

# The Albemarle Observer.

Only Newspaper Published in Chowan County.

Vol. 5, No. 34

EDENTON, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, AUG. 21, 1914

Subscription: \$1.00 a Year

"LOOK FORWARD, AND NOT BACK."

**Some Facts About Gates County, N. C., as Gathered by W. E. McCleary, Cashier of the Farmers Bank of Sunbury, Sunbury, N. C.**

### From 1729 to 1770

For some years after the account of Col. Byrd we do not find much recorded about what is now Gates county. Every thing was quiet and the section enjoyed prosperity. We might say with the old philosopher "Blessed is the land that has no history" for the times when history are made as a rule are times of more or less distress.

In 1738 the primary divisions of North Carolina were abolished and the precincts were from that time called counties, and a sheriff was appointed for each. He was chosen by the Governor out of three persons recommended by the county Court for this purpose.

In 1740 a tax was laid for the support of the troops for the war of England against Spain, and as money was scarce this tax was partly levied in provisions and warehouses were erected in each county for the reception of these commodities.

In 1741 it was enacted that the freeholders of every parish should every Easter Monday choose

a tax of five shillings per poll for building churches (Episcopal), buying glebes and maintaining clergymen, whose salaries should be 50 pounds sterling. This was increased by law to 135 L. 6s. 8d., and the fee of a clergyman for marrying was 10 shillings by license, this license to be issued by the Governor through the clerk of the superior courts. Each vestry man took an oath not to oppose the doctrine, discipline and liturgy of the church of England.

The General Assembly the same year passed laws regulating marriage, the rate of interest, weights and measures, trial of small cases, regulation of taverns and a statute touching the better keeping of the Sabbath, and for the suppression of vice. Every person was required on Sunday to carefully apply himself to the duties of religion and all work and amusements were forbidden on a penalty of 14 shillings. Drunkenness on week days forfeited two and one half shillings and double that amount on Sunday.

In 1742 six northern counties refused to pay taxes owing to their dissatisfaction as to the representation of members for the General Assembly, and jurors refused to attend courts.

In 1743 election laws were so amended that the free holders of 60 acres of land was required in those voting for members of the Lower House, and 100 acres in the members themselves.

The same year as referred to before the territory of Gates County became the property of John, Lord Carteret, soon to become the Earl of Granville, and it remained his property until the Revolutionary war.

In 1745 the people of North Carolina had their laws codified and it was known as the "Yellow Jacket" edition. It was the work of Edward Mosely, and Samuel Swan the latter alone completing the work, which did not come

from the press until 1752. This was a small folio volume.

In 1749 James Davis went to New Bern and set up the first printing press in the state. Press and type came from Virginia and the first book printed was the above mentioned "Yellow Jacket" edition of the North Carolina laws.

By an Act of Parliament the computation of time was changed in 1750, and went into effect in 1752. Heretofore the year commenced in March. The day following the second of September was reckoned the 14th omitting 11 days hence we sometimes see letters "Q.S." meaning the old ways of reckoning time, and the old and the new Christmas 11 days apart.

About 1750 we are informed that tobacco was largely cultivated in this section, and the entire population of the state was about 45,000.

In 1754 8000 pounds more of paper money was issued, and the state raised 350 men to assist Virginia against the French on the Ohio River, but owing to the fact that no provisions were made for their quarters supplies by Virginia they were disbanded and returned to their homes. About this time there were many liberal appropriations for the building of churches and the purchase of glebes.

from Suffolk, Virginia, by way of Edenton and Newbern to Wilmington, and it passed through Gates. James Davis might be called the first post master general of the state.

By an Act of the General Assembly in November 1759 a part of the territory of Gates County was cut off from Chowan and all the land on the west side of Bennett's Creek was attached to the new county of Bedford, which was also known as St. Barnabas' parish.

In 1765 the Episcopal clergymen were allowed \$650.00 per year from the province, and another \$100.00 from the bounty of the London Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, and in addition to the above they were furnished a residence and 200 acres of glebe lands and the fees for marriages and funerals. Rev. East was stationed at Edenton and very likely visited this section.

The same year the Baptists in the state united in the Kehuke Baptist Association.

A general law was also passed this year regarding the marriages (which before were declared as illegal) performed by Presbyterian ministers and authorizing them and other dissenting clergymen to perform the same.

