

Wilson, N. C., 7th February, 1861.

MY DEAR SIR:

I beg leave to call your attention to the character of my *Schools*, located in WILSON, N. C. on the Wilmington and Weldon Rail Road:

1. THE MALE SEMINARY is intended not only to prepare students thoroughly for any College or University, but to afford to such as design devoting themselves to the learned professions, or to business, just such instruction as may be necessary. In addition to this, the boys who are sufficiently large, (and all who come from a distance are,) form a *corps* in which they receive regular MILITARY DRILLING. All students have therefore the usual advantages of the Military Academies, and much more thorough *Classical* training than those Academies usually give, if they design to enter professional life,—or, a more practical education, if they are to follow ordinary business pursuits. The drill is arranged so as not to interfere with the regular studies.

MY ASSISTANTS in this department are *Prof. Thomas W. Peirce* and *Mr. John W. Dunham*. Mr. Peirce is a very superior linguist. When he graduated, he took the first honors in a class of fifty three. He has been an assistant instructor in a *Military Institute*, and has lately been Professor of Language in the Florida State Seminary at Tallahassee. Mr. Dunham has been a pupil of my own, and has distinguished himself in the department of Mathematics. He has also had military instruction. These gentlemen devote themselves to the Male Academy. They are both Southern men. The Academy has one large Hall for purposes of instruction, and several smaller rooms well adapted to separate recitation. It is built apart from other edifices, in a quiet portion of the town.

THE PUPILS board in town with some of the most respectable families: Rev. Mr. Hudson, Maj. Gay, James Davis, Esq., Capt. Barden and W. S. Jordan, R. D. Johnston, Willie Daniel, W. D. Roundtree and Wm. Murray, Esqs, have consented to take our pupils as inmates of their families. I mention their names, because these gentlemen are so well known in this vicinity that parents will feel safe in entrusting their boys to them. If need be, other places will be made. These gentlemen take our pupils as *members of their families*, admit them to their parlors, take them at their own tables, and *by written contract, are responsible to me for seeing that their boarders are in lodgings every night from dark until morning*. The present arrangement of boarding is to exist until the times allow me to erect a larger edifice. Since my return from Europe I have given special attention to the school, and believe, what the gentlemen of the place, and my associates declare, that there is not a better behaved body of boys in the State than our pupils. I earnestly urge that no remittance of money be made to the boys, but to me or to some other member of the Faculty, stating how much monthly pocket money is to be allowed.

2. IN THE SEMINARY FOR YOUNG LADIES, I am endeavoring to impart a thorough training, together with the accomplishments. Instead of sliding the pupils from class to class by routine, I mark out a course of study of such branches as I think a well educated American young lady should *know*—and shall advance the pupils just as their grade of intellect and application give them success. No showy parade of teachers is made. Occasional mistakes may be made in selecting instructors, but they will be supplanted by others, and really capable and faithful teachers will be retained at any price. In Music, we have a good supply of Pianos, and shall procure new ones as needed. I am negotiating for a very excellent teacher of *vocal* music. In Drawing and Painting, my teacher has been *proved*; and I have never seen pupil make *safer* progress. That department has been helped by my late trip abroad. French and Latin are taught, and Greek, if required.

THE YOUNG LADIES board with my own family in the Seminary, which is a large building, and they have the constant supervision of the teachers, and of a matron who is specially employed for that purpose. Our table, I am sure is, in its average, quite equal to that of the best of boarding schools in the State; and I have visited the leading schools.

3. THE SCHOOLS are two squares apart, in the town—the pupils meeting only at lectures and in church. They will attend any church designated by their parents. They are not allowed to contract debts in town; and if any merchants induce them to violate this rule, I shall thank parents to inform me. We have a capitally selected apparatus, to which additions will be made. I am negotiating for a very fine Mineralogical cabinet, for which the University of California offered \$800, but being the property of a personal friend, he is arranging to purchase it in my possession. Lectures are delivered to both Schools weekly. One of the Professors has been delivering scientific lectures twice a month with the apparatus, and I am giving “*Travel-Talks*” in the alternate weeks, to render our pupils familiar with European subjects. I expect to extend this course by inviting other gentlemen. Monthly letters are written to parents, and more frequent communications are had when necessary, and I invite free and frank replies, that I may know what is necessary for the advancement of our pupils.

4. IT MAY be proper to say that I have sons and daughters, and have established these schools for the purpose of educating *them*, and as many of the children of my friends as may be intrusted to me.

5. TERMS.—Our *fifth session* began on the 7th of February, and will close on the 27th of June. Pupils are received in either school, and charged only from the time of their entrance until the close of the session; but in case of protracted absence, caused by the sickness of a pupil, the loss is shared equally by the parent and the school.

IN THE MALE ACADEMY, the fee is \$100 a session. This will pay for tuition, board, washing, lights, fuel, incidentals, attendance on all the lectures, use of library and the regular books of the course. For \$150 a session, in addition to the above, the pupil will be furnished all the necessary uniform of the corps. But in every case, one-half *must* be paid in advance, and a note for the balance, due at the close of the session.

IN THE SEMINARY FOR YOUNG LADIES the fees are regulated by the studies taken. The tuition varies from \$10 to \$25. French is \$10 a session. No extra charge for Latin. Music, with use of the Piano \$22 50. Oil Painting \$20. Drawing \$10. Each scholar is charged 75 cents a session for school-fuel, and \$1 for incidentals. Board, including room rent, washing and fuel, \$2 75 per week. A payment of \$50 is to be made at the beginning of the session, and all accounts bear interest from the 1st of July and 1st of January of each year.

I RESPECTFULLY request that you will consider the claims of these schools to your patronage, and exhibit this circular to such of your friends as have wards or children.

Very truly yours,

CHARLES F. DEEMS.

1. Miss Sarah Adams's reports for the last 5 weeks have been very good, except May 21 when it was good, very good in mathematics and June 11 when it was excellent. June 18, excellent.

2. Miss Martha Adams's reports for these weeks were excellent, very good in music; May 21 excellent, except arithmetic, - good in music; June 4 very good in her studies and music; June 11 good, very good in music. June 18, excellent, very good in music.

3. Miss Martha Adams's reports for the weeks ending May 28 + June 4 were very good, the other four weeks they were excellent. June 18, excellent

4. Miss Eva Adams's reports have been always very good

*Brinsford Adams.*