

Clarke's Confederate Dead in Granite—July 25, 1900

Lasting Memorial Unveiled in the Presence of Many Thousands, Good Speeches, Fine Music

In the bright sunshine, to commemorate the valiant deeds and sublime sacrifice of those sons of Clarke who fell beneath the Stars and Bars, there now stands a lasting memorial in granite. It is a work of love of their brothers and sisters, a testimonial of deathless admiration held for those immortal heroes; and, although, in centuries to come, this column of granite may yield to the destroying hand of time, yet the spirit that prompted its erection and the memory of the heroes whose fame it perpetuates will always live in the hearts of those who first see the light of day in our beautiful Southland.

This imperishable tribute to the Confederate dead of Clarke County was unveiled Saturday last, the 21st day of July, and the ceremonies, incident thereto, made for old Battletown a day that will never fade from the pages of her history. It was a memorable day to the heart of the old Confederate. Thirty-nine years ago, he marched upon the plains of Manassas and drove in a confused mass across the Potomac the invaders of his soil. And that day was vividly recalled to memory by unmasking to the blistering sun a marble sentinel who will forever guard the memories of those who fell in that civil strife.

The sky was cloudless and the rays of the sun pelted the earth with relentless fury, and with this exception there was nothing to mar the day.

THE PROGRAM -----FLAG PRESENTATIONS AND PARADE

The program opened at 10 o'clock. In front of the Virginia House, there was presented to the survivors of the Clarke Cavalry a flag, on which were inscribed the battles the company had participated in. This beautiful emblem of the South's nationality was made by the Stonewall Chapter, Daughters of the Confederacy. The old veterans, all horseback, lined up and received this token of love from the hands of Hon. Marshall McCormick, who presented it for the Daughters. Mr. McCormick's address was a characteristic one- eloquent and stirring. In placing in the hands of the battle-scarred veterans, this banner, he said, although it was overpowered, it never was dragged in the dusts of disgrace, and there never moved over the cloudy billows of war a battle emblem more sacred, more loved, than the one that rose and fell in our Southland.

In behalf of the Clarke Cavalry, the flag was accepted by Col. Joseph H. Shepherd. His speech abounded in beautiful eulogies to the patriotic women of the South, whose hands made the banner. (We will publish his address in full in our next issue.) Amid a rebel yell that banner was unfurled and received by the Sons of Clarke.

At about the same hour, the J. E. B. Stuart Camp, Sons of Confederate Veterans, were presented a flag at the courthouse. This flag is a present of ex-U. S. Marshall G. W. Levi, who promised same to them upon the occasion they first appeared in full uniform. Judge Moore acted for Mr. Levi in presenting the flag to the boys, who bore a soldierly appearance in their neat uniforms of grey, as they lined up before the speaker's stand. Major Moore's speech had the true ring to it, and in conclusion, he appropriately said:

"Take this banner, not to do battle under its folds, for the flag of your country is now a different one, and duty requires that you should be true to it, as in these troublous times you may be, let

me hope that you will manifest the same courage and devotion that your fathers displayed when fighting against it; but to bear it proudly whenever you have occasion or opportunity to honor the men who fought under it for four long and weary years."

Mr. Blackburn Smith accepted the flag in behalf of the Sons, in an eloquent, concise address. He promised for the Sons to ever treasure and guard the battle emblem their fathers love and fought under, and gave some interesting historic data and reasons therefor. (His speech, with Judge Moore's, will appear next week; our space being too limited this issue to give these stirring addresses.)

At 10:30 Chief Marshall S. J. C. Moore formed the parade on Liberty Street near the depot. The procession was fully a quarter of a mile in length, and as it moved up Main Street the sidewalks were lined with a vast crowd, cheering its every step. From Main, Marshall Moore led the parade to Smith Street, then down Academy to Buck Marsh Street, and going the full length of the last named, he entered Church Street opposite Mr. R. R. Smith's residence and marched theredown to the courthouse, where the unveiling ceremonies took place.

PARTICIPANTS OF PROCESSION

The Parade was headed by Chief Marshall Moore, who was attended by his Assistant Marshalls, Messrs. Frank V. Tilford, Owen L. Allen, W. Cabell Moore, and Blackburn Smith, and his Courier, Master George W. Lewis. Dressed in his Confederate uniform, with his cavalry boots and plumed hat, and mounted on a prancing steed, Major Moore looked every inch a soldier and a leader of soldiers. Following the Marshalls, came the Cornet Band of Charlestown, which rendered martial music and regaled the old veterans in war songs that carried them back to the days when they marched victorious marches behind Lee, Jackson and Stuart.

Stonewall Chapter, Daughters of Confederacy-"the flower of our Southland"-came in carriages, riding in six conveyances, followed by a carriage, containing Hon. J. W. Marshall, the orator of the day, Hon. A. Moore, chairman of monument committee, and Miss Mary Gold who unveiled the monument. Behind these came other members of the monument committee and guests in carriages.

