

# The Rocky Mount Record.

VOL. XI., NO. 29

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C., THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 1908.

PRICE 5 CENTS

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY BY THE ROCKY MOUNT PUBLISHING COMPANY.

## "REMINISCENCES."

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

The second battle of Manassas I also witnessed, but a long way off, so I could only get what is called a birdseye view of it. It was at the time I had charge of the forge and my position was well in the rear. The battle lasted three days, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The battle would usually begin about an hour after sunrise, just after we had finished our breakfast, and end about dusk; and the later on in the evening the firing became more general and terrific. The musketry was a continual roar, the artillery a general bombing and at the same time the shells bursting in the elements so fast that it is impossible to describe them. The Federals had the advantage of the battle grounds, they were sheltered mostly by the woods, while our men were out in the open field and without breastworks at all. That was an exciting critical period of the war; the third day (Saturday night) closed the scene. When Sunday morning came the Federal troops were all gone except their dead and wounded who were left lying on the field. The Federals sent in a flag of truce asking to be permitted to care for their wounded and to bury their dead. It was granted.

The Federals and confederates all worked together caring for their wounded and burying their dead. I know this to be a fact for I saw it. Now back to going into winter quarters the second winter. A week or two before my company went into winter quarters I was taken sick in camp, with a severe pain in my side. It turned out to be side pleurisy as we called it then. I was fearful and felt the danger of what was coming. I was anxious to be taken to a hospital where I could have proper attention. To hurry this up I had to play off a little and make out I was sicker than I really was. I stopped eating or looking after my rations and paid no attention whatever to anything. I was pretty soon hurried off to Richmond and I was not hurried off any too quick either. I was about two days getting there. After arriving, then I was kept over all night and half the next day in the distributing hospital with all the pain I could possibly bear. I was sent from there to Chimborazo hospital. There I was given medicine and a blister put on my side eight by ten inches. In two or three days the blister had drawn its full size and I was a little better. But, my readers, if you were ever skinned alive you can tell about how I felt. The doctor consented for me to send for my wife, God bless her dear soul, in three days she was there. She brought me lots of nick nacks, apple brandy, wine and everything she could get that she thought of. Readers, I can't tell how much good it did me, her attention and tenderness in nursing me. I mended very fast. The doctor went with her and found a nice boarding house near by. She stayed a week or so then left me and went home. People may say what they please about its being out of place for a woman to go to see her husband, brother or father but I think it is a mistaken idea. It's cheering, soothing and it's beneficial both to the mind and body to have the tender hand and care and presence of a dear loving mother or wife or even a dear sister to come to see you if you are a soldier and in soldier quarters sick and with no one around who loves you. I have been right there and I know the feeling. God bless the women who did attend, the best they could, their fathers, husbands and brothers in the late war.

I continued to mend and soon was able to go to the dining room to eat, and that was my greatest desire. I could eat two men's rations at one time. I often would do that on the sly. The table was not long enough for all to eat at once so sometimes a friend of mine, Mr. Weldon Hunter from Tarboro, and myself would exchange hats so as to disguise ourselves and march in the second time and eat again. We were not allowed to go out of the enclosure without a permit, and colored women with "snacks" for sale were not allowed to come inside but there was a plank off the wall and then the "snack peddlers" would collect, they outside and we, the soldiers, inside.

The rush was equal to that around a circus ticket wagon at the beginning of a show. Every soldier wanted something extra to eat and every colored peddler wanted to sell "wittles." I remained at Chimborazo only a month or so. One day an order came for about seventy five or one hundred convalescents to be sent to Hueacout Springs hospital. The number of men

