

THE WARREN RECORD

IF THIS PAPER ISN'T WORTH THREE CENTS A WEEK, IT ISN'T WORTH PRINTING

VOL. XXII

(TUESDAY)

WARRENTON, N. C., FRIDAY, MARCH 23RD, 1917

(FRIDAY)

NO. 56

\$1.50 A YEAR

A SEMI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF WARRENTON AND WARREN COUNTY

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OLD TIMES IN WARREN

"BURWELL DAVIS" (Continued.)

(By T. J. TAYLOR, D. D.)

After writing my sketch of Burwell Davis last week, I discovered what I consider a rich mine of information. Part of it is in his own words as quoted by the late J. A. Egerton, who knew him well and who married two of his grand-daughters, and the remainder is in the language of Mr. Egerton and others.

As noted last week, Burwell was a child of Peter Davis' first marriage, after the death of his first wife, Peter Davis married Hannah Turner. He left the bulk of his property, and he owned considerable, to the children of his second wife, and left to each of the children of his first wife only ten dollars. He probably made this seemingly unjust will because the children of his second wife were young and dependent, and he thought his first children abundantly able to take care of themselves.

When still a young man, Burwell Davis enlisted as a soldier in the Revolutionary war. He probably served under General Sumner both in the Northern and Southern divisions of the Army. He used to give a graphic account of the battles in which he participated, especially the battle at "Guilford Court House."

His children and grand-children never tired of his stories of his marches, hardships, and sufferings. In a country such as our at that time the soldiers often suffered from the lack of the necessities of life on account of the inadequate means of transporting supplies.

On one occasion the army seemed at the point of starvation, and young Davis' sufferings were not less than the others. He finally got behind a cart loaded with meat and found a little crack through which he could stick one finger. In this way he could get a little of the fibe and a little of the grease which he said was the best thing he ever tasted.

On another long march when they camped at night, he wrapped himself in his blanket and slept soundly until morning. When he awoke he felt snug and warm, but when he lifted the blanket a large quantity of snow fell in his face. During the night he had been completely covered with snow which protected him from the cold.

After the war he returned to his home; he says, "I had nothing on earth with which to begin life." He and his brother Matthew agreed to go to work and make something. Matthew went over on "Possum Quarter Hill," where he had to scotch a rail cut before he cut it off, to keep it from rolling down hill into the creek.

Burwell bought a small tract of land and built a little house which later in life was used for a kitchen. He says, "I had no money to buy rope, and corded my bedstead with nickery withes, cut out of the nearby bushes. I began work by myself and it seemed like I never would accumulate anything. Not knowing what else to do, I kept trying until I began to have some little about me."

Mr. Davis was known as one of the most successful hog raisers in the country, but he says, "I never bought a hog in my life. While working one day in the field a little stray shoat came to me, which no one would claim. I fed it and nursed it myself and all the hogs I ever owned were descendants of this little stray shoat."

Working hard and living alone he became lonesome and he decided to search for someone to keep him company. He says, "I began to look around and found 'old Pat,'" (that is what he always called his wife.) He told her he was needy and lonesome and wanted her. She consented and they were soon married and began life together.

After his marriage he began to prosper more rapidly and although hindered for a time by bad health, he would not give up and finally prosperity began to smile upon him. He bought a negro and in a few years he had a large family of able willing slaves to cultivate his land.

He was quite a successful farmer, always raising home supplies first and after that such market crops of cotton and tobacco as he could manage. Considering his land and force he did not cultivate a large farm; but as his land was productive and his method intensive he usually raised from 350 to 450 barrels of corn per year, killed and raised a heavy crop of wheat for the amount of land he seeded. He

MANSON ITEMS

Mr. L. O. Reavis and family spent Saturday night and Sunday with their people near Flat Rock.

Misses Etta Fleming and Louisa Wilson spent the week-end at their home at York.

Mrs. James Fulgham and children, of Louisburg, were in town a short time last week, on their way to Richmond. They were returning from a visit to Mrs. Jennie Winbush at Townsville.

We are sorry to say that Dr. D. Smith has the misfortune to break his arm Monday while helping to crank an automobile.

Professor Roy Champion and little son, Roy Jr., of Raleigh, spent a night recently in the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Champion.

Miss Mamie Brack is visiting relatives at Oine.

Mr. A. T. Edwards and little son Francis spent Friday and Saturday of last week at Raleigh.

