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### Sketch of the Life of Mrs. Mary Archer

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## Sketch of the Life of Mrs. Mary Archer.

The William Archer family came to Shelby from Monroe, N.C. <sup>and become member of First Baptist Church</sup> <sup>Nov. 12, 1905</sup> probably about 1906. They lived for a time in what is now the Mrs. Lettie Bowling house on S. Washington Street. Mr. Archer had charge of the express office here. Mr and Mrs Archer had four sons - namely, James, George, Archie and Hazel.

Mrs. Archer ran the Patterson Springs Hotel for a time, then the Court View Hotel in Shelby, which stood on the north side of the Court Square, where Steuck's store now is. When the Archers left here they went to Cliffside, where Mrs. Archer ran the Haynes Hotel. That was near the end of World War I.

Mrs. William Archer was born Mary Josephine Gray in Columbus, Georgia, (on —) She must have been in her late forties when they came to Shelby. She was a willing worker and always had a smile for everyone. She sang in the choir and taught a class of Intermediate <sup>girls</sup> (I was in her class ~~for a long time~~ and) while the new church was under construction, <sup>and</sup> our S. S. Classes



upstairs 2

was held in the court room of the County Court House)

Along with Mrs. Tom Ramseus and Mrs. Frank Elam from Lawndale, Mrs. Archer did a lot of pioneering in G A work, also Y W A and W M S - thru out the Kings Mountain Association. That was "hore and buggy days" and the Archer boys were always joking about their mother going out somewhere with Mrs. Ramseus to preach!

Mrs. Archer served as W M U Superintendent in Kings Mountain Association for several years, resigning in 1917. If I remember correctly the Associational meeting was in session at Double Springs in the summer of 1916 when the message came about Miss Fannie E. Hedi's death. At that time I was a member of Y W A and our group had a part on the program at that meeting. Mrs. Archer told us later she was very proud of it - Mrs. Archer and a sister of hers married brothers so that her children and her sister's were double first cousins.



3.

at about the age of 62

When death came to Mrs. Mary Archer, she and her family were living in Cliffsides, thru the efforts of Mrs. Willie Simmons Webb (the 10<sup>th</sup> Mrs E Y Webb) her body was brought home to Shelby and was kept in the Ladies' Parlor the night before her funeral. She was a wonderful woman, with a winning personality and a zeal for doing the work of the Kingdom. It is altogether fitting and proper that 10<sup>th</sup> Baptist Church named a circle for her! She deserves a lot of honor for those years of service.