



TOUCHING HAND TO PEN

THE EXPERIENCE OF AN OLD COLORED MAN.

Tells What Happened to Him When He Planted a Big Tobacco Crop and Touched His Hand to a Pen.

(By a Local Humorist) High up on a load of household stuff sat a negro, a middle-aged negro, out near Shake Rag, clad in a suit that he would not have worn January 15, 1914. In front and very much below him stood a pair of "onery" looking mules, the appearance of which suggested that they had been boarding in Belgium. They pointed their ears (you can always see the point of a mule) doubtfully at a mud hole that was half as broad as the road and located in the middle of the road. The fact that clay and water are not transparent precluded the possibility of the negro or mules forming any idea of the depth of the mud hole. To pass the wheels on one side of the wagon must take the plunge. Being opposed to striking the ground, even with a hoe, the negro philosophized on the possibility of being dislodged from his perch. Being unable to pass we drew rein, contemplating the situation. The negro twisted himself in his cramped position, looked at us over the summit of a high top popular bedstead, and remarked: "Now, ain't dis yere sumpin'?"

For lack of a more intelligent suggestion I said: "Are you moving?" "I was," he replied, "but I see stopped now. Dis yere tryin' to move is bodaciously inconvenient for me. Ever' time I ain't prepa'd to move de boss man 'comes dissatisfied. Las' year tobacco was up and de boss man, sezee, 'See yere, Bill, bettah plant all tobacco. Tobacco's cash an' ye c'n allus pay out 'id tobacco.' So I plants all tobacco. Bimeby de boss man rides out to see my crop and sezee, 'Bill, yo' crop's fine.' Den pushin' his horse up an' pullin' him back till he tromped on three stalks o' tobacco, he says, 'Bill you oughter have a buggy. Come in Sat'day and lemme set you up.' So in I goes Sat'day, lak a fool, and gets a buggy and harness an' a whip and laprobe wid a tiger's head on it, an' jis fore I starts, sezee, 'Bill, yere's a lile paper 'bout de buggy; jes tech de pen.' So I touched de pen."

The negro picked up his rein as if to try to pass, then stopped. Being willing to bear him out, I waited, and he resumed. "Dis yere tochin' a pen don't look lak it 'mounts to much, but I tell yer, boss, hit'll lead a mule out'n de stable, haul off a crop an' make a nigger move at de end of ever yeah. Yas, sah! when a nigger puts de pint o' his fo' finger on de top o' a pen he oughter be mighty 'tickler 'bout der sort o' white man's got hol' o' de odder end o' dat pen. Ef he doan min' dere's movin' ahead o' dat nigger."

"Well," said I, "you'll have to try the mud hole; I must be going."

"All right, boss. Git up dar Lize; you Hudy. Now den, jes' wait a minit till I picks up dem few contentments."

UNIVERSITY SERMON

Rev. S. K. Phillips, Fourth in Line to Preach the Sermon

The faculty of the University of North Carolina has extended an invitation to Rev. S. K. Phillips, pastor of the Oxford Presbyterian church to preach the monthly university sermon to the student body next Sunday morning. Mr. Phillips has accepted the invitation and there will be no preaching at his church next Sunday but he requests us to state in the pulpit Sunday night.

Accepting the call to preach the university sermon next Sunday brings to mind that Mr. Phillips is the fourth in a long line of ancestry to preach the University sermon. It will be remembered by the older generation that it was his great grandfather that expired in the pulpit at the University while preaching the annual sermon.

Death of Little Boy

It is with sorrow that we are called upon to announce the death of Master Graham Roberts at the home of his mother on Broad street, Friday morning at 6 o'clock after an illness of more than two weeks. He was a bright and dear little fellow and the only child of Mrs. Roberts, with whom the whole community deeply sympathize in the dark hour of gloom.

GOOD TOBACCO FARM FOR SALE,

2 1/2 miles from Creedmoor, N. C. 100 acres, 50 acres cleared, with 7 room dwelling, 4 room tenant house, 4 barns, large stable, all in good repair, near church and school house. I. E. HARRIS, Creedmoor, N. C.

ABOUT PEOPLE AND THINGS

GATHERED FROM THE TOWN AND COUNTY

Happenings That are of Interest to the Many Readers of the Public Ledger.

Easter Sunday April 4th is Easter Sunday. As the hats go up watch the bank account go down.

Seed for Planting J. G. Hall has received a fine lot of garden seed. See adv. elsewhere in this paper.

