

PUBLIC LEDGER



VOLUME XXX.

OXFORD, NORTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1915

NUMBER 86

THE ESTHETIC TASTE

THE CHRYSANTHEMUM SHOW NEXT WEEK.

The People of Oxford Should Cultivate an Appreciation for Flowers, Music and Art.

The love of Flowers, Music and Art may be a gift, but to our thinking it is an appreciation which has to be cultivated. Oxford, merely as an instance, cares very little for what the world calls Art.

The Public Ledger has frequently thrown bouquets at the good people of Oxford with a view of strengthening the esthetic taste; but the fact is there are only a few among us capable of breathing forth the essence of the finest and highest human emotions. We can appreciate Annie Laurie and we howl at anything which sounds like Dixie, but we reach somnolence under the strains of music which are said—by those who understand—to be attuned to the heavenly harp.

We have not exactly reached the conclusion that the taste for Art in Oxford is hopeless, but we have noticed on many occasions that a disproportionate of the people of the community are not appreciative of the beautiful in Nature and Art.

Sometimes out of our own particular pit of darkness we have heard flashes from the Oxford pulpits that would have moved cultured Boston; the small attendance that greeted John Powell and Dr. Minor C. Baldwin, and the lack of interest manifested in our sacred concerts speaks none too well for our community.

The ladies of Oxford will hold a Chrysanthemum Show next week. It is a noble undertaking on the part of the ladies. A man who loves sauerkraut more than he loves the queenly flower can never understand why God created the lily and the violet for spring and the queenly chrysanthemum to crown the declining year. We want to tell the sordid man something that he probably does not know—that a flower is the savor of life. If you love a flower you can shut your eyes and see them quite as well. Try it once and also remember that they are the emblem of purity. You may do this when troubles assail you and thus will a Greater Light come to your soul. The Public Ledger truly hopes that the men may appreciate the coming of the Chrysanthemum Show and encourage the fine sensibilities that dominate the ladies.

BIG COMMUNITY MEETING

Opening of the Fall Term of School at Watkins

(Correspondence of Public Ledger) A community meeting was held at Watkins school Friday night, the object of which was for teachers and parents to meet before the opening of school Monday morning.

Miss Virginia Perrow, of Lynchburg, Va., is principal, and Miss Crystal Bobbitt, of the Watkins community is assistant.

The new bubbling water fountain which was won by this school last year for the best kept grounds and house, was installed in the building. A well is being dug, the grounds have been put in order for the opening, and sanitary privies built.

There were forty-nine or more patrons present at the meeting besides the children. Mr. E. M. Rollins made a talk, and the committeemen had something to say in the meeting. It is expected that the school will have a very successful term.

A GRANVILLE BOY

A Sign on His Window Reads: "Thos. A. Allen, Attorney-at-law."

Mr. Thomas A. Allen, of Albany, New York, who spent several days recently in the county with his uncle, Mr. Zach Allen, has returned home. In our short acquaintance, we found Mr. Allen to be a very pleasant, broad gauged gentleman of affairs. It has been several years since he paid a visit to Granville. "When you get off from home and get busy time flies, but I propose to do better in the future," said Mr. Allen in bidding us farewell. Our observation is that in whatever part of the world you find a Granville man he carries with him the high ideals of his home country.

STATE OF TOBACCO MARKET

Oxford's Five Big Warehouses Are Handling a Lot of Tobacco

Elsewhere in the Public Ledger will be found a statement of each of the five big Oxford warehouses. We ask the tobacco growers to read these statements carefully. We are satisfied that the Oxford warehouses are the best in the State for high averages. There has been a decided advance on all grades during the past few days.

THE FARMERS ARE THINKING

They Are Studying Their Individual Interest.

It is the opinion of many farmers in Granville that they will either have to change their methods of farming voluntarily or through necessity. At present prices of tobacco they cannot make a living. They have either got to diversify their crops or quit farming and engage in some other line of work, they affirm; by cutting the tobacco crop down one half they would probably get as much money for the reduced production as they now realize for a full crop; by diversifying their crops the acreage of tobacco would be automatically reduced.

