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LUMBERTON, NORTH CAROLINA FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 1906.

WHOLE NO. 2131

SAN FRANCISCO IS LAID IN RUINS

Earthquake Shocks Cause Great Damage to City on Pacific.

HUNDREDS PEOPLE KILLED

One Shock Followed Closely Another—Three Hours Later a Third Shock Came—Fire Breaks out in Ruins and Does Great Damage.

A disaster that has no parallel in recent years visited the Pacific Coast Wednesday when hundreds of people lost their lives and many millions of dollars of property loss was caused by shocks of earthquake. The greatest amount of loss was in San Francisco, a city of 400,000 people, where many of the lives were lost and the greater part of the property loss sustained. The loss of life first estimated at 3,000 seems to have been somewhat overestimated, yet it was large enough to be appalling. The property loss is not far from \$50,000,000 and is estimated to be four times as much. The following telegrams received to-day are used by courtesy of the Western Union Company.

By Western Union Telegraph.
San Francisco, April 19, 2:15 p. m.—Fire continues burning in a diagonal line up a hill, commencing at McAllister and ending at Battery street, and on Mission as far as 16th street, with rising wind and scarcity of water. No one is allowed to enter the city. Soldiers are distributing water.

By Western Union Telegraph.
San Francisco, April 19, noon.—Entire district up as far as the new Fairmont hotel on top of Knob Hill, California, set between Powell and Mason streets, is all gone. Reported that one hundred thousand people are homeless, and at 6:30 a. m., San Francisco time, fire was not under control, and water supply was again cut off. Later reports from Los Angeles show earlier information as to loss of life and property in that city to have been greatly underestimated. Ten thousand homeless are reported at Santa Rosa.

By Western Union Telegraph.
San Francisco, April 19th, 8 a. m. (11 a. m. Eastern time)—Fire is still raging. The city is practically destroyed. It is too early in the morning to learn definitely the exact situation at the water front. Boats and suburban roads are running on schedule time, except Alameda. The military is doing police duty, but city is not under martial law.

By Western Union Telegraph.
San Francisco, Cal. April 18.—Several hundred people were killed and many more injured by shocks of earthquake in San Francisco today. Every building in the city was damaged and many were wholly destroyed.

There were two separate and distinct shocks. The second followed the first after an interval of three hours, the latter shock destroying all buildings unsettled by the first.

Thieves are already at work and troops are hastening from Predirio. Berkeley, a suburb, is reported ruined. The buildings occupied by the Examiner and Call, San Francisco's leading newspapers, are destroyed.

Late dispatches place probable loss of life at 300. The Emporium is gone. Market street is described as a seething furnace. Fire is now working havoc in the ruins.

The whole city east of Sansome street to water front and south of Market as far as Tenth completely destroyed. It is now stated every building in the city is more or less damaged. The Western Union office has caught fire and the Postal Telegraph office was demolished.

This is perhaps the greatest earthquake since that at Lisbon. There were more slight shocks later in the afternoon, which completed the destruction already begun. Small towns near San Francisco suffered greatly.

This is one of the worst disasters the world has ever known. No definite account of the loss of property and life can be given at this time. The people are horrified and rushing madly through the ruined city.

ELROD NEWS ITEMS.

Children Greatly Enjoy Egg Hunt—Other News of Interest.

Elrod, April 19.—The children of the neighborhood thoroughly enjoyed an Easter egg hunt Saturday afternoon in the beautiful grove at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Bridgers. The parents and a few friends of the children were present. All seemed to enjoy the outing very much.

A few from this community attended the closing exercises of Alfordville school Friday evening. They report a pleasant time.

Mrs. Rupert Bridgers has just returned from a two weeks visit to her mother, Mrs. Chappell, at Candor.

Rev. W. W. Willis, of Ashpole, was here last week en route to Buie, to see his mother, who is very ill.

Miss Bessie McLean, of McDonalds, is spending this week with her sister, Mrs. P. H. Adams.

Mr. Will Currie, of Maxton, was in the community Sunday.

Misses May and Annie Thompson, of Hamer, S. C., spent Easter with their aunts, the Misses Thompson, near here.

LAKE OF MYSTERY.

Its Unexplored Waters Lie Under Charleston.

Richmond, Va., April 17.—A Winchester, Va., special says:

Great excitement prevailed today at Charleston, Jefferson county, West Virginia, twenty-two miles north of here, over the discovery of a subterranean lake and cavern which are being explored this afternoon by an expert with electric lights.

Men were blasting rock yesterday and discovered the lake and cavern when the discharge fell through. They descended and with a small boat rowed around several hundred yards. The lake is of the purest water.

Residents of Charleston are alarmed, fearing the ground will fall in, burying them and their property, as the subterranean wonder is directly under the town.

