SESQUICENTENNIAL **EDITION**

The Roxboro Courter 60 Pages

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(County Correspondents Solicited)

ROXBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

\$2.00 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

Courier Presents Sesquicentennial Edition

Twenty Square - Mile Area Was Organized In 1791 **And Called Person County**

Nine Townships Compose County

Roxboro Was Incorporated In 1854, William R. Reade Was First Mayor

1890 MARKED COMING OF FIRST RAILROAD

In January, 1791, Person County was erected, the act saying that after February 1st Caswell County should be "equally divided by a line already run, beginning on the Virginia line and running from thence Person at the house of Joshus ent ctit Paine, but the justices (who compose the court) can adjourn to any other place until a courthouse, prison and stocks are completed for some and stocks are completed for some and stocks are completed for hand to springs and situation. James Jones, Goodly Warrell, Samuel Wood, John Womack and Stephen Mann are appointed commissioners. Wood, John Womack and Stephen Mann are appointed commissioners for Person county, and David Hart, Wyatt Stubblefield, David Shelton, Solomon Parks, John Graves, and William Muzzle, commissioners for Caswell to fix on a place for the court house, prison and stocks in each of their respective counties and to contract for the building and completion of the same.

The two counties are perfect.

The two counties are perfect squares, twenty miles each way, nd the county seats are almost ex-ctly in the center of each. Person as named for Brigadier General Thomas Person of Granville county t a time when Revolutionary sol-iers were leading citizens

before the county. According to the county according t

Dies Saturday

Land For County

Seat Donated By

cord In Register of Deeds'

John L. Gentry Dies Saturday After Illness

Rites For Prominent Allesville Man Conducted Sunday Afternoon

ALMOST EIGHTY-NINE

Final rites for Squire John L. Gentry, one of Person county's most prominent clizzens, were conducted Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock, Easern Standard Time, from Allenshille Methodist church, Officiating ninisters were Rev. J. F. Funderwurke, pastor of Mill Creek Baptist hurch of which Mr. Gentry was a nember, Rev. D. A. Petty and Rev. L. Ficks of Hillsboro, Burial was lade in the church cemetery.

until about a week ago he had been able to be, up and about his home. He beceive wontherd to his bed serveral days preceding his death and weakened steadily until the end. His death was attributed to a complication of diseases pertinent to the infirmities of advanced age.

He is survived by 10 children, six sons and four daughters. His sons are: Willie D., George N., Charlle A., A. Watkins, Irving C. Gentry, all of Roxboro, and J. Abner Gentry, of Raleigh; daughters: Mrs. W. H. Turner, Laurel Hill, Mesdames W. Turner, Laurel Hill, Mesdames W. T. Kirby, W. Roy Cates and Clyde Gentry, all of Roxboro. His wife, the late Mrs. Gustavia Gentry, preceded him in death several years ago. Mr. Gentry also is survived by numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren. **Dempsey Moore** Deed Dated In 1792 Is On Re-TRACT IS DESCRIBED

Thomas Person of Granville county at a time when Revolutionary soldiers were leading citizens.

Person is bounded on the north by Virginia; ob the south by Orange and Durham counties; on the west by Granville. Nine townships make up the county: Allensville, Bushy Fork, Cuningham, Flat River, Holloway, Mt. Tirzah, Olive Hill, Roxboro township in the center of the checkerboard.

The first county court was held at Paine's Tavern in February, 1791, four miles from the present Rox-boro. In 1792 or 1793 the county seat was established at Moccasin Gap which then was no more than a cross-roads hamlet. This spot was selected because it had a "published in the deed are James Moccasin Gap was changed to be county. Legend has it that the name Moccasin Gap was changed to Roxborough at the suggestion of James Williamson. a well-ted landswer and native of Scotland who resided two miles from the village. It is said he so named it on a medium of the county. Legend has it that the land was a care and construction of lange. It is said he so named it as a passed at New Bern, then the

Roxboro's Main Street As It Looks Today

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, 1941



This picture, which shows part of the business section of Roxboro, was snapped at the intersection of Main and Abbitt avenue. In the left foreground can be seen a section of the courthouse square, with the gleaming marble monument in the immediate foreground, being one erected several years ago by the Person County UDC Chapter in honor of Confederate Army captains. Farther down that side of the street can be seen The Peoples Bank building. On the other side, some of the business houses in the city are shown, with the names of several stores visible.

