

Swannanoa News

MRS. A. C. CAMPFIELD

Route 1 Phone 7645

"THE COMMUNITY MEETING PLACE"

Robbery in 1867

The period at the close of the Civil War and the reconstruction days were marked by ruthless people, who sought to steal or commit crimes they would otherwise not have done had the law been able to deal with them justly. Car-pet-beggars from the north were credited with the lawless-ness according to history. As a matter of fact, in letters to Elizabeth Weaver Gash, there are two instances where the robberies were southerners.

In the following letter the writer mentions sowing the wheat, and not knowing who would reap the circumstances due to the freedom of the slaves.

The letter being from Laurel Hill, one might assume possible to be the same location today, which is a small town near Fayetteville.

Addressed Laurel Hill, Dec. 7, 1867. To Elizabeth Weaver Gash. It is sometime since we have heard from you. I would have answered your letter long since but felt that I had nothing to write that would interest you but the robbers given me the topic, they have given us a visit and I will try to describe the scene as best I can sincerely hoping you never witness such a one. On the evening of 26 about sundown a company of armed men entered a house pointed to by Mr. Erwin took us all prisoners, white and black, down to the smallest child, put us under guard, guarded us closely then the man who called himself captain told his men, 15 in number, to take what they pleased. They called for the keys which I delivered up to them and such an opening of drawers, trunks and closets I hope you may never see, they threw everything out on the floor took out all they wanted or rather all they could carry off. They did not take any women's clothing except a few small articles but took all Mr. Erwin's clothes. Did not leave him a change. We got a few things back they dropt near the house. 2 of Mr. Erwin's shirts and some other from here they went to Doct. Mills took the family prisoners and I suppose would have killed him if

he had not made his escape. They took a great deal from the Doct., 11 head of his horses. Our 2 mules came back the next evening. Took Mr. Erwin's saddle and nearly all the bridles we had. Mr. Erwin's double barrel shot gun all our ammunition, a few hundred dollars in money, a great many other things too tedious to mention. We have recovered nothing except the mules and a few bundles they dropt near the house. Doct. Mills got back all his horses except 3 which is all that he has recovered. There has been 4 or 5 other robberies in this county within the last week. Our country is over run with such persons. The good one only knows what is to become of us. We have had a company of cavalry stationed here in 8 miles of us. But they did not seem to do any good at all. Well I have given you a dark picture of our condition. I will turn to the brighter side though the robbers have taken a good deal from us we still have enough left to the conclusion that we can do anything now but live easy I mean free from labor live on what we have made and in that way get a share of it as it goes. I had just made Mr. Erwin a new suit of janes he had never had it on when the robbers came. They took the vest and pants, the coat was still in the tailors shop we saved the coat by it not being at home. I have just heard they robbed Doct. Chapman's son who is now a neighbor to us, knight before last, taking the boots from off his feet. I think I shall only try to have one suit for Mr. Erwin. One off and one on and think myself fortunate if I can keep that. Truly we have fallen on evil times and I have thought from the beginning that he who could get through this war with his head on would be most fortunate. I still have the same opinion. I fear the time is close at hand when people will not so much regard their property but to save their lives will be their greatest object. I suppose the Yankees are now in or near Augusta I would much rather encounter the Yankees than robbers. These robbers are the most unprincipled and heartless wretches that lives anywhere. I have always bin much more afraid of them than any other class of people. We are all well except Willie he can't walk but crawls on his hands and knees. Seems to have very little use of his left leg. I can't but fear he never will have good use of himself again. I will quit writing if you can read what I have written. My pen ink and paper all is bad and handwriting not good. Give much love to all your family. Receive a goodly portion for yourself. Tell Malissa I think she is most fortunate in not having a family in these times. Men can give no protection to their lady friends in these times. I heard from your sister Hester the other day she was well and speaking of going back to rimstreek. I suppose you had heard she had lost her negro woman in spartinburg. she died with Tiphoid fever. We had one case of tiphoid fever in our family this fall but only a negro boy he has got well.

Write soon give me all the news.