Mrs. J. T. Champion visited her grand-father, Mr. Willis Duke at Middleburg Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. L. O. Reavis spent a day of last week in Henderson shopping.

Mr. W. W. Davis, of Raleigh, was in town several days of last week.

Mr. Chas. Hayes, of Norlina, has made several business trips to our town recently.

Our Sunday School will be reorganized next Sunday the 25th, everybody cordially invited. We hope there will be a large attendance.

We are glad to know that Capt. Brack, who has been quite sick for the past few days, is able to be at his post of duty again.

CABIN BRANCH ITEMS

Rev. W. C. Merrett preached an extra good sermon at Zion Sunday.

Miss Eula Paschall, of Pensicola, Fla., is on a few days visit to her father, Mr. J. L. Paschall.

Mr. W. F. Famen and daughter, Miss Lizzie, of Axtelle, attended services at Zion Sunday and visited friends.

Mr. E. J. Hicks is on the sick list. We hope he will soon be all right.

Mrs. Mollie Burton and daughter, Miss Agnes, were pleasant visitors at Mr. J. L. Paschall's Sunday afternoon.

Mr. Edwin Hicks, of Warrenton, visited his people Saturday night and Sunday.

Mrs. Will Paschall, Mrs. Deibel and little Virginia visited in Norlina Thursday.

DOLLY.

once raised 96 bushels on less than two acres.

His tobacco crop was never large considering the force he worked. He usually sold from 10 to 13 hogsheds of tobacco, which would net him from \$1,000 to \$1,500. He did not consider the state of the market but sold his tobacco in Petersburg, always in August, without reference to the price.

On one occasion he was dissatisfied with the price of his tobacco, which was five cents a pound, and he thought that was too much. He should have taken lessons from the moderns. His income from his market crops and surplus of his food crops brought him a good deal of money and he was regarded one of the most prosperous men in the neighborhood.

He would not fatten his hogs on new corn, and often at gathering time he removed from his cribs as much as 50 barrels of old corn to make way for the new. This old corn he would dump into a pen to be used in fattening his hogs for pork.

He lived sumptuously. He did not care very much for variety but wanted his table to groan beneath an abundance of the substantial and nourishing. He raised all his supplies at home and only purchased condiments, such as pepper and spices. Of course he had to buy salt and sugar and coffee, but bought nothing that he could raise at home. He would have no coffee except the best government Java and no sugar except the best clarified.

Burwell Davis was a remarkable man. He possessed many of the striking characteristics of Nat. Macon and the strong men of that age of strong men, and he transmitted to many of his posterity some of his distinguishing characteristics.

He was never a church member but he was a moral man of the highest type.

He and his wife lived together for many happy years. His devotion to her expressed itself in the words that burst from his lips as he stood by her coffin looking down into her dead face! "O, Pat, I wish you could know how much I always loved you."

GUILFORD COUNTY FARM LIFE SCHOOL LAW.

Made to Apply to All Counties of the State.

AN ACT TO PROMOTE THE TEACHING OF AGRICULTURE AND DOMESTIC SCIENCE IN THE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS OF GUILFORD COUNTY.

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact: Agricultural instruction and training in Domestic Science.

Section 1. That there shall be maintained in one or more of the public high schools of Guilford County, complying with the provisions of this act as hereinafter set forth, a department of agricultural instruction, and a department of training in domestic science and home economics in order to better prepare the boys and girls of said county for farm life and home-making.

Board of Trustees.

Sec. 2. That the said school or schools shall be under the control and management of a board of trustees consisting of the members of the board of education of said county and the chairman and secretary of the board of trustees of each high school in which such departments are established.

Selection of School.

Sec. 3. That after due advertisement inviting bids from the public high schools of said county now in existence or hereafter created, the County Board of Education of Guilford County shall designate the place or places at which such agricultural or domestic science work shall be established. In designating a school, the said county board of education shall take into consideration the financial aid offered for a maintenance and equipment, desirability and suitability for location: Provided, however, that no such department shall be established in a school which is located in a town of more than one thousand inhabitants, nor within two miles of the corporate limits of any city or town of more than five thousand inhabitants.

Maintenance of School, Provision, Etc.

