

## GENERAL INFORMATION.

### ESTABLISHMENT.

The establishment of this school was provided for by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia in an Act approved March 14, 1908, and recorded in Chapter 284 of Acts of Assembly, under the following title: "An act appropriating the public revenue for the two fiscal years ending respectively on the 28th day of February, 1909, and the 28th day of February, 1910."

The following are extracts from this Act:

"For the establishment of State Normal and Industrial Schools for Women, at Harrisonburg and Fredericksburg, the sum of seventy-five thousand dollars, of which the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars shall be for the school at Fredericksburg and shall be available on and after February twenty-eighth, nineteen hundred and nine, but not before.

"The said schools shall be under the supervision, management and government of the boards of trustees, which shall consist of ten members each, to be appointed by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to hold office for the term of four years; provided, that at the first appointment five of the members of each board shall be appointed for a term of two years and five for a term of four years. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall be an *ex-officio* member of the said boards of trustees, and any vacancy in said boards that shall be caused by death, resignation, or otherwise, shall be filled by the Governor with the approval of the Senate.

"Second, The said trustees shall be bodies corporate under the name and style of State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Harrisonburg \* \* \* \* \* with the

right as such to plead and be impleaded in the courts, to receive all subscriptions, gifts and donations, real or personal, from any source whatever, the same by them to be held, invested, distributed or expended for the best use and benefit of the said schools, and to exercise such other powers, and do such other acts which are necessary and proper to accomplish the end for which said schools are created. Said trustees shall from time to time make all needful rules and regulations for the government and management for the said schools, \* \* \*.

Third, \* \* \*. The trustees shall establish one of said schools within or near the corporate limits of the town of Harrisonburg, in the county of Rockingham, Virginia, on a suitable site to be selected by the said trustees \* \* \*.

“Sixth, The establishment of said school(s) near or within the corporate limits of the town of Harrisonburg, in the county of Rockingham, is conditioned upon an appropriation of not less than fifteen thousand dollars cash to be paid by the town of Harrisonburg and the county of Rockingham upon the establishment of said school, and the guaranteeing of a suitable site, connected with water, light and sewer systems of said town, of not less than thirty acres of land for said institution \* \* \*.

In accordance with this act His Excellency, Governor Claude A. Swanson, appointed the Board of Trustees named above. The organization of this Board was effected at a meeting held in the town of Harrisonburg April 29, 1908.

At this meeting members of the Board outlined their views with reference to the scope and policy of the institution; and it was the opinion of all that the greatest possible foresight should be exercised, and that the school should be planned for the future as well as the present. It was the opinion of those present that a large school should be planned, one capable of ultimately accommodating at least a thousand students, and that the complete scheme should be

projected now and every building erected as a permanent part of the original plan. The broadest kind of policy was decided upon at the very beginning.

The county of Rockingham subscribed ten thousand dollars and the town of Harrisonburg subscribed five thousand dollars, in fulfilment of the conditions imposed in the act establishing the school.

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees June 18, 1908, arrangements were made for the purchase of forty-two acres of land from Mr. A. M. Newman for a site for the school. This has since been enlarged by the purchase of six acres of adjoining land, thus providing a very desirable tract of forty-eight acres, within the corporate limits of the town, for the purposes of the institution.

On June 26, 1908, Mr. Julian A. Burruss was elected President of the school. It was ordered to be recorded as the sense of the Board that all possible expedition consistent with good work be employed by its officers, committees and employees to the end that the Normal School may be opened for instruction not later than September, 1909.

On September 15, 1908, the Board received a report from the President of the school, accompanied by drawings made by architect Charles M. Robinson, of Richmond, Virginia. This report outlined the policies, ideals, ultimate scope and equipment of the institution as seen by the President; and the drawings covered a complete scheme for buildings and grounds in accordance with the report.

The illustrations in this Prospectus, together with the description of the buildings which is given below will convey some idea of the projected scheme in its entirety.

The Board at this meeting unanimously adopted the general plans for the school and appointed Mr. Charles M. Robinson its architect. Definite action was also taken with reference to the erection of two buildings in time for the opening in September, 1909, one of these to be a dormitory

and the other an academic building to be known as "Science Hall."

At a meeting on October 7, 1908, working plans and specifications for these two buildings were adopted and proposals were invited for their erection.

On November 5, 1908, bids were received from thirteen contracting firms and the contract for the buildings was awarded to the lowest bidders, Messrs. W. M. Bucher & Son, of Harrisonburg, Virginia. The buildings are to be completed during the coming summer, in time for the opening of the Fall Quarter in September.

Ground was broken for both buildings on November 25, 1908, and at this time the construction is well under way.

#### DEMAND FOR PROFESSIONAL TRAINING OF TEACHERS.

Teaching is counted a profession, but the idea has too largely prevailed that it differs from other professions in that its qualifications are less and more easily acquired. For this reason almost any person with good character and a smattering of the recognized elements of learning has been permitted to practice this profession. More fortunate persons who have completed courses in academic institutions of standing and have become possessed of a considerable amount of subject-matter in the various branches of knowledge, have been considered exceptionally well-qualified for the work of teaching. The majority of teachers have thus entered upon their work with no *professional* training, that is, no training in the basal principles of education and methods of teaching. That some of these have achieved success cannot be disputed; but our increasing knowledge of the development of mental life, and the general awakening of the public as to the importance of education have called for a better and more professional

preparation on the part of those who would teach, and it may be said that in the not very distant future it will be impossible for any one to teach in the public schools without adequate special preparation. The higher standards demanded of teachers must lead to higher salaries and better recognition of work in many ways.

The Normal School is the one institution which has for its primary aim the giving of this professional training for teachers, hence of all public institutions contributing to educational advancement, the public Normal School is the most promising.

### THE FUNCTION OF NORMAL SCHOOLS.

The object of the Normal School is the *training of teachers*. If it ever loses sight of this fundamental reason for its establishment it is unworthy of its name.

In taking such an aim the Normal School differs from the ordinary college in that the college has for its primary purpose the giving of a liberal culture without specialization for a particular profession. The Normal School may rather be considered as a professional institution for training for a specific profession, just as the schools of engineering, of law, of medicine and of theology train for specific professions. It is true that the Normal School does give culture, and a general education may be obtained in it, but in offering such advantages the Normal School does it incidentally in carrying out its real function, which is to teach its students *how to teach*.

There are certain recognized qualifications in a good teacher. Among these are: character, teaching ability, culture, scholarship, health and professional spirit. The Normal School must seek to cultivate these characteristics in its students in every proper way. Any Normal School worthy of the name can make a good teacher better and can frequently make a success out of one who would otherwise prove a failure. The failure of a teacher is not only disas-

trous to herself but also to the pupils committed to her care.

The work of the Normal School must be two-fold in character, namely, Academic and Professional. The academic instruction should include a thorough review of the branches of study taught in the public schools and a critical study of these branches with reference to their place and function in the curriculum, with sufficient advanced work in these branches and in related studies to give a broad and substantial background to the subject-matter which the student will be called upon to use when she goes out to teach. This academic work must not be a mere duplicate of the work given in the ordinary high school; but it must be more than this, it must go farther, and it must assume a different attitude toward the studies, it must keep ever in mind the *method* side, and it must consider every subject at every stage with reference to its use by the teacher in her practice.

The professional instruction must include a thorough study of the science of education, of methods of teaching, and of the fundamental principles which should guide the teacher in her class-room. In order to carry out this purpose facilities for carefully guided observation of the work of skilled teachers and for well supervised practice teaching must be provided in *public schools under real conditions*.

The only institution that can fully provide all these advantages is a properly conducted Normal School.

### NEW DEMANDS UPON NORMAL SCHOOLS.

The Normal School must lead in educational matters in its state. It must meet conditions, it must anticipate needs, it must encourage everything that makes for progress.

The most potent influence in modern educational thought is the awakening of educators and the public generally to the necessity of bringing the school into closer touch with the life of the people, their work and their interests.

It is properly expected of our schools supported by public funds, that they train for good citizenship, and it is generally recognized that this implies productive efficiency on the part of the individual so that he may be a self-supporting and contributing unit in the social whole. In fulfilment of this expectation the public school education of the future must be brought close to the lives of the people, it must result in industry and thrift, it must make homes more sanitary and attractive, it must pave the way to productive work with skilled hands, clear minds and pure hearts. In our cities our boys and girls must be put into possession of the elements of handcraft, and in our rural districts they must be given the elements of agriculture and kindred subjects.

To meet these demands of the new education it is obvious that the work of the Normal School can no longer be confined to theory and books, but must seek its material in *real* things, in nature, in the practical activities of industry and commerce, in the business, civic and social interests of life. Without depreciating the limitless stores of useful knowledge bound up in printed volumes, it must also draw from the outside world, the home, the farm, the workshop, the office and the marts of trade.

The complete Normal School must be equipped to train teachers in agriculture and other rural arts, in cooking and sewing and other household arts, and in drawing and other manual arts.

### WHO SHOULD ATTEND THE SCHOOL.

Culture must be combined with practical preparation for the duties of life. With the progress of civilization has come the constant elevation of woman, but the increasing privileges enjoyed by women have brought with them increasing responsibilities, and it is ever more and more necessary that adequate preparation be made for assuming these responsibilities. The professional field for woman is

still quite limited, and teaching offers by far the largest opportunity.

1. The first duty of this school is to prepare competent teachers, and young women who desire to become teachers cannot do better than to enter here.

2. This school will also seek to prepare competent home-makers. The education of our people in the duties of the home is as important as any other form of education. Those young women who desire instruction in the most womanly of all arts, namely, the household arts, will find the courses offered here in cooking, sewing, household economy, care of the sick, etc., of the greatest value.

