

THE DAILY FREE PRESS.

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ONWARD AND UPWARD.

Lumberton, N. C., April 15.—The election here today resulted in forty-five majority for electric lights.

Swan Quarter, N. C., April 13.—The election to decide on a bond issue for graded schools for Swan Quarter, N. C., passed off quietly Saturday. The bond issue carried by a comfortable majority of the qualified vote. Only one vote was cast against the issue.

Smithfield, N. C., April 15.—The election held here today to vote on the question whether or not Smithfield township should levy a special tax to improve its roads passed off quietly. Only a small vote was polled—377 in all—277 of which were cast in favor of "special tax," giving a majority of 77 in favor of the road tax.

From all over the country come similar reports. Will Kinston place her name on the roll of honor? If not why not?

A CANNING FACTORY.

Why can't Kinston add a canning factory to her list of industries?

We are very advantageously located. The tomatoes, beans etc., necessary are all raised in the adjoining country, and a factory of the kind suggested would stimulate more extensive production. Then we have superior shipping facilities, and there is always a ready market for a good quality of canned vegetables.

There is money in the scheme: money for the proprietors of the canning establishment, and money for the farmers who supply the vegetables. The field is open for such an enterprise. Now is the time to strike while the iron is hot.

Let our business men take the matter into consideration, and take advantage of the opportunity now existing.

GOWNS FOR SUPREME COURT JUSTICES.

We do not see the reason in the great outcry of the State press against the proposition that our supreme court justices should wear gowns on the bench.—Wilmington Messenger.

There is no reason for such opposition. The idea is a good one. We insist that the judges be respected whether the law is or not.—Henderson Gold Leaf.

THE FREE PRESS is another that fails to see the reason for the outcry.

It is true that the dress does not make the man by a good deal, and for that reason it will not hurt our justices—as such—to wear gowns. The judges of our highest court can well afford to assume this much as a badge of honor, for the respect and dignity of their high office.

It detracts nothing from the usefulness of the soldier, the sailor, the minister, the priest or scholar, upon occasion, to wear a distinctive insignia of office. On the contrary such a distinguishing mark really adds to their efficiency—as a matter of experience.

A special costume would add dignity to our supreme court bench, a dignity that would be appreciated by all those in the court room, the reflex influence of which would be felt by the occupants of the bench. Dress does have its effect upon the average human being, and there is some thing of the average in us all. And from an historical standpoint gowns would be peculiarly fitting to our supreme court justices.

THE FREE PRESS is willing to go one step further and suggest that jurors, when sworn, be compelled to wear a badge of some kind, on the coat for instance. Some such mark would set the juror apart from the careless or unthoughtful tampering outside influences.

NOT THROUGH YET.

A closely contested election was held yesterday in the court house. As was anticipated, the voters will have to be consulted again before a conclusion of the whole matter can be reached.

No one was nominated for the position of mayor. The contest was sharp, and the friends of the respective candidates rallied to their support handsomely. It is a good sign to see the people taking so much interest in the election of their chief municipal officer, and it is also a creditable circumstance that no important factional bitterness has developed.

With the board of aldermen, however the case was different, though some of the contestants lacked only two or three votes of winning the contest. The interest manifested was creditable to our citizens, and the result was that they secured a board worthy of the respect and confidence of all.

Kinston should not hesitate to place her local interests in the hands of these gentlemen for the next two years. They fairly represent popular sentiment, and will undoubtedly carry out the popular will to the best of their ability.

Let every citizen uphold them in their efforts to improve Kinston.

Ohio's Centennial

How the One Hundredth Anniversary of Its Statehood Will Be Celebrated

NATIVES of the Buckeye State, resident and nonresident, are getting ready to attend the great centennial celebration of the admission of Ohio into the Union, which is to be held at Chillicothe on May 21 and 22 next. Preparations to fitly celebrate the event are being made all over the state, and from every part of the country Ohio's sons will gather to take part in the observances. It is fitting that Chillicothe should have been chosen as the place for the celebration, for all the historic memories of the early years of the state's ex-



GOVERNOR EDWARD TIFFIN. [First governor of Ohio.]

istence cluster about that city. It was there that the state was born and struggled upward through the first years of its existence. It was this little town which a hundred years ago was the capital of all that northwest territory lying between the Ohio and the Mississippi. It was at Chillicothe that General Arthur St. Clair set up his territorial government as governor of the northwest territory, and the house in which he dwelt is still standing.

The agitation for statehood received its greatest momentum under the leadership of a quartet of Chillicotheans—Thomas Worthington, Nathaniel Massie, Edward Tiffin and Donald Duncan McArthur—and it was there on Nov. 29, 1802, that the first state constitution was adopted. Finally it was at Chillicothe in the spring of the following year that the young state came into being and Edward Tiffin elected her first governor.

With all these things in its favor it was inevitable that Chillicothe should be selected as the most fitting place to hold the great celebration, preparations for which have been in progress for several months. Last fall the state legislature appropriated \$10,000 as the state's share toward the expenses and authorized Governor Nash to appoint a commission to take charge of it. The state's contribution has been largely supplemented by other funds.

The State Historical and Archeological society appointed a centennial commission to act in conjunction with the committee named by the governor. It was decided that the celebration must be primarily oratorical, and speakers of national reputation have been invited to be present. As no auditorium in the city is large enough to accommo-

Another feature which will be of great interest as well as appropriate to the occasion is the archeological and historical exhibition. A liberal appropriation was made for this feature, which will be held in Memorial hall. Ross county has long been considered a treasure house of Indian and mound builder relics, and there will be gathered all these relics, illustrating the life and habits of those people. There will also be a large department devoted to portraits, manuscripts and other things of interest connected with the history of the state.

