

# THE ROBESONIAN

Established 1870.

Country, God and Truth.

Single Copies Five Cent

VOL XLII NO. 66.

LUMBERTON, NORTH CAROLINA, MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1911.

WHOLE NO. 2707

## TWO INTERESTING TALKS.

By Revs. C. H. Durham and R. E. Steele—Mr. Durham's Talk on the Mammoth Cave and the Cavern Region of Kentucky—An Interesting Historical Fact Not Mentioned in the Histories—Mr. Steele, a Former Chaplain in the United States Navy, Tells of a Visit to "Robinson Crusoe's Island" and Barbados.

In Thursday's Robesonian, in a report of a social evening at the Industrial and Commercial Club rooms, it was stated that on account of the crowded condition of the paper it was necessary to hold over for today's paper a report that had been written for Thursday's paper of the interesting talks made by Rev. C. H. Durham, pastor of the First Baptist church, and Rev. R. E. Steele, pastor of the Presbyterian church. Both talks were greatly enjoyed by all who heard them. They were instructive as well as entertaining.

Mr. Durham was the first speaker. He first explained the formation of the cavern section of Kentucky, originally a plain some 8,000 square miles in area, lifted by geological formations and then the gradual process of the wearing away of sandstone by the action of acids and water. One may travel horseback all day through this section and not find a surface stream. There are some 500 caverns in this section. His account of his visit to the Mammoth Cave was extremely interesting. Leaving the entrance you go down 100 steps through a narrow passage to an iron gate, which is kept locked to guard the cave against vandalism. This gate marks the point to which the discoverer of the cave, a hunter named Hutchins, followed a wounded bear. This was in 1809. It is said that one can travel a distance of 28 miles through this cave. Mr. Durham described the stalactites and stalagmites, which meet and form columns, some of them very striking in form. One group of three look so much like a bride and groom and ceremony-performing minister that they are called the marriage altar. Here, at the time of Mr. Durham's visit, 13 couples had been married. One young lady who had yielded to her mother's objections to her marriage so far as to solemnly promise that she would not marry any man on the face of the earth was married here. When reminded afterwards by her mother of her promise she said truly that she did not marry on the face of the earth. Just 100 yards beyond the marriage altar is what is called the hornets' nest—and the proximity of the two was noted. The temperature inside the cave is even 54 degrees (Fahrenheit) winter and summer, and this even temperature and the fact that wooden pipes had remained in the cave for long years without decay led a certain physician many years ago to think that this would be a good place for consumptives, and several were taken there; but the experiment proved a dismal failure, all the consumptives dying. The speaker mentioned the "starry dome," where the guide throws light in a certain way upon the gypsum deposits on the dome 60 to 75 feet above and it seems like one is looking at the stars; of Echo river, 350 feet below the surface, where the echoes are marvelous; of "Scotchman's trap," where a Scotchman refused to enter a particularly dangerous looking place when told by the guide that he must do so or he could not see the wonders beyond; and of Stephen Bishop, a mulatto, to whom more credit belongs for exploring the cave than to any other man. This intrepid explorer, when he came to what he named the bottomless pit, an abyss to which he could discover no bottom, went back to the mouth of the cave and dragged a small tree—about the size of an

ordinary stove-pipe—to this place, crossed upon it, and continued his explorations. With one swift touch a lesson was drawn by the speaker from the determination and indomitable courage of Stephen Bishop.

Mr. Durham mentioned a most interesting historical fact in connection with the Mammoth Cave, a fact that is not mentioned in the histories. During the war of 1812 the principal source of saltpeter supply for the manufacture of gunpowder in this country was the cavern region of Kentucky, and it is claimed in a historical sketch of the Mammoth Cave by Horace C. Hovey and Richard E. Call that that war "would have ended in failure on our side had it not been for the resources so abundantly furnished by American caverns for the home manufacture of saltpeter at a time when by a general embargo we were wholly cut off from foreign sources of supply." Immense quantities of saltpeter were obtained from the "peter dirt," as it was familiarly called by the negro miners, this dirt averaging about four pounds of calcium nitrate to the bushel. The man who was in charge of the cave at that time reported to his employers that from the Mammoth Cave alone they could "supply the whole population of the globe with saltpeter."

