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Private education in Petersburg, Virginia, 1748-1943

William W. Reade

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PRIVATE EDUCATION
IN
PETERSBURG, VIRGINIA
1748-1943

By

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A Thesis
Presented to the Graduate Faculty
of the
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in
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INTRODUCTION

The object of this study is to present as completely as available data will permit the history of private education in Petersburg from the time of its "establishment" as a town in 1748 up to the present.

The efforts of the many private school teachers who have labored in Petersburg during its almost two centuries of existence have helped make the city a center of education and culture in Virginia, and it is hoped that this study will help give a better idea of the part the private schools and their teachers played in achieving this result.

The chief sources of information concerning private education were the newspapers of Petersburg and vicinity from 1802 to 1943. In addition, other books and manuscripts were found that furnished valuable data, and credit is given them in the bibliography.

In so far as the writer has been able to determine, no other study of this kind and extent has ever been made in Petersburg. Brockwell, in his study of secondary education in Petersburg, treated briefly some of the private schools of the city, but did not cover the field to any great extent, nor go into as minute detail as this work.

This thesis is written under the direction of Professor W. L. Prince, of the University of Richmond, to whom the writer

is indebted for guidance and constructive criticism.

The assistance of Miss Theresa Hodges, Librarian of the Petersburg Public Library, and Mrs. N. S. Grigg, a member of her staff, both of whom helped in locating sources of valuable information, is gratefully acknowledged.

Appreciation is due the staffs of the libraries of the University of Richmond and of the State of Virginia, and to these gentlemen who have assisted the author in various ways: Dr. W. F. Clarke, Mr. John D. Meade, Mr. Russell B. Gill, Mr. James G. Scott and Judge R. T. Wilson.

The author wishes to express his appreciation to Miss Eleanor Sherman for her invaluable services rendered in typing this thesis.

Finally, the author extends his gratitude to his wife for her inspiration and encouragement which have helped him bring this work to a successful conclusion.

CHAPTER I

THE BEGINNINGS OF EDUCATION IN PETERSBURG

The first words written about education in Petersburg were not complimentary, but they were not as bad as they sounded. In describing conditions in 1724 in Bristol Parish, within whose boundaries the settlement later known as Petersburg was included, Gregory wrote,¹ "In all the parish was neither library nor public school."

This did not mean, however, that there were no schools in Petersburg, which was "established" in 1748, and formally incorporated in 1784.² There is every reason to believe that education was available to those who were able to pay for it, but not for any others. McCabe³ described the situation very well:

The truth seems to be, that while the poor, as we have seen, had few or no educational opportunities, the ruling class, numerically small, was from the earliest days keenly alive to the importance of securing thorough education for their children.

Wright⁴ also described the attitude of the upper class of

1. Edward S. Gregory, A Sketch of the History of Petersburg, p. 7.

2. Ibid, p. 21.

3. W. G. McCabe, Virginia Schools Before and After the Revolution, p. 15.

4. Louis B. Wright, The First Gentlemen of Virginia, p. 114.

Virginians toward education:

To the Virginia gentleman of the colonial period, gross ignorance was not only a disgrace but a handicap in the conduct of his business affairs. Without some learning he could neither manage his estate intelligently nor support the dignities and obligations of his position in society.

Concerning the type of education, the same author wrote:⁵

A gentleman did not need the education of a pedant, but his position required him to know how to speak and write good English, to be a competent penman, and to have command of enough mathematics to qualify him to manage his accounts and deal with simple problems in surveying. In general, it was incumbent upon him to acquire sufficient knowledge to enable him to be intelligent in whatever company he found himself. Latin was still generally believed to be eminently useful - a sort of key to other forms of learning. The gentleman's schooling should give him the kind of training that would fit him to continue his studies after his formal education was finished.

Petersburg had existed many years before any attempt was made to educate the poor, and little interest was manifested in the matter. The only mention of such was in a description of affairs of Bristol Parish about the year 1753:⁶

While Mr. Wilkinson was minister, a committee of the vestry reported in favor of establishing an almshouse and of founding a free school to teach poor children Reading, 'Riting and 'Rithmetic. Very little, however, was done to carry out the committee's recommendations.

The educational needs of the children of Petersburg's upper class were satisfied by private schools, in each of which the children of many families could be instructed. The city

5. Louis B. Wright, The First Gentlemen of Virginia, p. 115.

6. M. Clifford Harrison, Home to the Cockade City, p. 11.

dwellers were more fortunate than the colonial planters, where it was usually necessary for the head of each family to employ a private tutor to educate his children.

Heatwole⁷ wrote concerning such schools:

The community schools were independent of public or church support and were maintained by fees determined upon by teacher and parent. The family school, conducted by tutors, was still more independent of church or civil control. There was no attempt even to license the tutors. The employing of a tutor was an entirely individual matter and rested wholly with the planter.

Most of these private schools in Petersburg were composed of a small number of pupils taught by one person who received his compensation in the manner described above. Occasionally one of these teachers would attract a larger number of pupils than he could handle by himself and would hire an assistant. Sometimes the wife of the school-master would assist him in the conduct of his school by teaching the younger children.

Much of the information concerning these schools has been found in the advertisements of the papers of that period. Modesty was not always a virtue of these teachers, some of whom made remarkable claims concerning the curricula of their respective schools and of their own ability as teachers. A perusal of the advertisements concerning other lines of activity, however, would show the reader that this failing was not confined to teachers. The number of years each of these schools existed could not be determined accurately, but it is a safe

7. C. J. Heatwole, A History of Education in Virginia, p. 59-60.

conclusion that many of them were short-lived. The more successful ones continued to advertise year after year, while others received public notice only once, and were not heard from after the first notice.

CHAPTER II

SCHOOL TEACHERS AND SMALL SCHOOLS - EARLY NINETEENTH CENTURY

GEORGE JOHNSON

George Johnson,¹ in 1802, opened a school in Blandford, offering English, Latin, Greek, French, Writing, Arithmetic and different branches of Mathematics. Quoting Mr. Johnson:

Those who entrust the Education of their Children to his care may depend on the strictest attention being paid to both their moral Conduct and Literary improvement.

Ample documents of the Advertiser's moral character and abilities, will be exhibited upon applying to him at the house of Mr. George Gary, Blandford.

The location of this school was to be in the house that up to that time had been occupied by Mr. Archibald Thweatt as an office.

W. CAMPBELL

W. Campbell² advertised the opening of a school "for the instruction of females" in a house on High Street the first of January, 1807, and stated that he would bring with him a young man "capable of teaching the Latin and Greek Classics, Mathematics, etc." Further information about his school's

1. The Republican, Feb. 25, 1802.

2. Petersburg Intelligencer, Jan. 9, 1807.

offerings is given in his words.

His system of education shall comprise the following particulars, viz. Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Belles Letters, Composition and Geography, with as much of Astronomy as is necessary to the proper understanding of the latter. The terms made known at the time of entering.

SCHOOL FOR ENGLISH, THE CLASSICS, ETC.

The following school notice³ appeared on Feb. 2, 1807.

The name of the teacher was not given, but the article is entertaining in its wording.

Useful and Ornamental Knowledge

School for English, the Classics, Speaking the French Language, Geography and Practical Navigation - in the convenient house on High Street, formerly occupied by Dr. Holmes.

The conductor of this school respectfully acquaints the inhabitants of Petersburg that he proposes to receive six more young gentlemen, who will compleat the number of his institution. Branches taught. 1st. English from letters and spelling to the pungency of Junius, and the euphony of Gibbon. 2nd. Latin with an accurate analysis of prose and poetry, and scanning of the poets. 3rd. The Greek Language. 4th. Geography in its precision of recent improvement, the making of Maps, etc. 5th. Practical Navigation as it relates to the conducting of a ship to any part of the globe. 6th. The French Language in the first style of accurate speaking and writing. As a specimen of the Conductor's attainments, he has left at this office his last Volume (just imported) for the inspection of Gentlemen. A few boys will be received as boarders from the country. Letters immediately answered.

No other information was found about any of the three previously mentioned schools, and they evidently did not enjoy great success.

3. The Republican, Feb. 2, 1807.

PARSON SYME'S SCHOOL

An article⁴ about old times in Petersburg, written by someone who used the pseudonym of "Moratuck" and published in 1866, stated that the Rev. Andrew Syme, an Episcopal Clergyman, affectionately called "Parson" Syme by his parishioners, taught a large female school in Petersburg for several years, giving instruction to many of the daughters of the principal families of the town. Rev. Syme was a native of Scotland and married Miss Cameron, who was a sister of Judge William Cameron.

The location of this school, according to Dr. A. K. Davis,⁵ was near one of the old Petersburg theatres on Fifth Street, behind the old Dunlop place. Fifth street connects East Bank and Bollingbrook Streets. East Bank Street in those days was known as Lombard Street.

Parson Syme's school was destroyed⁶ in the great fire of July 16, 1815, so it must have been in existence some years before that time.

JOHN BROWN

John Brown⁷ ran a school near the New Hotel on Bolling-

4. The Daily Index, Jan. 23, 1866.

5. A. K. Davis, Three Centuries of an Old Virginia Town, p. 11.

6. Ed. S. Gregory, A Sketch of the History of Petersburg, p. 42.

7. Petersburg Intelligencer, Oct. 23, 1812.

brook Street in 1812, teaching English, Latin, Arithmetic; single and double entry Bookkeeping and French. This is the only information that could be obtained concerning his school.

MR. WILLER'S MILITARY ACADEMY

Every war period seems to be responsible for the creation of military academies, and the war of 1812 was no exception. If Petersburg's first school founded upon military principles lived up to its advance notices, it left little to be desired in military training. The notice is given as it appeared in the newspaper.⁸

Military Academy - Mr. Willers, Professor of the Manuel Defence, Respectfully informs the gentlemen of this place and its vicinity that he proposes to teach, for a short time, the following branches: - The Evolution of Cavalry; Troops of the Line and Light Infantry; the formation of a Regiment, Battalion and Company; the Small and Broad Sword Exercise; and the Cut and Thrust Sword.

References to Mr. Willer's ability as a teacher and as to his qualities of sobriety and politeness were given by General Wilkinson; Colonel Wharton, Marine Corps; Colonel Williams, president of the Philosophical Military Academy; Colonel Fenwick, artillery corps, army of the U.S.; Captain Greenleaf, marine corps; and others.

The location of the school was not stated, but Mr. Willer's headquarters were at Powell's Tavern.

8. Petersburg Intelligencer, June 26, 1812.

"THE GRAMMAR GRINDER"

Petersburg probably had its share of visits in early days from educational quacks. The visit of one of these was described by an anonymous writer in an article under the heading "Reminiscences of Petersburg."⁹

In those days (1815), there came to Petersburg a genuine specimen of the Yankee species, of the genus homo, (I beg pardon of the last word for being obliged to apply it to so poor a subject), with all the distinctive traits of his kind, Connecticutt cuteness, Massachusetts sanctimony, and the unmistakable New Hampshire snuffle, and advertised himself as a teacher of Grammar by Machinery; calling himself Mr. Hassim, I think; though on the street he was universally known as the Grammar Grinder. His machine resembled an old fashioned lottery wheel, in which were balls, representing all the parts of speech; a revolution of this wheel, by means of a crank, mixed up "promiscuously" nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs; he would then explain satisfactorily, (no doubt to himself,) their relative grammatical positions. I did not take a ticket in his lottery, and visited his exhibition but once, and left impressed with the idea that all Yankee adventurers were cheats and swindlers, which conviction has not in the least degree been weakened by an additional experience of fifty-two years.

SARAH CANNON

Sarah Cannon¹⁰ conducted a school in 1818, teaching Reading, Writing, English Grammar and Geography for \$5.00 per quarter.

9. Daily Index, Sept. 5, 1868.

10. The Intelligencer and Petersburg Commercial Advertiser,
March 24, 1818.

MARY McDONALD AND MARY WORSHAM

Mary McDonald and Mary Worsham¹¹ ran a school in Blandford in 1818, and offered Reading, Writing, English Grammar, Geography, and plain and ornamental Needle Work. Terms of tuition were \$3.50 per quarter without Needle Work, and \$4.50 with Needle Work. These ladies offered boarding accommodations to students living in the country, and were willing to take country produce as partial payment of board.

ROBERT O'REILLY

Robert O'Reilly announced that he had resumed his English and Classical School¹² and that he would attend to it with "strictness and regularity." This was also in 1818. Mrs. O'Reilly also announced the opening of her school at the same time for young ladies, offering instruction in Orthography, Reading, Writing, English Grammar, Arithmetic, History, Music, Drawing and Painting, and "a great variety of useful, elegant and ornamental Needle Work."

The above school was the first that this study found using the term "classical" as a part of its name, but many that followed used it. Concerning this term, Andrews wrote:¹³

The emphasis placed upon the classics gave rise to the

11. The Intelligencer and Petersburg Commercial Advertiser, April 17, 1818.

12. Petersburg Republican, Sept. 1, 1818.

13. Matthew Page Andrews, Virginia, The Old Dominion, p. 369.

term "classical" as applied to so many of the Virginia schools. Particular stress was laid upon the study of Latin, and, in the various lists of subjects taught, one finds Latin leading in the matter of "frequency of study."

V. KENNEDY

V. Kennedy, in 1824, announced¹⁴ the opening of a Mathematical and English School, and stated his intention to open an Evening School if a sufficient number of pupils were obtained.

MR. PATTON

Mr. Patton announced¹⁵ the reopening of his school on September 6, 1824, and stated that he would teach everything necessary to prepare a young man for college or for the counting room.

MRS. PITT

Mrs. Pitt¹⁶ advertised the opening of her school in September, 1824, three doors above the Union Hotel on Old Street.

MRS. GEORGE K. TAYLOR

Mrs. George K. Taylor¹⁷ announced the re-opening of her

14. The Intelligencer and Petersburg Commercial Advertiser,
Aug. 31, 1824.

15. Ibid, Aug. 31, 1824.

16. Ibid, Aug. 31, 1824.

17. Ibid, Sept. 3, 1824.

school for the first Monday in October, 1824. She divided her session into two parts of five months each, and stated the following terms:

For Spelling, Reading, and Writing during one session	\$25
Spelling, Reading, Writing, Cyphering, the elements of Geography, and Grammar	\$30
Parsing, History, the use of the Globes, Natural Philosophy, Astronomy, Geography, the use of the maps, Rhetoric	\$40
Music	\$50
French	\$20
Board, including fire, washing and bedding	\$150

Anyone who brings two Boarders, board and tuition for each should be \$150. The above prices are for the term including ten months.

MRS. SIMPSON'S SEMINARY

This school for young ladies, begun by Mrs. William Simpson¹⁸ in 1820, was one of the most successful of the earlier schools in Petersburg. It was still being conducted by Mrs. Simpson in 1828, on Bollingbrook Street,¹⁹ which was one of the best streets of the town in those days, and years later, in 1851, was still being run by her grand-daughter, Miss Mary Simpson.

Claiborne²⁰ had the following to say about the school conducted by Miss Simpson:

.....at the corner of Marshall and Jefferson Streets, taught

18. Pinckney Williamson, Ye Olden Tymes, History of Petersburg, Va. for Nearly 300 Years, p. 17.

19. The Intelligencer and Petersburg Commercial Advertiser, Sept. 26, 1828.

20. J. H. Claiborne, Seventy-Five Years in Old Virginia, p. 103.

by Miss Simpson, an English lady who had long lived in Petersburg - a lady of refinement and of culture, who had a good school as long as she continued teaching and who is doubtless gratefully and affectionately remembered by some of the mothers and grandmothers of the present generation.

Miss Simpson's school was succeeded by that of Mrs. Indiana Pannill.²¹

THE STATUS OF SECONDARY EDUCATION IN 1820

Education had become a matter of importance in Petersburg by the year 1820, and from then on more and more men and women seem to have been attracted to it to open private schools, and provide educational opportunities for the youths of the city. Virginia had made its first general provision for elementary education²² in 1818, appropriating \$45,000 each year from the income of the literary fund, which money was distributed to the counties and used by them for the support of charity schools in various towns. The better class of people looked down upon these "poor schools," and continued to patronize the private schools.

The State had made no provision for free secondary education up to that time, leaving that phase, entirely to private schools. Andrews²³ had this to say about conditions in

21. Pickney Williamson, *op.cit.*, p. 17.

22. Edwin Grant Dexter, A History of Education in the United States, p. 73-74.

23. Matthew Page Andrews, Virginia, The Old Dominion, p. 370.

the 1820's:

During this period, when the State did not furnish free facilities in secondary education, high schools were established by unworthy persons, some of them native Virginians and others from a distance; but such schools appear to have had but brief existence; and on one occasion, Thomas Jefferson felt called upon to complain of sundry "bad Latinists from Connecticut." Those that survived almost invariably were associated with intangible assets of the greatest value in the personalities of their principals, whose influence for good, not merely in the classroom, but throughout the lifetime of those brought under their instruction, may be seen in the testimonials of esteem that have been preserved in the journals, diaries, and published addresses of former students.

JOHN FRASER

John Fraser opened an "English, Classical, and Mathematical School" on Back Street (now Bank Street) in 1824, teaching Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, English Grammar, Belles Letters, Composition, Geography, History, Latin, Greek, etc., charging \$10 per quarter for Languages and Mathematics and \$5 for the other branches.²⁴ He gave as references the names of four prominent citizens of Petersburg, Dr. Robinson, Dr. Davis, Mr. Jonathan Smith, and the Rev. B. H. Rice. Mr. Fraser's school was still in operation in 1826, having been removed to Bollingbrook Street. Whether his school was prospering or not is not known, but its teacher evidently felt that the public needed more information about himself. Here it is:²⁵

24. The Intelligencer and Petersburg Commercial Advertiser,
Nov. 22, 1824.

25. The Intelligencer and Petersburg Commercial Advertiser,
Sept. 1, 1826.

Having but lately commenced the business of teaching in this town, he deems it necessary to say a few words relative to the opportunity he has had of qualifying himself for so arduous a task. And here he might insert several testimonials of his acquirements, from Gentlemen of this Town, whose competency to judge is indisputable - But with these he dispenses. He begs leave, however, to inform those unacquainted with his opportunities of improvement, that he was instructed in the first institutions of our own country, and attended, for nearly two years, a Seminary in Scotland, reputed one of the best in Britain. He has likewise been successfully engaged, for the last five years, in the instruction of youth. With these advantages, united with indefatigable industry, he feels confident that he will be enabled, as heretofore, to render satisfaction. Promising to use his best endeavors for the improvement of his scholars, he hopes a liberal public will confer a larger share of its favor.

John Fraser

FRANCES E. WORRELL

Frances E. Worrell²⁶ conducted an elementary school for small boys and girls on High Street in 1826, offering board and lodging to children from a distance.

MARY ANN L. GRIGG

The second great fire²⁷ that Petersburg suffered occurred on July 15, 1826. Among the casualties was the school of Mary Ann L. Grigg,²⁸ but after a few days she re-opened her school in a house on Market Street. Her school was also con-

26. The Intelligencer and Petersburg Commercial Advertiser,
July 21, 1826.

27. Edwin S. Gregory, A Sketch of the History of Petersburg,
p. 52.

28. The Intelligencer and Petersburg Commercial Advertiser,
Aug. 4, 1826.

fined to elementary branches, and she was assisted by Anna G. Lawrence.

MRS. HOLDERLEY, MISS PEARCE, J. ADAMS

Three other private schools were in operation in 1826, one on Bank Street²⁹ by Mrs. Holderley, another by Miss Frances Pearce,³⁰ and another for the teaching of Shorthand by J. Adams.³¹

MRS. McCOLLOUGH

A school for the instruction of small boys and girls³² in the elementary subjects was conducted by Mrs. McCollough, with Mrs. Crawley as assistant. Piano lessons were taught by Mrs. McCollough. The school was situated near the Courthouse.

MRS. ALICE PAGAUD

A school about which little information is available, but which must have been better than the average, considering its long life, was that of Mrs. Alice Pagaud. She came to Petersburg in 1827, after having taught twenty years in another section of Virginia, and opened her school for children³³ in that

29. The Intelligencer and Petersburg Commercial Advertiser, Dec. 5, 1826.

30. Ibid, Oct. 17, 1826.

31. Ibid, Nov. 17, 1826.

32. Ibid, Apr. 3, 1827.

33. Ibid, Apr. 3, 1827.

year, being assisted by her daughter. Twenty-one years later, the school which originally was located on Bollingbrook Street, was in operation on the corner of Old and Market Streets.³⁴ Boarding pupils were being accommodated and Mrs. Pagaud was still being assisted by her daughter, Miss Pagaud.

MR. MILLS

Mr. Mills announced the opening of one of the numerous "Classical and English" Academies that were begun in Petersburg, this one in 1827. Its opening was dependent upon the registration of at least fifteen pupils.³⁵ No other information about Mr. Mills was found, so perhaps he did not get his required number.

MR. VINCENT

Mr. Vincent, a native of France, offered classes in French³⁶ in a house on Back Street. Separate hours were set aside for the men's and the ladies' classes, co-education not being popular in 1827.

34. The Republican, Dec. 29, 1848.

35. The Intelligencer and Petersburg Commercial Advertiser,
May 1, 1827.

36. Ibid., Oct. 30, 1827.

MISS ISABELLA GIVENS

Miss Isabella Givens was another of Petersburg's private school teachers who gave many years of service, being the proprietor of a school for young ladies³⁷ that was in operation in 1828. She was still teaching a school³⁸ on Franklin Street in 1848.

BARTHOLOMEW EGAN

Although his school did not seem to be in existence for a great length of time, Bartholomew Egan must have had a large number of pupils attending it in 1830. He announced its successful operation³⁹ as an elementary school and had Mr. Vincent, mentioned before, to give classes in French to those who desired the language. Mr. Egan at the same time was seeking the services of an assistant by the following advertisement:

A Teacher of Mathematics - I wish to procure the services of a Mathematical Instructor, to aid in the Petersburg Grammar School. To a gentleman of unexceptional qualifications, scientific and moral, I would guarantee from four to five hundred dollars per annum. Barth'w Egan.

37. The Intelligencer and Petersburg Commercial Advertiser,
Sept. 9, 1828.

38. The Republican, Sept. 13, 1848.

39. Richmond Enquirer, March 16, 1830.

MRS. WALLACE --- JUNIUS K. HOUBROUGH

Schools whose openings were announced in 1834 were that of Mrs. Wallace⁴⁰ on Sycamore Street, and of Junius K. Houbrough, for boys.⁴¹

THE PETERSBURG FEMALE SEMINARY

Williamson⁴² mentions the Petersburg Female Seminary, located near the corner of North Market and High Streets, as one of the famous schools of Petersburg. Mrs. Lucy Y. Gray was principal of this school, and a list of its pupils in 1837 contains many names that are still familiar to people of the city today.

PUPILS IN 1837

Virginia Akin
 Sarah C. Ashly
 Frances A. Badger
 Harriet M. Badger
 Mary Bartlett
 Agnes A. Batte
 Mary Batte
 Anna E. Birchett
 Edmonia Birchett
 Rebecca Bland
 Sarah F. Bland
 Mary A. G. Boisseau

Martha C. Brander
 Roberta Davenport
 Ann E. Davenport
 Mary E. Davidson
 Mary Davies
 Jane G. Gilliam
 Lucy V. Gray
 Maria F. Gray
 Julia A. M. Haskins
 Virginia E. Heath
 Mary G. Lemoine
 Laura E. Mason

40. The American Constellation, Oct. 9, 1834.

41. Ibid, Nov. 15, 1834.

42. Pickney Williamson, Ye Olden Tymes - History of Petersburg, Va. for Nearly 300 Years, p. 25.

Elizabeth R. Mason

Mary T. Mason

Jane M. Mollwaine

Indiana Meade

Mary A. Minge

Mary S. Nichols

Sally H. Nelson

Mary F. Pace

Ann Pollard

Elizabeth N. Robinson

Mary E. Yancey

Mary S. Stainback

Charlotte M. Stockdell

Virginia Stockdell

Rebecca Strachan

Mary A. Swan

Mary J. Swan

Elizabeth B. Westmore

Enna M. Westmore

Maria L. Williams

Lucy V. Yancey

CHAPTER III

ACADEMIES OF THE EARLY NINETEENTH CENTURY

-1-

THE PETERSBURG ACADEMY

No town of its size has been more fortunate than Petersburg regarding private secondary education for its boys and girls. Ever since a few years after the Revolutionary War it was the site of first class secondary schools known as academies which enjoyed great success and furnished educational services which the State was either unable or unwilling to offer.

Andrews¹ wrote concerning them:

The movement initiated under the impetus of the Literary Fund tended to correct post-Revolutionary deficiencies in the matter of elementary education; but sentiment in the State was not yet prepared to undertake at public expense the higher forms of educational effort. In lieu of State outlay for this purpose, the General Assembly encouraged the establishment of academies and classical schools, some of which were established through funds raised by lotteries, in those days a popular method of procedure by which not only schools, but churches, were built and endowed. These secondary schools required the study of Latin, and many included Greek as well. A few were coeducational. In several respects the curriculum for girls differed from that provided for boys; Latin and Greek, for example, were subordinated to a modern language, generally French.

Monroe² has this to say about the academies in Virginia:

-
1. Matthew Page Andrews, Virginia, The Old Dominion, p. 358.
 2. Paul Monroe, Founding of the American Public School System, p. 401.

Such schools were even more individualistic in the South than in the North. The State of Virginia did little to help them. Of the entire number seventeen were assisted at times by the state legislature out of the Literary Fund which had been designed for free public schools, but the flourishing condition of the academies was a most effective argument against any state aid to education.

Heatwole³ furnishes information about the number of academies and the curriculum of these academies at the beginning of the nineteenth century.

Before 1800 there were as many as twenty-five academies in Virginia. They were generally known as "Classical Schools." The term "Academy" came a little later when the sciences were becoming popular and some of them were taught in these secondary schools.

The curriculum⁴ for these academies in the higher departments was largely the old traditional subjects, Latin, Greek, mathematics, and rhetoric. In addition to these, such sciences as physics and chemistry, and sometimes botany, were taught; and bookkeeping was often comprised in the course. In the classical schools, the work was confined more to the ancient languages. This was regarded as the preparation for college. The discipline was usually harsh and severe. There were no short cuts or easy methods.

Petersburg's contribution to this class of school was known as The Petersburg Academy. It was incorporated⁵ on December 24, 1794. The original incorporators were Joseph Jones, Thomas G. Peachy, Edward Pegram, James S. Gilliam, John Jeffers, Robert Turnbull, the Rev. Alexander Syme, Alexander Frazier, James Cureton, George Ruffin, Benjamin Harrison, William Whitlock, Alexander G. Strachan, Alexander McRae,

3. Cornelius J. Heatwole, A History of Education in Virginia, p. 124.

4. Ibid, p. 131.

5. Edward S. Gregory, A Sketch of the History of Petersburg, p. 27.

Peterson Goodwyn, and George Keith Taylor.

This school had a long and prosperous existence of forty one years. Most of the information available about its teachers and pupils was obtained in some newspaper interviews with Dr. Thomas P. Atkinson many years after the school closed.

Dr. Atkinson⁶ was a pupil in the Petersburg Academy in 1813, and the school was situated in the building later known as the Anderson Seminary. John Wood was the principal, and he was assisted by David Branch. Some of the other pupils remembered by Dr. Atkinson were Robert Strachan, Richard Birchett, William Rose, Thomas H. Dunn, William Eggleston, of Amelia, Alexander Strachan, John Grammer, John Spooner Eppes, John H. Peterson, a Lewis, (first name not recalled) of Powhatan, and a Ford, of Amelia.

Dr. Atkinson stated that John Wood was a native of Scotland and an eminent mathematician. Among his accomplishments was the making of the first large map of Virginia. Wood was very eccentric, having had a habit of walking with his cane behind him, thrust through the angle at his elbow joints.

Young Ford, mentioned above as a pupil in the Petersburg Academy, invented a torpedo when he was only sixteen years old. Experimenting upon his father's boat, which was anchored in a mill pond, he blew it up. He was then employed by the Government to blow up the British ships in Lynhaven Bay in

6. The Daily Index, Aug. 3, 1868.

1814, but the torpedo this time exploded too soon and the enemy, alarmed by the premature explosion, retired to safety.

More information about John Wood was given by Dr. Atkinson later,⁷ in which Wood was portrayed as a man of excellent education, especially in Greek and Latin. His specialty as a teacher was Mathematics. Before coming to Petersburg, he had edited a political paper in Frankfort, Kentucky, but offended a man by an editorial he wrote, and hearing that the man was coming to do combat with him, left hastily in the night and traveled until he was safely out of danger. He lived in Richmond for some years, moving to Petersburg about 1812 and becoming principal of the Petersburg Academy.

