



ALLIES PLAY WAITING GAME

ACCORDING TO PETROGRAD ADVICES THE CZAR'S TROOPS HAVE CROSSED THE MOUNTAINS AND ARE NEAR THE RUMANIAN BORDER

Five Hundred and Seventy-Nine men Perish by the Sinking of the Battleship Formidable.

CONDENSED WAR NEWS
Five hundred and seventy-nine men perished by the sinking of the British battleship Formidable in the English Channel on New Year's Day according to latest estimates. Of the crew of 780 men, 201 were saved, a cutter carrying fifty living having reached land since the first casualty list was compiled.

SURVIVORS LAND
Many survivors were landed at Brixham, Devon, others at Lyme-Regis, Dorset, which indicates that the disaster occurred at the western end of the English Channel.

AT A STANDSTILL
The fighting in Belgium and Northern France has come to a halt, to judge from official reports, so far as spectacular operations are concerned.

TROOPS CROSS THE MOUNTAIN
In Russian Poland and Galicia there is no actual change in the situation as it has been for several days past. Ottoman troops in the Caucasus have crossed the Russian frontier at three points, and soon will be under command of Field Marshal Baron von der Goltz, the German officer who spent many years in Turkey building up the Ottoman army, and who recently was sent to Constantinople to aid the Sultan.

THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE
In an orange book, issued at the instance of the Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs at Petrograd, it is charged that the independence of the Ottoman empire "vanished definitely from the moment that the German cruisers Goeben and Breslau took refuge in the Dardanelles," and that German ships under German command made "an attack on the peaceful shores of an empire which was allied with the Turks."

MUTUAL LOVE AND RESPECT
Count Tisza, the Hungarian Premier, according to a Berlin dispatch, has affirmed that mutual confidence, love and respect exists between Austria-Hungary and Germany.

CIVIC GUARD
Fearing a possible landing by the Germans on the east coast of England, Yorkshire is enrolling a corps of civic guards and volunteers, with headquarters at Hull, for self-protection.

ENTERTAIN AT TEA

In the most delightful social event of the season the Misses Minor entertained at Tea in honor of their guest Miss Kate Blake, of Athens, Ga., Thursday afternoon from four to six. The decorations were very attractive and the delightful refreshments were enjoyed by the very large number that attended.

QUIET CHRISTMAS

Indeed it was a quiet Christmas in Oxford—one of the quietest you ever saw. The weather was bad and most everybody staid at home by the fire. There were no accidents or tragedies to mar the joy of the occasion.

OLD CITIZEN DEAD

Mr. Walter Overby, formerly a citizen of Oxford, died at a hospital in Rocky Mount during Christmas week and his remains were brought here and interred in Elmwood Cemetery. He is survived by six children. For a number of years he made Greensboro his home.

DEATH OF LADY

We learn that Mrs. Emma J. Ethridge died on Saturday at the home of her sister, Mrs. Spot Burwell, near Fairport, and the remains were taken to Portsmouth for burial.

IN DEATH'S EMBRACE

After suffering many months with an attack of paralysis Mr. K. R. Levister quietly passed away Saturday afternoon at his home on Penn Avenue, leaving a wife and several children. He was a good and kind hearted man, and when he was able ever ready to do a kind deed. He was a member of the Methodist church and had the respect and esteem of all who knew him. The funeral took place Monday morning at 10 o'clock from the Methodist church conducted by Dr. Tyer and the interment was in Elmwood Cemetery.

AN OLD LANDMARK GONE

Flames Lick Up Wooden Structures on Main Street to Make Room for Brick Buildings

A fire of unknown origin broke out at 2.25 Sunday morning in the wooden building on the east side of Main street, occupied by Brame & Hluzek, merchant tailors, and ate its way toward Littlejohn street. Awakened by the glare of the light, Mr. Sydney Betts, who resides at the Gooch House, raised a window and broke the stillness of the night with the cry of "Fire." This brought Edwards Coble to his feet and he hastened to the phone and called central. The response of the firemen was quick and the water pressure was fine.

