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NUMBER 1

FROM OUR SOLDIERS

Hobart W. Richardson Writes of Trip Over

H. W. Richardson has written the following letter from New York to his mother, Mrs. U. C. Richardson, of his camp across on the U. S. S. George Washington which carried the President and his party to France. This is the third time Mr. Richardson has gone across in the George Washington. The letter follows:

"We were given some send-off in New York harbor. All the members of the crew were standing attention while President and Mrs. Wilson, Secretary Lansing, Ex-Ambassador Henry White and lots of other well known men came on board. Thousands had gathered to get a glimpse of the President and were standing waiting at the pier. We gave our salute with 21 guns that fired as we sailed down the harbor and every tiny boat and even ships we passed fired a salute of 21 shots.

"Going over the President would take his daily walk on deck and on Sunday he and Mrs. Wilson attended preaching and he joined in all the singing.

"A movie film was made of the officers and ships' crew with the President standing in front of them. This picture will be shown on the screen later, so watch out for me.

"As we sailed into Brest we were met by the American and French fleet which was composed of at least 40 destroyers and a number of battleships which gave us a salute of welcome. The American sea and airplanes also came to meet us and flew over the ships sometimes almost touching it.

"A party composed of Gen. Pershing, Gen. Bliss, Admiral Knapp, Admiral Simms and others came aboard to greet the party. As the party left the ships the French people were all there to get a glimpse of the President and to welcome him and his party. This was a regular pleasure trip for all us boys going over and we had to keep well-dressed all the time with our liberty blues on."

Grady G. Byrd

Writes his sister, Mrs. F. L. Brooks, of Asheboro.

I was in battle the last three days and nights of the war, got through O. K., but it was only luck that I did. I was on the front lines about two months ago but was in a quiet section but believe me the last front we was on wasn't no quiet section. I think I know something about war.

Guess you all haven't heard from me in some time, we have been on a hike. We hiked 160 meters in 12 days, so we didn't have time to write and didn't feel like it anyway. I don't know when we will get home in about two months or sooner.

Some of the divisions went to Germany but don't think the 81st will be likely to go. I hope not for I have had enough of this war.

Had a letter from Edna yesterday, said Co. K had been shot up some, but she is not all the company that got shot.

I don't never see many of the boys over here. I saw Hal Farlow this week. He has been sick. He looks bad too.

One boy in my company from home, Floyd Craven, from Kamsour was killed. He was all the one from home that got killed in this Co. There were four of us Randolph boys in H. Co., and we lost him. Tell the kids and T. F. Hello, and close to get this letter off.

GRADY G. BYRD,

Co. H, 323rd Infantry, U. S. A. P. O. 791. A. E. F.

Private Lacy Lewis

Extracts from a letter written to his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Lewis, dated Dec. 6, 1918.

Dear Home Folks:

A few lines before dinner. Guess you all are sleeping while we are waiting for dinner, being six hours difference in time between here and home.

Received several letters from you in the past few days also the clipping, glad to get them. Guess everything will be looking like Christmas before long.

Don't guess there will be many soldier boys home by Christmas.

Sure wish I could be with you, but guess we will all be home before so very long. We ended a twelve day hike last Tuesday. We were not sorry either. Most of us having sore feet and tired limbs. But I stood it O. K. not even falling out at all. Everybody is wanting to go home now, but guess no one knows when. See where a division has already landed back in New York. Guess we will all be sent home just as soon as the government can make provisions for us to get there. How is the "flu" in Randolph? I saw and was talking to Grady Miller, Fred Kearns and Ed Mendenhall yesterday. Ed was riding along and happened to spy me and also a little patch of French mustache that I've been wearing, but intend to cut off this afternoon. He said "Hello, Lacy, what is that you have on your face there?" Haven't seen but few Randolph boys lately. Our battalion being separated now. We are located now in a pretty good sized town. Have a Y. M. C. A. here and buy candy, cakes, tobacco, such things dear to a soldier's appetite. They gave a French concert last night, could not understand anything very well, but it was

SERGEANT W. O. FORRESTER



PRIVATE ROBY TYSINGER, COMPANY K, RETURNS

Private Roby Tysinger, of Company K, returned yesterday to his home at Randleman from overseas, arriving in New York on the 16th of December, having sailed from Liverpool, London, on the "Excelsior." He had been in base hospital at Dodford, England, gassed on the 28th or 29th of September.

