

AN EXCITING EXPERIENCE.

LITTLE LAURA STEDMAN MEETS WITH AN ACCIDENT.

Her Father's Hands Painfully Burned in Coming to her Assistance to Extinguish the Flames.

On Thursday, the day after Christmas, little Miss Laura Stedman met with an accident by fire which, but for her presence of mind, might have cost her her life, and which did result in painfully burning the hands of her father, Mr. J. P. Stedman, in putting out her burning dress.

Just after dinner, Mr. Stedman found that some one had fired the grass in front of his home, and decided that he would complete the work that had been commenced. While he was watching the fire, Laura was just across the street where she had started a little blaze of her own. Finding that a shoe string had become loosened she stooped over to tie it. This caused her dress to catch on fire and immediately to be surrounded by flames. With presence of mind very remarkable, she ran around the burning grass to her father, exclaiming "Put me out, Daddy." Put me out!

Mr. Stedman instantly seized her burning garments and, rolling them up in his hands, put out the flames. At the time, so great was his anxiety, that he did not experience any pain in his hazardous undertaking. Afterwards, however, he was caused to suffer exceedingly, his hands being painfully burned.

The skirt of the little girl's dress was totally consumed, and her other garments would have been destroyed but for the timely assistance of her father. She does not seem any the worse for her exciting experience.

Very Kind Words.

There will be general regret at the retirement of the editor of the Oxford Public Ledger. He has made it stand for every good thing and its Democracy was of the Jeffersonian type. The new editors, Messrs. W. Mott and Frank M. Pinnix, are young men of talent and capacity and will make a paper worthy of Oxford.—News & Observer

The Constructionist.

Though we are personally, so to speak, freshmen, the Public Ledger is such an old institution that we hope that we may with propriety wish a new neighbor well. The Constructionist, a paper published at Spray, has just put out its first issue, and a very good one it is. It is a very ambitious neighbor, for, in addition to its regular features as a county paper, the Constructionist intends to devote much time to the "manufacture, agriculture and commercial advancement of the South." May it accomplish much good and succeed!

The Tobacco Market.

The Oxford tobacco market closed on Friday, December 20th, good prices prevailing up to the very close. It will be re-opened on Monday, the 6th of January, and the indications are that the good prices will be maintained throughout the season.

The Oxford tobacco market stands at the head of the list of the North Carolina markets, and yields to none in the matter of giving the highest prices.

Certainly no market has a better class of men than is represented at this place, which is one of the best leaf markets in the whole country. There are quite a number of buyers who make a specialty of securing independent orders. This makes Oxford the best place for the farmers to market their tobacco. This is true not only for the Granville farmers, but it would be to the interest of the tobacco sellers of the adjoining counties to bring their tobacco here. They may be assured of the best attention and the best prices.

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LIGHT FINGERED GENTRY.

LANK DANIEL AND ARTHUR PURYEAR GO SHOPPING.

Lank is Apprehended, and Officers Are on the Search for Puryear Who Has Run Away.

Lank Daniel, colored, is behind the iron bars of the county jail probably ruminating over the fact that it is easier to get into trouble than out of it.

Some time ago he walked in the store of Landis & Easton and treated himself to a coat, without going through the formality of paying for it. The following day he returned to the store and, upon being recognized, drew a formidable gun, and in approved western style beat a retreat.

He was eventually located in Henderson, arrested by officer Bragg, and brought before Mayor Devin to explain himself. The Mayor remanded him to jail and ordered that he be sent before a body of twelve men, tried and true, to see how they approve of Lank's business methods.

There are three other warrants in Granville county against him in which he is charged with larceny, carrying concealed weapons, and perjury. Another warrant from Henderson charges him with stealing a pistol.

He is identified as being the same negro who made an assault in Northern Granville nine years ago. Since that time he has resided in parts unknown.

Unmindful of the lesson to be drawn from Lank's downfall, Allen Puryear, alias Arthur Day, of the same race, has been up to a bold trick. He has seen so much script recently that he concluded to circulate some of his own.

On Saturday, the 21st of December, he sauntered into Long, Blalock & Haskin's store and politely asked the price of clothing. An overcoat valued at \$15 and a \$12.50 suit of clothes seeming to be his taste, he inquired if an order for \$27 from Mr. Roy Currin would be taken. The answer being in the affirmative, he left the store and presently returned with a note signed by R. L. Currin.

The note was later handed to Mr. Long. He was much struck with the new ideas of spelling and capitalization embodied therein and knowing that Mr. Currin was not accustomed to use such original ideas in writing and, furthermore, that his initials were R.M. instead of R.S. Mr. Long put the local sleuths on the trail of the crafty party. So far, they have failed to apprehend him. He has taken to the tall timbers.

