

SHELBY AURORA.

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First Methodist Church.

Sketch of Shelby.

BRIEF HISTORY OF CLEVELAND COUNTY.

Its History, Its Natural Advantages, Churches, Schools, Industrial Enterprises, Etc.

In the year 1841, the county of Cleveland was formed from parts of Lincoln and Rutherford counties, the County Line road east of Shelby originally being the dividing line between the last named counties. It was named in honor of Benjamin Cleveland, one of the heroes of the crucial battle of King's Mountain which was fought by heroes from this Piedmont section and almost within our bounds. At the time of its formation there was not a single town within the limits of Cleveland county and none nearer than Lincoln and Rutherford. Now we have fifteen thriving towns and villages, to-wit: Shelby, King's Mountain, Lawndale, Fallston, Lattimore, Mooresboro, Grover, Cleveland Mills, Casar, Earl, Belwood, Boiling Springs, Double Shoals, Patterson and Waco.

Long before the formation of this county, about the year 1812, the first cotton mill ever erected in Western North Carolina, if not the first in the State, was erected on Buffalo creek at the old Susan Beam mill place, by Michael Beam assisted by David Warlick. The writer has often heard Mrs. Elizabeth Anthony, who was a sister to Michael Beam and who lived to be nearly one hundred, say that she covered rollers of the mill for her brother. The factory was washed away about the time it was completed and much of the machinery was never found. The parties were unable to re-build. We now have ten cotton mills running on full time, to-wit:

Cleveland Mills, Lawndale, Double Shoals, Belmont, Shelby, Enterprise, Buffalo, Lily and Bonney and the John's Mill now in course of construction. We have three cotton seed oil mills—Shelby, Verner and King's Mountain, also one bagging factory—Pink Manufacturing Company. In addition to the above, we have various other manufacturing enterprises in the county,

forcibly impressed by the beautiful country homes found in all sections, the many modern and attractive public school buildings, the many fine church buildings, our highly developed system of farming, and above all by its intelligence and culture of our manhood and womanhood.

The county has an area of over 400 square miles with a population to-day of about 25,000. Our property is assessed for taxation as follows: real estate, \$2,848,282 and personal property, \$2,390,555.

Shelby.

Near the geographical center of the county, almost within the shadow of the Blue Ridge on the one side, and the historic King's Mountain on the other, stands Shelby, the capital and metropolis of Cleveland, and like the county, named in honor of one of the heroes of the battle of King's Mountain, Col. Isaac Shelby. Its location is almost ideal—in the Piedmont section, midway between the heat of the tropics and the cold and rigors