The double building in which the fire originated was jointly owned by Messrs A. H. Powell and Fred Day, of Winston. The Gregory Piano Company occupied a portion of the building and it is learned that they and also Brame & Hluzek carried some insurance on their stocks and the building was partly insured. The building next to it, occupied by the pressing club, and also the building on the corner, occupied by R. W. Brown & Co., as a bicycle repair shop, belongs to the Hall estate, on which there is no insurance.

The stocks carried by Brame & Hluzek, the Gregory Piano Company and all the work in hand of the Pressing Club was a total loss. The fire was so swift and so stubborn it was practically impossible to enter the building, but a rush was made on the repair shop and everything in it was carried to the street.

The firemen worked on the old "eye sore" with the same vim and determination that has characterized them in the past, and the shell on the corner stands as a monument to their prowess.

There was some mention in the summer that the owners of the three properties in question contemplates removing the wooden structures and replace them with neat brick buildings, but this was deferred until a more convenient season. In each case the owners are men of means, and it is hoped that nice brick buildings will soon be erected in keeping with the postoffice and business houses in that section of the town.

SURPRISE MARRIAGE

Two of Oxford's very popular young people, Mr. Willie Adams and Miss Susan Webb, who have been ardent lovers for sometime, drove over to Henderson Saturday evening and were quietly married at the Episcopal Rectory by Dr. Hughes. From there the happy couple drove over to Kittrell and spent Sunday with Mr. Oscar Blacknall, the uncle of the groom. They returned to Oxford Monday and are receiving the congratulations of their host of friends.

CAPT. H. H. HOWARD DEAD

Capt. H. H. Howard, an inmate of the Old Folks Odd Fellows Homt at Goldsboro, passed to his reward at 11 o'clock Sunday night. His remains were taken to Weldon for interment Monday. The deceased was for a long time in the employ of the late Frank Edwards. Capt. Howard was a survivor of the iron clad Merrimac. He entered the Old Folks Home some three years ago at the suggestion of the local lodge of Odd Fellows of which he was a member.

SEWING MACHINE MAN

Mr. W. T. Murray is one of the successful sewing machine men of Oxford and deserves the patronage of the good women, and we ask them to read his message to be found on another page.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR TAXES.

Your State and County Taxes were due October 5, 1914. 1915 is here and your unpaid taxes is a liability on me. Besides I am called upon daily for money to satisfy the State school, County and Road Funds, with nothing in hand to pay over. It is a business proposition now. They have the law to force me. After this you will be called upon personally unless you call at office and settle. Be ready. The law forces me to collect and the expense too great to make more than one trip. If you haven't paid your taxes this notice is for you.
S. C. HOBGOOD, Sheriff.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL ITEMS

PERSONAL ITEMS ABOUT FOLKS AND THEIR FRIENDS AND LOCAL ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE PUBLIC LEDGER READERS

