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Q. Vol. 3. 1872

Pulaski Giles Co. Tenn.
March 4th 1872

Genl Oliver O. Howard

My Dear Old Friend

It has been so long since we saw each other, and so many have been the vicissitudes, with varying fortune, through which we have passed, that I fear you have forgotten me. I have often and often thought of writing you, and having had the brain to conceive, I shall now summon up the energy to carry the idea into successful execution. And I must warn you in advance that I do so not with any hope of interesting you in the least, but from the very selfish motive of hearing from you in particular, and through you from many of my good old friends, in all of whom I feel an interest which time has in no wise dimmed. It has been my bad fortune to be cast, ever since we graduated, far from the busy scenes of life and activity, and off the great highways of travel in a comparatively retired portion of our great Country, and hence I have met none of the good old fellows with whom I spent four years so pleasantly, and for all of whom I have always felt the warmest friendship. In 1859 I met Stuart, and he is the only one of the class whom I have met since January 55 when in Washington on my way home after resigning. Death has claimed many a one of them; over half don't you suppose? and of the few who are left I only

occasionally hear from you and Custus through the Press.

Not long after resigning in Jan 55 I married a Va lady, and came out to this country where I have resided since. Necessity forced me to teach which I have done since 57. I have had a Professorship of Mathematics in a Male College here and by dint of some energy have succeeded in keeping soul & body together for myself and family which is something of a work too, for I would have you know that I am the paternal of just Six; 5 boys & 1 girl. Have you gone and done likewise? If so I have never heard it, and I have a suspicion that my good friend Howard is still a poor, lonely, deserted fraction of unmitigated [illegible] Old Bachelor. But I hope I am mistaken. I wish so much I could see you once again, and talk over the past with its thousand sacred memories. And I should like so much too to visit West Point. Had I the means I should long since have seen you and it. I have sometimes thought of applying for the appointment as one of the Board of Visitors at West Point; and should do so if I thought I could get it. What do you think? Now my kind old friend can't you write me a long answer to this poor note. Are the following of our class living & if so what of them? Treadwell, Ruger, Abbott, Turnbull, Bingham, John O Long. Would it be convenient to send me an Army Register? Please write me soon as you get this.

Your old friend
A. E. Rogers

145.

S-17-M.3.1872

Treasury Department,

Internal Revenue Bureau,

Washington, March. 4: , 1872.

Dear Genl.

Genl. Beal is an applicant for Pension Agent at Portland, a vacancy occurs on the 20th. All the Soldiers want him appointed, so do all the active working republicans of our (the 2d) District. Our mutual friend Mr. Frye, is very desirous to have the appointment made. He [illegible] of James [illegible]

Send a letter to Mr. Frye on myself in his behalf. I enclose a copy, of what I can spare you in time. You know I would not ask you to recommend any, but a responsible man.

I would call personally but am detained in the office. Am glad to see that Mr. Delano has got on the right track of the Apaches.

Yours truly
O. Howard

Maj. Gen. Howard

146.

All Official Letters to this Office must be addressed to the "Commissioner of Internal Revenue," and in replying to Letters from this Office the marginal initials should be referred to.

Treasury Department,

Office of Internal Revenue,

Washington, ..., 187 .

To the President

I have the honor to recommend Genl. Geo. D. Beal for the appointment of Pension Agent for the Western District of Maine. Genl. Beal served with distinction in the late war, and is one of the representative soldiers of Maine. He is a gentleman of integrity and ability and a Democrat Republican. His appointment would be very gratifying to the soldiers of Maine.

P. 14 - Mr. 3 - 1872

148.

Joint Stock Company of the Young Men's Christian Association,

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF BUILDING,

No. 3, First Floor, Corner of Ninth and D Streets.

"LINCOLN HALL," in this building, is the most elegant and commodious in the city; it is furnished with the "Booth Opera Chair," and will seat about 1,400; it may be rented on moderate terms for concerts, lectures, readings, public meetings, &c.

Washington, D. C., March 4 1872

RECEIVED. MAR 5 1872 O. O. H.

