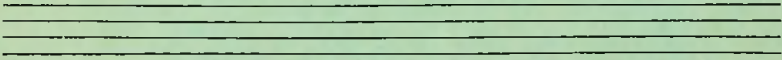


History of Walhalla

BY R. T. JAYNES

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INTRODUCTION

This compilation of historical matter arose from the fact that the Town of Walhalla was founded in 1850, and celebrates its Centennial. The founders were General John Andreas Wagener and his associates.

No people will be long ungrateful for eminent public services. There is no higher intellectual joy that he feels, who is a real patriot and directs his thoughts and actions toward the good of his fellowmen.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The writer is indebted to Dr. James C. Kinard, President of Newberry College, for valuable contributions; also to Samuel L. Prince, Dean of Law School of the South Carolina University.

This book comprises a series of articles published in the Keowee Courier from January 5, 1950 to February 23, 1950. This accounts for the double column on each page. To Charles S. Collins and his corps of compositors is extended special appreciation for their services; also to Miss Gladys McCall, stenographer and proof-reader for accurate work.

R. T. JAYNES

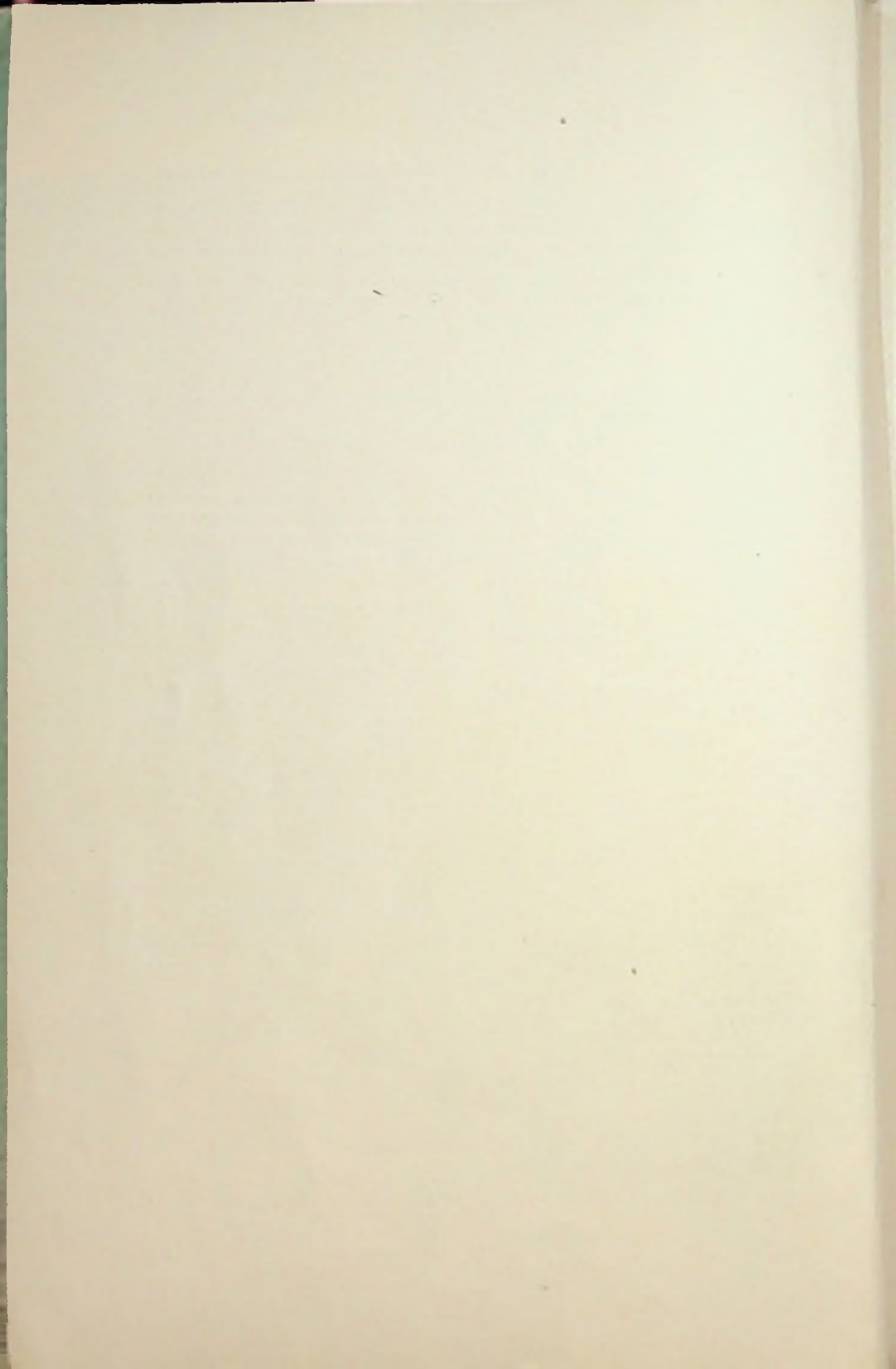
Walhalla, South Carolina
March 1, 1950

CONTENTS

CHAPTER I:	Town of Walhalla Founded 1850— John Andreas Wagener, Founder	7
CHAPTER II:	Semi-Centennial Celebration— Address of John D. Cappelmann	13
CHAPTER III:	Founders Monument Unveiled	19
CHAPTER IV:	Diamond Jubilee Celebration	25
CHAPTER V:	Confederate Monument Unveiled	29
CHAPTER VI:	Newberry College — Adger College	33
CHAPTER VII:	School Districts — City Fathers	37
CHAPTER VIII:	Miscellaneous Matters	42

ILLUSTRATIONS

JOHN ANDREAS WAGENER	9
WAGENER MONUMENT AT CHARLESTON	11



History of Walhalla

CHAPTER I

Town of Walhalla Founded 1850 — John Andreas Wagener, Founder

(By R. T. Jaynes)

The Town of Walhalla is one hundred years old, and celebrates the Centennial of its founding. Words are living things, and it behoves us to be careful how we use them, especially on historical matters. There is something in human nature which delights to recur to the past and do honor unto those to whom honor is due. There is, perhaps, no event whose anniversary we so willingly join in commemorating as that which gives birth to a community, a state or a nation. In such a festival the finer and better feelings of the human heart are enlisted.

Prompted by these feelings, hundreds from distant towns, cities and states unite with citizens of the Town to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of its founding, and to perpetuate the memory of the pioneer settlers.

The settlement here had its origin in the minds of certain enterprising German citizens of Charleston, South Carolina, a little over one hundred years ago. The leading spirits were John A. Wagener, Christopher F. Seeba, Claus Bullwinkel, J. C. Henckel and Jacob Schroder, all of whom were residents of Charleston. They organized the German Colonization Society of Charleston, and had associated with themselves as charter members the following well-known Charlestonians of that day, viz: John A. Wagener, Jacob Schroder, Claus Bullwinkel, J. H. Wuhrmann, John M. Hencken, D. Von Eitzen, Cord Otten, Eimer Cappellmann, George Cordes, Diedrich Biemann, John C. Von Lehe, Henry Meyer, J. H. Lange, John Kleinbeck, Christopher F. Seeba, Louis Rimrodt, Frederick Wiebens, H. H. Muller, Frederick Schulken, Julius Ostendorff, H. Gissel, J. C. H. Claussen, Herman Bremer, F. Lampe, J. D. Meyer, George H. Korber, William Ladey, F. Nihaus, Henry Bahntge, Henry P. Thode, Herman Knee, J. H. Kalb, Martin Wendelken, Herman Fajen, Carsten Wendelken, George H. D. Cramer, Gerhard Riecke, and John C. Henckel.

The success of their enterprise was assured by the purchase of a

large boundary of fertile land, well watered, and adapted to agricultural purposes. They sought a healthy climate, rich land and good water, and after sending out different exploring expeditions to various places, they finally found here the desired natural conditions and resources so well suited to the establishment of their colony. Accordingly, on December 24, 1849, a large purchase of land was made in this section of the then Pickens District. On that day the Rev. Joseph Grisham, of West Union, one of the largest landed proprietors of the up-country, sold to Christopher F. Seeba, John A. Wagener, Claus Bullwinkel, John C. Henckel and Jacob Schroder, as trustees of the German Colonization Society of Charleston, 17,859 acres of land for \$27,000.00. The title was approved and the deed drawn by that eminent jurist of his day, Governor B. F. Perry, who was then practicing at the Greenville bar. He was recognized as one of the most distinguished and successful lawyers of the state. The purchase included two tracts, known as the High Falls and West Union tracts, comprising 5,889 and 11,970 acres, respectively. The former was surveyed and platted by Tyre B. Mauldin, deputy surveyor, on December 15, 1849, and the latter by M. S. McCay, deputy surveyor, December 22, 1849.

The site for the Town of Walhalla was selected near the western boundary of the West Union tract. The site and general plan were determined upon by the officers of the Society, and under their instructions the survey and original plat of the town was made by Tyre B. Mauldin in January, 1850.

The first house within the corporate limits was built by Diedrich Biemann in the year 1850. It was an old-fashioned log cabin and occupied the site of the present Bauknight store-house buildings.

It was not long until the arrival of other pioneer settlers, and this soon became a distinctive German colony. The houses were originally of primitive design and

built principally along Main street. In the course of time more substantial houses were built, and by reason of the natural contour the town began to develop along the gentle undulating ridge from east to west. Main street grew to an unusual length, and thus did Walhalla early become known as the "Shoe-String Town." This, however, cannot now be said of it, for it has steadily grown in width as well as length; and on April 13, 1948, the Midway section was added. The stores and business houses, though, are still principally along Main street, which is recognized to be one of the most beautiful streets that any town or city can boast of.

The site selected for the town lies just four miles south of the Stumphouse Mountain, a spur of the great Blue Ridge range. It was not chosen with a view to being the county seat; but when Pickens District was divided by the State Constitutional Convention in 1868, into Oconee and Pickens Counties, Walhalla became the capital of Oconee. It has been ascertained by subsequent surveys to be within two miles of the geographical center of the county.

The Town was named "Walhalla" on March 8, 1850. Thus it is one hundred years old and appropriately celebrates its Centennial. The word is borrowed from Scandinavian mythology and signifies "Paradise of the Gods," or "Happy Home." The idea seems to be that of the abode of mighty warriors, enjoying the fruits of many hard-fought victories, as they recline in the shade of the trees, in beautiful gardens, beside limpid streams, where each drains or leaves his bowl precisely as he feels inclined. The name may be written down as a synonym for a place of sweet rest, and healthful refreshment. Could the town have been more appropriately named? We think not; for Walhalla has long since become a synonym for the beautiful in nature.

Having been planted by the Germans, it remained almost exclusively a German colony for eighteen years. After the court house was removed here from Old Pickens, in 1869, there was a gradual influx of American citizens. The two nationalities were

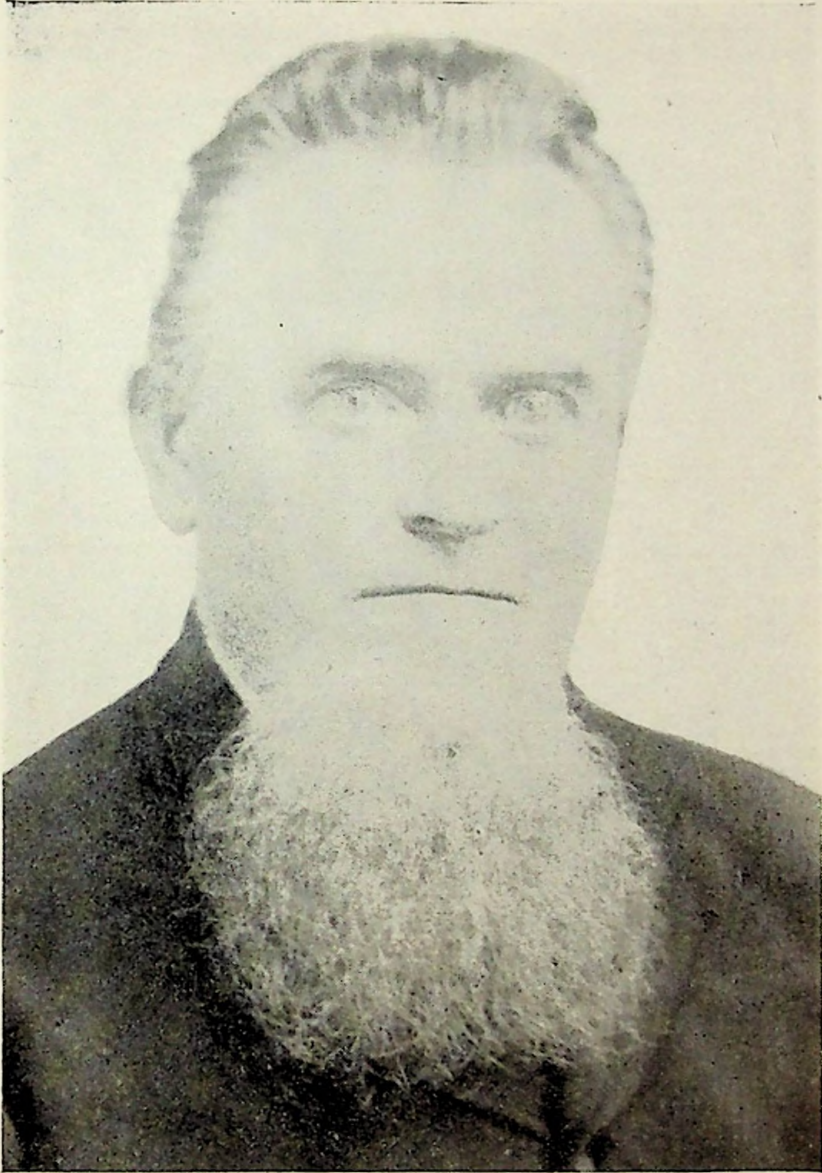
on the best of terms from the first, and it was not long until they were about equal in numbers, wealth and influence. Fraternal relations were cherished between them: but this mixing and intermingling of German and American residents in the course of a few years resulted in Americanizing the habits, language and customs of the community to a large degree. The difference of nationality is now known mainly in name.

All of the original thirty-seven settlers have passed over the river to rest under the shade of the trees in the Paradise above. Their descendants may now speak another language, but they still maintain the habits of thrift and industry which characterized their fathers.

Building the Town

In 1850 the large tracts of land above described were vast primeval forests. The axe had to be laid at the root of the tree, the forest felled, fields cleared and shelter built for man and beast. The beginning was necessarily hard and slow. The nearest markets were Athens, Georgia, and Hamburg and Anderson, South Carolina. Those were the days of stage coaches for travel and wagons for traffic. The whole country was not then one network of railroad, telegraph and telephone lines. The consummation of business transactions was necessarily tardy and tedious; such delays today would madden us with impatience. But those sturdy pioneers did not attempt to crowd a week into a day; theirs was the motto "Learn to labor and to wait." And labor they did; well and faithfully were their tasks performed.

