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The Warren Record

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Sept-2-19

WEATHER FORECAST
 Continued Fair With Moderate Winds, Not Much Change In Temperature Before Latter Part of Week.

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(Tuesday)

WARRENTON, N. C., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1919

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A SEMI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF WARRENTON AND WARREN COUNTY

5c. THE COPY

God In America's Past Life

HISTORY CROWDED WITH REFERENCE TO DEITY IN ALL NATIONAL UNDERTAKINGS; RELIGIOUS STRAIN IN U. S.

Plea of Benjamin Franklin To Compatriots For Prayer Before Discussion Formed Bed-Rock Upon Which Constitution Was Built; Lincoln Based North's Stand On Scriptural Quotation "A House Divided Against Itself Cannot Stand"; Other Sidelights.

By Harry F. Atwood, Author of "Back to the Republic."

(Written for Manufacturers Record)

The proudest heritage of this country is that all through our history there has run the golden thread of a religious strain. The great Baptist theologian, dear old Dr. George Northrup, once said, "God Almighty writes a legible hand," and it seems to me that we find the handwriting of God all over the wall of the Republic. We find it written into our State papers, in the words spoken by our statesmen, on the coins that we circulate, in the songs that we sing, in the literature that has been written, and in the aspirations of our people. More, far more than any other country we have been essentially a religious and God-loving nation: and it is that fact more than anything else which has put character into our statesmen, courage into our soldiers, justice into our Government and conscience into our people.

The Mayflower compact begins: "In the name of God, Amen. And having undertaken for the glory of God and the advancement of the Christian faith." That is the opening sentence of the first State paper ever adopted on American soil.

In the Declaration of Independence we find such sentences as "Appealing to the Supreme Judge of the World for the rectitude of our intentions * * * and for support of this declaration with a firm reliance upon Divine Providence."

In our Constitutional Convention were assembled the greatest body of men, from the standpoint of physical vigor, mental acumen and moral courage, that ever met together for human achievement. When the great William Pitt read our Constitution he exclaimed: "It will be the wonder and admiration of all future generations and the model of all future constitutions." It is to the everlasting discredit of our various States (which by the Constitution are guaranteed a republic as the form of government) and of all foreign countries that they have failed to make it their model, and that Pitt's prophecy has not been realized.

The writing and adoption of our Constitution was unquestionably the greatest and most important human achievement since the creation, and as an event it ranks in history second only to the birth of Christ. That marvelous body of men met day after day for four weeks and had not agreed on a single word or a single sentence. On the last morning of the fifth week, in the midst of a very heated discussion, they were about to adjourn and abandon the great purpose for which they had met, when Benjamin Franklin, perhaps the wisest man in the convention, mature in years, ripe in wisdom and consummate in tact, arose and, addressing George Washington in the chair, spoke as follows:

"Mr. President, the small progress we have made after four or five weeks' close attention and continual reasonings with each other, our different sentiments on almost every question, several of the last producing as many noes as ayes, is, methinks, a melancholy proof of the imperfection of the human understanding. We indeed seem to feel our want of political wisdom, since we have been running all about in search of it. We have gone back to ancient history for models of government and examined the different forms of those republics which, having been originally formed with the seeds of their own dissolutions, now no longer exist: and we have viewed modern States all around Europe, but find none of their constitutions suitable in our circumstances.

"In this situation of this assembly, groping, as it were, in the dark to find political truth, and scarce able to distinguish it when presented to us, how has it happened, sir, that we have not hitherto once thought of humbly applying to the Father of Lights to illuminate our understandings? * * * "I have lived, sir, a long time: and

the longer I live the more convincing proofs I see of this truth, that God governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid? We have been assured, sir, in the Sacred Writings, that except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it. I firmly believe this; and I also believe that without His concurring aid we shall succeed in this political building no better than the builders of Babel; we shall be divided by our little partial, local interests, our project will be confounded, and we ourselves shall become a reproach and a byword down to future ages. And, what is worse, mankind may hereafter, from this unfortunate instance, despair of establishing government by human wisdom and leave it to chance, war, conquest.

"I therefore beg leave to move: "That hereafter prayers, imploring the assistance of Heaven and its blessing on our deliberations, be held in this assembly every morning before we proceed to business, and that one or more of the clergy of this city be requested to officiate in that service."