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JTG SPECIAL COFFEE

"The Best Part of the Meal"

Arts and Crafts department of the Woman's club will begin the fall season with a meeting to be held in the home of Mrs. Desmond Hussy, Government, Thursday (today) at 8 p.m.

The Garden club will meet with Mrs. Floyd Hensley Oct. 4 at 3 p.m. Mrs. G. B. Talbot and Miss Frank Davidson will serve as co-hostesses.

Rally Day and homecoming will be observed at the Presbyterian church Sunday morning, 10:00 until 2:30. Members and friends are invited to come and bring lunch. Basket dinner will be on the grounds.

Sunday morning 11 o'clock service will have as its subject "The Vision and the Voice—Part 2." Evening service at 7:30 pm. topic will be "God's Plan For the People."

Wednesday night 7:30, the Bible study concerns "The Lord's Letter to the Church at Ephesus." Thursday, special called business meeting at the church at 7:30 pm.

The building program of the First Baptist church is progressing well, with plans about which we shall be hearing in the future. Sunday school study course for department officers and teachers has been conducted during this week, with Rev. Charles Smith and Lester Miller in charge. Those who have been instructing are Bill Darby, adults; Harry Davis, young people; Mrs. Perry McMahan, intermediates; Miss Elizabeth Allen, junior department; Mrs. Harley Moyers, primary; Mrs. Elsie Edwards, nursery; and Mrs. Harry Noblitt, cradle roll; and Mrs. Grace Ray, extension supt.

W. S. C. S. Mrs. J. V. Brigman presented the quadrennial goals of the Woman's Society of Christian Service at the September meeting, Wednesday evening, Sept. 19. The program was the beginning of a new period of work, the theme of which for the next four years will be "The Spirit of Christ For All of Life."

Mrs. Roy Armstrong, a visitor, gave an interesting report of the program being carried out by the Girl Scout organization in this section. She stated that much adult leadership and help was needed, and that any services that the group or individuals could give would be greatly appreciated.

Mrs. Alfred Astley and Mrs. Whit Gibson were hostess for the evening. Other members present were Mrs. J. M. Powlas, Mrs. Elmer DeBruhl, Mrs. Grace Johnston, Mrs. Louise Warlick, Mrs. Pearl Barrett, Mrs. Mildred Scott, Mrs. Elmer Griffin, Mrs. Roy Franklin, and Mrs. G. H. Farr.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Sams observed their 57th wedding anniversary on Saturday, Sept. 22. Relatives, friends, and neighbors called through Saturday at their home. Their children are Mrs. Minnie McClure, Mrs. Blanche Owens, Bill Sams, J. C. Sams, and Mrs. Elsie Edwards of Swannanoa, and Clyde Sams of Woodfin.

Members of the Josephine Mumpower auxiliary assembled Tuesday, Sept. 18, "Take My Life and Let It Be," rendered by those present, and prayer led by Mrs. T. A. Pittman opened the meeting. Mrs. R. L. Ballard, Jr., read the scripture. Members taking part on the program were Mrs. Howard Gardner, Mrs. James Brotherton, Mrs. A. L. Wilson, Mrs. Ann Wilson, Mrs. Cline Messer.

Cards have been sent to the sick, and other business conducted. Special prayer was made for the sick of the community. The meeting closed in prayer led by Mrs. Florence Smith.

G.A. Picnic The picnic was a special treat to 28, consisting of the G.A. girls and their guests from the Free Will Baptist church. It took place at the Community building, Monday, Sept. 17, where they enjoyed hot dogs and baseball.

Mrs. Austin Andrews, leader, was assisted by Miss In Smith. Also on hand were Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Metcalf, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Nichols.

Presbyterian Women The general Presbyterian Women's meeting had as its hostess Mrs. G. B. Talbot, assisted by Mrs. James Davidson Monday evening, Sept. 17.

Mrs. Eugene Lovan, president, read an appropriate article from Presbyterian Women entitled, "The Woman Who Touched Jesus," as well as the prayer. A hymn was used prior to the roll call, com-

plete reports, circle reports, and other business. Announcement was made in effect that Presbyterial will be held at Oak Forest Presbyterian church Oct. 17.

