

THE REUNION.

Wednesday was a beautiful day, and everyone was in high spirits over going to Blowing Rock; in fact it had been the talk for a week. The sun set Wednesday evening on a large number of wagons filled with people who had arrived in time to get good places to camp, and not a few tents had been stretched on the grounds to give the place the appearance of war times. Wednesday morning the sky was dark; the clouds hung low, and to go or not to go was the question. Our people are courageous in peace as well as war, and a little rain could not hinder them from starting, especially when they had their provisions already prepared, wagons loaded and everything ready. The rain was needless that day, falling as it did on hundreds of people on their way to Blowing Rock. At 10 o'clock a line of march formed on the plateau near the Watauga Hotel; the band in front followed by soldiers, then by citizens, and marched to the speakers stand near the Blowing Rock Hotel.

The band rendered some very fine music when they arrived at the stand, after which Maj. Harper, after a few brief remarks, introduced Capt. J. W. Todd, of Jefferson, who began in his inimitable style a fine speech; but before he had fairly begun a severe and blinding storm came on bringing down the rain in torrents and broke up the meeting.

During the evening the people tramped through the mud stood in their tents and wagons, or sought shelter in the stores and houses. At night there was a dance at the Watauga Hotel; so many being present they came very near crowding out the dancers.

Friday morning the sun rose bright and dispersed the clouds, and the gloom and disappointment from the hearts of the people. At 11, a. m., the procession again formed and marched to the speaking grounds where Dr. Council introduced Judge J. Grey Bynum, of Morganton. His speech was well delivered and equally well received by the audience. He commenced by referring to camp scenes when the soldiers were wrapt in their blankets, with mother earth for a couch; when there passed in their minds visions of home and loved ones, wife and children beseeching a merciful God to protect them from the storm of fire and blood. Then they prayed to God to spare them and let them return to wives and children, and if not spared, for them to keep in memory their names, because they represented the highest type of American manhood. Shall I portray to you a soldier after a fierce battle? If I were able to put a tongue in every soldier's wound who fell from Bethel to Appomattox, they could not tell of the suffering and sorrow of one battle. Shall I tell you of Lee whose life and character has been told in words of living light? Shall I tell you of that christian man of peace and

Shall I come nearer and home and tell you of Gordon, of Wilkes, a marvel alike to friend and foe? I want to speak to you of a few plain thoughts which have been cast upon my mind. I would utter no harsh word that would induce any mean passion, or turn flag against flag. For four years I marched under the Confederate flag and every vibration of my heart was for that flag, and now it gives me pride and pleasure to march under the stars and stripes. Never let the blush of shame fall upon the cheek of a Confederate soldier. If rebellion means love of country, home and family, then let the record on your tomb be: "Here lies a Rebel." The history of the war is being written by the survivors of the war, and coming ages will do you justice and tell what you were and what you did. The Judge then spoke of being a few weeks since at Quebec and seeing the place where the battle between England and France for the possession of Canada was fought. The battle took place on the plain of Abraham on the 13th day of Sep., 1759, in which the British were successful, but lost Wolf their commander. The French who owned Canada were defeated, and lost their leader, Montcalm. In 1837 the people erected a common monument to the opposing commanders with Wolf's name on one side and Montcalm's on the other with this inscription: "Valor gave to them a common death; history a common fame and posterity a common monument." There is in the citadel at Quebec, a six pound cannon taken from the Americans at Bunker Hill by the British. When I saw it I thought, you got the cannon, we got Bunker Hill. In a small village on the Susquehanna, in Penn., is a monument with this inscription: "Sacred to the memory of those who died in suppressing the Rebellion, in this country. At Washington is a monument erected to the memory of the Marine who died in crushing the Rebellion. In the National museum is the old camp chest of George Washington. In another place is a glass case containing the relics of General Grant. I was proud of these things but my heart beat with more pride when a few further on my eyes beheld a Confederate uniform.

The Federal soldiers in their old age are paid millions upon millions in pensions, the Confederates take care of themselves, conduct yourselves rightly and preserve your honor. History will give to Lee and Grant a common fame and let us hope posterity a common monument.

