TERM

YEAR	PRIMARY	PREPARATORY	COLLEGIATE	GRADUATE	TOTAL	GRAD- UATED
1907-08	*	*	*	*	25	*
1908-09	*	19a	45a	0a	64a	0a
1909-10	*	10a	65a	0a	75a	5
1910-11	*	11	83	0	94	5
1911-12	*	*	56b	0	90c	7
1912-13	*	9	63	0	72	8
1913-14	*	discontinued	57	0	57	10
1914-15			*	*	72	6
1915-16			*	*	*	7c

*Figures not available

^aCompiled from the Report of the United States Commissioner of Education for the years indicated.

^bTotal of Freshman, Sophomore, Junior and Senior Classes.

^cFrom the Minutes of the Board of Trustees of Claremont College.

Enrollment figures are from the Minutes of the North Carolina Classis except as otherwise noted.

Murphy's last year. By the close of the 1914-1915 scholastic year, several events had occurred which gravely endangered the life of Claremont College. These events will be related in detail in the next chapter. So serious was the crisis that Murphy reported to the Board of Trustees of Claremont on May 10, 1915, as follows:¹⁴

The future of the school is in the hands of this board of trustees and the Classis of North Carolina. I have firmly believed and still hold that this property rightly belongs to the Reformed Church and should be held and used by this church and that it offers a rare opportunity for the Reformed Church to establish herself firmly in the educational work in the South.

Many of my brethren do not share in this belief. They may be right and I may be wrong, but the conviction rests upon me most heavily that when this opportunity passes, its like will not return again.

I will not offer at this time a formal resignation, but let it be understood that my position as president does not and will not stand in the way of any plans this body may have for the future of the school. I do not promise to operate the school another year, but will patiently wait until the final action of the Classis of North Carolina.

If this board has any suggestions or requests to make of the Classis of North Carolina, I suggest that it is eminently proper to make such requests in the form of an overture at the coming meeting to be held in Newton this month.

¹⁴"Official Minutes," Claremont College Board of Trustees, 1915.

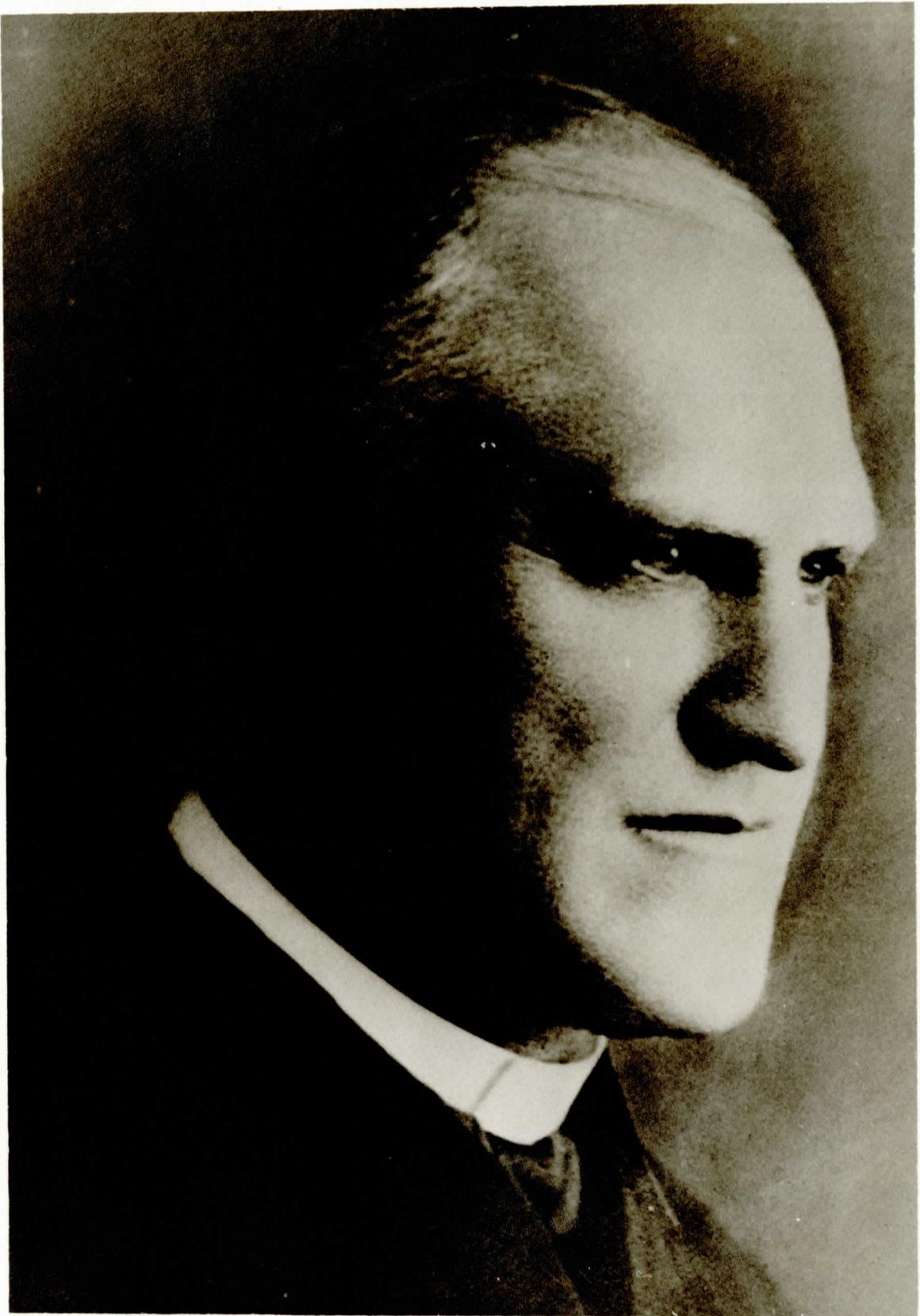


FIGURE 5

DR. JOSEPH L. MURPHY

CHAPTER VIII

"AN UNFORTUNATE CONTROVERSY"

The words in the title to this chapter were used by Dr. Murphy in describing the clash of interests between Catawba College and Claremont College. It was unfortunate, indeed, for Claremont College, for it meant the end of that institution.

When Claremont was accepted by the North Carolina Classis in 1907, there were persons in the church who objected. Some apparently felt that the church was assuming to great a financial burden.¹ The church already had Catawba College at Newton, and one school, they felt, was enough. The schools were only ten miles apart, and some felt that that would lead to harmful competition.