A Fine Boy J. F. Meadows, Jr., has arrived at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Meadows on College street and the mother and young man are doing well.

Local Agency F. E. Young has been appointed agent for the Bull Tractor. He will give a demonstration at the de La Croix farm at an early date. Look out for announcement later.

Have You Forgotten? No, indeed! The annual basket picnic at Kinton Fork, four miles north west of Oxford on Oak Hill road, Easter which is the first Monday in April. Tell your friends about it. Everybody come.

Captain Nash Dead Capt. Frederick Nash, one of Charlotte's most revered citizens, died Tuesday morning. He was for more than 25 years city treasurer. Capt. Nash married Miss Bettie Littlejohn, of Oxford.

Attention, Girls! To the girls who are interested in the Canning Clubs. The girls of Oxford and vicinity who would like to join the Canning Club are asked to meet at the home of Mrs. A. L. Capehara on Saturday, Feb. 20th, at four p. m. to organize a club.

Bishop Cheshire at Stovall Next Sunday, the first Sunday in Lent, services will be held in St. Peter's Episcopal church Stovall at 11:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. At the night service Bishop Cheshire will preach and administer the sacrament of Holy Communion. You are most cordially invited.

Wide Tires The wide-tire law has been amended in several of the counties of the state and it would be a good law for Granville. The amendment simply stops the sale and the purchase of narrow tires after January 1, 1916, but permits the owners to use the narrow tires on hand at the time until worn out.

Will Reside in Oxford Mrs. W. M. Pugh, nee Miss Maud Earham, has returned to Oxford to make her home and has assumed charge of the boarding house formerly conducted by Mrs. Alice Goch. Mrs. Pugh will be warmly welcomed by her hosts of friends in Oxford. Mr. Pugh will engage in business here.

Getting Ready to Plant The fine weather of last week caused many to get in a notion to plant gardens. Many gardens were plowed and seed secured for planting this week, but Monday saw more rain. Farmers in all sections of the county were busy getting ready last week. Considerable headway was made by many.

Death of Mrs. West Mrs. Lula West, aged 44 years, died at her home near Tally Ho on Sunday last after a brief illness. The interment was at the Thomasson place Monday, attended by a large number of sorrowing friends and relatives, the funeral services being conducted by Rev. Martin. The deceased is survived by a husband and six children.

Of World-Wide Reputation Evelyn Nesbit Thaw, the most talked of woman in the world, is to be seen in the movies at the Orpheum Theatre next Monday night, February 22d. Her little son, Master William Russel Thaw will appear in the great Lubin Masterpiece "The Threads of Destiny." Large numbers will want to see this woman of a wide-world reputation. See adv. elsewhere in the Public Ledger.

In a Good Way "Times are picking up," remarked one of our merchants. Several have been heard to say that a large percent of customers are paying off old scores and are paying for what they get. All of which indicates that Granville county, at least, is in a good way, and then there is a general feeling that the tide has turned and that normal conditions will prevail at no distant day.

Oxford Produce Market

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes Eggs, Chickens, Corn, Fresh pork, Ham, Butter, Sweet potatoes, Hide, green.

GREAT BRITAIN CLOSING IN

THE FATAL BLOW AT GERMANY IS THE FOOD BLOCKADE

Ring of Steel Ready to Clash Against Shipments of Provisions—British Unterrified

(London Cable 17th) The prohibition against foodstuffs destined for Germany will be forthwith proclaimed by Great Britain at once, according to present expectations, and the Government's retaliatory measures against the threatened German submarine "blockade" will go into immediate effect.

Walter Hines Page, the American Ambassador, conferred today with Sir Edward Grey, the British Foreign Secretary, concerning the German note offering to cease attacks on British ships if Great Britain will permit foodstuffs for the civilian population to enter Germany. Mr. Page and Sir Edward also discussed the case of the American steamship Wilhelmina, loaded with food for Germany, which is being held at Falmouth for a prize court and the status of which has not yet been determined.

BRITAIN UNTERRIFIED The British Government has shown in many ways that it is unterrified by threats of attacks on shipping and that it has no thought of making any concessions to Germany, but on the contrary is preparing to tighten the restrictions upon freight movements toward that country.

Should the efforts of the Commission for the Relief of Belgium to buy the cargo of the Wilhelmina fail, the evidence of the owners that the food is destined to the civil population of Germany alone probably would be submitted to the prize court. It is considered unlikely, however, that any evidence could be produced which would induce Great Britain to permit the food to go to Germany without the action of any prize court.

