

State Librarian

# THE SMITHFIELD HERALD.

A. M. Woodall, Editor.

"CAROLINA, CAROLINA, HEAVEN'S BLESSING ATTEND HER!"

Subscription \$1.00 Per Year.

VOLUME 12

SMITHFIELD, N. C., THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 14, 1893.

NUMBER 20.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report.



**Baking Powder**  
ABSOLUTELY PURE

## DIRECTORY.

**COUNTY OFFICERS.**  
Sheriff—J. T. Ellington, office in Court House.  
Superior Court Clerk—W. S. Stevens, office in Court House.  
Recorder of Deeds—J. U. Oliver, office in Court House.  
Treasurer—J. H. Holt, office in the store of E. J. Holt & Co.  
Coroner—L. L. Sasser.  
Surveyor—Romain Lambert.  
Superintendent of Health—Dr. R. J. Noble, office on Second street.  
Board of Commissioners—D. T. Honeycutt, Chairman, Jos. J. Young, I. W. Hootch, W. S. Eldridge and L. P. Creech.  
County Board of Education—J. B. Hardee, W. F. Gerald and H. M. Johnson.  
County Superintendent of Public Instruction, Prof. Ira T. Turlington.

**TOWN OFFICERS.**  
Mayor—Seth Woodall.  
Commissioners—J. A. Morgan and W. L. Woodall, First Ward; W. M. Iron and W. L. Fuller, Second Ward; A. W. Smith and Daniel Thomas, Third Ward; F. J. Williams, J. L. Davis and J. E. Hudson, Fourth Ward.  
Clerk—A. M. Woodall.  
Treasurer—John E. Hood.  
Tax Collector—G. N. Peacock.  
Policeman—J. C. Bingham.  
Town Constable—D. A. Coats.

**CHURCHES.**  
Methodist Church—on Second street, Rev. J. Puckett, Pastor. Services at 11 o'clock a. m. and 7 o'clock p. m. on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. Sunday School every Sunday morning at 9-30 o'clock. Dr. J. R. Beckwith, Superintendent. Prayer meeting every Wednesday evening at 7 o'clock. All are cordially invited to attend these services.  
Missionary Baptist Church—on Second street, Rev. F. H. Poston, Pastor. Services at 11 o'clock a. m. and 7 o'clock p. m. on the fourth Sunday of each month. Sunday School every Sunday morning at 9-30 o'clock. J. M. Beatty, Superintendent. Prayer meeting every Tuesday evening at 7 o'clock. All are cordially invited to attend these services.  
Primitive Baptist Church—on Second street, Jones, Pastor. Services every first Sunday and Saturday before at 10:30 o'clock in each month. All are cordially invited to attend these services.  
Presbyterian Church—Rev. Jno. A. McMurtry, pastor. Services in the academy building every Sunday morning and evening. Sabbath school every Sabbath at 9-30 o'clock a. m.

**SCHOOLS.**  
Furlington Institute—Male and female, Furlington, Ph. B., (U. N. C.) Principal.  
J. L. Davis, A. M., (Trinity College) Assistant. Prof. T. R. Crocker, (Wake Forest) Lecturer and E. B. Grantham, Pennsylvania. J. W. Dennis, Telegraphy. T. J. Lassiter, teacher in Primary Department. Mrs. Ira T. Turlington, Music.

**LODGES.**  
Olive Branch Lodge, No. 37, I. O. O. F., K. S. Sanders, N. G., J. D. Spiders, V. G., Dr. R. J. Noble, Sec'y. Meets in the Masonic Hall every Monday evening at 8 o'clock. All Odd Fellows are cordially invited.  
Fellowship Lodge, No. 81, A. F. and A. M., on Second street. Elias Rose, W. M.; Thos. S. Thain, Secretary. Meets the second Saturday and Fourth Tuesday night in each month. All Masons are respectfully invited.

**COUNTY FARMERS' ALLIANCE.**  
**OFFICERS:**  
W. R. Creech, President; Jos. Fuller Vice President; E. D. Sneed, Secretary; B. A. Wellons, Treasurer; D. R. Stafford, Chaplain; Wm. Richardson, Lecturer. Regular time of meeting, the second Thursday in January, April, July and October.