It was Murphy's hope, however, that Claremont would become the church's school for girls and Catawba would be the church's school for boys. This hope met solid opposition from the friends of Catawba College in and around Newton.

¹Catawba College was at this time struggling under an increasing debt. In 1910 the college owed \$15,020.04. By 1912 this had mounted to \$18,580.81. See "Official Minutes," of the North Carolina Classis of the Reformed Church for the applicable years.

I. THE MURPHY-BUCHEIT AFFAIR

Competition between Claremont and Catawba did develop shortly after the classis acquired Claremont. Murphy, writing in the September 1, 1912, issue of the Reformed Church Standard, said:²

There is one thing hard to explain to some of our members and that is why two agencies, both working for church schools--Reformed Church schools--should follow each other over the same territory, canvassing the same girls for the same cause, viz.: To have them attend a school of the church. It has occurred to some that it is a waste of energy, and that better results could be realized if there was a wiser policy adopted in our educational work. Two schools in the same territory and under the same denomination should not be rivals, but should co-operate and help the general cause.

This article occasioned a reply from John F. Bucheit, President of Catawba College, in a subsequent issue of the Standard. Much bitterness ensued, and other articles were exchanged. Bucheit later issued a pamphlet in which Murphy alleged he "used language unbecoming a college president."³

II. CLAREMONT ABANDONED BY THE CLASSIS

The clash between the two schools had reached a crisis, and Classis at length realized that the conflict would have to be resolved. At its annual meeting in May, 1914, Classis

²Murphy, op. cit., p. 28.

³Ibid.

adopted the following report of the Committee on Education:⁴

Recognizing the existing conditions of the educational policy of our Classis, we recommend the following:

WHEREAS, the Classis of North Carolina has two educational institutions, viz., Catawba College at Newton, for the education of young men and women, and Claremont College at Hickory, for the education of young women, and

WHEREAS, It seems practical, feasible and desirable that our educational work in these two institutions should in some way be co-ordinated for the sake of harmony and efficiency, therefore

RESOLVED, That the Classis of North Carolina hereby appoints a committee of three, and requests the trustees of Catawba College and of Claremont College to appoint similar committees of the same number, the said nine men to constitute a joint commission charges with the duty of formulating a plan by which the important work of the two institutions may be co-ordinated.

RESOLVED, That the said commission be instructed to report its conclusions to the Classis of North Carolina and to the respective Trustees of Catawba College and Claremont College on the second Thursday in the month of January, 1915, the three bodies to meet on the same date in the said month in the town of Newton.

Respectfully submitted,
J.M.L. LYERLY
W.H.McNAIRY
R.P. MURPHY

The Classis then appointed Rev. Paul Barringer, Rev. L. A. Peeler and Elder M. G. Lentz as its representatives on the committee.

At the annual meeting of the Claremont College Board of Trustees on May 13, 1914, President Murphy was allowed to appoint three members to represent Claremont College on the committee. Murphy appointed J. T. Hedrick, S. L. Whitener

⁴"Official Minutes," North Carolina Classis of the Reformed Church, 1914, pp. 38-39.

and C. C. Bost.⁵

The special joint meeting was held at Newton on December 22, 1914, rather than in January, 1915, as outlined in the resolution. The committee reported that it was unable to work out an arrangement for co-ordination. Barringer submitted the report as chairman. Murphy offered a substitute resolution outlining a plan for co-ordinating the two schools, with a provision also that they be united under one charter and one board of trustees. Action on this resolution was deferred until the annual meeting in May, 1915.

In April, however, a special session was held in Salisbury to consider the co-ordination question. A motion by Dr. J. C. Leonard was turned down, and no action was taken. The question remained to be settled at the annual meeting in May.

Claremont Trustees act. On May 10, 1915, two weeks before the annual meeting of the Classis, the Board of Trustees of Claremont College took action as follows:⁶

WHEREAS, The Classis of North Carolina at the special meeting in Salisbury, North Carolina, April 6, 1915, by the small ratio of five to seven took action not to define its educational policy with reference to co-ordination or segregation of its work in Catawba College and Claremont College, and

⁵"Official Minutes," Claremont College Board of Trustees, 1914.

⁶"Official Minutes," Claremont College Board of Trustees, 1915.

WHEREAS, The people of the Reformed Church in North Carolina in large part are deeply interested in this subject because of the clause in the Charter of Claremont College requiring the Classis to conduct a college of high grade for girls and young women, be it

RESOLVED, That the Trustees of Claremont College in annual session this May 10, 1915, respectfully ask the said Classis of North Carolina at its next annual meeting to be held in Grace Reformed Church, Newton, North Carolina, to take such action as will secure to Claremont College fulfillment of the conditions imposed by the charter of this college.

A copy of this resolution was sent to the Classis as an overture. Also reported in the 1915 minutes of the Classis was an overture from the consistory of Corinth Reformed Church asking Classis to make Claremont College the church school for girls or, if this were not done, the Consistory requested complete control of the property.

Murphy's plea. When the Classis met at Newton on May 24, 1915, J. L. Murphy presented an eloquent plea for the life of Claremont College. Making his annual report to the Classis he stated:⁷

As it stands today Claremont is a most magnificent piece of property. Like Jerusalem of old, it is beautiful for situation. It is the heart of one of the best towns of the state. The campus is capable of being divided into fifty-six lots as large as the three sold, and at the same price would yield \$72,800. The buildings consist of one large center building three stories high, and two other wing stories with kitchen, outbuildings, including bath and wash house. The college has seven

⁷"Official Minutes," North Carolina Classis of the Reformed Church, 1915.

pianos, four of which belong to the institution. The entire building is furnished with good furniture. Taking these with the buildings, they are worth at least \$2000, a total value of \$92,800. From the lots would have to be deducted sufficient space for streets, alleys, and avenues, in order that buildings might be erected thereon.

This institution, with its magnificent buildings, its ideal location, its valuable building sites, stands at the door of the Classis and in tenderest voice says, 'Take me in your arms, throw around me your fostering care, give me a crumb which falls from your table.' The disposition of this institution is the greatest question before this body at this meeting, and sad will be the day if we make a mistake.

The Classis acts. Murphy apparently swayed the Classis.

When his substitute motion from the December 22 meeting was brought up, still another substitute motion was offered by Dr. J. C. Leonard. By a vote of thirty-four to ten, Leonard's resolution was adopted. It provided for the following:⁸

- (1) Catawba College would be the church school for boys and young men. Girls could be admitted only as day students.
- (2) Claremont would be the church school for girls and young women.
- (3) The trustees of the two institutions were to work out a plan of co-ordination and report to a special session of Classis.

