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VOLUME 26 WINDSOR, N. C., THURSDAY, AUG 14, 1913. NO 13.

IT WAS BERTIE COUNTY'S BIGGEST DAY Four Thousand People Here; Brass Band and Orchestral Music; Receptions and Play Many Home Comers

Governor Craig and Judge Robert Winston the Speakers.

Two Excursion Trains over the Wellington and Powellsville Road, and One on the Steamer Mayflower--all Heavily Loaded. Some Estimate the Crowd at Five Thousand. A Bountiful Free Dinner to the Public. Plans Already Being Made for Next Year, with the Hope of even Possibly Eclipsing This. An Effort to be Made to Secure Governor Joseph W. Folk of Missouri, a Bertie County Son by Parentage; a National Figure. Bertie Did Herself Proud.

It was a big success--a great day! None greater has occurred in the history of the old county. It was a proud day. And the heart of every true citizen swelled with pride for the old home, for the glories of her past, the achievements of the present, and the prospects of her great future. To have a Home Coming Week, and for the Chief Executive, the first citizen of the state to be the chief participant, the first son of the old county to return, is given to but few places, and to that few but seldom. Surely it was a great day.

Four thousand people were here. The Governor and Judge Robert W. Winston and his sister, formerly Miss Alice Winston, now Mrs. F. S. Spruill, arrived the day before. They were met in Aulander by automobiles and reached Windsor by noon. In Aulander the Governor and the Judge were given their first ovation by their countymen. It was the first opportunity of our countymen to manifest their county pride, and they did so royally. Three hundred citizens or more of that Bertie town greeted the returning and distinguished sons at the station, and bid them a royal welcome and a glad and proud hand. Governor Craig and Judge Winston responded to their welcome in a short speech each, and they left for the county-seat. They were met several miles from the town by an escort of parties in automobiles and driven to the home of Governor Francis D. Winston.

Now in Bertie, it was Locke Craig and Bob Winston. They were returning sons. They were with their friends of childhood and youth, their play-fellows of years gone by; the friends of their fathers, their kindred--on their native hearth--the old home.

And that afternoon was spent in greeting old acquaintances on the streets and visiting scenes of their childhood, and noting our progress. Occasionally they would see a landmark, but always some old and beautiful tree, or some spot where happy days were spent. For the old town had changed. She had gone ahead. She had kept pace in material progress with the great careers of her great sons. The whole county had grown and developed and prospered. It was not the old Harman's cross roads where they were first greeted in Bertie. It was the New and Progressive town of Aulander. And on their drive from Aulander to Windsor the magnificent, well kept farms, with their luxuriant crops and pretty homes, and over excellent roads, impressed our prosperity greater still and showed that the progress and advancement of their native county was well founded and general.

Wednesday night Mrs. and Mrs. Joseph L. Spivey tendered an elaborate reception to the Governor and the distinguished guests an elaborate reception. The guests were met at the door by Mr. and Mrs. I. T. Smith and ushered in the reception room where they met the following in the receiving line: Gov. Craig, Mrs. J. L. Spivey, Mr. Spivey, Mrs. F. S. Spruill, Judge Robert W. Winston, Mrs. C. J. Sawyer, Mrs. F. M. Allen, Mrs. Francis D. Winston and Rev. T. T. Speight.

From the reception room they were taken to the hall by Mr. J. B. Gillam and Miss Julia Stokes where they

were served punch by Misses Isabelle Brett and Maud Mason Spivey. Then they were ushered to the library room and were served chocolate and wafers by Mrs. E. P. Srasoms; and cream and cake by Mrs. Abram Burden and the little Daughters. Miss Josie Spivey rendered excellent music during the evening, and toasts were said to Bertie's Governor.

And thus the guests and visitors had been prepared to expect what was to follow the next day.

Great were the preparations, and great were the results. And carefully and minutely was every feature of the day's program carried out and executed. It was magnificently done. We were proud of our town and our county. It showed the old county up for what she is, in her true light. Patriotism and prosperity abounded.

