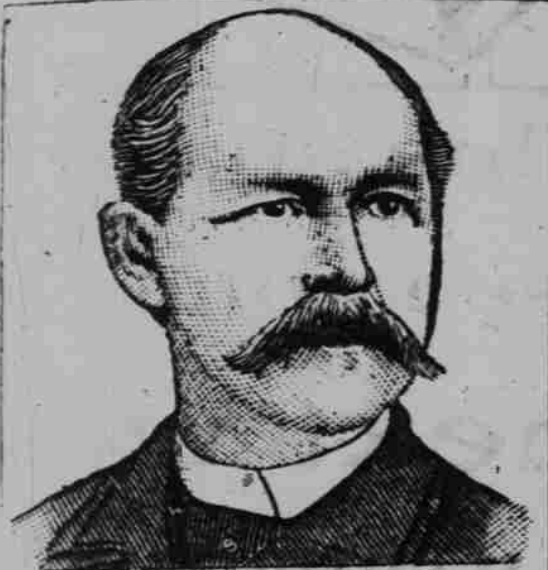




"Prove all things; hold fast that which is good."
DUNN, N. C., MARCH 17, 1897.

Vol. 6.

No. 11.



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CHURCHES.

Methodist Church.—Rev. E. C. Bell, Pastor. Services first Sunday night, and fourth Sunday morning and night. Prayer meeting every Wednesday night. Sunday school every Sunday morning at 10 o'clock. G. K. Grantham Superintendent.

Baptist Church.—Rev. L. R. Carroll, pastor. Services every second Sunday morning and night. Prayer meeting every Thursday night Sunday school every Sunday morning. R. G. Taylor Superintendent.

Presbyterian Church.—Rev. A. M. Hassel, pastor. Services every first and fifth Sunday morning and night. Sunday school every Sunday morning. M. L. Wade Superintendent.

Disciple Church.—Rev. I. W. Rogers, pastor. Services every third Sunday morning and night. Christian Endeavor Society every Tuesday night. Sunday school every Sunday evening at 7 o'clock. M. D. Holliday Supt.

Free Will Baptist Church.—Elder R. C. Jackson, pastor. Services every second Sunday morning and night.

Primitive Baptist.—Church on Broad street. Elder W. G. Turner, Pastor. Regular services on the third Sabbath morning, and Saturday before, in each month at 11 o'clock. Elder P. D. Gidd, of Wilson, editor of Zion's Lighthouse, preaches at this church on the fourth Sunday evening in each month at 7 1/2 o'clock. Everybody is invited to attend these services.

Young Men's Union. Prayer meeting every Sunday evening at 7 o'clock and Friday night at 7:30 o'clock. All are cordially invited to attend these services. An invitation is extended to the visitors.

LOGGERS.

Lockwood Lodge, No. 115, I. O. O. F. Lodge room over J. D. Barnes' store. Regular meeting on every Monday night. L. H. Lee, N. G.; C. H. Sexton, V. G.; G. K. Grantham, Secretary. All Old Fellows are cordially invited to attend.

Palmyra Lodge, No. 147, A. F. & A. M. Hall over Free Will Baptist church. F. P. Jones, W. M.; W. A. Johnson, S. W.; E. A. Jones, J. W.; J. G. Johnson, Secretary. Regular communications are held on the 2nd Saturday at 10 o'clock A. M., and on the 1st Friday at 7:30 o'clock P. M. in each month. All Masons in good standing are cordially invited to attend these communications.

TOWN OFFICERS.

H. C. McNeill, Mayor.
M. L. Wade, Clerk.
E. F. Young, Treasurer.
J. A. Driver, Policeman.

COMMISSIONERS.

G. K. Grantham.
W. L. Thornton.
G. H. Park.
E. F. Young.

COUNTY OFFICERS.