Dr. Atkinson's opinion of John Wood, quoted from this same interview, was not flattering:

The writer of this article was his pupil, both here and in Richmond, and records it as his deliberate opinion that he was the most learned fool he ever saw, having in his composition as little of that all important article, common sense, as he had of true courage.

In 1835, the Petersburg Academy ended⁸ its long and useful career, the trustees being authorized to transfer all its real and personal property to the Anderson Seminary.

7. Daily Courier, Dec. 1, 1870.

8. Edward Pollock, Historical and Industrial Guide to Petersburg, Virginia, p. 20.

-2-

JOHN DAVIS' SCHOOL

An Englishman by the name of John Davis, described as "tall, rawboned and stoopshouldered," kept a school¹ in Petersburg in 1808, on what is now East Bank Street. Some of the pupils in his school were John and James Gilliam, Theophilus and Robert Strachan, John Junius Burke, Robert Batte, William M. Atkinson, James Prentis, Robert Shore, Richard Adams, Thomas P. Atkinson, William Call, and Nathaniel Montgomery Atkinson.

Davis contemplated the establishment of an academy near Walnut Hill, but never succeeded in realizing his dreams.

1. The Daily Index, Aug. 3, 1868.

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THE PETERSBURG CLASSICAL INSTITUTE

The closing of the Petersburg Academy left Petersburg without a first-class boys school for a short period of time, but another excellent preparatory institution soon arose to take its place. It was known as The Petersburg Classical Institute, being incorporated¹ in 1838 with a capital of \$9,500 in shares of \$500 each. Its first president was the Rev. Ephraim D. Saunders,² and the school announced that its first closing exercises, or first "annual exhibition," would be held on July 10, with an oration, "suited to the occasion, to be delivered by William H. MacFarland, Esq., of Richmond."³ One of the text books used in this school was the famous Pike's Arithmetic.⁴

The Institute was in a most flourishing condition in 1845, as evidenced by the following newspaper article:⁵

The directors of the Petersburg Classical Institute have the pleasure to announce to the public that the services of the Rev. E. D. Saunders will be continued. The entire satisfaction which he has given to his public and Directors as well as his accomplishments as a scholar and tact as a disciplinarian, his more than anticipated success in making the

-
1. John Herbert Claiborne, Seventy Five Years in Old Virginia, p. 100.
 2. A. J. Morrison, The Beginnings of Public Education in Virginia, p. 126.
 3. The American Constellation, July 6, 1838.
 4. Edward Pollock, Historical and Industrial Guide to Petersburg, Virginia, p. 20.
 5. The Intelligencer, Nov. 22, 1845.

Institute a Classical Seminary of the first grade, and the liberal patronage of the community, in committing to his charge the education of more than a hundred youths during both the last session and the present, constitute a certain and satisfactory recommendation, for the public to avail themselves of the advantages of this Institution.

The Faculty consists of six Instructors:

The Rev. E. D. Saunders, to whom letters of enquiry may be addressed;

Mr. N. Kean who has taught for two years in the Institute with great acceptance;

Mr. John Lyon, a Graduate of Randolph-Macon College, of the first rank;

Mr. John Kirkpatrick, a distinguished Graduate of Washington College;

Mr. A. M. Dupuy, a graduate of Princeton College, of a high grade of scholarship;

Monsieur Arnand Preat, an experienced and able Instructor from France;

The Reverend Mr. Leavenworth, an eminent scientific lecturer, will give a full course of Lectures in Chemistry.

Mr. Preat has engaged to give all the instruction desired in the modern Languages. The other five will be constantly employed in the Institute, three of whom were selected on account of their previous success in managing each a separate academy.

Instruction will be given in the English branches, and in the Latin, Greek, Hebrew, French, Spanish and Italian languages, and in the Mathematics, to any extent desired.

Board and tuition can be obtained for \$85 a session. Payments always made in advance. The sessions will be five months each, commencing the 15th. of September and 23rd. of February.

By order of the board of Directors: Benjamin Jones,
George W. Bolling, A. G. Kollwaine, David Dunlop, J. E. Le-
moine.

Brockwell⁶ also contributes some interesting informa-

6. Henry B. Brockwell, History of Secondary Education in Petersburg, Virginia, p. 30-31.

tion about this school:

Not only did the Petersburg Classical Institute enjoy the reputation of being one of the finest schools of its kind in the country, but, according to Mr. Dandridge Spotswood, a prominent local historian, the first school fraternity was founded here. This fraternity was known as The United Fraternity of the Petersburg Classical Institute.

From records of the fraternity we find this order:

The society for Literary Improvement was organized by the students of the Institute in the spring of 1844. No one who does not sustain a high character for strict morality and persevering industry, can be elected a member.

Honorary membership is conferred on the Directors, Instructors, and those who acquit themselves creditably in business or in acquiring knowledge after leaving the institute.

Members

William Allen	Wm. F. Drummond
George M. T. Bass	James Dunn
George W. Bolling	Joseph B. Dunn
Wm. H. Bowers	David Dunlop
Wilson P. Coe	A. M. Dupuy
George R. Coupland	C. B. Galbraith
Thomas B. Davidson	T. F. Gilliam
John B. Drinkard	Edward B. Green
John A. Johnson	P. A. Peterson
Benjamin Jones	C. L. Peticolas
Napolean Kean	Armand Preat
J. M. Kirkpatrick	R. A. Prior
John E. Lemoine	J. A. Robertson
Paul E. Lemoine	E. D. Sanders
Daniel Lyon	J. E. Spotswood
John Lyon	W. F. Spotswood
A. G. McIlwaine	W. C. Spotswood
R. D. McIlwaine	Lemoine Suit
L. W. Fagaud	T. B. Tucker
E. E. Parham	E. W. Vaden
Thomas C. Paul	J. T. Wilson

By order of the society
Petersburg, July 24, 1845

Many of the above men figured prominently in the educational, legal, medical, and ministerial professions and in

the business life of Petersburg and the state of Virginia in later years. One of them, Richard McIlwaine, later became president of Hampden-Sidney College⁷ (now Hampden-Sydney).

A new principal took charge of the Institute in 1847.⁸ He was the Rev. J. Jones Smythe, who had been principal of Winchester Academy the previous five years. Smythe was a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland and of the University of Glasgow, Scotland, having received an honorary degree of A.M. from the latter after one session's attendance. The course of instruction under the new administration was to consist of Ancient and Modern Languages, Mathematics, pure and mixed; the Natural Sciences, and a complete English Education. The following was added to the announcement:

The Holy Scriptures will be read daily, and religious and moral instruction faithfully attended to. The discipline will be mild and firm, blending as far as possible the freedom of domestic intercourse with that subordination which is indispensable for a well ordered school.

Tuition ranged from \$20 to \$25 per five months session, with extra charges for German, French, etc.

The first death of a member of the student body occurred March 2, 1848, and the student body took public notice of the sad event in this manner:⁹

7. A. J. Morrison, The Beginnings of Public Education in Virginia, p. 126.

8. The Republican, Sept. 22, 1847.

9. Ibid, March 6, 1848.

Whereas, it has pleased the Almighty Disposer of events to take from us, on Thursday the 2d. inst., our late beloved companion and associate, Richard T. Bland, thus for the first time making a break in our society - Resolved.

1. That we bow with humble submission to this afflicting dispensation of our Heavenly Father, and acknowledge His Wisdom in this as in every other event.
2. That we cherish with feelings of fond remembrance, the generous and noble traits of his character, his kind and affectionate disposition, and the days and months of our happy and pleasant intercourse as fellow-students, engaged in the same noble and enabling pursuits.
3. That we wear crape on our left arms for the space of thirty days.
4. That his desk and seat in the school-room remain unoccupied for one month.
5. That a copy of these proceedings be forwarded to his surviving parents, and also to the papers of the town with a request to publish them.

Edward A. Wilson, Chairman
George E. Davis, Secretary

The year 1849 witnessed another change of principals, the new one being N. F. Tuck, who had formerly been principal of Bardstown Academy in Kentucky.¹⁰ His regime was of short duration, and in 1850 he was succeeded by Thomas D. Davidson.¹¹

Davidson was assisted by James E. Blankenship in 1853-54, and there were sixty-two pupils¹² in regular attendance. From 1854 to 1857, the assistant was Leonidas Points, a graduate of

10. The Republican, Feb. 23, 1849.

11. John Herbert Claiborne, Seventy Five Years in Old Virginia, p. 100.

12. Daily South-Side Democrat, July 27, 1854.

the University of Virginia. According to the biennial catalogue, reprinted in the current newspaper of that day, the total number of students¹³ for the two sessions during 1856-1857 was 115. They came from Petersburg, Chesterfield, Prince George, Dinwiddie, Brunswick, Charlotte, and Sussex, Virginia and Charles City, Maryland. The number of pupils was limited to sixty-five for each session.

J. N. Moon, also of the University of Virginia, became the assistant in 1857, and in 1859, Davidson severed his connection with the Institute, in order to open a school of his own for the education of young ladies.¹⁴

As far as records show, the session of 1859-60 was the last one for this school. During this session, William A. Dupuy, a graduate of Virginia Military Institute and T. G. Wertenbake, of the University of Virginia, formed the faculty.¹⁵

The closing of this once excellent school again left Petersburg without a first class school for boys, but there were to be far more exciting events ahead for the seventeen and eighteen year old lads. Shadows of the great struggle between the South and North were fast approaching, and it was not until after the exhausting conflict was over that another famous school for boys existed in Petersburg.

13. Daily Express, Apr. 14, 1857.

14. Ibid, Apr. 18, 1859.

15. Ibid, Aug. 20, 1859.

CHAPTER IV

TEACHERS AND SCHOOLS OF THE MIDDLE NINETEENTH CENTURY

PETERSBURG HIGH SCHOOL

H. A. Wilcox, a graduate of Brown University and formerly connected with Wake Forest Institute of North Carolina advertised¹ the opening of a high school for boys with the above title. The curriculum was to consist of all the branches of English study, together with Latin and Greek. No other information was found about his school, so it probably did not prosper greatly.

Some other schools of which little is known but which existed for short periods of time are now listed.

Miss Vaughan's school on Halifax Street in 1838.²

Mrs. Cook's school on Sycamore Street in 1838.³

W. B. McDougall's school on Sycamore Street in 1843.⁴

Mrs. M. W. Campbell's school, originally located on

1. The American Constellation, Sept. 7, 1838.

2. Ibid, Sept. 11, 1838.

3. Ibid, Sept. 11, 1838.

4. The Republican, Feb. 27, 1843.

Back (Bank) Street in 1845⁵ and on Market Street in 1848,⁶ the last year it was mentioned.

MECHANICS' ENGLISH AND CLASSICAL INSTITUTE

The Petersburg Benevolent Mechanics' Association tried its hand in the field of education, first conducting a night school in 1845,⁷ and a year later establishing the above named institution.

The committee appointed by the Mechanics' Association to establish and supervise the school secured the services of Mr. John Lyon as Principal.⁸ He had been a teacher in the Petersburg Classical Institute for several years prior to his appointment to this new position.

Space was provided in the Mechanics' Hall for classes, and the course of study was that of the High Schools and Academies of the day.

The Association, in exchange for an endowment of the school, secured reduced rates for the sons of its members. For spelling, reading and writing for a session of five months the tuition was \$6; for all other branches of an English education, \$8; and for Latin, Greek and higher Mathe-

5. The Intelligencer, Dec. 2, 1845.

6. The Republican, Sept. 11, 1848.

7. The Intelligencer, Nov. 27, 1845.

8. The Republican, Sept. 30, 1846.

matics, \$14. For children of non-members the charges were \$10, \$12.50, and \$17.50 respectively.

Members of the committee in charge of the school were Beverly Drinkard, George W. Bolling, Minton Thrift, Robert Ritchie, James Minetree, J. M. H. Brunet, Thomas Jordan and Daniel Lyon.

Armand Preet, who taught modern languages in the Petersburg Classical Institute, was also a teacher of French in this school in 1847.⁹ Language teachers were in demand then, and it was apparently the custom for one able teacher to serve several schools at the same time.

Although according to its notices, the school required tuition to be paid in advance, it evidently did not enforce its rule strictly, for the following notice appeared in a daily paper in 1847.¹⁰

Those patrons of the Petersburg Benevolent Mechanics' Association School who have not yet paid for the tuition of their children, are informed that the accounts will be placed in the hands of a professional collector on the 1st day of October next. Until that time the bills will remain with the present collector, whom those owing are requested to see.

The School Committee

Individuals referred to in the above notice can find me at my office on Back Street, at any hour from sunrise to sunset.

J.M.H. Brunet

9. The Republican, Sept. 3, 1847.

10. Ibid, Sept. 20, 1847.

In order to accommodate more pupils, David J. Lyon, holder of an A. B. Degree, was added to the faculty in 1847.¹¹

Thomas D. Davidson, upon the resignation of John Lyon, became principal in 1848, but after a year or two more, the Mechanics' Association left the field of education and closed its school, Mr. Davidson becoming principal of the Petersburg Classical Institute, described previously in this work.

CLASSICAL, MATHEMATICAL, AND MILITARY SCHOOL
OF WILLIAM MAGHEE

As far as can be determined, this school was begun about 1843,¹² with William Maghee as principal and a Mr. Bryan as assistant teacher, and a course of study as described below:¹³

The course of instruction comprises Spelling, Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Geography, the use of the Globes, English Grammar and Composition, History, the Greek and Latin Languages, French; Algebra, Trigonometry, Geometry, plain and descriptive-Analytical Geometry, with its applications to conic sections, shades, shadows and Linear Perspective, differential and integral calculi - Surveying and Civil Engineering - Natural Philosophy and Chemistry - Drawing, topographical, architectural and landscape. The Cadets will be dressed in a neat and inexpensive uniform and will be requested to drill every day during recreation hours.

William Nelson, a graduate of Virginia Military Institute, succeeded Mr. Bryan in 1846, and Oscar M. Brown also became a teacher in the school that same year.

11. The Intelligencer, Nov. 27, 1847.

12. Ibid, Aug. 4, 1846.

13. The Republican, Sept. 30, 1846.

Morrison¹⁴ furnishes this information about William McGee, who must have been the same as the William Maghee of the above school, as printers were not very careful about the spelling of proper names in those days:

In 1848 the superintendent of the public armory was authorized to deliver to William McGee, principal of a classical and military school in the town of Petersburg, fifty of those muskets in the armory, condemned as unfit for use.

Maghee's school declined in popularity and no mention was found of it after 1850. His assistant, William M. Nelson, opened a school of his own¹⁵ with practically the same course of study as Maghee's, with the exception of military training, in 1850, limiting the number of pupils to twenty, but no other information about his school could be found.

MRS. GARLAND'S SCHOOL FOR YOUNG LADIES

Located on Bank Street, this school in 1846¹⁶ offered work in languages and sciences in addition to the regular English branches. An added attraction was a "course of lectures by a distinguished Professor, on Chemistry and Natural Philosophy, accompanied by illustrations and experiments. Mrs. Garland was a full time teacher, and the school was under the general supervision of Mr. Garland, who taught a class in

14. A. J. Morrison, The Beginnings of Public Education in Virginia, p. 126.

15. The Intelligencer, Aug. 10, 1850.

16. The Republican, Aug. 7, 1846.

reading and elocution. Music instruction was offered and boarding facilities were available for those from a distance.

MRS. JANE AND MISS HENRIETTA ZIMMER

Their school was on Union Street, and was devoted to elementary education.¹⁷ They promised to pay "particular attention to the behavior of children in their charge." Tuition was \$20 a year, and Miss Zimmer taught lessons on the Piano Forte at \$10 per quarter of twenty-four lessons.

MISS FRANCES R. WOODSON

Miss Woodson's school, also of the elementary type, was in operation during the years 1846 and 1847, and was on Old Street near the corner of Market Street.¹⁸

FEMALE SEMINARY - THE MISSES YERBY

In 1846 the Misses Yerby were running their school for young ladies¹⁹ for the third year. It was on Market Street in a large three story building, and was the finishing school type.

Some of its aims were expressed in the following words:

17. The Intelligencer, July 28, 1846.

18. The Republican, July 21, 1847.

19. Ibid, Sept. 11, 1846.

Particular care is bestowed on the formation of the manners of the young ladies, and the most unwearied attention is devoted to their mental improvement. The mode of discipline pursued is one of uniform gentleness as calculated to produce the happiest effects upon all dispositions, and to create a truly feminine and lady-like deportment and character.

The seminary commenced its fourth session²⁰ in September, 1847, but how many years longer it lasted was not stated.

SCHOOL FOR YOUNG LADIES

N. F. Tuck, who had served a year as principal of the Petersburg Classical Institute, opened a school on High Street opposite Market Street in 1850. Mrs. H. M. Tuck assisted him. The school consisted of a Primary Department and a Senior Department. Like other girls' schools of the time, it described its discipline:²¹

The discipline will be mild, yet firm, adapted to the development of better feelings, and the cultivation of correct moral principles.

MRS. CAROLINE LEE

Mrs. Lee ran a school for young ladies and little children on South Market Street in 1846.²² The curriculum comprised the elementary branches and the higher branches of Science and Mathematics, and also Music, French, Drawing and Painting. Mrs. Lee proffered ten years experience as a teacher as one of her recommendations.

20. The Intelligencer, Aug. 28, 1847.

21. Ibid, Aug. 10, 1850.

22. Ibid, Dec. 10, 1846.

JANE A. BASS

Jane A. Bass was conducting a school on Halifax Street in 1846, and some of the subjects named in the curriculum were Philosophy, Botany, and French and all the English branches.²³ Her school had been in operation for some years before this time.

G. M. T. BASS

G. M. T. Bass announced the opening of the fifth yearly session of his school in 1851, setting forth the objectives of his school in this manner:²⁴

He will confine his attention to laying in the minds of his pupils the basis of a thorough and solid English Education - a desideratum too frequently overlooked by parents, whose eyes are dazzled by the superficial and showy accomplishments which constitute the sole instruction of many of our most popular schools.

Mr. Bass also taught a night school in 1854.²⁵

F. S. BASS

The name Bass appeared again in 1853,²⁶ and this time it was F. S. Bass announcing the reopening of a "Select, Classical

23. The Intelligencer, Dec. 25, 1846.

24. Ibid, Aug. 28, 1851.

25. South-Side Democrat, Sept. 14, 1854.

26. The Republican, July 30, 1847.

and Mathematical School" on Market Street.

MRS. ELLEN WILLS

Mrs. Wills and Miss Wills advertised the opening of a school on Bank Street, four doors from Sycamore in 1847, for girls and also for boys not exceeding twelve years of age. Among the attractions listed by these ladies for their school were a large and comfortable room, a passage entrance, and a "Hydrant in the yard."²⁶

Mrs. Wills was still conducting a school²⁷ in 1851 in the Mechanic's Hall, citing her fourteen years of experience in teaching as a testimonial to the excellence of her school.

MRS. DARDEN - MISS SIMMONS

Two other small private schools in operation in 1847 were that of Mrs. Darden on Old Street²⁸ for young ladies, and that of Miss Ann M. Simmons for children of all ages.²⁹

MRS. MARY C. WEEKS

In 1847, and probably some years before that, Mrs. Mary C. Weeks was running a school at her residence on Pearl Street.³⁰

27. The Intelligencer, Aug. 28, 1851.

28. Ibid, Aug. 28, 1847.

29. The Republican, July 12, 1847.

30. Ibid, Sept. 22, 1847.

Grammar and arithmetic were especially stressed by this lady. In 1855 she had moved her school to larger quarters on Washington Street, had engaged the services of a young lady she had previously taught as an assistant, and prepared to accommodate more pupils.³¹

Claiborne wrote this about Mrs. Weeks:³²

Mrs. Weeks was most popular and beloved as a teacher, and had rare qualifications for winning the affection of her little pupils and training them in the rudiments of learning. I am sure that amongst those pupils who may still be living to-day there is not one who would not lovingly testify to her faithfulness as a teacher and a friend.

MRS. TALIAFERRO

Mrs. Taliaferro's school is known to have been in operation in 1847 on High Street³³ and was still running in 1859.³⁴ Little else is known about it.

OTHER SCHOOLS

The years 1847, 1848 and 1849 produced several schools concerning which news in print only appeared once, and none of them exerted any great influence upon the educational life

31. South-Side Democrat, Sept. 22, 1855.

32. John Herbert Claiborne, Seventy Five Years in Old Virginia, p. 104.

33. The Republican, Sept. 29, 1847.

34. The Daily Express, Aug. 27, 1859.

of Petersburg, although some may have run for several years. What little news could be unearthed about these schools will be given now.

Robert Birchett³⁵ ran a "Classical and High School" at his residence on Old Street in 1847.

Robert Marchbank³⁶ had an "Academy" for boys on Market Street in 1847. He had the following good words for himself:

Having had a long experience of successful teaching in the Northern States, and good references of character and qualification, he thinks he can give pretty general satisfaction to those who may patronize him.

Miss Pamela A. Branch, who had been the principal teacher for several years in a school³⁷ conducted by Mrs. P. S. Gary, upon the death of the latter, took over the school and conducted it herself in 1848.

The Misses Walker³⁸ were conducting a school for young ladies in 1848, teaching both elementary and high school subjects and music.

Miss Susanna Parish³⁹ also taught a school in 1848.

Mrs. Travis Rosser announced⁴⁰ that she would open in

35. The Intelligencer, Dec. 21, 1847.

36. Ibid, Dec. 30, 1847.

37. The Republican, June 28, 1848.

38. Ibid, Sept. 8, 1848.

39. Ibid, Sept. 18, 1848.

40. Ibid, Dec. 29, 1848.

1849 a female boarding and day school, and would have a lady assistant. Board and tuition in Latin and in all the English Branches were to cost \$100 for a five months session, with extra charges for music and modern languages.

Mrs. James M. Hurt had a school for young ladies at her residence on Market Street in 1849, with accommodations for a few boarders.⁴¹

James M. Darden ran a night school in the Exchange (now the Petersburg Police Headquarters) in 1849, giving instruction in English, Bookkeeping, Algebra, Vocal and instrumental Music, and Latin.⁴²

DAVIS AND PARHAM'S CLASSICAL AND MATHEMATICAL SCHOOL

In 1851 there came to Petersburg a man whose influence upon the educational, religious and cultural life of Petersburg was to be felt way into the twentieth century, for he gave all the remaining years of his life to the profession of teaching, and upon his death his duties were taken over by his son, who retired from the profession only about three years ago. During the six years previous to his moving to Petersburg, this man, Williams T. Davis, had been Principal of the Preparatory School of Randolph-Macon College. In

41. The Republican, Dec. 29, 1848.

42. Ibid, Jan. 29, 1849.

partnership with Mr. E. E. Parham he⁴³ opened a Classical and Mathematical School in Petersburg in 1851. Mr. Parham had been associated with the Rev. W. G. Foote in another Classical and Mathematical School in Petersburg up to this time, and was a graduate of Randolph-Macon College. Both men were highly recommended as teachers by their former associates and patrons.

Mr. Parham was no longer connected with the school in 1853, and Mr. James H. Binford of Richmond, who came highly recommended by professors of the University of Virginia, was the assistant teacher.⁴⁴ This young man had had one year's experience as a teacher, but like the name of Davis, the name of Binford was to be well known for many years in the field of education.

Claiborne furnishes some information about Mr. Davis and his school.⁴⁵

Another male school was taught in the brick house, now the parsonage, in the rear of the Union Street Methodist Church on Union Street, by Mr. Williams T. Davis. Mr. Davis was a native of Gloucester County, but when I was a student at Randolph-Macon College, then located at Boydton, from the years 1845 to 1848, he was Principal of the Preparatory Department. It was there that I first met him, and it was then that I recognized the rugged honesty of character and the unpretensions but unswerving truthfulness of life that made me his friend. From that time until I stood at his bedside, forty-three years afterwards, and closed his eyes, my regard for him was unabated and unbroken.

43. The Intelligencer, Aug. 28, 1851.

44. Ibid, Sept. 29, 1853.

45. John Herbert Claiborne, Seventy Five Years in Old Virginia, p. 101.

Mr. Davis ran this school until 1856, when he closed it in order to accept a position on the faculty of the Petersburg Female College. His career will be discussed further in the chapter about that school.

CHARLES CAMPBELL

Notices concerning Charles Campbell's School appeared in newspapers in 1853 through 1856, but the greatest amount of information about him comes from Claiborne and is quoted here:⁴⁶

Another male school was taught by Mr. Charles Campbell, the noted author of the "History of Virginia." This school was located on Halifax Street, just opposite the New Market, on the old Campbell lot, which extended through from Market Street to Halifax. Mr. Campbell was a most scholarly and companionable gentleman, but he was a representative of the old regime, in which the rod reigned. He believed in the doctrine enunciated by Squire Jones in the "Hoosier Schoolmaster," 'no lickin', no l'arnin!'" Only a few days ago I met with one of his old pupils who still cherishes lively recollections of a lively birch switch which adorned the master's desk. Indeed the rod was the right-hand assistant in every male school of that day, and was recognized even down to the days of McCabe as a powerful help to the master and a most persuasive incitement to the pupil. Of late, flogging has been put away from the schools as a relic of barbarism, and it is now held that it serves to degrade the boy, to break his spirit, and moral suasion has usurped the fasces.

MRS. ELIZA M. RITCHIE

This lady had a school for girls and small boys in 1853⁴⁷

46. John Herbert Claiborne, Seventy Five Years in Old Virginia, p. 102.

47. The Intelligencer, Sept. 29, 1853.

and it was located at several different places as the years passed by. In 1856 it was on High Street,⁴⁸ in 1859 on Market Street,⁴⁹ and in 1866 was in the basement of Tabb Street Presbyterian Church.⁵⁰

MRS. ROBERT GILLIAM

Mrs. Robert Gilliam in 1853 was conducting a school for young ladies,⁵¹ offering primary and advanced English branches and French. This school was still being run in 1859, with M. G. deFontene listed as teacher of French.⁵²

THE BOLLINGS

The Misses Bolling had a primary and secondary school on Bollingbrook Street in 1853,⁵³ Miss Mary Bolling was teaching in Mrs. A. M. Fitzgerald's boarding school for young ladies in 1854,⁵⁴ and Mrs. E. Bolling had a school on South Pine Street in 1859.⁵⁵

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48. Daily Express, Sept. 5, 1856.
 49. Ibid, Sept. 2, 1859.
 50. The Daily Index, Jan. 2, 1866.
 51. The Intelligencer, Sept. 29, 1853.
 52. Daily Express, Sept. 19, 1859.
 53. The Intelligencer, Sept. 29, 1853.
 54. South-Side Democrat, Dec. 14, 1854.
 55. Daily Express, Aug. 27, 1859.

PETERSBURG FEMALE COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

G. M. Wilder, A.M., was principal and teacher of mathematics in this school, which opened in 1854 on Harding Street.⁵⁶ He was still conducting a school in Petersburg on Union Street in 1856,⁵⁷ but at this time it was known as the Petersburg Collegiate Institute, and was for boys. Wilder's notice stated this also:

The course of study will be thorough and extensive, regulated by rigid discipline.

BINFORD'S ENGLISH AND CLASSICAL SCHOOL

James H. Binford, who had been the assistant teacher for the session of 1853-1854 in Williams T. Davis' school, opened one of his own on Union Street in 1854,⁵⁸ but its existence was of short duration.

MISS ROSE BIRCHETT - MISS KATE BECKWITH

Two other Petersburg ladies conducting schools in 1854 were Miss Rose Birchett and Miss Kate Beckwith.⁵⁹

56. South-Side Democrat, Nov. 9, 1853.

57. Daily Express, Sept. 9, 1856.

58. South-Side Democrat, Aug. 9, 1854.

59. Ibid, Sept. 5 and Oct. 2, 1854.

MRS. ELIZA F. GLENN

Mrs. Glenn ran a day school for children from 1854 to 1859.⁶⁰ It was first on High Street, then Byrne Street, and finally on Market Street.

BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL FOR YOUNG LADIES AT WEST HILL

The Misses Lucy and F. P. Nelson opened this school in 1855⁶¹ and were still running it in 1859. The house used by these ladies for their school is still standing on East Tabb Street. Davis⁶² wrote these words about it:

Another attractive old-time mansion of local interest is the West Hill house, with its solid basement and quaint dormer windows. This house was built by the Bollings for the steward of their estate, and it faced their long line of tobacco warehouses that stood on West Hill.