were drawn out to go, I wanted to go but missed it. Hunter was one to go. I decided within myself that I would go too, now how to do this was a trick. I pretty soon found a man by the name of Smith who lived in Richmond that was assigned to go and did not want to go, I told him I could fix that when orders were given to fall in line to go, I would fall in and answer to his name. I did it and all worked well. He stayed and I went and I never heard anything more from Smith. When we got there the roll was called, Smith's name was called but he didn't answer. I told the roll caller that there was a mistake in name, that my name was Hicks and not Smith, so that was alright. Well we marched from Chimborazo to the James river canal boat station and put on board the tow boat. That was drawn by horse power, and so constructed that it was drawn by three horses. They traveled on a tram road or a little straight path right beside the canal one horse right behind the other and a man on the rear one with a long lash in one hand and a horn in the other, and away he went up the canal lashing his horses and blowing his horn. Occasionally we would stop at a lock, the water would become too shallow to travel on they would shut the gate down behind the boat to dam the water. In a few minutes we would be elevated six, eight or ten feet. Then we would go ahead to the next lock and so on till we got to the station. It was then almost night. Hucanout Springs are on the south side of James river. I think about twenty or twenty five miles from Richmond and about two or three miles from the river. When we landed the wind was blowing a perfect hurricane and it was impossible to cross the river that night, so we all had to camp in some old vacant coal pit shanties. We had no dinner, no supper and no bedding at all and but little fire, the weather was freezing cold. But as luck would have it I had bought two full grown rabbits and a lot of loaf bread in Richmond before leaving there. I divided with my friend Hunter, so we got along very well. Next morning we crossed the river and marched to the Springs. There was a hotel and some other buildings but they were then used for hospitals. We were distributed around in different wards.

Hunter and myself were given a small room about eight by ten and two single bunks in it. Another man was already in the room, so there it was, two men to a one man bunk. The room had no fireplace in it, and the weather was bitter cold. I sat down and asked the man who was in the room, how things were. "Rather rough," he said. I asked about the ward master on that floor, and the man replied, "He is from Atlanta, Georgia, and we call him Georgia, he is pretty rough and a young 'up start,' knows nothing about war and has no sympathy for a sick or wounded soldier." The surroundings in the room were very uncomfortable for three of us, so I decided to go up and see what could be done. I was told that it would be no use that the ward master would not let me in his room. Alright, I will kick at the moon if I miss it, says I. I went to his room and walked right in about midway the room and stopped. "What will you have?" he asked. I told him who I was and what I would like to have. "Go ahead," he said. I told him that before the war I was Prof. Hicks, the southern magician and ventriloquist, but now I was a soldier in the army and a convalescent in his ward and wanted special attention from him. He looked at me as if spellbound and then gave me his hand. "Is this Prof. Hicks himself?" he asked. I told him it was what was left of him. He asked me to have a seat, and said that he would give me all the comfort and attention in his power. "Here is a good fire, there are two feather beds, in my possession, one is mine and you can use the other." He sent to that little room for my baggage, and he was true to his word, and did all in his power for me. Of course I amused him with ventriloquism etc.

In a week or two after becoming more acquainted with the ward master I found him to be a pretty clever fellow, that is he was to me, he had a feather bed, a plenty of something good to eat and a nice warm room and everything pleasant, all of which he divided with me.

The transformation from that little cold room above spoken of was like a fairy story only this is a true story. In a week or so he asked me if I would like for my wife to come and stay with me a month or two, and if so he would let me have a room with a fire place and that I could have the feather bed I was sleeping on and that he would arrange for her to dine at the doctor's table. Of course I gladly accepted the offer and wrote for my wife and two children which we had at that time. To be continued.

## MR. E. L. CHEVASSE KILLED BY TRAIN

### Well Known Rocky Mount Man Meets Tragic Death in Lexington, Ky., Where he Recently Went.

The shocking intelligence was received in this city Tuesday morning of the tragic death in Lexington, Ky., of Mr. E. L. Chevassé, who left here just before Christmas to take a position in the office of Shelburne & Sons, warehouse. A telegraphic dispatch to The News and Observer gives the following details of the tragedy which caused the death some hours later, in a hospital, of Mr. Chevassé:

Lexington, Ky., March 16.—"Ernest L. Chevassé, book-keeper for the local tobacco warehouse of Shelburne & Sons, was struck by the Cincinnati Limited, a north bound passenger train of the Cincinnati Southern Railroad and his death is momentarily expected at St. Joseph's hospital. He is suffering from concussion of the brain, compound fracture of the right arm, wound in the stomach, besides, it is believed, other internal injuries.

