



Dr. James H. Carlisle

Birthplace of noted leader of past century will be marked Sunday

The birthplace of Dr. James H. Carlisle, "the greatest man that South Carolina ever produced", according to the Columbia Record at his death in 1909, will be marked by the Fairfield County Historical Society and the South Carolina Historical Commission on June 12.

A marker will be unveiled in ceremonies at Winnsboro at 4 p.m. Bishop Paul Hardin, Dr. Carlisle's great-grandson, will give the dedicatory address.

Also to be honored during the ceremonies will be author-theologian William Porcher DuBose, Episcopal layman who died in 1918. Founder of the School of Theology at the University of the South, DuBose was wounded three times as a chaplain in the Confederacy.

The Rt. Rev. John A. Pinckney, Episcopal Church will

dedicate an historical marker to DuBose, who was also born in Winnsboro.

Born of Irish emigrant parents in 1825, Carlisle was graduated with honors from South Carolina College (now the University of South Carolina) in 1842. In 1853 he was elected to the first faculty of Wofford College and in 1875 became that college's third president, serving 27 years.

For the remainder of his life, Carlisle was an integral part of the development of Wofford College. As president of the college he faced the task of revitalizing an institution which had suffered much as a result of Reconstruction.

For almost 50 years he devoted his energies to the young college, inspiring the student body to desire, as the late United States Senator E. D. Smith wrote, "that at any cost we should do our duty and meet the obligations that come to us as men."

Active in The Methodist Episcopal Church, South, he was considered its most influential layman during the last half century of his life. Often he was the spokesman for the forces of reconciliation in the aftermath of the Civil War. He urged the war-splintered parts of Methodism to reunite and worked diligently toward that end.

A champion of the rights of the freed slaves, Carlisle spoke out often against the introduction of Jim Crow laws, declaring, "It would try my Christian character to be an educated colored man."

James H. Carlisle was a delegate from Spartanburg to the Secession Convention of 1860 and signed the Ordinance of Secession. In the 1890's, when asked for a personal appraisal of that effort, he concluded his remarks

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SOUTH CAROLINA METHODIST ADVOCATE

BIRTHPLACE

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by saying, "I hope that your generation will make better history than that."

As David Duncan Wallace points out in his History of Wofford College, "the Doctor, though never yielding anything in his respect for the Confederate soldier and the motives of Confederate leaders, came sooner than most men of his generation to understand the mistakes of Southern policies."

Carlisle was a man who "chose to make his contribution to good government by sending into public life men imbued with proper principles rather than seeking to act directly himself."

There were numerous lucrative offers to go elsewhere as a teacher. At least twice he turned down offers to return to his alma mater as its president.

In every case Dr. Carlisle chose to remain at Wofford College where his tool was knowledge, his faith was strength and his stu-

Justice turned down Presidency of Univ. of S.C.

"The greatest man that South Carolina ever produced"

President of Wofford College for 27 years!

Old Wesleyan
Flames Raze
The fire broke out during the early morning hours in the vacant conservatory building which had not been in use since the college was relocated several years ago. Flamed by a breeze, embers ignited three apartment buildings across the street, destroying the Ellisman, College Hill and Magolia Street apartments. Other nearby buildings were damaged and four parked automobiles destroyed. Several firemen received minor injuries. Local Civil Defense and Red Cross units aided in the evacuation of 25 families from the apartment. Wesleyan College was chartered in 1836. The institution, now located several miles from the old site, has 500 students.

*James H. Carlisle
Mom's great uncle?
Her great grandfather's brother?
Her great grandfather (John P. Carlisle) was a Methodist preacher, so were 2 of his sons. Methodist preachers, one of them being mom's grandfather, 2 sons were 2 great uncles, Uncle Mark & Uncle John Carlisle (preachers.)*