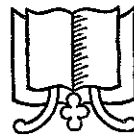


JOURNAL
of the
North Carolina Annual Conference
of the
Methodist Episcopal Church, South



HENDERSON, NORTH CAROLINA
NOVEMBER 19-24, 1930

member for 46 years. What a rich legacy she has left her grandchildren have in the legacy she has left! She showed them God from a goodness easier for all who came to all such.

Abner and Hannah Blair Gray of born November 9, 1861. Her education—Professor Johnson of Old Trinity.

September 19, 1882. The children are: Mrs. E. S. Gray, Winston-Salem; Mrs. E. S. Gray, Shreveport, La.; Mrs. R. K. Gray, Mrs. W. P. Holt, Jr., Erwin, Tenn.; and Rev. R. L. Jerome, Union

flowers in abundance were in St. John's in which we gathered to do honor to one who had made such a wonderful life. It was an hour of victory. The life of parsonage made by father and mother, the roads were rough and salary small, but now crowned the sunset. Rev. M. T. Phillips and Rev. J. G. Phillips and Rev. A. S.

on that grave in Goldsboro, but the earth widens with the years—eternity

THOMAS

Y. Self

Virginia, May 24, 1840. On Decease way to join her loved ones on the way of Solomon Lea and his wife, who was of England. Henrietta Lea was educated in North Carolina. This was an excellent education prior to the Civil War. On June 11, 1882 she was married to the late Rev. J. E. Thompson, and to them were born two sons, Albert Lee and Gerald Buie. For twenty-two years Sister Thompson lived the highly privileged life of the itineracy, serving with her husband Clinton, Buckhorn, Snow Hill, Jonesboro, Mt. Gilead, Aberdeen and St. John, Goldsboro. There were five children in the home when she married. For these and her two boys and for their education she lived and toiled, often at great sacrifice. Yet she "Looked well to the ways of her household and her children arise up and call her blessed." At the close of their pastorate in St. John, Goldsboro, Brother Thompson superannuated. For ten years they were in their own home in Aberdeen, then in 1913 they went to live with Albert Lee in Fayetteville, and there Brother Thompson died and was buried in Cross Creek Cemetery. For ten years she was a member of Hay Street in Fayetteville and then for several years the benediction of her presence was given to the homes of the different children. Of all books the Bible was her great companion. She lived with it and in it. Its old, old story was her joy. Its blessed promises were her hope. Its Christ was her living Lord, "Whom," though, "Having not seen, she loved." Her chief desire was to be ready to meet Him, and for his

er been sung
d never rung."
she was mentally alert and, to the

last, possessed a keen interest in all of the programs of her church. It was her greatest joy to attend the services and to read the literature of her church. She considered her contributions to the Woman's Missionary Society a real privilege. The Henrietta Thomas Missionary Society of Clayton, N. C., perpetuates her memory, and is a testimony to her faithfulness. Those who knew her best were impressed with her abiding faith in God. In tender affection she was known as "Mother Thomas."

Her body rests by her husband in the Leasburg cemetery.

"The saints of God, their wanderings done,
No more their weary course they run;
No more they faint, no more they fall;
No foes oppress, no fears appall.
O happy saints, forever blest
In that dear home, how sweet your rest."

MRS. MARY BUIE THOMPSON

November 13, 1848—May 14, 1930

By W. V. McRae

Winter had passed and springtime had again brought the glad beauty of leaf and blossom to our world when on May 14 the saintly life of Mary Buie Thompson slipped earth's wintry enfoldments and blossomed forth into eternal beauty.

Sister Thompson was born in Prattville, Alabama, the daughter of Rev. John Buie and Jane Eccles Buie of Fayetteville, North Carolina. In her early childhood the family returned to Fayetteville, in and around which most of her girlhood days were spent, and near which town, when but a girl, she joined the Methodist Church at old St. Andrews.

Reared in the home of a minister it was most fitting that she should be the wife of one and make for him a home. Thus it was that on July 11, 1882 she was married to the late Rev. J. E. Thompson, and to them were born two sons, Albert Lee and Gerald Buie.

For twenty-two years Sister Thompson lived the highly privileged life of the itineracy, serving with her husband Clinton, Buckhorn, Snow Hill, Jonesboro, Mt. Gilead, Aberdeen and St. John, Goldsboro.

There were five children in the home when she married. For these and her two boys and for their education she lived and toiled, often at great sacrifice. Yet she "Looked well to the ways of her household and her children arise up and call her blessed."

At the close of their pastorate in St. John, Goldsboro, Brother Thompson superannuated. For ten years they were in their own home in Aberdeen, then in 1913 they went to live with Albert Lee in Fayetteville, and there Brother Thompson died and was buried in Cross Creek Cemetery.

For ten years she was a member of Hay Street in Fayetteville and then for several years the benediction of her presence was given to the homes of the different children.

Of all books the Bible was her great companion. She lived with it and in it. Its old, old story was her joy. Its blessed promises were her hope. Its Christ was her living Lord, "Whom," though, "Having not seen, she loved." Her chief desire was to be ready to meet Him, and for his

coming she constantly watched. In her latter years the Book and the North Carolina Christian Advocate were almost her whole reading.

Loyal to her Lord and Father, she was also loyal to all of God's children and ever held them as her heart's concern. Blessed with health she actively ministered to others in the good things of her Father's house till shortly before He called her home.

For five months before that blessed summons she suffered from a fractured hip. Tender hands and loving care were her portion now as always.

But all the loved ones here could not hold her; for, for her the Golden Bells were ringing and the stronger bands of love were drawing her into the presence of Him to whom so long she had joyously listened and so long wished to see. That summons came to her at the home of one of the step-daughters, Mrs. Archie McLaughlin, near Gastonia, North Carolina, and her burial was by her husband and her father and sister in Cross Creek Cemetery in Fayetteville.

Great was the number of her friends in this and other States. The many flowers at her funeral spoke eloquently of their number and of their loving regard for her. There Dr. N. H. D. Wilson read her favorite Poem: "Sunset and Evening Star," and Mrs. James Poe sang her favorite song: "When They Ring Those Golden Bells."

Rejoicing always in her but mourning her departure are her two sons, Albert Lee Thompson, Greensboro, North Carolina, and Gerald Buie Thompson, Big Springs, Texas, and the following step-children, J. E. Thompson, Hamlet, North Carolina, Mrs. Archie McLaughlin, Gastonia, North Carolina; Mrs. W. C. Kinsland, Weaverville, North Carolina; and Mrs. A. M. Norton, Boone, North Carolina. Another step-daughter, Mrs. S. E. Mercer, preceded her.

Beautiful in her life, lovely in her death it can only be proper to close this tribute with those fairer words which she so much loved.

"Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar,
When I put out to sea.

For tho' from out our bourne of time and place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crossed the bar."