

# ECHOES FROM DIXIE

**SERMONS, SONGS AND STORIES  
IN BOTH NEGRO AND CRACKER  
DIALECT & FIRST TIME THE  
"GEORGIA CRACKER" HAS BEEN  
INTRODUCED TO THE PUBLIC**

BY  
**MRS. M. P. CARROLL**  
AUGUSTA, GEORGIA

Go  
F286.5  
E18

# INTRODUCTORY

---

BY A FRIEND OF THE SIXTIES.

The songs, sermons, and stories given by Mrs. Carroll were actual happenings in her life during the sixties; they have been put in form by her at the earnest solicitation of her friends.

This recital of "Echoes from Dixie," was given under the auspices of the U. D. C. of the Augusta Chapter, on November 27, 1908, at the U. D. C. Hall, and met with such success that Mrs. Carroll has since that time repeated her recital at numerous places in Georgia, and under similar auspices. In her home city, Augusta, Ga., she has given four recitals, and each time was greeted with as large, if not larger audiences, than the time preceding; in the face of the fact that "a prophet is not without honor save in his own country."

After her success at Augusta, Mrs. Carroll was invited to recite in Athens, Ga., under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A., on February 5, 1909. The Athens papers speak of her performances in the most flattering terms. She introduces to her audiences a new character on the Lyceum platform, the "Georgia Cracker," a unique character. Ignorant it is true, but possessing fine traits which would do credit to those moving in higher spheres.

Her imitations are true to nature, most amusing and life-like in tone, manner and accent. To our friends of the North her recitals and reminiscences will afford keen enjoyment. Married during the War, Mrs. Car-

roll lived among the scenes she depicts; a petted child of fortune, with rare gifts, naturally her girlhood was brief. Michael Philip Carroll, from St. Mary's county, Md., enlisted in the C. S. A., as a private, but later served as Captain, first on the Staff of General Gregg, of Texas, and later of Gen. Ranson Wright, of Georgia. He met, wooed and married his wife, nee Jennie McNatt in 1864. He is a grandson of former Governor Briscoe, of Maryland, great-grandson of Jno. Hanson, second President of the Continental Congress, and a kinsman of Charles Carroll, of Carrollton. He is a worthy scion of his ancestors. He has been an eloquent practitioner at the Augusta bar and is a gentleman of rare gifts; as a raconteur and and entertainer he had no superior in social circles. Two years ago he was struck down by paralysis, he is now better and the voice that once charmed has almost regained its former power; although unable to appear in Court, he continues his office practice and under the care of his devoted wife, let us hope will soon be himself again.

The only entertainment Mrs. Carroll has given outside of her native State, Georgia, was in Baltimore, last December.

The Baltimore Sun, of December 12, 1909, says:

“A most delightful entertainment was given under the auspices of the Daughters of the Confederacy at Lehman's Hall, Thursday night. The Hall was filled to overflowing. The feature of the entertainment was the imitation by Mrs. Carroll of the old-time Southern negro dialect, and also that of the typical Georgia Cracker in the ante-bellum period.

Mrs. Carroll's portrayal of Southern life before the War was excellent and her singing and declamation of

high order. Her recital of incidents before the Civil War and her portrayal of the ante-bellum period elicited much applause."

---

The Acting President of Chapter 8, of Baltimore Daughters of the Confederacy, after the recital at Lehman's Hall, writes:

"Mrs. Carroll made such a brilliant success that I am sure she can always secure a large audience. Her impersonations are marvelous and I am truly glad that she had such a gathering of cultivated people to hear her."

First Vice-President Chapter 8, of D. of C.

---

**Confederate Memorial Home,  
1322 Vermont Avenue,**

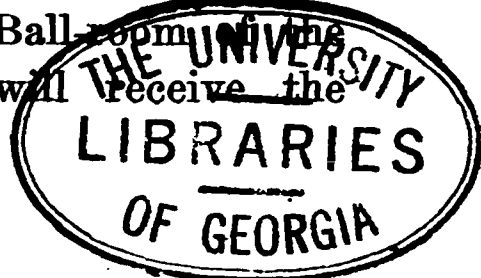
Washington, D. C., April 13, 1910.

To the Members of Camp 171, U. C. V.,

Washington, D. C.

Comrades: We desire to express our opinion as to the merits of Mrs. Carroll's performance from the specimen stories she told at our Reception last night, at our Home, given in honor of the Daughters of the Confederacy, at 1322 Vermont Avenue.