3. Those young women who desire to obtain a good, practical education without specializing for teaching will find much of value in the work offered here. While the school will not make a specialty of giving a liberal education, yet by a proper selection of courses such an education may be secured along with the practical courses. Substitutions of subjects in courses will be allowed as far as practicable for students not desiring to become teachers.

Every woman can find something of value in the training offered here, whether she desires prestige in the parlor or kitchen, the school, or the literary, commercial or industrial world.

### IDEALS OF THIS SCHOOL.

The standards which it is hoped to maintain at this institution are of the highest type. The following will indicate in a general way some of the principles which will govern the school:—

1. We believe that the building of character is the chief aim of every school, hence, in the training of the teacher, the development of a strong, noble, womanly character is of first importance.

2. We believe that the personal influence of the teacher is the greatest factor in the education of the young, there-



fore we must seek to develop those feelings and inspire those thoughts which will function in right conduct throughout life; and we must endeavor to remove blemishes and imperfections in personal conduct and manner of living, however trifling they may seem, which will operate so as to injure the teacher's influence for good.

3. We believe that in every grade of educational work sound scholarship is the basis of success, and we realize that conditions are such that few will come to us with a complete foundation in subject-matter, hence it is necessary to combine academic with professional training, and to make this academic drill work thorough and satisfactory to individual needs. It is also necessary to give a sufficiently extensive background to the teacher, so that her perspective will not be shortened. However, all of this matter will be treated in a professional way, with reference to its use in teaching.

4. We believe that the greatest aim is not to acquire information simply for the purpose of knowing, but to acquire for the purpose of *teaching* to others what one knows. For this reason it is essential that the subject-matter of education be approached in a professional and critical manner, and taught with emphasis upon the method side. On the part of the Normal School student, the attitude to all studies should be one of thinking and knowing rather than of merely acquisition; of interest and appreciation rather than performance of superimposed tasks.

5. We believe that the professional branches of the study of education are of use to the teacher chiefly as they are applied in the manipulation and organization of the materials to be used in the work of the student after she begins to teach, hence our instructors will be required to constantly apply the theory and subject-matter of the branch taught to the practical problems of the class-room.

6. We believe that thought which does not function in action is largely wasted; that it is a duty of the school to

teach its students to *do* as well as to *think*, that "we learn to do by doing."

7. We believe that teaching ability consists largely in ease of manner, self-confidence, power of adaptation to circumstances, skill in presenting and in questioning, tact and executive ability, and that these characteristics can best be developed by the observation of the work of skillful teachers and practice teaching under careful and able supervision.

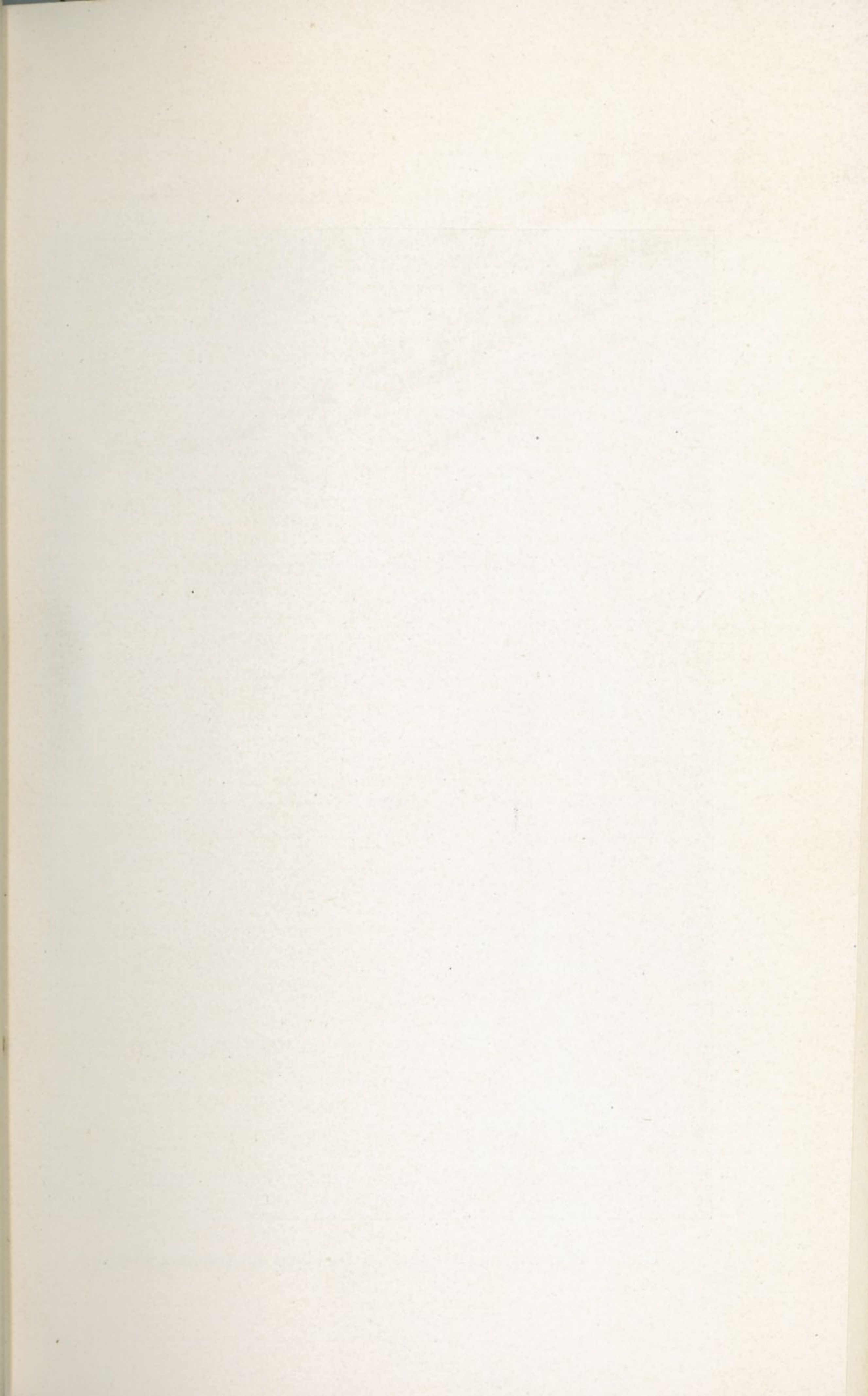
8. We believe that it is the duty of our school to endeavor to raise the standards of culture of its students in every proper way, by developing literary and aesthetic tastes, a love of the beautiful in nature, in art, in architecture, in literature, in science, and wherever it may be found; by encouraging social intercourse, cultured conversation, good form and refined and lady-like behavior, and by endeavoring to make each student a truly womanly woman.

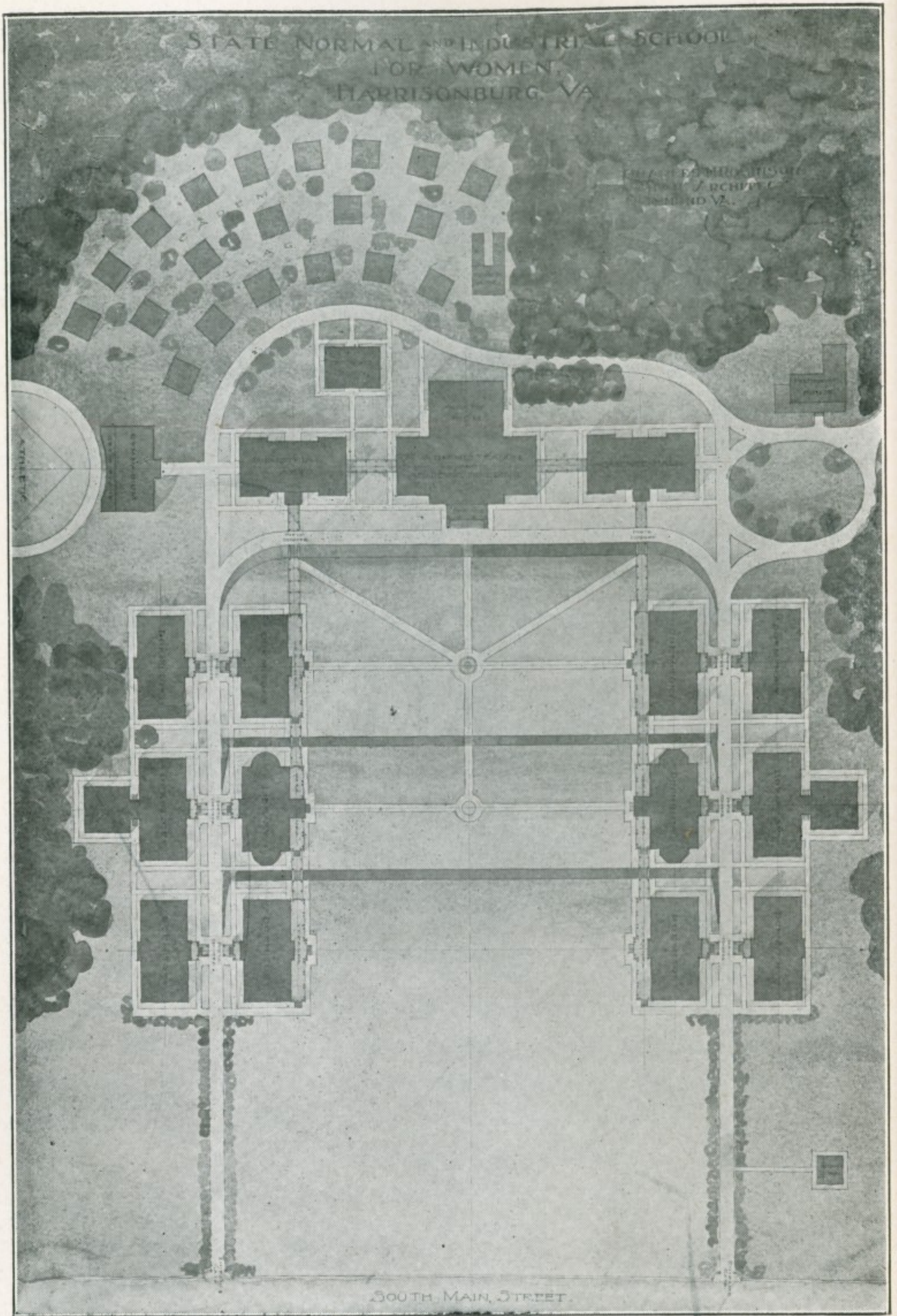
9. We believe that it is not the least of our duties to cultivate in our prospective teachers a professional spirit. The teacher should be more than a time-server and a wage-seeker. We must seek a broadening and enriching of the minds of our students, and the development of an impelling belief that teaching is the highest and noblest of callings, of an insatiable ambition to succeed and a burning zeal to render the largest measure of service in the world.

