

# The Smithfield Herald.

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NO. 4

## HE WANTS A WIFE.

**Mr. J. W. Robertson, of Selma, Seeks a Baltimore Bride.**

**Must be a Widow or Maiden Lady—Advertisement in the Sun for a Wife Brings Enormous Results—Engagements Every Half-Hour.**

Southern gentleman, with substantial means, wants wife; would be pleased to meet widow or maiden lady not younger than thirty years; will be in the city four days. Address W. 305, Sun office.

The above advertisement in the Sun yesterday has caused Mr. J. W. Robertson, who says he is a contractor and builder from Selma, N. C., to scratch his head in perplexity. His answers have been so numerous that his heart is torn in a hundred different ways, while the tunes the strings thereof have been playing range from "Bedelia" to the "Last Rose of Summer."

"Meet me in front of Old St. Paul's church, just as the evening shadows are lengthening," wrote one, who, if she answered one of the two requirements of Mr. Robertson's invitation—that she should be above thirty years old—might be supposed to have passed the days during which a maiden's fancy runs to such fancies as the following:

"I enclose a lavender ribbon. Wear it in the right hand corner of your coat and smile, and I shall know you for my heart's own. I always did love southern gentlemen."

"Meet me where the overgrown obelisk to the Father of His Country throws its shadow on Mount Vernon Square at 5:15," wrote another. "Take your handkerchief carefully from your pocket and spread it across your knees and shall fly to your side."

There were sixty other letters. Some of them were from young women who, for the first time in their lives, deplored the fact that they had not had more birthdays. They told the story of their charms and asked if the sweet fragrance of youth could not match the mature attractions which Mr. Robertson preferred; especially when they were linked with wisdom beyond their years. (One could almost see between the lines the arch look which would have accompanied the words of the writer had she been speaking.)

There were widows who enlarged upon the advantages which a widow has enjoyed in the matrimonial market from time immemorial—so dashing, so coy and, withal, so wise in the ways of housekeeping. There were women who said that they had given up the idea of marrying (indicating that they had refused innumerable offers) until they had read the advertisement, and that then it had been as though a voice was speaking at their side and saying "This is the man, the one perfect man for whom you have waited for years."

Of course, those who had imagination enough to make an appointment and particularly the young woman whose fancy ran to lavender ribbon, attracted Mr. Robertson most.

He was there, but it rained. And then the young woman in Mount Vernon Square?

He was there, but it rained. Love might laugh at locksmiths, but, despite the love affairs which have been aided by such sweet April showers as visited Baltimore yesterday, this one stood abashed in the face of the downpour. Mr. Robertson took refuge in a doorway—and the lady? Well, the lady failed to appear. Mr. Robertson said solicitously that he hoped neither one of them had their dresses spoiled. He's going to try it again today—perhaps not in the same spot. And he'll have to get a new ribbon, for the lavender affair he wore yesterday was white after it came through the shower.

Mr. Robertson, for the benefit of those who may have considered the chances, is said by gossip

to be a widower with seven children.

Gossip only says it, however, Mr. Robertson refused to say anything last night.

"Are marriageable women scarce in North Carolina?" he was asked.

A stare was the only reply. "Did the fame of the beauty of Baltimore's women bring you?"

A stare.

"Does the age limit mean that you have a daughter who objects to having a step mother within 10 years of her own age?"

A stare.

All that Mr. Robertson would say was that after he had received all the replies brought to him by the advertisement he meant to write a book on the frailties of these.

There will be much opportunity for mystery in it if he does, for the clerk at the hotel has been put to such straits to conceal his presence that while Mr. Robertson was standing with a man who was then inquiring for him at the hotel counter last night, he said—and without winking an eyelash—that Mr. Robertson had not been in for hours, would not be in for many more.

Mr. Robertson says he has means. He looks to be 50 years old. He talks like a "tar beeler." He is short and slim, with dark complexion and brown eyes.—Baltimore Sun.

## BENSON NOTES.

Miss Mary Hatcher, teacher in the primary department of the Benson Graded School, spent Saturday and Sunday with her parents in Selma.

Miss Leola Smith, accompanied by Miss Ellen Eldridge, visited her home in the Peacock's crossroads section last Sunday.

Miss Maude Grimes, of High Johnston, entered the Benson Graded School last Wednesday.

Messrs. Arthur Oneal & Bro. have moved their stock of general merchandise into the new building on Main Street belonging to Mr. King Parker.

