

The Oxford Public Ledger.

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NO. 16

CREEDMOOR HAPPENINGS.

ITEMS OF NEWS GATHERED BY REGULAR REPORTER.

Personals, Honor Roll of School, a Small Fire, the Same Old Dispensary.

Mr. J. P. Jones is at home from Cary High School.

Little Robert Rogers, we are sorry to report is quite sick.

Mr. W. M. Freeman went to Greensboro last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Mangum, Mrs. Mollie Rogers and Mrs. Bettie Hester are improving.

On account of the bad weather there was no Sunday school in the morning nor any prayer service on Sunday evening.

Mrs. Martha Adeock fell and cut her face right badly one day last week and has been quite sick since, but we are glad to state she is improving.

Misses Mary Hardy, of Creedmoor and Ruth Hardy, of Redwood, spent a few days in Oxford as the guest of the Misses Taylor, and returned to Creedmoor Monday.

A chair of quilts fell into the fire on Saturday morning and came near causing a serious fire at the residence of Rev. A. C. Sherwood, but fortunately the fire was extinguished before much damage was done.

The honor roll in the intermediate grade of Creedmoor School was this week adorned with the following names: Guy Tingen, Willie Adeock, Glaudie Chappell, Allan Aiken, Maudie Chappell and Ruby Adeock.

And wasn't Monday morning almost like fairy land when the sun shone so brightly on an icebound landscape, reflecting millions of diamonds far too precious for even a millionaire, and every "phone wire, treetop and street lamp was decorated with a beautiful crystal fringe.

Once upon a time as Satan was walking up and down through the earth he met one of his truest servants, alcohol, and bidding him to put on his most presentable suit, a dispensary cloak, Satan sent him out into the world to seek his fortune. Alcohol wandered on with a satisfied grin and apparently innocent face until he reached a nice little country town where he discovered he had many friends and he decided he would like to seek his fortune there, and he modestly begged for just standing room and a place to exhibit his snares. A counsel of the most influential men of the town was called to decide for or against alcohol. A few stood firmly against the coming of alcohol, but here Satan came to the aid of his servant and took the majority out upon the highest pinnacle of their imagination and pointing out the muddy streets, the uneven sidewalks and scarcity of lights, promised if only they would bow down to and worship him he would furnish funds for the streets to be paved, for the sidewalks to be of purest concrete and the lights of the town should rival in brilliancy king Solomon himself; then he whispered in an aside that there would be an increase in the numbers of mayor's courts and the policeman's salary, and straightway he was granted a place to set up a shop and display his wares. Spreading his dispensary cloak about the four walls of his establishment, alcohol began his reign and by different allurements his kingdom spread until he held dominion over many subjects throughout the eternity. Rich and poor, high and low were drawn into the silken net that strengthened into a chain too strong to be broken. The promise was kept and the streets, sidewalks and lights were perfected, but hearts were made as hard as the stones beneath their feet and many who trod the brilliantly lighted streets were made to walk in eternal darkness thereby homes were blighted, hearts were broken and children clothed in rags but the establishment grew and Satan was satisfied. ANONYMOUS.

A SUDDEN DEATH.

Maj. William M. Gordon Succumbs to an Attack of Paralysis.

The town is called upon this week to mourn the death of one of its oldest, most highly esteemed, and most beloved citizens in the person of Major Wm. M. Gordon, who died on Sunday evening, February 24th, about 7:30 P. M. of Paralysis.

Maj. Gordon was born in Virginia, but for many years has resided in Oxford. He graduated from the Virginia Military Institute in the year 1853.

He married a Miss Fisher, of Virginia, who with their seven children preceded him to the grave. One of his children was Mrs. J. S. Hunt, who died in Oxford a few years ago.

Major Gordon was a gentleman of old school—polite, genial, and kind. He traced descent from the Scotch Highlanders, of Scotland, and held the coat-of-arms of his family for many generations.

The remains were buried at Elmwood Monday evening at 4 o'clock, Rev's F. W. Hilliard and F. T. H. Horsfield officiating.

The following were the pall-bearers: A. W. Graham, J. J. Medford, Cliff Robards, E. B. Hines, W. B. Ballou, J. G. Hall, S. W. Cooper, D. Curran.

To his bereaved relatives we extend our most sincere sympathies.

Sailed Abroad.

