

PUBLIC LEDGER



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AS THE EDITOR SEES IT

A FINE VISTA AT EVERY HAND.

Two Hundred Dollars a Front Foot for Vacant Residential Property and One Thousand Dollars a Foot for Vacant Property in the Business Section of Oxford Will be Refused Within the Next Five Years.

If the weather is fairly favorable the roadsides and lawns in Granville will be gay with violets on April 23, the day for the Shakespeare Tercentennial celebration. It is for us a rather fortunate day, for our Spring flowers are then usually at their best. In this connection it is well to state that Dr. E. T. White and Messrs. W. T. Yancey and Frank Blalock trust that the parkway in the center and on either side of Spring street will be ready for planting in ample time to bring forth flowers in memory of the immortal bard of Avon.

We think it quite commendable in Dr. White on the one side and Messrs. Blalock and Yancey on the other, to work on the parkway an hour before breakfast; however, we are afraid that slight jealousy may arise in their efforts to surpass in beauty the other sections of the city.

As if Mr. Henry Hunt has not already been thrice blessed by the God of Nature, there will spring up in the splendid vista in front of his magnificent home the rue and rosemary and lavender and fenel and cowslips and violets and eglantine and musk roses. The chairman of the Forrestry Committee of the Women's Civic Club will please name a few other varieties of flowers so as to give Dr. White and Messrs. Blalock and Yancey a full hour's work before breakfast every morning during summer, and Mr. Henry Hunt should certainly be willing to furnish the seeds and plants.

When the streets have been paved, what a magnificent view one can get at a point in front of Mr. Henry Hunt's mansion, with the entire length of Main street and one square of Spring street in full view. It will simply be grand, but to our way of thinking, College street looking north from the First National Bank, will present a vista unsurpassed in the entire South.

Some one has asked from whence will come the capital and the enterprises to harmonize with the great spirit of progress in our midst, and we answer from the North and the West. Among the many thousands of wealthy people who pass this way over the National Highway there will be many inquiries as to the opportunities offered them in our midst. A pretty little city in a moral community with good schools and streets will not fail to attract universal attention.

Who can tell, the spirit of progress now manifested in Oxford may mean that this vicinity is destined to be the most prosperous and fastest growing section in the United States within the next five years? The conditions are ideal in Oxford and old Granville for just such a thing. The old jealousies have been smashed and the good people of Oxford have crossed their breasts and invited the world to come in. Two hundred dollars a front foot for vacant residential property and one thousand dollars a foot for vacant property in the business section will be refused within the next five years.

While reporting for a Richmond newspaper five or six years ago it was our pleasure to interview Mr. Branch, the well known Richmond banker. He was worth a clean million dollars and we asked him what would he do if he had only \$5,000 to his credit. "In that case," replied Mr. Branch, "I would go to Southport, N. C., and invest every cent of it in real estate."

Impressed with Mr. Branch's statement, we have for the past five years watched the progress of Southport with a great deal of concern, during which time real estate has advanced five fold.

GRANVILLE FELT EARTHQUAKE

It Is Stated That Bowling Mountain Was Seen to Quiver.

It has been reported to the Public Ledger that the earthquake was felt in many parts of Granville last Monday evening at 6:35. The shock was very light in Oxford, not more than one in a hundred noticing it and they were not so sure about it until the following morning when the occurrence was discussed more or less. That there was a perceptible shock there can be little doubt and it is stated on good authority, but not confirmed, that Bowling Mountain, where the shocks were reported to have been of pronounced intensity, was seen to quiver.

OUR NEGLECTED PUBLIC HEALTH

MUSIC AND SHORT INTERESTING TALKS

Arranging to Hold Important Meeting at the Graded School Building Within the Next Two Weeks.

The following interesting program has been arranged for a meeting to be held at the Graded School building within the next two weeks. The exact date will be announced later. The public is cordially invited to attend.

There will be papers read of five minutes length as follows:

Our Neglected Public Health. What Shall We Do About It?

Chorus—Selection
The Oxford Choral Club
Object of the Meeting Stated
Gen. B. S. Royster, Chairman
Flies

Master Charles Skinner Easton
Chorus—Selection

The Oxford Choral Club

What Can The Town Authorities Do?

Mayor T. G. Stem

What can the Womens Civic Club do?

Mrs. A. H. Powell

What Can the Legislature Do?

Hon. D. G. Brummitt

How to Elicit Public Interest

Mrs. A. L. Capehart

What can the Medical Profession Do?

Dr. N. C. Daniel

What Can a Mother Do?

