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GRADED SCHOOL CLOSING

Sermon by Rev. Joseph Peele—Night—Recital by Music Pupils—Literary Address by Dr. Rondthaler—Thirteen Receive Diplomas

The commencement exercises of the Asheboro graded school opened last Sunday morning, when a vast audience gathered in the auditorium for the annual sermon by Rev. Joseph H. Peele, of Guilford College. The services were opened by the audience singing, "Come, Thou Almighty King"; the invocation by Rev. C. L. Whitaker, of the Methodist Protestant church; then came the Scripture reading, 28th chapter of Job by Rev. B. E. Powell, of the Baptist church; the school choir with their fresh young voices, rendered "Praise the Lord"; and Rev. J. E. Thompson, of the M. E. church, introduced the speaker of the day.

Rev. Mr. Peele's text was first Corinthians, 1:30. It might be said that his subject was "Wisdom. He said that Jesus Christ was the greatest teacher the world ever saw and that his disciples, students, were the wisest people in the world. Among the qualities of wisdom were mentioned the following: purity of mind, clean thoughts, clean speech, clean habits, and a clean life. Indeed the speaker claimed that purity is one of the greatest qualities of wisdom. He told a story of the late General Grant, which many have heard, but is always interesting, as it shows the purity of character of the great warrior. A soldier one day said in the presence of Grant that as there were no ladies present, he would tell a story, intimating that the story was "smutty." The general looked up and said, "There are gentlemen present, if you please," and it is needless to say the story was not told.

The speaker took up as another quality of wisdom the spirit of peacefulness. He claims that a wise man is not only a pure-minded man, but a peaceable man as well. The utility of quarrels and bickering was forcefully shown. A story was told of a man who started to town one morning in a great hurry; when passing a house by the way, the dogs came out and barked at him savagely. He was so angry that he got down from his horse and began trying to beat the dogs. They were delighted and growled the louder. Another man came along, advised the man to stop wasting his energy, and went on to town, attended his business, and returned to find the belligerent man all worn out, nothing accomplished, but still fighting the dogs, and they yelping louder than ever. Just so it is in many quarrels between human beings, argued the speaker.

It doesn't pay to waste time in fighting. Gentleness and sweetness will often get one out of trouble when harshness will not. The wise man is gentle and kind. "You may kill your enemy with kindness," said the speaker.

Wisdom was defined as "goodness blended with sense," or vice versa; again, as "intelligent goodness." Among other stories told to illustrate the need of intelligence as well as goodness, was one concerning a citizen of North Carolina who went to Raleigh as a representative in the Legislature—several years ago, however—and did not understand the duties of his office. This old gentleman had an excellent character, could make a good prayer meeting talk, in fact, was just as good as could be; but for lack of information, did not even know how he wished to vote, depending on signs from another legislator every time a question came up to be voted on. He did not know the affairs of the State. The country needs good men and intelligent men, was argued.

Again, wisdom was defined as an "appreciation of fundamental things." Truthfulness was also mentioned as a quality of wisdom. God cannot lie, and does not authorize man to do so under any circumstances. "The devil is the father of lies. Truth is strength; lying is weakness," said the speaker.

The minister thinks that "sin will find one out." He told an interesting story of the lone highwayman, who repeatedly held up and robbed a stage coach on the western plains, but was finally captured by reason of the fact that he dropped a handkerchief near the scene of one his robberies, and this betrayed him. Just so, "The handkerchief will always be dropped in the end." Sin will come to light.

Appreciation of the home was named as another quality of wisdom; and the fact that George Washington had a high respect for his mother and home was pointed out as one reason for the high position which he attained.

On a more, wisdom was defined as "love in action." The unselfish life was held up as the highest ideal for humanity. A story, once told by Sam Jones was quoted. A pond advised a little brook to cease running, and gave the warning that it would lose existence if it did not conserve itself. The brook replied that it had a work to do and went on its way. By and by, the pond was drained because of being a nuisance, while the little brook went on "forever."

