

THE LENOIR TOPIC.

W. W. SCOTT, Jr., Editor and Publisher

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WATAUGA SUPERIOR COURT.

Fall Term, 1885, Judge A. C. Avery Presiding.

The following grand jury was chosen, of whom T. P. Adams was appointed foreman and G. W. Cable officer:

T. P. Adams, J. Patt Coffey, Dan'l W. Bradley, Elbert J. Hartley, Irvin Green, R. H. Farthing, J. A. Gragg, David C. Dugger, John C. Smith, J. B. Green, R. H. Moore, Masten Davis, Joe B. Brown, George W. Lawrence, Cicero D. Herman, Noah T. Mast, Adam Jones, Henry Shook.

State vs Lewis Watson and Rebecca Rimer; f and a; guilty; nine months in jail for Watson and judgment suspended as to Rimer.

Nick Kellar, c c w; guilty; judgment suspended on payment of costs. Henry Rimer; f and a; not guilty.

Henry Rimer and Frankie Watson; f and a; guilty; 18 months in jail for Rimer; judgment suspended as to Watson until Oct. 1, 1886 when a capias returnable to March term, 1887, issues for her if she is in the State.

John Antin; assault with deadly weapon; not guilty. C. C. Smith; retailing; judgment suspended on payment of costs.

T. J. F. Brown; c c w; judgment suspended on payment of costs. Laura Patterson and Hester Brown; affray; submission and judgment suspended on payment of costs.

Bynum Anderson; a and b with d w; guilty; \$5 and costs. W. H. Andrew; larceny of bible and hymn book; continued and allowed to give bail in sum of \$200.

Mark Byers; c c w; submission; judgment suspended on payment of costs. Marion Crawford; shooting a sheep in the range; guilty; 3 months in jail with leave to county commissioners to hire him out.

Joe Dotson and Henry Johnson; larceny; guilty; 5 years each in penitentiary. Waitis Davis; larceny; guilty; 4 years in penitentiary.

J. W. Smith; assault on S. A. Lawrence; submission; judgment suspended on payment of costs. Joe Dotson and Henry Johnson; larceny; (two bills); submission; judgment suspended on payment of costs.

Mark Byers; larceny; guilty; 4 months in jail with leave to commissioners to hire him out.

BOOKS, Sept. 2. I give above the judgments on the criminal side of the docket which was concluded today, (Wednesday), at 12 o'clock. There were only one or two continuances and about 23 alias capias issued for criminals who have skipped across the line into Tennessee or to other counties. There are 22 lawyers present. Sheriff D. F. Baird is confined to his bed with a severe attack of rheumatism and his place is filled in the court house by deputy sheriff Joseph B. Clarke. Register of Deeds W. W. Presnell assists the Clerk, Joseph B. Todd, Esq., and Mr. John Brown is registering deeds.

Judge Avery is regarded with much affection by the people of Watauga and they are particular proud of their Judge's record on this riding of the circuit. He opened court early Monday morning, works assiduously till dinner-time each day, when he gives a recess of three-quarters of an hour, and prolongs the evening session late into the evening. The lawyers grumble and complain that the Judge is killing them with work, but he seems determined to allow no part of the complaint brought against some Judges for carelessness to be applied to him. Mr. Bower has also manifested much zeal and ability as a solicitor and the general impression he has made upon the people is a good one.

Judge Avery is the very man to succeed Judge McRae, as they are both bent upon making the path of evil doers a thorny one. Particularly in the Rimer-Watson cases, which involved glaring immoralities, he came down upon the men and sent them to jail for 18 and 9 months respectively.

The people on the border, about the head of Cove Creek and Beaver Dams, have thinned out the outlaws in that section considerably, having organized a sort of "homeguard" police who, at a moment's warning, proceed on the trail of thieves and outlaws and capture them wherever they overhauled them. The State line is only an imaginary boundary and it raises no obstacle to them when they are in pursuit of a fugitive thief. The two men, Joe Dotson and Henry Johnson, who had carried on a wholesale robbing of the citizens of Cove Creek and Beaver Dams, and were followed 80 miles into Carter county, Tenn., to their rendezvous and captured, were tried today, convicted and promptly sentenced to the penitentiary for five years.

