

## DEATH CLAIMS PIONEER RUTHERFORD COUNTY PREACHER

Rev. J. B. Carpenter, Retired Methodist Minister, Died At His Home in Rutherfordton.

Burial At Pleasant Grove Sunday Afternoon—Thousands Deplore Loss Of Noted Minister

Rev. J. B. Carpenter, retired Methodist minister and one of the best known and most universally beloved men in the county, died at Rutherfordton at 9 o'clock Saturday morning after an illness of two weeks. His death comes as a distinct shock to thousands of friends in this county and elsewhere.

Rev. J. B. Carpenter, affectionately known as "Uncle Bate," was 87 years of age, having been born in 1838 in High Shoals Coaling Ground. He was the son of J. H. and Cynthia Carpenter and was educated at Olin High School and York school.

The Rev. Mr. Carpenter had been a member of the Methodist Conference since 1875, and has held pastorates from one end of North Carolina to the other. Since first entering the ministry he had missed but few of the state conferences and, although on the retired list for four years, still maintained his position as one of the leading figures in the church.

Besides his church activities, Mr. Carpenter was active in civic and fraternal organizations. He was clerk of court for Rutherford county for two terms and was actively connected with other public affairs in the county. He was a charter member of Oasis Shrine and a former district deputy grand master of the Masons. In addition he was a member of the Junior Order, Eastern Star, Red Men, Knights of Pythias and Odd Fellows.

Mr. Carpenter is survived by two sisters, Mrs. A. A. Hicks and Mrs. M. Z. Toms, both of Rutherford county.

Mr. Carpenter was licensed to preach in 1874 and joined the Methodist Conference in 1875. He was an active pastor over 45 years. He has held charges from Swain to Halifax counties and has held some of the best appointments in the conference, such as Bryson City, Kings Mountain, Gastonia, Church street, Charlotte, High Point, Thomasville, and Weldon. He has held as high as ten appointments at one time.

He has been on the superannuated list for four years. His first year's salary was \$150, second \$300 and the highest he ever received was \$800 per annum.

He has married over 150 couples and has buried hundreds of his members and friends. Hundreds and possibly thousands have been converted under the influence of his preaching.

His home had been in Rutherfordton since 1875. He was Clerk of Court of this county for two terms. He represented this county in the Legislature of 1862-64. He is the only known surviving member of the famous Assembly which stood by Governor Vance so faithfully during the stormy days of the sixties.

Mr. Carpenter was at one time engaged in the newspaper business. He and R. W. Logan began the "Rutherford Star" in 1867. They later sold it to Rudolph Shotwell, a Confederate officer, who edited the paper until 1870. Shotwell was convicted of K. K. K. complicity by a Republican "carpetbag" jury and sent to the Albany, N. Y., prison.

"Uncle Bate" was also a member of Co. G, 16th Reg. This company was the first to leave Rutherford county for the front in the Civil War. The company flag was presented by Miss Ellen Mitchell, of Rutherfordton. Mr. Carpenter enlisted in this company May 9, 1861, and was discharged in November, 1861. Company G was in Raleigh when the famous Secession Convention met and passed ordinances of secession.

Mr. Carpenter was an unusually healthy man for his age. His hearing had been good but his eyesight was affected to some extent. His grandmother lived to be 101 years old, while the average age of his ancestors was 80 years. He was seen on the streets of Rutherfordton almost every pretty day during the past year. He was noted for his cheerfulness and generosity. He looked on the bright side and had no terrors of death, for he was prepared to meet the final summons. In his life he exemplified service and usefulness and the world is better for his having lived in it. He was dearly beloved and will be long remembered.

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### The Funeral.

One of the largest crowds in the history of Rutherfordton county attended the funeral services of Rev. J. Bate Carpenter at Rutherfordton Sunday afternoon in the new Methodist church. People came from all parts of this and adjoining counties. Knight Templars Roy R. Harrill, Atkin Harrelson, B. D. Wilson, J. L. Robinson, J. H. Carpenter, F. I. Barber, Thomas G. Stone and Dr. Wood, the latter three of Forest City and Dr. Bobo Scruggs, Cliffside, were pallbearers, while the members of Western Star Lodge, No. 91, A. F. and A. M., of Rutherfordton, assisted and had charge of the burial.

