



PUBLISHED TWICE-A-WEEK—WEDNESDAYS AND SATURDAYS.

OUR SLOGAN—"OXFORD OFFERS OPPORTUNITIES FOR HOMES, SCHOOLS AND PROSPERITY."

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## STRANGER SHOT DOWN MEETS DEATH AT HANDS OF A COLORED MAN

### Scene of Tragedy Two and One-half Miles North of Oxford

The people of this community was startled Tuesday night by the news that an unknown white man had been shot to death by Sam Taylor, colored, on the Will Taylor place two and one-half miles north of Oxford. The first intelligence of the tragedy was a telephone message to Dr. Thomas from the slayer announcing that he had shot a man. Dr. Thomas arrived at the scene of the tragedy about ten o'clock and found the prostrate body of the man cold and stiff in front of the door of Sam Taylor. The remains of the dead man was conveyed to a local undertaking establishment in Oxford, where Dr. Sam Booth, County Physician, and Coroner W. D. Bryan and the following jury viewed the body Wednesday morning: E. B. Howard, Bert Taylor, Leonard Mitchell, G. W. Harris, D. G. Golston, O. D. Wilson. The body exhibited two gun-shot wounds.

At the commitment trial held in the Mayor's office by Coroner Bryan Sam Taylor's wife and his brother testified. Taylor's brother said that he and Sam had been out hunting and on arriving at home Sam passed in at one door while he entered by another door. He stated that when Sam entered the kitchen (he Sam) saw Sullivan standing by the stove in the corner of the room; Sam asked Sullivan what he was doing there, what he wanted and inquired his name, to which there was no answer by Sullivan. He said that Sam ordered Sullivan from the house three times and when Sullivan started to the door he (Sullivan) reached for his hip pocket and while in this attitude Sam shot him in the groin, reloaded his gun and shot him in the side, Sullivan falling out of the door. Sam's wife corroborated the testimony of the witness. There were present in the house four people at the time of the tragedy—Sam Taylor and his brother and their wives. The only conflicting point in the evidence was that Sullivan did or did not knock on the back door. Upon this evidence Sam Taylor was committed to jail.

The horse and buggy driven by the dead man are now in a local livery stable. Among his effects was a bank-book, which bore the following inscription: "This is the bank-book of W. M. Sullivan, 410 Sixth street, S. E., Roanoke, Va." The book showed that several checks had been made out against a Roanoke bank, but there was no balance brought forward. In his pockets were found two letters addressed to "Dr. W. M. Sullivan." In his person was found a gold watch and \$1.85 in cash. He was about 45 years of age, weight about 175 pounds and was fairly well dressed. There was the smell of liquor about his person.

As we gazed upon his lifeless body we thought that human life is cheap. The open and frank features of the dead man as compared with those of his slayer suggested foul play. This feeling possessed us at the coroner's inquest, and no sooner had the slayer been bound over to court than there was a rumor to the effect that Sam Taylor, the slayer, was seen with Sullivan in rear of a store in Stovington Tuesday evening, and that Sullivan was seen on the same evening with a roll of money in his possession. It is barely possible that this one of the blackest crimes ever committed in the county, and we trust that the truth may be known and that the slayer will have a fair and impartial trial.

By request of relatives in Roanoke the body of the dead man was embalmed and shipped to Roanoke Monday morning.

We welcome 1914 and thank the great Redeemer for health and strength to begin the great work of a new year.

## SHORT LOCAL PICK-UPS GATHERED FROM THE TOWN AND COUNTY

### About People and Things That Are of Interest to Our Readers.

Happy New Year to you.

The factories resumed work on Monday.

Have you made those New Year's resolutions?

The County Commissioners will meet Monday.

The children will start to school again Monday.

How about the Poultry Show? Are you preparing your exhibit?

We ask you to read Cohn & Son's New Year's greeting on last page.

The infant child of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Long, who has been quite sick, is better.

The Express office was the great mecca for the thirty during the holidays.

The organ recital has been postponed on account of sickness of Mrs. Venable.

The Parcel Post wagon delivered about 2000 packages in Oxford during the holidays.

Along with the joys of the season the Oxford people had to contend with muddy street.

I. W. Day, of Route 1, killed a pig 13 months old a few days ago that tipped the beam at 473 lbs.

You are asked to read the special change in the advertisement of Upchurch & Currin on another page.

Resolve to stand by and read the Twice-a-week Public Ledger during 1914 and keep posted on home affairs.

We call special attention to the sale of road machinery advertised in another column and ask you to read it.

