

Mr. E. L. Moffitt's Speech at Unveiling.

I esteem it a privilege and an honor to be called upon by the Randolph Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy to present this beautiful monument on their behalf to the town of Asheboro, the county of Randolph, and to the old Confederate soldiers. In the consummation of this noble undertaking these Daughters deserve the everlasting gratitude of every patriotic citizen of the county, and of the entire South as well. It has not been an easy task, but it has been a labor of love, and most cheerfully and most zealously have they given their united efforts to this most commendable undertaking. Every member of the Chapter has given her most loyal support to the movement from the beginning to the end, but I feel that especial mention is due to the president, Mrs. Wm. C. Hammer, and the members of the monument committee who have had the principal burden in the actual raising of the funds. The members of this committee are Mrs. Wm. C. Hammer, chairman, and Messdames W. D. Stedman, Jno. T. Moffitt, Wiley Rush, Ferree Ross and Joe D. Ross, treasurer.

In behalf of the committee and of the entire Chapter, I am asked to extend to the people of Randolph county and to interested friends elsewhere, their most hearty thanks for the liberal and ready response which they have made to the call for funds. And I am pleased to be able to announce that all the money is now in hand with which to pay for the monument, and to defray all the expenses of the unveiling exercises.

And now, in obedience to my commission, I take very great pleasure in presenting this beautiful memorial, first to the town of Asheboro, through its honorable mayor, Mr. J. A. Spence. Your town, Sir, is fortunate in being selected as the site for this stately monument. This is our "capital city," and as

phase of your achievements. These, Sir, are a noble people for whom you speak today, and you may count on them to fulfill every pledge you may make in their behalf in measuring up to the trust which these Daughters are now committing to the charge of your county officials. This court house square is, of course, county property, and these Daughters know that in erecting this monument here they are at the same time transferring the legal title to you. It's an expression of confidence in the county that no man will dare betray. Administrations may come and administrations may go, but the fidelity with which this sacred memorial will be and must be guarded will remain unchanged forever.

Men of Randolph, we owe a debt of gratitude to those noble hearted women who have called us here today, and under the impact of whose untiring zeal and boundless love this stately form has been hewn and shaped, and is unveiled before us now. They are the daughters of fathers, and the spirit of those brave heroes still lives, and will continue to live in them and in our children so long as the voice of loyalty and patriotism continues to speak to the hearts of men. As oft as we gaze upon this, the work of their hands, let us pay a silent tribute to the patriots of '61-'65, the living and the dead, and at the same time let us thank God that the spirit of our mothers also still lives in these daughters of theirs—that spirit that ever cheered the bold and fearless Confederate soldier on his weary march or on the battlefield—that spirit that ever held the fearful to the march of the brave, and nerved the weak to the task of the strong.

And now, to Col. W. P. Wood, representing the veterans, let us say it is out fitting that, in discharging the commission which has been given me, my final word should be to the old soldiers, for after all, it is you, our beloved and honored remnant of a battle-scarred host of the

Mayor Spence's Speech

We did not get a verbatim speech of Mr. J. A. Spence. He referred however to the honor the occasion was to Asheboro on account of the presence of such a large crowd of fellow citizens, the distinguished Chief Justice and the ladies. He congratulated the members of Randolph Chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy for the success of their patriotic undertaking and said the building of the monument was another step in Asheboro's development.

He closed his speech as follows: Our women have always been patriotic and loyal to Southern ideals and principals. They encouraged the men to face the dangers that awaited them on the battlefield; during their absence they tilled the soil and cared for the children at home and suffered hardships well nigh intolerable; and now, more than 45 years after the war has closed, the daughters, lest we forget, place before us a permanent structure to keep the deeds of the men ever in commemoration and as an inspiration to us and to our posterity.

There are other monuments more



costly, perhaps, and more imposing, erected to the memory of Confederate dead in general; other monuments which commemorate the deeds of the soldiers of certain states who took part in fighting the battles of the Civil War, and still others erected in honor of men for their dauntless courage on certain occasions and on particular battlefields, but we are especially proud to have erected in our town, a monument circumscribed in its significance; a monument to our own people of Randolph County, the men who fought for the protection of our homes, our women and our property, and either died or suffered that they might secure the rights which they thought were guaranteed to them by the constitution of our fathers.

