LITERATURE AND ART IN HISTORIC NEWBERRY

(Continued from Page 6.)

body, it was employed for yet equally important purposes even before it became an annex of the graded school system. Young men and maidens, and some who a little past the years of youth, will never forget the influences on both mind and body which came forth from that modest building as members of the Band of Hope they were wont to assemble each Tuesday afternoon. I believe the Band of Hope was the only organization of any kind that ever existed in Newberry—perhaps anywhere else—that never postponed a meeting. Some of its annual meetings were postponed on account of severely inclement weather—the annual meeting occurred in January—the attendance of its members was always large.

The Band of Hope was organized and maintained by the liberal benefaction of Mrs. C. Mower, in order that the children of the town be trained in the principles of temperance. After her death, it was maintained by Hon. Geo. S. Mower, her son, with Mrs. Sophia Mower Redus as director. That modest building still looms large in the horizon of more lives than that of a ten-year-old boy as he saw it on that calm June morning after the fire had done its destructive work. Its greatest influence in its modest way is the fact that it has been used to prevent the flames of King Alcohol from wrecking precious lives. Would that we had more of such teaching of children and youth in this day!

It must not be thought that the teachers for former days had no work to do. My observation of their arduous duties led me to decide when I was just entering my "teens" that I would never be a teacher. Capt. Pifer had at least one hundred boys in his "English and Classical school." They honored and loved him—every one of them—and I do not remember a single case of discipline except in very mild form that he exercised from December, 1868, until July 9, 1869, when, to the regret of every one of his pupils, he announced that he would in the next fall take charge of the Newberry Female academy. George S. Mower, Dr. O. B. Mayer, F. Weber, Jr., and A. J. S. Langford composed the advanced students of Capt. Pifer's school.

Capt. Pifer's "boys" looked forward with misgivings to the coming of the new teacher, Mr. Hardin, an entire stranger. But Mr. Hardin was not the severe disciplinarian whose reputation as such preceded his coming. He and his successor, Mr. Brooks, were splendid teachers. Neither had assistants in instructing and managing more than one hundred pupils. None of these educators are now living. Mr. Hardin died in Chester eight years ago, and Mr. Brooks at Georgeville, N. C., six years ago.

Capt. Pifer made his home in my father's family at "College hill," when he came to take a professorship in Newberry college in 1856. He enlisted in the war, but returned in 1865 and renewed the old, strong ties with the family which were severed only by his death. He set a high standard of deportment and scholarship for all who sat under his training, and his work on behalf of the youth (which includes boys and girls), I know, is highly appreciated by all who are yet on this side of the great beyond.

It was a peculiar force of circumstances that the writer became a printer. It might not be interesting to recount the circumstances here, but he endeavored to make the most of the situation, and has discovered that membership in the Fourth Estate has such fascinations, or some other mysterious ties, that it holds one a member for life, chiefly, it is to be supposed, because it unfits him for anything else.

It was in 1873 that he had his first appreciation of a book which a Newberrian had just published. It was John A. Chapman's "The Walk and Other Poems." In his father's library he had previously discovered a baak of poems by a Newberrian, and he gazed on it with a certain degree of wonder. A poet in Newberry!

The author of "Oliata," Howard Caldwell, was a brilliant young man, and he wrote well. He died in early manhood.

Mr. Chapman's "The Walk" was published in The Herald, and attracted much interest, just about the same time that the other poems appeared in the book. He wrote a number of other volumes of poems, including "Within the eVil," and a volume "Poems for Young and Old," the latter, his last publication, appearing in 1900. He also completed the second part of the "Annals of Newberry" about the same time. Mr. Chapman was a student of his own aspirations; that is to say he did not obtain his education in the college or university. Newberry college recognized the high order of his literary attainments by conferring upon him the master of arts degree. Besides poetry, philosophy and history, Mr. Chapman also wrote fiction. His authorship of "Stephen's History of the United States" was not publicly announced until 1883, six years after its publication. It is one of the things which is stranger than fiction.

