

JUNE · 1883

faces and a few sorrowful ones among the students when this was over.

Soon after, students and friends turned their faces homeward, and the newly christened "Porter Hall" was shortly wrapped in darkness, and its tired inmates in welcome slumber.

The year just closed has been an encouraging one in many respects to us and at present our prospects for the future, though somewhat clouded by the *fear* of financial embarrassment, are hopeful. We *hope* by the close of another year to have a brick building for the boys well on towards completion.

The bricks are being made on the farm now. We have a promising crop of cotton, cane, corn, sweet potatoes and fruit. Our "Uncle Harry"<sup>4</sup> is not Mr. Howe,<sup>5</sup> but he has learned his *three C's*. Few, under like circumstances, can show a better crop of cotton, corn and cane than can "Uncle Harry."

A number of our students hastened away Friday and Saturday after the close of the school to be on hand in as many districts to begin schools the following Monday morning.

This they do to earn money with which to meet their expenses next year.

Some months ago, the colored teachers of Bullock, an adjoining county to this (Macon), expressed a desire to have a summer institute held in the county. To this their Supt., a white man,<sup>6</sup> gave a ready consent, and at his request Mr. Washington is now there in the work.

A few of the teachers of this county and of Montgomery, and of Lowndes County are here for the summer in a similar work with myself.

The weather, which through April and May was remarkably cool for this climate, is now quite warm. Old heads say we are "in" for a long hot summer. Already I begin to wish for some of Hampton's cool breezes.

Wishing you and all your readers a pleasant and *breezy* summer's vacation, I am Yours truly,

D.

*Southern Workman*, 12 (Aug. 1883), 89-90.

<sup>1</sup> Morgan Callaway.

<sup>2</sup> A. F. Owen[s?] was a black minister and school principal in Mobile, Ala. He played a leading role in the formation of the National Baptist Convention in 1880.

<sup>3</sup> R. S. Parrott.

<sup>4</sup> Henry Clay Ferguson. Ferguson was born in 1859 in Franklin County, Va. He was probably the slave of Josiah Ferguson, who lived across the road from