And from that moment they began to make progress in the framing and adoption of that fame-crowned document, which Gladstone said was the greatest piece of work ever struck off at a given time by the brain and purpose of man.

There were men in the Constitutional Convention who refused to sign that immortal document. Alexander Hamilton was the only man from the great State of New York who signed it, but those who refused have all long since been forgotten. The men who refused to sign the Constitution were urging the inclusion of popular fallacies that are as old as Methuselah and played their part in the downfall of Greece, Rome and other countries, and during recent years have been advocated by modern demagogues in this country as new milleniums, such as initiative, referendum, recall, boards and commissions, etc. When the men who favored those socialistic nostrums learned that they could not appeal to the reason of the men who wrote and signed the Constitution, they tried to appeal to their fear, and they said: "Unless you write into this Constitution some popular fallacies to fool and please the people, the Constitution will never be adopted." George Washington had taken no part in the discussion of the convention up to that time, but when he heard that statement he rose from the President's chair and in tones of suppressed emotion said: "It is too probable that no plan we propose will be adopted; perhaps another dreadful conflict is to be sustained: if, to please the people, we offer what we ourselves disapprove, how can we afterwards defend our work? Let us raise a standard to which the wise and honest can repair; the event is in the hands of God."

Professor Fosk has well said that those words ought to be written on the walls of every legislative hall, State and national, in this country, and ought to be carved upon the walls of every convention room where people meet to write a platform or adopt a resolution or nominate a candidate. It is illustrative of the type of reasoning that prevailed in the Constitutional Convention.

Those men were not trying to follow the crowd; they were trying to mold public opinion and give the people what they needed. The great difficulty during recent years is that we have had crowd followers instead of statesmen who were leaders. The crowd does not want to be followed; it wants to be guided; and the great men, the men who have molded public sentiment, frequently have had to stand in the minority for a time; but history points to these men finally as those who molded public opinion and who stood for what they believed to be right.

George Washington wrote to Governor Trumbull of Connecticut: "I can

PLAN YOUR RACE AND---WIN!



If it's a tie between **INCOME** and **SPENDING**, we lose. If we lose, we are handicapped on the next lap of life's relay. But if we beat our **FOOLISH SPENDING**, we start the next lap ahead of the game. If we keep up our saving pace, we distance the Wolf.

almost trace the finger of Divine Providence through those dark and mysterious days which first led the colonists to assemble in convention, thereby laying the foundation for peace and prosperity, when we had too much reason to fear that misery and confusion were coming too rapidly upon us."

In his Farewell Address he said, among other things: "Of all habits and customs leading to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. It is substantially true that virtue or morality is a necessary spring of popular government."

Daniel Webster, expounder and defender of the Constitution, who stands at the mountain peak of New England history and ranks second only to Hamilton as a governmental genius, said: "I mean to stand upon the Constitution. I need no other platform. The ends I aim at shall be my country's, my God's, and truth's."

Into our national anthem, "The Star-Spangled Banner," Francis Scott Key wrote: "And this is our motto, 'In God is our trust,'" and we have written that motto upon the coins that we circulate.

In the "Battle Hymn of the Republic" Julia Ward Howe wrote these beautiful lines:

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord.

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea, With a glory in His bosom That transfigures you and me. As He died to make men holy, Let us die to make men free, While God is marching on. Glory, glory, hallelujah; His truth is marching on. Samuel Francis Smith wrote as the closing verse of our inspiring national hymn:

Our Fathers' God, to Thee, Author of liberty, To Thee we sing! Long may our land be bright With Freedom's holy light! Protect us by Thy might, Great God, our King!

Coming down to the next great epoch of history, when it was necessary to preserve the Union and save the Republic founded on our Constitution written by Alexander Hamilton and his associates, on one occasion someone said to Abraham Lincoln: "I hope God is on our side," to which Lincoln replied: "My concern is not so much whether God is on our side. My great concern is to be on God's side, for God is always right."

Lincoln based the great issue of this Republic upon a text taken from the Bible, "A house divided against itself cannot stand." In his farewell address to his old neighbors at Springfield he said, among other things: "Today I leave you. I go to assume a task more difficult than that which devolved upon George Washington. Unless the Great God who inspired him shall be with and inspire me, I must fail; but if the same Omnipotent Mind and Almighty Arm that directed me and protected him shall guide and support me, I shall not fail; I shall succeed. Let us pray that the God of our fathers will not forsake us now. To Him I commend you all. Permit me to ask that with equal sincerity and faith you will invoke His wisdom and guidance for

me. The great God who can stay here with you and go there with me and be everywhere for good!"