Sheriff, J. H. Pope.
Clerk, F. M. McKay.
Register of Deeds, J. McK. Byrd.
Treasurer, G. D. Spence.
Coroner, J. J. Wilson.
Surveyor, J. A. O'Reilly.
County Examiner, L. B. Chapin.
Commissioners: J. A. Green, Chairman.
H. N. Bizzell and Nell McLeod.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

E. W. POU,
Attorney-at-Law.
SMITHFIELD, N. C.
Careful attention to any civil matters intrusted to his care in the courts of Harnett County.

H. L. Godwin,
ATTORNEY AT LAW. N. C.
Office next door to Post Office.
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Prompt attention given to all business.

W. E. Murchison,
JONESBORO, N. C.
Practices Law in Harnett, Moore and other counties, but not for fun.
Feb. 20 1y.

Isaac A. Murchison,
FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.
Practices Law in Cumberland, Harnett and anywhere services are wanted.

THE COUNTY UNION is the only paper published in Harnett county. Subscription price \$1. Subscribe now.

WILLIS LEE TO HANG

ON MARCH 25TH FOR THE MURDER OF HENRY STEVENS COLORED.

Willis Lee, a white man aged about 60 years who left Harnett county soon after the war and moved to Edgecombe county and has resided there since, has been tried and convicted of the murder of a negro and sentenced to be hanged on March 25th. He lived near where Dunn is now and this county is the home of his boyhood. He has relatives and friends in the county who will read the following account of the trial taken from the Tarboro Southerner with interest:

"Guilty of murder in manner and form as charged in the bill of indictment," and so said all of these:

G. W. Thomas, J. J. Thorne, Henry R. Owen, W. H. Mercer, S. M. Crisp, J. B. Owen, J. W. Howard, C. A. Weekes, J. R. Council, John Wallace, M. R. Thomas and Hugh Bryan.

And in this verdict Hon. O. P. Mears agreed when he sentenced Willis Lee, of the county of Edgecombe, to be hanged by the neck till he was dead, between the hours of 6 A. M., and 4 P. M., March 25, 1897.

The undisputed facts in the case are about these:

On Thursday, January 21, 1897, Marshall Lee, a son of Willis Lee, was tried and sent by a justice of the peace to jail for an assault upon his step mother. This and the attendant circumstances, such as the handcuffing of the boy by a negro constable, Hoyt Staton, to bring him to jail, so infuriated the father that he made many and divers threats against many persons of the village of Speed, or Knight's Station, among whom was Henry Stevens.

As his anger grew, so did his spite, till he worked himself up to that point that he had a fight with a merchant of that place, W. J. Davenport, whom he believed was the instigator of the needless indignity and perpetrated upon his son. After being knocked down and more or less beaten, Willis Lee was taken to his house by his partner, a man who worked with him in his shop, Mr. Hoard. Mr. Hoard left him there and went back to the stores and there while taking a drink heard a gun fire.

In a store next to Davenport, there did business a colored man named Henry Stevens, who at the trial of Lee's son was a witness for the prosecution, and whose evidence, according to Lee, was a lie. Lee said so and in language forcible rather than polite, declared he would kill him.

Between seven and eight o'clock in the evening, Henry Stevens, sitting in his store with another colored friend, heard some one hail from the front. He went there and was shot down. His companion was so terrified that he did not dare look out the door, but rather leaped out the window and left.

People soon gathered. Stevens announced that he had been shot by Willis Lee. A guard was placed around Lee's house and a physician summoned, Dr. J. M. Baker, who found the abdomen penetrated and a wound very serious, but a possibility of continued life, with a surgical operation. He phoned in for Dr. L. L. Staton. A thorough examination by them satisfied both that any operation would prove fatal.

Stevens was so notified, and realizing his condition, he solemnly made and signed a statement that he was shot by Willis Lee.

Two ladies and two gentlemen were playing cards when the report of the gun was heard. The game was finished in a few minutes thereafter. Their husbands left to see about the unusual noise and their spouses followed them to the porch, whence they saw Lee's door, 300 yards distant, and some

one—one said a man, the other a person—enter or leave, carrying a stick, or something like it. Lee, quite a while after the shooting, was taken to Stevens' store, whither he went without hesitation or demur, and confronted with Stevens, who asked him why did he shoot him. To this Lee replied that he did not, that he was sorry that he was shot, had only heard of it when he was arrested a short time before, and God knew he had no harm against him. Stevens replied that he saw him with his own eyes. To this Lee again made earnest denial.