The matter was apparently settled, and the two institutions were to be co-ordinated. It was a triumph for Murphy and the friends of Claremont College.

The matter reconsidered. The above action was taken on Saturday, May 24, and at least nine of the delegates went

⁸Ibid.

home thinking the question was settled. On Monday, May 26, however, a request from Dr. Clarence Clapp, C. M. McCorkle, J. F. Herman, J. W. Hardister, W. A. Reinhardt, and W. A. Rhyne requesting that Classis reconsider the matter was granted. After prolonged discussion, the following resolution was adopted by a twenty-one to thirteen vote:⁹

RESOLVED, That at the request of the petitioners and those they represent the action of Saturday be rescinded

RESOLVED, That the Trustees of Claremont College be informed that the Classis of North Carolina does not hold them bound to conduct a woman's college for the next two years.

That was the end of Claremont College. The Classis refused to alter its stand at the next annual meeting, and in 1917 the Minutes of the Board of Trustees of Claremont College noted the receipt of the following letter:

Lexington, North Carolina
January 10, 1917

Consistory Corinth Reformed Church
Hickory, North Carolina

Gentlemen:

Official notice is hereby given you that at a meeting of the Classis of North Carolina, January 9, 1917, the following action with reference to Claremont College was taken:

RESOLVED, That we as a classis release all claims on Claremont College and hand the property over to Corinth Reformed Congregation of Hickory.

Cordially and sincerely yours,
(signed) J.C. Leonard, Stated Clerk.

Claremont College managed to operate just one year longer with Dean J.M.L. Lyerly in charge. As a corporation

⁹Ibid.

Claremont lasted until 1937. As a school Claremont died in May, 1916.

III. STRUGGLING TO STAY ALIVE

When the Classis withdrew its support in 1915, Murphy continued as the nominal President of Claremont, though he did not actively conduct the school. Dr. J. M. L. Lyerly was appointed Dean of the College and had charge during the last year that the school operated, the 1915-1916 school year.

During the early morning hours of March 13, 1916 the building caught fire and the chapel and pianos were damaged. A settlement of \$827.50 was received from the insurance company and the building was quickly repaired.¹⁰

Dr. J. L. Murphy wrote the following description of the fire for the Hickory Daily Record:¹¹

Fire at 12:20 this morning endangered the dormitory of Claremont College, threw seventeen or eighteen young ladies into a panic and caused damage estimated from \$1,000 to \$2,500. If two large pianos were not seriously damaged, the lesser figure will stand, Chief Yoder believes. Fire started in the electric wiring under the footlights on the auditorium stage, and the smoke and heat were so fierce that the firemen worked with difficulty. Some of the firemen said today that it was the worst smoke they had ever seen.

¹⁰Annual Report of the President of Claremont College, 1916, filed with records of the college at Corinth Reformed Church.

¹¹Hickory Daily Record, March 13, 1916.

Miss May Lyerly, matron of the college, fainted and had to be carried out. She soon revived. Some of the girls escaped from the building in their night clothes and light wraps. One girl picked up an ink bottle and retired with it, another fled with her hat, and others carried various articles of clothing from the smoking building. Citizens threw open their homes, and Dr. J. L. Murphy, Mr. K. C. Menzies and Mr. S. L. Whitener cared for the young ladies. Mr. J. L. Riddle offered asylum to the girls, but they were provided for nearer the college. This morning the young ladies returned to the college little the worse for their experience.

It was two O'clock this morning before the blaze was finally put out. The fire department, despite the late hour, responded almost on the minute, and everywhere one was hearing praises of their fine work.

The blaze was hard to get at. It was under the rostrum, where under any circumstances, effective work would have been difficult, but the fire had attained such headway that the smoke in the entire building was unbearable. The firemen, however, persisted doggedly and in less than two hours had it subdued. The damage was mostly from water and smoke.

Too much praise cannot be given the Hickory fire company for the prompt response they made to the alarm sent out from Claremont College last night. Brave, level headed, cautious and energetic, they gave themselves heroically to the task of saving the building.

In the name of the faculty, the student body, the board of trustees and the community, I desire publicly to express our thanks to them for the work they did in saving the building.

Dr. Lyerly remained at Claremont only one year, and the Board of Trustees appointed J. L. Murphy and C. H. Geitner as a committee to make arrangements for the school the following year. This they were unable to do, and the school did not operate again.

The trustees reorganize. Under the provisions of the charter, Corinth Reformed Church elected nine new trustees

on April 6, 1917. Chosen were B. B. Blackwelder, George F. Bost, and L. F. Abernethy for one year; C. C. Bost, J. H. Shuford and C. H. Geitner for two years; J. L. Murphy, J. W. Warlick and A. A. Shuford for three years. These nine men met on May 2, 1917, and named the other six trustees. Edgar Bolick and O. M. Sigmon were elected for one year; S. L. White-ner and W. H. Ingold for two years; J. W. Robinson and E. L. Shuford for three years. Murphy was named president of the new board. On May 8, 1917, Murphy reported to the trustees that the building had been vacant during the 1916-1917 scholastic year, except for the chapel which was rented to the City of Hickory for twenty-five dollars a month.¹² The chapel was used for teaching public school pupils. Murphy also reported that he had been using the tower room in the college building as a study. Unfortunately, this resulted in the loss of many of his valuable papers when thieves entered the building.

It was the last report Murphy would make as President of Claremont College. On October 10, 1917, he was stricken while walking to weekly prayer services. He died the next morning.¹³

¹²"Official Minutes," Claremont College Board of Trustees, 1917.

¹³Hickory Daily Record, October 11, 1917.

A proposed military academy. On March 26, 1918, a called meeting of the trustees was held at the First National Bank building. Rev. Walter W. Rowe was elected as Murphy's successor.¹⁴

A. K. Joy, Secretary of the Hickory Chamber of Commerce, read a letter from Major H. B. Hannah and Captain A. R. Harrison, two officers connected with the Horner Military School at Charlotte. They desired to rent the Claremont College property for a proposed military school to be known as Hickory Military Academy. The trustees agreed to the proposal and a committee was appointed to handle the matter.¹⁵ A specific offer was later received from the two officers. They offered six hundred dollars rent per year for two years, and nine hundred dollars per year thereafter for a period of three years.

The trustees, however, failed to receive satisfactory replies from the references the two officers gave and the matter was dropped.¹⁶

Furniture donated to Catawba College. On September 15, 1918, the trustees appointed a committee to donate to

¹⁴"Official Minutes," Claremont College Board of Trustees, 1918.