In his inaugural address, when passion was running high, he wrote: "With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in."

Into the Emancipation Proclamation he wrote: "And upon this act, sincerely believed to be an act of justice, I invoke the deliberate judgement of mankind and the gracious favor of Almighty God."

In his Gettysburg address he said: "That this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom."

At the time of Lincoln's assassination crowds had gathered in New York City, and their minds were inflamed with the thought, "Our leader is gone; our cause is lost." Men killed one another upon the streets. A group was organized to destroy the World building, in which the newspaper was published which had opposed Lincoln's administration. James A. Garfield happened to be in the city, and it was suggested that his presence and personality upon the platform where the telegrams had been read announcing Lincoln's condition might tend to bring calm to the situation. He raised his hand and wove together some of the choicest gems of the Psalms that his good old mother had taught him in childhood as she held him upon her knee.

He said: "Fellow-Citizens: Clouds and darkness are round about him. His pavilion is dark waters and thick clouds of the sky. Justice and judgement are the establishment of His throne. Mercy and truth shall go before His face. Fellow-citizens, God reigns, and the Government at Washington still lives." Those words wrought like magic, and from that moment violence ceased in the city of New York.

Rutherford B. Hayes said: "Looking for the guidance of that Divine hand by which the destinies of nations and individuals are shaped."

Benjamin Harrison said: "God has placed upon our head a diadem and has laid at our feet power and wealth beyond definition or calculation; but we must not forget that we take these gifts upon condition that justice and mercy shall hold the reins of power."

Grover Cleveland said: "Above all I know there is a Supreme Being who rules the affairs of men and whose goodness and mercy have always followed the American people, and I know He will not turn from us now if we humbly and reverently seek His powerful aid."

In opening his inaugural address William McKinley said: "Invoking the guidance of Almighty God, our faith teaches us that there is no safer reliance than upon the God of our fathers. Who has so singularly favored the American people in every national trial and Who will not forsake us so long as we obey His commandments and walk humbly in His footsteps." And in closing he said: "I will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States. This is the obligation I have reverently taken before the Lord Most High. To keep it will be my single purpose, my constant prayer."

(Continued On Sixth Page)

Prizes Sales at Fair Record

WARREN'S FAIR AT NORLINA OCTOBER 9 and 10TH

Prizes In Addition To Those In Catalogue To Be Awarded; Officers Asking Aid To Make A Great Success of Undertaking.

At the Norlina School building on October the 9th and 10th there will be held an agricultural fair for Warren County, this place being selected on account of the superior advantages afforded by the school building and grounds for the exhibits, especially the live stock. The management of the fair receives absolutely no compensation for time or trouble, it being given free for the good we hope will come to the county on account of the fair. This being a fact we confidently expect the co-operation of the farmers, business and manufacturing interests of the county, that our combined efforts may be crowned with success. If we fail on account of not having exhibits it will be a reflection on our county at the State Fair.

We hope to be able to select out of the exhibits shown an exhibit which will do credit to our county at the State Fair.

If you have not received a catalogue you will be glad to mail one on receipt of your name and address, Below you will find a few special premiums received since catalogue came from the press.

- Mr. R. B. Boyd—\$5.00 Best collection canned fruit.
- Mr. J. A. Dowtin—\$5.00 Best collection canned vegetables.
- Allen & Fleming—\$5 Best collection preserves.
- Mr. W. G. Rogers—\$5 Best loaf bread.
- Mr. C. C. Hunter—\$5 Best three pounds of butter.
- W. A. Miles Co.—Aluminum kettle for best peck sweet potatoes.
- Mr. J. D. Newell—\$1 for best wine apples.
- Mr. W. D. Rose—\$1 best caromel cake
- Mr. J. A. Dameron—\$1 best butter-milk biscuit.
- Mr. Bob Pinnell—\$1 best ham.
- Mr. Rob Watson—\$1 best home made molasses.
- Mr. Ben Hilliard—good tie for best home made broom.
- Mr. A. D. Harris—\$1 best pound cake
- Mr. J. Willie White—\$1 best ginger cakes.
- Mr. H. L. Falkener—\$1 best beaten biscuit.
- Dr. W. D. Rodgers—\$1 best tea cakes.

