Columbia, Dec. 18, 1870.

The board met according to adjournment at Wright's Hotel at 10 o'clock. Present, Col. R. W. Simmons, President, Col. B. F. Norris, Hon. Bradley, Col. Stockman, Mr. Johnston, Mr. Henneman, Hon. G. H. Howard, and J. F. Ventur.

Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed on motion of Col. B. F. Norris. The report prepared by Col. Lithgow was read, and after discussion and slight amendment was adopted.

The auditing committee reported as follows:

The committee upon the books and accounts of the Secretary and Treasurer beg leave to report, that we have examined the same and find them entirely correct, well kept and sustained by proper vouchers.

(Signed) E. S. Stockman, J. E. Bradley, Sec. N. W.

The committee to draw suitable resolutions and memorials upon the death of Col. A. M. Edwards. Made their report which was adopted, order to be spoken from the record, and a copy of the resolutions to be sent to Mrs. Edwards.


The following resolutions were offered and adopted:

Resolved, That in establishing the Experiment station, it shall be considered as one of the departments of the Agricultural College and it shall be managed and conducted not as separate from, but as part and parcel of the same.

Resolved, That owing to the fact that the Hatch funds, and the other
In the memory of
Benjamin W. Edwards
Born
January 27th 1824
Died
June 11th 1890.
Benjamin Wheeler Edmonds was born in Spartanburg County, S.C., January 27, 1824. In 1840 he moved with his father and family to Charlottesville, Va., but returned to South Carolina in a few years to educate himself. When he entered the Freshman Class in the South Carolina College in 1846 he presented a notable appearance in person, dress and manner. Which was criticized by the students, but shortly after joining the Philosophic Society his ability as a speaker and debater made him "One of the Young Heroes of the College." He was graduated in 1850 and was for some time private tutor in the family of Gov. W. W. Hampton. He borrowed the money needed to perfect his education, returning every dollar after starting in life; he closed Stephen Elliott. State Rights Deed, as John Barton Col. James W. Hone and John J. Hoardmore graduated in the same class.

Col. Edmunds now lives in Georgia in the office of Judge Wright after which he was graduated in the Dana Law School of Harvard University. He began the practice of law in Sumter County in 1855—both moved to Darlington in 1877. He was appointed Commissioner in Equity for Darlington County in 1861—while offered he been limited it was abolished. He was regarded as one of the leading members of the Darlington bar. His health which had been failing since 1860 caused him to retire from the active practice of law in 1863.

Col. Edmunds was married to Mrs. Anne M. Coler on January 1st, 1867. They had nine children, one of whom survives him. In his home life he was...
A model husband and father, in his beautiful and refined home he provided for and encouraged literature and music to aid physical and mental development and to elevate and refine home influence and association.

Col. Edwards was an able and zealous advocate of Temperance, was ready to make sacrifices to advance the very important work of Temperance Reform.

Receiving permission from the Governor to leave the State, Col. Edwards enlisted in Col. Sanders' Regiment (7th S.V.) but after a severe illness he received an honorable discharge from the Army and returned home to discharge the duties of his office. "His religion was a principle and the ruling power of his life," so wrote one who best knew him. He became a Christian and united with the Baptist Church when quite a young man, and during his whole life made earnestly for his church and denomination, for many years he was a Deacon in the Baptist Church, and was for a long time Superintendent of the Darlington Baptist Sunday School. He was honored by his brethren by being made a member of Furman University, also of the Southern Baptist Historical Seminary, and President of the Baptist State Convention.

Col. Edwards was elected Senator from Darlington County in 1886. His judicious discussion of Educational Matters shortly before, brought him into public prominence throughout the State and he was suggested for Governor in 1888 and again in 1890.
Hearing him an unswerving advocate of the separate Agricultural College and having him as the leader in the Senate in favor of the Clemson Agricultural College, and because of his eminent judge, his election as Justice was assured. His strong Common Sense, his wide legal knowledge, his ability of the subject of Agricultural Education and his devotion to the interest of Clemson Agricultural College rendered his service invaluable to the Board of Trustees and to the people of the State.

Your Committee hope that Mr. Edwards will pardon the liberty they take in quoting from a private letter to show Col. Edwards' latest interest in Clemson Agricultural College. He wrote: "As you know he was particularly interested in the College, and often expressed the desire to see Clemson College fully and successfully established. His last public work was the preparation of the Minutes for the Board of Trustees, and also I think the Clemson for the College. He hoped to the last to attend the Meetings of the Board of Trustees and was greatly disappointed when he found himself unable to do so. His strength of purpose and will force kept him up and working in spite of bodily weakness and suffering, that would have occasion self indulgence. While preparing the Minutes he would be compelled to leave off his close study and dictating from Complete Reference, and rest for a while, and then resume his work again and again until its completion." Col. Edwards displayed the same care in management of his planting with which he brought to bear on every other department of his work.
Your Committee regret their inability to present more fully Col Edwards' early struggles, prompted by a noble ambition to educate and fit himself for the most perfect possible discharge of his duties, because they feel assured that a proper portrayal of these struggles would furnish a very valuable lesson for the young men who shall seek to avail themselves of the educational advantages that Clemson Agricultural College is designed to afford them.

By a life devoted to the advancement of Temperance, Education and Religion, Col Edwards has left a Monument to his Memory more beautiful and lasting than the most polished marble shaft that can adorn Green Hill Cemetery where his remains were laid to "rest under the shade of the trees."

Recognizing our obligation for a life so usefully spent, we humbly bow to the will of Almighty God in removing from our midst Benjamin Wheeler Edwards and desiring to put on record our appreciation of his services, the it Resolved by this Board that the State of South Carolina has lost a useful public servant, this board a Valuable Co-Worker, and Education an able advocate.

Resolved - That this Memorial be spread upon our Minutes and a copy furnished the Family of the Deceased.