It is proposed to have the addresses from a consecutive series, which will give more fully and accurately than ever before the history of Ohio and the northwest territory from the moment the French sailed down the Belle Riviere to the present.

A most elaborate scheme of decoration was adopted, which will transform the town into a veritable Venice in carnival time. The principal streets will be made into courts of honor, with elaborate arches and Venetian masts, ablaze with color by day and agleam with light by night. The public buildings will be outlined with electric lights, and every private dwelling in the city will be draped with flags, banners and bunting. Nature will also be in her richest garb at that time, and Chillicothe has always had good reason to boast of her natural beauty, so that she will be doubly attractive during centennial week.

While the formal programme calls for but two days the celebration will last several days longer. It has been decided that a celebration of such magnitude must have some features of a spectacular nature. State, county, city and all the patriotic societies have taken a deep interest in the event and will each contribute a symbolical or historical float for the grand parade. The military display will be most imposing. A detachment of regular troops will probably take part, as well as the militia from Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin,



OHIO'S FIRST STATEHOUSE.

Michigan and Minnesota, as those states were carved out of that great territory of which the little town of Chillicothe was once the capital.

The governors of all these states will be present with their staffs. This parade, it is hoped, will be reviewed by the president, if his schedule can be arranged to permit. A pretty feature connected with the parade will be a chorus of 2,000 school children.

The old square stone statehouse in which met the early legislators of the state of Ohio has long since disappeared, but there are still standing many other memorials of that day. There is "Adena," the great stone mansion which Thomas Worthington built at enormous cost in 1806. Also, there is "Fruit Hill," on a neighboring bluff, built by Duncan McArthur, afterward governor of the state. Both these mansions are splendidly preserved.

Many other memorials of a century ago are still standing, among them the house where General St. Clair made his home when governor of the territory and the great elm under which Lord Dunmore made his famous treaty with Logan, chief of the Mingoes. It was from a viewpoint on the hills just west of the city of Chillicothe that the great seal of Ohio was made. Four governors of the state lie buried in the cemetery overlooking the city.

Chillicothe is not without experience in centennial celebrations. In 1896 the city celebrated in a most elaborate manner the one hundredth anniversary of her founding by Nathaniel Massie. In 1796 at the head of a little band of hardy adventurers he pushed his way up the Scioto valley from Kentucky and laid out the town.

But the celebration next May will far outshine these efforts, not alone because of the greater importance of the event to be commemorated and in the elaborate preparations made for its observance, but in the great home coming of self exiled Ohioans, who are scattered throughout the length and breadth of the Union. Bunches of letters are pouring in from them—there are over 1,000,000 living outside the borders of the state—and it is evident that the centennial celebration is to be a sort of "old home week" for those who

PEOPLE OF THE DAY

She Weds a Poor Soldier.
The Earl of Rosebery's eldest daughter, Lady Sibyl Primrose, was married at Epsom recently to Lieutenant C. J. C. Grant of the Coldstream guards. The wedding was quiet, only relatives and intimate friends of the family being present. Nevertheless the bride was attended by eight bridesmaids. Lord Rosebery gave away his daughter. Quite a sutter was occa-



LADY SYBIL PRIMROSE.

sioned in London society circles by the announcement early in the year of the engagement between Lady Sibyl and Lieutenant Grant. While Charles Grant is a young officer who has already made a good military record and is the son of Lieutenant General Sir Robert Grant, he is comparatively poor. Hence the surprise when the engagement was made public. However, there will be no lack of funds in Lieutenant Grant's household, as his bride is a very rich woman in her own right.

Reed as a Talker.

William Allen White of Emporia, Kan., took luncheon with Thomas B. Reed at the Century club, New York, the day President McKinley died. "After a simple meal had been put away," Mr. White relates, "Reed pushed back his chair and began to talk. For three long hours he discoursed most beautifully upon life, its uncertainty, its real rewards and its checks and balances, upon fame and its accidents and its emptiness, upon death and immortality and God and all his ways and works. It was a kind of funeral oration the like of which few men are privileged to hear. At the end of it all the big man threw back his head and looked up at the great oak rafters of the room for a long while and then let his hands fall heavily on the short arms of the chair as he sighed: 'Hi, ho! What does it all mean?—Where is it going? Who are we? What is this unfathomed mystery we call life? God know! I don't.'—Kansas City Star.

Boyish Zangwill.

Zangwill for a man of such subtle intellectual parts can on occasion descend to the most boyish frivolity. The daughter of a certain rabbi was told that she was to sit next to him at a dinner party. For days beforehand she trembled with mingled anticipatory delight and dread and sought to sharpen her wits by dwelling on every learned subject, possible or impossible, which she thought he might be likely to talk about. Imagine her amazement when as soon as dinner was begun Zangwill drew a small india rubber doll from his pocket and began telling fortunes with it, talking the whole time nothing but the most irresponsible nonsense. She said afterward that she felt very much like the girl who was taken in to dinner by Tennyson and hung with trembling rapture on the inspired words which were to fall from his lips. "I like my mutton in chunks," said Tennyson.

Mayor of World's Fair City.

When President Roosevelt reaches St. Louis for the special purpose of dedicating the world's fair grounds and buildings on April 30, he will be tendered the freedom of the city by the mayor, Rolla Wells. Mr. Wells was elected mayor by the Democrats on a reform platform two years ago and has still two years to serve. He is a large



ROLLA WELLS.

steel manufacturer and is quite wealthy. His father was formerly an extensive owner of street railway property, and Mayor Wells was brought up in that business. Several years ago he invented his capital in the steel industry and has thrived thereat. Mayor Wells is popular with all classes of citizens, and his administration has so far been very successful. As mayor of the World's Fair City during the Louisiana Purchase Exposition he will probably have a very busy time.

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