

## THE PAPER OF THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE AND WITH THE PEOPLE.

### THE LEXINGTON WILDCATS.

#### The Personnel of the Company--A Fine Body of Troops.

Lexington is proud of its fine military company. Under the efficient training of Capt. S. E. Williams, the Wildcats are rapidly coming to the front and it is only a question of a very short while when they will be one of the best disciplined bodies of troops in the State.

Capt. Williams tells The Dispatch that he is pleased with the provisions of the new Dick military bill. The bill in effect makes every able-bodied male citizen of the United States, with a few exceptions, a member of the unorganized militia. The military companies are classed as organized militia. While the latter are subject to the call of the President in case of war, etc., so are the former. The company will be paid by the United States when in service of any kind, and when the boys go on their annual vacation or outing Uncle Sam will foot the bill.

The Wildcats are expecting their new uniforms every day now, and in the course of thirty days will receive their guns, which will be of the Krag-Jorgensen style, the very latest pattern.

The Wildcats are now up to the full quota, 40 strong, and you would have to travel many a day to find a handsomer body of men. They are all young men of fine physique and graceful bearing, and Capt. Williams is the ideal captain. He has perfect command over his company and is very popular with his men, to whom he is uniformly courteous and kind.

Below we give the personnel of the company:

#### OFFICERS:

S. E. Williams, captain.  
W. E. Holt, Jr., 1st lieutenant.  
B. H. Finch, 2d lieutenant.  
E. F. Smith, Chief Musician.

#### SERGEANTS:

1st S H Smith, 2nd L R Hunt, 3rd Z I Walser 4th J B Spilman, R F Heitman, quarter master.

#### CORPORALS:

A L Crissman, Wade H Phillips, A L Phikard.

#### PRIVATEs:

B. F. Ausband, Sam. T. Berrier, G. E. Berrier, Hugh Boring, Cleveland Brinkley, D. L. Crowell, Raymond Dorsett, H. W. Dorsett, Addison Hinshaw, S. M. Godfrey, G. F. Hankins, H. L. Hedrick, Henley Hunt, Egbert Hankins, D. J. Hill, Theodore Hassell, W. N. Kinney, Virgy Kirkman, C. H. Lambeth, H. F. Lookabill, J. T. Parker, Kerney Parker, B. G. Robbins, Moyer Sink, Josh Slaughter, Frank Tysinger, J. W. Wagner, Clay Welborn, Roy Williamson, John Young.

### Whist Club Meets.

The Whist Club was pleasantly entertained last night by Miss Edna McCrary, the following couples being present: Mr and Mrs G W Montcastle, Mr and Mrs W H Walker, Miss Camille Hunt and Mr G F Hankins, Miss Kathleen Smith, and Mr. Lloyd Hunt, Miss Winnifred Adderton and Mr Joe H Thompson, Miss Alice Shemwell and Dr. D Hill. Stags: Messrs O E Mendenhall, Stanly Boring and J R McCrary. The first prize was won by Mr Joe H Thompson, which was a beautiful copy of Byron. The consolation, an A B C primer, was won by Mr G F Hankins.

After the games, delicate refreshments were served to the guests.

An interesting feature of the evening was the turning out of the lights and the relighting of some blood-curdling ghost stories. The guests feel very grateful to Miss McCrary for a most enjoyable evening.

Mr. J. A. Boaz, who has had charge of the railroad track as section foreman, has resigned and will go to his home Virginia where he will spend a short vacation before entering upon any duties.

### WILL CONNECT OR SELL OUT.

#### The Lexington Telephone Company Negotiating With the Bell Company.

Mr. D. M. Therrell, of Atlanta, Ga., representing the Bell Telephone Company, was here this week negotiating with the Lexington Telephone Company looking to the connection of the local system with the Bell Company's long-distance lines. While no definite conclusion has yet been reached in the negotiations, it can be stated with reasonable certainty that the local system will either combine with the Bell Company or else sell out to them, in either event assuring to the citizens of Lexington the advantage of the long-distance line in their homes and business houses, which will no doubt be hailed with satisfaction by 'phone users.

Mr. Therrell went to High Point today to confer with the local authorities there regarding similar arrangements to be made in that city.