Gen O O Howard

Sir

Your communication of 1st inst. inclosing letter of W J Huntington Cashr in reference to certificate of indebtedness of Joint Stock Company now held by 1st Nat Bank. for $6925 - I beg leave to state that I have seen Mr Cooke in reference to calling a meeting as you suggest. and he says let the matter rest for the present - or to that effect -

I have to state for your information that there is a sufficient amount subscribed to pay what is due on account of this certificate - Mr Shepherd. Mr Cooke & others are the subscribers - several attempts have been made to collect these subscriptions - Except as to Mr Cooke - who said to day that he would pay his when the others were received - I desire further to state that I paid $3,600 of the certificate to S L Eaton Attorney. leaving only $3,325 due with interest - and Mr Plowman owes the Joint Stock Co

~~149~~

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Washington, D. C., ... 18

for rent (Haskweather & Norman) about $600 which must be retained when this matter is settled

At present you need not trouble yourself about it. and I have seen Mr Swain apt. Cashr (Mr Huntington being absent – and stated the foregoing to him.

I have this suggestion to make – let their subscriptions be assigned to the 1st Nat. Bank as payment of their claim

Wishing you God speed on your approaching journey and every success in your mission

Ever yours truly

A S Pratt

150

R — 13 — Mr. 3. 1872

ROBERT PORTER. HENRY T. COATES.

PORTER & COATES,

PUBLISHERS, BOOKSELLERS AND IMPORTERS,

No. 822 Chestnut Street.

RECEIVED. MAR 5 1872 O. O. H.

Philadelphia, Mch. 4 — 1872.

Genl O. O. Howard
"Howard University" Washington D.C.

Dear: Some little time since we sent you through Mr. J. A. Hopkins Bookseller of your City, samples of our Speakers. You must certainly use books of this description & we should like to have a careful examination made of our books, feeling confident that it will prove their great superiority over all other Speakers in the market. We beg to call attention to the testimonials in the enclosed circulars.

Very Truly Porter & Coates

Mark L. C. Moore
"Moore University" Washington D.C.

Sir: Some little time since we had our attention called to Professor Porter's Geographical Series, and after examining the book of this description we should like to have a copy of the new edition, made of our Western, feeling confident that it will prove this great improvement over all other Geographies in the market. We propose to call attention to it this Autumn in the southern states.

Very Truly Yours

Testimonials

TO THE

Popular Speakers.

PUBLISHED BY

PORTER & COATES,

822 CHESTNUT STREET,

PHILADELPHIA.

Acknowledged by all who have examined them

TO BE

THE BEST SPEAKERS PUBLISHED.

The Young America Speaker, designed for the use of the younger classes in schools, lyceums, temperance societies, &c. By J. R. Sypher, author of a "School History of Pennsylvania," "School History of New Jersey," &c. 16mo, 176 pp. half-bound, cloth sides, 75 cents.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

From the New Orleans Picayune.

"This little volume contains unexceptional selections of prose, poetry and dialogue. The selections evidence extensive reading, good taste and some experience with the predelictions of young declaimers."

From the Banner of the Church, Atlanta, Ga.

"An important and interesting addition to our school literature. The pieces presented in the work are well selected and they have this advantage—each piece is short, and will not too seriously strain the faculties of any student. Being short, a greater variety is presented than in most speakers now before the public."

The American Popular Speaker, designed for the use of schools, lyceums, temperance societies, &c., &c. By J. R. Sypher, author of "The Young America Speaker," &c. 12mo. 384 pp. half-bound, cloth sides, $1.50.

STATE NORMAL SCHOOL,
MILLERSVILLE, PA., Oct. 21, 1870.

MESSRS. PORTER & COATES:

GENTLEMEN:—I thank you for the copy of Sypher's Speaker which you so kindly presented. I have examined it with considerable care, and am pleased with it. It is a valuable addition to our school speakers and should be in the hands of every common school teacher in the State. Exercises in declamation are among the very best means of giving literary culture, and I trust this work may do much to revive and perpetuate an interest in them. Present my compliments to the author for the taste and judgment he has exhibited in the selections.

Truly yours, EDWARD BROOKS, A. M.,
Principal.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

From the Chicago, Ills. Times.

"The Popular Speaker is a carefully compiled work of excellent selections in prose, poetry and dialogue, prefaced by a few practical introductions to the student, who may be preparing himself for declamation. The judgment used in culling the selections, and the systematic and convenient manner in which they are arranged, commend the book to the attention of all who may be desirous of procuring a work of its nature."

From the Philadelphia Inquirer, Oct. 17, 1870.

"An excellent collection of prose and poetical pieces and dialogues, suitable for use by schools, lyceums, temperance societies, &c. Some practical instructions to beginners are well worthy of study, not only by inexperienced but by many experienced reciters."

From the Portland Eastern Argus, Oct. 18, 1870.

