

# FRANKLIN TIMES.

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## MAPLEVILLE ACADEMY

### GAINING IN POPULARITY EACH SESSION.

#### A Little Data Concerning the School, Its Patrons, Teachers and the Work Including That of the Trustees.

I have been requested to write a brief sketch of Mapleville school. As far back as the oldest inhabitant can remember the first schoolhouse was near Maple Springs church, and the first teacher was Mr. Carswell Finch, of whom little is known, except that he was the ancestor of Rev. J. M. L. Finch. Brother Finch and wife taught a female school near the same place; while Col. Thomas taught the free school below the Arrington place. The next teacher below the Arrington place was a Mr. Daughtery, and he was succeeded by Mr. Bennett. During the war Mr. Billie Fuller, Mr. Langford and others taught the school. In 1868 Prof. John B. Brewer was principal of Mapleville school and taught in Maple Springs church. Succeeding him was Mr. Arthur Arrington. Later in the '60s Miss Sallie Harris taught, then Miss Willie Phelps, following her Mrs. Areta Yarboro one year, next was Prof. Charles Bebee of Maryland, who had charge of the school four years, during this period the school was moved to a site in front of the store, and an academy was built; largely by the influence of Rev. G. W. Newell and Mr. J. H. Uzzell, who gave the land; A. W. Perry, W. N. Finley, A. W. Jackson, D. E. Best and many others, who rallied to the support of the school and built, what was considered then, a good house.

The first trustees were Rev. G. W. Newell, chairman, who purchased the first library, J. H. Uzzell, A. W. Perry, D. E. Best. Just prior to this there was a school near Mr. W. N. Fuller's which was taught by Rev. G. W. Newell and Mr. A. J. Ashton, which was afterward abandoned, part of the pupils going to Hickory Rock, and a part to Mapleville. In 1898 Miss Sallie Lou Best was elected principal of Mapleville academy and taught for four years. Next was Prof. J. D. Hufman, who taught one year, then Mr. Bebee returned, remaining this time two years. Miss Bettie Perry had charge for one year, then Miss Ramie Burk from South Carolina was principal for two years, succeeding her, Miss Janet Hayes taught two years. Mr. E. Williams was principal for three years. Our present principal, G. M. Beam, was elected in 1912. All of these with their assistants, have been good teachers as far back as I can remember; and their beautiful Christian lives, with their earnest, faithful work in the school-room have done much to make this one of the most desirable sections of our county. The people for the most part being loyal to both teacher and school.

There being a constantly increasing interest in education and a sincere desire on the part of the parents to procure the best to be had for their children, about a year ago it was decided the old building was not comfortable to teach in, we therefore determined to build a new one. The site was again changed, this time it was erected in the grove back of Mr. J. H. Uzzell's home, and facing the Laurel road. In the exchange of sites we have four acres of land in the place of one. In the erection of this new building, commendable zeal has been displayed by nearly the entire community. The building committee was, Messrs. J. H. Uzzell, C. P. Harris and J. O. Wilson, the most active of these being Mr. Harris, he with his colleagues having given as one of the best wooden structures in the county. The building cost about \$2,000, all of which has been paid, except \$150, and the balance yet to come. The thanks of the community is due the Ladies' Betterment Association who raised untiringly for the building.

As before stated, Mapleville school is located in one of the finest sections of Franklin County, the citizens being of the best and almost always working harmoniously. The present board of trustees are Rev. G. M. Duke, chairman, J. H. Uzzell, secretary, C. P. Harris, treasurer, J. O. Wilson, J. W. Strange and J. Y. Yarboro, these being gentlemen of the finest character, having loyally stood by the school. Perhaps some error have been made in the above statements unintentionally, however, this is the best I could do with the limited means of information concerning the early history of what

we love and revere, Mapleville Academy.

#### Board of Trustees Mapleville Academy

1. C. P. Harris, a successful farmer and business man, who has taken an active part in the building of the new academy and constant friend of the school.

2. J. O. Wilson, a prominent and successful farmer and good citizen, and friend and great helper to the school, and also a member of Board of County Commissioners.

3. J. W. Strange, a native citizen of this community, also a good and successful farmer and a friend to the school and superintendent of the Sunday school at this place.

4. J. H. Uzzell, also a native citizen of this community, a good farmer and merchant. For 15 years postmaster at Mapleville. Has been a member of the board of education and now a member of Board of County Commissioners. A progressive man always a friend to education.

5. Jno. B. Yarboro, a farmer and now Register of Deeds of this county. A good man, always ready to help in all good causes and a great friend of education.

