

TAR



HEEL

Devoted to the Industrial and Educational Development of Eastern North Carolina.

EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA'S LEADING PAPER.

Vol. 2.

ELIZABETH CITY, N. C., FRIDAY, MARCH 13th, 1903.

No. 50.

Mr. Henry Wood Seriously Cut.

A cutting affray, which came near resulting seriously for an aged and highly respected white farmer, occurred about two miles from town Saturday night, creating quite a deal of excitement, and causing many exaggerated rumors to gain currency. At first it was talked on the streets that several men had been killed, and no less than four different murder stories, each more sensational than the one preceding, floated on the tongues of the populace. The excitement, finally subsided, however when Sheriff Reid and Chief of Police W. C. Dawson drove into the city bringing with them a white man whom they alleged to be the real source of the many sided rumors, and who looked innocent enough, despite the blood on his clothes, and the fact that he had been through a lively scrimmage with a man, who, though much older than himself, had proved to be a good man, physically, and one who was not niggardly in the use of his naked fist.

Four years ago Mr. Henry Wood who is nearing his eighties, employed a young white man named Tom Riddick. The young man was supposed to look after certain estates of the older gentleman, and in this capacity the two worked together for three or more years. At the approach of the fourth year, arrangements were made for continuation of the relations, which had been so pleasant in the past, but ere the commencement of this new year of service, the two men found some cause to disagree; the Tar Heel does not know the cause, nor is it any part of this paper's business to find out. However, two months ago, Messrs. Wood and Riddick parted on bad terms, and certain allegations against one another are said to have been made. On Saturday afternoon the two men met in Elizabeth City, and according to an authority, Mr. Wood slapped the young man in the face. Later Mr. Wood, as usual, went out to his farm to look after his stock and other interests, and while going along the public road between certain parts of his plantation he was accosted by young Riddick who demanded certain explanations, regarding past disputes. This led on to a debate and Riddick requested Mr. Wood to go to his brother Burnell Riddick's house, where he could secure certain proof to substantiate his arguments. This Mr. Wood consented to do and together they went to the home of Riddick's brother.

HOW THE CUTTING OCCURRED.
On reaching the Riddick home the dispute was renewed and Riddick, it is said, cursed Mr. Wood. The older gentleman became indignant at the epithets heaped upon him, and regardless of the youth of his antagonist, jumped from his buggy and made for him. Clenching in this way the two men fought furiously. Riddick finally got out a pocket knife and used it as best he could, under the persistent blows of Mr. Wood. He succeeded in cutting Mr. Wood's coat in several places but did not inflict bodily harm. Finally they both fell to the ground with

Wood's hands clenched with bulldog tenacity in Riddick's throat. Riddick still holding his pocket knife used it on the face and head of Wood, cutting him fifteen different times in wounds of from one to two inches each. With blood streaming over their clothes, and hair disheveled, the fray is described as a most fearful sight.

On the ground the contestants continued to wallow, cut and strike, until Eliza Harris, seeing the predicament of Wood, ran up and pulled Riddick away from his fallen and apparently dangerously wounded enemy. He then took charge of Mr. Wood and brought him to Elizabeth City where his wounds were skillfully dressed by Dr. Lumsden. Sheriff Reid was also notified and this gentleman accompanied by Chief Dawson started on the hunt for young Riddick. After searching several houses, where it was presumed he might have been in hiding, they were at last astonished to locate Riddick still at the home of his brother, where the fight occurred. He was quite cool and showed no desire to resist or avoid arrest. Riddick was brought to the city and carried before Justice Wilson. The young man waived examination in the case and was committed to await the outcome of the condition of Mr. Wood. When the wounded gentlemen shall have sufficiently recover, the case will likely be tried at the term of court now in session.

Doing Fine Work.
At Riverside Baptist Chapel Sunday night Rev. D. P. Harris preached a most excellent sermon to an unusually large congregation. Mr. Harris is an ardent and enthusiastic young minister whose work in Elizabeth City has already won for him a warm spot in the hearts of those who have had the pleasure of his acquaintance. His discourses are full of spirituality and zeal, and his labor has been fraught with much good. Riverside Chapel is a wing of the first Baptist church, and though but an infant organization it has steadily grown and continues to grow.

The Sunday School of Riverside Chapel is also in a flourishing condition. The superintendent of the school, Mr. G. W. Twiddy deserves great credit for his earnest effort in this powerful field of religious work. The Sunday School is the guiding rudder of the church, and as it is nourished so the church strides forward to a higher standard. The choir of this Sunday-School sing splendidly, and add very much to the pleasant Sunday afternoon service. Those who are interested in church work can catch an inspiration by attending some of the services at Riverside Chapel.

