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THE LUMBER BRIDGE NEWS.

LUMBER BRIDGE, N. C.

REV. P. R. LAW, EDITOR.

That was an interesting episode in the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in session at Fort Worth last week, the introduction to the dignified body of the oldest man and ablest minister in the entire church, Rev. Angus Johnston, of Texas. He is 90 years old and has been in the active ministry 70 years. And few men in the service are doing it as said more work than he is yet doing at his exceptional age. Long years ago he migrated to Texas from Fayetteville, Arkansas. When we told him we were at Antioch first Sunday in the month and the great and fine looking congregation there where he once preached he wept like a child and held fast to our hand. He has many kindred in the Red Springs vicinity. But for his unsteady steps one might adjudge him to be about 50 years old. His face is free from wrinkles, smooth and round and his mind appears to be active and clear. Together with his venerable wife he was introduced to the Assembly standing and was given a seat of honor on the pulpit platform. It was a rare sight to see this venerable couple sitting together and alongside the moderator in the presence of this high court of the church.

Until we reached Texas, the garden vegetables and field crops in North Carolina and especially Robeson county were as far advanced as any we saw. In Texas we found our crops were not altogether so large. It was a pleasing experience we noted gratefully as we bowled along three days and three nights that we saw no drunkenness and heard no profanity. There are ways in which the world is growing better. One is impressed with the absence in the west of the enslaving conformity to varied conventionalities in life which is felt in so imperious a way in the East. There is an easy going habit all about which however dull it may appear is felt to be inalienable and is cherished both for its greater economy and greater source of comfort. Large and elegant court houses and school houses greet the eye most agreeably. In this respect the west is far more progressive than the East. The court house here in Fort Worth cost \$98,000.00. In San Antonio \$600,000.00 was expended for its court house.

The visitor in Texas gets lasting impressions from the windmills, thunder and lightning, winds and mud. There appears to be no particular direction from which rain may be expected. The air is altogether democratic. When clouds are seen it makes no difference where it may rain but there is no certainty growing out of sight of clouds. It is as well to carry your umbrella with you when no clouds are visible as when the sky is overcast by them. Such has been our experience. So far we have had none of the distressing sequences of mud. Only slight "thunder showers" have fallen at night. The early morning sun has dried off the streets. Lack of reverence for the Lord's day is manifest. Many things are done here on this day public sentiment in our State would not tolerate. No doubt the day, in the past and in some quarters was overkept by the interpretation of the oldest and best.

We have seen and felt a real Texas cyclone. It came about 7 P. M. Sunday. We were pre-occupied with the matter of a sermon we had been appointed to preach by the Assembly. This we presume helped to abate our fright. It was a dark lowering funnel like cloud. The awe inspiring appearance of such an one must be seen over the prairies of this country to be understood. The wind and rain were furious. Buildings quaked and not a few roofs were able to keep all the water out. Many dwellings of the city were injured and quite a number were damaged. Several churches were demolished. The Broadway Presbyterian Church in which communion of the Assembly are being held was a

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Good Issues.

The question of issuing bonds for building good roads seems to have made considerable progress so far as the counties of North Carolina are concerned; half a-dozen counties have recently voted bond issues for this purpose, and one or two others will have similar elections during the coming month.

More than a year ago the county of Guilford voted \$390,000 in bonds for the improvement of its highways and the substantial and satisfactory progress that has been made in this direction is an inspiration for other counties to adopt similar methods. They have purchased sufficient good roads machinery and equipment and are building roads of very satisfactory character.

Undoubtedly there are the strongest reasons for the issue of bonds for road-building, viz:

1. They make available funds in sufficient quantity to render possible the accomplishment of definite and desirable results.
2. They give us almost immediately the benefits of good roads, while the payment for them is deferred for many years, until the county has progressed in material wealth to enable it to pay the bonds without unnecessary inconvenience.
3. They obviate the necessity for a high road tax, while accomplishing the results for which such a tax would be levied.
4. They give us good roads now and make the best sort of argument for the extension of this progressive movement.

It is hoped that at the meeting of each succeeding legislature in North Carolina the counties of the State at present without good roads will be granted the privilege of issuing bonds, until every one of our counties shall have felt the good effect of this movement for better public highways.