10. We believe that certain principles of professional ethics should be adopted by all who enter the teaching profession. That among these are, a recognition of the sacredness of contracts, a decided stand against questionable practices, a determination to eliminate petty jealousies and prejudices, a careful guarding of speech and daily conduct, and a constant effort to elevate the moral standards in all the relations of life.

#### LOCATION.

The town of Harrisonburg is situated in the heart of





Ground Plan Showing Location of Buildings in Complete Plant.

the beautiful Shenandoah Valley about 2,000 feet above the sea level. It is a progressive town with a population of 4,500 or more. It is the county seat of Rockingham County and is in the richest agricultural section of the Valley of Virginia. It lies about 150 miles southwest of Washington City and about the same distance northwest of Richmond. It is on the Manassas division of the Southern Railway, is the terminus of the Valley Railroad of Virginia (operated by the Baltimore & Ohio) and by means of the Chesapeake Western is in close reach of the Norfolk & Western system *via* Elkton, which is 18 miles distant. At Staunton—26 miles away—connection is made with the main line of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway, and at Lexington and Buena Vista with the James River division of the same road. By means of the three different railroads that enter the town, Harrisonburg enjoys exceptional railway facilities to and from all principal points in all the Valley counties north of Roanoke, the Southwestern counties *via* Roanoke, and those of Piedmont and Northern Virginia contiguous to the Chesapeake & Ohio and Southern Railways. For information as to reaching Harrisonburg see under "Suggestions to Prospective Students."

#### CLIMATE.

The climate is, with rare exceptions, not subject to extremes of heat and cold, and in point of healthfulness is unsurpassed in Virginia. The town has, for many years, been a refuge in summer for residents of the tidewater sections and the eastern cities by reason of its complete immunity from malaria, and with its bracing mountain air and pure freestone water it has for a series of years been exempt from fevers and endemic diseases.

#### WATER AND SANITATION.

The public water supply is brought by gravity from mountain streams thirteen miles distant, in quantity equal

to the scientific per capita allowance for 12,000 population. This water, by chemical analysis, is practically free of organic matter, contains no lime, and is of ideal superiority for all domestic and household purposes. Since the installation of the present system, ten years ago, the death rate has been lowered, and the town has enjoyed the best health record in its history.

Harrisonburg possesses a happy combination of city conveniences and wholesome rural surroundings. In addition to the fine water system already referred to, the town has good public sewerage and a municipal electric light system. Sewerage is free and the other conveniences are on a much cheaper basis than in towns of larger size.

#### POPULATION, ETC.

Harrisonburg is a community of cultured and hospitable people. The population is largely native-born and homogeneous, without admixture of foreign or other undesirable elements. The surrounding country being purely agricultural, the town population is largely of the old homeloving type, whose sobriety, industry, and thrift were distinguishing characteristics of their pioneer ancestors.

Being the principal trading point for a wide scope of fertile farms, the cost of comfortable, wholesome living in Harrisonburg is low, and our people are enabled to enjoy some of the luxuries of life on a price-level no higher than obtains in many other sections for the simple necessities. Rockingham County is a veritable storehouse of fruit, grain, and fresh meats and the cost of these primary products is as low here as in any town in the United States. Proximity to the great trade centers of the East brings the manufactured products that enter the household expense account within the reach of the most modest income.

Harrisonburg claims every advantage of location, accessibility, water and sewerage, electric light, mail and telephone facilities and proximity to white population. It

is one of the largest tax-paying communities in the Commonwealth, and is surrounded by large tax-paying territory. Harrisonburg presents exceptional advantages for the location of a Normal School, since it enjoys a combination of healthful environment, sanitary comforts, and a wholesome social and religious atmosphere which even at average cost would recommend it as a favorable location for an educational institution. When it can be demonstrated that these advantages may be enjoyed at low cost, its attractions are nothing short of ideal.

### GROUNDS.

The school grounds comprise forty-eight acres of land. They have a splendid frontage on South Main Street, from which the ground rises gently to the East. The site commands a magnificent view of the surrounding valley in every direction, from the Blue Ridge to the Shenandoah Mountains. The institution is in full view of the Valley Turnpike and the Baltimore & Ohio and Chesapeake-Western Railways.

The site adjoins one of the best residential sections of the town, is only three minutes walk from two railway stations—the Chesapeake-Western and the Baltimore & Ohio at the Chesapeake-Western Junction—and is about fifteen minutes walk from the center of town. A line of public carriages with a ten-cent fare makes access to all portions of the town convenient.

The school grounds and buildings will be connected with the sewerage, water and light systems of the town, and a good sidewalk all the way to the center of the town has been provided. The location is far enough away from the business portion of the town to guarantee quiet and all the advantages of country life. The combination of town and country features makes the situation ideal for the location of an educational institution.

As soon as possible the school grounds will be carefully laid out in terraces, with walks and driveways, planned so as to make an attractive park. A large plot lying between the buildings and the street frontage will be maintained as an open lawn. Ample space will be provided for physical exercise, tennis, basket-ball and other games suitable for young women.

From ten to fifteen acres will be set apart for use as school gardens and a small experimental and demonstration farm. Two orchards are included in the school property and these will be, for the most part, kept intact, and used for demonstration purposes as well as for supplying fruit for the dining-hall. In addition to a few shade-trees now on the grounds others will be planted in suitable places, and everything will be done to make the campus attractive for the students.

### BUILDINGS—GENERAL PLAN.

The Trustees have planned a complete plant of sufficient magnitude to accommodate ultimately not less than 1,000 students. The group system of buildings has been adopted. This will enable the Trustees to erect one or more buildings at a time, according to the amount of funds available, each building being a complete unit in itself and fitting into its place in the general scheme. The entire plan embraces about forty buildings, which include ten dormitories, one dining-hall, one library, one gymnasium, five buildings to be used for academic purposes, a power-house and heating plant, a green-house and about twenty cottages for residences for teachers and students.

The buildings on the complete plan are arranged both formally and informally. The formal arrangement is in the shape of a quadrangle, with one open side—the Main Street front—and with the main academic and administration building at the opposite end flanked on either side by an academic building, one to be used for science and the



other for industrial arts. The North and South sides of the quadrangle are formed by two groups of six buildings each, five of each group being dormitories, the central building of one group being a library and the central building of the other being a dining-hall. In the rear of the formal group are placed the cottages, in a pleasing informal arrangement. The gymnasium is placed so as to be adjacent to the athletic grounds and also convenient to the dormitories. The central heating plant is near the railway for convenience in delivering fuel and other supplies.

The cut of the ground plan will give an idea of the general plan for the school.

It is planned to build all of the buildings in the formal groups with native blue limestone walls and red tile roofs. The architecture will be made harmonious throughout, as may be seen from the illustration shown as a frontispiece to this Prospectus. A covered way will connect all of the academic buildings and dormitories, making it possible to pass from any one building to any other without exposure to rain or snow. Under the covered way will be a vaulted conduit for pipes and wires.

#### BUILDINGS—FIRST YEAR.

Three buildings will be in place for the opening of the first year of the school, namely, an academic building, to be known in the general scheme as "Science Hall," a Dormitory, and a residence to be occupied by the President of the school. One or more residences for members of the Faculty may also be erected this year.

The "Science Hall," a picture of which is shown, will be used during the first year for various academic purposes, and it is believed that it will be sufficiently large to accommodate the number of students enrolled the first year. This building will have stone walls, red tile roof, hardwood floors throughout, and will be heated by steam and ventilated in the most approved manner. It will be well lighted

with a large number of windows and with numerous electric lights. The heating and ventilating apparatus will be sufficient to heat the halls and rooms to 70 degrees in zero weather and to furnish to the class rooms 30 cubic feet of fresh air per student per minute. The air supply is to be kept fresh and is to be heated before coming into the rooms by passing over steam coils, the hot and cold air to be mixed and controlled by damper in the rooms. "The Paul Automatic Vacuum System" of steam heating has been adopted. This system is considered modern and efficient in every respect. The building will be equipped with the most modern and approved sanitary appliances. Fire hose will be placed on each floor, and other precautions will be taken in this direction. The electric wiring will be done in the safest and most modern manner, as the "Conduit System" has been adopted for all such work.

The Science Hall will contain laboratories for Agriculture, Natural Science, Domestic Economy, Cooking, Sewing, Manual Training and Drawing, class-rooms for various academic subjects, a temporary Library room, a reception room, a business office, students' rest and cloak rooms, teachers' rooms, and physical culture equipment. A rolling partition between two of the largest rooms will afford ample accommodations for Chapel assemblies, special lectures and entertainments. A large auditorium conveniently near the school is available for large assemblies, commencement exercises and entertainments. The auditorium will accommodate about 800 persons and has an ample stage.

