

For the St. Charles Reveille.

ST. CHARLES, June 12, 1858.

MR. EDITOR:

On Thursday night last, we attended the Commencement Exercises of the Female College of Lindenwood, held in the Methodist Church of this city. We went, scarcely anticipating that it would come off, owing to the state of the elements, sky and land, being in a most uncomfortable condition (at least for pedestrians); but to our surprise nevertheless the house was filled to its utmost capacity. And we have reason to think, that though curiosity may have brought some, the principal part came from the best of motives. With the exception of some restive young Americans, the audience exhibited great attention and interest.

The stage which had been erected was most appropriately decorated, and on it were assembled the beauty of youth and childhood—opening buds of promise to the riper years of womanhood. There was no display of useless pageantry or affected fashion; but rather that mingling of simplicity and natural grace that outshines and outlives all affected manners.

On the background the walls were tastefully decorated with the efforts of the native artists of Lindenwood—they needed no eulogy—they were silent but beautiful guardians of the talent there reposing; and we must own that we were surprised when the fact was announced that these were from the College studio.

One thing alone disturbed the pleasantness of the arrangements—that was the foot-lights—they were positively dangerous; and it is hoped that they will never be again used.

The literary efforts and musical performances were of a high character, and reflect great honor to the students and much credit to the Faculty of Lindenwood; evincing not an empty surface knowledge, but a familiar acquaintance with the branches they illustrated so aptly. In their delivery and performance, they presented that calm self-possession and grace—that freedom from fear or outward influences—that showed them masters of their feelings and thoughts: thus, showing a well-conducted system of instruction.

With the songs we were much pleased; and if we were to show any preference, it would be hard which to select, as they were each beautiful and appropriate, and sung with that pathos which gives life and melody to all good vocal performances.

But this pleasant gathering, which came to dispel the cares of this dull, money-loving world, has passed, and it suggests a few but appropriate thoughts: That an Institution of the character of Lindenwood, with its large and beautiful edifice, and ample grounds, amid the calm and sylvan beauty of surrounding nature; and based on the immovable foundation of the Protestant faith; if carried on with humble reliance on His Ruling and Guiding Hand, must send forth graduates that will prove in coming days the glory of Female Education:—for **THEY** certainly are entitled to receive all that can be bestowed, as **ON THEM** depend the destinies of Time and Eternity.

May, then, Lindenwood be ever so modeled and governed, that it will adorn and fit for life and death—for weal or woe in this life (as the wise Ruler of Events shall determine) every student within its pale.

Yours,

RAPHAEL.