"Admirably adapted to the purposes of declamation. We recognize many of the old standard pieces, with many also which we have not found in other similar compilations. The book is not encumbered with a multiplicity of rules and directions which serve to confuse and hinder the students rather than to help them; but a few simple, practical directions are given which are admirable, and all that are needed. We commend the volume to the attention of teachers and students as one of high merit."

From the St. Louis, Mo. Republican.

"The selections in this book, both in prose and verse, are of the best character for the intended purpose. Some of them are very old, but they are none the worse for that, some are new and good too."

From the New Bedford Evening Standard, Oct. 25, 1870.

"Excellent selections of prose and poetry and dialogues. The subjects embrace every conceivable want for school declamations, with concise practical instructions for the speaker."

From the Western Christian Advocate, Cincinnati, Nov. 2, 1870.

"The work of selecting and arranging has been made with good judgment. The book, we should say, is admirably adapted to the purpose for which it has been prepared."

From the Daily Gazette, Cincinnati, Oct. 28, 1870.

"A meritorious contribution to the class of works to which it belongs. It is well printed, and the selections are generally fresh."

From the Indianapolis Evening News, Oct. 31, 1870.

"The selections are all choice ones, and calculated to teach good moral lessons, and to have a refining influence upon the taste and manners of the student."

The Comprehensive Speaker, designed for the use of schools, academies, lyceums, &c., carefully selected from the best authors, with notes by Henry T. Coates. Large 12mo, 672 pp. half-bound, cloth sides, $1.75.

OPINIONS OF EMINENT TEACHERS.

HAVERFORD COLLEGE, October 14th, 1871.

Coates' Comprehensive Speaker contains a large body of admirable selections from the best writers in prose and poetry, and is excellently adapted for the use of students. Sound judgment and good taste mark the compilation, and few books of the kind are so free from trash. I shall gladly recommend the work for the use of the students in Haverford College.

THOMAS CHASE,

Professor of Classics and Belles Letters, and Editor of Chase & Stuart's Classical Series.

HONESDALE, WAYNE CO., PA., October 10th, 1871.

Permit me to thank you for the copy of Coates' Comprehensive Speaker which you sent me. I have carefully perused it, and think it SUPERIOR TO ANY OF ITS NATURE I HAVE USED OR EXAMINED. Your "Instructions on Expression and Gesture" meet my approval, and your "Useful Hints" are pointed and practical.

L. R. FOWLER,
Principal of High School and Superintendent of Schools.

ERIE, PA., October 13th, 1871.

I am highly pleased with your Comprehensive Speaker. The selections are good in variety, correctness of text and freshness. The book is needed to take the place of those that present but little except hackneyed extracts.

H. S. JONES,
Superintendent of Schools.

HIGHTSTOWN, N. J., Oct. 2d, 1871.

I have examined the copy of the Comprehensive Speaker, which I obtained of you a short time since. I CONSIDER IT BETTER THAN ANY Speaker I have ever used. One of the many excellencies of your work is, that the selections have not been worn out by repeated appearance upon the public stage. I have heartily recommended it to the students here.

ALBERT C. HALE,
New Jersey Classical and Scientific Institute.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

From the New York Daily Tribune.

"It contains a judicious selection of pieces from the best authors, omitting all of doubtful morality, of a sectarian or political character, and of transient literary value. Great care has been taken in the selection of extracts to give the genuine text of the author, without the errors in quotation and punctuation which are such a frequent blemish in this class of school books. A large proportion of the contents are from American authors, furnishing the materials for a comparative survey of our native literature."

From the Philadelphia Press, Aug. 3, 1871.

"On careful examination, we do not hesitate to characterize it as the BEST compilation of its class that has ever come under our note. The merits of this large and valued collection are numerous. Hackneyed pieces have been carefully excluded, and political and sectarian pieces are not to be found in its pages. There are, of course, some humorous passages, in prose and verse, but none that are immoral or vulgar."

From the Phila. North American and Gazette, July 26, 1871.

"The new compilation has succeeded in furnishing selections that have positive merit without objectionable matter, and that are worthy of being remembered. The text of these selections has been carefully corrected, and several essays on the graces of oratory happily point to what is most wanted. The selections are classified; and while they are from distinguished men of all ages, the number of secondary authors represented is not sufficient to overcome the buoyancy of the greater. The work is so full, so well discriminated, and so various, that it may well challenge place with any in forming our future Demosthenes and Websters."