As advertised the exercises began with a parade from the Windsor Castle, the home of Gov. Winston, where the distinguished speakers were being entertained, to the court house where the exercises were held. Automobiles and carriages were all handsomely decorated and banners and flags and bunting and ribbon donned the town and waved from every house-top. In the procession, were

Flag bearers--L. C. Floyd and G. C. Davis.

Band,
Boy Scouts, headed by Master Chas. Sawyer.

Marshals--F. M. Dunstan, Cadmus Capehart and G. T. Davis.

In the 1st. automobile were: Gov. Craig, Judge Francis D. Winston, Mrs. J. L. Spivey (President of the U. D. C.) Rev. T. T. Speight (President of the Veterans Association).

2nd. auto Judge Robert Winston, Hon. C. W. Mitchell, Mrs. F. S. Spruill and Mayor H. P. Sewell.

3rd. Mesdames. E. L. Gatling, C. J. Sawyer, F. M. Allen, H. M. Heil--officers of the U. D. C.

4th. Mrs. S. B. Kenney, Mrs. M. L. Griffin, Mess. Thos. Manning and J. B. Gillam.

5th. Miss Renfrow, Miss Mary Johnson and E. V. Gaskins.

6th. Pony float, Mr. Percy Davis.

7th. Pony float, Master Stephen E. W. Kenney and Robert Turner Bond.

8th. Mrs. Francis D. Winston and T. Gillam Jr.

At the court house awaiting the arrival of the procession, and our state's first citizen and the county's honored son, was the grandest sight of all--one necessarily pitiful short double rank of brave, enduring veterans of the terrible struggle of the sixties--every man but a few days from his biblical allotment of three score and ten, and not a comparative few beyond. It was a noble sight, and filled our heart with emotion. Yet it was sad, as we looked upon their bent forms and weather worn and battle scarred faces and realized how soon it will be when the last one shall have gone and nothing but a loving memory shall live. May that ever keep fresh and fragrant--and it shall.

A halt of a few minutes was had here, and the Veterans gave three long cheers for Bertie's Governor of the great State that was the first at Bethel the last at Appomattox and in the fiercest at Gettysburg; and the

band played Dixie, the Old North State and other airs. Then the procession of people followed the Soldiers and the speakers in the court house, passing under the folds of the emblem of a united country supported by two manly young men, the descendants of those who bore the colors in those turbulent times of '61-'65.

In the court house Aulander's excellent Orchestra, which is not surpassed in the state, dispensed some of the sweetest music it has been our pleasure to hear. Then the program for the meeting of the Old Soldiers began. These exercises were held under the auspices of the Daughters--the Frank Byrd Chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy, of which Mrs. Jos. L. Spivey is now President, and who officiated in rendering the exercises, while the President of the Veterans' Association, the Rev. T. T. Speight, presided.

Judge Francis D. Winston then introduced Governor Craig. In his in-



roduction Judge Winston paid an eloquent tribute to his life-long friend and school-mate. They were boys together; they were students together; and they have achieved eminence and success together--one the present Governor, the other a former Lieutenant Governor and distinguished jurist. It was therefore fitting that he should introduce him. And his introduction was appropriately worded, and delivered in his own happy and inimical style. He is as fine an orator and as distinguished a son as any who have left their county. Governor Craig's speech was great and eloquent. Cheer after cheer greeted him. His tribute to the Confederate Veterans was most eloquent. His references to his old home were most tender and touching. His statement of present day problems were pointed and thoughtful.

At the conclusion of the oration the business of the Association was had. The Secretary, Mr. R. W. Askew, called the roll and there was a most painful yet "eloquent silence fifteen times as fifteen names were called and a dead stillness prevailed. They had answered the call of the Great Captain above. They had passed beyond within the last twelve months. Then election of officers followed with Rev. T. T. Speight being re-elected President.