But this reduction will never be made by general agreement. Each farmer will have to make up his mind to follow this plan on his own hook and not wait for the consent or agreement of other individuals or nations. Whenever each farmer decides that it is best for his own individual interest to add a few acres in potatoes, peas, corn, wheat, oats, grasses, vegetables, etc., and plans to raise some extra hogs, cows, colts, chickens, etc., he will naturally reduce his tobacco crop correspondingly. If every intelligent farmer in this county would make up his mind to follow this manifestly wise plan, regardless of what the other fellow does, he would find the plan a paying one, aside from the probable advantage to be gained from better prices on a reduced production of tobacco.

AGED CITIZEN GONE

Capt. Abner Peace Called to His Reward Friday.

Captain Abner D. Peace, second son of seven sons of Wm. H. Peace, was born near Mt. Energy, Granville county, March 22nd, 1838. Attended the country schools. Enlisted in the Confederate army—was elected captain of his company to succeed Capt. James Horner (founder of the Horner school who resigned) was wounded in arm and leg. After the surrender lived in Waldron, Ark., 20 years, returned home in Granville to finish out a peaceful, quiet life, which ended October 15th, 1915. A man gentle in manner, pure in heart, upright and Godly, with not an enemy on earth, loved by many friends who knew him best. He died of paralysis in the home of Mr. Louis Wilkins at Creedmoor, the burial services were conducted by Rev. M. D. Hix, the Methodist pastor, and his body laid to rest in the Peace burying ground at his father's old homestead where sleeps his father, mother, brothers and kindred. A good man is gone, whose life is worthy of imitation. "It is well with the righteous."

A GEM

A Picturesque Scene in Old Virginia By an Oxford Boy

The following is an extract from a letter written by a graduate of the Oxford High School, who is now in Virginia. It speaks very highly for the English training received in our school:

"Up by half past six! The sun has just risen above a ridge of the mountains and is casting its long ray down through the valley in which the Rapidan River has its bed. The meadow lands of the school property roll away, down to the banks of the river. There is a slight fog hanging over the river, but that is rapidly disappearing in the sunlight. On a distant hill across the river that rises suddenly from the valley there is located an immense Colonial house. As it shows up now in the light of the rising sun it appears to be some ancient castle. It much reminds me of one of those old German watch towers that hangs over the Rhine and are said to be so picturesque. The air is crisp and cool, and makes you feel as though you would like to take a five or ten mile walk before breakfast."

BETTER START NOW

Hay at \$25 a Ton is Rather Steep for the Farmer

(Raleigh Christian Advocate) Better start that marketing association right now. Here is a good example for co-operative marketing reported to us the other day. Said a farmer:

"About two or three months ago I was in town and saw one of my farmer neighbors sell some hay to a store. I asked him what he was getting for it and he told me \$12 a ton. This week I was at that same store and saw another farmer buying some of that same hay. I was curious to know what he was paying and when I asked him he said \$25 a ton."

Moral: Isn't it time for farmers to learn more about buying and selling? And isn't it time for farmers in your county to begin organizing a "marketing association," as farmers in many progressive counties have done and are doing? Hadn't you better speak to your neighbor about this?

THE WAR

ENGLAND AND FRANCE ARE GROPING FOR LIGHT

If the Germans Are Balked in the Campaign to Reach Constantinople Disaster to Their Army is Sure to Follow.

It can hardly be said that the war situation has greatly clarified during the past few days. The impression is rather general that the war is reaching the crucial stage. The events on the western and eastern fronts suggest no military changes of importance, although the fighting has been of a desperate character. The Balkans comprise the immediate concern.

Out of a study of the developments the past week comes a conviction that Germany has staked all on the success of her invasion of the Balkans, the impelling motive being the rescue of the Turks from a position that had become dangerous. The movement was marked by the same impetuous dash that characterized the march on Paris and the east. In both these directions the Germans have been held at bay. If they should be balked in the campaign for Constantinople, the situation for the German armies would be one of grave portent. The invasion of Serbia may resolve itself into a Waterloo for the Germans. Meantime, the neutrality of Greece appears to be in some peril and just how long it can be maintained is an interesting question.

With two million men drawing toward Constantinople it would seem that a great battle is pending. The next ten days ought to determine how things is shaping up. There is a report that Italy will yet co-operate with the Allies in the Balkan theater. It must be remembered, however, that Italy has not as yet declared war on Germany, and it is pointed out that her navy would have no right to sink a German submarine. It would seem that England and France are somewhat alarmed as to the slowness of Italy to declare against Germany.

