

half a dozen sportsmen and twenty dogs. When a red fox was raised, the chase was kept up for several hours, as that species are much longer-winded than the grey. With the passing away of Dr. Isaac Wilson, so also the sports he loved so well have been forgotten, remembered only by the older people. The shooting match is now obsolete, and the fox hunting with the winding horn and pack of dogs is an exercise of the past.

WILLIAM MAXWELL, ESQ.

As a general rule, we do not see or appreciate the true worth of our public functionaries until they are removed from the sphere of their usefulness. While the memory of Esquire Maxwell is still fresh in the minds of the people, it is well to rehearse what endeared him to the people of Mecklenburg.

He passed away on the 26th of October, 1890, after having spent a useful life for his family, for the county, and for the church. His was a well rounded life, devoted both to church and State.

Esquire Maxwell was in his 82nd year. He was born at what is known as the old Maxwell place, seven miles east of Charlotte, on September 9, 1809. He was the third son of Guy Maxwell, who emigrated to this country from County Tyron, Ireland, in 1795. Esquire Maxwell was twice married. His first wife was Mary E. Johnston, a sister of Nathaniel Johnston. She died a year after her marriage. His second wife was Nancy A. Morris, daughter of Col. Zebulon Morris, who with three children—Col. D. G. Maxwell, W. C. Maxwell, Esq., and Miss Carrie Maxwell, survive him. Esquire Maxwell was long in public life in this county, and his official career was untarnished. He was for a long time a member of the old County Court, and was also its chairman. In 1862, Mr. William K. Reed resigned as clerk of the court and Esquire Maxwell was appointed to fill out his unexpired term. That began Esquire



WILLIAM MAXWELL, ESQ.

Maxwell's reign as a court house official. He continued as clerk of this court until it was abolished in 1868. Then he was appointed Register of Deeds to fill the unexpired term of F. M. Ross. He was subsequently repeatedly elected to that office until December, 1884, when, feeling the cares of old age pressing upon him, declined to again become a candidate, and retired to private life. Esquire Maxwell was prominent as a church man. For thirty years he was an elder in Philadelphia Presbyterian church, and was for twenty-five years an elder in the First Presbyterian church of Charlotte.

#### FUNERAL OF MR. MAXWELL.

"The funeral services over the remains of the late William Maxwell were conducted from the First Presbyterian church. A very large concourse of people turned out to pay the last tribute of respect to the memory of the lamented dead, the main body of the church being crowded. The body was inclosed in a very handsome casket covered in black broadcloth, and the top was hidden under a mass of white flowers. Rev. Dr. Miller, the pastor of the church, preached an impressive sermon, and at its conclusion the body was escorted to Elmwood, where it was interred. The large crowd present eloquently attested the esteem in which the deceased was held by the community."

#### THE FIFTH REGISTER OF DEEDS.

Mr. Maxwell was the fifth Register of Deeds of Mecklenburg county, which position he held from 1870 to 1884. His immediate predecessor was F. M. Ross, who held the office from 1840 to 1870.

The first register was Robert Harris, who was in office from 1763 to 1782. John McKnitt Alexander succeeded Mr. Harris, and was register ten years. In 1792 Wm. Bain Alexander succeeded his father, John McKnitt Alexander,

and how long he had the position there are no records to tell; but between Wm. Bain Alexander's incumbency and that of Mr. Ross, who came into office in 1840, there was a time the duties of Register of Deeds was performed by the county clerk, or the clerk of the Superior Court. It is evident, however, from the great amount of registering done by Wm. Bain Alexander, that he held the office many years.

The registering work done by Mr. Maxwell is in a neat, strong, clear hand, and denotes method and accuracy. The present register, Mr. Cobb, who succeeded Mr. Maxwell, says that the latter was one of the best registers any county ever had. He never left anything undone from one day to another. He was popular with all classes.

