

Feimster Family

A FEIMSTER-CROUCH-STIMPSON BIBLE
or
A Tale of Two Sisters

When I moved to Hillcrest Drive in Shelby, NC as a fifth grader little did I realize how important that move would be. For on that street lived several persons who were to be a great influence on my life. You will read about one who was a charter member of BRGS in the August issue of ESWAU HUPPEDAY. The other two were sisters who lived across the street from me. They were Myrtle Feimster and her sister Sallie Feimster Stimpson. I always called them Miss Feimster and Aunt Sallie although they were not kin.

Aunt Sallie drove an old black coupe until she decided she should not drive any longer. Miss Feimster loved books and often let me borrow hers to read. She encouraged me to lose myself in the wonder and mystery of the near and distant places depicted in the books I read. The two sisters were devout Methodists and members of Central Methodist Church of Shelby. I do not remember the year, it may have been in the late 1960s, but they moved to the Methodist Home on Shamrock Drive in Charlotte. Miss Feimster gave me many of her books when she moved. My mother and I frequently visited them there. Aunt Sallie died in September 1977 and Miss Feimster in May 1992. They were the sweetest two people and I loved them dearly.

Miss Feimster was a retired secretary for Traveler's Insurance Company in Charlotte. She often told me about her life in Charlotte. She lived in an apartment near the airport and rode public transportation to and from work. She moved to Shelby when she retired and was living on Hillcrest when my family and I moved to the house numbered 603. Hillcrest Drive made a square with Ford Street just behind Lutz Furniture Company.

There were interesting people living around Hillcrest. Boyce and Vivian Dellinger lived next door to Miss Feimster. He must have been a very romantic person because he always bought her books of poetry for her birthday or other occasions. After he died Mrs Dellinger gave me several of her poetry books. The Ropps lived just down the hill from me. He was in construction. The Allens lived around the corner. Virginia and I walked to Washington school together. Virginia Greene DePriest lived on the lower corner across the street from Bobby Jones and his family. He is one of the directors of Cleveland Funeral Services now. On the next corner were the Randalls. He worked for Coca-Cola. The first time I ever had Coke in a small bottle was at their house. The Garfield Trammells lived on Ford Street down next to the railroad tracks. Ethelene Blanton Trammell was my mother's best friend from the time my parents moved to Shelby from Bills Creek in Rutherford County, NC until Mrs. Trammell died two years ago.. The Mosses and the Hoyles completed the square on Ford Street.

Now back to Miss Feimster. She attended Piedmont School in Lawndale, NC. After she completed her schooling there, she worked for the Schencks as a secretary in Cleveland Mill. She spoke of her association with the Schencks with fondness. She never married but spoke of some man she had loved and lost. She was tall, slender and very erect. She loved handicrafts

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and after her move to the Methodist Home in Charlotte, she started doing a lot of ceramics. Every time my mother and I visited, we made sure to buy some of her work. I cherish my memories of her and the influence she had on me.

I do not know how, but my mother wound up with Aunt Sallie's personal Bible. I was going through it the other day and thought what an interesting addition to the bulletin the information in it would be. It is filled with clippings of various biblical information, with personal, handwritten comments on sermons and preachers, and with personal family matters. I want to share with you readers some of what was in the Bible. Aunt Sallie gives her father's name only as J. P., but a few minutes searching the Heritage Quest Census on Line gave me his full name. This family lived in Iredell county, which obviously is not part of the Broad River Basin area of NC or SC, but Aunt Sallie and Miss Myrtle Feimster did live and work in Cleveland County at one time. And they were very dear people. Now back to the Bible.

(Holman Red Letter Edition
Self-Pronouncing)
The Holy Bible
containing the
Old and New Testaments
Translated out of the Original Tongues
and with the Former Translations
Diligently Compared
and Revised
Arranged to Show All the Sayings of
Christ in Red Letters

A. J. Holman Company
Philadelphia
[no publication date]

This was the title page of the Bible. Many newspaper or magazine clippings were taped into the Bible throughout. On a blank page in the back of the Bible Aunt Sallie had written the following:

J. P. Feimster	22 July 1863 [Note: I changed the dates to read genealogically. jfs]
Paulina Ellen Finch	12 Feb 1858 (Their mother)
Willie Grier Feimster	8 Aug 1889
Mabel Ellen Feimster	20 Oct 1895
Sarah Elizabeth Feimster	20 Aug 1887
Myrtle Milner Feimster	11 Feb 1892
Orrie Bell Mason Feimster	4 Sep 1862 (the Step-mother)
Jay Harlin Feimster	19 Oct 1903
Mama died	11 Feb 1895.