Read sale of house and lot advertised in another column by Osborn Hart with Hicks & Stem as attorneys.

The National Bank of Granville was the third bank in the State to apply for a charter under the new currency law.

Our old goat is still living with his head erect and "tail over the dash board" ready for the great battle of 1914.

January 1st was a legal holiday and the banks and postoffice were closed and the rural carriers had a well earned holiday.

B. S. Royster, Trustee, advertised some lots for sale in another part of this paper. Read it as you might be interested.

We call your attention to the sale of house and lot advertised in another column by E. C. Harris, with Hicks & Stem attorneys.

It will pay you to keep track of the change in the advertisement of the Carolina Power & Light Co. advertisement on another page.

We ask our 10,000 readers to note especially the kindly greeting of the splendid firm of Horner Bros. Co. so nicely expressed in another part of this paper.

Between 500 and 1000 colored people assembled in Oxford Thursday to celebrate the 50th anniversary of their emancipation. The addresses were delivered in the auditorium of colored graded school.

It proved a very sad Christmas for Mr. and Mrs. Morris Boyd as their little daughter had an attack of acute indigestion Friday night and died in a few hours, and have the deep sympathy of neighbors and friends in their sudden bereavement.

During the holidays Rev. E. G. Usry sent the following couples on life's journey hand and hand: Mr. John Clark and Miss Laura Boyd, Mr. Edgar Wilson and Miss Fannie Moon, of Oxford, and Mr. James L. Clark and Miss Sabella Cottrell, of Granville township.

## RESPECTFUL GREETING TO THE GOOD PEOPLE WHOM WE SERVE

### The Public Ledger is a Con- servator of Human Progress

We present our respectful greetings to the good people among whom we spend our days, wishing each and every one a happy and prosperous New Year. The Public Ledger shares in the bountiful harvest bestowed by an All Wise Providence on the good people of Granville during the past year, and the New Year dawns bright and clear. There are some, we know, who have hitherto been indifferent to our effort to serve, but these we desire to convert into a harmonious whole—to a neighborly recognition—and evince to them our ability to serve with the best. Our success during the past year justifies us in installing during the New Year the latest improved type and machinery, which will make the Public Ledger a still more powerful conservator of human progress, and a "thing of beauty," as well as a "joy forever."

May the New Year have in store for you many blessings, and keep you comfortable in mind, body and estate.

**Christmas in Oxford**

Christmas passed off in Oxford without a single serious accident, or breach of the peace so far as we know. There was the usual carnival spirit Christmas Eve night, when the boys made a lot of racket with fire-works, tin horns, etc., but the inclemency of the weather Christmas Day kept most people indoors and made the day more distinctly a family affair.

The town was full of visitors, the dispersed abroad returning in force, and received a warm welcome back home. Many family reunions were held and good fellowship prevailed.

**At Home**

The very attractive home of Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Hicks on College street Saturday night from 8 to 11 o'clock was a scene of radiant beauty at which time they were "At Home" in honor of Colonel and Mrs. Sidney Minor, of Durham, who were recently married. The entire first floor of the house was thrown en suite and charmingly decorated in holly and mistletoe. The dining room was especially beautiful with all decorations typical of Christmas. In the center of the table stood a Christmas tree brilliantly decorated.

Those receiving were: Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Hicks, Mrs. R. V. Minor, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Minor, Miss Eva Minor, Miss Belle Hicks, of Henderson, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Minor, of Durham, Dr. and Mrs. L. C. Skinner, of Greenville. Those assisting were: Dr. and Mrs. S. H. Cannady, Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Ray, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Meadows, Mr. and Mrs. W. Z. Mitchell, Dr. and Mrs. E. T. White, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hunt, Miss Alice Outlaw, Miss Josephine Brown, Miss Fannie Gregory, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Powell, Major and Mrs. Will Landis, Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Lassiter, Mr. B. K. Lassiter, Mr. and Mrs. T. N. Burwell, Col. and Mrs. W. B. Ballou, Miss Lillian Minor, Miss Aline Minor, Mr. Marvin Minor, Misses Louie Mitchell, Pauline Howard, Louville O'Brian, Marie Meadows, Susan Webb, Hixie White, Helen Clement, Aline Hicks, Elizabeth Hicks and Master Will Hicks. Dr. Tyer, who is a judge of cigars, was master of ceremonies in smoker.

The refreshments were cake with cream of a unique character representing the different fruits with natural tints with other fancy designs such as an automobile with Santa Claus as chauffeur, which was very attractive.

