

THE ROWANS IN N. CAROLINA HISTORY

Meeting Mr. T. H. Rowan in Carthage gives me occasion to write of that family's part in early North Carolina history. As said in the last issue, the name always intrigues me. The oldest Baptist church in Sampson county, three miles southeast of Clinton, is named Rowan, as is the creek near it. I am wondering if the creek, which I presume was named first, was named thus by some admirer of President Rowan of the colonial council, or whether perhaps some Rowan once lived in that community.

All the Rowans I now know of in the State are those of Moore and Robeson. Mr. T. H. Rowan is descended from Robert Rowan, probably a nephew of Matthew Rowan, as he had a brother named Robert Rowan. It was this Robert Rowan, great-great grandfather of T. H. Rowan, for whom Rowan Street in Fayetteville is named.

Matthew Rowan probably had no sons. At any rate he is found willing at least part of his property to his nephews in Ireland, sons of his brother Andrew. President Rowan, who lived in Bath at the time of his becoming president of the Council in 1753, was living in New Hanover county when he made his will in 1760.

He was sprung from a line of Scotch ministers. The family seems to have been among the immigration to north Ireland, however, as Rev. Andrew Rowan was located at Droughby, diocese of Connor, in 1661, dying there in 1717. His second son, Rev. John Rowan, married a Stewart. Matthew Rowan was the fifth son of that couple. His first appearance in any North Carolina records is as a church warden at Bath in 1726, next as a member of the Assembly in 1727. He became a member of the council in 1732 and continued a member till

his death, serving as president the last seven years. He was also surveyor general of the Province and in 1735 was one of the commissioners appointed to lay off the line between North and South Carolina.

He seems to have been an unusual official, since he pleased the English government and at the same time seems to have aroused no hostility in the rather easily offended Carolinians.

The descent from Major Robert Rowan to T. H. Rowan of Moore is through Thomas Rowan, his son Isaac Holt, Robert Duncan Rowan, the father of T. H. The Rowan family, which gave Scotland and Ireland a number of Church of England ministers, has produced two Presbyterian ministers at the old homestead near Carthage. The one of them is Rev. Jesse Colin Rowan, D. D., now of New York, and Rev. Charles H. Rowan of Paw Creek. Another brother of T. H. (Thomas Holt) is Robert Carl of Raleigh. Three sisters live at the old homestead, Misses Mary, Lettie, and Sarah Elizabeth.

Evidently, the Robeson Rowans are descended from another son of the original Robert, since all the male descendants of Thomas Rowan are above accounted for. Four generations have lived at the homestead near Carthage.

Two references are found to Robert Rowan in Saunders' Colonial Records, one to "Major Robert Rowan (kinsman of President Rowan)" and again, at the beginning of the accounts of the revolutionary struggle, to "Captain Rowan." The intermarriages have been with the Holts, McIvers, and Phillips families, at least up to the present generation.

I am still wondering how Rowan Creek near Clinton got its name. The name of President Matthew Rowan is deservedly perpetuated in the name of one of the State's best counties.

it becomes known that killers will be killed as remorselessly as mad dogs are, would-be killers (and those who carry pistols are in that category) will take heed.

Judge Sinclair has hit the nail on the head when he says that the death penalty is society's weapon of self-defense. When a killer is dead he will kill no more—society is rid of one menace. A writer wonders if Judge Sinclair has ever seen an execution, implying that if he had his sentiments might be different. Wonder if that writer has seen a murder. Shooting down unsuspecting filling station men, shooting with less compunction than one shoots a dog a man begging for his life—those things are not pretty to look upon, and the people of North Carolina are not called upon to tax themselves to keep in comfort such cattle while they are supposed to be paying the penalty for their crimes.

Let the legislature give the juries a chance to save the exceptional killer—one killing under most trying circumstances—from the death penalty by a recommendation to the judge for mercy, but let the death sentence and execution follow speedily the conviction of any others. The safety of the people demands such a course. Mad dogs should not be penned up and fed at public expense.

Duke University is to be congratulated upon securing as commencement speaker, Sir Wilfred Grenfell. He is one of the greatest and most beloved characters in the world today.

Dry weather this spring in Piedmont Carolina has been beneficial to the extent that it has permitted the harvesting of a high quality crop of hay.