PERSONAL MENTIONS

Mr. and Mrs. D. Currin, of Route 6, were on our streets Monday.
Rev. J. G. Blalock, of Weldon, was an Oxford visitor the past week.
Judge and Mrs. W. A. Devin visited relatives in Oxford the past week.
Mr. Sydney Betts spent Christmas with his family in Richmond.
Mr. Baney Dixon, of Durham, was on our streets Monday.
Mr. Jhon Crews, of Tar River, was in Oxford Monday.
Mrs. Titus Curran, of Route 6, was on our streets Monday.
Dr. Frazier spent Christmas week with his family near Durham.
Mr. Wilbur Smith returned Monday from Lynchburg, Va.
Miss Kate Blake, who has been visiting the Misses Minor returned to her home in Athens, Ga., Monday.
Mrs. Cary Hunt and son Alex, of Enfield, are visiting relatives in Oxford.
Senator Curran and Representative Brummitt will leave today to attend the meeting of the Legislature.
Mr. Jack Bullock, of Richmond, spent the holidays under the home roof in Oxford.
Col. W. A. Bbobitt, of Kinston, is on a visit to his sister, Mrs. Graham Hunt on Spring street.
Mrs. S. H. Cannady and Misses Edna White, Sallie and Mary Webb are on a visit to New York City.
Mr. N. M. Ferbee spent a few days the past week with relatives in Tarboro.
Mr. Lee Clement and sister, Miss Ethel, of Route 1, were Oxford visitors Saturday.
Mrs. W. B. Glenn, of Henderson, spent the past week in Oxford with relatives.
Mr. Rowland Gooch, one of Oxford's fine young men left this Tuesday morning to enter Oak Ridge Institute.
Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Brummitt were on our streets Saturday.
Mr. and Mrs. M. P. Crews, of Knightsdale, enjoyed the holidays with relatives in the county.
Mr. Henry Taylor, of Richmond, spent Christmas at his old home near Oxford.
Mr. Clyde Cannady, of Rocky Mount, enjoyed Christmas with relatives in Oxford.
Mr. B. W. Parham, of Thomasville, spent Christmas with his mother and sisters in Oxford.
Mr. and Mrs. Mellicampe spent the joyous season with relatives in High Point and Statesville.
Mr. Sam Currin left Monday for Henderson to resume his old position with the Seaboard Road.
Mr. A. W. Graham, Jr., of the Law School at University, spent the holidays at home.
Mr. J. W. Harris, of Richmond, is visiting Mr. and Mrs. Walter Harjls, on Asylum street.
Mr. N. W. Hunter, of Norfolk, spent Christmas with his father, Mr. L. Hunter.
Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Rawlins and children, of Durham, spent the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Steed on Rectory street.
Mr. and Mrs. Will Minor, of Durham, have returned home after a short visit to Mr. Minor's mother, Mrs. J. B. Minor on College street.
Mr. O. D. Holeman, in charge of the convict camp in Lee county, visited friends in Granville during Christmas week.
Misses Eva Minor, of Durham, and Alline Minor, of Greensboro, spent the Christmas holidays at their home in Oxford.
Mr. and Mrs. Maupin and child, of Salisbury, spent the holidays with Capt. and Mrs. T. D. Clement on Route 1.
Mr. Ben Lassiter, one of Oxford's coming young barristers spent Christmas with his father and sister in Washington City.
Misses Jones and Ophelia and Lucile O'Brien, three of Culbreth's fine young ladies, returned Monday to school at Greenville after a joyous holiday.

Mr. Taylor Marrow, the pleasant and popular clerk at Lyon Drug Store left a few days ago for Danville, Va., to accept a position in a drug store followed by the best wishes of his many Oxford friends.

THE AUTHOR'S SIGNATURE.

The Public Ledger is in receipt of an unsigned article entitled "Are We Prepared to Die." The envelope in which it came bears the Oxford post mark. The author will please advise us as to his name, otherwise it will not appear.

LOCAL HAPPENINGS

Lost a Horse—During the holidays C. D. Ray & Son had a horse to be taken sick and died in a few hours.
Beautiful Calendar—The ideal manufacturing Co. is distributing one of the handsomest calendars we have seen this season.
Read Legal Notice—We call attention to the warrant of attachment published in another column by D. C. Hunt, Clerk of Court.
Back at School—All the dear children of town and county after enjoying a delightful Christmas are in school again.

Granville County—Great, rich and noted the world over for fine tobacco, is still too poor to continue to build good roads.
Pull Out the Drag—Be ready to get out on the roads with the drag just as soon as the mud dries out. The roads were never rougher.
Lyon Drug Store—This popular store now presents an attractive appearance as the interior has been repainted mahogany color.

Real Estate—W. A. Fulford & Co., Real Estate dealers of Durham, have an advertisement on another page of this paper which we ask you to read.

Old Gooch Mill—Read the notice of A. B. Kimball, trustee, elsewhere in this paper of the sale of Gooch Mill property.

Sale of Land—See the adv. of W. A. Devin, trustee, elsewhere in this paper of valuable lands for sale in Brassfield township.

Civic Club Meets—The Woman's Civic Club will meet Wednesday morning at 10:30 in the Granville Commercial Club rooms.

Boarding House—Mrs. O. S. Rogers has leased the old Johnson house on College street and will conduct it as a boarding house.

Lost—We call attention to the lost checks of land advertisement in the Ledger by A. A. Hicks, trustee.