After the site for the town had been laid off the remainder of those large tracts were subdivided into small farms ranging from fifty acres upwards. The town lots and farms were sold and apportioned among the members of the Society according to the amount of money paid into the treasury by each purchaser respectively. Literally they paid their money and took their choice. All the members having first been supplied with lots and farms, much of the remainder was subsequently sold to other



WALHALLA'S FOUNDER—JOHN A. WAGENER

but it served for shelter for several seasons. Others went up in rapid succession, and finally these primitive huts were replaced by commodious and substantial buildings. The sound of the hammer and saw was constantly heard, the town grew steadily in population and business, until by the breaking out of the War in 1861, the inhabitants numbered over five hundred, and there were several stores, shops and old-time bar-rooms. It is commonly reported until this day that at one time there were seventeen licensed bar-tenders. Thus it would appear that in vain was the appeal made to General Wagener by that venerable local Methodist preacher, Rev. Tyre B. Mauldin, who filled the dual capacity in his day of preacher and surveyor, and was good in both, when in one of his letters to General Wagener, he closed by expressing the hope that the General would induce his people to take an interest in the temperance cause.

A charter was not obtained until 1855. In that year application was made to the Legislature for a charter, and on December 19, 1855, an act was approved duly incorporating the town, and authorizing the election of a Town Council consisting of an Intendant and six Wardens. The act designated Jacob Schroder, D. Biemann and John H. Ostendorff as managers of the election which was appointed to be held on the third Monday in January following.

JOHN ANDREAS WAGENER

Founder of Walhalla

As the time draws near when the Town of Walhalla will celebrate its centennial, the name of John Andreas Wagener is recalled with veneration.

John Andreas Wagener was born at Sievern, Hanover, Germany, until finally the whole survey was parcelled out and owned in fee simple by individuals. Then began the actual work of construction. The mammoth pine and giant oak which stood in street and field were alike felled. In 1850, the first house in Walhalla was built by Diedrich Biemann. It was a rude log hut, many, July 23, 1816. At the age of

15 he immigrated to America, landing at New York City. He later came to Charleston where he was first engaged as a book-keeper and later became a dealer in real estate and newspaper work.

He soon became a recognized leader of the German residents of Charleston. He organized the German fire department in 1838, and the Evangelical Congregation in 1840. In 1843, he established a bi-weekly newspaper, "Der Tutone." In 1847, he organized the German artillery of which he was captain.

In 1849 he became interested in colonizing German-Americans in the Piedmont section. After visiting various sections and considering their resources and advantages he and his associates selected the lands above mentioned as being best adapted to their colonizing purposes.

Built Fort Walker

In 1860, he was appointed major of the First Artillery Regiment of South Carolina, then lieutenant-colonel and later colonel. He was ordered to proceed to Port Royal, where he built and commanded Fort Walker, and participated in the battle between the Union forces and the Confederate troops on November 7, 1861. In this battle he was severely wounded.

On December 7, 1861, the South Carolina General Assembly adopted a resolution thanking him and the German battalion for their conspicuous gallantry.

Upon recovering from his wound, he returned to his command and served in the defense of Charleston. His war services recommended him for political preferment, and after the conclusion of the war, in 1866, he was elected to the South Carolina legislature. In 1866, he was commissioned brigadier-general with command of the 4th Brigade of the State Militia.

In 1867, he was appointed head of the newly created office of Commission of Immigration; and as such, published, in English, German and Scandinavian languages an attractive pamphlet entitled: "South Carolina," "A Home for Industrious Immigrants." He listed more than three hundred thousand acres of vacant land.

This Commission was, however,



MONUMENT TO GEN. WAGENER IN CHARLESTON

abolished by the legislature, during Reconstruction, when South Carolina was indeed the "Prostrate State."

Mayor of Charleston

In 1871, he was elected Mayor of Charleston and served two years.

In 1876, he was selected as a candidate on the Democratic ticket for the electoral college. He died, however, at Walhalla on August 28, 1876, in his 61st year. He was buried in the Lutheran cemetery in Walhalla as he had desired. It is said that he was more interested in the establishment of the town and the success of the colony than in any of his achievements.

At the request of a large committee from Charleston, about seven months after his death and burial, his remains were removed to Charleston and interred in Bethany cemetery where a bronze statue was erected representing

him as Colonel of Artillery, Confederate States of America. It is said that the great crowd, which received his body at Charleston, was composed of all classes and creeds, testifying to the high regard in which he was held. The procession was probably the largest ever assembled other than the procession which accompanied the body of John C. Calhoun in 1850.

A man of massive, but fine build and impressive countenance, a German by birth, but an American by choice, his life was devoted to public service. His name is perpetuated in that of Wagener Township of Oconee County, which embraces the towns of Walhalla, West Union, and surrounding communities.

No people will be long ungrateful for eminent public services. It is for services that men are ultimately to be judged. Thus was the life of John Andreas Wagener incorporated in the history of his state and country.

CHAPTER II

Semi-Centennial Celebration — Address of John D. Cappelmann

MADE COUNTY SEAT

By an ordinance of the Constitutional Convention, on January 29th, 1868, Pickens District was divided into Oconee and Pickens counties. A board of Special Commissioners was then raised, consisting of Wesley Pitchford, W. E. Holcombe, Bry Fretwell, M. F. Mitchell and Dr. O. M. Doyle, who were directed "to select a proper site, and locate and erect a court house and jail for Oconee county, which location shall be either the Town of Walhalla or some point on the Blue Ridge Railroad between that place and Perryville." After due consideration, this board of five Commissioners unanimously made the location at Walhalla. They purchased lots and had the Court House and Jail erected in obedience to the mandate of the ordinance, and made report of their action to the next General Assembly. Their action was ratified, and thus Walhalla became the County Seat of Oconee. This added much to its importance, and gave quite an impetus to its progress and development. The current trade and travel was turned more and more in this direction, and Walhalla became the natural distributing point for a large section of territory lying to the North and West, extending far into the States of North Carolina, Georgia and Tennessee. Her merchants enjoyed an extensive trade, and several became quite wealthy. Among the most prominent merchants and business men of early years were:

D. Biemann, H. W. Pieper, C. H. Issertel, J. S. Bauknight, H. Fagen, G. H. Korber, B. L. Lowery, H. Bahntge, H. S. Vandiviere, C. E. Watson, J. H. Oldham, C. Voigt, D. Oelkers, S. K. Denny, D. Fronberger, J. C. Carter, J. H. Sligh, W. T. Reid, Dr. L. B. Johnson, Dr. B. W. Bell, John Ansel, Sr., A. Taylor, J. H. Collins, A. Brennecke, J. M. Lee, H. D. A. Biemann, Dr. A. E. Norman, J. P. Mickler, Wesley Pitchford, A. Bryce, Sr., R. Y. H. Lowery, J. M. Hencken, C. F. Seeba, R. B. Chambers, C. A. C. Waller, G. W. Yarborough, C. L. Reid, T. B. Whitmire, W. G. Perry, J. B. Watson, J. H. Osten-

dorff, I. D. Fincannon, M. W. Coleman, Dr. J. W. Spearman, J. P. Neibuhr, Henry Stucke, H. O. Sligh, H. Gissel, L. D. Brennecke, F. C. Ritter, and M. H. Bryce.

The business men of Walhalla have always enjoyed the confidence of the public. By honest, fair dealing they have drawn and held a full share of the county's trade. Those at the helm today are true to the teachings and traditions of the past.

Semi-Centennial Celebration

On August 23 and 24, 1900, Walhalla celebrated the Semi-Centennial of its founding. The crowds came from far and near. The celebration marked an epoch in the history of the Town. The monument erected to the memory of the founders was unveiled by Miss Cherrie Wagener, daughter of Captain Henry Wagener and granddaughter of General John A. Wagener. The opening prayer was offered by Rev. R. L. Rogers, pastor of the Presbyterian Church. The welcome address was delivered by R. T. Jaynes; the main address was given by John D. Cappelmann, and Rev. W. A. C. Mueller delivered an eloquent address. The dedicatory address was given by V. L. Norman.

The Artillery Band of Charleston played "My Country 'tis of Thee," and as the last notes faded away, Miss Cherrie Wagener pulled the veil from the monument, while the crowd cheered.

Then the German Artillery fired fifty times, one for each of the fifty years of Walhalla's existence.

The color-bearer of the German Artillery was F. W. Wagener, Jr., grandson of Captain Jurgen Wagener, who, in 1842, founded the company, and was the first of the three Wagener brothers to command the historic company. Jurgen, John and F. W., being respectively the honored Commandants.

The Artillery Battalion went into its headquarters in the Walhalla Hotel. Captain Wagener, who naturally was enthusiastic over the exercises, spoke with much feeling of the day's events. He told his men of how he re-

membered the colonists leaving Charleston, and what the move meant, and how near and dear to his heart were the men today honored; and he spoke feelingly of the Walhalla Germans who went to war and laid down their lives for their adopted country.

W. H. Hester was manager of the "Walhalla Hotel." It was formerly known as Biemann's Hotel and had always been a most popular resort for the traveling public. On September 1, 1897, Mr. Hester leased the property from J. D. Verner, the then owner, and changed the name to "Walhalla Hotel." W. H. Hester was the father of Mrs. F. H. Carter of Walhalla.

Saved as by Fire

The most destructive fire in the history of Walhalla occurred on June 3, 1898. Almost two squares in the business center were reduced to ashes. Twenty-three houses were burned. But in view of subsequent developments the scourge of fire was a blessing in disguise. The wooden buildings had been crowded too close together and constructed with little view to protection against fire. The two most important areas in the business center were cleared of all rubbish, and soon new brick buildings were going up on the sites formerly occupied by the old wooden structures. As a result the burnt district has undergone a wonderful transformation. Several modern brick buildings have now gone up and are in use as stores, offices and bank.

Address of John D. Cappelmann.

On account of its historical importance the Address of the late John D. Cappelmann should be published. He was a son of Eimer Cappelmann and a prominent member of the Charleston Bar. He had access to the minutes of the German Colonization Society of Charleston. These were the source of his authority for what he said. The address is as follows:

We meet to commemorate the Semi-Centennial of the town of Walhalla. Let us go back in mind more than fifty years when natural forests, abounding in game and wild animals, covered these hills and valleys; when the Indian's trail was still unbroken, and, in many instances afforded the only way of passing from

point to point. With a soil ready to produce cotton for clothing and food for the sustenance of man, while beneath the surface lay secreted the most valuable minerals; with a climate striking a happy medium between the piercing chills of the North and the depressing warmth of the far South. Under such conditions and with such attractions the pioneer settlers of Walhalla in June, 1850, first set foot on this soil, and, with a courage akin to that of the Puritan fathers when first landing on the American continent, they began the work of transforming the wilderness before them into a state of civilization.

Forests had to be cleared and stumps and roots removed for the purpose of husbandry; dwellings had to be erected; roads to be laid out and bridges built. Besides all this, an understanding must be acquired of the habits, language and customs of the people of the new country. They were led on and inspired in their arduous undertaking by the hope, constantly alive in their breast, that here they should truly find a resting place after the battles of life—an earthly heaven so to speak. This is shown in the selection of the name for their new home—Walhalla, meaning a place of rest, as is indicated by the original use of the word. We read that in Northern mythology "Walhalla" was the name of a magnificent palace, resting on spears, and covered with shields, to which the warriors repaired when they fell on the battlefield fighting bravely. Those who were cowards and died on their beds from sickness or old age were sent to Nifiheim and that place was as dark and gloomy, as silent and shadowy, as Walhalla was bright, resplendent and shining with life. Again we find this name given to a temple of fame, the erection of which was conceived by King Louis I of Bavaria, after the wars between Germany and France, which ended with the downfall of Napoleon I in 1815, in which busts and statues should be placed of all the great men Germany had produced. The temple was built in 1830-42, and is said to be one of the most remarkable edifices in Germany. It is a copy of the Parthenon; 232 feet long, 110

feet broad, and 63 feet high, built on a fine reddish marble at Donanstauf, on a hill on the Danube 250 feet above the river. The substructure and the surroundings are magnificent, and contribute largely to set off the building itself. "It is singular," says a writer, "that a German temple of fame should be a Greek building with a Scandinavian name." If this be so, what shall be said of the condition which obtains in our Walhalla today? This town was founded by Germans; the German language was at one time chiefly used and exclusively taught in her schools, and German customs prevailed. Now few of the old settlers remain; little use is made of the German language, but we find commingling and co-working for its common good all classes and conditions, all religions and sects, whether naturalized or native and to the manor born, whether immediate sons and daughters of the first settlers or descendants of those whose ancestry is of the pilgrim fathers. All dwell together in peace and unity for the advancement of all common interests and all unite today in doing homage to the memory of the founders of so goodly a heritage as is realized in Walhalla with its present benefits to them and their children, with its past filled with sacred memories and with its bright prospects for its early and splendid development.

We do well thus to pause for a season in the hurry of life to reflect upon the times and doings of those who have gone before, so that in the light of their experiences, we may better fulfill our work, and that, above all we pay to their memory our debt of gratitude for their self-sacrificing devotion.

Let us inquire into the origin of the movement to establish this colony here.

Nearly all of the original promoters of this enterprise had been brought up in the Fatherland to the cultivation of the soil. In Charleston they had been engaged chiefly in mercantile pursuits. These in the main were naturalized citizens born and reared in North Germany and were of those as to whom Bernheim, in his valuable history, entitled "German Settlements and

the Lutheran Church in the Carolinas," at page 530, etc., writes as follows:

"About the year 1835 emigration from North Germany found its way also to Southern cities, and every fall new emigrants from that portion of the Fatherland continued to arrive. The largest number of these settlers located themselves in Charleston, S. C. . . ."

These North Germans are regarded as the direct descendants of those Saxon nations which conquered ancient Britain, a portion of whom, after the Saxon conquest, located themselves permanently in England. That this is a fact established beyond dispute may be readily learned from the pages of history and easily perceived from the contiguity of those North German countries to England, their maritime character and their language. It may not be generally known that North Germans speak two languages, the high German, which is the written language, taught at school and preached in the pulpit, and the low German (Platdeutsch), which is the original language of the ancient North Saxons, still spoken and generally used in those countries, and bears a remarkable resemblance to the present pure English or Anglo Saxon language. Hence North Germans generally find no difficulty in acquiring a knowledge of the English language soon after their arrival in this country and learn to pronounce it correctly with remarkable facility. . . ."

"Capt. H. Wieting, a name familiar to all our North German citizens in the Southern States, and his vessels, the Johan Friederich and the barque Copernicus, of which successively he was commander, usually arrived, for some time, once a year in Charleston, S. C., filled with German passengers, who expected to make their future home in the South.

"These German settlers, by means of their economy, good management and excellent business talents have acquired considerable property and control a large portion of the commercial and other interests in the cities and towns where they reside."

