

THE OXFORD PUBLIC LEDGER.

BY JOHN T. BRITT.

ONE YEAR \$1 00 SIX MONTHS 50

How the coal trust get rich. It is calculated that we burn 50,000,000 tons of coal every year in this country which costs the consumers approximately \$700,000,000.

During the past year the Postoffice Department cut down its deficit \$4,000,000, showing that the country did the biggest postal business in its history, although it still lacks \$10,542,941 of paying expenses.

Hon. W. T. Crawford, Representative-elect to the 60th Congress from 10th District, has announced the appointment of Mr. M. L. Shipman, of the State Bureau of Labor, as his private Secretary. Mr. Shipman is a close personal friend of Mr. Crawford.

The recent victory of Trinity College in the inter-collegiate debate with Vanderbilt University, and the victory of Wake Forest College over Mercer University at Macon, Ga., suggests the thought that the art and science of oratory is anything but on the decline in North Carolina.

Our most excellent neighbor, the Henderson Gold Leaf has rounded up 25 years in the successful battle for Henderson's prosperity and the cause of good government. We extend our warmest congratulations to Brother Manning, and wish him a prosperous and happy New Year.

The Legislature is to be urged to provide separate buildings for the epileptic and imbecile insane at the State Hospitals so that they may be with more advantage given work on the farms, a much needed exercise. Efforts will be made, too, to have additional lands for the hospitals for farm purposes.

It is not generally known, but it is true nevertheless that the Southern Railway has more miles of track in North Carolina than in any other State. When it is considered that there are three other large systems operating in the State, to say nothing of several smaller roads now in operation and being built, it will be readily apparent that this State is making wonderful strides industrially.

President Roosevelt some days ago issued a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to contribute funds for the relief of millions of famine sufferers in China, who are on the verge of starvation. The President says he will ask Congress for authority to use government transport vessels to carry food to the famine-stricken country.

The Winston Journal makes the following suggestion: "What about the idea of having a Judge-at-Large in the State to hold special terms of Superior Court, hold courts when other Judges are sick and perform other similar duties? If there is authority for the creation of this additional judgeship it would be a good thing to have. We hope this matter will receive due attention."

Representatives Blackburn, it is said, is not pushing his contest against Congressman-elect Dick Hackett in the 8th District. The lone Republican Congressman from North Carolina will, it is further said, after March 4, either enter the diplomatic service, or become special assistant attorney general of the United States. Speaker Cannon, Chairman Sherman and other prominent Republicans have convinced the President that Mr. Blackburn is one of the "lame ducks" who should be provided for.

The Durham Lodge of Masons did the handsome thing by the children of the Oxford Orphan Asylum Christmas. It generously contributed funds enough for Christmas trees to provide each girl with a doll and each boy with a knife. In addition to these things the little ones had their stockings filled with candies, nuts, oranges, apples and other things, which made the children have a home-like Christmas. It was, indeed, a noble and generous gift on the part of the Durham Masons.

Hon. James Y. Joyner, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, says that every mail is bringing to his office contributions on the part of the public school teachers for the fund being raised for the memorial bronze statue of the late Dr. Charles D. McIver. He is very much pleased with the manner in which the teachers are responding to his recent appeal for contributions to this fund.

Good schools, good churches and good roads are a grand thing to have in a community. In order to have these things people must be educated to take pride in all these. Your home paper can and will do more to encourage all these things than any other agency. The school children read with pleasure the home happenings, and as they grow up become interested and make useful citizens. Give the children the home paper to read. It cost you but a trifle.

The directors of the Western State Hospital at Morganton have decided to ask the Legislature for a \$40,000 appropriation for the erection of an additional building to accommodate 100 male patients and \$5,000 for two pavilions one for each sex, for the use of consumptive patients. The report of the institution shows that there are now 1,072 patients and there will be a request that the Legislature make its appropriation for maintenance \$145 per capita.

In deciding the case of Gatewood against the State of North Carolina, in which Gatewood was prosecuted for keeping a bucket-shop in Durham, the Supreme Court of the United States held the State law prohibiting the dealing in futures to be not repugnant to the Federal Constitution, which gives the bucket-shop business in this State a black-eye. Justice White delivered the opinion of the Court affirming the decision of the Supreme Court of North Carolina.

A dispatch from Holland recently told of the ending of a war that had lasted 243 years. This war has been waged for that length of time between the stout hearted Dutch and the savages of the diamonded-crueted, gold-dusted island of Celebes, in the East Indies. It took more than two centuries to subdue these savages, and when the war began New York was but a village, the Pilgrims had been in New England but 40 years and Charles II was on the throne of England.