He described his sensations as extremely painful and horrible from the effects of the gas, said he could not breathe for some time, and his first impulse was to crawl into a shell hole and drown himself, but a comrade prevented. He was blind for six days and could not speak for two weeks.

Tysinger saw much service, having been wounded by machine gun shell the first time at Bedford Stables in Ypres. He was with Company K in the trenches for more than 23 days at a time, going without water for more than four days at a time. He was with Company K when the 30th division recaptured Kemmel Hill, taking it in a little over four hours, although the British had retaken it several times but could never hold it, and had made fun of the idea of the Americans taking it and said it would take at least four days to take it and then they could not hold the hill.

He was with Captain Dixon when he was wounded, and picked him up.

Private Tysinger returns to Camp Meade next week to be mustered out.

Mr. Manly Scott, of Coleridge, Loses

Two Sons from Influenza. . . . Two sons of Mr. Manly Scott, aged respectively 16 and 17 years of age died of influenza in High Point a few days before Christmas. They were brought to Shiloh in this county for burial.

written Nov. 1st and 4th. Sorry to hear about Co. K. Hope it is not as bad as you think. They got us wildcats and the 30th division mixed up.

The name Wildcats belong to the 81st division. The band is playing on the streets. I will write more often now.

Lots of love, your son,
PRIVATE LACY S. LEWIS,
Co. A, 322d Infantry, U. S. A. P. O. No. 791.

Lieutenant E. J. Luck
France, December 9, 1918.

My dear Home Folks:

I have been neglecting to write to you but hope you'll pardon me when you learn that I have been on duty from 5:45 a. m. until 4:30 p. m. and two hours study period each night. Of course this is not a regular thing, but for a few of us who get on a school.

I have been here at school (Clamecy, France) since Nov. 18th and will be here until after Christmas before going back to the company.

I have no idea when we will get home. If we are not there during the month of January I am afraid it will be five or six months before we get back.

We all feel that we have done our part towards freeing our grand country from Kaiserism, though many of the boys that left Asheboro with us sleep on the hills of France today and it makes us sad to leave them behind us. I have been through battlefield after battlefield and have found our men lying cold but with face toward the fleeing enemy. Hens, ribs in hands pointed forward with a smile on their faces. If any father and mother who has had a son to fall could have seen him with that smile, that determination to win or die, that the ones at home might be free would not give up in despair but think they had given their all, their noble lives, that the world might be free and their homes and country saved from ruin.

All who have been in the battle area of France and Belgium know what it is to see people run from their homes, their homes bombed, shelled or burned and women and children driven out and made homeless. A man after seeing this, dear as life is, gives it freely before he would allow his own home, his parents and sisters treated with such cruelty as we have seen. Will give you an instance near Bazigny. I had camped for a day or two in the woods when an old man and woman came around. He could speak a little English and told when the Germans left his farm two days prior, took all his cattle, horses and destroyed their home and carried off their two young

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MEMORIAL SERVICE IN HONOR OF W. ORRIN FORRESTER AT RAMSEUR

A most impressive memorial service was held at the M. E. Church in Ramseur on Sunday in honor of Sergeant W. Orrin Forrester, a member of Company K who was killed in action during the battle of Cambrai on the 29th of September, 1918. Rev. H. C. Byrum, former pastor of the deceased made a most eloquent, patriotic address in which he depicted the brave deeds of the soldier who gave his life for the cause of freedom. In his address Mr. Byrum gave a resume of the war from the beginning and said that while others did valiant deeds and accomplished grand things, but the man who gave his life had accomplished more than others. Reverend J. E. Woosley, who was a pastor of the young man's mother before she was married, and later her pastor when Sergeant Forrester was a baby and still later as a young man, paid glowing tributes to the soldier who had so valiantly given his life.

