

LOCAL RECORDS.

Big crowd here Tuesday.

To-day is the vernal equinox.

The days and nights are now of equal length.

N. M. Hill is prepared to furnish at short notice oak and pine wood, and lumber.

For a first-class Photographers outfit at half price apply to W. H. Leonard, Pittsboro, N. C.

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AN OLD AVE.—Mr. A. C. Council, of Wake county, has an axe that he says is over a hundred years old.

AN OLD AXE.—Mr. Aaron McPherson, of Hall township, has a blacksmith's anvil that he says has been used by the McPherson family for two hundred years.

FINGER CUT OFF.—An eight-year old son of Mr. C. H. Welch, of Bear Creek township, accidentally cut off a finger of his right hand with an axe a few days ago. It proves the truth of the old saying, "Children should not play with edge tools."

A DWELLING BURNED.—We regret to learn that, on last Thursday night, the widow Elizabeth Utley, of Cape Fear township, was unfortunately as to have her dwelling with all its contents destroyed by fire. The origin of the fire is unknown.

NO FENCE LAW.—An election was held, on last Thursday, at Hackney's X Roads under the provisions of the neighborhood no-fence law, and a majority of votes decided in favor of establishing the law. This territory is contiguous to that in which the stock law has been in force for several years, and embraces a considerable area.

A WONDERFUL GROWTH.—Many years ago a party of neighbors were rolling logs in this county, and when they finished one of them stuck his hand, spike into the ground, and now that hand-spoke has grown to be a large sycamore tree, about seven feet in circumference, and can be seen on the farm of Mr. Joseph Bridges in Matthews township.

ARTISTIC WORK.—Some of the most exquisitely beautiful specimens of artistic work that we have ever seen are some "Easter cards," that have been painted by a fourteen-year old lad of this place, Master Tappan Alney, who certainly has a remarkable talent for painting and drawing. These specimens of his skill would be creditable to a professional artist.

EASTER.—Next Sunday is Easter, a festival that has been for centuries past, and is still, celebrated by the great bulk of the Christian world in commemoration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Easter is always celebrated on Sunday next after the full moon which comes after the vernal equinox, so that this year it is almost as early as it possibly can be. In the year 1818 it fell on the 22nd of March, the earliest date possible, and will not fall upon that day again during this century.

IN THIS COUNTRY the day after Easter, called Easter Monday, is observed as a holiday and is a great occasion for picnics and fishing parties.

A LARGE TREE.—Mr. H. C. Horton, of Baldwin township, has told us of a very old and large tree that stood near his father's old residence. The tree was recently cut down, and Mr. Horton informs us that the stump measures six feet five inches in diameter, naking about nineteen feet in circumference. Eight men assisted in cutting it down with plenty space for each to swing his axe. It took them half a day to fell the tree and cut the logs without touching the trunk. It has afforded fire wood for a family of two persons nearly all the winter and to-day there is a good two horse load left, the trunk and larger limbs were piled together and burned, it was on fire a week and two days ago and is still burning. This tree was considerably over one hundred years old, as there was a hole cut through it at least eighty years ago for the purpose of pressing cider, at which time Mr. Horton's father said it was about eighteen inches in diameter.

THE SPRING TERM of our Superior Court is now being held by his Honor, Judge John A. Gilmer, who opened court promptly at 10 o'clock Monday morning, as is customary with our domestic Judges. The grand jury was drawn, with Mr. J. A. Scott of Bear Creek township as foreman, and, after being duly empaneled, was charged as to their duties by his Honor, who endeavored to impress upon the jurors a proper appreciation of the dignity and responsibility of their position. We thought his charge one of the best that we have ever heard, for it was not a tedious enumeration of the various crimes and misdemeanors, but was an impressive and plain explanation of the obligations and duties of a grand jury. We are pleased to know that Judge Gilmer has made a most favorable impression upon our people by the urbanity of his manners, the promptness and correctness of his rulings and his strict impartiality. No Judge has been here in many years who has made more or warmer friends, and our citizens will always remember him with the kindest feelings. Solicitor Strudwick was promptly at his post, and has (as heretofore) proved himself to be a most efficient prosecuting officer and a terror to all evil-doers. The State docket was taken up Monday, and finished yesterday at noon, the following cases having been disposed of:

State vs G. W. Macklin, col. (two cases)—continued on account of absence of a witness.

