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Thomasville Twenty Years Ago.

Contributed.—
Thomasville twenty years ago was large only in territory. It covered an area of about five hundred acres, much of it in old field, farming land or forest. Many of its citizens farmed for a living, owning farms outside of the incorporate limits. The mercantile interests of the town were insignificant and were conducted by the following gentlemen: D. T. Lambeth in an old frame building on the corner of the now business part of the town did a general mercantile business and patiently waited for customers to come, and then patiently waited upon them assisted by his son Robert, then a little boy. L. W. Elliott with about the same amount of money invested held forth in another old frame building just across the street on the other side of the railroad and occupying an easy seat on the porch was always at his post looking out for a prospective customer. Emsley Thompson just across the street in the Leach building had an occasional customer. He and Mr. Elliott were good friends and the boys spent much of their time away from their own store with him because neither of them were beset with customers. Kinney and Myers on the site now occupied by the Moore Brothers measured off calico and weighed groceries to customers in that part of the town. J. M. Morris about that time moved into a new brick store on Salem street and held out inducements for an increased trade. T. F. Harris and John Tyler each carried a small line of hardware and occasionally sold plows, horse shoes, and such articles as farmers had to use and did not have time to go to other towns for them. Different parties undertook to sell groceries, continued for a few months and quietly went out of business. Walter Rounsaville supplied the place with candies and cold drinks.
Manufacturing was at a low ebb. The Smelting works did something in a small way handling ores from mines of the surrounding country. The Westmorelands had a monopoly of the chair business and by working a few hours a day supported several families. The Spoke and Handle business was run by Parmelee and J. H. Green. John Gray ran a saw mill with which was connected a sash and blind business. There were two roller mills in the place that did custom work for toll. Slender and Welborn each repaired plows, wagons, horse shoeing and such work as was brought in. Moss Suggs and Frank Thompson repaired shoes. Dan the barber had a monopoly of the barber business.
The Mock House and Lambeth Hotel were rival houses. They were old frame buildings containing but few rooms. Commercial travelers and others could be entertained. Six or eight would crowd either house. Sometimes two guests had to occupy one bed and in some of the rooms there were two beds. The patronage was about equally divided between the two hotels.
School facilities were not so good as was desired. Professor Reinhart at this time conducted a school for boys and girls which was liberally patronized by the people of the town and the surrounding country. There were also private schools conducted by young ladies of the town at different places. The public school districts included not only the town but the suburbs. About this time P. L. Ledford a country school teacher took charge of the public school and was frankly informed by the committee that the free school as it had been conducted was not considered respectable and especially not fit for girls to attend. The teacher told the committee that a school not fit for girls to attend was unsuitable for boys and advised them to send the girls. In two weeks time there were as many girls as boys and they continued to come for ten years through the teacher's administration. Strenuous means were used to enforce discipline and some of the boys pleasantly remember the means used to persuade them to be good little boys. There were but two churches in the town, the Methodist and Baptist. They worshipped in plain frame houses which were built in the early fifties when the town began to build. There was but one drug store and its management frequently changed hands. Dr. Thomas was the principal physician and did the practice of the town and the surrounding country.