Mrs. Mary McMurray presented a most interesting program, "Re-ligion in the Home," which was illustrated, God as Creator, "God as a Spirit, God is Just, God is Love, God is Ever Present. Questions of a child appropriately used to show the various truths brought out in the program."

Mrs. W. A. Ward will be hostess for the meeting in October. Attending were Mrs. Charlie Porter, Mrs. D. W. Harrison, Mrs. Elizabeth Connelly, Mrs. G. B. Talbot, Mrs. Wendell Patton, Mrs. Yancey Fortune, Mrs. W. A. Ward, Mrs. A. B. Hubert, Mrs. G. P. Whit- James Davidson, Mrs. W. H. Mc- Murray, Jr., Mrs. Dixon Connelly, Mrs. Allen Campfield, Miss Addie Davidson, Mrs. Eugene Lovan, Mrs. George White.

First Baptist Church Mrs. May Gosnell was hostess, assisted by Mrs. Jessie Allen, for a meeting of the Business Woman's circle of the First Baptist church Sept. 10, with 14 members in attendance.

During the meeting the following were elected: officers to begin in October: president, Mrs. Lilly Miller; vice-pres., Mrs. Virginia Meyer; secretary, Mrs. Jessie Allen; devotional leaders, Mrs. Mildred Crist, Mrs. Margaret program chairman, Mrs. Margaret Campfield, West; community mission, Mrs. Roselle Noblitt, Mrs. Lettie McMahan; stewardship, Mrs. Annie McMahan; mission study, Mrs. Essie Campfield; literature chairman, Mrs. Ida Smith; social committee, Mrs. Lucie Wagner, McKinney, Mrs. S. Daniels, Mrs. Dorothy Ing, Mrs. Jacqueline Wright, Mrs. Nell Matthews, and Mrs. Louise Waincott.

The program concerned work of the GA and RA, which are youth organizations in the church. Tak- ers of the were Mrs. Margaret Campfield, Mrs. Louise Waincott, Mrs. Jessie Allen, Mrs. Virginia Meyer, Mrs. May Gosnell, Mrs. Lettie McMahan. The meeting was closed by prayer. Those present enjoyed a social hour.

P. T. A. Parent-Teachers Association had their first meeting of the scholastic year in the Swannanoa school Thursday, Sept. 20.

Girl Scout Troop 5 presented colors, and Patty Bird Talbot gave the devotionals. E. W. Howell, principal, introduced the teachers. Min- gine were read by Mrs. W. H. Noah, and Mrs. Sidney Croy gave the treasurer's report. Mrs. Victor Eliassen announced the meeting of the home room representatives to take place in the library Thursday, Sept. 27. The need for used clothing for 41 children was brought to the attention of members. Girl Scouts will take care of small children for parents while they attend the P.T.A. meetings.

Mrs. Rupert Dunton, who is in charge of Scout Troop 152, made an appeal for parents of talent, or anyone having any abilities to help the girl scouts to pass their badges. Anyone donating even a little time will be appreciated.

The Rev. Charles Smith introduced the speaker, T. C. Roberson, supt. of Buncombe County schools, who commended the Girl Scouts. Roberson compared the situation in schools of today with the year of 1935. He told how with the increase of population and the amount of money which is allotted from taxes for the upkeep of the public school system being deficient, the difficulty of maintaining schools on an advanced scale which the world situation of today demands. Schools cannot be operated without adequate funds. Roberson focused attention on the school lunch program, which has increased since its beginning.

The United States spends between 25 and 26 billions of dollars yearly on crime and only eight billions on education. Parents visited the grammar school, where much needed improvements had been made, and which had unavoidably delayed the start of school. A social hour was held in the lunch room following the meeting.

Swannanoa Music Club September brings a close to summer activities and the beginning of new and varied interests of the high school students. September opens the meetings of the music club in the Community Center, sponsored by Mrs. Mary Freeman. To month the meeting started with devotional numbers, numbers by Jane Bowness at the piano and John Cooley on the trumpet. Bobby Jones sang two selections previously to the square dancing. Approximately 30 attended the club's first meeting.