Rev. A. E. Baker, pastor of the Presbyterian church in Lumberton, will preach the baccalaureate sermon before the students of the Clarkton Military Institute Sunday at 11 o'clock. Rev. J. M. Wills, D. D., of Wilmington, will deliver the address Tuesday, the 24th.

Mr. H. H. Lowe, of Charlotte, was here this week on business.

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THE ROBESONIAN,
Lumberton, N. C.

NEWS ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM RED SPRINGS

Red Springs, Apr. 19.—Rev. J. M. Rose D. D., of Laurinburg, will preach the Baccalaureate sermon and Hon. G. B. Patterson will make the literary address at the approaching commencement of the Southern Presbyterian College and Conservatory of Music. The institution has thus chosen very near neighbors for its addresses this year. This is well. The work will be as well done as if others far off had been invited. Hon. G. B. Patterson was the first President of its Board of Trustees and this is the tenth commencement. A sort of decennial address would be interesting and entertain and instruct a great audience.

The ball games, Monday and Tuesday, between the North Carolina Military Academy boys and the Jonesboro boys were sources of interest and furnished great pleasure to the base ball enthusiasts. They were close and exciting. The interest ranged around the deft playing of young Weatherly, a professional from Maxton, who lined up with the Jonesboro nine. He won the game for his side Monday on a score of 6 to 5. Tuesday the score, we learn, was 7 to 10 in favor Jonesboro.

That was an unsurpassed reception given the Seniors by the Juniors at the College Monday night. The decorations were faultless and beautiful and the young ladies in their new spring dresses never before looked so lovely. This is what we are told by a nice judge and of the finish esthetic culture. No doubt every young gentleman present is disposed to say there is more or less of sterility in our adjective.

The following published resolve reached us late, but not too late: "Let's all attend the course supper at the former academy April 20th 6 o'clock, at Lumber Bridge N. C. Only 25 cents. Get tickets for the supper and the play 'The Mouse Trap' which opens at 8:30 p. m. Tickets for palalone 25 cents. Play given in behalf the new school building."

The Lumber Bridge and Raeford ball teams play a match game at 3:30 p. m. The above is worth going to. Good things may be expected. The cause is worthy. The welcome will be hearty. No doubt a great crowd will turn out. Remember the time it is this (Friday) night.

Miss Esse Shaw who had been at the High Smith hospital in Fayetteville two weeks returned home Monday. She said she was well and looked fully restored. It is a good place to go to, she says if you get sick. The hospital is nearly full. We can testify it has everything from skilled physicians down to expected in a first class hospital.

We had the pleasure of seeing Mr. John C. Currie, of Perry Florida Monday. He was looking hale and happy. It was a flying trip he had made to see his sister who had been painfully hurt. All the Robeson contingent in Florida were reported well. He was speeding homeward.

Ralph Bingham had a good audience. He lecture was delightful as a whole. All were amused and everybody laughed and spent his much enjoyed hour under his shell. Nature did much for the literal amateur musician and elocutionist.

North Carolina Military Academy has passed into other hands. Dr. S. W. Murphy has closed a trade whereby he retires. He speaks well of his successor. Next year the academy will be therefore under an entirely new administration.

Messrs. Cook, Garrett & McNeill and the Red Springs Drug Company will rebuild their burnt stores including the post office as soon as the brick can be placed on the ground.

We are glad to hear that Miss Emma Currie, of Lumber Bridge, who was so dangerously and painfully hurt over two weeks ago is getting well rapidly.

Mr. Newton H. Smith, of Fayetteville, came down to see his daughters at the college Monday night.

Mr. J. C. McPhail, of Shannon is keeping house for her mother while she is visiting in Southern Pines.

Mrs. W. H. Sikes has gone to Cumberland for a month's stay in the county.

Rev. Dr. C. H. Vardell preached at Shannon last Sunday afternoon.

Mr. Ernest Sikes spent a few days at home the past week.

Mrs. Clifton returned home Tuesday morning.

Invitations Received.

The Robesonian is indebted to the faculty of Jefferson Academy, McLeansville, N. C., for an invitation to attend the annual commencement exercises, to be held May 20th to 22nd. The annual sermon will be delivered Sunday afternoon, May 20, by Rev. J. O. Atkinson, of Elon College, and State Superintendent J. Y. Joyner will make the literary address Tuesday at 2:30 p. m.

General T. A. Bond, who is spending some time at his winter home in the country, was here Wednesday.

ASHPOLE NEWS LETTER.

Ashpole, Apr. 19.—Mr. Glenn Ashley is at home from Florence S. C. for a few days, to the delight of his many friends who are much pleased to see him looking so well. Hard work evidently agrees with him. He is engineer on the Florence yards.

Quite a crowd of Ashpole people went to Ionia church Sunday afternoon and heard an excellent sermon by Rev. Mr. Wilson, of Kentucky, S. C.

The school greatly enjoyed an Easter holiday picnic at Atkinson's Mill. They went in wagons and had a whole day of unlimited fun.

A. L. Jones has bought a store lot on Main Street formerly owned by J. I. Hill, and, we understand, will build on it at once.

Capt. Wiggs came out from Lumberton Monday last and will spend the summer with his nephew S. J. Smith.

Messrs. Sloan of the Mercer Furniture Co. have moved in with the Bachelor Club in the Brown Building.

Miss Mary Wilkes, of Chadbourn is a welcome visitor in town the guest of Mrs. Z. V. Straghan.

The wife and daughter of Mr. Edwards, S. C. engineer came here and spent last Sunday with him.

Mr. H. G. Mitchell Sr. is suffering with a bad carbuncle. But we understand is improving.

Dr. McKenzie, who recently located at Barnesville, was in our town last Tuesday.

Miss Mamie McDaniel returned Tuesday from a pleasant visit to Boardman.

Dr. Brown and C. B. Thompson returned from Baltimore last Saturday night.

Miss Eva Tate, of Chadbourn, is visiting Mrs. F. C. Jones this week.

ALFORDSVILLE NEWS.

School Closes with an Enjoyable Concert.

Alfordville, April 19.—The school closed at Alfordville Friday, April 13. Everybody reports a delightful time. The school room was beautifully decorated with dog-wood, violets, and white lilies. It proved to be one of the most successful concerts that was ever held here.

Mrs. J. E. Alford left Saturday for Bladen where she will spend some time with friends and relatives.

Mr. Lamar McCallum was visiting his parents Mr. and Mrs. J. B. McCallum Sunday.

Messrs. Sam and Herbert Buie of Red Springs were visiting relatives in this community Friday and Saturday.

Misses Josephine and Pearl Evans of St. Pauls are visiting relatives here.

Mr. Edmunds will spend a few days here before going home.

A large crowd attended services at Midway Sunday.

Misses Agnes Evans and Mary Tom Weaver will visit friends and relatives in this community before going home.

Mrs. J. B. McCallum and daughter, Miss Mary Edna, were visiting Mrs. Daniel McLean Sunday.

Stockholders' Meeting.

The first meeting of the stockholders of the Dresden Cotton Mills will be held Tuesday, May 1st, at 11 o'clock, in the office of the Lumberton Cotton Mills. A large amount of capital stock has been subscribed and work is expected to commence on the mill in a short time after the meeting of stockholders.

BLACKBURN TRIAL BEGUN TUESDAY

Congressman From Eight District is Confronted With Serious Charge.

ABLE COUNSEL ON BOTH SIDES

Prosecution Wins in First Contest—Case Must go to Jury on Its Merits, Rules Judge Goff—Judge Lewis Representing Government.

Greensboro, N. C., April 18.—The trial of E. Spencer Blackburn, congressman from the eighth North Carolina district, came up for hearing in the federal court at 11 o'clock this morning.

Blackburn is specifically charged with violating Section 1782 of the Revised Statutes of the United States in practicing and receiving fees therefor before the government departments at Washington.

United States Circuit Judge Nathan Goff, of West Virginia, presided at the hearing.

Judge L. L. Lewis, district attorney for the eastern district of Virginia, assisted by J. J. Britt, assistant to United States District Attorney A. E. Holton, will represent the government.

Congressman Blackburn's interests will be looked after by Former Judge W. P. Bynum, Jr., E. J. Justice, A. L. Brooks, G. Sam Bradshaw and Frank Lovell.

The trial promises to be one of the most notable ever heard in North Carolina, not only on account of the high official character of the defendant but by reason of the prominence of the attorneys on the respective sides.

The present trial is the outcome of an investigation instituted last December by the department of justice at Washington in connection with certain charges that had been filed against the congressman.

This inquiry was followed by an indictment of Blackburn at the term of the Asheville court February 22nd, last.

He was indicted on three charges covering three separate and distinct transactions.

Immediately after the hearing was commenced the defense filed a demurrer contending that the alleged offenses were committed before Blackburn had taken the oath as congressman, and that he was therefore not amenable to the statute; the demurrer was overruled, and the case will go to the jury on the testimony.

Revival at Methodist Church.

The revival services at the Methodist church are daily increasing in interest. Services are held at 10 a. m. and 8 p. m. The attendance, especially at the evening services, is quite large. (The Rev. E. McWhorter, of Maxton, is preaching some able and interesting sermons. Pastor Paris was indeed quite fortunate in securing his assistance. The public is most cordially invited to attend the services.

Revival at Tabernacle.

Revival services are in progress at the Tabernacle. Assisting the Rev. Mr. Weiss, is the Rev. Mr. Newton, who is an exceptionally able preacher. The attendance at the meeting is very encouraging and much interest is manifest in the services. Quite a number of conversions are reported.