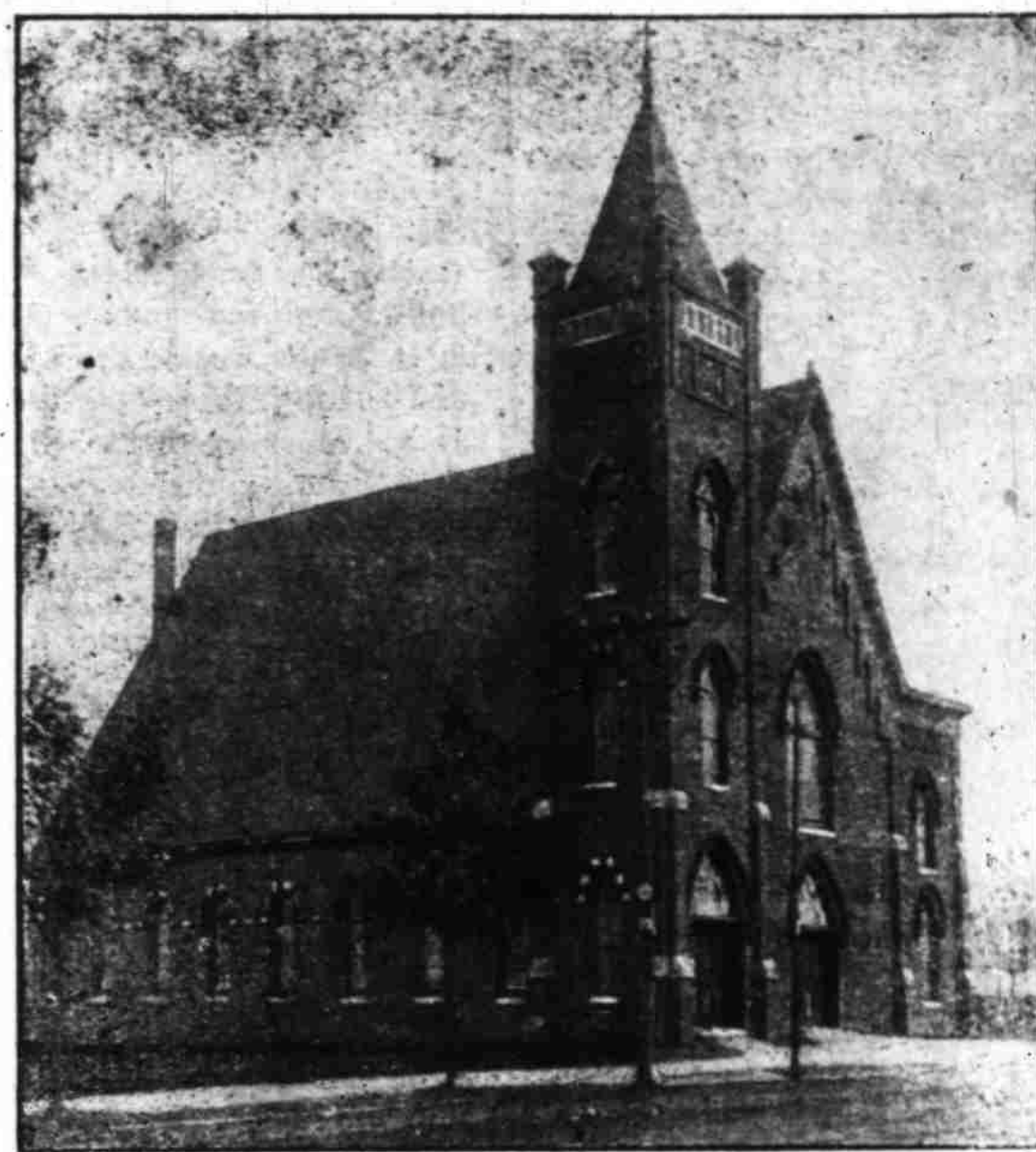
and silence, the world is rapidly learning of the opportunities to be found here, and, as a result, our population is growing rapidly and our four commodious hotels and numerous boarding houses are filled in summer with those seeking health and pleasure.

In 1880, the population of Shelby was about 900. Since that date it has grown to fully 3,000, the increase during the last five or six years being remarkable. The material progress of the town along all lines, during the last two years, has exceeded that of any period of ten years preceding, and the indications of progress for the future are more apparent than at any time in the past.

Churches and Schools.

Shelby has appropriately been called a "city of churches" because few towns have as many houses of worship in proportion to population and their influence seen in the daily lives of her citizens.

The Episcopalians have a new



First Baptist Church.



Looking East at Court Square in Shelby.

some of which will be named hereafter in this sketch.

Here, from our earliest history, has been found the purest type of Anglo-Saxon blood and American citizenship. Whether in War or in peace, our people have always done their part well. Aside from modern improvement of public roads, no county in the State shows more visible marks of progress on all lines—industrial, educational, and moral. A stranger, on visiting our county, is

the North. It is just cold enough in winter to be invigorating and warm enough in summer to make the earth bring forth abundant fruit for man and beast.

No town or city in the Sunny South offers greater inducements to those who seek health and pleasure, either in summer or winter, than Shelby. It is noted for its mineral waters of various kinds which have in the past, given health and vigor to thousands of invalids.