From the Christian Union. (Henry Ward Beecher, Editor.)

"Of course the work of compiling such a book as this is involves difficulties which do not appear to the superficial critic. The enormous mass of available matter has to be winnowed with great care and judgment, the hackneyed extracts, which in the days of the old United States Speaker, were declaimed until every boy knew them by heart from simply hearing them, must be avoided; and yet it will not do to omit many of those thrilling passages in the Reply to Hayne, the Declaration of Independence and a hundred others. Mr. Coates has certainly done his task well and faithfully, and the introductory remarks which precede the body of the work, are characterized by good sense and are evidently the result of considerable thought and observation. The plan of the volume is a natural subdivision of the selections first into prose and poetry and then into narrative, historical, forensic, etc., the design evidently being that a reading class shall not go through, as it were, from Genesis to Revelations, but shall, in the judgment of the teacher, read "Mrs. Caudle on Lending Umbrellas" on a rainy afternoon, or the "Impeachment of Warren Hastings" when the public is excited about official corruptions. The selections are good so far as we have examined them,—and we have done so with considerable care,—being taken from the best current literature, as well as from that which will always be regarded as classical where the English tongue is spoken."

From the Sunday School Times. (Prof. John S. Hart, Editor.)

"We like this new book of selections for reading and speaking. It has great variety, fullness and freshness. The hackneyed pieces of the "Cassabianca" sort are not prominent. Of course, such as are classic in this kind of literature—the great standards for the purposes of juvenile forensic instruction—are not altogether omitted, but the discriminating compiler has not felt himself obliged to insert them all to the exclusion of multitudes of new and beautiful things that our more modern literature has produced. A good taste, and sound culture, and true refinement, have also been persistently kept in view, rigidly excluding everything in the shape of slang, no matter how popular and commonly used, or distantly approaching the vulgar or immoral. The whole selection is

admirable, critically accurate, and adapted for a wide use. The key to its practical value, we think, is supplied in the happy sentence in the preface, which shows that the compiler has labored from the true stand-point, and wedded the wisdom of maturer years and experience with the memories of his boyhood's needs. He says the volume he presents is just such as would suit his taste were it in his power to be "a boy again." We could wish for "Coates' Comprehensive Speaker" a wide introduction into the schools, academies and lyceums of the land."

The principal points in which this series excels all others are:

1st. *Character of the Selections.* The whole ground of English and American literature has been carefully gone over by gentlemen thoroughly conversant with the subject, and the result is a collection unsurpassed, as regards character, merit and diversity of the selections. Almost every prominent name in general and poetical literature having at least one representation within these covers. The Comprehensive Speaker alone contains pieces by 221 different authors, each one of whom is a classic.

2d. *Morality.* No piece containing any words of doubtful moral tendency are to be found in this series. Each piece may be read aloud in any family circle with perfect confidence.

3d. *Politics.* All political or sectarian pieces, or anything that would offend the prejudices of anyone have been rejected, excepting a few spirited war lyrics and speeches in The American Popular Speaker, containing so much merit in themselves that the compiler felt justified in admitting them. North and South, East and West, Protestant and Catholic can alike use these works with perfect security.

4th. *Correctness of the Text.* Each selection has been taken from the earliest and best editions whenever possible, and the proofs carefully read by skillful proof-readers. When we consider how often quotations learned in youth are apt to recur to us in after-years, it is especially important that what is learned then should be learned correctly, and this is attained by the use of this series.

5th. *Punctuation.* How often do we see the meaning of a sentence changed by the omission, transposition or addition of a comma. A small error in punctuation will often change the meaning of an important sentence. In order to obtain a thorough knowledge of the meaning of each selection, great care has been taken to have the text and punctuation *just as the author wrote it.*

6th. *Arrangement.* The selections are arranged under three heads: Prose, Poetry and Dialogues. In the Comprehensive Speaker these are subdivided into Patriotic, Popular, Senatorial, Eulogistic and Personal, Forensic, Moral and Didactic, Humorous and Satirical, Descriptive and Dramatic, Narrative, Martial, Reflective, &c., &c. The advantages of this will be apparent to every teacher.

7th. *Elocution.* The Young America Speaker and The American Popular Speaker contain short and useful hints on Elocution, containing the substance of volumes condensed into a few pages. The Comprehensive Speaker contains a valuable Essay on Gesture and Elocution, principally by J. E. Carpenter, the famous English Elocutionist. In short, it is believed that nothing will be found wanting, which can be of any assistance to the teacher or pupil.