State vs Albert Wicker: Assault and Battery; verdict, guilty; Judgment suspended.

State vs Thad Jones: Retailing; verdict, not guilty.

State vs Theodore Headen: Retailing; verdict, not guilty.

State vs Richard Smith: Assault and Battery; defendant submitted, and Judgment suspended on payment of costs.

State vs Booty Cotten (col.) and Richard Smith: Affray; verdict, not guilty.

State vs A. L. Gilliland: Retailing; verdict, guilty; Judgment suspended on payment of costs.

State vs Joseph Y. Chisholm: Assault and Battery; verdict, guilty; defendant fined \$10 and costs.

State vs Thomas Ragland: Assault and Battery; verdict, guilty; Judgment suspended upon payment of costs and defendant entering into bond for his good behavior until next Court.

State vs Monroe and Jack Carpenter: Assault and Battery; verdict of not guilty as to Jack and guilty as to Monroe, and sentenced to ten months imprisonment in county jail.

State vs Elizabeth Rives (col.): Concealing birth of child; verdict, guilty; Judgment not prayed.

The civil docket was taken up yesterday afternoon, but as there are not many cases for trial the business of the term will not be disposed of by next Saturday, and court adjourn on that day. The grand jury will finish their duties to-day and be discharged.

In addition to our resident lawyers there were in attendance the following from other counties: Hon. John Manning, of Orange; E. S. Parker and J. A. Graham, of Alamance; J. T. Crocker, of Randolph; W. E. Murchison, Alexander T. Worley, and A. A. F. Seawell, of Moore; L. C. Edwards, of Granville; T. P. Devereux, and John Devereux, jr., of Wake; J. M. Moring, J. S. Manning, and E. C. Hackney, of Durham; and John A. Barringer, of Guilford. We were also pleased to meet Hon. W. R. Cox, who spent one day here receiving the congratulations of his many friends. He is very popular in Chatham, as was attested by the increased majority given him by this county at the late election.

As we expected, there has been a large crowd attending court, especially on Tuesday, notwithstanding the threatening weather. Monday was a delightful, balmy spring day, but it rained very hard that night, and Tuesday morning it turned very cold and snowed and hailed a little, which no doubt deterred many persons from leaving home. The horse-swappers were out in full force and were busy making bargains, and their movements attracted much attention and seemed to be little amusement. There occurred to be more drinking than usual, and there were scores of drunken men staggering about.

No strange chance there was no dime party, festival, or concert, as is customary court-weeks. Nor was there any cheap-john, or vendor of patent medicines. But there was a negro, named Sidney Dunstan, from Raleigh, who, dressed in a fancy costume, greatly delighted admiring crowds with his comic grimaces, witty sayings, and banjo-playing.

Raleigh Visitor: On Tuesday last Mary Venson, a young colored girl, was engaged in burning brush in a field on Mr. Nat Raul's plantation in St. Mary's township, when her dress suddenly took fire and burned her clothes from her body before she could reach the house, distant about three hundred yards. Her flesh was burned terribly, and would fall off when touched. She lingered in terrible agony till Wednesday morning last when death relieved her of her sufferings.

High Point Pioneer: The Winston, High Point & Fayetteville R. R. is progressing. It will open up not alone the manufacturing resources of Randolph and the Deep River factories as well as those of our place, but also the celebrated Moore county grit works near Carthage, a number of iron and copper mines of known merit, gold, silver and other deposits which have heretofore never been available to the commercial world. Some of the finest timber in this country, yet undeveloped, will be marketed over this road.

Anson Times: The cotton in the gin of Mr. M. W. Gaddy, near Deep Creek, caught fire a week ago, and about 1000 lbs. of stained cotton was burned over, but strange to say the gin house was not burned. A little son of Mr. Thomas Beachum, near Lanesboro in this county, was instantly killed in a cotton gin on Saturday last. He was about six years old, and boy-like was riding around on the arm of the horse-power, when it came in contact with the band wheel, and the little fellow was crushed in an instant. His body stopped the horse, but life was extinct when his mangled remains were taken out.

