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WE PRESENT BELOW, THE IMPORTANT ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THIS INSTITUTION LOOKING TO ITS OPENING, ON WEDNESDAY, THE 6th OF OCTOBER.

General S.D. Lee, President, Columbus, Mississippi

copied from

Planters Journal, October 1880, published in Vicksburg, Mississippi

By direction of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees, the following circular is issued supplemental to the address already sent out:

The Agricultural and Mechanical College of Mississippi, located at Starkville, will open to students on the first Wednesday of October next. The College building is now completed. The dormitory, now being constructed, will be finished on the 1st of November.

Students must be at least fifteen years of age; none under this age will be admitted, except by special permission of the Faculty, and for good cause.

Before entering, all students presenting themselves, will be examined in arithmetic, geography, English grammar, spelling, reading, and writing. Those who, in the opinion of the Faculty, are sufficiently advanced in these studies will be entered in the Freshman Class. Those who do not pass a fair examination will be entered in the Preparatory Department. Provisions will be made for more advanced students if they present themselves.

The general course of instruction in the College, presenting a definite line of progress for the students, will be about as follows, viz:

FRESHMAN YEAR

Arithmetic, algebra, English structure, English analysis, English

composition, history, book-keeping and business courses, drawing, botany, agriculture, geometry(begun), elementary chemistry, lectures.

SOPHOMORE YEAR

Geometry, elementary chemistry, trigonometry, surveying, organic chemistry, blow-pipe and volumetric analysis, mechanics(begun), analytical chemistry, lectures.

JUNIOR YEAR

Mechanics(completed), anatomy, agriculture, chemistry, horticulture, principles of human physiology, chemical analysis, principles of rhetoric, entomology, meteorology, English literature.

SENIOR YEAR

Zoology, agriculture, psychology, astronomy, botany, Constitution of the United States, moral philosophy, civil engineering, political economy, landscape gardening, inductive logic.

This course will be taught in text-books, by lectures, and by practical work in the laboratory, and on the farm and gardens, and in the shops(when constructed). It is not inflexible, but may be varied as necessity suggests. Every soon the text-books will be designated.

It is best that students purchase no books, as those selected will be on hand at the College, where they can be procured.

Latin, Greek and Modern languages are not in the regular curriculum; but the languages, when desired, will be taught by competent ~~xxxxxxx~~ instructors, by the students paying "extra" for such instruction, under the supervision of the President.

Tuition, with this single exception, will be free to all students of the State. Students from other states will, ~~xxxxxxx~~ in addition, pay a tuition fee of \$40.

A "Matriculation Fee", of five dollars will be paid by all students, and in the Sophomore year, students will pay for such chemicals

(at cost), as they use in laboratory work. This is usually about ten dolls

When students enter the Boarding Department of the College, they will be ~~xxxxxxx~~ required to deposit with the Secretary and Treasurer \$20 as an advance on their board, to be credited them in settlement of account. At most similar Colleges, the board is from two and a-half to three dollars a week. The Trustees will lose no effort to reduce the board to as low a point as possible. Besides this expense, books, and clothing and washing, and lights, are necessary expenses.

In my judgment, after a careful investigation, I think it will be best for students to calculate that their actual outlay of money, per year, will be from seventy-five to one hundred dollars. The College being an Industrial one, all students are required to work at manual labor for three hours each day, for five days a week, as far as possible, in illustration of their studies.

In remuneration for this work faithfully rendered, they are paid eight cents an hour, which amount is credited in the board account, in the Board Department. Students will be given preference in all work, and industrious young men, by working more than three hours a day, and on Saturdays, will reduce their expenses to nominal sum, and below the amount indicated. Some young men at similar Colleges, pay all their expenses in this way, but these are exceptional cases.

However, if students, during their vacation, can, and will teach school, or remain on the College farm and work, or otherwise employ themselves, it is within the reach of every young man to educate himself by his own labor.

The objects of this industrial feature are many. It enables a young man to pay, in a measure, for his education himself, as it lessens the expense. It is educational at the same time that it is remunerative, varied too, for the illustrations of the principles of science. It

~~xxxxxxx~~

cultivates a taste for agricultural pursuits. "Four years of study, without labor, wholly removed from sympathy ~~with the~~ ^{with the} laboring world, during the period of life when habits and tastes are rapidly formed, will almost inevitably produce disinclination, if not inability, to perform the work and duties on the farm. But to accomplish the objects of the College, it is evident that the student must not, in acquiring a scientific education, ~~lose~~ lose either the ability or the disposition to labor on the farm itself, and it is due to this large class of our population, that facilities for improvement, second to none other in the State, be offered.

This work familiarized the students with implements, and enables them to see the varied experiments in Agriculture, Horticulture, Pomology, and Stock Raising, all of which tends to direct their tastes and habits to farm life.

Military tactics and science will be a feature of the College, but not to the degree of overshadowing the Agricultural and Mechanical, but rather a affording organization for discipline.

As soon as practicable, after organization a cheap uniform will provided and furnished at cost to the students. This suit will be about as cheap as students could obtain elsewhere.

As the Dormitory will not be finished before November 1st, and the College opens October 6th, students will have to obtain board in the town of Starkville and vicinity for about a month or six weeks. After the Dormitory is finished and the Boarding Department established, board will be furnished at actual cost to such students as lodge in the Dormitory, which will accommodate about two hundred. (A double bedstead will be furnished by the College in each room; all other furniture must be furnished by the student himself, which, with two in a room, will amount to but little.

Students contemplating entering this College, should send their names to the President, General S.D. Lee, at Columbus, Mississippi, so that he may be able to give them such information as he has, in advance of the opening of the College, on the first Wednesday of October.

Students can enter at any date, by passing an examination, which will enable them to enter any class, ~~xxxxxxx~~ then place in its curriculum, or go into the Preparatory Department.

The President has visited several similar institutions. He has faith in the success of ours. He asks a fair and generous support.

Students contemplating entering this College can get half rates on railroads by getting a certificate from the President that they have registered.