ROBERT KERR

Professor Robert Kerr, who had been on the faculty of the Petersburg Female College in 1854-1855, returned to Petersburg after an absence of a year, and opened a school for boys on September 22, 1856.⁶³ Although this school only

60. Daily Express, Aug. 15, 1859.

61. Ibid, Sept. 6, 1858.

62. A. K. Davis, Three Centuries of An Old Virginia Town, p. 8.

63. Daily Democrat, Sept. 17, 1856.

existed one year, it seemed to enjoy success, as Mr. Kerr was considered an excellent teacher. In July, 1857, a picnic managed by pupils of this school was given at Ellerslie, the home of Mr. David Dunlop, who lent them his grounds for the event.⁶⁴ There were about two hundred in the party, composed of students of Professor Kerr's School, their parents and friends, and according to the report, it was a lively and gay affair, with much dancing, conversation, and ramblings through the beautiful grounds of the estate. Addresses were given by the Rev. Mr. Leavenworth, Mr. Wood, the assistant teacher of the school, and Mr. Kerr, and an essay was read by Emmet Roper, a pupil of the school. A fine and bountiful dinner was served. The young managers of the affair were S. G. Marks, Mark Davis, J. T. Williams, E. Roper, C. V. Jordan and T. Cumbra.

Mr. Kerr did not re-open his school in the fall of 1857, as he had received an appointment as Principal of the Floating School, Baltimore,⁶⁵ at that time the only one of its kind in the United States.

OTHER SCHOOLS

Another list of schools not widely known and of short duration is now given. Notices about these schools appeared

64. South-Side Democrat, July 24, 1857.

65. Ibid, Aug. 31, 1857.

in the newspapers of those days.

School for girls and small boys - Mrs. Robert E. Egerton,
1856.⁶⁶

School for girls and boys - Mrs. Seigniora B. Buell,
1856-1865. Byrne Street, and then Sycamore Street.⁶⁷

School for girls and young ladies - Mrs. Henrietta E.
Ford, 1857, at residence of her father, Mr. Lewis Zimmer,
on Union Street.⁶⁸

Mrs. M. A. Gardiner's School, 1857, on Adams Street.⁶⁹

School for boys and girls - L. Lippincott, assisted by
his daughter, 1857, near corner of Short Market and Old
Streets.⁷⁰

School of Mrs. Marable, wife of Dr. Marable, on Mar-
shall Street, 1857-1859.⁷¹

School of Mary R. Jackson on Old Street in 1858.⁷²

Boarding and day school for young ladies and small
boys - The Misses Archer, 1858, number 68 Bollingbrook

66. Daily Express, Sept. 3, 1856.

67. Ibid, Sept. 5, 1856 and Sept. 1, 1865.

68. Ibid, Jan. 5, 1857.

69. Daily South-Side Democrat, Feb. 28, 1857.

70. Daily Express, May 25, 1857.

71. Ibid, Sept. 22, 1857 and Sept. 19, 1859.

72. Ibid, Sept. 6, 1858.

Street.⁷³

Mrs. John R. Davis - Eleventh annual session of her school announced for 1858.⁷⁴

School for girls and small boys - Miss Mary J. Adams, 1858, near First Market.⁷⁵

Miss V. A. Roberts, 46 Smith's Row, High Street, 1858.⁷⁶

School for girls and small boys - Mrs. Elizabeth L. Harrison, 1858, on Perry Street.⁷⁷

School for boys - J. D. Townes, 1858, in room on first floor of the Masonic Hall.⁷⁸

Select English and Classical School - John D. Townes and John M. Pleasants, 1859.⁷⁹

Classical and Mathematical School - Leonidas Points, B.A., teacher for four years in the Petersburg Classical Institute from 1854 to 1858 opened this school for boys in 1859. It was on Bank Street opposite the Exchange Bank.⁸⁰

73. Daily Express, Sept. 6, 1858.

74. Ibid, Sept. 7, 1858.

75. Ibid, Sept. 14, 1858.

76. Ibid, Sept. 14, 1858.

77. Ibid, Sept. 14, 1858.

78. Ibid, Sept. 14, 1859.

79. Ibid, Sept. 3, 1859.

80. Ibid, Aug. 13, 1859.

School for girls and small boys - Mrs. Louis G. Messenger, 1859, at 27 Old Street.⁸¹

Mrs. John Batte's School on Byrne Street, 1858-1860.⁸²

School for girls and small boys - Mrs. Mary R. Mitchell, 1859.⁸³

School for girls and small boys - Mrs. Sarah A. Wallis, 1859, at corner of Commerce and West Streets.⁸⁴

School of P. LeMessurier - Corner Hollingbrook and Second Streets, 1859.⁸⁵

81. Daily Express, Aug. 17, 1859.

82. Petersburg Daily Intelligencer, May 9, 1859.

83. Daily Express, Aug. 11, 1859.

84. Ibid, Sept. 9, 1859.

85. Ibid, Sept. 26, 1859.

CHAPTER V

PETERSBURG'S MOST SUCCESSFUL SCHOOLS FOR GIRLS

-1-

LEAVENWORTH FEMALE COLLEGE

A school that enjoyed great popularity and prosperity before the War Between the States was the Leavenworth Female College, founded by the Rev. A. J. Leavenworth in 1842. This institution for the education of young ladies offered both preparatory and college work and rated with the best girls' schools of its time.

According to Claiborne this school:¹

.....was located at the corner of Market and Washington Streets and was taught by the Rev. Mr. Leavenworth, a ripe scholar and a conscientious and painstaking instructor. The grade of scholarship in his school was always high, and the course thorough, especially in mathematics.

Mr. Leavenworth was a well known lecturer on scientific subjects as this newspaper notice indicated:²

The annual course in Mr. Leavenworth's Seminary will commence on Thursday, the 25d. inst. It will comprise about 30 Lectures, in which the principles of the Science will be fully explained and illustrated by more than 300 striking experiments, with an extensive apparatus.

Early in the ensuing year a course in Astronomy will

1. J. H. Claiborne, Seventy Five Years in Old Virginia, p. 103.

2. The Intelligencer, Dec. 23, 1847.

also be opened, the explanation of whose beautiful and sublime phenomena will be rendered intelligible and entertaining by the aid of a large Spring Orrery, a Tellurium, Globes and more than 100 Revolving and other Diagrams under a powerful Phantasmagoria Lantern.

A few private individuals will be admitted to either course upon application.

A. J. Leavenworth

An idea of the cost of a college education for girls in 1853 may be gained from the charges listed for this school in that year:³

Terms per Scholastic Year, due half yearly in advance	
For Board and Tuition in all English Branches	\$250
Tuition for day scholars in common English Branches	\$40
Tuition for day scholars in Latin, Greek or Higher English Branches	\$50
Extras - Modern Languages, each	\$20
Music - (Piano or guitar)	\$60
Music - (Harp.) from \$30 to \$50 per quarter.	
Contingent charge for each Course of Lectures and Experiments in Natural Sciences	\$5
Drawing, Painting and other Ornamental Branches at the usual rates.	

A handsome and large building was added to the physical equipment of Mr. Leavenworth's School in 1854, showing that the school was increasing in enrollment.⁴

One of the social affairs of the College in June, 1855,⁵ was a "Floral Festival" held by the young ladies of the school on the grounds of Mr. Thomas Dunn of Chesterfield. It was of

3. The Intelligencer, Sept. 29, 1853.

4. South-Side Democrat, July 11, 1854.

5. Ibid, June 5, 1855.

a dramatic character and witnessed by a large number of lady spectators from Petersburg. The affair wound up with a charming party at Mr. Dunn's which was attended by a numerous delegation of the "fair women and men of our city." Miss Holly Dupuy, of Prince Edward County, was Queen of the Festival.

Leavenworth Female College was incorporated in 1856 by an act of the Virginia State Legislature,⁶ and then in 1857 had the misfortune to suffer damages from fire.⁷ The building, which was located on the corner of Market and Washington Streets, had the interior of the cupola and the greater portion of the main roof destroyed. Every ceiling was ruined by water, and the total loss of between \$1500 and \$2000 was about half covered by insurance.

Mr. Leavenworth's health was such that he could not engage in active teaching in 1858-1859, but he had regained good health and was again teaching during 1859-1860.⁸

No records of the school's existence during the years 1861-1865 could be found, but it probably kept running on a war time basis as some of the other schools of the city did. However, A. J. Leavenworth was still principal for

6. South-Side Democrat, Jan. 14, 1856.

7. Daily Express, June 4, 1857.

8. Ibid, Sept. 8, 1859.

the session of 1865-1866.⁹

Reorganization of the school took place in 1869, Rhodes Massie, a graduate of the University of Virginia, who for the preceding three years had been assistant Professor of Modern Languages at Washington College (now Washington and Lee University), becoming principal.¹⁰ The course of instruction was distributed into three departments, the Primary, Academic and Collegiate. The school was founded under Presbyterian auspices and after its reorganization still enjoyed the same status, but the directors of the school were very definite in stating that no sectarian influence would be permitted.

Professor Massie came with the recommendations of General R. E. Lee and the faculties of Washington College and the University of Virginia.

One of the customs of this school was the awarding of Certificates of Merit and Distinction to the young ladies who had excelled in various subjects. Here are the names of some to whom these certificates were awarded at final exercises in 1870.¹¹

Nazarine F. Akers
Etta E. Donnan
Annie L. Potts

Lucy T. Smyth
Luly P. Tappey
Bettie M. Martin

9. Daily Express, Sept. 1, 1865.

10. Daily Index, Sept. 8, 1869.

11. Ibid, June 29, 1870.

Mary B. Kemp
 Mattie E. Sykes
 Maggie W. Weddell
 Maggie R. Banks
 S. Adelia Radcliffe
 Mary M. Riddle
 Helen L. McGill
 Maggie B. Callendar
 Susan P. Miller
 Martha D. Martin
 Lottie M. LeMoine
 Clara G. Smythe
 Mary Weddell

Betty Smith
 Hibernia Mollwaine
 Sarah T. Venable
 Anna J. McConnochie
 Lily G. Fisher
 M. Eva Bishop
 Kate McG. Venable
 Anna B. Mayes
 Nannie W. Donnan
 Nannie S. Martin
 Mollie B. Smythe
 Carrie C. Sturdivant
 Dora A. Wells

The total number of pupils for the session 1869-1870 was forty-nine.¹² The President of the Board of Directors was the Rev. E. H. Rutherford, and the Rev. John Miller was Vice-President. The name of the institution had been changed to the Leavenworth Collegiate Seminary.

The Seminary was listed in the Virginia School Reports of 1871-72 as having fifty-seven pupils and a faculty of six teachers, but it had seen its best days and was beginning to lose out to younger schools. The successors of Professor Leavenworth could never attain the success he enjoyed, and the remaining years of the institution were evidently a struggle to keep going. No public commencement exercises were held at the end of the session in 1872.¹³

The faculty for the 1872-1873 session¹⁴ consisted of Principal Rodes Massie, Miss Kerr, of North Carolina, Miss

12. Daily Index, Aug. 17, 1870.

13. Ibid, June 27, 1872.

14. Petersburg Index, Sept. 27, 1872.

Petrie, of Alabama, Mrs. Rodes Massie, Mrs. P. R. Bland and Mrs. R. F. Lester. This was the last year for Mr. Massie as principal, for in 1873 the trustees were inviting publicly applicants for the position, which was not now as attractive as it had once been.¹⁵ Miss Deveraux was finally selected as principal.¹⁶

The Rev. T. D. Witherspoon, Rev. G. L. Petrie, and P. S. Seabury were President, Vice-President and Secretary, respectively, of the school.¹⁷

Major R. C. Anderson, of Lynchburg, was engaged as principal for the 1875-76 session, with Miss Deveraux and other teachers assisting him.¹⁸

The last years of the school were conducted by Miss Laura Russell,¹⁹ and this once proud school suffered the fate of many others in that it could not long outlive the man who established it, ceasing to exist about 1880.

A few testimonial letters by patrons show how well the school rated at the height of its popularity:²⁰

Testimonial - From Rev. John Leyburn, D.D., of Phila-

15. Index and Appeal, Sept. 3, 1873.

16. Ibid, Sept. 15, 1873.

17. Ibid, Sept. 19, 1873.

18. Ibid, June 23, 1875.

19. Ibid, June 17, 1880.

20. The Intelligencer, Sept. 29, 1853.

delphia, then Corresponding Secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Education, now Associate Editor of the Presbyterian:

During my residence in Petersourg I enjoyed ample means for judging of the character of the Rev. Mr. Leavenworth's Female Seminary; and it affords me pleasure to repeat, in writing, what I have often said verbally to my friends, that I have never known a school in which young ladies were more thoroughly taught, or their minds more admirably developed and trained. In some of the more advanced branches, his pupils have shown a proficiency in my estimation, not surpassed by the best students in our best colleges. I regard such an institution as an acquisition to any community; and think parents should consider themselves highly favored in having the privilege of placing their children under such instruction.

Philadelphia, 1850.

John Leyburn.

Testimonial - From Hon. Green Kendrick, Lieutenant Governor of Connecticut:

I am well acquainted with Rev. Mr. Leavenworth's Collegiate Seminary, having had, one of my daughters under his charge for a year and a half, and another for two years; and I have no hesitation in saying that I believe it to be superior to any other institution of the kind with which I am acquainted. I consider Mr. L. as possessing peculiar qualifications for the station he occupies, and believe it to be nearly impossible for a young lady to pass through a course of study, under his direction, without experiencing the happiest results in the expansion and culture of her mental and moral powers. He is eminently successful, not only in stimulating his pupils to high attainments in Science and Literature, but in the development and formation of character, both elegant and dignified.

Green Kendrick

Waterbury, Conn., Nov. 1849.

Having each of us had daughters in Mr. Leavenworth's Seminary one or two years, we fully confirm the above testimony: - Rev. A. M. Train, C. S. Sperry, Dr. James Brown, Conn.: George Coggeshall, J. W. Spencer, Brooklyn, New York.

-2-

MRS. INDIANA PANNILL'S FEMALE SCHOOL

The group of excellent girls' schools that helped make Petersburg a center of culture in the middle nineteenth century would not be complete without the school of Mr. Indiana Pannill. Some news about this lady is given by Claiborne:¹

Mrs. Pannill was the daughter of the Hon. R. K. Meade, the representative from this district in Congress at that time, and subsequently Minister to Brazil. She was a woman of great beauty and vivacity, and a great belle, but, rejecting many suitors, she gave her hand to Mr. William Pannill, a young lawyer of fine attainments and of brilliant promise, but of very limited means. They opened a school at Dr. Worsham's in Dinwiddie County, Virginia, immediately after marriage, but in about two years Mr. Pannill unfortunately died. Mrs. Pannill then returned to this city and opened a school herself, withdrawing entirely from the society which her personal attractions and accomplishments so well fitted her to adorn. She gave her whole time and life to the honorable profession that she adopted, and for twelve or fifteen years had a most successful career as a teacher.

The exact date of the opening of Mrs. Pannill's School could not be ascertained, but was narrowed down to somewhere in the years 1850-1852. Her school was increasing in size and popularity and necessitated her having an assistant, Miss Lucy Nelson, in 1853.²

By 1854 the school had grown still more, and the follow-

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1. John Herbert Claiborne, Seventy Five Years in Old Virginia, p. 103.
 2. The Intelligencer, Sept. 29, 1853.

ing circular of the school gives some ideas about it.³

The next session of this School will commence on the first Monday in October next, and will close the last week in July.

Its location is on Washington St., in a healthy and pleasant part of the city. Capacious and airy schoolrooms are being erected for the accommodation of a hundred day pupils. Only a limited number of boarders will be received into Mrs. Pannill's family; to those the most parental care will be extended.

Each young lady on entering this school, is examined and classed according to her advancements. The last ten days of the session are devoted to a private examination of the pupils, and, at its close, Premiums are awarded in each class to such as are proficient. Particular attention is paid to Composition. In the First Class a Gold Medal is awarded to the young lady who distinguishes herself. Silver medals are awarded in the Second and Third Classes.

Silver Medals are awarded for Exemplary Department.

There will be monthly rehearsals of the Music Pupils, and premiums will be awarded according to their progress during the session.

Mrs. Pannill will be assisted by competent teachers in each department.

Quarterly reports of the Pupils will be sent to the parents.

The course of instruction embraces the following studies:

Orthography, Definitions, Reading, Writing, English Grammar, Composition, Arithmetic, Geography, Rhetoric, Mental Philosophy, Moral Philosophy, Evidences of Christianity, Ancient and modern History, Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, Astronomy, Botany, Mathematics, and the Holy Scriptures. Also Latin, and French, Vocal and Instrumental Music.

Terms per Session:

Board, including washing, fuel, lights, etc.	\$200
Tuition in English	\$ 40

3. Daily South-Side Democrat, Aug. 28, 1854.

Tuition in French	\$20
Tuition in Latin	\$10
Tuition in Drawing, per quarter	8
Piano and Guitaer, each	\$50
Use of each instrument	3

The school celebrated the end of the 1854-55 session with exercises during which Miss Jane Ruffin, eight years old, made a speech in poetry and delivered the prizes of good conduct. There was singing by the pupils, two of whom, Mary May of Petersburg and Pattie Goodwyn of Southampton, impressed the reporter with their excellent voices. The Rev. Mr. Locke awarded the prizes for excellence in classwork.⁴

As in the case of the other schools, after the 1859-1860 session, there was little information available about this school during the Civil War, but it was again mentioned in print in 1865, with an announcement that the school resumed work September 27, 1865.⁵ Professor Alexander Loos, a native of Germany, became the new instructor in music and modern languages.

Mrs. Pannill married again before the 1868-1869 session, and her school was taken over by John H. Powell.

4. South-Side Democrat, July 25, 1855.

5. Daily Index, Oct. 23, 1865.

-3-

PETERSBURG FEMALE INSTITUTE

Mr. John H. Powell, in 1868, opened his school, first known as "Mr. Powell's School for Young Ladies," in the building that had until then been used by Mrs. Pannill's School.¹ Mrs. R. K. Meade, mother of Mrs. Pannill, was in charge of the boarding department,² and prices were rising, for board and lodging for the nine months session had risen from \$200 to \$250.

At the closing exercises³ of Mr. Powell's School in 1869, prizes were awarded in Latin to Annie W. Paul and in French to Willie R. Hill. In Mathematics a unique situation existed. Misses A. and L. Roper, two sisters, both had the same average, so each was given a prize. Other prize winners were Portia L. Atkinson, Minnie E. Beckwith and Maggie Callendar.

The Petersburg Female Institute enjoyed reasonable success during its brief existence, but in 1871, Mr. Powell discontinued his teaching career in Petersburg⁴ in order to take over the management of a school in Richmond that had been run by his relative, Mr. D. Lee Powell, until his death.

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1. Daily Index, Aug. 26, 1868.
 2. Daily Express, Aug. 12, 1868.
 3. Daily Index, July 2, 1869.
 4. The Progress, Aug. 9, 1871.

Pupils of the school who were awarded distinctions of merit at its last closing exercises were Georgia B. Kay, Caroline County, Eliza A. Nelson, Clark County, Jinnie Brown, Prince George County, and Mollie Stockdale, Fannie Potts, Mollie Tanner, Mary Goodwyn, Dora Roberell, Minnie Beckwith, all of Petersburg.⁵

5. Daily Courier, June 27, 1871.

-4-

THE PETERSBURG FEMALE COLLEGE

The Methodists of Petersburg, following the example set by the Presbyterians, who had sponsored Leavenworth College in its earlier years, decided to interest themselves in the education of girls, and so, according to Davis,¹ they bought the property on the corner of what is now Sycamore Street and College Place as the site of a new school to be called the Petersburg Female College. Sycamore Street, in those days was called Walnut Street.

Originally, the building on this property was intended for another girls' school, the Rev. Mr. Leavenworth having contracted for it. It was framed ready for building somewhere in the North and was shipped here ready to erect.² In the meantime, Mr. Leavenworth had decided to build a brick structure at the corner of Washington and Market Streets for his own school, so he sold this tailor-made building to the trustees of the Petersburg Female College. The building is now the residence of Dr. A. K. Davis, son of one of the early faculty members of this once famous school.

No records could be found showing that the Methodist

-
1. A. K. Davis, Three Centuries of an Old Virginia Town, p. 16.
 2. Pinckney Williamson, Ye Olden Tymes - History of Petersburg Virginia for Nearly 300 Years, p. 18.

Church itself was officially interested in the school, other than newspaper references to such a connection, which were found on several different occasions. The support of the institution probably came from individuals who were prominent members of the Methodist denomination in Petersburg.

A list of the directors of the College was printed just before the beginning of the second session. The directors were D'Arcy Paul, chairman, Williams T. Davis, J. H. Cooper, Wesley Grigg, E. P. Nash, William Lee and John Lyon.³ Four of these, namely Paul, Davis, Grigg and Nash, were prominent members of Washington Street Methodist Church, the mother church of Methodism in Petersburg, and at various times were members of its Board of Stewards.⁴

An editorial in one of the Petersburg papers⁵ of 1855 tells more about the beginning of the Petersburg Female College:

In June, 1854, forty-eight gentlemen of Petersburg and vicinity joined together for the purpose of establishing a school of the highest grade for the education of young ladies.

They wished to elevate the standard of female education.

The Association organized under the title of the "Petersburg Female College," and it was resolved to apply to the General Assembly, at its next session, for an act of incorpor-

3. South-Side Democrat, Aug. 18, 1855.

4. P. H. Drewry, The Story of a Church, p. 193-208.

5. South-Side Democrat, Sept. 7, 1855.

ation. A spacious lot of land on Walnut Street was purchased for the site of the institution.

A large and commodious building has been set apart for the Boarding House. North of the dwelling, a handsome College Building, containing two large halls and eight recitation rooms, has been erected, capable of accommodating two hundred and fifty pupils. It had all the conveniences and improvements suggested by experience and careful observation of the best institutions of the country. The desks, seats, and other fixtures, are made after the most approved models. The rooms and passages are carpeted, and provided with the best apparatus for securing thorough ventilation, and a uniform temperature.

A news article about a year previously had given some more facts about the school's equipment.⁶ At that time preparations were being made for its opening session, which was to begin in the "late residence of H. D. Bird, Esq." This was the part of the school used for the boarding house after the class building bought from Mr. Leavenworth had been completed.

The estimated cost of the buildings, apparatus, etc. was from \$25,000 to \$30,000. Four or five male professors and two or more ladies were to be secured for the faculty, and the school was designed to accommodate two-hundred young ladies, who could obtain an education in any or all of the three departments, Primary, Academic, and Collegiate. The school was to be non-sectarian in character, although under the patronage of Methodists.

The first session was to run from September 27, 1854,

6. South-Side Democrat, July 19, 1854.

to July 15, 1855. An excellent faculty was announced before the opening.⁷ The Rev. George W. Carter was to be President and Professor of Belles Lettres, Ethics, etc. Robert Kerr, A.M., who had been principal of the Western Female High School in Baltimore since 1844, resigned and accepted the Professorship of Mathematics and Natural Sciences. Williams T. Davis, A.M., already well known and respected as an educator in Petersburg, became Professor of Ancient Languages, and Literature. Joseph Wall, teacher of Modern Languages, J. Fred Wulff, Music and Drawing, Miss Emma J. Taylor, Ornamental Branches, and Miss Amanda D. Armistead, Primary Department, completed the list.

Terms of tuition for the scholastic year were:

Primary Department	\$30
Academic Advanced English branches	\$40
Collegiate - higher English branches with Latin or Greek	\$50
Extras	
Modern Languages, each	\$20
Music on Piano or Guitar	\$60
Drawing in Pencil (per quarter)	\$ 8
Lectures and Experiments in Natural Sciences, (per course)	\$ 5
Painting in Oil or Water (per quarter)	\$10
Sacred Music Daily exercise	No charge

Boarding pupils were to live with the family of William Lea, who occupied the College premises. President Carter and Mrs. Carter also occupied this house.

July 18, 1855, was the date of the first Commencement of

7. South-Side Democrat, Sept. 6, 1854.

the College.⁸ The occasion was celebrated with an address by the Rev. D. S. Doggett, D.D., a prominent Methodist Minister. His very appropriate subject was "The Mission and Destiny of Woman."

The end of the first session also witnessed the resignation of one of the original faculty members. Robert Kerr left the city to return to his former residence in Baltimore, but before his departure his pupils presented him with a beautiful tea service of silver as a token of their love and esteem for such an excellent teacher.

The second session, which began on September 26, 1855,⁹ was an eventful one. In February, 1856, a bill was passed by the General Assembly of Virginia incorporating the Petersburg Female College.¹⁰ A meeting of the stockholders of the institution was called on May 16 for the purpose of organizing the College under the act passed by the Assembly. Every stockholder was requested to be present, either in person or by proxy. The names of the commissioners mentioned in the Act of Incorporation were John Lyon, Wesley Grigg, D'Arcy Paul, William Lea and P. B. Willis.¹¹

8. South-Side Democrat, July 19, 1855.

9. Ibid, Nov. 6, 1855.

10. Ibid, Feb. 27, 1856.

11. The Daily Express, May 10, 1856.

Something had happened during this second year to cause dissension within the school itself; for President Carter in June announced his resignation, giving poor health as the reason.¹² The same day his resignation was announced, another article in a different newspaper threw more light on the real reason. This article is reproduced here:¹³

At a meeting of the Stockholders of the Petersburg Female College, held at the College building, and called at the instance of the Rev. George W. Carter, President of the College, to investigate certain injurious rumors and allegations affecting his conduct and administration, the following resolutions were passed as expressing the sense of the Stockholders:

Resolved, That after a full and patient investigation of the several rumors and allegations affecting the conduct and administration of President Carter, we are satisfied there exists no ground of complaint against him, and that our confidence in his purity, integrity, ability and discretion is full and unimpaired.

Resolved, That Mr. Carter be requested to continue his connection with the College, and that the directors are instructed hereby to use their best efforts to retain his services.

Resolved, That in justice to Mr. Carter, these resolutions be published in the papers of the City, and in the Richmond and North Carolina Christian Advocates, and a copy of the same furnished to all the Stockholders and patrons of the College.

T. H. Rosser, Chairman

D. Lyon, Jr., Secretary

The newspaper reporters of 1856 reaped much enjoyment from the second annual commencement which took place July 16,

12. South-Side Democrat, June 19, 1856.

13. The Daily Express, June 19, 1856.

and some of their comments will be given later. The speaker of the day was the Rev. Dr. McGuffey, whose Readers made him famous among school teachers of that era. According to the news article,¹⁴ he "made an address from memory of the beauties and workings of nature, which was listened to with a meritorious silence and attention, though to our mind, the Rev. Doctor did not throw out much of original thought or conception on that subject. Yet it was favorable on this occasion, and good in being out of the old-fashioned order of addresses to pupils."

The next part of the exercises consisted of the reading of seven essays, written by members of the graduating class. These were read by some of the professors "in a rather subdued voice." Then diplomas were presented to the graduates.

Next was the presentation of a gold watch as a parting gift to Mr. Carter, who had resigned in spite of the request of the directors that he remain. The watch was donated by the young ladies of the college and presented by the Rev. N. T. Lupton. Mr. Carter responded by thanking the ladies for this evidence of their confidence in him.

Music and singing completed the exercises.

The list of the faculty members present showed changes from the first year, and contained these names: - J. Fred

14. South-Side Democrat, July 17, 1856.

Wulff, C. L. Bartlett, Miss DeBelena, Miss Kate Beckwith,
W. T. Davis, Miss E. L. Davis, and Miss Julia Bissel.

In another article in the same issue of the South-Side Democrat, a reporter who probably would be called a "Column-ist" to-day, took a few digs at the faculty and students:

Reading - There were seven compositions read yesterday at the Female College, not by the fair pupils whose names endorsed them (and more is the pity) but by "Professors" - gentlemen through a spirit of courtesy to the ladies, were appointed, to read these essays - well perhaps the chirography was not over legible - we can't say: but we certainly can maintain that we never heard reading so badly performed before by "Professors." After all there is some philosophy in looking effectively after the three R's.

Here are the names of the graduates and the titles of the essays mentioned above.¹⁵ Audiences had to be able to "take it" in 1856.

