

The Smithfield Herald.

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Why We Should Be Thankful

Some of the Reasons Enumerated by Ministers, Teachers and Business Men

Thanksgiving Day is the National harvest festival of the United States and the last Thursday in each November is set apart for this purpose each year by proclamation of the President. The first Thanksgiving in this country was observed in 1621 by the Pilgrim Fathers at Plymouth. President Washington appointed a day for this purpose in 1789 after the adoption of the Constitution. The festival has been observed in New York regularly each year since 1817. While many Thanksgivings have been observed in this country since the formation of the Republic, it did not become a real National Thanksgiving until near the close of the Civil War. Since that time the President of the United States has annually issued a proclamation setting apart the last Thursday in November as a day of thanksgiving and praise to God for all His goodness and mercies to men.

Yesterday was the day set apart by President Roosevelt and Governor Glenn as a day when the people should cease from their wonted labors and assemble at their accustomed places of worship and give thanks unto God. It is a source of regret that the day is not more generally observed in the South than it is. If the whole people should cease from their labors one day and recount the blessings vouchsafed to us by an All-Wise Ruler, who is the Father of nations as well as the Father of individuals, it would do us good.

The editor of THE HERALD, desiring to publish some expressions on this subject, last Monday sent out letters to about thirty-five ministers, mayors and business men and asked them to write him a short article on "Why we should be thankful" for this week's paper. He is sorry that several of the number failed to respond.

Below are published those received:

From W. S. Stevens, Esq.

I am thankful that I live in a Christian land where man is tolerant of man's opinions, and where every citizen can worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience. I am thankful that I dwell among a people whose hearts are daily getting nearer their Maker and Creator; a people who love justice and fair dealing; who are brave to defend innocence; whose purse strings open wide to the education of youth, to the maintenance of the orphan and "unfortunate one," and who delight to honor God with their substance.

W. S. STEVENS.
Smithfield, Nov. 28.

From the President of the Smithfield Cotton Mills.

The privileges vouchsafed to the American people are numerous and precious. Our laws are so executed as to protect life and property. Plenty abounds and our people are prosperous and happy.

We should rejoice in the progress being made in the education of our children. New school houses are seen on

every hand and are being filled with happy and well-cared for children.

For the improvements of our public roads and the construction of new and better railroad facilities.

For a rural free delivery service and the telephone which bring our sections in closer touch.

For the expansion of our currency and the extension of our commerce. For the remunerative prices of all agricultural products; for the wide-spread temperance manifestations; for a better citizenship and the patriotism of our people.

We should be especially thankful for the universal peace and prosperity which now prevails to a greater extent than at any other period of time; for the development of science and the extension of the gospel; for the benefits extended to our colonies by our benign institutions.

We should be thankful for the personalities and patriotism of the President of our country and the Chief Executive of this Commonwealth.

Therefore, we as a people should be especially thankful for the privilege of participating in the approaching Thanksgiving services of our respective churches and for the opportunity of reconsecrating ourselves to our country and to our All-wise and ever Merciful Heavenly Father, remembering that only those who are good citizens and faithful servants of His can be useful and happy during this life and have a part in His kingdom in the world to come.

W. M. SANDERS.
Smithfield, Nov. 28.

From Rev. D. F. Putnam.

Why give thanks? Divine authority commands it, and Christ, our Lord, practiced it. Therefore, we ought to render obedience and give thanks in everything. Again we should give thanks for riches of grace as manifested through "the unspeakable gift" of God's Son as a Saviour, in whose name we may come to the Giver of all good gifts, with the promise, "If ye ask anything in my name ye shall receive." From a temporal point of view, we exist in, and are sustained by, God's will and power. Great progress has been made in home comforts and educational facilities. Since the first thanksgiving, political and religious liberty have been received. We are now a great people, with a great country, and great prosperity is manifest. All of which is from Him from whom all blessings flow. Let us give thanks, lest we forget.

D. F. PUTNAM.
Benson, Nov. 28.

From Rev. C. W. Blanchard.

Some things for which we ought to feel and express deepest gratitude to our Heavenly Father:

For almost unprecedented temporal prosperity.

For the reign of righteousness in the seat of government.

For the triumph of human individuality in all the world.

For His gracious provision for our soul redemption.

C. W. BLANCHARD.
Clayton, Nov. 28.

County Superintendent of Public Instruction.

We should be thankful for the triple wave of prosperity that is sweeping our State from mountains to seashore. The wave of enthusiasm for popular education and the wave of temperance reform and moral and religious

awakening struck the State almost simultaneously and the wave of industrial progress soon followed.

Our County is sharing this prosperity. During the year we have voted special taxes for schools in five school districts and before the year is gone we shall have built eleven handsome school houses. Our temperance reform has been but little less than miraculous. Good crops and fair prices make the farmers more independent than for years and with the farmer's prosperity has come prosperity to the mechanic, the merchant, and the manufacturer.

IRA T. TURLINGTON.
Smithfield, Nov. 28.

From Mayor W. M. Weeks.

