

Kellum, Mattie S. - 85 - Jefferson, Mrs. T.D.

KELLUM, MATTIE S. Born at Eastville, Va., 1863.

FROM '02
YEARS' MICHIGAN
CLASS OF '85.

"I have been teaching ever since I left Hampton in '85. I began in the fall at Heathsville, Northumberland Co., Va., and taught seven months. I had quite a large school, but the people there were very little interested in education; many of them did not send their children to school. I found very few living in their own homes. Intemperance seemed to be the worst vice. I tried very hard to establish a temperance society, but the people did not attend, so I held meetings once a month in my school. I promised to return in the fall, but the funds were so limited the county would not give a school. I went to Snow Hill, New Jersey, as assistant. The people there were in very good circumstances; almost every family living in its own house, and the children coming to school every day. When school closed, I returned to Northumberland Co., and opened a summer school, given by a lady in Sherwood, N. Y. I had a large school all the summer, made up chiefly of small children. In the fall I went to my own home, and opened a school at Cape Charles, the first school ever held in the town. My pupils were all beginners. I have taught about one hundred and thirty children; only two are teaching. My aim is to improve my race, morally and intellectually."

Lives in Eastville, Va.

Educated by R. D. Lilley and West Church, Boston.

The closing exercises of Mrs. Mattie Jefferson's private school, was held at the Masonic Hall on the eve of June 12.

The young people did exceedingly well, which showed good training on the part of the teacher. The following is a part of the program rendered.

- Opening Song, America.
- Prayer, Mr. Wm. West.
- Recitation, A Tiny Tot,
Columbus Tabb.
- Recitation, The little clock,
Moneybel Harping.
- " When I am man,
Harry Early.
- Song, The bright May month.
- Recitation, A little speech,
Joseph Johnson.
- " Mary's Flowers,
Margaret Johnson.

- " 'Tis dolly's turn,
Henrietta Sterling.
- Song, Summer Time.
- Recitation, A vase of tears,
Lucy Spady.
- " Hope and persevere,
Robert Trower.
- Song, Beautiful flowers.
- Recitation, God bless the children,
Ruth Sterling.
- Solo, "Pretty little Birdie,"
Rosa West.
- Recitation, Who was she?
James Early.
- " I'll try and I will,
Luther Jackson.
- Motion song by eight little girls,
"The little mothers."
- Charade, "Pious"
Eva Jefferson.
Clementine Tabb.
Bessie Spady.

- Recitator, Robert Trower.
- The Legend of Eregent,
Frederick Robinson.
- " The Legislature,
John Robinson.
- Solo, Sweet heart be mine,
Miss Amelia Howard.
- Dialogue, The Dolls' Hospital,
by seven girls.
- Recitation, Farm Boy,
Russell Spady.
- Quartette, by the "Hampton Boys,"
William Tabb, J. Nottingham,
J. Dunmore, and John Anderson.
- The exercises were greatly enjoyed
by all who were present.

"Morning Glory."

- Peninsula Times, June 30, '06

DEATHS

AFTER a long illness the death of Mrs. Mattie Kellum Jefferson, '85, occurred at her home in Cape Charles, Va., on December 2. Mrs. Jefferson was a woman of strong Christian character and devoted her life to bettering conditions among her people. She taught for over thirty-five years and was the first teacher in the town of Cape Charles, opening the school herself in 1887. She leaves a husband and two children.

S.W. Apr. 1925