The Dormitory, a picture of which is shown, will be built of stone, with red tile roof, and will have accommodations for lodging about sixty-four students. It will be heated by the automatic vacuum steam system, lighted by a large number of windows and by numerous electric lights. The stairways will be entirely fireproof throughout the building, and fire-hose will be placed in easy reach on every floor, with sufficient water supply and pressure to

cover every part of the building. All electric wiring will be run in conduits in the safest and most approved modern manner. Other precautions against fire will be taken, and it is believed that danger from this source will be reduced to a minimum. The sanitary equipment has been carefully selected and will be modern in every respect. Nine modern bath rooms will be installed in this building. The floors throughout will be of hard wood, and the building will be furnished in an attractive manner. The halls will be wide and well-lighted, and a wide portico runs the full length of the front of the building.

Besides the rooms for students, the Dormitory will contain a large parlor and a room for the Matron of the building. The building will also contain a large dining-hall, capable of seating at once about one hundred persons, and large kitchen, pantry and laundry rooms. All of these will be equipped in a complete manner. The rooms for students will be large and comfortable in every way, and will be furnished comfortably. Detailed descriptions will be found below under the head of "Living Arrangements."

### EQUIPMENT.

The equipment in all of the various laboratories and class-rooms will be modern and as complete as it is possible to procure with the funds at the disposal of the school. Ample provision will be made for practical laboratory work in the subjects requiring it. Care will be taken to purchase only the most approved and latest patterns of furniture and apparatus. The teaching of the industrial branches will be especially provided for in the way of equipment.

The equipment of the dormitory building will be referred to under the head of "Living Arrangements."

Telephone connections will be established in each of the buildings, and besides the inter-communication local and long-distance connections can be obtained. An electric

program clock will sound the signals for classes, meals, etc., on gongs placed in each corridor.

### LIBRARY.

The library of a new institution must necessarily be comparatively small. This, however, is not entirely a disadvantage, as all superfluous material is thus eliminated, and the attention of the users of the library is focused on those publications which are of real and lasting value. The library of this institution will consist the first year of several thousand carefully selected volumes on subjects within the various fields from which the work of the institution is drawn. In addition to general reference books, a special effort will be made to place at the disposal of the students all of the more important works on the subject of Education.

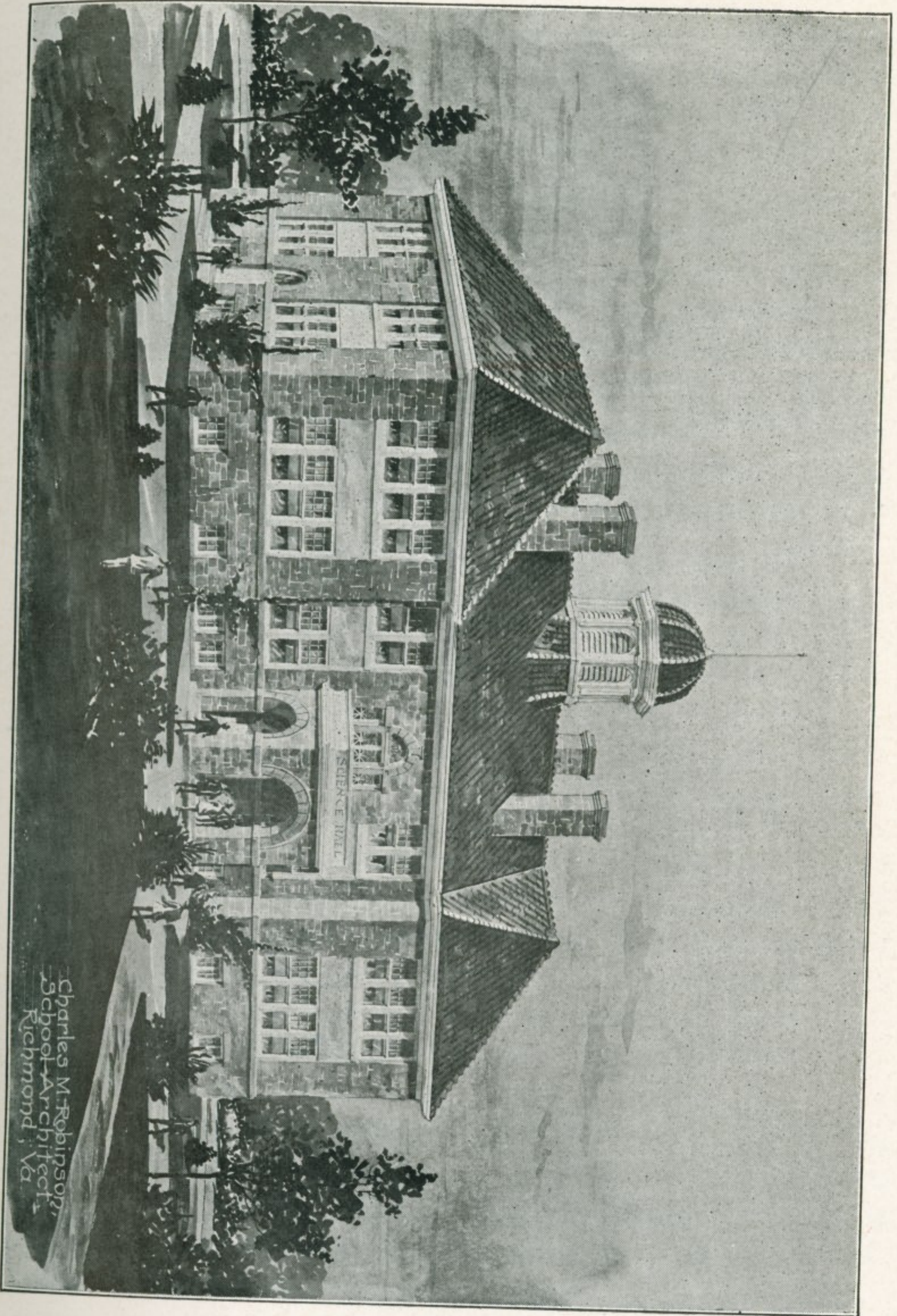
In view of the fact that we must start from the very beginning in furnishing our library and that a good working library is so necessary in an institution of this sort, we would respectfully solicit contributions of books, magazines and papers from all friends of public education. Such contributions will be gratefully received and will be duly acknowledged.

The Library will be open all day and in the evening, on every day that the school is in session, and also at other times according to the needs. Every effort will be made to make the Library a valuable workshop for the students.

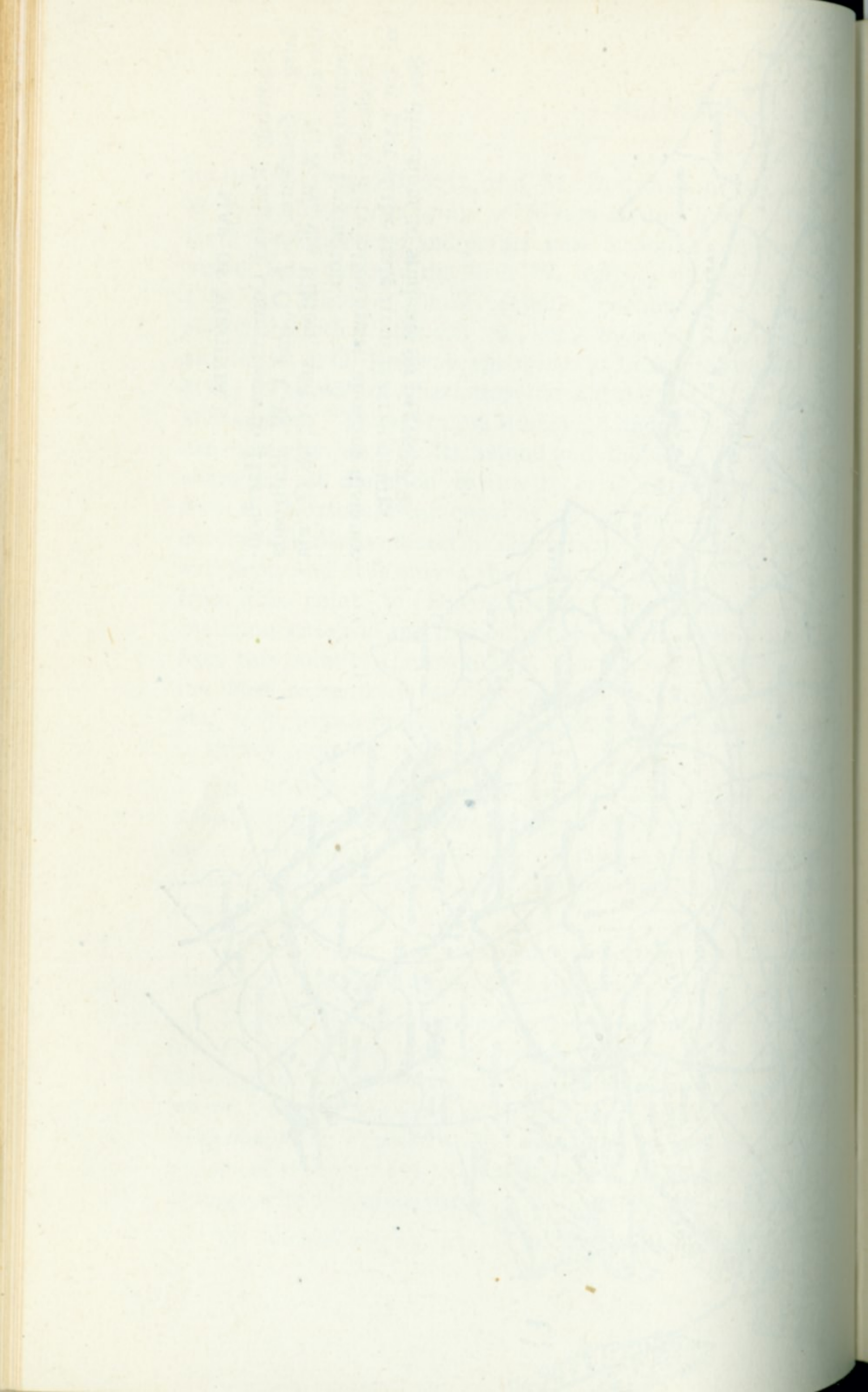
In connection with the Library a Reading Room will be maintained, in which may be found the more important and valuable periodicals and the newspapers of the State.

