

**Mr. E. L. Moffitt's Speech at Unveiling**  
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**Mr. E. L. Moffitt's Speech at Unveiling.**

I esteem it a privilege and an honor to be called upon by the Randolph Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy to present this beautiful monument on their behalf to the town of Asheboro, the county of Randolph, and to the old Confederate soldiers. In the consummation of this noble undertaking these Daughters deserve the everlasting gratitude of every patriotic citizen of the county, and of the entire South as well. It has not been an easy task, but it has been a labor of love, and most cheerfully and most zealously have they given their united efforts to this most commendable undertaking. Every member of the Chapter has given her most loyal support to the movement from the beginning to the end, but I feel that especial mention is due to the president, Miss May McAlister, and the members of the monument committee who have had the principal burden in the actual raising of the funds. The members of this committee are Mrs. Wm. C. Hammer, chairman, and Mesdames W. D. Stedmen, Jno. T. Moffitt, Wiley Rush, Ferree Ross and Joe D. Ross, treasurer.

In behalf of the committee and of the entire Chapter, I am asked to extend to the people of Randolph county and to interested friends elsewhere, their most hearty thanks for the liberal and ready response which they have made to the call for funds. And I am pleased to be able to announce that all the money is now in hand with which to pay for the monument, and to defray all the expenses of the unveiling exercises.

And now, in obedience to my commission, I take very great pleasure in presenting this beautiful memorial, first to the town of Asheboro, through its honorable mayor, Mr. J. A. Spence. Your town, Sir, is fortunate in being selected as the site for this stately monument. This is our "capital city," and as

phase of your achievements. These, Sir, are a noble people for whom you speak today, and you may count on them to fulfill every pledge you may make in their behalf in measuring up to the trust which these Daughters are now committing to the charge of your county officials. This court house square is, of course, county property, and these Daughters know that in erecting this monument here they are at the same time transferring the legal title to you. It's an expression of confidence in the county that no man will dare betray. Administrations may come and administrations may go, but the fidelity with which this sacred memorial will be and must be guarded will remain unchanged forever.

Men of Randolph, we owe a debt of gratitude to those noble hearted women who have called us here today, and under the impact of whose untiring zeal and boundless love this stately form has been hewn and shapen, and is unveiled before us now. They are the daughters of fathers, and the spirit of those brave heroes still lives, and will continue to live in them and in our children so long as the voice of loyalty and patriotism continues to speak to the hearts of men. As oft as we gaze upon this, the work of their hands, let us pay a silent tribute to the patriots of '61-'65, the living and the dead, and at the same time let us thank God that the spirit of our mothers also still lives in these daughters of theirs—that spirit that ever cheered the bold and fearless Confederate soldier on his weary march or on the battlefield—that spirit that ever held the fearful to the march of the brave, and nerved the weak to the task of the strong.

And now, to Col. W. P. Wood, representing the veterans, let us say it is out fitting that, in discharging the commission which has been given me, my final word should be to the old soldiers, for after all, it is you, our beloved and honored remnant of a battle-scarred host of the

**Mayor Spence's Speech**

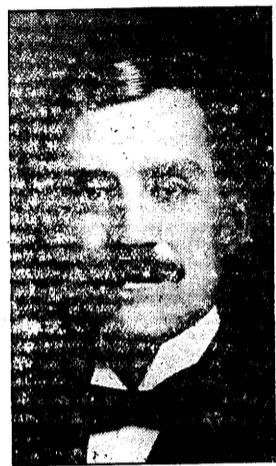
We did not get a verbatim speech of Mr. J. A. Spence.

He referred however to the honor the occasion was to Asheboro on account of the presence of such a large crowd of fellow citizens, the distinguished Chief Justice and the ladies. He congratulated the members of Randolph Chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy for the success of their patriotic undertaking and said the building of the monument was another step in Asheboro's development.