The year 1766 was a remarkable one for this section of the country. James Davis of Newbern began the publication of the first newspaper in the state, "The North Carolina Magazine and Universal Intelligencer." This was soon followed by "The North Carolina Gazette and Weekly Post Boy" by Andrew Stewart of Wilmington.

Rev. George Whitefield visited this section. He belonged to the new sect of Methodists before unknown in Carolina, and the people who were converted under his preaching joined the Baptist churches. We have, now

ever no account of his travels, tell the exact spot at which he preached.

This year the famous Stamp Act of England was passed. It had 65 sections containing a range and variety of exactions which would have been simply ruinous to a people already at their wits end for devising means to meet their public dues.

It taxed newspapers and pamphlets more than such publications at the present time would cost. Each advertisement in a newspaper was taxed 50 cents; almanacs 8 cents, and a college diploma \$10.00, while a separate duty was laid on every paper used in legal proceedings throughout the whole colony. It writ, subpoenas, declaration, pleas, joinder, affidavit, judgment and execution; likewise every instrument attesting sales of real or personal property, affidavits of debt, or any paper writing of use in commercial transactions.

It is no wonder that all the people rebelled at this. In 1766 the first literary institution was incorporated in North Carolina at New Bern. Being provided in the charter that no teacher under the name of a schoolmaster should be employed in England should be employed.

On February 14th 1766 the Revolutionary war times entered North Carolina by the way of Gates county for the first time, coming via Suffolk, Va.

From Vancouver To Winnipeg

It was my pleasure five summers ago to sail down the majestic St. Lawrence river and for a few days enjoy the exhilarating air and inspiring scenery of eastern Canada. I was very much impressed at the time with that part of America, and three years later I found myself traversing the four great western provinces of our northern neighbor my conviction that Canada is a good place to live in was strengthened.

Vancouver, the commercial metropolis of the coast country, sprang up in a night, boomed and flourished for a season, and then died—no, not exactly, but it became more modest and unassuming, and now having found its normal level, is prepared to plan for the future, with more equilibrium than before. It is very much Americanized, presenting a striking contrast in comparison with Victoria, the capital of the province, which is more English than London.

Vancouver has a beautiful setting, being hemmed in on all sides by forest clad mountains, but the average tourist and I daresay the average inhabitant sees about as much of the "setting" as a Dribber and wader sees of the sun for there are very few clear days in this part of the world. Passing through there in midsummer I barely got a glimpse of the surrounding hills, wrapped as they were in cloudy blankets.

Living close to the city's gates, and one of its most interesting features, is its beautiful natural park of virgin forest, hardly

ouched by the hand of man, and presenting specimens of giant trees that rival those of California.

In passing from Vancouver to the prairie of Alberta the traveler has the pleasure of viewing the finest scenery on the continent, exclusive of Alaska.

You might have felt somewhat disappointed when you first beheld the ranges of our eastern country, and even Niagara Falls probably were not as impressive as you expected, but you cannot view the Canadian Rockies, those crowning masses of rock and ice, those eternal peaks forever clad in their garments of white, with "glacier" after "glacier" coursing down their rugged, beaten sides, and come away disappointed. If you can without any feeling of immodest look upon such samples of the supernatural majesty and glory of the handwork of the Creator, I cannot help thinking of a certain line of the poem we learned during our school days: "Breathes there, the man with soul so dead"

with a long sigh of regret after a full day's journey of such grandeur, I passed on to the wonderland and faced the mountains. Within eight or ten days' distant mountains, the scenery that has been largely populated by farmers from the middle west during the last decade. From Calgary to Winnipeg there are no by-ways, nor yawning chasms to awe and inspire, but for me there was no dull moments in all that long stretch of country—what some would no doubt call a "dreary monotony."

You know out here in California our beautiful groves of green bearing their golden fruit, with the mountains in the background, present entrancing pictures; and down South in the early fall the fields of white always make a strong appeal to the lover of the outdoors; but nothing that I have ever seen or expect to see of the fruits of the soil has or can impress me as did those Canadian fields of waving yellow grain, that vast sea of rolling treeless prairie—a boundless expanse of the world's richest soil, millions of acres stretching away in every direction, and of their fertility bringing forth food for the sustenance and preservation of mankind. And scattered over this great country are plenty of places where men have congregated for their mutual welfare and progress, towns and cities in embryo—not great, but ambitious and aggressive, and destined to grow because the possibilities of this big region have hardly been tapped.

They should not make the mistake of trying to build up big cities before the country is developed for a large part of the energy that is steadily pouring into that region ought to be directed toward the task of drawing from the soil that immense wealth that the ages have accumulated, and then the titles will follow as a natural result.