### FACULTY.

Only a portion of the Faculty for the school has been chosen, as shown on a preceding page. Suitable persons for the other positions in the Faculty have been under consideration for some time and will doubtless be selected in



Science Hall. (Ready for occupancy in September, 1909).



the very near future. In the selection of instructors the utmost care has been and will be exercised. The Faculty will be composed of both men and women. Scholarship, character, personality, culture, and ability to teach have been considered. Particular care has been and will be taken to select those who know how to teach others *how to teach*. These gentlemen and ladies will be graduates and post-graduates of some of the best universities, colleges and normal schools in our country, and will be teachers of experience. In practically all cases the instructors will have had experience as teachers in the regular graded schools, including rural schools; and this, in addition to their scholastic preparation in the higher institutions and their training in normal methods, will enable them to be of the greatest practical value to those who are preparing to be teachers in the public schools.

Each department of instruction mentioned below will be presided over by a head instructor with such assistants as may be necessary from time to time.

### STUDENTS.

The school is intended primarily for Virginia students, but persons from points outside of the state may be received as pay students, the charge for such students being \$2.00 per quarter of twelve weeks, or \$6.00 for the ordinary school year of thirty-six weeks. The requirements for entrance are given below. A large number of state scholarships are open to students from Virginia who intend to teach in the public schools of the state. Persons who have taught in the public schools of the state will be admitted on the same basis as those holding scholarships. Students from points in Virginia not holding scholarships will be charged a tuition fee of \$2.00 per quarter of twelve weeks, or \$6.00 for the ordinary school year of thirty-six weeks.

## STATE SCHOLARSHIPS.

The act of Legislature establishing the school provides for the attendance without charge for tuition of a certain number of students, said students to be nominated for the scholarships by the Division Superintendents of Schools in their respective counties and cities. Any young lady desiring an appointment as a State Student should apply to the President of this school for an application blank (one is included at the end of this Prospectus and may be used), upon which full directions will be given. All students applying for scholarships must fulfill the requirements for admission as stated below. The scholarship entitles the holder to free tuition during her residence at the school and also to certain preferences in the matter of the assignment of rooms in the Dormitory, as mentioned under the head of "Living Arrangements." These scholarships are honors and will be awarded strictly on merit.

## TO DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS.

The Superintendent of Schools, in county or city, ought to be interested more than any other person in securing trained teachers for the public schools in his division.

The Normal Schools of the state are established to aid him in this respect. The efficiency of the Normal School in raising the standard of teaching in the schools of the state is dependent in great degree upon the attitude and interest of the Division Superintendents of Education in every county and city in the state.

Financial support for the Harrisonburg Normal School comes from the whole state, and every county and city in the state is entitled to share in its benefits. For this reason the act of Legislature establishing the school provided that students shall be admitted from each county and city in the state, upon recommendation of the Superintendents of Schools, without charge for tuition. The co-operation of every Superintendent is earnestly solicited in securing



for each county and city in the state the representation for which provision has been made. The training to be given at this school will be made as thorough and practical as possible, and Superintendents can greatly increase the efficiency of their schools by encouraging young ladies, who desire to become teachers, to come to this institution; and also by encouraging those teachers who are now holding low-grade certificates to enter this school with a view to qualifying themselves for certificates of a higher grade.

The attention of Division Superintendents is also called to the increasing demand for teachers and supervisors of *special subjects* in the public schools of Virginia, and to the fact that this institution will be exceptionally equipped to train teachers for this special work. If you will encourage such teachers as seem adapted to this work to come to this Normal School for special training, and then employ them to teach and supervise these special branches in your schools, your work in Agriculture, Nature Study, Domestic Science, Manual Training, Drawing, etc., will be placed on a firm basis and will soon become very popular with school authorities, pupils and patrons.

Teachers may also be well equipped at this institution for taking charge of Normal Training Departments in the High Schools of the State.

Young ladies appointed by Division Superintendents of Schools to State Scholarships in this institution will be charged no tuition during their residence here, and will be given preference in the assignment of rooms in the Dormitory. Teachers in the public schools of the State will be received without payment of tuition and will be shown every consideration in the matter of rooms in the Dormitory, and in other respects, during their residence at this school.

Correspondence upon any of these points will be welcomed by the President of the School, and everything in

our power will be done to make this Normal School helpful to the public schools and teachers of our State.

### DISCIPLINE.

It is hoped that it will not be necessary to formulate a set of rules to govern the life of the students in the school. It will be expected of every young woman who avails herself of the privileges offered so bountifully and freely by the State that she conduct herself at all times in a manner entirely befitting a young lady. Nothing short of this can be permitted in any Virginia school for young ladies preparing to assume the duties and responsibilities of life in the school, in the home or in the world outside. This will involve a consideration of and respect for the rights and feelings of others, and a manifestation under all circumstances of those gentle and refined qualities for which Southern womanhood has always been justly famed.

Each student will be expected to comply cheerfully with such regulations as the Faculty may deem necessary for the good of the whole student-body, and all students are expected to be present at all regular and general exercises of the school from the first day of the session, unless excused for good cause, and to perform faithfully such duties as may be assigned to them.

Students living in the dormitory will be subject to the chaperonage of the Matron in charge. It is desired to make the dormitory of the school as nearly as possible a *home* for the students, and the Matron will be a "house-mother" to those boarding in it. Students boarding in town, with the approval of the Faculty, will be under the domestic and social care and control of the family in which they board. They will be subject to the same school regulations as are the students who board in the dormitory, and a committee of the Faculty will look after their welfare.

It will be the constant effort of the Faculty of the school to lead its students to adopt the highest standards of

life and conduct; and in the event that any young woman does not display a disposition to be amenable to such treatment, or continually neglects her studies and other school duties without satisfactory excuse, thus becoming a menace to the mental or moral life of the school, she will be subject to admonition and may be dismissed if, in the judgment of the Faculty, such is necessary for the protection of others in the school.

### RELIGIOUS WELFARE OF STUDENTS.

Being a State institution this school will of course be strictly undenominational. Each morning during the school session an assembly will be held and chapel exercises conducted, but the greatest care will be taken to make these exercises thoroughly non-sectarian. The ministers of the town churches will be asked, from time to time, to speak to the students and take part in these chapel services.

Harrisonburg is a church-going community. There are eleven white churches in the town, representing the following denominations: Baptist, Church of the Brethren, Church of Christ, Episcopal, Hebrew, Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian, Reformed Church, Roman Catholic, United Brethren in Christ. These churches and the Sabbath Schools connected with them are doing active work, and all students will be cordially welcomed in any of them. At the beginning of a student's connection with the school she will be asked to state the church which she is in the habit of attending at home and she will be expected to attend regularly the services of the church of the same denomination in Harrisonburg while a student of the school. Compulsory attendance on such services will not be enforced, but all students will be urged to attend some church as far as possible. Most of the denominations will be represented in the school Faculty.

It will be the constant endeavor of those in charge of

the institution to maintain the highest standards of life and character and to create a desire among the students to lead exemplary lives and render the greatest possible service in the world. Organizations for development along this line, including student Bible-Study Classes, will probably be formed among the students soon after the opening of the school.

### SOCIAL WELFARE OF STUDENTS.

The people of Harrisonburg socially are cordial and hospitable. Many cultured homes will be open to the young ladies of the school. The churches, through their Sunday Schools, young peoples' societies and ladies' organizations offer opportunities for social intercourse.

We believe that a wholesome development of the social side of student life is necessary and valuable, and organizations for promoting the social welfare of the students will be encouraged. Literary Societies will doubtless be organized soon after the opening of the school, receptions and social afternoons will be held, and entertainments, public lectures and musicals will be given from time to time. Still other opportunities will be offered through the Department of Physical Education, in the organization of teams for basket-ball, tennis, etc.

Care will be taken that all social affairs be kept within the bounds of propriety for young ladies, suitable chaperonage being provided at all times; and that they do not interfere with the progress of the student's work in the school.

### PHYSICAL WELFARE OF STUDENTS.

One of the strongest points in favor of the location of this school at Harrisonburg is the situation with reference to health conditions.

The pure and bracing mountain air, the abundant supply of clear, sparkling water from pure mountain springs, the excellent drainage and sewerage system, the

beauty of the surrounding valley and mountain scenery, the absence on the one hand of the noise and dirt of the city, and on the other hand of the seclusion of the country, make the situation as nearly ideal as one could wish. Such surroundings must certainly contribute to right thinking and noble living and to sound minds in sound bodies.

The following certificate from two of the best known physicians of this section of the State will be sufficient professional evidence to establish these claims:—

“The undersigned beg leave to call attention to some eligible health aspects which Harrisonburg can show as a location for the State Normal.

