

# The Rocky Mount Record.

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## "REMINISCENCES."

### Biographical and Historical Sketch by Dr. P. S. Hicks, Treating of Local Persons and Scenes.

But my captain would not sign it, he said there were men in that company that had been there longer than I had and had never had a furlough. Of course I resented nothing and was glad to get back to the hospital with my blank furlough. Dr. Wims tore it up and told me to be quiet and stay with him another month and then he would put me down as one for a furlough. I asked him to put George Baker down for the other, as we both lived at the same place. He said he would. We had then nearly two months to wait, but we had good quarters, plenty to eat and good friends, that was much better than driving the forge or camping in tents blown down by snow storms. Mr. Baker had made right much money by being a substitute and did not mind spending it, so he proposed to me, as my wife was a good traveler and his wife knew nothing about traveling, if I would write to my wife to come and bring his to Richmond on a visit, he would pay all expenses, coming, going, board and all, and they could stay two or three weeks if they liked. It all worked well, they came and we got room in a nice boarding house for them and we were excused from the hospital except at meal times. We had as nice a time as could be expected. After awhile the time came for them to leave, of course we saw them to the train and told them goodby with a promise from Dr. Wims that we should have the next furlough that was given by his recommending. Well the time came, he made out our furloughs and recommended them at they had to be signed by the head Dr. of Camp Lee and sent down town to General Winder for final approval. But to be approved by the head Dr. is where the trouble would come in. I had fattened up so by that time it was doubtful whether he would sign my furlough or not if he were to examine me, but as for Baker he would be sure to get his for in that case he had the advantage of me, as he could look bad and sick at any time, but lucky for me that morning it was raining, so Dr. Wims sent Baker with both the furloughs and a note telling him that Hicks' condition was of such a nature that he had rather he would not turn out in the rain. I told Baker to try to look as sick and ugly as he could for both of us. He did it for pretty soon he came back and said the Dr. looked at him, signed them both and sent them on. Dr. Wims told me that he had one more chance if that Dr. had refused to sign them. That was that he would have taken them down to General Winder in person and have gotten them direct as Winder and himself were both Masons and that Masons would never go back on each other in time of need.

In a day or two our furloughs returned approved for thirty days and we were off for home by the next train. That was my first furlough but before the war ended I got all together 135 days in furloughs and never got a regular routine furlough from my company, never was absent without leave, never was reported for violation and never was put on extra duty, never had a detail and never held any office, and for the last twelve months of the war I didn't answer to the roll call or draw any rations from my company and never was in a regular battle. I will tell how all that happened further on in my travels. When I got home I went to the commissary and drew rations enough for 30 days. It was the Confederacy's duty to feed me even if I was at home. When my thirty days was almost out I went to the hospital in Tarboro and saw Dr. Stith who was in charge. He extended Baker's and my furloughs for fifteen days longer. Of course I had to give the Dr. and the inmates a little private show for their amusements and for my benefit. It didn't take long for the fifteen days to run out. We struck the road then for the army of Virginia, but that time of the war will be long remembered; the battle of Gettysburg. I had lost my forge, the winter was over, my furloughs were out, and I was then a wandering soldier looking for my command, but the truth was, not very anxious to find it, for I never did brag on being such a brave soldier and wanting to fight so bad, at the same time I was always at my post or place if anything should happen. I went to Richmond, there I was informed of my company's whereabouts. I went from Richmond to Staunton. There I struck the dirt road to Winchester, one hundred miles on foot. There were as many as 75 or 100 furloughed soldiers left Staunton

