

# CHATHAM RECORD

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Editor and Publisher

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## Bits of Thought and Prayer

**GUARD THE TONGUE**—Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile. Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.—Ps. 34:13-14.

**PRAYER**—Thou knowest, Lord, that the tongue can no man tame. Bring our thoughts in accord with Thine, and our tongues will speak only wisdom.

Now if you happen to find only a half-sized paper this week, excuse us. We shall give the county news as fully as we can, but as we start Saturday to prepare matter for the issue, business and news seem to promise little. Besides, that lazy feeling that has held us rather long has its grip still upon us.

We had to pencil a few words on the margin of the article about the Aldermans and Grahams last week and one of them was "poet", which the printer interpreted as "last", making us say that Frank Alderman was the "last" of the Alderman tribe, instead of the "poet" of the tribe. We hope the "last" is far in the future.

We have evidence that Will Bailey read the Open Letter and that Oscar Coffin at least saw it. Bet you if there had been in the middle of it an offer of ten dollars for reporting that you had read it, you wouldn't have got a cent. Drat you, if we prepare you some strong meat and you will not eat it, that is your worry and not ours.

Richard Evelyn Byrd has been welcome with much ceremony on his return from the south pole. That is the only Byrd or bird that flown over both the north and the south pole.

It takes close watching not to misuse words. After one of the longer editorials had left our hands for the printer, it occurred to us that we had misused "collateral." Find it and decide what word would represent descendants of different names from the stock name. "Collateral" doesn't do it.

There must be many folk who do not know that Irish potatoes bear seed pods. From the western part of the State the other day went a story of "tomatoes" growing on potato plants, and one of our good ladies sent us a vine with little "tomatoes" on it. Well, some of our plants have the same kind of "tomatoes" on them. Wonder how the folk who never saw any seed pods before thought Burbank produced his varieties by crossing? Yet the potato, horse nettle, tomato, and Jimson weed are very close kin—so close indeed that it is actually possible to grow a tomato on a Jimson weed by pollinizing the Jimson weed flower with tomato pollen and keeping the flowers so pollinized protected with paper bag coverings till the cross is set. Some of the fruit of the crossings will presumably be Jimson weed burrs and some tomatoes, and maybe some—but all we know about it is that a young fellow in Georgia fifteen or twenty years ago was authoritatively reported as growing tomatoes on Jimson weeds. The plants named belong to the nightshade family. Wonder if we hadn't better omit the horse-nettle from the list. Our botany is becoming hazy.

The extent of the intelligence of some men can be gauged by their thought that a historian may be human.

After observations for many years we have come to the conclusion that, in fighting, there is nothing to compare with a real, family row, unless it is a church wrangle.

## CHRISTIANITY IS BEING PUT TO A CRUCIAL TEST

An article in the current Sunday School Times shows atheism surprisingly, if not startlingly, militant. Apart from Russia, where it is in the saddle and outlawing religion, even here in America, it is vigorous in its propaganda. The atheists of America have recently sent out their first foreign missionary. He goes to Sweden. Atheism is said to be spreading among college students. Altogether, the article indicates that atheists are not only multiplying, but have become so convinced that religion is a costly and useless social appendage that they are willing to spend money and effort in waging war against all religions.

Yet it is not certain but that this is just what Christianity needs to happen, to brace it up and to invigorate it again. There is little question that the atheists are justified in their opinion of religion as a distressing and useless yoke upon the peoples, judging from what they have seen of it. With the Christian nations only a few years ago slaying each other, with Christians everywhere living by an advanced rule of tooth and claw, so that greed may be seen to dominate them as it does the rest of the human race, it is not surprising that they should pronounce the profession useless and a burden upon society. Even the Master himself said the salt that has lost its savour is fit only to be cast out and trampled under foot; also that a tree shall be judged by its fruit and that the unfruitful shall be cut down. By those tokens, the atheists are too largely justified in their warfare upon religion, and they are to be congratulated upon the courage of their convictions.

If one believes a thing he should be willing to fight for it, and their attitude is a challenge to all professed Christians to show their religion worthwhile or to quit claiming it to be. In this connection, a story running in the N. C. Christian Advocate is apropos. It is the Eternal Challenge, a story of Christianity being put to the test. It is agreed by certain ministers, challenged by a mill owner in an English town where bolshevism is dominating a strike, that if Christ can not, or will not, intervene in the disaster threatening, the mill owner is right in saying that religion is useless and futile. Christianity is to be put to one of its greatest tests in the near future, it would seem. It may mean that only a remnant of the professed Christians will be left, but if the remnant manifest the power for righteousness that Christ has promised his followers, if they cast aside greed and selfishness and live according to the doctrines of the Sermon on the Mount, it may mean a swifter victory. For a morbid religion, a religion of mere profession, with neither reverence for God nor respect for the natural rights of one's fellows, is nothing less than a sham and a curse. We hope that the Methodist readers of the Record, at least, are reading the vital story of the Eternal Challenge as it appears in the Christian Advocate. The section in this week's Advocate tells of the crucial test to which Christianity is being put. Read that, even if you shouldn't have read the former parts of the story.