So much space has been given to Mr. Durham's interesting talk that the equally interesting and instructive talk of Mr. Steele cannot be done justice; but, for that matter, Mr. Durham's talk has not been done justice and neither talk can be done justice in the space available. Mr. Steele was formerly a chaplain in the United States Navy, has had many exceedingly interesting experiences, and was embarrassed by the abundant riches of the material from which he had to choose. He is a most agreeable speaker, he talked in pleasant vein, and there were so many human-interest touches in his talk that it is difficult for this reporter to know how to report his talk. For instance, it would be easy to fill half a column with what he said—this just a thread running through his story—about "Bum," a tramp dog that took up with his ship at San Francisco and went with them on a 7,000-mile cruise during which they were out of sight of land for 50 days. On this cruise the first place they stopped was Juan Fernandez, "Robinson Crusoe's island," where Alexander Selkirk lived alone for four years, in the South Pacific ocean, 400 miles west of Chile. Among the interesting facts mentioned in connection with this island was that here are found two distinct kinds of birds—one species of hummingbird—and two or three plants not found anywhere else. He also spoke interestingly of a visit to Barbados, one of the islands of the Lesser Antilles. Here the population is denser than anywhere else in the world, with the exception of congested districts of London and New York, and they are mostly negroes—the meanest and most impudent negroes on earth. Among other things he gave an interesting account of how these negroes, who are put to it to make a living, catch flying fish, which they are more successful in doing than any other people in the world. Mr. Steele had some pictures of scenes on this island and a box of shells artistically arranged by natives of the island, and these were examined with interest by his hearers at the conclusion of his remarks.

Mr. Steele has some stereopticon views of places he visited while with the navy and Mr. Caldwell stated that he hoped to prevail on Mr. Steele to contribute to the pleasure of some similar occasion in the future.

—Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Topperwein, who are said to be fancy shots with rifle and pistol, will give an exhibition in Lumberton on the 19th inst. They come at the invitation of the local gun club.

You are not experimenting on yourself when you take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy for a cold as that preparation has won its great reputation and extensive sale by its remarkable cures of colds, and can always be depended upon. It is equally valuable for adults and children and may be given to young children with implicit confidence as it contains no harmful drug sold by all dealers.

## BOYS' CORN CLUB.

Prizes Offered For This District—Members of the Club.

A great many boys who are members of the Boys' Corn Club are writing me for information in regard to the regulations of measuring their corn. In answer to them, I will say that the county superintendent is authorized by the State Department of Agriculture to appoint a committee of three responsible men, one of whom should be a justice of the peace or notary public, to witness the corn measured or weighed, not estimated, as some seem to think.

When your corn is ready, let me know and I will appoint this committee.

We want every member of the club to report this year, even if the yield is not as great as you would like to have it. You should make a report to me and also to Prof. I. O. Schaub, West Raleigh, and T. B. Parker, Raleigh.

If you have not sent your name to Mr. Parker as a member of the club, you should do so at once, if you expect to win a State prize.

Prizes offered by the State for this district are:

First prize \$15.00  
Second prize 12.50  
Third prize 10.00  
Fourth prize 7.50  
Fifth prize 5.00

Prizes offered by citizens and firms in the county are:

First prize, \$35, offered by the Farmers' Educational and Co-operative Union.

Second prize, \$25, offered by The Robesonian. (To be eligible for this prize contestant must be a subscriber to The Robesonian before results of measurements are announced.)

Third prize, \$15 offered by the Farmers' Educational and Co-operative Union.

Fourth prize, \$10, offered by the Rowland Sun.

Fifth prize, One Blount middle-buster (8 inch), price \$10, offered by A. L. Bullock.

Sixth prize, one two-horse Canton cultivator, offered by C. T. Pate & Co.

Members of the Boys' Corn Club:

Alex. Andrews, O. L. Ward, Fairmont, R. 2; Chas. Atkinson, Chas. Bullock, Jno. Leggett, Wm. Leggett, P. A. Meares, Albert Small, Geo. Small, Spurgeon Williams, Edward Willoughby, Lumberton R. 3; Riley Baxley, Kinzie Lowe, Alex. Odum, Buie; G. S. Beard, Leland Cashwell, G. C. Cochran, H. F. Lancaster, J. D. McCormick, Marvin Odum, H. B. Parham, Ed. Phillips, O. H. Stanley, I. W. Williamson, Jno. Brisson, Parkton; Walter Beasley, Kenneth Chisholm, Junius McDonald, Roscoe McDonald, Maxton, R. 3; E. M. Belch, Donald Todd, Ellis Branch, Bellamy; Willie Bohann, Jas. Graham, J. A. Love, Jr., David Mayers, Frank McLeod, Rufus McQueen, Angus Bryne, Red Springs; Edgar Bracey, Talmage Melver, A. McLean, Lonnie Smith, Merritt Wilkes, Rowland, R. 3; Willie Bracey, Earl Bryant, Sam Paul, Hal Thompson, Rowland, R. 1; Collier Bridges, Elrod, R. 1; Archie Britt, Tillman Britt, Caison Parker, Harvey Taylor, Leighton Williamson, Ambrose Williams, Lumberton; Jno. Wm. Caddell, Ernest Smith, Maxton, R. 1; J. R. Cason, W. L. Edwards, Jas. McLean, W. W. Farnell, Parkton, R. 1; Elbert Currie, Parkton, R. 2; Wade Currie, L. T. Walters, Stacy B. Walters, Red Springs, R. 1; H. D. Culbreth, Colton McNeill, Wm. Odum, Roy Lewis, Pembroke, R. 1; Frank Everlie, Lee Lassiter, Laurinburg; Burton Graham, J. Paul Robertson, Rowland; Ray Griffin, Herman Johnson, Fairmont, R. 1; Jack Humphrey, Malcom A. Humphrey, Pope Humphrey, Stephen Humphrey, Martin Powell, Cartie N. Prevatt, Clyde Prevatt, Joseph L. Prevatt, Manly Prevatt, Grady Prevatt, Lyman Stone, Lumberton, R. 2; Herbert J. Humphrey, Shannon, R. 1; Samuel J. Johnson, N. Allen

—Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Topperwein, who are said to be fancy shots with rifle and pistol, will give an exhibition in Lumberton on the 19th inst. They come at the invitation of the local gun club.

Give Aid to Strikers. Sometimes liver, kidneys and bowels seem to go on a strike and refuse to work right. Then you need those pleasant little strike-breakers—Dr. King's New Life Pills—to give them natural aid and gently compel proper action. Excellent health soon follows. Try them. 25c at all druggists.

## THE SHERIFF'S REPORT.

Collected Within One-Half of One Per Cent of Amount Charged Against Him.

It was stated in Thursday's Robesonian that Sheriff McNeill had settled his taxes for the year 1910 and that the books for this year had been turned over to him. He was ready to settle some time before the commissioners could settle with him and he showed a particularly clean bill of health. He collected within one-half of 1 per cent of the total amount charged against him, and this uncollected amount is made up of insolvents and errors—land entered twice, for instance—accounts that no man could collect. So it may be said that he collected every dollar that was collectable. The following table shows the amounts charged against the sheriff for the various funds and the amounts collected:

	Charged	Collected
State	\$32,058.19	\$31,692.56
County	34,432.98	32,983.30
School	39,997.28	37,640.98
Pension	3,591.62	3,419.61
Court H. Bnds	3,591.62	3,419.59
Ref'ng. Bnds.	1,795.82	1,709.79
Gen. Road	31,335.13	30,097.99
Spe'l. Sch'l	17,446.89	16,748.06
Total	164,249.52	157,571.87

Insolvents, errors, etc., amounted to \$2,421.30, which was all that was not collected. The sheriff's commissions amounted to \$4,256.35.

## After Another Tolar Murder Suspect.

News was received here this morning that John Wessell, one of the negroes supposed to be implicated in the murder of Mr. Gray Tolar at McDonald on the night of September 2, was seen yesterday afternoon near Nichols, S. C. Deputy Sheriff T. C. Barnes, Chief of Police H. H. Redfern and Messrs. T. R. Tolar and Alf H. McLeod left this morning in the latter's auto for Nichols and it is expected that an arrest will be made. It is said that the man seen yesterday afternoon is pretty certain to be the negro wanted.

## New Wholesale Grocery Company.

Lumberton is to have a new wholesale grocery, the Lumberton Grocery Co., which will organize in a few days and will occupy the cotton storage warehouse, near the V. & C. S. Ry. station, which has been occupied by F. C. Branch. The company has been chartered with authorized capital of \$30,000, with \$4,000 paid in. W. B. Cooper of Wilmington and W. H. Humphrey of Lumberton are among the stockholders and Mr. Humphrey will have charge of the business.

## A Large Crowd in Town to See the Haag Show.

A large crowd—perhaps the largest number that ever assembled here on any occasion except at the educational rally a little more than two years ago—came to Lumberton Friday to see the Haag circus. And it was an exceptionally orderly crowd. The tent was packed for the afternoon performance, which was very fair, the trapeze work being particularly good. The night crowd was not large and the performance was cut short.