#### Rev. G. M. Duke.

For twelve years Rev. G. M. Duke has lived in the Mapleville community and has been pastor of the Maple Springs Baptist church for forty years and has been chairman of our Board of Trustees for the last ten years. He is the man who started the movement for a new school building.

Mr. Duke has been closely associated with all the churches and schools of this county and has been the builder of many. The fact that he has lived his life of many useful years within a few miles of his old home place, speaks for him, both as a pastor and preacher. Though Mr. Duke is not a college educated man he is one of the best read men, and therefore educated, in the State. Being a natural orator he has won many friends wherever he has gone. For a number of years he has been pastor of from four to eight churches and is one of the most popular and most beloved men of our State. Whenever his name is mentioned a number of loyal friends will be found. Truly, he is our chief man of thought, the wisest leader, the safest counselor, the truest friend, and the most highly esteemed citizen.

#### Betterment Work at Mapleville.

The betterment work at Mapleville had its origin in a hickory nut hunt by the children. The nuts were sold for one dollar. This taught the chil-



PROF. G. M. BEAM

Principal of Mapleville Academy who did much in the interest of the new building.

dren that they could make money for their school and filled them with enthusiasm and determination to raise four dollars, which was the amount due on the dictionary.

Their best plan for raising money was to have a contest between the boys and girls to see which could raise the larger amount. Much interest was aroused and the contest ended in a tie, with more than the required amount for the dictionary.

By this time other needs of the school were seen and more money had to be raised. An ice cream supper was given and twenty dollars realized. This brought the mothers of the community in touch with the school and its needs. Soon a mothers' meeting was organized for the purpose of bettering the school. Amongst many things done by this organization were, all the wood given to the school, the children's teeth examined, a reading room organized, a supplementary library, two coolers and six brooms were bought for the

school.

By this time a still larger field of work was opened and the mothers' meetings were changed into a Betterment Association. This organization offered membership to every person in the community who was interested in the betterment of the school.

It was at one of the meetings of this association that Rev. G. M. Duke made the motion, "That we tear down this school building and build a new



MAPLEVILLE ACADEMY BUILDING

This building is modern in its arrangement and was erected principally through the efforts of the Betterment Association.

one like it ought to be." This motion was quite a surprise to many of the members, but all agreed that it was what ought to be done. The motion was left open for discussion until the next meeting.

The neighborhood was now alive with interest for the new school building. Everybody realized that we needed the academy—but how are we to get the money? After the question had been well discussed the Board of Trustees was called together by its chairman. Every member, except one, was present and the very best spirit possible prevailed. In just a few minutes a motion to build a new academy passed.

While the Betterment Association never had the opportunity of voting on Mr. Duke's motion, it went to work with the trustees to raise money for the new building. Two of its members, Mrs. C. P. Harris and Mrs. J. B. Yarborough, spent a day raising money for the building and the way was soon made clear.

The Betterment Association continued its work of raising money through the summer. Though the faithful work of the friends of the school, especially Mrs. H. H. Hobgood and Miss Lola Jackson, ice cream was sold every Saturday afternoon in front of the Mapleville store. In this way sixty dollars were made for the school. The ladies of the neighborhood, instead of giving a dinner, made this amount eighty-five dollars.

Since the opening of school last fall, the association has made over two hundred dollars. Several different methods have been used in raising this money, but the most successful of all was the Old Fiddlers' convention. This was the last effort of the association and the amount raised (\$120) is quite a contrast to the one



MISS LOLA JACKSON

One of the teachers in the Mapleville School and president of the Betterment Association.

dollar realized from the hickory nut hunt.

The amount of good this organization has done our neighborhood can never fully be realized. The new building and success of the school as a whole could never have been but for the work of the Betterment Association. While every member of the association has done what she could, there are a few, such as Mrs. J. O. Wilson, Mrs. Joe Champion, Mrs. J. O. Wilson, Mrs. C. P. Harris, Mrs. H. H.

Hobgood, Mrs. J. H. Uzzell, Mrs. Joe Perry, Mrs. W. M. Boone, Mrs. J. B. Yarborough, Misses Emma Duke, Besse Strange and Lola Jackson, who have been untiring and untiring in their efforts.

#### Mapleville Academy Closing Exercises

Mapleville Academy, at Mapleville, has its closing exercises Friday night and quite an interesting entertainment is promised from the following pro-



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gram of exercises.