"Amazing Grace" and "How Firm a Foundation," favorite hymns of Mr. Carpenter, were sung. Presiding Elder E. J. Poe, of Marion, and Rev. O. L. Simpson, of Spindale, read favorite passages of Scripture, which "Uncle Bate" had requested be read at his funeral. Dr. W. R. Ware, pastor of the First Methodist church, Forest City, spoke on the life of the deceased and read an article from The Rutherfordton Sun of April 3, 1924, telling of the activities of Mr. Carpenter. He paid an eloquent tribute to the life of Mr. Carpenter while Rev. J. O. Ervin, pastor of the Rutherfordton Methodist church, spoke briefly of the life and good work of the deceased. Seven ministers took part in the services.

### OUR BOYS IN FLORIDA

The Courier has a postcard from Sarasota, from some of our boys now in Florida. Saying that they are enjoying the sunshine, the card is signed by Joe McCurry, Paul Harrill, Robt. Harrill, Wilkie Meares, Jack Bridges, Clarence Proctor, John Ware, Frank Newton, Nelson Griffin and "Fifty" Padgett. Their friends all hope the boys will prosper in the "Land of Flowers."

### P. M. AT UNION MILLS WANTS GOVERNMENTS' HELP

Mrs. Mae Elliott, postmistress at Union Mills, has written as follows to Senator Simmons:

"Fourth class postmasters are due their rent, light, fuel and equipment. I think it unfair to require us to transact government business and bear all the expense incident to running the office.

"The cancellation at this office makes the salary about \$1,100 per year. It takes around 20 per cent of this for rent, light and fuel and I furnish the equipment. And we do not get any clerk hire for fourth class office.

"I think H. R. 4040 will just about fill our needs."

### PROVIDENCE NEWS

Forest City, R-2, Feb. 1.—There will be preaching at Providence church Sunday night at 7 o'clock.

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Smith spent Sunday afternoon with Mr. Smith's parents, Mr. Eaves and family.

Mr. John McDaniel and family spent Sunday afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Harrill.

Mrs. Elizabeth Blanton has been sick for the past few days but we are glad to say she is improving.

Miss Inez Dobbins of Oak Grove section, spent Thursday night with Miss Virginia McDaniel.

## RUTHERFORD'S "GRAND OLD MAN"



REV. J. B. CARPENTER

The following tribute to Rev. J. B. Carpenter appeared in The Charlotte Observer in 1924:

### A Home Example Of The "Grand Old Man."

Rev. J. B. Carpenter is a product of the piedmont climate. He has worked hard all his life, part of the time being starved on itinerant rations and pay, but he is now 86 years old and one of the most active pedestrians in the town of Rutherfordton. He began his career as a Methodist preacher in 1874, and has enjoyed the benefits of superannuation for four years, only. About 30 years ago he was pastor of Tryon Street church, in this city, and the editor of The Observer, then a reporter, was in the habit of following him around just to see him chew tobacco. To be sure against the possible contingency of finding him "out," we carried a plug to keep him going. It is a great pleasure to have word from this fine old man after so many years, and we have been entertained through a personal account in the current edition of The Rutherfordton Sun, which brings information that "Uncle Bate" is as chipper as ever, bidding fair to live as long as his grandmother, who died at the age of 101. Brother Carpenter was contemporary with the late Brother Davis, of the adjoining county of Cleveland, but he was drawing a salary of \$150 in Rutherford, while Brother Davis was saddlebagging it in South Carolina on \$15. But the second year, our Rutherford County itinerant's pay was raised to \$300. He was a mighty proud man when the time came that he was getting \$800. In his early days he committed the error of judgment of going into the newspaper business, from which, however, he was rescued through a turn of the political wheel

that made him Clerk of the Court. When he was sinning against his conscience in the newspaper work, he was also dropped into the depths of a State legislator. That was in war times, from 1862 to 1864, and pertinent to the day is his talk about the pay and cost of living in those days. During the first term he served the pay of the law-makers was \$3 per day, while board cost \$2 per day and whiskey 25 cents per drink. The second time, or first called session, pay was \$6 per day with board in Raleigh costing \$5 per day and 50 cents per drink. The second called session pay was \$12.50 per day with board costing \$10 per day and whiskey \$2.50 per drink while the regular session of 1864 pay had increased to \$20 per day and board was \$20 per day.

