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

SUPERIOR COURT.

Comparatively Light Criminal Docket—Grubb Case Expected to be Tried.

The February term of Davidson county Superior court convenes in Lexington next Monday, the 27th. Judge Henry R. Bryan, of Newbern, will preside.

The criminal docket is not large and it is thought that about all the minor cases can be disposed of in two or three days. The most important case, and one in which the county and State is particularly interested, is that of H. Clay Grubb, who is to be tried for the murder of his brother-in-law, O. L. Davis. The crime was committed at Piney church, this county, last October. Immediately after the homicide, Grubb surrendered to an officer and was brought to Lexington and placed in jail. He employed every lawyer in town, except two, and also engaged prominent attorneys from adjoining towns. His attorneys made strong efforts to get their client released on bond, but Judge O. H. Allen refused the application and Grubb has been in jail since last October.

The defendant has employed and will be represented at trial here next week by the following attorneys: Emery E. Raper, Walsler & Walsler, F. C. Robbins, McCrary & Ruark and S. E. Williams, of Lexington; A. F. Sams, of Thomasville; T. C. Linn and Lee S. Overman, of Salisbury; Watson, Buxton & Watson, of Winston-Salem.

In addition to Solicitor W. C. Hammer, the State will be represented by R. T. Pickens and Wade H. Phillips, of Lexington; L. H. Clement, of Salisbury, and E. J. Justice, of Greensboro.

Lexington's Population is 3,600.

The officers appointed to take the census of the town have about completed their work, and the figures will show that Lexington has a population of 3,600. Up to yesterday afternoon the names of 3,520 inhabitants had been recorded and there were several outstanding. This is an increase of more than double the number of residents prior to the extension of the corporate limits of the town.

Loses Her Mind.

The friends of Mr. C. C. Burkhardt sympathize with him in the sad affliction that has fallen on his home and family. His wife has been quite ill for some time and during the past week her mind has become badly deranged, so much so that it is deemed necessary to send her to an asylum for treatment. The poor lady is at times violently insane, and a constant watch is necessary to prevent her doing violence to herself. She has three children. The family live on Center street, near the railroad bridge.

A Sad Death.

Mrs. Eugenia Gilbert, of Paducah, Ky., died at the residence of Mr. J. W. Sexton last Friday morning. Mrs. Gilbert was here on a visit to her cousin, Mrs. Sexton, and contracted pneumonia soon after her arrival. Deceased was a daughter of the late Gray Wood, a native of this county, and was about 42 years of age. The remains were carried to Kentucky for burial and were accompanied by her daughter, who arrived here only a few hours prior to her mother's death.

"A Royal Prisoner."

We clip the following from last week's issue of The Rockingham Anglo-Saxon:

"In Davidson county Clay Grubb killed O. L. Davis at Pine Church one Sunday morning last fall. He went and surrendered to the sheriff of the county, and has been a royal prisoner ever since. He and the dead man were distillers and wealthy. Grubb stays in jail, but has every luxury furnished him. He has plenty of brandy and whiskey by him to drink and treat his friends who call to see him. We have this from a Davidson county man, who is in a position to know the facts."

CAPT. JONES' RAILROAD.

Four and a Half Miles Graded--Intended to Develop a Water Power.

During the past week a number of State papers have contained references to Capt. M. L. Jones' railroad, now in course of construction from Thomasville to Denton. We reproduce two of these articles, feeling sure they will be of interest to our readers in Davidson and adjoining counties. The first is from the Raleigh News and Observer and says:

"Capt. M. L. Jones, of Thomasville, is in the city on business. Mr. Jones is president of the North Carolina Mining, Manufacturing and Development Company, which was granted a charter some time ago. Captain Jones says his company is now constructing a railroad from Thomasville to Denton, which is in Davidson county. That it is the intention of the company to develop the water power in that section of the country, which is adjacent to the proposed railroad. That the outcome of this proposed railroad will be the erecting of an electric line into Winston-Salem, and probably to Wadesboro. It is said that this line will be a great blessing to that section of the State."