**A. M. E. CHURCH.**  
On Hancock street, Rev. J. B. McGee, Pastor. Services at 11 o'clock a. m. and at 8 o'clock p. m. on each Second Sunday of each month. Sunday School every Sunday morning at 10 o'clock. W. R. Holt, Superintendent. Class meeting every Thursday night at 8 o'clock. All are cordially invited to attend these services.  
Missionary Baptist Church (colored), Rev. W. T. H. Woodward, A. M., Pastor. Services at 11 o'clock a. m. and 8 p. m. on first and third Sundays in each month. Prayer meeting on Wednesday night of each week at 8 p. m. Sunday School every Sunday evening at 2:30 o'clock. William G. Sanders, Sup't.

## A SIAMESE EXECUTION.

A Siamese named Al Young, who murdered his wife because she had forsaken him for a lover, was executed by decapitation, the method bearing a close resemblance to the Chinese and the spectators showing the same haste in quitting the scene of blood the moment the victim's head was looped off.

Al Young was a young Siamese, who lived near Phraton with his wife. About four months ago she suddenly decamped with a handsome man. The husband tracked the pair like a bloodhound, never leaving their trail till he ran them down in a house where they were hiding. The lover escaped, but the woman was overhauled as she fled and was horribly slashed with a sharp knife, no less than eighteen wounds being made by the maddened husband. He was caught red-handed and convicted. He never showed any fear when sentenced, but he refused to see his mother because he said the sight of her grief would unnerve him.

The execution was for 9 in the morning. As early as 5 o'clock the prisoner was led out, heavy manacled. He formed the central figure in an imposing procession of officials of the department dressed in their richest robes. The whole party took boats and went up the river to the execution grounds. The condemned man was among the coolest in the crowd, chewing betel and apparently enjoying the early morning boat ride.

On the grounds a temporary altar had been erected, and before this the seven superbly built executioners, with drawn sword, made offerings of boars' heads, fowls, rice, etc., and lighted large tapers. Then the swords were anointed. The condemned man meanwhile remained on the funeral barge, where Buddhist priest gave him the last rites. He smoked and chatted after the ceremony and never showed any sign of weakness.

At last he was brought out in front of the altar and placed on freshly cut plantain leaves. The executioner asked his pardon for killing him, after they had wound red sashes around their bodies and placed red handkerchiefs about their heads. A snow white cloth was wound around the condemned man's loins, his ears were stopped with clay so that he should not hear the headman's footsteps as he came behind him. His neck chain and handcuffs were moved and his elbows were secured to a bamboo post, while he was marked on his neck as a guide to the swordsmen.

The executioner, a lusty young Sampson, now approached from behind, advancing with many fancy steps and moving his sword like the baton of a band master. His six associates formed an attentive group, and watched every movement. For a moment the sword gleamed in the air. Then it descended exactly upon the white line. The body fell slightly to one side, the head dropped but hung by a bit of skin, and the man's life blood leaped forth upon the sand. One of the attendants severed the head completely, and another neatly placed it on a pole and exposed it to a crowd of Siamese and Chinese that filled the enclosure. Then the body was hurried to the unmarked grave near at hand, and before five minutes all the large crowd had vanished, and only the grisly head and blood stained sand remained to mark the tragedy.—N. Y. Sun

## THE PUBLIC PRINTER.

He has to do a Good Deal of Work for Small Pay.

"I presume that there comes a time in the life of every lawyer when he entertains an ambition to be a judge," says ex-Senator Moody, of South Dakota. It may probably also be truthfully said that there comes a time in the life of every printer in this country when he entertains a desire or an ambition to secure employment in the government printing office at the national capital.

The public printer is at the head of a great institution which employs over three thousand men and women. The government printing office is a hive of industry, and because of the fact that the employes in this great printing house are not under the protection of the civil service law, there are applicants for employment on hand in person every day either accompanied by their representatives or senators, or bearing letters from men of standing and influence. The officer of the public printer, which is upon the second floor of the building, is the most attractive camping ground in the city for the unemployed.

It costs nearly \$4,000,000 to pay the yearly expenses of this institution. Over \$2,000,000 are paid out annually to the employes in wages, while the quantities of materials consumed by the government printing office are almost staggering in their volume. Last year 223 printers' reams of paper were used, costing over \$600,000. There were also ten tons of printers' ink, twelve tons of glue, six tons of twine, two tons of glycerine, two tons of antimony, one ton of bar tin, one-half ton of plumbago, 800 pounds of pumice stone and 720 pounds of beeswax consumed in the regular business of the government printing office; and there were also 6,000 gallons of oil, 4,500 gallons of benzine, 140 gallons of alcohol, 3,600 packs of gold leaf, 4,000 pieces of book cloth, 3,000 dozen Turkey morocco skins, 230 square feet of calfskin, 4,000 yards of crash, 4,000 dozen sheepskins and 40,000 feet of Russia leather consumed in the regular business. It is claimed by many that the government printing office in Washington is the biggest on the face of the earth. From the expense account epitomized above one would judge that there is some ground for that claim.