In 1844 a number of these

adopted citizens of Charleston left there and settled in Wisconsin to take up farm life. The reports from these to their friends in Charleston were of so flattering a nature as to cause quite a number in Charleston to wish to return likewise to the business of their early life, and thus to be relieved from the pressing cares and anxiety incident to business in Charleston. Following these favorable reports from Wisconsin the first to agitate the project of establishing a similar colony in South Carolina was Mr. Jacob Schroder, then a coal merchant on Market Street. He induced a number of his friends to consider such an undertaking, and together they called upon their friend and adviser, John A. Wagener, who was not slow to give his sanction to the enterprise. In the first printed report by him as president, made October 1, 1854, he states that the first meeting, looking towards the establishment of the German Settlement Society was held in his house on the 6th October, 1848, at which some twelve signatures were given to the movement. Gen. Wagener was at this time publishing a paper in the German language in Charleston called the "Teutone," and the printing office was evidently in the same building with his residence, for we find from the very first minutes of the Society that it is recorded as having been held in the office of the "Teutone," and that there were eleven persons present as follows: J. A. Wagener, J. H. Wuhrmann, J. M. Hencken, Cord Otten, Eimer Cappelmann, Jacob Schroder, Jacob Koopman, H. D. Ellerhorts, Claus Bullwinkel, D. Van Eitzen and George Cordes. These had all paid their initiation fee of \$10.00. It did not take long for this number to double and soon to triple. In 1849, the first land purchase was made. In the "Teutone," issued 10th October, 1848, we find the report of the organization, with the following named officers: J. Henning Wuhrmann, president; Jacob Schroder, treasurer; D. Von Eitzen, secretary, and Cord Otten, Claus Bullwinkel, H. D. Ellerhorst, J. M. Hencken, directors.

The purpose of the Society is set forth in the by-laws to be chiefly to offer to Germans a

home in the upper portion of the State, to offer them lands on low and reasonable conditions, to obtain suitable cattle ranches and to establish factories. Notice of the organization of the Society and of its purpose and of the desire of the Society to purchase lands in the upper portion of the State were immediately published in the Charleston papers. In response to this inquiry a number of persons wrote offering lands. The land offered which seemed best suited for the purposes of the Society was that of Col. Jos. Grisham. He wrote on 28th November, 1848, offering some 10,000 acres mountain land and some 20,000 acres below the mountain.

The correspondence shows that Mr. Grisham was informed that a committee would be sent to investigate the lands. It will be of interest to present here a letter written to the Farmers' Society at Pendleton, from which we can gather something of the spirit under which the founders of this Society were acting:

"To the Farmers' Society at Pendleton—Gentlemen: The undersigned, corresponding secretary of the German Colonization Society of Charleston is very desirous of obtaining some advice from you whether a settlement of German farmers might be successful in Pickens District, or in what section of country the best grain lands and healthiest climate are to be found, and what is the value of good arable land?

"I am causing you some considerable inconvenience by my queries, but I venture upon this course under the belief that it is the most proper one we could adopt and that you will cheerfully assist me.

"We wish to purchase a large tract of land, say from 50,000 to 100,000 or more acres, for farming and stock-raising purposes. Our relatives, friends and neighbors in Germany will follow us, and we have no doubt that emigration once turned into this channel, will increase the value of property in the upper part of our state considerably. The European Germans labor under the mistaken notion that upper South Carolina is an unhealthy and barren soil, and the establishment of a colony in a salubrious situa-

tion will therefore refute the idea.

"I respectfully beg of you the favor, gentlemen, of as early answer as may be convenient to you, assuring you of our sincere acknowledgements.

"Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

"John A. Wagener, Corresponding secretary."

Unfortunately it does not appear what reply was received to this letter.

On the 3rd May, 1849, Col. Grisham personally attended before a meeting of the Society in the office of the "Teutone" and a definite proposition in writing was thereafter made on 12th May, 1849, by him, and in the early part of August, 1849, a committee, consisting of Messrs. J. D. Meyer, J. M. Ostendorff, H. Knee and J. H. Lange, was appointed to proceed to the Grisham lands and inspect the same. Let us note here their report and the impressions they received as to this land.

After reciting visits to different places of interest on the land and entering minutely into details as to variations of soil, the water powers and such like, and the beautiful springs of water on the land, and describing various tracts involved, they conclude that they feel satisfied that they have not over-estimated the value of the property, and report favorable—that in their opinion a settlement at that point must be successful; that the section is delightful, water good, the roads good, the soil productive, and the land that on which any industrious person can succeed. Upon this report of the committee an offer of \$20,000 was authorized and further negotiations were had with Col. Grisham, which resulted in the purchase of the land in the latter part of the year 1849 at the sum of \$27,000.

Mr. J. Henning Wuhrmann, the first president, who still survives, served as such until the 6th October, 1850, when Gen. John A. Wagener was elected as his successor. On the 6th January, 1849, D. Biemann, J. Schnaars, H. Oldenbittel, L. Heichel, C. VonLehe, H. Meyer, H. Wuhrmann, J. H. Lange, H. Hons, and J. D. Kleinbeck were elected members; on the 6th April, 1849, C. F. Seeba, Louis Rimrodt and H. Mueller,

on the 18th July, 1849, H. F. Wiebens, and on the 25th of same month J. H. Hencken, Fritz Schulken and George F. Cordes; on the 2nd of August, 1849, H. Jessen, J. M. Ostendorff, H. Gissel, J. F. Luers, J. C. H. Claussen, H. Bremer, C. F. Mehrtens, F. Lampe, and J. D. Meyer signed the constitution. On 1st November, 1849, J. H. Kalb was elected and J. D. Meyer resigned and J. H. Konig was elected in his place; on the 21st December, 1849, C. F. Hencken was elected a member in the place of his deceased brother, and E. H. Wuhrmann in place of H. Meyer, and Menke Bullwinkel in place of Claus Bullwinkel, on 31st December M. C. Wendelken, H. Fagen, C. Wendelken, and G. H. D. Crammer were elected. On the 26th March, 1850, the first land sale took place, and on the 5th April, 1850, G. Riecke was elected a member.

On the 23rd May, 1850, Jacob Schroder resigned as treasurer and F. Schulken was elected in his place. Secretary Von Eitzen also thereupon resigned and J. P. Niebuhr was elected, and at this time Messrs. John A. Wagener and J. H. Kalb were appointed a committee to lay out the town of Walhalla. Some time in the latter part of 1849, Mr. Fred Wiebens was sent to Walhalla to take charge of the High Falls property on behalf of the Society.

On the 6th June, 1850, Messrs. Jacob Schroder, Claus Bullwinkel and Kleinbeck moved up with their families. They were accompanied by Messrs. C. F. Seeba and J. C. VonLehe, who visited the lands purchased to inspect the same, and also by Mr. John Housekamp, who, with Capt. Seeba, still survives. Mr. Schroder and those who accompanied him were thus the first actual settlers. In August, 1850, Eimer Cappelmann and family took up their permanent residence in the new territory; D. Biemann and wife, Martin Wendelken and others in October, 1850.

On 6th October, 1850, J. M. Hencken was made agent of the Society at Walhalla, and about this time Mr. Biemann commenced the erection of his hotel. Sometime after 5th January, 1853, the Rev. Pastor Mueller, J. H. Ostendorff and J. D. Meyer were elected members. In October,

the bear and the wild hog, he could then count 65 attractive houses, of which 46 were residences. There were 300 inhabitants, exclusive of the residents on the farms adjoining. Among the residents are mentioned a number of blacksmiths, tailors, shoemakers, some twenty carpenters, painters, one cabinet workman, one coppersmith, one apothecary, one physician, four brick merchants, two hotels, four brick masons, one baker, one butcher, one barber, one teacher and one minister of the gospel.

Those who settled permanently and were the pioneers here on the ground encountered many obstacles and soon found that their undertaking was not an easy one. In going back to farm life under conditions of climate and land entirely different from that in Germany, they had many fruitless experiences.

As a rule they were well received by the people among whom they came to live. The latter noted with special interest the Germans erecting, very soon after arrival, large and commodious barns, providing and caring for cattle and horses in a way entirely different from the universal custom. Habits of economy and industry also made a beneficial impression upon them. The home of the Germans was thus readily recognized not alone by the barn, but as well by the little German brick oake-oven, some of which may still be found.

It is worthy to note that, laboring under strange conditions there were very few accidents to life and limb. Probably not more than three lives were lost by accident during the first five years, two being Mr. Claus Bullwinkel and his child who died from injuries received in a runaway accident.

These large barns were provided with prepared earthen floors on which the grain was flailed out by hand and then cleaned by winnowing. What a contrast between this method and the approved threshing and separating machines of today!

1852, the Walhalla Riflemen were organized with John M. Hencken as Captain; Messrs. H. Horlbeck and H. Pauls, H. M. Von Holler and J. C. Koester were elected members; also J. H. Fischer, J. H. Hartz, A. Koennecke, Stephen Busch, H. C. Rochau, H. Mehrtens, Carsten Kellers, C. H. Issertel, F. Affhoefer. This seems to have been previous to August 1854, when Prof. Holmes of Charleston was sent to Walhalla to make a geological examination. It appears also that the following well known persons were associated with the Society, but the time of their election is not clear: W. Ladey, H. Bahntge, H. P. Thode, G. H. Korber, E. Brassen, H. Veshermann, F. Nihaus, L. Schaffrodt, E. Hey, Claus Folmer, Jugen Wuhrmann, E. Thom Sudden, H. Stellges, H. Holweges and Fritz Wald. In the spring of 1855 Mr. Jacob Schroder began the erection of his hotel, afterwards the property of Bauknight.

In 1852, the Rev. L. Mueller, D. D., of Charleston, pastor of St. Matthew's German Lutheran church, visited his friends among the settlers here, performing many ministerial acts. An interesting account of his visit is to be found in THE KEOWEE COURIER of the 26th April, 1900, which was translated from his diary by his son, the Rev. W. A. C. Mueller.

In 1853, the German Evangelical Lutheran Church of Walhalla was incorporated, and the beautiful house of worship still standing, was thereafter erected. Likewise in 1853, the officers and members of the Society, theretofore known as the German Colonization Society, were incorporated under the name of the German Settlement Society of Charleston. (See Volume 12 Statutes, page 208.)

It appears from the report of President Wagener, made October 1, 1854, that within three years the little town of Walhalla had made wonderful progress. On the locality which three years before was known as the home of

CHAPTER III

Founders Monument Unveiled

WHO WAS WAGENER?

Mr. Schroder said to his associates: "Come, let's go see Wagener." Do you ask who was this Wagener? The best answer I can give you is the epitaph set in the monument over his remains in Charleston: "He was a true German and loved his countrymen." "Come, let's go see Wagener," was, we may feel sure, the first thought which came to those North German settlers of Charleston when in doubt or trouble. Would you see the inner soul and purpose of this man, then follow each issue of the "Teutone," a paper to which reference has been made, published by him in the German language beginning in the year 1844. See there how ever and anon his writing were directed for their uplifting and their education, not for selfish ends, but for the welfare of his people, not as against but in consonance with the institutions of the adopted home.

The character of his writing in this paper reveals him as a truly Christian philanthropist.

Gen. Wagener was born at Sievern in the former Kingdom of Germany on the 21st of July, 1816. He came to the United States as a mere lad, landing in New York, where he remained a short time. He came to Charleston in 1833.

He first took employment in a retail mercantile house in the city, and it is stated that he gave promise of a successful career in this line, but he abandoned this position in the store and opened a real estate office and busying himself with translations and the preparation of legal documents. He thus became well acquainted with all the Germans, and became not only their leader but their teacher. In 1840, mainly through his efforts, the German Church, in Charleston was organized. In 1838 he organized the German Fire Engine Co.; in 1843 the Teuton Band; in 1844 the Walhalla Lodge A. F. M.; in 1851 the Carolina Mutual Insurance Company; in 1855 the German Rifle Club; in 1856 the Duetscher Bruderlicher Bund, and in 1857 reorganized LaCandeur Lodge A. F. M. The organization of these

societies was with Gen. Wagener a work of love, and the only one from which he ever derived any salary or profit was the Carolina Mutual Insurance Company, which he served for nearly 25 years as president and general manager. This company has been the means of saving to the Germans of Charleston thousands of dollars in the payment of fire insurance and it today is on a firm financial basis.

In military life General Wagener was no less conspicuous than in his civil life. In 1843, he was a lieutenant of the German Fusiliers of Charleston and in 1847 he succeeded his brother, Jurgen, as captain of the German Artillery. In 1860 Gen. Wagener was elected major of the same, and in the following year participated in the bombardment of Fort Sumter. On the 24th of July, 1861, he was elected lieutenant colonel of the First Regiment of Artillery, and in November of the same year he was distinguished for bravery at the battle of Port Royal, where he commanded Fort Walker. After the war Gen. Wagener was called upon by his fellow citizens to serve the state in the disorder which then prevailed. He was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1863 and of the first legislature after the adoption of the new Constitution. His counsel on the negro problem may be heard with profit to this day. He wrote in a public letter as follows:

"The colored man is clearly entitled to a prosperous home in South Carolina, if he shall prove competent for the earning of one. To become trustworthy he must be trusted; to become our friend he must be met with a smile, not a frown. He must have encouragement, because he is the child of the soil. Would you do the state a real service? Improve our colored population. What can we do otherwise—expel them? Could we drive more than half our population away? How long would it take, and where the power? And if we could succeed in such monstrous measures, what could we do without them? And while we assist the colored people, give them land, improve

them, make them our grateful friends and supporters, let us welcome and invite the industrious of every climate to come here and make a happy home and lend us a helping hand in decorating our ever-glorious palmetto with garlands of peace, plenty and happiness."

In 1871, as a Democrat, he was elected Mayor of the City of Charleston by a handsome majority. He left a clean record and his administration was most creditable. In the campaign of 1876, which resulted in the election of Wade Hampton as Governor of South Carolina, General Wagener was a strong support. He was nominated as first elector-at-large from the State, but alas, he was not permitted to see the victory which came to the Democracy in that memorable year. He died in Walhalla on the 27th day of August, 1876, and agreeable to his request he was first buried there. In the spring of the following year there arose spontaneous demands among his friends in Charleston that his remains should be brought to that place. The people of Walhalla gracefully yielded to the demand, and on the 30th day of March, 1877, his body was laid to rest in the cemetery of the Memorial Association of the four German companies in Charleston who served in the late war and over it was erected a handsome monument to the memory of the members of those companies who fell in service. It is stated that there was a great outpouring of the people of Charleston to do honor to his memory.

In conclusion let us hear a few words from those who spoke on this solemn occasion, and who were personally acquainted with General Wagener. Their testimony is of the highest value. Taking to heart what they said, it may be that some one or more of the young men before me will profit by the example which he set.

General James Simons, a contemporary and close friend of General Wagener, among other things said: "I will venture to say, however, that from the time that our friend arrived in the United States and settled himself in this commonwealth, near half a century ago, although he never failed in his allegiance and duty to

his adopted country and in watchfulness for all that would tend to her prosperity, the earnest and absolute devotion of his soul was absorbed in the welfare of his German brethren in this state.

"To them he was like a patriarchal parent. Was one in prosperity? He rejoiced with him. Was he afflicted? He wept with him. Was he wrong? He rebuked him. Was he right? He maintained him. Was he to be defended? He was his advocate and friend.

"He did not limit his solicitude to individuals. He had ever in his comprehensive thought the advancement and progress of the German citizens of this state. He sought to promote their intellectual and moral march and their political dignity as well as to stimulate all those enterprises which involved their physical prosperity.

"General Wagener was massive in brain and in person, and his entire organism was naturally adapted for the possession of power and the exercise of influence. Hence, with his earnest and propulsive nature, he was bound to propagandize his thoughts. It is thus that moral revolutions are effected, truth eliminated from antiquated error, and man is raised and elevated in the scale of intellectual existence.

"General Wagener did not confine himself to a life of usefulness to his own people only. He held high public trust—legislative, municipal, military and moral.