Quite a party of North Carolinians sailed Feb. 23 from New York for an extended trip abroad. The party will be chaperoned by Bishop Junius M. Horner, of Asheville, and among those who will make the trip are Miss Gertrude Winston, of Durham, Mrs. Mary Horner, Miss Katie Horner and Mrs. J. H. Horner, of Oxford, and the Misses Jones, of Raleigh. The party will sail direct for Naples and will tour Italy, Germany, France, Switzerland and end the tour in England in July, reaching Oxford University in time to be present at the graduation of Mr. Horner Winston, of Durham, one of the Rhodes scholars in that university. The party will return to North Carolina about next August.—Wilmington Messenger.

Epworth League Entertainment.

On Friday evening last the members of the Epworth League held a reception in the lecture room at the Methodist church. About thirty members and as many more guests of the League were present and a most enjoyable evening was spent in music and lively conversation.

The parlors had been decorated with potted plants fancy rugs and attractive seats, and the brilliant lights shaded by Japanese lanterns cast a soft glow on the smiling happy faces of the young people, rendering the whole effect very attractive. The genial pastor Mr. Shamburger moved in and out among his people and added greatly to the pleasure of the occasion by his ready humor and charming personality.

Mrs. Shamburger, Mrs. R. L. Brown and Miss Lela Routon, who composed the committee on entertainment extended a cordial greeting to every one present, and later served most palatable refreshments, consisting of chicken salad, beaten biscuits, pickles, crackers and elegant hot coffee.

This was the first of a series of entertainments which the Epworth League proposes to give from time to time.

This organization which is under the leadership of Mrs. A. A. Hicks, assisted by several able officers, bids fair to grow, and become a power for much good in the community as it fills a long felt need of bringing young people, as well as the older ones, together for social enjoyment, and the improvement and uplift of mind and heart.

Persons whose eyesight is defective and who may need glasses will be interested in the announcement of Dr. Rapport, who will be at the Exchange Hotel Tuesday, March 5th.

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CONGRESS 5TH DISTRICT.

GENERAL BEVERLEY S. ROYSTER COMPLIMENTED.

A High Tribute for Granville's Favorite Son From Another Part of the State.

The newspaper people of the state ought not to forget Gen. Beverly S. Royster, of Granville, who so eloquently eulogized and defended the editors of North Carolina from the implied charge that they were bought and owned by the railroads. He not only secured the passage of his amendment leaving the law relating to contracts as it now stands, but said among other things:

"Editors cannot be bought, subsidized or muzzled. They are on a higher plane. They have done more than any other class of people for North Carolina. They stand for the moral uplift and make fewer mistakes than any other class of our citizens."

"His tribute to the press," said the News and Observer, "was warm, glowing and appreciative."

"Gen. Royster is easily a leader in the house and one of the biggest men in the legislature. If there were more of him down there, there would be more brains mixed up with our laws. Under Gov. Aycock he was adjutant-general for four years. He is a prominent Mason and has been Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. He is a Baptist and in his town of Oxford he stands high with his people. The most remarkable thing about him is that, although a very able lawyer with a fine practice, withal a highly educated man, he never spent an hour in a college, and had to leave even the old field schools at the age of 14. He educated himself, and is pre-eminently a self-made man. The fifth district has no bigger, better man in it and the people over there ought to be proud of him. He is a clean, honorable, able Christian gentleman, with the elements so mixed in him that any body can see he is a man."—Lexington Dispatch.

The editor, along with many others of Gen. Royster's friends, will greatly appreciate the above compliment. It is a well deserved tribute and those who know General Royster will endorse every word of it and more. He is easily one of the State's ablest and best men.

For Benefit of Fire Company.

We are glad to learn that Mrs. Kate Hays Fleming is preparing to present a play entertainment just after Easter, in which the best amateur talent of Oxford will be engaged. The proceeds derived therefrom will be for the benefit of the Edwards Hose & Ladder Co. No. 1. This play will, no doubt be well presented, and we hope it may receive a liberal patronage from the people of Oxford. We are sure that those who attend will get the worth of their money as well as be aiding a worthy cause. We will have more to say about this play later.

Telephone Company Chartered.

Granville Telephone Company, of Oxford to build and operate telephone lines, etc. The capital stock authorized is \$50,000, but business may be commenced when \$1,000 of the stock shall have been paid in.

The stockholders named in the certificate are as follows:

- J. W. Russell, L. T. Newton, L. S. Russell, J. N. Hicks, R. M. Curran, W. C. Curran, B. F. Curran, Sam H. Jones, R. T. Critcher, N. B. Newton, J. M. Blalock, Sallie Gordon, E. N. Clement, O. A. Daniel, Jack Clement, E. B. Meadows, M. Blalock.