The social features of the town were unique. The different classes of evenings met at the stores of Lambeth and Thompson to talk politics and discuss the gossip of the town. The young people met at parties on the lawns at different places and had a plenty of fun. They would choose partners, join hands, form a circle and sing: "There was a farmer had a dog, Bingo was his name, Bingo, Bingo was his name," and then they would change partners and have a scramble to keep from being left, for one was always left without a partner, but the game went on. The boys rendezvoused at the hotels of long winter evenings told stories, played games and sang songs. After leaving the hotels they got together on the streets and sang Old Black Joe, Bring back my bonnie bride to me, Darling Chloe, and thus they whiled the hours away. Before going home they all repaired to Dock Rounsaville's refreshment stand and ordered drinks for all round and sometimes got so noisy and disorderly that Mr. Rounsaville would order the entire gang out of his store with positive orders not to come back again but the next night the entire force were back again and in the best of humor.
In many of the homes of people who lived in Thomasville two decades ago are vacant chairs. Prominent men and women who were then active in the business, political, religious, educational and social affairs of the town have since passed away. The following is an incomplete list of names of those who lived in the town a score of years ago, but have since died: Madison Blair, Augustus Bryant, R. G. Barrett, Peter Cates, Jesse Cecil, John Collett, Joseph Delapp, Edward Jordan, Richard Johnson, J. R. Keen, George Kenny, John Long, Thomas Livengood, D. T. Lambeth, David Loftin, John Loftin, J. A. Leach, George Lines, Julian Mendenhall, Capt. Moore, Capt. McIntyre, Capt. McCarty, R. L. Peace, Alexander Ragan, Wm. Ragan, Walter Rounsaville, Prof. Reinhart, Samuel Shiplett, I. E. Slender, Edward Strayhorn, Eli Sainsaing, Alexander Sainsaing, Capt. Sumner, Thomas Sumner, Ernest Sumner, W. E. Thompson, Dr. Thomas, Wm. Thomas, Edward Thomas, Shannon Tomlinson, John Tyler, Wm. Tyler, D. S. Westmoreland, Ridley Westmoreland, Nil Westmoreland, Steven Westmoreland, John Westmoreland and Wm. Wood, Mesdames Margaret Cates, Carolina Crouch, Zadie Culbert, Anna Chancy, Catherine Davis, Lizzie Delapp, Catharine Hannah, Harriet Harris, Louise Harris, Linnie Jones, Lizzie Jones, Theresa Louis, Mariah Loftin, Sallie Livengood, Carolina Lambeth, Susan Meyers, Evaline Marsh, Julia Moore, Martha Rounsaville, Jennie Sumner, Letitia Spoolman, Jennie Tomlinson, Nancy Westmoreland, Misses Harriet Culbert, Sallie Foster, Misses Wendephall, Bessie Ragan, and Maggie Whitaker.
The Baptist Orphanage, Blair Town, Onion Hill and Rabbit Quarter were suburbs of the town and are now included in the incorporate limits. A history of the extension, growth and progress of the town would require a write up of the Thomasville of to-day.

Mr. Ragan's Political See Refuses to Buzz.

Mr. A. Homer Ragan, Cashier of the First National Bank, is being urged by his friends to make the race for Clerk of the Superior Court of Davidson county. This has been political talk among local politicians for several days. But the politicians are thinking about it more seriously than Mr. Ragan himself. He does not like the idea of entering into the political field. When a representative of the DAVIDSONIAN called upon Mr. Ragan this week and asked if he had the matter under consideration, he replied: "I don't want the Clerkship, and have no idea of making the race against Judge Godwin."
If Mr. Ragan should decide to enter the race, the county would have a free-for-all fight. 'T would be "nip and tuck" between Godwin and Ragan. Party lines and party loyalty would be forgotten on both sides. Both men are "favorites" and both are liked by all parties, all factions and all races. But Mr. Ragan thinks too much of Judge Godwin to make the race against him, even if he thought he could be elected.

ORPHANAGE DAY.

Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Founding of the Thomasville Baptist Orphanage. Celebrated Wednesday.

