

Gossip of the State Capital

By COL. FRED. A. OLDS

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Raleigh, Sept. 12.—The advance in book-making and book-writing in North Carolina is something which ought surely to be very gratifying. Prof. Daniel Harvey Hill, of the Agricultural and Mechanical College, has presented to me his "Young People's History of North Carolina," printed by the Stone & Barringer Company, of Charlotte. Both in matter and workmanship the book is a model and it will fill a very important part in the State's curriculum. Further along will come the library history of the State which Capt. Samuel A. Ashe has almost finished. It is interesting to know that almost all the illustrations and very numerous they are in Professor Hill's book, were made in the hall of history here, for this shows how rapid has been the work of collection there and how wide the scope of the objects. In this connection it may be said that the Legislature fell short of its duty during the last term by failing to provide a new building for this collection. The work of collection has been done and will be done without cost to the State and would have been that under these particular circumstances at least the Legislature would have seen its way at once to have made this provision.

We were talking about butter and milk and cream, three of the best things in the world, by the way, and some very observant men and women remarked that it was astonishing in an agricultural State like this these things had to be brought in from elsewhere. We were at the railway station and saw cans coming in from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute at Blacksburg. Never before has the demand for these things been so great in the State as at present and one would naturally think the supply would rise to meet the demand, but no. There is always the last demand for the product of the cow and the hen, an unsatisfied demand, a great deal of the time. Cotton is talked about as king, but then there is the queen, in the value of her products she outranks cotton and takes first place.

Here at Raleigh there is need of dairies and your correspondent is informed that elsewhere in the State there is a similar cry for more milk. The profit is great and the returns certain.

It surely can be arranged so next year that there will be a real State convention of fiddlers to be held in this town. If the people in the various counties will send in to your correspondent lists of fiddlers they know, these will be printed and the names turned over to William J. Andrews, who is the State patron of the general and traditional arrangements can be made for a grand contest a year hence with big money as prizes and honors galore. Certainly in western North Carolina and through the Piedmont section there must be plenty of fiddlers, though to be sure much of the old-time dancing is going out of fashion and children are growing up who know nothing about the glories and joys of the Virginia fiddle. In fact there are plenty of them in this town and no doubt in others, who can't square dance, and some contend that the German is superior to the square dance. These latter are in close sympathy with the adherents of the violin who think the violin is superior to the fiddle. Perish the thought, and give us the old thing.

Raleigh is a place of pilgrimage for many thousands of excursionists during the whole year. A few days ago a large party came in and one of them, a woman who had been here before and knew the ropes led her companions, and when one of them asked her where they were going to take them next, said, "We're agoin' to the State amusement." By this she means the State Museum and indeed it is a very good name for the big building and its collection, which is the nucleus of every excursionist. It would have been an interesting thing to hear the old soul explain the contents to her following friends.

Railway building is being very rapidly done this year and it is very safe to say that 1907 will make at once the biggest and best record for North Carolina in this respect. Of course the giant work on the South & Western Railway leads everything. That work goes through new territory largely, but other less talked of roads will open up counties which have never had a locomotive within their borders and in which no doubt many people live who have never seen a train in all their lives. Hyde is one county which is thus to be opened, fifty cordons being now at work on the road there. The most like in the State, Matamoras, is in that county and it is one of the most curious sheets of water in the world, shallow, with a bottom of charcoal and without a solitary fish. In other words the lake is a hole burned in the ground and filled with water. Another road of importance and really of much more than local interest is the one upon which work begins in a few days from Edinboro, Sparta, in latter place being away up in Alleghany county, that county and the adjoining ones of Ashe and Watauga being the bluegrass counties of North Carolina. People who live there declare that really these are the three finest counties in the State and they certainly are for cattle. The bluegrass and limestone region there is like the best in Virginia, Tennessee or Kentucky and this railroad will put it all in touch with North Carolina. Up to this good hour Virginia has always received practically all the output of these three counties.

No matter how hard people have tried to arouse enthusiasm in the contest for the governorship this year, they have failed. There has been no shouting and there is no going to be any until next year. Mark that. The Craig men say Locke is certain to be a winner, while the Kitchen men declare that Will is a dead sure thing. Friends of both these say that the late Ashley Horne will be complimentary. The friends of Kitchen are claiming that he will get all the second district except Bertie county, the birthplace of Craig, and that he will get half of Wilson on the first ballot, the other half going to Horne as a compliment on first ballot and then going to Kitchen. The friends of Craig are saying that he is going to surprise the Kitchen men and everybody else by the vote he will get in the east. To be sure there is plenty of counting of chickens before they are hatched by everybody this year. The governorship is a good thing and a lively campaign and it may be put down now as a fact that there will be as lively a campaign for both of these things next

year, say from May out as he could wish.