IF YOUR watch has gone on a strike and your clock has quit striking why bring them to W. D. Stinson and he will adjust the matter promptly and properly. Located at Paris Dry Goods store.

Piles get quick relief from Dr. Shoop's Magic Ointment. Remember it's made alone for Piles—and it works with certainty and satisfaction. Itching, painful, protruding, or blind piles disappear like magic by its use. Try it and see! J. G. Hall.

WHO'S TO BLAME.

A Question Which Christian People Should Carefully Consider.

Mr. Editor:—Will you allow me a little space in your paper in regard to the great evils of the liquor business, and the woeful havoc it is making upon every vital interest of our civilization. It not only hinders the material growth of the best and dearest institutions of our government, but with violent hand it lays its withering touch on the very pride and beauty of our homes, and the hope of our commonwealth. It wrecks man in his physical, mental and moral well-being. Now these are self-evident facts.

Then the result of the business is evil and only evil. Then the great question is: "Who is to blame?" and this is the question I would emphasize and impress upon the conscience of all good men and women. What part have I in this evil.

We have tried the Dispensary as a reforming measure, but it is a woeful failure, notwithstanding it is pointed to (derisively) as an institution of the churches, posterized and encouraged by the preachers. (I beg to be excused.) I am glad to believe the time is approaching when prohibition will be the law of our town, yea of our whole county, and to know there are many good men among us who are anxious to see the curse removed. But it is said a movement of this sort must be backed up with public sentiment. Grant it, but we are creating this sentiment by expressing ours with a courage of conviction that will embolden others to declare for the right and stand by it, and let us by all means save the poor drunkard and make him feel that we are working for and not against him.

I want to make a proposition to my good friends of Creedmoor. I mean the majority of the forty nine who signed the petition by which was granted the privilege to vote for or against a dispensary.

Won't you or some of you move to reconsider the whole movement, and work and vote with all your soul and body to keep off the dispensary. Now my dear friends I hope you will not think I am meddling where I have no interest for I am prompted from the deep solicitude of my soul, for the welfare of the dearest objects you have on earth, your homes and children. It is better to endure an evil for a time, forbidden by law, than to have one yoked upon you by law which neither you nor your children can endure, nor break off. But let the blind tiger know a chain gang is his portion here and hereafter if he don't repent.

I close this letter with this axiom: "We only live for the good we may do." Then let none of us presume that we "may do evil, even that good may come far." A corrupt tree cannot bring forth good fruit."

I hereby appeal to all lovers of purity and refinement to unite all our efforts to remove the evil that the good may grow. I know there are many in our town and county who are groaning for deliverance from this tyrant, the Liquor Demon. God grant speedy deliverance.

W. S. HESTER.

Bessie a Bad Girl.

We would not for a minute appear in the light of approving the doings of an Iowa girl by the name of Bessie Algroves; in fact we unhesitatingly declare our utter disapproval, and we think nearly everybody will agree with us in saying that Bessie is a bad, bad girl. But then it must have been funny when she locked her parents up in the cellar and ran away with her sweetheart. Possibly there may be some people who will justify her act on the ground that it is a poor rule that will not work both ways, but then we are not of that number. Just the same the neighbors must have had the laugh on Bessie's parents. For lo! these many years hard-hearted parents have been cruelly separating fond lovers by locking up their daughters and setting the dogs on their daughter's beaux.

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS.

CULLED FROM THE VARIOUS PAPERS OF THE STATE.

Tar Heel Items for Tar Heel Readers—Some Happenings in Old North State.

The plant of the Moore Milling Co. at Hickory was destroyed by fire on Tuesday night. The loss was about \$3,000 with no insurance. The plant was the property of Dr. J. H. Moore.

There was an extraordinary theft at Asheville Sunday night. A white boy name Harper stole a watch from the West End Baptist Church, while the pastor was talking to some new converts.

Uncle Fed Messer, supposed to be the oldest citizen of the State, died Sunday at his home in Haywood county. He was born August 12, 1792, and was 114 years old on the 4th day of last August.

Mrs. Robert Beard, who was seriously burned last Monday while assisting in the family washing by her dress catching from the wash pot fire, died February 15th from the effects of her injuries. She was about 28 years old.

Gordon Hurst and Will Casey, two white men got into a dispute at Jones' store in Little Washington Saturday night over Hurst asking Casey to pay him a debt of \$1.50. The result was encounter between the two later in which Casey shot Hurst, probably fatally.