After the sermon, "Onward Christian Soldiers" was sung, and Rev. J. E. Thompson pronounced the benediction.

Senior Class night.

The senior class exercises were held Monday night. The program was as follows:

Salutation—Banks Richardson.
History—Uralie Williams.
Poem—Ruth McPherson.
Statistician's Report—Kate Brittain
Essay—History of Asheboro—Clarence Presnell.
Song—Class.
Essay—Cotton and its Uses—Banks Richardson.

Prophecy—Nancy White.
Last Will and Testament—Mary Wade Bulla.

Song—Farewell—Class.
Officers: president, Banks Richardson; vice president, Clarice Presnell; secretary, Ebeil Burkhead.

Marshals: June Frazier, chief, Margaret Morris, Alice Birkhead, Lucile Morris, Ernest Spencer, Clyde Cox, Dwight Richardson.

Recital by Music Pupils.

The music classes of Misses Nannie Bulla and Ina Auman gave their annual recital Tuesday evening. The program was as follows:

Unison Chorus—"Tis Our Festal Day."
Class.
Piano Solo—Narcissus—Grace Presnell.

Piano Duet—Over Hill and Dale—Hallie and Julia Ross.
Piano Solo—Barcarolle—Mary Moffitt
Operetta—Winning Ways of Grand-ma's Days—Small Children.

Piano Solo—Sextet From Lucia—Evelyn Morris.

Piano Quartette—Polacco—Brilliant—Misses Hoover, Rush, Parrish, Auman.
Reading—Class.
Reading—Virginia Henley.

Piano Solo—Valse Poupee—Sue Hoover.

Vocal Quartette—Float My Boat—Misses Phillips, Rush, Burgess Ferree.
Gypsy Song—Clara Pugh and Large Girls.

Address Last Night

The exercises closed last night with the literary address by Dr. Howard E. Rondthaler, president of Salem College, and the presentation of diplomas to the thirteen members of the Senior class. The Courier went to press too early to get a report of the address.

Following is the class roll:

William Banks Richardson, Clifton Lawrence Whitaker, Jr., Mary Wade Bulla, Edna Caviness, Clara Alberta Pugh, Clarice Arna Presnell, Ethel Lorena Burkhead, Fleta May Lowallen, Kate Erwin Mary Brittain, Ruth Etta McPherson, Dora Uralie Williams, Lena Myrtle Williams, Nancy Carolina White.

The class motto, Cape Diem.
Class colors, Green and Gold.
Class flower, Cream Rose.

A new departure was made this year, when the members of the Senior class appeared at commencement in tap and gown. This certainly did not detract from the dignity of the exercises.

Superintendent Teague and his competent assistants have just closed a most successful term of school and our people are indeed sorry they lose Mr. Teague to the fields of law.

Nathaniel Macon Allen, a well known Confederate veteran of Greenville, died in the Soldier's Home, Raleigh, one day last week at the age of 75.

ALMOST A CENTENARIAN

A Randolph Citizen Who Died a Few Weeks Ago Had Lived Under Administrations of all Presidents But Three.

It falls to the lot of very few human beings to live through as much of the world's history as did Mr. James Brady, known in his neighborhood as "Uncle Jimmy," who died at his home near Cheeks, in Pleasant Grove township, about a month ago.

Mr. Brady was 99 years and three months of age at the time of his death having been born just after the war of 1812, during the administration of James Madison, fourth President of the United States. He had thus lived during the administrations of all the Presidents except Washington, Adams and Jefferson. At the time of his birth, railroads, telegraphs, telephones, talking machines, electric lights, trolley cars, to say nothing of automobiles and airships, were unheard of. Yet he lived to see the day when all these things were most common. In fact, he lived to see the age of steam reach its greatest height, and give way to the age of electricity.

Mr. Brady lived all of his long life in the same neighborhood. He had been a member of the same church for 78 years, having joined Pleasant Grove Christian church in 1835. He had lived a faithful member of this same church all these years, and when he passed away was laid to rest in the cemetery at the place where he had worshipped for so many decades. The funeral was conducted by his pastor, Rev. Mr. White, in the presence of a large crowd.