when I did under a Capt that was returning to his command. This Capt. was put in charge of this squad by the commander at Stanton, for the protection of both soldiers and citizens on our march and to draw rations for us on the route. We camped one night near the Willon Springs that so many thousand Confederate soldiers have seen. The Willon Springs stand near the side of the road at the edge of a hill. The Willon is hollow, the water runs up the tree from the root to a hollow limb about three feet high. The limb seems to have been broken off about a foot from the tree and acts as pipe or spout. It affords good water and is quite a curiosity of the kind. The tree was green and had been there as long as the hills, its history was unknown. We met lots of Yankee prisoners and wounded soldiers along that route. We got to Winchester and found things in rather bad shape, it seemed that no one knew exactly where Lee's army was or what was being done. They only knew that Lee had crossed the Potomac and there was trouble ahead. I stayed at Winchester one night. The next morning the bugle sounded, the long role was beat and orders were to fall in line including furloughed men, stragglers and everybody that could march. After the line was formed every man was given a musket as long as muskets would last, but there were more men than muskets, so I managed to not get one. The plan was for us to fight our way through the Yankee rear calvary to General Lee's main army wherever that was, at that time it was at near Gettysburg. As I had no gun I floated along on my own hook. We went by Martinsburg twelve miles the other side of Winchester, and to a place called Falling Water at the edge on this side of the Potomac. I went still four or five miles up the river but learned that times were rather critical, and if I crossed the river there was danger of being picked up by the Yankee calvary, so I came back to Falling Water. By that time all that could be gathered there was formed into a working squad to build a bridge across the Potomac for Lee's army to cross back. That was one of the most critical times General Lee had had up to that time during the war. His whole army was depending on the fragments of a collection of returning furloughed soldiers, stragglers and convalescents from the hospital, to build that bridge, dig down the embankments and get it ready for crossing and no timber to build it with. To my knowledge we had to tear down buildings to get timber to build boats and bridges. I never have thought General Lee would have stayed at Gettysburg as long as he did if the bridge had been there for him to cross on. As soon as the bridge was ready they began crossing. When Lee's army crossed the river going, I think part of the army forded and the rest crossed on pontoons further down.

(To be continued.)

### Getting on in the World

It is a matter of vast personal interest to each and every one of us. There is a wholesome joy in making headway in the world of dollars; in feeling one's horizon of poverty being pushed back, pushed father and farther away. Getting on in the world means growth, material growth; a broader grasp of affairs and a larger confidence in one's ability to do the things which count; the things which make for the upbuilding of our community certainly is a matter of personal interest to every property owner, every tax payer, every young man and every young woman in our town and the surrounding country. Do you wish to join the ranks of those who are getting on in the world? Its not so hard as you may imagine; just a little practical application of the virtue of thrift, a cutting out of your unnecessary expenses, the saving of your money and the starting of an account with The Bank of Rocky Mount.

### Tobacco Market.

Comparative sales of leaf tobacco on the Rocky Mount market.  
Sales for February 1908, 585,247 lbs. Average \$10.20.  
Sales for February 1907, 402,870 lbs. Average 9.87.  
Gain this February 182,377 lbs.  
Sales for season to date 6,687,483 lbs. Average \$10.51.  
Sales for season March 1, 1907, 6,648,506 lbs. Average \$10.60.  
Loss this season 161,023 lbs.  
E. W. Smith.

Sales getting lighter each week, and will gradually diminish from now on the crop being nearly exhausted. Prices keep up remarkably well considering the quantity of the tobacco which is being marketed. A slight increase in crop is expected for the coming season.

## NORTH CAROLINA TEACHERS ASSEMBLY

### Everything Points to a Great Meeting When Teachers Gather at Charlotte June 16-19.

The North Carolina Teachers' Assembly, which will this year celebrate its twenty fifth anniversary at Charlotte, June 16-19, has been for a quarter of a century one of the most effective organs for the improvement of educational conditions in the State. It has been behind every movement that has contributed to the "Educational Revolution" of recent years, and that, too, at a time when these educational reforms were not popular. The Assembly originated the great campaign which Melver and Alderman conducted in 1889-1892. "The good results of their labors are with us today, and will continue to bless the Commonwealth when we, our children, and our children's children have finished life's appointed lessons and put the books away."

The State Normal and Industrial College is another of the Assembly's creations, for throughout his gallant fight for this glorious institution Melver had the Assembly at his back, upholding his hands through its sympathy and through its committees. So, too, the local tax movement, the movement for consolidation, the improvement of schoolhouses, the better training of teachers, and in fact, every movement that has resulted in better educational facilities can be traced to the North Carolina Teachers' Assembly.