Young Roebling Found.

Asheville, May 28.—Shortly before midnight last night, Mr. John A. Roebling received a telegram from Judge T. A. Jones, of this city, that he had found his son Siegfried Roebling, in Knoxville late last night. The telegram also stated that the boy was well and would arrive in this city this (Sunday) afternoon.

Immediately upon receipt of the news that his son had been seen by four different persons in Knoxville, Mr. Roebling sent Judge Jones and Edward Holmer, of Knoxville, to search for his son. Details of the finding of the missing lad have not been received beyond the facts given.

Siegfried Roebling disappeared from the Asheville School last Sunday morning and was frequently reported from different sources to have gone South.

The boy's parents spared no expense in following up the various clues, but nothing tangible was discovered until the reports from Knoxville telling that young Roebling had been seen there, were received.

Mr. Roebling stated last night that his son would not be required to go to the school he had left.

Confirmation of the report that Siegfried Roebling had been found in Knoxville was received by telephone from Judge Thos. A. Jones, of this city, at an early hour this morning. Judge Jones has the boy in his possession.

Mr. and Mrs. Page, of Wilmington, spent Sunday at the home of Mr. J. P. McNeill.

Miss Virginia Brockwell and Louise Turney, who have been students of Robeson Institute during the past term, left Friday afternoon for their home in Virginia.

Our People Abroad.

There are some among us who say that North Carolinians are a vainglorious folk, forever boasting of their State and its people; while others among us say that we have no State pride and are always degrading the State and its citizens. Without stopping to controvert with either of these classes, we beg leave to observe that while it may be that no great number of North Carolinians have achieved distinction at home, a remarkable number have gone away and won fame; and particularly have many of our young men, who have gone for education to the great universities and colleges of the North, shed lustre on the State of their nativity. This is markedly true of our young men who are graduating in the North this year. The Winston Sentinel has an interesting collection of the names of North Carolinians who are just now doing themselves and the State credit away from home. Mr. Ernest Graves ranks second in the graduating class at the United States Military Academy this year. At Harvard, Mr. Chas. H. Johnson will represent the candidates for the degree of doctor of philosophy, having been selected by them for this purpose, while the faculty has selected Mr. W. A. Lambeth to deliver the oration at commencement in behalf of the graduate students. Mr. William Kenneth Boyd will receive a degree at Columbia University this year, having won high distinction in European history. Messrs. J. R. Hamilton and L. L. Hendren have taken universally high stands at Columbia University, the one in history, the other in physics. As another example of the intellectual superiority of a North Carolina boy, the Sentinel refers to the "splendid record among men from every part of the world," which is being made by Mr. Horner Winston, one of the Rhodes scholars at Oxford. All North Carolinians.

It is to be doubted if any other one State has carried off as many university and college honors this year—the reference is to the great universities and colleges only—as has North Carolina. Without undue boastfulness or depreciation, either, it may be remarked, then, that there must be something in the intellectual fibre of our people. *Charlotte Observer.*

Governor of Baku Murdered.

Baku, Caucasus, May 24.—The governor of Baku, Prince Nakachidze, was assassinated at 8 P. M., today by a bomb which was thrown at his carriage. A lieutenant who was accompanying the governor and a by-stander were also killed by the explosion and the coachman is believed to have been fatally injured.

Mr. Walter McCormick and children, of Waycross, Ga., are visiting the family of Mr. T. N. Higley. They expect to return to their home Wednesday. Mrs. McCormick will be remembered by many here as Miss Fannie Barnes, a daughter of Mr. J. H. Barnes, of Brunswick, Ga.

Mr. G. H. Gattis, of Raleigh, general passenger agent for the Seaboard, spent Sunday here. He advised us that beginning June 15th, the Seaboard will run Pullman parlor cars on trains 30 and 31 between Charlotte and Wilmington. This will be a great convenience and it is long wished for.

Prof. W. B. Loving returned to his home in Virginia at the close of the commencement exercises of Robeson Institute.

Liquor Transported by River.