"He was a man of considerable learning in which history and political economy were prominent. He was much given to reading, reflection and study and had a strong talent for analysis; hence he exercised all these public trusts with eminent ability, great assiduity and with an integrity that shone forth as a bright beacon light for the direction of all who would guide the ship of state.

"The honors General Wagener received in his life-time became him well and were worthily borne, and if death had not intervened it is beyond doubt that in view of his qualifications, usefulness and public service an appreciative community would have

conferred still further and higher honors on a person so distinguished.

"This great German citizen will always be ranked amongst the foremost of his countrymen who emigrated to this country and have illustrated the character and virtue of their people. He will command the respect and consideration of the people of this country and will claim and receive the veneration, gratitude and affection of the German citizens and their posterity."

Capt. Alexander Melchers for many years Captain of the German Rifle Club, said among other things: "He was a man of the people, with the people and for the people and not only outwardly a thorough German, but in his innermost soul, in his deepest feelings and thoughts. How many of his countrymen have become Americanized? He remained a German. This was his glory, to which he added the greatest services to the German cause in our adopted fatherland, services which we all acknowledge with our whole hearts. Yes, he was a true German and loved his fellow-countrymen."

Capt. C. G. Drucker, a close friend and admirer of General Wagener and now President of the Carolina Mutual Insurance Company, spoke as follows: "From early youth to the close of life his best energies were devoted to matters of public concern and to the affairs of his countrymen, generally for very inconsiderable, and more often without any remuneration. With him the main question was, "What good can I do in the world?" Thus he lived and died, poor in effects of this world, but honest and rich in the affection and esteem of all who knew and understood him. But his system of truth and honesty, for which he lived for its own sake, was often of so high a standard, so disinterested, as to be often misunderstood. And the most trying moments of his life were those, when misrepresentation and adverse circumstances combined to frustrate plans to which he had given the study of a lifetime; and how mournful to contemplate, how bitter is now the thought that an entire life spent in unselfish devotion to further and advance interests of others,

should, when near its close, not be exempt from insults and misrepresentations."

Col. John F. Ficken, afterwards Mayor of Charleston, among other things said:

"A man of undoubted mental capacity, he was much of a student and a frequent contributor to the press, both in German and English. Possessing a natural fondness for political economy, his mind was a storehouse of statistics. Firm of purpose, his will was unbending. Once resolved and assured of the right, he was immovable, holding that success must be conquered, not courted. Of commanding presence, he ever carried himself with dignity and decorum. Determined alike in purpose and manner, he was yet respectful and kind."

But why multiply on this line. Suffice it to say, not only all the addresses which were made on this occasion, but the daily papers of Charleston in lengthy editorials referred to the life and career of this distinguished man in the highest terms. Proud should be Walhalla and her citizens that one so honored, so talented and so great should have been the means of founding the colony here which built it and made it what it is."

The Effects of the Civil War

All went well and prosperous until 1861, the beginning of the War Between the States, and everything tended to show that the brightest hopes of the founders of the colony would be realized. The construction of the Blue Ridge Railroad, which was to run by way of Walhalla and connect Charleston with the great grain centers of the West gave an increased impetus to trade and traffic. The colonists had become acclimated in every sense of the word. New settlers were considering location here and new acquisitions to the colony were constantly arriving. Stumps and roots had disappeared from the fields, and plenteous harvests were blessing the years of toil invested by industrious hands of sacrificing and devoted parents, assisted by hopeful and willing children. From these homes so established were called patriotic citizens to do service in the defense of their foster country. The blood of many an adopted citizen

was shed fighting side by side with his native fellow-citizen, and both inspired by the same sense of duty, sacrificed their lives on the field of battle, obedient to their country's call. The war came and passed leaving its disastrous effects upon Walhalla and than on any other people of its size. The homes of settlers just its people, probably more heavily becoming comfortable and attractive, had been made desolate. The fields were tilled as well as possible by the willing hands of mothers, sisters and younger brothers, but with all this the necessities of life were often wanting. When the end came and peace was restored it was some time before the ray of prosperity again dawned upon Walhalla.

Incorporation of the Town

The town of Walhalla was incorporated in 1855, and then located in what was known as Pickens District. In the year 1868 the County of Oconee was established and Walhalla was designated as the county seat of the new county, and the present Court House erected.

Walhalla As It Is Today

Walhalla as it is today, with its five Protestant churches, with its court house, with its stores, its beautiful homes, with its cotton factory of 10,000 spindles, with its educational facilities, with its magnificent record, with its attractive location, is the blessing of its population, given them at the hands of these founders, who built more wisely than they thought. Under the able guidance and skillful supervision of its President, Gen. John A. Wagener, the foundations were well laid. The sacrifice and labors of those who took upon themselves the establishment of this colony, and the founding of this town truly make their memories sacred to those of the present generation. Beset by obstacles and difficulties which oftimes seemed insurmountable, there was always in the distance a bright ray of hope, which ever and anon flashed across their pathway. If you find one who will term the location a mistake you will find hundreds who will call it a benefaction, who today rise up to bless the memories of those who

toiled for it. Possibly at some other point more wealth might have been accumulated, but who can measure what has been accomplished here? While great wealth may not have been amassed, yet even so there are other considerations by which its success or failure must be estimated. The greatest, strongest and clearest sign, that it was a success is this, that these founders kept unsullied the pure German character which was the foundation stone upon which they built, and it is due to this that they have maintained the respect of the people of the state, as is evidenced by the universal interest in this celebration to their memory.

On the monument erected in the cemetery at Bethany in Charleston to the memory of the German companies who served in the Civil War, stands the commanding figure of the noble leader of the German Settlement Society. Singularly enough his eye cast is in the direction of this place with hand elevated to the visor of his cap in the attitude of the gunner who is watching for the effect of the shot just fired from his gun, so he looked into the future of this place with hope that it shall ever remain worthy of the motives that prompted him and his associates in its founding. Fully fifty years he, his co-laborers or their successors, have looked forward that Walhalla might become what they would have it be; and here, at the close of these fifty years, we who are present are permitted to see the accomplishment of much which they hoped for. We take courage as we stand on the threshold of another half century, and feel that along with the rapid development of this Southland, and especially in this glorious Piedmont section, at the very foot of mountains whose mineral resources are undeveloped, we may feel with certainty that a great future yet awaits Walhalla.

"And now, oh, founders, wise and true,
Who builded better than ye knew,
We build to you this granite pile
To prove throughout time's 'little while'
That human hearts do not forget
Those princes without coronet,

Whose hands the virgin forests
 fell
 Whose fearless feet the pathway
 pell
 To homes where homeless men
 may dwell—
 Strong founders, rest ye well.”

1850
 Erected to the memory of
 Gen. John A. Wagener
 Founder of Walhalla, and to His
 Co-Laborers of the German
 Colonization Society
 August 23-24, 1900.

The speakers would frequently
 in their speeches point to the
 handsome oil painting of Gen.
 John A. Wagener and the photo-
 graphs of Capt. J. C. H. Claussen
 and J. H. Whurmann, which to-
 gether with the German and
 American flags, made up the
 main decorations of the stage.

Each of these panels or sides
 bears an artistically executed
 laurel wreath, emblematic of the
 crowning work of General Wage-
 ner and his co-laborers. The
 plinth, which caps the inscription
 die, has on the east and west
 sides an old English monogram
 “W.” The shaft is an imposing one
 16 by 16 inches at the base, di-
 minishing to 10 by 10 inches at
 the apex. The whole height of the
 monument is 22 feet. The monu-
 ment was designed and executed
 by C. H. Mayhew, who was
 familiarly known in this and
 other states an expert monu-
 mental designer and builder.

On the rostrum were Chairman
 J. M. Moss, who presented the
 speakers of the day, Capt.
 F. W. Wagener, Lieuts. J. H.
 Puckhaber, Heinrich Nolte, Wil-
 liam Bargmann, J. F. Pieper and
 Pioneers A. W. Jacja and Ger-
 hardt Reicke, the Semi-Centennial
 choir and the newspaper men.

The crowd about the monument
 was dense for the unveiling exer-
 cises. Not even the booming of a
 cannon did scatter the crowd. The
 German Artillery took place to
 the East of the monument and
 placed one cannon on either side
 of the shaft. Capt. F. W. Wagener
 faced the monument and the Ar-
 tillery Band was near the column.

The benediction was pronoun-
 ced by the Rev. G. G. Mayes of
 Greenville.

Mr. V. L. Norman made a brief
 dedicatory address, suggesting
 modestly his paternity of the
 idea of the celebration. He said:

After the exercises at the
 stand, dinner was spread for the
 thousands on tables about in the
 park. Rev. J. C. Schaid pronoun-
 ced the blessing and then every-
 one went to eating until satisfied,
 none going away hungry so nu-
 merous were the baskets.

Ladies and Gentlemen: It is not
 my intention to detain you here
 with an address, as you have al-
 ready been well entertained by
 speakers of State reputation. On
 looking at my calendar last Janu-
 ary the fact dawned upon me that
 the year 1900 would mark the
 semi-centennial of the founding
 of our dear little city. I there-
 upon suggested through the col-
 umns of THE KEOWEE COURIER
 that we fittingly celebrate the
 event and unveil a monument in
 honor of the noble pioneers, all
 of whom, except three, have pass-
 ed over the river, one of them
 being present with us today.

Then everyone was at ease to
 do as they pleased until the un-
 veiling ceremonies.

The ink had hardly dried on
 the paper which contained my
 article when the most encouraging
 letters with substantial offers of
 aid began to pour in, some from
 distant California and others as
 far South as the everglades of
 Florida. It is due to this unani-
 mity of spirit and devotion that
 this celebration has assumed the

The monument, which is of
 handsome granite, is erected on
 Main Street. It is an imposing
 shaft composed of Oconee County
 granite for the foundation plat-
 form, first and second pedestal;
 the third pedestal inscription die,
 plinth and shaft are made of
 Georgia blue granite. At the base
 the monument is seven feet
 square quarryfaced ashler. The
 first base is also quarryfaced,
 with bush hammer washes. The
 second base is also quarryfaced
 with bush hammer washes and
 margin lined around sides. The
 third base is moulded with wash
 and scotia, and on face of same
 bears the name “Wagener,” in
 square raised letters. The inscrip-
 tion die is a beautifully polished
 piece of artistic work, containing
 on three sides the names of the
 original members of the German
 Colonization Society, and the East
 side (the face) the following in-
 scription:

immense proportions that you witness today.

My friends, to those of us who are present this occasion is fraught with the most noble feelings and ennobling sentiments. It is a testimony to departed worth and may well be an inspiration to the youth of our broad land to the noblest deeds of honor and humanity.

As a representative of the members of the executive committee, in whose hands you have placed

the carrying out of this celebration, I take the opportunity to thank you one and all, those present and those absent, but who are with us in heart and spirit, for the splendid contributions of your money, your talents and your patriotism.

And now it becomes my most pleasant privilege to dedicate to the town of Walhalla this magnificent testimonial of your love, honor and esteem for her founders."

CHAPTER IV

Diamond Jubilee Celebration

On August 27, 1925, Walhalla celebrated its Diamond Jubilee. Great crowds attended. W. C. Hughs, presided and introduced the speakers of the day as follows: Mayor James M. Moss, Victor L. Norman, Hon. John D. Cappelmann and Judge Martin F. Ansel. Extracts from account of the proceedings in the Keowee Courier are as follows:

The Homecoming and Diamond Jubilee have gone into the great past—something to be reviewed with far more of pleasant memory than those of us who were most sanguine as to the outcome even dared to contemplate when the event was still a pleasurable anticipation. We never doubted the pleasure of the occasion, or its success; yet we confess that we never dreamed of the pleasure that really was in store for us, nor the height of success to which the gathering in and ingathering of our friends attained.

We do not judge this either entirely by our own standards. We heard all who spoke of the occasion to us say that it was "The time of their lives" and similar expressions that denote that people are having a good time. And more than that—they showed it. "Actions speak louder than words," and the visitors were no less demonstrative in their actions than with their words. Every face showed that there was a good time being had. And this fact makes the people of Walhalla doubly glad that Vic Norman suggested the occasion and that Lew Kilburn endorsed it, and that E. C. Ellison chimed in with a will that left no doubt whatever that he was wanting to come back to old Oconee and to Walhalla. And they were all here—and we are mighty glad that they were. We only wish that some of them—all of them—were going to stay with us, here in our home town, or in the county. But—well, we're mighty glad you came, and our real hope is that you enjoyed your visit just half as much as we enjoyed having you in our midst. If that be so, all is well. And somehow we just have to believe that all the folks enjoyed

the big day and as much of the week as they were able to be among relatives and friends here and elsewhere.

Just One Big Time

There was no set program for the occasion except for Thursday, the 27th.

Boy Scouts Parade

The formal program of Thursday began with music by the band, and a parade and drill by Blue Ridge Troop No. 1, Boy Scouts of America. The boys acquitted themselves admirably in their march and their drilling and they were roundly applauded. All during the remainder of the day these young fellows were busying themselves by seeking out places where and people to whom they might be of service. And right well did they serve in many instances. They left nothing undone where they found that their services could be utilized.

Wade C. Hughs

introduced Mayor James M. Moss, of Walhalla, as the first speaker. Mr. Moss made his remarks very brief, however, confining himself to welcoming the thousands of visitors to the town and turning it over to them for all lawful and legitimate purposes for the day and for the balance of the week. As he brought his welcoming talk to a close, in a most happy manner, he introduced

Victor L. Norman

of Concord, N. C., but formerly a citizen of Walhalla, and known to all our people of both town and county. His address was impromptu, and was in the nature of a welcome and at the same time an appreciation of the occasion that brought so many old acquaintances and old friends together. Walhallan heart and soul, V. L. Norman has never been able to figure himself anything but a "Walhalla boy," live where he may or howsoever long he may be absent from the old town. At the close of his happy and appropriate remarks, the

Hon. John D. Cappelmann

of Charleston (also a native of Walhalla, and also a great lover

of the old town) was introduced. Mr. Cappelmann had come in early for the celebration, as had Mr. Norman, and he was ready with a few remarks when called upon to address the assembled crowd. Mr. Cappelmann is a son of Eimer Cappelmann, who was one of the founders of the town of Walhalla. He spoke, in part, as follows:

Mr. Cappelmann's Address

Ladies and Gentlemen and My Good Friends:

We stand on holy ground. There echoes in my ears at this time a tribute paid by Gen. James Connor at what was one of the first campaign meetings of 1876, when Wade Hampton with his helpers redeemed South Carolina—a tribute to Gen. John A. Wagener, leader of those who founded Walhalla—which tribute, in beauty of thought, in language choice, and in eloquence appealing, has probably never been surpassed. We stand, therefore, on holy ground, and in the light of this wonderful tribute to Gen. Wagener, as one of the founders, who died just as Gen. Hampton went forth on his memorable campaign, so may we not unite in a tribute here and now to the memory of all the founders as the men here with bared heads and all with bowed hearts stand for a moment and think of them?

We meet today to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the beginning of this settlement here. Vast changes have taken place and a steady development and progress has followed. Surely, what a son of Walhalla, Victor Norman, so beautifully says in his first attempt at book writing, "Chattooga Griffin," has taken place here, and the prophetic words are applicable namely: "Soon the forests were cleared, saw mills located, and modern homes erected where but shortly before the stag had been chased by the Red Man, and the panther and wildcat had made the forests resound with their midnight howling." . . . The valley became the abiding place of that sturdy Anglo-Saxon race, whose indomitable energy carves out the waste places of the earth and makes them blossom as the rose. . . . The result of their labors is shown by the evidence of the

many productive farms and beautiful homes."