Bettie M. Floyd: The Philosopher's Stone

Emma W. Boisseau: The Beautiful

Maria Drummond: The Past, Present and Future

Maggie Kerr: God is Good

Jennie Major: No Man Lives for Himself Alone

Mattie Davis: The Scholar's Hope

Addie Sleppy: Shadows We Are and Shadows We Pursue

Mr. Carter had reconsidered his resignation during the summer, and an announcement was made in September that he would continue as President for the session beginning Sep-

15. The Daily Express, July 17, 1856.

tember 25, 1856. Mr. and Mrs. James Simmons, of North Carolina, became the new managers of the boarding department, the price for board, washing, etc. being \$90 per session of five months. The list of directors showed several changes, being composed of D'Arcy Paul, Thomas Branch, Rev. John Kerr, E. P. Nash, P. B. Wills, Benjamin P. Harrison, Richard Irby, Peter F. Cogbill and Reuben Ragland.¹⁶ The third session of the College opened with an enrollment of eighty young ladies, and a new Professor of Modern Languages, P. H. Montague, of Richmond.¹⁷

President Carter once more changed his mind and resigned his position with the College in order to take up ministerial duties again, and was appointed pastor of the Fourth Street Methodist Church of Lynchburg in December, 1856. The Virginia Conference had unanimously requested that the Bishop return him to the College, but the great demand for preachers and Mr. Carter's own wishes dictated his decision.¹⁸

The Professor of Mathematics and Physical Sciences, Mr. N. T. Lupton, was appointed President to succeed Mr. Carter,¹⁹ and finished out the session in that capacity, although he

16. Daily Express, Sept. 3, 1856.

17. Ibid, Sept. 26, 1856.

18. Ibid, Dec. 8, 1856.

19. Ibid, Dec. 20, 1856.

accepted the Professorship of Chemistry at Randolph-Macon College for the next college year.²⁰

Shortly before this, it had been announced that the Rev. William H. Christian, Principal of the Raleigh Female Seminary, had accepted the Presidency of Petersburg Female College.²¹

The third commencement of the College witnessed the reading of more compositions by the graduates. The names of the graduates and titles of their papers follow:

Julia Brownley - "The Morn of Life"

Emma Bartlett - "Mary, Queen of Scots"

Juliette Drummond - "Life's Tears"

Sarah E. Grigg - "Honor and shame from no condition rise
Act well your part - there all the honor lies."

Sarah Stainbeck - "Uses of Adversity."

Mrs. Berta B. Wright delivered the Valedictory, the young ladies presented a parting gift to President Lupton²² and the address was by the Rev. John D. Blackwell, of Richmond.²³

New teachers for the session of 1857-1858 included, in

20. Daily Express, May 9, 1857.

21. Ibid, May 8, 1857.

22. Ibid, July 16, 1857.

23. South-Side Democrat, June 27, 1857.

addition to the President, Miss E. A. Lacy and Professor Alexander Poleman.²⁴ Some of the old faculty members had left. This session was rather hard on the candidates for graduation, only three out of seven being successful.²⁵ The lucky ladies were Alice H. Davis of Petersburg, Laura Heath of Petersburg, and Annie E. Manson of Brunswick.

The turnover in presidents of this institution during its early years was remarkable. The fifth session commenced with a new president in charge. This time the honor went to Williams T. Davis, who had been with the College since its founding. Other faculty changes brought the Rev. J. E. Edwards, who was also pastor of Washington Street Methodist Church, W. I. Cowles, Miss M. E. Davis, and Mrs. Alexandre Poleman to the school as new teachers.²⁶

Several changes in the management and government of the College were effected at the annual meeting of the stockholders in 1858. W. T. Davis leased the college, and as stated above, became its president, with full powers to select his own faculty. He assumed the entire responsibility for its management and control. During his first session as president a Society of the Alumnae of the College was organized,

24. South-Side Democrat, Aug. 28, 1857.

25. Daily Express, July 15, 1858.

26. Ibid, Sept. 6, 1858.

to hold its first annual meeting at the next commencement. An announcement was made that the valedictory would not be conferred by the Faculty, but by the election of the Senior Class.²⁷

Miss Addie E. Sleppy, a graduate, was elected by the Society of the Alumnae to receive and welcome into the Society the graduating class of 1859.²⁸ Miss Mary Camp was the Valedictorian that year, and her address was read by the Rev. John E. Edwards.²⁹

Co-principals were in charge of this school for the session beginning Sept. 21, 1859. The Rev. Joseph H. Davis, brother of W. T. Davis, who had been President of Wesleyan Female College in Murfreesborough, North Carolina, became associated in the management of the college. Gagolin de Fontenay was engaged as Professor of Modern Languages.³⁰

At this time the Methodist Church still seemed to be interested in the Petersburg Female College to some extent, as this article shows:³¹

The recent Methodist Conference held in Lynchburg, Va., appointed Rev. J. H. Davis, Professor in the above College

27. Daily Express, June 20, 1859.

28. Ibid, June 22, 1859.

29. Ibid, July 15, 1859.

30. Ibid, Sept. 1, 1859.

31. The Press, Nov. 26, 1859.

(Petersburg Female College), and Messrs. Whitehead, Lear and Blackwell, a "visiting committee" to the same.

No records could be found about the history of this school during the period of 1860-1864, but records of the Southern Female College show that W. T. Davis severed his connection with the Petersburg Female College in 1862 in order to found the Southern Female College.

Soon after the bloody conflict between the States had ceased, a newspaper carried the announcement of the opening of the Petersburg Female College, Sept. 27, 1865. The president for this session was William B. Carr, A.M. Other new names were those of the Rev. John C. Granberry, Mrs. F. M. Wright, Miss Annie E. Thomas, Dr. John Herbert Claiborne, Louis Ganbin and Mrs. Thomas R. Moore. The only holdover from the pre-war period was J. Fred Wulff. Evidence of the consideration for the impoverished condition of Southerners brought about by the late war is shown in this part of the announcement:³²

To avoid unnecessary expense for dress, a neat uniform to be worn at Church and on special occasions will be adopted for the Boarders and furnished, if desired, on the best terms.

An article in the Daily Index of July 2, 1868 described the fourteenth Annual Commencement of the Petersburg Female College. As the College was opened in 1854, this may be evi-

32. Daily Express, Sept. 18, 1865.

dence that it was operating during the Civil War. During the 1867-1868 session, R. M. Smith was President, and one hundred and eight scholars were registered for the session. The graduating class was composed of these young ladies: Rosa Bill, Garysburg, N. C.; Eva Burroughs, Norfolk, Va.; Mollie Drewry, Southampton, Va.; Cheslina Greene, Oxford, Me.; Lucy Meredith, Brunswick, Va.; and Emily Granberry, Baltimore, Md.³³

The fifteenth annual session got under way September 30, 1868 with another new president, Richard W. Jones, A.M. of the University of Virginia, at the helm. As was the usual custom with graduates of that University, he announced that the system of teaching, as far as it was applicable to young ladies, would be the same as that pursued at the University of Virginia.³⁴ The College was divided into eight schools, namely: - History, English Literature, Mathematics, Natural Sciences, Moral and Mental Sciences, Latin and Greek, Modern Languages, and Music. A preparatory school was run in connection with the college. Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Wright were in charge of the boarding department, and D'Arroy Paul was still President of the Board of Directors.

Two changes in the faculty occurred in February. Earnest Lagarde, formerly Professor of Modern Languages at Randolph-

33. Daily Index, July 2, 1868.

34. Ibid, Sept. 16, 1868.

Macon College, accepted a like position with this college. The other change was one regretted by all friends and patrons of the school, the resignation of Professor J. Fred Wulff, who had been with the college since its founding in 1854.³⁵ Professor Wulff, in his capacity as Professor of Music, had contributed much to the culture and entertainment of Petersburg, and his departure on February 24 was a loss to the city.

A newspaper article in 1869 mentioned the fact that the Petersburg Female College was one of the institutions in which the Methodist Church was interested.³⁶

The sixteenth annual session was remarkable for the fact that the same president was in charge for the second year in succession.³⁷ Graduates for that year were Agnes G. Strange, Louisa County, and Mollie S. Burns, Linda S. Cogbill, and Mattie A. Rowlett, all of Petersburg.³⁸

From this time on, all evidence seemed to point to the fact that the College was on the decline. Fewer men were employed as teachers, the enrollment dropped, and financially, the school was in an unhappy condition. Much of this was brought about by the improvement of public education in Peters-

35. Daily Express, Feb. 24, 1869.

36. Ibid, Feb. 26, 1869.

37. Daily Index, Sept. 17, 1869.

38. Ibid, July 7, 1870.

burg. People were beginning to find out that the public schools, no longer thought of as charity institutions, could offer work on a level with the more expensive private institutions.

Brockwell states:³⁹

.....from the establishment of the Anderson School in 1821 until the organization of a Board of Education in 1868, interest in public education grew until Petersburg was willing to expend annually from its own income a considerable sum for the support of free schools. This interest was even more strongly manifested when, in 1868, Petersburg became one of the first towns in Virginia to organize its own Board of Education to formally inaugurate a system of public education. The Petersburg School System had been in operation for two years before the State Board of Education was formed in 1870.

Mrs. F. M. Wright succeeded Mr. Jones as principal of the school in 1870⁴⁰ and continued in that position for several years. The faculty at the beginning of the session in 1871 was composed of Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Virginia Randolph Hage, Mrs. Nannie Buford, F. C. Hahr of the University of Upsala, Sweden, and Thomas D. Davidson, who had long been considered one of Petersburg's best teachers.⁴¹

Statistics in the Virginia School Reports, 1871-72, show that this school had fifty one pupils.

Essayists for the commencement exercises in 1872 were Fannie M. Drummond and Mizzie L. Gibson of Petersburg, Anna

39. Henry B. Brockwell, History of Secondary Education in Petersburg, Virginia, p. 64.

40. Daily Index, June 28, 1871.

41. Ibid, Sept. 4, 1871.

R. Prince of Sussex County, and Ida E. Thackston of Farmville.⁴²
 The titles of the essays were no longer published, causing a lack of information as to the line of thought of the educated young lady in that year.

Recipients of diplomas at the end of the session in 1873 were Eva Martin, Mary Schoolfield, Mollie Rainey and Ida Lownes.⁴³

A larger faculty was announced for the 1873-74 session, but no information could be gathered concerning the enrollment. The teachers were Mrs. F. M. Wright, Rev. R. N. Sledd, J. B. Budwell, Mrs. Armand Preet, Fred C. Hahr, E. B. Branch and Dr. W. L. Baylor.⁴⁴ It was the custom of many private schools of that day and later to list as members of the faculty anyone connected with the school, such as the matron, boarding-house manager, or the physician who gave medical attention to boarding pupils. Such may not have been the case in this instance, but numerous private school catalogues have resorted to practices such as the above in order to give the school a more impressive appearance to prospective customers.

The final year of Mrs. Wright's leadership produced three graduates in 1876; Pattie E. Barham, Annie E. Demarest and

42. Petersburg Index, Sept. 27, 1872.

43. Daily Appeal, June 25, 1873.

44. Index and Appeal, Sept. 19, 1873.

Annie J. McConnochie.⁴⁵ Mrs. Wright's son, Frank M. Wright, Jr., succeeded her and retained the principalship until the school closed its doors.⁴⁶ His faculty at the beginning of the 1877-78 session contained the names of William B. Carr, Rev. J. Powell Garland, Mrs. F. C. Hahr, Miss Fanny H. McGill and F. C. Hahr. Directors of the school were President James P. Williamson, Secretary P. S. Seabury, Treasurer D. B. Dugger, Thomas W. Mason, Robert Harrison, George Cameron, Dr. David Steel, T. J. Jarratt, E. M. Williamson, J. W. Ridley, F. M. Wright and Dr. J. H. Claiborne. Board and English Tuition were listed at \$200 to \$220 per session.⁴⁷

The financial condition of the College became public news on February 15, 1878, as shown in the following notice concerning the Petersburg Female College.⁴⁸

By virtue of a deed of trust dated February 5th., 1878 and duly recorded, from the Petersburg Female College to the undersigned, we shall on Saturday, the 2nd. day of March, at 4:30 o'clock, P.M., on the premises, sell at auction that very valuable building and lot on Sycamore Street, fronting thereon about 50 feet and running back to an alley about 150 feet, and known as The Petersburg Female College, together with the School Room Furniture, Chemical and Philosophical Apparatus, etc. Aside from all the advantages of this property as a College, the building might be converted, at a small

45. Index and Appeal, June 21, 1876.

46. Ibid, Sept. 4, 1876.

47. Ibid, Sept. 11, 1877.

48. Daily Post, Feb. 15, 1878.

cost, into a desirable family residence, and capitalists would do well to examine as an investment.

Terms - One-fourth cash; balance 3, 6, 9, 12, 15 and 18 months credit, interest added, for approved endorsed negotiable notes and title retained until final payment.

Purchaser to pay taxes for 1878.

J. Wesley Friend	}	Trustees
Charles S. Stringfellow		
W. R. McKenney		

Pannill and Son,
Auctioneers.

The property of the College, which at the founding of the school, was heralded as costing from \$25,000 to \$30,000, was bought April 9, 1878 by Harmon W. Siggins for \$3650.⁴⁹ Arrangements were evidently made with the purchaser for the school to continue using the building, for it did not change its location until 1881.

The lone graduate in 1878 was Florie B. Harrison of Petersburg.⁵⁰

Principal F. M. Wright, Miss Sallie H. Halliday, Miss Christie Burns, F. C. Hahr and Mrs. F. C. Hahr were the faculty at the beginning of the session September 18, 1878,⁵¹ and at the conclusion of the session, full diplomas were awarded to Laura J. Tinsley and Sallie W. Mason.⁵²

49. Daily Post, April 10, 1878.

50. Ibid, June 21, 1878.

51. Ibid, Sept. 5, 1878.

52. Index and Appeal, June 25, 1879.

Full graduates in 1880 were Ruth Alley and Lula Whitehurst.⁵³

Miss Laura Russell replaced Mr. F. C. Hahr on the faculty and at the end of the session in 1881, Katie Whitehurst of Petersburg and Fannie Miller of Ashland, Virginia were declared full graduates.⁵⁴

Ferdinand Schwenck and J. L. Buford became teachers in the school in 1881 and Miss Holliday ceased to be a member of the faculty.⁵⁵ The session marked a change of location for the school, which occupied as its new quarters the building at the corner of Market and Washington Streets known formerly as the Leavenworth College.⁵⁶

No public announcement was made giving the names of the graduates in 1882, but Mr. Wright issued a public statement to the effect that some eighty pupils had been in attendance during the past session and that he would positively open his school again the next session, regardless of all reports to the contrary.⁵⁷

The faculty for the final session consisted of Principal

53. Index and Appeal, June 13, 1880.

54. Ibid, June 23, 1881.

55. Ibid, Sept. 9, 1881.

56. Ibid, July 12, 1881.

57. Ibid, June 15, 1882.

F. M. Wright, Miss Burns, Miss Deveraux, Mr. Schwenck and Miss M. E. Moody.⁵⁸

The last full graduate of this school which ended its existence in the old Leavenworth school building was a young lady bearing the same name. She was Miss Hester Leavenworth. The commencement was marked by the farewell address from Mr. Wright, who severed his connection with the college in order to engage in other business.⁵⁹

58. Index and Appeal, Sept. 1, 1882.

59. Ibid, June 19, 1883.

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MRS. P. A. SCHOOLFIELD

A school for girls that was in existence for many years was run by the above lady. It was situated on Harrison Street in 1856,¹ and tuition was \$30 for ten months. This school was probably opened about 1843, for an announcement of its sixteenth annual session was made in 1858,² and tuition had been increased to \$40 for ten months. It was still in existence in 1864, evidently carrying on business through the war days, and tuition charges reflected the inflation brought about by these conditions. Tuition for a session of five months was \$75. "Music on Piano, with use of instrument" was \$80, and the charge for fuel was \$5.³ In 1871 it was announced that Latin, French and Music would be taught in addition to a thorough course of instruction in the English Branches.⁴ No further information could be secured about Mrs. Schoolfield's Female School, which probably ended its more than twenty-eight years of service soon after that.

1. Daily Express, Aug. 16, 1856.

2. Ibid, Sept. 6, 1858.

3. Ibid, Sept. 1, 1864.

4. The Progress, Aug. 21, 1871.

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DAVIDSON FEMALE COLLEGE

After serving on the staff of the Petersburg Classical Institute, first as teacher and then as principal, Thomas D. Davidson decided to open a school of his own, which was first called the Davidson Seminary, but later was better known as Davidson Female College. Part of Mr. Davidson's residence on South Market Street was used for the school,¹ while a hall and recitation room were added to the structure. According to a newspaper notice,² the hall, or school room, was 39x30x12 feet in dimensions and was "finely lighted and handsomely furnished with desks of highly finished and beautiful style." The recitation room as also well adapted to its uses. The first session opened September 28, 1859.

Davidson's school enjoyed a fair degree of success for a few years, but it, too, could not compete with the younger and more progressive Southern Female College which began its rapid growth after the Civil War, and went out of existence about 1873. In that year, Professor Davidson was offered the position as principal of the Petersburg High School, but he declined the offer in order to accept the presidency of the Stonewall Jack-

1. Daily Express, Apr. 18, 1859.

2. Ibid, Sept. 27, 1859.

son Female College at Abingdon, Virginia.³ The Professor and his family left for Abingdon on September 11, 1873 to take up his new duties there, and the whole city regretted the departure of one of Petersburg's oldest educators in years of service.⁴

3. The Rural Messenger, Aug. 23, 1873.

4. Index and Appeal, Sept. 11, 1873.

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ST. PAUL'S CHURCH SCHOOL

(LATER - ST. PAUL'S FEMALE SCHOOL)

The school building that had been used by Mr. Powell for his Petersburg Female Institute did not remain empty long, for the Rev. J. H. D. Wingfield, Rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, took over the building for a school for young ladies in August, 1871, the year Mr. Powell went to Richmond.¹ This school was strictly a Church School while it was run by the Rev. Wingfield, who was its President and Rector. The Right Rev. John Johns, D.D., L.L.D. and the Right Rev. Francis M. Whittle, D.D. were Visitors Ex-officio. Hugh Craig, M.A., Cambridge College, England, who had formerly taught at the University of Virginia, was first-assistant.² Subjects taught included all the branches of English, Ancient and Modern Languages, Mathematics, Vocal and Instrumental Music.

In its first year, St. Paul's Church School had an enrollment of sixty-eight pupils, seven teachers, and charged seven dollars a month for tuition.³

The faculty for the second session of this institution

1. The Progress, Aug. 9, 1871.

2. Ibid, Aug. 23, 1871.

3. Virginia School Reports, 1871-72, p. 216.

consisted of Dr. Wingfield, President, the Rev. Aristides S. Smith, Vice-Rector, Miss Ellen D. Brownlow, Madame Marie De Boulogny Myrick, Mrs. C. E. Waddell, Miss Eliza Hill, W. S. Simpson, and F. C. Hahr.⁴ The last named professor also taught music in the Petersburg Female College during the same years he was connected with St. Paul's School. Salaries in private schools of that day were not noted for their magnitude, and many of the teachers made both ends meet by teaching in two or more schools at the same time.

There was one change in the faculty for 1873, Professor J. G. Griswold taking the place of Miss Brownlow.⁵ He possessed a Master of Arts Degree, had continued his studies in Europe and subsequently filled the Chair of Modern Languages at the University of San Cristobol, Havana, Cuba, and after that held a similar position at the University of Alabama before coming to Petersburg.⁶

Some of the pupils of the school in 1873 were Nannie Pond, Georgie B. Kay, Virginia Pegram, Eleanor A. Hurt, Victoria Dodson, Lena Willson, Marian Dodson, Ella Booth, Corinne Davis, Katie Strachan, Martha Jeter, Susan Plummer,

4. The Petersburg Index, Sept. 27, 1872.

5. The Index and Appeal, Sept. 2, 1873.

6. Pollock, Historical and Industrial Guide to Petersburg, Virginia, p. 236.

Susan Cooper, Sallie Watkins, Kate Beckwith and Virginia Marbury.⁷

Professor Griswold became the Principal at the beginning of the 1874-75 session, which was the last year the school was known as St. Paul's Church School.⁸ From then on it was St. Paul's Female School, for Mr. Griswold took over the management of the school, discarding its religious bias, and continuing it as a non-sectarian private school.⁹ Under its new management, the school enjoyed great popularity for a number of years.

In 1878, the school sponsored the first exhibit in Petersburg of Edison's talking machine. Mr. Griswold explained to the audience how this marvelous machine worked and then the man who was performing the demonstration made records and played them. People of that day gladly paid twenty-five cents to see "this miracle of modern science."¹⁰

The first full graduate in all the departments of the school was Miss Susie Cooper, who received her diploma in June, 1879. According to the account of the presentation "the

7. The Daily Appeal, June 23, 1873.

8. The Rural Messenger, Sept. 12, 1874.

9. Pollock, Historical and Industrial Guide to Petersburg, Virginia, p. 236.

10. Index and Appeal, July 2, 1878.

standard was high, and faithful labor had been required to reach it."¹¹

The site of this school in 1880 was 27 Union Street.¹² In 1881 a boarding department was added, Professor Griswold opening his home to a limited number of students.¹³ A startling innovation was also announced at the same time in the same news article:

The highest standard of scholarship continues to be maintained in this school, and its teachers still keep abreast of the times in all approved methods and text books. Examinations have been done away with, and for the future, quick sharp reviews will be had at stated intervals for the purpose of testing the scholars' proficiency. Prof. Griswold thinks by this means to avoid "cramming" and also the loss of time consumed by examinations.

Miss Lillie W. Goodwyn, who had attended St. Paul's for eight years, was a full graduate in 1882. The closing exercises were complimented by the newspaper thus: "The entertainment had the rare merit of beginning on time, being reasonably brief, and not an afflictive dispensation in the way of speech making."¹⁴

Teachers in 1882, in addition to Griswold, were Ferdinand Schwenck, Miss Laura M. Russell, F. C. Hahr, Miss V. L. Major,

11. Index and Appeal, June 21, 1879.

12. Ibid, Sept. 13, 1880.

13. Ibid, Aug. 12, 1881.

14. Ibid, June 21, 1882.

Miss Lossie Hill, and Miss M. E. Moody.¹⁵ Miss Jessie Donnan and Miss Mittie Patteson had replaced Hahr and Miss Moody by 1884.¹⁶

Elections held at closing exercises in June, 1884, decided that the prettiest girl in the school was Sallie Mann, the most popular was Gracie Young, and the quietest was Lizzie Bolling.¹⁷

At commencement in 1888, Certificates of Distinction were awarded to Susie Cameron, Belle Green, Mary Patteson, Genie Smith and Mattie Wright. Gold Medals were awarded to Lena Davis, Fannie Hinton, Carrie Jones, Bessie Minctree, Lillian Nichols and Bettie Willcox.¹⁸

Fannie Hinton became a full graduate of the school in 1890.¹⁹

According to some of the older residents of Petersburg, old age finally caused Professor Griswold to discontinue teaching about 1890 or 1891, and Miss Laura M. Russell became the head of the school from the time of his retirement until the 1893-94 session.²⁰ This session, Horace Epes became Principal

15. Index and Appeal, Sept. 1, 1882.

16. Pollock, Historical and Industrial Guide to Petersburg, Virginia, p. 174.

17. Index and Appeal, June 14, 1884.

18. Ibid, June 16, 1888.

19. Ibid, June 14, 1890.

20. Index-Appeal, Sept. 2, 1892.

and Miss Russell was Assistant-Principal,²¹ and the school had an enrollment of sixty-five pupils, mostly from Petersburg and the adjacent counties.²²

Mr. Epes did not return the next session and Miss Russell again became Principal, assisted by Miss E. M. Patteson.²³ This was the last year for St. Paul's Female School, which like other private schools, had been built around the personality of a great man teacher, in this instance Mr. Griswold, and could not continue long without him.

An advertisement in August, 1895, announced that Miss Linda Cogbill, with an assistant, would re-open the school September 25 if she could secure a sufficient number of pupils.²⁴ Since nothing else was found concerning the school, she was probably unsuccessful in getting the pupils.

Miss Russell continued teaching, however, running her own private school and offering preparation for college or high school.²⁵ In 1903, her school had three teachers, and was held at 2 North Adams Street,²⁶ where it lasted until about 1910.

21. Index-Appeal, Sept. 13, 1893.

22. The Cockade City, A Publication by the City of Petersburg, Va., p. 27.

23. Index-Appeal, Sept. 2, 1894.

24. Ibid, Aug. 27, 1895.

25. Ibid, Sept. 1, 1895.

26. Ibid, Sept. 6, 1903.

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SOUTHERN FEMALE COLLEGE

The most famous of all the girls' schools in Petersburg began its long and distinguished service during the dark days of the War Between the States, and ended its existence only a few months before the nation was drawn into World War II.

Williams T. Davis, who had been one of the founders of the Petersburg Female College in 1854 and had served it both as professor and president, withdrew from that school in 1862 to establish a girls' school of his own, naming it the Southern Female College. It was chartered in 1863 by the Confederate legislature,¹ and carried on its work of educating the young women of Petersburg throughout the War with the exception of a few months in 1864-65.

These memorable early days of the school were rich in historical interest, and were described in the following manner by Dr. A. K. Davis, the son of its founder:²

On the ... memorable ninth of June, 1864, the founder and president of the college, Williams T. Davis, like Prof. Staubly, was in Archer's command in the Rives farm fight in defence of the city, while three of his sons were in other commands. It was probably because of his absence that the college girls were grouped on the front piazza on this June day. At any rate, it is a fact that as Graham's battery of four guns came dashing and swaying up Sycamore Street, with

1. A. K. Davis, Three Centuries of an Old Virginia Town, p. 15.

2. Ibid, p. 15-16.

the men on the caissons clinging for life as they rushed to drive back Kautz's advance up the New Road, they were cheered by the college girls with a spirit and strength that made the cheer audible above the rumble of the cannon. On went the guns, the two brass howitzers turning into the New Road, and the two rifled guns going into position on the crest of the Delectable Heights in time to repel the attack.

Through a long part of the siege, the work of the college was carried on daily, the hours of lecture being arranged so girls might not go to and fro during the fixed hours of bombardment. The bomb-proof cellar is still to be seen to which the resident students retired during the shelling. The spot in the grounds is still shown where the shell fell during the siege, and the other spot where the silver was buried in anticipation of the capture of the city. Finally the danger became so great that the school was removed to Danville, where it was located when the last meeting of the Confederate cabinet was held there. Immediately after the war the college was again established in its old home in Petersburg.

It was during the winter of 1864-65, during which the siege of Petersburg was approaching its climax, that the school was moved to Danville, where it was known as Danville Female College.³ The summer of 1865 witnessed the return of Mr. Davis to Petersburg and the reopening of the Southern Female College in September.

Mr. Davis, whose first wife had died a few years before, married Miss C. V. Robinson in 1862.⁴ In addition to his own services in the defence of Petersburg, as related above, he had given three sons to the service of the Confederacy. One died at Chancellorsville, and one was wounded in the Battle of the Crater at Petersburg.

3. Index and Appeal, July 20, 1898.

4. J. H. Claiborne, Seventy-Five Years in Old Virginia, p. 102.

The return of peace in 1865 enabled the school to re-open September 27, 1865.⁵ W. A. Shephard, formerly of Randolph-Macon College, was one of the new teachers secured for the new session, and the institution embarked upon an era of prosperity unequalled by any other girls' school in Petersburg.

During the session of 1867-68, the enrollment was one-hundred and eighty, which was an increase of twenty-five per cent over the previous year.⁶ The ten young ladies who graduated were Maggie Atkinson, Emma Alley, Florence Butler, Bettie Lee Brown, Sallie Holmes, Mollie Holmes, Eva M. Harrison, Priscie Saunders, Annette Drummond and Laura Russell.⁷

Board and English tuition for a session of twenty weeks cost \$150 in 1868.⁸ Another new teacher was added to the faculty in 1870, Miss Mary Walker.⁹

The first complete listing of the faculty was for the 1871-72 session, when it consisted of W. T. Davis, Rev. C. H. Hall, R. B. Davis, Miss L. V. Major, Miss Bettie Jones and Miss Addie Moore.¹⁰

5. The Daily Express, Sept. 1, 1865.

6. Daily Index, June 27, 1868.

7. Ibid, July 1, 1868.

8. Ibid, Sept. 16, 1868.

9. Ibid, Sept. 20, 1870.

10. The Progress, Sept. 1, 1871.

The continued growth of Southern Female College made necessary its first addition. Plans for this increase in the physical plant were announced in 1871.¹¹ They included a study and a concert hall to be added to the original building, which gave it a frontage of forty feet on Sycamore Street, and a depth of sixty feet. The roof of the building and the tower were finished in the French style, and the cost of these improvements was estimated to be \$4000.

According to the same announcement, the College was under the patronage of the Methodists of Petersburg. The pastor and the organist of Washington Street Methodist Church were members of its faculty, and the president and entire faculty of the College were members of Washington Street Church. It was probable that the connection between this school and the Methodist Church was of the same order as that between this church and the Petersburg Female College.

