

TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE

**Trustees of Shaw University**

AND THE

SECRETARY OF THE AMERICAN BAPTIST  
HOME MISSION SOCIETY.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

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RALEIGH, N. C., May 31, 1894.

DEAR BRETHREN: I entered upon my duties as President of Shaw University in March. Rev. Henry Martin Tupper, D. D., the founder of the Institution, had been transferred during the preceding November from the scenes of his great and successful life-work to the everlasting joys that await such noble, self-sacrificing souls. During the interim between his death and my arrival, Rev. N. F. Roberts, D. D., had been acting President, ably assisted by the wise counsel and earnest help of Mrs. Tupper and Mr. and Mrs. Ballard. There was an enrollment of 351 students, in the main earnest and devoted young men and women, striving to fit themselves to be of service to their race. Late in the month occurred the commencement of the professional schools, which was attended by some of the most prominent people, both white and colored, throughout the State.

The physical condition of the plant was such that repairs were needed in all departments. This was not because of a lack of business ability and foresight on the part of my predecessor, but rather on account of inability to make these repairs from lack of financial help. I found that the students, as a rule, had been very slow in meeting their obligations, and when the year closed on May 31st, the books showed that there was over \$9,800 due on back accounts, going back no farther than the year 1889. There was a deficiency of about \$1,200 for the year, which was met by borrowing from the Citizens National Bank, of Raleigh, and giving a note endorsed by J. G. Snelling, Esq., Treasurer of the American Baptist Home Mission Society, and also endorsed by myself as President of the University, and also personally endorsed. I was informed that it was customary to receive from the students large sums of money during the summer in payment of their indebtedness, that would enable the institution to wipe out this deficit. This report is dated May 31st, 1894, but as there has been no meeting of the Trustees since I became President, until to-day, February 1, 1895, I shall incorporate into the report statements that could not have been made in May. Instead of receiving \$1,200 or more during the sum-

mer, as we expected, a little less than \$100 was received between May 31st and October 1st. On November 1st I was enabled to pay \$300 on the note, and a new note was given for the balance. On January 1st, \$300 additional was paid and a new note given for the remaining \$600, which note is now outstanding and no funds in sight with which to pay it. If the students had met their bills with a reasonable degree of promptness during the past few years, there would be no reason why the physical condition of Shaw University should not be of the very best, and all obligations promptly settled. My predecessor was compelled to neglect repairs in all departments that could possibly be neglected, so that he might have money sufficient to pay salaries and meet the expenses of the boarding department. In May last \$2,000 was voted by the Home Mission Society with which to make imperative repairs. About \$1,500 of this sum has been spent and there is a dollar's worth of work to show for every dollar that has been expended. At a future time, when the whole \$2,000 has been expended, a detailed report of this expenditure and the improvements made will be presented.

I found the departments of Law, Medicine and Pharmacy in good condition, but it is these three departments that have caused the financial strain through which the University is passing. Were it not for the deficiency that has from time to time been caused by the operation of these departments, the financial condition of the University would be in much better shape. I am not prepared to recommend the discontinuance of these departments for the reason that they are of such high order, and have done such grand work, and their influence throughout the State and the South upon the University is well-nigh incalculable. It is, however, but true to state that these departments cannot continue unless money is forthcoming from some source.

The Missionary Training School, under the care of Mrs. Ehlers, is doing a grand work, is meeting its expenses, and is in every way worthy of commendation and support. It is occupying a field until recently unoccupied, and I believe is going to prove a powerful factor in the Christian civilization of the colored race.

All of the literary departments are in good condition, are meeting their expenses, and are worthy of support and commendation.

The needs of Shaw University are very great. Students have left during the past year because their rooms were not

properly heated, and there is no way of heating them. In one or two instances parents have written that they wanted their children educated at Shaw, but would have to keep them at home until the winter weather had passed, when they would promptly return. There is scarcely any one of the numerous departments of the University that has means whereby it can be properly heated. The only solution of the difficulty, in my judgment, is to erect a central steam-heating plant, and have all of the buildings heated from this plant.

A sewer runs through the street in front of the grounds, but no building is yet connected with it. When we consider the fact that hundreds of students are enrolled here, it can be seen at once from the standpoint of health, to say nothing of convenience and economical administration, that each of the buildings should have sewer connections, should be provided with the ordinary sanitary conveniences, bath-rooms and hot and cold water. There is also a great risk run from the large number of kerosene lamps in use. There ought to be established, in connection with a steam-heating plant, an electric light plant, so that danger from fire could be reduced to the minimum. I believe that many students are lost to Shaw University each year because of the superior conveniences at other institutions. There is an excellent and important institution in North Carolina, with which Shaw University has to compete, that is provided with superior conveniences, and at the present time is putting up a large dormitory at a cost of \$20,000 that will be provided with all modern appliances, heated with steam and lighted by electricity. There are also other institutions with which Shaw has to compete that are better equipped. I bring these facts before you, for Shaw cannot compete successfully with such institutions unless it provides for its students similar conveniences.