The Clarke Cavalry, 25 strong, mounted and gayly attired, but showing the effects of time in their manly bearings, came, cheered and recheered. The Cavalry Association was commanded by Capt. John T. Crow.

Following, and acting as a bodyguard to those who they preceded, marched the J. E. B. Stuart Camp of Sons of C. V., under Commander Grigsby. They were handsomely uniformed in grey, wore brown hats, and marched like they were ready for service in China. Their appearance was greeted with waving of handkerchiefs and flags and womanly cheers from the fair maidens.

Turner Ashby Camp, of Winchester, 40 strong, headed by its Drum Corps and under Commander Barton; Stover Camp, of Strasburg, under Capt. Funkhouser, 14 strong; Wm. Richardson Camp, of Front Royal, under Commander Giles Cook, Jr., 10 strong, and the J. E. B. Stuart Camp, of this place, came the Confederate organizations, all attired in the uniform they fought in Gray, time-worn and battle-scarred, their step lacked the quickness of old, but their faces showed the grim determination of a true soldier.

Behind this, marched 200 strong, the horsemen of the four districts of the county. They fully sustained the reputation Clarke enjoys for fine horsemanship.

The Berryville Fire Company brought up the rear with their reels, and ladder truck drawn by horses, and gayly decorated in bunting. Capt. Hoffman was in charge, with Lieuts. Pulliam and Ogden as assistants.

UNVEILING EXERCISES

At 11:45 the procession drew up in front of the courthouse green, where the monument stands and the unveiling exercises were to take place.

The ceremonies were opened with a fervent prayer by Rev. Julian Broaddus, chaplain of the J. E. B. Stuart Camp of Confederate Veterans. Hon. A. Moore, Jr. Chairman of the Monument Committees, in a chaste, well-worded speech, told of the monument movement, and declared that it was more than meet and right that the fame of Clarke's sons should be carved in granite, as the ashes of her sons mingled with and consecrated the earth of every important battlefield. He presented Miss Mary Washington Gold, who drew the cord that held together the shroud covering the monument.

Capt. Wm. P. Carter, being introduced by Mr. Moore, after a few eloquent tributes to the chivalry and valor of the Confederate soldier, recited, in dramatic style, a beautiful original poem, entitled, "I Am Dreaming."

The orator of the day, Hon. James W. Marshall, ("*Cyclone Jim*") was then introduced and received with cheers. Mr. Marshall, as usual, had a large stock of good anecdotes, with which, true to his name, he swept the crowd in a "cyclone" of laughter. His speech now and then abounded with eloquent and beautiful thought, and more than once his tribute to Southern valor evoked cheer after cheer from his hearers. Mr. Marshall spoke without notes, and we fear we cannot record actually his remarks.

Touching the unveiling of our monument, he said it was proper and right for the people of Clarke to do as they have done, for a country without monuments is a country without civilization, and a country without civilization is a country without history. In speaking of the Clarke forces in the Southern Army, he said he knew them by reputation, and that reputation was the hardest fighters in our Army. He paid a glowing tribute to the self-sacrificing mother, patient wife and devoted sister who bore the blunt of the battle at home. To the negro who stood by his "missus" in those trying days, he declared their memory should be perpetuated in marble, and he hopes such a movement will soon be placed on foot. He made humorous references to the confederate mule, and "nameless terror" to the Confederate soldier. Mr. Marshall spoke over an hour, and at times seemed overcome by the excessive heat.

When he concluded, Major Kilgour appeared on the platform in response to calls and made a rattling speech.

THE MONUMENT

This granite memorial stands on the courthouse green, on a raised mound, within thirty feet of Church Street, and can be seen from the junction of Church and Main Streets. The movement to erect same originated with the Clarke Cavalry Association, who laid the matter before the people of the county about two years ago. The ladies of the county, including the Daughters of the Confederacy, and the Confederate Camps of Veterans and Sons, joined hands

with the Cavalry Association, and by persevering work raised the necessary funds. The monument consists of a base and pedestal of granite, quarried from a battlefield near Petersburg, Va., within a few yards of the spot where Gen. Hill fell a martyr to his State. The base is four feet square, and with the pedestal, is twelve feet in height. Surmounting these is a heroic figure, eight feet high, making a total height from foundation of twenty feet. The figure is that of an unarmed Confederate soldier, standing with arms folded, with bare head and eyes cast down, the embodiment in store of one who, after having given up home, friends, and country in defense of principles, now that the struggle is over and all lost, almost as in a dream begins to realize the situation. And yet there is something of hope in the expression of the face- a hope which has found fruition in the part the soldiers of the Lost Cause have played in the progress and advancement of our united country since the close of the war.

On the side of the pedestal, fronting Church Street, is the following inscriptions:

ERECTED TO

THE MEMORY OF THOSE SONS OF CLARKE, WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN DEFENSE
OF THE RIGHTS OF STATES AND CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENTS.
FORTUNE DENIED THEM SUCCESS, BUT THEY ACHIEVED IMPERISHABLE FAME.

