

The Frew Family:

The Frew family came to Rock Hill in <sup>1859?</sup> 1863 from Charlotte, N.C., where all of the 8 children were born. The father, William Micheal Frew, had just died of pneumonia, leaving his family with no income of any kind. The mother, Sarah Keesler Frew, was urged by her brother, Samuel Golden Keesler, to move to Rock Hill, where he lived, so that he could help with the rearing of her family.

The fifth child was a boy named for his father, <sup>WILLIAM</sup> Micheal Frew, born August 17th 1855. He went to work when he was quite young, and was considered an unusually bright boy. His employer said he was very clever at bookkeeping. Later he and his brother, Charles W. Frew, established a mercantile business, under the name of - Frew Brothers. They built the store on Main Street, now occupied by J. J. Newberry & Company. Their business must have prospered, for by 1884, when "Willie" was only 29 years old, they were able to build a large commodious home for the family. They named it "High View", putting the name over the arch of the two gates leading into the yard. It stands today, well preserved, on the corner of Moore and Trade Streets.

In 1886 Will married Sallie Sturgis. To this union there were two daughters born - Inez and Margaret - Inez married Harry Elliot Ruff, and Margaret married Robert Briggs Hamilton. Will lived only six and a half years after his marriage, but they were valuable years. Through the influence of his beloved wife he became a strong Christian, and a faithful and devoted member of the Baptist Church; so much so, that in his will, he bequeathed a goodly sum of money to be used as an addition of a Sunday School department to the Church, and other improvements needed. A memorial window was placed there to his memory.

He wanted his elder daughter, Inez, to have a musical education, and requested that she learn "Onward Christian Soldiers" as her first piece on the piano. His health became very poor the last two years of his life, and he died February 7th, 1893.

*Submitted by Mrs Inez E Ruff*