HISTORY OF SOUTHLAND COLLEGE

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History of Southland College by Indiana Yearly Meeting of the Friends

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INDIANA YEARLY MEETING OF THE FRIENDS

HISTORY OF SOUTHLAND COLLEGE



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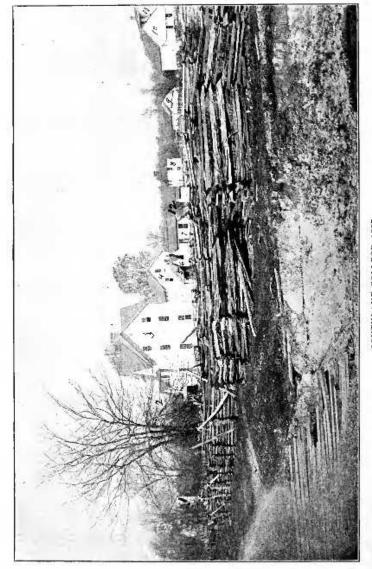
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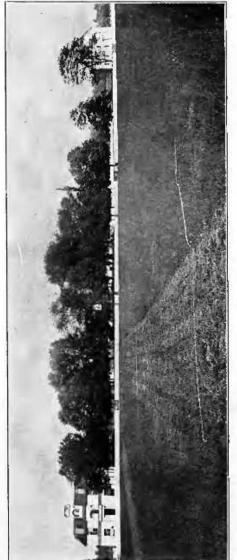
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J. B. Haines



CAMPUS GROUNDS, 1906

PREFACE

THIS booklet is intended to give Friends a better knowledge of the notable work done by members of Indiana Yearly Meeting, of the religious society of The Friends at the close of the late civil war in behalf of the wives and children of the Freedmen. The record presented in these pages shows that the Friends have ever been the friend of the lowly and oppressed, regardless of race or color. The work done at Southland from its inception to the present time has not been devoid of excellent fruit in the line of character-building, and righteousness; for from out its walls hundreds have gone with the message of helpfulness, and life to others, having learned the same within its walls by right living and faith in Christ.

This sketch is issued by the Missionary Board, in charge of Southland College under the authority of Indiana Yearly Meeting of The Friends, Richmond, Indiana, 1906.

By minute No. 35, 1901, Timothy Nicholson, Elkanah Beard, Samuel Dickinson, Eli Jay and Charles W. Osborn, were appointed to prepare a history of Southland College from its beginning to the present time,

By minute No. 99, 1902, the committee was continued.

By minute No. 91, 1903, Edward Bellis was added to the committee.

By minute No. 38, 1904, the report after its reading was referred to the Missionary Board on Southland for some corrections and additions, with request to report next year.

By minute No. 37, 1905, the committee continued last year by minute No. 38, relative to a History of Southland College, now produce a complete report, and are authorized to have it printed in pamphlet form.

MISSIONARY BOARD

Missionary Board of Southland College, reorganized for the ensuing year, Ninth month, 1905, to Ninth month, 1906, stands:

Edward Bellis, Corresponding Secretary.
Charles M. Jenkins, Recording Secretary.
Elizabeth P. Hill, Carthage, Ind.
Cynthia Shaffer, R. R. 3. New Castle, Ind.
Edwin S. Jay, Henley Road, Richmond, Ind.
Mary A. Jay Ballard, Richmond, Ind.
Barclay Johnson, R. R. 3, Fairmount, Ind.
Clarkson H. Parker, Carthage, Ind.
Mary E. Baldwin, 2211 S. Meridian St., Marion, Ind.

Committee to investigate qualifications of teachers and engage them:

Barclay Johnson, Chairman; Mary A. Jay Ballard, Elizabeth P. Hill, Clarkson H. Parker.

Committee to finish History: Edward Bellis, Mary A. Jay Ballard, C. M. Jenkins,

N. B.—There have been only two corresponding secretaries, viz.: Joseph Dickinson, 1864-1896; Edward Bellis, 1896—.

HISTORY OF SOUTHLAND COLLEGE

NEAR HELENA, ARKANSAS

INTRODUCTORY

SOON after the rise of Friends in England, some of them emigrated to the New England Colonies, and to Maryland, Virginia and the Carolinas; and others by banishment were consigned to the West Indies. In those locations some of them early became owners of slaves in imitation of the colonists around them. At that time there does not seem to have been any doubt that slaveholding was compatible with Christian profession and conduct.

In 1671 George Fox, William Edmundson and others visited Barbadoes, and although they were not favorably impressed by the system of slavery existing there, Fox did not condemn it, only admonishing those that held slaves to bear in mind that they were their brethren, and to train them up in the fear of God, to deal gently and mildly with them, and after certain years of servitude to make them free,

Four years after this Edmundson revisited the island and bore such testimony against the unjust treatment of slaves, that he was arraigned before the governor, on a charge of endeavoring to excite insurrection among the slaves. He addressed a remonstrance to Friends in Maryland and Virginia in which he condemned slavery as incompatible with Christianity. Apprehension of this truth gradually grew upon the Friends; individuals here and there becoming convinced of the evils and inconsistency of holding their fellowmen in bondage, and then by loving and faithful presentation of their views, after a lapse of one hundred years, slaveholding was eliminated from the Society of Friends.

Slavery was abolished in Philadelphia and New York Yearly Meetings in 1776; New England Yearly Meeting is said to have had no slaves in 1782; and in 1784 Virginia Year-