OUR RESPONSIBILITY

The Public Ledger Believes Oxford Should Lay the Plans for a Young Men's Christian Association

A place where they can assemble, read good, clean literature and enjoy innocent amusements in a wholesome atmosphere. The "street corner habit" is bad, not only in Oxford but wherever it is fostered. The development of this custom is quite frequently in a negative way, as it is in Oxford. There is no alternative; no place of gathering afforded, but the curb-stones and available shop windows. In some larger places there are plenty of opportunity for whiling away the time in good environment, and still there are those who prefer the street corner, public pool rooms and other loafing places, which are not conducive to character uplift. This would probably be the case here, but the Public Ledger believes Oxford should lay the plans for a Young Men's Christian Association Building. A branch of this non-denominational, world-encircling agency for looking after the welfare of the young men would add greatly to the truly vital assets of this community, as it has done wherever the work has been established. The young man away from home, who carries a membership card in the Young Men's Christian Association, is glad to see the welcome sign that hangs out to him in every other place, where there is an association. He knows that there await him no pitfalls or dangers when he accepts of the hospitality.

SENATOR CURRIN'S BILL

Received Favorable Report From the Senate Committee

Senator Currin's bill for the repeal of the Crop Lien Law came up in the Senate Wednesday night and received a favorable report from the Senate committee on agriculture, there being only one vote registered against it. The House Committee returned an unfavorable report. Friends of the bill hold that there is a chance for its final enactment. Dr. Alexander and Clarence Poe, representing the Farmers Union assisted Senator Currin in winning a favorable report from the committee. Messrs. Walter Fleming, Virginia Cheatham, B. K. Lassiter, W. A. L. Veasey and Prof. Crumpler were among the patriots of Granville on the floor when the vote was taken.

Good Printing

"A sun will pierce the thickest cloud ether ever stretched," Browning wrote. Yes, and good printing will dispel the darkest worries of the business man. Your cloud of trouble and worries will have their silver lining if you have W. H. Britt do your printing. His facilities have been greatly increased within the past month, and you are asked to try him with your next job of printing and the results will be more than pleasing.

THE COMMERCIAL CLUB

PRESIDENT POWELL TO NAME STRONG LIST OF COMMITTEES

Oxford's Leading Men in Every Branch of the Town's Activities Are Among those Selected for Duty

Mr. A. H. Powell, President of the Granville Commercial Club, will announce his committees in a few days. Possibly they will be known to the public next week.

President Powell is making a personal visit to all those he wants to have associated with him in his cabinet so that none of them will have an opportunity of resigning after being chosen. He states that he is meeting with exceptionally favorable responses to his nominations and that he is delighted to witness the interest and the enthusiasm that are being manifested not only on the part of those who are being chosen as advisers and counsellors but on the part of the entire club membership which is rallying to him faithfully.

We predict that the club will be heard from in a substantial way during the administration of President Powell. His determination to link up the interests of every business man in Oxford means a broadening out of the organization. We see great things for Oxford and Granville county if the business men will rally to the support of President Powell. With an impartial eye and a quick insight into business, we predict that there will be fewer kickers and more earnest workers for the upbuilding of town and county before the year comes to a close. When seen in his office yesterday, Mr. Powell refused to talk for publication at this time, but from the careful manner in which he spoke of the commercial interests of this section we are fully persuaded that it is up to every man in Oxford to strengthen his hand.

GRANVILLE SUPERIOR COURT

Col. Horner Loses Suit—Case of Mrs. Nicholson vs Southern Express Company Non-suit

J. P. Rodgers was heard in Granville Superior Court this week. It appeared that two sons of Mr. Rodgers, of Columbus county, came to Oxford in January 1913, to enter the spring term at Horner Military school. After taking a couple of meals at the school the two Rodgers boys decided that they would return home. Col. Horner claimed \$250 for breach of contract. Gen. B. S. Royster appeared for the defendant and Judge Graham represented the plaintiff. The jury brought in a verdict favorable to the defendant.

After examining many witnesses in case of Mrs. Nicholson vs. Southern Express Company Gen. B. S. Royster moved for a non-suit. After hearing many authorities quoted by Gen. Royster and Judge Graham, Judge Cook granted a non-suit.