At the commencement exercises in 1872, winners of medals for merit were Annie McKenney, Rosa E. Harrison, Annie L. Bradbury, Bettie Elam, Annie Minetree and Cora Harrison.¹²

A tribute to the growing fame of Southern Female College, as it appeared in the Christian Advocate, was reprinted in the Daily Appeal of May 13, 1873:

11. Daily Index, Sept. 20, 1871.

12. Ibid, June 26, 1872.

I have already written more than I intended, but I cannot close without saying a few words about the College and its gifted President.

The College is beautifully located on the west side of Sycamore Street, near the Lawn, in one of the most pleasant and healthy sections of the city. The buildings are commodious, embracing a large study-hall, two lecture rooms, four music-rooms, and a room for painting, all exclusive of basement. It is supplied with chemical and philosophical apparatus, desks, etc., of the most approved construction, having been purchased in Northern cities since the war. Pianos, guitars, maps, globes, books, etc., etc., are provided in the College. The course of study in the preparatory and collegiate departments embraces all the subjects taught in schools of the highest grade.

The President, Williams T. Davis, A.M., (assisted by an able faculty), is a gentleman who has devoted his high mental, moral and religious endowments to the great cause of education during the long space of thirty years. --From his classical attainments the maturity of his intellect, his polished manners, his large experience as a teacher, his industry and perseverance and his conscientious discharge of all his duties, he is eminently qualified to preside over an institution of this kind; and those who wish to give a thorough Christian education to their daughters will do well to commit them to his charge.

Like other private schools of that period, it was the custom of Southern Female College to award diplomas to students who had completed work in particular subjects. Recipients of such diplomas in 1873 were Ida Bishop, Annie Paul, Lillie Bass, Sallie Simpson, Florence Young and Jinnie Carroll, while Annie Bradbury and Florence Jones were full graduates.¹³

Mr. W. Jones, a graduate of Virginia Military Institute, became a member of the faculty in 1874.¹⁴

13. Daily Appeal, July 2, 1873.

14. Index and Appeal, Sept. 1, 1874.

A list of students who received diplomas in various subjects, including English History, Natural History and Mathematics, contained these names, many of them still as familiar to residents of Petersburg to-day as they were in 1875: Lillie B. Bass, Bettie V. Drewry, Ida E. Johnson, Laura V. Jones, Mary B. Kemp, Minnie E. Leigh, Cassie L. Stark, Phoebe A. Steere, Amy O. Steere, Alice L. Smith, Indie R. P. Westbrook, Annie M. Wheary, Mary E. Young, Lucy M. Cogbill, Frances G. Bain, Laura W. Badger and Mary P. Gresham.¹⁵

Mr. O. S. Harris, who had been an assistant professor at Randolph-Macon College, joined the faculty in 1875.¹⁶

The two full graduates in 1876 were Lillie Bass and Marie B. Kemp.¹⁷

The Petersburg City Directory, 1877-78, contained the first list of trustees of the College that could be found in this study, and it is reproduced here: -

SOUTHERN FEMALE COLLEGE

W. T. Davis, A.M. President

Board of Trustees

Dr. H. G. Leigh, Pres.	T. L. H. Young, Secretary
Dr. J. H. Claiborne	P. J. Holmes

15. Index and Appeal, June 23, 1875.

16. Ibid, Sept. 21, 1875.

17. Ibid, June 21, 1876.

Geo. V. Scott
Warner Eubank
Capt. S. W. Venable

A. A. Allen
Edwin Broun
W. S. Harrison

Col. R. M. Harrison
R. H. Lyell
P. H. Booth
Dr. Geo. C. Starke
W. T. Davis

This same Directory gave the information that expenses for one year, including board and a full course of tuition in English, Mathematics, Moral and Mental and Physical Science, would be \$220.

Graduates in 1877 were Laura Jones, Minnie Leigh, Mary Young and Bettie V. Drewry.¹⁸ At this commencement, a present was given to Mr. Davis as a tribute of the affection in which he was held by the pupils of his school.

The faculty for 1877-78 was composed of W. T. Davis, R. B. Smithey, Miss L. V. Major, Miss S. H. Deveraux, and Miss Anna E. Jones.¹⁹

Southern Female College was always noted for the excellence of its musical department, and the addition of a new Mason and Hamlin organ to the equipment increased its prestige in 1878.²⁰

Other full graduates of the school during its early years

18. Index and Appeal, June 20, 1877.

19. Daily Post, Aug. 9, 1877.

20. Index and Appeal, Feb. 11, 1878.

were Cassie Starke in 1878,²¹ Ida E. Baxter and Martha D. Riddle in 1879,²² Lola Dean, Mollie Riddick and Nannie D. McIlwaine in 1880.²³

The faculty in 1881 consisted of W. T. Davis, Gerdinand Schwenck and the Misses L. V. Major, Bettie E. Jones, S. H. Deveraux, Florence Jones, Martha D. Riddle and Sallie R. Davis.²⁴

All of the commencement exercises of Southern Female College were featured by musical concerts given by the music classes, one night generally being turned over to this event. The concert given by the classes of Miss Major and Miss Jones during the commencement exercises of 1882 drew this comment from the press:²⁵

The audience was large, select and well behaved, except various specimens of the small boy who were obstreperous as usual. The small boy at a musical audience is not a success. He is best suited to baseball matches and coroner's inquests.

At the beginning of the 1883-84 session, the course of study was arranged in seven schools. They were the schools of English and History, Natural Science, Moral Science, Mathematics, Latin, French and Music. The college was free from

21. Index and Appeal, June 26, 1878.

22. Ibid., June 18, 1879.

23. Ibid., June 24, 1880.

24. Ibid., Sept. 13, 1881.

25. Ibid., June 13, 1882.

debt and on a permanent basis, with W. T. Davis still its president.²⁶ The histories of Southern Female College and the Petersburg Female College offered a great contrast in one way especially. During its entire life of over seventy-five years, the Southern Female College had only one change of presidents, that being caused by the death of its first. The existence of Petersburg Female College, covering a period of twenty-nine years, was marked by a succession of eight different presidents.

Laura R. Blincoe, Katherine E. Bradbury, Mary A. Christian, Belle R. Cuthbert and Ida M. Edwards were graduates in 1884.²⁷ Essays by these graduates were read by accommodating gentlemen at the commencement exercises, it still not being considered decorous for a young lady to be so bold as to appear on a platform for this purpose.

Some other graduates were Daisy Hobbs and Ethel Hall in 1885,²⁸ Minnie Brooks and May Bridgers in 1886,²⁹ Mary Brown, Olive Morgan and Nellie Powell in 1888.³⁰

Mr. Williams T. Davis, the founder and president of

26. Index and Appeal, Sept. 17, 1883.

27. Ibid, June 18, 1884.

28. Ibid, June 18, 1885.

29. Ibid, June 17, 1886.

30. Ibid, July 4, 1888.

Southern Female College, died July 17, 1888, at the age of seventy two years.³¹ Much has been written about this gentleman who contributed so greatly to education in Petersburg. A thorough and conscientious teacher, he also possessed administrative ability, for he had served as principal of three different schools during his thirty-seven years of residence in the city. His physical courage led him to take up arms in defence of his beloved city when endangered by the invader. He was admired and loved by those he taught. The religious life of the city benefitted as a result of his association with it, as he was a member of Washington Street Methodist Church during his residence in Petersburg, being a member of its Board of Stewards for twenty years and superintendent of its Sunday School for fifteen years.³²

Arthur Kyle Davis, a son of Williams T. Davis by his second marriage, became the second and last president of the school, upon the death of his father. A young and ambitious man who shortly before this had been awarded his Master of Arts Degree by Randolph-Macon College, he entered into his work as president with zeal, and brought the school its most successful years in its long and honorable history.³³

31. Index and Appeal, July 18, 1888.

32. Ibid, July 20, 1888.

33. J. H. Claiborne, Seventy Five Years in Old Virginia, p. 102-103.

The other members of the faculty for the 1888-89 session were Mrs. O. B. Morgan, Miss Mary Weddell, Paul Petit, A.B., Miss S. R. Davis, Miss K. E. Bradbury, Miss Lizzie Patterson. Mrs. W. T. Davis continued her connection with the school as matron.³⁴

Susie Warwick and Jennie Turner in 1889,³⁵ Martha Vaughan and Rose Hall in 1890,³⁶ were graduates of the school. The latter two were awarded the Degree of Mistress of English and Classical Literature (M.E.C.L.).

New teachers added to the faculty for the 1889-90 session were George Shipley, M.A., Miss Emma Bartlett and Mrs. Charles Hall.³⁷

During the 1890's, the school maintained primary, preparatory and collegiate departments, granting the Bachelor of Arts Degree to its collegiate department graduates. According to a notation added to the Virginia School Reports, 1871-72,³⁸ "Schools were given a charter by assembly which enabled them to grant diplomas and degrees," and Southern Female College was evidently under such a charter.

34. Index and Appeal, Sept. 8, 1888.

35. Index-Appeal, June 13, 1889.

36. Ibid, July 3, 1890.

37. Ibid, Sept. 23, 1889.

38. Virginia School Reports, 1871-72, p. 207.

A thorough course of study³⁹ in Literature, Language, Science, Philosophy, and special work in Music, Art and Elocution were offered in 1893. This session the school had a large and well-prepared faculty and seemed to be in one of its most prosperous periods. The complete list is given here:

Faculty: 1893-94

Arthur Kyle Davis, A.M., - Randolph-Macon College
English Literature and Modern Languages
T.N.F. Taylor, A.M. - Trinity College, Dublin - Ex-Principal of Valley Head School, Alabama - Mathematics and Sciences
W. M. Adams, A.B. - Hampden-Sidney College - Ex-Principal of Alabama Military Institute - English Language and Latin
E. M. Bartlett, A.B. - Southern Female College
History and Preparatory Department
Eva Laurie Pleasants - Pupil of Cappiani
Singing
Henrietta Seay - Pupil of F. C. Hahr
Piano and Harmony
Bettie Seay - Pupil of F. C. Hahr
Piano, Choral Class
E. H. Cocke - Decorative Art Society of Baltimore
Drawing and Painting
M. L. Rives - Domestic Department
Sewing and Embroidery
Mrs. W. T. Davis - Matron
Mrs. S. E. Taylor - House-keeper

In 1895, ninety students, twenty of whom were boarders, enrolled,⁴⁰ and there was one full graduate for that session, Virgie Lanier Jarvis, of Petersburg.⁴¹

The Bachelor of Arts Degree was awarded to Etta Virginia Jones, Annie Pickrell McKenney and Mary Vaughan Moyler, grad-

39. Index-Appeal, Sept. 13, 1893.

40. Ibid, Sept. 19, 1895.

41. Ibid, June 17, 1896.

uates in 1898.⁴²

The school's growth was reflected by its faculty of fourteen officers and teachers and enrollment of one-hundred and fifty students for the 1901-02 session,⁴³ of which fifty were boarding students. Children of all ages could be enrolled in the school, which boasted of a fully equipped gymnasium.

In 1903, the school received requests for catalogues from twenty-nine states and territories, Canada and England.⁴⁴

The property adjoining Southern Female College on the north side, which had been occupied by the Petersburg Female College until 1881, and after that had been used as a private residence, was purchased by Southern Female College in 1904, and plans were made for the accommodation of one hundred boarding pupils during the 1904-05 session.⁴⁵ The session promised to be a banner one, but the greatest disaster of the school's history struck it with sudden fury, in the form of an epidemic of typhoid fever. Mr. A. K. Davis and Mr. W. T. Davis were stricken by the disease, in addition to other faculty members and many of the students. No one seemed to know the source of the infection that started the epidemic, although there

42. Index-Appeal, June 8, 1898.

43. Ibid., Sept. 16, 1902.

44. Ibid., Sept. 12, 1903.

45. Ibid., Sept. 1, 1904.

were many theories advanced. Fortunately, there were no deaths among the students, and on November 14 it was announced that Mr. A. K. and Mr. W. T. Davis were still sick, but improving. Work was resumed at temporary headquarters on the Centre Hill property in the primary and preparatory departments, and nearly all the pupils were present.⁴⁶ It was proposed to resume work in the college department on November 16 at Centre Hill in a new building on the property, and efforts were to be made to arrange for the return of the students in the boarding department as rapidly as possible. The same announcement stated that until sickness was entirely stamped out in the college building and the whole place was thoroughly disinfected and made absolutely safe, under the direction of the State Board of Health, none of the students would be taken into the buildings. Boarding students were to be distributed around at private houses in the community until all danger of contagion was removed and all sickness over. The new quarters used during the emergency were one-fourth of a mile away.

On November 19, this item appeared in the daily newspaper:⁴⁷

We are glad to be informed by members of the family of Mr. Arthur Kyle Davis, the president of the Southern Female College, that he and all the members of his immediate family are progressing favorably, and that none of them is in any

46. Index-Appeal, Nov. 14, 1904.

47. Ibid, Nov. 19, 1904.

immediate danger.

All the young ladies at the college who are sick with fever are reported to be progressing favorably. Several of them are so far recovered that it is hoped they may be carried to their homes within the next few days, and it is confidently expected that if the present favorable symptoms shall continue, all of them will soon be restored to health.

The list of the trustees of the college was found in one of the newspapers of 1905 and is reproduced here, as well as the faculty at that time.⁴⁸

Southern Female College - Board of Trustees

George Cameron, Jr.
Richard B. Davis
Charles Hall Davis
Dr. William F. Drewry
John A. Gill
Alexander Hamilton
E. A. Hartley
William B. McIlwaine
Bernard Mann
A. G. M. Martin
Louis L. Marks

Dr. J. E. Moyler
Judge J. M. Mullen
Capt. N. T. Patteson
Dr. Robert S. Powell
Bartlett Roper
Simon Seward
B. B. Vaughan
Augustus Wright
William L. Zimmer
The President and Secretary

Faculty Academic

A. K. Davis
T. N. F. Taylor
Williams T. Davis

Mrs. M. C. Patterson
Miss E. M. Bartlett
Miss Eugie Patteson

Music

Mrs. S. H. Turner
Miss I. B. Stainback
Miss S. M. Stokes

Miss F. Titus
Mr. Lee Rogers

Art

Miss Anna Dunlop

Matron - Miss E. C. Webb
Needlework - Miss M. L. Rives

Ass't. Matron-Mrs. A. B. Prentiss
Resident Trained Nurse-Miss McAllister

States represented by students during the 1905-06 session were New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Iowa, West Vir-

48. Index-Appeal, Sept. 9, 1905.

ginia, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Louisiana, the Indian Territory and Missouri.⁴⁹

Tuition for day pupils for 1906-07 ranged from \$50 to \$80 per year for the non-degree courses, while the course leading to an A. B. degree cost \$100 per year in tuition.⁵⁰

Four A.B. degrees were conferred at commencement in 1910.⁵¹ They were awarded to Lucy Mollwaine Davis of Virginia, Nan Gray Davis of Alabama, Bessie Ann Harwell of Virginia, and Lottie Clare Valentine of Virginia.

Perhaps the most thorough list of expenses printed by the college appeared in 1910,⁵² in an announcement of the school in preparation for the 1910-11 session. It gives information in most minute detail concerning tuition costs.

Southern Female College - Courses Offered

- (1) Two year course for high school students
- (2) One year finishing course
- (3) College preparatory course
- (4) Regular course for the A.B. degree.

Miss Bessie Hall--In charge of the College School for Little Girls--\$30 to \$40 per year.

Expenses for Day Pupils--Cost of Tuition--Regular course tuition in Literary Course--\$50.

	Minor Extras	
Gymnasium	\$30	Languages, each \$30
Elocution	\$30	Sciences, each \$30

49. Index-Appeal, Aug. 30, 1906.

50. Ibid, Sept. 16, 1906.

51. Ibid, June 2, 1910.

52. Ibid, Sept. 4, 1910.

Business Courses, each	\$30	Arts and Crafts	\$30
Banjo, Mandolin, Guitar	\$30	Psychology	\$30
Piano Practice	\$30		

		Major Extras	
Piano Lessons	\$50	Two languages	\$50
Singing Lessons	\$50	Domestic Science	\$50
Drawing and Printing	\$50	Pipe Organ	\$50
Violin	\$50	Harmony and History of Music	\$50

The Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1910-11 furnished the information that it had an enrollment of one-hundred pupils and a faculty of twelve.

The rise of the public school system of Petersburg to a high state of excellence had by this time begun to affect the enrollment of this, as well as all other private schools in Petersburg, in the high school department. Increasingly higher standards and lower expenses at the State Teachers' Colleges began to attract the young ladies away from Petersburg for higher education. From this time on the school began to decline in popularity with the local students and had to depend more and more upon boarding students for its income. Some years after 1910 it ceased to be an accredited college, but remained on the State accredited list as a Junior College until the 1923-24 session. From then until the 1929-30 session it was not on the accredited Junior College list.⁵³ From then until 1933-34 it was on the list

53. Annual High School Reports, 1912-23.

again, but after that session it remained off the list.⁵⁴

Other statistics uncovered in these Reports showed that it had fifty pupils and ten teachers in 1925-26,⁵⁵ and seventy nine pupils and seventeen teachers in 1929-30.⁵⁶

In addition to reasons stated previously for its decline, the college also failed to keep up with the more progressive institutions. No information could be found about the salaries paid its teachers, but some of its better teachers gave up positions there to accept high school teaching, which certainly was not in itself a high paying profession during those years, while others secured positions in colleges that could offer better salaries to their faculty members. Its discipline was rather strict and the girls complained that they were too closely confined. The writer remembers the way the girls took their daily walks. A long column of girls, marching by two's, with an elderly lady teacher at its head, was a familiar sight to the boys and girls of the nineteen-twenties. The institution could not compete with newer and more popular schools in its physical equipment, which though thoroughly modern in the late nineteenth century, was out of date in the twentieth century.

54. Annual Reports of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1928-1943.

55. Annual High School Reports, 1925-26.

56. Annual High School Reports, 1929-30.

During the last years of its existence, Southern College, as it was called, had a student body containing a majority of its students from outside the state of Virginia.

Certain matters arose before the time for the opening of the 1938-39 session that caused a change in plans for it. This news item gave the administration's reasons for the change:⁵⁷

At a general meeting last week, the board of trustees of Southern College decided to defer the opening of the school pending completion of the new organization under the ownership and control of the board, and completion of plans now well under way for refinancing and for extension and enlargement. As soon as this important work is accomplished, the board plans to resume the regular work of the school.

It will be remembered that legal steps recently taken and approved by the State Corporation Commission have converted the school from a defacto corporation under the ownership and virtual control of an individual to a de facto and de jure corporation controlled by a self-perpetuating board of trustees. By this move, the continuity of the present institution under its original charter of 1863 has been recognized by the Corporation Commission, and it is believed that the continuing life and the larger usefulness of the school are thus assured.

Southern College remained closed for that session, but its refinancing and charter changes completed, re-opened September 27, 1939, an account of which is reprinted here:⁵⁸

Southern College, established here in 1862, re-opened last night with the first assembly in the chapel at 8 o'clock when Dr. A. K. Davis, president and son of the founder, addressed students and visitors.

57. Progress-Index, Sept. 26, 1938.

58. Ibid, Sept. 28, 1939.

Both dormitories were filled, but a few additional registrations are expected. A teacher's dormitory has been provided on back campus.

Dr. Wright Clarkson and Dr. W. B. McIlwaine, trustees of the college, also spoke at the opening exercises which were attended by many of the parents who accompanied their daughters to the city.

Dr. Webster Stover, executive director, and Mrs. Lucy Davis Jones, dean, registered and welcomed pupils throughout the day.

The school lasted two years after its re-opening. During the 1939-40 and 1940-41 sessions, it was more liberal toward its students than it had been previously, but was finally forced to close its doors in June, 1941 as an educational institution.

The buildings have been turned into rooming houses, and at the present time (1943) due to the war boom in Petersburg, are probably earning far more money for the owners than Southern College ever earned.

Lack of success during its last few years cannot hide the fact that this school has made a lasting contribution to the culture of Petersburg, and its last president can look back with pride to its years of success, far over-balancing its few lean years.

CHAPTER VI

TEACHERS AND SCHOOLS FROM 1858 TO THE
PRESENT DAY

-1-

MRS. MATTIE R. BANKS

A school for small boys and girls about which little information could be found, excepting the annual notice of the beginning of a new session, was conducted by Mrs. Mattie R. Banks. Its most remarkable characteristic was its longevity, as it was in existence in 1858, being located at the corner of Sycamore and Washington Streets¹ and was still running under the direction of Mrs. Banks in 1888.² During these years it occupied several different sites, among them being Halifax Street, opposite Market, the corner of Wythe and Sycamore Streets, Oak Street, and finally 40 North Market Street. Thus for over thirty years this lady made her contribution to the education of Petersburg's younger people.

1. Daily Express, Sept. 6, 1858.

2. Index and Appeal, Sept. 3, 1888.

-2-

MRS. ELAM AND MISS BETTIE J. ELAM

Mrs. Elam conducted a "School for Young Ladies" on Harding Street in 1859,¹ listing in its curriculum English, French, Latin, Printing, Music and Needle-Work.

In 1877, Miss Bettie J. Elam taught a school in the West End. She was probably the daughter of the Mrs. Elam above. The closing exercises of Miss Elam's school that year were held in the Methodist Chapel in Battersea, and the young ladies who received certificates of distinction were Addie May Bagwell, Katie Wheary, Maggie Winfree, Mollie Clarke, Inez Elam, Cora Cheatham and Flora Mann.² The school was situated on Shepherd Street in 1879.³ The final news about this school was in 1880, when at its closing exercises a scholarship was awarded to Willie H. Quarles.⁴

PROFESSOR SLEE, THE PHONOGRAPHER

The science of Phonography, or Shorthand, was being

1. Daily Express, Dec. 8, 1859.
2. Index and Appeal, July 13, 1877.
3. Ibid, July 5, 1879.
4. Ibid, July 16, 1880.

taught in 1860 on Bank Street⁵ by Mr. T. Slee. Sixteen years later the same Mr. Slee was still giving lessons in this useful subject.⁶

5. The Press, Jan. 3, 1860.

6. The Rural Messenger, Feb. 5, 1876.

-3-

MISS ELIZA M. NEWSOME

Miss Newsome's school was unique in several respects. With the exception of the Southern Female College and Miss Nora Davidson's School, it enjoyed the longest existence of any private school in Petersburg. Miss Eliza M. Newsome was its founder and its only principal during the years it is known to have been functioning. The first public information about this school was in 1858,¹ when a notice in the daily newspaper stated that Miss Newsome would resume the exercises of her school on September 15. Throughout its long existence, the only publicity ever given to her school by Miss Newsome was in the form of notices like the above. No mention of public exercises or commencements was ever made, but the school lasted at least forty-eight years, as the last notice of this type was in 1906.² Its principal's old age was indicated by one slight change in the announcement, for the notice of the opening of the school on September 15 of that year was followed by the Initials "D. V.," an abbreviation of the Latin phrase, "Deo Volente," meaning "God willing."

The site of the school from beginning to end was the

1. Daily Express, Sept. 10, 1858.

2. Index Appeal, Sept. 15, 1906.

southeast corner of Liberty and Harrison Streets. It was never a large school, being limited to about twenty pupils, and confined its efforts chiefly to elementary subjects. No mention about any other teacher in this school could be found.

-4-

Several small schools sprang up immediately after the Civil War, or may have been running during the War, but they did not last long afterwards, and the little information obtainable concerning them is given here.

MRS. ADDIE V. MOORE

Her school was known to have in operation during the years 1865¹ and 1868.²

MRS. JOSEPH PANNILL

Mrs. Pannill had a school on High Street in 1865.³

MRS. VIRGINIA F. DOGGETT

Mrs. Doggett's school for girls and small boys was at 137 Sycamore Street in 1866.⁴

MISS ELIZA HILL

Miss Hill's school for young boys and girls was on Frank-

-
1. Daily Express, Sept. 5, 1865.
 2. Daily Index, Aug. 26, 1868.
 3. Daily Express, Sept. 11, 1865.
 4. Daily Index, Feb. 26, 1866.

lin Street in 1868.⁵

MRS. JOSEPHUS HURT

Her school was on Old Street during the sessions of 1868-69 and 1869-70.⁶

MISS LYDIA HILL

Miss Lydia Hill's school was of much longer life than most of this group. It was situated on Tabb Street in 1868,⁷ and offered an English education and also Latin, French and Drawing. Miss Hill was still teaching in 1881,⁸ calling her school the West End School. It was at 615 West Washington Street and still possessed the curriculum of 1868.

MRS. J. A. M. BLOUNT

Mrs. Blount's school was running in 1868⁹ on Rose Hill, near Bollingbrook Street. It also functioned in 1869.¹⁰

5. Daily Index, Aug. 26, 1868.
6. Ibid, Aug. 26, 1868 and Sept. 17, 1869.
7. Ibid, Aug. 26, 1868.
8. Index and Appeal, Sept. 13, 1881.
9. Daily Express, Sept. 8, 1868.
10. Daily Index, Sept. 8, 1869.

MISS MARY J. ADAMS

Miss Adams had a school in 1869, conducted at the residence of her father, number 15 Old Market. It also ran in 1870-71.¹¹

MRS. ANDREWNETTE BRANCH

Mrs. Branch's school was on New Street in 1870.¹²

11. Daily Index, Sept. 8, 1869 and Sept. 10, 1870.

12. Ibid, Aug. 27, 1870.

-5-

MISS NORA FONTAINE MAURY DAVIDSON

Miss Davidson enjoyed the distinction of being the principal of the same school for a longer period of time than any other teacher in Petersburg's history. For fifty-six years she, assisted most of the time only by her sister, Miss Virginia E. Davidson, conducted a private school for boys and girls, giving instruction in all elementary subjects and some work of high school level.

Her school was in existence during the last year of the Civil War. Harrison wrote:¹

Preeminent among Petersburg women of 1865-66 who loved the Lost Cause was Miss Nora Fontaine Maury Davidson, nurse and school teacher. She took her pupils in an omnibus to place flags and flowers on Confederate graves. The driver of the vehicle was shot and killed by a Northern soldier, but, undaunted, Miss Nora and the girls with her went on, a few hours later, to decorate the graves of their heroes.

The writer of this work remembers that no Ninth of June went by during his early childhood without Miss Nora and her school celebrating the day with appropriate exercises. At one time she called her institution the "Confederate School."

Miss Davidson's school was noted for the many picnics and entertainments it sponsored. A description of one of the picnics given by the young ladies of the school in 1868 stated that it was held on July 2 at Dunlop's farm on the

1. M. Clifford Harrison, Home to the Cockade City, p. 79.

Richmond and Petersburg railroad.² There were between one-hundred and fifty to two hundred ladies and gentlemen present, Slaughter's band furnished the music, and the "day passed pleasantly in singing and dancing."

In 1870, the school was at the corner of Market and Tabb Streets, and tuition charges were \$3 per month.³

A pleasant diversion in which the pupils of this school participated was known as a "tournament," getting its name from those events held in the days of King Arthur and his Knights, when the heroes of that time jousted for the entertainment and admiration of their "fair ladies." On November 18, 1870, the boys of Miss Davidson's school held a tournament at the school grounds.⁴ The account of it related that "Seventeen little Masters, in handsome and appropriate costume and with lance in hand, entered the list of Knights, each evidently anxious to win the honor of crowning the Queen of Love and Beauty." Boys who took part in the event were Walter Lufsey, Howard Perkinson, Johnnie Pleasants, Willie Green, Frederick Anthony, Herbert Claiborne, Barton Lufsey, Johnnie Morris, Sydnor Clark, Earnest Sydnor, Robert Jones, Johnnie Farthing, Lee Townes, Churchill Pleas-

2. Daily Express, July 3, 1868.

3. Daily Index, Aug. 16, 1870.

4. Daily Courier, Nov. 19, 1870.

ants, Charlie Allen, Stephen McCandlish and Charlie Tosh. The winning boys had the privilege of picking the queen and her maids of honor. The Queen of Love and Beauty were Fannie Tucker, and her Maids of Honor were Sallie Anthony, Daisy Hinton, Marion C. Blanks and Elva May.

Included among the many entertainments sponsored by this school was one presented in Weldon, North Carolina by its pupils in 1877.⁵ With the \$31.50 derived from it, Miss Davidson began a fund whose purpose was to erect a monument in Blandford Cemetery over the graves of the North Carolina soldiers who fell in defense of Petersburg.