Special music had been prepared and the service all the way through was most appropriate. The following sketch of Sergeant Forrester was read:

William O. Forrester, son of James O. and Fannie E. Forrester, was born in Randolph county, Ramseur, N. C. Jan. 18th, 1892. He was the first of six children; two brothers, two sisters and one half sister, who now survive him.

Orren, as he was known to everyone in the community, was a bright, cheerful lad, obedient to his parents and those in authority over him. His mother passed to her reward when he was about twelve years old. He was always good and kind to his stepmother—never giving her an unkind word. He grew to young manhood in the town of his nativity and attended school there, afterwards going to Rutherford College for a while.

In 1914, feeling the true patriotic spirit and heroism of a young American, he volunteered as a member of the Home Guard in Company K. In this capacity he went to the Mexican border when the Mexicans were giving the United States a little trouble. Soon after his return home he was called to the camp for military training in the National Army.

Orren had a religious side to his nature. He had high regards for the church; loved its sanctity and appreciated its influence. His decision and joining the Methodist church at the age of thirteen. In conversation with the writer of this sketch he expressed his faith in the Lord just before he left this country for France.

He frequently wrote back to his loved ones of his fidelity to God. While he was at Camp Sevier, near Greenville, S. C., he won the friendship of many of those with whom he came in contact. It was here that he met Miss Frances L. Hughes in whom he was willing to place his entire affection—finding a responsive cord in her heart, they were united in matrimony on March 30th, 1918. This being only six weeks before he left for France.

He landed in France about the first of June, 1918. It fell to his lot, with many other brave Americans, to take at the peril of their lives, one of the most difficult points in the famous Hindenburg line, near Cambrai, in Northern France. So it was here that the brave, noble young man, William O. Forrester, gave his life on Sept. 29th, 1918, for the country he loved and the freedom of the world. Long may he live in the memory of those who knew him.

Mr. W. S. Wilson Dead

In the death of Mr. W. S. Wilson, which occurred on December 18, 1918, the State loses one of its useful citizens. As a reference librarian since the spring of 1917 he had been of great service. Prior to that time he held an important position in Secretary of State Grimes' office. He was the author of the State good roads bill, and has written much, and was preparing a history of the State since the war at the time of his death. His death, as heretofore announced, was due to influenza-pneumonia.

ED YORK KILLED JOE HEATH, COLORED

Dec. 16, 1918, Ed York, son of Clark York, of Back Creek township, hired an old negro jney driver to bring him to his father's home.

Several days after that the negro was missing. Investigation disclosed the fact that the colored man's automobile had been sold to Thomas Brookshire at Sophia for \$150. Mr. Brookshire thinking there was something wrong about the matter as \$150 was not enough for the auto. When young York went to get his check cashed it was discovered that the check was dated ahead and payment was refused. Inquiry was made of the Secretary of State who gave the owner of the auto as Joe Heath.

When York was confronted with the matter he went and showed where the dead body was in the woods near his father's home. He said he induced the deceased to go to the woods to kill birds. On getting in the woods York killed him with a shot gun and took his money amounting to about three dollars.

The deceased is the son of a well known citizen who stands well. The young man had been unruly for some time, and it is claimed was not of sound mind for several years, having been injured. It is claimed by witnesses that he was drunk when he was killed. York is in jail.

CORPORAL JUNE PARKS FIRST COMPANY K BOY TO RETURN HOME

Corporal June L. Parks, of Seagrave, arrived in Asheboro on Christmas morning. He is the first Company K boy to return to Randolph county. He received a warm reception at the depot by the people who happened to meet the train. No one knew he was coming. He arrived in New York with a number of other wounded members of the 30th division on the 23rd. He has been wounded twice, the last wound he received in the battle of Cambrai on the 29th of September. He was wounded soon after starting into battle on Sunday morning and crawled a part of the way back to receive first aid. He was then sent to a hospital in England and from thence to the United States. He says that the boys made a splendid record over there and cannot say too much in praise of their beloved Captain for whom any one in the Company would gladly have given his life.