Capt. T. D. Clement, of Route 1, was a town visitor Wednesday.

**LOST DOG**—White English Setter Return to R. B. Wright. 1t pd.

## WATCH NIGHT SERVICE "RING OUT THE OLD AND RING IN THE NEW."

### Impressive Union Services Held in the Presbyterian Church

The world is full of skeptics and every new movement must expect to take a certain amount of cold-water treatment from their ranks. Even the revival of a time-honored and time-blessed ceremony is not exempt. When therefore it was announced that the Oxford churches would hold a Watch Night Service, there were many who turned on the cold water and said "the day for such things is passed." They were mistaken however because, at the eleven o'clock hour on New Year's Eve night, a splendid congregation, representing all of Oxford's churches, was assembled at the Presbyterian church. There was fine spirit in the singing, deep earnestness in the praying, and young and old were stirred and uplifted by the sermon.

Rev. Lumpkin, pastor of the Baptist church took as his theme "The Undeveloped Possibilities of Life." He showed how they slumbered in every soul; how they are as big as God's plans for every life; how they are roused by the touch of the Master; and how, when laid upon the altar of God's service, they become His channels for the uplift and enrichment of humanity. It was clearly evident, from the hearty hand shakings and the expressions of christian fellowship that followed the benediction, that everybody enjoyed the hour and that the union Watch-Night Service is with us to stay.

As the watch hands neared the midnight hour and the congregation sang "Blest Be the Tie that Binds," no words can express more appropriately the solemn, yet happy scene, than those of Tennyson on the "Death of the Old Year": "His face is growing sharp and thin. Alack! our friend is gone. Close up his eyes; tie up his chin: Step from the corpse, and let him in That standeth there alone. And waiteth at the door. There's a new foot on the floor, my friend, And a new face at the door, my friend, A new face at the door."

It was the New Year and the bell in the church tower pealed forth the joyful news!

Dr. Horsefield held Watch Services in the Episcopal church Christmas night from 11 to 12 o'clock, which were very impressive as well as interesting and largely attended.

**A Surprise Marriage**

Mr. Roy Russell, of Route 1, quite a fine young man decided a few days ago that he was tired of single blessedness and on Sunday, December 28th, he drove to the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Murray in Oxford and claimed their daughter, Miss Effie, for his bride. Immediately after the ceremony which was performed by Rev. E. G. Usry, the happy couple drove to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Grissom Hicks where a sumptuous supper awaited them. May they ever be happy in the wish of the writer, G.

**Two Marriages**

Mr. Fred A. Phipps and Miss Lila Eakes were happily married on December 23rd at 2 o'clock at Corinth church in the presence of a large concourse of friends, Dr. R. H. Marsh performing the ceremony.

Mr. John Dean and Miss Anna Badgett were quietly married at the home of Mrs. W. J. Badgett on Route 1, Christmas day amid the joys of the season. Rev. G. T. Tunstall made them one and sent them on life's journey with his blessings.

Miss Mary Glasgow, of Shelby, is the guest of Miss Lizzie Gooch. Col. Ballou and Lee Taylor were in Richmond this week on business.

## MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE. SOME YOU KNOW AND SOME YOU DO NOT KNOW

### Personal Items About Oxford Folks and Their Friends in General.

Gen. B. S. Royster was in Raleigh Monday.

Seymour Hart, of Route 4, was in town Tuesday.

Miss Annie Crews spent Christmas with friends at Dunn.

Nat Brummitt, of Fishing Creek township, was in town Monday.

Billie Williamson, of Northern Granville, was in town Tuesday.

Miss Fannie Hays returned to Oxford to enjoy the festive season.

Miss Mary Fort enjoyed the holidays with relatives in Louisburg.

C. H. Clay, of Louisburg, was an Oxford visitor during the holidays.

James Jones, of Goldsboro, visited relatives in Oxford during the holidays.

Miss Emily Freeman greatly enjoyed the holidays with relatives at Four Oaks.

Mr. and Mrs. D. G. Brummitt, enjoyed the holidays with relatives out of town.

Clinton Jones, Nashville, Tenn., spent the holidays with relatives near Oxford.

Mr. and Mrs. Tunstall, of Fishing Creek township, were Oxford visitors Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Powell visited relatives in Columbus county during the holidays.

Miss Ethel Buffaloe, of Raleigh, is the pleasant guest of the Misses Taylor on High street.

Miss Lucy Landis returned home from school to enjoy the holidays under the parental roof.