1st. Its high elevation, southern exposure, thorough drainage, and modern water-carriage system of sewerage.

2nd. Its water supply, in proportion to population, is abundant at all seasons of the year; and in view of the fact that it comes from a mountain shed thirteen miles distant, with distribution directly from the delivery pipes, instead of the reservoir, its purity excels that of any other town or city in the State.

3rd. Thirty years' personal experience shows that infections are, in Harrisonburg, mild in type.

The public schools during the past fifteen years have not been suspended one day on account of sickness.

Respectfully submitted,

J. H. NEFF, M. D.

State Board of Health.

T. O. JONES, M. D.

County Board of Health.”

The students will be required to take some form of physical exercise daily during the sessions of the school. Equipment for physical culture will be provided and will be used under the direction of a trained specialist. In inclement weather such exercise will be performed indoors, and in fair and warm weather outdoors as far as practicable. Ample provision will be made for outside recreation, and students will be encouraged to engage in all forms of outdoor sports suited to young ladies, such as tennis and basket-ball. Grounds for this purpose will be prepared in a suitably retired portion of the campus, and these the students may use with the utmost freedom and without inter-

ference from without. The Physical Director will do everything in her power to make this feature of the school life attractive to the students and adapted to their individual needs.

In cases of sickness the services of a skilled physician are at hand. Steps are now being taken for the establishment of a modern hospital in Harrisonburg, and this institution, which has been recently endowed, will probably be located near the Normal School. Should any case of serious illness arise in the school the best medical attention may be secured through this institution.

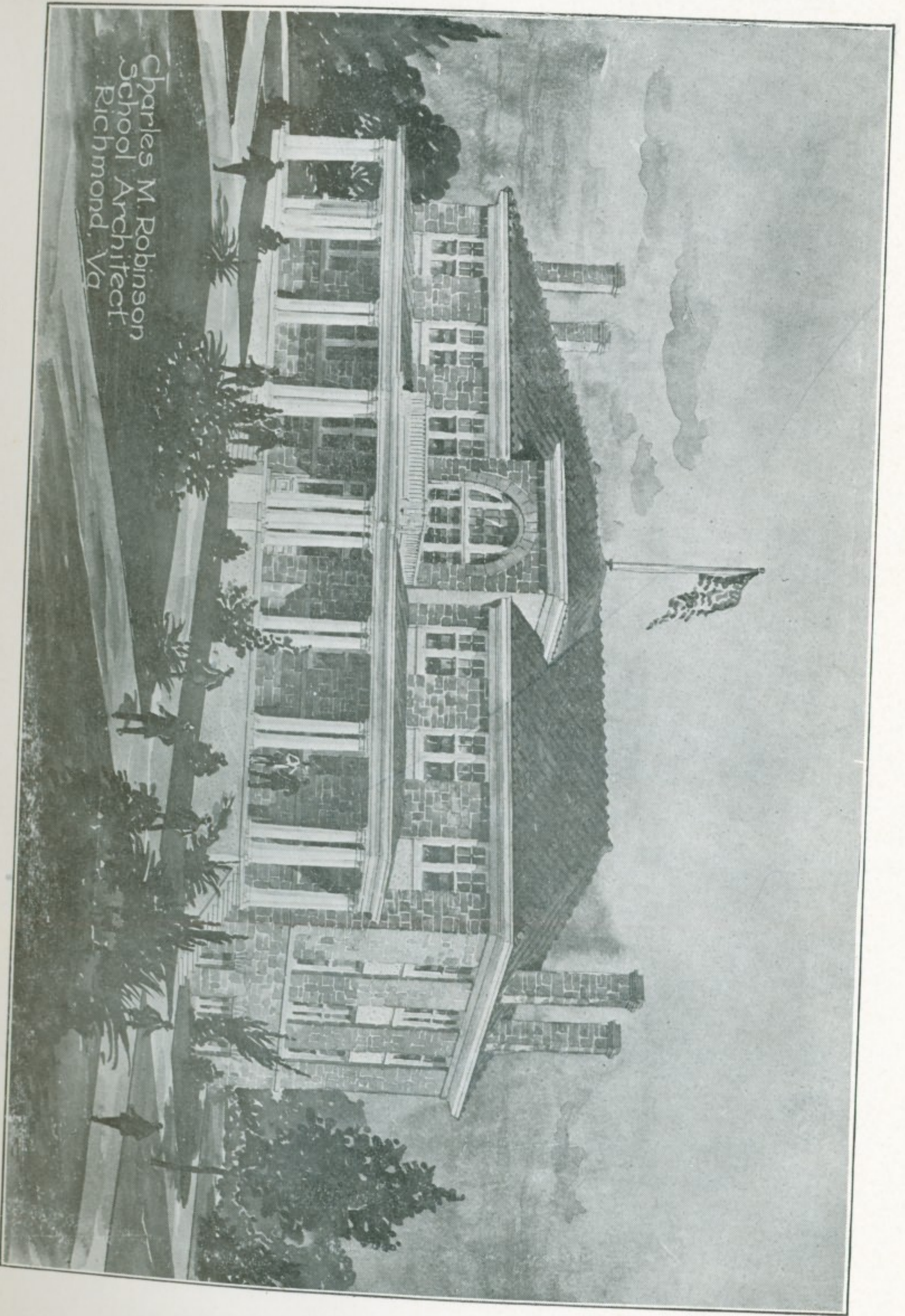
The courses of instruction of the school include Physiology and Hygiene, and special lectures on subjects pertaining to health will be given from time to time.

In the Household Arts Department attention will be given to instruction in house sanitation, care of the sick in the home, diets for the sick, first aid to the injured, &c.

### FINANCIAL AID TO STUDENTS.

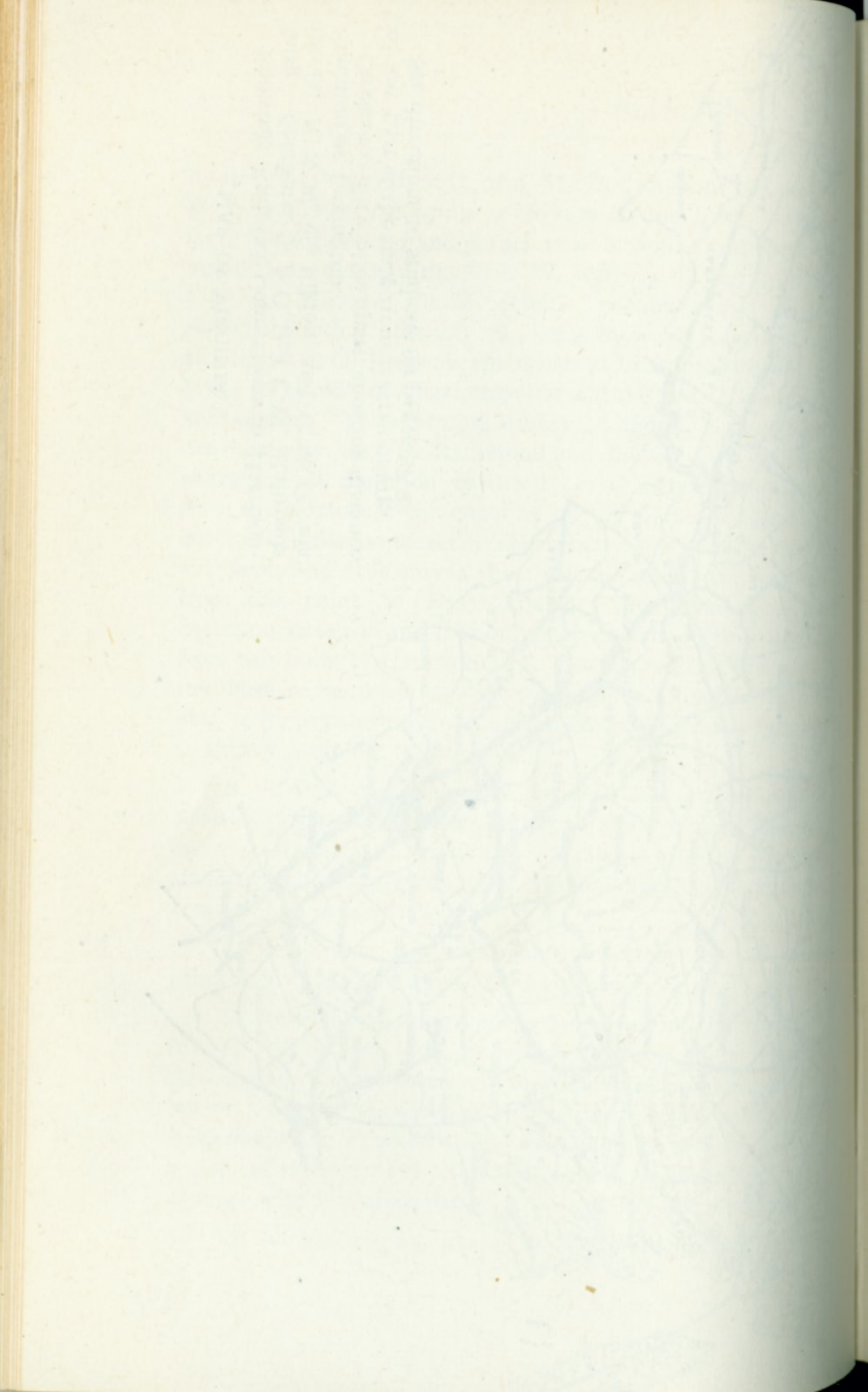
Tuition in this school is free to those who hold State Scholarships and also to those who have taught in the public schools, and for others only a very small charge is made. Board and other necessary expenses will be kept at minimum figures. In Harrisonburg there will be few calls upon the students for extra expenses. Simplicity and neatness of dress without extravagance will be encouraged, and our Matron and other lady members of the Faculty will co-operate with students and advise them on points of economy and help them to do necessary shopping to the best advantage.

