

A PROSPEROUS COLONY.

The Condition of Northern Men Who Have Emigrated to Lincoln County, Tennessee—Hopewell Academy and Its Claims for Patronage.

LINCOLN, TENN., June 29, 1874.

To the Editor of the Inter-Ocean.]

SIR: Some time has elapsed since a report from our colony appeared in any of the leading papers of the North. The colony is composed largely of farmers recently from the North; and they, in improving their farms and restoring fertility, find enough to do, and are doing it with all their might. This silence, therefore, should not be interpreted as indicating any lack of energy.

The colony is located in the southwestern part of Lincoln County, a section unsurpassed for salubrity by any other locality east of the Mississippi. This important fact any one may learn for himself by consulting the hygienic maps accompanying the census of 1870. Although there have been but a few additional emigrants during the past year, those already here seem to be taking deeper root, and such as are able are preparing comfortable and permanent homes. The country is abundantly supplied with timber, and with perennial fountains of the purest water. Good building material can be obtained at reasonable rates. Here, as elsewhere in the Southern States, land can be obtained very cheap. A good quality of land can be purchased at from \$12 to \$20 per acre. We fully believe that if the price and quality of land and the facilities for obtaining good farms and comfortable homes in the South were more generally known to the people of the Northern States, the tide of emigration would for a time turn southward. The means for promoting moral and intellectual improvement in our midst have not been neglected. A neat and commodious church and academy are proofs of the commendable zeal of our colony in this direction.

The academy opened its first session in the fall of 1873 under rather unfavorable auspices: but during the year the strong prejudice at first entertained by some against it, has gradually disappeared. The school has established for itself an honorable reputation; and now stands among the best in the country. The Principal is a graduate of the Classical Department of the Indiana State University, and a teacher of several years' experience. The school is centrally located in the Southern States, and the place is widely known for the purity of its water and atmosphere. No epidemic or malignant diseases are known to prevail here. Consumption, so prevalent in the North, is foreign to this locality. Invalids from this and other diseases resort hither, and, if not too far reduced, are generally much improved, if not entirely restored.

The community is free from all allurements to

gaming, drinking, and other popular vices; and the citizens are firmly resolved that nothing of the kind shall ever be introduced. Students of the academy have all the advantages of church and Sabbath school, and no parents need hesitate to send their children here, fearing it would be at the expense of their morals. The colony and the church under whose auspices the academy is conducted can promote their joint interests in no way more readily than by building up and maintaining a school of high order among us, and we know of no place more suitable for the location of an academy or college than the quiet little village of Lincoln. The moral tone of the community, and the entire freedom from the many vicious allurements of cities and railway stations, are recommendations which satisfactorily answer the first questions proposed by every conscientious parent, when looking for a school in which to educate his children.

Our little colony is as yet pecuniarily unable to meet all the wants of the academy. What then will be done? Will our friends at the north, and the friends of education, suffer the enterprise to fail through lack of a little opportune assistance? Or will they now lend a helping hand and establish on a sure basis our school, which promises, if properly supported, to be the nucleus of a future college and an educational center? Here now is an opening for some philanthropist of ample means. A liberal benefaction could not be more usefully invested than in the endowment of an academy or college at this place. Will some wealthy friend of education aid us in our laudable undertaking? We now suggest a plan whereby the friends of our colony and academy, and of education generally, may render us material aid without any additional expense or inconvenience to themselves. Many of our friends send their sons and daughters to the larger towns and cities, and pay a board bill of \$4 or \$5 per week, in order that they may attend school. This expense must be continued during a course of four or five years, or during the entire collegiate course. This is the principal item of necessary expense to students, and during a period of four years of forty weeks each, amounts to \$800. Hopewell Academy offers the advantage of a reduction amounting to one-half of this expense, the highest price for board here being \$2.50 per week. This, during a period of four years, of forty weeks each, amounts to \$400. The academy for the present is designed to qualify young men and women for the junior and senior years in college. The school thus offers the advantage of a reduction in the expense for three or four years, amounting to one-half the board-bill, and the locality presents the advantages of a less rigorous, more pleasant, and more salubrious climate, than prevails during the greater portion of the year, throughout the Northern States. The difference, if any, in the traveling expenses of students from the North would be but a small item. Will not many of our friends in the North aid us by patronizing our school?

Any one wishing further information from this quarter will address the Rev. J. W. Wait or J. A. Ramsay, Lincoln, Lincoln County, Tenn.