

til it becomes tradition, and the Alex Blue farm will be famous for a long, long day. The Alex Blue monument in Sandy Grove Churchyard will always be famous.

WHERE THE WOMEN FACED SHERMAN.

After all, when you come to tell the story of this section of the country, some of the foremost of the heroes have been the women and the slaves. The visitor who comes to Pinehurst to put in a brief vacation in winter amid all the conveniences and modern luxuries does not suspect the burdens that have been carried on the shoulders of the women of this part of the world. In the early days on her devolved the task of providing for the wants of the family, weaving the yarn, making the clothing, rearing the children, caring for the home, and doing the unlimited tasks that are always done by the women. That was the common lot, and was not rated extraordinary. Probably civil war laid on the women of the South a responsibility greater than was ever known to any other part of the United States. When South Carolina in its noisy style invited civil war the cost was not counted. That idea that the whole thing would be over in ninety days obscured the graver judgment and the fuller consideration. So when the terrible encounters like Antietam, Gettysburg, the Wilderness, and Chancellorsville began to mow down men like a pestilence, North Carolina, like the other states, saw the men and boys going off to the front. When you take a man away you leave something for a woman to do. When you take away about a million men you leave the work of about a million men for a million women to do, and it is no small task for a woman to do her own work and that of a man besides. It is not helped any by the inconveniences that war puts on a country. The civil war was a war fought in the South. Pennsylvania saw a bit of overflow at Gettysburg, and while it lasted there but a few days the trail of it is still apparent. From Gettysburg to the Rio Grande war ran over the South, and few neighborhoods escaped its ruinous touch. It came through North Carolina, the recruiting office and the draft taking away the men, and the marauding of invading troops bringing the destruction that comes with a conquering enemy. The women were left at home to do their work and to do the work of the men. At the same time they were to suffer the penalties of war brought to their doors. Out beyond Southern Pines is the old Buchan farm. By the farm house the road in war time days crossed the creek. Sherman's troops followed the road on their way from Cheraw toward Goldsboro. On a hill above the ford Killpatrick mounted his cannon to welcome Hardee if he should come that way in pursuit. The guns pointed toward the ford and across the creek to the Buchan house. The commander sent word to the women at the house to move out. Firing the guns would endanger them. And the women sent back word to move them if they were to be moved, that they would stay in their home. Fortunately Hardee went to the other road two miles away and the guns were not fired. But farther

down the road the guns were fired. The women stayed and defied the armies of either side. They stayed and made the crops and fed the children. The women stayed and received the wounded and maimed, nothing but the memory of a tragedy and an unknown grave somewhere out in the Virginia peninsula, or at Stone River or Petersburg, took up the struggle. Here and there you find some of them yet, although time has carried most of them to the balancing of accounts where they are entitled to a brave credit for their share in the battles that are even more serious than the battles fought amid the excitement of powder smoke and the rattling of drums.

It is interesting to drop off by the roadside and fall in with some of those women of the war days and listen to the struggles that came with war and hung over this country until a new generation had grown up to help carry the load and help bring the unhappy community back to something like the prosperity of which war-deprived it. Women have always been good fighters. In the days of the French revolution the women were even more savage than the men. In the occupation of New Orleans women were much more bitter than the men. It is because women have to bear a serious burden in war time and in the days that lead up to war, and that the influences involve not only principles but the woman and her brood. The unwritten history of any country is always the part the women played. Only occasionally a Joan of Arc goes out at the head of the troops. But those who stay at home fight a battle as exacting, although because it is not surrounded by the spectacular setting it is not written down in the story of the fight. As I say, drop off at the road side one of these days in the less frequented routes and talk with some of the war time women who still survive if you care to make the acquaintance of heroes. Talk with them if you have any curiosity about what the submerged side of war and of history means. It will give you a different perspective on lots of the important things of life for that same incentive which makes woman a warrior in her unobtrusive way in the days of war makes her a warrior in the more placid wars of peace.

BUTLER ON SLAVERY

Another of the heroes worth stopping to talk with is the old slave. The man from the North can probably never understand the attitude of the slave. When the white men of the state were in the army fighting against the force that stood for emancipation, the slave, the subject of the contention, remained at home on the plantation, devotedly loyal to the family of the man who was sacrificing himself to keep that slave in slavery. The point the Northern man forgets is that while slavery gave to the master a right of possession that right of possession was a right that manifested itself only under occasional conditions. The every day relations between white man and black man were those of superior and inferior members of the same industrial and social organization, and the black man was a member. The black man's wants were looked after by

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