There is so much for which we should be thankful that I hardly know how to adequately express in so brief an article the many blessings and benefits for which our hearts should swell with gratitude to the Giver of all good things. The people of our great State should be thankful for the blessings derived from a good government. The efforts that have been made for a better and safer government have been successful to a great degree. The success along some lines has been greater than was hoped for by the most sanguine. In it all we can see the Divine hand. We are assured that every effort made in Jesus' name, and in accordance with His commandments, will be blessed; and we can hope for still greater blessings and greater achievements in His name. All power to do good comes from Him.

W. M. WEEKS.
Benson, Nov. 28.

From Our Register of Deeds.

Among that for which we should be thankful is the genius of the inventor in developing, the heretofore, latent agencies and possibilities into vehicles for our use and comfort in obtaining a livelihood and the alleviation of pain and mitigation of suffering. The unparalleled enthusiasm of our people for the development of the mind, with its resulting deep, strong, vigorous moral and religious spirit, and a general broadening of the conception of God and His goodness is cause for much thanksgiving. "Every good and perfect gift comes from God."

W. A. EDGERTON.
Smithfield, Nov. 29.

From the Superintendent of Benson Graded School.

As we stand in the morning of the twentieth century, taking a retrospective view at the journey our National and State "Ship of State" has taken, we should be thankful for the lives of the men who have been at its helm, and that our lots were cast at this time and place. Seeing that God in His all-wise providence has seen fit to give us a harvest that will keep us from want and penury, we should be thankful for the seasons, sunshine and showers. But above all we should be thankful that God in His all-wise providence, has torn down the stillhouse and saloon, and in their stead has erected churches and school houses.

B. W. ALLEN.
Benson, Nov. 28.

From Rev. J. W. Suttle.

We do not have to stop and think in order to remember reasons "Why we should be thankful to God." On every hand we may find cause for praising and thanking our Lord. Praise is always acceptable unto God. Of old the people entered the temple with their instruments of music and their songs of praise, and the glory of God filled the house.

The grateful heart should be ready for service. "What shall I render unto the Lord for all His benefits?"

If we want the ordinary and simple gifts of God to shine with

a morning lustre, let us be thankful. Thankfulness will not load our tables, but it will put a delicious sweetness in our simple fare. Thankfulness will kindle such a brilliant light in our own little homes, that we will no longer gaze at and covet the splendor of our neighbors.

We should be thankful because it brings contentment and contentment joined to practical godliness produces perfect happiness.

Thankfulness can find blessings in heaps of rubbish where other eyes only see curses.

J. W. SUTTLE.
Smithfield, Nov. 29.

From President Horne.

"Why we should be thankful."—Because as a people we are enjoying the special blessings of health, prosperity, civil and religious liberty, and are at peace with the world.

Because our fields have yielded to us an abundant harvest, the seasons have been unusually propitious, and the prices for all agricultural products are such as to bestir gratitude in the hearts of every farmer.

We rejoice that the world is at peace, and that right is gaining over wrong.

ASHLEY HORNE.
Clayton, Nov. 29.

From Rev. R. W. Horrell.

At no time since the war between the States has existed such friendship and harmony between the North and the South as at the present. For this and the prosperity of our land, we should give thanks to God.

We should be very thankful for the growth of God's kingdom in our midst; for through it come all the blessings, for this life and the life to come. Personally I should take the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

In every thing we should give thanks, for this is the will of God.

R. W. HORRELL.
Selma, Nov. 28.

From Mr. D. E. McKinne.

We should be devoutly thankful for the strong temperance sentiment that pervades our Southland, and especially for the great change that has come over our own county of Johnston and state of North Carolina. It means better boys, better men and better country. We should be thankful for good government—that so many God-fearing men are at the head of public affairs, thankful for good wives and happy homes, thankful for such a good and wise Heavenly Father, who is ever shielding us from harm and whose loving kindness is so constantly manifested towards His children.

D. E. MCKINNE.
Princeton, Nov. 28.

From Rev. B. G. Early.

"O come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving." Psalms 95:12. When we look on every hand and see the rich gifts of God so lavishly bestowed upon us, we are duty bound to take up the cry of the Psalmist.

We should be thankful for the material prosperity of our country; for the rapid strides towards righteousness in our body politic; for the absence of bloody war in our country. Above all, we should be thankful for God's great love to man.

B. G. EARLY.
Smithfield, Nov. 28.

From Mayor E. J. Holt.

The people of this town, county and State should be thankful for general good health, fair crops, good prices, and especially for the great advancement made in the education of our people to a higher plane of sobriety, morality, and a general elevation of all classes to a condition of life calculated to make them better

One of the grandest causes for thankfulness is the evidence that the people of this government are tired of "Bossism," corruption and graft in politics, and have so declared in the recent elections.

E. J. HOLT.
Smithfield, Nov. 27.

From Mr. B. B. Adams.

I am thankful for a multitude of things, and especially that I live in this age, the borderland of the twentieth century, fraught with its manifold advantages of developed industries, higher education and spiritual training.

That I am an American citizen and hail from the Old Tar Heel State, and am thankful in no small degree that I am a "Johnstonian" by inheritance.