With the rapidly changing conditions the government themselves scarcely know where they stand, but the world may confidently look for big newspaper headlines in the near future.

THE ECHOES OF THE FAIR

THREATENING WEATHER CUT SHORT GATE RECEIPTS

Though the Attendance Was Not Up to Expectation the Fair in Every Other Particular Was a Grand Success.

To President Caldwell and Secretary Crews credit is due for the success of the Granville County Fair which closed last week, but the most credit is due the exhibitors and especially to the people who attended so faithfully in spite of the threatening weather. Under normal conditions there would have been at least two thousand more people present during the three days. It does seem that every family in Granville wanted to be present. With such a universal feeling how can the Fair fail to succeed? Just because the gate receipts were a little short this year, there should be no alarm. If it had been possible to have a race track the receipts would have been ample. Even with the apparent shortage, the Public Ledger is disposed to believe that the Fair is better off than ever before. The stock exhibits were fine, the agricultural displays were extra fine and a healthy sentiment was present everywhere.

Let those fellows who annually say that the Association will disband quit complaining, for a Fair that has gained so much momentum cannot fail. We have passed the doubtful stage and must work and plan for larger and better things. The Granville County Fair is a permanent institution.

The National Highway

Mr. Tales, an expert road man sent out from the National Good Roads Department, has put the National Highway leading to Durham in first class condition. He is now giving his attention to the northern end leading from Oxford.

Directors Meeting

The Board of Directors of the Granville County Fair will meet in the Court House this Wednesday morning at 11 o'clock. Every member of the Board is urged to be present.

EUGENE T. CREWS, Secretary.

A NOVEL FEATURE

Woman Collects Fares on Motor Buss.

Mr. A. H. Hewitt, his wife and three children, from Berlin, up in the northwestern part of Canada, are stopping at the Exchange Hotel. Many visitors to the Fair last week will remember seeing an active little lady taking tickets on a motor buss operating between the Court House and the Fair Grounds. That little lady was Mrs. Hewitt, and her husband was the driver of the buss, and they have a very interesting history. They purchased the buss two years ago and left northern Canada with the avowed purpose of making a living by hauling people where people are to be hauled. They worked their way down through Canada and the several States reaching Hendersonville, N. C., early this spring, where they had a successful season hauling tourists about the mountain town. We found Mr. and Mrs. Hewitt to be very interesting, and their three little children at the hotel are little darlings, every one of them, with just enough Canadian brogue to make them interesting. They will remain in Oxford for the Colored Fair this week, and from here they will go to Kinston, where they have a week's engagement, and thence on toward the South.

IT IS THE SAME HERE

Criticisms Are Easier to Give Than to Bear

We clip the following from last week's issue of the Sandhill Citizen and change the words Southern Pines to Oxford.

Question. Does everybody like Oxford?

Answer. No. It is not likely that everybody will be satisfied with Heaven. Such being the case, it would be foolish to expect people whose judgment of value may not be strictly first class to appreciate a mere earthly paradise as its merits deserve. Once in a while a man with a grouchy settles here. Sometimes somebody bumps up against something that isn't just pleasant and it sours on his stomach. Occasionally a man or a woman does not get the attention he or she thinks is due, and because of this nothing seems just right. There are those who cannot see why the town, with less than six thousand souls, does not have a park system equal to that of Philadelphia or Baltimore; why it does not employ a force of white wings sufficiently large to chase every scrap of waste paper to its lair before it has time to disfigure the landscape; why all the streets are not oiled every morning before breakfast so that there shall be no particle of dust; why there is not a cop at every corner to assist timid ladies and heedless men across the street, so that they need not give their personal attention to the preservation of their own lives from the congested traffic of a metropolis boasting of a population of not much less than 6,000 men, women and children why there are not municipal band concerts three times a day as in some of the large cities of this country and Europe; why the restaurants are not open all night; why the Seaboard and Southern roads do not employ a force of ticket sellers and baggage men large enough and of sufficient ability and love of work to sell tickets to 50 or 75 travelers and check their trunks—within the last five minutes before the trains are due; why supplies are not as cheap here as in town 500 or 1000 miles nearer the great distributing centers; why the streets are not all paved and graolithic sidewalks extended to the last house in the remotest section of the town; why Uncle Sam does not hire enough post-office clerks to keep the box window, the general delivery window and the money order window open while the large mails of the town are being handled, so that nobody need wait an instant for anything.