Those seeking a live progressive town in which to locate permanently, for the purpose of business, manufacturing, mechanical pursuits, or for the purpose of educating children, can find no better location than Shelby. For many years we have been too modest to let the world know where we are and what we are doing, but, despite our modesty

and attractive church at the corner of Graham and LaFayette streets. Rev. J. M. Seagle Rector.

The Presbyterians have a handsome church at the corner of Graham and DeKalb streets with a large park in front. Rev. James Thomas is the popular pastor.

The Methodists, a two years ago, completed a handsome brick church with all modern conveniences which would be a credit to any city. This church is at the corner of Marion and Washington streets, and is in a most flourishing condition under the popular ministry of Rev. G. D. Herman.

The Baptist church is located on North LaFayette street and is a large brick structure. There is some prospect that this congregation will erect a new and

modern brick building at an early date. It has a large membership and is doing a great work for the Master. Rev. M. E. Parrish is the beloved pastor.

The operatives of the Belmont and the Lily mills each have chapels of their own in which they worship.

The Methodists and Baptists each have a chapel at the Shelby Cotton Mill. Services are regularly held at each of these chapels and much good accomplished

are now enrolled in the white schools 360 pupils and in the colored 60 with eight teachers in the former and two in the latter. Prof. J. Y. Irvin, a native of Cleveland County, is the popular Superintendent.

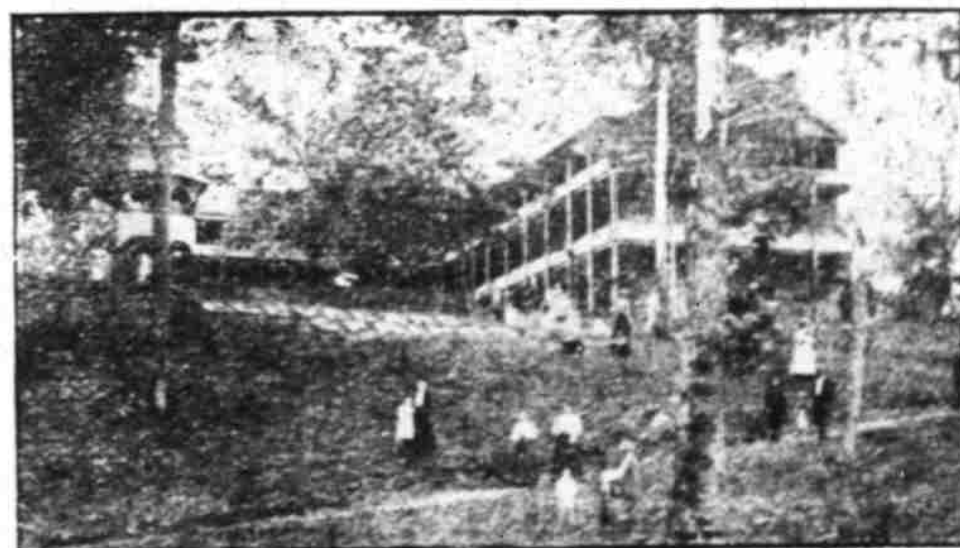
The town is now erecting a commodious and magnificent brick building, with all modern improvements for the white schools. It occupies the site of the old graded school building which was burned in September, 1904. The building, when completed and furnished, will cost from \$30,000 to \$35,000. The building was designed by Mr. J. M. McMichael, of Charlotte, a cut of which appears on another page of this issue. It is thought the building will be ready for occupancy by early spring.

Secret Orders.