The session at Charlotte promises to be one of the most successful in its history. Several of the most prominent educational leaders in the country will appear on the program. Among them, are Professor Matheson, President of the Assembly; Prof. P. P. Claxton, University of Tennessee, who has perhaps, trained more North Carolina teachers than any other living man; Dr. O. T. Corson, formerly State Superintendent of Ohio, President of the National Educational Association; and now editor of the Ohio Educational Monthly; Dr. Charles W. Kent, of the University of Virginia; Dr. Seaman A. Knapp, of the United States Department of Agriculture, and others. Governor R. B. Glenn will also be present and it will probably be his last, great educational speech while in his present office. Hon. T. S. Franklin, Mayor of Charlotte, will deliver the address of welcome.

Charlotte itself is one of the most interesting cities in the country, and it will pay any North Carolina teacher to take this opportunity to visit the "Queen City" of North Carolina. During the Revolutionary War the people of Charlotte were so hostile to the British that Cornwallis called it "The Hornet's Nest" of the Revolution. Here the teachers will see the monument to the signers of the Mecklenburg Declaration; the monument to Lieut. William E. Shipp, the gallant young North Carolinian who gave his life for the freedom of Cuba; the monument marking the battlefield of McIntyre's Farm. They will also see the place where the building stood, in which the Mecklenburg Declaration was signed; where Lord Cornwallis had his headquarters in 1780; where Washington stopped in 1791; where Jefferson Davis stood when he heard of the assassination of President Lincoln. Near by are the battlefields of McIntyre Farm, Cowan's Mill, King's Mountain, all historic spots; the birthplaces of Andrew Jackson and James K. Polk. Altogether, no better place could have been selected for this twenty-fifth anniversary of the Assembly than Charlotte North Carolina teachers will have a splendid chance to learn so much of North Carolina's history.

Everything now points to a great meeting. Seventy-five families in Rocky Mount are now owning their own homes, who would otherwise be paying rent but for assistance afforded by Rocky Mount Homestead and Loan Association. The 12th series of stock will be due and payable on and after February 1st, 1908. Call on R. L. Huffines, Secretary and Treasurer for full information.

## HAPPENINGS IN POLICE COURT.

### Comedy and Tragedy of a Week as Enacted in Calamity Hall Before Mayor Thorp.

The only case before his honor at Thursday's session was that of Pete Christian, for disorderly conduct, for which he was fined \$10.

Friday J. W. Joyner paid \$5 for having on an excessive amount of obnoxious, and Joe Coleman, colored, was given 30 days for smashing Arthur Surles over the head with a piece of stove wood because the latter tried to blow out the light when Coleman wanted to shoot craps.

Saturday M. Oppenheimer and Cary Price were assessed \$5 each for a small affray; Andy Powell \$5 for disorderly conduct, and Geo. Williams and F. J. Meeks, two white hoboes, were given 20 days each for drunk and disorderly. Monday morning when his honor ascended the throne Bloss Harper's familiar face was among the first to greet him. Bloss had been drunk and down for the steenth time and deeming it wise that Bloss should "dry out" some his honor gave him 30 days to study road construction. Mary Gilmore and Cilia Smith, two dusky denizens of the Red Line, "fit" over a bag of feathers and were required to pay \$5 each. Turner Thorne, a colored man from Battleboro section, was fined \$15 for disorderly and \$25 for totting a pistol and in default of dividend Supt. Long was appointed a receiver for him for 60 days, in which he doubt Turner will do some good work for the Rocky Mount road district.

The only offering for Tuesday's session was an itinerant junk dealer charged with doing business without license. He satisfied the court that he neither bought nor sold within the corporate limits and was discharged.

Only one case engaged the attention of the mayor's court Wednesday morning, that of L. R. Highsmith, for disorderly conduct in having a disturbance in a saloon. He was fined \$7.50.

### A. C. L. Agent at Elm City \$1,000 Short

At Elm City a complication of circumstances have combined to create quite a sensation. In the first place fake telegrams were sent to Richmond, Norfolk and Wilmington corresponding to the Toisnot Banking Co., of Elm City, asking them to send to the Elm City bank a total of \$8,000, the Toisnot Banking Co.'s cashier's name being signed to the telegrams, and the bank did not need the money, as it had all that it wanted for business. Investigation at the Elm City telegraph office showed no such telegrams had been filed, and it is suspected that some people with a view to either robbing the bank or getting the money while it was in transit had sent the telegrams.