It is not generally known, but it is a fact that the big building at the corner of North Capitol and H streets, in which over 3,000 men and women are employed, is a veritable fire trap and a gigantic tinder-box. If a fire should occur in any part of the building a fearful holocaust would result. Three years ago congress appropriated \$250,000 for the purchase of a site and creation of a new building for the government printing office; but real estate dealers in this city have managed, by active and energetic competition, thus far to prevent the selection of any site, and the old death-trap continues in use. In the basement of the building are 75 huge printing presses, while on the floor above there is an immense complement of binding machinery, appliances and fixtures capable of turning out in phenomenally short time, the greatest jobs of printing that can possibly be projected. In the basement and on the ground floor are the press rooms, paper warehouses safety vaults and machine shops. On the second floor are the administrative offices, the main composition room, the job rooms, the stereotyping and electrotyping departments and proof rooms. On the third floor is the bindery and its warerooms. The fourth story is devoted to the publication of the Congressional Record, patent office specifications, and to the necessary warerooms. In addition to the numerous force of printers, compositors, pressmen, stereotypers and book-binders, there are whole battalions of feeders, computers, helpers, assistants, machinists, engineers, messengers, watchmen and laborers. Most of the computers, feeders

and assistants are women and girls, numbering about 1,000 in all, who earn a competence by their labor. In addition to this great central printing office there are five branches under the supervision of the public printer, and they are located for convenience in the treasury, interior, navy, state and war departments for work requiring special secrecy and discretion in those departments.

During the last session of congress a joint committee of both houses undertook to cut down the expenses of the government printing office by recommending the discontinuance of certain publications, but the congress did not act favorably upon the reports of the committee. As a matter of fact the congress is exceedingly extravagant in its orders for printing. One hundred copies of every bill introduced in either house of congress are printed and sent to the secretary and clerk of the senate and house to be placed upon their files. As a matter of fact ten copies would be ample for official use. Thousands of copies of reports of committees are printed from day to day during sessions of congress which should never be put into type. The committees of the senate and house having before them bills for consideration very frequently make reports favorable or unfavorable for the purpose of satisfying the demands of claimants and lobbyists who make daily personal appeals for action upon their bills. As a matter of fact no reports should be made in any cases unless action can be had by both houses of congress. Then there are thousands of reports of the executive department printed which might as well remain upon the archives of the departments in type-written form, because their publications serve no public good. During the closing days of the last session of congress Representative Stockdale, of Mississippi, advocated the increase of the number of copies of the Congressional Record donated to each representative from twenty-two to forty-four daily. It was shown by the chairman of the committee on printing that the adoption of the proposition would carry with it a \$95,000 increase, and the debate upon the subject grew very warm. The proposition, however, was finally rejected. If carried it would have resulted in the practical waste of \$95,000 per annum.

The common people of the country are not interested in the excessive publication of the Congressional Record. It is a very fine thing to have, bound and indexed at the public expense for the use of statesmen and newspaper men, and it makes a handsome addition to the library of a gentleman. But if five copies were daily given to each member of congress, instead of twenty-two, it would be sufficient for the statesmen; and if they needed more to send to the various people in their districts they could purchase and pay for them out of their own pockets.

The present government printing office was not founded until 1861 when Mr. John D. Defrees, of Indiana, was appointed the public printer by President Lincoln, after congress had worried along with other less convenient and satisfactory systems since the government was established in 1789. For many years the public printing was done on a small scale, the house and senate each paying for their own work out of their "appropriations for contingent expenses." For about twenty years prior to 1846 the senate and house elected public printers who were salaried officials. The duties of these officers were to make economical contracts and audit accounts for such printing only as was absolutely necessary. In that year, 1846, when the annual expense of congressional printing reached the enormous sum of \$65,000, it was decided to return to the original contract system. But in 1851 the public printing cost \$500,000, and the office of "superintendent of public printing" was created by act of congress, with a salary of \$3,000 per annum. Strange as it may now appear, Horace Greeley was an applicant for the position, and so was Henry J.