It is therefore with profoundest gratitude that I am privileged, in behalf of the entire citizenship, to accept from your hands, this magnificent gift to our municipality. We accept it as a piece of art, a thing of beauty; we accept it as a historic structure, the record of a brave people; we accept it as a tribute of love to a lost cause, representing the noblest sentiments of cultured people. We will prize it and cherish it throughout the remaining years of our life, and coming generations will rise up and call you blessed, who have erected it.

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not in sectional feeling, not in repining over a "lost cause," but in a satisfying consciousness of a duty well performed, in a feeling of commendable pride that in a time that tried men's souls you proved true to your own convictions, and were not recreant to your country's call.

This monument does not today, and will never fan any fires of sectionalism in our hearts—there are no such fires here to fan. But so long as time shall last may this shaft of native granite and this figure of a Confederate soldier in bronze stand here as a silent yet beautiful tribute to the loyalty and heroism and sacrifices of our fathers, men who believed they were right, who knew they were right, and who emphasized this belief and proclaimed this right in the offer of their lives.

May the day never come when even the least of us shall cease to honor such a spirit, and may this monument forever stand, a silent testimony to the blessed truth that all the glory is not always to the victor, nor all the shame to those who lose.

Address of Acceptance of Veterans by State Auditor W. P. Wood

The world has never known a higher type of womanhood, nor will it ever know a higher type than your mothers. They were born and raised largely upon the old farms of the South. They were largely just maturing into young womanhood when the fearful war-drum of '61 was sounded. You know what they went through during those four years of struggle that followed. They were true to the end. They were just as brave; just as heroic; suffered just as much as did their husbands and sons at the front, and I hope to live to see the day when there will be a monument erected to their memory 25 feet taller than any one now standing in the great state of North Carolina, and I want to congratulate you, my daughters, on your good fortune in having such mothers, and I want to say to you here today that we have the faith to believe—yea, we do know that should a crisis arise demanding it, you would be just as true, just as faithful, just as self-sacrificing and that you would ever maintain the reputation and good name of your dear mothers.

Now, daughters, the duty has been delegated to me here today to receive the monument. I don't much love to receive a monument in honor of myself, and I must tell you that I don't know what to say, I can't frame words. I don't think there are words in the English language that could convey to you the most vague idea of how we appreciate this honor. I can only say that from the great depth of our hearts we appreciate it; we love every one of you, you will hold a warm spot in our hearts so long as life lasts. However much we merit it that is for you to say. I am here today to tell you that I have never seen a



Confederate soldier yet that wanted to make any apology for any part he took in that terrible struggle. I am here today to tell you that we did what we knew was our duty and what we knew was right, and I am glad to see the time has come when there is not a well informed man in the United States but has long ago admitted that we did nothing but what we had a constitutional right to do. I am proud of the fact, ladies and gentlemen, that I have lived to see the day that the Confederate soldier is no longer looked upon as a rebel, but in all lands wherever the name of Confederate soldier is named he is looked upon as a hero. I don't know of but one man in the United States but what looks upon him in that light and he has long since been almost dismissed from his own camp. I allude to Senator Heyburn of the state of Idaho. He is at great discount among his best friends.

I am prouder of Randolph county today, I think, than at any time in the history of my life. I am proud of the fact that we have had patriotic citizens enough in the county of Randolph to make it possible for these daughters to erect this beautiful monument in our memory. I am proud of the fact that it is the people's monument. I am proud of the fact that it represents three thousand young boys that left Randolph county in '61, of all political parties, of all church creeds, and that there is no politics in it. It is not a Democratic monument, it is not a Republican monument, but it is a patriotic Randolph monument, and I do hope in future that there is no man in Randolph county who is so little or so narrow but what he will look upon this with pride.

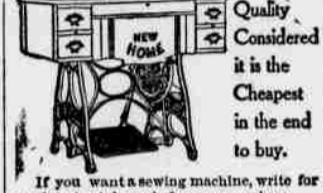
If I were called on today to write my epitaph it would be very short, and in fact I die in my right mind, which I hope I will, and think about it, I don't know but what this is what it will be: "W. P. Wood, a Confederate Soldier." I don't know of anything that would do me more honor. I don't know of anything that would be more honorable than hand down to the rising generation.

Martha News

Flaud Morris left for Raleigh Saturday after a few days' visit with relatives here. Walter Cranford has left for Ether, where he goes to enter school. Julius Tucker and children are visiting relatives in Montgomery county. Carson Cranford and wife spent Sunday near Lenoir. Reid Keorns, Vaughn and Grady Cranford entered school at Farmer recently. E. B. Johnson and family, of Sol visited at the home of R. C. Johnson Sunday. A. W. Frazier, of Fairmont, was in this section recently on business.