GOOD MAN FALLS TO SLEEP

Mr. R. T. Crews Succumbs at the Home of His Brother in Oxford Mr. R. T. Crews, one of Granville's noblest sons, died at the home of his brother, on Gilliam street early Wednesday morning after a brief illness.

Mr. Crews was in his 71st year. He joined the Shady Grove Methodist church early in life and his heart was ever full of love for his Master. He followed Lee throughout the struggle and won the reputation of being a brave soldier. Of gentle disposition and with all an honesty of purpose, he made friends everywhere.

Mr. Crews married Miss Annie Stark. He is survived by the following sons and daughters: Messrs. Walter, Elbert, Clarence, and Robert; Mrs. Dr. Bryant, of Norfolk; Mrs. Graham Smith, of Par River; Miss Madeline Crews, of Oxford.

The deceased was a brother of David, Leroy, and Albert Crews; Mrs. Horner, Mrs. Mitchell and Miss Rebecca Crews, all of Vance county.

The funeral services were held from the Oxford Methodist church Thursday afternoon, conducted by his pastor, Rev. A. C. Jones. A large number of sorrowing friends and relatives accompanied the remains to Elmwood Cemetery where the interment took place.

CONCRETE BRICK WALKS BUILT.

One dollar per sq. yard. Curbing, 20 cents per foot. Sample may be seen at residence of Mr. H. M. Shaw, Oxford Brick & Tile Works.

PERSONALLY - MENTIONED

SOME YOU KNOW AND SOME YOU DO NOT KNOW

Personal Items About Folks and Their Friends Who Travel Here and There

We are glad to learn that Mrs. G. T. Lumpkin is regaining her health. Mr. D. W. Adcock, of Route 4, was in Oxford Wednesday.

Mr. D. M. Thomasson, of Route 6, was an Oxford visitor Thursday.

Mr. Nat Hobgood, of Route 7, was a town visitor Wednesday.

Mr. Marsh Daniel, of Route 1, was in Oxford Wednesday.

Mr. B. K. Lassiter was in Raleigh on Wednesday.

Mr. J. H. King, of Route 1, was in Oxford Wednesday.

Mr. John Dickerson, of Wilton section was a town visitor Wednesday.

Miss Hallie Dickerson of Dickerson was an Oxford visitor Thursday.

Mr. J. T. Morton, of Route 4, was in town Wednesday.

Mr. W. B. Adcock, of Oak Hill, was on the tobacco sales Wednesday.

Mr. J. F. Puckett, of Route 4, was in town Wednesday.

Mr. B. T. Harris, of Creedmoor, was in Oxford Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Knott, of Route 2, were on our streets Wednesday.

Mr. B. E. Green, of Dutchville, was on our streets Wednesday.

Mr. A. Nevills, of Creedmoor section, was an Oxford Wednesday.

Mr. John Pleasant, of Grissom, was in town Thursday.

Mr. M. A. Wheelous, of Grissom, was an Oxford visitor Thursday.

Mr. James Cash, of Lyon, was in town Wednesday.

Mr. Sil Dillard, of Grissom, is attending court in Oxford.

Mr. J. T. Averett, of Route 1, was a town visitor Wednesday.

Mr. Charles Curran, of Stovall section, was in Oxford Wednesday.

Miss Lela Overton, of Gray Rock section, was the guest of her brother, Mr. Alex Overton, this week.

Mr. J. T. Grissom, of Wilton section, was among the Oxford visitors Thursday.

Mr. J. A. Morris, of Wilton, was among the Oxford visitors Wednesday.

Miss Blanche Adcock and brother, Leroy Adcock, of Route 5, were Oxford visitors Thursday.

Mr. Goodrich Wilson and son, of Stovall, were on the tobacco market Wednesday.

Mr. George Sherman, of Berea section, was in town Wednesday and reported that several members of his family were sick with the gripe.

Mrs. J. C. Horner was an Oxford visitor this week and her many friends were pleased to see her. She was the guest of Mrs. A. W. Graham.

BEHIND PRISON BARS

Rev. S. K. Phillips Lands a Dapper Young Fellow

The citizens of Oxford remember only too well one James Mays, a dapper young fellow who spent three weeks in Oxford taking subscriptions for magazines. During his brief stay in Oxford he confessed religion, made friends and pleased our good people out of \$200 in cold cash.