Among the pupils in 1879 were two men who later became prominent in the educational life of Petersburg, Edward Bowman and George Hall.⁶

At the closing exercises on June 30, 1881, the winners of medals and premiums for the session were:--Lillie Folts, Maggie Ennis, Belle Sherman, Emma Evans, Lula Payne, Julia Boehm, Mittie Cocke, Lucie Cocke, Anabel Green, Effie A. Sadler, Alice Hawkins, Maggie Young, Beulah Ennis, Lena Bobbitt, Nora Herring, Cora Reinach, Marian Meyers, Helen Eigenbrun, Albert Hargrave, Thomas Andrews, John D. Schank, Charles Ruffin, Edward Bowman, Willie B. Hargrave, Arthur Harrison,

5. Index and Appeal, Aug. 23, 1877.

6. Ibid., Aug. 23, 1877.

and Joseph Levi. The Latin class that session was taught by Miss Lavinia Wheadon, a graduate of the Petersburg High School.⁷ The school was then located on South Sycamore Street but later was removed to South Adams Street between Wythe and Marshall, where it remained to the end of its existence.

During the session of 1901-02, the Misses Davidson had added two music teachers, Mrs. Hanks and Miss M. Branch, to the faculty.⁸

The Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction for the years 1910-11 listed Miss Nora Davidson's Confederate School as having thirty-one pupils and two teachers.

After exerting a wonderful influence for many years on the lives of Petersburg's young people, the school closed about 1921, but there are hundreds of people still living who love and revere the memory of "Miss Nora" and "Miss Virginia."

7. Index and Appeal, July 1, 1881.

8. Index-Appeal, Sept. 8, 1901.

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MRS. P. B. WARWICK

Mrs. Warwick opened a school in 1869 that enjoyed about twenty years of service before going out of existence. It was at number 12 Old Street in 1869.¹ In its early years it offered educational instruction for girls and small boys, including boarding facilities for girls,² but in 1874 was advertising that it gave thorough preparation for colleges.³ The school had moved to 107 Old Street in 1876,⁴ and the newspaper writer stated: "Mrs. Warwick is one of the best and most successful teachers in the city, and her school is always full."

Miss Mary Staples was a teacher in this school in 1877, which advertised "special attention given to morals and manners."⁵

Some of the pupils in 1878⁶ were Thomas Greenhow, Mittie Harrison, Eva Pritchard, Lizzie Snyder, Hattie Snyder, Emma Heard, Lizzie Baylor, Daisy Hobbs, Blanche Harrison, Susie

1. Daily Index, Sept. 2, 1869.

2. Index and Appeal, Sept. 3, 1873.

3. Ibid, Sept. 1, 1874.

4. Ibid, Aug. 30, 1876.

5. Ibid, Sept. 11, 1877.

6. Ibid, June 22, 1878.

Warwick, Frank Hobbs, Percy Winfree, Willie Lumpkin and Bertie Powell.

Rev. P. B. Warwick was assisting Mrs. Warwick in conducting her school in 1880.⁷ The school was known as the Petersburg Female Seminary and charged \$150 a year for board and English tuition. Its location in 1881 was at 19 West Tabb Street, and it was still accommodating both day and boarding pupils.⁸ The final years of this school were in a building at 211 Brown Street.⁹ No information was available about it after 1888.

7. Index and Appeal, Sept. 13, 1880.

8. Ibid., Sept. 9, 1881.

9. Ibid., Sept. 11, 1888.

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ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

The Catholics of Petersburg decided to open their own school in 1873, but had a hard time getting under way. Professor Thomas Odell, of New Britain, Connecticut, was first sought as teacher,¹ but it was announced later² that he had accepted a more desirable position elsewhere, so Father Wilson, of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, took charge until a regular teacher could be secured. A few days later, February 26, an announcement stated that the services of Professor Richards A. Collins, of Alexandria, had been secured as principal,³ but again the school was disappointed, for the school opened on September 10 with Father Wilson still substituting as principal of the male school, while Miss Bessie Furt had charge of the female school.⁴

Success finally rewarded Father Wilson in his search for a teacher, and on September 22, Mr. Andrew Wall arrived to take charge of the male school. He had been a teacher in the schools of Staunton, Virginia, for nine years,⁵ and

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1. Daily Appeal, Feb. 4, 1873.
 2. Ibid, Feb. 11, 1873.
 3. Ibid, Feb. 26, 1873.
 4. Index and Appeal, Sept. 11, 1873.
 5. Ibid, Sept. 22, 1873.

was qualified to teach Latin, French and German, as well as the primary scientific branches. Mr. Wall was still principal at the end of the 1874-75 session. Among the pupils of the school then were Daniel Regan, Thomas Powers, John Coleman, Robert Kilmartin, Willie Heelan, James Halligan, Thomas Raferty, Julian Tench, Willie Lavelle, John Walsh and Harrie Stratton.⁶

The early history of St. Joseph's School was noteworthy in that it marked the first and probably the last recorded attempt of a parochial school to get the City of Petersburg to aid it financially. Mr. Drury Hinton, a member of the City Council, made a motion that \$2000 of the public funds be appropriated to aid the Catholic congregation in erecting a school building. The motion was lost for want of a constitutional vote. Another member of Council, Mr. Scott, then proposed a motion that the city give its note for \$1000 for the purpose, the note to be paid at the end of twelve months. This motion was passed.⁷ Luckily for the taxpayers of the city and for the future of the public schools of Petersburg, a group of citizens opposed the establishment of such an unsafe precedent and secured an injunction to prevent the city from executing the note.

6. Index and Appeal, July 1, 1875.

7. Ibid, Sept. 6, 1875.

About two weeks later, in the September 18 newspaper,⁸ Father Wilson explained why he made a request of \$3000 from the City Council for his school. He claimed first that Catholic children were doctrinally denied the advantages of public schools. Secondly, the Catholic School, by educating one hundred children, would save the city \$1200 a year in teachers' salaries, and hence pay the amount in two and one-half years. Thirdly, the grant would not be a precedent for Protestant denominational schools to seek money from the Council, as children of those schools were not doctrinally denied the public schools.

Notwithstanding the explanation of Father Wilson, the opponents of the grant were successful in their efforts to block it; and the \$1000 appropriation previously made by Council was revoked on October 18.⁹

After failing in its efforts to get public support, the school received a donation of \$100 from the Right Reverend Bishop Gibbons, of the Diocese of Richmond, for the building fund.¹⁰

The Sisters of Charity took over the school in 1876. The inaugural ceremonies were set for February 6, at which

8. Index and Appeal, Sept. 18, 1875.

9. Ibid, Oct. 19, 1875.

10. Ibid, Nov. 15, 1875.

time the Right Reverend Bishop Gibbons installed Sister Mary Elizabeth Roche as superioress of the school and Sisters Eugenia, Chrysostom, Gertrude and Mary, all from Baltimore, as her assistants.¹¹

A fair was held for the benefit of the school in December, 1877, and with the net proceeds of \$2,215.22, the debt of \$1800 on the school building was paid off, leaving the school for the first time in a prospering condition.¹²

Winners of honors at commencement in 1879¹³ were Lizzie Gallagher, Julia Loran, Mary Kilmartin, Ellie Halligan, Mary Kennedy, Lizzie Bangley, Maggie Walsh, Daisie Hinton, Katie A. Farrell, Lizzie Bannon, Nonie O'Brien, Mary E. Halligan, Katie T. Farrell, Mamie Hanrahan, Mamie Reagan, Katie Raftery, John Halligan, Dan Regan and Thomas Raftery.

St. Joseph's School was originally on Market Street, but in 1917 it was moved to a new building on Franklin Street, near Adams, where it has remained ever since.¹⁴

In 1910-11, the school had one hundred and fourteen pupils and five teachers.¹⁵ It was not on the list of accredited high

11. The Rural Messenger, Feb. 5, 1876.

12. Daily Post, Dec. 20, 1877.

13. Index and Appeal, June 24, 1879.

14. Petersburg City Directory, 1917.

15. Report of Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1910-11.

schools in the Annual High School Report of 1918-19, but was on the list in the same report for 1923-24. It had two hundred and fifty-eight pupils and eight teachers in 1925-26,¹⁶ and in 1929-30 had two hundred and sixty-two pupils and nine teachers.¹⁷

St. Joseph's is still carrying on and doing a fine work, although, like other schools, its enrollment has fallen off since last session, and is about one hundred and sixty-eight at the beginning of the 1943-44 session.¹⁸

16. Annual Report of Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1925-26.

17. Ibid, 1929-30.

18. The Progress-Index, Sept. 10, 1943.

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MISS M. V. FRIEND

Nothing could be found out about this lady's school except that it was opened about 1869¹ and ran continuously until about 1892.² It was situated at 16 Franklin Street the last few years.

MRS. MICHIE

Mrs. Michie, the wife of Dr. Michie, was conducting a school for young ladies and little girls at 114 Franklin Street in 1877.³ It was still running in 1881, listing in its curriculum Latin, French, German, Music, Calisthenics, Primary and higher branches of English.⁴

WILLIAM B. CHISHOLM

Mr. Chisholm opened his school for boys in 1876⁵ on the West Hill premises, East Tabb Street, with a course of study devoted to preparation for the University of Virginia and for business. The course included Latin, Greek, French,

1. Daily Index, Sept. 8, 1869.
2. Index-Appeal, Sept. 11, 1892.
3. Index and Appeal, Sept. 11, 1877.
4. Ibid, Aug. 22, 1881.
5. Index-Appeal, Sept. 9, 1876.

German, Mathematics, English Grammar, Reading, Writing, Spelling, Geography, History and Science.

Among the pupils of Chisholm's school in 1877,⁶ the last year it was mentioned, were Henry P. McIlwaine, John P. Leigh, Percy M. James, William H. Jones, Drury A. Hinton, Jr., Benjamin B. Jones, John Marbury, Samuel P. Mitchell, Ernest Stevens, Frank W. Harris, William B. Taylor, William Lassiter, Robert D. McIlwaine and Walter C. Kevan.

MRS. W. L. BUTTS

The first information concerning the school of Mrs. W. L. Butts was in connection with the 1877-78 session, when it was announced that Mrs. William Turnbull would teach Latin and the higher branches of Mathematics in it.⁷

This school must have begun about 1863 or 1864, for an article in 1879 described the closing of the sixteenth anniversary of it.⁸ Here is a reproduction of the news item:

Oral Examinations: Yesterday the sixteenth anniversary of Mrs. William L. Butts' school closed. The assemblage at the room, No. 7 Tabb Street, of the parents and friends of the school was quite large, and a thorough oral examination on Latin, Algebra, Mathematics, reading and spelling was made by some of the visitors--whereby, great credit was reflected on the scholars, Mrs. Butts and her assistant, Miss Mary Martin. This school numbers 64 scholars, and the next

6. Daily Post, June 26, 1877.

7. Index and Appeal, Sept. 25, 1877.

8. Ibid, June 27, 1879.

session will commence Monday, Sept. 1st.

Miss Belle Holland was a teacher in the school in 1880,⁹ but little else was learned about Mrs. Butts' school after that, except that it was still in operation in 1888.¹⁰

MISS MARY JOHNSON

A school for young ladies and little girls was opened by Miss Mary Johnson in 1878¹¹ at 101 Adams Street. Subjects taught were English, Mathematics, French and Music. In 1880¹² it was located at 113 Sycamore Street, and offered German taught by Mr. Ferdinand Schwenck, a native of Germany. It again moved, and in 1881¹³ was held on Union Street. Miss Hettie Weddell taught languages that year. Teachers who served at various times with the school until it closed about the year 1885 were W. S. Copeland, Ferdinand Schwenck, Miss Cogbill, and Miss Hester Leavenworth.¹⁴ The latter continued the school by herself until about 1888, using the old Leavenworth College building.¹⁵

9. Index and Appeal, July 1, 1880.
10. Petersburg City Directory, 1888-89.
11. Daily Post, Sept. 5, 1878.
12. Index and Appeal, Sept. 13, 1880.
13. Ibid, Sept. 13, 1881.
14. Ibid, Sept. 1, 1882, Sept. 19, 1883, Sept. 12, 1884 and Sept. 10, 1885.
15. Ibid, Sept. 7, 1886 and Sept. 3, 1888.

MRS. BARTLETT

All that is known about her school is that it ran for the session 1879-80, and had among its pupils Mary Z. Johnston, Annie Christian Bain, Ellie Maclin, Annie Bridgers and Otelia Johnston.¹⁶

THE MISSES MARGARET S. AND MILDRED E. BECKWITH

These ladies began their school for boys and girls in 1879,¹⁷ offering elementary work that prepared children for high school. This school continued in operation until about 1892 and was located at 14 North Market Street during its existence.¹⁸

MISS BELLE CROWDER

Miss Crowder's school was held at 206 Old Street in 1879.¹⁹ Essie Clary, Cornelia Scott, Robert Sanford, Annie Moore and Fannie Noyes were among the pupils in 1883.²⁰ No notices of this school were found after 1885.

16. Index and Appeal, July 1, 1880.

17. Ibid, Sept. 13, 1880.

18. Petersburg City Directory, 1891-92.

19. Petersburg City Directory, 1879-80.

20. Index and Appeal, June 27, 1883.

MRS. A. C. PRYOR

Mrs. Pryor opened her school at Centre Hill in 1880. Ferdinand Schwenck also taught German in this school in 1883.²¹ The school was being held at 28 Union Street in 1887²² and went out of existence about 1891.

MRS. J. H. MEACHAM

English, Latin, Mathematics, French and Music were taught at the school of Mrs. Meacham,²³ first held at 210 E. Washington Street in 1892, and in later years at 259 South Sycamore Street, where it ended its existence about 1895.

D. B. EWING, A.M., D.D.

Dr. Ewing opened a "Select School for Young Ladies and Little Girls" in 1885,²⁴ teaching, Literature, Elocution, Science, Art and Music, at 120 South Sycamore Street. Some of his pupils in 1887 were Saintee Jackson, Susie Donnan, Sallie Hamilton, Bessie Hall, Annie Bridgers, Susie Barkley, Mattie Arnold, Nannie Moore, Emma Moore, Bessie Seabury, Fannie Bernard, Annie Webb, Lucy Short, Maggie Pilcher and

21. Index and Appeal, Sept. 19, 1883.

22. Ibid, Sept. 3, 1887.

23. Ibid, Sept. 12, 1884 and Sept. 14, 1892.

24. Ibid, Sept. 10, 1885.

Maybelle Ewing.²⁵ The next year, Miss Maggie Pilcher was declared a full graduate, having received ninety per cent on every examination.²⁶ Dr. Ewing's school ended its activities about 1890.

MRS. W. H. PLATT

Mrs. Platt's school was in existence during the period 1888-1896. It was held at 312 Washington Street. A booklet describing Petersburg stated this about it in 1894: "Mrs. Platt's School for girls and young ladies, to which the younger children of the first families are sent."²⁷

MISS NELLIE E. GOSEE

Her school at 336 Halifax Street, continued from 1893 to 1911 or 1912.²⁸ According to the Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1910-11, it had eighteen pupils and one teacher that session.

MISS WILMUTH HARRISON

Miss Harrison's school, at 205 High Street, also began

25. Index and Appeal, June 17, 1887.

26. Ibid, June 16, 1888.

27. The Cockade City, A Publication by the City of Petersburg, p. 27.

about 1893 and lasted until about 1914.²⁸ The Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1910-11, showed that it had twelve pupils and one teacher.

MISS SARAH J. WHITTINGTON

From 1899 to 1910, Miss Whittington taught her school on Old Street.²⁸ The same Superintendent's Report of 1910-11 showed that she had thirty-one pupils.

MISS BESSIE M. HALL

In 1898, Miss Hall, now a teacher at Petersburg High School, began her school for little boys and girls at 207 Brown Street,²⁹ which she conducted successfully until 1910, when she became a member of the faculty of Southern Female College. The parents of many present day school children remember with love and respect the excellent teaching she gave them. The years have not lessened her ability or enthusiasm, and she is still on the job every day.

MRS. CHESTER SHEPHERD

Mrs. Shepherd's School for girls and boys was being con-

28. Petersburg City Directories, 1893-1914.

29. Index and Appeal, Sept. 15, 1901.

ducted in 1904³⁰ at 111 Marshall Street. Her assistant in 1909 was Miss Jennie L. Turner.³¹

LOUISE F. ALFRIEND

Her school, which was in existence from 1910 to 1930, had twenty-four pupils in 1910, and twenty-two pupils in 1930.³² Only elementary grades were taught.

MRS. JOHN W. HAYES

The Adams Street Private School, of which Mrs. Hayes was the principal, in 1910-11, had sixty-two pupils and three teachers.³² It was located on Adams Street, between Wythe and Washington, and enjoyed considerable success until it closed about 1922. Grammar school subjects were taught and some high school work was offered. This school was especially adapted to take care of children who could not adjust themselves to public school work, and many of its pupils were such children. In fact, this was the main reason for pupils attending private schools in Petersburg in the twentieth century, and many, by reason of the greater attention they could receive in these schools, found themselves in an educational

30. Index-Appeal, Sept. 6, 1904.

31. Ibid, Sept. 4, 1909.

32. Reports of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1910-1930.

way, and went on to even greater successes in life.

When the public schools began to adjust their curricula in order to take care of the educational programs of these children, even this source of pupils was withdrawn from the private schools, with the result that since 1930, there have been few, if any, successful private schools in Petersburg above the kindergarten level.

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This is a list of schools about which little information could be found. In most cases, only one article was found that mentioned the school, but in two or three instances, articles at widely spaced intervals showed that possibly the school existed for a great many years.

<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Source of Information.</u>
Miss Mary Adams	15 Old Market	Daily Index, Sept. 8, 1869; <u>Daily Index</u> , Sept. 10, 1870.
Mrs. Andrewnetta Branch	New Street	<u>Daily Index</u> , Aug. 27, 1870.
Miss Mary M. Morgan	313 Harding St.	<u>Index and Appeal</u> , Sept. 8, 1877.
Miss Jennie Archer	233 Halifax St.	<u>Index and Appeal</u> , Sept. 12, 1877.
Miss M. L. Pleasants and Miss Lucie A. Archer	413 High St. and later 124 High St.	<u>Daily Post</u> , June 24, 1878. <u>Index and Appeal</u> , Sept. 13, 1878, Sept. 13, 1880 and Sept. 9, 1881.
Mrs. E. B. Branch	128 New St.	<u>Index and Appeal</u> , Sept. 9, 1881.
Mrs. J. H. Hartman	Union St. oppo- site St. Paul's Church	<u>Index and Appeal</u> , Sept. 12, 1884 and Sept. 10, 1885.
Miss Ann Harrison	29 Pine St.	<u>Index and Appeal</u> , Sept. 10, 1885 and <u>Petersburg City Directory</u> , 1897.

<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Source of In-formation.</u>
Miss Linda Cogbill	261 Harrison St.	<u>Index and Appeal</u> , Sept. 17, 1888.
Miss J. C. Weddell	19 Tabb St.	<u>Index-Appeal</u> , Sept. 17; 1889 and Sept. 1, 1890.
Miss Kate T. Bird	232 Hinton St.	<u>Index-Appeal</u> , Sept. 5, 1894.
Miss Meyers	35 S. Sycamore St.	<u>Index-Appeal</u> , Sept. 6, 1903.
Miss Viola D. Judkins	125 S. Adams St.	<u>Petersburg City Directory</u> , 1893- 94 and <u>Index- Appeal</u> , Sept. 12, 1903.
Miss Katherine M. Brady	133 S. Adams	<u>Index-Appeal</u> , Aug. 30, 1908.
Miss Elella V. Nunallie	311 West St.	<u>Petersburg City Directory</u> , 1879- 80.
Misses A. M. and M. E. Moody	9 N. Sycamore St.	<u>Petersburg City Directory</u> , 1879- 80.
Miss Ida Dunn	51 N. Market St.	<u>Petersburg City Directories</u> , 1879-80 and 1882-83.
Miss Martha Payne	636 W. Washing- ton St.	<u>Petersburg City Directory</u> , 1891- 92.
Miss Ethel A. Baugh	23 Franklin St.	<u>Petersburg City Directory</u> , 1891- 92.
Miss Jennie J. Branch	128 New St.	<u>Petersburg City Directory</u> , 1893- 94.

<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Source of Information.</u>
Miss Lena Adkins	353 W. Washington St.	<u>Petersburg City Directories, 1893-94 and 1897.</u>
Miss Nannie A. Pleasants	Corner Hinton and Davis Streets	<u>Petersburg City Directory, 1905-06.</u>
Miss Ella V. Birchett	228 New St.	<u>Petersburg City Directory, 1920.</u>
Miss M. Florence Bridgeforth	114 W. Old St.	<u>Petersburg City Directory, 1924.</u>

CHAPTER VII

BOY'S SCHOOLS

-1-

PETER TINSLEY, JOHN D. KEILEY, R. M. CARY

These three men were connected with several private schools in Petersburg just before and after the Civil War.

Mr. Tinsley opened a classical and mathematical school in 1854¹ and Mr. Cary did likewise in the same year.² The latter's school was on Market Street, and Mr. E. B. Branch was secured to teach penmanship in this school. Cary was a graduate of William and Mary College and had had eight years of experience in teaching before coming to Petersburg.

The next year Cary and Tinsley announced themselves as associate principals of an "English, Classical and Mathematical School" to be situated on Walnut Street (now Sycamore), opposite Poplar Lawn.³ The building then was in the process of construction, and was to have "ample grounds for recreation and exercise, pleasant and commodious school rooms" and was "retired from the business portion of the city. The ob-

1. South-Side Democrat, Aug. 9, 1854.

2. Ibid, Sept. 29, 1854.

3. Ibid, Aug. 7, 1855.

jectives of this school were "to prepare youth for either the practical business of life, or for college." Terms announced were \$40 for the ordinary English branches and \$50 for the Classics and Higher Mathematics.

Before the opening of the next session of this school on September 22, 1856, Mr. Cary had moved from the city⁴ and Tinsley took over the entire management of the school.

The third member of this group of school teachers had been in Petersburg for many years, but had been connected with the public schools. This man, John D. Keiley, was Principal of the Anderson Seminary in 1851,⁵ but between that time and 1856, retired from public school teaching. The first reference to him as a private school teacher was in 1856, when he announced that he would open a school for boys in October.⁶ Soon after that a news article related that he had suffered an accident in which some of his ribs were fractured, necessitating the postponement of the opening of his school until the middle of October.⁷ The plans of both this gentleman and Mr. Tinsley were changed, however, and on October 15, 1856, they united to re-open the school form-

4. Daily Express, Sept. 6, 1856.

5. John Herbert Claiborne, Seventy Five Years in Old Virginia, p. 98.

6. Daily Express, Sept. 24, 1856.

7. Ibid, Oct. 7, 1856.

erly taught by Tinsley and Cary.⁸ Keiley, who was somewhat of a linguist, also announced that he would give private instruction in languages, as heretofore.

Their partnership lasted only one year, and in 1857, J. D. Keiley announced the opening of his school on Union Street, limiting the number of pupils to thirty,⁹ and citing his record of twenty-five years in teaching as an inducement to pupils. Tinsley continued teaching also, but the last news about any school of his was in 1858, and it was on the first floor of the Masonic Hall.¹⁰ Mr. Keiley was still conducting his school in 1860,¹¹ and likewise, giving individual instruction in Modern Languages and Hebrew. He inserted this note in one of his advertisements:

N.B. - Persons, having business with me, will please call at my room, and not at school. I cannot take my mind or eye off my school one moment, with justice to my scholars, or pleasure to myself.

J.D.K.

Information concerning Mr. Keiley during the Civil War period was lacking, but the old gentleman was still active in 1869,¹² as his notice indicates:

8. Daily Express, Oct. 14, 1856.

9. Ibid, Aug. 17, 1857.

10. Ibid, Sept. 6, 1858.

11. The Press, Jan. 16, 1860.

12. Daily Index, Sept. 10, 1869.

My school will re-open, Providence permitting, on Monday, the 19th instant. As in the past, so in the future, I will try, under God's blessing, to make my scholars sound in health, pure in heart, and clear-headed thinkers.

Jno. D. Keiley.

Claiborne is the source of these final words about John D. Keiley:¹³

He was an Irishman, educated, it was said, for the church, though at that time (1851) he was not a Catholic. He was a man of great learning, always a student, and of many eccentricities, but of rare qualifications for the management and instruction of boys.

After discontinuing teaching he gave himself up, soul and body, to works of charity. I never knew a man who exhibited in his life such utter self-abnegation.

R. M. Cary had returned to Petersburg, after being away for some years, and in 1865, announced the resuming of his school in rooms opposite Washington Street Methodist Church.¹⁴ He ended his private school career in Petersburg when he accepted the appointment as first principal of the new Petersburg High School in 1868, at a salary of \$1500. He served for one year, but when his salary was cut to \$1250 for the 1869-70 session, he resigned.¹⁵

13. J. H. Claiborne, Seventy Five Years in Old Virginia, p. 98-99.

14. Daily Express, Sept. 19, 1865.

15. H. B. Brockwell, History of Secondary Education in Petersburg, Virginia, p. 74-76.

-2-

JOHN E. CHRISTIAN AND THADEUS BRANCH

These two men, the former a Bachelor of Arts from Randolph-Macon College and the latter a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Virginia, began a Scientific and Literary School in 1857. The Scientific Department, offering work in Mathematics, Natural Philosophy, Astronomy, Mineralogy, Geology and Chemistry was in charge of Christian, and the Literary Department comprising Ancient and Modern Languages, their Histories and Literatures, Moral Philosophy and Belles-Lettres was under the supervision of Branch.¹

The school was originally scheduled to open on Bollingbrook Street, "next to Mrs. Furt's Boarding House," but was moved to a site near Dr. Bragg's on the same street.²

At the beginning of the second session, the school was moved to a large brick house on Sycamore Street formerly used by Mr. Tinsley for his school.³

According to Davis,⁴ this school ran during the Civil War, and one of its teachers, Godfrey Stauble, gave his

1. Daily Express, July 4, 1857.

2. South-Side Democrat, Sept. 16, 1857.

3. Daily Express, Sept. 14, 1858.

4. A. K. Davis, Three Centuries of an Old Virginia Town, p. 15.

life in a dramatic way.

On Sycamore Street, just above Central Park is the one-story building that was the schoolhouse of Mr. John E. Christian during the Civil War. Here on fateful Ninth of June, 1864, the boys of Christian's school were preparing their French lessons, not knowing that their teacher, Professor Stauble, lay dead on the Rives farm, two miles away, where he had aided in the brave defence that delayed General Kautz and saved the city for nearly a year.

Branch was not mentioned in connection with the school after 1858, and John Christian was still conducting it in 1866 on Liberty Street, calling it J. E. Christian's Classical and Mathematical School.⁵ Nothing further could be found out about it, and it probably ceased existing soon after this year.

5. The Daily Index, Jan. 23, 1866.

-3-

THE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL
OF
WILLIAM GORDON MCCABE

The end of the Civil War left thousands of the members of the Confederate Army sick at heart, feeling that the glorious world in which they once had lived had come to an end. Poverty reigned where prosperity had been only a few years before, and the spirit of a proud people was sorely tested.

Soon after the surrender of Lee, weary and saddened by this event, there came to Petersburg a young man who had been one of the first to rush to the defence of the South. He began as a private in the Confederate Army and rose to the rank of captain of artillery, serving with great distinction throughout the War, and participated in the defence of Petersburg in the closing days of the War.¹ Unable to complete his education at the University of Virginia, which had been interrupted by the conflict, William Gordon McCabe, who had had a brief, but pleasant, experience as a tutor at Westover before entering the University, decided to earn his living temporarily by conducting a classical school for boys and

1. The Cockade City, A Publication by the City of Petersburg, p. 25-26.

young men, hoping later to be able to study law.² He became so interested in the profession of teaching after a short time that he soon gave up the idea of a law career and devoted the rest of his years in Petersburg to his school.

The University School was opened in October, 1865, with an enrollment of seventeen pupils, and McCabe as its sole teacher,³ but the people of Petersburg were quick in recognizing the excellence of this new school, for on January 6, 1866 Mr. McCabe announced that he had secured the services of Dr. F. S. Hall, a graduate of the University of Virginia, as his assistant, and was extending the capacity of his school to thirty pupils.⁴

The school was first located on Bragg's Hill, then on Fillmore Street, and finally at the northwest corner of Fillmore and Sycamore Street.⁵ The wooden building that once stood upon the last site mentioned, was bought by the Christian Church after the school was moved to Richmond, and removed to Washington Street, opposite Pine Street, where it was used as a church for many years.⁶

2. Armistead C. Gordon, Memories and Memorials of Wm. Gordon McCabe, p. 191.

3. Edward Pollock, Historical and Industrial Guide to Petersburg, Virginia, p. 235.

4. Daily Index, Jan. 6, 1866.

5. E. A. Wyatt, IV, Along Petersburg Streets, p. 57.

6. A. K. Davis, Three Centuries of an Old Virginia Town, p. 15.

McCabe always emphasized in his announcements, beginning with the first, that the design of his school was "to prepare boys for the University of Virginia, for other colleges and for the practical business of life;" and that "the system of instruction was to be the same as that pursued 'at the University,' and the text books would be the same as far as practicable." The end of the announcement contained a sentence which stated a rule that was never suspended during the school's existence:⁷

The honour system obtains entirely in the management of the School, and the only punishment for deviation from that system is expulsion. The discipline of the School is strict.