The second article is from Monday's Charlotte Observer and is as follows:

"A great many Charlotte people who know the enterprising spirit that has characterized the development of the Iola Mine, in Montgomery county, as it has been conducted by Mr. Milton Jones, will be further interested to learn that he is adding to his already extensive improvements in that section."

Mr. E. L. Propst, of this city, is at present engaged in grading and track laying along a line of road that Mr. Jones will operate between Thomasville and Denton, and which will be run by way of Denton, a distance of thirty miles. Up to this time four and a half miles have been graded and iron and ties are on the way and for the construction of eighteen miles. It is expected that the entire distance from Thomasville to Denton, a stretch of twenty miles, will be completed within the present year. For the prosecution of this work Mr. Propst is at present working a large gang of hands and twenty mules. This force of laborers, as well as mules, will be doubled within a short while, as the work will be pushed to a finish."

Of Interest to Lutherans.

Rev. Edw. Fulenwider will preach in the Presbyterian church next Sunday at 11 o'clock. Some important business is to be transacted, and every Lutheran in the city is requested to be present. The public is cordially invited.

Dr. Geo. H. Cox and Rev. V. Y. Boozer, president and secretary of the N. C. Synod of the Lutheran church, will be in the city on next Tuesday 28th inst. At 7 p. m., Dr. Cox will preach in the Methodist church. A cordial invitation is extended to all.

Hankins Stands Pat.

Hon. G. F. Hankins is making a good member of the General Assembly of North Carolina and his friends are very proud of him. Charity and Children of Thomasville has the following to say of Col. Hankins:

"Mr. G. F. Hankins, our representative in the House, is making an excellent record. He stands for the moral interests of his country, and is not afraid of his own shadow, as the manner of some is."

Mr. J. F. Hedrick, who has been conducting a grocery store here for the past year, has sold the business to Mr. Lawrence A. Derhart, of Arnold.

Only two marriage licenses have been issued since our last report. They were: B. G. Craver to Miss Maggie May Mize, Edward G. Embler to Miss Susie Murphy.

DEATH OF J. R. BULLA.

Died at Trinity Thursday--For Many Years a Prominent Citizen of Lexington.

His many friends in Lexington and throughout the state will learn with sadness of the demise of Hon. James Rufin Bulla, who died at Trinity, Randolph county, Thursday morning, February 16th, at four o'clock.

He was paralyzed on one side while living in Lexington ten years ago. Up to a month ago his health was exceptionally good, but about that time he began to grow weaker and a second stroke caused his death.

Mr. Bulla was born in Randolph county in October, 1825, and would have been eighty years of age next October.

He was a well-known lawyer and practiced his profession in Asheboro, High Point, Greensboro and Lexington for forty years. He was solicitor of this district for several years at the time the noted Judge Albion W. Tourgee was on the bench.

His widow and one daughter survive him. Two daughters and a son died some years ago. His son, George M. Bulla, was prominent here, being at one time chairman of the Republican county executive committee and served one or two terms in the State legislature.

Mr. Bulla had a state and almost a national reputation as a humorist. Soon after the war a northern firm sent him a claim against a party for collection. His answer was so humorous that the firm gave it out to their city newspapers and it was copied in practically every paper in this country and in several in England.

He made a characteristic remark about a year ago on the occasion of the celebration of his 80th birthday. He said in a toast to the spirit very much but never drank a drop of wine. He told a party present that if he would send him a gallon of good corn whiskey when he got home he could have the wine. He took a little whiskey almost daily, yet was never intoxicated in his life. He smoked a pipe constantly and it never appeared to injure his health.

In Rowan Superior Court.

In Rowan Superior court last Thursday, Chas. Marmor, who badly stabbed Capt. Chas. Herderlite on December 14th, compromised the case by paying Mr. Herderlite \$250 and costs of the case.

Will Thomas, of Coolee, submitted to an indictment of manslaughter and was given three years in prison. Thomas killed a negro two years ago and fled, though it never was thought that he really meant to shoot the man he did kill. He had been playing cards and some one scattered them. He said then that he'd kill the man who did this and shot at random in a crowd.

