

FIFTY YEARS AGO

Reminiscences of What Raleigh Was Then

SOME LEADING MEN

Everything Was Made at Home—The Stage Coach was the Object of Admiration and Veneration—First Railroad.

A few days since I submitted some reflections on matters of nearly half a century ago. Not one-third of the present population of Raleigh were then born. Fifty years in the life of a human being is a long time, but it is but a fleeting moment in the history of a city, a state or a nation.

With all our boasted advancement in the various enterprises, inventions, etc., for the last third of a century, to my mind, it is somewhat questionable whether or not these great improvements have been beneficial to the people generally.

Who is there now living in Raleigh that remembers L. B. Walker, the baker? He was one of the noted characters at the time of which we write. He was a splendid baker, but was one of that class of citizens who feel it their duty to attend to every body else's business but their own.

James McKimmon was a merchant, lived down on the East side of Fayetteville street. He was an Irish man by birth, but a North Carolina by adoption and sentiment. He was the most methodical I ever knew.

Perhaps I should have earlier mentioned the name of that good man Dr. Mason, for many years rector of Christ church. Those who remember him will readily agree with me in my estimation of him.

Rev Henry B. Hayes was another prominent character in Raleigh fifty years ago. He was the editor and publisher of the Christian Sun.

No better men ever lived than John Primrose, James M. Towles and William J. Lougee. The two former were dry goods merchants on the west side of Fayetteville street.

street, and the latter a tinner on the west side. They were all homely men, extremely so, and no one realized it more than themselves, or enjoyed jokes at their expense better. A good story was told many years ago of a countryman who wanted to see Mr. Primrose.

Harry Keim was a portly old Dutchman, who, for many years, kept a store on the lot where Johnson's drug store now stands. He was a character in his way.

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The first trial I ever heard of in a Court House was between Mr. Walker and some young men of Raleigh for an affray. Mr. Perrin Busbee, the father of our popular Postmaster and Mr. F. H. Busbee, was the counsel for the young men.

One of the most great ones in the career of an actor, and at the same time most deserved, occurred in June, 1875, when F. O. George, Cambridge, presented the actor with the honorary degree of Master of Arts.

But enough for the present. Later I may add another chapter.

The Christian Church Sunday school 10 a. m. Preaching at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m., by the pastor. The public cordially invited.

LONDON ASSURANCE

Dramatic Club from the University graduated Raleigh.

Metropolitan hall was well filled last evening by a most select and cultured audience to witness the presentation of "London Assurance" by the Dramatic Club of the State University.

The wit of the play is Mark Meddle, (Mr. W. G. Cox) attorney at law. His specialties, particularly his imitation of Laiban Russell and his Populist harangue, brought down the house.

What the name of "Barnum" is to the theatrical business, the name of the firm of Primrose and West is to the minstrel business.

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By Telegram to the Press-Visitor. MAYOR RUSSELL today sent Walter King to the roads for thirty days for being drunk and disorderly.

WAR PROBABLE WITH SPAIN

The Battleship Maine Receives Instructions

SENATE CONSULTING

England, Germany, Austria and France will observe neutrality in the event of a conflict arising out of Washington.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—The gravest anxiety is still felt in the cabinet circles over the Cuban situation. It is fully realized that autonomy for Cuba is doomed.

Our minister has been sounding the foreign offices of the principal governments of Europe as to their attitude in the event that the United States felt compelled to intervene to stop the troubles in Cuba and bring about peace.

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BAL POUDBRE A SUCCESS

The Park Hotel the scene of a Beautiful Ball Last Night

The brilliancy and beauty of the Bal Poudre given last evening in the Park hotel under the auspices of the Ministering Circle of the King's Daughters has so far, if ever, been equaled in the "City of Oaks."

Not only are the dancers indebted to the Ministering Circle, especially to the reception committee and the band managers, for a delightful evening, but many poor widows and orphans in their distress will bless the kind ladies who devised this means of assisting them.

The attendance was probably the largest of any dance this season. Among the fair participants were Misses Hoke, Kate, Denson, Minnie Tucker, Gertrude Bush, Jane Andrews, Dalgleish, of Wilmington, Ethel Bagley, Lizzie Taylor, McVea, Annie Busbee, Kate Haywood, Eliza Primrose, Louise Mahler, Hal Morrison, Fannie Hoke, Mattie Pace, Lucy West, Mary Seaton Hay, Maggie Norris, Sadie Root, Margaret Smodes, Edna Busbee, Fannie Cameron, Adelaide Snow, Mary Bryan, Florence Boylan, Margaret Harris and Lezrand Cameron and others.

The reception committee and its assistants were Mesdames W. H. Williamson, T. T. Hay, Geo. Thompson, F. A. Orls, Francis Cameron, M. T. Norris, Lottie McAden, Omega Foster, C. M. Busbee and Julian Timberlake.

By Telegram to the Press-Visitor. NEW YORK, Jan. 15.—Gen. Booth, commander of the Salvation Army, arrived at St. Paul this morning accompanied by commissioner Neel and Col. Lawley.