Twenty-five years ago, at this spot, before another vast audience, your speaker endeavored to call attention to the nuggets of gold then to be found in this character house, and we are assembled today to view in clusters or singly the more precious diamonds which shine in the firmament over this character house, and which, because of their brilliancy, it will be easy to see.

It is claimed for these founders, first, that they were industrious, economical, and honest. So we see first in this cluster of bright diamonds, industry, economy and integrity. When so many are found who are idle, non-producing and shiftless, it is well to direct the attention of the boys and girls of today to this outstanding virtue of founders that of willingness to work, not being ashamed to work.

And what shall be said as to their conspicuous practice of economy? Their children were taught not to waste either time or things material. Not so much as a grain of coffee was permitted to be wasted. In the wake of the extravagance that seemed necessary and was practiced in the great World War, the pace set by our national government has been followed in striking fashion by private citizens, municipalities and state governments. The high wages and salaries of that period led to an extravagance in home and in the community that will prove ruin unless checked, and all citizens, and especially the statesmen on the watchtowers, will do well to give heed to this topic that everything may be done possible to bring back the old order of things. Descendants of the founders here may be proud of the record of their ancestors in the matter of their high regard for honest, uprightness and fair dealing with their fellows.

The next diamond which glitters with attractive brightness, to which attention must now be directed, is that of patriotism. It was but natural that there should constantly remain in their hearts a devotion to the Fatherland, but it has been plainly proven that loyalty to the land of their adoption never faltered nor was

interfered with when it came to a choice between the two. As the future home of themselves and their children, the best interests of the homeland always claimed their first attention, and so when the call to arms went forth in the sixties, the adopted sons of this part of South Carolina, the representatives of this Colonization Society, volunteered practically without exception to enter the dreadful conflict and to march side by side with those "native and to the manor born." Their descendants have the right to be proud of their patriotic devotion to duty, and this vein of patriotism has manifested itself through the years and has been proven again and again. And last but not least, in the great World War, when on Flanders and other fields of battle, precious lives were surrendered obedient to the country's call.

In conclusion, let us direct attention to that which I hope will be found as the brightest diadem in this rare collection, which shines with unabated lustre as we contemplate the devotion of the founders to the religion of their choice. Yonder church, beautiful in design and substantial in structure, with its well-proportioned spire directing men Godward, stands as a physical monument to their devotion to their Christianity—broad in principle, comprehensive in purpose, showing the way of men to salvation. Evolution theories of today do not disturb it. The founders built well and their church stands firmly upon the Bible and its teachings.

At the close of Mr. Cappelmann's address

Judge Martin F. Ansel

of Greenville, was introduced. Judge Ansel is a native of Walhalla, and has been signally honored by the people of South Carolina, having been Governor of the State for two terms, Solicitor of this Judicial Circuit for many years, and in his adopted home of Greenville, signally honored in many ways over a long term of years. Mr. Ansel devoted his remarks largely to the recounting of incidents and historical facts and reminiscences. We regret that we have been unable to give any report of his remarks. To undertake to reproduce them would

be but to destroy the accuracy and worth of its body. We hope to later get Mr. Ansel to reproduce the facts of history contained in his address, as well as to recall the many names so intimately interwoven with the past as it concerns Walhalla, which he gave in his talk.

Judge Ansel Was Last Speaker

Just after Judge Ansel's remarks had been closed it was announced that the Stone Mountain Memorial Coin—the Oconee County Coin, No. 42—would be offered at auction. There was quite a lively bidding and the coin was finally "knocked off" to the highest bidder at \$21. Wade C. Hughes was the bidder at that figure. As the auction closed the stirring strains of "Dixie" were heard, and as the band played, the crowd began to disperse from around the speakers' stand and there was a resumption of the greetings by old friends here, there and everywhere over the hillside and all the way to and along Main street, as thousands mixed and mingled and enjoyed themselves.

The Large Crowd Is Fed

Promptly at 1 o'clock the barbecue dinner was served, and within five minutes two thousand people had gotten each a large portion of the fine meat that had been prepared for the crowd that the people of Walhalla expected and were ready for. Unfortunately not all the thousands could be served as promptly as the first two thousand, and there were some who, lacking time or patience, left without getting their share of the feast. Quantities of meat and hash and bread had to be gotten in shape for serving, and this took time. It is said that 7,500 plates were served from 1 o'clock until the last one got his plate.

It Was a Great Day

"Taken by and large," as the real down-Easterner would tell you, it was one great day and a great dinner that was served. One could scarcely see the town for the people, and it gave Walhallans something to think about in contemplating becoming a city of ten thousand people. We've got to spread out a considerable bit before we can take care of that

many folks as a regular thing; but it would be fine indeed if we had that many people within our borders as a regular thing; especially if they behaved themselves as well as did this big crowd that honored us on the 27th of August. It is well to mention the fact that in among the big crowd we failed to find a single evidence of liquor drinking. There was not a man in town that we saw who had so much as had a drink. Some may have had, of course, but if there were such they kept themselves nicely hidden from view.

Jubilee Jots

(Contributed by Lewis Harrison)

All the speakers declared the Jubilee a "howling" success.

Here's a sample of many little meetings of the old-timers:

"I'm from Montana," said one.

"Texas," said another.

"Oklahoma," said the third.

"Massachusetts," allowed the next.

"Florida," spoke up still another.

And "so on way into the night."

Wouldn't a register of all the old-timers' names and their addresses make unique reading? It would be like a study of geography to see the states and towns represented.

Lots of folks just "porked" about all day.

"Looks like Bible times," said one old-timer, "feeding this multitude."

"Not much," said another. "The way that pork is disappearing

there must not be any Jews in this bunch."

Some fellow couldn't get all the pork he wanted. His friend said: "O, hush! Don't 'grunt' about it so."

"Forty-one years ago I was married in this town and I am so happy to get back," said a sweet old lady.

"Shucks," said an old cynic. "most of us don't ever want to see the place where we were married anymore."

"How old's the little baby, Ma'am?" asked the old man.

"Three months," replied the mother.

"Well, well! I'm 91 years old this day," said the old man.

"You've seen a good many more days than the baby," said its mother.

"Yes, yes! Let's see about how many. Oh, I'll never be able to figure it out, ma'am," said the old man.

But really, now, it wasn't so hard to figure. The old man is only 33,125 days older—plus a few more for leap years, etc. Better figure it yourself.

An utter stranger remarked: "What a tremendous crowd; and such splendid behavior. Truly, this occasion does the town proud, and it will prove a memory sweet in years to come. I congratulate any town that can so hospitably feed and care for their own who have come back for a Jubilee."

So as the sun went down, the long line of cars moving slowly as in a caravan, wended their way homeward, loaded with happy folks who had again renewed old acquaintances, who stirred fond memories in Walhalla's Diamond Jubilee in 1925.

CHAPTER V

Confederate Monument Unveiled

A great day for Oconee County was July 21, 1911. The proceedings were published in the Keowee Courier of July 22. Some extracts are as follows:

Yesterday, July 21, was a great day for Oconee, and every section of the County was well represented in Walhalla. The occasion was one that will long be remembered. The day was an ideal one, the large crowds that thronged the town were in the best of spirits, and the day passed off as one of the most pleasant ever spent by the people of Walhalla in company with their friends of the entire county. The crowd present was variously estimated at between 3,000 and 4,500, and it is a safe estimate that not less than 3,500 of Oconee's citizens were present to receive their monument to their dead.

The Program for the Day

was carried out without change, except that General Bonham's speech was delivered immediately following the delivery of Col. Jaynes' speech.

There were in all some 200 Veterans present, including those of Walhalla and immediate vicinity, and about 150 visiting veterans enjoyed the automobile ride, in which all the local autos joined, and as visiting automobilists from Seneca and Westminster arrived they promptly joined in the pleasure of seeing that the old soldiers took a spin up and down Main street. It was an inspiring sight to watch these old veterans pass in the autos, which were bedecked at every available point with Confederate flags, with here and there flags of the United States, one of the latter being a very large one, which floated gracefully from the leading auto, the whole presenting a beautiful picture, the "Stars and Bars," and the "Stars and Stripes" intermingling harmoniously. The old men who fifty years ago had worn the gray were greeted with loud applause as they rode past the monument their features radiant with pleasure and beaming with good will to all as they passed, surrounded by the flags under which they

fought and lost, and the flags of their reunited country, to which there are now none more loyal than they. They were a band of men of whom any country might well be proud, and Oconee honors them, the living representatives of a passing generation, along with those of their comrades who have gone before.

The Parade

was, owing to the length of time taken to give the veterans their automobile ride, somewhat shortened, and started from the monument going down Main street on the north side four blocks and returning on the south side, ending at the monument. The parade was composed as follows: The mounted marshals of the day and mounted flag bearers, followed by the band; color bearer in second carriage, followed by sponsors and maids of honor in third carriage; in the fourth were the Chaplain and unveiling maids, the fifth carriage carrying the speakers for the day, Governor M. F. Ansel, Col. R. T. Jaynes, and Gen. M. L. Bonham, of Anderson. The carriages were followed by a company of one hundred girls and immediately after them a company of one hundred boys, dressed in Confederate artillery uniforms. The girls were dressed in white and wore red sashes. The little cannon, "The Pendleton Peace Maker," drawn by a horse, and in charge of three young boys, brought up the rear, and as the turn in the parade was made, the young cannoners made the old "Peace Maker" belch forth a mighty salute.

Upon reaching the monument those in the parade arranged themselves in position, and the venerable Dr. John Gordon Law, of the Presbyterian Church, himself an honored veteran of the 28th Georgia Regiment, offered a fervent prayer, at the conclusion of which

Governor M. F. Ansel

made a brief address to the assembled multitude in which he recounted many historical facts connected with the soldiers of the Confederacy who went into the ranks from Oconee. "Governor

Mart" is a familiar figure in Oconee, one of her favored and honored sons, and on this occasion, as whenever he appears here, he was well received. As he formally presented to the people of Oconee this handsome tribute to her valiant sons—the gift of her noble women, and the culmination of a series of years of untiring and unceasing labor at their hands—and as the young girls drew the cords that

Unveiled the Shaft

a mighty roar of cheers and applause arose, and the crowds viewed with pleasure and admiration this token of love and honor to the Confederate dead of Oconee, and the band struck up the old, familiar and inspiring strains of "Dixie," which brought forth another volume of cheering and shouts.

The Monument

stands 24 feet high, the bases and shaft rising to a height of eighteen feet, surmounted by the life-size figure of a Confederate soldier, this figure being six feet in height. Directly under this figure are the letters "C. S. A." under which, extended full length of the main shaft on the East face is the half furled Confederate flag in bold relief, the base below containing the following inscription:

East side:

This Monument is Dedicated
to the memory of
the Confederate Soldiers

By the Women of Oconee County.

These gallant sons gave their lives for the protection of their homes, and in defense of their women and children. We who knew them testify that their courage was without a precedent, their virtues of the highest, and that they knew no law of life but loyalty, truth and civic virtue, and to these principles they consecrated their lives and fortunes.

1861-1865

OUR CONFEDERATE DEAD
North Side:

"On Fame's eternal camping
ground
Their silent tents are spread,
While Glory guards the solemn
round,
The bivouac of the dead."
West side:

"Confederate Service,
Six Hundred Thousand Men;
Federal Service,
Two Million, Six Hundred
Thousand Men."

South side:

"The land they struggled to save
for us
Will not forget
Its warriors yet
Who sleep in so many a grave
for us."

The music of "Dixie" and the firing of three salutes by the cannoneers closed the unveiling ceremonies at the monument, and the crowds wended their way to the grounds of the graded school building, where Col. R. T. Jaynes, the first speaker, was introduced by

Col. Robt. A. Thompson,

of Walhalla, sole survivor of the members of that memorable convention which assembled in Columbia, adjourned to Charleston, and there passed and signed the Ordinance of Secession. It is a peculiar circumstance that there were 120 signatures to that famous document, and the signature of Robert A. Thompson appears as the 61st name attached thereto, his comrades of those stirring days have fallen from both sides and left him standing "the one giant oak of that magnificent forest of men." Col. Thompson's remarks were brief, and as the venerable gentleman and gallant soldier took his seat he was applauded to the echo.

Col. R. T. Jaynes

was the first speaker, and his address was well received, eliciting frequent applause throughout its delivery and at its close.

Apostrophe to

Col. R. A. Thompson

It was an impressive and affecting scene when Mr. Jaynes stopped in the midst of his discourse and addressed Col. Thompson, in person, as follows:

"Venerable Sir: You have come down to us from the former generation. The span of your life has been graciously lengthened to see this auspicious day. Being the sole survivor of the most important convention ever assembled in the history of South Carolina you stand as the connecting link between the days of your comrades

and ours. The giants in intellect and prowess of those days were not a few. Until lately the revered and beloved Carlisle stood by your side; but you stand alone and lonely today. After four score years and more of toil, of conflict, of duty so well done, you find that as

The seas are quiet when the winds are o'er,
So calm are we, when passions
are no more,
Leaving the Old, both worlds at
once they view,
That stand upon the threshold
of the New."

Gen. John B. Gordon of Georgia

After reciting the rescue of Gen. Barlow by Gen. Gordon on the battlefield of Gettysburg, and the lifelong friendship between these two generals of the two armies, Mr. Jaynes said:

Oh! shade of the mighty Gordon! Along with Barlow—your own Barlow of undying friendship born amid the throes of battle; along with Bee, and Butler, and Jackson, and Jenkins and Evans, and Hampton, and Longstreet and Lee, your comrades along with countless thousands of the heroes of both armies, you have answered the bugle call to the eternal camping grounds beyond the stars. Of the vast hosts of those mighty armies, whose tread once shook the continent, only a small remnant remains to answer still. One by one they are answering now. Soon, ah, soon, too soon, the final roll call will be complete on those eternal camping grounds, where the blue and the gray shall have shaded into white. You have fought the

last of your many battles on earth, whether of war or of peace; and the greatest of them all were for the peace, the unity, and glory of your re-united country. Full of years and of honors, you have laid your earthly armor by; but your spirit still lives and is militant: for it is the spirit of immortal love, of pure patriotism, of true Americanism. And all true, patriotic Americans, North, South East and West, now and forever, join your fervent prayer.

Gen. M. L. Bonham,

of Anderson, well known to the people of Oconee, was the next speaker, and his speech, too, was a masterpiece. Gen. Bonham received frequent and prolonged cheers. His address closed the day's ceremonies, and it was indeed a fitting and most appropriate climax to ceremonies that may well be said to mark an epoch in Oconee's history.