The two young thieves, Chas. Caldwell and Claude Boyden, were Thursday sentenced to three and four years, respectively, in the penitentiary. These boys made away with more than \$200 belonging to Mr. W. W. Reid, from whose safe Caldwell stole the money. The other negro did not steal, but concealed it, but being older, received punishment compatible with his age.

Quarterly Conference.

We are requested to announce that the second quarterly conference for the Linwood charge will be held at Ebenezer church on the first Saturday and Sunday in March. Preaching will be held at Ebenezer on Saturday at 11 o'clock, a. m., and on Sunday at 3 p. m. Preaching at Center on Sunday at 11 a. m.

Married.

On the 12th inst., J. L. Nance, Esq., united in matrimony Thomas J. Young and Miss Jennie Beck.

WILLIAMS RE-ARRESTED.

Man Charged With Advance Murder Taken in Custody Again.

In Davie county last week, Robert Williams, who shot and instantly killed J. H. Laird at Advance on January 10th, was arrested on a bench warrant issued by Judge H. R. Bryan, now holding court at Salisbury, and committed to jail. Williams was carried to Salisbury for an examination. After hearing the testimony Judge Bryan granted him bail in the sum of \$3,000. Sheriff Cheek, of Davie, had quite a chase in catching Williams last week, tracking him seven miles in the snow and finally capturing him secreted in the garret at the home of Williams' grandmother, near Fork church.

Immediately after the killing on January 10th, Williams had a preliminary hearing before a Justice of the Peace in Davie county, and was promptly discharged, the case not even being sent up to Superior court for an investigation by the grand jury. Many citizens were not satisfied with this dismissal of the case by the justice of the peace, and last week's proceedings are for the purpose of having a full investigation.

At the time of the killing it was thought that no one was present except the two men, and Williams alleged that Laird was advancing upon him when the shot was fired. Now it is rumored there were witnesses to the tragedy, that Laird was several yards distant from Williams when shot, and that the bullet which ended his life entered the back of Laird's head.

160 Killed in Mine.

Birmingham, Ala., Feb. 20.—Meagre reports reached this city yesterday of a terrible disaster in Virginia's mines which are located about 18 miles from Birmingham. One hundred and five men are entombed in the mine and it is believed that all are dead. Relief trains carrying physicians and laborers have been sent to the scene of the disaster from both Birmingham and Bessemer.

Reports to the Age-Herald at 10 o'clock tonight state that every effort is being made to reach the men, but that they cannot possibly succeed before tomorrow morning.

The mines belong to the Alabama Steel and Wire Company and are leased by Reid & Company. Both white and colored miners are employed and only recently union miners went to work. It is stated that the accident was caused by a cave-in, due to the giving way of the timbers.

Laird—The daily papers this (Wednesday) morning state that 39 bodies have been recovered, and that it is now known that 160 men were in the mine at the time of the catastrophe, which was caused by an explosion of dust. 100 families and 300 children are left destitute and without means of support by the calamity.

Mysterious Disappearance.

Over a week ago the young son of Senator Beasley, of Currituck, disappeared from his home during a serious storm. Since his disappearance the entire county has been searched, hundreds of neighbors hunting day and night but not a trace of the boy has yet been discovered. It is one of the strangest cases on record and the entire State is interested.

Miss Beulah Wittingham, who has been visiting the family of Mr. E. W. Pugh, has returned to her home at Greensboro.

Mr. Fred Thompson will leave for northern cities this week to purchase a spring and summer stock of merchandise for Mr. W. G. Perry.

Miss Annie Burkhead, of Concord, and Miss Florence Eddleman, of China Grove, who have been visiting Mrs. R. L. McCrary, left yesterday morning for Baltimore.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

A Summary of the Most Important Business Transacted Each Day.

Thursday, February 16th.

SENATE.

The bill to amend The Code regarding the aid by the State to county fairs by giving one-third as much as fair association has raised for the sole purpose of paying premiums on agricultural products on exhibits at that particular fair, came up, and after a great deal of discussion was referred to a committee.