Mrs. Olivia Rogers and fine son, Russell Rogers, spent Christmas with relatives in Danville.

Mrs. Skinner and children, of Greenville, are visiting Mrs. Julia Minor on College street.

Misses Sophronia and Julia Cooper returned home from St. Mary's School to spend Christmas.

Clyde Cannady, of Rocky Mount, is spending the week with his uncle, T. L. Cannady, on College st.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Watkins and children spent the holidays with relatives near Buffalo Junction, Va.

Judge and Mrs. W. A. Davis and Master Billie visited relatives in Greensboro during the festive season.

Miss Flossie Parham and Harry Parham, of Route 3, spent Christmas with Mrs. L. E. Critcher on Route 3.

Mrs. E. R. MacKethan and two bright sons, of Fayetteville, are visiting Capt. and Mrs. Wm H. White.

The Misses Taylor, who are teaching school, returned to their home in Oxford to spend the festive season.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Holeman, of Sandford, enjoyed Christmas holidays with relatives in Oxford and the county.

Ruffin M. Hoffman, of Boston, was a guest at the home of Mrs. W. A. Adams on College street during the holidays.

Miss Eva Minor, of the Durham Graded School Faculty, returned to her home in Oxford to enjoy the holiday season.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Osborn and children, of Greenville, spent the holidays with relatives in Oxford and the county.

Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Dean and children, of Richmond, greatly enjoyed the holidays with relatives near Providence.

Mr. and Mrs. John Booth and son and daughter, Shepard and Caroline, spent the holidays with relatives at Suffolk, Va.

## WILLIAM T. LYON DEAD AN HONORED CITIZEN OF GRANVILLE

### Remains Laid to Rest in Elm- wood Cemetery Wednes- day Afternoon

"In the midst of life we are in death," these words are indeed true, and find some verification in some family every day of our lives by the departure of some soul who lays aside the mortal to put on immortality. After an illness lasting several weeks our kind friend William T. Lyon silently passed beneath the shadows on Tuesday about 12 o'clock and was relieved from his earthly suffering which he patiently endured to the end of his journey.

He was truly a consistent member of the Methodist church and lived a consecrated christian life, and was widely known in the county as he most faithfully served the people as treasurer for twelve years, and was assistant clerk of the courts for a longer period and was most highly esteemed by one and all.

His life was not without its trials as he was afflicted in early youth but with unflinching faith and calm assurance he accepted it without repining, looking unto Him whom "having not seen yet believed." He was a graduate of Trinity College and taught school until he moved from Berea to Oxford in the 80's and entered the insurance business. He had clear cut opinions and his life was an open book and in every way worthy of emulation.

Mr. Lyon was an honorable upright, benevolent christian, ever ready and willing to extend aid and comfort to the needy and a faithful friend of the orphans, and rarely ever missed visiting the Orphanage Sunday afternoons when able to do so.

He was 62 years of age, and those who were acquainted with his inner life and character knew that his faith was in Christ and that he had already laid hold on eternal life. He was not afraid to die and wished the Great Father to take him to his own home, to be purified from the sins of the flesh, to be washed in the blood of the Lamb, to stand before the Throne of God, to hunger and thirst no more, but to be led to the fountain of living waters.

He leaves behind to mourn his departure to a better land one brother, Mr. Z. W. Lyon and one sister, Mrs. J. G. Shotwell and other relatives, and may they dwell beneath the cover of His grace "until the day break and the shadows flee away."

The funeral services were held in the Methodist church Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock conducted by Dr. A. P. Tyer in the presence of a large congregation.

After a most beautiful and appropriate prayer by Dr. Tyer, an opportunity was offered to any of the friends of Mr. Wm. Lyon, who were present, and desired to do so, to give expression to their appreciation of his life and character. General Royster, Prof. F. P. Hobgood, Dr. E. T. White and Senator A. A. Hicks responded to this invitation, and each of them paid a worthy tribute to this good man. General Royster told of his coming to Oxford, nearly thirty years ago, from a country home and of meeting Mr. Lyon shortly thereafter. This acquaintance ripened into a friendship, said he, which grew stronger and more intimate with each succeeding year, and which had inspired and encouraged him in his daily tasks. He made public acknowledgment of his appreciation of the brave, gentle spirit of Mr. Lyon, and of his admiration for his splendid character. Mr. Lyon, said Gen. Royster, did not believe in reserving all the flowers for the casket, but like the "Lowly Nazarine he went about doing good," with a life dominated and controlled by the love of which the apostle so eloquently speaks. He suffered

(Continued on last page.)