The Music

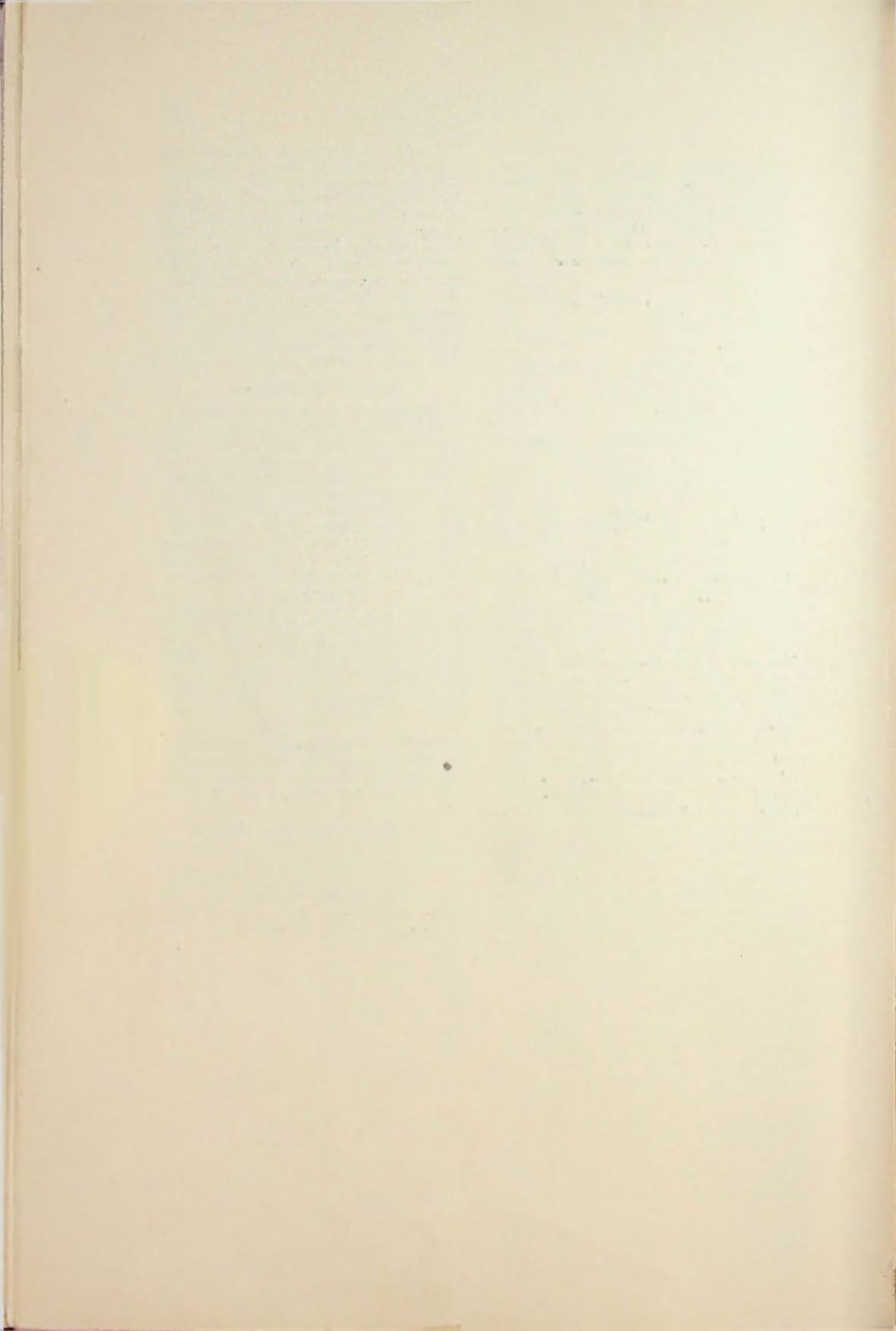
on the occasion was furnished by the Newry Brass Band, of which Capt. William E. Cheswell is the leader. The band is composed of sixteen men, all handsomely uniformed, and all play well.

The Veterans

were served dinner at the various boarding houses in the town, and all report having been most pleasantly and sumptuously served.

The Monument Association

desires to thank the Newry Brass Band for furnishing music, and the automobile owners of Seneca and other towns for the use of their machines in giving the veterans a ride about town.



CHAPTER VI

Newberry College — Adger College

Newberry College was moved to Walhalla during the summer of 1868 and the 1868-69 session was opened here.

The last session in Walhalla was that of 1876-77, and the college was then moved back to Newberry in the Summer of that year.

The Rev. J. P. Smeltzer, D. D., was President, having taken office on May 6, 1861. He guided perilous fortunes of the struggling little college during the Civil War and the period of reconstruction. In the summer of 1865 the college building at Newberry was occupied by a Federal garrison. In his effort to secure funds to continue the operation of the college, Dr. Smeltzer baked bread and peddled it to the Union soldiers, who would make him eat a portion of each batch of bread in their presence that they might be sure that he was not trying to poison them.

And now came the crisis in the history of the college. Owing to damage done the building by the Federal soldiers and to the inability of the Synod to make the necessary repairs, the college building was considered unsafe for occupancy. On June 25, 1868, the board of trustees met and found matters most discouraging. The college had been maintained with two professors, a tutor and a handful of students. Creditors were demanding payment of their claims. The endowment funds invested in Confederate bonds had been wiped out. At this crisis an offer was received from Walhalla and the college was moved here. There was nothing to move except "the college bell, the remnant of a library and a few blackboards and benches."

In 1876, during the state-wide jubilation over Wade Hampton's election and the rout of evil and misgovernment, the citizens of Newberry raised a sufficient amount of money to bring their college back home. Bids were made by Anderson, Columbia, Lexington, Prosperity and Walhalla, but the offer of the Newberry citizens was the most attractive and in the fall of 1877,

the college resumed its work at Newberry.

Dr. James C. Kinard, who had been a member of the faculty since 1916, was elected President in 1930. His administration has been and still is progressive. In 1936, the college was admitted to membership in the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools and has continued to maintain its high academic standing.

On January 4, 1871, Dietrich Biemann executed a deed to William S. Bowman, as Trustee of Newberry College, to have the sole and exclusive control, use and occupation of lot of two acres, upon the express trust, nevertheless, that said deed would be operative so long as said college should be located in Town of Walhalla and that in event of removal said lot should revert to the Town Council of Walhalla free from the express trust for Newberry College and that said premises should be used exclusively for the promotion of the education of the white race and more especially of the white residents of said Town.

On May 4, 1911, action was commenced in the Court of Common Pleas of Oconee County, wherein the Town Council of Walhalla was Plaintiff against W. M. Brown, E. L. Herndon, and C. W. Pitchford as Trustees of Walhalla School District No. 26, Newberry College, a corporation, and the six Biemann children. Such proceedings were had in said case as resulted in a decree of Court dated July 13, 1911, whereby the Master was directed to convey said lot of two acres to said trustees, in trust, that said premises be perpetually and exclusively used for the promotion of the education of the white race and more especially for the white residents of the Town of Walhalla and of said Walhalla School District No. 26. Pursuant to said decree, W. O. White, Master, on July 18, 1911, executed deed to said trustees. This lot is situated on the east side of College street and is the lot upon which the first building was erected as one of the buildings of the Walhalla High School.

Faculty 1868, Newberry College, When College Moved to Walhalla

Rev. J. P. Smeltzer, A. M., President, Professor of Moral and Intellectual Philosophy, Logic, Rhetoric, Elocution.

Prof. A. Arrington, A. M., Professor of Mathematics and Mechanical Philosophy.

Rev. Carl Weber, A. B., Professor of German, and German Literature.

O. B. Mayer, M. D., Professor of Chemistry, Mineralogy and Geology.

Rev. J. Bachman, D. D., LL. D., Occasional Lecturer on Natural History.

Mr. J. E. Houseal, Tutor in the Preparatory Department.

Faculty, 1869-70**Newberry College, Walhalla, S. C.**

Rev. J. P. Smeltzer, A. M., President, Professor of Moral and Intellectual Philosophy, Logic, Rhetoric, Elocution.

D. Arrington, A. M., Professor of Chemistry, Mineralogy and Geology.

Rev. J. Bachman, D. D., LL. D., Occasional Lecturer on Natural History.

Rev. N. McNeille Turner, D. D., Professor of Greek Language and Literature.

Vacant—Professor of German Language and Literature.

Mr. J. E. Houseal, Tutor in the Preparatory Department.

Faculty, 1870-71**Newberry College, Walhalla, S. C.**

Rev. J. P. Smeltzer, A. M., President, Professor of Moral and Intellectual Philosophy, Rhetoric, Elocution.

D. Arrington, A. M., Professor of Mathematics and Mechanical Philosophy.

Rev. D. McNeille Turner, D. D., Professor of the Greek and Latin Language and Literature.

Vacant—Professor of the German Language and Literature.

J. E. Houseal, A. B., Tutor in the Preparatory Department.

Faculty, 1871-72**Newberry College, Walhalla, S. C.**

Rev. J. P. Smeltzer, A. M., President, Professor of Moral and Intellectual Philosophy, Logic, Rhetoric, Elocution.

D. Arrington, A. M., Professor of Mathematics and Mechanical Philosophy.

Vacant—Professor of the Greek and Latin Languages and Literature.

Rev. J. H. C. Schierenbeck, Professor of the German Language and Literature.

J. E. Houseal, A. B., Tutor in the Preparatory Department.

S. S. Rahn, Assistant Tutor.

Faculty, 1872-73**Newberry College, Walhalla, S. C.**

J. P. Smeltzer, D. D., President, Professor of Moral and Intellectual Philosophy, Logic, Rhetoric, Elocution.

D. Arrington, A. M., Professor of Mathematics and Mechanical Philosophy.

Vacant—Professor of the Greek and Latin Languages and Literature.

Rev. J. H. C. Schierenbeck, Professor of the German Language and Literature.

Mr. E. J. Dreher, Tutor of Preparatory and Primary Department.

Faculty, 1873-74**Newberry College, Walhalla, S. C.**

J. P. Smeltzer, D. D., President, Professor of Moral and Intellectual Philosophy, Logic, Rhetoric, Elocution.

D. Arrington, A. M., Professor of Mathematics and Mechanical Philosophy.

Vacant—Professor of the German Language and Literature.

Vacant—Professor of the Greek and Latin Languages and Literature. (Duties distributed among the Professors.)

Mr. E. J. Dreher, Tutor of Preparatory and Primary Departments.

Faculty, 1874-75**Newberry College, Walhalla, S. C.**

Rev. J. P. Smeltzer, A. M., President, Professor of Moral and Intellectual Philosophy.

D. Arrington, A. M., Professor of Mathematics and Mechanical Philosophy.

Rev. Geo. W. Holland, A. M., Professor of Greek and Latin Languages and Literature.

Vacant—Professor of German Language and Literature.

Edwin J. Dreher, Principal, Preparatory Department.

John C. Watkins, Assistant, Preparatory Department.

Faculty, 1875-76**Newberry College, Walhalla, S. C.**

J. P. Smeltzer, D. D., President,

Professor of Moral and Intellectual Philosophy.

D. Arrington, A. M., Professor of Mathematics and Mechanical Philosophy.

Rev. Geo. W. Holland, A. M., Professor of Greek and Latin Languages and Literature.

Rev. J. F. Probst, A. M., Professor of German Language and Literature.

D. Benjamin Busby, A. M., Adjunct Professor of Latin, and Principal of Preparatory Department.

Faculty 1876-77

Newberry College, Walhalla, S. C.

J. P. Smeltzer, D. D., President, Professor of Moral and Intellectual Philosophy.

D. Arrington, A. M., Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy.

Rev. Geo. W. Holland, A. M., Professor of the Greek and Latin Languages and Literature.

Rev. J. F. Probst, A. M., Professor of the German Language and Literature.

D. Benjamin Busby, A. M., Adjunct Professor of the Latin Language, Principal of Preparatory Department.

Adger College

Upon the removal of Newberry College back to Newberry in 1877, Adger College was organized as its successor and operated about six years.

Dr. J. R. Riley was Chairman of the faculty and taught mental and moral philosophy; Hugh Strong taught Latin and Greek; Benjamin Sloan taught mathematics; W. W. Legare taught physics, and Simon Peter Boozer taught the preparatory department. There were two literary societies. In 1881, Benjamin Sloan left Walhalla and went to the South Carolina University at Columbia and W. S. Moore was elected his successor as professor of mathematics.

The largest class to graduate was in June, 1882, with nine members. R. T. Jaynes was valedictorian and Samuel R. Riley, son of Dr. Riley, was salutatorian.

The college ceased to operate about 1884 and the building was occupied as a grammar school until it was burned on October 22, 1888.

Charles S. Reid, Woodbury,

Georgia, prepared for the Keowee Courier a special article on the burning which deserves republication.

Clock Said "Good-Bye" Before It Topped

Like the final words of a departing friend, the great clock's bell calmly sounded the reckoning gong for the noon hour, and then toppled with the 80-foot tower that supported it into a smoking mass of rubble below.

That is the way in which Charles S. Reid recalls the fire which destroyed Adger College and the faithful old clock which towered above it in Walhalla some 62 years ago. Mr. Reid, one of Walhalla's most noted natives and former resident, was 17 at the time it perished in flames and for three years it had been his duty to keep the historic time-piece wound and operating.

Mr. Reid, a resident of Woodbury, Ga., remembers that day back in 1888 as if it were yesterday. The date was October 22.

His vivid account of the engulfing flames which devoured Adger College building and his beloved clock follows:

The Last Peal

Barring the sorrows from deaths in the family, one of the saddest experiences of my life concerns an inanimate object. It occurred when I was a boy of 17. I was keeper of the city clock which had been installed in the 80-foot tower of Adger College building at Walhalla, S. C. This tower was in the center of the building, the clock being in a room 40 feet above the ground floor. The face of the clock was 12 feet in diameter, the figures being painted in gold leaf on a black background. The hands were also in gold leaf so that the time of day might be read from Main street, two blocks away. It was my job to keep the clock wound. The weights were in boxed grooves 12 inches square, one of the weights being 175 pounds, the other 250 pounds. The clock was wound by means of a large crank. Back of the dial, which was in the highest section of the tower I had arranged a sort of den. I spent many hours on Sunday, and sometimes going there at night to watch the flood of moonlight over the country from

one or another of the three window openings. Just below this den was hung the great bell which was keyed on "C." On this the hours were struck. I had been keeper of the clock for more than three years and never had allowed it to run down.

The college department had been discontinued in 1888, and only a grammar school was being conducted. On October 22 of that year, the college building was found to be on fire, and being such a distance from the town's cistern water supply, there was no chance to save the structure. All that could be saved were the books and furniture. I had reached the scene soon after the alarm which must have come about 11 o'clock in the morning. I stood in the yard, watching the flames as they swept from the left wing into the clock tower and upward with a deafening roar, soon to burst through the weatherboarding on all sides around my beloved old clock. Thence they mounted upward toward the dial and my den where I had left several valuable books and some boyish manuscripts.

The hands against the dial showed the hour to be just a few minutes before noon. I watched the meridian. A great lump came into my throat, and tears started from my eyes. I wondered if I should ever hear the tap of the old bell again. The tower was by this time one column of flames. And presently the well-known peals from the bell, rising clearly above the roar of the flames began to fall upon my ears. "One-two-three-nine, ten, eleven, twelve." They were like the last words of a departing friend. With the last stroke of the hammer came an awful crash, and the tower lay in ruins with the rest of the building.

I wept bitterly and sometimes now, after many years, I seem to hear those last 12 peals of the old bell.

The college building was burned October 22, 1888.

Walhalla Female College

Dr. J. P. Smeltzer did not return to Newberry in 1877, when Newberry College was removed back to Newberry after remaining in Walhalla for nine years.

