

Report of Fires.

According to the books of Chief Wheeler, of the fire department, 1908 has the record of having caused less loss by fire than has been suffered in Oxford in recent years. During the year there were four fires entailing losses aggregating \$131, with insurance being carried in one instance.

On April 3rd damage to the extent of \$5 was caused at the Hilliard School by fire on shingles at one of the chimneys. A tench house on Lee street belonging to John Kingsbury, colored, was injured to the amount of \$25, this being amply covered by insurance. Sam Johnson's house on Orange street caught on December the 7th, and received damages to the extent of \$95. The last fire of the year occurred on Hillsboro street on the 13th of last month. A bale of cotton belonging to Horner Bros. Co., was injured, \$6 being the amount.

During the year there were four or five false alarms to which the fire department responded promptly. The amount of premiums paid out in fire protection annually in Oxford is thought to be considerably in excess of \$25,000.

Contrasted with last years damage list of \$131, the losses in previous years, since the installation of water and inaugurating of the fire department, may prove interesting. These were organized in August 1905. Since then the fire reports are:

1905	\$8,100.00
1906	2,422.50
1907	2,712.00
1908	131.00

The heavy loss of 1907 was mainly the damage and loss on the Allen-Harris fire, and that of 1905 was occasioned by the burning of a part of the Seminary in that year.

There has been only one fire so far this year, this occurring on the 8th instant when Woodson Revis suffered to the extent of \$2 by the burning of shingles around his chimney.

Camp M. W. W. Organized.

On January the 11th there was organized with twenty-five charter members Camp No. 13639, of the Modern Woodmen of the World. District Deputy S. O'Brien, of Norfolk, came over to effect the organization. These were the officers elected: D. G. Brummitt, Consul; G. B. Thompson, Vice-Consul; R. E. Starnes, Adviser; F. E. Lyon, Banker; T. G. Stem, Clerk; C. R. Gordon, Escort; T. C. Howell, Watchman; Isaac Newton, Sentry; and S. C. Hobgood, L. V. Henderson, and J. W. Cannady, Board of Trustees or Managers.

Consul Stem says the organization is here to stay and grow. The order was first instituted on January 5th, 1883 and since that time has enrolled over a million members. It is of a fraternal nature and has a good insurance feature.

Camps have also been organized at Stem and Culbreth, and Mr. O'Brien left Tuesday to effect the organization of a camp at Creedmoor.

Mr. J. H. Peak Dead.

Last Friday morning, there died about two miles above Berea Mr. Jas. H. Peak, who had been ill of consumption for a long period. Mr. Peak was an old Confederate Veteran, having served three years in the Seventeenth North Carolina Regiment. At the time of his death he was 69 years of age.

Besides his widow, Mr. Peak leaves the following six children, three girls and three boys: Miss Molly Peak, Mrs. Henry Adcock, Miss Sallie Peak, and Pamphret, Grover Cleveland, and Benjamin Peak.

The burial in the presence of many friends and relatives took place in the Woods family burying ground.

The deceased was a highly respected citizen of his neighborhood and was a man of good sterling qualities.

For Sale.

One large bay mule, 8 years old sound and a good worker, belongs to the town of Oxford. Apply to J. F. Royster. Jan. 15.

Enjoyable Dance.

There was a dance given by the young folks Friday night at the Armory when these were present:

Bert Taylor with Miss Starnes, of Greenville, S. C.; Kerr Taylor with Miss May White; Lee Taylor with Miss Sophie Taylor; Major McGee with Miss Kate Horner; Crawford Cooper with Miss Annie Crews.

Stags: Gibson Howell, Robert Herring, Henry Osborne, Melvin Bragg, Cortez Wright.

Chaperones: Mrs. Kate White, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Phelps, Miss Jeanette Biggs.

Music: Oxford String Band.

Creedmoor High School Honor Roll

Seventh Grade.—Kathleen Moss, Mamie Bragg, Carmen Rogers, Florence Jones, Aidah Cannady.

Sixth Grade.—Genie Beck, Emmitt Curl, Carl Bennett, Herbert Moss, Guy Tingen, Mary Bennett, Glaudie Chappel, Maudie Chappell, Bryan Garner.

Fifth Grade.—Louise Jeffreys, Rosa Ashley.

Fourth and Fifth Grades.—Annie Garner, Paul Tingen, Sydney Bragg, Maynard Chappel, Almous Chapel, Hubert Curl, James Martin, Jessie Currie.

A Good Year Predicted.

One of the Ledger sleuths was prowling around Monday on the scent of a bunch of news items and in his peregrinations ran afoul of Mr. W. T. Lyon, hard at work in the clerk's office. Mr. Lyon was not only at work but full of radiant smiles. Said he: "Did you know that this (January 25th) is Saint Paul's day?"