Chevassé was en route from his boarding house to his rooming apartments and in a double track crossing, was waiting, standing on one track, for a freight train to pass, that he could proceed upon his homeward journey, when the passenger train turned a nearby curve on the track he was standing on and hurled him forty feet. His wife and two small children reside at Rocky Mount, N. C. He was well and favorably known here.

Mr. Ernest L. Chevassé was born in London, Eng., 44 years ago and came to this country in 1890, taking up his abode in Henderson, where an uncle lives. He engaged in the tobacco business, in which he continued until his untimely death in Lexington, Ky. While living in Henderson he was united in marriage to Miss Mary M. DeVera, of Chester, S. C., who was attending school in Oxford, The late Mrs. Chevassé and her two young children, a boy and a girl, reside now. Prior to his going to Lexington, on Dec. 1, of last year, Mr. Chevassé was with the W. L. Pett Co., as bookkeeper, and also did similar service at the Farmers warehouse. He was very popular with his business associates and liked by all in the community who knew him, to whom his tragic death was a sad shock. He was a member of the Rocky Mount Tobacco Board of Trade and the board will attend the funeral in a body this morning.

The remains were shipped here from Lexington and will be interred in Pine View cemetery at 11 o'clock today.

## Resolutions of Respect and Sympathy

At a called meeting of the Rocky Mount Tobacco Board of Trade, held on the 17th day of March 1908, the following resolutions, reported by a committee appointed for that purpose, were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, I. That we have heard with deepest sorrow of the tragic death, at Lexington, Ky., on yesterday, of our lamented friend and brother member of the Board of Trade, Ernest L. Chevassé, and wish to express to the bereaved family and friends of our departed member our deepest sympathy with them in this hour of affliction. He had been a resident of our city and a member of our Board of Trade for many years, and by his genial disposition, gentlemanly conduct and sterling worth as a man, endeared himself to every one with whom he came contact.

2. That these resolutions be spread upon our minutes; that copies of same be furnished press for publication, and that a copy be sent to his bereaved family.

3. That as a further mark of respect the Board of Trade be requested to attend the funeral in a body.

Respectfully submitted,  
Edgar W. Smith,  
C. C. Cooper,  
A. B. Willingham,  
Committee.

## Mrs. T. J. Harris Dead.

(News and Observer.)

There passed away yesterday morning at 7:30 at her home at Caraleigh, Miss Anna Harris, wife of Mr. T. J. Harris, after being ill for less than a week with pneumonia. Mrs. Harris was formerly Miss Annie Joyner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. N. T. Joyner of Nash county. She was a consistent member of Caraleigh Baptist church a devoted wife and mother. Besides a husband and six children she leaves to mourn her loss a father and three brothers, all of Nash county, and one sister, Mrs. John Drew, of this city. The funeral will be from her girlhood home and the interment will be at the old Joyner cemetery in Nash county.

## STATE SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION.

### Twenty-fifth Annual Convention of the North Carolina Sunday School Association.

The greatest Sunday school meeting of the year will take place in Burlington on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, April 7-9, in the Christian church. This will probably be the best convention the State association has ever held. The Burlington people are making every effort to make the delegates welcome. The entertainment will be free, and any one interested in Sunday school work may attend.

The music will be in charge of Messrs. Tullar and Meredith, of New York City, both of whom are known and loved in our State. It will be worth a trip to Burlington from any part of our State to be in the song service of the convention. They have few superiors as leaders of gospel music.

Among the speakers on the program are W. C. Pearce, of Chicago, the teacher training and organized adult department superintendent of the International Sunday School Association; Mrs. J. W. Barnes, superintendent of the elementary department of the International Association; Rev. B. W. Spilman, of our own State; Dr. Jas. A. B. Scherer, president of Newberry College, S. C., besides many other Sunday school workers in our State.

It will be of interest to all Sunday school workers to know that the afternoons are to be given to conference work. There will be conferences on primary work, on county and township officers, on organized adult class work, on Baraca and Philathea work and on teacher training.

