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## The Experiment, February 27, 1846

Lindenwood College

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## THE EXPERIMENT

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“No Effort Is Lost.”

Volume I

Linden Wood, February 27, 1846

Number 5

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“Of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaketh.”

This portion of the scripture we see every day confirmed. For the mouth is the means God in his goodness has provided whereby we may express the emotions of the heart. Each sudden change of feeling in its turn comes forth from that great laboratory of good and evil, the human heart, and is made manifest by the words of the mouth. They are in a great degree a sure test of the state of the human heart. And however hypocritical a person may be, yet the words of his mouth will ere long betray him, and the true state of his mind is soon known. There are some who with smooth speech, and fair words, would deceive you, but listen attentively to the tenor of their conversation, it will surely betray them, and you will have true insight into their character.

How much mischief is often produced by a single word, uttered in a thoughtless manner, words idly spoken though they maybe reveal to us, what we never knew before, & although it would be painful to have such experience yet we should know the true state of their feelings towards us. I do not declare that there may not be some persons, who are so skilled in deceit that they may not entirely blind you in the expression of their sentiments.

How beautiful and harmonious is the connection between the mind and the body so as to convey each emotion of the heart by the words of the mouth, & the expression of its countenance. And how wise is this arrangement, by it our joys are doubled, and sorrows alleviated for thus can we enjoy the sympathy of others and extend ours to them.

We invariably judge of the character of others by their language, and that we do so proves that it is made a universal means by which we distinguish friends from enemies.

Observe the blustering politician who is continually spouting of the government affairs, who has belonged to every division of party and is now perhaps a conservative, whose chief concern is elections, and election returns, and who discusses and rediscusses every move made by the chief magistrate, and his cabinet, & although he may lack intellect in a variety of cases to enable him to distinguish right from wrong, we feel certain that he is much more interested in his own advancement, than for the general good, verily “his speech betrayeth him.” You meet with a minister, it is not long before you decided whether he is a true and devoted preacher of the Gospel. For say you, does he not love to dwell on the attributes of God, his mercy to this apostate race, and take more delight in instancing God’s wisdom, than in unprofitable discussion.

Does not the young lady who is passionately fond of display, & company, make them the chief topics of her conversation. The last, ball, the next drama, the latest style in dress are the all absorbing topics of interest to her. How eagerly she asks is it la mode Paris.

And it is so with each individual to a greater or lesser extent. The long pent-up feelings of the heart, must have some chance to escape. I contend that we should

express our real sentiments, one to another, & were we such adepts in the art of concealing our feelings that our countenances would not betray us. Then we would destroy all confidence in society and make man an isolated being instead of the social one God created him.

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LINES - SELECTED

By Mary Lawson

Tho' trials and sorrows await us through life,  
How sweet is the thought that they are not in vain.  
And He who has sent them to chasten the heart  
Can soften our grief and give balm to our pain.  
The soul after passing 'mid shadow and gloom  
Like sunshine that breaks o'er the cloud mantled sky  
Beams forth with a radiance, more pure and more fair  
From the storm, & the darkness that's lingering nigh.

And countless the blessings adversity brings  
And priceless the lessons it leaves in the breast  
To those who forget not in prosperous hours  
The truths in the days of their sadness impressed.  
As gold from the furnace their hearts have been cleansed  
From the drops that has sullies its beautiful ray  
And tho' still in the world it may gather a stain  
'Tis so slight that a tear drop will wash it away.

The God who has dealt our bitterest woe  
Still increases the portion with kindness and love,  
And heals the crushed spirit, with delicate care  
Or gathers it home to the glories above;  
Then seek not ye sad ones, whose hearts are bowed low,  
In earth's fleeting pleasures find a relief,  
Tho' seared by its breath, yet the wound will remain  
For the heart must be pure, ere it conquer a grief.

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A large bundle of subjects for composition would be gratefully received at Linden Wood School.

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EDITORIAL

As our turn has come to be Editress we are in duty bound to produce an Editorial, but alas! How shall we accomplish it, suffering as we feel we are from a vacuum in the most elevated part of our humble selves. O that we might plagiarize a little, just for once, but that will not do, we must produce something original, if nothing more than a polite apology. So let us take courage and call to our aid the motto which graces the first page of the Experiment, "No effort is lost," and begin. Now as this is the shortest month in the year, our hearers sought in reason to expect the shortest editorial, and besides, since the old year took his departure, and the new one is still so youthful, we think our ideas are rather limited, whether they are or not, we are unable to say but we know they are not so elastic as formerly & have made many conjectured as to the cause, but have not as yet arrived at any sound conclusion.