### Delightful "At Home."

A very pleasant "At Home" in honor of their guests, Misses Minnie Templeton and Ada Creswell, of Mooresville, was given Friday evening by Dr. and Mrs. E. J. Buchanan at their elegant home. The guests were: Miss Ada Creswell and Mr. James Adderton, Miss Minnie Templeton and Mr. Z. I. Walser, Miss Kathleen Smith and Mr. Joe H. Thompson, Miss Nellie Trice and Mr. W. R. Welborn, R. Welborn, Miss May Thompson and Mr. Joe Moffitt, Miss Camille Hunt and Dr. D. J. Hill, Miss Winnifred Adderton and Mr. B. H. Finch, Miss Caldwell Hoyle and Mr. O. E. Mendenhall, Miss Gertrude Hammer and Mr. Henley Hunt, Miss Louise Hanes and Mr. Lloyd Hunt, Miss Alice Shemwell and Mr. W. E. Holt, Jr. The chief amusement of the evening was the game of Fitch. The first prize was won by Miss Caldwell Hoyle. It was a heart-decorated box of candy--very apropos at the joyous Valentine season. Miss Henly Hunt was the recipient of the booby, a comic valentine. Delicious refreshments were served to the guests. Dr. and Mrs. Buchanan sustained their reputation of always giving their friends a good time.

### Club of the Twelve.

The Club of the Twelve met Saturday evening with Miss Elizabeth MacCall. A highly interesting program was rendered. The literary features of the meeting were an excellent and entertaining paper on "Charlotte Bronte," by Mrs. G. W. Montcastle, and one on "Elizabeth Barrett Browning," by Mrs. R. T. Pickens. A number of interesting current events were given by various members. At the conclusion of the programme, delicious refreshments of salad, lettuce, sand wiches, olives, celery, salted peanuts, wine and fruit cake, were served to the guests. Each guest was given a dainty little valentine in the shape of a card, hand-painted with pansies, the club's flower, and an appropriate verse, as a souvenir of the occasion. Miss MacCall was gracefully assisted in receiving and entertaining her guests by her mother, Mrs. Julia Harlee MacCall, who is an interesting and highly cultured lady. The afternoon was one of rare pleasure, and will linger long as a happy memory in the minds of the members of the Club of the Twelve.

A very pleasing feature, especially to Ladies' and Children, introduced in the performance of Gorton's Minstrels this season, is the beautiful and artistic act of little Cleone Pearl Fell, the phenomenal child dancer, and comedienne. This bright and accomplished little artiste, though young in years, displays a marvelous degree of skill and finish in her work, and is credited with making a positive hit wherever she has appeared. At the Opera House Thursday night February 19th.

### SPRING SUPERIOR COURT.

#### Begins Next Monday With Judge McNeil on the Bench--A Full Docket.

In spite the bad roads and worse weather, and all dismal prognostications of the ground hog and other weather prophets to the contrary notwithstanding, the spring term of Davidson Superior Court will begin here next Monday morning with His Honor Judge McNeil on the bench.

The docket is quite full, but devoid of any heavy suits, and yet there are a number which will be interesting and which will necessitate the presence of a large array of witnesses and parties.

The most important cases as they appear on the dockets are as follows:

#### STATE DOCKET:

- State v. Chas. Weaver, disturbing religious worship.
- State v. John Forshee, retailing.
- State v. Jeff Myers, slander.
- State v. Jeff Myers, forcible trespass.
- State v. E. J. Maguire, cutting down trees in corporate limits.
- State v. John Cecil and John Wade, retailing.
- State v. Chas. Branson and Mary Miller, unlawful intercourse.
- State v. John Wade, retailing.
- State v. B. B. Wayne, W. F. Ragan and J. P. Long, affray.
- State v. John Miller and Mary Embler, unlawful intercourse.
- State v. W. A. Darr, retailing (3 cases).
- State v. Chas. Lookabill, retailing.
- State v. Ernest Rendall and Maggie Brooks, retailing.
- State v. Hence Miller, assault.
- State v. Albert Yokley and Thos Livengood, false pretence.
- State v. Sylvester Davis and Jason Lindsay, gambling.

#### WARRANTS.

- State v. Peter Myers, assault.
- State v. Jim Shoemaker and Lacy Craver, assault.
- State v. Dan Miller, larceny.
- State v. Thos. L. Jordan, assault.
- State v. Vandy Carrick, larceny.
- State v. Jas. Taylor and Isaiah Adderton, affray.
- State v. Wm. H. Haley, cruelty to animals.
- State v. Pleas A. Oaks and Lee Myers, burglary.
- State v. A. L. Satterwhite, false pretence.
- State v. Daisy Wright, assault.
- State v. Jason Lindsay, wrecking train.

The cases on civil docket appear elsewhere in The Dispatch under the head of the "Calendar."

#### Money Well Spent.

Rockingham county also wants better roads--asks for a law permitting it to vote on a \$300,000 issue of bonds for that purpose. And Wake county will ask for a bond issue of \$200,000. It will be money well invested.

The Cleveland Star states no more than the simple, unvarnished truth, when it says:

Good roads can be secured only by working them by taxation. No one enjoys paying taxes, yet the fairest way to work the roads is by taxation. There never has been any justice in the present system of working the roads, for the richest man in the county contributes no more than the poorest citizen to help work the public highways. Every man who is liable for road duty ought to vote the tax so as to get the property of the county to help work the roads.

