



Devoted to the Industrial and Educational Development of Eastern North Carolina

## EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA'S LEADING PAPER.

Vol. 2.

ELIZABETH CITY, N. C., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1903.

No. 45.

### PLAYED JESSE JAMES.

#### Hertford Boys Would Emulate the Outlaw.

Hertford, Feb. 4.—As a result of reading Jesse James' literature, three small boys of this town are smarting under severe punishment by their respective parents. The thrashings were not administered because of reading, but because of attempted emulation of the famous Jesse and Frank James. The boys had built a camp about two miles from town and equipped the same with necessary paraphernalia. They broke into a residence and helped themselves to all kinds of cooking utensils. When found the trio were seated around their camp fire enjoying a meal of sausage and eggs which they had prepared. Several pipes and bags of tobacco were other tell-tales of the strenuous life they were living.

#### To Talk With Ships

#### Far Out on the Ocean. Special to Tar Heel.

Hatteras, N. C., Feb. 4.—Mr. C. E. Barbour, Executive Engineer for the DeForest wireless Telegraph company is here where he is superintending the erection of a wireless telegraph station for commercial purposes. Mr. Barbour says this is one of the most important points on the coast and when in operation will prove a paying investment, for says he: "What owner of a ship would not give dollars to know whether or not his ship had passed the cape in safety?"

When this station is completed the company will proceed to equip ocean going ships with instruments for the reception and transmission of messages. There are hundreds of hundreds of ships plying along the Atlantic coast and it is expected that the station will be kept busy.

#### SUPREME COURT CONVENES.

#### Only Two Republicans left on the Bench.

Raleigh, Feb. 4.—The new Supreme court set for the first time Monday, with Chief Justice Walter Clark in the centre.

The Associated Justices were seated in the order of the seniority. To the right of the Chief Justice was Judge W. A. Montgomery, and to the left, Judge R. M. Douglas. On the right out was Judge Platt D. Walker, and on the left Judge H. G. Connor. The two last named are the new elected Associate Justices.

Mr. R. H. Bradley, Marshall of the court, yesterday began his twenty-fifth year in that capacity. He has been a model officer, as he was a model soldier in the Confederate army, standing in the same command with Wyatt when the first man to give his life for the South fell.

#### SEABOARD AIR LINE RY. MARDI GRAS RATES.

New Orleans, Mobile and Pensacola.

One fare for the round trip. Tickets on sale Feb. 17th, to 23rd, good to return until Feb. 26th, with extension upon payment of 50 cent to March 14th. Parties are now being made up for a personally conducted tour, send in your names. For information, etc., write, phone or call on J. W. Brown, Jr., Passenger Agent, corner Main and Graubly Sts., under New Atlantic Hotel building.

## FISH DESTRUCTION

### Many Millions Destroyed Each Year.

#### INLET FISHING IS RUINOUS.

The blockade of nets in the inlet turns fish back to sea while countless numbers die in the meshes.

Manteo, Feb 4, 1903.

#### EDITOR TAR HEEL:

I noticed in a recent issue of your paper, an article headed "Oregon Inlet Fishing," which is very timely.

I wish to call attention to the statement of the number of nets which are set at times. You said there are about four hundred. If you had said four thousand, it would have been nearer a true statement.

The average stand is a hundred and fifty nets and up to two hundred nets to the stand, and they are set at the breakers, at the chops of the inlet, and ranging from four to five miles to the west, averaging 30 feet to the stands. There just room enough to swing a boat between stands, and it has been stated by the fishermen themselves that they have seen schools of shad come in from the sea to the body of the nets and then turn and go back to the sea. These nets not only turn the fish back to the sea, but being set as they are, where the tide continually ebbs and flows, they destroy thousands of shad that die in those nets and are carried back by the tide.

These nets can only be fished when tide is slack, for it runs so strong two men cannot row a boat against it.

Another destructive way of fishing in the waters of North Carolina is duck, or pound net fishing. There is no limit to the fishing of these nets. In fact, they remain in the water the year round, and the meshes are so small they catch all sizes of fish. The little shad that are making their way to the sea or ocean in the fall to protect themselves from freezing in winter, are caught up and destroyed before they mature. The mother shad that has been up in the river and deposited its young, on its return back to the ocean, is caught and destroyed by these nets. I have known eight thousand of these mother shad to be caught in one pound net on the 10th day of June at one time.

I also know of five hundred being carted in the field at one time to make compost. All this great waste of fish is constantly going on, at times too, when they are unfit for the market.