Seven thousand visitors, some of them from the most distant sections of the State came into Thomasville Wednesday to attend the twenty-fifth Annual Meeting of the Thomasville Baptist Orphanage. This is the largest crowd that has ever attended an occasion like this. The board of trustees met in their annual session Tuesday, but beyond the routine of business did little except give Dr. C. A. Julian, the Orphanage physician, instructions to apply to the Legislature, for a charter for a Nurses' Training School to be established in the new Infirmary for the benefit of the Orphanage girls. This is intended to give talented girls one year's training in nursing, though the charter will grant the privilege of extending the course so as to give a complete education in that line and graduate nurses if the officials see fit to do so. It was also decided to proceed with the Industrial Building as soon as funds are available. The reports of the officers, especially that of the Treasurer, were unusually good, the Orphanage owing not a dollar. When asked for a statement, Pres. Hobgood said to a DAVIDSONIAN man, "Say that we were very much gratified with the condition of the Orphanage in every respect."
Rev. Dr. W. M. Vines, of Asheville preached the annual sermon Tuesday night from the text, "The streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in the streets thereof."—Zachariah 8:15. His subject was, "Christianity's Message to Childhood," and he began by quoting the splendid challenge of Spurgeon, "Let the God who speaks forth the orphan's homes be the God." In this connection there are five points to be emphasized. First, Christianity proclaims the incomparable worth of childhood, and in this the religion of Jesus Christ stands alone. Second, Christianity proclaims the religious intuition of childhood. The thing that abides longest, the primal thing in the human soul is religion. It is heresy to teach a child that he must be bad to be good. Third, Christianity proclaims the imperative duty of training the child. "Bring up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it." Fourth, Christianity proclaims the immeasurable possibilities of childhood and fifth it proclaims the coronation of childhood, first with the crown of sweet and innocent childhood itself, then with a crown of good works and finally with a crown of unfading glory in the heavenly home.
"This institution is a monument to the memory of John H. Mills, whose heart was the playground of orphan children" said Bishop John C. Kilgo beginning his address Wednesday morning. His subject was the Supremacy of the Church and he began by asking the question, What shall America do with her surplus wealth? He said in part: "I am not talking at this time of millionaires, I am not talking of Mr. Rockefeller and Mr. Morgan. I am talking of North Carolinians, men of average wealth. The rapid increase of wealth in this country is the most gigantic peril that threatens the American commonwealth, and American character to-day. Do not understand me to be arguing for poverty. To preach that because a man is poor he is necessarily righteous is religious demagoguery. If I bow down and worship either class, rich or poor, I am an idolater. Whether my idol be of wood, or stone, or mud it is idol still. But poverty never destroyed a nation, and nobody who has made even the most superficial study of history can fail to be impressed by the ruin wrought by the misuse of wealth. We either master our riches or we are forever mastered by them, and I know no despotic blinder, more relentless, more heartless than the despotism of riches. Now do the signs indicate that we have got a commanding grip on our wealth? The spirit of luxury is abroad in America. Do not understand me to make a plea for pioneer plainness and backwoodism. That would be a step back toward paganism. But there is a paganism of refinement and we are today in its grip. The next panic that strikes this country will be an automobile panic. In my town

there are \$250,000 invested in automobiles which are practically all pleasure machines. I do not deny the right of rich men who can afford the expense to have them, but when clerks and wage-earners mortgage their homes for them it is signal of danger. Shall we use the mighty power of our great resources with such a careless hand, such a blind judgment that it shall become a menace to our civilization?
I see but one safety valve—the increase, the rapid increase, of the spirit of benevolence. If we locked it down sooner or later the boiler must burst under a tension too great for it. Therefore, this institution has a wider held of service than the protection of children. It does a service to the State; it is a plaster applied to the inflammation of great greed. There's many a Methodist been saved out of hell by the collection box and I've no doubt there are a few Baptists. Quiet skepticism is the spirit of the times. Not the blatant infidelity of Ingersoll and Voltaire, but infinitely more dangerous. It states that this is an age of intelligence and that the preachers are not keeping abreast of it. One of the most popular books of the day, "The Calling of Dan Matthews" is an assault upon the church making a hero of a coward and a moral traitor. We are told that the church has lost its ascendancy with a high-handed conceit that would absolutely confuse the saints of the Lord. I deny that superior intellectuality is the distinguishing characteristic of the times but rather affirm that it is intellectual shallowness. What do we find on modern bookshelves? "The Calling of Dan Matthews," "Trilby," "The One Woman," "The Little Shepherd"—intellectual slops to feed intellectual swineism! The problem of the preacher is not to make the age think, but to compound a concoction so thin that the age can think it. I have never preached to a congregation that would live in my library two weeks.
There is no advancing cause that is not a creation of the church. Education is a religious creature. From the Pilgrims down, the church has been behind education. The educational system of North Carolina is there because the North Carolina churches demanded that it be put there. Who are the energetic classes of this world today? They are God's people. Go examine your county tax lists; you will find that church members own 75 to 90 per cent of the property. I would change the Beatitude to read "Blessed are my people for I will give them the earth." When Luther undertook to relight the flame of liberty he did it by reforming the Church. The ministers have always been the champions of liberty. The battles upon which this nation's liberty rest were not fought at King's Mountain and Guilford, but when the preachers went preaching the gospel of liberty from cabin to cabin on the mountain side. Citizens of North Carolina you are not incapacitated, you are equipped for civil service by your church membership. The whole of this country is in the hands of church members and if religion decays in this land every other force of civilization will go with it. A skeptical army has never won out."