Opening Address ..... Arch Wilson  
Song: "Little Mother" Five Little Girls  
Recitation: "Parasol and Rainy Days"—(S. Emily Pottor)  
..... Six Boys and Six Girls  
Duet: "Surprise for Papa"—(S. Buchmann)  
..... Mary Wilson and Annie Harris  
Play: "Old Woman in the Shoe" (Laura Rountree Smith)  
..... Twelve Children  
Solo: "Mystic Procession"—(Geza Hawatti)  
..... Nepple Wilson  
Recitation: "The Runaway Boys"—(John Whitcomb Riley)  
..... Elijah Fulghum  
Solo: "Isabelle"—(G. Bachmann)  
..... Lucy Sledge  
Play: "Fairy Sunshine"—(Laura Rountree Smith)  
..... A Number of Children

#### Attention, Farmers!

The attention of the County Farmers' Union is called to an error of date in the cards mailed stating that the meeting would be held on Thursday, May 1st. It should have read Thursday, May 7th. Let all come on that date.

#### The Justice Commencement.

The Justice school commencement, which closed last Friday night, was a distinct success, and marked the end of a highly successful scholastic year.

On Tuesday night the primary and intermediate pupils gave a very interesting performance consisting of recitations, music, short plays, etc. The usual large crowd was on hand Friday morning. After the declamation contest, in which Mr. Ollie Harris was victor, carrying off the gold medal offered by the principal, Prof. T. H. Sledge, introduced his former college mate, Rev. W. O. Rosser, pastor of the Spring Hope Baptist church, who delivered the address of the occasion.

Without any attempt at spread-eagle oratory, Mr. Rosser delivered a very practical, instructive and stimulating address on the subject of education, which made a profound impression on his audience.

Superintendent R. B. White followed Mr. Rosser in one of his characteristically strong speeches.

Rev. W. M. Gilmore, of Louisburg, delivered music medals to Miss Nonie Webb Stallings and Mr. James Elijah Whelless, offered by their music teacher, Miss Wright.

Rev. C. C. Williams, a local minister, in behalf of the board of trustees, presented a substantial token of their esteem to each of the teachers, and announced the faculty for the coming year, viz: Prof. Thomas H. Sledge, principal; Miss Bell Wright, teacher of primary department; Miss Clara Long, teacher of intermediate department; Miss Nollie J. Wright, teacher of music.

After a sumptuous picnic dinner served on the grounds, a spirited recitation contest was held, in which six young ladies participated. The medal, which was delivered by Rev. Geo. M. Duke, of Mapleville, went to Miss Annie Clapper.

A sharply contested ball game between the New Hope and Justice

teams was played in the afternoon also.

One of the most interesting features of the occasion was the comedy, "Topsy Turvy," which was given Friday night. The play was true to life and provoked much laughter. It was exceptionally well rendered for amateur performers.

The Justice people have a right to feel proud of their handsome school building, with the imposing Confederate monument in front, the first to be erected in the county.

The progress being made in this community along educational, agricultural and other lines is manifested. The school has been a potent factor in this new awakening and development.

#### Younger Set Book Club Entertained.

On Tuesday afternoon, at the home of Mrs. S. P. Boddie, Miss Alice Morrison most delightfully entertained the Younger Set Book Club.

The subject for the afternoon was "Twelfth Night." Mrs. Spencer Baker read an instructive and interesting paper, the story of the play, and Mrs. Ben Holden and Miss Mamie Pones read selections from the play.

After the program had been completed, a delightful fruit salad, cake, cream, coffee and mints were served. The meeting was one of the most delightful held by the club, and Miss Morrison proved herself a most charming hostess.

The members present were, Misses Alice Morrison, Lynn Hall, Annie Green, Eleanor Cooke, Mary Stewart Edgerton, Mrs. Ben Holden, Mrs. Al Hodges, Mrs. Spencer Baker, Mrs. Joe Mann, Miss Mammie Jones and Miss Fearnle Brinson.

The club was glad to have with them as guests, Misses Ina Harris, Jennie Nucum and Mesdames B. B. Perry and S. P. Boddie.

#### Griffin & Bessley's Planing Plant Burned.

The planing plant of Griffin & Bessley, located just to the rear of the oil mill, was burned on last Saturday night about 1:30 o'clock. The fire was discovered early and the alarm given, but as it was mostly a shed with a lot of shavings, etc., under it the fire soon had control of the situation.

The fire company and a number of citizens were prompt to answer the alarm and confined the fire to the shed. The estimated loss is about \$200 with no insurance.

#### New Hope Wins From Justice.

An unusually interesting game of baseball was played—between New Hope and Justice's ball teams last Friday afternoon at Justice, the commencement day of that school. Quite a large and enthusiastic crowd witnessed the game. New Hope defeated Justice by the score of 5 to 4.