#### Bill for Additional Appropriations to the A. & M. College.

A bill has been introduced in the legislature by Mr. Drewry for the equipment and maintenance of the A. & M. College appropriating \$22,500 for maintenance, and \$25,000 for the completion and the furnishing of the two new buildings and the starting of the textile work. The total additional appropriation is only \$15,000. When the college had only 250 students it received \$17,500 for maintenance. Now it has over 600 students.

### JASON LINDSAY CAPTURED.

#### The Alleged Wrecker of No. 35 at Thomasville in Jail at Lexington.

Jason Lindsay, supposed to be the scoundrel who opened the switch at Thomasville recently, resulting in the wrecking of the southbound vestibule, was arrested at Thomasville Saturday and brought to Lexington jail. The case against the negro was worked up by a Pinkerton detective from Philadelphia. He was arrested on Friday and carried to Greensboro, but the evidence was thought insufficient to hold him and he was discharged. Later more damaging evidence was secured, and the authorities wired to Walser & Walser, of Lexington, an inquiry as to the advisability of a second arrest, which was answered in the affirmative.

The arrest was made by the Thomasville police. A reward of \$500 is on the head of the guilty party.

#### TELL US ABOUT IT.

Mr. Editor: In your issue of the 11th inst. an "Old Line Republican" bewails the defeat of the party in this county and lays it to the fact that E. L. Green, Geo. E. Hunt and W. C. Harris were not put on their ticket. It reminds me of a wagoner who had worried along very muddy roads for some distance and finally reached the foot of the hill where the road forked. The prospect looked gloomy either way and just then a boy chanced to come along; and the wagoner inquired of him which was the better way. The boy's answer was: "No matter which you take, you will wish you had 'took the tocher.'"

I have a faint recollection that these Republican pets have some time past held some office about Lexington. Let Old Line Republican tell us how they come to be dropped out. Let him tell us also if these are the best they have got. Yours truly, OLD LINE DEMOCRAT.

#### New Vault for the Court House.

The contract has been let for the erection of a large and commodious vault in the Davidson court house here. The dimensions of the vault will be 17 x 25, and the receptacle will be constructed of brick, the floor and ceiling consisting of steel beams. It will have combination doors and fireproof fixtures inside. There will be two apartments in the vault--one for the clerk and the other to be used by the register of deeds. The structure will cost \$2,500. The contract for the work was awarded to Mr. W. Lee Harbin. It is expected to be completed by the middle of April.

#### Bound Over For Seduction.

Greensboro, N. C., Feb. 16.--Junius C. Watson, a fireman on the Southern Railroad, and a young man of highly respected family of this county, has been bound over to court by a committing magistrate for seduction under promise of marriage of Miss Versia M. Glenn, the nineteen-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank F. Glenn, of Greensboro.

#### Coming to Lexington.

Mr. W. B. Tucker and family, of Clinton, S. C., will move here soon. They formerly lived here during which time they made many lasting friends who are glad to hear of their return. Mr. Tucker will take charge of this section of the Southern Railway. He is an efficient railroad man. Mr. Tucker and family will live on Center St.

#### Water-Bound.

Mr. Will V. Leonard, rural free delivery mail carrier on route No. 1, was waterbound Tuesday morning of this week. 21 miles northeast of Lexington on the Greensboro road. This route has been in operation since July 1st, 1902, and this is the first time the carrier has failed to make his trip.

### NO. 33 WRECKED.

#### Engineer and Fireman Killed Near Alexandria.

No. 33, which leaves Washington at 9.50 p. m., and passes Lexington in the early morning, was wrecked near Alexandria, Va., Saturday night. The engineer, John Purvis, whose home was in Alexandria, and the fireman, Walter Wigginton, whose home was at a point on the road, were killed. The former's body was found under his engine, terribly mangled. Two postal clerks were severely injured. The wreck is said by the railroad authorities to have been of malicious design.



JAMES MONROE RILEY.

Dr. J. M. Riley, whose likeness appears above, is one of Lexington's most prominent citizens. President of the Lexington Electric Light Company, President of the Lexington Telephone Co., and a dentist of wide reputation and large practice, Dr. Riley belongs closely to the business and professional life of our city.

He was born at Riley's Store, Randolph county, and educated at the University of Maryland. He has been a citizen of Lexington since 1886.

#### A Washington Birthday Party.

The Daughters of the Confederacy are arranging for a Washington Birthday party on Friday night, Feb. 20th, to which all are cordially invited to attend. All the young people and quite a number of the "older set" will go in fancy costumes and masks and there will be lively guessing as to who is who.