Kings Daughters Meet—The King's Daughters will meet with Mrs. C. G. Elliott, Thursday morning at 11:00 o'clock.

Getting Better—We are glad to learn that Mr. Willie Fuller, one of the affable clerks at Landis & Easton who has been right sick, is getting better.

Blooming Plants—For blooming pot plants, bulbs, shade trees and hedge plants read the adv. of J. L. O'Quinn & Co., elsewhere in this paper.

Good Resolution—There is one good resolution you could have made last Friday for the New Year, was to attend to your own business and monkey less with that of your neighbor.

Closer Friends—When you find a sample copy of the Twice-a-Week Public Ledger in your home it is an invitation to subscribe and be closer friends.

Let it Come—If you are not a subscriber to the Twice-a-Week Public Ledger you are missing a good deal of local news. Let the paper come to your home twice a week.

Live Stock Year—Make this a live stock year, Mr. Farmer. To do that you must lay plans right now to raise food for the stock you purchase. It takes feed.

Two Full Moons—This month will have two full moons in it, which is a rare occurrence. One occurred on the first day and the next one will be on the 30th.

Behind on Turkey—Mr. John Paris had his Christmas turkey to walk off and leave him, and so far as he knows is still walking. Have you heard of a stray gobbler?

Emancipation Day—Rather a small crowd of colored people assembled in Oxford Friday to celebrate the annual Emancipation Day. As the years roll by the interest in the day decreases.

Good Bye Old Tree—The body of the old tree, which has for a long time encumbered a part of College street, has disappeared and his helping to keep somebody warm.

PAY YOUR TAXES. IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID YUR TAXES see Sheriffs notice on this page.

CARD OF THANKS

Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Norwood and Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Frazier extend their heartfelt thanks for the many kindnesses shown them during their recent bereavement. May God's richest blessings rest upon each and every one of them.

READ TAX NOTICE. READ AND heed Sheriff's Tax notice on this page.

THE VETERAN EDITOR

MR. JOHN T. BRITT, FOUNDER OF THE PUBLIC LEDGER, RETIRES—DAN. A. COBLE ASSUMES EDITORIAL AND BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

RETIRES FROM PAPER

With this issue of the Public Ledger we retire as one of its owners and editors as we have sold our interest to our partner, Mr. Dan A. Coble, and bespeak for him the continued liberal patronage which the good people of Oxford and Granville county, have bestowed upon the paper, as he is worthy of their confidence and esteem.

We shall continue to take an abiding interest in the Public Ledger, as well as whatever concerns the interest of the town and county, and will be always ready to do our part in the upbuilding of the community.

We have labored with an eye single to the upbuilding of Oxford and the good old county along all lines, and especially that of education, as our heart is with the dear children, and may the God of Love be with and continue to shower his blessing upon them.

We love the people of Oxford and Granville county, and shall ever appreciate the warm support accorded us all these years and lay down the pencil with good will to all and malice towards none.

Looking back over the year with trust Who shall question, when all is said, What may be wise, what may be just, Let's be glad of the glory instead! Looking back over the year, well done We cry to the Giver, with lifted face. And so, thank God for the day's sweet sun, And all life's courage and cheer and grace!

J. T. BRITT.

A QUIET MARRIAGE

Mr. Frank Blalock Enters the New Year With a Sweet Bride on

Dining with a dozen or more friends last Thursday evening Mr. Frank Blalock departed in his usual quiet way without advising any one of his movements. He was seen to enter an automobile at 7:30 that evening and proceed out College street to the Oxford Orphan Asylum. Rumor had it that he was to be married at an early date, but his most intimate friends were not aware that the event was scheduled for the evening of the last day of the old year. But there was a minister and a mighty sweet somebody in the Fourth Girls Cottage at the Orphan Asylum that knew all about it. That mighty sweet somebody was Miss Mamie Clement, and by the beautiful ritualistic ceremony of the Baptist church performed by Dr. Marsh she became Mrs. Frank Blalock. She is a lady full of soul and life.

