

# THE QUAKERS OF GUILFORD.

BY MARY MENDENHALL HOBBS.

The Friends came to Guilford county, N. C., not as some have supposed to escape persecution in the localities from whence they came, but because they were seeking "fresh woods and pastures new," and knew a good thing when they found it.

They came from Pennsylvania where there were wide acres—many of which they held deeded by William Penn himself—and where of all places on the globe they were facile primus, and from Nantucket, whose sons claimed the "boundless main" as their home and whose rocky shores sheltered a few people who did not fear the oppression of the self-righteous Puritan.

This immigration of Quakers took place about the same time as the larger influx of Scotch-Irish into the central counties of North Carolina, and is most interestingly described by Dr. Stephen B. Weeks in his "Southern Quakers and Slavery."

The Pennsylvania and Nantucket Quakers mingled and intermarried with the Scotch-Irish whose whole modus vivendi was the opposite of their own.

Almost all the members of the denomination at the present day, who are "birth right" can trace their descent from one or both of these sources, and those who congratulate themselves upon their Nantucket origin may be interested in the following doggerel which was supposed tersely to describe those same ancestors. Those who find rather harsh judgment here may console themselves that long ere this the infusion of other qualities has eliminated the ill and strengthened the good.

The Rays and Russells coopers are,  
The knowing Folgers lazy,  
A lying Coleman very rare,  
And scarce a learned Hussey,  
The Coffins noisy, fractious, loud,  
The silent Gardners plodding,  
The Mitchells good,  
The Bakers proud,  
The Macys eat the pudding,  
The Lovetts stalwart, brave and stern,  
The Starbucks wild and vain,  
The Quakers steady, mild and calm,  
The Swains sea-faring men,  
And the jolly Worths go sailing  
down the wind.

These were not the first Friends to come to North Carolina, and it is likely that Henry Phillips who, in 1665, came to Albemarle from New England, was seeking a refuge from the tyranny of Massachusetts where Friends suffered martyrdom on Boston Common.

At his home the gospel was first preached in the infant colony by William Edmondson, of England. Later George Fox himself, the founder of the denomination, visited the little settlement, and members were added to the church.

These Friends erected the first place of worship in the colony and gave to the Commonwealth its first Governor, John Archdale.

By them also at the suggestion of George Fox the North Carolina Yearly Meeting was established about 1698, though services are only preserved as far back as 1708. For many years the Yearly Meeting was held in Perquimans, then as the center of gravity shifted westward it was moved to accommodate the majority, and for many years was held at New Garden, more recently at High Point, in Guilford county.

A common faith was the one bond between the Friends of these two sections. They were not of the same origin, neither was the one the result of the missionary work of the other. In this county the Friends settled at New Garden, Deep River, Springfield, Dover, Centre, Jamestown and intervening localities, western Guilford in the main. At all of these places and several others meetings for worship were established, and several monthly meetings set up, of which New Garden, set off from Cane Creek in 1754, is the oldest.

Their habits of industry and thrift did not desert them in their new homes and they at once set to work clearing forests, plowing fields, erecting mills, and starting tan-yards. Some were potters and plied their trade, some were hatters and Beard's celebrated hat shop was the result.

Members greatly increased after the colony was well established, new bands of immigrants coming in from time to time, as well as additions "through conviction of Friends' views."

I have heard my father say that in his boyhood, on the road between Jamestown and Deep River Meeting House as they passed by Beard's hatter shop he has counted fifty carriages well filled with Friends wending their way to meeting. At the present time most Sabbath mornings see only one,

# GUILFORD COLLEGE

Guilford College has grown out of the long and earnest efforts of the Friends in North Carolina to build and equip an institution of learning most thorough in every department of instruction; and represents the work of a large number of wealthy Friends in various parts of America and England, who have felt the vital importance of a strong central college to promote the cause of Christian education. The institution was opened in 1837, and has been in continuous operation since.