At 12 o'clock the Scales reformatory bill came up, creating a board of control of the North Carolina Industrial Schools and providing for the erection and management of such schools, specifying a method of procedure against juvenile delinquents, and providing for the management, detention, education and training of such delinquents. The bill provides that when a delinquent child is brought before a mayor or magistrate, the jurisdiction of these officers is not taken away, but they may fine, suspend judgment or turn such child loose, but, if they say he shall be imprisoned, then the State appeals for the child to the Superior Court, and in this court a regular course is pursued, and the child has every right. But the bill requires that the children shall be tried before the hardened criminals are tried, and that their names shall be entered upon a separate docket, thus removing them from the idea of criminality. The judge may return the child to the parents or may impose a fine or suspend judgment or may authorize the probation officer to take the child in some family to be reared in some way, or in some institution, or in some other way. These provisions are wise and flexible. The probation officers' duties are to look after the child, try to encourage and uplift, and to carry out the judgement of the courts. The bill provides for a parole system, which power is vested in the board of control. This pernicious practice of placing a child in the cell with a hardened criminal is prohibited. The bill carries an appropriation of \$50,000 for the establishment and maintenance of a reformatory, and this \$50,000 is to be taken from the penitentiary fund surplus. After much discussion, the bill passed.

The Senate concurred in the house amendment to the bill increasing the judges' salaries, so the increase to \$3,250 is now an accomplished fact. The cotton seed meal bill, fixing the standard at 7 1-2 per cent was also passed. Senator Pearson, Republican, of Burke, introduced a bill which he believes will stop much complaint about unfair conditions. It compels the publisher to publish in the paper who have paid for the advertisement, that the publisher who can vote a remedy.

Legislative committees to-day, by a vote of 26 to 4, favorably reported the Ward bill, which bill prevents the manufacture of liquor in towns of less than 1,000 inhabitants. The reformatory bill also received a favorable report.

The anti-jug law passed its third reading in the House, after 8 more counties had been exempted.

Mr. Grant introduced a bill to establish a graded school at Mocksville.

allowing them so many challenges had ceased. As the law now stands, when two men are indicted together for a capital crime, they having 38 peremptory challenges and the right to stand 10 per cent. of the jurors to the foot of the panel, made it simply impossible to convict either one. After considerable debate, on motion of Woodard, of Wilson, the House adjourned by the close vote of 46 to 45, and the bill was made a special order for tomorrow.

Friday, February 17th.

The reformatory bill passed the Senate. The real fight on this bill is expected in the House. In the House, the bill restricting peremptory challenges of jurors to twelve on the part of the defendant and 4 on the part of the State, passed its various readings.

Saturday, February 18th.

SENATE.

Only local bills of no importance to Dispatch readers were passed by the Senate on Saturday.

Pearson introduced a bill to pay salaries of \$2,500 flat to solicitors and turn the fees now derived by solicitors into the State treasury.

HOUSE.

The house passed the bill empowering the Governor to grant conditional pardons. Also the Senate resolution appointing a committee of five, two Senators and three representatives, to cooperate with the Governor in bringing about the most advantageous settlement of the South Dakota bond judgement, and to make a recommendation as to compromising the bonds by Shaffer and brother.

Monday, February 19th.

Mr. Williams, of Davidson, introduced a bill to supply certain state officers with annual salaries. General Fitzhugh Lee, of Virginia, was tendered an informal reception this morning and he addressed the legislature this afternoon in the interest of the Jamestown exposition.

Tuesday, February 21st.

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Mr. Grant introduced a bill to establish a graded school at Mocksville.

Executive Committee to Meet. Raleigh, N. C., February 17.—Yesterday afternoon the members of the Democratic state committee telegraphed a letter to State Chairman Simmons, at Washington, asking that a full meeting of the committee be held to consider the anti-liquor legislation in the State.

On the 17th inst., Mr. Simmons, supporting the Ward bill, and defending his position. He declared he had not sought to pass the bill as a party measure or to drive anybody to its support, but had assisted as a private citizen in efforts to carry out solemn promises to the people. The whole session was lively, but the discussion was without acrimony.

Mrs. James Young, of Walnut Cove, is visiting her sister, Mrs. F. R. Lofton.