The Ledger ignoramus admitted his benighted condition.

"Yes, of course, this is St. Paul's day. Listen:

"If St Paul's day be fair and clear
It doth betide a happy year;
If perchance it would rain
It will make dear all kinds of grain;
If the clouds make dark the sky,
Meat and fowls this year will die."

"Now that," continued the amateur weather prophet, "insures a good year. Everything will be prosperous."

The quotation is an old Dutch adage. Mr. Lyon has made a very happy prediction, but if later on we find he has handed us a lemon, we intend to sue him for damages.

Smith's Lithia Company.

For the first time recently, one of the Ledger folks dropped in to see the new quarters that have been fitted out for the Smith's Lithia Water Company, and was delighted to see the progress that has been made in licking the company in such fine shape. Capt. W. B. Shaw's recent death necessarily threw affairs in a little confusion, but to-day the orders are coming in and Mr. R. T. Smith is sending away lots of water, and getting fine testimonials from thankful people who have received great benefits from the water.

Everything looks business-like in the store rooms. A hundred and ninety odd knocked down cases have just been received, and carpenters were making a great racket putting them together. In the back room scores of new 5-gallon jars and half gallon bottles, bran new, were being fitted in the cases preparatory to being sent out to the spring where they will be filled and casked under absolute sanitary conditions.

The improvements begun at the spring itself are well under way, and will be completed within a reasonably short time: The old system of bringing the water to town in barrels has been entirely abolished as heretofore announced, and every danger of infection has been thoroughly provided against.

Manager Smith says that orders are increasing daily, and he is as happy as a bee in a tar barrel.

Farms For Rent.—One at Stovall and one near Oxford. Apply to R. O. Gregory. It pd.

Arrington-Tilley.

Cupid is a very sly little rascal and can work in the most stealthy manner sometimes. In fact, it is one of his tricks to give surprises. The pupils of the Providence School and the people of the community were rather surprised upon learning that Mrs. Katherine Tilley, principle of the school, and Mr. Arrington, of Durham, were quietly married Sunday. The bride reported as usual Monday morning and taught school just as if nothing romantic had ever happened. The people of the community are unanimous in wishing the best of things for the happy couple.

School Notes.

The schools of Granville county are gradually being worked in fine condition and today the educational condition of the county is in excellent shape great strides having been made in the past five years. It is estimated that there are nearly twice as many children in attendance as there were five years ago. Ex-superintendent Kittrell, now of the Edgecombe Schools, started the crusade for improvement and progress, which has been pushed forward and waged by Superintendent Webb and that excellent school board, composed of Judge A. W. Graham, Drs. E. B. Meadows, and J. A. Morris. The progress made over last year was very great.

The people of Stem are making preparation to put up a modern \$3,000 school building. There are now in attendance at Stem about 125 children daily attendance being very good, as is the case with the schools generally throughout the county.

For the first time several schools will be run eight months this year, namely, those at Stovall, Providence and Creedmoor. There will be seven month terms at Stem, Knap of Reeds and Hester. The remaining schools are run from 4 (the minimum) to 6 months. A few of the short term schools, which were opened early in the fall, are being closed out.

There are now 44 libraries in Granville county schools, in fact, every white school except 8 are supplied with them, and an effort will shortly be made to furnish these eight.

There are plans on foot for putting up four or five new buildings during the spring and summer.

Several schools have gone into new buildings, these being No. 1, 4, and 7 Oak Hill, No. 2 Fishing Creek and Creedmoor. Schools No. 7 and 9, Brassfield, are now under construction. There will also be several new buildings for colored pupils.

Survey Completed.

The survey of Granville county for the new map has been completed, but the printing has been held up until the work can be thoroughly inspected and proof read. It is being carefully searched for error, and as soon as this is done plates will be made and the maps stricken off. It may require a few months in order to make the work thoroughly accurate and trustworthy, but the delay is worth while. The map will be very valuable when completed.

Graham High School.

On this Friday night, under the supervision of Miss Hattie Dunn and Mrs. J. M. Blalock, teachers of Graham High School, there will be an entertainment in the school room at 8 o'clock. As this is to be for the benefit of the library fund, there will be a small charge of ten cents for admission. Already \$25 worth of books has been placed in the library, and this affair is to increase this beginning. The state will give one dollar for each dollar a school raises, therefore everybody who attends the entertainment will know that his ten cents means twenty cents for the library fund.

Dr. S. Rapport will be in Oxford at the Exchange Hotel Tuesday, February 2nd, for one day only. Remember that you pay nothing for examination of your eyes in buying glasses of me, and I furnish only the best quality glasses at moderate prices.

