

Franklin Courier

GEORGE S. BAKER,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

All letters addressed to
GEO. S. BAKER,

FRIDAY SEPT. 17, 1875.

A VICTIOUS SYSTEM.

In our last we adverted to the pernicious results arising from the selection of the Judges of the Supreme and Superior Court, by the people en masse, instead of leaving this matter in the hands of the Legislature to judge of the qualifications and fitness of aspirants for these places. We now propose to comment upon the baneful and disastrous effects, resulting from changing the system of selecting the Justices of the Peace. Under the old order of things the Justices of the Peace were appointed by the Legislature from among the best men in the community. They served without compensation of a pecuniary kind, but felt themselves amply remunerated in beholding the good order and peace prevailing in the community in which they were instrumental in maintaining. They settled all small disputes that might arise among their neighbors, turned over the violator of the Criminal Code to the County Court to answer for his offence against the law, and to be a general conservator of the peace and good order in his neighborhood. To see things moving around him in perfect concord and unison, the citizens all enjoying prosperity and being happy in the sense of security that they felt under the protecting hands of the law, he being an instrument in the maintenance of this state of things was a far greater remuneration than the paltry fees and emoluments that are now appended to the office, which act as an inducement for the worst men in the community oftentimes, to scampers for these places, in order that they may be enabled to make something for themselves out of it. Such men as formerly held these places, and as are fit to hold them now, will not enter into these assemblies for them, and the consequence is, that instead of getting the purest and best men in the community in these places, we as likely as any other way get the worst. Good men, men fit for the office of Magistrate, Men whose influence in the community is such as to command and retain the respect and confidence of the members of that community, can not generally be prevailed upon to enter into the lists of candidates for these places, with such men as want to get them for the emoluments pertaining thereto. In the Eastern counties generally a great hardship has been endured for this reason, all the time since the adoption of the present Constitution. Our County, we suppose, has hardly been afflicted as badly in this particular as some others have; Yet we have had to contend with ignorance, favoritism, and corruption in the administration of the Magisterial office. We have a Justice of the Peace in the Louisburg Township now, that but for an accident, would in all probability have been in the Penitentiary. Who, too, on one occasion, was ready and offered to put his hand on the word of God, and add the stain of perjury to his other crimes, which had he done it, could and would have been proved by three witnesses. Since that Constituency who cares nothing for the laws have elevated him again to this office, where he is to pass upon the rights of his fellow citizens. A system that produces such infernal results should be abandoned and some other adopted in its stead. The old system acted with no effect. The last has been pernicious in all its operations. Then why not return to that? We hope the Convention now in session will devise means to remedy the grievances of the community in this respect. To it we look for succor. We hope we shall not look in vain.

THE CONVENTION.

At this writing the Convention has been in session for seven days, is thoroughly organized and all the Committees are at work, and we hope and believe that a Constitution will be framed, that will prove acceptable to our people, and that the present military concern under which our people have groaned for seven years will be forever buried. We notice with pleasure the energy displayed by the members to dispatch business, and if they continue as they have started, we think they will not hold thirty days longer, already the entire business of the Convention is in the hands of the different Committees, and they are working day and night. We give below the names of the members composing the several committees.

The President announced the following Standing Committees:

Committee on Privileges and Elections.—Messrs. Manning, of Chatham, Avery Winters, Chamberlain, Jordan, Robbins, Wilcox, Bowman and Dunn.

Preamble and Bill of Rights.—Messrs. Turner, Singletary, Bliven, Blocker, Nicholson, McCandles, Motz, Bean and Vaughan.

Legislative Department, its Organization.—Messrs. Clingman, Cunningham, Barrow, Carter, French, Justice, King, of Lenoir, Allman and Vaughan.

On the Executive Department.—Messrs. Reid, Roberts, of Gates, George, Massey, Kerr, Price, Manden, Hassell and Taylor.