The library and reading-room are practically such only in name. There ought to be several thousand working volumes added to the library at once, and the reading-room stocked with the leading magazines, a half dozen of the leading dailies, and a dozen or more of the leading weeklies of the country.

While good work is being done by the teachers, the results are far from what they should be on account of an insufficient number of teachers, a lack of apparatus and reference material as well as, in some instances, school-rooms unsuited to the work. If modern sanitary and heating conveniences were provided, the Shaw building could be used entirely for

dormitory purposes, and it would be ample to accommodate all the male students in all departments. The present medical dormitory could be cut up into recitation rooms, and then we could have rooms that were light, airy, and in every way suited to do good work.

A drug store that is not paying expenses and has not for some time, is operated in connection with the school of pharmacy. While it was not established as a money-making enterprise, but rather to afford the students practice in waiting on customers and filling prescriptions, as well as to provide the colored people with medicines, etc., at a slight advance on cost price, the present condition of the finances of Shaw University do not, in my judgment, warrant a continuance of this drug store, and I would recommend that it be closed up and the stock on hand disposed of in the most advantageous way possible.

If the professional schools could be put upon a satisfactory financial basis, I would recommend the establishing of a school of dentistry. There is quite a demand for this and I believe that a successful and flourishing school could be, in a few years, securely established.

The hospital is inadequate and not supplied with conveniences that are necessary in caring for the sick and convalescent. It should be renovated and refitted as soon as possible.

In view of the present financial condition of Shaw University, which has arisen largely on account of the failure of students to pay their reasonable charges, I would recommend that in the future they be required to pay all bills monthly in advance, with the exception of incidental and entrance fees that should be paid in all departments at the beginning of the year. This, I believe, in the long run will work little if any hardship and will be a very valuable education to the colored people. It may result in the attendance being reduced for a few years, but in the long run I believe will be more satisfactory to all concerned.

The work of Shaw University differs very materially from that of any other institution in the South. Its aim is to provide teachers, and in general to fit young men and young women to be leaders. It also aims to take students through a college course, fitting them to enter the departments of law, medicine and pharmacy. It is, however, I believe, unwise to ignore the fact that the elevation of the colored race must be especially along industrial lines. To this end the

young men and young women who are to go out as leaders in the professions, must be in touch with the industrial spirit, or their field of influence will be very limited. There is also a feeling on the part of some young men and women that manual labor is rather unattractive and undesirable, if not dishonorable. I think that our industrial department should be entirely reconstructed to the end that all of the work in this department should be along strictly educational lines, rather than the teaching of some specific trade or trades. To this end I would have the department so organized that all students in all of the other departments should have at least a certain amount of training in industrial work each day—the young men in shop work along proper lines, and the young women in the various lines of cooking, and other departments of household economy. I believe that we could do a grand work for the women of the colored race by having a well organized cooking-school in which food should be prepared, such as the colored people consume. Utensils should be used a little superior to their own, and advice and suggestions concerning a proper diet should be important features. I would not have the gulf between our method of work and the actual method at home so wide as to render the results of no effect.

I may be pardoned in view of the brief time that I have been working among the freedmen, if I refer to the outlook. One cannot continue in a work in which he is deeply interested unless he frequently asks himself: What is the outlook? What is to be the result? What is to become of all these endeavors? I think there is on the part of the white people of North Carolina, a very kindly feeling toward the education of the colored people, in fact, more so than I have found in any other State. I feel, too, that there is on the part of the leading colored people a realizing sense that their only hope in getting up is through Christian education. This is my experience as I travel about among them, and I find a very earnest desire to have schools that are in existence kept up, and also other schools established. I find, however, sometimes, a feeling of jealousy that tends to lessen the degree of co-operation that should exist. As schools are multiplied and the average public becomes more intelligent, I believe this feeling of jealousy will subside. On the whole, the outlook is favorable, and those who are engaged in the work, either directly or indirectly, should feel encouraged.

This report should not be closed without a further reference to Prof. N. F. Roberts, D. D., who served as Acting President from November, 1893, to March, 1894. He is a grand example of his race, and administered the affairs of the University with wisdom and discretion, and should receive your thanks for his faithful service.