Fayetteville Observer: Mr. C. L. Blackman, living in Cape Fear township, east side of Cedar Creek river, made 31 bales of cotton, with one mule, on 25 acres of land. This is not a mere matter of hearsay, but is a fact which can be proved. —Aveline, a son of J. C. Pos, esq., got his father's powder-horn, made some fire-works, and touched them off. He was badly scorched and burned about the face, and it was feared that his eye-sight was permanently injured, but he is now getting better. Little Archie expresses himself as abundantly satisfied with his experiment. —On the 8th inst., a little child of Mr. W. W. Matin, living near Sherwood Church, in the south-eastern part of the county, was playing near the fire, when its clothing became ignited, and in a moment was in a blaze. The little one was fearfully burned, and died in great suffering that night, having inhaled much of the flame.

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State News.

Durham Recorder: We are reliably informed that Col. W. T. Blockwell and P. A. Wiley, esq., of Raleigh, will open a Bank in Durham in a few weeks. —A colored girl by the name of Amy Jones, who was working at Dr. Carr's, caught fire last Friday while standing with her back to the stove, and received injuries from which she died in a few hours.

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Greensboro Patriot: Greensboro ought to have a big share of the Chatham county trade. The Cape Fear & Yadkin Valley road will be completed through Chatham to this place by early fall. A word to the wise is sufficient. Look to your interests, gentlemen.—[We thank the Patriot for its hint to the business men of Greensboro and hope they will profit by the suggestion, and advertise in the Record for the Chatham trade.—Ed. Record.] —S. A. Calberton, of Mad Lick, Chatham county, while leading his wagon with hard ware at O'Leary & Co's store, yesterday, shouldered and carried to his wagon a package weighing 400 lbs. —Wm. Sinarwood, of Philadelphia, will present the people of Walnut Cove, Stokes county, with a handsome structure for use as a Protestant Episcopal Church. The building will be the finest country church in the State.

Tabor's Southerner: A negro child, two years old, was accidentally drowned in a tub, at the house of Emma Watson, col. —Last Wednesday night, about 12 M., Mr. W. L. Dozier, father of the late C. H. Dozier, left his bed where he had been asleep, and went to his brother's room and told him that Charlie, his son, was dead; that a negro man had just brought a telegram, saying so. The next morning, Mr. J. B. Coffield received a telegram announcing the son's death, and sent a negro man out to Mr. Dozier's with the sad intelligence. It has since been learned that just about the time that Mr. Dozier, the father, said his son was dead, Charlie was breathing his last in the mild climate of Florida. Do dreams come true, or is there anything in presentiments, are questions that will have the affirmative strengthened by this occurrence.

Goldsboro Messenger: Mr. James Jarvis, who lived in the lower section of Washington county this State, died a most horrible death from hydrophobia on the 7th inst. Mr. Jarvis was the owner of a small puppy which became sick a few weeks since and appeared to have fits. While endeavoring to give the animal relief Mr. Jarvis was bitten, but did not give much attention to the circumstance, at the time, not thinking for a moment that the dog had hydrophobia. After the dog died however, he became alarmed and in a few days he found to his sorrow that he had caught the disease. —The crazy negro man, who a few months ago was captured while roving the woods in a perfectly sane state, in the Nahant section, succeeded in making his escape from the county poor house one night last week, and is again at large. —We learn from Wilson that a negro named Lemon Barnes, was shot and killed by Mr. James Tomlinson, near that town, on Saturday last. The killing was done in self-defence and Mr. Tomlinson was admitted to bail in the sum of \$500.

Wilson Advance: Mr. Augustine Farmer, who lives about five miles Northeast of Wilson, a few days ago shot and killed at one fire five wild turkeys. He is eighty years old, but age has not impaired his sight or his aim. —On Monday morning between midnight and day, Mr. J. C. Lindolph, of Crowells Cross Roads, lost by fire his barn containing about three hundred barrels of corn and a quantity of fodder and oats; also his stables with mules and one fine mare, together with wagons, cart and farming implements. It seems that everything was under one roof or adjoining inclosure. No insurance. —Last week while Mr. E. O. McGowan and family were absent in Pitt county, thieves entered his house one night, made a good fire, lit the lamps and made themselves generally at home, and upon leaving carried with them his crockery, a quantity of furniture, clothing and what they could easily carry away. Mr. McGowan's neighbors saw the light in the house and heard the inmates talking, but thought that the family had returned home.