Good-by Old Year. After all we are loath to part. Many precious memories as well as many sad things to remember will be forever linked with thee. But time bids us part and however severely thou hast chastened us, yet we find our hardened feelings relenting and a spirit of charity pervades our being. We forgive as we hope to be forgiven. In humility and love we bow our adieu and welcome the New Year with naught but good resolves and high aspirations that each coming day will see our lives better, purer and nobler in every act and purpose.

Good Gifts—Noble Christian Man. We learn from the Durham Herald the Great American Tobacco Company at Durham gave presents Christmas to those in their employ amounting to seven thousand five hundred dollars, largest amount of money this company has given away on any one occasion in this manner. They can well afford to do it as the money comes largely out of the farmers, but nevertheless it shows a generous spirit that exists between the great trust and the employes, and shows why Durham people—especially those who are employed by the trust—have such a good feeling for it, which is perfectly right. It is a mighty sorry man that wouldn't do it. That grand and noble christian gentleman, Mr. George W. Watts, a member of the American Tobacco Co., one of the purest best men we have ever had the pleasure of coming in contact with, has opened his great big heart—God bless him—and given half million dollar for the establishment of a first-class up-to-date hospital in prosperous Durham for the benefit of suffering humanity. Would that the good old State had more George Watts, and may the Great King preserve his health for years to come in order that he "May continue his noble work on earth to the Glory of God."

A Happy New Year to All. A happy new year to you, child of today! May you know more of sunshine than of cloud, and more of glee than of sorrow; may your tumbles and bumps be few, your laughter be frequent and long, your play be unrestrained, your sleep refreshing, your dreams pleasant.

A happy new year to you, bright youth and rosy-cheeked maiden of our city and country—all happiness in the ambition, the joy, the friendship, the competitions and the rewards of school life. Success to you in the endeavor whereby the firm, enduring basis of true manhood and of noble womanhood are laid; with what success comes two-fold happiness—happiness to yourselves. Go forth gaily and confidently into the new year, O, you who are beautiful in the fresh vigor of your youth!

To you, whose lives are hallowed with the grace of maternity, not one but many, many years of happiness. Live long, wives and mothers of this land, to see the lives you have cherished expand into beauty and usefulness; live long to know and feel the sweet rewards of gratitude, of veneration and of love. Survive those hours of pain, of cruelty, of watching and of sacrifice—live through it all, dear, patient martyrs, to share the peace, the repose, the contentment, the compensations of the future, that surely wait for such as you.

A happy new year, too, to you grandmothers and grandfathers everywhere! Look out upon all around you and see how passing fair the evening is; and all that is to be heard invites contentment and repose. You hear voices, too, that we do not hear—they have never been quite forgotten, and they speak to you in the sweetly solemn twilight of the morning that followeth the evening, and of the waking that cometh after the folding of the hands to sleep.

Yes, to all—the young, the old, the high, the low—a happy new year, a happiness arising from and tempered with wisdom, faith, hope and charity.

Dispensary Better than Prohibition. Cumberland county physicians are going to appeal to the Legislature at its approaching session to repeal that section of their prohibition law which permits licensed drug stores to sell whiskey on the prescription of a physician. They claim that they are imposed on by scheming booze artists who put up all kinds of fancy tales in order to obtain a prescription for liquor. They also notify the druggists that they need not renew their licenses with a view of selling the ardent on physicians' prescriptions as the latter won't be forthcoming. Better do like Oxford establish a dispensary and they will have less drunkenness and an increase in municipal, school and road fund. It is undoubtedly the best solution of the whiskey question.

Railroad Lease Affirmed. Before the State Supreme Court a journeyed for the holidays it delivered an opinion affirming the lease of that valuable railroad property the Atlantic & N. C. Railroad to the Howland Improvement Company, since when the road has been merged with Norfolk & Southern in the recent combination of roads in eastern North Carolina and Virginia. The opinion of the court is by Associate Justice Brown and finally disposes of this noted litigation. The opposition to the lease was principally on the ground that the State did not have the right under the charter to lease the property; but merely to farm it out. Also that the terms of the lease were violated in that the lessee had advanced the freight rates when there was an express provision that there should be no increase. Chief Justice Clark filed a dissenting opinion.

Knowledge His Own Reference. A young man with a practical knowledge in his head, skill in his hands and health in his body is his own letter of references. Mix him up with sixty millions of others, and you will find him again, as he will have a habit of being on top. He does not go whining over the land, blaming fortune and saying he has no chance but goes out and does something, and goes and does it again and better. Men that can do things either with head or hands, are men that are wanted and the demand is as great here and now as it has been at any time since the beginning.