¹⁵Ibid.

¹⁶Ibid.

Catawba College at Newton all of Claremont's furniture suitable for their needs, and to sell the remainder.

A committee was appointed also to negotiate with the government officials concerning the matter of renting the building through Lenoir College (now Lenoir-Rhyne) for the purpose of billeting troops.

IV. A GIFT TO HICKORY

As early as July 21, 1919, the City of Hickory was interested in acquiring the Claremont College property. On that date J. D. Elliot, Mayor of Hickory, and J. L. Murphy, Jr., City Attorney, met with the college trustees to present the city's case.¹⁷ Elliot stated that the city badly needed the property for school purposes.

A committee was formulated for the purpose of transferring the property to the City of Hickory. The committee was to formulate a plan, stating the conditions and considerations. Named to this committee were C. H. Geitner, Chairman, C. C. Bost, G. H. Geitner, J. W. Robinson and E. L. Shuford.¹⁸

Three days later the committee presented a report, part of which was adopted by the trustees. It provided that the city would cancel all indebtedness against the college,

¹⁷"Official Minutes," Claremont College Board of Trustees, 1919.

¹⁸Ibid.

and establish on the property within five years a public high school for all persons residing in Hickory Township, such school building to cost not less than \$65,000.¹⁹

On July 26, City Manager John W. Ballew accepted the terms for the city with the exception of the word "Township." He indicated that the City Council was not authorized to appropriate City of Hickory money to the township.²⁰

The trustees, clinging to the idea of a school for the entire township, let the matter rest for two and a half years. At a meeting of the board on February 22, 1922, the property was offered to the Catawba County Board of Education for the purpose of building a Hickory Township high school. The college property east of Tenth Street (see map on page 39), except for a strip 175 feet deep immediately to the east of Tenth Street, was offered to the county under the following conditions:²¹

1. Construction of a township high school costing not less than one hundred thousand dollars.
2. Assumption of a liability for the paving of Thirteenth Avenue (now Third Avenue, N.E.).
3. The offer was good for twelve months.

¹⁹Ibid.

²⁰Ibid.

²¹Ibid., 1922.

This offer was not accepted and the matter rested for another year. On January 19, 1923, the trustees appointed G. H. Geitner, S. L. Whitener and B. B. Blackwelder to negotiate further with City of Hickory authorities.²² Arrangements were completed a year later, and with a deed dated January 26, 1924 the trustees gave to the City of Hickory all the college property bounded by Thirteenth Avenue (now Third Avenue, N.E.) on the South, Eighth Street (now Third Street, N.E.) on the East, Fourteenth Avenue (now Fourth Avenue, N.E.) on the North, and Tenth Street (now Second Street, N.E.) on the West (see map on page 39).

This transaction contained the following terms:²³

1. The Cancellation of the indebtedness of Claremont College and of Corinth Reformed Church to Hickory for street improvements.
2. The construction of a modern graded school building, costing not less than one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars, on or before January 19, 1926.
3. The erection of a suitable tablet, costing not less than five hundred dollars, on or before January 19, 1926, as a memorial to the original trustees of Claremont College.
4. Should the City of Hickory ever fail to use the property for public school purposes, it would revert to the Trustees of Corinth Reformed Church in Hickory.

²²Ibid., 1923.

²³Catawba County Register of Deeds, Book 164, p. 541.

On Saturday, January 20, 1923, the Hickory Daily Record hailed the good news:²⁴

The Board of Trustees of Claremont College at a called meeting of city council last night made a gift to the city of the valuable ten acre tract and building owned by Corinth Reformed Church and learned in a few minutes that the aldermen had unanimously accepted the property. The donation was the result of a unanimous decision of the board of trustees, and ends a sustained effort on the part of this generous body to make this community the beneficiary of a well-nigh precious gift.

It was about 8:30 here before the good news was announced. Rev. Walter W. Rowe had called his board together for a caucus and while members of council sat around the table in the council chamber and Superintendent Carver, the school visiting committee and other citizens waited, the momentous decision was being made. The formalities were short.

Mr. Rowe presented Bascom B. Blackwelder, who read the following resolution passed by the trustees:

That the Trustees of Claremont College do offer to the City of Hickory for school purposes that portion of Claremont College property lying east of Tenth Street, upon condition that the city erect, within three years from date, proper school buildings to cost not less than one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars; that the city shall be precluded from making a sale of all or any part of said real estate; and that the city assume and cancel the present outstanding assessments for street improvements against Claremont College and Corinth Reformed Church.

Mr. Blackwelder spoke of the resolution briefly, informing the board that the trustees would not even claim a row of lots which some of the members felt could be sliced off the large tract without impairing its usefulness. They gave that part of the property too. The city will pay for the cost of the permanent street on Thirteenth Avenue.

Mayor Yount, expressing the appreciation of the members of the city council, said Hickory would surely put a building on the property of a value of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. It was a generous offer, he

²⁴Hickory Daily Record, January 20, 1923.

declared, and citizens will applaud the donors and the spirit in which they acted. The mayor told of the conditions that faced the city....and said if necessary Hickory can crowd up for a year in order to put up a building that would be a credit to the city and an honor to the donors.

One year ago on February 22 the trustees offered this property to the township for a high school. This offer still holds good, Mr. Rowe stated, and the city will not be able technically to move until the expiration of that time. It was realized, however, that sentiment was against the larger unit both in town and outside, and for all practicable purposes Hickory is in possession of the property provided it meets the favorable conditions.

Council immediately passed a resolution accepting the offer and the minutes will carry a resolution of gratitude. The details of the donation will be worked out by a joint committee. Those from the trustees are G. Harvey Geitner, Bascom B. Blackwelder and Shuford L. Whitener. The entire city council will have the honor of serving on the committee for Hickory--Mayor Yount, and councilman Fred A. Abernethy, George S. Watson, S. A. Isenhour and George L. Huffman.

One or two members of council said they felt so good that they did not expect to sleep much last night.

There is probably some division as to the advisability of calling for a special election at the present time. Superintendent Carver said with the prospect in view, the city would crowd for another term.

The Claremont building, it is believed, can be remodelled and made into a teachers' home. The grounds are large enough to provide athletic fields and provide for the most modern high school structure desired.

"It is magnificent," declared the Record, continuing:²⁵

That the trustees of Claremont College should agree unanimously to donate that valuable property to the City of Hickory for school purposes shows the interest the individual members of the board and the congregation of Corinth Reformed Church have in public education. The

²⁵Ibid.

property, under a decision of the supreme court could have been sold for any purpose and the proceeds put into the local church or school property elsewhere. The church was not tied to any single purpose.