Many Pictures Of Native Sons

Throughout the Sesquicentennial Edition will be found photographs of native sons of Person county who have gone away and are making their homes in other cities or continuanties. The list, of course, is incomplete. The pletures annearing in this edition are of those native sons who have cooperated with us in planning this paper.—the Editors.

Person Claims Dolly Madison Was Born Here

Paine's Tavern Regarded As Birthplace of "Little Madi-son's" Wife

It is believed by Person county people that Dorothea (Dolly) Mad-ison, wife of President James Madson, was born at Paine's Tavern

ed three miles southwest of boro on the Hurdle Mills road one of the popular colonial m its day. Cornwallis with a m Doily Paline Madison were owners and operators of this tavern and the story has been handed down from one generation to another in Person county that Dolly Paine was born here while her parents were on their way from Philadelphia to Guillford county where Dolly's grand parents lived.

General Thomas Person Foremost Patriot In 18t Century

Century

SERVED AS TRUSTEE

Among The Oldest Citizens



County Was Named For Noted General

General Thomas Person Was Foremost Patriot In 18th

PAPER CELEBRATING PERSON'S 150th BIRTHDAY PUBLISHED TODAY

Prize winners in the contest announced in connection with gathering material for the Sesquicentennial Edition were announced by the judges today as follows:

Best picture, for which \$5.00 was offered, Miss Bessie Bradsher, best old document. sher; best old document, carry-ing a reward of \$2.50, .Harvey Snipes; best old letter, for which

Snipes; best old letter, for which \$2.50 was offered, Mrs. Sue C. Barnette.

The judges gave honorable mention to Mrs. L. P. Sherman and Mrs. Rainey Crumpton.

The Courier wishes to express its appreciation to all who submitted entries in this contact.

Beauty Of Mount

New York Officer In Washington's Army Built His

hen Moore of New York, who owned vast stretches of land that were later converted into West Point.

General Moore's army camped on a beautiful hill in what is now Person county. The view from the hill top on all sides opened up a vast panorama before the eyes. General mewspaper presses for that day and Moore was charmed with the view and then and there made a resolve left, but still it would print only that, should be live after peace once four pages at a time. requiring two ngain ruled the land, he was com-ng back and build a home on this

property, and with a beautiful home on the very summit of the hill. A a time, turning out sixty copies per name must be given to the homestead and he named it most appropriately "Mount Tirzah" or in other words "Mount Beautiful".

General Moore had a large fam-

of whom, Edwin G. Reade, be

His first public office was Jus-

TODAY'S PAPER IS SIXTY-PAGE EDITION

The Roxboro Courier Was Founded Here Sixty Years Ago

Although The Roxboro Courier, established in 1881 by Hunter and Gibbons, has been published continuously since 1884 under the editorship of members of the Noell family, many changes have been effected in its mechanical department and in its personnel.

The Courier is proud to present today its Sesquicentennial Edition, which is published in observance of the one hundred and liftieth anniversary of Person county. This issue

versary of Person county. This issue is one of sixty pages and was or-ganized under the supervision of Mesdames B. G. Clayton and A. F.

1884 to make his home. He was individual manager of The Courier until J. W. Noell arrived here on March 1, 1890 to live. At that time the paper was a six-column, fourpage publication printed on a Washington hand press. There were about 400 subscribers.

Within a few years, as Roxboro began to expand, The Courier kept in step by installing a later type newspaper press. This was a Country Campbell cylinder press printing two seven-column pages at a

ing two seven-column pages at a

NOW READE HOMEPLACE

It was not many years, however, before publishers of The Courier, in order to keep in step with a rapidly-growing. Rochoro, elet it may be the numpike into North Carolina from Virginia commanded by Gen. Stephen Moore of New York, who owned press, which was considered at that was time quite a nice outfit for a county was stretches of land that were time quite a nice outfit for a county was stretches of land that were time quite a nice outfit for a county was stretches of land that were time quite a nice outfit for a county was stretches of land that were time quite a nice outfit for a county was stretches of land that were time quite a nice outfit for a county was stretches of land that were time quite a nice outfit for a county was stretches.

s a weekly, being published Wednesday afternoon. Six

150 Years Of Progress In Person County

Prize Winners

(Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday)

mitted entries in this contest Through that method they have contributed to the publication of this Sesquicentennial Edition.

Tirzah Charmed **General Moore**

Home There