Mrs. H. G. Cooper

What Can the Law Do?

Hon. A. A. Hicks

What Can School Children Do?

Miss Mary Shotwell

What Can the Church Do?

Rev. F. H. T. Horsfield

The Health of the Baby

Mrs. W. Z. Mitchell

Clean Food.

Mr. Arch McFarland

The Individual Drinking Cup

Miss Mary Webb

What Can the County Do?

Hon. B. I. Breedlove

THE OXFORD CHORAL CLUB

ARTISTIC DELICACY AND PRECISION WAS THE VERDICT

(Reported to Public Ledger K. H. F.)

It is to be regretted that very inclement weather prevented many music-lovers from being present at the Orpheum Theatre on Thursday evening, when the Oxford Thursday Choral Club, under the direction of Rev. S. K. Phillips gave its second concert. The fact was very noticeable that a large part of the audience consisted of professional men and Club women who are ever ready to encourage and support every movement looking toward cultural advancement.

In this respect, Oxford is fortunate in having as a leader Mr. Phillips. He combined with exquisite taste and thorough musical training, the ability and energy to concentrate musical forces; and all this he demonstrated on Thursday evening.

Each number presented by the Chorus was rendered with artistic delicacy and precision, proving that our singers are equal to any chorus in the State, in real musical appreciation. Perhaps Sullivan's "Hush Thee My Baby" and "Beauteous Night" from the "Tales of Hoffman," composed the daintiest and most warmly received group, while "The Bridal Chorus" from the "Rose-maiden" proved the ability of the singers and the technique of their leader.

Miss Kuyk, the Soprano Soloist, charmed her audience with the very first note she sang in the Waltz Song, Il Bacio; and in each of her succeeding numbers, especially the group of Spring Songs, her voice displayed marvelous sweetness of tone, brilliant technique, and great sustaining power. Her encores were most pleasing, while her charming personality and magnetism made friends of all who were fortunate enough to hear her.

Miss Wortham's piano solo, played entirely with one hand was a revelation of the skill to be acquired by the left hand, and there is a grace and sympathetic quality in her playing that marks her as an artist of rare promise for the future.

Miss Mary Webb was accompanist and she is well-known to Oxford audiences. She gave splendid support to soloist and chorus, playing the "Caro Nome" and "Bridal Chorus" with ease and grace.

Altogether the concert was in a class with those of any city in the State, and we congratulate the Club on its success. May they live long, and with the co-operation of the community, may they continue to keep Oxford "on the music-map."

Blowing Their Horn—Elsewhere in this issue of the Public Ledger can be seen an advertisement of the Moore Lumber Company, they are blowing their horn about their good lumber and building stuff.

CADET COMPTON BOBBITT

CONGRESSMAN STEDMAN NAMES OXFORD BOY

Will Enter the Naval Academy Next Fall—Well Equipped to Stand the Mental and Physical Test.

Congressman Stedman on Tuesday last named Mr. W. C. Bobbitt, of Oxford, for Annapolis.

Mr. Bobbitt graduated from the Oxford High School last Spring. Endowed with fine mental ability, he was able to work in a store every afternoon and keep up with his studies. Mr. Bobbitt is a handsome young man, weighing approximately 140 pounds and stands five feet six at eighteen years of age. He is qualified physically and mentally to stand a most rigid examination.

Mr. Bobbitt holds a position with Mr. W. W. Alston, who conducts a grocery store on Raleigh Road just outside of the corporate limits. We called him up Wednesday on learning of his appointment, but he declines to talk until he hears from Major Stedman. However, it is known that Mr. Bobbitt is highly pleased with the appointment. He will probably apply himself to study this summer and enter the Naval Academy in the fall.

THE END OF THE CHAPTER

THE PUBLIC LEDGER HAS NO DESIRE TO PROLONG THE ARGUMENT

We are giving much space in this issue to Mr. A. A. Chapman who begs leave to differ with the mode employed by the Town Commissioners to pave the streets of Oxford. The bulk of our subscribers are outside of Oxford and we are reasonably sure that they do not take a lively interest in the criticisms, and for that reason we trust that any one having a complaint against the Board will take the question up with them directly. If they are not straightforward honest men—men of property and convictions—we would scarcely know in what direction to turn in Oxford to find honest men. We elected them to serve the best interests of the town, and the cry has ever been "good streets." They evolved the best plan that they knew of, said plan being signed by each Commissioner and the same receiving three legal insertions in the Public Ledger. The plan as promulgated by the Board was read and re-read by the people of Oxford. Every clause was thoroughly digested by the property owners, the real responsible people of the community, and a sufficient number of them attached their names to a petition authorizing the Commissioners to proceed with the plan promulgated by them. It is a plain case wherein the majority rules. Now that certain parties are talking of indictments and restraining orders and court trials the Public Ledger will be excuse for refusing criticisms from either side.