The gun called the idea to my mind "you got the victory we got the honor." Make your reunion pleasant by going over past history. The speaker then urged the people to remember decoration day and strew the graves with flowers. He then urged the soldiers to induce the Legislature to appropriate a small amount to build a monument in every county to the dead soldiers.

Prior to 1861, N. C. had never polled over one hundred thousand votes during the war, she sent one hundred and forty thousand

soldiers to battle. She furnished two Lieut. Generals, eight Major Generals, and 21 Brig. Generals peers of any.

From Bethel to Appomattox, N. C. Troops never failed to be as near foe as any. Keep alive in the hearts love and respect for the Confederate soldier. The close of his speech was eloquent and pathetic. He begged the old soldiers to so conduct themselves that people would honor and respect them.

Capt. Todd was then called on to finish his speech which was stopped by the rain on Thursday. The Captain was in his best mood and kept the audience in a good humor all the time. He related a great many war experiences and closed with a touching appeal to his old comrades to be good citizens and hoped to meet them, if not in this world, in a better and brighter one.

Prof. Miller, of Shall's Mills, a war-worn Veteran, who served with the Louisiana Tigers, then addressed the people in an enthusiastic speech. He told of the bravery of the Louisianians at Gettysburg who were the only ones that planted their flags on the breast-works of the enemy. He also told how the Louisianians at the second Manassas fought with rocks after their ammunition had given out. "As brave as the Louisianians were, there were others as brave."

The rain then came again to interrupt the speaking, while the crowd was breaking up, a motion was made to have the Reunion at Lenoir next year, which was unanimously carried.

The Hickory band was composed of 18 gentlemen, with Hugh H. Merrill of the Press and Carolinian as manager.

The good people of Blowing Rock did everything in their power to accommodate the people and make them have a good time. The proprietors of the Blowing Rock Hotel gave the band a sumptuous dinner Thursday. Police Edmisten, with several assistants, kept good order all the time. Dave Dugger declared that no man since Jackson could march him through such mud. There were some two hundred wagons and about 2,500 people present, and taking all into consideration the Reunion at Blowing Rock was a decided success, and will long be remembered as a very pleasant occasion.

G. W. SANDERLIN'S LETTER. Raleigh, N. C. Aug. 19th 1891.—J. B. Clarke, Esq., Dear Sir:

I am just home for my vacation and find your kind favor of the 8th inst awaiting me. It would give me great pleasure to be with you and address the old soldiers of the occasion referred to but I am so situated that I cannot possibly get away from my office after having been already away so long and with one of my clerks now absent on his vacation. I remember my pleasant experience of a year ago at Blowing Rock and shall be glad to repeat it whenever in my power to do so. Thanking you for your kind remembrance of me and assuring you and my old comrades that though absent from them in body I shall be present in spirit. I remain very truly yours, G. W. SANDERLIN.

JUDGE AVERY'S LETTER. Morganton, N. C. Aug. 19. Capt. J. B. Clarke.—My dear sir:

The kind invitation sent by you, or a member of the committee on invitation, of the Western North Carolina Veteran association, was received in due time. I have not hitherto answered it, because I had hoped, up to this time, to be with you before the old soldiers should separate at least.

It was my fortune during the war to have served in North Carolina, in the Army of the Potomac and to the Army of Tennessee, and on the spot as well as in the field, I have had opportunity to witness the conduct of our Western North Carolina Troops under trying circumstances. As a native of the State, feeling and sensitively watchful of her welfare, never did I have cause to blush for my State, or to look with any feeling but that of pride upon the bravery of her men or officers. It would be a pleasure to see the faces of old friends, whose heads are now whitening with the fogs that never melt, and to give them something to cheer and bid them a hearty God-speed. Especially would it be gratifying to greet old comrades with whom I have shared peril and privation.

God bless the good old soldiers of our mountains, and give them prosperity and happiness. Hoping that you will have a delightful Reunion of the heroes of the Last Cause, I am very sincerely yours, A. C. AVERY.

Cruelty to Horses.