B. B. ADAMS.
Four Oaks, Nov. 29.

From President Bank of Selma.

We should feel thankful for the great wave of prosperity all over the whole country, the peace of all nations, the growth of Christianity and temperance, and the good will and kindly feelings of all nations towards our beloved country. We should especially feel thankful for the great victory achieved against the liquor traffic in Johnston county.

M. C. WINSTON.
Selma, Nov. 29.

Superintendent Smithfield Graded Schools.

Among the many things for which we should be profoundly grateful to God on this Annual Thanksgiving Day is the progress that education is making in our midst.

That God has put it into the minds and hearts of our good people to make better provisions for the training of those to whom He has committed to their care, should be recognized by all of us as one of His good and perfect gifts for which His name should be praised.

R. A. MERRITT.
Smithfield, Nov. 30.

A Daniel to Judgment.

Mr. Yerkes, International Revenue Commissioner at Washington, has ruled that after the first of December, no one can sell patent medicines containing more than five per cent of alcohol without taking out a whiskey dealer's license, and of course in local option territory such patent medicines cannot be sold at all. Mr. Yerkes further rules that no physician can prescribe whiskey without taking out a dealer's license; and that every express office which delivers C. O. D. packages of whiskey is a seller of whiskey, and must take out a license. Manufacturers of patent medicines containing more than five per cent of alcohol will be classed as distillers and forced to pay tax as do whiskey manufacturers.

Surely a Daniel has come to judgment. We are glad that Mr. Yerkes is a Kentuckian. We are glad to know that in his rulings he has the support of President Roosevelt. We are glad to know that behind all of these great movements the people of our land, irrespective of party or creed, are gathering in solid phalanx.

These rulings of Mr. Yerkes and the recent great anti-saloon victory in Ohio, reported in another column by Dr. G. W. Young, enable us to see the beginning of the end of whiskey domination in politics; and, too the end of the whiskey traffic. When that is accomplished then will our land take a great leap upward in commerce, education and religion. The outcome of it all is too great and glorious to fully realize until it breaks upon us.—Baptist Argus, Louisville.

—Mr. N. A. Carter, the Johnston County representative of the Greensboro Life Insurance Company, returned last week from Ashpole where he had been called on account of sickness in his family.

CLAYTON NOTES.

Mr. Everett Kennedy, of Raleigh, was the guest of Mr. Wilkes Barnes Sunday.

Mr. Louis Crabtree spent Saturday and Sunday here, the guest of Mr. J. Daniel Eason.

There will be Thanksgiving services at the Baptist church Thursday night by the pastor.

Mr. Calvin B. Jones' new dwelling is about completed and since he had it painted is a handsome building.

Mr. M. G. Gulley, as guardian for Coy Turnage, has sold the lot belonging to Turnage to Mr. A. J. Barbour.

Mrs. L. D. Debnam and children, of Selma, spent a few days here with her mother, Mrs. J. A. Griffin, this week.

A Christmas tree for the little folks of the Baptist Sunday school is now under discussion and should certainly be decided upon.

Rev. J. W. Smith has been employed to teach at the High School during Miss Shore's illness, which we hope will be of short duration.

Mr. Burt Barbour, of Cleveland township, owns a coffee mill that has been in regular service for 70 years. Quite a long life for a coffee mill, eh?

The prospects for a paper for Clayton seem very bright just now. Naturally it will be a small sheet at first, but with push it may get to be a big thing.

Mr. Lonnie Holland, who is with the Southern as flagman, spent a few days here with friends this week. He is now at Four Oaks visiting his mother and sister.

Dr. J. B. Robertson has purchased the old store houses belonging to Mr. Joe R. Hinnant and had them moved from the lot, thus leaving his premises in better shape.

The Bazaar will be in operation while you are reading this paper, and you ought to lay it down and come along and buy some of the pretty and useful things offered for sale by the ladies.

We learn that Mr. R. H. Gower has bought Mr. W. B. Penny's tract of land lying just out of Clayton. This is a very valuable tract of land and we congratulate Mr. Gower on his good fortune in securing it.

Clayton High School continues to grow in number of students and in popular favor. We shall withhold for a short while any praise, but you can ask any student attending this school, and decide after hearing his opinion.

Rev. G. W. Fisher, who for the past four years has been a faithful pastor to the Methodist church here, will be located elsewhere after the conference. We regret to lose him, but wish him the same success as had here in any field to which he may go.

Yelir.

Coming in Daily.

I am securing letters and postal cards from farmers in different parts of the county every day saying they will hold some cotton ninety days for fifteen cents. I have already forwarded pledges for several hundred bales to headquarters of the Southern Cotton Association. There are many others who could hold one or more bales. Write me at once if you want to help in this matter.

J. M. BEATY.
Secretary, Smithfield, N. C.

A Fearful Fate.

It is a fearful fate to have to endure the terrible torture of Piles. "I can truthfully say," writes Harry Colson, of Masonville, Ia., "that for Blind, Bleeding, Itching and Protruding Piles, Bucklen's Arnica Salve, Arnica Salve, is the best cure made." Also best for cuts, burns and injuries. 25c at Hood Bros. druggists.