Mr. Parks spent the holidays with his father, Mr. Lewis Parks, of Seagrave, and returned on Saturday to Camp Meade, where he will probably receive discharge in the near future. He has had a great many interesting experiences which will be of interest to the people of this county and he will probably give them to The Courier for publication in the near future. He seems to be in fine physical condition with the exception that he is using a cane at present but will soon be well.

RANDOLPH FARMERS TO BE SUPPLIED WITH NITRATE

Government to Sell Nitrate For Fertilizer Through County Agent

Washington, D. C., Jan. 1.—Notice has been given to D. S. Coltrane, Agricultural Agent for Randolph county, that the U. S. Department of Agriculture will sell at cost a supply of nitrate of soda to farmers in Randolph county.

The nitrate will be sold under the authority of the Food Control Act and subsequent legislation relating thereto. The price will be \$31.00 a ton, free on board cars at loading point or port. Farmers are to pay in addition freight to their shipping points.

How to Obtain Nitrate

Application for a part of the nitrate bought by the government will be received only from actual farmers or owners of not less than five acres of their land, and may be made through County Agent D. S. Coltrane.

No money will be required with application but upon notice from the authorized representative of the Department of Agriculture must deposit with a local bank, association, or individual, designated by the Secretary of Agriculture to act as the farmers' agent for that purpose, money to cover the cost of the fertilizer except the freight charge. In practically every case the money will be paid to a county nitrate distributor designated by the Department of Agriculture. Nitrate will be shipped to distributors on sight draft with bill of lading attached. Distributors will pay drafts, take up the bills of lading, collect money from farmers and distribute nitrate to farmers. Arrangements have been made to secure a large quantity of nitrate and it is believed that all reasonable requirements can be met.

Interesting Meeting Bachelor Maids Book Club at Ramseur

Miss Martha Black was hostess to the Bachelor Maids Book club, Saturday night before Christmas. After a short business meeting the hostess served delicious refreshments. Those present were Misses Ora Scott, and her guest, Mable Farmer, Hazel Spoon, Midge Moffitt, Sarah Cole, Mrs. E. B. Cochran, and Mrs. L. W. Black.

Miss Pickard Entertains

The home of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Pickard, Hendrix street, in Greensboro, was the scene of a delightful occasion Friday evening, December 27, when Miss Elizabeth Pickard entertained at progressive rock. The residence was decorated in red and green, while the refreshments also carried the chosen colors.

The prize was won by Miss Janice Brown, while the consolation fell to Miss Frances Glascock.

Those present were Misses Evelyn Thacker, Mary Elizabeth Perkins, Catherine Penn, Ruth Diddle, Rachel Donald, Catherine Wharton, Margaret Andrew, Virginia Stainback, Mary Denny, Martha Watson, Frances Glascock, Willie Sloan, Margaret Vaughan, Bettie Myers, and house guests, Josephine Logan and Frances Myers, Alice Wilson, Nettie Irvin, Annette Wright, Helen Stone, Barbara Hagan, Rhea Van Noppen, Dorothy Caldwell, Ada Denny, Cornelia Cartland, Janice Brown.

Biennial Session of Legislature to Be Held

Governor Bickett recently declared that he had no purpose now to postpone the biennial meeting of the General Assembly until the influenza situation improved as the opinion of the state health officer, Dr. W. S. Rankin, should be guaranty that there is no danger.

Four years of German oppression brought up loss of life from starvation to the population of Belgium and northern France, and the under-nourishment resulting from enemy occupation can be stamped out if America continues to send food. The gratitude of these people to the United States is unbounded and embarrassing.