The bride's parental home is in Mocksville, Davie County. She came to Oxford some twelve years ago and has constantly resided at the Orphan Asylum and taught a class of children, and today in all parts of the State are hundreds of young people who have passed through her hands to adorn the walks of life. We have always felt that none but an angel from heaven was worthy to teach an orphan child, but certainly we all knew that Miss Mamie Clement was all heart and soul. In accepting the hand of Mr. Blalock we all agree that he is a most elegant gentleman, but to convert an old bachelor into a fit companion of ladies is the work of a fine Italian hand. His thousands of friends in Granville county will be glad to know that he entered the New Year with a bride upon his arm. Mr. Blalock is a member of the Long Company mercantile firm and he is the recipient of many hearty handshakes and congratulations.

Just why Mr. Blalock did not take his friends into his confidence is not for us to know, but could it have been that he was afraid that certain intimate friends of the Bachelor's Club would smash his silk hat and cut his kid gloves? At any rate he is now in safe hands, and happy will be their beautiful home on Spring street.

DAN A. COBLE, Editor and Manager.

BUSINESS BRIGHTENS UP

In spite of the bad weather and the war, the merchants of Oxford were very well satisfied with the result of the Christmas trading. The New Year seems to have given an impetus to business and the people are buying more freely than they did during the closing month of the year. The war for a time seems to have been forgotten and business is the popular topic of conversation in Oxford. We verily believe business will approach normal proportions during the spring. The one condition is a willingness on the part of the people to make it such.

THE BELGIAN LEGATION

Mrs. G. A. Cogshall is in receipt of the following card of thanks from the Belgian Minister, dated at the Belgian Legation, Washington, December 21, 1914:

For the people of Oxford, Please accept my most sincere thanks and deep appreciation for your generous contribution of \$170.31 to the Belgian Relief Fund. Your donation will be promptly expended in purchasing food which will be forwarded immediately (through the London American Committee) to the starving Belgians.

The "Old Reliable" to Be Improved and the Newspaper Field in Granville Gradually Developed.

Having purchased the good will, franchise, books and plant of the Oxford Public Ledger, Mr. John T. Britt, founder of the Public Ledger and for more than forty years identified with the printing business, will take a rest from the arduous duties incident to the publication of a newspaper. The respite comes to him after a long siege of labor for the Democratic party and to purify the atmosphere and build up town and county. We trust that his rest may be sweet and with it grow stronger, and whenever he may desire to let his thousands of friends of the Public Ledger hear from him, either in prose or poetry, he will find the tripod and a sharp pencil awaiting him at our desk.

In assuming the editorial and business management of the Public Ledger, we shall strictly adhere to the four great tasks of journalism as taught us in our early days by the sainted Anna Bumpass, Calvin Wiley and Lyndon Swaim. They are, first, to teach people to avoid exaggeration and violent speech and to cultivate moderate and rational modes of expression; second, to resist the tendencies which demoralize democracy and which substitute the mob mind for the deliberate habit; third, to hold the popular judgment to the truth that character and manhood and not money and popularity are the central values of human existence; fourth, to turn the thoughts of men more and more from the negative virtue of detecting and exposing the evil to the positive virtue of discerning and praising the good.

We must realize that in government there can be no material progress unless the foundations of social sanity and soundness are preserved. We must realize in business that there can be no material prosperity that is worth while unless it has for its basis a sane, sound, and righteous policy. We must realize that this is the supreme thing in our community life, and realizing these things, we must get together, we must organize for soundness and service so that the younger men of the community will be the better equipped to handle the problems of life, that they may know for a certainty that wherever the spirit of the Lord is there is liberty.

Coming to Oxford three years ago with our family and purchasing an interest in the Public Ledger, we are not unknown to the good of Granville county whom we have learned to love while serving as associate editor and business manager. Desiring to live quietly with our family in Oxford, we shall not postulate the columns of our paper for political preference as is too often the case throughout the country at the present time. We desire to become more closely identified with the people of Granville and to work for their material advancement, and if earnest hearts and willing hands will accomplish the desired end we hope to spend the remainder of our days in Oxford. We shall appreciate your efforts in helping us to make the Public Ledger all it should be.

DAN A. COBLE, Editor and Manager.

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