The marriage of Miss Lillie Ryals and Mr. Jasper Smith on Wednesday night, the 22nd, was celebrated quietly at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. N. T. Ryals, the ceremony being performed by Rev. N. H. Gibbs. Mr. Smith is a well known and very popular young man of Benson. The bride is a charming young lady with a host of friends.

A most enjoyable social entertainment was given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Strickland on Monday evening, the 27th, in honor of Miss Carr, of Rockingham. It was an occasion of real pleasure, and all who attended expressed themselves as having spent a most pleasant evening.

Messrs. Barnes & Holliday have moved their stock of hardware across the street into the building just vacated by Oneal Bros.

A large number of our young people attended the carnival at Dunn this week.

Mr. E. F. Moore has purchased the handsome residence on Church Street belonging to Mr. J. W. Benson and will move into it at once.

Benson, Mar. 29. SOLON.

## The Colonel's Waterloo.

Colonel John M. Fuller, of Honey Grove, Texas, nearly met his Waterloo, from Liver and Kidney trouble. In a recent letter, he says: "I was nearly dead, of these complaints, and, although I tried my family doctor, he did me no good; so I got a 50c. bottle of your great Electric Bitters, which cured me. I consider them the best medicine on earth, thank God who gave you the knowledge to make them." Sold, and guaranteed to cure, Dyspepsia, Biliousness and Kidney Disease, by Hood Bros., druggists, at 50c. a bottle.

If you cannot eat, sleep or work, feel mean, cross and ugly, take Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea this month. A tonic for the sick. There is no remedy equal to it. 35 cents, Tea or Tablets.—A. H. Boyett, Selma Drug Co.

## RUSSIAN LOSS IN WAR.

**Only 300,000 Men Left of 835,000 Sent to the Front—Transportation of Troops and Supplies Strained Siberian Railroad to Utmost Capacity.**

St. Petersburg, March 25th.—Stung by the wholesale criticism lately heaped upon the war office for its unpreparedness and incapacity in providing the Manchurian army with men, guns, and munitions, the army organ to-day lays bare what has been done since the opening of hostilities, giving the exact figures.

From these it appears that up to March 12th the war office had dispatched 13,087 officers, 761,467 men, 146,408 horses, 1,521 guns, and 316,321 tons of munitions and supplies to the front, declaring the transportation strained the Siberian Railroad to its utmost capacity.

The army organ admits that the army in the far East when the war opened was hardly worth the name (no figures being given, but it is known that the troops did not exceed 60,000), defending this on the ground that Emperor Nicholas desired to avoid war and therefore refrained from sending reinforcements, which surely would have provoked it.

The criticism of the war office's failure to adequately supply Port Arthur is met by the statement that it was provisioned for a garrison of twelve battalions, the decision to put thirty battalions being taken so late that the original calculations could not be remedied.

While affirming that the quick-firing guns and field guns of the Russians are superior to those of the Japanese, the war office explains that the misfortune in the insufficiency of the mountain guns was due to the fact that when the war broke out Russia was just adopting a new pattern.

It is denied that the war office was deceived in regard to the available strength of the Japanese army or the organization of the Japanese reserves, but the army organ frankly admits that the talents of the officers and the wonderful spirit of the soldiers were miscalculated.

The publication of this article had created a sensation among military men and in public circles, many of the former censuring the general staff for disclosing valuable military secrets, and the latter finding from the figures a practical admission that the war has cost almost 500,000 men in killed, wounded, prisoners, and sick, as the whole effective force in the far East is now believed not to exceed 300,000 men.

## Roosevelt Agrees to American Control in Domingo.

President Roosevelt gave orders yesterday which provided that the United States government shall act as the temporary conditional receiver of Santo Domingo's finances. Nominally, the Dominican government is to create the receivership, but its agents in the transaction are to be American citizens, named by the President of the United States, and the revenues collected by them at Santo Domingo customhouses are to be sequestered in a New York bank, pending final action by the United States Senate on the treaty between the American and the Dominican governments. The treaty can not be taken up until the Congress assembles in extra session next October. In the meantime, the terms of that unratified agreement will be carried out as if it were in force, with the exception that the Dominican revenues will not be distributed to Santo Domingo's foreign creditors unless the Senate gives its sanction.—Washington Post 29.

It will bring rich, red blood, firm flesh and muscle. That's what Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea will do. Taken this month, keeps you well all summer. 35 cents, Tea or Tablets.—A. H. Boyett, Selma Drug Co.