A Card.
This is to announce to the citizens and voters of Elizabeth City, that I will be a candidate for the nomination to the office of Mayor before the democratic primaries and convention to be held in said town on or about the first of April 1903. I have no complaints to make or excuses to offer for my candidacy, but only offer myself as a candidate in the exercise of the right privilege of any citizen.

I believe that rotation in office is promotive of the best interests of our town people, in accordance with our form of government.

I can only promise, that if I am successful in my candidacy, I will to the best of my ability, faithfully and honestly discharge the duties for office.

J. B. LEIGH.

To Open Water Street.

Property holders on Water street have arranged for the purchase of Ehringhaus Bros. & Co's., store and will tear down the building as soon as complete arrangements have been made. The purchase price is \$5,000. The object of this purchase is to open the lower end of Water street. This will be a great improvement and one that has long been needed. It will mean much for the city in general and will materially assist in its upgrowth.

The Olive Libelled.

The W. M. French Wrecking Company entered libel in the United States Court Saturday for the recovery of \$1800 salvage on the steamer Olive, of the Albemarle Steamship Company. The suit is of a friendly nature and was entered in the court as a matter of formality.

The French Wrecking Company raised the hull and towed it to Franklin, Va. United States Commissioner Ralph Riddleberger will represent the libellants.

Hotel Changes Hands.

Mr. Jnc. A. White has leased the Riverview Hotel on Poindexter street and will take immediate charge. Mr. White is an experienced hotel man and numbers his friends by the hundred. He proposes to run a comfortable home like place where a man can get a good bed for twenty five cents and an appetizing meal at the same cost. John is an all round good fellow and when you are in town give him a call.

Awaiting Tonnage Estimate.

The two masted schooner Thelma is at the dock this week awaiting government inspection and tonnage estimate from the Custom House Officials. The Thelma is built for freightage. She is between eight and nine tonnage, at a rough guess, and is well put together. Her captain is Mr. J. J. Williams, and her owner J. G. Gray. The vessel hails from Avon, Dare County, and was built by Mr. M. L. Gray of that place.

Mr. W. W. Newberne of Powells Point was in the City Tuesday, enroute to Norfolk.

The New Public Building.

The following to Dr. A. L. Pendleton, President of The Chamber of Commerce, from Hon. John H. Small, of the first district, will prove of interest here:

"I have interviewed the treasury department and I am authorized to direct any one I may see fit to negotiate with Mr. Hinton for the whole square on Main street. I think it best to put the matter in the hands of the chamber of commerce and I suggest that you appoint a committee, or select some committee already appointed, to take the matter in charge. The committee should be composed of men of experience and judgement and should especially have an able chairman. The committee is authorized

to say that while the Government must have the lot, and will condemn if necessary, but they prefer to agree on terms. Say further that the government will not pay an exorbitant price. This should be attended to at once. Of course Mr. Hinton should understand that if he will not sell he must take his chances with the commissioners who condemn. I shall be at home in a few days and you can address me there.

Very Truly,

JOHN A. SMALL.

A Washington correspondent in commenting on the new building this week writes,

"The selection of a site for the Elizabeth City public building has been practically agreed upon. Hinton's square, covering an entire block on the principal street, is desired by the people of Elizabeth City and the war department alike. The value of the property is estimated at between \$15,000 and \$20,000. If the location cannot be purchased direct, it will be acquired by condemnation proceedings. The designs for the new building were proposed some time ago. The appropriation for the Elizabeth City building is \$140,000. Possibly \$20,000 of this will be required to secure the site. The congressman from the First district has certainly done the handsome thing for the people of Elizabeth City. They will have one of the finest and most imposing buildings in North Carolina."

The chamber of commerce appointed the following committee to consult Mr. Hinton; Messrs. C. H. Robinson, Dr. J. H. White and Dr. A. L. Pendleton. These gentlemen saw Mr. Hinton Wednesday morning and were informed that \$40,000 was the purchase price. Of course this was considered exorbitant and it is likely that a condemnation of the property will result.

Not Satisfactory.

Rev. T. W. Babb, of Winfall, Perquimont County, was in the editorial office of the Tar Heel Monday morning. Mr. Babb discussed the recently passed Audubon bill, which was introduced and coached through the house and senate by Senator Glen. The Audubon bill is to protect birds and game. It takes every species of bird under its protection, even to the English sparrow, and specifies, which shall and which shall not be killed or trapped and in what seasons. The Audubon society is responsible for this bill. This society is an incorporated concern, and it proposes, under the passages to designate game wardens in each county, who shall look after the enactment of the provisions of the passage. Mr. Babb says the bill is going to give great dissatisfaction, and considers it as an infringement on the personal liberty of property holders, who are subject to dictation from the game wardens beyond a reasonable limit.

Mr. Glenn in securing the passage of the act based his argument on Psalms 103.