Although we have a law for bidding men from treating animals in a cruel manner, yet it is evident that many poor horses are abused by hard driving and riding. Young men often drive horses at break-neck speed up and down the mountains through mud, over rocks and every where else. Hail-riders are often guilty of cruel riding and neglecting their horses in many ways. Owners of horses should not put their horses in care of men, young or old who will abuse them. Men who abuse stock ought to be indicted and punished. A few cases of this kind would have a good effect towards stopping cruelty to stock. The horse is a noble animal, and man's best servant, and should be treated kindly.

PUBLIC SAFETY DEMANDS

That only honest and reliable medicines should be placed upon the market. It cannot, therefore, be stated too emphatically, nor repeated too often, that all who are in need of a genuine blood-purifier should beware and ask for

Ayer's

Sarsaparilla. Your life, or that of some one near and dear to you, may depend on the use of this well-approved remedy in preference to any other preparation of similar name. It is composed of Heroin's sarsaparilla (the variety most rich in purifying properties), astringent, magenta, yellow dock, and the iodine. The process of manufacture is original, scientific, scrupulously exact, and such as to secure the very best medicinal qualities of each ingredient. This medicine is not bitter nor bruted, and is, therefore, not a deception; but it is a compound extract, obtained by a method exclusively our own, of the best and most powerful alternatives, barks and diuretics known to pharmacy. For the last forty years, Ayer's

Sarsaparilla

has been the standard blood-purifier of the world—our other competitors in its popular endorsement or universal demand. Its formula is approved by the leading physicians and druggists. Being pure and slightly concentrated, it is the most economical of any possible blood-purifier. Every purchaser of Sarsaparilla should insist upon having this preparation and see that each bottle bears the well-known name of

J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.

In every quarter of the globe Ayer's Sarsaparilla is proved to be the best remedy for all diseases of the blood. Lowell druggists unite in testifying to the superior excellence of this medicine and in its great popularity in the city of its manufacture.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla

Prepared by DR. J. C. AYER & CO., Lowell, Mass. Sold by Druggists, Everywhere.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

The Firm Of Coffey & Council, Elk Park N. C.

Was dissolved by mutual consent on the 16th day of March 1891, Mr. W. E. Coffey retiring. The firm of I. L. Council & Brother, consisting of I. L. Council & W. B. Council Jr. Successors to Coffey & Council will carry on a

GENERAL MERCHANDISE business at Elk Park, N. C. —Will buy and sell— COUNTRY PRODUCE Of every description, keeping constantly on hand a COMPLETE STOCK OF DRY GOODS, GROCERIES, PROVISIONS, Etc., Etc., Etc.

The new firm wishes to call the attention of the public to their new Spring and Summer Stock of Dry Goods, NOTIONS, HATS, Shoes, Etc., recently purchased on Northern and other markets which it will always be their pleasure to show.

The Farmers Will be dealt liberally with, in the exchange of goods for country produce or cash. All mail orders promptly filled and satisfaction guaranteed. Respectfully, I. L. COUNCIL & BRO. May 21, 1891.

HERE WE ARE! ON TOP!

We propose to make it to your interest to trade with us, and in so doing, we give you some articles that are contained in our

ENDORSED STOCK on which we propose to give you unequalled BARGAINS BOOTS & SHOES.

550 pairs Boots and Shoes. In this line we can fit and suit all. The very best values at panic prices. See our line before buying. Dry Goods. Four thousand, five hundred yards of Dry Goods. Here you will find the latest styles and best qualities at un-beat-of prices.

Groceries! Groceries! In this branch we carry a FRESH STOCK, both staple and fancy, at prices lower than the bottom notch.

Hats, Hats. A nice lot at the very lowest prices. We can fit any body. Call and examine our stock before buying elsewhere.

Jeans! JEANS!! JEANS!!! We have the largest stock in town, which will be sold at special low prices.

Clothing. This department is complete. We can fit the tall the short, the lean, and the fat. BOY'S CLOTHING! A nice lot which will be sold at a very low figure. Gent's Furnishing Goods, Shirts, Drawers, Collars, Cuff, Underware, Gloves, Hos, Handkerchiefs, Cravats, &c.

Can suit all in this department. In connection with my other business I run a Hotel and Feed STABLE, which we think is equal to any in the county, and we guarantee our prices as low as any in the County.

Thanking my customers for past favors, I remain Very Respectfully, W. L. Bryan.