

St. Augustine's Record

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No. 1

DEATH OF DR. HUNTER

Rev. Aaron Burtis Hunter, D.D., for many years head of St. Augustine's, died in Manchester, Vermont, on July 12th. At the time of his death the following editorial appeared in *The Raleigh News and Observer*:

FAREWELL TO A GENTLEMAN

"No gentler gentleman ever lived in Raleigh than Dr. Aaron Burtis Hunter who came from Pennsylvania nearly half a century ago to devote his life to the education of young Negroes in the St. Augustine's School.

Even in the eighties in the South men who came from the North to educate the Negro were still viewed with some slight suspicion by a people who had seen other men with carpetbags coming from the North two decades before. Dr. Hunter was the perfect antithesis of the carpetbagger and a high example of those other northern men who came to the South after the war with only good wishes in their hearts and carried only good wishes away.

Fortunately for Raleigh, however, Dr. Hunter remained. For twenty-seven years he was active in making St. Augustine's an excellent school for the colored race. After his retirement as its head, he travelled, collected books, and moved among his friends. His collection of books, many of them dating from the first century of printing, enriches the library of the University of North Carolina. His life and his services enriched the town of his adoption."

Dr. Hunter's body was brought to Raleigh on September 12th and conveyed to St. Augustine's Chapel by a group of prominent Raleigh citizens where it remained until the funeral in Christ Church in Raleigh on the 14th. Christ Church was crowded with the friends of Dr. Hunter, of both races. Bishop Penick, Rev. Dr. Barber of Christ Church, Rev. Mr. Goold, President of St. Augustine's College, and the Rev. J. W. Heritage, a graduate of St. Augustine's and President of the Alumni Association, took part in the service. The pallbearers were teachers and former students of St. Augustine's who had been at St. Augustine's under Dr. Hunter. There were also present many of the clergy of both races. The interment was in Oakwood Cemetery in a plot not far from the grave of Dr. J. Brinton Smith, first head of St. Augustine's and Dr. Mary Glenton, for many years superintendent of St. Agnes Hospital.

RESOLUTIONS

OF

THE WAKE COUNTY INTER-RACIAL COMMITTEE

In Memory of the

Rt. Rev. JOSEPH BLOUNT CHESHIRE, D.D.
and of the

Rev. AARON BURTIS HUNTER, D.D.

It is with joy and thanksgiving that we make mention of the names of the Rt. Rev. Joseph Blount Cheshire, D.D., Bishop of North Carolina, and of the Rev. Aaron Burtis Hunter, D.D., sometime principal of St. Augustine's School.

As Principal of St. Augustine's School for over twenty-five years, Dr. Hunter not only built an educational institution but created an inter-racial understanding and relationship of mutual respect that have been carried as far as the graduates have gone, and that have entered into the enduring foundation of the present college.

Bishop Cheshire through all the years of his long and powerful life stood firmly for the justice and the friendship between the races that made him the trusted friend and adviser, the one to be depended upon by those who sought the honest ground of co-operation and good-will.

To such men always, to these two men most emphatically, the future to which we all look forward will be indebted more than we can know or can possibly express.

BERTHA RICHARDS, *Chairman.*

EDGAR H. GOOLD

LOUISE M. LATHAM

WILLIAM STUART NELSON

N. C. NEWBOLD

October 31,
1933.

E. McNEILL POTEAT

HAROLD L. TRIGG

THE LATE DR. HUNTER

(From *The Raleigh News and Observer*)

Dr. Hunter, president emeritus of St. Augustine's College, leading Negro institution here, was outstanding in the affairs of the Episcopal church and had devoted much of his untiring efforts to the welfare of St. Augustine's. He came to the institution in 1888 and served as vice-principal until 1891. St. Augustine's had not attained the college standard at that time. Dr. Hunter served as principal from 1891 to 1915.

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