

BRIEF SKETCH OF UNION COUNTY

Legislative Act of 1842 Under Which It Was Organized—Something About Its Climate and Sketch of Its Development—Its Pride Is Part People Played in the War Between the States.

BY COLIN G. SHAW.
Monroe, Feb. 17.—In 1842 Union County was formed and a seat of government established at Labatt's Cross Roads, where the first session of the pleas and quarter sessions court was held, in the month of April, 1843.

hered with all kinds of wood, in many cases hundreds of acres, to this date, containing original forest pines that could be converted into fine lumber. The elevation above the sea and general contour combined furnish ample means for natural drainage throughout the whole county. It is free from swamps and drainage basins that are so prominent in some of the counties of the State.

Section 1.—Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That the county of Union shall be and is hereby invested with all the rights, privileges and immunities of the other counties in this State, except as is hereafter provided.

Section 2.—Be it further enacted, That William Wilson, James A. Dunn, Silas Stewart, Moses Cuthbertson and James Marsh are hereby appointed commissioners to select and determine upon a site for a permanent seat of justice for said county, who shall locate the same as near the center as a suitable location can be obtained, provided it shall be within two miles of the center of said county, which center shall be taken to that point in a diagonal line, running from the northeast to the southeast extremity of said county, which is equidistant from said extremities.

Section 3.—Be it enacted that a majority of the said commissioners shall have power to purchase, or receive by donation for the county of Union, a tract of land consisting of not less than 50 acres, nor more than 100, to be conveyed to the chairman of the county court of said county, and his successors in office upon which a town shall be laid off and called Monroe, where the court house and jail shall be erected, and where after the completion of said court house the courts of said county shall be held and the clerks and register shall keep their offices. And the said commissioners shall lay off the lots of said town, and after designating such as shall be retained for public uses, shall whenever required by the county court of said county, expose, after due notice, the residue to sale at public auction, upon a credit of one and two years, which shall be from the purchasers bonds and security for the purchase money, made payable to the chairman of the county court and his successors, and upon payment of the purchase money, the chairman or his successors shall execute titles therefor; which moneys shall be appropriated to the building of a court house and jail.

Section 4.—Be it further enacted, That the justices of the peace and the officers of the militia, who reside within the limits of the county of Union, shall continue to hold office and perform all duties appertaining thereto, until the first county court to be held for said county, under the same rules, regulations and penalties as constables are subject to in the State.

Section 5.—Be it further enacted, That the constables residing within the limits of the county of Union, shall continue to hold office and perform all duties appertaining thereto, until the first county court to be held for said county, under the same rules, regulations and penalties as constables are subject to in the State.

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