Brother Carpenter had done his turn in the Army, having volunteered in Company G, 16th North Carolina, which left for the front in May, 1861. He ranks high in Masonic circles; is Junior, Pythian, Odd Fellow, Red Man, Eastern Star and perhaps knows other grips which he cannot at the moment recall. And then the editor of The Sun adds an appraisal which we are giving with an endorsement to which there are no strings. Brother Carpenter's habits are—

Clean and above reproach. His life is a great example of service and usefulness. We know of nothing that could give one more joy and satisfaction than to know "that in our old days we can look back upon our past life and realize that we have helped some one to live a better and more upright life." After all, "service" is all that counts in life anyway. Men measure their life in terms of service, not the big name they make or the money they accumulate.

### MR. LAWRENCE HARDIN DEAD

Mr. Lawrence Calhoun Hardin died at the home of his father, Mr. G. W. Hardin, Jr., just one mile south of Forest City, Tuesday evening at 6:40 o'clock of pleurisy and pneumonia. Lawrence had been seriously ill only since Saturday and his death came as a surprise to relatives and friends. He was 17 years, 9 months and 3 days of age. He professed faith in Christ and joined the Florence Baptist church about four years ago.

He was a student in the Forest City graded school and would have entered High School next term. His many school mates will regret his early going.

He leaves a father, step-mother, four brothers, three sisters and a host of relatives and friends to mourn his departure.

Funeral services were conducted at the Florence Baptist church Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock by Rev. C. C. Matheny, pastor of the deceased. Interment took place in Cool Springs cemetery. The large concourse of friends and the beautiful floral offering gave evidence of the high esteem in which he was held.

## LATEST NEWS FROM HENRIETTA

All the Interesting Happenings Told in Brief By The Courier's Special Correspondent.

Henrietta, Feb. 2.—Miss Pearl Turrentine, a college classmate of Miss Bertie Lee High and who is now teaching at Glenn Alpine, spent the week-end here with Miss High.

Mr. W. S. Moore was in Asheville last week on business.

Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Lovelace visited Dr. and Mrs. T. C. Lovelace last Wednesday.

The teachers and Henrietta-Caroleen girls played basketball at Henrietta last Thursday night. The score was 24 to 4 in favor of the girls.

Mrs. J. F. Sherrard made a business trip to Spartanburg last Thursday. Mrs. Sherrard has gone into business with her mother, Mrs. H. A. Wall, in North Henrietta.

Rev. J. P. Hornbuckle attended the district meeting at Forest City last Thursday and came away very enthusiastic about raising the Centenary quota.

Henrietta-Caroleen basketball team played Alexander Schools, Inc., at Henrietta last Friday night. The score was 18 to 14 in favor of Henrietta-Caroleen.

Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Moore, Mrs. R. D. Dillard and Misses O'Lema Flack and Dovie Sue Harris made a trip to Spartanburg last Friday afternoon.

Mr. Clinton High, of Asheville, has been spending a few days with his sister, Miss Bertie Lee High.

Mr. R. D. Dillard has resigned his position as overseer of the cloth room here and accepted a similar position at Abbeville, S. C.

Mr. and Mrs. Dillard have had charge of the teachers' home here this year. Mrs. Lane will take charge when Mrs. Dillard leaves the first of next week.

Mr. W. C. McAbee, formerly with the Gluck Mills, Anderson, S. C., has accepted a position as cloth room overseer here. He began work Monday. Mr. McAbee will move his family here into the house now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Lane.

Cards have been received here announcing the marriage of Miss Birdie Wilkie and Mr. Thomas Sane, both of Rutherfordton. The marriage took place at Asheville Jan. 21. Mrs. Sane taught in the school here three years ago and made many friends. She is a sister of Mr. M. T. Wilkie, register of deeds. Mr. Sane is a fine young man and has been working in the west for a number of years.

Mrs. C. E. Elmore, of Forest City, visited her father, Dr. R. Hicks, Sunday.

Mr. Thomas Moore visited his parents here Sunday. Rev. and Mrs. J. P. Hornbuckle attended the funeral of Rev. J. B. Carpenter at Pleasant Grove last Sunday.