For McCabe, the "University" could have only one meaning, the University of Virginia, and as stated above, he modeled his school as far as possible along the lines of his beloved University. The Institution of the honor system in his own school caught the fancy of the people of Petersburg. He had been warned that it was foolish to try to open a boy's school in Petersburg, which was already amply supplied with four or five prospering schools, but entered the field with his usual energy and courage, and within a few years had outstripped all his competitors.⁸

According to McCabe, his honor system worked excellently,

7. Armistead C. Gordon, Op. cit., p. 192.

8. Armistead C. Gordon, Op. cit., p. 193.

and he wrote of it in 1885:⁹ -

I announced to the school that I should take every fellow's word as being as good as my own, and that in all matters touching personal honour a boy should be treated as any other gentleman; but if, after such consideration on my part, he in any way forfeited his word, or even tampered with it, that he should not associate with me, nor with his honourable fellows. I drew the big fellows very closely to me. I was "pitcher" in the school 'nine', and was very happy one day when I accidentally heard a boy say to another, as a knot of them were discussing some point of honour: "Well, I think any fellow who would tell McCabe a lie is a dirty old blackguard."

Some boys did violate their honor, but such was the spirit built up in this school that they were brought to trial and if found guilty, were expelled from the school. Up to 1885 there were twenty-one cases submitted to student juries. They expelled nineteen, and in the other cases "recommended probation in view of the fact that the boys were 'new fellows and not used to being treated as gentlemen.'"¹⁰

High scholarship was the other notable characteristic of the University School, and every commencement witnessed the awarding of prizes for excellence in classwork. Three of these prizes were in honor of the memories of McCabe's friends who had served and died for the Confederacy. A news item describing the closing exercises of the school in 1868, which like all its closing exercises, were private, tells of the awarding

9. Armistead C. Gordon, Op. cit., p. 199.

10. Idem, p. 200.

of the prizes:¹¹

The Prizes were awarded as follows:

1. The Pegram Prize, founded in 1865, in memory of Col. Wm. Johnson Pegram, Confederate States Artillery, to James A. Kerr, for best standing in the Upper School.
2. The Elliot Prize, founded in 1865, in memory of Percival Elliot, 18th. Georgia Battalion, to Walter S. Alley and Wm. Jaynes May, same marks, for best standing in the Lower School.
3. The Robertson Historical Prize, founded in 1868, in memory of Cary Robinson, Mahone's Brigade, to Robert F. Jackson, Jr., for best Historical Essay.

As McCabe's University education was interrupted by the War, and necessity forced him to seek a means of livelihood immediately following its end, he never completed his college education. In recognition of his growing fame as a scholar and teacher, however, the College of William and Mary conferred upon him the honorary degree of Master of Arts on July 4, 1868.¹²

Examinations were an important institution and serious affairs at the University School, and consumed several days each term. Here is a typical exam schedule.¹³

Monday, February 17--	Latin
Tuesday, "	18--Arithmetic and French
Wednesday, "	19--English Literature and Rhetoric
Thursday, "	20--English Composition, Natural Philosophy, Third and Fourth French

11. Daily Index, July 1, 1868.

12. Idem, July 29, 1868.

13. Idem, Feb. 18, 1873.

Friday, February 21	---Spelling, Etymology, Second and Third German
Monday, "	24---History
Tuesday, "	25---English Grammar
Wednesday, "	26---Greek and First French
Thursday, "	27---Geography and First German
Friday, "	28---Algebra
Saturday, March 1	---Geometry

The master of the University School never left any doubt as to what the rules of his school were, and they were printed in newspapers and catalogues at frequent intervals. Here are the "Rules of Examination."¹⁴

1. No papers, except spelling papers, received earlier than 1:30 P.M.
2. No corrections allowed after papers are handed in. To this rule no exception will be made under any circumstances.
3. No communication, in regard to the examination, after an examination has been set, can honorably take place between pupils.

All questions regarding the examination, however trivial, should be addressed to the instructors.

4. Names of absentees, not excused, will be published in examination lists.
5. Examinations will begin every day at 9 A.M., sharp.

Another established practice of the school was that of giving "Snap Examinations."¹⁵ These were in addition to the regular examinations and would be given without any previous knowledge on the part of the pupils. They were given at such time as the principal thought fit, and served a useful purpose

14. Index and Appeal, Aug. 8, 1877.

15. Daily Appeal, June 30, 1873.

in keeping the boys up to date in the preparation of their work.

The annual catalogues issued by McCabe gave the most minute rules and regulations, and illustrated his strict and uncompromising nature and his insistence on high character and scholarship.

A few excerpts from some of the catalogues will give much information about the University School.

Examinations¹⁶

There are two regular examinations during the session conducted in writing on the plan pursued at the University of Virginia. The Intermediate Examination, held in February, embraces the course from October to February 15th; the Final Examinations, held in June, embraces the course from October to June 15th. The standard of four-fifths is rigidly insisted upon by the Instructors in all departments save Greek, German, and Mathematics, where the standard is three-fourths. Certificates of Distinction, signed by all the Instructors, are awarded at the close of the session to those students who attain "the First Division" in any department.

Discipline

The Discipline is strict.

The honour system obtains entirely in the management of the School, and the only punishment for deviation from that system is expulsion.

Terms, Etc.

For Primary English, per session of nine months	\$50
For Higher English, per session of nine months	60
Ancient and Modern Languages (each), per session of nine months	20
For board, tuition, washing, fuel and lights, (payable half yearly in advance)	340

16. Catalogue of the University School, 1874-75, p. 12.

A circular letter in a catalogue for a different year¹⁷ described the daily life of a pupil, and according to all reports, the account was accurate, for McCabe kept his school running with clock-like regularity.

Petersburg, Va., July 1st, 1887

The routine daily life is as follows in winter for Boarders.

Rise at 8; breakfast at 8:30; just three minutes walk to schoolhouse; school opens at 9 sharp; reading the Bible and short prayer, and then to work; recess 12 to 1; work again from 1 to 3 P.M.; dinner at 3:15; boys have the afternoons for football, tennis, base-ball and rowing on the river ("University School Boat Club"); every boy must be in at dark; supper at 7; family prayers and then to work; study hour lasts until 10, but boys are allowed to study or read until 11; at 11 all lights out. There is an instructor in each cottage, to whom the boys can go (as well as to the Principal) in the preparation of their tasks.

Boys are encouraged to come to their instructors in preparing their lessons and do come freely.

The Principal visits the rooms several times every night to look into the work of the boys.

Boys study in their rooms in groups of three. The rooms are large, well-ventilated and thoroughly comfortable--open fire-places, etc. Each boy has his own bed. There is a bath room in each cottage.

For further particulars address
W. Gordon McCabe
Petersburg, Va.

N. B.--The time is one hour earlier throughout the summer.

Athletics played a prominent part in the extra-curricular activities of the school. During the early years of the school

17. Catalogue of the University School, 1886-87, p. 1.

McCabe often took part in these games with the boys and was considered by them as "one of the fellows."¹⁸ The University School was the proud possessor of a boat club, in which the boys took great delight, and races were held between picked crews from the school and crews from other schools.

One of the catalogues described the boat club.¹⁹

The University School Boat Club

The boat-house of the club, situated on the banks of the Appomattox, which is especially favorable for rowing, is large and commodious and with its equipment cost two thousand dollars. It contains committee, reception, bath and dressing rooms. The boats are all built by E. Waters and Son, Troy, New York. The officers of the club for the current year are:

William Cameron, Jr., President
 Allen Potts, Vice-President
 E. Osborne McCabe, Treasurer
 R. L. Rountree, Secretary

There were three school crews that session, and from these was picked a school crew that entered the State Regatta, July 4, 1887 at Alexandria, Virginia. Members of this crew were E. B. Pettitt (Stroke), Allen Potts (5), Edward Rutledge (2), W. Cameron (Bow), and E. O. McCabe (Cox).

Football was another sport the boys enjoyed, and the school had a football team in 1890 that was "open to challenge from all Schools and Colleges."²⁰ On this team W. L. McGill and

18. Armistead C. Gordon, Memories and Memorials of Wm. Gordon McCabe, p. 249.

19. Catalogue of the University School, 1886-87, p. 15.

20. Catalogue of the University School, 1890-91, p. 15.

M. G. Taylor were ends, D. E. Andrews and R. A. Calwell were "tacklers," C. P. Dodd, and Geo. Tarry were guards, R. F. Whitehead was "centre rush," Jno. Watson, the captain, and J. N. Nathans, Jr. were half-backs, H. H. Duke, full back, and W. Gordon McCabe, Jr., quarterback. J. A. Green and R. H. Pretlow were the substitutes.

The line-up of the baseball team in 1893 consisted of Wilson, pitcher; McGann, catcher; Joly, first base; Peebles, second base; Quarles, third base; Kinlock, shortstop and captain; C. U. Williams, Jr., left field; W. G. McCabe, Jr., centre field; Scott, right field; Alfriend, substitute.²¹

While McCabe began his school as a day school only, it was not long before he began taking boarding pupils. Some of the regulations covering such pupils have been listed previously. Here are a few more items of information concerning them:²²

The Principal receives into his own family a limited number of boarders, and parents desiring their sons to be under his immediate care are advised to make early application.

All boys are required to attend church on Sunday and to this rule there can be no exception.

Boarders are treated in all respects as members of the family and are expected so to conduct themselves.

21. Catalogue of the University School, 1892-93, p. 16.

22. Catalogue of the University School, 1892-93, p. 10.

The Principal cannot advance money to pupils. A special deposit should be made in every case to cover the usual incidental expenses.

For thirty years the University School enjoyed great success in Petersburg. People considered it an honor to send their boys to it, and a disgrace to the family if a boy should be expelled from it. Educators all over the South knew of its excellence, and were anxious to receive as students in their colleges and universities the graduates of McCabe's school. Graduates made excellent records at the University of Virginia, Virginia Military Institute, West Point Military Academy and Annapolis. Slipshod work was never accepted by McCabe, and if a boy failed by one point, he failed--that was all there was to it.

Anyone reading about this school will notice the great contrast between its methods and those of the present day. By all present day standards, McCabe himself would be a failure as a school teacher. The very people of Petersburg who were pupils in that school would condemn a teacher in the high schools today who used his methods on their grandchildren. Yet his methods were admired by all of that day, and he achieved results surpassed by none of his contemporaries.

Sarcasm, the use of which is considered one of the greatest sins a teacher to-day can commit, was one of his devices for making a careless or lazy pupil toe the mark. If a pu-

pupil made seventy-nine on a course in which the passing grade was eighty, he failed. If a pupil was guilty of insubordination, or lying, he was expelled forever from the school--there was no second chance. There was no pampering of the pupils, and each boy had to stand or fall on his own merits. McCabe had no use for weaklings. He used corporal punishment in his school, and those punished were not degraded by it. They knew they deserved it and took it unflinchingly. If they did not wish to suffer it, they were perfectly at liberty to withdraw from the school. McCabe stood for no interference from doting "papas" or "mamas" in the administration of his school. There was no lowering of standards or rescinding of rules for favored individuals, and he was honored and respected by all for such a stand.²³

The long and famous career of the University School came to an end as far as Petersburg was concerned in 1895, when the following announcement appeared in a Petersburg newspaper.²⁴

Col. McCabe tendered resignation as Commander of A. P. Hill Camp of Confederate Veterans. Has been commander for several years. Will remove with his family to Richmond about middle of the month, where he will open his school.

The reason for the removal of the school to Richmond could not be found in print in this study. Probably like most success-

23. Arnistead C. Gordon, Op. cit., p. 191-220.

24. Index-Appeal, Sept. 7, 1895.

ful people, he wanted to return to his home town for the remaining years of his life, which were spent quite happily at his house on Cary Street for most of the time.²⁵ Here his school was conducted until 1901, which marked the end of McCabe's career as a teacher, a career that had been successful financially as well as academically. Gordon wrote:²⁶

The boundless energy which had never exhausted itself in his conduct of the school, in his travels in many countries and in his active participation in educational movements and events, after the close of the school in 1901 found a wider field for the pursuit of all other interests; and the business ability and thrift--in the best sense of that abused word--which he had exercised since he emerged from the war of the 'Sixties with no other worldly possessions that 'one suit of clothes,' had brought him to such a condition of financial ease as to render further money making a secondary consideration.

The high esteem in which the people of Petersburg had held William Gordon McCabe was evidenced by an article written about him in The Cockade City published in 1894, the beginning of the last session of his school in Petersburg.²⁷

Capt. McCabe is one of the notables of the city. He is ranked among the representative literary men of the country in the new Steadman and Hutchinson Library of American Literature, and among the teachers of the country holds a high place. He is a native of Richmond, but has been a resident here most of his life. He is a graduate of Hampton Academy and of the University of Virginia. (Author's Note: This is

25. Armistead C. Gordon, Op. cit., p. 223.

26. Armistead C. Gordon, Op. cit., p. 236.

27. The Cockade City, A Publication by the City of Petersburg, p. 25-26.

an error; McCabe's college education was ended by the Civil War, and he did not graduate.) He was the gold medalist of his time at the first named of these, and he enlisted for the war from the latter.

He was among the first of those who flocked to the standard of the South. Beginning as private, he rose to be captain of artillery; hence the title by courtesy still accorded him. He participated in the defence of the city in the closing days of the war, and when it was over, settled here.

It had been his intention to study law, but immediate and pressing necessity drove him to school teaching--about the only avenue of employment then open to him. He started a small boys school in 1865, and succeeded so well that he abandoned the notion of the bar entirely.

He has written a good deal for the magazines, both prose and verse. His poems are short ones, as a rule; the two best known are the lyrics, "Dreaming in the Trenches" and "Christmas Night, 1862." He is the author of a "History of the Defence of Petersburg," which has been translated into German, and he has edited a series of classics for school use.

Nearly every summer he visits Europe. There also he has a name. He has visited such Old World celebrities as Tennyson, Miss Thackeray, William Black and Browning; and with many of the eminent American writers he is on terms of familiarity. There are many handsome gift books in his library presented by these friends. This library is by far the best collection of "Virginiana" belonging to a private person in the state. It contains some 6000 volumes.

Captain McCabe has declined no less than twenty college professorships, because he prefers his own school. He is, withal, a very agreeable and genial gentleman.

The book written by Armistead C. Gordon, Memories and Memorials of William Gordon McCabe, which has already been quoted several times before in this work, contains many anecdotes and descriptions of McCabe and his school. Some of these incidents that are described will convince anyone familiar with the present day school children of Petersburg that the influence of McCabe's school is still being felt there.

Here is one passage from Gordon's book in which he is quoting McCabe:²⁸

Papers are in all cases handed back corrected, so that a boy can see exactly where and how he was 'pitched.' To instance what a high tone of honor exists here, I have within these twenty years had four or five cases in which the boy just made 80--bare 'pass' into first division--and the instructor had by an oversight failed to add up the values correctly. The correct value of the papers would be 77 or 78. And in every case these splendid fellows came forward, and said: 'I'm sorry to say, sir, I'm pitched. Heres a 2 (or a 3) which has escaped the observation of the instructor in his addition.' That is what I call the genuine article! I always 'pitch' them, of course, but I take occasion at roll-call to allude to the matter in such terms as to make the fellow feel much better than if he had taken a ton of distinctions.

McCabe was most proficient as a teacher of languages, of which Latin was his favorite, and his own teaching was confined to languages. The mathematics courses in his school were excellent, also, and one of his teachers, William Mynn Thornton, later became dean of the engineering department of the University of Virginia.²⁹

The University School did not worry about the details that educators impress upon all teachers of the present day, namely, the appearance and cleanliness of the school property. Here is how the building appeared to one of its pupils:³⁰

That same day before school opened the Grandfather drove the little boy past the famous school; and it was famous,

28. A. C. Gordon, Op. cit., p. 201.

29. Idem, p. 206.

30. A. C. Gordon, Op. cit., p. 211-12.

justly famous, drawing its patronage from all parts of the South. When the grandfather said, 'That is the school,' the little fellow looked at the building with amazement. He had spent some years in a great public school that had cost a quarter of a million dollars, if it cost a cent. The University School was an old church standing upon brick piers. There was just room enough between the floor and the ground for the boys to crawl under; and crawl under they did, you may be sure. One of the chief delights of a hot day was to raise fortifications in the loam against the invading Yankees. In places the weatherboarding, which had once been painted, was falling off. Not a window but lacked a light. Of course there was no fence about the property, and no play-ground, as the little church all but covered the whole of the small lot. But then, Central Lawn, a city park, was just over the way. Within the church two small recitation rooms had been partitioned off to the rear of the auditorium, which gave the interior entrance the effect of a long dark tunnel. As the school had continued to grow two small recitation rooms, mere boxes, were added to each side, but they did not conform well to the rest of the ecclesiastical building. Dear me, but these little rooms were hot of a long summer afternoon. One hot day, a small, rosy cheeked, round-faced lad, Fisher Collier by name, raised his hand. When asked what he wished, he replied with the innocent smile of a cherub: 'Mr. Hall, this wall has a fever.'

The appointments of the University School within were in keeping with the exterior. The old pulpit still remained, and the reading desk too, the red velvet cover of which hung in shreds. Some of the old pews remained, too, frail pews for the most part that must needs lean against the wall for support. Not infrequently a bench would break, and all the boys on it go down with a crash, to the intense delight of all the other boys and the irritation of Colonel McCabe. A great old-fashioned stove stood in the midst, as free from polish as the furniture was of varnish, and the rest of the building of paint. Four rows of double-decked seats filled the middle of the floor-space, and along the walls old fashioned desks on stilts had been placed as could be; which was well, for it rendered them steadier on their legs. Some of the old pews had been placed in front of the desks, end to end. The boys who occupied these pews and used these desks must needs jump over the back of the pews to get in or out. The smaller boys for the most part congregated to the left or north side of the church, the larger boys to the right. So much trouble originated among the big boys on the right that the Colonel called that part of his school 'Botany Boy'.Crude blackboards, much faded from constant changing and rubbings, had been painted above the pulpit, and in each of the recitation rooms.

It need hardly be added that all the seats and benches were richly and elaborately carved. The names and initials of long gone old boys still remained, unappreciated memorials. The walls were also well pencilled.

McCabe never permitted any custom in his school that even remotely could be considered effeminate, and for that reason, always called his boys by their last names. If there were two boys from the same family, the initials were added after the name.³¹

McCabe had a large collection of stories and sayings, many of them stereotyped, that he used in connection with the teaching of his classes year after year, as they helped to illustrate certain points. He also, like many Latin teachers, had a stock of jokes which he used every year. These had been learned thoroughly by the older pupils and written down in books, which were passed on in the school from generation to generation. Each new class knew exactly when to expect each joke, and when the Head Master began to tell one, the books would appear and each boy would follow the story in the book while McCabe was telling it. At the end of the joke, there would be an enormous burst of sardonic laughter. The open use of these books was known to McCabe, but he took it all in good spirits, and with his ability for satirical comment was always able to hold his own. The

31. A. C. Gordon, Op. cit., p. 215.

little game was as amusing to McCabe as it was to the boys.³²

Occasionally, McCabe would break the monotony of a long afternoon class by bursting into a song, such as "The Last Rose of Summer," or "Eileen Aroon," or perhaps a hymn. Sometimes one or two of the bolder boys would join in with their voices.³³

Demerits were freely given for breaches of discipline. Two hundred of them meant expulsion, but when a boy got enough of them to be near the danger point, he could have them "taken off" if he wished. This consisted of appearing before the Head Master at a convenient time, holding out his hand, and taking a certain number of licks on the palm for a certain number of demerits. This was not a painless process, but every boy had his demerits taken off in this way, if he wished to remain in school. There was no anger nor rebellion, for the boys knew they deserved what they got.³⁴

Notwithstanding his education, McCabe was superstitious. He evidently believed in the old superstition expressed in the couplet:

"See a pin and let it lie,
From want some day you'll surely die,"

32. A. C. Gordon, *Op. cit.*, p. 238-39.

33. *Idem*, p. 239.

34. *Idem*, p. 247.

for he always picked up any pins he would see lying in his way "for luck." His pupils would amuse themselves by strewing pins along the path he followed to his school and watching him pick them up one by one, regardless of how long it would take.³⁵

Volumes have been written about the character and personality of the Head Master of the University School. This work will close with a passage from Gordon's book about him, in which an article written by one of McCabe's old pupils, the Rev. W. H. T. Squires, is quoted:³⁶

Take him all in all, Colonel W. Gordon McCabe is one of the most striking personalities, as he is also one of the ripest scholars and one of the most successful educators that Virginia has produced in these latter days. The boys who sat under his rule of iron have gone forth to make good; and they wield a wide influence in Petersburg, in this State and throughout the South. The eccentricities of his character, the thunder of his voice, the unvaried righteousness of his discipline, the emphasis he placed upon a high and unsullied sense of honor, the thoroughness of his instruction and his remarkable ability to elucidate, explain and impress, have rarely been equalled, perhaps never excelled.

The meagreness of his equipment, the positive plainness of his dress, were a standing rebuke to those who would and do substitute shams for real ability. Any school can pile together bricks and mortar, any school given sufficient endowment can hire betitled men. But Colonel McCabe had a school unique in the emphasis it placed upon culture, intellect and honor.

35. A. C. Gordon, Op. cit., p. 233.

36. Idem, p. 220.

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HALL AND ARRINGTON'S PETERSBURG ACADEMY

The removal of the University School to Richmond in the fall of 1895 left a place in the educational life of Petersburg that, fortunately for the town, was quickly and ably filled by two men who had been former pupils of Capt. McCabe.

One of these, George Hall, during the session of 1894-1895, had been conducting a school which he called the "Petersburg Preparatory School" for little boys and youths.¹ It was at 207 Brown St. After the closing of McCabe's school, he and Samuel W. Arrington became partners in the founding of a school which they named the Petersburg Academy, designed to be a classical school for boys, with a special department for small boys. They hired as their assistant another alumnus of the University School, John R. Rosebro. Their first difficulty seemed to be in securing a suitable school house, for this notice appeared in the daily newspaper: "Parties having for rent a house suitable for school purposes will please address either Principal."² Plans were made after this to use the building formerly occupied by the University

1. Index-Appeal, Sept. 2, 1894.

2. Ibid, Aug. 18, 1895.

School at the corner of Fillmore and Sycamore Streets,³ but these plans were not fulfilled, and the school opened on September 16 at Mr. Hall's former place, 215 Lawrence Street.⁴ The success of this school its first year was attested by an announcement that of the seventeen boys who attended, at the close of the first session, fifteen returned, one went to college, and one to work.⁵

These partners, due to some misunderstanding between themselves, the cause of which was not announced publicly, separated at the end of their first session together and each conducted his own school during the 1896-97 session.

Mr. Hall announced the opening of his "Classical School for Boys and Young Men" at 215 Lawrence Street, and John Rosebro went with him as his assistant.⁶

Mr. Arrington opened his school, which he called the Petersburg Academy, at 22 Union Street, and engaged J. M. Morgan, who had just graduated from Virginia Military Institute, as his assistant.⁷ At the end of the year's work, R. T. Wilson, Jr. was announced as the winner of the V.M.I. scholarship offered

3. Index-Appeal, Aug. 25, 1895.

4. Ibid, Sept. 8, 1895.

5. Ibid, June 17, 1896.

6. Ibid, June 17, 1896.

7. Ibid, Sept. 6, 1896.

to the best mathematician in the Upper School, while Bolling R. Willcox was second.⁸ The first named pupil is now Judge of the Hustings Court in Petersburg, and the runner-up, now deceased, was city attorney for Petersburg several years.

Judge Wilson, when reminded of the above information, remembered that the school was held in a little two room building in the back yard of the house across from Watson Court. He considered Mr. Arrington an excellent teacher whose specialty was languages. Although a small man, he was a great gymnast who delighted in exercises on the trapeze, and was exceptionally strong for his size. Although quiet, easy going and even tempered, his pupils knew that when he gave an order, he meant it, and obeyed him. There were between fifteen and twenty pupils in this school, and the mathematics courses were conducted by Mr. Morgan, who was also a good teacher, considering his lack of experience. Two other pupils in this school who later became prominent in the life of Petersburg were Robert Gilliam and Samuel Zimmer.⁹

The disagreement between Mr. Hall and Mr. Arrington had been settled by September, 1897, for they were together again.¹⁰

8. Index-Appeal, June 13, 1897.

9. From a conversation with Judge R. T. Wilson.

10. Index-Appeal, Sept. 5, 1897.

and the closing exercises of this session which ended June 10, 1898, showed the influence of the University School upon its successor, for like those of McCabe's School, "As usual, they were private," and consisted of the awarding of medals and prizes.¹¹

The Petersburg Academy took pride in the fact that of eighteen applicants for admission to the third class at the Virginia Military Institute, only one passed the examination, which was almost entirely in original matter, and that one was an alumnus of the Academy.¹²

Samuel Arrington's ability as a teacher has already been discussed. George Hall, his partner, was his opposite in many respects, but like him, was unequalled as a teacher in his subject, which was mathematics. He was high tempered and contrary to rules of pedagogy followed to-day, would use sarcasm frequently to spur his pupils along in their quest of knowledge, and they learned well under his tutelage. Also he was an excellent disciplinarian. Mr. James G. Scott, now principal of the Bolling Junior High School in Petersburg, remembers both of these men from his experiences as a pupil in their school, and considered the training they gave unequalled for that time. The school was the typical classical

11. Ibid, June 11, 1898.

12. Ibid, Sept. 9, 1898.

private school, to which a pupil could go as long as he wished, even continuing into college work. Chemistry was taught as a text-book subject, private schools of that day not possessing much laboratory equipment. Mr. Arrington's gymnastic ability was often displayed by his feat of coming down the stairs on his hands for the amusement of his pupils.¹³

The advertisements of the Petersburg Academy were interesting and showed the enterprising nature of the co-principals. Here are some of the catchy sentences used to attract pupils:¹⁴

Our number is limited and each pupil is taught to reason.

Each boy has intimate friendly relations with his instructors.

Backward boys receive careful individual attention and bright pupils advance rapidly.

Good discipline is maintained and instruction is made attractive.

Here is another advertisement:¹⁵

Does your boy guess or learn by rote? He should learn to reason, you know; if he does not he misses the greatest value of education. The Petersburg Academy teaches boys to think. The number of our pupils is limited to such as can be well taught by the Principals personally; therefore, make prompt application.

We have pupils preparing for various colleges.

13. From a conversation with Mr. James G. Scott.

14. Index-Appeal, Sept. 2, 1900.

15. Ibid, Sept. 4, 1904.

We accept boys about to begin fractions in Arithmetic, who can read in the fourth reader.

This school re-opened in September, 1906, without the services of Mr. Hall, whose health had failed him some weeks before the opening of the session. Death followed a few months later, ending the career of one of Petersburg's finest teachers while he was still in his prime. T. H. Thompson, a former instructor at Hampden-Sidney College and after that Principal of Greenbrier Presbyterian School (West Virginia), assumed Mr. Hall's duties for the 1906-07 term.¹⁶

The next session the associate of Mr. Arrington was Mr. H. D. Wolff, M.A., (University of Virginia), who had lately been principal of Berryville High School. The newspaper announcement stated that he came highly recommended by the State Board of Education, the School Inspectors, and leading educators in the University. "Professor Wolff is looked upon as one of the ablest, and most brainy and energetic young teachers in the state."¹⁷

The following is another illustration of the Petersburg Academy's advertising:¹⁸

Question: What is Education?

Answer: The Touchstone of Truth.

Question: Where found?

Answer: At the Petersburg Academy, where boys are taught to Reason.

16. Index-Appeal, Sept. 10, 1906.

17. Ibid., Aug. 25, 1907.

18. Ibid., Sept. 6, 1908.

Mr. Wolff left the Academy in the fall of 1909 to become associated with the public schools of Petersburg until he retired in 1942 after serving as principal of the Petersburg High School for twenty-nine years. He, too, had made a fine record as a teacher of mathematics while connected with the Petersburg Academy, and carried this ability with him to the public schools.

The last session of this school was in 1909-10, and Mr. Lacy was the assistant that session.¹⁹ Mr. Arrington left Petersburg after that and taught in Norfolk, Virginia at the Norfolk Academy for many years, retiring only a few years ago.