Estimated the State Has 2400 New College Graduates

It is estimated that North Carolina is having poured out from the colleges and universities 2400 college graduates this year. That number is far in excess of all the graduates turned out during last third of the 19th century. Their problem now is to find jobs. They must not be too particular as to the kind of job they accept. There is no question that they are better fitted, in the long run, to make their way in the world than the average youth of their age. Yet it will have to be in competition in many cases with youths not so highly educated but with a readier experience in the jobs that some of the graduates must accept, if they are fortunate in securing any jobs at all. The college youth who has really acquired a practical education preparing him for work in the great industries will probably find himself the more fortunate. The next most fortunate is the fellow who has come up by the way of hard knocks and difficulties and has cultivated no expensive habits and is of a type that can turn his hands to almost any kind of work.

But the old motto of one of the Wake Forest literary societies—"If you cannot find a way, make one"—is more pertinent today than ever before. Forty to fifty years ago the college graduate found no

munificent sum of \$75 a month. The next fall the 1893 panic had occurred and with an opening just three times as large as the year before he was unable to collect enough to pay his assistant and leave him enough to live upon, though his board and room cost only \$11 a month. A change to the valley of the Pigeon, where cotton was not king, enabled him to make \$75 a month during the spring of 1894. That spring he was offered a job as "professor" at Mars Hill College and one in Texas at the munificent wage of \$25 a month. One thousand dollars a year for a school man was an exception in the South as late as 1906. It has been worse by far than now, young men. Tighten your belts and put service ahead of compensation and I can assure you that life will be worth living, whether you ever make big money or not. Just remember that the average man's rightful share is small at the best, and that you cannot expect to live in luxury and ease except at the cost of increased hardship to the less fortunate.

It takes mighty little to support a plain, simple life, but take my word for it, if you will, that kind of life has as much joy in it as any other. The fellow who does habituate himself to any other has a devil of a time when the tide changes and overflows him. Health, vigor, initiative, a right attitude toward your fellow men of whatever degree, and not only a willingness but a determination to pay your way through the world, if not more, will assure you of a happy life. But just put your affections on getting money at any cost to your integrity or to the rights of your fellow men, and you can count assuredly upon much unhappiness—even if you become a Croesus. Life does not consist of what one possesses of this world's goods. Twenty cents worth of staple foods a day will keep you in fair physical trim. One shelter keeps off the rain as well as almost any other. A broad, deep life is what counts, and a big income is not necessary to such a life.

An Embargo Laid Upon Shipment of Munitions

The President is forbidding the shipment of arms from this country to Peru and Bolivia, which countries have been waging a foolish war for two or three years about a forest border area. Yet Bolivia claims that such an embargo favors Peru, which has its own arms manufactory and Pacific ports by which it may receive shipments from any country willing to sell it munitions. An embargo, therefore, may sometimes mean the taking of sides. Yet it is gratifying that this minor step is taken in forbidding American munition makers from fattening upon the blood of the youth of nations foolish enough to engage in war. It will take more grit, however, to place an embargo upon shipment of munitions to foreign countries in case of a major war. In that case, the munitions makers will bring an immense pressure to bear. But it is clear that the man who furnishes the weapon for slaughter is not innocent of the youth's blood.



REP. BAYARD CLARK

Mr. Clark is being opposed in the primary tomorrow for re-nomination by the Democrats of the Seventh District by L. Clayton Grant of Wilmington.

Society Must Defend Itself Against Killers

We are quite sure that there have been more people murdered within five miles of Dunn the last year and a half, especially if you count those killed by drunken drivers, than Harnett county lost in battle during the World war. I haven't the figures as to Harnett's loss in battle, but I do know that Sampson lost in that way only eight or ten men—and at least two of the number of the murdered within five miles of Dunn were in Sampson, maybe more. And that means a fourth or a fifth of the World war loss in battle, and not by disease, of that next to the largest county in the State.

The time has come when no babyish sentiment should allow the murderers to escape paying adequate and speedy penalty for their crimes. When



L. CLAYTON GRANT

New Hanover's Representative in the General Assembly for three terms, who is opposing Congressman Bayard Clark in Saturday's Primary.

flowery road open for him. Many a bachelor of arts was glad to get a job at forty dollars a month for eight or ten months teaching. The Wake Forest man in the early nineties who could boast of a six or eight hundred-dollar job was an exception, an object of envy or congratulation, according to the feelings of the other fellow. The writer, "making a way" as a teacher at Burgaw, made exactly his board the first month—\$9.00. Yet he managed to pull in pupils from eight counties that year and raise his income for two or three months to the



CHARLES ROSS of Harnett County

Democratic Primary, June 2, 1934

"Mr. Ross by nature and training has the qualities of head and heart which will insure the maintenance of the high standards the people of the Fourth Judicial District are accustomed to expect."

—Harnett County Ex.