Our City was highly honored by the visitation of a gentleman, a Mr. Swartz, from the East, a few weeks since who delivered three lectures on Palestine. He exhibited a number of paintings, and maps of different places in Palestine, but more especially about Jerusalem. The house was very much overcrowded the first and second evenings, but of the third we cannot say as we did not attend. But we would suppose an exhibition of this kind would be calculated to draw a good audience in any city, particularly in St. Charles and we really think that if our little City was noticed by scientific gentlemen and such exhibitions were made more frequent, she would soon rise from her low position in spite of the inactivity of those who have not ambition enough to prevent the retrograding state of things, so perceptible in this vicinity. Just contemplate for a moment the indolence that allows the cobwebs to overrun or the pigs to undermine the only Hall in the City. Yes, the only place where they can accommodate an audience, even with uncomfortable seats while listening to lectures, which might there be delivered.

We are very sorry to announce to our audience the sudden departure of one of our school-mates, who was beloved by all & was unexpectedly called away by the sad & melancholy intelligence of the death of her Father. We all sympathize with her in her affliction most sincerely, but found it hard to part with her when the day arrived. Her loss is deeply regretted by the school but we have and will content ourselves with the hope that she may someday return, to share our joys & sorrows and travel on with us in our school journey.

WE thought to be happy to say that the gloom of winter was now disappearing and that Spring was peeping forth among the tree & shrubbery looking happier than her sister Autumn when we last saw her; for she appeared as if she regretted to give up her place to Jack Frost, who came hastening on looking blod as a lion, but she was obliged to resign her place. He has nearly run his course, & we shall not be sorry to bid him adieu and welcome beautiful Spring.

Little Jardain & Deborah

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An absent one asks to be remembered by all and asks pardon for all her offenses and hopes her many imperfections may be forgotten.

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Beloved one, thou wilt ever be remembered by all, as far as thy offences, we cannot forgive where there were none to forgive, and thy imperfections, if thou hadst any, are all forgotten, for thou wast as a star among us, and now that we miss thee from our band, there is nothing thought or talked of but thy good qualities, but rest assured that

thou art remembered by all, with the kindest feelings & all hope for a place in thy warm, generous heart, now and forever.

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To be delivered at the Round Tower, 16 lectures on the effects of gallantry. By Philo Suavity.

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## CORRESPONDENCE OF THE EXPERIMENT

Fort Micanopy, Florida, Jan. 24 1846

Misses Editress:

Dear Ladies – Presuming you have long ere this received my letter sent from Texas, and having removed to Florida I thought a letter from this beautiful region would be acceptable, and in compliance with my own desire address you once more.

Hearing much of Florida & its beautiful orange groves I became solicitous to visit it and view with my own eyes the wonders of which I had frequently heard. I accordingly embarked in a small but neat vessel destined for Fort Brooke. We experienced many storms during our voyage, but through the mercies of a kind Providence, we arrived safely in our port, after a journey of 10 days. I can say that a more grand sight I never beheld than the Gulf of Mexico, whose mountains waves as they dashed against the side of our little vessel, seemed as if they would bury us beneath them. I now procured a small wagon in which I was to proceed to Micanopy. I left Fort Brooke during a storm & before I reached Micanopy I saw many strange and beautiful things, to a few of which I draw your attention. Proceeding on our way we met a large wagon containing 12 or 13 persons. The females were all dressed in white with green veils with the exception of one & the only difference in her costume was that around her waist she has a bright red ribbon & her hands were covered with gloves of a pinkish hue, & through her veil I discovered a wreath of blue roses twined in her hair, which was jet black. Five or six boards were laid across the wagon, the front one being occupied by a lady of taste, & by her side sat a man dressed in home spun. I glanced at the driver and said, ‘What is the meaning of this,’ to which he replied, ‘Only a wedding party & the beautiful lady in front is the fair bride.’ ‘They chose a wet day to be married,’ I remarked as I took another look at the huge wagon & its precious cargo. By this time we were passing an orange-grove and a splendid sight it was, before us were a number of large trees whose branches hung to the ground, loaded with large oranges, both ripe and unripe, for the blossom and fruit appear on the tree at the same time, & having supplied ourselves plentifully with the delicious fruit, we resumed our seats in the wagon & drove on. When about 3 miles from Micanopy we met an Indian, whose savage face brought to my remembrance the Indian War with all its bloody deeds, & so painful were my thoughts at the moment that I turned my head, almost fearing to gaze on the savage. I was however roused from these painful recollections by the voice of the driver, who it appears, knew the Indian, asking whither he was bound. ‘To the Serpent tree,’ was the Indian’s reply. ‘I should like to see it,’ responded the driver. ‘Well, here it is,’ again answered the Indian stopping. On the branches of a large and beautiful tree might be seen a great variety of snakes, one had coiled itself around the trunk, while the rest were moving in all directions on the branched & on that tree I beheld the most brilliant display of colors presented to