W. H. Smithwick, Vice-President.
R. W. Askew, Secretary.
Rev. J. R. Matthews, Chaplain.

Benediction was then said and an adjournment had for dinner. This concluded the exercises for the Veterans.

Dinner was served everybody. There were two tables. A table for the Veterans and the Home Comers, and one for the general public--free with the compliments of the day. The Dinner Committee did its duty well. It was a considerable task to arrange and feed such a throng of people, but the task was in the hands of experienced men and was admirably performed. The following gentlemen composed the Committee: Dr. E. W. Push, W. T. Heckstall, T. Gillam, J. T. Nicholls, T. C. Bond, E. L. Gatling, J. W. Cooper, W. S. Pritchard, J. B. Stokes, and J. L. Spivey. They were assisted by Perry Hoggard, Geo. H. Hoggard and S. W. Kenney.

The dinner was in keeping with the other excellent features of the day's program: chicken, ham, beef and fresh meat, vegetables of every kind, pickles, cake, and other sweets, fresh baker's bread, etc. And much was left over.

After dinner the Home Comers

meeting was held. The court house was again packed. The band played Home Sweet Home and several other appropriate selections. The Orchestra followed with quite a number of the select pieces and the exercises began. The musical numbers were all fine. Home Again brought down the house. Those taking part were Mrs. C. J. Sawyer, Mrs. E. L. Gatling, Mrs. Frank Allen, Mrs. H. Bell, Mrs. L. B. Sutton, Mrs. A. Burden, Mrs. S. W. Kenney, Mrs. I. T. Smith, Mrs. A. B. Phelps, Misses Minnie Belle Riddick, Willie Pugh, May Nicholls and A. C. Michell and F. D. Winston. The Secretary then read a number of letters from absent sons and daughters. We have here before published them, save two which appear elsewhere in this issue, a telegram from South Carolina signed by six "Bertie Countians", a letter from Dr. Geo. T. Winston of Asheville. Their letters expressed regrets at not being able to attend and much love for their native county. Some were from sons five thousand miles away.

Gov. Winston, who, in the absence of the Chairman of the Association, presented our countymen, Hon. C. W. Mitchell, who introduced the speaker for the Home Comers, Judge Robert W. Winston, of Raleigh, brother to our townsman. Mr. Mitchell's introduction was timely said. He is a strong speaker, another distinguished son of whom we feel justly proud. His reference to the "Home Stayers" who have remained with us and assisted in our uplift, was indeed pat and appropriate.

Judge Winston's splendid address was mostly reminiscent. He paid fitting tribute to the great men and good women the county has produced, and he especially voiced a great satisfaction at so many evidences of prosperity and progress. He is optimistic grips the attention of his hearers and holds them fast, and pleases and instructs. His address made a profound impression and gave our people their first chance to hear him in a public address. They are delighted that he came.

Several talks were made by the various Home Comers, and Mr. Moses B. Gillam--and the exercises closed.

Thursday night the climax of the County's most gala day was reached when the Thespians, under that masterful hand, who did so much for the day's success, Mrs. Francis D. Winston, a splendid play was presented in the opera house--a war play, entitled Weeping Willows--Aulander's unexcelled Orchestra furnishing the music. It was a great day.

A Letter From Dr. Winston.

Asheville, N. C.

Aug. 7th.

Mr. S. W. Kenney, Secy.

Windsor, N. C.,

My dear Mr. Kenney--

Though absent in person, I am with you heart and soul today in the great gathering of the sons and daughters of Bertie to welcome back his native town and county the illustrious Governor of North Carolina, formerly my friend and pupil, now my friend and teacher, the Hon. Locke Craig, statesman, scholar, orator and philanthropist. It is over a hundred years since Bertie County gave North Carolina a governor; but Bertie governors are not of the ordinary sort: four years of a Bertie governor are equal to a century of the average governor. In the illustrious list of our state executives no names will shine more brightly than David Stone and Locke Craig.

From the formation of our state to the present day not a decade has passed in which Bertie County could not have furnished North Carolina with a capable and efficient governor.