Hickory people will generally feel the same elation over this magnificent gift as was expressed last night by Mayor Yount in voicing the appreciation of the aldermen and the city.

There are still some members of the Claremont board who believe that the township high school would be better for the entire community, but they were willing to submerge their opinions to the interest of the immediate public good. To these men, who after all have had the greater vision, Hickory owes a large measure of gratitude because they were willing to accommodate their individual views to local sentiment.

Another thing this gift shows is that there are people in this community so broad and interested in the common wealth, so great that they are glad to give to the cause of public education--to the cause of the children of the rich and the poor--property the monetary value of which will run close to one hundred thousand dollars.

Hickory will not default. Given an opportunity, its citizens will match this generous spirit by placing a monument there in the form of a public school building that will honor those who strove in the past to found a great school and will thrill those who were so good at the present time to think in terms of generations yet to come.

It is magnificent.

From the accounts above it will be seen that there were still those trustees who adhered to the idea of a township high school. The opposition to donating the property to the city, however, was not as strong as formerly. On the afternoon of the day that the donation was made, the Record explained the changing conditions which had served to decrease the opposition. An editorial stated:²⁶

One of the trustees, formerly committed to the township high school idea....has suggested that conditions have changed greatly since the question of donating this

²⁶ Ibid., January, 1923.

property to the township for school purposes first came up. At that time it seems that the rural schools were in a fair way to become less important, and the problem seemed one of extending aid from the towns and cities. Now the rural schools, with few exceptions, are the equal of city schools; and in Hickory Township there are several schools that will compare with those in this city-- the Highland and West Hickory buildings, for example, can well afford the comparison.

The entire community rejoiced in the generosity of the Trustees of Claremont in donating the valuable property to Hickory. Indeed, the rejoicing was state-wide. On January 21, 1923, the Greensboro Daily News reported:²⁷

Corinth Reformed Church, through the Board of Trustees of Claremont College, last night gave to the City of Hickory its valuable eight-acre tract of land and building in the northeastern section of the city with the single condition that it be used for school purposes and that the property be accepted within three years. City Council immediately accepted the generous gift by unanimous vote and the mayor, in expressing the appreciation of the aldermen, stated that Hickory would erect thereon a building that will cost not less than one hundred and fifty thousand dollars and that will be a credit to the community and a tribute to the donors.

The church could easily have disposed of this property for as much as seventy-five thousand dollars, real estate men said today, because it was empowered by a decision of the Supreme Court to dispose of it in any manner the church desired. For several years a majority of the trustees were said to have been committed to the township as a unit, but the growth of good rural schools and the sentiment in the township against the larger proposition impelled them to make the gift to Hickory.

The land and building were offered to the township a year ago February 22 and that offer still holds, but there is no chance that it will be accepted.

²⁷Greensboro Daily News, January 21, 1923.

The trustees held a short meeting before they met with the City Council. Rev. Walter W. Rowe, Chairman of the Board, then introduced Bascom B. Blackwelder, who made the presentation. The citizens who were attracted to the special meeting were unable to repress their joy.

Final disposition of property. Having sold part of the campus in 1888 to John M. Shuford, lots one, two and three in 1913 and 1914, and having given the property described above to the City of Hickory in 1924, the trustees had disposed of all of the property originally donated by Henry Weidner Robinson except lots four, five, six, seven and eight as shown on the map on page 39.

Catawba College made a bid for this property in February of 1928. The Trustees of Claremont College received a letter from George Longaker, Secretary of the Board of Trustees of Catawba College, which by then was located at Salisbury.²⁸ The Catawba trustees proposed that the remaining property of Claremont College be transferred to Catawba College. In exchange, the Catawba trustees offered to name a building on the Catawba campus in honor of Claremont College, establish a "Joseph L. Murphy Professorship of Religious Education" at Catawba, or perform some other act commemorating Claremont College that might be more pleasing

²⁸Letter filed with the Claremont College records at Corinth Reformed Church, Hickory.

to the Claremont trustees. There is no evidence that this proposal was acted on in any way.

Lots transferred to Corinth Church. On February 23, 1937, the trustees conveyed the remaining property to the Corinth Evangelical and Reformed Church as a prelude to the dissolution of the corporation known as Claremont College.²⁹

V. THE CHARTER REPEALED

With no school and no property the Claremont College Board of Trustees no longer had a reason for being. Accordingly, the trustees, meeting in the Shuford Mills office at Hickory on February 23, 1937, adopted a resolution dissolving Claremont College Incorporated.³⁰ Copies of the resolution were sent to the Honorable B. B. Blackwelder, Senator representing the Twenty-Fifth Senatorial District of North Carolina, and the Honorable Ralph Flowers, Representative from Catawba County, with the request that they introduce the bill in the General Assembly.

Ironically, the Act to Repeal the Charter of Claremont College was drafted by Attorney Joseph L. Murphy, Jr., son of the man who fought so hard to preserve the institution.

²⁹"Official Minutes," Claremont College Board of Trustees, 1937; Catawba County Register of Deeds, Book 284, p.10.

³⁰"Official Minutes," Claremont College Board of Trustees, 1937; Catawba County Register of Deeds, Book 284, p.8.

CHAPTER IX

ENRICHING A COMMUNITY

I. CLAREMONT'S CONTRIBUTIONS

Through thirty-six consecutive years of operation, Claremont College made an incalculable contribution to the cultural life of Hickory and surrounding communities. This influence has become magnified through the years as Claremont-educated mothers have influenced their own children at home and the children of others in the public schools and elsewhere. The influence of Claremont College was felt in at least five ways.

Opportunity. Many young ladies in and around Hickory were provided an opportunity for schooling which they might not have had if Claremont had never existed. Many families, especially the poorer farmers, could not afford to send their daughters away from home to school. Costs remained low at Claremont throughout her history.

New people attracted to the community. Many notable teachers came to Claremont, and some of them settled in Hickory and became a permanent part of the community. Community leadership was thus augmented, and the general cultural level of the citizens was raised. Likewise, many students

at the college came from far-distant states and, after graduating from Claremont, settled permanently in or near Hickory. It is impossible to estimate what these citizens and their descendants have added to community life.

Concerts and recitals. Through an exceptionally strong Music Department, Claremont College added considerably to the musical life of the community. Numerous concerts and recitals were given and were open to the public. Also, public debates were frequently held, and these, no doubt, greatly stimulated thought and discussion throughout the community.