It occurs to my mind that if there is not some legislation, regulation or restriction, that the fishing business will soon be a thing of the past.

I am a fisherman and have been fishing for the past forty years. Twenty-five years in succession, I fished for shad, and I venture to say the shad has diminished two-thirds from these waters in forty years. Thirty years ago with fifty or sixty gill nets a man could make money. Now a hundred and

fifty nets of the same class can't make wages.

Some people will argue their is as many shad caught now as there was then. But admitting there is; when we consider the great number of fishermen and the exceeding amount of material used now, there is not the hundredth part caught as formerly. The poorer class of fishermen are getting poorer every year, not withstanding that they get better price for fish now than ever. Only the big fishermen can get anything out of the business now a days.

#### TO TAX DOGS.

Tax shall go to the School Fund  
Raleigh Feb. 4.—The dog-tax bill was introduced in the House Monday. It was done by Mr. Vann, of Hertford. The tax provided is \$1.00 upon every dog, and it is stipulated that all dogs shall be listed as other property and that the tax shall go to the general school fund of their respective counties. All persons failing to list a dog for taxation shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.



HON. LEE S. OVERMAN

Who will represent North Carolina in the U. S. Senate on the 4th of March.



HON. JETER C. PRITCHARD

Whose term, as U. S. Senator from North Carolina, expires on the 4th of March.

#### THE CITIZENS MASS MEETING.

#### Agreed on Amendments to Town Charter.

Pursuant to a call of the Chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee the citizens of the town assembled in a mass meeting at the Court House on the night of January, 30, to adopt amendments to the charter of the town, and pass resolutions to be submitted to the General Assembly.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. A. L. Pendleton in the absence of the chairman. Upon motion the Hon. J. Bush Lee was made permanent chairman, and W. L. Cohoon was elected Secretary. The Secretary read the report as filed by the committee appointed to draft same, and upon motion of H. T. Greenleaf, that the said report be adopted by sections same was carried. The report was then taken up by sections, and all but the first section was passed by the meeting. The first section which was to extend the City limits, was opposed by Mr. J. Heywood Sawyer, who made a very touching and eloquent plea that he be not taken along with others. The meeting sustained Mr. Sawyer, but after reconsideration the motion was carried agreeably to Mr. Sawyer.

Mr. Aydlett moved: That Geo. W. Ward, Dr. Pendleton, and T. B. Wilson, be made a committee to draft the Bill in accordance with one presented, and the amendments thereto adopted at the meeting.

One of the important provisions of the Bill is to give the citizens of the town the right to vote for a bond issue to establish a sewerage and waterworks system, and install an Electric light plant. These are needed improvements to the town and should in the near future be a reality.

Resolutions were introduced by Mr. M. N. Sawyer, adopted by the meeting, and Mr. Sawyer and Chas. Reid were appointed as the committee to confer with the Chamber of Commerce committee

as provided by said resolutions which are herewith published.

#### RESOLUTIONS.

"Whereas, we the citizens of Elizabeth City and Pasquotank county recognize and feel the necessity for the upbuilding of the Commerce and trade of Elizabeth City and Pasquotank county by establishing a uniform system of good roads throughout our county.

And Whereas, we believe the most effectual way of establishing and maintaining such a system is to be brought about by State legislation under the supervision of a competent board of supervisors.

And Whereas, the Chamber of Commerce having appointed a committee to draw up a suitable bill to be presented to the Legislature.

Therefore, be it resolved that this mass meeting appoint a committee to confer with and co-operate with a similar committee appointed by the Chamber of Commerce of Elizabeth City in drafting a suitable bill to effect the establishment and maintenance of good roads.

And furthermore, be it resolved that it is the sense of this meeting to urge our representatives in the General Assembly to use their best endeavors to effect the passage of said bill."

The meeting showed the true spirit of enterprise that exists in our City and all that we need to have the greatest town in North Carolina is the installation of these improvements, and the establishment of a good roads system. The Tar Heel wishes success to the movement and will do all in its power for the promotion of these enterprises.

#### A Card.

This is to certify that Miss Aline Sutton, who was in the employ of Barcliff & Willey, as a dress maker in the past season, in every way gave satisfaction to this firm. She would now be employed in such capacity but for the fact that the above firm has dissolved partnership. She came to us highly recommended by the most expert dress-makers in the country. She thoroughly proved her ability in her calling and I cheerfully commend her to the public as a first class dressmaker.

A. M. Willey.

## ALL ABOUT BIRDS.

### Mr. Gould Replies to Mr. Pearson.

#### BIRDS THAT DESTROY FISH.

Millions of little food fish destroyed each year by the sea birds that the Legislature is asked to protect.