He closed his speech as follows:

Our women have always been patriotic and loyal to Southern ideals and principals. They encouraged the men to face the dangers that awaited them on the battlefield; during their absence they tilled the soil and cared for the children at home and suffered hardships well nigh intolerable; and now, more than 45 years after the war has closed, the daughters, lest we forget, place before us a permanent structure to keep the deeds of the men ever in commemoration and as an inspiration to us and to our posterity.

There are other monuments more



**Mr. E. L. Moffitt, who delivered Presentation Speech**

such it is naturally the mecca of all Randolph citizens. As such it should be a centre of every good influence, and a source of every right impulse. As the citizens of our county shall come and go, this towering shaft should ever help to raise their ideals, and to keep alive within their breasts that love for right and justice and truth that nerved our fathers to deeds of heroism unexampled in all the history of the world before or since. I am sure, Sir, that this noble band of patriotic women of your county will not look in vain to you and your associates, or to your successors, for a hearty co-operation with the county authorities in the preservation of this monument, and in the beautifying of the grounds around it. Be true to the trust they repose in you.

To the county, through its attorney, Mr. H. M. Robins, I am also asked to commit a charge. These Daughters are not only patriotic and loyal to the memory of their fathers, but they are proud of their good county, and so they have brought you an offering that is worthy of your greatest appreciation, and is in keeping with the spirit of progress that is manifest in every

heroes of a lost but righteous cause, who have been the real inspiration to these daughters, some of them your daughters, in this work of love. It is because of what you and your comrades, who have already answered to the last call of the roll, have done for your beloved Southland, that this vast multitude of people have assembled here today.

Half a century has passed since the call came to the men of old Randolph to fall in line and to march shoulder to shoulder with their fellow patriots of other counties and states of the Confederacy in the defense, not of human slavery, but of a principle of government that was right, and that is so recognized today by every fair minded man of the North as well as the South.

Few of us here today have any personal knowledge of the trials and dangers and heartaches of those years. Yet there are some here, and to these this day has a far deeper and holier meaning than we of this generation can ever realize. To us it is as a tale that is told. To you, gray-haired veterans, it must be as vivid and as real as the events of yesterday. How your hearts must burn within you—not in resentment,

costly, perhaps, and more imposing, erected to the memory of Confederate dead in general; other monuments which commemorate the deeds of the soldiers of certain states who took part in fighting the battles of the Civil War, and still others erected in honor of men for their dauntless courage on certain occasions and on particular battlefields, but we are especially proud to have erected in our town, a monument circumscribed in its signification; a monument to our own people of Randolph County, the men who fought for the protection of our homes, our women and our property, and either died or suffered that they might secure the rights which they thought were guaranteed to them by the constitution of our fathers.

It is therefore with profoundest gratitude that I am privileged, in behalf of the entire citizenship, to accept from your hands, this magnificent gift to our municipality. We accept it as a piece of art, a thing of beauty; we accept it as a historic structure, the record of a brave people; we accept it as a tribute of love to a lost cause, representing the noblest sentiments of cultured people. We will prize it and cherish it throughout the remaining years of our life, and coming generations will rise up and call you blessed, who have erected it.

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not in sectional feeling, not in re-peating over a "lost cause," but in a satisfying consciousness of a duty well performed, in a feeling of commendable pride that in a time that tried men's souls you proved true to your own convictions, and were not recreant to your country's call.

This monument does not today, and will never fan any fires of sectionalism in our hearts—there are no such fires here to fan. But so long as time shall last may this shaft of native granite and this figure of a Confederate soldier in bronze stand here as a silent yet beautiful tribute to the loyalty and heroism and sacrifice of our fathers, men who believed they were right, who knew they were right, and who emphasized this belief and proclaimed this right in the offer of their lives.

May the day never come when even the least of us shall cease to honor such a spirit, and may this monument forever stand, a silent testimony to the blessed truth that all the glory is not always to the victor, nor all the shame to those who lose.