The deceased was twice married; first, to Miss Mary Ann Jones, who died years ago. His first wife was the mother of two sons and three daughters. One son, Wesley, was killed in the war between the States; the other, Orlando, survives, living in the same neighborhood in which his father lived and died. Of the daughters, one, Mrs. J. R. Moffitt died several years ago; while the other two, Mrs. W. H. Hicks and Mrs. W. P. Moffitt, reside near by the old home. Later, the deceased was married to Mrs. Mary E. Brady, who with one daughter, Miss Etta Brady, resides at the home place.

When the war between the States came on, Mr. Brady was too old to take the part of a regular soldier, but served as one of the Home Guard. His mind was strong and active almost to the very last, and his physical strength held out remarkably well; he being able to go to the barn and feed his stock till the time he was stricken with paralysis some five days before his death. He was a successful farmer and made a good living for himself and family.

RANDLEMAN GRADED SCHOOL

Following is the program of the graduating exercises of Randleman graded school, held last week:

Chorus—Welcome, Sweet Springtime.
Invocation.
Words of Welcome—Chas. Augustus Christenberry.

Class History—Glenna Juanita Floyd.
Essay—The Ideal Home—Freda Sinclair.

Oration—The Emancipation of Agriculture—Charles Sheffield.
Essay—Perseverance—Loula Belle Curtis.

Class Poem—Lucy Trogdon.
Essay—Music as a Social Force—Elizabeth May Parsons.

Essay—True Nobility—Ruby Agnes Hughes.
Essay—The School as a Social Center—Epsie Celesta Wilke.

Oration—The Future State—Neal Sheffield.
Essay—Medical Inspection of Schools—Narweeje Trogdon.

Class Prophecy—Virginia Rousas Hayes.
Class Song.

Literary Address—Dr. H. W. Chase, Chapel Hill, N. C.

Presentation of Diplomas.
Benediction.

Interesting facts concerning school: Enrollment for first four months, while the compulsory law was in effect, 438. Average attendance for same time, 359, or 82 per cent.

There were only 13 children in the limit of the law out of school any one week while the law was in effect.

For second four months—enrollment, 447; average attendance, 297.
Enrollment for the year, 447; average attendance for the year, 328; average attendance for the year, 73 per cent.

MORE THAN 1,000 PERISH

English Liner Lusitania is Torpedoed by German Submarine—Many Prominent Americans Among Those Lost.

The British liner, Lusitania, a perfect ocean palace and one of the fastest ships afloat, sailed from New York for Liverpool, Saturday, May 1, and was torpedoed and sunk within 30 minutes by a German submarine last Friday off the west coast of Ireland.

When the Lusitania sailed from New York, she had on board 1,251 passengers and 650 crew. Of these, not many over 800 were saved; and among the lost were some of the most prominent American citizens, including Alfred G. Vanderbilt, Charles Klein, the playwright, Elbert Hubbard the well-known publisher and editor of the Philistine, and his wife; Charles Frohman, the theatrical manager; Justin N. Forman, playwright, and H. S. Stone, son of Melville E. Stone, general manager of the Associated Press.

The scenes at Queenstown, where the bodies were brought ashore were heart-rending in the extreme. Many women and children were lost; and among the bodies brought ashore, was that of a woman, clasping in her dead arms the body of her three-months old baby. Not many of the first cabin passengers were saved, they feeling so confident that help would come in time that they remained on the ship and did not make a dash for the boats. All thought the speed of the Lusitania was so great that no submarine could catch her.

Captain Turner remained on the bridge until the structure of the ship was submerged; then, climbed up a ladder, grasped an oar, and finally a chair, floating for about two hours until he was at last rescued by one of the crew in a boat.

Many of the passengers were warned by telegrams not to sail on the Lusitania, but no attention was paid to the warnings. Alfred G. Vanderbilt, the young millionaire, was among the number.

Many thrilling stories are told by survivors. The last seen of Mr. Vanderbilt, was when he took off his life belt and fastened it around a young woman, then going in search of another.

