

Along

Emily Killette

Many local families can be traced to Barbara Gastor Beverett Carr who is credited with discovering the spring in Kenansville. And, a poem was published in the Sep-tember 16, 1949 issue of THE DUPLIN TIMES about the

Barbara Gastor Beverett came to Duplin and her husband Jacob Beverett was st at sea. She later married Duplin resident Joseph Carr. The spring in Kenansville has played an important part in the history and legends of Duplin County, It is told that the spring was discovered when Mrs. Beverett was looking for gold and later the same spring played an important part in selecting the site for the Duplin County seat. Two sites were selected for the construction of the Duplin County Courthouse and the site selection committee was evenly divided between a location at Sarecta and the present spot in Kenansville. James Kenan is said to have cast the deciding vote in favor of constructing the courthouse in Kenansville because of the cool spring. Today the spring still flows and the poem entitled "The Spring in Kenansville" written by Mrs. Addie Carr Carlton follows:

As I sit by this spring I must reminisce well Of the stories and facts Which my Granny did tell. How we'd sit by the fire

On cold wintery nights And live through her life In the Civil War fights, Sherman's men, how they ransacked

Every farm, every barn The South--only God's mercy Kept the people from harm

How my grandfather, then A handsome young lad Came home from the war Lonely, rugged and sad. How we laugh at her new muslin

And her funny "shuck" hat

And her honeymoon ride Astride a horseback. Of ancestors noble--A tale she'd relate

And the family tree of which A part was our fate. Of each branch, you're a twig She'd proudly say

Come summer, come winter And sway as you may.

Of that tree Fruit you will bear-

Watch your step, take heed And beware-The world will be affected How great or how small

The kind of fruit of that tree You share with them all. Of the Carr brothers

Durham, Robeson, Duplin; To adventure and trade and--To live their life's end. As a child I remember Hearing so well the

Stories of Kenansville They did re-tell. How great, great grand-

Barbara Carr Wife of "Captain Joe" Came from the lad a far.

While journeying around Looking for a place to live Dug with her hands the Spring in Kenansville.

Though a legent it's true As I sit here and pine

And think of the things With the passing of time.

This spring--so clear So crystal and pure Can I with my life Be so free and so sure? To give to my heirs Something from which, can gain

A confidence a patience A courage, a refrain. How well she did teach That the Giver of Life Gave to each of us

The supreme sacrifice. So now as I look into This beautiful stream Which has flowed through

the years Oh -- what a theme! It has quenched the thirst

Of so many passing by The young and the old It has stopped a baby's

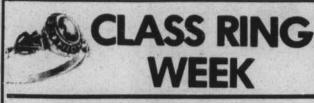
Yet -- material things Though it be We have a promise Everlasting and free. "Ye who are weary

Or thirsty may be

The water of life eternal

I will give thee." The poem was written in memory of Mrs. Carlton's grandparents, Eliza Catherine Carr and Jacob

Obed Carr of Kenansville.



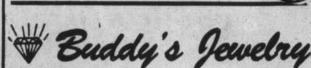
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