



**GARRETT HOUSE**—J. R. Garrett, a Bertie County carpenter, came to Ahoskie as a young man when the town was growing by leaps and bounds. He established himself as "The Builder" of the young community. This rambling frame mansion was built by Garrett for his family on the spot where a big sawmill had located in the 1880's and given impetus to the beginning of the town. The house, still the home of Garrett's son and his family, is located at the corner of Catharine Creek Road and Church Street.



**EARLY STREET SCENES IN AHSOKIE:** Taken sometime before the First World War, these famous photographs of Ahoskie's Main Street indicate the growth which the town had seen in the first 30 years after it started as a village at a railroad crossing. The left photo shows Main Street looking east, the right shows the street



looking westward. The photographer aimed at the railroad crossing in both shots. The photos of Main Street, and other scenes of Church Street, were used on picture post cards which citizens of the young town proudly mailed to their friends—and proudly saved so that future generations could get a look at the town in its infancy.

**COURT**

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license to retail whiskey at the hotel in Murfreesboro.

**Conflict Ends**

When next the Hertford County Court met at Union Church, the Civil War was over. Government

business, all had come to a temporary standstill as the stunned South waited for the next move.

The County Court took cognizance of the conditions. It passed a motion laying a tax—"hoping the authorities will allow it"—on luxury items to provide for "the needy and the destitute." The tax

was 12.5 cents on the \$100 valuation of watches, plate, jewelry, furniture and other items.

The tax was laid "taking in consideration the needy and destitute, the situation of the pauper and poor . . . we must do something, or they will suffer as no Christian people would like to see."

A committee was named to look for a ferry flat, "said to be now at Winton," to be used at Murfreesboro. Committees were named to let the keeping of Tar Landing and Wicacoan ferries and Hill's Bridge ferries.

And thus, the story of Hertford's war years, as told in the actions

of the county's governing body, ended.

In August, 1865, a new Court met, composed of men appointed by the provisional government of the state. It was to work diligently for two years before military government took over, repairing the damage of four years of war.



PROFESSOR JOHN KIMBERLY

**Buckhorn Headmaster**

**A Famous Professor**

Professor John Kimberly was one of Hertford County's most famous early educators.

A native of Brooklyn, Kimberly came to Hertford in the 1840's to become master of Buckhorn Academy at present-day Como, a school which had been operating since 1820.

Highly trained, Kimberly quickly established the school as one of good reputation and drew students from throughout northeastern North Carolina. Many of the sons of leading Hertford families trained under Kimberly during this decade.

The professor married daughters of two important families—Maney and Capchart.

In 1854, he was elected to a professorship of chemistry at the University of North Carolina and served there until the Civil War. He served at the University for a short period after the war, and then moved to Asheville, where he became a gentleman farmer.

Thousands of letters and other manuscripts collected by Kimberly and members of his family during the 1840-60 period are in the Southern Historical Collection at Chapel Hill. They constitute a rich source of contemporary material on life in Hertford County in the middle of the 19th century.



**NAVAL STORES**—Little known, but true, is the fact that the production of "naval stores" was the chief industry of Hertford County during much of its early history. This photograph shows one method used to get the resin from pine trees out of which tar, known as "pitch," was manufactured. The trees were "bled" for the resin. More typical of the work, however, was the tar "kiln" in which felled trees were slowly burnt and the escaping resin run off into barrels. Production of naval stores was the main industry of the area during the entire colonial period and during much of the first half of the 19th century.

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