WAKE SUPERIOR COURT

The Result of the Week's Work During the Past Term

The January term of Wake superior court for the trial of criminal cases adjourned this morning, having virtually in five days disposed of the 120 cases on the docket.

Of these 38 were continued to March term, in 12 an entry of nolo prosequi, in 2 no bills were returned, in 5 verdict of not guilty, 2 were dismissed, 11 not true bills, 3 no confessions, 6 nisi judgments made absolute.

In the disposition of cases where convictions or submissions were had, 22 had entry judgment suspended on payment of costs, 1 set off the roads for four years, 3 sentenced for 3 years, five sentenced for 2 years, one for 3 months, 6 for 4 months, 3 for 3 months, 2 for 2 months, 1 fined \$10 and costs.

A noticeable fact is that there were 13 indictments each for carrying concealed weapons and for assault with deadly weapons, thus appearing that in as many cases where persons were found carrying deadly weapons just that many assaults with deadly weapons were made, and in all these carrying concealed weapons cases but one judgment was suspended upon payment of costs.

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JUDGE DICK TO RETIRE

His Son-in-Law, Justice Robert M. Douglas, Hopes to Succeed Him

The Winston Sentinel says that it speaks with authority in saying that Judge Robt. Dick, of the United States Federal court, will soon retire from the bench. This is necessitated by his bad health.

Several Winston lawyers received letters today from Judge Douglass asking them for endorsement as to his character and fitness for the position.

A gentleman who saw Judge Dick a few days before he left Greensboro for Baltimore, remarked last evening that he did not believe he would ever return home alive—especially if he undergoes an operation.

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TODAY'S MARKETS

The Movement in New York and Liverpool Markets

By private wire to W. A. Porter, Field & Co. New York Cotton.

By Telegram to the Press-Visitor. LIVERPOOL, Jan. 15.—Sp. Sales 8.0 American, 7.100 Sp. Sp. fair demand of unchanged prices, middling 3 7/32. Futures closed quiet.

By Telegram to the Press-Visitor. CHICAGO Grain and Provision Market.

By Telegram to the Press-Visitor. NEW YORK Stock Market.

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SHORT STATEMENTS

Minor Matters Manipulated for the Many.

AROUND IN THE CITY.

The little folks who took part in the "court reception" at the Governor's mansion yesterday afternoon dressed in their fancy costumes and had their pictures taken in a group today.

At a regular meeting of Seaton Gales Lodge, I. O. O. F., held last night, the following elected officers were installed by District Deputy A. W. Moye: E. G. Faust, noble grand; W. R. Smith, vice grand, Phil Thiem, secretary; H. J. Young, financial secretary; William Woolcott, treasurer.

Mr. A. M. McPheters returned from Henderson this morning at 2 after spending two days in Durham on business. This is the first time Mr. McPheters paid fare on this road for 20 years. The Ananias club had a full meeting today.

It is with regret that we note that Henry D. Bunch is not with the Southern Express Company any longer. He has been filling temporarily a position that was vacant on account of sickness of one of their employees. He received highest commendations from his employers for services rendered.

While the beautiful exposition car of Charlotte was in Statesville some person took a sharp instrument and scratched up both sides of the car, and completely obliterated the picture of the little negro and the watermelon on the side of the car. It will cost \$500 to restore the paintings, which included pictures of some of the finest scenery in the state.

And now the county commissioners of Davie have refused to pay the Junior interest on the bonds issued by that county some years ago for the construction of the railroad from Statesville to Mocksville. It is believed that this means that an attempt will be made to invalidate the bonds, for which the fund is just being extended from Mocksville to Statesville, so as to give Mocksville connection with the outer world not only at Winston, but a seat Charlotte.

Capt. Charles Price, division counsel of the Southern, has instituted proceedings before Circuit Judge Shammontun with the object of securing an injunction from him enjoining the payment by Statesville county of the interest on the bonds issued by the county for the Yadkin railroad company. Later it is expected that a hearing in the matter of the validity of the bonds will be held before Judge Shammontun.

At a meeting of the board of the Baptist State S. Convention, colored, held recently in the Gazette office Rev. T. O. Fuller was unanimously recommended to the American Baptist Publication society for appointment as state missionary. The board authorized Rev. A. P. Eaton, president of the convention to go to Philadelphia and consult with the regard to the appointment. The board pledged the convention to raise \$250 as their part of the salary of the missionary. The missionary receives in all \$600 and traveling expenses.

Another Missionary Service. There will be a Missionary Service at the church of the Good Shepherd tonight, that is, after evening prayer, the subject of discourse will be "Domestic Missions," giving the origin growth and present condition of the Episcopal Church.

This subject will be illustrated by a large map, which was prepared some years ago by the Rector, called the "Centennial Map the American Church." Another map prepared recently will show the recent growth and present condition of ecclesiastical boundaries. All are cordially invited.