Mr. Chapman stresses the fact that the letting of the contract was not advertised. If he will go back to the original plan as submitted by the Board, the same being a legal advertisement in the Public Ledger, he will find that the petition was accompanied by a proposal to do the work, making it optional as to paying cash, notes or bonds. The petition was duly considered Monday night and adopted the following Friday night. The Board was satisfied that the type of pavement was best adapted to our local conditions, and that the price was fair and the contractor satisfactory. Contracts are not always necessarily advertised, in fact we remember that a paving contract in Oxford was passed over to Mr. Chapman without being advertised, and we were perfectly satisfied with the transaction, and in this case we cannot impugn the motives of the Board. We rather think too much of Messrs. Henry Hunt, W. Z. Mitchell, R. S. Usry, W. A. McFarland, C. D. Ray, A. H. Powell and W. A. Parham to think that they would knowingly violate a sacred obligation imposed in them. The members of the Board are large taxpayers and successful business men, and the plan submitted by them being entirely fair and signed by a majority of other business men and large taxpayers, the Public Ledger is inclined to feel that they should receive courteous treatment. We are very sure that the Board will welcome suggestions and the hearty co-operation of the people of Oxford. They are moved with a spirit that should make Oxford the town that it should be.

The Public Ledger has no desire to prolong the argument. If an error has been committed the property holders are responsible and not the Board, whose servants they are. If the good people of College street want good streets under the plan submitted by the Board, and legally advertised, we feel that they should have the streets.

CHAPMAN'S VIGEROUS PROTEST

STATES HIS OBJECTIONS TO THE PAVING PROGRAM

He Asks Is There a Commissioner on the Board Who Knows What a Mile of This Work Will Cost, Including Storm Sewers and Grading.

I hereby state my objections to the paving program now in effect. I am heartily in favor of improving the streets but not by the methods in vogue. My principal objection is the awarding of a contract that will involve several hundred thousand dollars without advertising, or inviting bids, what harm or objection could there be to advertising the work? It could not be the expense incurred, as one of the best mediums I know of does the work gratis. Some members of the board argue we are paying the same price that other towns are paying, therefore assuming they could not make a better contract. Mr. Commissioner have you any right to assume anything in a case like this?

Instead of acting so hastily would not it have been better to take the petition around and find out just what streets wanted the pavement, upon condition the cost would not exceed a given amount? And then make up an estimate of cost and properly advertise it.

Is there a Commissioner on the Board who knows what a mile of this work will cost, including storm sewers, grading, etc? All of which latter is done on a ten per cent basis.

Does the public know how the percentage basis works? Assuming you do not, I cite you a case which came under my personal observation.

A mule was killed by a stone from a blast in a cut on the Wabash railroad. The foreman knowing that his employer was working on a percentage basis, goes to the owner of the mule and approached him saying: "Hello, old hayseed, what do you want for that D— old mule?" the

(Continued on page 8.)

THE SUPERIOR COURT

THE JURY AWARDED MRS. NICHOLSON \$1,500.00

In the case of Mrs. Mary A. Nicholson against the Southern Express Company, which was being tried in Superior Court as we last went to press, the jury found that Mrs. Nicholson was injured by the negligence of the defendant and assessed her damages at \$1500. Notice of appeal to the Supreme Court was given by counsel for the defendant.

The next case tried was that of James Green against the Seaboard Air Line Railroad. Green, who is a negro, alleged that he was injured by getting off of the slowly moving train of defendant at the O & C Junction just this side of Durham and sued for injuries sustained when so getting off of the train. He claimed that he attempted to get off as he did because the porter of the train advised and invited him to do so. This was denied by the railroad. The case hinged upon this point of whether Green attempted to alight at the invitation of the employees of the railroad or did so without such invitation and advice. The jury found against Green, refusing to allow him any damages. Mr. Parham and Mr. Lassiter appeared for plaintiff while Graham & Son and Murray Allen of Raleigh represented the Railroad.