Wintham Review: A very peculiar mistake occurred a few days since. An Indian steamer, bound from Havana to Beaufort, S. C., put in at Beaufort, N. C., and thought he was all right until told the contrary by the Custom House officer, who boarded him. —A friend and subscriber, living in the extreme southern portion of the city, met with a very singular mishap this morning, which would have been extremely ludicrous were it not for the painful consequences attending it. He was seated by the hearth, not feeling very well, and opened his mouth to yawn, when a live coal from the fire popped into it, burning his tongue quite severely. He thinks that hereafter he will endeavor to yawn with his mouth shut. —John Teler, an old grave-digger at Fayetteville, was engaged in digging a well in that town on Friday last, and when he had dug to a depth of about 50 feet, a portion of the surrounding earth caved in and buried him about 8 feet beneath its surface. A force of men were at once engaged in his rescue, but when he was extricated life was extinct.

Newbern Journal: The Directors of the A. & N. C. R. R. held their meeting in this city yesterday. Mr. Best made no proposition to renew his lease nor offered any assurance of his ability to carry it out. Maj. John Gatling was in the city and was duly notified of the fact. We suppose he will take possession of the road as soon as his bond is perfected. Good bye, President Best! good-bye, Col. Andrews; farewell Mr. Cudgigan, Stockholders and Directors of the A. & N. C. R. R., look out for brokers ahead! —The new stock law as far as it affects Vance township, Lenoir county, has gone through that section like the ten commandments through a Sunday school. It is studied by all and all seek to enforce it. The land owners have accordingly joined fences so that fine stock ranges and

good pastures may be used by all classes with only one third of the fencing formerly required. More and better stock will be raised by tenants and land proprietors in that township than under the old system of turning the stock out with the injunction, "root hog or die."

Asheville Citizen: A man named Fox, on Bald Creek, Yancey county, seeing an account of a man in the North who ate at one time three dozen eggs, thought he could do this and go several better. He went into an eating house one day last week and offered fifteen cents for what eggs he could eat. His proposition was taken up, and he ate at first eleven boiled, and then at thirty-three raw, making forty-four in all, and didn't seem tired when he stopped. —As the Western bound train was crossing a trestle on the mountain section near Round Knob, a few days since, a white man named John A. Ball, under a miracle, fell from a fall, and a man and a boy were on the trestle when the train approached; the boy escaped to the end of the trestle, but the man dropped down between the sills, with one hand upon a sill and the other unfortunately resting on the track, the train passing over and crushing the hand and the lower part of the arm, the man in the meantime, with a wonderful fortitude, holding on with the other hand until the train was stopped and relief reached him, being thus suspended fifty feet in the air by one hand with the other crushed off.

News and Observer: A gentleman in this city has in his possession an open-face watch which has been in his family since 1805; it still has the original crystal in it which has never been broken, although it has been worn through two wars, that of 1812 and the late war between the States. —We were reminded yesterday, in a pleasant way, of the varied resources of North Carolina, and how many of her products, worked into shape, so to speak, by artisans in other States and countries, become things at once beautiful and useful. What we saw yesterday was a set of twelve emerald, sapphire and emerald glasses, made in New Jersey of kaolin, from North Carolina, all in one piece. Each of the pieces of this exquisite set is hand painted, the designs being marvelous in delicacy and grace. Birds are pecked at all over the State, and birds of the South are depicted, and bits of charming foliage are made realistic. This beautiful set is the property of Mrs. Governor Jarvis, being presented her by Mr. Marshall Parks, of Norfolk. An insane man was on Friday night brought to this city, and taken by his keeper to a hotel, to be kept until yesterday morning. Early in the morning he made a furious attack upon the man in charge of him. The party assembled aroused the people in the hotel by his screams of "murder." There was a rush to the room, and the man was found fast asleep in the embrace of the madman, who had bitten him on the cheek and nearly strangled him. The insane man, who had actually to be choked off was tied hand and feet. He was yesterday taken to the asylum. —Several colored men have left this city, and others will leave in a few days for Georgia, to work in the sugarcane fields there. Those who are thus leaving are mostly good working men. —The rebuilding of the normal building at St. Augustine's School will soon begin. Some blocks are already on the spot. The law firm will be no loss to the institution in this respect at