In the trial of the boy, Marion Crawford, for shooting a sheep in the range on Stone Mountain, quite an interesting little point was developed. The locus in quo was in the vicinity of the State line and

Cranfield was going along the ridge, following a sheep trail, in company with a youth named Johnson and this same Dotson who was convicted of larceny. They heard a sheep bell and Johnson told Cranfield, who is scarcely compos mentis, that he would give up a pistol he had in possession if Cranfield would shoot a sheep with a gun which he carried. When they came in sight and range of the sheep Cranfield blazed away and killed one of them and left it lying where it fell. It was evidence by one witness that the sheep fell directly on the State line and that Cranfield, when he shot at it, was three steps across the line in Tennessee. The jury, however, brought in a verdict of guilty.

Talt Adams, the foreman of the grand jury is complimented by the Judge for his efficiency and all the officers of the court exhibit their usual activity.

Three Forks Association will meet at Three Forks church next week. Speaking of Grand Juries it is proper to state that the first grand jury of the county sat out of doors, in "Neelus Crisp's school house," near where H. W. Hardin now lives.

Elder A. C. Farthing and Alfred Aillard, Esq., one of the oldest men in the county, were members of this first grand inquest.

The Topic has made arrangements for some interesting articles by some of its best correspondents over here. Besides a series of historical sketches two or three of its most reliable correspondents are going to make a thorough investigation of the recent earthquake and we hope to obtain some information valuable to science.

The sheriff will probably send off the penitentiary convicts to Raleigh this week, as the jail is not safe. Much interest is manifested here in what the grand jury will have to say in its report tomorrow in reference to the jail. It is a sorry affair, it is claimed, unsafe for the keeping of prisoners and not to be kept heated nor comfortable in the winter.

The crops are all good and times will brighten up soon if only the stock market will open at living figures.

Talking about stock, Coffey's thorough-bred strawberry roan stallion is one of the prettiest horses in the country. Their big stables shelter much fine stock of all kinds, not to omit the Cotswold sheep.

Our friend, L. L. Green, Esq., is operating a valuable mica mine a few miles from Boone and he has some fine specimens of "glass" taken from it. Any one interested might address him at Boone.

The following gentlemen, other than the regular attendants upon this court, are here this week: Congressman Cowles, Mr. Edmund Jones, J. B. Bailey, of Davie, Major John Gray Bynum, of Morganton, Major John W. Durham, Clerk of the Inferior Court of New Hanover, Col. Thomas Smythe, of Taylorsville.

Ex-Sheriff Absalom Fry, of Giles county, Va., will be in on a visit in a week or so to his daughter, Mrs. M. E. Baird, of Valle Crucis.

We are sorry to learn that our friend, Len W. Estes, of Blowing Rock, is still very ill.

Will Ervin and the subscribed are bunking together at Coffey's hotel, and are getting fat of course. S.

STATE TOPICS.

Bald mountain is cutting up again. Gen. G. T. Beauregard is at Asheville.

Chief Justice W. H. H. Smith is at Warm Springs.

Judge Ruffin is in very feeble health at Lincolnton.

Charlotte will have street cars in operation in a few months.

S. G. Morris, of Thomasville, sold his tobacco crop for \$100 an acre.

Revenue collections at Raleigh for the month of August were \$25,480.24.

The extra daily trains on the W. N. C. railroad were discontinued last week.

P. E. Morton, of Wilmington, N. C., was drowned at Havre de Grace, Md., last week.

During the month of August the State treasurer issued ninety drummer licenses.

Forty convicts were sent to the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley railroad last week.

There is said to be more tobacco growing in Iredell county this year than ever before.

J. B. Ramsour, of Lincolnton, has been appointed postal clerk on the C. & L. railroad from Newton to Lancaster, S. C.

Six buildings were burned at Cameron, on the Raleigh and Augusta Air Line railroad Sept. 1st, with a loss of \$20,000.

The North Star, weekly, published at Greensboro by Keogh and Boyd, has reappeared on the field of journalism. It is a handsome paper.

The following gentlemen were granted license by the State board of medical examiners at Asheville, to practice medicine in North Carolina: I. A. Harris, Jos. H. Way, Buncombe; R. L. Allen, Haywood; J. C. Tison, Madison; J. R. Anderson, C. S. Roselle, Lincoln; A. M. Bennett, J. H. Tesoro, Jackson; George Daughton, Alleghany; R. B. Killian, Alexander; J. R. Straw, Ashe; J. W. Patton, J. F. Abernethy, Cherokee; G. E. Young, Rutherford; J. B. Connell, Watauga; A. A. Kent, Caldwell. The board next meets at New Bern, in May, 1886.