Charlie Wilkerson, colored, was fined \$7.50 and costs for obstructing an officer in making an arrest. He paid the fine and was released.

Two Kind Contributions.

The editors acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of two delightful little Christmas poems, and they regret that lack of space prevents them from publishing them. On account of the fact that the columns of the paper are full this week, not only were these two poems obliged to be left out, but much other matter that has been contributed is omitted. The editors beg to assure the authors of their appreciation of the poems.

Colored Child Burned.

Roy, aged three, the little son of Margaret Downey, colored, met a horrible death by fire Christmas day. The mother, on going away from home, left a colored woman in charge of the child. She thought she had securely banked the small fire by placing ashes and an iron over it, but, in some way, a paper the child was playing with ignited, and his dress was immediately enveloped in flames. His screams brought a neighbor to his assistance, but the bucket of water with which he flooded the sufferer merely extinguished the fire. The child was doomed, for his feet and hands were burned to a crisp, and death ensued within 24 hours.

CONCERNING CHURCHES.

THREE PASTORS ENTER NEW FIELDS OF LABOR.

Changes That Have Been Made in the Ministry—Visiting Minister at Presbyterian Church.

After four years of faithful and successful service as pastor of the Methodist church here, the Rev. F. M. Shamburger has been transferred to Raleigh as pastor of Edenton Street Methodist church and, on the 26th of December last, moved his family, save Miss Myrtle, who is a student at the Seminary, to his new field. Mr. Shamburger and his family will always have the friendship and best wishes of the Oxford people. During their stay, they were very popular, and will be greatly missed in the community.

The News and Observer says of them: "Rev. and Mrs. F. M. Shamburger arrived in the city last night from Oxford where for four years he was the successful and popular pastor of the Methodist church, as he has been in all the charges he has ever held. Mr. Shamburger is welcomed to Raleigh as the pastor of Edenton Street Methodist church not only because of his ability and popularity as a minister but also because he is the cousin of the late Rev. W. C. Norman, who was so greatly beloved by the people of Raleigh and whom Mr. Shamburger so strongly resembles in many ways."

Another good pastor has gone. The Rev. W. H. Puckett, of the Oxford Circuit, Methodist, has been assigned to the Selma Station. He left Oxford December 23rd, but will spend a few days at Cary before reaching the new charge to which he has been transferred.

Mr. Puckett, prior to his last four years' work on the Oxford Circuit, had spent four years on the Granville Circuit. In these eight years, he has endeared himself to the people, and carries away their best wishes.

The Rev. L. S. Massey, lately of Louisburg has arrived, with his wife, to take the pulpit from which Mr. Shamburger has just been transferred. He preached two very impressive sermons before a large congregation on the morning and night of the Sunday before Christmas.

Regular services were conducted at St. Stephen's Episcopal church on the Sunday before Christmas by the Rev. F. T. Horsefield, the able and popular pastor. The usual Christmas services with special music for the occasion were held on Christmas day.

The Presbyterian pulpit was occupied in the morning and night of the 22nd by the Rev. W. W. Groves, a young minister of Richmond, Va.

There were no services at the Baptist church on that Sunday night, the Rev. Dr. Dunaway having announced on the preceding Sunday that he would give way to the new Methodist minister in order that his congregation might hear Mr. Massey's evening sermon. Dr. Dunaway preached to his flock in the morning, a very able sermon it is said.

The Rev. A. S. Barnes, the new pastor of the Oxford Circuit has arrived and held his first service on the circuit at Salem last Sunday. He made a splendid impression on the people who were delighted with him and are looking forward to great good work for 1908. His wife and three children will arrive next week. Mr. Barnes will occupy the circuit parsonage on High street.

Mr. S. H. Smith.

Mr. S. H. Smith, formerly travelling representative of Hughes Buggy Co., Lynchburg, Va., has purchased of Mr. E. E. Hughes all that gentleman's stock in Taylor-Cannady Co. Mr. Smith has left the road and will hereafter be in the office of the firm in an official capacity. It is good to know that he will reside here permanently.

A GOVERNMENT BUILDING.

BILL INTRODUCED IN CONGRESS BY MR. KITCHIN.

Vigilant Congressman asks Congress to Give Oxford a New \$50,000 Government Building.

Before the adjournment of Congress in December, the Hon. W. W. Kitchin, our representative, introduced a bill in the House asking that an appropriation of \$50,000 be made for the purpose of erecting a government building in Oxford and, from present indications, our chance of receiving it seems very good. This is shown by the fact that Government Supervising Architect Knox Taylor has written Postmaster Peace requesting detailed information concerning suitable locations, prices, and other necessary data. The further fact that Oxford is the largest town in the whole district that has not been awarded a public building by the government, should influence legislation in its favor. Few towns present more desirable locations for such a structure.