Another Newberry writer produced more fiction than any other class of literature which he composed. While a student in Paris Dr. O. B. Mayer, Sr., wrote "The Harp, the, Hand and the Silhouette," one of his best compositions in fiction. It is uniquely remarkable for a prediction of its author that was fulfilled in the invention of the telephone twenty years after the publication of the story in Russell's magazine (Charleston, 1858). I have frequently compared his style to Carlyle's. Like Mr. Chapman, he furnished faultless "copy" to the printer—and demanded that it appear correctly in print.

Thomas P. Slider was a great producer of fiction of local setting, the scene of his best story, "The Hunter of Ruff's Mountain," being laid around the vicinity of the present town of Little Mountain. He was partner with Thomas F. Greneker in The Rising Sun (1858-1860) and his stories appeared in that paper and later in the Progressive Age (1873-74) and in the Newberry News (1878-80).

All the writers of Newberry can not be mentioned here. I have selected some of them who were the contemporaries of the press of Newberry, as well as its friends. I would like some of the talented youth of the rising generation to cultivate the style and character of authorship of the writers I have mentioned. It seems to me that too little attention is now paid to the art of writing for the press. One can always get a hearing if he has anything of interest or importance to say, and says it in a distinct, individual style.

The Herald, in the days of my apprenticeship on the paper, was the public forum where was discussed each week matters of interest, and I became familiar with chirography as difficult to decipher as that of Horace Greeley, which was considered the most difficult in the United States. The lawyers must be given the credit for many contributions to the press during my connection with it in Newberry. But E. A. Scott was a business man who wrote well. He came to America from Ireland as a school teacher. His articles were easily recognized from a peculiar form of punctuation and expression which he adopted. He could condense more in a brief space than any writer for the press in my experience. One of the neatest things he did in this line was an appreciation of the Rev. Dr. Kuhns' lecture on "Mary, Queen of Scots," which was delivered in the old Lutheran church in April. 1874.

"Reminiscences of Newberry," by John B. Carwile, was issued about the time the "Annals of Newberry" was in press in his reprint and addition by Mr. Chapman. Mr. Carwile wrote a very interesting book, and he was very careful and painstaking in what he recorded, so characteristic of his splendid business qualities. Newberrians of his time will always remember him as the efficient and obliging cashier of the National bank, as well as devoted to his church, where in the First Baptist church his elegant bass voice was long heard in the choir.

James Wood Davidson was a Newberrian who gained honor and distinction in the literary field, as the author of the school history which bears his name. His home was in the country, from which he moved to Washington. I can not speak from personal experience about Mr. Davidson, as well as some writers of note which the "Annals of Newberry" makes suitable record. I have endeavored to reproduce very little from either part of the Annals. I always took delight in reading O'Neall's part, and had the pleasure (?) of handling every type page and being pressman on the printing of the entire volume when it was published in the office of The Herald and News a quarter of a century ago.

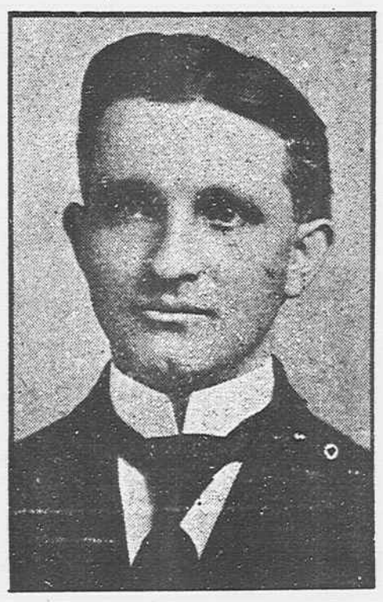
Herald and News and 3 magazine $1.49

Religious Life of Newberry As Told by a Pastor

(By Rev. E. Fulenwider.)

It has been my good fortune to live in the city of Newberry, and to be the pastor of one of the churches for nearly eight years. As a citizen and pastor I have come into close touch with most phases of the life and people of the town, and especially with the vital matters of the religious life.

It may seem strange to make such an assertion, but it concerns the serious fact that things are rapidly passing. in these short years many indeed have been the changes in the social, commercial, political and religious life of our city. Many of the older citizens have fallen by the wayside, and have answered the long roll call



and while they have been sadly missed, yet, their places have been taken by young men who are anxious to carry out the high ideals of manhood and citizenship set by the fathers.