While all students should have, at entrance, some money for necessary living expenses, the sum need not be very large. The management of the school will endeavor to provide means whereby no student who does faithful work will ever be forced to leave the school simply because of lack of means. An abiding faith in the truth of the



Charles M. Robinson  
School Architect  
Richmond, Va

Dormitory No. 1. (Ready for occupancy in September, 1909).





statement that "God helps those who help themselves," leads us to believe that every young woman with a desire to do so, and a will to succeed, can complete a course in this school despite limited financial resources.

A few opportunities for remunerative employment, which will not interfere with school duties, will be open to those who need financial assistance, and as the school increases in size the number of such opportunities will increase.

It is hoped that friends of education will provide in the near future an "aid fund" for the students of this school. Sums from this fund could be loaned to worthy students, to be returned after the student had begun teaching and had time to earn enough to reimburse the fund.

This should appeal to persons of means as a most worthy manner in which to invest money and reap a many-fold return in the influence which a trained mind may exert on the rising generation. Any sum, large or small, contributed to the school for this purpose, will be faithfully used and greatly appreciated by management and by students. Scholarships covering all or a part of a student's expenses and bearing a name designated by the donor will be established upon receipt of the necessary sum. The President of the school will be pleased to correspond with any person on this subject.

#### RECORDING AND APPOINTING BUREAU.

A record will be kept of every student who attends the school. This will include (1) a statement of the student's preparation and teaching experience, if any, before she enters the school; (2) a record of her work during her attendance at this school; and (3) a record of her work after leaving the school. The Bureau will aim to be of service in bringing students of the school, who are being trained for positions as teachers, to the attention of educational authorities who are seeking such aid.

Great care will be taken to recommend for any position only such as are considered entirely competent and well suited for the particular work. While the management of the school cannot bind itself to procure positions for all its students, still it is believed that every worthy young woman who completes one of its courses can be placed promptly in a position of better grade than she could have obtained without the training given at the school. This will prove especially true in the case of those who qualify themselves for the higher positions by completing the full course of study and obtaining one of the higher certificates, and of those who complete courses preparing them for teaching and supervising the special branches, Domestic Science, Manual Training, Agriculture, etc.

Division Superintendents, School Boards, and others desiring competent teachers, are urged to write to the President of the school, after it begins its work, giving information about the positions to be filled. Correspondence will be invited at all times concerning the work of persons who are in attendance at the school. The services of the school in this line are offered entirely free of charge to all parties concerned.

#### LIVING ARRANGEMENTS.

Students whose homes are in the town or county near enough will be expected to live at home and attend the school as "day students." For such students there will, of course, be no charge for board. Students who have relatives in the town or near-by in the county, and who bring a written request from their parents (if the student is less than twenty-one years of age), may be permitted to live with their relatives, with the approval of the President and Faculty. All other students will be required to board in the school dormitory or in private boarding-places approved by the President and Faculty. *All*

*arrangements for board must be approved, in each case, by the President and Faculty.*

Excellent boarding accommodations will be provided for students in the dormitory building now being erected. However, for the first year these accommodations will be very limited, as only one dormitory building can be provided at this time, and this building will accommodate only sixty-four students as a maximum.

The dormitory is being built of stone and has three stories. The exterior of the building is attractive in appearance and domestic in type, with a wide portico extending the full length of the building in front and approached at each end and in the center by concrete steps which will lead from granolithic walks. The front entrance opens into a wide hall with stairways at each side. To the right and left of the main hall extend corridors upon which the bed rooms open and at the ends of which are bathrooms. A large parlor is provided on the first floor, and a large Matron's room on the second floor. The building will contain a spacious dining-hall, with pantry and kitchen adjoining. There will also be a room for the storage of trunks, etc., and a laundry-room. These will all be on a scale sufficiently large to accommodate those who have rooms in the building and the dining-hall will accommodate about double this number. The dining-hall and kitchen in this building will be used until the large dining-hall building, provided for in the complete plan, is erected.

There are numerous windows in the building, at least two being in each bed-room. The floors are of hardwood and are laid double with deadening felt between. The stairways are of steel, iron and slate, and are entirely fire-proof throughout the building. In addition to this a large stand pipe is connected on each floor with a line of hose sufficient to reach every portion of the building at a moment's notice, and other precautions are taken against fire.

The wood finish throughout the building is plain, with rounded edge, so that, as far as possible, there are no places where dust can readily accumulate. The walls of the rooms are supplied with picture moulding. The doors to all rooms are equipped with transoms.

Each bed-room has two large clothes-closets with shelves and hooks. A large number of bath-rooms are provided, and these will be equipped with the most modern appliances and supplied with hot and cold water in abundance. The bed-rooms will be comfortably furnished with all *necessary* articles. The beds are of white enamelled iron and all are single. Bed-clothing and towels will be furnished by the school.

The building will be lighted throughout by electricity and three electric lights will be installed in each bed-room. Steam heat will be used in all parts of the building.

The dining-table will be furnished with pure, wholesome and nourishing food in abundance, and the menus will be prepared under skilled direction.

The entire building and its equipment have been planned with a view to furnishing the most comfortable and convenient home for our boarding students possible under the circumstances. Extravagance has been avoided, but it is believed that all necessary comforts have been provided for, and all needs will be met as soon after they arise as possible.

The Dormitory will be presided over by a Matron carefully chosen with reference to culture, experience and personal influence with young women.

Sixty-four (64) young women students will be assigned to rooms in the Dormitory. *In view of the limited number of rooms and the probable demand for them it will be necessary for those desiring them to apply early.* In assigning rooms to applicants the custom in general will be to assign them in the order that the applications are received, but where choice is necessary preference will usually be given to

those who have obtained State Scholarships. For directions as to how to apply for rooms in the Dormitory see under "Suggestions to Prospective Students."

Students who do not succeed in securing rooms in the Dormitory will be permitted to board in private boarding-places in the town. Every care will be taken to secure only suitable boarding places, and *no student will be allowed to room in any place not approved by the President and Faculty.* It is believed that some of the best homes in the town will be open to the young ladies who cannot secure rooms in the Dormitory. The prices for board will be kept as nearly the same as dormitory prices as is practicable. Students living outside the Dormitory will be subject to the same general regulations as those in the Dormitory, and a committee of the Faculty will look after their welfare. Information with reference to boarding will be given from the President's office, *and he must be consulted in all cases before engaging board; but settlement of bills for board must be made between the student and the party with whom she boards.*

### TEXT-BOOKS.

The text-books to be used in the various classes will be selected by the instructors. Students are advised to bring with them all text-books which they possess which may be of service to them in their work here. Students may purchase at the school the text-books needed in their work, or may rent the same from the school, paying a small fee for their use during the session. In renting books a deposit will be required but this will be returned to the student when the books are returned, if they are in good order. Where possible students are advised to buy their text-books and retain possession of them for use in their future work, as every teacher should continue to be a student. A list of the text-books to be used, with the price and rental charge of each, will be furnished at the time of registration. Books will be furnished *at lowest possible cost,*

and entirely without profit to the school or anyone connected with it.

In some of the classes the work will be largely reference work and the references may be found in the school library. Students will not be asked to purchase, or rent, any more books than are absolutely necessary in their class-work.

### THE SCHOOL CALENDAR.

The school calendar will be found on a preceding page. It will be noticed that the school will be open for work the entire year with the exception of about three weeks in September. We believe that an educational plant, as well as a manufacturing plant, should be run throughout the entire year in order to produce the greatest returns on the capital invested.

The year is divided into four "Quarters" of twelve (12) weeks each, the Fall Quarter beginning the last Tuesday in September and extending to the Christmas Holidays, the Winter Quarter beginning at the close of the Christmas Holidays, and extending to the last Saturday in March, the Spring Quarter following immediately after the Winter Quarter and being followed by the Summer Quarter, which closes near the first of September.

While it is best for some reasons for the student to enter at the beginning of the Fall Quarter and remain through three consecutive quarters, thus completing the ordinary school session as it is at most schools, yet students will be welcomed at the opening of any of the four quarters and attendance during any three quarters, whether consecutive or not, will be considered as constituting a year's work.

It will be noted that the Spring Quarter begins near the first of April, thus enabling teachers whose schools close in the early spring to enter the Normal School and complete three, four-and-a-half, or six months of conse-

cutive work before their schools open again in the fall. The Summer Quarter is divided into two terms of six weeks each, and students may enroll for either or both terms. The Summer Quarter will be of equal rank with any other quarter, and three complete Summer Quarters will constitute a full year's work.

Either six weeks' term of the Summer Quarter may be considered as the equivalent of the session of other Summer Normals of like duration. On account of the location of this school and the facilities offered by it, equipment for boarding as well as academic purposes, it is believed that the advantages offered here will be equal to any offered at any of the summer schools of the State and very superior to most of these. The summer climate of Harrisonburg makes it especially well suited as a location for a summer school. Many persons from the lower sections of the State and elsewhere take refuge in this locality during the whole summer and several well known summer resorts are not far from the town. In addition to the attraction of the mountain section in summer, the school Dormitory will be in full operation, offering a comfortable and pleasant home for those in attendance at the summer school. A special circular of information concerning the Spring and Summer Quarters will be issued during the session.

#### EXPENSES.

**TUITION:** For students holding State Scholarships, or having taught in the public schools of Virginia, NO TUITION will be charged. For all other students a tuition of \$2.00 per quarter of twelve weeks will be charged, payable at time of registration for the quarter.