A Little Unpleasantness.

Tuesday afternoon about four o'clock, Messrs. J. J. Medford and John Brown were carried before acting mayor J. M. Baird and tried for having engaged in a personal encounter. When the evidence was in Mr. Medford was fined \$1 and half the costs, and Mr. Brown was bound over to court in the sum of \$50, he having used a weapon.

Mr. M. F. O'Neil and Scott Good, colored, witnesses of the affair, were first examined, before the defendants were put on the stand.

The controversy seemed to have been caused by Mr. Brown offering to pay Mr. Willie Alston a higher salary to clerk for him than Mr. Alston was getting at the time from Mr. Medford by whom he was employed.

Mr. Brown had just been down to the store he occupied before moving into his present quarters for a hatchet that was left there. As he passed Mr. Medford's store the latter asked him to stop and upbraided him for trying to hire young Alston. Mr. Medford, upon Mr. Brown's denial of the charge, called the latter a liar, as he admitted on the stand; Mr. Brown says he was called a d— rascal. After both had passed a few rather heated remarks, Mr. Medford seized Mr. Brown in the collar and pushed him against a tree. Then Brown brought in play the hatchet, striking his adversary in the head. The blow was weakened considerably by Mr. Medford's arm when he attempted to ward off the blow.

Mr. Brown then ran up the street, Mr. Medford pursuing a short distance, until his attention was called to the blood running from the wounds in his head.

Neither he nor Mr. Brown knew whether one or two blows were struck by the hatchet. Mr. Medford stated that he did not strike Mr. Brown at all, and the latter did not know whether he was struck or not; but on the stand he referred to a scratch on the side of his head that he did not know the origin of.

Mr. Medford's wound is very slight, owing to partial protection by raising his arm and to the fact that the held in the hatchet was unsound and broke easily.

A Man With News.

That good, jolly fellow, 'Squire A. P. Overton, of Franklin, Route 1, was in the sanctum Saturday and had a friendly spat with the bald head editor.

"What do you know, 'Squire, he was asked.

"O, well! I saw something on my way to town you can't beat. I stopped over with a family that had 14 children, seven girls and seven boys, in it. Can you beat that? Ask your readers if any of them can beat it."

"Who was that, squire?"

"None of your business. You see if you can find a family to beat it!"

"What else going on in your bailiwick?"

"Why Mr. Barnes—Rev. A. S. Barnes—filled his first appointment for 1909 at Gray Rock Church on the third Sunday at eleven o'clock. He preached a good sermon, taking as his text 'Go Forward.' And say, we are going forward with the rebuilding of the church. Tell all good Methodists to chip in."

"Come across some more 'Squire. You are bound to have some more news crammed away in that foxy head of yours."

"Well, I told you about Mr. N. M. Cannady's patent."

"You didn't do any such thing."

"Why, Mr. N. M. Cannady, of Cannady's Mill, has recently patented a new mail box. In fact he has just returned from Washington where he has taken out his letters patent. He is trying to make arrangements for marketing it. It's a dandy trick," said the squire as he put on his hat and went out the door.

Rhode Island Red pullets and hens of the best strain. Apply to J. P. Stedman.

President of New Company.

Friends of Mr. Chas. A. Gregory, son of Col. and Mrs. R. O. Gregory, of Oxford, will be interested to learn that he has been elected President of a Company that is being organized for the purpose of manufacturing machines for stemming tobacco. Mr. Gregory is now a resident of Winston Salem and has become prominently identified in the tobacco industry there. He is a very bright and efficient young man and takes a good stand with tobacco-ists.

A prospectus gotten out by the Company says that a man and two boys with the machine in question can do better work than twelve or eighteen hand strippers, as the machine removes dirt and grit at the time of stripping. It has a capacity of stripping from 1200 to 1800 pounds daily. Much re-handling will be saved and the tobacco can be transferred from farmer to manufacturer much more quickly. Instead of being handled six times as by hand, it is only necessary to have three handlings when the machine is used, says the prospectus.

The Company has been capitalized at \$3,000,000 and the stock is being put on the market.

In the Toils.

Last Saturday night while at one of the depots, Chief Williford espied a colored youth that was badly wanted in these parts. Walter Linebaker, the individual in question, was passing through Oxford and but little thought that he would be hampered in his movements. Last August he appropriated a pair of trousers and a pair of shoes, the property of Mr. E. T. Crews, and vanooosed for parts unknown. Chief Williford took charge of the colored youth who rested for a day or two in jail which will be his postoffice address until next Court, Mayor Devin having bound him over Monday in the sum of \$100. That amount not being convenient for him to get a hold on, he was, as observed, billeted at the jail with excellent prospects of being promoted to a residence at the penitentiary. His itinerary for the present has been abandoned.