We hope that the public entertainment she proposes to give on the 22d instant, in the Ball-room of the "New Willard," at 8.30 P. M., will receive the



support it so richly deserves. She has decided talent, and her rendering of the negro dialect and characteristics is equal to any we have ever heard; her "cracker" imitations are novel and most amusing.

She should receive the support of every Southern person in Washington, and certainly of all ex-Confederates, because of her self-sacrificing course to our sick and wounded during the war. Her zeal for the Veterans since the War has continually manifested itself and the results of her efforts have realized large sums for their benefit, in one case \$4,000 from a Fair.

The intrinsic merits of her performance on the platform entitle her to a larger audience than the Ball-room will hold. Our friends from the North will, we believe, enjoy it more than ourselves. We hope you will attend and induce others to do so, for Mrs. Carroll deserves all a Veteran can do for her; she has done much for them.

#### COMMITTEE ON ENTERTAINMENT.

---

(The Athens Banner, Jan. 31, 1909.)

#### MRS. M. P. CARROLL AT THE Y. M. C. A.

---

**Friday Night, February 5th, in Readings and Impersonations.**

---

"As an impersonator Mrs. Carroll is most entertaining, portraying in the most faultless and inimitable manner, the "Country Cracker," and the Cornfield Negro. Her characterization of the ante-bellum

negro, his song, superstitions and quaint stories were typical and particularly pleasing, while her allusions to the old slaves' devotion to their owners' families and interests were pathetic and beautiful. As a raconteur, Mrs. Carroll has few equals, and with artistic discriminations she blends pathos with mirth, laughter with tears, in her pathetic reminiscences of the long ago—that golden age before the war, her own experiences, many of the stories of Dixie Land."

---

(From the Athens Banner.)

### **MRS. CARROLL MAKES GREAT HIT**

---

**Her Recital Was Intensely Enjoyed by Large Audience.**

---

Last evening at the Y. M. C. A. in the presence of a large, cultured and appreciative audience, Mrs. M. P. Carroll, of Augusta, gave a most delightful recital, in which she told of "A Christmas House Party in the Ante-Bellum Times," "Quaint Sayings and Preaching by Plantation Negroes" and "Stories in Cracker Dialect." Mrs. Carroll is simply inimitable in every way and kept her audience in a roar of laughter all the while. Her portrayal of the ante-bellum darky and of the Cracker is beyond criticism.

After Mrs. Carroll's return from Athens she was invited to recite in Waynesboro, Ga., March 15, 1909,

under the auspices of the military of that city. She was also greeted with a very complimentary audience at this recital.

Since her Waynesboro recital she was invited to Harlem, Ga., on April 15, 1909, under the auspices of the High School of that city. Quite a large audience greeted Mrs. Carroll here also.

---

(From The Augusta Chronicle, Nov. 18, 1908.)

**MRS. M. P. CARROLL WILL GIVE ANTE-BELLUM  
RECITAL**

On Friday evening, November the twenty-seventh, in the U. D. C. hall, Mrs. M. P. Carroll will give, under the auspices of the Daughters of the Confederacy, an evening of ante-bellum reminiscences and war-time songs and poems. The entertainment will be interesting in itself for the program has been selected with care, but those who know Mrs. Carroll and her inimitable gift of narration, are anticipating a rare treat. The reminiscences will be of a personal nature and will be authentic stories of the life of a girl in the ante-bellum days.

---

(From The Augusta Herald, Nov. 29, 1908.)

**MRS. CARROLL'S RECITAL.**

The eagerly anticipated event, the recital of Mrs. M. P. Carroll, was the social event of Friday evening.

The recital, given under the auspices of Chapter A. Daughters of the Confederacy, at Confederate hall, scored a brilliant success. Long before the appointed hour for the recital, the commodious hall, began to fill with a cultured and representative audience and from the bright and happy introduction of the brilliant entertainer, by Hon. W. H. Barrett, until the last echo of Mrs. Carroll's voice died away, the appreciative audience were held spell-bound. As an impersonator Mrs. Carroll is most entertaining, portraying in the most faultless and inimitable manner, the "Country Cracker," and the Cornfield Negro. Her characterization of the Ante-Bellum negro, his song, superstitions and quaint stories were typical and particularly pleasing, while her allusions to the old slaves devotion to their owners' families and interests were pathetic and beautiful. As a raconteur, Mrs. Carroll has few equals, and with artistic discriminations she blends pathos with mirth, laughter, with tears, in her pathetic reminiscences of the long ago—that golden age before the war, her own experiences, many of the stories of Dixie Land.