#### SUGAR DULIN.

This account of Sugar Dulin was found among the papers of the late Wm. Maxwell, he having been administrator of Sugar Dulin. It was written upon foolscap paper and doubtless with a quill pen, as that was the only kind then in use. Notwithstanding the bad spelling and the extravagant use of capital letters, the handwriting is plain and of systematical form, and in fact will compare favorably with the handwriting of the majority of the business men of to-day. He was of great individuality. Many of his quaint sayings are to this day quoted by the old people in the neighborhood in which he lived. He often remarked that he had more sense than King Solomon, for Solomon did not know for whom he was laying up riches, but that "he knew that he was laying them up for a set of d—d fools." It is said that Sugar Dulin's father, Thomas Dulin, was so fond of sugar and rice that he gave the name of Sugar to one son and rice to the other. Rice Dulin moved in early life to Charleston, S. C., where he accumulated a considerable amount of property. Sugar Dulin came to Mecklenburg county and bought a large body of land ten miles east of Charlotte, where he lived and died about 1845. He was

a member of Philadelphia Presbyterian church, and is buried in the old cemetery at that church, twelve miles east of Charlotte. As the autobiography states, Sugar Dulin had a great many descendants, and in fact, they were so thickly settled near Philadelphia church that the section was called Dulintown. The Dulins were all noted for their physical courage, and while they did not have the reputation of being "bullies," yet if any man was looking for a fight, he could always be accommodated by a Dulin; and in antebellum days at almost every session of our old county courts, some of the Dulins were charged with assault and battery, but one of the name has never been known to have been indicted for a felony.

In the war between the States there were seven Dulins in Capt. D. G. Maxwell's company (H. Thirty-fifth North Carolina Regiment), and but two of them came home after the surrender, and they both were wounded.

The life movements of Sugar Dulin from birth to extreme old age:

He lived in Mecklenburg from 1791 till his death, which was almost a half century. He was a law-abiding man and a good citizen. This brief account is given in his own spelling, and distribution of capitals:

N. B.—I was Born in onslow County, No. Carolina, the 23rd Day of April, 1763 as my parents sd any How Before I mind & they Settled within Two miles of where Trentown in Jones County stands, & they sd Before I mind they moved Ten miles Higher up within one mile of old Danel Shines & there I was Raised & lived until I went to the army & never father from Home than to Nubern until I went to the army & then I made it my Home until I was married, and then I lived in sd County until 1791. I Removed to Mecklenburg County on the place I now live on. Now this the 1st Day of April, 1835 against the 21st of this Instant I have lived in Mclnburg County, No. Carolina, Forty Two years, &c.

Done with my own Hand & the leading men of this County may Due the Ballance as to my Carretter &c.

SUGAR DULIN.

I Have lived with one wife going on 51 years & we Have Raised Five Sons & five Daughters & we this Day counted our Grand-Children & we make them 94 that our Sons & Daughters has had & we Counted 13 great grand Children. This the 20th of March, 1837,

SUGAR DULIN.

These people lived in Philadelphia congregation, owned a large tract of land, raised fine crops of grain, hogs, cattle, horses and sheep, were all round good citizens, and raised a numerous posterity; were ever ready to contend for the right. Not one of the name was ever indicted for a disreputable transaction; never gave an insult, but was quick to resent one.

DR. SAMUEL B. WATSON.

Dr. S. B. Watson, of Philadelphia neighborhood, in this county, passed away at his home on the 24th of August, 1895, in his 90th year. He practiced medicine sixty-seven years. The oldest practitioner in the State, venerable in years and in the service of his fellow man.

Dr. Watson was born in York county, S. C., December 17, 1805, and with his father—Robert Watson—moved to Charlotte in early boyhood. He graduated from the Charleston Medical College in 1828, and with little interruption, has practiced his profession until within a few days of his death.

Dr. Watson was a plain, blunt man, simple in all his habits and temperate in all things.

He possessed in a marked degree the qualifications of the true physician. With untiring devotion to his profession and zeal for the relief of the sick and suffering, he faithfully and successfully practiced medicine over a large territory of