Professor Nathaniel C. Starke purchased the Petersburg Academy from Mr. Arrington in August, 1910. He was a former resident of Petersburg, but had lived since then in Suffolk and Norfolk.²⁰ The name of the school was changed to the Petersburg Military Academy, and its work was designed to prepare pupils for West Point, Annapolis, or any College or University.²¹ This school ran only one year, and was listed in the Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1910-11, as having thirty-four pupils and two teachers.

19. Index-Appeal, Aug. 9, 1909.

20. Ibid, Aug. 3, 1910.

21. Ibid, Aug. 25, 1910.

CHAPTER VIII

MISSION SCHOOLS

Several of the churches of the city at various times have experimented with mission schools, conducting them chiefly for the benefit of children whose parents were too poor to send them to the conventional type of school.

In 1869 a fair was held for the benefit of the Episcopal Mission School. This school was held in the Episcopal Chapel on West Washington Street, and the object of the fair was to raise money to furnish clothes for the poor children who attended the school.¹

Several schools of this type were conducted in Blandford at various times. St. Paul's Guild Association established one about 1874 or 1875 which had thirty-eight pupils in daily attendance in 1875.²

St. John's Episcopal Church had a school during the years 1876-78 at the corner of Washington and Dunlop Streets.³

Another mission school was held in 1879-80 at 408 Main

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1. Daily Index, Nov. 5, 1869.
 2. Index and Appeal, March 20, 1875.
 3. Petersburg City Directories, 1876-78.

Street in Blandford.⁴ The church conducting it was not mentioned.

Good Shepherd Episcopal Church in Blandford also sponsored schools during the years 1889-94. Rev. Douglas W. Taylor was the teacher of it in 1889-90, and Miss Louisa C. Jones taught it in 1893-94.⁵

The Blandford Baptist Mission was held at 8 South Main Street in 1893-94.⁶

4. Petersburg City Directory, 1879-80.

5. Petersburg City Directories, 1889-94.

6. Petersburg City Directory, 1893-94.

CHAPTER IX

PRIVATE EDUCATION AMONG THE NEGROES OF
PETERSBURG

-1-

ST. STEPHEN'S SCHOOL

No one man in Petersburg ever exerted a greater influence in the improvement of educational opportunities for members of the Negro race than did the Rev. Giles Buckner Cooke. He came to Petersburg immediately following the Civil War, through which he had served as a member of General Lee's staff, and while still a young man of about twenty-six years, entered into the educational life of the city, opening a day school for white children.¹ According to a notice in the daily paper, September 1, 1865, it was to be a "Classical and Mathematical School" for boys.² After stating charges for tuition, a sentence was added to the effect that children made orphans on account of the late war would be accepted at one-half the regular rates if recommended. Associated with him in the management of this school was the Rev. Thomas Hume, Jr., A.M. How successfully this school fared is not

1. Dr. W. F. Clarke, "Rev. Giles Buckner Cooke," a monograph published in the Progress-Index, Feb. 14, 1937.

2. Daily Express, Sept. 1, 1865.

known, as no other mention could be found about it.

The next news about Major Cooke was an announcement in the Daily Progress in 1871 that he would open a private school for colored children, which would consist of a high school and a primary department, on Monday, September 25.³

The site of this school--popularly known as 'Major Cooke's School'--was on upper Harrison Street, and was bounded on the North by Mercury Street, on the East by Sycamore, on the South by Shore and on the West by Harrison. Corling, Early and Ransom Streets have since been carved out of this plot.

The house was large and commodious, of colonial design, and easily fitted into the use of the school. The grounds--ample and unfenced--provided every facility for healthy exercise and recreation. At least four or five teachers were in the combined Grammar-High school and there were two in the musical department which served as an annex. Older scholars, looking back, remember that Bingham's Latin Grammar and Reader and Fasquelle's French Grammar and Reader were in the high school course, even in that early and benighted day. It is also remembered that the McGuffey series of books was used in the class rooms. There were six readers--running from the First Reader to the Sixth Reader, and all of them were veritable mines of information, advice and culture. Major Cooke was not only among the pioneers in Negro education in this vicinity, but he was the first high school principal for Negroes in the state.⁴

According to Dr. Clarke, this school during its first years had between two hundred and two hundred and fifty pupils, each of whom paid one dollar per month tuition, if he could afford it. Major Cooke insisted that his pupils learn to read the daily newspaper and the Bible, and these were

3. Daily Progress, Sept. 20, 1871.

4. Dr. W. F. Clarke, "Rev. Giles Buckner Cooke."

used every day as text-books in his school. While conducting his school, he also took private studies in theology under the Rev. Dr. Wingfield, rector of St. Paul's Church, and was ordained under Bishop Meade.⁵ He was offered the rectorship of St. Stephen's Church by its congregation, and accepted the call in May, 1873. His salary, as rector of the church, according to the newspaper account, was two hundred dollars per year.⁶

He then closed his Harrison Street school and moved it to the corner of Perry and Lawrence Street, re-opening it as a parochial school under the auspices of St. Stephen's Church and calling it St. Stephen's School. For twelve years the Rev. Mr. Cooke served as pastor of St. Stephen's Church and principal of the Parish School.⁷ Associated with him in his efforts was his wife, who taught the first department.⁸ In 1879, Thomas W. Cain taught the third department,⁹ and Miss V. M. Morgan taught the second department.¹⁰ Other teachers who served the school were Miss Kate Beckwith and Miss Annie

5. From a conversation with Dr. W. F. Clarke.

6. Daily Appeal, May 13, 1873.

7. From a conversation with Dr. W. F. Clarke.

8. Index and Appeal, June 28, 1878.

9. Ibid, June 25, 1879.

10. Ibid, June 26, 1879.

Stallard, the latter its music teacher. Two members of the faculty in 1881 were Negroes, Mrs. Heli Morgan and the Rev. J. H. M. Pollard, who served as assistant principal of the school.¹¹ This young man, who had been one of Mr. Cooke's first pupils, later rose to a position of prominence in the Church, being appointed Archdeacon of North Carolina, in which post he remained until his death. Another pupil, James Major Colson later served on the faculty of Virginia State College and then became president of the Dinwiddie Agricultural and Industrial School until his death.¹²

Subjects taught in the First Department of St. Stephen's School in 1881 included Algebra, Natural and Moral Philosophy, Rhetoric, Composition, Latin, etc., and the school offered a three years' course in this department.¹³

In 1885, the Rev. George S. Sutton was assistant to Major Cooke. At this time it was announced that the school was supported by the Domestic Missionary Society Board of the Protestant Episcopal Church, located at New York, and by voluntary contributions.¹⁴

That Major Cooke had firmly established his excellence

11. Index and Appeal, June 29, 1881.

12. Dr. W. F. Clarke, "Rev. G. B. Cooke."

13. Index and Appeal, June 29, 1881.

14. Ibid, June 13, 1885.

as a teacher is shown in Dr. Clarke's writings:¹⁵

Major Cooke's school deservedly enjoyed an enviable reputation. In the seventies and early eighties, the custom of examination to teach in any of the one hundred counties of the state was that of being quizzed by the county superintendents. Major Cooke's school was held in such high estimation, the mere fact that you attended the school was an open sesame to any teaching position in Virginia, without recourse to an examination.

According to Dr. Clarke, Major Cooke, with all his insistence upon discipline--he always held that no one could take top honors as a student unless he could also qualify in his department--was a most pleasant man, whose genial nature could draw out and lead a person's talents into the channels best suited for them. He was without a peer as a teacher and as a Christian gentleman. If a pupil showed a spark of interest in a subject, he would help him out in his spare time, giving individual coaching freely whenever it was requested.¹⁶

Petersburg is proud of the fact that it had the first public high school for Negroes in the state of Virginia,¹⁷ the Peabody High School. The first three principals of this school were pupils of Major Cooke. Alfred Stanley Pryor, William Lincoln Hamlin and James Edward Shields, in the order

15. Dr. W. F. Clarke, "Rev. Giles Buckner Cooke."

16. A conversation with Dr. W. F. Clarke.

17. H. B. Brookwell, A History of Secondary Education in Petersburg, Virginia, p. 187.

named were the first three principals of this school, Shields serving from 1889-1935. Principals of several of the elementary schools also received some of their education at the hands of Major Cooke.¹⁸ Petersburg was the first city in Virginia to employ Negro teachers, and in 1882, when this occurred, three-fourths of these teachers had been former pupils of Major Cooke. Dr. W. F. Clarke, to whom the writer is indebted for much of his information concerning Negro education in Petersburg, was one of his first pupils, and is still actively engaged in the medical profession, as well as enjoying the distinction of being the only Negro member of the Petersburg Draft Board. He is a staunch admirer of Major Cooke, and attributes much of the success he has enjoyed in his profession and as a citizen to the benign influence of that gentleman upon him.

A white church in Frederick, Maryland, extended a call to the Rev. Cooke in 1885, and he accepted it, serving as its rector for some years. From there he went to Mathews, Virginia, where he remained until his death in 1937, at the ripe old age of ninety-eight years, in full possession of all his faculties.

St. Stephen's School continued its good work for several years after the departure of Major Cooke, with the Rev. Jo-

18. A conversation with Dr. W. F. Clarke.

seph F. Mitchell as its principal.¹⁹ It finally went out of existence about 1908, as the public schools had reached the point where they could absorb and give equal, if not better education to the children, than the private schools. Public education owes a debt of gratitude to Major Cooke and his helpers for the training they gave the men and women who took over the positions as principals and teachers in the Negro schools and ran them so successfully. As a memorial to the work of Major Cooke, one of Petersburg's Negro schools has been named the Giles B. Cooke School in his honor.

19. Petersburg City Directory, 1891-92.

-2-

THE BISHOP PAYNE DIVINITY SCHOOL

The Negroes of Brunswick and Mecklenburg Counties had organized among themselves in 1869 a denomination, of Methodist type, which was known as the Zion Union Apostolic Church. It had its own bishops and ministers and several hundred members. A white woman, Mrs. Pattie E. Buford, a member of St. Andrew's Parish, by her interest and aid extended them, was responsible for their desire to unite with the Episcopal Church. However, the educational requirements of the Episcopal ministry were such that the Negro bishops and ministers of the Zion Union could not come directly into it, so they decided to continue their own denominational organization, although on lines closely approaching those of the Episcopal Church, and during the years 1880-1890, many of its members transferred their allegiance to the Episcopal Church.¹

The Bishop Payne Divinity School was conceived as a remedy for the above mentioned problem. Quoting Brydon:

The opportunity of educating the Zion Union bishops and ministers so as to admit them to ordination in the Episcopal Church, and the impossibility of receiving the uneducated men in the Virginia Theological Seminary, caused the Seminary to make appropriation (which still continues) to establish a branch Theological School at Petersburg in connection with Major Cooke's Normal School at St. Stephen's Church. This was established in 1878 with Rev. Thomas Spencer as the "Faculty." Among the six students the first year were three

1. G. Maclaren Brydon, The Episcopal Church Among the Negroes of Virginia, p. 10-11.

men who later entered our ministry. Thomas W. Cain, the first Negro Rector of St. Phillip's Church in Richmond; James S. Russell, D.D., Archdeacon, founder of St. Paul's School at Lawrenceville, and George F. Bragg, D.D., the present rector of St. James African Church in Baltimore. J. M. H. Pollard, who was the first Negro minister of the Church in Norfolk, and later became Archdeacon in North Carolina, was a student at the school in the following years. The Branch Theological School showed an increasing number of students in the next two or three years having an enrollment of fifteen or sixteen students, the majority of whom came from the membership of the Zion Union Apostolic Church.

The school was chartered in 1884 by the State Legislature under the name of the Bishop Payne Divinity and Industrial School. The word "Industrial" has in later years been dropped from its official title but as the Bishop Payne Divinity School it is still at work as the only Theological School for Negroes in the Episcopal Church. During its nearly sixty years of life it has educated and sent into our ministry more than 200 Negro clergymen.²

The principal of the Divinity School in 1885 was the Rev. Thomas Spencer, and according to a newspaper article then, it was a branch school established by the regular theological school at Alexandria, Virginia, in charge of a local committee consisting of the Rev. C. J. Gibson, Rev. C. R. Hains and Rev. Thomas Spencer. The school had recently been incorporated by the legislature under the title of the "Payne Memorial School" for the education of colored men for the Episcopal ministry.³

In 1887, with the aid of a gift of four thousand dollars from Mr. D. K. Stewart of Richmond, the trustees purchased the

2. G. Maclaren Brydon, The Episcopal Church Among the Negroes of Virginia, p. 11, 12.

3. Index and Appeal, Sept. 7, 1885.

homes of Judge R. H. Jones and C. W. Spicer on West Washington Street. The former home then became the site of the Divinity School and the latter the St. Stephens Normal School.⁴

Trustees of the Divinity School in 1887 were Bishop F. M. Whittle, who also served as its president, Assistant Bishop A. M. Randolph, Rev. J. Newton, Rev. Pike Powell and Mr. Thomas Potts, of Richmond; Rev. C. J. Gibson, Rev. C. R. Hains, W. T. Plummer, F. E. Davis and R. O. Egerton of Petersburg.⁵

There were ten students in the Divinity School in 1889 and sixty-five in the Normal Department. Rev. R. A. Goodwyn was the principal and Rev. Thomas Spencer his assistant, while the normal school was in charge of James E. Shields and Miss Lida Griffith.⁶

About 1900, the Divinity School was moved to its present location on South West Street, and is still very active in preparing men for the Ministry. Other principals of the school have been Rev. R. A. Goodwyn, Rev. Claudius R. Hains, Rev. C. Braxton Bryan and Rev. F. G. Ribble, who is still serving the school.⁷

Students of this school have made remarkable records since

4. Index and Appeal, Jan. 14, 1887.

5. Index and Appeal, Feb. 11, 1887.

6. Index-Appeal, June 19, 1889.

7. Petersburg City Directories, 1889-1937.

leaving it. One of them, James Solomon Russell, as previously stated, became the founder of St. Paul's School, in Brunswick County. Others occupied prominent positions in the Episcopal Church. At least two-thirds of the Negro Episcopal clergymen of the United States are graduates of the Bishop Payne Divinity School.⁸

Two graduates of the Divinity School, the Rev. James S. Russell and the Rev. Samuel W. Grice, the first the Arch-deacon of Southern Virginia at the time of his election, and the other the Warden of the School were both elected Suffragen Bishops of the Episcopal Church, but declined, preferring to remain with the school.⁹

The Divinity School was named after the Right Reverend John Payne, D. D., one of the first Bishops of Liberia, who returned home after being incapacitated by fever and spent his remaining days in this country.

Brydon cites a few other interesting facts about the school:¹⁰

The Bishop Payne Divinity School is the only Theological School for Negro students in the Episcopal Church..... It has an able faculty and a curriculum which gives thorough instruction in the fundamentals of theological education....

8. Dr. W. F. Clarke, "Rev. Giles Buckner Cooke."

9. From a conversation with Dr. W. F. Clarke.

10. G. Maclaren Brydon, Op. cit., p. 25-26.

The American Church Institute for Negroes makes annual appropriation toward its support. Sensible of the great importance of equipping the Institution in an adequate way, it began a movement several years ago to secure \$100,000 for this purpose, but the depression arrested its efforts. The Institute has, however, secured \$47,000 of this amount and hopes that as economic conditions improve the remainder will be secured.

-3-

OTHER PRIVATE SCHOOLS FOR NEGROES

Several other schools are worthy of mention, although none of them enjoyed the success that crowned the records of St. Stephen's and Bishop Payne Schools.

Spencer Green conducted a private school at 133 Harrison Street about 1879-80.¹ It was reputedly a good school, with between fifty and seventy pupils enrolled.

Another school was run by Horace Harrison during the years 1880-82 at 24 Shore Street.² He later became principal of the Jones Street Public School.³

St. Joseph's Catholic Church established a parish school for colored children which was in operation from 1886 to 1892 and located near the corner of Washington and Market Streets.⁴

The Central Presbyterian Church Day School, with the Rev. Yorke Jones, a graduate of Lincoln University, as principal,⁵ was conducted from 1889 to 1905.⁶ This school used the same books as those used in the public schools and was situated on

1. Petersburg City Directory, 1879-80.
2. Index and Appeal, July 8, 1880 and July 12, 1882.
3. A conversation with Dr. W. F. Clarke.
4. Petersburg City Directories, 1886-1892.
5. Index-Appeal, Sept. 19, 1889.
6. Petersburg City Directories, 1891-1906.

the corner of Halifax Street and Puller's Alley.

The Rev. Charles B. W. Gordon was the principal of a school held at 280 Halifax Street and known as American Institute. In operation during the period 1893-1911, it never enjoyed any great success.⁷

The Domestic Training School, Rev. J. G. Harris, principal was at 102 Harrison Street from 1909 to 1911.⁸ It was a cooperative venture, and had one hundred fifty-three pupils and two teachers in 1910-11.⁹

Trinity Baptist Church began a school for small children in 1915 at 519 Gill Street.¹⁰ This school is still active, but is more like a kindergarden than a regular school.¹¹

The only recorded information about the Smith and Hallion Business College stated its location, 114 West Old Street in 1924.¹² According to Dr. Clarke, it did not flourish.

7. Petersburg City Directories, 1893-1912.

8. Petersburg City Directories, 1909-1912.

9. Report of Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1910-11.

10. Petersburg City Directory, 1915-16.

11. A conversation with Dr. W. F. Clarke.

12. Petersburg City Directory, 1924.

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APPENDIX B

PARTIAL LIST OF TEACHERS IN THE PETERSBURG FEMALE COLLEGE,¹

(with approximate times of entrance and departure from
the service of the College.)

YEAR ENTERED	YEAR LEFT	NAME
1854	1857	Rev. George W. Carter
1854	1855	Robert Kerr, A.M.
1854	1862	Williams T. Davis, A.M.
1854	1855	Joseph Wall
1854	1869	J. Fred Wulff
1854	1855	Miss Emma J. Taylor
1854	1855	Miss Amanda D. Armistead
1855	1857	C. L. Bartlett
1855	1858	M ^{lle} Josephine De Belen
1855	1856	Miss Kate Beckwith
1855	?	Miss E. L. Davis
1855	1856	Miss Julia Bissel
1855	1857	N. T. Lupton
1856	1857	P. H. Montague
1856	1858	Miss Harriet Coulling
1856	1858	Rev. William H. Christian, A.M.
1857	?	Miss E. A. Lacy
1857	1859	Alexandre Poleman
1858	1859	Rev. J. E. Edwards
1858	?	W. I. Cowles, A.B.
1858	1859	Mrs. C. Poleman
1858	?	Miss M. E. Davis
1859	?	Rev. Joseph H. Davis
1859	?	Gagolin de Fontenay
1865	?	William B. Carr, A.M.
1865	?	Rev. John C. Granberry, A.M.
1865	1877	Mrs. F. M. Wright
1865	?	Mrs. Annie E. Thomas
1865	?	Dr. John Herbert Claiborne, M.D.
1865	?	Louis Ganbin
1865	?	Mrs. Thomas R. Moore
?	1868	R. M. Smith
1868	1870	Richard W. Jones, A.M.
1869	1870	Earnest Lagarde
1871	1873	Thomas D. Davidson, A.M.
1871	1882	F. C. Hahr

1. Compiled from items in the Petersburg newspapers, 1854-1883.

1871	1872	Mrs. Virginia Randolph Hoge
1871	1872	Mrs. Nannie Buford
1872	1873	Miss Evie S. Vernon
1872	1873	Mrs. C. C. Lockett
1873	1874	Rev. R. N. Sledd
1873	?	J. B. Budwell, A.M.
1873	?	Mrs. Armand Prent
1873	1876	E. B. Branch
1873	?	Dr. W. L. Baylor
1875	1878	William B. Carr
1875	?	Frank M. Wright, Jr.
1877	1878	Rev. J. Powell Garland
1877	1880	Mrs. F. C. Hahr
1877	1878	Miss Fanny H. McGill
1878	1881	Miss Sallie H. Halliday
1878	1883	Miss Christie Burns
1880	1882	Miss Laura Russell
1881	1883	Ferdinand Schwenok
1881	1882	J. L. Buford
1882	1883	Miss Deveraux
1882	1883	Miss M. E. Moody

APPENDIX C

INCOMPLETE LIST OF DIRECTORS OF THE PETERSBURG
FEMALE COLLEGE¹

D'Arcy Paul
 Williams T. Davis
 J. H. Cooper
 Wesley Grigg
 E. P. Nash
 William Lea
 John Lyon
 P. B. Wills
 Thomas Branch
 Rev. John Kerr
 Benjamin P. Harrison
 Richard Irby
 Peter F. Cogbill
 Reuben Ragland
 A. S. Parham

James P. Williamson
 P. S. Seabury
 D. B. Dugger
 Thomas W. Mason
 Robert Harrison
 George Cameron
 Dr. David Steel
 T. J. Jarrett
 E. M. Williamson
 J. W. Ridley
 Dr. J. H. Claiborne
 Samuel Drumond
 N. F. Rives
 Joseph H. Cooper
 F. M. Wright

1. Compiled from items in the Petersburg newspapers, 1854-1883.

APPENDIX D

NAMES OF SOME OF THE PUPILS OF THE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL

1867-68¹

Robert F. Jackson, Jr.
 Ed. C. Venable
 N. H. May
 Wm. R. McKenney
 Thos. G. Watkins
 Wm. Cuthbert
 James A. Kerr
 Jno. W. Friend
 Walter S. Alley
 John Gilliam
 Chas. L. Henry
 Rudolph Mentel
 Thos. L. Morton
 Blair B. Pegram
 Frank Hushmore
 Robert Dunlop
 W. F. Lahmeyer
 Oscar Egerton
 Wm. Harwood
 John Peebles
 Robert B. Pegram
 Archy Hill
 George Schank
 Edward Armistead
 Matthew Harrison
 Ed. P. Greene
 James Lufsey
 David May
 Jas. Chieves

Edgar R. Lyon
 Langdon Chieves
 Frank Michie
 Robert Watson
 Morris Robinson
 Wm. P. Arrington
 Daniel Dunlop
 Wiley Harrison
 John Scott
 Jas. W. Boisseau
 Joseph S. Potts
 Russell H. Wallace
 Wm. F. Bishop
 Allen Donnan
 Samuel M. Williams
 John Gilliam
 Duncan Brown
 Thos. Callendar
 Wm. Mahone, Jr.
 Gerhardt Meyer
 Grattan Armistead
 Adrian Bourdon
 Heath Cabaniss
 Geo. Blow
 Henry Pannill
 Vernon Wilson
 Chas. M. Beckwith
 Robt. T. White

1869-70²

D'Aroy Paul

Walter D. McKenney

1870-71

C. G. Cox³

-
1. Daily Index, July 1, 1868.
 2. Idem, July 11, 1870.
 3. Idem, June 27, 1871.

1872-73⁴

Samuel Stevens
 Mason Romaine
 Bernard Mann
 John F. May
 William Plummer
 James H. Young
 Roper Davis
 James M. Quicke, Jr.
 Wiley Harrison
 W. C. Vincent
 John Spicer
 Benjamin S. Wilkins
 Charles N. Romaine, Jr.
 John Bolling Bland

T. L. Johnson, Jr.
 James R. McIlwaine
 J. Thompson Brown
 John S. Alfriend
 William Whyte
 Turner Arrington
 Earnest Stevens
 Walter Bishop
 R. J. Spratley
 John Walsh
 Edward Plummer
 John Mallory
 Louis H. Southall
 J. Evans Martin

1875-76⁵

Irving Jones

John Herbert Claiborne, Jr.

1882-83⁶

Arthur Kyle Davis

1887-88⁷

George Hall

1893-94⁸

Churchill Gibson Chamberlayne	John Patterson Madison
John Hampden Chamberlayne	Harrison Carter Myers
Lewis Parker Chamberlayne	Edward Reinhold Rogers
Joseph Henry Cooper	Henry Laidlow Servoss
Charles Hall Davis	Gustavus B. Wallace

4. Daily Appeal, June 30, 1873.
5. Index and Appeal, June 29, 1876.
6. Catalogue of the University School, 1882-83.
7. Catalogue of the University School, 1887-88.
8. Index-Appeal, June 28, 1894.

1894-95⁹

Joseph Henry Cooper

William Wallace Gill

T. B. Gilliam

9. Index-Appeal, June 30, 1895.

APPENDIX E

STATISTICS -- MCCABE'S UNIVERSITY SCHOOL¹

YEAR	ENROLLMENT	NUMBER OF TEACHERS
1865-66	17	1
1866 (2nd Semester)	30	2
1867-68	78	?
1871-72	63	3
1874-75	78	3
1877-78	73	3
1878-79	75	3
1879-80	71	3
1882-83	113	5
1884-85	110	5
1885-86	81	4
1886-87	80	4
1887-88	81	4
1888-89	98	5
1890-91	104	5
1892-93	100	5

1. Catalogues of the University School, 1874-93.
Petersburg Newspapers, 1865-95.

APPENDIX F

INCOMPLETE LIST OF FACULTY MEMBERS OF
MCCABE'S UNIVERSITY SCHOOL¹
1865-1895

Name	Dates Taught
William Gordon McCabe	1865-1895
Dr. F. S. Hall	1866-1867
Louis H. Powell	1867-1869
John A. Chrichton	1867- ?
H. A. Strode	1869-1870
William M. Thornton	1870- ?
William R. McKenney	1873-1875
James A. Kerr	1874-1875
Henry Taylor, Jr.	1877-1879
Walter D. Toy	(1877-1878 1879-1880)
Robert W. Tunstall	1878-1880
James Roy Micou	1882-1886
Bernard Mann	1882-1883
William P. McRae	1882-1883
Samuel B. Dabney	1882-1883
John Dunn	1884-1885
William G. Manly	1884-1886
J. Calvin Lester	1884-1885
George L. Gordon	1885-1886
Walter B. Richards	1886-1888
Charles M. Himel	1886-1889
John Meade Callendar	1886-1887
L. M. G. Baker	1888-1889
Thomas Lloyd Dabney	1888-1889
George Hall	1888- ?
W. N. Berkeley, Jr.	1889-1890
Charles W. Bain, Jr.	(1889-1890 1892-1895)
Edward Greaves	1889-1890
Joseph B. Dunn	1890-1891
Robert F. Whitehead	1890-1891
Malcolm S. Council	1890- ?
W. Catesley Jones	1892- ?
Bernard W. N. Bagot	1894-1895

1. Catalogues of the University School, 1874-93
Petersburg Newspapers, 1865-95.

APPENDIX G

A STATISTICAL PICTURE OF EDUCATION IN PETERSBURG

1870¹

Type of School	Number of Schools	Number of Teachers	Number of Pupils
Private Day	25	21	826
Private Boarding	3	11	160
Parochial	2	4	200
Charity	2	2	19
Public	13	32	1810

These statistics show the rapid strides being made by the Public School System, which was inaugurated in 1868. From this time on, private schools felt more keenly the competition furnished by the rapidly improving free schools, and only the better ones continued successfully for any long period of time.

It will be noted that the number of teachers for private day schools was less than the number of schools. This was due to the practice some of the teachers followed of conducting more than one school at a time, as for instance, a day school and a night school. In other cases, one teacher would teach a few hours a day in each of two or more schools.

1. "Social Statistics of Petersburg." Compiled by Col. Bolling, Assistant U. S. Marshall. Printed in Daily Index, Sept. 22, 1870.

APPENDIX H

ROLL--SESSION 1907-1908

HALL AND ARRINGTON'S PETERSBURG ACADEMY¹

Booth, Wm. Henry Kevan	McKenney, Robert Armstrong
Camp, Charles A.	Miller, Clifford Merton
Cook, William Howard	Palmer, Samuel Arrington
Cronley, Robt. D., Jr.	Palmer, Malvern Hill
Davis, Goodwyn Montgomery	Patterson, John R., Jr.
Gill, Howard Francis	Perkinson, Arthur Mackey
Johnston, Eslie Marver	Quicke, Arthur Lee
Jones, Robert Gibson	Quicke, Courtney
Kevan, Wm. Parham	Romaine, Lawrence Hamilton
Kidd, Leonard Wilson	Romaine, Mason, Jr.
Lunsford, Charles, Jr.	Seward, Albert Lee
Mann, David Meade Bernard	Short, Earl Broaddus
Mason, John Blair	Sutton, Lee Edwards, Jr.
Mattox, Arthur	Temple, Edward Graves
Mattox, Herbert	Williamson, John
McIlwaine, W. B., Jr.	Wood, Lucian Rives
McClevy, William Wilson	Young, Cecil
	Young, Charles Leland

1. H. B. Brockwell, History of Secondary Education in Petersburg, Virginia, p. 204.