CORPORAL D. EARL POOLE



Corporal Poole was a son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Poole, of near Asheboro. He was a member of Company K and was killed in action on the 29th of September.

CAR LOAD TEXAS CATTLE WILL ARRIVE LAST OF WEEK

County Agent D. S. Coltrane has just received a letter from Texas stating that a car load of 53 Hereford heifers were shipped him from there Saturday, December 29. Mr. Coltrane expects the cattle about Friday, January 3. People in the county who are interested in these cattle will do well to come to Asheboro Saturday. They will be at A. M. Free's stable.

Lieutenant John Erwin Arrives in New York

Rev. Ira Erwin was in receipt of a telegram Monday from his son Lieutenant John Erwin which said "Have arrived in New York in time to wish you a Happy New Year." Lieutenant Erwin has been in the aviation corps in France and has seen active service. He had an accident in which he suffered a broken arm and was in a hospital for some time. Since that time he has been able to do his part toward bringing about peace. His many friends in Asheboro will be interested to know that he has returned to this country and will look forward to the time when he arrives in Asheboro.

Thirtieth Division at Le Mans, France

The exact location of 35 combat divisions and six depot divisions of the American army in France, Germany and Luxemburg as they were stationed November 28 has been announced by the war department.

The announcement includes the 30th division at Le Mans.

In this division are the troops from North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee.

Miss Ruth Kearns, of Bombay, Marries Mr. Ben Crowell, of Farmer

An impressive marriage ceremony was performed at the home of Rev. J. M. Varner, pastor of the Farmer M. E. church when Miss Ruth Kearns became the bride of Mr. Ben Crowell. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John M. Kearns, of Bombay, and the groom is a prosperous farmer of Concord township. He is the son of Mr. A. H. Crowell. The young couple will reside at Farmer.

Ramseur Items

Ramseur graded school opened Monday with a full corps of teachers and students in attendance. The influenza situation is much improved and we trust there will be no further developments of it.

The holidays passed off very quietly in Ramseur. The number of visitors was as large as usual or larger. Among the large number we notice the following: Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Watkins, Miss Margaret Phoenix, Eugene Marley, Walter F. Johnson, Wilson Hill, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Cox, Mrs. A. G. Burgess, Miss Laura Burgess, Mr. and Mrs. Sol Caveness, Rev. and Mrs. J. E. Woosley, Miss Olive Woosley, Mr. W. B. Webster, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Baldwin, Waldo Copeland, Miss Mary Tate, Mr. W. H. King, Oscar King, Miss Mary Yow, Miss Ora Scott all of Greensboro, Mr. and Mrs. F. E. White, and child of Sanford, Mr. and Mrs. Augell and family, of Stokesdale, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Pope, of Rocky Mount, Minor March, of Norfolk Va., I. D. Waggar and Charles Redding, Thomas Melton, of Camp Meade, Md., Miss Sude Baldwin, of Salisbury, Miss Mary Cox, of Durham.

Rev. and Mrs. J. E. Woosley were very popular and welcome visitors in town this week.

Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Watkins Give Elegant Dinner at Their Beautiful Country Home Near Ramseur

Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Watkins gave a dinner party Thursday, at Woodcock farm in honor of the boys who have recently returned from camp. The dining room was tastefully decorated with holly and United States flags. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Black, Mr. and Mrs. Egbert Baldwin, Mr. and Mrs. Verius Hodgin, Cecil York, Tom Parks, Fred Burgess, Waldo Leonard, Misses Midge Moffitt, Lizzie Smith, Sarah Cole and Mr. and Mrs. I. F. Craven.

Warships to Aid in Bringing Troops Home

Fourteen battleships and ten cruisers have been assigned by the navy department to help bring American troops home from France. These battleships assigned for the service are among the older on the navy list.

LLEWXAM'S LETTER

(By Maxwell Gorman.)