On the Judicial Department.—Messrs. Benét, Shepherd, Alberston, Coleman, Barringer, Manning, of Chatham, Lehman, Green and Faircloth.

On Revenue, Taxation and the Public Debt.—Messrs. Durham, Stallings, Hoffman, Cowell, Dixon, Dobson Dule, Cooper and Page.

On Suffrage and Eligibility to office.—Messrs. Shober, Jarvis, Bateman, Holton, Stroud, Woodfin, Roberts of Davidson, and Cary.

On Municipal Corporations.—Messrs. Shepherd, Hamilton, Henderson, Hinton, McEachin, Jones, of Yadkin, Farrior, Black and McCorkle.

On Corporations, other than Municipal.—Messrs. Dockery Jones, of Caldwell, Faison, Malson, Durham, Marples, Marshall, Bryan and Byrd.

On Education.—Messrs. Morehead, Badger, Anderson, of Madison, Buxton, Clegg of Pitt, Rumley, Boyd, Scott, of Onslow, and Wheeler.

On Punishments, Penal Institutions and Public Charities.—Messrs. Coleman, Anderson, of Clay, Bell, Sinclair, Horton, Spake, Grantham, Hodge and Bangham.

On Military.—Messrs. Badger, Redwine, Neal, Nowell, Wilson, Bullock, Everett, Davis and Harrington.

On Amendment.—Messrs. Torgue, Clingman, Watts, Thorne, Love, Lowe, Goodwin, Smyth and Manning, of New Hanover.

On Miscellaneous Provisions.—Messrs. Alberton, Crosby, Young, Green, Singletary, Scott, of Jones, O'Hara, Summers, and McDowell.

On Revisions.—Messrs. Reid, Clingman, Manning, of Chatham, Benét, Turner, Morehead, Shober, McCorkle, Dockery, Coleman, Barringer, Torgue, and Alberton.

At a meeting of the members of the bar of this County on Friday the 10th Inst., to give expression to their feelings of sorrow at the death of Mr. W. K. Barham, His Hon Judge S. W. Wattis, was requested to act as Chairman, and Appling Jones as Secretary. The Judge on taking the chair delivered a touching and feeling eulogy on the life and character of the deceased. The following resolutions were then offered by Mr. Gatlin, seconded by Messrs. Batchelor, Davis, Bullock, Edwards, Cooke and Mitchell in appropriate remarks on the character of Mr. Barham.

Whereas, since our last meeting, it has pleased the Great Law-Giver of the world to remove from our midst our late brother William K. Barham, whose virtues and accomplishments threw so bright a glow over our social and professional intercourse with him; It is

Resolved, By the members of the Franklin Bar, met together to express our respect for his memory and our grief at his loss;

1. That in the death of our late brother, this Bar has sustained a loss which brings sadness upon all its members, and calamity upon the community.

2. That in his intercourse with his associates we recognize the utmost kindness and courtesy, and in the discharge of his professional duties, high integrity and an exalted sense of honor.

3. That, we cherish his memory with tenderness and affection, and commend his example to those who are to come after us;

4. That we extend to his family our sympathy and condolence, assuring them that his death, falling most heavily on them, brings us profound affliction.

5. That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to his family, and also to the Franklin COURIER and Warrenton GAZETTE, with request to publish; and that a committee of this Bar request the Court to have them spread upon its minute.

WILLIAM INSCO,

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Y. B. CLIFTON,

MAIN STREET.

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THE STATISTICS OF THE GLOBE.—The earth is inhabited by about 1,400,000,000 inhabitants, namely: 260,000,000 of the Caucasian race; 550,000,000 of the Mongolian, 199,000,000 of the Ethiopian, 200,000,000 of the Malay races, and 1,000,000 of the American Indian. All these respectively speak 3,064 languages, and possess 1,000 different religions. The amount of deaths per annum is 33,333,333 or 91,954 per day, 5,730 per hour, 60 per minute, or 1 per second. This loss is more than compensated by the number of births. The average duration of life throughout the globe is 35 years.