A new student at a college certainly has a hard time. The Young Men's Christian Association boys give him the glad hand and the bright smile and help him, but the poor wretch in a great many places gets quite the reverse of help from the older students. The latter never think, in a great many cases, how they would have liked to have had a kind word and a helping hand when they were freshmen. And so the world goes on. The schools are opening now and it is a time of sorrow for many a youngster. There are people who say these are all the better for rough treatment, but never was there a greater mistake. A caress is worth all the curses in the world.

There is to be added to the State's fast growing collection of portraits the original one of the governor Stanton Johnson, of "Hays" near Eden. This was bequeathed to the late Colonel Catwelder Jones and at his death went to General Johnston Jones, who now lives at Los Angeles, California. The portrait has been secured by the Sons of the Revolution and will be presented by them to North Carolina in the next sixty days. Governor Johnson is one of the richest men in the State and his son, James C. Johnson, was the wealthiest man by far in North Carolina and perhaps in the South. He had \$3,000 slaves, vast estates, his own vessels, and lived like a prince. As a matter of fact Hays himself shows what the life was in those olden days from 1750 to 1850.

The State has never had, since the war began a real gardener and landscape artist to look after its public grounds here, that is in the Capitol. The last one was William H. Hamilton, who came just before the war from England and when the war began went into the army. He laid out the Capitol Square. Since that time the position as keeper of the Capitol has been in the nature of one may say of penon to Confederate veterans. It is thought that a change may now be brought about and the work will be put in charge of persons who are acquainted with the subject.

Mention has been made of the fact that Captain Ashe in a letter to me had said North Carolina needed 15,000 more mull hands, the supply being now very short in the cotton manufacturing plants at a number of points. On the other hand there is a lot of objection to people coming here from almost any country save an English-speaking one. There does not seem to be any objection to English, Irish or Scotch, but some people appear not even to like the Irish and the Germans, putting everybody down as foreigners, while of Irish they have a dread. There is not in sight yet any great immigration movement. Mr. T. K. Bruner is now abroad and will sail in a day or two for home, but it was not his plan to flood the State with people, but to get the best, even though but few. It is not yet known what steps the State will take towards getting some of the immigrants who are to come to the port of Charleston. Of all the States in the South, Texas, Louisiana and South Carolina appear to be taking the most vigorous. Texas simply absorbs them. They are colonized everywhere there and they can certainly do wonders. I remember being at New Brunsfels where there are Germans in a whole county, thousands of them, and they have taken to raising cotton with great energy and skill and make it a point to do the most careful ginning and packing. They get the best seed, raise long-staple cotton, gin it with infinite care and it is put up in the best style. What is the result? Why they get a cent a pound more for it than any other people do and this is known to every buyer in the State. It ranks with the choicest Red River cotton and that from Mississippi which is grown in the bends of the great river and which is known in the trade as "blends." This little hint is given merely to show what care with cotton will do and how it puts money in the farmer's pocket. North Carolina growers can stick a pin here.

Few people have an idea how large a quantity of cotton seed for planting is sent from North Carolina now-a-days. The United States Agricultural Department advised Texas and Louisiana people to get their seed from here because they are harder and mature quicker than those grown in the south and this is an important thing in the big fight against the boll weevil. Now a lot of mull hand seed has been sent from this State, but some gross frauds have been perpetrated by the shipping of old seed and some worthless seed, not selected at all, but simply gathered together, dumped in a car and sent off. I heard a Texas man once who would like to be one of a party to lynch a North Carolinian who had shipped some sorry seed into that State.

North Carolina is going to make a very splendid gift to her very splendid namesake, the great copper now being finished at the Newport News ship yards and which goes into commission in January. The ceremony will take place perhaps at Norfolk or Newport News, or perhaps at Charleston, as the people at the latter North Carolina go there on this occasion. The design for the great gift of silver are well worth looking at and represent art in its highest sense. It cost a large sum and much work by high-class artists to prepare these designs alone, not to speak of the work on the silver itself.