Mr. Froham is also reported to have been distributing life belts and encouraging the passengers just before the ship went down.

The whole civilized world was shocked and appalled at the horrible tragedy. A coroner's jury at Kinsdale, Ireland, investigating deaths attending the tragedy, returned the following verdict:

"The jury finds that this appalling crime was contrary to international law and the conventions of all civilized nations. We charge the officers of the submarine and the German Emperor and the German government under whose orders they acted, with the crime of wholesale and wilful murder."

No definite announcement of the policy of the United States in regard to the matter has been made. Investigations are being made, and it is expected that stern demands will be made on Germany.

DEATH OF MRS. MENDENHALL

Mrs. A. L. Mendenhall, widow of the late Rev. A. L. Mendenhall, died at her home in Greensboro, last Monday night, aged 65 years. Before marriage, she was Miss Cynthia Hardin, of near Tabernacle, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Hardin. Her husband died in 1910.

Mr. L. D. Mendenhall, of Asheboro, is a surviving son. Mr. E. E. Mendenhall, of Greensboro, another son; and a daughter, Mrs. T. R. Green, of Guilford county; besides fifteen grandchildren also survive.

The body was brought to Randleman for interment Tuesday.

The late Percy Mendenhall, who lived in Asheboro several years, was another son.

Twelve children graduated from 10th grade.

There were ten who were given certificates from the 7th grade to the high school. About forty children were granted certificates of perfect attendance for the year.

MEMORIAL DAY EXERCISES

Veterans Again in Line—Speech by Congressman Page—Daughters Serve Dinner to Veterans and Their Wives

Memorial Day was fittingly observed in Asheboro, last Saturday, by the Randolph Camp United Confederate Veterans and the Randolph Chapter Daughters of the Confederacy.

The exercises opened in the court house at eleven o'clock. The room was beautifully decorated with the flowers of spring, to be used later on the graves of soldiers who have passed to the "Great Beyond", and with Confederate flags. When the veterans marched into the court house and to their places at the front of the room, it was an inspiring and touching sight; and they were greeted with many cheers from the audience.

Daughters, Veterans, and others sang "America"; then came the invocation by Rev. J. E. Thompson; after which Miss Alice Phillips delighted all present with a recitation, "Furl That Banner". Dr. E. L. Moffitt introduced the speaker of the day, Congressman R. N. Page, in fitting words. Dr. Moffitt said that we, in America, strew flowers today not in grief, but in love and veneration of the heroes and the spirit that has actuated them; but how different the scene in Europe, where the women are strewing flowers for their loved ones falling now on the battlefields.

Mr. Page's Speech

Congressman Page said that he did not feel equal to the task of paying a proper tribute to the Confederate soldier; but that he did not think it worth while to cherish the ambition of being able to do that, as no one was able to. Addressing the veterans, he referred to the history made by them; and said that none realize at the time history is being made the importance of what is happening.

The speaker said that this occasion could not be equalled by any other nation. No other great nation is in position to meet and celebrate the deeds of the past in perfect peace, for all other great nations are in some way connected with the great war.

Mr. Page spoke with the highest respect for the Confederate soldiers and the principles for which they fought, declaring that he despised to hear anyone say the Southern soldier fought for "what he thought was right". "He fought for what was right," declared the speaker. It was shown that the Civil War was brought on by two revolutions. That the North rebelled against the Constitution, and the South rebelled against that rebellion, was argued.

A picture of the desolation in the South at the close of the war was given and the great progress made since referred to. The speaker said that this great progress was due to the "stuff" of which the Southern soldier was made. Further, he said that no greater tribute could be paid to the American people to show that they were really reunited than the fact that the Confederate flag can now be displayed from Maine to Florida without exciting adverse criticism.

The speaker said that the spirit shown in celebrating Memorial Day was that shown by every great people in honoring their forefathers. He thinks the monuments to the soldiers are all right, but that there ought to be more monuments—part of which should be to the women of the South, whose courage and devotion to duty in the trying period of the Civil War equaled, if it did not exceed that of the men. Only one such monument, the one erected by the late Ashley Horne, at Raleigh, is in existence.