Should be Paid for Services. In reporting to Governor Glenn the result of the examination of the officers of the treasurer, auditor and insurance commissioner, the legislative committee says it finds a growing custom among a number of judges to fail to give receipts to auditor for salaries. It finds a great increase in the amount of work in the departments; in some the force of clerks are underpaid, and in some the force is not large enough to do the work. It strikes us that the great State of North Carolina is able to have sufficient force in all of the departments at Raleigh to transact the State's business and pay the clerks a living salary for their services.

Increase in Cotton Mills. Reports to the State Commissioner of Labor shows 18 new cotton mills, in North Carolina last year, there being three at Gastonia, two each at Concord, King's Mountain and Lowell, and one each at Raeford, Fayetteville, Dallas, Lilestown, Mt. Holly, Weldon, Lincolnton, Biscoe, Central Falls, Draper and Monroe. This brings the total number up to 315. The largest mill is the Henrietta. Gaston county leads in the number of mills, Alamance being second and Mecklenburg third. Charlotte leads all the cities and towns in miscellaneous factories and Guilford county all others in same respect.

General R. E. Lee's Birthday. One hundred years ago General Robert E. Lee was born in old Virginia. The anniversary, January 19, will no doubt be observed with all the respect, admiration and reverence due the memory of the character towering amid American nobility and gentility. The story of the life of one of the greatest of Americans will be retold, his notable traits will be described with varying emphasis and the world will again be given the chance to apply the much needed lesson of his career.

In accordance with General Order No. 58, issued by Gen. Stephen Lee, the General Commanding, the United Confederate Veterans and all other citizens of North Carolina are hereby earnestly urged "to have a general observance on Saturday, January 19th, 1907, of the hundredth anniversary of the immortal Southern leader, Robert Edward Lee."

An Editor's Milk Cow. A Greensboro correspondent says Editor Joe Reese, of the Record, has a milk cow that is very discriminating in what she eats. If her breed could be generally propagated there would be no need of expensive milk inspection officials to prevent sickness on account of contaminated milk. A washerwoman made complaint to the editor that the cow had broken into her garden Saturday and had eaten seven white shirt waists, two white sheets, a white table cloth, one pair white linen drawers and two white pillow cases. The cow never touched a colored garment, carefully eschewing in her chewing every garment that had any trace of dye-stuff in it, such as red-streaked blankets, red flannel undergarments, Col. Reese's ink soiled desk apron, or his lye-streaked billed shirt front.

Patriots and Traitors. Two kinds of citizens are in every town, patriots and traitors. There is no middle ground of neutrality. Every man is in one or the other camp. We believe in taking a side and fight for what you believe is right. The patriot does his full duty to the community, votes, expresses his opinion—not afraid of his shadow—takes part in meetings for civic good, bears cheerfully his portion of the community's work. The traitor lets the other fellow do the work and reaps benefit by the other fellow's patriotism. Treason consists of levying war against the Republic—so says the fundamental law—or giving aid and comfort to her enemies. He gives aid and comfort to the public enemies who does not assist in bettering the town in which he dwells. He is himself a public enemy as he is a stumbling block in the town's onward progress.

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Legislature Meets Next Week. The Legislature meets next Wednesday in Raleigh, and Senator A. A. Hicks and Representative B. S. Royster, two of our able lawyers, are making preparation for a two month's stay in Raleigh, at a money loss to themselves as they enjoy a lucrative practice which they are perfectly willing to do in order to serve the good people of Person and Granville. They will be out of pocket as Legislators are paid \$4 per day and if they stop at the Raleigh hotels they will have to cough up \$3 per day for bed and board, leaving them \$1 a day to meet all other expenses including wear and tear on their clothes and shoes and to subscribe to many enterprise which seem to have a particular call on the well paid legislators. Most of the members stop at the Yarboro House, the great center of the law makers, and the member who wants to keep up with what is going on must spend much of his time in the lobby with the members.

The principal things that will come before the body will be anti-trust and railroad legislation, lowering passenger and freight rates, and will be called upon to form more new counties, as High Point and Sanford people are very anxious for new counties. The Reformatory will be a very important matter before body, but we predict it will become a law without much opposition. We hope to see our friend Carey Dowd, the able editor of the Charlotte News, elected Speaker of the House, as he will make a splendid presiding officer and reflect great credit upon progressive North Carolina.

The re-election of the distinguished Senator Simmons for another term in the United States Senate is a foregone conclusion as he already has more than enough votes pledged to assure his reelection.