Operation Proves Fatal.

Mrs. F. E. Sigman Succumbs in Statesville Hospital.

Mrs. F. E. Sigman, who was removed to Statesville last week to be operated on for appendicitis, died Tuesday morning at 9:00 o'clock, in Dr. Long's private sanitarium. The news of her death came as a shock to most people here, for though she was known to be sick it was not thought that her condition was dangerous. Even after the operation Monday morning it was thought that she was getting along as well as could be expected and even the doctors were taken unawares by her death, scarcely twenty-four hours later.
Mrs. Sigman was Miss Alice Hoke of Catawba county. She was 26 years old and leaves only her husband, the well-known and popular manager of the Thomasville Spoke Works Co. To him the sympathy of the community will go out in his great bereavement.
All of our readers will do well to read carefully what our Merchants and other advisers have to say through the columns of THE DAVIDSONIAN.

STATE NEWS.

Huyler, the candy man, has cancelled a mortgage for \$23000 which he held against the Montreat property.
Laurinburg has organized a club known as the "Laurinburg Boosters" whose object is the advertisement of their town. They expect to open their campaign July 4th, and great preparations are being made. Success to the "Boosters."
While a tinner was at work on the roof of a hotel at Forest City, the 18th, his gasoline torch exploded and threw burning gasoline all over him. Before he reached the ground he was so horribly burned that he died two days later.
Mr. J. W. Wadsworth, one of the best-known and most popular of Charlotte's younger business men, shot himself in his bedroom Monday afternoon. No reason was given for his rash act except the simple statement given out by the family, "excessive use of stimulants."
The fierce factional fight which has been raging in Wake for some months past, wound up Saturday, in a victory by a narrow margin, for the so-called "insurgents." The city of Raleigh went for the regulars by a heavy majority but the county vote rolled up a plurality large enough to overbalance that of the city and so put the insurgents in the saddle.
The fifty-seventh annual meeting of the North Carolina Medical Society was held at Wrightsville last week. The doctors speak in the highest terms of the meeting saying it was one of the most interesting and instructive in the history of the society. Dr. Stanton, of High Point, well known in Thomasville, was re-elected secretary of the society for a term of two years. This is his fifth year of service in that position.
St. John's Day, June 24th, was the occasion of a gathering of ten thousand people in Oxford. Five special trains, crowded to their capacity, brought throngs of people into the town from early morning until after noon. Hon. Richard N. Hackett, Grand Master of North Carolina, presided and Rev. Plato Durham, Grand Chaplain of the order delivered the address. This annual celebration marks the close of the fiscal year of the Oxford Orphan Asylum, the pet of the Masonic lodges of North Carolina. The orphan children took a prominent part in the celebration, having charge of the refreshment stands upon the grounds among other things. This has been a very successful year in the Orphanage work and the officials are to be congratulated upon the excellent showing made.
Probably because he could think of no other plausible plea, E. E. Powell, the Scotland Neck murderer, who killed Policeman Dunn and wounded State Senator E. E. Travis and Mr. A. P. Kitchin, decided to set up insanity. His daughter was introduced on the stand Monday to support the plea, and gave a very graphic account of Powell's actions on the day of the tragedy, and of the gun fight between him and Richard Kitchin shortly after the shooting. Her testimony was very affecting but the unsympathetic State's counsel clinging tenaciously to their theory that instead of being insane Powell was merely drunk. Later the defense found the ground untenable and the case was compromised without going to the jury, with a verdict of murder in the second degree. Powell gets 30 years.
The latest get-rich-quick scheme, of which several prominent Charlotteans were the goats, was sprung on the Queen City several months ago by a group of well-dressed, prosperous looking men who hired a fine office, and by means of contracts of sales which the Charlotte men claim to be false beguiled several citizens into buying the exclusive right of selling a kitchen cabinet in certain counties at the rate of \$200 to \$300 per county. The well-dressed group disappeared leaving loads of cabinets, retail price \$15.50 each, behind them and carrying several thousand dollars of perfectly good money with them. The cabinets are still on hand; but the agents have vanished as the mists of the morning, while the Charlotte men who were stuck are, to quote the Saturday Evening Post, "running around in circles emitting loud cries."