**BOARD:** Board in the dormitory will be furnished to students at *actual cost*, the cost being controlled by the price of provisions and labor. Supplies will be bought at the lowest wholesale cash prices and by contracts at prices secured under competitive bids as far as practicable. The

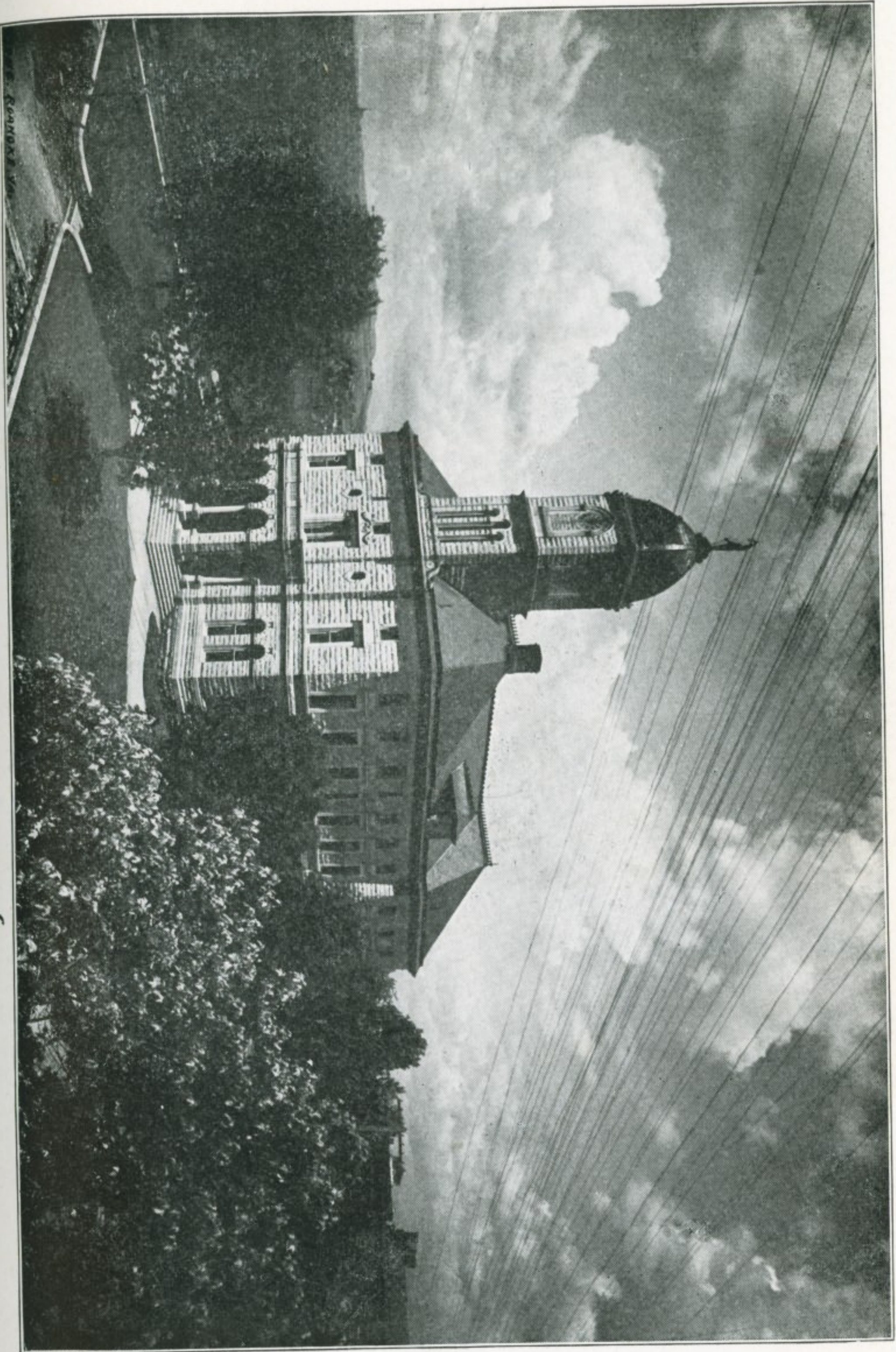
charge for board in the dormitory, including room and furnishings, towels, bedding, light, heat, food and service, personal and room laundering—all necessary living expenses except clothing, will *not exceed* \$14.00 per month, and will probably be reduced to \$12.00. Students will be required to pay \$14.00 per month in advance, and *if the actual cost is found at the close of the month to be less than this the difference will be refunded or credited on the next month's account.* It is hoped that board outside of the dormitory can be obtained at about the same rate.

**TEXT-BOOKS:** Text-books may be purchased from the book department of the school at *actual cost*, or they may be rented from the school at *a small rental charge* of from .50 to \$1.50 per quarter, dependent upon the number and value of the books. Each student renting books will be required to deposit \$3.00 at the time of securing the first lot of books, *this deposit to be returned* when the books are returned in good order.

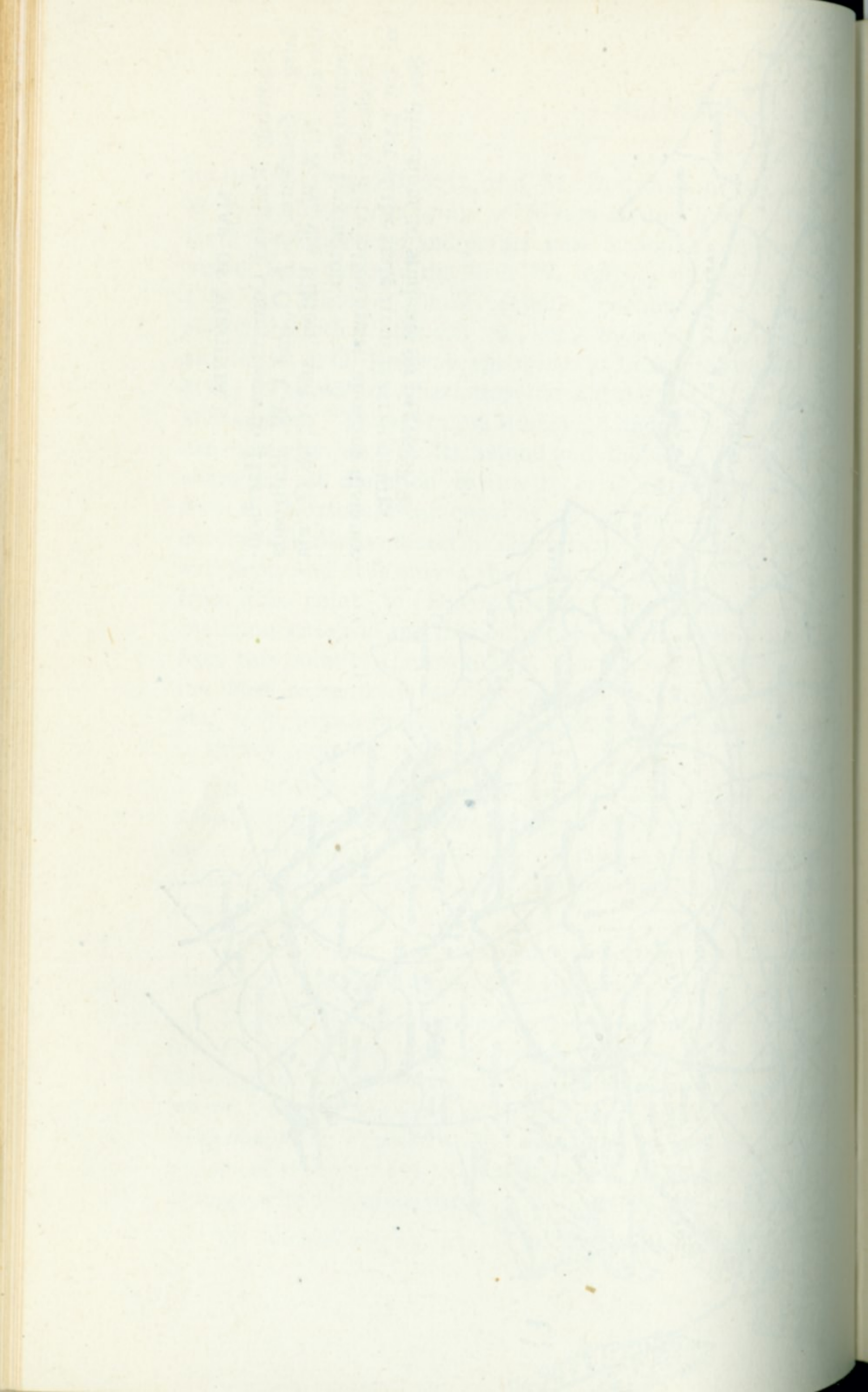
**OTHER EXPENSES:** There will be no other charge than the above, so far as the school is concerned, except that students in certain laboratory courses, in sewing, manual arts, etc., will be expected to pay the *actual cost* of the materials used when the article made is of value to the student, but such charges will be very small. Students will be encouraged to practice economy in dress, and there will be few calls for extra expenses of any sort.

Arrangements should be made for prompt payment of board at the beginning of each month, as the boarding department will be conducted on a strictly cash basis in order to reduce the expense to a minimum. This department *will positively not be conducted for profit* to the State, the school, or any individual or company of individuals. It is the purpose of the school to provide the best board possible at a moderate rate, and every dollar paid by students for board will be used economically and for this purpose only.





Rockingham County Court House, Harrisonburg.



Receipts, stating specifically the purposes for which the amounts are paid, will be given for all money paid to the school.

Attention is called on a preceding page to opportunities offered students for self-help in a financial way. It will be the aim of the management to be able to say that "no worthy student has ever been compelled to leave the school on account of lack of financial means to continue."