Editor Tar Heel:—Will you please allow me space in your paper in answer to the article signed T. Gilbert Pearson, relating to the killing of birds along our coast?

The whole matter is so misleading, and varied so far from what the real facts are, that it would be an injustice to our people to let the matter go by unheeded. Mr. Pearson is a naturalist and should be better informed on the habits of birds he describes in his article, and it can only be construed that he publishes the same, with a view of misleading the public to have legislation enacted contrary to the wishes of the people, if they really understood the case as it is. He is giving the public to understand that the whole of our bird kingdom is being slaughtered, regardless of varieties, by New York millinery shop agents when such is absolutely not true.

Their is not an insectivorous or song bird being killed here for commercial purpose, also no kind of game or eatable bird or fowl for the millinery trade.

But it is on the Terns and Gulls that he has bestowed his great descriptive power in his misleading article, until he has become grandly eloquent, not with a view to giving the intelligent reader a fair understanding in the matter, but on the other hand, endeavoring to make him believe that they are a blessing to humanity, and a pleasure to the eye.

He describes the "great colonies" that congregate near the inlets that extend from Ocean to Sound, but he does not state what he knows to be true, that they are congregated there, for the sole purpose of catching young food fish which they live on entirely. Any reader knows these inland sounds are the greatest natural catching grounds for food fish of any place along the Atlantic coast, and consequently during the summer and early fall the shoals and channels are full of the young fish. When they return to the ocean, only to come back to their native homes when full grown, to be caught and used for the benefit of mankind.

What countless millions there scaven us birds destroy it would be hard to tell. But probably a fairly good estimate can be given from the following figures: The writer has had and kept tame gulls, and their average food daily would be twenty young fish each. This in round numbers would mean seven thousand three hundred a year. Now if we take but one colony of ten thousand, which Mr. Pearson describes in his article, we find they consume the number of seventy three millions in a single year. This is but one colony on some little bank of the sound. But

if we will go farther and take our coast line, during the early fall, when the young fish are swarming out of the sound, on their way to the warm waters of the south, and see the immense flocks hovering, diving and devouring the helpless young fish, no estimate can be placed on the number destroyed in this manner. But without the least doubt there are more than twenty five times as many than is caught and eaten by man.

Our legislators are now called upon to take action in regard to the prevention of our food fish which the diminishing numbers show plainly that it is but a matter of time when once these waters were teaming with them, that they will be no more. Yet with this Mr. Pearson comes forward with the argument that men with "guns on their backs" should be stationed along our coast to protect this devouring, searching, gang go on with their work of destruction, which if let alone the artificial resources of this great county cannot remedy.

N. E. GOULD.

#### TYRRELL GOES DRY.

#### Commissioners Listen to Prayers of Wives and Mothers.

(Special to Tar Heel.)

Columbia, N. C. Feb. 2.—The fight for whiskey which came up at the January meeting of the Board of County Commissioners and was postponed until today, came up for final action. The whiskey men were represented by counsel and presented a petition signed by quite a number of voters. The cause of temperance was championed by Messrs. D. O. Newbery, F. L. Brickhouse, T. L. Jones and Rev. Mr. Constable. They presented an overwhelming petition signed by the representative men and the pious mothers of the county. With these facts, and with the argument as advanced by supporters of morality and temperance the Board of Commissioners by a unanimous vote decided to hear the prayers of the wives, mothers and daughters of Tyrrell County's young manhood and stamp out for two years the whiskey curse.

The Board was very courteous and its rulings on the several questions presented were fair and impartial and are to be commended by all fair minded citizens.

#### MEET A HORRIBLE DEATH.

#### Burgess Pendleton run over by a horse yesterday.

Yesterday afternoon, about five o'clock, Burgess Pendleton, age eleven years, met a most horrible death by being run over by a horse. The little boy was crossing Main street at a point opposite the residence of D. B. Bradford. It was then that C. W. Overman, accidentally drove over him, inflicting an ugly wound in his head, and from which death ensued, a half an hour later. Eyewitness ran to the little fellow and carried him to the office of Dr. J. E. Wood where the wounds were dressed by Drs. Wood, McMullen and Fearing. They used all means known to their profession to save his life, but the rough hoof of the horse had done its deadly work. He was the son of Mrs. Rosa Peedleton, and a bright youngster who was much beloved by his playmates.

It is due Mr. Overman to say that the tragedy was due to no carelessness on his part. He was driving at moderate speed. He is much disturbed over the accident.