In many of the congregations the leadership and personnel have largely changed. New faces are now seen in the audiences, some of the members, who knew every member a few years ago now scarcely know half of them In the eight years many have been the changes in regard to pastors. Not a single one is in the work here now who was on the field when I came here.

Newberry, without boasting, may truly be called a city of splendid churches. Most of the church buildings are practically new, and are comfortable, commodious and well kept. Newberry people have a just pride and interest in the appearance of their places of worship. This in itself speaks well., for towns are largely judged by the appearance of their church and school buildings.

Most of the leading Christian denominations are found in our midst, and have their relative power and influence in the religious life of the city. Methodist Baptist, Lutheran, Associate Reformed Presbyterian, Presbyterian and Episcopal have their church buildings, and well organized congregation and Sunday schools.

All of them have larger congregations and Sunday schools than they had eight years ago. Some of them have doubled their membership. While there is the proper spirit of church loyalty, there is not here that spirit of pride, narrowness and bigotry that so often mars Christian work. There has been through the years a fine spirit of Christian brotherhood, and unity on all subjects of vital interest to the citizenship.

Right here it might be of interest to those who read this article to mention some of the pastors with whom I have labored. I can not do them justice in regard to the good work they did and are doing, so I will only mention their names. In the Methodist church, Wolling, Banks, Carlisle and Dibble. Baptist, Wright and Jones. Associate Reformed Presbyterian, Phillips and Carson. Presbyterian, Wilson, James and Kerr. Lutheran churches in the mills, Shealy, Harmon, Witt and Roof.

Speaking of the church in the mills I wish to say that the Lutheran, Methodist and Baptist all have well equipped churches, and splendid congregations. The mill authorities take an interest in all the religious efforts in their villages and do a great deal to help the good work prosper. While I have not known the pastors of these churches intimately, yet, I believe they have all been faithful, earnest, consecrated men.

I have mentioned pastors, I could easily give the names of most of the devoted, consecrated, Christian men and women, in all the churches, who make the religious life of Newberry what it is. I know them by name and have been in many of their homes, and while I can not give in this short article the interesting history of their lives and labors, I do want to say from the depth of my heart: Long may you live and prosper.

Even a short resume of the religious life of Newberry would in no wise be complete without mentioning Newberry college. I do not say it simply as a Lutheran pastor. but as a citizen, Newberry college is a vital factor in the religious life and growth of our city. The college is manned by Godfearing Christian gentlemen who would have every young man and young woman a Christian citizen in the highest sense of the word. The presence of the college helps all the churches, and I believe the entire citizenship is interested in its welfare.

A splendid work is being done by the numerous colored churches of the city. Their pastors are progressive men, and their church buildings are neat and kept in good repair. Some time ago I addressed a large audience in one of their churches, and I was agreeably surprised at their intelligence, interest and devotion. The pastor of the church said on that occasion, "We are doing the best we can, and we have reason for encouragement, but we do and must look to the white people for guidance. Right here I express it as my personal opinion that we do not do enough to help these people in their efforts to reach the high ideal of Christian citizenship.

Now I have given a somewhat hasty, and may be rosy, picture of the religius conditions in our city. And I am thankful that I could conscientiously speak as I have. Yet, let me say in closing that we have by no means reached the ideal. There are many unchurched men and women, and many more members of the churches who are more or less indifferent. But instead of this being a source of discouragement it should be a source of encouragement to Christian workers in all the churches. These people are not opposed to the church, and they need to be encouraged and interested. The field is large and ripe until the harvest. Let us in a loving, kind, brotherly spirit cast in the sickle in the name of Jesus Christ.

By way of a boost let me say candidly as a citizen, Newberry is one of the cleanest and best towns that I know. A fine place to live, rear and educate your children.

Now, Mr. Editor, since this is your fiftieth anniversary of service to town and county, I congratulate you and your paper, and wish you much success with this splendid issue. I wish to thank you also as pastor for the courtesy you have always shown in publishing programs and church news of all kinds.

It is estimated that by mere waste, caused by coins rubbing one against another, the civilized world loses one ton and a quarter of gold and eighty tons of silver annually.

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