## GENERAL NEWS NOTES.

Mrs. Chadwick admits she owes \$750,000.

Four men were killed in a powder mill explosion in Troy, N. Y., Tuesday.

A tornado has wiped out the town of Louisburg in Minnesota and it is reported killed seven people.

The Secretary of War has returned to Virginia 62 Confederate battle-flags captured during the Civil War.

At Lexington, Ky., Monday Judge Hargis, his nephew and Sheriff Callahan were held for murder, having been denied bail.

At Ocean Beach, Florida, Friday afternoon, a boat capsized with a party of ladies and gentlemen, and all were drowned but one man.

A plan is on foot when President Roosevelt goes to Texas to have him and President Diaz, of Mexico, to meet at the border and shake hands.

Senor Don Manuel Alviroz, Mexico's first ambassador to the United States, is dead in Washington from exposure contracted inauguration day.

Judge Sommerville, of the New York Board of Appraisers, holds that President Roosevelt had no legal power to suspend the Cuban reciprocity treaty for ten days.

Frank Ely Rogers, a boy who disappeared mysteriously from Chicago four years ago with his aunt has returned home, but there is no trace of the aunt.

Maurice Barrymore, an eminent actor, at various times leading man for Lily Langtry and Mme Mojeska, died in a sanitarium on Long Island Saturday.

Mrs. Cassie L. Chadwick, at Cleveland, O., Monday was sentenced to 10 years in the penitentiary, motion for a new trial was overruled and she took an appeal.

The President Saturday addressed the graduating class of the United States Medical School at Washington and said this: "Do your best if you have but a jack-knife to do it with."

In New York Monday an explosion occurred in the tunnel under East River, shooting a man up through the top, through forty feet of water and twenty feet into the air, without serious injury.

New York state, with a bond issue of \$50,000,000, plans to improve one mile in ten of all its highways throughout the counties, expending the money at the rate of \$5,000,000 a year and thus completing the improvement in ten years.

The government cotton crop report issued at noon Tuesday estimates the total amount ginned to date at 1,359,000 bales. Some ginners of course have not reported but calculating on a basis of their previous reports and a fair average the above is approximately correct.

Because her betrayer, a young man named Rainwater refused to marry her Pearl Sykes, of Carthage, Mo., followed him to the railroad station and on October the 5th as he was preparing to board a train and leave her forever she fired a pistol and killed him. Miss Sykes has just been acquitted and the judge scored the jury for bringing in such a verdict.

Mary Brockwell, of Paducah, Ky., whose three children died in agony last Saturday, after a sudden and mysterious attack of illness, has confessed that she poisoned the little ones with morphine and kerosene. She said that George Albertson had promised to marry her if she got rid of the children. Mrs. Brockwell's husband is living, a religious maniac, in an asylum, and the woman would have added bigamy to murder if she had married Albertson. She is in jail and Albertson is under arrest as an accessory.

"Wouldn't hurt a baby." Rheumacide is entirely vegetable, and instead of hurting the digestion, tones up the entire system. For sale by Hood Bros.

## DESTRUCTION OF THE MAINE.

**Battleship Destroyed Through Error of a Cuban.**

**Bomb Was Manufactured to Destroy Spanish Warships in Havana Harbor But Was Placed Under the Maine—Statement of Rousseau.**

New York, March 28th.—That the battleship Maine through an error was destroyed by a bomb of his manufacture was the statement made by Gessler Rousseau in the toms prison to-day. Rousseau was convicted yesterday of having sent explosives to the Cunard Line pier, this city, in May 1903. He made the following statement:

"For several years, while the Cuban patriots were struggling against Weyler, I watched the contest with deep interest and sympathy. I decided to go to Jacksonville and do what I could to assist the revolutionists. I started from St. Louis, where I had been living during the early part of 1897.

"Before taking a train for the South I got together the material for the construction of two exploding machines of tremendous power, so arranged that they could be wound up and left in a selected place with the certainty that they would go off with terrible destruction within a few hours.

"At New Orleans I rented a room and put the boxes together, after which I went to Jacksonville. There I became acquainted with a party of Cuban leaders, who were planning a filibustering expedition. They had engaged the Destroyer, a small vessel, to take them to Cuba along with a number of American and European adventurers who were anxious to strike a blow for Cuban freedom.

"Several of the leaders of the party are men now well known and I will not mention their names, although I have among my papers a list of them all. "I suggested to them that they use my machine to destroy Spanish warships in the harbor of Havana and in other ports on the coast of the island. They readily seized upon the idea and when the Destroyer sailed with the filibusters, they took my two machines with them.