Recently the club sponsored a cake sale, the proceeds of which go towards paying for the combined record player and PA speaker, bought for the club house.

Book Club During the Book club meeting on Tuesday night, Sept. 18, Mrs. T. W. Folsom presented the book review "Caleb, My Son," by Lucy Daniels. The book, just off the press, deals appropriately with the racial integration problem.

Mrs. H. R. Miller received members of the board of department of the Woman's club in her home, assisted by Mrs. A. R. Cannon. Visitors were Mrs. Clara Snyder, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Webb. Present also: Mrs. Virginia Huggins, Mrs. Sam Alexander, Mrs. H. L. Clapp, Mrs. W. W. Corry, Mrs. Robert Davidson, Mrs. Charles English, Mrs. Norman Freeman, Mrs. E. N. Howell, Mrs. John Kelly, Mrs. Robert Martin, Mrs. H. E. McKinney, Mrs. L. O. Wright, Mrs. George Young, Mrs. Charlie Nichols.

Personals Miss Joan Allen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Allen, is residing in Washington, D. C., where she has accepted a position with the Navy department.

Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Huntsinger have a new daughter born Sept. 19 in St. Joseph's.

Miss Laura Smith is attending classes at Asheville-Biltmore college.

Burford Slaughter, father of Mrs. Roy Orr, has returned from the hospital to his home in Robinsville.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Ray, Fairbanks, Alaska, are visiting with Mr. Ray's mother, Mrs. Grace Ray.

Mrs. W. M. DeHart is reported slightly improved at her home on Bee Tree road.

Mrs. Richard Flynn is improving following a period of hospitalization.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Wingo and family of Portsmouth, Va., arrived Thursday night for a few days' visit with Mrs. C. L. Wingo.

patient in Memorial Mission during the past week.

Stanley Gregory is attending college at Mars Hill this semester.

Mrs. W. A. Plummer is a patient in a hospital in Oak Ridge, Tenn.

Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Neskaug spent the week-end in Cookeville, Tenn., visiting friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Burgess Hensley and family have returned following a wonderful vacation spent in Seattle, Wash.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. McClure have been on the sick list at home this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Miller and Mr. and Mrs. Bill McPeters observe their tenth wedding anniversary Sept. 14. To honor the occasion they placed flowers in the First Baptist church.

Mary Ellen Stamey is attending Trevecca Nazarene college in Nashville, Tenn.

Thomas Miller, cousin of Mrs. Paul Stamey, has returned to his home in Westminster, S. C., following a stay in Moore General hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. George Pettit spent two weeks visiting relatives and friends in Obrian, W. Va.

Grady Koon, recently stationed in the Air Force in Cheyenne, Wyo., had a furlough home to visit his family. Grady was an honor student in the class on typelite, and is now stationed at the Scott Air Force Base, Belleville, Ill.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Owensby announce the birth of a son in Memorial Mission hospital, Sept. 21.

Ernest Rash, who became ill while on vacation, left by plane to his home in Madisonville, Ky. The plane was operated by Leroy Sosamon of Bryson City, who does this as a service to the sick.

Mr. and Mrs. Chess Pulliam and family of Robinsville were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Pulliam over the week-end.

—Overheard on the street the other day: a man describing something as, "it's as good as gold." He must have been referring to a mutilated Savings Bond.

—The Upper Peninsula of Michigan is as large as Delaware, Rhode Island, Massachusetts and Connecticut, combined.



Dr. Cauthen

Dr. Baker James Cauthen of Richmond, Va., executive secretary of the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist convention, will serve as preacher on the "Baptist Hour" for six months beginning Oct. 7, it was announced recently.

The "Baptist Hour" is the official radio program of the Southern Baptist denomination, produced and distributed by the Convention's Radio and Television Commission in Fort Worth, Tex. The 30-minute worship program is now carried by nearly 400 stations in 35 states and several foreign countries.

Dr. Cauthen will succeed Dr. Roy O. McClain, of Atlanta, Ga., who has preached on the program for the past two years. The Baptist Hour is heard each Sunday at 2:00 p.m. over WLOS.

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