I herewith append my financial report that has been this day forwarded to Mr. J. G. Snelling, Treasurer.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

*Receipts.*

John F. Slater fund .....	\$1,000 00
Leonard Medidal School Fund.....	175 00
Contributions.....	207 61
From Students—matriculation, room-rent, etc. ....	1,518 67
Old accounts—medical.....	573 63
From other sources.....	54 00
Against the department.....	334 09
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	\$3,863 00

*Salaries, Expenditures, Etc.*

James McKee, M. D., .....	\$ 500 00
A. W. Knox, M. D., .....	500 00
K. P. Battle, M. D.,.....	500 00
W. I. Royster, M. D., .....	500 00
R. H. Lewis, M. D.,.....	250 00
H. B. Battle, Ph. D.,.....	500 00
A. W. Goodwin, M. D.,.....	500 00
Fuel .....	284 48
Catalogs .....	14 47
New Operating-room .....	145 76
General expenses.....	168 29
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	\$3,863 00

LAW DEPARTMENT.

*Receipts.*

From students—room-rent, matriculation, tuition, etc.....	\$ 316 06
Old accounts—law .....	48 13
Against the department.....	704 69
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	\$1,068 88

*Expenditures.*

John S. Leary, salary -----	\$ 500 00
E. A. Johnson, salary -----	500 00
Fuel -----	15 20
Catalogs -----	14 30
General expenses -----	39 38
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	\$1,068 88

## PHARMACY DEPARTMENT.

*Receipts.*

From students—room-rent, matriculation, incidentals and tuition -----	\$ 369 72
From old accounts -----	90 26
Against the department -----	156 23
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	\$ 616 21

*Expenditures.*

Wm. Simpson, salary -----	\$ 500 00
Fuel -----	29 71
Catalogs -----	15 00
General expenses -----	71 50
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	\$ 616 21

## HOSPITAL.

*Receipts.*

Contributions -----	\$ 72 82
From patients -----	26 68
Missionary concerts -----	13 00
Sales clothing -----	15 20
R. & G. R. R. patients -----	15 00
Against hospital -----	83 70
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	\$ 226 40

*Expenditures.*

Nurses -----	\$ 100 00
Fuel -----	75 00
Laundry, etc., -----	22 20
Insurance -----	10 00
General expenses -----	19 20
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	\$ 226 40

## CURRENT EXPENSES LITERARY DEPARTMENT.

*Receipts.*

From tuition -----	\$ 827 36
From board and room-rent-----	4,090 76
From contributions -----	146 30
From old accounts -----	1,135 04
From all other sources-----	237 97
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	\$6,437 43

*Expenditures.*

School supplies -----	\$2,164 65
Boarding department-----	2,370 44
Repairs -----	307 45
Special improvements.. -----	74 00
Salaries—miscellaneous -----	233 40
Supplies—sewing department -----	43 64
Supplies—mechanical department -----	68 86
Insurance -----	92 90
All other purposes-----	343 76
Surplus fund -----	738 33
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	\$6,437 43

## LITERARY AND INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENTS.

*Receipts.*

Appropriations made by the American Baptist Home Mission Society for salaries -----	\$ 8,080 00
John F. Slater Fund-----	2,500 00
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	\$10,580 00

*Expenditures for Salaries.*

H. M. Tupper -----	\$ 1,500 00
Chalers F. Meserve -----	500 00
M. W. D. Norman-----	650 00
N. F. Roberts-----	650 00
L. B. Capehart-----	650 00
N. C. Bruce -----	650 00
H. C. Leonard -----	650 00
E. R. Jefferson-----	400 00
D. P. Ballard -----	800 00
Mrs. D. P. Ballard-----	300 00

H. M. Buss .....	400 00
S. P. Elder .....	480 00
Lena Kennedy .....	450 00
M. C. Leonard .....	1,000 00
T. D. Jenkins .....	800 00
P. H. Hilton .....	400 00
J. A. Dodson .....	300 00
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	\$10,580 00

## SUMMARY.

*Receipts*

Medical department .....	\$ 3,528 91
Law department .....	364 19
Pharmacy department .....	459 98
Hospital .....	142 70
Literary department .....	6,437 43
Appropriations .....	10,580 00
Literary department, Session 1892-'93 .....	142 68
Deficiency .....	1,162 96
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	\$22,818 85

*Expenditures.*

Medical department .....	\$ 3,863 00
Law department .....	1,068 88
Pharmacy department .....	616 21
Hospital .....	226 40
Literary department .....	5,699 10
Salaries—literary and industrial departments .....	10,580 00
Note against professional schools, session '92-'93 .....	765 26
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	\$22,818 85

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES F. MESERVE,  
*President.*