Sec. 4. That for the maintenance of said school or school, the County Board of Education of Guilford County shall provide annually out of the public school fund, or by donation of local tax, not exceeding twenty-five hundred (\$25,000) dollars: Provided, however, that the present average school term of the county shall not be shortened by the appropriation herein designated. Any school applying for the benefit to be derived under this act shall first provide a building with recitation rooms, laboratories, and apparatus necessary for efficient instruction in the prescribed subjects of study and such dormitory buildings as the county board of education of said county may require, and a farm of not less than ten acres of good arable land, said land to be situated not more than one mile from the school building: Provided, however, that before the County Board of Education of Guilford County shall designate any school at a place at which the agricultural and domestic science work shall become a part of the school curriculum, it shall first submit to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction for his inspection and approval the equipment provided for said school.

Purpose of School and Course of Study.

Sec. 5. That the purpose of said school or schools are to give to the boys and girls such preparation as is now given in the said county public high schools, and in addition to that to give to the boys training in agricultural pursuits and farm life, and to prepare the girls for home-making and home-keeping. The course of study for the said school or schools shall be subject to the approval of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and an advisory board of farm-life schools to be appointed by him.

Faculty and Schedule of Work.

Sec. 6. That the teacher or teachers of the public high school, the teacher of agriculture, and the teacher of domestic science shall constitute the faculty of the county high school, who shall arrange the weekly schedule of work and submit such weekly schedule to the County Superintendent of Education of Guilford County for his approval.

Appropriation by State, Provisions and Terms.

Sec. 7. That upon its being made to appear to the State Board of Education that Guilford County has complied with all the provisions of this act for establishment, maintenance and equipment of an agricultural department and a domestic science department in connection with one or more of the public high schools of said county, it shall appropriate and pay to the County Board of Education of Guilford County for such purpose an amount equal to that appropriated and furnished by the county of Guilford for said work: Provided, however, that said appropriations by the State Board of Education shall not exceed the sum of twenty-five hundred (\$2,500) dollars annually for the maintenance of said work in said county, to be paid by the State Treasurer out of funds appropriated for the maintenance of county farm-life schools by chapter eighty-four of the Public Laws of one thousand nine hundred and eleven. That any money that is now or may hereafter be appropriated by the General Assembly of North Carolina, the State Board of Education, or other State authority for agricultural or domestic science education, a part of which appropriation would, except for this act, be appropriated to Guilford County absolutely, or upon a contingency or contingencies, then and in that event such appropriation which would go Guilford County shall be turned over to the County Board of Education of Guilford County to aid in the carrying out of the provisions of this act. That compliance with the provision of this act by the authorities of Guilford County shall be sufficient to entitle the county of Guilford to its proportion of any appropriation of money already made or which may hereafter be made for training in the science of agriculture or domestic science. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction shall issue a requisition on the State Auditor for the amount so apportioned to Guilford County and he shall issue his warrant to the county treasurer of said county, and the money shall be placed by the said treasurer to the credit of the school or schools of Guilford County in which said agricultural and domestic science work is being conducted: Provided, however, that all money thus placed to their credit shall be used exclusively for the purpose of instruction in agriculture and domestic science.

Authority of High School Principal.

Sec. 8. That nothing in this act shall be construed to lessen the power and authority of the principal of the high school, but the instructors in the various departments shall be considered members of the faculty of which the high school principal is head.

Qualification of Teachers.

Sec. 9. That no person shall be employed as teacher in agriculture or domestic science in the school or schools herein provided for unless the applicant has furnished to the trustees satisfactory evidence of a liberal English education, and in addition thereto special preparation and fitness for the specific branches to be taught, said qualifications to be passed upon by the County Superintendent of Guilford County, and if approved, submitted to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction for his approval. In addition to the above requirements the said person shall hold a high school teacher's

JAMES W. LIMER WINS CERTIFICATE OF MERIT.

(Copy)

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
State of North Carolina

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

This certificate of merit is awarded to James W. Limer, of Warrenton, of the County of Warren, a member of the 1916 Boys' Corn Club, in recognition of his services in Agriculture, of which he has given evidence by the production of 115 1-2 bushels of corn on one acre of land in said county, in accordance with the rules prescribed for the Boys Corn Clubs.

This 9th day of January, 1917.

W. A. GRAHAM
Commissioner of Agriculture

J. Y. JOYNER,
State Supt. Pub. Inst.

C. R. HUDSON,
State Agent Farm Demonstration

FRANK B. NEWELL,
County Demonstration Agent

LOCKE CRAIG,
Governor of North Carolina

W. C. RIDDICK,
Pres. A. & M. College

B. W. KILGORE,
Director Extension Service

T. E. BROWN,
Director Boys Corn Clubs

HOWARD F. JONES,
County Supt. Pub. Instruction.