These teams played a thirteen inning game last year with the score 7 to 7.

New Hope is putting out another good team this year. Last year this team played twenty-one games, winning nineteen, tied one and lost one.

#### To Old Soldiers.

We are requested to state that all old soldiers—members of E. M. McKinny Camp No. 1527, of Franklin County, are expected to be present in Louisburg on Wednesday, May 13, 1914, dressed in their uniform to take part in the unveiling ceremonies of the monument.

#### Building Notes.

Mr. M. F. Houck informs us that he has begun the erection of a handsome eight-room cottage for Mr. A. W. Person. Also that he will begin this week the addition to Mr. B. G. Hick's store on Nash Street and will give the main room a thorough overhauling ceiling it with metal ceiling. This will make quite a big improvement in this building and when completed will be one of the nicest business houses in this section of the State.

#### Picnic at Lover's Leap.

Mrs. E. S. Ford accompanied by a number of little boys and girls enjoyed quite a nice little picnic at the old historic Lover's Leap, about two miles north of town, on Monday.

#### Teaching Dancing.

Miss Sackie Latta, of Raleigh, arrived in Louisburg the past week to conduct a dancing school. The lessons are given in the large hall above the Hill Live Stock Co. She was accompanied by her sister, Miss Mary Latta.

## NO NEW DEVELOPMENTS

### MEDIATORS GET HUERTA ACCEPTANCE

Neither Side Makes Terms, But U. S. Insists Dictator Must Go—Simultaneous Proposals Expected to Be Submitted Today.

Formal acceptance of the Huerta government of the offer of Argentina, Brazil and Chile, to use their good offices to bring about an amicable settlement of the difficulty between the United States and Mexico was cabled to Spanish Ambassador Riano here last night by Portillo y Rojas, foreign minister of Huerta cabinet.

Señor Portillo's note was transmitted at once to the South American diplomats, who began a conference which lasted far into the night, discussing the next move in their peace plan.

#### First Step Is Completed.

The Secretary of State, on the part of the United States, having accepted the offer of good offices when tendered Saturday, the first step now is completed and the way paved for actual negotiations.

The three South American envoys who have undertaken the task of mediation held frequent conferences yesterday to arrange the preliminaries of procedure. Pending the receipt of the formal acceptance by Huerta, no proposals will be submitted to either the United States or the Huerta government. It was made plain that no conditions from either party as to the terms that will be acceptable have as yet been formally placed before the intermediaries.

#### Proposals Come Later.

The Secretary of State and other government officials said that the American government simply has formally expressed its willingness to listen to any plan of intermediation which the representatives of Argentina, Brazil and Chile may formulate. Huerta has informally shown his readiness to bend a listening ear to the peace plans of the South American envoys.

When formal acceptance from Huerta, is received formal proposals will be made simultaneously to the American government and the Huerta administration.

#### Must Oust Huerta.

But in formal conferences at the White House before the acceptance of the offer of mediation, participated in by members of the Senate and House and other government officials, it clearly was understood that, when a stage might be reached upon which the mediators would be asked to stipulate terms of negotiation, this government would not agree to anything which did not mean the eventual elimination of Huerta from control of Mexican government affairs.

No formal stipulation of this kind, however, has been made, nor can there be, until a more advanced stage in negotiation has been reached.

#### War Plans Go On.

Meanwhile the navy and war departments are continuing their efforts to care for refugees and perfecting the machinery of the army and navy for any unexpected turn in events.

#### A Tip to the Street Department.

We do not know of anything or get that would add more to the comfort, enjoyment and health of the people of Louisburg; and (especially the ladies), than to have the sprinkling wagon to go up Main Street at 9 a. m. every day, encircle the monument and return down same street and then repeat the trip again at 4 p. m. The ladies promenade Main Street every evening, dressed in pure white, and when they get home find their clothes unfit for use again on account of the great covering of dust. It is almost impossible to get a free breath of healthy air on Main Street because the air is burdened with great clouds of dust. There is no estimating the number of diseases producing germs in this floating menace. The human air passages are coated over with dust, the mucus membranes of mouth, nose, eyes and ears are subjected to the deposit of living germs, liable to produce inflammatory conditions to bring on sore eyes, tonsillitis, colds and numerous other unhealthy conditions and perhaps dangerous and fatal diseases. We sincerely wish that the good folk who have the water department in charge could see this way to contribute to the comfort, pleasure and health of our people.