Voluntary Suspension.

On Monday morning there was considerable surprise when it was announced that the firm of Todes, Caplan & Co. had voluntarily closed its doors, having found itself in a cramped financial condition. The proprietors assign as a reason for this step the bad business during January. Messrs. Todes & Caplan expected the big after Christmas reduced sales to be effective here as in the cities and were unprepared for the dull January that is experienced through the South.

A member of the firm says that they have a very large stock on hand, and are waiting to make some sort of arrangements with the creditors, when they expect to open up again, and hope to be in time for the spring trade.

What Smiths Lithia Water Did.

When on the 7th day of October, 1908, I came to the beautiful little city of Oxford, from my home in Kentucky, I was a physical wreck. I was suffering from chronic indigestion and from Sciatic Rheumatism. After five weeks use of the water the indigestion was entirely cured and the rheumatism has so far relaxed its fiendish grip that I can now walk with ease. Seventy-five years old, my recovery seems almost a miracle. This testimonial is entirely unsolicited. I give it freely, for it is due to the magic virtues of Smith's Lithia Water.

JAMES H. WALLER, Oxford, N. C., Nov. 21st, 1908.

When you want garden seeds call on J. P. Stedman, and if you need advice as to the best varieties he will give it to you based on experience of many years.

Mr. C. W. Bryan is in Baltimore buying horses for Horner Bros. Co.

Will Not Move Away.

I am still doing business at the same old stand with ten livery horses and twenty sale horses. If you want to drive or buy, call to see us. All reports to the effect that I shall move away are incorrect. E. N. Bragg. It pd.

Things Doing in Creedmoor.

Mr. I. E. Harris, Cashier of the Citizens Bank, of Creedmoor, was in town Tuesday and fell into the hands of a newspaper man. Mr. Harris reported a good many happenings of interest in his town, and said that this was the best January the business people have had in years.

The new school building was opened up the first of the year, and the new auditorium will be ready for use in thirty days. The building when completed will have cost \$9,000 or thereabouts. Superintendent Joyner says that it is the best building in the county and one of the best arranged he ever saw. The auditorium has a seating capacity of over 400.

The people of Creedmoor are figuring upon a \$7,000 hotel for that town.

Mr. C. E. Lyon has recently been made assistant manager of the Creedmoor Supply Co.

Mr. D. L. Mangum has accepted a position with the B. G. Rogers Co.

Mr. S. H. Rogers has returned from Richmond where he has been in the interest of his firm.

On the 21st inst. the stockholders of the Dove, Keith & Connelly Co., of Northside, held their annual meeting when these officers and directors were elected: President, J. H. Keith; vice president, L. Little; secretary and treasurer, W. B. Connelly; directors, J. H. Keith, W. B. Connelly, L. Little, I. E. Harris, and S. H. Rogers.

The meeting was held in the rooms of the Citizens Bank, of Creedmoor, and a semi-annual dividend of 4 per cent was declared.

Messrs. B. T. Harris, of Hester, and D. Lyon, of Creedmoor, were on the same train with Mr. Harris.

Hon. A. W. Graham.

The following kind words of appreciation are taken from the Sentinel, of Yanceyville:

Speaker of the House, Hon. A. W. Graham, of our sister county of Granville, is an exceedingly popular man. Gentle in his manners, dignified in his bearing, forcible in words, and at all times fair and upright in his rulings, he is commanding the admiration and respect of democrats and republicans alike. He is winning for himself a surer place in the hearts of the people. It is safe to say that when he has discharged his present duty, the people of the State will demand of him further and greater service, and in the coming years his honored name will shine brighter and brighter. A gentleman of the "old school" and worthy and fitted for any honor in the gift of the people."

To Raise McIver Fund.

The Granville County State Normal Alumnae Association was organized Saturday morning in the chapel of the graded school with Miss Etta B. Spier, field secretary, telling the nature of the work. The object of these county associations is the raising of \$50,000 for a McIver loan fund. Miss Spier has visited 33 counties and from them has raised \$17,000. There are 47 girls in this county and they have 2 years in which to raise the \$400 which was promised.

The association elected Mrs. W. L. Peace president; Mrs. Kate Hays Fleming, vice president, and Mrs. N. H. Cannady secretary. Mesdames H. O. Furman and Kate Hays Fleming, Misses Alice and Sue Daniels, Alma Clayton, Myrtle Kenn and Ruby Bruton were made an executive committee.

Notice to Tax Payers.

The time for final settlement of taxes is drawing near and all parties owing taxes are urged to settle same without delay. I must collect the taxes and levies will be made as the law directs.

Prompt settlement may save you costs.

S. C. HOBGOOD,
Tax Collector.

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.