He established the Walhalla Female College in the summer of 1877, and it opened its doors in September of that year with Dr. Smeltzer as President. It continued to operate about seven or eight years.

Dr. Smeltzer died October 31, 1887, leaving six children. His wife, Anna Eliza Smeltzer, died October 10, 1885. At their graves in the Lutheran Church cemetery, a monument is erected, the inscription reading as follows:

Rev. Josiah Pearce Smeltzer
Born in Carrol Co., Md.
September 10, 1819
Died in Charleston, S. C.
October 31, 1887

This silent marble erected by devoted pupils and affectionate children stands as a lasting evidence of sincere appreciation.

Dr. Smeltzer was educated at Pennsylvania College and Gettysburg Seminary and was ordained to the Holy Ministry, 1848. He was an eloquent preacher, an eminent and faithful teacher to the church of his ordination to his death. He filled the position of President of Newberry College, Professor of Theology, and was lastly President of Walhalla Female College. Some of the best and most useful men and women in Church and State have been under his tuition.

Anna Eliza
wife of
Rev. J. P. Smeltzer
Frederick Co., Md.
September 2, 1829
Died Walhalla, S. C.
October 10, 1885

CHAPTER VII

School Districts — City Fathers

In 1890, Oconee County was divided into School Districts under the supervision of S. P. Stribling, County School Commissioner. With a few minor changes, the districts remain the same for the grammar schools. He had previously taught school and was familiar with the needs of the county in this respect.

In 1907, an act was passed by the legislature inaugurating the high school system by which the secondary schools were given state aid and placed under state supervision. Under this system Oconee County now has eleven high schools for white children, with 399 teachers and 7,882 pupils. There are three high schools for colored children with 46 teachers and 1,360 pupils.

The enrollment of pupils in the Walhalla High, Grammar and Colored Schools for this year is 1,321 pupils.

Good schools must have good teachers. For years it has been remarkable that so many good teachers work for so little. It appears that a bill has been introduced in the legislature proposing a 10 per cent salary increase for school teachers. It passed the house by a 22 to 18 roll call vote.

It is estimated that this ten per cent additional will give the teachers of Oconee County each month \$6,000 more than heretofore. A 10 per cent increase would raise the monthly teacher revenue to \$66,000.

E. B. Stoudemire is the present Superintendent of Walhalla Graded, High and Colored Schools, and has been here since the fall of 1923.

Masons Saved Town After Klan's Action

The first Ku Klux Klan in South Carolina was given birth at historic Old Stone church near Pendleton, and one of its first acts of violence would have resulted in Walhalla being burned to the ground but for the action of the Masonic order here, according to records left by the late Samuel K. Dendy, Sr.

Mr. Dendy, who was one of the charter members of Blue Ridge Lodge No. 92, A. F. M., took an active role in saving Walhalla from flames and he knew personally the men who organized the

first Klan soon after Appomattox in 1865.

According to his records the the hooded order was formulated, created and known only around Pendleton in the fall of 1865 and held its first meeting at the Old Stone Church.

Forming the nucleus of the widely-feared but then respected organization were four Confederate veterans listed as Mance Jolly, Henry Dickson, Walker Russell and John Lodgins. When the war ended, they swore oaths to each other "never to surrender to any living man."

It has been pointed out a number of times that any similarity between the old Klan and the sheeted group which exists in our day can be described as almost purely coincidental. The original Klan was not interested in picking up membership fees so that a so-called imperial wizard might live high and mighty.

It was struggling for the survival of a war-torn people against the encroachment of carpet-baggers and profiteers who came South to suck the very blood from a suffering land of heroic people. They came in droves despite warnings from the South as well as many from honorable people in the North. The original Klan formed to drive them out, and eventually they did.

It must be admitted some of the first Klan's acts were vicious, but they were born of necessity in a land which was still fighting to redeem its very existence. A far cry from the "bed sheet brigade" we know today. In 1865, Mr. Dendy's records recall, they were fearless and honorable men.

Since their roles in the near-burning of Walhalla meet head on at the climax, it must be pointed out that a group of Confederate veterans here had during the same period organized the Masonic order on November 17, 1859 which is Blue Ridge Lodge No. 92, A. F. M.

At the time the late Mr. Dendy set down his record in 1925, he was the only surviving charter member of the Lodge.

One night during those dark times members of the Masonic order were meeting to initiate a new member when the incident

occurred which almost resulted in having Walhalla destroyed by the torch.

The carpetbag party which had become entrenched here had organized 150 negro soldiers under the command of two Union officers, a Captain Parker and Lt. J. T. Furmon. They were billeted in the old American Hotel on Main street, then owned by Jacob Schroder.

Mr. Dendy's notes recall that both Parker and Furmon were brother Masons, so to speak, and the local order, true to its obligations let them come into the Lodge.

The meeting that night was held at Ansel's Furniture Store, but was interrupted by a clatter of hoofbeats. Mr. Dendy recalled going outside and seeing the Klan mounted and wearing their masks and insignia—and armed to the teeth.

One of them—whom he recognized as Henry Dickson—dismounted, and said, "Sam, we mean to kill both those Yankee officers because they're merely standing by and letting the men men under them mistreat and rob our people."

The Klansmen had wanted to get both Furmon and Parker out of the hotel at once, but he noticed at that very moment Furmon approaching with another man. The Klan spotted him at the same time and some of them shot him right in front of the Masonic hall.

Mounting their horses again, they spurred away and Mr. Dendy adds he never saw them again.

Captain Parker, as soon as he heard of the event, ordered his troops to burn everything in Walhalla to the ground the following morning at 10 o'clock, and they could scarcely wait for the appointed hour.

However, the Masons while performing what they considered their true obligations to another Mason, were setting the stage to save the then-young town from ashes. After Furmon had been killed, they had purchased a casket from Mr. Ansel and dressed and placed the body of the lieutenant inside it. They also, in consideration of their brother Mason, had prepared a grave in

the Lutheran cemetery and had secured a granite slab to go over it.

Assembling at the hall the following morning for the lieutenant's final rites, they sent an invitation for Captain Parker to join them. This he did. He viewed the body with the other Masons, and then and there issued an order countermanding his decree as to the burning of the town.

The town's Masons, whose devotion to their obligation for a fellow Mason even though he was an enemy, had spared Walhalla from fire. It was the only thing which saved many structures that stand to this day as memorials to a heroic past.

Lieutenant Furmon was buried in the Lutheran cemetery that morning. The granite slab is still engraved: "Lieut. J. T. Furmon, Co. G. 33 U. S. C. I."

The exact date of this tragic event is not given in Mr. Dendy's report. It must have occurred during 1867 when South Carolina was under military rule and was indeed the "Prostrate State."

Walhalla's Oldest Business

What is now Ansel's Funeral Home was established in 1854, by John Jacob Ansel.

He built a three-story home on Main Street. The third-story was used by Blue Ridge Lodge No. 92. A. F. M., which was organized November 17, 1859. This hall was also used for holding Court until the Court House was erected. A cabinet shop was also erected on the lot where furniture and coffins were made.

When his son, John Jacob Ansel, Jr. returned from the war, in 1865, he took over the business and built a furniture and coffin factory. Power for operating machinery consisted of a cog-wheel driven by horsepower.

After the death of John Jacob Ansel, Jr., in January, 1907, the business was turned over to his eldest son, John Alexander Ansel, who carried on the business until 1929, when he discontinued the line of furniture, caskets and coffins and bought them from factories.

In 1937, the modern Funeral Home was built on the site of the old Ansel home, and the fourth

John Ansel came into the business with his father.

John Alexander Ansel, Jr., is now firmly established in the oldest business in Walhalla.

City Fathers

Below we give a list of the members of the respective Town Councils to the present time:

1857

John H. Ostendorff, Intendant; H. Knee, J. Schroder, H. Fajan, G. H. Korber, A. Brennecke, J. M. Hencken, Wardens.

1858

John H. Ostendorff, Intendant; G. H. Korber, J. Schroder, Ernest Brassen, John G. Kruse, A. E. Norman, D. Biemann, Wardens.

1859

A. Bryce, Sr. Intendant; H. C. Rochau, G. Riecke, Jr., E. Brassen, M. Bullwinkel, J. Darby, J. W. F. Thompson, Wardens.

1860

J. W. F. Thompson, Intendant; E. Brassen, J. Schroder, H. C. Rochau, M. Bullwinkel, R. Y. H. Lowery, H. Gissel, Wardens.

1861

J. W. F. Thompson, Intendant; J. Schroder, H. Gissel, D. Biemann, E. Brassen, R. Y. H. Lowery, H. W. Pieper, Wardens.

1862

A. E. Norman, Intendant; J. Schroder, D. Biemann, H. Bahntge, John Kaufmann, C. H. Issertel, H. Fajen, Wardens.

1863

H. W. F. Thompson, Intendant; H. W. Pieper, D. Biemann, H. Gissel, E. Brassen, H. Fajen, H. Knee, Wardens.

The minutes contain a hiatus for the years 1864 and 1865. It is probable that owing to the exigencies of the war, then drawing to a close, and the disorganized state of civil and municipal government, no elections were held during those years. If this were so, the Council elected in 1863 held over until 1866 by operation of law. In the latter year, however, we find the Council constituted as follows:

1866

John Ansel, Sr. Intendant; M. Bullwinkel, H. W. Pieper, H. Knee, J. W. F. Thompson, H. C. Rochau, H. Stucke, Wardens.

1867

H. W. Pieper, Intendant; D. Biemann, A. Brennecke; H. Knee, H. Stucke, H. C. Rochau, J. Kaufmann, Wardens.

1868

H. S. VanDiviere, Intendant; R. B. Chambers, H. C. Rochau, J. W. F. Thompson, D. Biemann, W. M. Woodin, John Ansel, Sr., Wardens.

1869

John Ansel, Sr., Intendant; D. Biemann, H. C. Rochau, R. B. Chambers, H. W. Pieper, J. W. F. Thompson, W. M. Woodin, Wardens.

1870

John Ansel, Sr., Intendant; W. M. Woodin, H. C. Rochau, A. Taylor, A. Brennecke, Wesley Pitchford, B. L. Lowery, Wardens.

1871

John Ansel, Sr., Intendant; G. M. Yarborough, H. W. Pieper, A. Brennecke, H. Stucke, H. C. Rochau, M. Bullwinkel, Wardens.

1872

C. E. Watson, Intendant; G. M. Yarborough, A. Taylor, William Korber, J. Kaufmann, C. F. Seeba, W. C. Keith, Wardens.

1873

A. Brennecke, Intendant; J. J. Norton, J. W. Holleman, H. W. Pieper, H. C. Rochau, W. Pitchford, M. Bullwinkel, H. B. Schroder, Wardens.

1874

A. Brennecke, Intendant; D. Biemann, H. C. Rochau, J. W. F. Thompson, H. W. Pieper, J. D. Verner, M. Bullwinkel, Wardens.

1875

S. P. Kinard, Intendant; J. H. Sligh, H. C. Rochau, J. B. Watson, J. Kaufmann, T. M. Adair, D. Biemann, Wardens.

1876

J. D. Verner, Intendant; C. L. Reid, C. Wendelken, P. V. Waller, A. Bryce, Jr., A. Brennecke, W. A. Addinton, Wardens.

1877

J. W. Stribling, Intendant; C. Wendelken, A. Brennecke, C. L. Reid, D. Biemann, P. V. Waller, S. K. Dendy, Wardens.

1878

J. D. Verner, Intendant; D. Biemann, A. Brennecke, J. H. Sligh, C. E. Watson, C. Wendelken, C. L. Reid, Wardens.

1879

C. L. Reid, Intendant; W. Pitchford, J. E. Hendrix, D. Biemann, A. Brennecke, C. Wendelken, C. E. Watson, Wardens.

1880

D. Biemann, Intendant; W. C. Ervin, A. Fischersser, C. L. Reid, J. E. Hendrix, C. Wendelken, W. Pitchford, Wardens.

1881

J. D. Verner, Intendant; J. W. Stribling, D. Biemann, C. Wendelken, J. J. Ansel, A. Fischesser, C. L. Reid, Wardens.

1882

A. Brennecke, Intendant; W. J. Stribling, J. P. Mickler, Dr. L. B. Johnson, C. Wendelken, J. W. F. Thompson, J. J. Ansel, Wardens.

1883

H. D. A. Biemann, Intendant; J. D. Verner, V. L. Norman, J. C. Mickler, C. L. Reid, J. J. Ansel, C. Wendelken, Wardens.

1884

J. D. Verner, Intendant; C. L. Reid, H. D. A. Biemann, C. Wendelken, J. W. F. Thompson, J. Kaufmann, H. W. Pieper, Wardens.

1885

J. D. Verner, Intendant; J. W. F. Thompson, H. D. A. Biemann, J. Kaufmann, C. W. Wiecking, A. Roberts, C. L. Reid, Wardens.

1886

J. D. Verner, Intendant; J. W. F. Thompson, H. D. A. Biemann, C. W. Wiecking, A. L. Roberts, C. L. Reid, J. Kaufmann, Wardens.

1887

J. D. Verner, Intendant; J. W. F. Thompson, H. D. A. Biemann, C. W. Wiecking, A. L. Roberts, J. Kaufmann, C. L. Reid, Wardens.

1888

J. D. Verner, Intendant; J. Kaufmann, J. W. F. Thompson, E. C. Wiecking, H. D. A. Biemann, V. L. Norman, C. L. Reid, Wardens.

1889

C. W. Wiecking, Intendant; A. L. Roberts, J. W. F. Thompson, J. Kaufmann, H. D. A. Biemann, V. L. Norman, C. L. Reid, Wardens.

1890

D. B. Darby, Intendant; C. L. Reid, H. D. A. Biemann, J. W. F. Thompson, O. H. Schumacher, D. Oelkers, G. W. Pratt, Wardens.

1891

D. B. Darby, Intendant; C. L. Reid, H. D. A. Biemann, F. E. Harrison, J. W. F. Thompson, D. Oelkers, O. H. Schumacher, Wardens.

1892

H. A. H. Gibson and J. J. Ansel, Intendants; W. J. Bramlett, C. W. Pitchford, J. W. Holleman, W. L. Verner, H. D. A. Biemann, M. P. Terhune, Wardens.

1893

H. D. A. Biemann, Intendant; W. L. Verner, J. M. Baldwin, W. J. Bramlett, H. W. Pieper, O. H. Schumacher, D. Oelkers, Wardens.

1894

J. W. Holleman, Intendant; C. S. Reid, J. Thompson, W. L. Verner, J. W. Bell, R. F. Kaufmann, John Von Hadeln, Wardens.

1895

J. W. Holleman, Intendant; C. L. Reid, W. L. Verner, John Von Hadeln, John M. Baldwin, Jas. Thompson, R. F. Kaufmann, Wardens.

1896

C. W. Pitchford, Intendant; W. L. Verner, C. L. Reid, Jas. Thompson, J. M. Baldwin, John Von Hadeln, R. F. Kaufmann, Wardens.

1897

H. A. H. Gibson, Intendant; W. L. Verner, treasurer; Jas. Thompson, Clerk; J. M. Ward, J. M. Baldwin, R. F. Kaufmann, F. S. Holleman, Wardens.