"It was my intention to go along with the party so as to direct the work of sinking the Spanish ships, but they dissuaded me, urging that I could be of greater use in Jacksonville preparing other machines if the first proved successful.

"It was planned to have some members of the revolutionary party join the Spanish navy, so as to get the machines aboard. If that failed it was decided to fasten one of the boxes to the hull of a ship under the waterline for I had constructed my machines so they could be exploded under the water.

"That was late in the fall of 1897. The next spring the Maine was destroyed.

"Only one of the men with the secret machines ever returned to America. I saw him some time after the war with Spain had begun. He told me he had nothing to do with the boxes after reaching Cuba, but had been told a mistake had been made.

"The man who had been entrusted with the task of destroying a Spanish vessel attempted to fasten a box during the night to one of Alfonso's warships and blundered into blowing up the Maine.

"I was told that the man, immediately after learning of the error he had made, committed suicide."

## Startling Mortality.

Statistics show startling mortality, from appendicitis and peritonitis. To prevent and cure these awful diseases, there is just one reliable remedy, Dr. King's New Life Pills. M. Flannery, of 14 Custom House Place, Chicago, says: "They have no equal for Constipation and Biliousness." 25c. at Hood Bros., druggists.

## STATE NEWS ITEMS.

There are several cases of smallpox in Davie county.

The town of Jackson had a disastrous fire last week. Loss about \$30,000.

The Wilson Sanatorium is to be enlarged by the addition of eighteen rooms.

The Dispensary at Roxboro, established by the Legislature will open to-morrow for business.

The Dispensary fight in Asheville is getting warm. Both sides are claiming they will win next Thursday in the election.

Henry Gassaway Davis, the Democratic candidate for Vice-President last fall, will visit Asheville next week. He is 84 years of age.

Vice-President Fairbanks visited Greensboro last week as the guest of the Tar Heel Club, the political club that desires to build up a decent Republican party in North Carolina.

Dr. Albert Anderson, of Wilson, will deliver the annual address before the graduating class of the Medical School of the State University at Raleigh. The exercises will take place in Chapel Hill, May 4th.

The report of the census bureau issued Tuesday shows that 743,404 running bales were ginned in North Carolina in 1904. This was equivalent to 697,452 bales of 500 pounds, as compared with 528,707 bales ginned in 1903.

L. C. Hilton, deputy sheriff of Polk county, was killed at Tryon Sunday by Frail Durham. Hilton had Durham under arrest for carrying concealed weapons.

They entered a magistrate's office to arrange for bond, when the prisoner made a dash for liberty. Hilton gave chase, firing as he ran. Durham turned and fired killing Hilton instantly. Durham made his escape.

Anson county lays claim to having a citizen who has the largest foot of any person in North Carolina. A shoemaker of Wadesboro has just completed a pair of shoes, number sixteen, for a colored youth who is seventeen years old, six feet, eight and three quarter inches high, and weight 212 pounds. His name is John Huntley, and he lives with Albert Smith of Gullledge's township.

Former Midshipman Milton W. Arrowood, of Burlington, recently dismissed from the navy because of desertion, is a prisoner on board the Flagship Kearsarge, now on her way to Pensacola, and will be immediately released and given his freedom when the ship arrives at that port. Young Arrowood's friends will appeal to Congress to review his case and restore his citizenship.

## Baby Found in a Well.

On March 23rd, 1905, while at work at my place on the Smithfield and Beatonville road where there was an old house on the roadside and near the house was an old well that had never been finished. My dog which was with me went down in the hole and dragged out an old rag and in that was a child that had been wrapped up in the rag and thrown in the old well. Its head, neck, arms, and body looked perfectly natural.

It looked like it might have been there four, five or six months. Nobody is living at the house now but it was occupied last year by a widow woman.

C. M. Moore.

R. F. D. No. 1, Four Oaks, N. C.

## Strikes Hidden Rocks.

When your ship of health strikes the hidden rocks of Consumption, Pneumonia, etc., you are lost, if you don't get help from Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption. J. W. McKinnon, of Talladega Springs, Ala., writes: "I had been very ill with Pneumonia, under the care of two doctors, but was getting no better when I began to take Dr. King's New Discovery. The first dose gave relief, and one bottle cured me." Sure cure for sore throat, bronchitis, coughs and colds. Guaranteed at Hood Bros. drug store, price 50c. and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.