Mrs. Susan Everhart, aged 86 years, was burned to death in Davidson county on Tuesday of last week. There was no one present, but it is supposed she fell in the fire from stroke of palsy.

The school buildings at New Garden, Guilford county, were burned on Monday of last week, loss \$21,000, insurance \$7,000. The Board will take immediate steps to rebuild. Rooms have been secured to continue the school.

Cleveland county voted last week on a railroad subscription to a new railroad, which resulted in a vote of 1695 for subscription to 571 against subscription. Cleveland county is certainly on the way to prosperity—a wide awake people that deserve to succeed.

An increase of a thousand over the number attending the State Normal Schools of last year is reported by the Superintendent of Public Instruction for this year. We are glad to note this increase, for it means better education in the future. Was there an increase from Caldwell?

TIMELY TOPICS.

Maxwell, the St. Louis trunk murderer, will be arraigned today.

The treasury department paid \$10,000,000 to pensioners during August.

The census of New Mexico, just taken, shows 131,985 population, an increase of 12,420 since 1880.

The treasury department has paid claims against the New Orleans Exposition amounting to \$188,000.

Eighty-four candidates presented themselves for examination at the Naval Academy at Annapolis last Wednesday.

An incline railroad has been commenced to ascend the Lookout mountain from Chattanooga. The cars will be propelled by heavy cable lines.

It is estimated that the Treasury Department that there has been a decrease of about \$3,000,000 in the public debt during the month of August.

The Cunard steamer, Etruria, made the run from Queenstown in 6 days 5 hours and 31 minutes, the fastest time on record. The distance is about three thousand miles.

Six persons were drowned at Osh Kosh, Wis., on Wednesday, while attempting to cross the open channel in a boat. The boat was upset by the swell of a tug that had just passed.

Nathan Mills, colored, who is said to have been 107 years old, died in Talbot county, Md., a few days since. His two sons, Levi and Nero, are both stated to be great grandfathers.

The corner stone of the new Georgia State House was laid on Wednesday. The ceremonies were conducted by John S. Davidson, of Augusta, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Masons.

Four miners were crushed by the falling of a rock in the Oakwood shaft of the Lehigh Valley coal company near Wilkesbarre, Pa., on last Wednesday. The rock fell a distance of 700 feet down the shaft.

Mr. John H. Morgan, only son of Senator Morgan, of Alabama, and Miss Emma Della Seta, of Washington, were drowned in the Potomac on Wednesday by upsetting a boat in which they were taking a sail.

The steamer, Hanoverian, of Baltimore, ran on a rock in a dense fog on Wednesday and was crushed to pieces by a storm. She had on board 57 passengers but they were all rescued by steamers that happened to be near enough to render assistance.

Senator Ransom Angry.

Philadelphia Times.

Senator Ransom, of North Carolina, recently made a trip across the green sward of the Mall to see the Commissioner of Agriculture, Colman. If what has been reported really took place over there it would have been worth going much farther to see. Senator Ransom wanted a place for a constituent. In his most affable manner the Commissioner regretted he had no vacancy.

"Then I'll tell you how you can make a vacancy," said the Senator. "There is a cow doctor here named Salmon credited to my State. He never voted or lived there in his life. He is from New Jersey and is drawing a big salary here on the credit of North Carolina."

"But, my dear Senator, I can't."

"Then cut him down to the grade I ask for my constituent."

"Mr. Salmon is one of my right-hand men, Senator, and I can't do it."

"It is true, then, as I am told, that you have a little Cabinet of your own over here, a Republican ring, which has disgraced this bureau?"

No answer.

"This will be looked into. Your wretched little Cabinet should be broken up. Good morning, sir."

The Senator from North Carolina strode toward the door. Colman ran after him and followed him half-way down the walk, uttering profuse regrets, apologies and explanations, but the Senator waved him aside with an "I'll-see-you-later" air and went away. If Senator Ransom will institute an inquiry into the Bureau of Animal Industry, of which Salmon is the chief, he will find nuts enough to crack all winter.

SOLD FOR A CENT.

Things are not Always What They Seem.

Durham Reporter, Friday.