We confess that there will be little to grieve about in atheism's extending itself if Christianity shows no rebounding vigor. While atheism is beginning missionary work, Christianity is yielding it. For instance, the foreign mission contributions of Southern white Baptists fell off nearly a quarter of a million dollars last year, an indication that Southern Baptists believe less and less in the value of their profession, so little that they are willing to see the work abandoned and the missionaries return at a most critical and hopeful stage of the work. A real belief in the efficacy, for this work and the next, of their religion would mean sacrifice to maintain it at home and extend it abroad. But a

faith without works is truly dead, as James declared nearly 1900 years ago. The atheists seem to think it is time for the funeral. If Christians are willing to see the burial, it is only fitting that it proceed. It depends altogether upon whether the real Christ doctrine shall be exemplified by its professors. So don't blame the atheists let us blame ourselves.

### CAPT. ASHE ANSWERED

We had no idea last week that we should so soon have an opportunity to supply the information that Capt. Ashe wanted about the "eastern Grahams." An unexpected trip to Clinton served the purpose of securing the information. As soon as Mr. Henry E. Faison, that reservoir of family history, saw the writer he told him that he was mistaken in ascribing Frank Graham to the Duplin Grahams, and that the father of the four brothers of whom we have written lived in Fayetteville and was a saddler in that town—a trade that was in those times a very important one.

Then we visited Archie Graham in his office and he read us parts of a sketch of family history given him by Frank Graham's father, Alex Graham had himself secured the story from a great aunt who came with the first of the family now so noted. It was during the Revolutionary war. Daniel Graham, who had married a McCormick in Scotland, or one of the isles off the coast, where the Grahams resided, was the founder of the family in North Carolina. The ship upon which they came got stuck upon the bar at the mouth of the Cape Fear. For weeks they were held there. The last biscuit was eaten when a Patriot warship towed the vessel off the bar. It then made its way to Norfolk, where it finally foundered. The Grahams and other Scotch immigrants were in Norfolk when the order came for all non-combatants to leave the town. Four hundred people left Norfolk afoot.

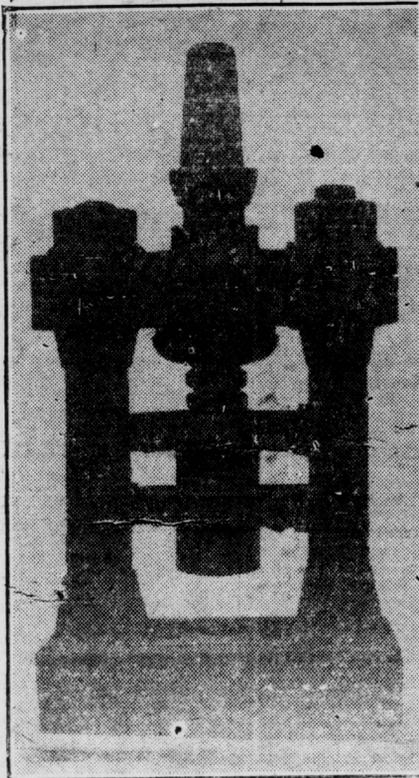
Daniel Graham came to Cumberland county, settling on the east side of the Cape Fear. He later moved to the west side and settled about fifteen miles northwest of old Campbelltown, now Fayetteville. There the sons grew up. The father of the four older Grahams, including the fathers of Frank and the former president of the University, was Archibald Graham—hence the name of Archie the Clinton lawyer. Other sons and daughters reared families, so that the strain is rampant in Cumberland, Hoke and perhaps Robeson, in which latter county we knew a good staunch family of Grahams, plain farm folk however. There was one teacher among the sons of the original Daniel Graham, and we have failed, by much to name the Graham teachers of the present generation. Daughters of a sister of the four older Grahams are dominant in the city schools of San Antonio, Texas. Frank himself has a brother who is prominent in the Atlanta schools, if we recollect aright.

But there was a Duplin family of Grahams, Capt. Ashe, and you were right about there being strong men among them. They intermarried with the Kenans and several of both families migrated to Dallas county, Alabama, and were close enough neighbors of William Rufus King, their neighbor from Sampson, for one of them to be challenged to a duel by King. That duel did not materialize, however, though three of the Kenans and Grahams were killed in duels. Mr. Faison showed us a history of Alabama by a Mr. Brewer, which he had acquired when down in Alabama looking up facts about the former vicepresident. There we saw the story of one or two of those feuds.