### MATERIAL EQUIPMENT.

**FOUNDERS' HALL,** 120 by 40 feet, three stories, with dining hall and kitchen attached, a home for girls and part of the faculty. **KING HALL,** 120 by 50 feet, with octagon front, two stories, contains assembly room with one hundred and fifty single desks; **Library,** 50 by 30 feet, of about five thousand volumes, Dr. Hartshorne's recent donation; **Dr. Mendenhall Memorial and Websterian and Henry Clay Society Libraries,** two elegantly furnished Society Halls, Collegian office, and eight large and well-furnished classrooms.

**ARCHDALE HALL,** 96 by 40 feet, two stories, equipped as a lodging hall for young men, single beds, two students in a room, a member of the faculty in charge.

**Y. M. C. A. HALL,** two stories, one large room reserved for the Association meetings, the rest of the building furnished as a lodging hall for young men, a member of the faculty in charge.

**MEMORIAL HALL,** erected to the memory of Mary Elizabeth Lyon, by

her brothers, B. N. and J. B. Duke, of Durham, N. C., 117 by 50 feet, with ten feet additional width at west end, two stories with basement, containing museum, valuable collections of minerals and animals, chemical, physical, and biological laboratories, classrooms, and President's office; the entire second floor forming a magnificent auditorium, furnished with opera chairs, with seating capacity of eight hundred.

All these buildings are supplied with water, the system of sewerage having just been completed.

### FACULTY.

The faculty of six men and four women represent a wide range of scholarship and culture.

President Hobbs and Professors Davis and Hodgkin are natives of Guilford county. Professors White, Wilson, and Redding are natives of North Carolina, and all except Mr. Redding are graduates of Haverford College. Professor Davis studied a year in Germany. The President visited England in the interest of the College in 1891.

Mrs. Lydia N. Blair, Principal of the Preparatory Department, was prepared for college in the excellent schools in Canada, graduated in the classical course at Earlham College, Indiana, and also in the Normal School of Toronto, Ontario.

Miss Louisa Osborn was graduated in the classical course at Earlham College, and taught a number of years in the West before coming to Guilford.

Miss Henryanna Hackney received the Bryn Mawr Scholarship at Guilford, and studied one year at Bryn Mawr College.



### LOCATION.

The buildings are beautifully situated on a four hundred-acre dairy farm six miles west of Greensboro. The spacious buildings, pleasing lawns, the elevation nearly a thousand feet above the sea, good drainage, excellent water and wholesome food with plenty of fresh milk and butter made on the well-cultivated farm, all conduce to good health, good order, and good work.

### SCHOLARSHIPS.

Bryn Mawr College gives each year to the best scholar of the young women of the graduating class a scholarship of \$400; Haverford, to the best scholar of the young men, \$300; and the University a tuition scholarship to the best scholar, either young man or young woman, admitted to Senior class, at Chapel Hill.

### COEDUCATIONAL.

This Institution has been coeducational from its founding; and the system is no experiment, its advantages to both sexes being very great in respect to intellectual development, good order in and out of school, and in respect to purity and refinement of manners.

### DEPARTMENTS.

Classical leading to B. A. degree. Scientific and Latin Scientific leading to B. S. degree, Musical and Preparatory.

### EXPENSES.

Tuition in college, per year..... \$52  
Tuition in preparatory, per year.. 40  
Board, including furnished rooms, lights, fuel, service, and medical fee, per month..... 8  
Laundry, per month..... 1  
Total for year in college classes..\$133  
Total for year in preparatory classes ..... 121

### CLUB SYSTEM.

Board in clubs for young men, the College furnishing dining-hall and

cook free of charge from \$30 to \$4 per month.

Cottages have been built and furnished in which young women may live comfortably on \$4 per month, all under the care of a competent matron furnished without charge by the College.

### AIM.

The College, with all its excellent equipment, water supply, comfortable rooms, wholesome food, thorough teaching and high moral and religious tone exists solely for the good it can do in the work of educating young men and women for the duties of life, and for higher scholarly and professional pursuits. The large material and cash endowment alone enables the expenses to be placed low, so as to bring the advantages of an education within the reach of all.

For catalogue apply to

L. L. HOBBS, President, or  
GEO. W. WHITE, Treasurer,  
Guilford College, N. C.



MEMORIAL HALL.