Question. What do the members of the town Board and the street commissioners get? Answer. They get it in the neck.

Radcliffe-Gooch

A wedding of much interest, owing to the prominence of the bride and groom and the romantic incidents connected therewith, occurred in Lexington last week when Miss Margaret Radcliffe became the bride of W. H. Gooch, of Clarksville, Va. The ceremony took place at the home of the bride's parents Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Radcliffe, the vows being spoken before Rev. J. M. Hamrick, pastor of the First Baptist church.

The bride is one of the leaders in Lexington social circles, a young woman of rare beauty and charm of manner. While teaching in Virginia she met Mr. Gooch, who is a wealthy property holder, and the courtship began.

Still Going On

By reference to the back page of this paper it will be seen that the money saving sale at Cohn & Son's two big stores is still going on.

A DUMMY POLICEMAN

LET HIM TAKE HIS STAND AT THE MONUMENT

Only One in Ten Thinks of Turning to the Right at the Head of Main Street.

We were somewhat amused last week while watching the crowds going and coming from the Fair grounds. The traffic was so great it was necessary to station a policeman at the head of Main street. (He was a good man and experienced no trouble in handling the crowd. All he had to do was to point the way and the vehicles would go as he directed, but if he turned aside for a moment all was topsy turvey and a blockade was sure to ensue, but so long as he faced the crowd and held his billy high over his head all went well.)

We watched the interesting scene for more than half an hour; not a single driver desired to infringe—all that was necessary to keep things moving in the right direction was for the drivers to see the uplifted billy and the pleasant features of the handsome policeman. Things moved along so nicely we began to think that it would be well to station a policeman at the monument all the time, but it occurred to us that the town's finances would not permit of such a thing. The more we watched the crowd the more we became thoroughly convinced that some people do not know their right hand from their left. Like the man from Missouri, you must show them.

While thus pondering the scene, it occurred to our mind that a good-looking dummy, with stick in his hand, would answer all purposes. We might get a couple of them and arrange their arms so as to point to the right all the time. Dress them in blue and burnish the brass buttons and you will have solved the question.

It is a dangerous point at the head of Main street in the moment of speed. The monument may be the means of saving your life, if you are on the lucky side of it, but if you get caught between it and danger, the chances are against you. As no one wants to violate the law, the constant vigil of a dummy might save a life, who can tell?

HENDERSON BAPTIST REVIVAL

Able Efforts by Rev. G. T. Lumpkin in Sunday Sermons Were Well Received.

(Henderson Daily Dispatch)

Many hundreds of people heard the several sermons preached by Rev. G. T. Lumpkin, of Oxford, at the Baptist revival on Sunday, and the efforts of the minister were well received by the large number of people who heard him on all occasions.

Of particular interest was the service for men only held in the afternoon. A large number were present, and the closest attention was paid to the line of thought developed throughout the discourse. At the close of the meeting practically every man in the church gave his hand to the preacher signifying his intention and desire to live closer to God.

ANOTHER CROP RECORD

Wilson Leads With Number of Pounds Sold

The tobacco production in North Carolina, as ascertained by the sales in the tobacco towns, shows a material increase over that of last year. During September the planters sold 38,195,730 pounds, which indicates a gain of 6,310,796 pounds over the same month in 1914. Six markets in the State are in the class of over a million pounds in sales, Wilson leading with the splendid record of more than 7,000,000 pounds, which was not very far from doubling the sales of the next highest town. Raeford and Sandford in the new tobacco section, marketed considerably over 100,000 pounds.

DATE OF THE WEDDING

The President Will Wed December 20th.

President Wilson and Mrs. Norman Galt again have changed the date of their wedding and will be married at the home of Mrs. Galt in Washington December 20th, if information which leaked out in Erie, Pa., during the visit of John W. Wilson, the president's cousin to Miss Margaret Wilson is true. It is said that the honeymoon trip will be to the Panama canal on the presidential yacht "Mayflower." The couple will return in time for the New Year's reception.

Note of Thanks

We wish to take this method of extending thanks and appreciation to the many kind friends and neighbors who rendered assistance during the recent illness and death of our husband and father.

MRS. W. J. DOWNEY and FAMILY.