

The *Senatus Academicus* was formed at this place, on Monday the 5th day of this month, and on the day following the reverend John Brown, was elected president of Franklin College, and having taken the oath of office, took his seat with the board of trustees. On Wednesday, being the day assigned by law for the public commencement, at the hour of ten o'clock A. M. the collegiate family formed a procession at the college, and marched in that order to the chapel, where a collection of citizens were anxiously expecting them: The public exercises were preceded by a short, affecting and appropriate prayer, offered to the throne of Grace, by the president, and thereafter the assemblage of citizens were rationally entertained, by speeches and dialogues, delivered by the students, in such a manner as did them great credit. We do not recollect that ever any exhibition at this place came so near to the rules of eloquence as the one now witnessed. If we should ever have a Cataline in this, our happy republic, we see in the youth of our day, the most happy presages of a sufficiency of elocution to strike the tyrant and the traitor dumb.

The degree of bachelor of arts was conferred by the president, in the most solemn and impressive manner, on the following young gentlemen, to wit: John Howard, Joseph Molloy, Ebenezer Newton, James Hayes, David Callham, James Thweatt, John Phinizy and John Widfield.

During the sitting of the board, Mr. Professor Meigs was charged by the affidavits of Mr. Hull and A. S. Clayton with having arraigned both the honor and the integrity of the board of trustees. Mr. Meigs was directed to attend the board, and having done so, the charges were read to him, and a copy ordered to be furnished him by the secretary. Mr. Meigs, after having time allowed him, according to his wish, to make out his defence, and procure such proof as he thought calculated to do away the charges, appeared, read his defence, and affidavits in support of it—after the best consideration which they were able to give the subject, the board dismissed Mr. Meigs from the several professorships which he held in college on the ground of *great misconduct* on his part.

The board vested in the president a power to employ any persons, who, he may think of sufficient capacity and good moral characters, as a professor of the French language, and master of the grammar school, both of whom are to be compensated out of the tuition money alone. There are apartments assigned in the building, by the board, for teaching the French language and keeping the grammar school.

The Grammar School is continued under the direction of the president, and will occupy, as heretofore, two convenient lower rooms in the Colledge Edifice. Mr. EBENEZER NEWTON, a late graduate of this institution, is appointed to the immediate charge of said School. Terms of tuition as follows, viz.—common English, two dollars fifty cents—higher branches of English, such as English grammar, geography, surveying, &c. four dollars—Latin and Greek languages, five dollars a quarter, payable quarterly in advance. To commence on the second Monday of September. From the known abilities, integrity and industry, of the instructor, as well as from the superintending care and patronage of the president, it is presumed that this establishment will be justly entitled to public confidence, and that the fond expectations of parents and guardians will be realized.

I request my friends, and the public, in general, to suspend their judgment relative to the transactions of the *Senatus Academicus* and the board of trustees, at the late commencement. I shall, in a few days, be able to present them with a fair and full exposition.

J. MEIGS.

Athens, August 14, 1811.