Happy New Year to Our Town. "A happy New Year" dear old town, Rejoice in all thy ways For happy years have come and gone With brief and fleeting days. Years we've watched thy growth In numbers and in wealth; In lovely homes, and lovelier trees; In cleanliness and health. In pretty streets and shady lawns Where birds their carols sing, And sunbeams play the livelong day And joys supernal bring. The crystal water that we drink, Springs from the heart of Earth; As ceaseless as a woman's love, Wherever it has birth. Our men are those of enterprise, Of gumption, grit and grace, Who believe that good improvements Should have no second place. Our boys will average well with boys, Steady, staid, and true, With tact and purpose well in hand The right they will pursue. Our girls! Ah, heaven bless them— No better anywhere,— They're the kindest and sweetest And fairest of the fair. Our babies and our little girls; Our mothers and our wives, Are beautiful to look upon; Are lovely in their lives, Our schools all stand without a peer; With promise great in store, Where "Chesterfield" is taught as well As Greek or Latin lore. This leads to the higher schools; Our churches, where the soul is fed from God's own granaries; And broken lives made whole. The guardian angels of our homes; Where faith and charity Are taught to bless and fit us for A bright eternity.

How to Avoid Pneumonia. We have never heard of a single instance of a cold resulting in pneumonia or other lung trouble when Foley's Honey and Tar has been taken. It not only stops the cough, but heals and strengthens the lungs Ask for Foley's Honey and Tar and refuse any substitute offered. Dr. J. C. Bishop of Agnew, Mich., writes: "I have used Foley's Honey and Tar in three very severe cases of pneumonia with good results in every case." J. C. Hall. A number of people were killed in collisions in the State during the holidays on the Seaboard and Southern Railroads.

Keep to the Right. "Keep to the right" is the law of the road, which, when obeyed, saves one a world of trouble.

Society is a public highway on a grand scale—a great turnpike where on a hurrying, jostling, wrestling crowd of badly-assorted humanity is ever thronging. Here is life in all its better phases—childhood with its golden hair and wondering eyes; youth with its widening, thoughtful outlook; manhood with its firm step and earnest purpose; old age with its bowed form and whitened locks. Here, too, are thickly strewn the wrecks of life—misguided childhood, head strong and wayward; erring youth, rioting in frivolity and dissipation, and sowing the seeds of physical decay and moral death; vicious manhood, treading the downward road; and decrepit old age sinister and sere, with its painful memories and hopeless future—all commingling in the one great journey from the cradle to the grave.

How much discord, in harmony, and jostling would be avoided in this journey if each traveler would only keep to the right. There is a pitfall before you, young man; a temptation to do evil; a snare for your feet. You are forming habits of idleness, dissipation and extravagance, which will stick to you like the shirt of Nessus, hampering your noble efforts, and eventually dragging you down to the gateway of despair. Keep to the right and avoid it.

That is a doubtful business venture in which you are about to engage; one perhaps involving loss of self-respect and sacrifice of manly principle. You see where, by taking advantage of your neighbor's ignorance, you can get the best of him in a trade; or by some smart trick of the law you can evade some responsibility you have willingly assumed, or shirk some duty that lies in your way. Keep to the right. There, only, is the path of honor.

When tempted to deal in gossip or scandal; to play the tyrant in your family; to withhold the gentle word of love or praise from her who walks by your side; to lower the standard of your honor, or do ought that would make you less manly or noble in the eyes of good men and angels,—keep to the right.

Keep to the right. These golden words should be engraven in letters of living light on the temple of every human soul. They should stand forth as finger posts at the junction of every wrong; at the point of every divergence from the straight path of rectitude; by every wayside temptation. Keep to the right—spurning every ignoble thought, every unmanly action. Thus will you lay up treasures for a grand old age, and life will bear for you its richest fruits.

A Cheerful Giver. "The Lord loveth a cheerful giver," and "It is more blessed to give than to receive," are faithful sayings, and worthy of acceptance. Give where your gift is needed, where it brings joy and gladness, and your heart will swell with real pleasure. To lavish gifts upon the rich, the strong, the powerful, in the hope that you may receive in turn, is mean, groveling and pitiful. Don't belittle yourself that way. Give freely only where love prompts, or better yet, go out among God's poor, hunt out those less favored or less fortunate and do acts that will brighten human lives and the brightness will come back into your own heart by reflection.

The great and noble characters of the world, the men in all ages who have been admired and loved have been the generous men. The shunned and hated and despised creatures of the human race have always been the misers, the stingy, grasping, hoarding, pinching wretches who valued money above human souls, and hugged their wealth in the face of misery. The world shouts and laughs when such men die, but it follows the generous man to his grave with tears and real sorrow.

To Cure a Cold in One Day Cures Grip in Two Days. Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. E. W. Grove Every Day. Seven Million boxes sold in past 12 months. This signature, E. W. Grove, Box 25c.