Messrs. H. B. Jennings, J. Dixon McLean, Elwood Whaley, F. P. Gray and R. R. Caryle spent yesterday in Bennettsville, S. C., making the trip in Mr. Jennings' auto.

Johnson, St. Paul, R. 1; Emory Matthews, Colton McGirt, David Stephens, Mervall Watson, Maxton; Daniel McArthur, Hoyle Smith, Wakulla; Gwaultney McDowell, Tom Surles, Orrum, R. 1; Hugh McGoogan, Rennett, Abraham B. McRae, Elrod; Harrel J. Thompson, Lumberton, R. 5; Luther Walters, Barnesville, R. 1; Geo. West, Alenton; Donnie C. White, Lumberton, R. 1; Edwin M. White, Sandy McNeill, Lumberton, R. 6.

J. R. Poole, Co. Supt. Public Instruction.

Biliousness is due to a disordered condition of the stomach. Chamberlain's Tablets are essentially a stomach medicine, intended especially to act on that organ; to cleanse it, strengthen its tone and invigorate it, to regulate the liver and to banish biliousness positively and effectually. For sale by all dealers.

## COUNTY ROAD MATTERS.

Business Transacted at Regular Monthly Meeting of Road Commissioners.

At the regular monthly meeting of the county road commissioners last Monday the following business was transacted:

It was ordered that W. F. Buie and wife be paid damages (amount to be fixed by attorneys), in condemnation proceedings, and amount charged to district 5. This road now lies in Hoke county and the secretary was instructed to present this bill to treasurer and request that it be paid from any funds in his hands to the credit of the old road funds of Blue Springs and Red Springs townships, and transfer amount to credit of district 5.

Pharoah Jones, a member of the chain gang who is old and so afflicted by disease as to be unable to do any work, was hired to R. C. Lawrence for \$1 rather than confine him in county jail, where he would be a further expense to the county. Ed. Bethea, colored, was ordered hired out to J. A. McCormick of Pembroke for the remaining 100 days of his chain-gang sentence for \$75, which was paid and credited to general fund.

Mr. H. C. McNair reported that the cart-way had been laid out which he was requested at the last meeting of the board to have laid out through the lands of the Patterson estate in Maxton township, and it was accepted.

The petition of B. F. McLean and others for a new road in Maxton township from the bridge across Lumber river at Alma to the Red Banks road was reported favorably, but owing to present financial condition of the board it did not think it expedient to grant the petition just at this time.

The petition of J. R. Kinlaw and others for a new road in Lumberton and Howellsville townships was ordered granted at expense of petitioners, the road to be an air line from Giles Rozier's residence on the Meadow road to a point where the Center and Tar Heel roads intersect, this order to be of no effect unless the road is put in first-class condition and received by this board.

It was ordered that amount paid for lumber for bridges on Bullock's ford across Ashpole swamp, which was at the time paid out of funds of districts 2 and 3, be credited to these districts and charged to bridge fund. The bill of Walter McMillan for \$366 was charged to district 5 and credited to district 4.

As mentioned in last Thursday's Robesonian, Mr. N. B. McArthur tendered his resignation as commissioner of district 5, effective first Monday in November, on account of lack of time to devote to the work.

An order was passed allowing the following districts to borrow amounts named in order to carry on road work: district 6, \$2,500; 3, \$1,000; 2, \$500; 1, \$1,000.

At the September meeting of the salary of the secretary, W. P. McAllister, was increased from \$15 to \$25 per month.

The following bills were ordered paid:

District 1—Geo. Edwards \$230.69, J. S. Alton & Co. \$1.30, J. G. Prevatt \$57.50, J. H. Powers \$97.67, Rowland Mercer \$8, W. L. Scott \$9, N. C. Hughes \$57.82, M. G. Prevatt \$13.90, J. L. Thompson \$18.16, Giles Kozier \$12.25, H. F. Fauk \$41, F. F. Townsend \$71.34, N. C. Stubbs \$81.02, W. D. Prevatt \$24.20.

District 2—D. A. Jones \$239.46.

District 3—J. B. McLeod \$390.69.

District 4—Wm. Tiddy \$164.72, W. A. Savage \$65, S. A. L. Ry. Co. \$4.45, Walter McMillan \$55.25, D. L. Stewart \$21.50, Bank of Red Springs \$16.96.