8th. *Notes.* Believing that to speak well, it is absolutely necessary for the speaker to understand the circumstances under which it was originally written, and to know every subject alluded to in the text, the compiler of the Comprehensive Speaker has appended copious and valuable notes, fully explaining the text. To the teacher this will be invaluable, as it will enable him to answer the otherwise troublesome questions so often asked by the intelligent pupil.

9th. *Mechanical Execution.* All the books are printed in large, clear type, on fine white paper, and bound in the strongest and best manner.

10th. *Binding.* These books are better and stronger bound than the publications of any other house, with a single exception, who use the same kind of leather, and are guaranteed to last twice as long as ordinary binding. *It is next to impossible to tear the leather.*

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3d. *Politics.* All political and sectarian pieces, or anything that would offend the prejudices o one have been rejected. See the testimony of "The Congregationalist," "The Methodist," "Ca Standard," "Christian Union," &c., on this point. North and South, East and West, Protestan Catholic can alike use these works with perfect security.

4th. *Correctness of the Text.* Each selection has been taken from the earliest and best edit whenever possible, and the proofs carefully read by skilful proof-readers. When we consider often quotations learned in youth are apt to recur to us in after years, it is especially important what is learned then should be learned correctly, and this is attained by the use of this book.

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6th. *Arrangement.* The selections are arranged under three heads: Prose, Poetry and Dialo These again are subdivided into Patriotic, Popular, Senatorial, Eulogistic and Personal, Fore Moral and Didactic, Humorous and Satirical, Descriptive and Dramatic, Narrative, Martial, R tive, &c., &c. The advantages of this will be apparent to every teacher.

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Sent to Teachers for Examination, postage paid, on receipt of One-half the Retail Price.

THE COMPREHENSIVE SPEAKER,

Designed for the use of Schools, Academies, Lyceums, &c.,

CAREFULLY SELECTED FROM THE BEST AUTHORS,

With Notes by HENRY T. COATES.

Large 12mo, 672 pages, Half-bound, Cloth Sides, $1 75.

OPINIONS OF EMINENT TEACHERS.

HAVERFORD COLLEGE, Oct. 14, 1871.

Coates' Comprehensive Speaker contains a large body of admirable selections from the best writers in prose and poetry, and is excellently adapted for the use of students. Sound judgment and good taste mark the compilation, and few books of the kind are so free from trash. I shall gladly recommend the work for the use of the students in Haverford College.

THOMAS CHASE,
Professor of Classics and Belle Letters, and Editor of Chase & Stuart's Classical Series.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 22, 1872.

I am much pleased with the "Comprehensive Speaker," a copy of which I received from you a few weeks ago. In the number, variety and excellence of the selections it is not excelled by any similar work with which I am acquainted.

H. T. LAUDERBACH,
Principal of the "Lauderbach Academy," Assembly Buildings.

No. 1221 Chestnut Street,
PHILADELPHIA, January 23, 1872.

I have examined the Comprehensive Speaker, and have used it in my classes, and like it exceedingly. The selections are excellent, and I do not see how a better book on this subject could well be compiled.

M. F. EATON,
Professor of Elocution and Vocal Training.

HONESDALE, WAYNE CO., PA., October 10, 1871.

Permit me to thank you for the copy of Coates' Comprehensive Speaker which you sent me. I have carefully perused it, and think it SUPERIOR TO ANY OF ITS NATURE I HAVE USED OR EXAMINED. Your "Instructions on Expression and Gesture" meet my approval, and your "Useful Hints" are pointed and practical. In regard to the points to which you call my attention, I should have observed their superiority over many others I have used, had you not directed my attention to them.

L. R. FOWLER,
Principal of High School and Superintendent of Schools.

ERIE, PA., Oct. 13, 1871.

I am highly pleased with your Comprehensive Speaker. The selections are good in variety, correctness of text and freshness. The book is needed to take the place of those that present but little except hackneyed extracts.

H. S. JONES,
Superintendent of Schools.

CHESTER, PA., Dec. 29, 1871.

Your "Comprehensive Speaker" has been in use at the Pennsylvania Military Academy for some months during the current session. The work is regarded by us as evincing great care and excellent taste on the part of the compiler;

and we are satisfied that it is well adapted to promote culture in the department to which it belongs. It contains judicious and varied selections from the very best authors, presenting in some measure a compendium of literature as well as suitable pieces for declamation and recitation. Not least among the merits of the book are the valuable suggestions contained in the introduction.

