

Deplorable Condition of Lyburn Downing
School of Lexington, Va.

The Patrons of the Lyburn Downing School were left in the following plight at the close of the school year, 1937:

The patrons having lost grounds in 1936 as a result of the School Board discontinuing the 3rd year, rallied themselves and got the School Board to grant a 3rd and 4th year high school provided we, the patrons pay the expense of a teacher, which they did by raising the sum of six hundred dollars. (\$600⁰⁰)

Apparently to Kill forever such an effort in the High School Department, there was a wholesome failure staged, only passing 11 children out of a number of 47, which is a splendid exhibition of efficiency on part of those teaching these children, if failure is the proof of good teaching.

It has been said that the 3rd and 4th year high would not be a bother after this year, and he (██████████) has thus far done his share to make his word true. Yes he can do as he pleases if he is allowed to parade unmolested. But are we intelligent Lexingtonians going to allow ██████████ ride high and dry in the saddles on our backs, without protesting within our own rights.

To forestall what would have been a stormy Commencement due to such small percentage of the children passing, no marks from examination were given out until the day after the Commencement, except the graduating class in the High School Department.

This unfairness was practiced on anxious, eager parents and pupils who wanted to know the outcome of a years' work. To do such a trick it never gives them a chance for redress or reconsideration.

where such is necessarily due because the school is closed, and none are admitted to his home, he expects with a complaint, whereas he would have to give an ear while the doors of the school are yet open.

There are children who have no record for the year's work and have not received it after having requested for it. Such a pupil hasn't a good or a bad record, one of which he should have.

If we the patrons and taxpaying citizens can't get justice in the councils of the appointed authorities, by moral and honest conviction of the truth of our case, the courts of law will be invoked in cause of right and fairness to a people who have long suffered the insults, abuses and indignities of an unscrupulous impertinent and anathema slurring principal as [REDACTED] has been through the years which we can no longer understand.

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With a hope that we may secure an end to the service of principal [REDACTED] a petition has been drafted and already signed by nearly 200 patrons and citizens. We hope the sentiment will bring enough pressure on our case that those in the authority will readily see the necessity of removing the obstacle in the way of progress.

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