Mrs. J. T. Camp substituted for Miss Margaret Doggett in the high school last week.

Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Mahaffee, Walter and James Mahaffee were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Hicks Hamrick at Caroleen Sunday.

Mr. Noah Piery, an aged and highly respected citizen, died at the home of his granddaughter, Mrs. Emmet McCraw, last Wednesday. He was stricken suddenly Sunday while visiting at Mr. McCraw's.

### HAVING SALE IN FLORIDA

The Cyclone Auction Co., is having big sales at East Winter Haven and Kissimmee, Fla., this week. Messrs. J. A. Wilkie, June Harrill and B. H. Wilkins left for Florida Monday to be at the sales. Messrs. C. E. Huntley and G. C. King have been on the ground preparing for the sales.

A live and enterprising firm like the Cyclone Auction Co., will do a great part in the up-building of this city and county. With the expected rush of development in the coming spring, the Cyclone Company will play a prominent part. That this company means to boost is well attested by their advertisement in today's Courier. Read the ad and see what the Cyclone Co., is doing for your city and county.

## WELSH SINGERS COMING FEB. 12

Great Welsh Quartette In Program Of Songs Next Piedmont Lyceum Number.

Music lovers in Forest City and vicinity will be afforded a rare treat Friday evening, Feb. 12, when the famous Adams Welsh Quartet will appear at the High School auditorium in a combination of classic, popular, and humorous program. The numbers of this fine singing organization are all from the famous Royal Male Chorus of Wales. Each is a soloist of note and has made good before hundreds of audiences abroad and in the United States. They specialize in superior vocal work, their programs including solos, duets and ensemble numbers of the better sort. Their sketches in costume are unusually attractive and popular. Their repertoire include hundreds of compositions ranging from the simple popular melodies to the most difficult of the operatic masterpieces.

### DEATH OF MR. CHARLIE HARDIN

Mr. Charlie Hardin, aged 22, died at his home here, Thursday, Jan. 28, after an illness of nine days with pneumonia. He was a well known young man, whose death is deeply deplored by many friends. Mr. Hardin was a member of Mt. Vernon Baptist church. He is survived by his father, Mr. Jeff D. Hardin, and one brother, Mr. Sam Hardin.

Funeral services were held at Florence Baptist church last Friday. Rev. Buchanan, of Union Mills, Rev. H. C. Sisk, of the Wesleyan Methodist church and Rev. C. C. Matheny, of Florence Baptist church, taking part in the obsequies. Interment took place in Cool Springs cemetery.

### WILKIE-SAND

Miss Birdie Wilkie was married in Asheville Jan. 21 to Mr. Thomas Sane. The bride is the daughter of Mrs. W. E. Wilkie, of Rutherfordton, and a popular school teacher. Mr. Sand is a well known young farmer.

### KIWANIS CLUB NOTES

Featuring the Kiwanis Club meeting Monday evening was a short talk by Mr. J. M. Edwards on "The Needs Of Our Town." First he told of some things the club could accomplish if it had the co-operation that it should have and said that the first great need of the city at present was the new hotel that Forest City must have this spring, if the growth of the city is not to be permanently stifled. That the new hotel is a crying need is further evidenced by the fact that Dr. W. A. Ayers also mentioned its pressing need in his sermon Sunday morning. Mr. Edwards told of how Kiwanis creates a better feeling and brotherhood in the city, and urged that new members be secured so that the work could be better carried on.

Mr. J. W. Dalton, who had charge of the program, also made a talk on the urgent need of securing new membership in the club. To do a great work—and it will—the club needs to increase its membership. Patriotic citizens who are not now members should come in now and do their part in the great development movement that is just now starting in this section.

Mr. R. W. Minish and Mrs. Minish delighted the club with several musical numbers.

Ladies' night will be observed Feb. 15th.

### MT. PLEASANT BOY HONORED

Mr. Wade B. Matheny, who is a college at Wake Forest, was recently elected president of Wake Forest B. Y. P. U. Mr. Matheny is a very capable young man and has always been interested in the church work. He was president of the Mt. Pleasant B. Y. P. U. before going to college and proved himself to be a very successful leader. Mr. Matheny is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Matheny, of Mt. Pleasant.