George and Martha Washington, Queen Elizabeth, King Edward, Romeo and Juliet, Cinderella, Mary Queen, of Scots, Sir Walter Raleigh, Carrie Nation, Mother Goose and a host of other characters will be in evidence and all who attend will have an evening of rare enjoyment. A musical programme is being arranged and the ladies will also have plenty of cream on hand. Mrs. Montcastle and Mrs. Radcliffe and Misses Hunt, Hamner and Hoyle are the committee on arrangements and with the assistance of the other Daughters the entertainment is sure to be a great success and it is hoped that there will be a large crowd on hand to appreciate the efforts of the ladies in so worthy a cause. Admission, adults 25 cents, children 10 cents. Hour 8 to 11.

#### Bill Comes Up Friday.

The bill for amending Lexington's charter comes up before the committee on counties, cities and towns in the legislature next Friday evening. Mr. E. E. Raper will represent the citizens who desire the extension of the city's corporate limits, while Mr. W. E. Holt and those who oppose the extension will be represented by Capt. S. E. Williams. A number of Lexington's citizens will be present.

#### Storm Monday Night.

One of the hardest storms that has visited this city for years occurred Monday night. The terrific wind stripped many trees of their limbs and partially unroofed the Oneida Chair Factory. The heavy rainfall that preceded the wind swelled streams in this vicinity to the highest water-marks reached in years.

You can buy a \$10 Suit for \$7 at Peary's.

### A THRILLING EXPERIENCE.

#### Mr. E. C. Clinard Tells How John H. Sparks Was Killed By His Pet Lion.

To stand by and see a hungry beast rend a human being and be powerless to tender help--to witness the live flesh torn from a living human body by a fierce lion and without a weapon of any sort with which to assist your companion. Horrible beyond conception, and yet such was recently the experience of Mr. Ed. H. Clinard, of Winston, who spent last night at the March Hotel and who related to a circle of intensely interested hearers his thrilling experience with the lions that killed Mr. John H. Sparks, the millionaire showman and owner of the beasts, at Vade Mecum Springs a few weeks ago. But for the assistance rendered finally by Mr. Clinard and Cicero Tise, also of Winston, the beasts must have torn the unfortunate Sparks' body limb from limb on the spot. It's a tale thrillingly interesting but pitiful, and of consummate coolness and bravery on the part of the showman, that is seldom equalled.

Messrs. Sparks, Clinard and Tise were at the Vade Mecum hotel and the former proposed that they visit his pet lions, which he had not seen in four months, having been absent on a trip to Texas. Arriving at the cage of the animals, Mr. Sparks reached through the bars as he had often done and patted one of the lions on the head, when quick as a flash his hand was seized, the beast crushing it frightfully in its huge mouth. Mr. Sparks endeavored to withdraw his hand, when like lightning the lion brought its terrible claws into action, and took a larger hold on the man's arm, tearing his clothing and seizing the flesh of his forearm in its massive jaws, accompanying the action with a most frightful snarling and roaring. Mr. Sparks' companions were almost paralyzed with horror. They could hear the crunching of his flesh and bones in the mouth of the beast, which was now wild with rage and the taste of blood. Mr. Clinard says once or twice the showman groaned with agony, but evinced no excitement nor fright, but calmly directed his companions how to make the lion loose its hold. Mr. Tise ran for help, and Mr. Clinard looked everywhere for a weapon. But nothing save a small stick could be found, and his punching the beast in the face with that only served to increase its ferocity, while it suddenly renewed its hold farther toward the doomed man's shoulder. Finally Mr. Tise returned with a heavy piece of scantling, which Mr. Clinard seized and uniting their strength the two men punched and beat the lion in the face and prized its teeth till the showman's arm could be pulled from its mouth. During their efforts the other lion, incensed with the smell of the blood that was streaming from the lacerated arteries, made the most terrible efforts to reach them through the bars of the cage, and once its claws tore the lapel of Mr. Clinard's coat. When Mr. Sparks' arm was finally loosed, he fell back weak with the agony he had gone through, and loss of blood.

"Then," said Mr. Clinard, "do you know what hell is? It was there when we finally broke that lion's hold. Both of the beasts, wild with the taste of blood, roared and plunged and sprang with terrible ferocity against the bars of that cage in their efforts to get at us. I never shall forget till my dying day the look of the lion as we finally forced its jaws apart and released Mr. Sparks' arm. Its eyes seemed to dilate to twice their usual size, and sparkled like fire. I hope I shall never experience another such sensation."

Mr. Clinard used a silk handkerchief to bind the arm of the showman tightly, close to his shoulder, until the arrival of a physician. It is well known that Mr. Sparks died in the Winston hospital, to which he was removed, two days later.