Reymond; both of them destined to become the leading journalists of their day and one of them a candidate for the presidency of the republic.

The law of 1861, creating the office of public printer, is still in force, and under the system then commenced the government printing office has grown to the present proportions. The salary, which is \$4,500, is very small, and no superior man could be induced to accept the office but for the honor of the position. The public printer gives bond in the sum of \$100,000 and is obliged to abstain from any connection with or interest in any printing, binding, lithographing or engraving establishment; so that the entire time, attention, ability and energy of the public printer must be given to the government for \$4,500 per annum. And yet, the duties and responsibilities of the place require the services of a man who is possessed of as much executive ability as would be required of the incumbent of a cabinet position.

The public printer must be a man of absolute incorruptibility and sterling integrity. If he is not, he is always in danger of misdirection; for the temptations of the position are very great. The following story is illustrative: "I do not like that man," said Capt. Meredith, chief of the bureau of engraving and printing three years ago, as we passed a prominent character on the avenue. "It was supposed early in '89 that I would be appointed public printer. That man came to me and asked to be appointed chief clerk of the government printing office, saying he would make me rich if I gave him that position. When I asked how he could do it, he said that, as chief clerk, he would make all contracts for materials for the office, and that he would occasionally hand me an envelope with a thousand dollars in it; and that I need not ask any questions. He had been introduced to me only a week before by an ex-member of a cabinet, and I had presumed that he was a gentleman. I have never permitted him to speak to me since that day."

The above is a true story. It illustrates pointedly and practically the dangers of the position, unless a man is armed so strong in honesty that he is absolutely incorruptible.—SMITH D. FRY, for The A. N. Kellogg Newspaper Co.

## Wealthy Indians.

The Cœur d'Alenes are the wealthiest Indian tribe in the northwest. Many of the Indians have from \$1,000 to \$5,000 on deposit in the local banks, with the merchants or in Spokane. They all own good farms, most of which are fenced and being rapidly placed in cultivation. They have good houses, and many are setting out nice orchards, which will be bearing fruit in a few years. They are very careful with their money, buying but few things they do not need and paying cash for each article as it is purchased, thus allowing no chance for cheating in figuring up a bill. They understand making change, but cannot compute figures. Many of them, especially the children, can read and write, and the latter can be heard reading the signs aloud as they walk along the streets.—Portland Oregonian.

## Baby's Dimensions.

From measurements of 100 infants born in the Royal Maternity Hospital of Edinburgh, averages have been obtained. They are practically the same for American children, and are as follows:

Average weight of male infant at birth, 7.55 pounds.  
Average weight of female infant at birth, 7.23 pounds.  
Average height of female infant at birth, 18.98 inches.  
Each inch of the male infant corresponds to 2.56 pounds. Each inch of the female infant corresponds to 2.62 pounds. The range between the shortest and tallest male infants was ten inches; between the shortest and tallest female infants, eight inches.—St. Louis Republic.

## Pensioners of the Revolution.

Upon the death of Mrs. Anna Maria Young, which occurred at Easton, Pa., on Wednesday, the last Revolutionary widow who drew a pension in this district was stricken from the list. Michael Fritz, the last survivor of the war of 1812 in this district, died about a year ago at his home near Reading. There are still several widows of the survivors of the war of 1812 drawing pensions from the Philadelphia office, and quite a number of the survivors of the Mexican war.

The theory that pensions prolong life by the removal of the constant worry to which aged persons of the poorer classes are subject is borne out by the remarkable vitality of the vast army of pensioners. There are still 15 widows of Revolutionary soldiers drawing pensions throughout the country. Mrs. Young, who died on Wednesday, was the oldest, having been but a few months less than 100. She was the widow of the late Captain Jacob Young, whom she married when she was 22. Despite her tender age, Captain Young was her third husband. The gallant captain survived six months of married life. Mrs. Young leaves 30 great-grandchildren and a large number of great-great-grandchildren, all by her first and second husbands.

When one considers the great disparity in the ages of the surviving Revolutionary widows and their late husbands, it looks very much as though some of the marriages had been purely commercial transactions. The Revolutionary war was over in 1783. Take the case of one of these dames who is now 75 and who married her husband when she was 25 years old. He could scarcely have been less than 20 when the war was over. This would make the marriage take place in 1843. On the theory that he was 20 when the war was over, and she married him, he must have been 80 at that interesting period of his life. Then, when he died shortly after, she merely exchanged a husband for a snug pension.—Philadelphia Record.