There was one among the good people of Oxford that could see deeper into a mill stone than the rest of them, namely Rev. S. K. Phillips, who made no bones in stating publicly that Mays was an imposter. There was no one ready in the community to back up the assertions of Mr. Phillips; therefore he went at the task single handed. The imposter left Oxford owing a board bill and several merchants. Mr. Phillips secured a warrant for his arrest and notified the Leslie Judge Co., of Washington, of the activities of their would-be-agent. The publishing company thanked Mr. Phillips for the interest he took in the matter, and this week he received a letter from them stating that Mays is behind the prison bars.

ANOTHER SWINDLER

Chief of Police Williford is in receipt of a letter requesting him to keep a close lookout for a neat young fellow headed toward Oxford soliciting for the Cosmopolitan and the Motor Magazine.

PRAYER MEETING NIGHT

TOO MANY OF US NEVER HEAR THE BELL

What Would it Mean If All the Business Men Would Attend the Mid-Week Prayer Service.

An honest confession is good for the soul. We sat in our sanctum Wednesday night and heard the church bells calling the people to a brief prayer service. We were busy, but none too busy to think of the service due the Master. As we sat there listening to the church bells, we thought what a great thing it would be for Oxford if Wednesday night could come to be known as "Prayer meeting night," and if our business men and organizations would refrain from making appointments for Wednesday night, because that is "Prayer Meeting Night". What would such a movement mean to the moral and spiritual uplift of our town, all praying with one accord at a given hour at the end of a busy day?

It will probably be admitted that the church is the one greatest moral influence in any community, and that its mid-week services are among its most helpful, calling men and women directly from the rush of business, household and social duties to an hour of rest, communion with God, and social religious intercourse.

We have seen it stated somewhere that the mid-week church bell always awakens hope in the heart of a confined prisoner. It is passingly strange that it rings so many times in our midst and there are so few of us that never hear it at all. By this we do not mean to infer that Oxford is a wicked town. Oxford is ever on the upward trend. There is a vast difference between the moral and the religious conditions of our town now, and the conditions that prevailed here not very many years ago, particularly during the days of the open saloons, and the difference is altogether favorable to the present. Our people have responded readily to every suggestion looking to the moral and spiritual uplift of the community.

Oxford Boy in the Movies

The Charlotte Observer says: "The Horner cadets will play a promised part in the moving picture play that has been written to feature Charlotte and its environs. The camera man spent several days last week following the cadets in heavy marching order across the fields and hollows in pursuit of the fiction created outlaws. A happy climax of the play is the rescue of the fascinating little heroine by nine-year-old Edward Horner, son of Colonel Horner. The Horner boys are looking forward to the production of the picture at the Piedmont."

SALE OF TOWN LOTS

Oxford, N. C., Feb. 1st., 1915 The following named property owners having failed to pay half cost of laying granolithic sidewalks abutting said property. I will sell at auction for cash to the highest bidder at the Court House door on

Monday, March 1st, 1915, the following town lots, by order of the Board of Commissioners of Oxford as provided in Town Charter granted by the General Assembly of 1913:

Table with 2 columns: Property Address and Amount. Includes Mrs. B. E. Parham Front St., \$81.19; Mrs. W. S. Stark, Colledge st., 25.32; W. K. Wood, Wmsboro st., 43.00; Mrs. Ellen Bryan, High st., 56.81; Colored M. E. Church, Hillsboro st., 22.46; Pattie Moore, McClannahan street, 15.67; Good Samaritan Lodge, McClannahan St., 22.00.

R. B. HINES, Tax Collector.

Granville County Union

The Granville County Farmers Union will be held in Oxford, on the 27th day of February 1915, at eleven o'clock a. m. in the Court House. All Local Unions will send delegates to this meeting as business of importance will be transacted.

J. A. MORRIS, Pres.

O. A. DANIEL, Sec'y.

A Word From The Junior Boy Scouts.

The Junior Boy Scouts will have a regular meeting at the residence of Mrs. A. A. Hicks on Saturday morning, February 20th, at 10 o'clock. All boys are invited. There will be a little extra entertainment. There will also be a meeting every Saturday at 10 o'clock. Any boy from 12 to 18 years of age that wants to join the Boy Scouts will please see

GEORGE W. HUNT, Pres.

The Sheriff Will be at Creedmoor.

Saturday, February 27th. The tax books will be open at Creedmoor one day only, Saturday, February, 27th, for the purpose of collecting taxes. Meet me and make settlement, as this is the last chance before the books will go out.

S. C. HOBGOOD, Sheriff.