Superior Court Session.

On Monday afternoon the regular term of the Superior Court convened at the court house, with Judge Justice presiding. Owing to important business in Camden County the judge was absent from the city until the arrival of the morning train.

The New Camden County Ferry.

John Ward, colored, charged with stealing a wheel, was found guilty.

Mattie J. Miller, white, was granted a divorce from her husband James Miller, whom she charged with dissertion.

James Stallings, colored charged with trespass, by attempting to force an entrance into the residence of Mrs. Jerrils, was continued.

Sam Collins was granted a divorce from his wife Roxy Collins. The case of William Biggs charged with robbing old iron from Willey's ship railway, and disposing of same to several junk dealers, was found guilty.

This ended the proceeding for Monday.

On Tuesday John Grey, Charlie Mitchell and Charles Williams, charged with crap was first called. Charles Williams turned states evidence and the other two men, who were represented by attorney Edward Alexander and C. H. Grandy, were released.

To Vote on Dispensary.

Asheville.—Dispensary or no dispensary is a question which will be presented to Asheville voters shortly. The anti-saloon forces appear to have tacitly agreed to make a fight for the dispensary instead of for prohibition, and at a meeting of members of the First Baptist church tomorrow night the first active step will be inaugurated. At this meeting there will be a free expression of opinion on the subject, but the sentiment of the members is so practically unanimous that it is certain that the result will be the circulation of a petition to the board of aldermen to secure a vote on the question of dispensary or no dispensary.

Resolutions of Thanks.

Hall of Elizabeth Lodge No. 217 I. O. O. F.

March 5th, 1903—

To Mrs. D. A. Morgan & others:— We wish to express to Mrs. D. A. Morgan and those who aided in the entertainment known as the Country Cousins' given for the benefit of Elizabeth Lodge No. 217 I. O. O. F. our most sincere thanks for their efforts in our behalf, and to assure them of our appreciation of the same.

Very Respectfully,
C. W. GRICE,
J. H. LEROY,
L. E. OLD. } COMM.

"Two Men in a Boat."

Currituck, N. C., Feb. 28.— Mr. Nathan Sawyer, of Currituck and Mr. Maurice Daniel, of Dare County left Roanoke Island for Powell's Point on a short visit. The boat which they occupied was caught in a whirlwind and capsized near Point Harbor. It drifted from 11 a. m. until 3 p. m. when about two miles south west of Martin's Point club, they were seen by Mr. Morris Beasley, who went to the rescue and managed to get them to the shore in safety. The two gentlemen were treated with every possible courtesy and though greatly fatigued were not injured by the fearful ordeal.

The Camden Ferry Company have now raised the desired amount of stock, which is considered necessary to conduct the new ferry line. This amount is \$5,000.

The announcement of the franchises for the conduct of this company was made last week. This franchise was secured after a long and hard fight with the opposing ferry line across the Pasquotank. The new company organized in the face of a statute enactment, which gave the old line a right to do business without competition, for a distance of three miles, either up or down the river. To set aside this right of the company already operating created a legal battle. The terminus of both lines being on the terra firma of Camden and Pasquotank counties, meant that court privileges must be granted from two superior county courts. This was gained, and the fight was carried into the supreme court of North Carolina, where the final disposal of the case was handed down, giving the new company the right to operate within two miles instead of three. The legislature also had to be considered and the enactment of a new law let down the most important barriers.

The new firm will be stationed at the base of Matthew Street, in Elizabeth City, near the canning factory. It will operate from this point across the river to Machelhe Island. On the island the chief expense will be incurred, which is the opening of a road through the timber land thereon. It is for this purpose mainly that the \$5,000 has been raised. This road will extend the length of the island, for several miles. It will be built of shells and will be kept always in the most excellent condition possible.

Stables will be erected thereon for the benefit of the traveling public and salesmen and others can leave their teams at this point, saving the danger, trouble and expense of river transportation. The distance between what is known as Sykes cut and the main land will be covered by a commodious bridge, which will touch the borderland of Camden county at a point on the road leading to Shiloh in that municipality.

The ferry will consist of a large flat boat, which will operate on schedule time between the points named. A rope will cover the length of the ferry, being under the water and the usual contrivance will propel the boat, by means of this stationary cable.

The effect of this new ferry line, will be marked. Mr. H. T. Greenleaf is the promoter of the enterprise. A reduction of rates will be put into effect and as competition always means better service Elizabeth City must of course benefit by the operation of the Camden Ferry Company's ferry.

The movement on foot to continue closing the stores at 6 o'clock in the evening is a good one. Every merchant in Elizabeth City should lend a hand in carrying out this plan, which means needed and just recreation for hard worked employees. The Tar Heel hopes there will be no attempt to thwart the 6 o'clock movement.