Some of the subjects to be discussed are: "America in Sunday School Work," "World's Sunday School Convention at Rome," "Studies of Jesus as a Teacher," "The Pastor's Relation to the Sunday School," "The Making of a Teacher," "Marks of a Well-Run Sunday School," "How to Win and Hold Men," "The Boy Problem," "Children," "Temperance," "The Adult Organized Class Movement" and other subjects vitally connected with the Sunday school.

This is an inter-denominational Sunday school convention and every Sunday school in the State should have a representative in Burlington.

Any one wishing to attend should send their name to Mr. W. K. Holt, Burlington, and entertainment will be provided.

## Getting on in The World

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.

## Florence District Offices Abolished.

(Wilmington Messenger.)

The following order has been issued from the office of General Superintendent A. W. Anderson, of the second division, under date of March 11th, the order having been issued from Florence S. C.

"To all Concerned:

"Taking effect March 15th, 1908, employees on the line between Pee Dee and Navassa, Elrod and Conway, and the Conway Coast and Western railway, heretofore reporting to R. B. Hare, superintendent at Florence, will report to J. A. Fountain, superintendent at Wilmington District, Wilmington, N. C. "Employees on that portion of the line between Florence and Wadesboro, Sumpter and Parkton, the Bishopville, the Hartsville, and the Gibson branches heretofore reporting to R. B. Hare, superintendent, at Florence, will report to C. L. Porter, superintendent, Columbia District, Florence S. C.

This order means that effective March 15th, the present superintendent of the Wilmington district, in division No. 1, Mr. J. A. Fountain, will assume jurisdiction

on the Florence district, in the second division as superintendent, the A. C. L. officials having seen fit to divide the present Florence district.

That portion of the line north of Florence will report to Mr. Fountain while the portion of the district south of Florence will report to Superintendent Charles L. Porter, of the Columbia district.

The order abolishes in effect the Florence district, recently established, dividing it between the Wilmington and Columbia districts.

Under this order Mr. Fountain becomes superintendent of 548 miles of the system. This means increased responsibility, which however it is certain will be well cared for. Mr. Fountain is a capable and efficient superintendent, whose efforts have been always exerted for the betterment of the road.

## Whitakers Items.

"Spring time has come, Gentle Annie," and soon the songs of bird and bee will be heard from early dawn to close of day.

Miss Annie Mann, a young lady of exquisite charms and beauty, has returned from Nashville, where she has been visiting her Aunt, Mrs. Lizzie Carter.

Misses Tomlinson and Young and Messrs. Wyatt and Tomlinson, of Smithfield, were the guests of Eld. A. J. Moore last week.

Maj. Jno. W. Blount, of the Elm City Mirror, spent Saturday and Sunday here. Mr. Blount is a very brilliant writer and a most excellent fireside companion.

We were glad to meet on our streets Mr. Jesse H. Herbert, of Rocky Mount last week.

Mrs. Beavens Whitaker, of Winston-Salem, is spending some time with her father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Cutchin.

Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Greene and little son, Alton Cutchin Greene, have been visiting their parents at this place.

Rev. Mr. Whitaker, preached a very able sermon at the M. P. church Sunday night.

Rev. Mr. Overton began a protracted meeting at the M. E. church Monday night, and preached a very able sermon to an appreciative audience.

The angel of death has again visited our town and taken from the home of Mr. J. C. Moore his little year old son, Joseph Andrew, whose beautiful and bright little face made him the pet of all who saw him. The bereaved family have our heartfelt sympathy.

If the legislature would pass a uniform, reasonable, high-license tax on whiskey, and every one to manufacture and sell who chose to do so, then enact a law making drunkenness a misdemeanor, and upon conviction the parties so convicted should serve a term of 30 days in the chain gang, irrespective, such a law would be worth all the State prohibition laws that could be passed. This law would do away with all illicit stills and blind tiger business.

"Rolyat."

## Suit for Slander.

(Enfield Progress.)