Henry Krider, a colored flagman running on a freight from Charlotte to Winston via the Midland railroad, fell under the train at Mooresville junction Tuesday night and his leg was so badly crushed that it was amputated above the knee. The accident occurred near the man's home and when he was making his third run after taking his job.

Revenue Officers Harkins and Hendricks destroyed a 65-gallon illicit distillery and 700 gallons of beer near Stoneville, Rockingham county, Sunday night. While the officers were putting the moonshine plant out of business they were fired upon from ambush with shot guns but no damage was done. The "revenuers" returned the fire with their rifles and put the blockaders to flight.

Ticket Agent H. A. Leonard, of the Southern Railway, at Salisbury, has been missing since Tuesday, and cannot be located. He left, saying he was going to Charlotte for the day but has not returned and has sent no message concerning his strange departure. Upon investigation his books were found to be in proper shape, and there is no explanation of his disappearance. He has been ticket agent two years, and is exceedingly popular.

Miss Althea West, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William West, of Limestone township, residing 7 or 8 miles from Asheville, committed suicide Sunday afternoon by taking strychnine. Miss West was a young woman 25 years of age, was a prominent member of the Baptist church and was highly respected in the neighborhood in which she lived. The suicide was deliberate, the young woman telling her parents what she had done. No cause assigned for the act.

Serving the People Right.

The route agent of the Southern Express Co. Mr. Ed McCall, of Danville, Va., inspected the books and office at Oxford on Friday and was well pleased with the condition of our Oxford office and the efficient work our Agent F. C. Spencer was giving the people of Oxford, and also said that few agents had remained in one town and pleased their patronage as well as Mr. Spencer had done. Mr. Spencer was installed as agent at Oxford in 1895 and we hope will last as much longer.

Mr. L. H. Moss, of Creedmoor, was in Oxford Thursday and called to see the editor.

OUR GREATEST NEED.

Mr. J. R. Pace Writes of the Good Roads Question.

1. The importance of good roads is seen and felt by every thoughtful person. Indeed it is a great loss to all of our people not to have good roads. Some seem to think that good roads will only benefit a few of our people, the rich and the poor, the people of the town and county alike are greatly benefited by good roads. The country people need good roads to get to market with their farm products, and without them it is a great loss to them to their teams, vehicles and time in going to market. The town people must suffer for many things that will never be brought to town over bad roads.

No town or county can ever be what it ought to be without good roads. People talk about building macadam roads like it was burying money that would not come back to us. We will get a great deal more out of them than we put into them. It is the muddy roads that make us poor. We could put 25 cents or more out of every \$100 worth of property each year to build macadam roads and be richer than we were at the beginning of the year. If there is no profit in building good roads then the sensible thing to do is to let them alone.

2. But how shall we get the money to macadamize our roads? I shall not object to a bond issue of \$100,000, because our people are used to going in debt to do things and it would be hard to make them believe that they could do it without going in debt. But a better way would be a direct tax and much cheaper too.

Good roads would more than pay our taxes back each year. And so, why issue bonds and pay interest on them. Or why should we encourage the sale of liquor in order to get money to build macadam roads? Especially when good roads will pay its own bills. You may say let the drinking men pay this road tax, but you may be sure that poor women and ragged children pay a large per cent of it. They do the work, or much of it at least, and the men do the drinking. Shall we take a hand in putting this burden of taxation upon the poor women and children for the sake of a little revenue to build roads? I for one will not. The curse of God will rest upon those who do.

3. How shall the work be done? Shall we commence at town and macadamize good and bad places alike? If we do we will only get a few miles macadamized around town on each road with our \$100,000. Then such kicking we will have when we ask the people for another \$100,000. And they ought to kick for that is not for the best interest of the town or county either.

Something like two or three miles out of every ten miles of our roads get very bad after every long bad spell of weather.

Why not go all over the county and macadamize those red hills and pipe clay places first? Leaving the other seven or eight miles out of every ten until later on, or the worst places for each year for five years. If we would do that way for five years we could greatly improve all of our roads to the great benefit of all of our people. Then by that time the people would see that good roads were a paying investment.

Unless we do that way the most of us will be dead before we get good roads and half of our county will be in the mud then.

J. R. PACE.

If you want to secure good seats for Senator Tillman's lecture March 12th you can secure your tickets now from Dr. J. G. Hunt or W. E. Massenburg.

Remember that Senator Tillman will deliver his famous lecture at the Opera House, Oxford, N. C., Tuesday, March 12th, 1907.