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Mabel Ellen died 27 Mar 1896

Thomas Clay Crouch 4 Nov 1885 (He was Aunt Sallie's first husband.)

Popa and Mother married 6 April 1886.

Popa and Step Mother married 28 Dec 1897.

Thomas Clay Crouch and Sallie Elizabeth Feimster were married 5 Jan 1911.

Clay left me 7 Oct 1940 at 3 PM. He will come back. I love him. Dear Lord take care of him.

Clay came back 15 Sep 1941. Thank you Lord. [How poignant can you get?]

On another page:

Elizabeth born 17 Jul 1922

Lois born 25 Mar 1925

Clay born 29 Aug 1927

Mary Ellen born 25 Nov 1934

There is no indication who these children are. Seeing the name Clay and Mary Ellen I wonder if they were Aunt Sallie and Clay Crouch's children. Aunt Sallie knew and assumed anyone who knew her would know also. I hope you do not make the same mistake with your Bible entries!

On another page:

Rev. B. E. Morris read the following Scripture in the Recognition service when Mrs. T. P. Fraizer gave the pulpit to South River Church in memory of her husband Rev. T. P. Fraizer our former pastor and her father Mr. Campbell.

On the presentation page:

Presented to Mrs. T. C. Crouch, Statesville, NC, Rt. 2.

English colony established at Jamestown, VA 1607. 1620 Pilgrims founded Plymouth Colony in Mass. The 13 states declared themselves free in 1776. Seven years later their Independence was acknowledged by Great Briton [sic]. Washington died 14 Dec 1799; 67 years old; born 1732.

On the edge of the page was written: Wilfred Roseboro hanged September 1903. [Wonder who this was and why Aunt Sallie wrote it in her Bible?]

On the page separating the Old and New Testaments:

Clay left me this day 7 Oct 1940 at 3 PM. He is 54 years, 11 months and 3 days old. We have been married 29 years; 9 months and 2 days. My love still lingers. I commit him into the hands of our Father who never makes a mistake. Written by his wife who loves him, Sallie Crouch.

Clay came back this day 15 Sep 1941 at 4 PM. He was gone 11 months, 8 days. I am glad he has come back. Clay left me again this day 6 Nov 1941 at 10 PM. He was with me 1 month and 22 days. Now my love for Clay is dead. It died 5 Nov 1941. He left the 6th. He got his divorce 25 Nov 1943, married 4 Dec 1943. Clay passed 18 May 1952 in Abbeville, GA.

Aunt Sallie later married a Mr. Stimpson. I am assuming that after his death she came to live with her sister Myrtle in Shelby. There is no mention of him in her Bible.

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Some of the items written in the Bible:

OCCGS REFERENCE ONLY

Heavy Snow and ice 13th and 14th Feb 1935. Big Snow last night Mar 1927.

Ezra 7:21 contains all the letters of the alphabet except J. [And what does this verse say? It goes: "And I, even I, Artaxerxes the king, do make a decree to all the treasurers which are beyond the river, that whatsoever Ezra the priest, the scribe of the law of the God of heaven, shall require of you, it be done speedily."]

Three things we cannot recall:

A Spoken Word

An Hour Spent

A Lost Opportunity.

Work without Hurry

Live without Worry

Look forward without Fear.

As the Marsh-Hen secretly builds on the watery sod,
Behold I will build me a nest on the greatness of God.

From some of the clippings:

Fifty years ago: Landmark, August 2, 1910.

A traffic count at a point on Davie Avenue showed an even 500 vehicles passed in a single day. They included 14 drays, 36 one-horse wagons, 182 two-horse wagons, 52 two- and three-horse wagons loaded with lumber, 191 buggies, 17 two-horse carriages and four automobiles. Source of this clipping not noted.

Lawn Hint:

Blum's almanac claims you can do something about intrusion of wild onion odors on otherwise sweet Spring breezes. It claims that under the sign of Leo (April 2, 3, 4) all you have to do is mow your yard and wild onions will bleed to death. Maybe it's worth a try.

Some information from the Census:

In 1900 John P. Feimster lived with his second wife, Orrie, Sallie and Myrtle in the Turnersburg township of Iredell Co. In 1910, J. Pink Feimster is living with his wife Orrie, Myrtle and son J. Harlin [from the SSDI Index, Jay Harlin died March 1959 in Charlotte, NC] In the 1920, Jno. P. Feimster lived with his wife Orrie and son Jay H. in the 3WD Statesville township. Could not locate Sallie or Myrtle in the 1920 census. If anyone can share more information about this Feimster family, please contact this editor, JFS, at the BRGS address.

ORANGE COUNTY CALIFORNIA
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY