

THE ROBESONIAN

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LUMBERTON, NORTH CAROLINA, MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 1907.

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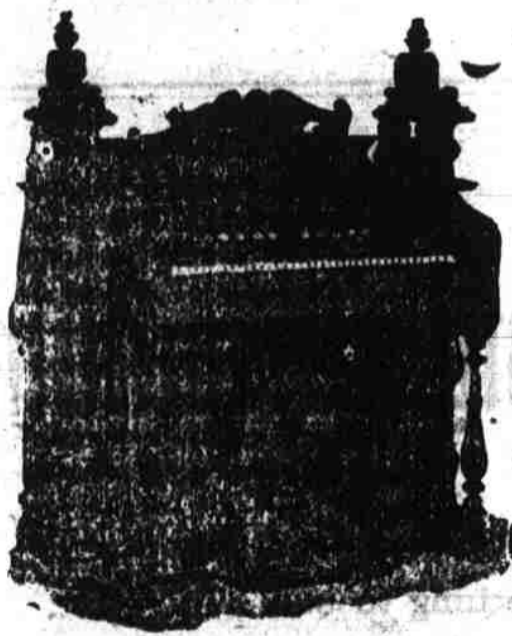
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SADDLE TREE PICNIC.

Great Educational Rally and Picnic at Saddle Tree Baptist Church—Great Day for School District No. 1, Saddle Tree Township—Many Good Speeches Made and Much Interest Manifested in Purpose of the Rally—Will Vote on Special School Tax on September 7—A Day Enjoyed by all—Occasion Will be Long Remembered.

At Saddle Tree church, in white school district No. 1, Saddle Tree township, an educational rally and picnic was held on Thursday of last week, the 8th, that will be long remembered. The enthusiasm there aroused for the cause of education, and the purpose there hardened into resolution will bear fruit in deeds that will cause the children's children of the promoters of that picnic and rally to tell how their sires and grandsires purposed in their hearts to give to the children of that section better educational advantages and called the people together to the end that they might be awakened to the need for these things.

On a tree in a conspicuous place on the grounds was posted a notice to the effect that on the 7th of September, 1907, there will be held an election in this district No. 1, Saddle Tree township, to determine whether or not a special tax school shall be established in that district. As mentioned in the last issue of The Robesonian, this order of the board of county commissioners for a special tax election was made in response to a petition signed by one-fourth of the free-holders of the district and endorsed by the board of education of the county. Before this petition was presented or this order for an election made, some citizens of this district who are thoroughly alive to the necessity for better educational advantages decided to hold a rally and picnic to warm the lukewarm and to enthuse the indifferent. To this end a committee on arrangements was elected and speakers were engaged for the occasion. This committee on arrangements consisted of Messrs. W. H. Powell, R. Humphrey, N. A. McIntyre, N. S. Humphrey and J. N. Regan. These gentlemen deserve hearty congratulations for the success of the occasion. Prof. Carlyle, who knows how to estimate a crowd, said that there were 1,000 people there—800 adults and 200 children. It was the largest crowd that ever gathered at Saddle Tree Baptist church.

At eleven o'clock the people began to gather in the church, where it was decided to have the speaking. By the time the congregation, led by the church choir, had sung "Blest be the Tie That Binds" and one other song the church was filled about to its capacity. After prayer by Rev. R. E. McCullar, of Lumberton, Prof. J. B. Carlyle, who is thoroughly at home anywhere in Robeson, his native county, welcomed the crowd, which he said was the largest he had ever seen assembled in Saddle Tree township, and he added that he had never seen a handsomer crowd—and he has addressed some few crowds, too, in his

time, as everybody knows. He then introduced the first speaker, Mr. W. B. Malloy, of Fayetteville.

Mr. Malloy would not himself claim to be a thing of beauty, but certainly from the moment he faced that audience till he sat down he was a continual joy. But the impression must not be made that Mr. Malloy is not a fine looking man. Standing just a little above six feet, at a guess, and large of frame, he presents a fine appearance, and he stood flat-footed before that audience, with perspiration oozing from every pore—for it was a mighty hot day—and made a talk that was worth going miles to hear. It was rich, rare and racy, and packed with good thought, withal. Mr. Malloy was an inspiration to the crowd and to the speakers that followed him, and from the time he began to speak until the crowd dispersed there was not a dull moment. The influence of his bright remarks was felt in all that followed.

Mr. Malloy began by saying that when he received the invitation to speak on this occasion his first thought was that he was glad it was an invitation to speak, and not an invitation to a wedding; that an invitation to a wedding called for sending something, and it was much easier to come himself than to send; that he could not go into the markets and find anything of less value than himself. He said that the crowd had been driven inside the church to escape the heat, which was most appropriate, for they were driven to the church to escape the heat of the future. He had prepared a speech, but on account of the hot weather he had to change suits so often that he could not find it when he got ready to come. He was like the man who forgot his speech and said that when he got out of something to say he would spit, but that he was out of speech and spit both. Fine speakers were to follow him, anyway, and it did not make much difference about his speech—he was like the drummer who wrote back to his house that he was going to quit, that there were half a dozen men in front of him selling the same thing, and the house wrote back for him to keep going, that there were a hundred men selling the same thing behind him. They had him to speak before dinner, but he knew the ladies would feed him according to his physique, and not according to his speech.

After a few humorous remarks about the number of picnics he had been to lately and the way he had eaten at those picnics, Mr. Malloy remarked in an aside that he had forgotten what his subject was, but he announced it presently as

THE RACE OF LIFE.

He compared people to a watch which is not valuable for its case, but for the works in it. He wanted the people of Saddle Tree township to have in them the Twentieth Century Movement in educa-

tion. Saddle Tree suggests getting up, going forward, and tree means life. He said that he was glad to see the people taking a stride forward in education, in efforts to prepare for the race of life. Men train horses and gather to watch them race, and gamble on the result and are proud to win, and if men gather for that purpose surely they ought to do something for the boys and girls to better fit them for the race of life. Money invested in training boys and girls will pay better than any other investment; if parents would have their boys and girls able to successfully meet competition and win success in life they must educate them. On account of this awakening all over the State to the cause of education, North Carolina will yet shine as the brightest star among the States, because she has the stuff to make men and women of. Boys are called bad, but they are the only things to make men out of; girls are sweet all the time; they start that way and get sweeter, and sweeter like horse apples. We need good mothers before we can have Isaacs and Jacobs. Solomon was a mighty smart man but his son was a fool because Solomon did not give him the right kind of mother.

The speaker said he was sorry he was born in Sampson county, but that he really could not help it; the way he happened to be born there was that his parents were there at the time. This Saddle Tree section he declared to be the land of Goshen; if Jacob had lived there he would have waited longer about pulling his feet up in the bed and dying. Goshen was the only country rich enough to produce Goshen butter. The people who had died and gone before did not realize what they had missed by not living in this section where the people are prosperous, happy and pretty.

Mr. Malloy declared that he did not believe in a man praying for something and not doing anything to answer his own prayer; he would not go with a man who would pray for rain and then start out without an umbrella. The thing to do is to pray for rain and then carry all your wraps along and stay until the rain comes. And so, when folks want a school the only thing to do is to get in earnest about it. God has never refused the people anything that was for their own good. "If any man lack wisdom, let him ask of God." Men fix the limit of the advantages and wisdom they have themselves; God does not set any limit. He would not pay a preacher a cent who could not hit him, and he thought that boys usually needed whipping. It does them good, shows them that some one is looking after them and it wakens their consciences and makes them do right and then they will make men. We need educated farmers. An educated man can catch more possums than an uneducated man. Here the speaker gave an instance of a farm that had been vastly improved by boys that

(Continued on page 4.)

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