G. YEAGER,
Professor of English Language and Literature, and Instructor in Latin.

WILKESBARRE, PA., Nov. 16, 1871.

Long ago should I have thanked you for the elegant Speaker which you so kindly forwarded to me: only my many duties have caused my delay. I greatly admire the selection of pieces and the general execution of the work. I think that the book most justly deserves to be generally introduced into our schools, by reason of its elegant English, its refined sentiment, and its decided moral tone. Not only is it unexceptionable, but it is positive in its tendency to elevate the standard of taste and morals among our youths: its humor is not disgusting, nor is its wit mixed with ribaldry. The mind of the young is not, as in some works, exposed to a choice of that which is either low in language or coarse in sentiment: only the true classic is introduced, that which, after having been committed to memory, is worthy of being retained there. The book is most happily suited to advance true culture, and I can conscientiously express a hope that it may have an extensive sale. It will please me to promote it.

C. J. COLLINS,
Superintendent and Principal of Public Schools.

WESTTOWN BOARDING SCHOOL,
12th mo. 12th, 1871.

ESTEEMED FRIEND:

I received from thee a copy of thy "Comprehensive Speaker;" and while I thank thee for the book, wish to add, that, in very many particulars, it is exactly what, in my view, is desirable in a work of the kind. Its paper, letter-press, punctuation, and binding, are all nicely adapted to its purpose. It is truly "Comprehensive" in its selections, and with little exception, the articles are calculated not only to illustrate correct argument, striking imagery and bold expression, but to advance the standard of morality. I could wish, however, that all such articles as in any way may countenance war, or declare its necessity, had been excluded. * * * I am glad I have it, and trust that I shall be able to make use of it to the advantage of myself and others.

CHARLES POTTS.

CANTON, N. Y., Nov. 15, 1871.

Through the kindness of Messrs. Porter Coates I am favored with an opportunity for examining their series of Speakers. I ha some time desired a more recent compilation of extracts from the ripest and most choice selections, and for the want of such work had instructed my classes to select for themselves from authors' complete works. This method, even when resorted to, was burdensome to the instructor and inconvenient and expensive for the pupils. "The Comprehensive Speaker," for advanced classes especially, is all that has been so long desired. The selections are made with wonderful taste and nice discrimination. Only those "old pieces" are retained which have become classic, while much is added to them from the best writings of our own times. In issuing this work a long-felt desideratum has been supplied by the authors. We hope to have it introduced in our schools, and we can commend it fully to all desiring to secure only the best possible selections. Certainly no text book should be selected for children, and indeed all students, with more care than those whose contents are to become no small part of both expression of thought and sentiments in character. I feel assured the fullness and freshness of the entire series must satisfy the wants and desires of schools of whatever grades. They are safe, handy, and tasty, and we wish, as we predict for them all the success due to merit.

W. W. THOMPSON,
Superintendent Canton Academy & Union Free Schools.

MAY'S LANDING, N. J., Jan. 9, 1872.

I have carefully examined the copy of your "Comprehensive Speaker," forwarded to me at Port Republic, and can say that it is the best work of the kind that I have yet seen.

C. G. KINGMAN,
Principal May's Landing Graded School.

HIGHTSTOWN, N. J., Oct. 2, 1871.

I have examined the copy of the Comprehensive Speaker which I obtained of you a short time since. I CONSIDER IT BETTER THAN ANY Speaker I have ever used. One of the many excellencies of your work is that the selections have not been worn out by repeated appearance upon the public stage. I have heartily recommended it to the students here.

ALBERT C. HALE,
New Jersey Classical and Scientific Institute.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

The New York Daily Tribune.

"It contains a judicious selection of pieces from the best authors, omitting all of doubtful morality, of a sectarian or political character, and of transient literary value. Great care has been taken in the selection of extracts to give the genuine text of the author, without the errors in quotation and punctuation which are such a frequent blemish in this class of school books. A large proportion of the contents are from American authors, furnishing the materials for a comparative survey of our native literature."

The Philadelphia Press.

"On careful examination, we do not hesitate to characterize it as the BEST compilation of its class that has ever come under our note. The merits of this large and valued collection are numerous. Hackneyed pieces have been carefully excluded, and political and sectarian pieces are not to be found in its pages. There are, of course some humorous passages, in prose and verse, but none that are immoral or vulgar."

Ohio State Journal, Columbus, Ohio.