The State endeavored to locate the murder at a point in front of the store by certain tracks, and insisted upon its contention. The defense showed that the tracks made where the State alleged the murderer stood, were not made by Lee, that from this place the shooting and falling of the deceased was next to impossible and that from this place the contention of the State that the rays of the store lamp shown was not true, and that the rays could not be more than knee high at the place where the State located the standing of the slayer.

The negroes took up Stevens' case and employed George H. White, Congressman-elect, to prosecute him, and during the whole progress of the case took charge of the court room without so much as saying to sheriff Stallings, by your leave, but took that leave for granted.

Donnell Gilliam appeared for Lee, and made a masterly defense for him. What man could do, Mr. Gilliam did for Willis Lee. And in the years to come people who heard the trial will be found speaking complimentary of Gilliam's stubborn, magnificent defense. His speech closing for the defense was ornate, logical and powerful.

In his representation of the State Solicitor Danie won new laurels. He made a very strong speech, which with the eloquence and pleasing bearing of the man must have had much weight with the jury.

After the verdict a new trial was asked for and denied, and from this and the rulings of the court an appeal was taken to the Supreme Court, which will now pass on the life and death of Willis Lee.

Among the majority of the conservative thinking men who kept up with the trial, the conviction of Lee was a surprise. There did not appear to be so many who believed him guiltless, but the majority did not believe that a sufficient case for hanging had been made out.

Taking it all in all, the powers arrayed against Lee, the almost impossibility of the shooting being done from the point insisted upon by the State and those who aided the prosecution, the absence of light from the street shining upon the murderer, the general inclination from the happenings of that day, to ascribe any violation to the man who had made himself so conspicuous as a talker and violator, the Southerner without meaning to reflect in any way upon the jury or any member of it, would still ask is it conclusively shown that Lee is guilty.

A PERFECT WOMAN.

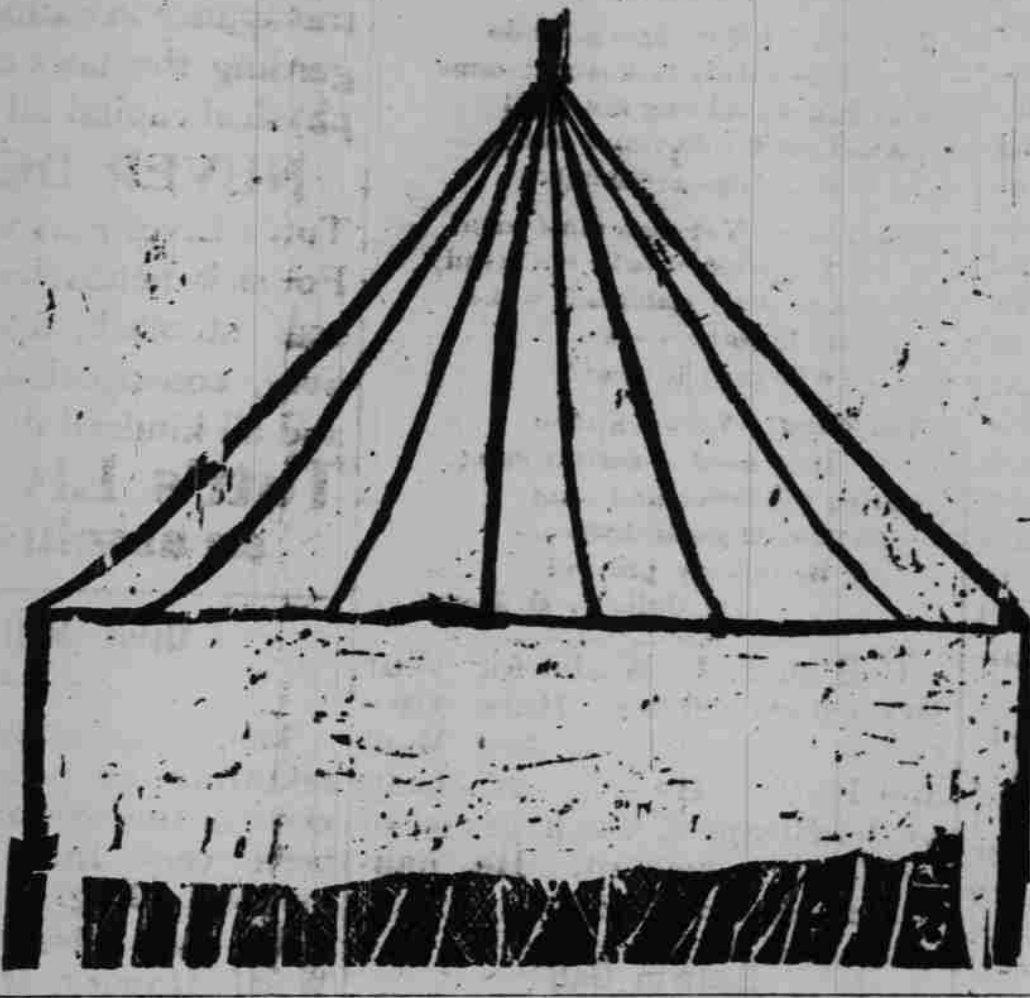
When Sam Jones was holding his meetings in Dallas, Tex., on one occasion he said: There is no such thing as a perfect man. Anybody present who has ever known a perfect man, stand up.