the human eye, & with wonder and delight & terror I clasped my hands convulsively, but the Indian approached me saying "Stand back," which I did & raising a large cane he struck the tree forcibly. "Look up," said he, & venturing to raise my eyes once more, I perceived the serpents had changed their positions & instead of being coiled, they had separated & each had wound itself around one of the branches. I could then have a more complete view of each one, but I will not trouble you with a description of them, suffice it to say each one possessed many beautiful colors & after having bidden the Indian farewell, fast traveling soon brought us to Micanopy where I was gladly received by my friends, but adieu.

Once more yours truly, Nina.

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WANTED – Three hundred and sixty five drops of the spirit of parody, to be bestowed as a gift on the "modern poet."

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A dialogue between Miss Piano and Mr. Violin

While in my chamber one rainy morning conjecturing, I heard the sound of voices in the adjoining room. My curiosity was excited and I put myself in a posture to listen, which I hope by the way you will not mention, as I do not approve of eavesdroppers, & heard the following conversation between a sweet high-strung violin and a fair piano.

V. Well, Miss Piano, as it is a very gloomy morning & I do not expect to be called out, I will now broach a subject which I have long been contemplating.

P. Ah, if that is the case please speak out for I am ready to hear it, as anything from even a brainless fellow, will be accepted such a morning.

V. It is this. Which of us has the sweetest voice & which attracts most attention & which may cost even you some effort to decide.

P. As to that, I confess I am hardly able to say, but I think mine must be the far most melodious.

V. No, I will not give up to that, for I have taken my stand and intend to keep it.

P. It makes no difference as to that for I shall keep mine as long.

V. Excuse me if you please, for interrupting you so, but I thought you had forgotten that you were in the presence of your superiors when running at such a rate. Do not forget that my family is far the most ancient.

P. Superiors indeed, Why I am as much superior to you as the master is to his dog. Are you not used to occupy me.

V. Oh you are getting off the subject very fast. I was speaking of your talking so fast.

P. Talking so fast. I do not think that either of our tongues have been very idle & indeed talking is not altogether new to me as I often hear ladies chattering around me.

V. Well, I have one thing, I can draw a greater crowd in one hour than you can in a week.

P. Perhaps you may, but what kind of people are they, what constitute your crowd?

V. Kind, indeed. They are the most handsome, graceful, dressy and especially the most attractive that can be found in any place. But you poor creature, have never been in a ball room & therefore cannot judge of these matters.

P. It is true, I suppose that they are all very active, but as to their being the most graceful that I will not admit.

V. One quality that I possess that you do not, it is the art of drawing people from their duty & even the grandest people when they return from mass, nothing will do but to hear Mr. Fiddle play them a tune.

P. You seem to boast of calling people from their duty which I should consider a disgrace.

V. No you don't either. If you could but go with me for once to the ball room you would think it all right.

P. I am sure I would not go again.

V. When you are shut up in here all day Sunday in the dark, like a servant who has done some misdeed, while the rest are at church or some other place.

P. And pray what are you doing all that time.

V. Why I am enjoying myself telling long yarns to some love-sick girl or other.

P. Pretty business for the Sabbath.

V. Yes, pretty enough just such as you would like to be engaged in.

P. Me engaged in. I should as soon think of flying as doing that.

V. Well what do you do all day by yourself?

P. I think you are very inquisitive today.

V. I always am.

P. Well, if I must tell you, I sit here and reflect upon the past and conjecture of the future until I am opened again on Monday by some fair hand, whereas you are laid away until another frolic takes place.

V. Oh but I get to see so many pretty girls that you do not that it makes my heart almost jump into my mouth at the thought.

P. So do I.

V. No you don't.

P. Will you dare to insult me by contradicting me to my face?

V. Yes, I will do so till you yield.

P. I would like to see you try it & you would soon be picking yourself up from the floor.

V. If that is the case I will stop for I should not like to be injured in such a cause, for I could not then get out again.