Raleigh, Dec. 31.—With the assembling here on Wednesday of next week of the Legislature of 1919, the beginning of a most interesting session will be launched. All the little side-talk about adjourning to meet later in the year is tommyrot and doesn't amount to the value of a row of pins—there will be no "adjournment" until the 60-day period expires, and there's lots of work to be done.

Gubernatorial Aspirants

In all my newspaper experience I have never heard of so many "willing Barkises" as are turning up shrdium in the game as at present. There are a half dozen eligibles already in the field, Cam Morrison, and Max Gardner and Bob Page being in the already announced class, with three other possible rivals in the new field—these being J. Y. Joyner, Col. Albert Cox and legislator Rufe Doughton—and either of them would make a good governor, all of them are fine and able gentlemen. Morrison is probably the best looking with his beautiful grey hair and intellectual face, Cox is a dashing young officer and the State never had a more sensible and capable official than Supt. Joyner who is retiring from the head of the state's department of education Jan. 1st. Max Gardner is a promising character.

Speaking of Morrison's historical looks he has a strong precedent to lean back on with those who can recall Governor Zeb Vance's magnificently clad head, but Bob Glenn, Gov. Aycock and some others may dispute this claim to greatness.

Brummitt for Speaker

Visitors to Raleigh and the local politicians are pretty well agreed that Representative Brummitt of Granville will have a walk-over for the speakership. Indeed today it is stated that his name may be the only one voted on in caucus.

New Candidate for Marshal

Ex-senator Thome of Rocky Mount having withdrawn from the race a new candidate for U. S. Marshal bobs up today in the person of Frank Hampton of the same town, but at present a clerk to Senator Simmons. His entry brings the list up to 6 or 7 active candidates. State Chairman T. D. Warren, it is believed would get the job if he wanted it, but he is understood not to want it.

Col. Harry Stubbs couldn't be induced to break his program which scheduled him to run as mate to Max Gardner in the gubernatorial race by taking (if he could have "took" it).

The 81st Division

The 81st division, consisting chiefly of drafted men from North and South Carolina, Florida and Porto Rico, was not thrown into action until the last few days of the war; but in those days they fought valiantly and sustained its proportion of killed and wounded. When the armistice was signed, this division was divided, a part based at the village of Somme Dieux, 10 miles southeast of Verdun and within 25 miles of Metz, the strongly fortified German city in Lorraine; and a part was based at Is-sur-Tille, about 100 miles distant. The men at Somme Oieux were in heavy fighting November 9th.

Governor Bickett Declines to Pardon Hege

Governor Bickett has declined to grant pardon to J. Graham Hege, of Lexington, who was convicted some time ago of manslaughter. J. F. Dederick, a prominent banker, was shot in Hege's home. Hege's term is not less than one year and not more than four years in the state prison.

Two Deaths Occur in Same Family Sunday Night

Mrs. Retha Craven, wife of Clark Craven, died at her home three miles south of Asheboro Sunday night following a five days illness from influenza. Her little daughter died a few hours later. Both the mother and daughter were buried in the same casket at West Bend on Monday afternoon. Mrs. Craven was the daughter of Hillary and Sallie Haddick and is survived by her husband and three children. It was a very sad coincidence.

Corporal James Clyde Frazier's Father Notified of His Burial Place

Mr. Calvin G. Frazier, of Asheboro, has received a notification from overseas dated December 9, and signed by Chas. G. Pierce, Lt. Col. Q. M. C. U. S. A., stating that James Clyde Frazier, Co. K, 120th Infantry, died September 29, 1918, and was buried in the Tinecourt, Somme, France. The letter expressed great sorrow at the death of the young man who had given his life for his country, but it was comforting to have the official confirmation that his body had been recovered and had been given a christian burial, and that lies in a spot which is under the care and control of those who will not neglect his grave. The letter was accompanied by a circular of information for the friends of our dead, and all letters about burials and grave locations should be addressed to Chief, Graves Registration Service, Headquarters Service Supply, A. P. O. 717, A. E. F. France.

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