North Carolina has made excellent growth this year. When all the assessments are sent in and the returns made up by the auditor it will be found that the increase is very substantial. It has been said in speeches by Governor Glenn and others that the State is really worth a billion dollars, but the returns are not going to show so large a figure. Yet it is very certain that in a number of counties there is marked under-valuation. In some this has been quite notorious for a number of years. Some counties which have been for many a year or another more than they pay in have "mended their lick," as the phrase goes in the country, and have advanced valuations to a more proper figure. Yet in a great many sections the property is valued at over 50 or 60 per cent of the true figure, there is a howl. The sales of property expose the true assessments in a great

many cases. This has certainly been the case in this part of the State. The improvement in living in the State has certainly been marked in many ways. It is shown more in the country than in the towns. Farming property has advanced in value from 25 to 50 per cent in the past three or four years, keeping up with the advance in town and city property. Better houses, more education, more reading, etc., are noted everywhere and it is a delight to travel on the railways in any direction from here and see the new school houses. Superintendent Joyner says that the high schools are going to be wonderful factors in development and that their power is going to be many times greater in an education way than people in the country district now in the main imagine or believe. Not many years ago many farmers lived in very bad fashion and invitations to their homes were few and far between, but now it is different. Then as to reading, it is notorious that a score of years ago or even twelve years ago an organization in the State very gravely warned its followers to read nothing except such material as it sent out or recommended and literature was barred from many thousands of homes. This is all but memory now and a brighter time is here.

NEWS FROM LOUISBURG.

Louisburg College Has Its Best Opening—Panic at Negro Meeting—New Firm Begins Business in the Town From the Tax List.

Louisburg, Sept. 14.—Louisburg College has had its most successful opening. The largest number of pupils ever known were present on the first day. The college building will not accommodate all the boarding and living like a prince. As a matter of fact Hays himself shows what the life was in those olden days from 1750 to 1850. The State has never had, since the war began a real gardener and landscape artist to look after its public grounds here, that is in the Capitol. The last one was William H. Hamilton, who came just before the war from England and when the war began went into the army. He laid out the Capitol Square. Since that time the position as keeper of the Capitol has been in the nature of one may say of penon to Confederate veterans. It is thought that a change may now be brought about and the work will be put in charge of persons who are acquainted with the subject.

At a protracted meeting which is now going on at Main Street Baptist church, colored, there was intense excitement bordering on panic, last night when the floor gave way during a period of fanatical shouting and jumping. There was a rush for the doors and windows, but no injuries resulted, a few women fainting being the only consequences. The congregation moved to the open air outside where the services were continued. It is considered almost miraculous that there were not many injuries. As a result of these meetings it is said that there will be more than one hundred to be baptized here next Sunday.

Rev. L. S. Massey, of the Methodist church, announces a series of meetings to be held in his church on the fifth Sunday in this month to be conducted by Rev. Euclid McWhorter, of the North Carolina Conference. Mr. McWhorter is said to be a preacher of power and successful as an evangelist. A cordial invitation was extended to the other denominations of the town to join in the meetings.

McKinnis Bros., who recently purchased the store and stock of goods of Allen Bros., are now in full charge. All the papers having been signed. This was a transaction of some magnitude, more than \$25,000 being involved. The Messrs. McKinnis are, comparatively speaking, new comers to this town, but in the short time they have been here have impressed the confidence and respect of all and are now numbered with the leading business men. Messrs. Allen Bros. will not go out of business altogether but will retain a small supply store and office in rear of P. S. & K. K. interests are so large as to require their entire time and attention.

Dr. J. E. Malone and family are attending the Jamestown Exposition this week. Dr. Malone is especially prominent at the meeting of the surgeons of the Southern Air Line Railway. He will respond to the address of welcome on behalf of the surgeons and is also slated for the reading of a paper before that body on "The Effects of Alcohol on the Human Body." The following interesting items are gathered from the tax list: Number of acres of land listed, 289,917; value at \$2,128,808; value of musical instruments, \$32,000; value of watches and jewelry, \$182,000.

The increase in value of real estate as compared with last year is about \$300,000 while the total increase in taxation of everything is nearly a half million dollars.

ARRESTED FOR BIGAMY.

Man Who Thought His Wife Dead and Married Again Will Have to Answer to Court For His Conduct. Wife No. 1 Being the Instigator of Proceedings.