1898

H. A. H. Gibson, Intendant; Jas. Thompson, Clerk and Treasurer; W. L. Verner, H. I. Weaver, C. W. Pitchford, A. P. Crisp, F. S. Holleman, Wardens.

1899

F. S. Holleman, Intendant; Jas. Thompson, Clerk and Treasurer; C. W. Pitchford, W. L. Verner, A. P. Crisp, W. S. Frazier, J. J. Thoda, Wardens.

1900-1901

F. S. Holleman, Intendant; Jas. Thompson, Clerk and Treasurer; C. W. Pitchford, W. L. Verner, A. P. Crisp, W. S. Frazier, J. M. Baldwin, Wardens.

(The records for 1902-1903 and 1904-1905 terms are misplaced and cannot be found.)

1906-1907

James Thompson, Mayor; J. W.

Bell, W. D. Moss, John F. Craig, W. L. Verner, C. G. Jaynes, R. A. McLees, Wardens.

1908-1909

J. A. Steck, Mayor; J. W. Bell, J. B. Hill, W. D. Moss, Thomas Littleton, W. L. Verner, C. P. Walker, Wardens.

1910-1911

George L. Wilson, Mayor; C. P. Walker, H. R. Ford, R. F. Kaufmann, W. T. Maxwell, J. A. Ansel, D. H. Rowland, Wardens.

1912-1913

W. M. Brown, Mayor; Dr. J. W. Bell, W. L. Verner, C. P. Walker, Charles F. Hetrick, John N. Badger, Otto Schumacher, Jr., Wardens.

1914-1915

W. M. Brown, Mayor; W. L. Verner, C. P. Walker, Charles F. Hetrick, Otto Schumacher, Jr., J. Thode, J. C. Bentley, Wardens.

1916-1917

W. M. Brown, Mayor; J. C. Bentley, J. W. Bell, C. P. Walker, S. N. Pitchford, J. J. Thode, William A. Hetrick, Wardens.

1918-1919

W. A. Hetrick, Mayor; M. C. Long, C. P. Walker, E. H. Hayne, J. A. Moody, George Schumacher, H. C. Busch, Wardens.

1920-1921

W. M. Brown, Mayor; S. L. Verner, C. P. Walker, W. A. Grant, J. J. Thode, R. C. Simpson, B. E. Hunt, Wardens.

1922-1923

James M. Moss, Mayor; J. W. Garrett, S. L. Verner, C. P. Walker, N. H. McGuire, Charles A. Hetrick, M. C. Long, Wardens.

1924-1925

James M. Moss, Mayor; S. L. Verner, C. P. Walker, M. C. Long, W. P. Leister, B. E. Hunt, and T. H. Hughs, Wardens.

1926-1927

James M. Moss, Mayor; W. P. Leister, B. E. Hunt, S. L. Verner, H. G. Jones, C. P. Walker, and J. B. Gillespie, Wardens.

1928-1929

James M. Moss, Mayor; S. L. Verner, Dr. J. W. Bell, H. D. Biemann, J. L. Seigler, John L. Smith and K. F. Ritter, Wardens.

1930-1931

R. L. Ballentine, Mayor; H. B. Brennecke, J. R. Clark, J. T. Mauldin, E. E. Reese, O. H. Schumacher, S. L. Verner, Wardens.

1932-1933

George L. Wilson, Mayor; H. B. Brennecke, James M. Moss, O. H. Schumacher, J. A. Steck, John L. Smith and C. P. Walker, Wardens.

1934

George L. Wilson, Mayor; John L. Smith, J. E. Bauknight, O. H. Schumacher, C. P. Walker, H. B. Brennecke, S. H. Ballenger, Wardens.

1935

D. B. Darby, Mayor; John L. Smith, J. E. Bauknight, O. H. Schumacher, H. B. Brennecke, S. H. Ballenger, C. P. Walker, Wardens.

1936-1937

D. B. Darby, Mayor; Dr. J. T. Davis, S. H. Ballenger, John Z. Brandt, Dr. W. D. Gilmore, John L. Smith, W. T. Smith, Wardens.

1938-1939 & 1940-1941

J. Pat Miley, Mayor; S. H. Ballenger, John Z. Brandt, Dr. J. T. Davis, Dr. W. D. Gilmore, J. W. Morse, H. N. Phillips, Wardens.

1942-1943

J. Pat Miley, Mayor (J. Pat Miley enlisted in Army and in August, 1942, Edward H. Ninestein succeeded him for balance of term); S. H. Ballenger, John Z. Brandt, Dr. J. T. Davis, Dr. W. D. Gilmore, J. W. Morse, H. N. Phillips, Wardens.

1944-1945

Edward H. Ninestein, Mayor; (Edward H. Ninestein enlisted in Navy and in January, 1945, S. H. Ballenger succeeded him for balance of term); Dr. J. T. Davis, Dr. W. D. Gilmore, J. A. Ansel, Jr., E. E. Reese, J. Z. Brandt, Lewis Harrison, Wardens.

1946-1947

Arthur Brown, Mayor; John Ansel, Jr., Strother Darby, W. O. Gardner, G. Summers Long, E. E. Reese, Gordon C. Smith, Wardens.

1948-1949

Edward H. Ninestein, Mayor; G. S. Long, Dr. J. P. Booker, Arthur Phillips, Sr., G. E. Medford, E. C. Whitten, Claude A. Garrett, Wardens.

1950-1951

T. V. Derrick, Mayor, Elmer C. Whitten, Claude A. Garrett, G. E. Medford, J. Hoyt Edwards, W. D. Pell, A. C. Phillips, Sr., Wardens.

CHAPTER VIII

Miscellaneous Matters

Walhalla Water & Sewer System

Upon request, J. F. Bearden, Superintendent of the Water and Sewer System, has submitted a condensed statement of facts as follows:

On or about September 5, 1921, a petition in writing signed by a majority of free holders was filed with W. M. Brown as Mayor and city council, asking that steps be taken for a water and sewer system for the Town of Walhalla. The Mayor and Council passed an ordinance directing that the question be submitted to the electors of the Town of Walhalla.

On October 4, 1921, the electors gave a big majority for Walhalla's first water and sewer system. In the same election three Commissioners of Public Works were named by the electors.

On October 7, 1921, James M. Moss, George M. Ansel, and George Seaborn, being duly elected, were sworn in by the Clerk of Court. After being elected the Commissioners elected James M. Moss as Chairman, and George Seaborn, Secretary and Treasurer.

On December 15, 1921, the Commissioners of Public Works in meeting with various engineers and after hearing proposals and bids on the new proposed water and sewer systems, the Ryan Engineering Co. was awarded the engineering contract.

On January 19, 1922, the Commissioners met at the office of E. L. Herndon for further study of the new proposed water and sewer systems.

James M. Moss being elected Mayor, his resignation from the Commissioners of Public Works was accepted. The Mayor and his Councilmen named J. C. Neville to succeed him. A motion was carried unanimously to issue serial bonds in the amount of \$125,000 for the construction of a water and sewer system. After the sale of said bonds, contracts were awarded to Henry Construction Co. and Electrical Construction for various stages of work on the water and sewer systems.

R. D. Cole Co. was awarded contract for tank and tower. With the preliminary work set up, work was begun in 1922 on Walhalla's first water and sewer systems. The work was completed in the fall of 1922.

In October, 1922, J. F. Bearden having been elected by the Commissioners of Public Works as its superintendent, the plant began to lay plans for the distribution of water to its citizens. The first customer to be connected to the new system was J. C. Neville, for his residence on Faculty Hill. The second residence to be attached was that of W. C. Hughs, also on Faculty Hill, the third customer was George M. Ansel, the fourth George Seaborn, the fifth was Glenn D. Abbott.

From October in 1922, the water system has had to be enlarged to meet the growing population of Walhalla. The sewerage system also has had to be increased.

In 1922 Walhalla had 1 1-8 miles of 8 in. C. I. water mains, 7 1-8 miles of 6 in. C. I. water mains, and 3 3-4 miles of small distributing lines.

In 1950 Walhalla has 9 miles of 8 in. C. I. water mains, 22 miles of 6 in. C. I. water mains, and 12 miles of small distributing lines.

The 1950 valuation of the water and sewer systems is now placed at over one half million dollars.

In 1922 Walhalla had 11 1-4 miles of sanitary sewers.

In 1950 Walhalla has more than 30 miles of sanitary sewer and has one Imhoff sewerage disposal plant.

Walhalla now has two filter units, and modern concrete wash water tank. Its raw water basin has a capacity of 40 million gallons. Modern chlorination is for the safety measures of its water supply. In the 28 years of its operation it has furnished free water to its churches, schools, fire fighting purposes, street washing, and other public buildings, as well as to its municipal swimming pool to the amount of \$108,000.

The water shed area which is

owned by the town has 600 acres of woodland. Also the town owns water rights and 3 5-8 acres of land at the new pumping station site located on waters of the east prong of Chauga Creek.

Electric Lights

On February 10, 1914, William A. Strother and Dr. J. W. Bell obtained a charter from the Secretary of State under the corporate name of Walhalla Light and Power Company, with a capital stock of \$10,000.

They acquired a tract of land on Cane Creek about two miles southeast of West Union on which they erected a dam and powerhouse for the generation of electric current.

On June 5, 1914, the Town Council of Walhalla signed a contract for \$1,200 per year for lights.

On January 19, 1929, Walhalla Light and Power Company sold to Southern Public Utilities Company and they sold, on April 4, 1935, to Duke Power Company, the present owner. During the fifteen years that Duke Power Company has owned the property, extensive additions and improvements have been made.

Descendants of Pioneer Settlers

Jacob Schroder, one of the charter members of the German Colonization Society, died at his home in West Union on December 29, 1881, in his 75th year. He stood next to General John A. Wagener as founder of the Town of Walhalla. He was the last president of the Society and wound up its business affairs with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of all interested persons. He built five or six houses in Walhalla, among them being the American Hotel Building. He came to America at the age of 18 years and went into the coal and grocery business at Charleston. Among his descendants are William J. (Pete) Schroder and Annie M. Schroder of Walhalla, and William John Schroder of West Union, and Mrs. Charles W. (Bertie Burns) Wickliffe.

Dietrich Biemann descendants:

Henry Dietrich Biemann, Annie Biemann Hughs and Gertrude Biemann Neville, all of Walhalla, and Katie Biemann Adams of Rock Hill, S. C., and Dietrich

Rieppe Biemann and Ida Biemann Hetrick of Raleigh, N. C.

William Ladey descendants:

William D. Ladey, a son of William Ladey, born November 21, 1861, lives with his wife and daughter on Walhalla Route 1.

Rev. L. Mueller, D. D.

Visits Walhalla

In May, 1852, Dr. Mueller paid a visit to the residents in Walhalla and surrounding territory. He left Charleston May 17, 1852, by train to Columbia and on to Ninety Six. From Ninety Six he drove to Walhalla in a covered wagon on May 20. He says:

"The first impression was not very encouraging. A broad, long street cut through the middle of the original forest and but few houses and to the right and left still most of the venerable oaks which had already seen centuries. First on the left Smith Briggemann; secondly Schumacher Bremer (whose old sign from the corner on Broad Street met my view); next on the right furniture maker, Meyer; then on the left Biemann's hotel, a fine large and stately house. There I lodged during the time of my stay.

"We lost no time. After dinner we started to make calls. Madame Biemann rode with me, as her husband was too much occupied with some buildings he was erecting. The women up there all ride very well. Visited first Hencken, then Thode; got lost in the woods for a while, because Madame Biemann had failed to turn into a side road at the right time; came to Bullwinkel's mill, then Cappleman's; then Wendelken's farm. The people, themselves, we found busy trying to keep from their fences a fire they had kindled to clear a house-place from the bushes. All were very glad to see me. The morning after my arrival I was with Madame Bullwinkel, who formerly lived in Meeting Street. She lost her husband and first child by an accident. Next morning, the 21st. I went with Hencken to Kalb's land. There is a good beginning in Walhalla for a sawmill, later furniture works, wood turning, etc.

In the afternoon I rode alone to Schroder's. He was very cordial, also his wife. Madame

Kleinbeck, whose husband is dead, was there. They already were baking cake for the baptism and wedding on Sunday. With Schroder, I rode the same afternoon to his mill; Kleinbeck's mill, then to Wald's; then to his brothers; to Gissel's and back to Schroder's.

In the afternoon I visited, alone, Ladey and C. Wendelken. These are the real backwoods folks of Walhalla.

The 23rd was Sunday, we drove to Church. All the Germans were there. The Church, a neat building, belongs to Col. Gri-sham, from whom the Company bought the land. The Church was entirely filled. There were many Americans there; still more than half were Germans. I preached to them. I was again enabled to proclaim the Gospel to my dear old parishioners. It was a touching scene, this service after such a long wait.

After the sermon I confirmed a young man: then administered the Holy Supper: then eight children were baptized.

In the evening. I went to Schroder's, where I had a wedding and three baptisms.

The next morning, the 24th, we started as early as six o'clock for the great water-fall in the Little River, about nine miles from Biemann's house. A grand scene: a small edition of Niagra Falls. There Seeba lives: does very good business with mill; threshing machine, etc.; plants also much corn.

On the way back to Walhalla we visited Cramer: then there was a baptism at Gissel's. In the afternoon we went to Thode's, whither the Hencken's had brought their child. There I baptized both the latter children—fourteen in all.

On the 25th, Tuesday, Biemann brought me back to Pendleton after most of them had, in the morning, met at his house to take leave of me. They had made up \$19 as a sort of recompense for the journey."

List of Churches in Walhalla

St. John Lutheran Church, established 1853, Rev. Ben M. Clark, pastor.

Walhalla First Baptist Church,

established 1868, Rev. R. W. McKinney, pastor.

St. Luke Methodist Church, established 1871, Rev. J. Claude Evans, pastor.

Walhalla Presbyterian Church, established 1868, Rev. A. L. Tubbs, pastor.

Walhalla Second Baptist Church, established 1909, Rev. Lewis Gibson, pastor.

Chicopee Methodist Church, established 1903, Rev. John T. Hayes, pastor.

Wesleyan Methodist Church, established 1903, Rev. J. C. Lackey, pastor.

The Church of God, corner of South John and Parker Streets, established —, Rev. Floyd Smith, pastor.

The Church of God, South John Street, established 1921, Rev. W. D. Childress, pastor.

Southside Baptist Church, established —, Rev. Roy D. Hawkins, pastor.

Seventh Day Adventist Church, established 1921, Elder E. L. Marley, pastor.

St. Francis Catholic Church, established —, Father John Donelon, pastor.

New Gallilee Baptist Church (Colored), established 1898, Rev. D. W. Williams, Pastor.

Walhalla Methodist Church (Colored), Established —, Rev. W. M. Stokes, pastor.

Oconee County

There is a solidarity of Town and County. When the farmers are prosperous, business in the towns is good. Upon request, Mr. G. H. Griffin, County Agent, has furnished the following statement.

Oconee County being a border county and situated in the extreme northwestern part of the state, occupies a unique geographical position, in that it joins on the north three North Carolina counties, Transylvania, Jackson and Macon: on the west and south by five Georgia counties, Rabun, Habersham, Stephens, Franklin and Hart; and two South Carolina counties, Anderson on the east, and Pickens on the northeast. The county is also almost completely bounded by rivers, namely, Seneca, Keo-