District 5—Bank of Red Springs \$486.88.

District 6—J. H. Powers \$97.67, W. F. Fisher \$2.50, J. A. Johnson \$290.69, W. D. Prevatt (chain gang) \$1,007.60, Lindsay Butler Co. \$218.30, N. C. Hughes \$1.18.

General fund—A. T. Parmele \$4.65, J. I. Newberry \$132.69, N. C. Hughes \$1.60.

Farmers, mechanics, railroaders, laborers rely on Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil. Takes the sting out of cuts, burns or bruises at once. Pain cannot stay where it is used.

## LOCAL BRIEFS

—Cotton today 9 cents.

—Spite of low price cotton, numbers of horses and mules are being sold. Messrs. C. M. Fuller and W. I. Linkaw are receiving a car load each today, and these are their second shipments for the season.

—Several out-of-town people came in to see "The Man on the Box" at the opera house Thursday night, among them being Dr. and Mrs. J. P. Brown and son, Master Hal, and Misses Mildred McCubbin, Maggie Floyd and Maggie Pittman, who came over from Fairmont in Dr. Brown's auto.

—Dr. W. A. McPhaul has leased the new building that has replaced the old building on Elm street between the Pope drug store and the postoffice, formerly occupied by Mr. C. B. Redmond's parlor grocery. Dr. McPhaul has rented the building, which will be ready to be occupied in a short while, to Mr. W. S. Wishart, who will use it for a moving picture show.

—Messrs. David Fairfax and Geo. Collins, formerly with the Lumberton barber shop, have purchased the new barber shop, on Fourth street, recently fitted up by Mr. J. R. Steele of Bennettsville, S. C., in rear of the Bank of Lumberton building. They took charge this morning. There are four chairs, the other barbers being Messrs. S. F. Small and S. J. Hedgpath. This shop sports a brave pole in front and is one of the best fitted-up shops in town.

—Mayor A. E. White and Mr. J. P. Townsend, chief of the fire department, unite with Commissioner Young in asking that Lumberton people observe fire-protection day, to which attention was called in Thursday's Robesonian. This is an important matter that cannot be stressed too much, but for lack of space it has not been possible to publish in full Commissioner Young's call for the observance of this day. Careful work in remedying conditions that are dangerous will result in saving much fire loss.

—Mr. F. J. Thomas, who has been a patient at the Thompson hospital for a week, is improving. Will Johnson underwent an operation for appendicitis a few days ago and is doing nicely. Master Ben Inman of East Lumberton, who has been suffering with peritonitis as a result of injuries received about 5 weeks ago from a fall from a wagon, has about recovered and will leave the hospital this week. Little Miss Julia Thompson, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. N. A. Thompson, has about recovered from an operation performed on her throat last Tuesday by Dr. J. G. Murphy of Wilmington, a throat specialist.

## Superior Court.

A special one-week's civil term of Robeson superior court convened this morning, Judge H. W. Whedbee of Greenville presiding. Up to noon two jury cases were tried—Nurn Lewis vs. Luna Lewis and N. J. Pate vs. Hettie Pate—both divorce cases and granted. R. Stewart, assignee, vs. Colon McLaughlin et al and First National Bank vs. J. P. Brown were continued. Non-suit has been entered in the case of Christian Adams vs. Eliza Jane Adams, a land suit, and judgments have been signed in the following: C. L. Pate, Admr., vs. A. C. L. Ry. Co.; Furney Ann Strickland vs. Jno. Strickland; Jno. W. M'White vs. W. W. Caryle; N. J. Thompson vs. Troy Sangleary et al; A. J. Evans vs. Robt. Graham; Harris McCauley Co., Inc., vs. J. H. Turner; G. W. Turner vs. W. A. Lewis and wife.

Messrs. G. B. Patterson and S. B. and B. F. McLean of Maxton are the out-of-town attorneys attending court today.

## Discussing Plans to Warehouse Cotton.

A large number of Robeson county Farmers' Union members are attending a special meeting in town today to determine upon plans to warehouse and hold cotton. The meeting is in session as The Robesonian goes to press.

## Take Your Common Colds Seriously

Common colds severe and frequent, lay the foundation of chronic diseased conditions of the nose and throat, and may develop in bronchitis, pneumonia, and consumption. For all coughs and colds in children and in grown persons, take Foley's Honey and Tar Compound promptly. J. D. McMillan & Son.