

WINDSOR LEDGER

C. J. RHEA, BUSINESS MGR. S. W. KENNEY, EDITOR. Owners & Props. PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY AT WINDSOR N. C. THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 1899.

AN EVENTFUL Monday April the 24th was indeed an eventful day for the town of DAY, Windsor. It marked the beginning of what may be a new and rapidly progressive era for our town. So to speak, the industrial ball was given an impetus an impetus that might be taken up by our men of means and given encouragement that would mean much to the growth of Windsor financially and commercially and to our people's happiness and prosperity. On that day—the 24th—happened what our most sanguine citizens even two years ago feigned to hope—the inauguration of a daily mail train. Surely it was a day of no little potency. What would our ancestors yonder resting in our already filled church yards say if they could awake and look upon Windsor of 1899—with its many large brick buildings, its busy mills, its many other internal improvements and then realize the relegation of "mule" transportation to everlasting eternity (we hope) and the inauguration of a daily mail service! We say that this means much to our people. It has an under current of progressiveness that does not show itself on the first thought. To the casual thinker it is merely a forward step of progress and nothing more nor less. But to the more thoughtful it presents a commercial advance that is surrounded by industrial possibilities and we may say probabilities. For the past five years there has been an unconscious development, materially in our town. And it is said to our sorrow that such development has not had its origin totally within ourselves. We have been steadily and safely going forward as a town without the slightest show or boast whatever. With the progress thus made without the least exertion, we may say, what could we expect if some of our capitalists would invest a little of their surplus cash in some factories? Our people are a conservative people and do not take readily to ventures. They weigh well every phase of a proposition before accepting or starting out upon the same. To such conservative temperament we credit our tardiness in the establishment of mills and factories of every description. But this is an age of progress and venture and the sooner we realize our wonderful resources the God of nature has so abundantly given us, and begin taking advantage of them ourselves the quicker will our town enlarge, our county prosper more and our people necessarily be more happy. We repeat that the 24th was an eventful day in our history.

MR. J. WILLIAM BAILEY The distinguished editor of the Biblical Recorder visited our county last week. He spoke before the Teachers' Association and a large audience on the subject of education. Mr. Bailey is a very agreeable and instructive speaker. He speaks each week to many thousands of readers. His public addresses reflect the noble sentiments that appear in his paper. He believes in a higher and a better citizenship. In addition to his religious editorials he fills the Recorder with able comment on current events. He is helping to shape North Carolina citizenship in the direction of intelligence, virtue and truth. Our people met him with much pleasure, and he carries home with him most favorable impressions of our county. It would give them much pleasure, and give the State a first class school system, if he was nominated for Superintendent of Public Instruction. If the LEDGER was in the business of naming candidates, it would not hesitate to hoist his name for that office.

We clip the following from the Baltimore Sun and especially call to it the attention of our business men and capitalists: The State of North Carolina is attracting much attention at present on account of the remarkably large number of new cotton mills being erected in addition to those already in operation. They include improvements and new plants at Elkin, Greensboro', Harlem, Red Springs, Mt. Mourne, Lexington, Tarboro and Raleigh. In preparing a summary of these enterprises in this State the Manufacturers' Record gives as a reason the advantages which North Carolina towns possess for the textile industry. According to a correspondent of the Record, ten years ago Charlotte had a population of about 10,000 and one cotton mill. Today its population is more than 28,000 and its twelve cotton mills are running day and night in the manufacture of cotton yarns, gray cloths, gingham, toweling, webbing, sashcord, hosiery, batting and wadding. Its five clothing factories are utilizing every hour of daylight to keep up with their orders. These factories are the direct result of the cotton mills, while as an auxiliary feature of textile life there are the four firms which contract to design, build and equip cotton mills complete, and which are kept busy, while the five machinery and supply houses are shipping goods every day.

There is money enough hidden away in stockings and old boots in Bertie county to stock a cotton mill that would run fifty hands the year round and pay a dividend of 10 per cent to the stock owners. There are thousands of dollars hoarded up in this county by people who would gladly invest it where it would yield them an income if they could feel assured of its safety. The way to bring this money from its hiding places put it in circulation and make it serve as a blessing to the people, is for our best business men in whom the people have confidence to start some enterprise that will interest the entire community, give employment to our young men, and at the same time pay a fair profit and be a safe investment. Once started there will be no more trouble about others. Windsor and her people will be revived, prosperity will follow, better roads will be made, more houses will be required, new stores and ware houses built and old ones enlarged schools will be enlarged and improved and pastors salaries will not go unpaid.

We learn that the postmaster at Plymouth declined to recommend the change in the mail route from here to Plymouth. We are certain the hope of bettering the mail service of his town did not influence him. With the change, the business men of Plymouth can go to Norfolk and back in a day and can write a letter to Norfolk and get an answer in twenty four hours. The Mayflower cannot be run in the interest of carrying Bertie people to Plymouth to trade. We are sure the department at Washington will not refuse to sanction a change because the change may hurt the Norfolk and Southern road, or may keep from Plymouth a few people from Bertie county who ought to trade in Windsor. The department will look to the mail facilities and with that view we know the change will be made. That is a department of the government run on business principles.

Last week in Nyack, New York a white man and his two sons got drunk, laid down beside the public road and went to sleep. When the old man woke from his drunken slumber he found he had been robbed of \$61. A negro was seen disappearing up the road. A hue and cry was raised and a mob soon was in full chase. The negro was caught, a rope brought, a noose made and slipped over his head, trembling and praying he was dragged to a tree and the screaming, frightened man swung into space. He was rescued nearly dead. If the people of the south resorted to lynching for larceny it would be but a very short time before the race question would be definitely settled. There is but one crime in the south that Judge Lynch takes cognizance of and for which punishment is swift and sure.

The resignation of Speaker Thomas B. Read removes from the capital of the nation one of its most prominent features. No stranger ever visited Washington without trying to get a glimpse of Tom Reed of Maine and to the citizens of the capital he was as well known as one of the public buildings. It is given out to the public that he has retired from politics to accept a law partnership in New York that will pay him the snug little sum of \$50,000 per year, but we think other influences have been more potent. For many years he has antagonized McKinley who in his political aspirations has been his rival. McKinley's renomination is assured and Tom Reed's age will not permit him to wait another six years for the coveted prize.

Matt Quay of Pennsylvania has not only been acquitted of the charge of appropriating the state's money to his own use, but has been appointed U. S. Senator by the governor to fill the vacancy caused by the failure of the recent legislature to elect his successor. Quay is one of the sharpest Republican politicians this country has. He is a trickster of the best school. And the result of his trial and the failure of his opponents to defeat him for the Senate is just as we expected.

The resignation of Mr. Read will leave two vacancies in the Maine Congressional delegation to be filled this summer by special election. The indications are that ex-Gov. Henry B. Cleaves will be elected in the 1st, Reeds district, and Hon. John P. Swasey in the 2d or Dingley district. The G. O. P. will be stirred to its depths in that locality, for an election to Congress in Maine means a life pull at the public pap.

We notice that a body of students at the Agricultural and Mechanical College at Raleigh have entered their solemn protest against proposed changes in the faculty. Their conduct is the best evidence of a needed change. They are sent to learn by hard study and work, to be run and managed by the authorities, not to run the college and trustees. A good many changes need to be made in the faculty. The whole institution needs reorganization from top to bottom.

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