That the country was never more united than at the present nor such devotion to the common flag more strongly shown was argued. The speaker said that we all love the flag, but that if the North expects us to forget the days of the 60's, they expect more than they will get.

Further, it was contended that the Confederate army yielded to physical defeat, but not to defeat of the principles for which they fought, and that the South has really won a great victory; and that we, as a nation, are greater than if the war had not been fought. As another evidence of the unity of the country at the present time, the fact that the South has at last been given a part of the Arlington National cemetery was mentioned.

Short Talks by Veterans
After Mr. Page's speech, Col. A. C.

McAlister, commander of the Randolph Veterans, who presided at the exercises, gave the soldier "boys" a chance to make talks, and several responded. Col. W. P. Wood, State Auditor, entertained all present with a part of his usual store of wit and humor for a few minutes, besides telling in an interesting manner of the work of the Soldiers' Home, Raleigh. Mr. John J. Turner, who recently moved to Asheboro from Indianapolis, Ind., told the veterans that he had attended the Union Soldiers' exercises in the North, but that this was the first time he had ever been present with his brother soldiers, at an exercise of the kind in the South, and that he was very glad to be with his own people. Mr. Turner is a former Randolph man, and a veteran himself.

A male quartette, "Tenting on the Old Campground", by Messrs. J. O. Redding, J. A. Spence, E. L. Moffitt, and Rev. C. L. Whitaker, was much enjoyed; after which, the Daughters and Veterans, accompanied by a detachment from Company K, in uniform, marched to the Miller building where a sumptuous dinner was served the soldiers and their wives by the Daughters.

After dinner, the procession reformed, and marched to the cemetery, where Daughters and veterans decorated the graves of fallen soldiers with a profusion of unusually beautiful flowers. The boys of Co. K, sounded "taps" and fired a salute for the dead heroes, ending the formal exercises.

About fifty veterans were present for the exercises, and they were not such a feeble-looking lot either. Most of them were still pretty active, though showing age after the fifty years that have passed since Lee surrendered. Next week, a list of the names of veterans attending will be published.

MR. SPOON DEAD

Mr. D. W. Spoon, who lived on the Franklinville road about two miles east of town, died yesterday morning at five o'clock, after an illness of several months from tuberculosis. Mr. Spoon was taken to the State Sanatorium a few weeks ago in a vain effort to relieve him, but soon returned and it was seen his case was hopeless. The burial will be at Brower's Chapel tomorrow afternoon at two o'clock.

The deceased was a brother of Mr. M. C. Spoon, formerly of this town and of Mrs. John Henley, of Asheboro township. His wife survives, also two daughters, Mrs. Carl Dawkins and Miss Esther Spoon, besides one or two younger children. An obituary will be given later.

Mr. David Wright died at his home in the eastern part of the county and was laid to rest at old Sandy Creek, one day last week. Mr. Wright was a son of the late Abraham Wright, was a veteran of the war between the States, and a good citizen. An obituary will appear next week.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTIONS

Township Sunday School conventions will be held as follows:

Union township, at New Hope church, fifth Sunday in May.

Randleman township, at Salem, fifth Sunday in May.

Cedar Grove, at Hopewell church, first Sunday in June.

Brower, at Mt. Olivet church, third Sunday in June.

New Hope, at Hillsboro church, fourth Sunday in June.

Columbia, at White's Chapel, M. E. church, third Sunday in July.

Coleridge, at Holly Springs, third Sunday in July.

Township officers are requested to arrange time and place for holding conventions in any townships where the last convention did not decide time and place for next meeting.

These conventions are for the benefit of all schools and it is earnestly desired that all schools in their respective townships send a large number to the township convention.

The county association will be glad to assist in arranging programs and help secure convention speakers.
For further information address
F. M. Wright, sec'y, Moffitt, N. C.
L. F. Ross, Pres., Asheboro, N. C.