---

(From The Chronicle, Nov. 30, 1909.)

The warmest compliments and most cordial applause have been given to the little talk put on before the Daughters of the Confederacy, during the past week, by Mrs. M. P. Carroll.

A gentleman who heard and saw her impersonations and listened to her entertaining recital, declares that she evidenced the highest order of ability—that the presentation was most edifying.

Mrs. Carroll has long been known to be a gifted woman. However, even her intimate friends were surprised at the very charming manner in which she interpreted and handled the subject matters which she discussed.

There are hundreds of men and women in Augusta who regret that they missed this rare literary treat and who hope that again Mrs. Carroll will be pleased to address an Augusta audience, that they will avail themselves of the privilege and pleasure of being present.

---

(From The Augusta Chronicle, Nov. 28, 1908.)

## **A CHARMING ENTERTAINMENT AT COURT HOUSE LAST NIGHT.**

---

**Mrs. M. P. Carroll Surprises Her Friends In Character Sketches—Triumph For Her and a Rare Treat For Those Who Heard Her.**

---

One of the most delightful entertainments ever held in Augusta was given under the auspices of the Daughters of the Confederacy at the court house last night. The Hall of the Daughters was filled to overflowing and every auditor went away feeling that his evening had been well spent.

The feature of the entertainment was the imitation

by Mrs. Philip Carroll of the old-time Southern darkey's dialect and also that of the typical Georgia "cracker" in the ante-bellum period.

Mrs. Carroll's portrayal of the Southern girl before the war was excellent and her singing and declaiming was of the highest order.

Her relation of incidences before the Civil War and her portrayal of the ante-bellum darkeys and of that class of people known by the negroes as "po white trash," elicited much applause from the spectators.

Mrs. Carroll is a brilliant woman. Those who know her well, know how gifted she is, but few were aware of the high order of ability she displayed last night. Her characterizations were most charming and her impersonations pleasing and captivating as well as faithfully illustrative.

Those who heard her expressed the keenest pleasure over the delightful entertainment she provided and pronounced her portrayals captivating in every way—evidencing an intimate acquaintance with her subjects and a mastery in presenting them that few persons possess. Her lecture was a triumph for her and a treat for those who heard her.

---

(From The Augusta Herald.)

### **A DELIGHTFUL SUCCESS.**

Mrs. M. P. Carroll's "Echoes from Dixie," at the Tubman Friday evening was a very delightful success, and an evening of very great enjoyment to the large

crowd that met her. Mrs. Carroll's incidents are full of merriment, with a touch of pathos, and with her own personality blended in makes the whole something that cannot fail to appeal and interest anyone who hears it.

---

Below are some of the complimentary letters she received unsolicited:

Augusta, Ga., November 28, 1908.

I have heard Mrs. Carroll's inimitable impersonations of the plantation negro and her reproductions of ante-bellum plantation life, in Georgia, as she herself saw it and knew it. Her recitations on the platform are taken literally from life—her own life on the plantation as the petted child and accomplished daughter of a typical Southern planter.

The "big house" in the grove on top of the hill, the scores of outlying negro cabins, the army of slaves, the troupe of pickaninnies, the old mammy, the old coachman, maids, and the body-servants all are there. The picture, as drawn by her, is simply complete. Her touches of humor and pathos in describing the relation between the slaves and their old master and their old mistress, young master and the young missises, are true to life, and simply splendid. No one else I have seen on the stage is like her, because no one else who has attempted her role enjoyed her ideal environment for catching the true point of view and the local

coloring and bringing them into her work so realistically and yet so ideally.

BOYKIN WRIGHT.

(NOTE.—Mr. Wright is universally known in Georgia. A cultured gentleman and able lawyer; he is very prominent in social and political circles.)

---

**PRESS NOTE.**

---

After a private entertainment, Mrs. Carroll was introduced, by Mrs. Whitney; her "Echoes From Dixie" proved the crowning pleasure of an ideal evening.

Mrs. Carroll first told some things of plantation life led in the Georgia Cotton Belt during the 60s, and then went on to give glimpses of negro character, followed by delightful anecdotes, songs, sermons, etc., that mirrored perfectly the negro of ante-bellum days. Later she told some anecdotes of the "Crackers" of that time, rendering their dialect as perfectly as she did that of the ex-slave. It is needless to say that she was most enthusiastically applauded.