INTERIOR VIEW OF AUDITORIUM.

and only semi-occasionally two or three.

The Friends were from principle opposed to slavery, having freed their own slaves years before there was any general movement towards that end. This fact made them unpopular, and with prophetic vision that is sanctified common sense, they saw that "the burning out of the foulest chimney of the century" as Carlyle called it, would scatter many fire brands, and so desiring peace and not strife they left North Carolina by thousands and sought homes for themselves on the free soil of the West, where at present several large Yearly Meetings are in the main composed of their descendants.

Those who remained suffered in many ways. They were opposed to all war and would not take the oath of allegiance to the Confederate Government. A full account of this period may be found in "Southern Heroes," by G. F. Cartland.

There are at present in Guilford county about fifteen hundred Friends, I can not give the exact number because we are registered by Quarterly Meetings, and some monthly meetings in Guilford county belong to Quarterly Meetings mainly in other counties.

There are six monthly meetings in this county, New Garden, Dover, Greensboro, Deep River, High Point, Springfield and Centre. Two Quarterly Meetings, Deep River and New Garden.

The Friends have always been earnest advocates of education, and in 1837 opened a large boarding school for both sexes at New Garden. This institution has grown in usefulness and equipment until recently it was changed to Guilford College.

The Yearly Meeting also has a well established and very attractive orphanage near High Point. Besides these "good works" the Friends have a mission station in the Blue Ridge, and a very wide territory in Davie county. They carry on evangelistic, temperance, peace, Sabbath school, and other lines of Christian service through large committees.

## JAMESTOWN.

A Thriving Village on the Southern Railway.

Jamestown is one of those beautiful little villages that dot the rolling hills of Guilford, and lend enchantment to the seeker after virtue in the walks of men.

It was settled by the Quakers in the early days when the followers of the immortal Fox came to find unmolested homes among the hills and valleys of Western North Carolina.

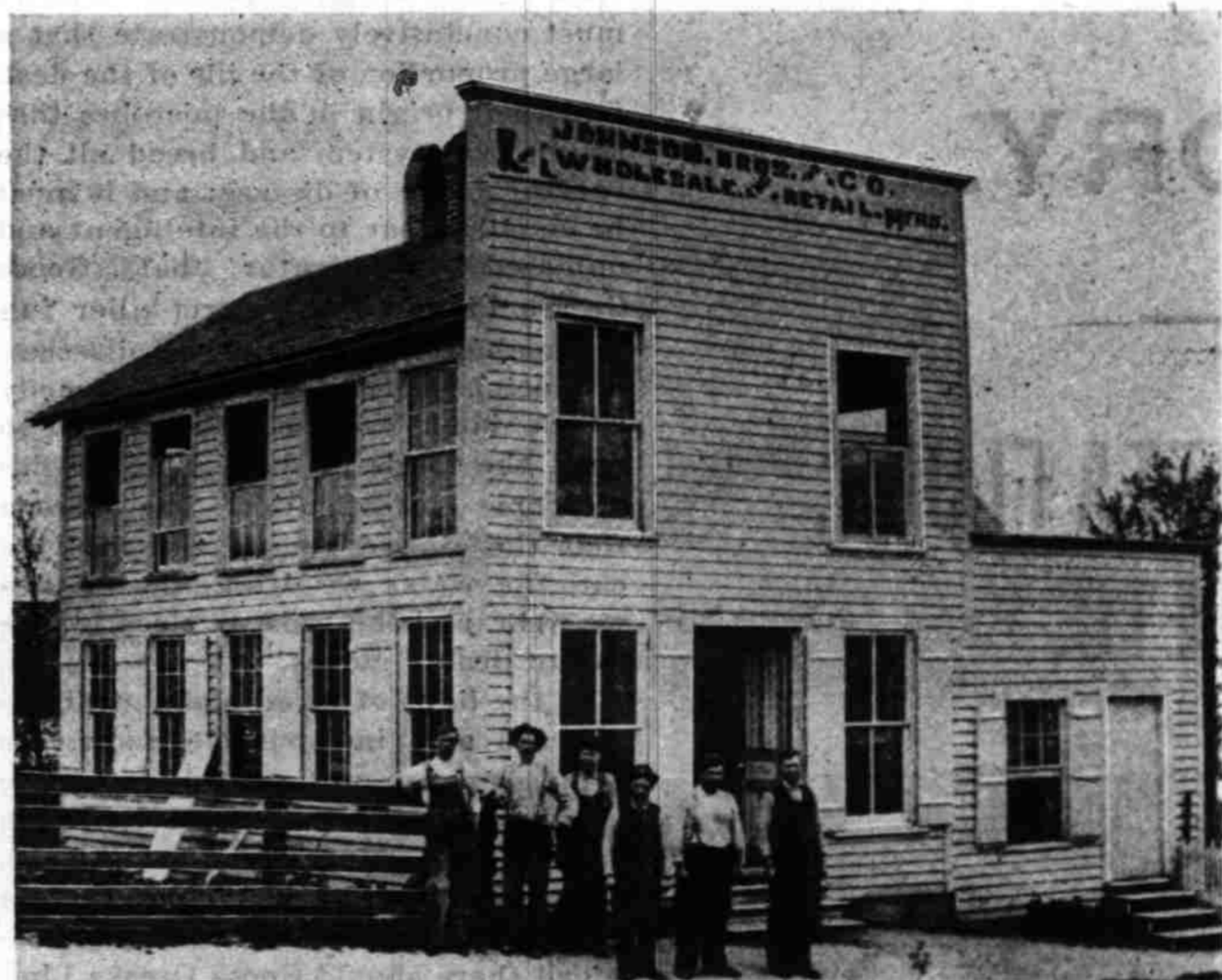
The town has grown from year to year until to-day its scattering houses shelter probably five hundred souls.

