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## VIII

# FOUNDER'S DAY AT HOLLINS

#### HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY

A unique occasion in educational circles of Virginia was the recent celebration at Hollins College of the hundredth anniversary of the birth of its founder, Charles L. Cocke.

The specially invited guests were the heads and other representatives of the various colleges and schools of the State. These, with the Hollins faculty, moved in academic procession across the campus from the Charles L. Cocke Memorial Library to the Hollins Chapel, made sacred for all time by the deep spiritual influence of that great man.

Dr. W. R. L. Smith, of Norfolk, made the address of the day. Having just completed the biography of Dr. Cocke, he was saturated with his life and spirit and was able in a wonderful manner to make that towering figure in Virginia education live once again before us in the old likeness that we knew.

In the evening a series of living pictures, accompanied by most suggestive music of a high order, gave the Hollins history from the time of the Indian and the frontiersman, John Carven, through the visits of Layefette and President Jackson, on down its length of days of co-education and especially of education that had dropped the "co"—to the present, when all the work offered is strictly collegiate. One of these "pictures" was the appearance on the stage of four aged negro servants—one still busy at ninety-seven years—who have been a part of the institution for half a century.

The whole occasion was marked by dignified simplicity and was full of inspiration to school people—revealing how great a work may be wrought by one man who holds firmly to a few foundation principles.

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#### IX

## EDUCATIONAL COMMENT

## NEW SCHOOL LEGISLATION

The Virginia Legislature which has just completed its biennial session passed the following measures which are destined vitally to influence public education in this State:

- A. Five resolutions providing for a vote by the people on the following amendments to the State Constitution:
  - 1. An amendment to Section 132 in order to permit the Legislature to determine the duties and powers of the State Board of Education.
  - 2. An amendment to Section 133 which will give the legislature the power to determine a new unit of local school administration; to establish the county as the unit, if it so desires.
  - 3. An amendment to Section 136, looking to the removal from the constitution of the limitation on local taxation for school purposes, leaving the matter to the Legislature.
  - (This amendment will be voted on in the fall elections.)
  - 4. An amendment to Section 138 removing the constitutional limitations on a compulsory attendance law.

# B. Statutes:

- 1. To set up a standard nine months term.
- 2. Prescribing school age and admitting pupils six years old to primary grades and pupils under six to kindergartens.