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Senator John W. Daniel, of Virginia, the "Lame Lion," died Wednesday night, 68 years old.
It seems certain that the Jeffries-Johnson prize fight will be pulled off in Reno Nev. Tex Rickard, the promoter and referee has received a telegram from Gov. Dickerson assuring him that there will be no State interference with the mill.
The committee appointed to investigate the startling charges brought by Senator Gore on the floor of the Senate last Friday, is already preparing for its work. It is said that a special agent will be sent to the Indian tribes in Oklahoma to investigate the claims that have caused all the trouble.
The second hearing in the North Carolina-Tennessee boundary dispute was held at Asheville, June 24th. North Carolina alleges that Tennessee has several thousand acres of land that under certain surveys belong to this state. One of the features of this case is the taking of a large number of depositions among which will be that of Rope Twister Conessee a Graham county Indian who is 102 years old.
After fighting through the courts for five years Moses Hass of New York, and Frederick A. Peckham, of Cincinnati, have finally submitted and paid the fines of \$3000 and \$5000 respectively imposed on them as a result of the famous "Cotton Leak" episode in the Statistics Division of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. On payment of the fines the other indictments against them were not pressed.
The lawyers of New Jersey find themselves involved in a considerable tangle over the Charlton murder case. Charlton was arrested and held simply as a fugitive from Italian justice and unless he is extradited by Italy the courts cannot touch him. Rome naturally hesitates to demand that the American government surrender one of its own citizens for the murder of an American so there is a possibility that Charlton may walk out of jail a free man and the whole thing end in a farce.
It is said that this, the thirteenth, will be the last census taken of the American Indians in their tribal relations, or the officials calculate that in another ten years all the Indians will have become citizens; so extra precautions have been taken to make this census accurate. The census office formulated inquiries to be directed to the Indians with a view to securing all the information possible relative to their condition. The response to the schedule of questions will show each Indian tribal relations, proportion of Indian and other blood; number of times married; whether now living in polygamy, if living in polygamy whether wives are sisters; education; whether or not he is taxed; whether he has received his allotment; and whether living in civilized, or aboriginal dwelling.

Thomasville's Great Need.

All who were here "Orphanage Day" got all that was coming to them in the way of d-n-e-t. Thomasville has grown to be quite a little city and now the crying need of the town is waterworks. Our streets are seldom ever sprinkled, and then only through the goodness of "Old Nature." A town the size of Thomasville should have waterworks. They are a necessity and not a luxury. It not only improves the health condition of the town, but helps to build it up. The town would profit in many ways by having this much needed and modern improvement. We hope the day will soon dawn when the citizens of Thomasville will all say with one voice "give us waterworks and sewerage."

Portrait of Rev. J. B. Boone Presented.

One of the notable features of yesterday's exercises at the Orphanage was the presentation, in the Orphanage, by Mr. Jno. C. Scarborough on behalf of the employees, of a portrait of Rev. Jesse Bynum Boone, for ten years General Manager of the institution. The portrait of the "builder" as he was called, was accepted by Mr. F. P. Hobson, President of the Board of Trustees.