Quite a number of cases were disposed of without trial, the parties getting together and settling their differences before the case was reached. In the case of Nelson & Watkins against Mrs. Ada Dickens the plaintiffs were suing for the recovery of a horse sold by them to Mrs. Dickens and for a balance of \$50.00 which they alleged she still owed them. The defendant alleged that the horse had been sold under a warranty which turned out to be not true, that she had paid \$60.00 in money and an ox worth \$40.00 on the horse, and that she was damaged further by reason of having to keep and feed a worthless horse. The jury allowed her \$40.00. Mr. Lassiter and Mr. Parham represented Nelson & Watkins and Hicks & Stem appeared for Mrs. Dickens.

On Thursday, the case of S. W. Parker, surviving partner of Parker & Hunt, against J. C. Davis was tried. Mr. Parker sued on two notes given to the firm of Parker & Hunt in March, 1906, one being in the sum of \$150.00 and the other for \$278.32. Mr. Davis admitted that he had given the notes but claimed that they had been fully paid by the delivery of certain brick to Mr. Parker in 1906 and by a difference in his favor on another account. Mr. Parker denied this and asked for the face of the notes with interest from November, 1906. The jury found for Mr. Davis that the notes had been paid. Mr. Lanier and Graham & Son appeared for Mr. Parker while Mr. Brummitt and Hicks & Stem looked after the interests of Mr. Davis.

DATE OF CLOSING MARKET

VERY LITTLE OF THE WEED IN THE COUNTY

Bring in That Which Remains and Make a Clean Sweep—The Market Closes With Prices High.

The Oxford Tobacco Board of Trade has decided to close the season Friday, March 10th. It is presumed that nearly all of the tobacco has been marketed, at least very little is coming in. Every once and a while a good lot of tobacco stragles in, but it does not require more than two hours for the tobacco buyers to make the rounds among the five warehouses and transact their business.

This notice will serve to inform the tobacco growers that the date of closing the Oxford market has been fixed for Friday, March 10th. What little tobacco that is being offered brings good prices, and now is a good time for the farmers to hasten to bring in what remains and make a clean sweep and get through with the business.

COUNTY AND STATE TAXES

Maintain the Honor and Dignity of Old Granville.

In looking over the records we find that the tax in Granville has almost doubled within the last few years. The total this year is \$113,079.50, divided as follows:

State	\$ 42,364.53
School	42,364.53
County	18,622.49
Public Roads	31,786.20
Railroads	1,820.31

Total.....\$113,079.50

The tax is collected as a whole and the Sheriff must keep an accurate account and pay it out for the causes above named. Just at this time the county and state are calling lustily for their proportionate part and the Sheriffs must therefore be on the alert.

Inquiry elicits the information from Sheriff Hobgood that some of the good people of Granville are a little slow in settling this year, possibly, he says, because some of them forget it and want to be reminded.

The fact that the Legislature moved up the date of settlement works a hardship on the stheriff, and not until the people become thoroughly immuned to the early date of settlement can the sheriffs rest with any degree of comfort.

Last year, Sheriff Hobgood had the lowest delinquent tax list in the State, amounting to some thing like \$700.00 all told, which goes to prove that we have in Granville a superior people and we trust they will respond to Sheriff Hobgood's urgent call this year with equal alertness and maintain the high honor and dignity of the county.

A FINE CITIZEN

We Wish That This Splendid Man Lived in Oxford.

Mr. C. B. Edwards, of Raleigh, is spending a few days this week with his daughter, Mrs. M. P. Chamblee. Mr. Edwards is no stranger in Oxford, being a brother of the late J. F. Edwards. Many of our good citizens have long wished that Mr. Edwards would settle in Oxford. We are sure that there are few better places in the world in which to live than right here in Oxford, but Mr. Edwards is much attached to Raleigh. His elegant home is situated on Martin street, almost in front of the News and Observer office. Everybody sees it and admires it as they pass along up the street from the Union station. Business during the past few years has encroached upon his home, and some how or other we had hoped that in the event the traffic bothered him he would come to Oxford to live, but he has a dozen or more nice properties in Raleigh and we must wait until he beholds our fine paved streets, and then we are sure to land him, we hope.

Fine Bill Next Week

Theatre goers will be pleased to know that the "Broken Coin" series has been revised and will again be put on at the Orpheum. Next Monday night William Fox presents St. Elmo. Fine bill all next week. See announcement on last page of this paper.

Miss Josephine Brown will return from Winston-Salem this Friday.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR TAXES?

The time has come when your State and County Taxes must be settled. All unpaid taxes is a liability on me. I'm called upon daily for money to satisfy the demands for the State, School, County and Road Funds, with nothing in hand to pay over. They have the law to force me and the same law forces me to collect. I shall perform this duty promptly, unless you make settlement now.

This Notice is for all parties whose taxes are not paid.

S. C. HOBGOOD, Sheriff.