Above these words, on the side of the base on which the figure stands, are carved:

1861-1865

The other three sides of the pedestal contain the names of those whose memories it commemorates. With their companies they are as follows:

Clarke Calvary
6th Virginia Regiment

Company D-

Lieut. D. H. Allen, Lieut. C. G. Shumate, Sergt. William Moore, G. I. Ashby, Jonah Bell, James Bell, J. Barbee, Thaddeus Baney, M. Calmes, W. Gilson, T. Grady, J. Dearmont, W. M. Hite, F. Hite, W. T. Hammond, W. Janney, J. Lindsey, F. Moore, J. Milbourne, P. C. Mitchell, R. Mitchell, D. C. Morgan, B. Russell, G. H. Shumate, T. Smith, L. Swartz Weeder, T. Timberlake, P. T. Topper, C. Whiting.

Second Virginia Infantry Stonewall Brigade -

Lieut. Col. W. W. Randolph, Sergt. Maj. N. Burwell

Company C-

Capt. R. C. Randolph, Lieut. D. Keeler, Lieut. F. T. Grubbs, W. C. Copenhaver, J. Debtor, I. Dishman, P. Grubbs, J. M. Grubbs, W. Grubbs, D. Kerfoot, A. Parkins, J. Puller, J. Reardon, C. H. Richards, J. Ritter, J. Welch, G. W. Whitter, F. B. Wilson.

Company I-

Lieut. A. F. Allen, T. Barr, S. E. Bonham , W. Barnham , J. Broy, G. Beach, C. D. Castleman, J. Davis, J. J. Dobbin, J. Dougherty, J. Fuller, J. Gill, J. Garring, E. Hall, D. Mercer, J. Murphy, G. Patterson, C. Riley, E. M. Ritter, G. Riggle, W. C. Shepherd, G. Wheeler, J. K. Willingham.

Other Companies

Maj. H. M. Nelson, Sergt. W. Hay, Lieut. R. P. Burwell, T. Alexander , N. Anderson, G. Ashby, G. N. Barnett, J. Carter, W. Castleman, J. Carroll, M. Copenhaver, C. L. Deahl, G. Elliot, J. Everhart, J. Feltner, V. Gree, J. S. Keene, W. Moreland, A. Warts, E. Pendleton, W. B. Page, B. Randolph, T. F. Royston, J. W. Smith, W. M. Shumate, W. M. Sowers, A. Shores, M. Taylor, G. Thompson, J. Vorous, C. Wiley.

This column of granite is a fit tribute to the Confederate dead of Clarke County, and to the committee who had the whole matter in charge is due unstinted praise. Their work is now done, and well done. The monument will not only carry down through years to come of the deeds and memories of Clarke's martyrs to the "Lost Cause", but will be a lasting remembrance of the work of those, who toiled so zealously and so unselfishly to fittingly honor our dead. An appreciation of this beautiful memorial is shown in the following words, uttered by a gray-haired old soldier, while gazing at it with uncovered head, when bathed in the mellow light of the dying evening sun: "Boys, I would rather have my name on there than be President of the United States".

Thus it is seen how dear to the heart of the old Confederate the cause he loves and fought for, and the deeds of chivalry and sacrifice of his comrades who have passed over the river. History will not be history, if its pages fails to record truthfully the rights and heroism of the Confederate government and soldier. When the true story is told, history itself will be an indestructible monument of the immortal glory of Dixie's cause and patriots.

The contractors of the erection of the monument was let to Barns & Campbell, of Petersburg, and the work of erecting it here was in charge of the senior member of the marble firm.

THE BANQUET AND THE DECORATIONS

After the conclusion of the ceremonies around the monument the old veterans and others were invited to Winston Hall and entertained in a manner befitting the hospitality for which the county is famed. Everything that could benefit the inner man was spread before the "boys" and over 1,000 partook of the good things to eat. The Daughters and Sons had charge of this part of the program.

The residences and business houses of the town were elaborately decorated with bunting, the Confederate colors, red and white, predominating. In many places hung side by side the Star and Bars and the Stars and Stripes waiving (sic) in the Southern breeze.

In front of the courthouse on a level with the porch was erected the speaker's stand and places for the choir and band. Over head was tastefully draped red and white bunting, and neatly arranged Confederate flags. A choir, numbering 150 voices, under the leadership of Miss Nannie McGuire, sang Southern war songs, and the band present played Southern airs.

The crowd was the largest ever seen in Berryville and numbered over 3,000 persons. The neighboring counties contributed a large number, while this county turned out en masse. Altogether, it was a glorious day for Berryville, in spite of the intense heat.

Editor's Note: This report of the history and unveiling of the Clarke County Confederate Monument standing in the Clarke County Courthouse grounds is taken in its entirety from the July 21, 1900 issue of the "Clarke Courier" of Berryville.