Rockingham, May 28.—For some time past the Pee Dee river below here has been a highway of blockade liquor traffic. The liquor is hauled in wagons from the direction of Hamlet. The barrels are thrown into the river, chained together and launched for unknown ports. It has, for the past two or three months, been no infrequent sight to see wagons loaded with two or three barrels each pass miles from town, going toward the river in broad, open daylight. Sometimes a boat is carried along with the barrels. A few days ago Mr. A. J. Williams, who lives on Mr. H. C. Dockery's place, four miles from Rockingham, phoned Mr. A. S. Dockery to send an officer down to Digg's ferry to seize some whisky. He stated that the parties who were shipping it were waiting for their boat to swell so that it would not leak. Mr. Dockery told Henry Stogner, a deputy marshal, of what he had heard, and Stogner went down there and seized four barrels. They had been placed in the barrels, and the barrels chained together. A man in a boat usually follows the fleet of barrels at a safe distance, so that he may push them off rocks.

The old negro ferryman at Digg's ferry is reported to have said that they came to the ferry every other night with barrels of whisky. The seizure above mentioned is the only one that has been made in this county, although the practice has been going on almost openly for several months. Some time ago eleven barrels were pulled out of the river near Cheraw, in South Carolina.

Tornadoes Rage in Southwest.

Denison, Tex., May 27.—The towns of Platter, Woodrille, Call, Roberts and Colbert, on the Frisco Railroad, in Indian Territory, were visited by a tornado early today. Only meagre advices are procurable owing to the communication being cut off. A section foreman walked to Red river bridge and gave the first news of the storm.

It is reported that nearly every house in Platter was blown down, one man so badly hurt that he is not expected to live, and others injured. The depot was badly damaged. The storm cut a swath through the timber two hundred yards wide. The other towns named suffered injuries, but the force of the storm was spent when they were reached.

From Ardmore, Oklahoma, it is reported that a terrific storm struck Caddo county, wrecking many houses. Rock Island tracks are washed out and the large steel bridge recently built by the government near Mountain View is in danger of going.

Many houses and barns were struck by lightning, and the Rockwell-Railsback hardware store at Mountain View was damaged to the extent of \$10,000. Hundreds of acres of crops have been destroyed.

A tornado struck three miles west of Cement, Okla., causing great loss, but no lives were reported lost. A cyclone was reported on Hog Creek which tore up timber, but did no other damage.

Negro Who Shot Quail Captured.

Charlotte, N. C., May 27.—Nat Crump, colored, who shot H. Clay Grubb, near Salisbury last Monday, was captured near Old Fort this morning by two boys. Crump emptied his revolver at the boys who fired at him in return. The negro was filled with buck shot, but not fatally wounded.

Ashpole Items.

Rev. J. M. Ashby and R. O. Pitman returned Tuesday from Asheville and report a most delightful occasion.

The rise in cotton is causing some to sell, but most of our growers are still holding. *State Library*

Messrs. Leggett and Purvis have most of the building done for the new gunnery, and are daily receiving machinery.

The Sunday School of the Methodist church expects to hold Children's Day services the second Sunday in June at 11 in the morning. The service will consist of songs and recitations by the young people and an address by the pastor and all are invited.

We were very much pleased indeed with the entertainment given by the Oxford Singing Class last Tuesday night. A large crowd attended the concert which was held in the Baptist church and showed their appreciation by a generous collection besides the door receipts. In all they carried away the sum of \$71.00 and we will be glad to have the chance to be kind to them again.

Killed by Exploding Boiler.

Wilmington, May 27.—W. H. Corbett, a colored fireman, was instantly killed and his body is buried beneath the debris of two brick buildings that were wrecked early this morning by a boiler explosion at the Hilton Lumber Company, in this city. The engine-room and saw-mill, with the machinery in both, were almost completely demolished, causing a loss of upwards of \$25,000, which is partially, at least, covered by insurance. The shock of the explosion was felt all over the city, a distance of two miles, and buildings were shaken to such an extent that many people thought it was an earthquake. The cause of the explosion is not known. Fortunately, the day shift of employes of the mill had not gone to work, else the loss of life would have been great. One of the six large bottles was blown from its foundations and crashed down on its end through the mill and building. The fire department was called out, but the explosion was so complete that the fire from the furnaces did no damage.