P. Then I would rejoice.

V. But I will not give you a chance to rejoice.

P. There is another advantage I have over you.

V. Is there, I am astonished.

P. It is that I please more ladies than you do for all you live such a public life.

V. And pray when is it?

P. Why when my Mistress has company & they run out of a subject to converse about then I am called to entertain them.

V. Well how do you get to see the company?

P. I strike up some heart rendering song & that draws them all around me & I take a good look at them.

V. That may be but they cannot get up any fun without me to lead.

P. Yes they can.

V. No, they cannot.

P. XXXXXXXX not tell me for I know better.

V. Do you indeed I am glad to hear it.

P. There is another thing, which is that you are always used by some dirty old man or old Negro who goes entirely by the sense of feeling & the strongest proof is that you do not cost one thing as much as I nor are so large and elegant in form.

V. Well Miss Piano I will have to give up that you are the best, for I have no more time to argue on the subject as I hear footsteps approaching & must go.

P. O don't forget to come back before you die as I would like to be there at the time.

Now I have my doubts as to the logic of this argument & rather think there is more sound than sense in it, but I suppose we excuse the deficiencies on the ground of the want of experience in the actors of this scene.

### CORRESPONDENCE OF THE EXPERIMENT

Rose Hall Seminary  
February 10, 1846

Misses Editress

Dear Ladies.

Hearing much of your school, I have been constrained by the kindest feelings to write to you & give you a few important rules of our Seminary, knowing it has been longer established & consequently its rules have become more perfect, & I do not doubt but they will be accepted gratefully as you must be anxious to have your school prosper.

We have several societies, among us which we consider very beneficial to the young ladies. Our most important is an "Admonition" society. The object of which is to check the ladies all improper language, & habits. To accomplish this important end, we have made it a rule that if any young lady hears an improper remark, or sees an improper action in any member of our school, she writes it down & gives it to the Society by whom it is copied and given to the person for whom it is designed & if she, "the young lady," receives the same admonition 3 times, she is then compelled to abandon the habit or submit to punishment suited to the crime. The Society meets once a week for the purpose of reading to the members what has been received during the week & if any young lady should be offended at being reprov'd for any impropriety, she is subject to a sever punishment, such as losing her breakfast, or her supper. But our young ladies are too high minded, or perhaps conscientious to subject themselves to submit themselves to such a punishment.

I do not know as you will approve, & adopt this plan, but I think you would be wise in so doing, for according to the behavior of young ladies after they leave school so will it be judged; & the pride they will feel in not being reprov'd for impropriety in conduct, or unladylike language will induce them to leave off all rudeness and have their deportment at all times becoming a young lady. I suppose the people West would deem such societies entirely unnecessary, as it is not likely that they regard "refinement of manners" as important as we do here. But I do hope as there are Eastern people among you that they lend their aid in this great work & adopt some of our rules of



politeness as they are generally considered of the most refined character. But fearing that you may precisely understand what we consider impolite, I will copy some Admonitions that have been handed in this week for your benefit.

“It is required that no young lady should laugh in company so that her teeth will be visible. It is unquestionably very undignified.”

“A young lady should never appear in company with the first finger on her left hand marred, as it is an indication that she has been sewing,” which is the proper office of the seamstress.

“We consider it very unladylike in any of our members to profess when in company that she has ever heard of such place as a kitchen, as truly high-bred young ladies are never allowed to enter such a place for it is deemed very ungentle.”

I think I may have given you a sufficient number for a model and hope you will be benefited by the advice of your affectionate friend and well-wisher.

Elvira

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Married – on last good Friday by the Rev. Mr. De Foe, Mr. Solomon Swift to Miss Edith Drauly both of Rogers Co. Tennessee. We sincerely hope that they may live happily and prosperously & are very much obliged to them for the slice of brides cake which was sent us yesterday.

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Discovered – A new & interesting mode of studying. It is to sit with your book upside down in one hand and a novel in the other.

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\$100 Reward – Strayed or stolen from the owner somewhere in Senseless Cunt, a few days ago, whilst out at an evening meeting a large quantity of politeness. The loser wishing to regain his property will give the offered reward if caught immediately.

Mrs. Forgetful

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The Rev. Mr. Wright will preach at the 1<sup>st</sup>. Presbyterian church on Saturday at 2 o'clock p.m. and also on Sabbath morning at 11 o'clock.

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The semi-annual session of Linden Wood school will commence on Monday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March & our next monthly review will be held at our rooms, Friday the 27<sup>th</sup> of March. To which we most respectfully invite the attention of our friends and all interested in the welfare of our school and education generally.