And, by the way, Captain Ashe, to indicate how small the world is, a boy we knew forty years ago, a young Rich

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**BECHTLER GOLD PRESS, USED AT RUTHERFORDTON**

IN 1829 Christopher Bechtler, a goldsmith of Germany, emigrated to America and settled near Rutherfordton. He began mining in the vicinity for gold, silver and semi-precious stones, and coining money for his neighbors who had the highest regard for his integrity.

The gold used in the Bechtler coins was almost without alloy, being twenty carats fine. They are in two series. The first series was issued before 1834 but the coins bear no date. The second series starts in 1834, the coins of this series bearing the date, the name of the maker, his town, weight, fineness of the gold and the value of the pieces.

Between 1831 and 1840 over \$2,000,000 was coined at the mint in denominations of \$1, \$2.50, \$5 and \$10. Coining of money by private concerns was not authorized by the Government, but in this instance nothing was done to stop it because it was difficult to supply money from the national mint on account of the distance and transportation facilities. The mint was discontinued about 1852. Several years ago the original press was given to the American Numismatic Society, New York City.

6-22-1930

## "SHE'S SOME COOK"



from the famous Fork Community of Sampson, whence sprang the Highsmiths and the Wrights now prominent in the state as school men and physicians particularly, moved to Alabama and married one of the daughters of that very historian Brewer.

Finally, we learn from the Graham genealogy that Archie Graham and Mrs. Henry A. Grady are not only first cousins of the two presidents of the University, but not so remotely akin to Edwin A. Alderman, through the mother's side of Alderman, the McDuffies.

It may be interesting to add, however, that there is not one of the name of Graham or Kenan residing in Duplin county so far as the writer knows. Thus do some families become extinct while others multiply. The Duplin Grahams seem to have been prominent in North Carolina when the ancestor of the Cumberland Grahams came across 150 years ago. The western Grahams likewise. But the newcomers are today the Grahams. Similar fate awaited the progeny of Richard Clinton and Richard Herring, the former the grantor of the site of the court house in Clinton, then a ten-acre square, and the latter the chairman of the first county court of Sampson,

to whom the deed for the public square was made. There are no Clintons and few of collateral branches; while Sampson would be gutted if the descendants of Richard Herring were taken out of it.

### \*\*\*\*\* Brickhaven News \*\*\*\*\*

Mr. Zeb Harrington who has been on a baseball itinerary of the North since the Elon College commencement is spending a while here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Harrington. His sister, Mrs. Louise Lawton, and little son, Lewis, of Pilot Mountain were also recent guests of her parents.

Little Miss Ruth Gordon, of Pittsboro, who has been visiting her grandfather, Mr. J. W. Seawell, has returned to her home.

Mr. C. S. Harrington is out again after being confined to his room for the past week. Mr. Harrington had the misfortune to cut his leg quite painfully while mowing grass last week. His friends are very glad to see him up again.

Mrs. O. C. Kennedy, Miss Ruth Kennedy, Mrs. Clarie Harrington, Mrs. N. T. Overby and Mr. William Barnes motored to Raleigh last Thursday for the Will Roger's program.

Miss Leone Luther, of Bonsal, will spend a while this week as the guests here of Mrs. O. C. Kennedy.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Frank Calfee of Raleigh were the week-end guests here of Mrs. Calfee's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Seawell.

Mr. R. A. Moore, of Winston-Salem will spend this week here with

friends.

Miss Cecil Seawell of the N. C. State Summer School spent the week-end here with relatives.

Mr. E. C. Maness filled his regular appointment at Buckhorn M. E. church Sunday afternoon. His sermon was a splendid one and quite appropriate to the occasion. There will be services again the first Sunday evening in July at 8 o'clock.

While work on the farms in this section has been retarded on account of the heavy rains the crops, as a whole, are in a very good condition. The outlook for a bountiful harvest is auspicious and a spirit of optimism is general among the farmers.

Mr. Grady Truelove of the Cherokee Brick Co. spent Saturday and Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. P. E. Truelove of Bonsal.

Miss Elizabeth Dickens, of Moncure, has been spending a while here at the Boylan Ranch as the guest of her cousin, Miss Gladys Dickens.

Mr. and Mrs. Estes of Durham and Mrs. H. T. Johnson of Morrisville, were among the week-end visitors here.

### TOO TRUE

"The sedan," he says, "was parked at the side of the road, and as I drew near I could hear noises of a struggle within. I could hear a rustle, probably of silk, and the muffled panting of a man. The body of the car swayed slightly to and fro. I heard a curse, and then, again the muffled panting, I crept softly around to the side, looked into the window, and saw—  
"A man trying to fold a road map the same as it had been!"  
Maine Motorist.

The stitch is lost unless the thread be knotted.—Italian proverb.