Nobody stood up. "Those who have ever known a perfect woman, stand up."

One demure little woman stood up.

"Do you know an absolutely perfect woman?" asked Sam, somewhat amazed.

"I didn't know her personally," replied the little woman, "but I heard a great deal of her. She was my husband's first wife."



THE GOSPEL TENT.

Notwithstanding the rain and mud great crowds thronged the tent at this place last Sunday to hear Evangelist Crumpler discuss the doctrine of Sanctification. He preaches with gloves off and under his ministry sinners fall as if hewn down with a broad-axe. The meeting will go on for several days.

A SILVER PALACE.

THE CITY OF OMAHA TO HAVE ONE IN 1898.

Edward Rosewater, chief of the bureau of publicity and promotion of the Trans-Mississippi exposition, to be held in Omaha from June to November, 1898, acting for the exposition directors, recently approved the plans of a Chicago architect for a silver palace. This palace is to be the most imposing feature of the exposition, and the central figure in a portion of the grounds to be called El Dorado. As a distinctive part of the great exposition it promises to rival the Eiffel tower or the Ferris wheel. The building is to be 400 feet square, surmounted with mammoth ornamental towers, and the entire structure will be covered with rolled silver. The silver palace will be used entirely for the display of the mineral products and progress of the west. The style of architecture is purely Gothic, and as this style lends itself readily with its pinnacles, arches, flying buttresses, and graceful and delicate forms, to the ideas usually associated with silver art work, it has received the general verdict of approval of the board of management. It will be arranged in the form of a square, with open arcades and loggias at each story similar to the Venetian palace. The corners will be adorned with octagonal towers, terminating with spires and pinnacles covered with the shining metal. The crowning glory of the palace will be the central lantern or spire, which is octagonal in form, 250 feet high and 100 feet in circumference. The roof of the lantern will be of glass.

The amount of pure silver to be used in covering the walls and dome of this mammoth building has not been definitely estimated. It will largely depend upon the thinness of the sheets of pure metal that can be used for this purpose. It was first designed to coat the building with silver paint, but this was indignantly rejected by the board of managers. Only the real metal was adjudged worthy of this novel monument of artistic architecture, and the miners of the western country have already signified their willingness to furnish all the material necessary. The contribution of silver will be in the nature of a loan, and when the exposition is over the building will be burned and the silver returned to the original owners.—Chicago Times-Herald.