"We cannot too highly commend the felicitous manner in which the compiler has accomplished his work. It is valuable as a volume for general reading as well. It seems to us wholly good, with nothing to add or change—a difficult achievement in view of the number of 'Speakers' already in existence."

The Congregationalist, Boston.

"From so much examination as we have been enabled to give to Coates' Comprehensive Speaker, we have no hesitation in commending it as foremost among books of its kind. The compiler is a gentleman of liberal education and culture, well acquainted with the wants of the public in this direction, and entirely competent to select and arrange such extracts in prose and verse, from orators and writers of all time, as are suitable for public declamation. The work is prefaced with an alphabetical index of authors, and a few pages of suggestions to speakers, and is exactly adapted to the wants of schools, academies and lyceums."

Pennsylvania School Journal.

"This work completes the series of Speakers, the first two books of which are by Mr. J. R. Sypher. These Speakers contain selections, many of which are new, and all approved by the good taste of the scholarly gentleman by whom they have been compiled. There is great variety, and the articles selected are mainly from the best writers and speakers of our own time, though those of a former era are also laid under generous tribute. The series seems to be a popular one, and as to *this third book, it is among the very best of its class.*"

Worcester (Massachusetts) Spy.

"Mr. Coates knows how to select what is good, and he has made an unusually good book, which should have the attention of those for whom it is designed."

Catholic Standard, Philadelphia.

"There is a freshness about this 'Speaker' that we greatly admire. Many of the old, hackneyed pieces are thrown aside, and are replaced by a variety of new pieces, equally good. The prose and poetical selections embrace almost every variety of thought and sentiment, all of which are chaste and unexceptionable. The explanatory notes at the end of the work are excellent, and evince no small amount of historical research. In a word, the 'Comprehensive Speaker' is devoid of all that is objectionable in most works of its kind, and is just the book that we would like to see introduced into our schools and colleges."

The Methodist, New York.

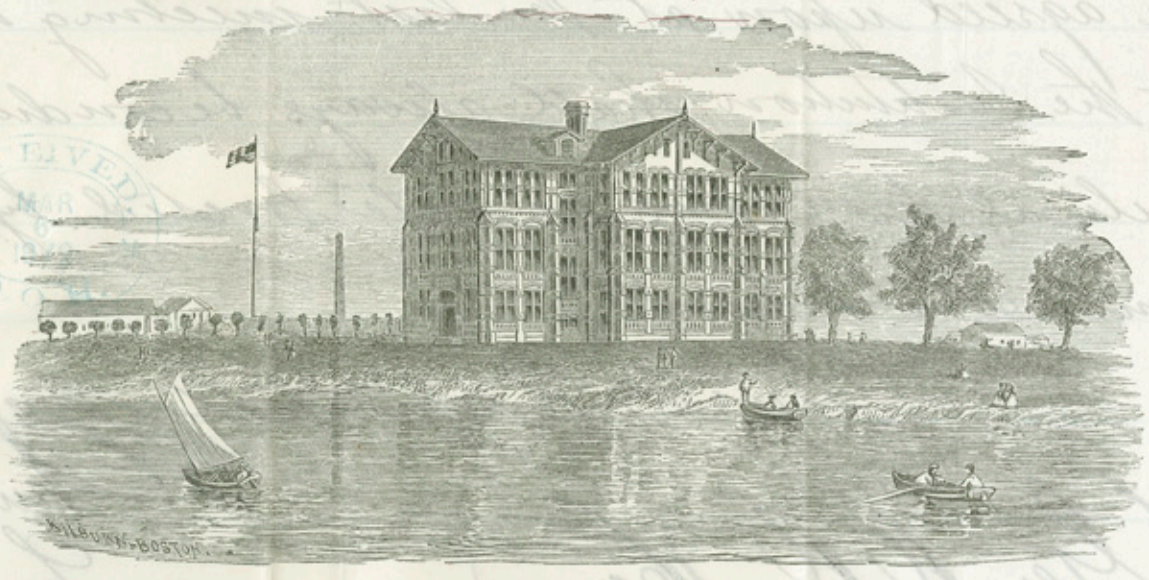
"Coates' Comprehensive Speaker deserves its title; for besides an introduction, giving in condensed form the best rules of elocution, it presents pieces for declamation, of almost every variety, in classified arrangement—prose and poetry—patriotic, senatorial, eulogistic, forensic, humorous and satirical, dramatic, &c. It is a stout volume, giving abundant examples, and these selected with excellent taste."