Celebration at Littleton 18th

Littleton is to be the center Thursday of an interested and enthusiastic crowd at its welcome home celebration given the soldiers, sailors and marines of the surrounding territory. The Red Cross as sponsor for the day guarantees an auspicious gathering which is destined to be staged in splendid style.

Dr. Alston's grove will be the general headquarters to which the soldiers of River, Judkins, and Fishing Creek in Warren and of Butterworth Brinkleyville and Littleton in Halifax are invited. Five hundred pounds of cue with many other tempting things to eat will form a delicious dinner for the soldiers. Families are expected to bring baskets as the dinner will only be served the honor guests of the occasion.

Judge Francis D. Winston will be the speaker of the day. Soldiers of different sections, however, will be called to the platform for short talks as will other citizens prominent in war work. Garber-Davis orchestra, of Wilson, will furnish music during the day.

Every effort is being made by the committee for a successful celebration and the attendance of a large crowd from the surrounding country side is confidently expected.

Philathea Club With Mrs. Allen

The Philathea Literary Club of the Baptist church met with Mrs. T. V. Allen last Friday night. A very interesting program was helpfully enjoyed and the evening an occasion of pleasant social intercourse. Delicious fruit punch was served.

TOBACCO FLOWS HERE FOR OPENING SALE TUESDAY

Streets Crowded With Citizens and Wagons Block Side Streets Leading To Warehouses; Price of Weed Declared "Good."

The streets rang this morning with the familiar "awgon in the road" as the warehousemen of Warrenton handled the biggest opening break in the history of the market. Citizens from all sections crowded the sidewalks and wagons literally blocked traffic on two of our side streets in the effort to place the golden weed upon the floors.

Farmers were present from all sections of Warren and some from adjoining counties. Even as early as four o'clock yesterday evening the farmers commenced to arrive for today's sales, and this steady flow continued until sales time today.

Much damaged tobacco was in evidence. The heavy rains of the latter part of July being one of the chief uses for the damage. The prices received were good and the farmers as a whole were satisfied with the results of the first day's sale.

COLORED FARMERS CONFERENCE TO MEET SEPT. 26TH

The Colored Farmers Conference is called to meet in its annual session Friday before the 4th Sunday in September, 1919 (Friday, September 26th, 1919) at the County Court House, Warrenton, N. C. Meeting called at 12 o'clock.

All colored farmers of Warren county are urged to be present. Business of much importance. Election of officers, arrangements for County Colored Demonstrator, and etc. Mr. L. E. Hall, State Farm Demonstrator for colored farmers is invited to speak.

Let the colored farmers turn out as never before.

JACOB JORDAN, President.
 C. H. WILLIAMSON, Secty.

Big Crowds In Attendance at Court

Superior Court convened promptly Monday morning with Judge Lyon presiding and Solicitor Midyette on hand to look after the State's business. The Grand Jury was quickly drawn and ably charged by Judge Lyon, and proceeded to business.

A detailed statement of cases and their disposition will appear in Friday's issue, as press of business around the Clerk's desk has prevented getting Court proceedings in detail. Clerk Newell, assisted by Mr. Joseph J. Macon, is handling the records in good shape and with little inconvenience to witnesses and the Bar.

Panacea Property To Change Hands

Persistent Rumor has it that the Panacea Springs property has been purchased by a syndicate composed of Henderson business men and northern capital and that the Hotel will be conducted throught the entire year.

Good authority from our neighboring city states that the report is current that the Hotel with improvements will be conducted as such and that a modern sanitarium will be built on the hill facing the resort.

No direct authority is to hand for this rumor but Madame is persistent enough to make the most doubtful think that there is something to this ripple of news.

Robert Plummer Passes Away

Robert Plummer, highly respected colored barber of Littleton, a son of John S. Plummer, of this city, was buried here yesterday afternoon with Masonic honors. Many flowers by white friends attested to the esteem in which he was held.

Mr. John T. Waring to Wed

Mr. John T. Waring announces his coming marriage to the popular and beautiful Mrs. Jessie Terry Phillips, New Bern, N. C., on Thursday, September eighteenth, nineteen hundred and nineteen.