Mr. R. A. T. Roberson, of Durham, has bought 200 acres of land from S. M. Clarke, of Lenoir, at \$4,000, situated on the top of the Blue Ridge, and includes Fairview. It is the finest location for a hotel on the mountain, and a mile nearer Blowing Rock than the Watanga hotel, that has attracted visitors from every section of the country during this summer. He proposes to build a hotel 160x60 feet with all the modern improvements, and also 40 four and two-roomed cottages for families, and have it completed by the beginning of the season next year. The future of Blowing Rock as a summer resort promises to be something extraordinary.—News-Observer.

The above was written by a Lenoir correspondent to the News and Observer. We believe it our duty to the public to give a little history of Mr. Roberson, as he used to be in our city. We wish to keep the good people of the Blue Ridge Mountains from being duped, as were a number of our citizens. Mr. Roberson, together with a young man by the name of Rankin, came to Durham some months ago, and went into the lumber business as well as the tobacco business. They pretended to be doing a good business. They established some little credit, and when all that they had was turned into money, Roberson left here for parts unknown to his creditors, under the pretext of making a business trip. He left his board bill unpaid at the hotel, and has not been heard of since. His partner tried the same game a few days later but was caught by one of our officers, when he came to terms with his landlord, and then he left. The number of persons swindled, and the amount of money carried off by these men, are as yet not definitely known. If Mr. R. has so much money to invest in fine hotels, we would be glad if he would pay us what he owes. We are of opinion that it is his purpose to swindle the good people of the western part of the State, and in order to do so, has undertaken this big scheme of building so extensively. We would be glad if the News and Observer would copy this article so that other innocent men may not become victims to one who played such a bold and rascally game here. We want it further understood that this man was in Durham but a short while, and is not one of us. He will try and take advantage of the credit which Durham and her people have abroad, to swindle others. Let the people who deal with him keep an eye on him.

A Pleasant Meeting.

Morganton Star.

Maj. J. W. Wilson informs us that while traveling through a rural district in Georgia last week he stopped in front of a well to do farmer's residence, and asked to get dinner. He was told tonight, and the first question was asked by the farmer: "Where are you from?" The answer was: "From North Carolina," whereupon the old gentleman stated that he was originally from old Burke. This, of course, introduced an interesting conversation. The old gentleman's name was John S. Hayes. Where he moved from is now Caldwell, then Burke, on Hayes Creek. He sold his farm to Asbury Puetz's father. The only date that he could recollect from as to how long since he left this country, was, when they left home they came to Morganton to see Francis Sylva hung by Sheriff Boone. He inquired after Col. Gaither, Hamilton Erwin, Sheriff Duckworth and a number of citizens he knew when in this country. His postoffice address is Corduroy, Walker county, Ga.

Chat-Chat from Mitchell County.

CLAY, August 31.

To the Editor of The Lenoir Topic:

It rained several showers on Tuesday. The "oldest inhabitant" informed me, soon after the advent of dog days, that it would be showery during the prevalence of the dog star, and he was quite right.

Our tri-weekly mail will start tomorrow. Thanks to Congressman Thos. D. Johnson and Cowles.

The trouble between Mrs. Joseph Crisp and Dorcas Franklin has proved an interesting case. She was taken on a warrant for assault and battery, and as she was already under bond for a similar assault a year or so ago, when she was adjudged a lunatic at the instance of her husband, he demanded her release. She was let go a few days and summoned to appear on Thursday last for trial, and her daughter Seraphine with her. On the latter day she utterly refused to appear before the justice, D. F. Richie, who had associated with him Esquire A. G. Lewis. So, as the mountain would not come to Mohammed, Mohammed went to the mountain, that is to say, the justices tried to her residence. The case was went, and the daughter was fined one dollar and cost. Mrs. Crisp was remanded for confinement in the Insane Asylum, greatly to her astonishment. At night, while she was guarded by deputy sheriff Banner and assistants, she feigned sickness, was allowed to step out of the house, and took "leg bail." Her whereabouts are known only to a select few. Possibly she is hiding out in the woods or a cave.

Some progress was made on our new school house on Saturday. The rain was in the way. We will try again next Saturday.

Pinkney Coffey is teaching a subscription school in the Elk Horn district, adjoining N. C.

Bishop Lyman, of the Episcopal church, is to make official visits at Blowing Rock, Sept. 16; St. Johns, 18; Boone, 20.