High Point, Sept. 14.—A warrant was served on George Brummel of this place, yesterday afternoon, charging him with bigamy. The particulars in the case are well known to the people of High Point. Some years ago Brummel and his wife became separated for some cause, she going West to see relatives. In the meantime Brummel claims that he heard or had good reasons to believe his wife was dead and, therefore, married again. But it seems that wife No. 1 was much alive, but neither she nor Brummel had secured a divorce. Appearing on the scene here and finding out that Brummel was married again, things looked queerly for a while; but somehow the matter was kept quiet for the time being, after much parleying with lawyers. It was reported that Brummel had given wife No. 1 money to go her way retaining and let him in Spotsylvania No. 2 live in peace, but that as it may, wife No. 1 has turned up again and instituted proceedings against her lawful husband for bigamy. Wife No. 1 now lives in Philadelphia. For the past few months, it has developed, Brummel has been getting letters from wife No. 1 which bore a threatening attitude, and the arrest yesterday is the culmination of this correspondence. Brummel is ordinarily a hard-working man and a good citizen, and his friends feel for him in his hour of "much marriedness." The case will probably be tried at Superior Court which convenes in Greensboro next week.

PISTOL HAVES BLUFFER.

Stranger Catches Hold of Horse's Reins and Then Goes For Merces. W. T. Gibson sells Valuable Farm to E. C. Heins.

Miss Cates is visiting Miss Is. Thompson and has spent the week here. Two of the young men called a halt to a stranger's bluff very effectively. They were driving near Secon creek, seven miles from town, when some one took hold of the horse's reins. A steady gun, flashed in the offender's face, caused him to go to his knees and beg for mercy. He said he meant nothing by what he did.

Mr. W. T. Green to-day sold his farm of 140 acres to Mr. E. C. Heins, formerly manager of the Salisbury telephone exchange. The valuable property is situated four miles from Salisbury and will be worked by one of the finest fellows Salisbury ever had. Mr. Heins will move with his family from Mount Airy and become a resident of Rowan. This is news that is new to Salisbury and nothing happening in a long time is more joyful. He and his family are loved by everybody here.

LENGTHY CRIMINAL TERM.

Gaston County Has More Criminal Cases For Trial Than Usual—Graham Farrar Acquitted of Murder—Big Civil Suit Begins To-Morrow.

Dallas, Sept. 14.—The criminal term of Gaston Superior Court for September came to a close to-day, it lasting all of this week, which is unusual as generally the criminal term of this county consumes only about three days. The only important case was the case of Graham Farrar, who was tried for the murder of Noah Johnson. This homicide occurred at Mount Holly during the month of August, 1905, at a negro festival. Farrar fled the State, being caught in White Plains, N. Y. Farrar was today found not guilty, and was freed after being in jail for several months. He was represented by Messrs. O. F. Mason and John G. Carpenter, while the State was represented by Solicitor Clarkson, assisted by Mr. F. F. Griffin.

Monday the suit of the Long Shoals Company against the High Shoals Company will be taken up. The case will be long drawn out, as able counsel are representing both concerns. Judge Garland Ferguson, of Waynesville, is presiding at this term of court.

TO CHANGE QUARANTINE LINE.

Government Men at Durham Working For Such—The Inspectors Did Not Poison Cows as Reported.

Durham, Sept. 14.—Several government men are at work in this county trying to change the quarantine line for cattle so that Durham and some twelve or thirteen other counties that are south of the quarantine boundary can ship cattle to the North and West.

The recent stories starting from this place that cattle have been poisoned by government inspectors, or some one representing himself as an inspector, is declared to-night as being absolutely without foundation for truth by Dr. H. Caldwell, who is in charge of the government men in this section. He said that all the reports grew out of the fact that three cows died on one farm as a result of the Texas or tick fever. He hopes by quarantining local districts and farms to get this county and others in this section outside the quarantine line.

This government work has absolutely nothing to do with the proposed move of the city to have a meat and milk inspection.

Revenue Officers in Franklin County Busy.

Louisburg, Sept. 14.—Revenue officers have been quite busy in this county of late. Some days since D. B. Webster was arrested for receiving and cashing an order intended for another man; and, although he had since paid and held the right man's receipt for the money, the officials arrested him and carried him before the United States commissioner, where he gave bond for his appearance at the next term of Federal Court. Yesterday officers visited the eastern section of the county and found irregularities in connection with the distillery of T. A. Hollingsworth. It seems that a small keg of brandy was found hidden in some bushes nearby and other alleged irregularities. Mr. Hollingsworth was not arrested, however.

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