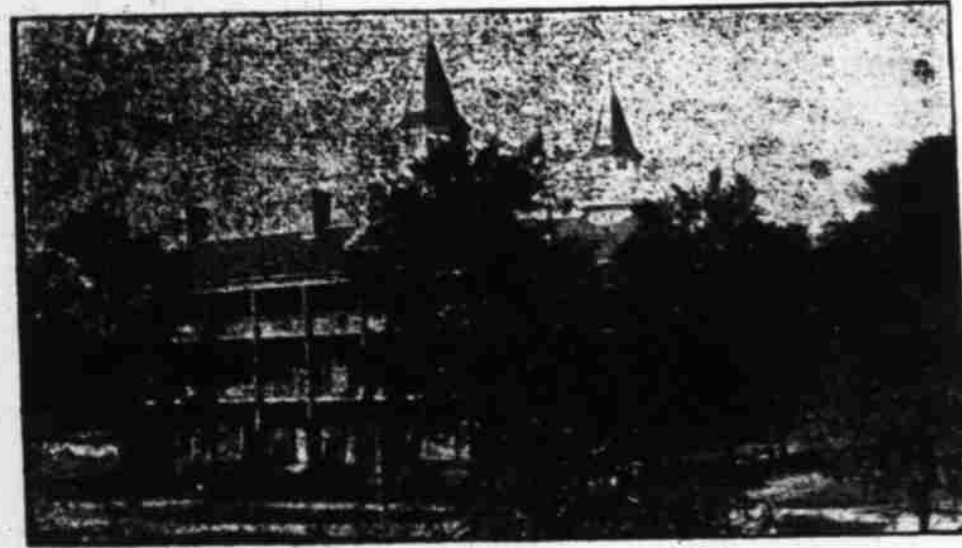
Shelby has a number of secret orders all in flourishing condition. Cleveland Lodge No. 202, A. F. and A. M., is one of the oldest Masonic lodges in this section of the State and has a large membership. It owns its own building which is a two story brick structure on LaFayette street.

The Knights of Pythias, Red Men, Junior Order, Odd Fellows, Woodmen of the World, and Heptasophs, all have flourishing lodges. The order of Royal Arcanum is now instituting a lodge here.

The Daughters of the Confederacy have a most flourishing



Cleveland Springs.



College Hotel.

Long Tennessee Fight.

For twenty years W. L. Rawls, of Bells, Tenh., fought nasal catarrh. He writes: "The swelling and soreness inside my nose was fearful, till I began applying Bucklen's Arnica Salve to the sore surface: this caused the soreness and swelling to disappear, never to return." Best salve in existence. 25c at all druggists.

New Cure for Epilepsy.

J. B. Watterman, of Watertown O., Rule free delivery, writes: "My daughter, afflicted for years with epilepsy, was cured by Dr. King's New Life Pills. She has not had an attack for over two years." Best body cleansers and life giving tonic pills on earth 25c at all druggists.

Subscribe for the Aurora.

A Texas Wonder.

There's a Hill at Bowie, Tex., that's twice as big as last year. This wonder is W. L. Hill, who from a weight of 90 pounds has grown to over 180. He says: "I suffered with a terrible cough, and doctors gave me up to die of Consumption. I was reduced to 90 pounds, when I began taking Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds. Now, after taking 12 bottles, I have more than doubled in weight and am completely cured." Only sure Cough and Cold cure. Guaranteed by all druggists 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

Outwits The Surgeon.

A complication of female troubles, with catarrh of the stomach and bowels, had reduced Mrs. Thos. S. Austin, of Leavenworth, Ind., to such a deplorable condition, that her doctor advised an operation; but her husband fearing fatal results, postponed this to try Electric Bitters; and to the amazement of all who knew her, this medicine completely cured her. Guaranteed cure for tropical liver, kidney diseases, biliousness, jaundice, chills and fever, general debility, nervousness and blood poisoning. Best tonic made. Price 50 at all drug stores. Try it.

for the Master.

The colored people have five churches, to-wit: Methodist Episcopal, M. E. Zion, Presbyterian Baptist, and C. Methodist Episcopal. They also have a number of fraternal orders.

Shelby feels a commendable pride in her system of graded schools by which tuition is furnished free to the children of the town of both races. There

Chapter here. They have just erected a \$2,500 monument on the court square, west of the court house, to the memory of the Confederate dead. The monument is twenty-seven feet high and has on top a bronze statue of a private soldier in uniform, life size, with a gun in hand awaiting an order to fire. On the monument are the following inscriptions:

[Continued on fifth page.]