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One-fourth of its population dies before the seventh year, and one-half before the seventeenth. Out of 10,000 persons only one reaches his hundredth year, only one in 500 his eightieth, and only one in 100 his sixty-fifth. Married people live longer than unmarried ones, and a tall man is likely to live longer than a short one. Until the fiftieth year women have a better chance for life than men; but beyond that period the chances are equal. Sixty-five persons out of 1,000 marry. The months of June and December are those in which marriages are most frequent. Children born in the spring are generally stronger than those born in other seasons. The number of men able to bear arms is but one-eighth of the population. The population of the United States is now over 40,000,000, of which one-eighth are negroes, with 20,000 Indians, and three times as many Chinese.

THE FIELD OF RATTLESNAKES.—The Newbern Journal of Commerce learns that Mr. Frank Hartly, of Pamlico county, has two acre wheat field and the grain has been for some time ready for garnering, but owing to the countless rattlesnakes therein, no reaper can be procured to do the work. It appears that sometime since, Mr. Hartly sent one of his farm hands to this field for the purpose of cutting the wheat, but the man soon returned, very much excited, and informed his employer that by the very first sweep of the cradle he severed the heads of three huge rattlers while a fourth, in the act of springing upon him, came in contact with the point of the scythe which passed through its body and rendered it hors du combat; he then dropped the implement and ran from the field to report the startling occurrence. Mr. Hartly thinking the man must be laboring under some great hallucination, immediately proceeded to the field where he realized to his horror and surprise the facts as related; whereupon he took up the cradle and in making three sweeps killed as many snakes by cutting them in twain. It was then that his ears became deafened from their hissing, and the vibration of the rattles of these venomous reptiles, caused the ground to tremble and shake like unto an earthquake.

THE MILITARY.—Messrs. Badger, Redwine, Neal, Nowell, Wilson, Bullock, Everett, Davis and Harrington.

THE AMENDMENT.—Messrs. Torgue, Clingman, Watts, Thorne, Love, Lowe, Goodwin, Smyth and Manning, of New Hanover.

ON MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.—Messrs. Alberton, Crosby, Young, Green, Singletary, Scott, of Jones, O'Hara, Summers, and McDowell.

ON REVISIONS.—Messrs. Reid, Clingman, Manning, of Chatham, Benét, Turner, Morehead, Shober, McCorkle, Dockery, Coleman, Barringer, Torgue and Alberton.

ON SEASIDE DANGERS.—"Come on now, Ned," cried a New York girl at Long Branch the other day to a strippling lover at her side; "we've got clear of papa—now let's take a dive!"

"Your father is an awful big and stout man," observed the youth.

"Oh, never mind that," exclaimed the miss petulantly; "let's take a swim just set the great waves."

"Don't you think it dangerous?" anxiously inquired the lover, glancing up and down the beach.

"Dangerous? No! There isn't hardly any undertow at this point; it's—"

"Oh, but it isn't the undertow I'm afraid of," interrupted the young man.

"Isn't it?"

"No; it's your father's toe!"

And she couldn't get him to risk it.

TO THE PUBLIC.

J. H. Richardson of Castalia having advertised certain notes I hold again t him as having been obtained under false pretenses, I purport the allegation an unmitigated lie. The notes were in consideration of a tract of land lying in Franklin County, and I put him in possession of the same, and no one has set up any adverse claim. I hold the title under the Sheriff's deed, and in addition thereto, I have the warrantee to the name of J. J. Minster, Thos. K. Thomas and Chas. H. Thomas, warranting the title to me. I intend to sue on the bonds at the next term of the Superior Court unless they are satisfied. If Mr. Richardson, however, will pay the interest on the bonds for the time he has had the land in possession, I will surrender them to him and take in my obligation to make good. Or I will on his paying up the bonds make him deed with full covenant, and warrantee in fee simple, with any guarantee he may wish,

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