It is located on the main line of the Southern Railway, ten miles south of Greensboro and five miles north of High Point.

A mile from the town proper is the Oakdale Cotton Mill, said to be the oldest cotton mill in the South. The buildings now occupied by the mill were first built and operated as a gun factory for the Confederate army, and later, after the close of the war, were converted into a cotton factory. The mill is under the management of Mr. J. S. Ragsdale the treasurer, and operates 7,000 spindles.

In the heart of the town is the shoe factory of Johnson Bros., a view of which we present elsewhere. This business saw its inception as a cobbler's shop, and grew to meet the demands of necessity until to-day it employs a considerable force of skilled mechanics, with the most improved machinery, and its product finds a ready market among the trade all over the State.

For the manufacture of almost any commodity, Jamestown holds out an open hand to the investor and home-seeker, and while the town has never had a boom, and has never been advertised before the world it possesses facilities and advantages that will at once attract the trained eye of the successful investor.



JOHNSON BROS. & CO.

Johnson Bros. & Co., shoe manufacturers, of Jamestown, are demonstrating daily the possibilities that await development along this line in Guilford county.

Their business was established twenty years ago as a retail and custom work shop and attracted considerable trade from the surrounding country.

Two years ago it was incorporated with a capital stock of \$4,000, the officers being J. F. Cook, president, A. F. Johnson, vice-president, and G. W. Johnson, secretary and treasurer.

The goods manufactured are men's, women's, children's and boys' shoes in heavy stock, and twenty-five pairs are turned out daily.

The product of this factory finds a ready market among the retailers of the State who appreciate the Jamestown shoe because of the honest workmanship and solid stock put into it.