Direct contributions of graduates. The graduates of Claremont contributed directly to education, business, religion, and other fields in and around Hickory. They became teachers, missionaries, musicians, artists, and business people. One Claremont graduate married the man who is generally credited with organizing the first Boy Scout troop in America, Hickory troop one. Their son, Reverend Charles Wesley Clay, is now a missionary to Brazil. Murphy, writing in 1916, indicated that two Claremont graduates, possibly more, were at that time engaged in full time missionary work.¹ Many Claremont graduates became teachers in academies and

¹Murphy, op. cit., p. 33.

the public schools. One effect was to improve the qualifications of Catawba County's teachers. Whitener gives the following figures concerning the certificates held by Catawba County's teachers in 1880 and 1895:²

YEAR	FIRST GRADE CERTIFICATE	SECOND GRADE CERTIFICATE	THIRD GRADE CERTIFICATE
1880	6	41	5
1895	60	21	2

It will be noted from these figures that in the first fifteen years of the existence of Claremont College, 1880 to 1895, the number of teachers in Catawba County who held first grade certificates increased ten times. There is reason to believe that Claremont College was at least partly responsible for this.

Other graduates assumed responsible positions in business, journalism, and other fields. Many still hold their positions.

Indirect contributions of graduates. It would be impossible to calculate the indirect contributions of Claremont College through the influence exerted on others by graduates of the college. It is certainly true that Claremont's indirect influence is very much alive in Hickory and

²Russell W. Whitener, "the Growth and Development of Education in Catawba County" (unpublished Master's thesis, University of North Carolina, 1924), p. 35.

other communities today. Many people filling important positions in public life in Hickory have had Claremont-educated mothers, sisters, or aunts. This contribution is permanent and will live forever in the lives of their descendants.

II. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

As far as the writer could learn, only two tangible reminders of Claremont College exist today. One is Claremont Central High School, locally known as Hickory High School, which stands on the spot once occupied by the college whose name it bears. The other is Claremont Hall, a dormitory on the campus at Catawba College at Salisbury.

Inside the entrance foyer of Claremont Central High School hangs a plaque which reads as follows:

THE CAMPUS
ON WHICH THIS BUILDING STANDS
WAS DONATED TO
THE CITY OF HICKORY
BY THE CONSISTORY OF
CORINTH REFORMED CHURCH
AND THE TRUSTEES OF
CLAREMONT COLLEGE
AS A MEMORIAL TO
THE ORIGINATORS OF THAT COLLEGE

Over the auditorium wing of the high school hangs a solid brass bell, donated to Claremont College by Mrs. John Wilfong in 1885. Forty years have come and gone since it last summoned students to Claremont College classes.

It is not with tangible value, however, that we measure the worth of a college. The intangible Claremont College still exists, and can never be erased.

In reviewing the history of Claremont College, three things stand out:

1. The college was founded by Christian men and women and operated on a high plane of scholarship.
2. The closing of Claremont College reflected the inability, or unwillingness, of the Reformed Church to continue to operate two colleges within the North Carolina Classis.
3. Had Claremont somehow been able to weather the controversy with Catawba College, it conceivably could have become one of our truly great modern colleges.

Among the factors which contributed in varying degree to the closing of Claremont College are: The feeling on the part of some members of the Reformed Church that one college was all the Classis could support, and that that college ought to be Catawba College; the increased patronage of Lenoir College (later Lenoir-Rhyne) in Hickory, with a resultant decrease in Claremont's enrollment; and the rise of free public schools in Hickory and the surrounding area.

The writer hesitates to end the story of Claremont College without a final reference to Dr. Joseph L. Murphy. More than any other person he believed in Claremont College, her philosophy, her aims. More than any other person he fought to save her from destruction. Year after year he hung on tenaciously, operating the college on a tiny budget, yet somehow managing to come out even. He even raised chickens and hogs and cultivated a garden to supply the college's kitchen.

Murphy's final great hope was that, somehow, Claremont College would be revived and restored to its former position. It was a hope, unfortunately, that would never be realized.

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APPENDIX

APPENDIX A

PRESIDENTS AND FACULTIES OF CLAREMONT COLLEGE

Compiled From
Catalogs of Claremont College, Minutes of the Trustees
of Claremont College, Minutes of the North Carolina
Classis of the Reformed Church in the United States,
Claremont College commencement programs, and reports of
the United States Commissioner of Education. Not
complete.

1880-1883	A.S.Vaughan, President	Faculty (dates unknown)
1883-1884	A.S.Vaughan, President to December, 1883.	Miss Batchelor
	Florence Chase, President January to May, 1884.	Florence Chase
		Alive Eversten
		Belle Haven
		Amelia McComb
		Miss More
		Sarah C. Perrin
		Ida Pettit (Later Mrs. A.S.Vaughan)
		May Ramsaur
		Edwina Shearn
1884-1885	Mrs. Alice Thurston, President	
	Emma Bonney	
	Mary Geitner	
	R. K. Meade	
1885-1886	President and faculty unknown	
1886-1887	Mrs. E. C. Bonney, President	
	Faculty unknown.	

- 1887-1888 A.C.Hottenstein, President
Faculty unknown
- 1888-1892 W.H.Sanborn, President Faculty (dates unknown)
C. A. Cilley
Mrs. Von Bulow
Laura Norwood
Mrs. W. H. Sanborn
Miss McSwain
- 1892-1896 Joseph L. Murphy, President Faculty (dates unknown)
Amanda Clarke
Byron G. Cole
Edna Farlow
Julia Gregory
Thomas M. Huffman
Elizabeth Krider
Carolina Link
P. C. Mensch
May Ramsaur
C. E. Woodruff
- 1896-1897 Stuart P. Hatton, President
Faculty unknown.
- 1897-1898 Stuart P. Hatton, President
Two men, eleven women, names unknown.
- 1898-1899 Stuart P. Hatton, President
Edwina Chadwick

W. C. Crosby

Burnie Dearmond

Antionette Ewing

M. W. Hatton

Mrs. S. P. Hatton

Lula R. Kammerer

Annie L. Pitts

Janie E. Price

Lois Seagle

Agnes Sherer

Elizabeth Van Wagnen

B. F. Whiteside

1899-1900 Stuart P. Hatton, President

Faculty unknown

1900-1902 M. Wesley Hatton, President

Faculty (dates unknown)