It is hardly probable that anything could be done by our business men at this time to forward the measure; but should any action be desired of them at any moment, they are ready and anxious to take such necessary steps as the occasion may require. Mr. Kitchin, it can be safely said, will use his best endeavors to have the bill passed. He is always vigilant and faithful in serving the interests of his constituents.

Postmaster Peace gives out some interesting facts and figures at this juncture. Bearing him in his den, a man from the Ledger office drew from him some figures that are very gratifying. The receipts for the year ending June 30th, 1897, show that the business at this place amounted to \$4412.42. When this statement is contrasted with the figures for the year ending June 30th, 1907, which were \$171,737, we see an increase of more than 100 per cent. For the fiscal year closing March 30th, 1907, the sale of stamps amounted to \$9150.42, and the returns to January 1st, 1908, total \$6918.71. The quarter yet to run, when added to the latter amount, will no doubt show an increase of business over the year closing March 30th. This is especially gratifying when it is taken into consideration that the country in general has gone through such a panic as has just passed.

In all probability, by fall, enough stamps will have been sold here to entitle Oxford to free delivery of mail. Should business to the amount of \$2231.29 be done in the current quarter, the necessary amount of \$10,000 will have been reached, and the town can demand the service.

Mr. Peace's report to the government shows that ten years ago it required 3 employees to handle the mail passing in and out of Oxford. Now, there are twelve on the pay roll, and when we shall have become entitled to city free delivery, the number will be increased to fifteen.

No better index of a town's growth can be obtained than a statement of receipts at the local postoffice. Such being the case, what inference is to be drawn from the facts given?

The Fireman.

Last Friday night the fire boys treated themselves to an oyster supper at the fire house, to which they invited Mayor W. A. Devin, the town commissioner, and the town clerk, Mr. R. B. Hines. These gentlemen were present and demonstrated a wonderful ability for getting on the outside of a vast quantity of the bivalves. The fire boys deserve the good time they had. The town is proud of them.

IT is given up by all who have used Royster's Stock Powders that it has no equal on the market. It is carefully prepared and does its work well, and has a large sale. If you have not tried it do so, and hereafter you will have no other. Nov. 22, 1907.

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THE CHRISTMAS GAYETIES

ENTERTAINMENTS GIVEN DURING THE HOLIDAYS.

Some of the Gay Social Functions That Enlivened the Holiday Season—Dance, etc.

On the evening of Thursday, the 26th of December, Col. and Mrs. W. B. Ballou gave a reception at their home in honor of Miss Allene Cooper, of Fayetteville, daughter of our former townsman, Mr. Sol W. Cooper.

The guests who were invited from 8:30 to 10:30 were received at the front door by Master William Bryan, that young gentleman officiating upon the occasion with a great deal of dignity. Miss Josephine Brown ushered them into the parlor where they were received by E. T. Crews and Mrs. Ballou. Others in the receiving line were: Miss Allene Cooper with Gibson Howell, Mrs. J. C. Robards with M. K. Pinnix, Miss Myrtle Shamburger with Kerr Taylor, Miss Julia Winston with W. H. Stegall.

Frappe was served in the dining room, the decorations of the room being in red and white, with cut flowers, palms, and ferns tastily arranged in a pleasing effect. The guests were: Miss Augusta Landis with N. B. Cannady, Miss Florence Landis with F. F. Lyon, Miss Gertrude Landis with A. H. Taylor, Miss Martha Forabee with Lee Taylor, Miss Louie Mitchell with Easley Roller, Miss Irene Hines with Melvin Bragg, Miss Sophia Taylor with Eugene Lewellyn, Miss Fannie Webb with Luther Buchanan, Miss Mary Webb with Joe Lassiter, Miss May White with A. H. A. Williams, Miss Lizzie Pearson with L. T. Hines, Miss Antonette Taylor with E. E. Fuller, Miss Annie Crews with M. C. Taylor, Miss Janette Gregory with W. E. Cannady, Miss Isabel Fleming with James Booth, Miss Lillian Minor with John Booth, Miss Mary Cooper with John Buchanan, Miss Elizabeth Coleman with Willie Alston, Merrill Peace and Crawford Cooper, of Aboskie.

