

Six years ago I came here just as a boy.

A young wife starting out in life together, everything looked rosey and bright.

The only thing we had in common was both of us had been born in poverty.

Agnes mother made her childrens baby clothes from her old dresses and from her husbands old clothes. Food was so scarce until her mother had to drink hot chocklet constantly, without milk, to help keep her babies alive. She lost her health by it.

I too was borned in poverty. I grew up as the step son of a farmer, wore pathhed clothes, when I was called to preach, I didnt have a coat to wear, af friend gave me the coat. I preached first in a old blue work shirt and mis matched coat and pants. at first.

But I came here as a boy but these years I have grown up.

I was little known. I wanted to make a mark in life like all ambitious men. I have never aspired to a big position.

But I wanted to preach to thousands of people. God has given me all I hoped for and a hundred times more.

I have been exalted by the people of my church across this nation to the highest honor next to the office of Bishop.

Member of General board of Administration.
General se. and tres. of the Sunday School Board.
Secretary of the Board of all Publications of the
Pentecostal Holiness church.

Member of the Eastern Board of Education.

I have preached in and have had the privilege of preaching in all of the largest Camp meetings in this nation and Canada and had a call to go to hold Campaign in Africa.

On last Sunday night I preached to over three thousand people.

Not only have I realized my dream to preach to great crowds of people from the pulpit I have preached to multiplied thousands over the radio. On my own program and over the "ational Hook up.

Now in that field my dreams have come true. I now only want to serve my generation and do the most good where God wants me to serve.

Now a brief review of the work here.

Six years ago things looked a lot different on this hill.

The people of Rockingham, Richmond County and the state of North Carolina think in different terms about the East Rockingham Pentecostal Holiness than they did six years ago.

In a word the physical improvement on this hill has been increased by one hundred thousand dollars in the past six years.

To begin with the old church had rotted underneath until it about to collapse, We started with the foundation and under girder it with steel. and remodeled the church.

The fellowship hall. The yards, You couldnt see anything but the top of the parsonage as you drove the road.

Finally this building here. This massive building. This monument to Pentecostal Holiness. My very lifes blood is mixed into the mortar and soaked into the boards that went in this building.

After I am dead and Gone and have been turned to dust for a hundred years this building will be standing on this hill to testify of the tears, blood and sacrifice to the oncoming generations who will ride by here. Who will turn in to worship and remain to pray.

Rocking North Carolina will never forget that I Have lived here.

my family lived in it when I was a child

Now from the membership of this church, Of those who be ong here now over seventy percent have been taken here in the past six years. I have knelt besides many of you while you prayed through. Some of you have come to ~~the~~ parsonage and prayed through there.

I suppose that at one time or another I have prayed for almost everyone of you when you were sick.

I suppose that thare is not an hour of the day or night I havat gone to some of you when you were in trouble. and prayed for you.

I have performed your weddings and buried your dead I have rejoiced with you when you were happy and wept with you over your dead and over your problem.

In the main you have been good to me. Today I cant think of any mean thing you have done or said about me.

I have given you the six best years of my life.

There has been a lot of bitterness- Some of it I brought on myself.

I have made many blunders and mistakes.

But I have never had a desire for this world. Always my face hadbees set as a flint to that brâghter city.

And now its up to you. I do not ask you to vote for me, If you are through with me and want me to move on ~~you~~ now is your time to say so. I wish you had waited until now to say it, you would have felt much better in your heart and I would have been much happier.