## OAKDALE COTTON MILLS.

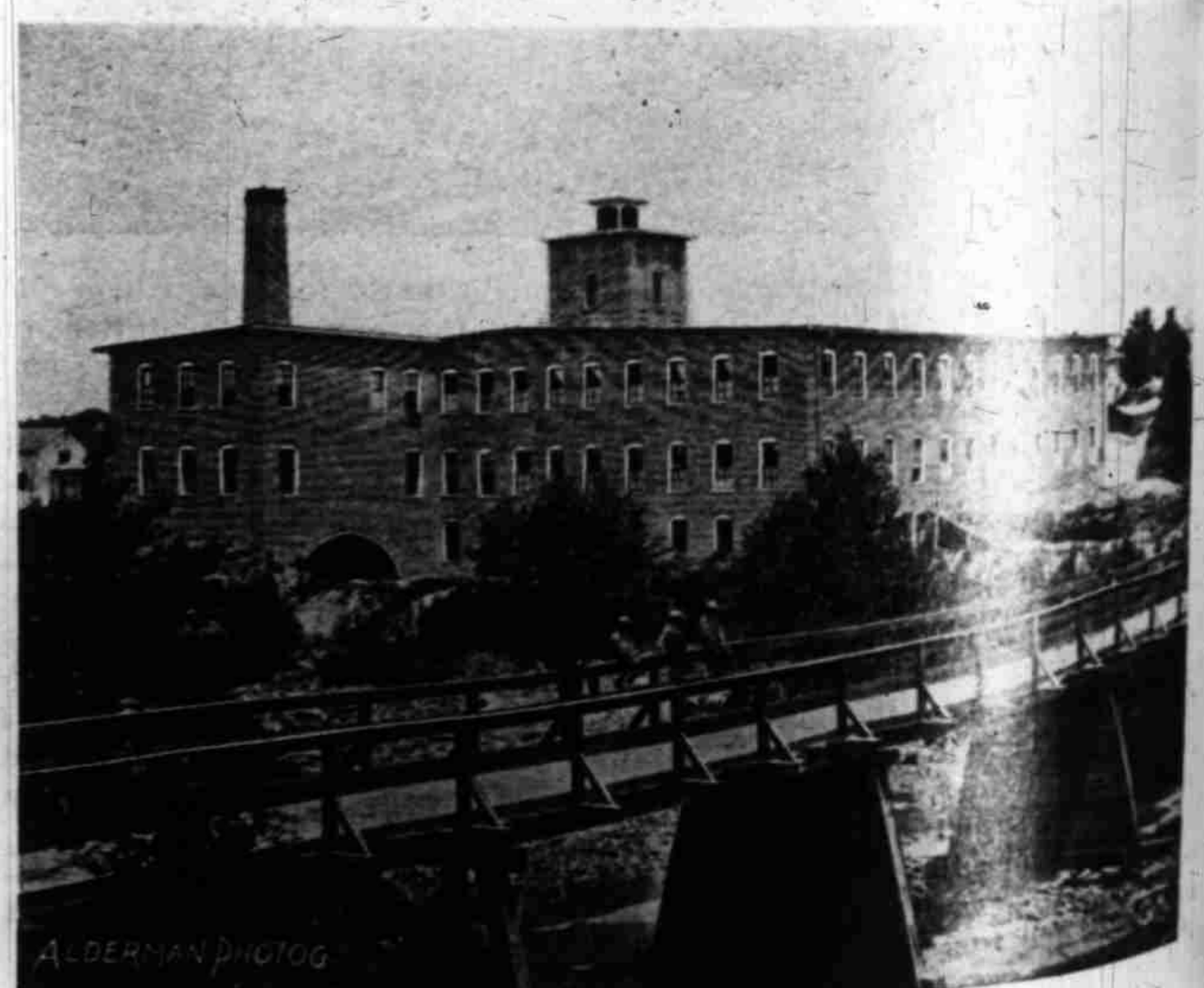
This mill, of which we present here with a view, is said to be the oldest cotton mill in the South. It was used during the civil war as a gun factory with Mendenhall and Gardner as the proprietors.

At the close of the war the cotton milling machinery was installed and additions made from time to time to meet the growing demands of the business.

At present the plant employs about one hundred and ten hands, running eight thousand spindles in the manufacture of cotton yarns and twines.

Nine years ago a new mill was erected as an addition to the old and equipped with modern machinery and appliances throughout. Both steam and water power are used.

Mr. J. S. Ragsdale, the treasurer of the company, is also secretary and treasurer of the Mt. Pleasant Manufacturing Company, in the eastern part of the county, and highly respected throughout the section.



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