SPRING OATS AND IRISH POTATOES SHOULD BE GIVEN ATTENTION

The County Farm demonstration agents are busy urging farmers to make such plans in their operations as will enable them to grow all the food and feed crops needed, with some surplus for sale. Careful records show that supplies can be produced a great dealer cheaper on the farms here than they can be bought from other sections of the country; therefore, it is not only economy to grow them, but it is a matter of insurance against shortage of the crops elsewhere.

A report of the Secretary of Agriculture shows that the Southern States have been importing, annually, from other sections of the country from six to seven hundred millions of dollars worth of foodstuffs. While not heading this list in the amount purchased, North Carolina has bought probably from \$50,000,000 to \$60,000,000 worth per year. It seems unreasonable, and certainly it is a bad business policy, to send out this enormous amount of money from a section of the country that has intelligent farmers, a soil that can be made abundantly fertile, and the best climate in the United States for growing crops needed.

Two food crops that should be given immediate attention are that of spring

oats and Irish potatoes. Where winter oats have been killed, and for any reason they have not been sown in sufficient quantities, a few acres planted right away to early Burt (May) or Appler oats will help very much in the matter of stock feeding. Of course they should not be planted on poor land without fertilizer; in fact they should be planted on the very best of land. The ground should not be plowed, but well disked and harrowed, and the seed drilled in. If no drill is used, a good plan is to sow the oats and to cover them with the disking and harrowing. From two to three bushels per acre should be used.

The secretary's report also shows that the crop of Irish potatoes, last season, was short; therefore, a good acreage should be planted to this important and valuable food crop. Irish potatoes are especially valuable to people who eat much meat, eggs, fish and similar food, because it helps to balance the food diet. We of the South have never appreciated the value of the Irish potato for its full worth.

—Extensive Farm News.

NOTICE

The Warren County National Farm Loan Association will meet in the office of the Sec-Treas. on March 24th, at 11 o'clock sharp.

F. B. NEWELL,
Sec-Treas.

certificate on all required subjects, except Latin, Greek, and Modern Languages.

Students From Other Counties.

Sec. 10. That the board of trustees of the school or schools herein provided for is authorized and empowered to admit students from other counties of the State to said school or schools, upon payment of such tuition charges as said board of trustees may fix, but all students who are residents of Guilford County shall be admitted to any of said schools without charge for tuition: Provided, however, that there shall be no discrimination against students coming from other counties in the charges fixed for board and incidentals.

Agricultural Farm Life and Extension Work.

Sec. 11. That it shall be part of the duty of the teachers of agriculture and domestic science to conduct agricultural farm life and extensive work in Guilford County in cooperation, as far as possible, with such work carried on in said county by the State Department of Agriculture, the North Carolina College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, and the United States Department of Agriculture; to hold township and district meetings in various parts of Guilford County from time to time, for farmers and farmers' wives; to cooperate with the county superintendent of education in said county and with the commissioner of agriculture, if such officer exists, in stimulating directing and supervising practical farm life work in the public high school and the elementary schools of said county, and in providing instruction through the teachers' association and through a special short course of study at the schools where agriculture and domestic science instruction is given for the public school teachers of said county.

This Act Made to Apply to Any County of North Carolina.

Sec. 12. This act shall apply to Guilford County, and to any other county of the State of North Carolina complying with the conditions herein required of Guilford County: Provide, that the amount annually set aside out of the public school fund by any county for maintenance of said farm-life departments shall not operate to increase the amount to which said county would have been entitled from the State equalizing fund if said apportionments for farm-life departments had not been set aside; and said apportionments shall be included in the necessary expenses for four month's school term for which a special tax, if necessary, must be levied under chapter thirty-three of the public laws of one thousand nine hundred and thirteen. The board of county commissioners of any county is hereby authorized to provide out of the funds for necessary county expenses the funds required under section four of chapter four hundred and forty nine of the public local laws of one thousand nine hundred and eleven for the establishment and maintenance thereunder of farm-life departments in public high schools, and to include the same in the annual levy for necessary county expenses.

Sec. 13. That this act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

Ratified this 1st day of March, 1911.

Amendments ratified the 10th day of March, 1913.

1911 (Public Local Laws), c. 449; 1913, c. 105; 1915, c. 236.