The Christian Union.

HENRY WARD BEECHER, *Editor.*

"Of course the work of compiling such a book as this is, involves difficulties which do not appear to the superficial critic. The enormous mass of available matter has to be winnowed with great care and judgment, the hackneyed extract, which in the days of the old United States Speaker, were declaimed until every boy knew them by heart from simply hearing them, must be avoided: and yet it will not do to omit many of those thrilling passages in the Reply to Hayne, the Declaration of Independence and a hundred others. Mr. Coates has certainly done his task well and faithfully, and the introductory remarks, which precede the body of the work, are characterized by good sense and are evidently the result of considerable thought and observation. The plan of the volume is a natural sub-

A. 10-M-3-1872 151.



Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute.

INCORPORATED BY SPECIAL ACT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA.

OPENED APRIL, 1868.

S. C. ARMSTRONG, *Principal.*
J. F. B. MARSHALL, *Treasurer.*
MISS JANE STUART WOOLSEY, *Manager Girls' Industrial Dep't.*
ALBERT HOWE, *Farm Manager.*

Hampton, Va. Mar 4th 1872

Sir:—

You are requested to attend a special meeting of the Board of Trustees of this Institution, duly called, to be held in the Rooms of the American Missionary Association, 59 Reade St. New York City, on Wednesday March 20th, at nine o'clock A.M. to consider the question of accepting from the American Missionary Association the property at Hampton, Va. with the conditions changed from

those agreed upon at the last meeting to there,
"That the Institution shall always be conducted on
evangelical principles as interpreted by the
present constitution"

Yours Respectfully

H. Smith

To Gen O. O. Howard

Sec.

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A-23-M3-1872

RECEIVED MAR 4 1872 O. H.

Potomac City Anacostia D.C.
March 4th 1872

Genl O O Howard

Dr Sir

this will inform you that there is an attempt by a number of persons here through one F A Young to create a sensation against the trustees of the Barry farm fund by sending a memorial to Congress purporting that they (the Lot-holders) are being defrauded out of a portion of their Lots. the same being charged to them by the aforesaid trustees. the petition is not a fair representation of the sentiments of property holders here at a meeting of the citizens of Potomac City on tuesday night last the action of Young and his consort was condemned and the actions of the trustees of the Barry farm fund was unanimously endorsed. whatever course the memorialists may

persue I am Confident that they will Signally fail. as there is in my opinion no truth in their Statement. I merely write this to let you know that we have a Remnant of that poisonous Reptile in our midst. but I feel Sure that the trustees. will be able to Bruise his head. though it may Bite their heels. With many thanks as an individual for your Effort for the advancement of the africa american Race I Remain Respectfully Yrs

Matthias W. Hunter

note

I hope the trustees will Consent to lay up Some more of the waste Land here and Lot it out to my Race

MWH

Board of Indian Commissioners,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

March 4th 1872

Geo B Howard
Sir.

I should like to see you before you leave for Arizona. if agreeable to you, will you please tell me when and where I can see you for say 30 minutes. I know you are very busy and so am I so I ask an engagement to suit you and save my time as well.

Very Respectfully Your obt. Servant
Thomas K. Cree
Secretary.

6 — 25 — M. 3 — 1872

154.

Washington March 4 1872

My dear General;—

On today, during the discussion of an appropriation Bill, Mr Hoar of Mass. caused to be read the memorial to which you called my attention, in our conversation and your letter of 28th ult. I handed your letter to Mr Brooks of Mass. (a member of my committee), which after some remarks, he sent to the Clerk's desk and had read. I will on tomorrow send you the "Globe" containing the proceedings. The memorial, will no doubt, rest just there. Should it be revived, it shall, if I can accomplish it, be sent to the Freedmen's Committee, where you will have justice.

Truly Your Friend
C. L. Cobb

Genl O O Howard

P. S. Pardon me for reminding you of the Bibles. I requested Capt. H. today to remind you of my request. They are much needed.
C L C

L. 7 - Mar 9 - 1872

155.

Forty-second Congress U.S.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

[5]

Washington, D.C. March 9 1872

Gen. O. O. Howard

Dear Sir

An old friend and constituent of mine desires me to aid him if I can in arranging with the Trustees of Howard University in regard to a lot his wife bought of them -

I refer to John
L. Lane -

I see by the papers you are likely to leave town soon - Will you please inform me whether I can see you or whether it will be of any use to do so?

Very truly Yours

W. L. Lansing