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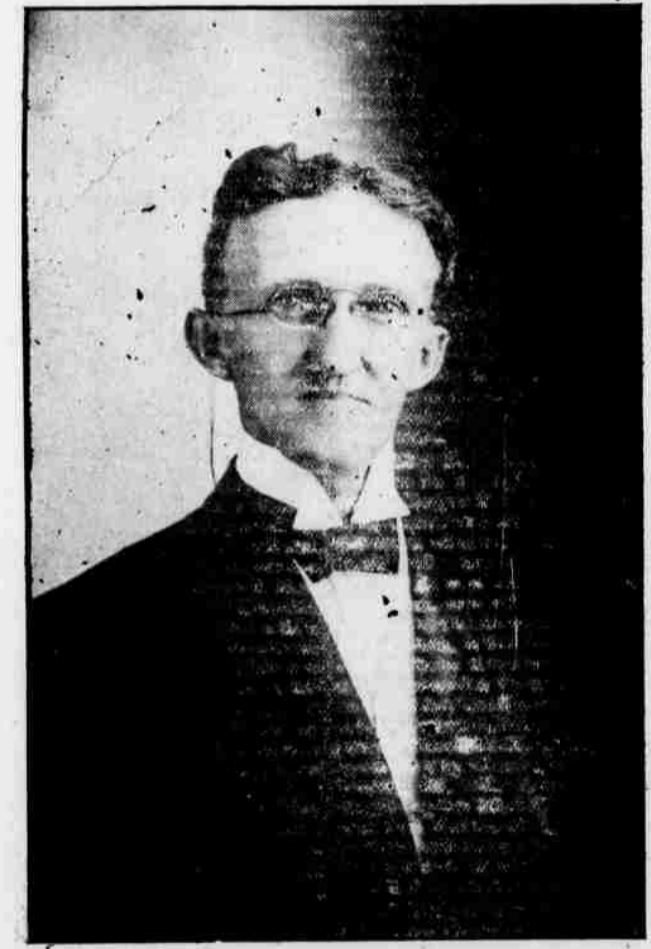
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And now, I want to say to you daughters, we love you; we love every one of you; we love you for what you are; we love you for your mothers; we love you for your country. I am a great believer in patriotism. I believe in County pride; I believe in State pride; I believe in National pride; and I want to say to you here today that there is no people under the shining sun that has more respect for the stars and stripes than the Confederate soldier, and we have proven it, and there is no man that would more willingly sacrifice his life if necessary in its defence. Now, I thank you one and all, and especially for this beautiful, elegant, everlasting monument that we have presented us.



Mr. E. L. Moffitt, who delivered Presentation Speech

such it is naturally the mecca of all Randolph citizens. As such it should be a centre of every good influence, and a source of every right impulse. As the citizens of our county shall come and go, this towering shaft should ever help to raise their ideals, and to keep alive within their breasts that love for right and justice and truth that nerved our fathers to deeds of heroism unexampled in all the history of the world before or since. I am sure, Sir, that this noble band of patriotic women of your county will not look in vain to you and your associates, or to your successors, for a hearty co-operation with the county authorities in the preservation of this monument, and in the beautifying of the grounds around it. Be true to the trust they repose in you.

To the county, through its attorney, Mr. H. M. Robins, I am also asked to commit a charge. These Daughters are not only patriotic and loyal to the memory of their fathers, but they are proud of their good county, and so they have brought you an offering that is worthy of your greatest appreciation, and is in keeping with the spirit of progress that is manifest in every

heroes of a lost but righteous cause, who have been the real inspiration to these daughters, some of them your daughters, in this work of love. It is because of what you and your comrades, who have already answered to the last call of the roll, have done for your beloved Southland, that this vast multitude of people have assembled here today.

Half a century has passed since the call came to the men of old Randolph to fall in line and to march shoulder to shoulder with their fellow patriots of other counties and states of the Confederacy in the defence, not of human slavery, but of a principle of government that was right, and that is so recognized today by every fair minded man of the North as well as the South.

Few of us here today have any personal knowledge of the trials and dangers and heartaches of those years. Yet there are some here, and to these this day has a far deeper and holier meaning than we of this generation can ever realize. To us it is as a tale that is told. To you, gray-haired veterans, it must be as vivid and as real as the events of yesterday. How your hearts must burn within you—not in resentment,

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