An investigation into the affair revealed the fact that the agent and operator of the A. C. L. at Elm City was short in his account with the company to the amount of \$1,000 or over. His name is Farmer and he is highly respected and was regarded as a good agent by the company. A Pinkerton detective is at work on the case.

Are you a stockholder in a home building and loan association? If you are not, come and let me convince you that stock in Rocky Mount Homestead and Loan Association will pay you a better rate of interest on your small savings than any investment you can make. The 12th series of stock will be open for subscription February 1st, 1908. R. L. Huffines, Secretary and Treasurer.

### Mr. W. A. Campbell Dead.

It is our sad duty to chronicle the death of our friend and former townsman Mr. W. A. Campbell which occurred at Goldfield, Nevada, on the 12th inst.

He was prominent in Nash county for years, as editor, miner and dealer in real estate.

He was generous and warmhearted, bright in conversation, facile and agreeable writer, and full of energy and industry until disease placed its fell mark upon him. He was the able editor of "The Argonaut" for years which did so much for the material prosperity of our growing town.

The last few years of his life were spent with his family in Norfolk, Va., until last fall they all moved to New York. His health was declining, so in January, his physician advising him to go West, he, accompanied by his young son W. A. Campbell Jr., went to Tucson, Arizona.

He improved rapidly, and connected

himself with "The Morning Star" the leading newspaper of the city. He was successful in this work, but with renewed strength his ambition was reaching out for greater things.

Hearing of the marvelous fortunes that were being made in Goldfield, Nevada, he decided to risk the change, so left Tucson, with his perpetual summer, landing in Goldfield in a terrific snow storm. He contracted pneumonia and in about one week died, quietly and peacefully from heart failure, separated from all loved ones, excepting his young son who had accompanied him. "There is a divinity which shapes our ends." It seems strange and yet fitting that after so many years spent in the East amid such varied vicissitudes, he should have fallen asleep in the land he loved best and always spoke of as "God's Country."

They buried him there, with the everlasting snow capped mountains keeping their eternal vigil over his last resting place.

Our hearts in loving sympathy, go out to his wife and the two children who survive him.

"Requiescat in pace." Friend.

### Organization is Perfected.

The executive committee of the Rocky Mount Anti-Saloon League at a meeting Friday night perfected the organization by the election of the following officers: J. H. Westbrook, president; W. L. Groom, vice president, and L. F. Tillery, secretary and treasurer. In addition to this there was much important business transacted relative to the campaign for State prohibition, and reports were heard on the situation from men from the field. Resolutions of appreciation for the support lent the movement by the city papers were adopted by the committee.

Rev. R. L. Davis, State organizer for the Anti-Saloon League, was here in conference with the local league Monday.

### The Man Who Succeeds

In getting things to come his way generally makes sure by going out to meet and invite them in. He has a checking account at the bank because of its real value in limiting wasteful expenses, its conveniences, its safety and he knows it is an invitation to success to meet him half way, an invitation she is in the habit of accepting. Why don't you have a bank account?

### Welcome Meeting for New Pastor.

The following ministers with Prof. V. D. Gresham and a crowded house were at South Rocky Mount Sunday at 3 p. m. to extend a cordial welcome to Rev. W. G. Hall the recently elected pastor of North and South Rocky Mount Baptist churches. Rev. Dr. W. D. Morton presided and happy addresses were made by Dr. I. M. Mercer and Rev. S. W. Taylor with Prof. Gresham, followed by heartfelt response from Rev. Mr. Hall. The exercises were very interesting and impressive.

The money stringency has apparently subsided and the Rocky Mount Homestead and Loan Association has emerged from the period of depression with a feeling of pride that loans have been granted and all stock surrenders have been paid on demand without discount. The 12th series of stock will be open for subscription February 1st, 1908. Call on R. L. Huffines, Secretary and Treasurer.

### Mr. C. E. Peacock Dead.

Mr. C. E. Peacock died at his home on south Washington street Tuesday morning of intestinal troubles, from which he had been a sufferer for a long time. He leaves several children and widow living in this city. The remains were taken to Microbe for burial Wednesday.