A. J. Bolin

Mrs. A. J. Bolin

Edwina Chadwick

A. Mabel Earnest

Goldie Harris

Mrs. M. Wesley Hatton

Martha Henkle

Minnie Lee Hood

Florence Kidd

John H. Norman

Virginia Hila Perkins

Josie Sigmon

Lovie Sigmon

Reesie Tipton Warren

1902-1903 A. J. Bolin, President

One man, nine women, names unknown

1903-1904 A. J. Bolin, President

Mrs. J. H. Shuford

others unknown

1904-1905 A. J. Bolin, President

Mrs. A. J. Bolin

Edwina Chadwick

Winfield H. Collins

Fannie Field

Mavida Fiske

Mary Belle Futrell

Edna Gage

Edith Isenburg

Josie Sigmon

Mrs. J. H. Shuford (to Christmas)

1905-1907 Daniel W. Reed, President

1907-1908 Joseph L. Murphy, Acting President

N. E. Aull

Mrs. N. E. Aull

Adelaide Boyd

Ora Huffman

Grace Kirkpatrick

Mrs. Alfred Moretz

1908-1909 Joseph L. Murphy, Acting President

N. E. Aull

Nanette Balow

Helen Chadwick

Signor Saverio D'Anna

Mrs. Reesie Warren Menzies

Mrs. Alfred Moretz

Lovie Sigmon

Rhea D. Sourbeer

1909-1910 Joseph L. Murphy, President

J. H. Keller

Signor Saverio D'Anna

Miss Heller

Mrs. J. H. Keller

Mrs. J. L. Murphy

Miss Price

Rose Shuford

Rhea D. Sourbeer

1910-1911 Joseph L. Murphy, President

Mrs. H. D. Abernethy

J. H. Keller

Elizabeth Bost

Mrs. J. H. Keller

Signor Saverio D'Anna

Frankie Lenore Self

Mrs. D'Anna

Grace Warren

Margaret Vance Hoffman

1911-1912 Joseph L. Murphy, President

Ruth Shuford Abernethy

Mary C. Barringer

Bessie Holtzendorff

J. H. Keller

Mrs. J. H. Keller

Mrs. E. B. Menzies

Mary Venable Ramsay

Ruth Elenore Woodward

1912-1913 Joseph L. Murphy, President

Ruth Shuford Abernethy

Elizabeth Summer Bardin

Mary Christina Barringer

Sarah Irene Harrison

Dagmar Leta Holtzendorff

Mrs. E. B. Menzies

Mary Venable Ramsay

Ruth Elenore Woodward

1913-1914 Joseph L. Murphy, President

Ruth Shuford Abernethy

Mary Christina Barringer

Heloise G. de Grange

Mrs. Oliver M. Nelson

Mary Venable Ramsay

Mary Schnebly

Lenore Sourbeer

1914-1915 Joseph L. Murphy, President
Cora Belle Ballard
Mrs. Edwina Chadwick
Marion L. Evan
Mrs. J. H. Hatcher (part of year)
Bertha M. Hiteshew
Mrs. J. L. Murphy (part of year)
Grace Patrick (part of year)
Mary Venable Ramsay (part of year)
Mazie C. Schmidt

1915-1916 Joseph L. Murphy, President
Mrs. J. H. Hatcher
J. M. L. Lyerly, Dean
May Lyerly
Sudie Lyerly
Josephine Pritchard
Helen Troup

APPENDIX B

GRADUATES OF CLAREMONT COLLEGE

Compiled from catalogs of Claremont College, Minutes of the North Carolina Classis of the Reformed Church, Minutes of the Trustees of Claremont College, the Hickory Daily Record, personal interviews with graduates, and Claremont College commencement programs. Not complete.

1893-1894 Etta Baker
Corrie Bisaner
Annie Field
Florence Gaul
Ethel Harris
Lovie Sigmon
1898-1899 Charlotte Clinard
Corrie Cole
Ava Dellinger
Mary Hall
Affie Harris
Lizzie Leslie
Edna Love
Winnie Patton
Mary Ramsay
Addie Rendleman
Bessie Rivers
Agnes Sherer (M.A.)
Suehonor Shuford
Blanche Wilks

1899-1900 Edna Hoke Ballard
Arra Floyd Bolling
Annie Henrietta Cauble
Jessie Dixon Cheek
Essie Juliett Glenn
Annie Caroline Huff
Agnes Louise Pitts
Addie Ray Upchurch
Ella Ora Upchurch

1900-1901 Margaret Inez Field
Lona Gwendolyn Gryder
Mary Gifford Gudger
Jessie Goldie Harris
Elizabeth Huff
Clara Jane Mitchell
Sallie Rebecca More
Lelia Viola Rendleman
Sallie Pheribee Seitz
Edith Pearl Smith
Louisa Katherine Susong
Jessie Clyde Wilks

1901-1902 Tennie Anderson
Inez Dodds
Phronia Falls
Florence Falls
Mayoma Fortener
Myrtle Hendley

Mabel Little

Fannie Linebarger

Katherine Link

Clyde Morrow

Leona Prevatt

Nina Ramsey

Ada Tyson

1904-1905 Nettie Abernethy

Bessie Anderson

Elie Byrum

Mary Croom

Inez Field

Mary Henkle

Effie Lee

Mollie McCall

Dora F. McGill

Emma Pitts

Lizzie Rowe

Mary Sharpe

Mabel Stroup

Annie Stevenson

Ida Trosvig

Kitty Yoder

Nora Yost

1909-1910 Katherine Miller

Mrs. J. L. Murphy

Brent Ramsaur

Rose Shuford
Edna Stroupe
1910-1911 Elizabeth Perkins Holbrook
Annie Lowe
Fleta Morre
Essie Robinson
Mattie May Shoaf
1911-1912 Margaret Ingold Bost
Susie Estelle Burton
Vera Elizabeth Green
Alda Meade Killian
Elizabeth Milne McDowell
Mary Margaret Rudisill
1912-1913 Elizabeth Summer Bardin
Pearl Boyd
Bertha Bradshaw
Estelle Foil
Mabel Hemrick
Erin Estelle Payne
Harriet Post Riddle
Essie May Rowe
1913-1914 Emma Bonner
Katherine Klement
Lillie Hall Crowell
Anna Hartman
Elizabeth Holbrook
Ethel Lippard