NEW TRUSTEES APPOINTED.

His Excellency, Governor Daniel L. Russell, has appointed the following gentlemen to be trustees of the institutions named and their nominations were confirmed by the Senate on March the 8th:

For trustees of the agricultural department for the state at large—W. C. Sprinkle, Howard Browning, J. D. Maultsby, J. L. Ramsey, J. W. Bailey, by districts—John Brady, B. F. Aycock, H. E. King, R. B. Lineberry, R. J. Joyce, G. E. Flow, S. F. Shore, J. C. Ray, Jas. M. Allen.

For Penitentiary directors—Claudius Dockery, W. H. Chadborn, E. T. Clark, Hannon Hughes, M. M. Peace, R. R. Cotton, G. H. Cannon, A. Y. Sigmon, J. J. Perkins, for four years each.

For trustees of deaf mute and blind institution at Raleigh—B. F. Montague, to succeed himself; James H. Young, N. B. Duke, C. T. Bailey, K. W. Merritt.

For trustees of the Agricultural and Mechanical college, for the state at large—L. C. Edwards, J. C. L. Harris, G. E. Butler, W. G. Pool, John W. Hardin; by districts—E. V. Cox, H. G. Conner, Dr. Matt. Moore, B. R. Lacy, J. Z. Walker, H. E. Bonitz, Dr. M. B. Kimbrough, Dr. B. F. Dixon, Dr. J. J. Britt.

Lacy was nominated, but a letter was read from him in the secret session of the senate saying his duties would not permit him to accept. Therefore, this place was left vacant for the governor to fill. In the list of trustees of the deaf mutes and blind institution.

For members of the board of internal improvements—Charles A. Cook and J. C. L. Harris. For commissioner of labor statistics—J. Y. Hamrick. (for two years).

For trustees for the Western hospital for the insane at Morganton—V. S. Lusk, Henry Mott, E. R. Houston, T. George Walton, Samuel Huffman, John Pearson, Lee Whitener, A. C. Sharpe, L. A. Abernathy (for four years).

For trustees of the Central hospital for the insane at Raleigh—J. D. Biggs, B. S. Utley, Dr. Phil. J. Macon, Rev. T. T. Speight, Dr. Paleman John, W. A. Deans, Dr. B. Person, M. L. Wood, George B. Curtis (for four years).

For trustees of the State hospital for the insane, at Goldsboro—Rufus Ham, F. N. Hussey, C. S. Wooten, John S. Leary, W. M. Henderson, Dr. J. E. Person, Dr. John D. Spicer, Dr. J. Sharpe, Rev. Joseph Perry (for four years).

Tell Me So.

If you love me tell me so,
Wait not 'till the summer glow
Fades in autumn's changeful light,
Amber clouds and purple night;
Wait not 'till the winter hour,
If up with snow drifts all the flowers,
Till the tide of life runs low—
If you love me tell me so.

If you love me tell me so,
While the river's dreamy flow
Holds the love enchanted hours,
Steeped in music, crowded with flowers,
Ere the summer's vibrant days
Vanish in the opal haze;
Ere is hushed the music flow—
If you love me tell me so.

If you love me tell me so,
Let me hear the sweet world low;
Let me know, while life is fair
While in womanhood's first bloom,
Ere shall come dark days of gloom,
In the first fresh dawning glow—
If you love me tell me so.

—Lillian Whiting.

NEW DISMAL SWAMP CANAL

The new Dismal Swamp Canal will be completed by January, 1898, according to Engineering News. The enlarged canal was commenced in March, 1896, by a Baltimore syndicate, which provided \$1,200,000 in construction and equipment bonds for this purpose. The old canal was about 26 miles long, 32 feet wide on the bottom, and carried a minimum depth of 4 feet. It had five locks, and would pass barges 100 feet long, 16 1/2 feet wide and drawing 3 feet. The new canal will be forty feet wide at the bottom, 60 feet wide at the water surface and have a minimum depth of ten feet. Each of the new locks will be 250 feet long 40 feet wide, and have 10 feet of water over the mitre sill. Ten turnouts are also to be provided. It is estimated that a speed of ten miles per hour can be maintained in the new canal, and the fifty miles between Norfolk and Elizabeth City can be covered in six hours by barges towed by tugs, and fast river steamers can cover the distance in four hours. If this be true the new canal will be a powerful rival to the present Albemarle & Chesapeake Canal.—Philadelphia Record.