But, as a rule, the friends of Bertie have been too busy for gubernatorial careers--their talents have been employed on cotton, corn and peanuts; herring, shad and speckled perch; deer foxes, and wild turkeys. Some unable to keep up with the Bertie procession, have wandered away to slower communities, to Buncombe or to Wake, to Tennessee or to Missouri. The other wanderers will speak for themselves.

As for myself, memory takes me back daily to some scene in my native county; to the winding shore of the deep silent Cashie with its reedy

banks and its fragrant festoons of yellow jessamine, to the broad, shady streets arched with elms, to the wild, rushing muddy Roanoke, to the broad, placid Chowan, to the Albemarle, with its swamps and fisheries, its moss garlanded cypress trees, and cypress knees, to the old familiar roads, so often traveled, from Colerain and Merry Hill and Seaboard to Windsor. Above all I see the gentle folks, the truest of men and women, whose past lives have made Bertie county what it now is, a land of plenty and power, a land of peace, virtue and happiness, a land worthy to live in and to die in.

Where'er I roam, whatever lands I see,
My heart, unfailing fondly turns to thee
My native land, my dear beloved Bertie
GEO. TAYLOR WINSTON,

COUNTY COM. PROCEEDINGS

The August Meeting of the Board of Commissioners; Routine Business.

Accounts Audited and Paid

The Board of County Commissioners met in Windsor on August 4, with R. L. Shield, Chairman pro tem, presiding and Commissioners J. S. Jenkins, J. B. Stokes and T. W. Griffin.

Minutes of last meeting were read and approved, after which the Board transacted the following business.

On motion it was ordered that Lear Jordan be paid \$1.00 temporary help and be put on the poor list.

On motion it was ordered that \$30. be paid R. J. Shield for services rendered as Commissioner.

On motion it was ordered that W. S. Prichard be paid \$200. for work on computing the taxes.

On motion it was ordered that \$20 be allowed Judge Peebles to employ a stenographer for September term of court.

On motion it was ordered that R. J. Shield and J. S. Jenkins be instructed to order some parts to the road machine in their township.

The following accounts were audited and ordered paid.

P F Cobb, hand-hire and services in Whites township	46.02
P F Cobb, timber, work, etc. on bridges in Whites township	24.10
Whites township road fund from Merry Hill fund	120.00
Ernest White, hand-hire and services in Merry Hill township	56.43
C E Hobbs, house rent for road hands and team Indian Woods	4.50
Jesse Hoggard, hand-hire and services Mitchells township	366.97
S P Hale, work and hand-hire in Sflakebite township.	15.30
Austin Bros. road drag Colerain township,	20.00
W T Heckstall, services and hand hire in Windsor township,	253.04
Jesse Hoggard, work on road machine, lumber, etc.	78.72
Windsor Electric and Power Co.	1.35
Ed Skiles, fixing cable and operating ferry,	37.50
W J Butler, feeding prisoners	40.50
A S Rascoe, mdse court house.	2.97
P T Perry, mdse for road machine	3.85
W H Thompson, work on jail,	12.00
R C Bazemore, vaint, etc. for the court house and jail,	124.16
J F Phelps, mdse for Co. Farm	35.08
E. Rhodes, lumber for jail.	17.97
S P Hale, lumber and work	5.96
Stokes & Tadlock, mdse,	1.50
J F Phelps, services,	50.00
Ernest White, supplies machine	5.10
J J Mardre & Bro, mdse for jail	1.00
W T Heckstall, cement and repairs to machine,	65.31
W M Sanderlin services janitor,	10.00
Edwapes & Broughton, tax-bks,	33.35
P F Cobb, building bridge,	75.40

There being no further business the Board adjourned.

R. J. SHIELD,
Chairman, pro tem.

W. S. Pritchard, Clerk.

Mr. D. A. Pierce, who left the old town thirty years ago, and hasn't returned before, was among the home comers. He was in the jewelry business here and now lives in Maxton. While here he was the guest of Postmaster King.