May Livengood

Anthea Lytle

Katherine McKay

Lena Peck

Virginia Sellers

Marjorie Whitener

Loulalee Wolfe

1914-1915 Constance Amelia Bost

Florine Amanda Herman

Sadie Elizabeth Klutts

Susie Arabella McGill

Nora Vivian Simpson

Ella Mae Whitener

1915-1916 Josephine Dysart

Clara Kilgore

Katherine Kilgore

Isabella Morton

Mary Dan Peeler

Eulalie Times

Cleo Thomas

APPENDIX C

TRUSTEES OF CLAREMONT COLLEGE

A. S. Abernethy

H. D. Abernethy

J. F. Abernethy

L. F. Abernethy

B. B. Blackwelder

Edgard Bolick

C. C. Bost

G. F. Bost

L. A. Carpenter

J. C. Clapp

F. A. Clinard

R. B. Davis

H. C. Dixon

J. A. Foil

C. H. Geitner

G. H. Geitner

Walter Geitner

J. G. Hall

J. T. Hedrick

Jeremiah Ingold

W. H. Ingold

Dr. J. T. Johnson

P. J. Klutz

J. C. Leonard
A. C. Link
George Longaker
G. L. Lyerly
R. W. McComb
George McCorkle
M. L. McCorkle
C. B. McNairy
W. H. McNairy
J. A. Martin
K. C. Menzies
J. L. Murphy
J. L. Murphy, Jr.
J. F. Murrill
A. M. Peeler
W. P. Reinhardt
J. W. Robinson
J. W. Robinson, Jr.
W. W. Rowe
O. M. Royster
N. M. Seagle
A. A. Shuford
A. A. Shuford, Jr.
Adolphus L. Shuford
Adrian L. Shuford
C. M. Shuford
E. L. Shuford

Dr. J. H. Shuford

J. M. Shuford

W. H. Shuford

O. M. Sigmon

D. W. Shuler

H. D. Warlick

J. W. Warlick

S. L. Whitener

Dr. B. F. Whitesides

J. E. Wilfong

S. T. Wilfong

APPENDIX D

TEXTBOOKS USED AT CLAREMONT COLLEGE*

Freshman Year

Latin: Grammar, Allen and Greenough; Caesar, Lowe and Ewing; Composition, Daniel.
English: Grammar, Kittridge and Meikeljohn; English and American Classics; Parallel Reading.
Mathematics: Algebra, Venable.
Science: Physiology, Cutter.
Elocution: Shaftsbury.

Sophomore Year

Latin: Grammar, Allen and Greenough; Ovid, Stuart; Vergil, Allen and Greenough or Harper; Sight Reading; Roman History, Myers; Composition, Bennett.
English: Rhetoric, Hill or Raub; American Literature by Lectures. For critical study in the classroom: Autobiography, Franklin; Sketch Book, Irving; Bunker Hill Orations, Webster; Horse Shoe Robinson, Kennedy; Southern Poets; complete editions of the poems of Bryant, Poe, Whittier, Longfellow, Lowell and Holmes and Emerson's Essays. Besides this, much parallel reading and library work is required.
Mathematics: Algebra, Smith.
History: Myers' General.
Science: Physical Geography, Tarr or Maury.
Zoology: Burnet or Coulter.
Botany: Hall or Bailey.
Plant Analysis: Bolin.
Elocution: Shaftsbury.

Junior Year

English: Outline of English Literature by Lectures. For classroom work: Chaucer's "Prologue and Knights Tale"; Spencer's "Faerie Queen," Books I and II; Bacon's "Essays"; Old English Ballads; Marlowe's "Jew of Malta"; three plays of Shakespeare; "Paradise Lost," Books I and II, Milton; Dryden's "Palamon and Arcite"; Pope's "Illiad," Books I, VI, XXII, XXIV; Goldsmith's "Deserted Village" and "Traveller," "Vicar of Wakefield"; Gray's poems; Burke on the "Conciliation"; Poems of Coleridge, Wordsworth, Southey, Burns, Byron, Scott, Browning, Tennyson. Prose: Carlyles's "Essay on Burns," DeQuincey, Eliot, Macaulay, Ruskin. Any good edition will do. Parallel reading and library work are required.

*"Twenty-Second Annual Catalogue of Claremont College,"

- History: English, Montgomery; Advanced American; Montgomery's "Student History," or (1) The Colonies, Goldthwaite; (2) Formation of the Union, Hart; (3) Division and Reunion, Wilson.
- Mathematics: Geometry, Chauvenet; Trigonometry, Wells.
- Science: Physics, Wentworth and Hill; Chemistry, Youmans.
- German: Grammar, Joynes-Meisner; "Maerchen und Erzählungen," Super; Whitney's Reader; Storm's "Immensee"; Grimm's Maerchen, Otis.
- French: Grammar, Edgren or Kittel; Super's Reader; Tableaux de la Revolution Francaise; French songs.
- Latin: Allen and Greenough's Grammar; Cicero and Horace; Sight-Reading; Versification.
- Spanish: De Tornos' Combined Spanish Method; Ramsey's Spanish Reader; Lectures de Clase.

Senior Year

- English: Anglo-Saxon, Cookes's "First Book of Old English; History of the English by Lectures; Reference to Lounsbury, Emerson; Genung's "Practical Rhetoric" and "Rhetorical Analysis"; Special study of the Nineteenth Century prose. Historical English Grammar, by Lectures, based on Maetzner's "Englische Grammatik."
- Latin: Allen and Greenough's Grammar; Plautus; Tacitus and Livy; Sight-Reading; Critical study of grammar.
- French: Edgren's Grammar; Composition; Merimee's Colomba; Standard poets and dramatists (1500 pages); French songs and easy drama.
- Mathematics: Bowser's Analytical Geometry; Bowser's Calculus.
- Spanish: Standard prose and poetry; Advanced Grammar.
- History: Cox, History of Greece; Merivale, History of Rome; Green, History of English People; Percy Greg, History of the United States; Library works of reference.
- Science: Physics, Wood; Biology, Sedgwick and Wilson; Astronomy, Howe; Geology, Le Conte.
- German: Grammar; Writings of Schiller, Hoffman, Lessing, Heine, Goethe, in all about 1,100 pages. Texts of Heath & Co., Holt & Co., Ginn & Co. "Bilder aus Der Deutschen Litteratur," Keller.
- Psychology: Hill.

Graduate Year

- Anglo-Saxon: "Beowulf," Harrison and Sharp or Heyne.
Semi-Saxon: Skeat and Morris.
Icelandic: Sweet's Primer, or Vigfusson and Powell's Icelandic Reader.
Gothic: Heyne's "Ulfilas" or Wright's "Gothic Primer."
Latin: Terence, Quintilian, Sallust.
German: Grammar, Whitney; Schiller, Goethe, Lessing.
English: "Old English and Scottish Ballads," Gummere; Burns and Scottish poetry.
Science: Mineralogy, Dana.
History of Education: Painter.
Science of Teaching: Compayere.
Moral Philosophy: MacKenzie.
Bible Studies.
Economics.
French.