

## THE UNVEILING OF THE CONFEDERATE MONUMENT.

### A Vast Crowd Does Honor to the Occasion.

Memorial Day, 1902, will ever be memorable in Cumberland county as the occasion of one of the most imposing ceremonies ever witnessed in this section of the State. It was the day set for the unveiling of the monument erected on St. James Square by the women of Cumberland county in honor of the dead heroes of the Confederacy.

The weather was superb and this added much to the enjoyment of the thousands who gathered together to do honor to the day. To her noble women Cumberland county will ever owe a debt of gratitude for this splendid monument, and the inspiring services, attending its unveiling.

It was four o'clock, when the imposing procession, under the leadership of Chief Marshal J. H. Currie, moved down Hay street and up Green street, to St. James' Square, where stood the monument, veiled. Here, around a beautifully decorated stand, gathered some three or four thousand people, three hundred veterans and five hundred school children, each with a bouquet of flowers, which they afterwards placed on the graves of the Confederate dead, and around the new monument, and the old monument in the cemetery.

Drawn up immediately in front of the stand was the historic Fayetteville Independent Light Infantry—the Blues under command of Lieutenant McGeachy, the Greys under command of Capt. R. G. Haigh, with Maj. J. G. Hollingsworth in command of the battalion.

On the stand were Miss Carrie Mallett, president, and Miss McGilvary and Mesdames Currie, Ayer and J. B. Smith, of the Monument Association; Maj. E. J. Hale, orator of the occasion, Capt. J. H. Currie, Chief Marshal Capt. A. B. Williams, Assistant Chief Marshal, Hon. George M. Rose, who introduced the orator, Col. W. J. Green, Col. J. B. Starr, Maj. J. N. Prior, Capt. J. B. Smith, Rev. I. W. Hughes and veterans J. W. Atkinson and John E. Baie, who carried Confederate battle flags.

After the singing of "The Old North State" and an eloquent prayer by Rev. I. W. Hughes, the Chief Marshal introduced Miss C. G. Mallett, president of the Monument Association, who said:

My friends, it is with a very thankful heart that I announce to you that this, our labor of love, which was begun six years ago, is now nearly complete, the monument is ready for unveiling, and we hope soon to have the grounds in beautiful order; but we must not stop here, there are other demands upon us, as Daughters of the Confederacy, and we will rise to meet them. Woman's work is never done, since love is eternal.

The choir sang "Tenting Tonight" and then the orator of the day, Maj. E. J. Hale, was introduced in a few graceful words by Hon. George M. Rose. Maj. Hale's address will be found on the second page of this issue.

The "Cavalier's Glee" was sung and Mr. Rose read the contents of the corner stone of the monument, which were as follows:

#### CONTENTS OF THE CORNER STONE.

A Bible.

Roster of officers and men from Cumberland county.

Pictures of Confederate flags and the history of same; why the different ones were adopted by the government.

A copy of the songs, "Bonnie Blue Flag," "Cavalier's Glee" and "Tenting Tonight."

A card giving name of the donor of the site for the monument, and stating that this was the site of the old court house.

A drawing of the monument and a short sketch of the Monument Association with members.

Programme of exercises of the day.

Map of the city.

Names of the pastors of the churches.

Names of city officials.

Names of county officials.

Copy of Fayetteville Observer.

Copy of North Carolina Baptist.

Copy of letter from President Davis in reply to the invitation to attend the Centennial celebration in this place on November 21, 1889.

Confederate bills and a copy of the poem written on the back of a bill by Maj. S. A. Jones, of Louisiana.

Miss Margaret Broadfoot, the lovely little daughter of Col. and Mrs. C. W. Broadfoot, was then escorted by Master Marion Huske and a detachment from the F. I. L. I. to the base of the monument and amid deafening applause unveiled to view the handsome pile of granite, surmounted by a heroic bronze figure of a Confederate soldier. Then were seen for the first time the following very appropriate inscriptions:

On the north side: They died in defense of their rights.

On the west side: "Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet, lest we forget—lest we forget."

On the south side: The women of Cumberland to their Confederate Dead May 20th, 1861—May 10th, 1902.

On the east side: "For them should fall the tears of a nation's grief."

A beautiful poem, written for the occasion by Miss S. A. Tillinghast, was read by Mr. Rose. This poem is so excellent that we will publish it tomorrow.

Mrs. John D. MacRae's recitation of a poem written on a Confederate Bill, was done with a charm and grace that was delightful. Now was witnessed a beautiful and impressive sight. The roll of veterans, who were to receive the bronze crosses presented by the J. E. B. Stuart Chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy, was then called, and, as each veteran stepped forward, the cross was pinned on his breast by a fair member of the Chapter.

The unveiling ceremonies were concluded by the three hundred veterans gathering around the monument and giving the Confederate yell. The procession then moved to the cemetery, where the graves of the Confederate dead were decorated and the usual military salute given.

Thus ended one of the most glorious days in Fayetteville's history.