SAM JONES AT RALEIGH.

If all the church members in this town were to get to Heaven you'd have to sleep with your breeches under your head, of they'd be gone next morning.

I believe if all the politicians in North Carolina were to die to-night and go to hell and the devil were to peep through the key-hole and see them coming, he'd close up shop and leave by the back door.

If I wanted to ruin a man I'd run him for an office and get him left. You ask if a good man can't go into politics. Yes, but a clean man can't come out of politics. A clean hog can go into a mud-hole, but who ever saw a clean hog come out?

This is a poor man's country and there's not a boy or girl in the United States that can't do anything that a man ought to do. If a man's unfortunate give him a quarter. If he's a vagabond give him a foot. Don't wait for something to turn up but turn something up.

Any member of the legislature who would vote for a saloon is not fit to hang on the back door of hell. The devil would get ashamed of him and take down the sign. There are drunkards because there are saloons because the law licenses them, the law licenses them because the legislators allow it, and the legislators allow it because church members elect them for that purpose.

Governor Russell has appointed Thos. H. Sutton Esq., Representative from Cumberland county in the recent legislature, to be judge of Eastern Criminal circuit court to succeed Judge Meares.



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STATE NEWS.

ITEMS OF NEWS GATHERED FROM ALL PARTS OF THE STATE.

Mrs. Martha Weir, was run over by a shifting train at Greensboro, and her leg had to be amputated, says the Record.

Three women were arrested in Winston last Tuesday, charged with drowning a baby which was found in a well in East Salem.

Dr. D. H. Abbott of Pamlico county, has been appointed by the Governor, Railroad Commissioner to succeed Mr. E. G. Beddingfield whose term of office has expired.

Bob Morgan and John Hunt, both colored, were placed in jail at Raleigh last week for stealing cows from negroes in Wake county.

Concord will hold an election Monday, April 19th to decide whether to issue \$40,000 of bonds to purchase and improve water works, improve the streets and pay off outstanding debts.

The city of Wilmington will hold an election on the 25th of this month to elect city alderman—one in each ward. The Governor will appoint one in each ward. The city alderman will elect the Mayor.

An attempt was made to burn the Cedar Grove Inn at Clinton on Saturday morning March 6th, by some incendiary but the fire was discovered and extinguished before any damage was done, says the Democrat.

John Neel, who shot and killed David Crandall in Pitt county on last Christmas morning and for whom Governor Carr offered a reward of \$75, was captured in Bertie county last week and turned over to the Sheriff of Pitt.

A negro named Mac Dowell who was employed by Jones & Batts, across the railroad, shot and seriously wounded another negro by the name of Dennis Brooks, last Saturday morning, says the Wilson Times.

Rev. J. L. Burns, a one-armed Confederate soldier and Disciple preacher of Martin county, has received the appointment of keeper of the Capitol to succeed Capt. Roberts who has held the position for nearly fifteen years. Rev. Burns is a populist.

The receipts for cotton on this market up to this time this year have been 23,771 bales. For a corresponding period last year they were only 17,765. This increase in receipts is not due to the fact that the crop last year was larger than for the previous year, but to the fact that it matured earlier and has been more promptly marketed, says the Raleigh News and Observer of the 10th, inst.

Mr. Ever McGilveray, an aged and highly respected citizen of Pocket township, was thrown from his mule at Sanford and sustained injuries from which he died at that place on Monday. He was buried in Buffalo cemetery Tuesday. Mr. McGilveray was about 81 years of age, an elder in Buffalo Presbyterian church. His wife survives him.—Jonesboro Progress.