I think—and I am sure—I was mistaken in saying Rev. E. P. Green was lately ordained deacon by Bishop Lyman. I see by the Journal of the late Convention that his name appears as a candidate for priest's orders. His name is not found on the list of the clergy having charges, so I conclude he is from another diocese.

Trout fishing season is about over for 1885.

THE TOPIC is received regularly, and is read with intense interest at these corners. Your paper has plenty of spicy correspondence and local news, which are the making of county papers.

"Star Brand" Guano and "Navassa" Guano for wheat, for sale by E. F. WAKEFIELD, Lenoir, N. C. I will sell as cheap as the cheapest. Call on me before buying elsewhere, at the hardware corner. H. C. Martin will wait on you when I am absent. Respectfully, E. F. WAKEFIELD.

N. C. Exhibit for Northern Fairs.

News and Observer.

Yesterday there was a strange sight to be seen at the Agricultural building. Stretching a distance of 108 feet was a distinctive exhibit of North Carolina's varied resources, in the most compact form imaginable. The exhibit is to go to fourteen Northern fairs, to compete for gold medals offered for the largest variety of field crops, woods, timbers and minerals exhibited by Southern and western States seeking immigration. The idea is Mr. Patrick's own and seems to us to be just the thing to hit the popular fancy. There was a strip of cloth, plaid goods, forty feet long, upon which was painted "North Carolina Mills Manufacture a Fine and Durable Grade of Cloth." Then came a map of the State, and on a white strip of cloth twenty feet long the words "North Carolina." Another map followed, after which was another strip of cloth, on which were the words: "North Carolina Plaid, Thomas M. Holt, Haw River Mills." Below these inscriptions and maps hung cases made of all the woods found in the State, and divided into little compartments. There are no less than twenty-one of these cases. The compartments, each four inches square, are covered with mica or glass, and they contain eighteen kinds of corn, as well as every grain or grass in the State, beans, wild nuts and peanuts (31 kinds), cotton seed and meal, tea seed, silk cocoons, etc., wines, oils of various kinds, dried fruit, 71 varieties and medicinal herbs, 162 kinds of minerals, as well as grain and grasses in the sheaf, and hundreds of other things which illustrate North Carolina. The compactness of all this may be understood when it is stated that the cases are 2x3 feet in size and an inch thick, together with the cloth, etc., go neatly in the special packing boxes about 3x4 feet in size. All the work was done in the agricultural building.

Will appear in a

Bran New

Advertisement in this

Column next week!

LOOK OUT FOR IT!

Read & Remember!

That we want all the

Blackberries

We can buy this Season

And will pay the very

Highest Prices

For the same that the market will allow.

Owing to the "hard times" we are now selling our

LARGE STOCK

General Merchandise

At Extremely Low Prices

Either for cash, or good merchantable produce.

Special attention is called to the following seasonable goods:

Grass Scythes, Mason's Improved Fruit Jars, "Oriole" and "Gold Medal" Apple Pealers, Corers and Slicers.

Bear in mind we offer no "bates" to catch trade, but sell each article for what it is worth and pledge ourselves to give our customers both in

Buying and Selling

Every legitimate advantage of the market.

Hoping by honest effort and fair Dealing to merit your continued patronage, we are,

Respectfully,

F. Wiesenfeld.

TO THE PUBLIC!

I am still at my old stand, next door to E. W. Hamilton's. All persons wanting either

Sheet Iron or Tin Work

Done, can have it done on SHORT NOTICE and in GOOD STYLE, and all new WORK GUARANTEED. Tobacco flues and stove piping to be had at

SHORT NOTICE.

Sugar and Coffee and other groceries and notions and bread and cakes always on hand. With thanks for past favors I humbly solicit a continuance of the same, promising to sell as cheap as any of the rest can sell.

J. S. P. HAMILTON.

J. B. ERVIN,

THE

Furniture

Not Having time to Write out an

Advertisement

And one at Length, would

say that he is ready for

Every Kind of Trade in its

Season.

He Will

Give Good Prices and Sell

GOOD GOODS

At Reasonable Prices.

Watt Plows,

Domestic

SEWING MACHINES,

Bar Iron,

&c, &c, &c.,

Always on Hand.

Respectfully,

F. Wiesenfeld.

CLOYD AND NELSON.