### The Personal Interest

you take in building up and caring for it will have much to do with your individual success and success of any enterprise with which you identify yourself. It is all under your own control—come in and let us tell you how easy it is to start an account with The Bank of Rocky Mount.

### Piano Tuner Coming.

Our piano tuner, Mr. A. C. Johnson, will be with us for a few days next week, and any one needing first class tuning or repairing can call on or phone us their order and we will have it attended to.

Mr. Johnson is a practical tuner, devoting his entire time and attention to this work.

—Dowdy & Lancaster.

## AN ADDRESS ON MISSIONS

### Mr. L. F. Tillery Makes Historical Talk Before Presbyterian Ladies Missionary Society.

Mr. L. F. Tillery made an interesting address to the Ladies Missionary Society by cordial invitation in the parlor of Mrs. L. F. Tillery in the afternoon of Feb. 18. A number of the members were present and after listening with deep attention the society by a unanimous vote requested the address for publication in our city papers. Brief notes of the address are found below.

In talking to you of missions in Nash county, I think it proper to go back in the early history of our church when the gospel was brought to us by a missionary. If I mistake not it was in 1872 the Rev. J. W. Primrose, an evangelist, preached for us in Burnetts Hall, and later in what was known as the Masonic Lodge Building. This gentleman was the first Presbyterian minister that ever preached in our town so far as any records show. The first Presbyterian in Rocky Mount was Dr. Burnett.

The church was organized in 1873 or 1874. Our records are not clear but those best informed say it was one of these years.

It should be remembered that the lot where our new church building now stands was given us by a hardware merchant, Mr. Geo. Allen, then living in New Bern, N. C. This gentleman is still living but now at Raleigh, N. C. The date of the deed was may, 1873. From the best information we can get, our first church building was erected in 1878 or 79, five or six years later.

The first four members were: Mr. and Mrs. O. R. Sadler, Dr. Burnette, and Dr. Henry Thorp. At this time we were in the Presbytery of Orange a part of which has since been given to Albermarle Presbytery.

The next minister that was sent to us was Mr. Baldwin. It should be remembered that the first preaching service only one Sunday in the month.

The first child baptized was Will Burnette, a brother of Mrs. E. G. Muse.

The next minister was Rev. Mr. J. E. Rankin. This good man sometime after leaving here became head of our foreign missionary publication work with headquarters at Nashville, Tenn. Mr. Rankin took a great interest in foreign missions and visited the field a few years ago, going to China and Corea and was taken ill and died in Corea.

The next minister was Rev. T. J. Allison and after him Rev. M. Wades, then Rev. J. W. H. Summerell, D. D., now of Norfolk, Va.

This minister conducted the first marriage ceremony in our church; the contracting parties were Mr. Geo. Purvis and Miss Ann Wisegar.

The next minister was R. R. Fell. This gentleman is now head of the big Converse College for girls at Spartanburg, S. C. After Mr. Fell came Rev. James Thomas and later his brother, Rev. Fred Thomas.

The next is our beloved Dr. Morton. Up to the time Dr. Morton came to us and several years afterwards, we were only able to pay a minister for a part of his time and were known as a mission point. We now pay for four Sundays in the month and our church is no longer classed as a mission. I understand, however, that Dr. Morton, being chairman of the Home Mission committee engages to give his fifth Sundays to that work. In 1884 we were paying only \$125.00; for general benevolence \$150.00. Now we pay \$1,700.00 or \$1,800.00 per annum for all purposes, including pastor's salary and current expenses.

Mr. Tillery gave the following interesting facts regarding foreign missions; The fundamental work of the foreign missionary society is to bring men and women face to face with Jesus Christ.

The first treaty that was interpreted between Siam, China and Japan was done by a missionary.

One of the governor generals of India said "Four Missionaries were worth a whole battalion of soldiers."

### SERVICES TO DIPLOMACY.

Commodore Perry talked to the Japanese through a missionary and no doubt concluded that great treaty, which opened the gates of Japan to the world.

Discovery by a missionary of rubber in Africa. Now this rubber is being extensively used in the trades.

One hour built each month for the past six years is the record of Rocky Mount Homestead and Loan Association. Subscribe to the 12th series of stock due and payable February 1st, 1908. R. L. Huffines, Secretary & Treasurer.