Willfords-McNeill.

On Thursday, the 18th inst., at 3 p. m., at the residence of the parents Miss Jennie, the accomplished daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Willford, was married to Mr. John McNeill, of Buie. The bride is a lady of many excellent traits of character, and one whose many friends regret to part with. The groom is a prosperous farmer of Buie, who has many friends in that section. The attendants were: Miss Atelia Willford with Mr. W. A. McBryde, Miss Lizzie Pate with Mr. Wilbert Willford, Miss Nettie Currie with Mr. J. W. McPhail. Others present were a few relatives and friends of the bride and groom.

After the ceremony by the officiating minister, Rev. J. A. Calligan, the bride and groom, with their attendants, left for the home of Mr. Sandy McNeill, a brother of the groom, where an elegant reception was given. An old-fashioned in-fair supper was served and a few social games enjoyed. After indulging to the utmost the hospitality of these good people, we then departed to our several homes.—*Red Springs Citizen.*

Mr. J. H. Barnes and daughter, who have been visiting relatives here, are now at Red Springs with relatives. They return to their home in Brunswick, Ga., Wednesday.

Maxton Schools Close.

The commencement exercises at the Maxton graded school on Thursday and Friday evenings were largely attended and much enjoyed. On Thursday the large hall was filled to overflowing, many having to stand. On Friday the weather was exceedingly disagreeable, but notwithstanding this, a full house came out to hear the address of Mr. Josephus Daniels, the speaker of the evening. Col. E. F. McRae, of this place, made a talk also, and the evening's entertainment closed the school year. The graduating class were: Mattie Brown MacLean, Emma Belle McRae, Lollie Lou McKinnon and Jessie Burns; John Allen MacLeod, Jr., and William Parish, the latter receiving a scholarship to the University of North Carolina. Miss Jessie Burns was given the scholarship to Elizabeth College. Prof. A. Vent has resigned his position as principal of the school and will go to Spring Hope to teach. His successor is Prof. A. S. Webb, of Rougemont. The school is steadily growing and is a credit to the town.

Farmers in this section are decidedly "in the gram." Labor is very scarce, and if it were otherwise, there has been no weather for cleaning the crops. Many have plowed up the cotton and are planting corn; others are converting it (or allowing it to convert itself) into a hay crop. The cotton acreage is, on this account, considerably reduced.—*Charlotte Observer.*

Floral College Items.

Floral College, May 27.—On the grass, the beautiful grass! The ridges, the ditches, the woods, the fields—everywhere, Mother earth is clothed in a robe of green. The scarcity of hands and the continued rainy weather have caused the farmers to become behind in their crops and while there is not as much grass in this as other sections, yet the cotton and corn have suffered greatly on account of wet weather.

Miss Etta McKay visited friends near Laurinburg the past week.

Sorry to report the serious illness of Miss Mary Ann Campbell, who resides with her nephew, Mr. W. W. McGirt.

The pulpit at Centre church made vacant last Sunday in the absence of its pastor Rev. H. G. Hill—as very ably filled by Rev. C. F. Rankin, of Red Springs. Mr. Rankin is a young man of of intellectual power and Fayetteville Presbyterian will suffer a great loss when Mr. Rankin goes to Orange Presbyterian to do evangelist work in its borders.

Quite a large number of our young people attended the closing exercises of the Southern Presbyterian College at Red Springs, the past week.

Miss Myrtle McNeill, of Wilmington, is spending some time here with relatives.

Mr. T. H. Leavitt leaves today for Ashpole, Chadbourne and other points, on business.

Misses Nellie McNeill and Annie Gibson, of Barkers, spent yesterday here shopping.

Mrs. Duncan McEachern, of Wilmington, is spending some time here with relatives.

Mrs. L. E. Breece, although still unable to leave her bed, continues to slowly improve.

Mr. O. Bracey, of Rowland, R. F. D. No. 1 made us a profitable call while in town yesterday.

The family of the late J. D. Biggs, came up from Wilmington, and attended the unveiling Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Maxwell, and their daughter, Gertrude, went to Yadonville Sunday. Mrs. Maxwell and Gertrude will spend some days there visiting.