T. P. BRIDGMAN, Los Angeles, Calif., August 1st, 1914.

### FROM MR. LEARY.

To The Editor:

The notice to patrons of the office published a few weeks ago, I believe fully explains the situation relative to the hours when the post office is open and when it closes for the day. We desire, however, to please every one that we can and we do not mind helping belated wayfarers whenever we can do so. We all know it makes life more livable and sweeter when we do kindly acts that help others, not only does it help to help human beings, but it also helps when we are kind to the dumb beasts or birds. You take a horse, use him kindly and well and you will soon find out that he is grateful and appreciates your kindness to him. I am sure all who handle horses will bear me out in this statement. The dear little birds are not wanting in appreciation of kindnesses extended. Did you ever take the trouble to look after the wants of the birds? I.e. feed them when the winter snows had covered old mother earth and left little or nothing for the birds to eat. If you have I am quite sure the birds became interesting to you and the ease of

kindnesses expressed by them in many little ways. It is true these birds cannot talk, but they will express their feelings of kindness and regard for you in so many little acts that you will comprehend their meaning. The best part of the day is the early morn when all nature seems alive and full of life, and especially is this true of mild weather; and I have often wondered why so few people take advantage of the pleasure thus afforded. Those who catch the first chirp or song of the bird life, as nature awakens to all the beauties and charms of which she is mistress, enjoy pleasures without number. In the early hours of the day I have often stopped and listened with wrapped attention to the gladsome songs of the morning bird, or the tiny denizens of the woods as they warble their sweet notes full of melody and the yearning of their little natures. I have time and again loitered with my dog and gun, while in the woods sitting on a log waiting and watching for the coming of the birds and squirrels and other little animals and insects which I felt would be long. While I waited in patience my dog slept and seemed to enjoy his dreams, evidently feeling that he was a gain on the hunt for the birds for which he had the keenest of scent. I could see his legs and sides in motion expressing hope for a successful chase. The birds "all speckle and fair" would cautiously approach "stop, look and listen" and all attention to every little noise which reached them and might affect them in any way. The squirrels would do this too while they frisked up and down the trees with their tails in a ring over their backs. I have seen them run down the trees and in the easiest way look at me for a few seconds and then run back a short distance, stop and then turn back all the time keeping

their little eyes on me, in this way they would greatly interest me and rivet my attention. In watching them I often swept a good deal of pleasure. The outcroppings of nature in the beasts and birds are wonderful. But these things happened before the days when the Rural Carriers began their rounds, carrying sweet little messengers of love and affection, explaining the tenderest feelings of the head and the heart, or a business letter with a check in it to make the farmer's heart glad and bring renewed cheer to his hopes and heart, or the bearer of eggs, beef, butter, beef, mutton or other products of the farm which are raised or made in the country and sent by the farmer to the nearest market for sale, and without loss of time by either horse or man, for the carrier picks up all these things as he passes along with pleasant words or interesting bits of news, and in this way he brings the farmer the producer and the consumer together. Now my friends, think of this. Why should you not get the best and highest prices for your fruits and other products, and still do without leaving the farm for a moment. Contains at reasonable cost can be purchased daily

out practice. West and in Alaska, and a shipped for consumption of the by parcel post, and in fact all over the country, some are being made between the parcel post and the general carrier daily and weekly consumption of poultry, fruit and vegetables of any kind needed by the household-keeper for home consumption. This lightens the burden in every direction—except in the case of the poor rural carrier, who is the servant of the dwellers along his route and at each end. He is the real burden bearer but happily his digestion is good and the open air cheers him up and renews his spirits and life—this keeps him in good humor and with kindly feelings for all of his patrons with whom he comes in contact. He deserves the blessings of all of us. If there is a farmer or any other person who desires information concerning the parcel post, let him come to see me and I will give him the information he may need of this valuable arm of the service which means so much to us all and especially to the farmer and the housewife. I believe the advantages are with the farmer—for the rural mail and the parcel post stand out as the greatest

**The Union Central Life**

does NOT operate in any foreign country—nor does it own or invest in any foreign securities—nor does it invest in stocks or bonds of any kind. Larger the Dividends returned to you, Lower the net cost. 100,000 People were turned down, rejected in 1913 because they put it off too long.

**BARLOW HARRIS**  
SPECIAL AGENT  
Rochester, N. C.

DR. S. DISPEPSIA TABLETS