A subscription dance was given by the young men of Oxford, at Horner Barracks Monday night, the Durham band furnishing music for the occasion. The following were in attendance: Miss Jessamine McGhant with T. C. Howell, Miss Lily White with M. K. Pinnix, Miss Antonette Taylor with Otho Lyon, Miss Sophia Taylor with Eugene Lewellyn, Miss Irene Hines with Kerr Taylor, Miss Julia Winston with M. C. Taylor, Miss Gertrude Landis with Bert Taylor, Miss Florence Landis with Cadet Mellon, Miss Allene Cooper with Gibson Howell, Miss Lizzie Pearson with Walter Crews, Miss Ferguson with Roy Wright, Miss May White with Roy Noble, Miss Bessie Trapier with J. Crawford Cooper; Lee Taylor, W. H. Britt, B. K. Lassiter, and Bennett Perry. The dance was chaperoned by Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Robards.

Miss Hettie Lyon entertained very extensively during the holidays. Her guests were: Misses Myrtle Gardner, of Macon; Nell Powell and Lizzie Moore, of Mt. Tirzah; Mary Shotwell, of Berea; Bessie Aiken and Roxie Currin, of Northside; Maggie Hester, of Hester; J. B. Aiken, of Littleton; John W. Hester and Sam Alex Fleming, of Hester; Joe Speed, of Durham; Walter A. Fleming and Robert Aiken, of Northside, and Ben W. Aiken, of Cincinnati.

On Friday Miss Lyon gave a dinner in honor of Miss Gardner. In addition to the above guests, there were invited Misses Roxie and Bessie Currin; Ben Aiken and Miss Annie Aiken; Misses Myrtle Renn, Sadie Harris, Berdie Cheatham, Lillian Minor, Fannie Gooch; Zeb and Amis Cheatham, Jim Meadows, Grady Harris, and T. Cheatham, of Greenville, N. C.

On Monday night Col. and Mrs. H. G. Cooper gave an elegant dinner. These were the guests: Misses Antonette Taylor, Allene Cooper, Gertrude Landis, Julia Winston, Bessie Trapier; T. C. Howell, E. T. Crews, M. C.

PROHIBITION FOR RALEIGH

TEMPERANCE QUESTION SETTLED FOR RALEIGH.

Citizens Vote That They Are Done with the Dispensary by Large Majority.

On December 26th, by a majority of 547 out of 1,313 votes cast, the people of Raleigh have decided that they are going to have prohibition, and that the dispensary must go. When the result of the election was announced, hundreds of people, headed by a band and bearing torches and banners, paraded the streets and exulted over their victory.

The News and Observer says: "Prohibition prevails in Raleigh and the doors of the dispensary are closed, to no longer be the shame of Raleigh, which without it will flourish and progress and be an example to the State."

The Voice of the People was heard in thunder tones in the result at the ballot box yesterday when by an official majority of 547, in reality 549, Raleigh voted for prohibition, there being cast in all 1,313 votes in the city, of these 928 being for prohibition in the dispensary box, 381 for dispensary and two for saloons.

Not one precinct in any ward in the city was carried by the dispensary forces. Early in the day, these saw the handwriting on the wall, and while keeping up a fight in every ward, made this especially vigorous in one precinct with a hard fight all during the day to carry it, but as in all the others they failed. This was in the Second Division of the Fourth Ward, the voting place being the city lot. At times the dispensary forces claimed that the vote was equally divided, but the tally of the prohibition workers showed that this was not correct. At 12:30 the prohibition forces were 11 votes ahead, at four o'clock they were thirteen votes to the good and when the polls closed the prohibition majority was fourteen in the precinct in which the dispensary forces had made their most desperate stand.

The prohibition forces worked earnestly and quietly, as did the dispensary advocates, but there was no bitterness shown and the election passed off quietly and in perfect good feeling. The total registered vote of the city is 1,982 and the returns show that 659 voters failed to exercise their privilege. The election being the day after Christmas many people were out of the city on holiday trips, others had not paid their poll tax, and others again saw early in the day that the victory was with the prohibitionists and did not vote. Under all these circumstances the vote was a very large one, the prohibitionists winning by about two and a half to one. Thus if every man who voted for the dispensary had voted twice the prohibitionists could still have been victorious by a good round majority.

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.

Do you have backache occasionally, or "stitches" in the side, and sometimes do you feel all tired out, without ambition and without energy? If so, your kidneys are out of order. Take DeWitt's Kidney and Bladder Pills. They promptly relieve backache, weak back, inflammation of the bladder and weak kidneys. Sold by J. G. Hall

Taylor, W. M. Pinnix and J. Crawford Cooper.

Friday afternoon the Social Club was entertained at Euchre. The entertainment was given by Mrs. W. L. Peace in honor of her sister, Miss Ida W. Ferguson, of Albemarle, N. C., who is visiting her. The rooms were beautifully decorated in cedar, holly and mistletoe. Shepard, of Richmond, furnished the refreshments.

Miss Lily White gave a masquerade party last night, but unfortunately, the account came in too late to appear in this week's issue. A full account will appear next week.