Three suits have been instituted by A. P. Kitchin, of Scotland Neck, against S. W. Morrisett, Frank Shields, and N. B. Josey, of the same place, for \$20,000 each. The bills of complaint filed allege slanderous statements by the defendants to the effect that the liquor election by which Scotland Neck went several years ago was stolen for the saloon interest by Mr. Kitchin, who was one of the pole holders. The case promises to be hard fought and to attract a great deal of attention. The attorneys for the prosecution are Kitchin and Smith, of Scotland Neck; W. E. Daniel, of Weldon; and E. L. Travis, of Halifax. Albion Dunn, of Scotland Neck; and Day, Bell and Dunn, of Enfield, will conduct the defense.

## State Convention Charlotte, June 24.

The State Democratic executive committee, in session at Raleigh Wednesday night, decided, by a vote of 49 to 29 to hold the next convention in Charlotte, the other contesting city being Greensboro, where the conventions have been held the past several years. The time fixed for the convention is Wednesday, June 24th.

## The Personal Interest

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?

## HAPPENINGS IN POLICE COURT.

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

The recorder's docket was light for the last three days of the past week and only small offenses were tried. Thursday, Jim Webb, for disorderly in a negro pool room, was fined \$5.

Saturday, Millard Sanders, for drunk and disorderly, was fined \$20, and Arch Thomas colored was assessed \$1.50 cost in addition to his taxes for failing to work out same when ordered to do so.

When court was convened Monday morning there was a heavier docket than for some days previous. The first on the list was David Stewart, drunk, \$5; J. W. Parham, drunk, \$5; John Hudson drunk, \$5; W. T. Langley, drunk and disorderly, \$10. Roy Mann and Drew Coley, for ridiculing, harassing and otherwise annoying old man D. B. Harris, at the Falls, were fined \$7.50 each. The boys had made life miserable for Mr. Harris by a series of jeers, taunts etc, and his patience ceasing to be equal to it he applied to the law for protection.

Tuesday morning Glarence Wilson, a negro hobo from Fayetteville, was given 30 days for beating a train.

For a week past there has been very little doing in Tribulation Hall and Wednesday morning's sessions was no exception. George Edmunson was required to pay \$2 for leaving his horse unattended on the street. Charles Ravenner, a colored man who was arrested for trespassing on the property of the oil mill, after being forbidden, was allowed to go because of physical disabilities.

## Sharpsburg.

Sometimes it may seem as though a place had served its day and generation, and would therefore be known only in history. But though like Rip Van Winkle a slumber of seven years or longer may take place, there are still dormant energies that may be aroused, activities that may be developed, and with the inflow of fresh blood and energy a place may take upon itself new life. Such has been the case with Sharpsburg. Within a few years a progressive spirit is being manifested, and the town is having a slow but steady growth. Six stores now conduct its mercantile business, furnishing every variety of goods to the town and the community, conducted by enterprising merchants, ever ready to accommodate and please their customers. A good banking institution serves the financial interests of the town and surrounding country. From a very respectable railroad station a large amount of freight is shipped and received, indicating a healthy activity in business.

Our mechanics are busy in their various trades, new buildings are in progress, and everything shows that Sharpsburg has aroused to new life and progress.

While material interests are advancing the intellectual and moral and spiritual welfare of the people is receiving proper attention. We have a large public school and the teacher, Miss Rosa B. Westray, is proving herself to be an earnest, enterprising and successful teacher, highly esteemed by the community.

The Missionary Baptist church has a new pastor, Rev. E. B. Walts formerly of Woodland, N. C. Preaching services are held every second Sunday, morning and night. They will soon have a re-ordination service for their pastor and in April Sunday school will be reopened and a prayer meeting held on Wednesday nights.

Sharpsburg.

## Earnings of the A. C. L.

The following special from Raleigh showing the earnings of the Atlantic Coast Line R. R. Co., will be read with interest:

Raleigh, N. C., March 16.—The Atlantic Coast Line Railway reports to the corporation commission its gross earnings for the quarter ending December 31st as being \$1,884,529, against \$1,814,558 for the same quarter in 1906. The operating expenses last quarter amounted to \$1,316,904, against \$1,237,715 in 1906. Total number of passengers carried last quarter 561,868 against 404,913 for same quarter in 1906.

## 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?