## Timing the Speed of a Moving Train.

"There are 33 telegraph poles to the mile on the railroad lines," said T. F. Vansant of New York at the Liadell, "and from this basis it is very easy to determine how fast a train of cars is traveling. Time the passing of 33 poles and subtract the number of seconds it takes from 120, and the difference will be the number of miles per hour the train is traveling. If it takes 45 seconds for the pole to pass, the train is going 120 less 45, or 75 miles per hour. This method is as infallible as counting the clicks made by the car in passing over the joints in the track. The number of clicks heard in 20 seconds is the number of miles per hour the train is making. The length of the railroad rail is uniform everywhere."—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

## A Relic of 1776.

Captain G. W. Bullene, United States inspector of boilers, has a pocket piece which he prizes highly. It is a copper token or souvenir just the size of a silver dollar, issued by authority of the First congress and bearing the date "1776."

On one side is the familiar relief of the Goddess of Liberty, beneath her date, and over her head a group of 13 stars with spreading rays beneath them. Around these is the inscription containing the first of the self-evident truths of the Declaration of Independence, viz., "These united colonies are and of right ought to be free and independent states." The inverse side is so worn that all the lettering cannot be read. Around the margin are the words, "By authority of the congress of the United States." Inside of this is a wreath forming a full circle, in the lower part of which appear the words, "American independence." Above these words the surface is worn, and only the letters "ion" can be made out.—Seattle Post.



## KNOWLEDGE

Brings comfort and improvement and tends to personal enjoyment when rightly used. The many, who live better than others and enjoy life more, with less expenditure, by more promptly adapting the world's best products to the needs of physical being, will attest the value to health of the pure liquid laxative principles embraced in the remedy, Syrup of Figs. Its excellence is due to its presenting in the form most acceptable and pleasant to the taste, the refreshing and truly beneficial properties of a perfect laxative; effectually cleansing the system, dispelling colds, headaches and fevers and permanently curing constipation. It has given satisfaction to millions and met with the approval of the medical profession, because it acts on the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels without weakening them and it is perfectly free from every objectionable substance. Syrup of Figs is for sale by all druggists in 50c and \$1 bottles, but it is manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only, whose name is printed on every package, also the name, Syrup of Figs, and being well informed, you will not accept any substitute if offered.

## STATE NEWS.

The State University opened last Thursday with three hundred students.

Egcomb and Jones counties have a law which prohibits fast driving across public bridges.

Raleigh bought 24,880 bales of cotton during the year ending August 31st, a decrease of 3,030 bales of the year previous.

The State Board of Health has issued a bulletin in which it estimates that one thousand people die of typhoid fever every year in North Carolina.

It seems that there is danger even in "cyclone pits." Mr. Jack Holmes, who lives about 2 1/2 miles from Louisburg, took his family into one of these pits last week (just as the storm of Monday was rising) and one of his children was bitten by a moccasin, while therein. If people will have pits it is very important to have also a guard at the opening to keep away the serpents.—Franklin Times.

A man living in a certain section of western Mecklenburg has a sorrel horse that has a good deal of common sense. There is a distillery just across the Catawba in Gaston county, and when any of the "stuff" is wanted they just tie a jug on this sorrel horse, lead him down to the river and motion him to the other side. The animal plunges in, swims across the river and goes over to the still, at which place his errand is readily understood and his jug filled. Then the horse walks back, swims the river and arrives at his Mecklenburg home, with a jug of whiskey, but "sober as a judge."—Charlotte News.

In digging a well on his farm North of Clinton, last week, Mr. Alvin Royal encountered a rich marl bed about twenty feet below the surface of the earth. Numerous shark's teeth and other fossil remains were taken out all in excellent preservation. Besides, quantities of petrified wood were found. This makes the fourth or fifth marl bed found in Sampson county within the past few years.—In response to our recent enquiry regarding Gov. Gabriel Holmes of this county, and his burial place, a gentleman tells us that Gov. Holmes' grave is in an old burial ground near the old Williams mill, one mile West of Clinton. This information was had from Mr. Peyton Rackley, perhaps the oldest citizen now living in Sampson county. Mr. Rackley is 92 years of age, and says he was called upon to make Gov. Holmes' coffin, but not thinking himself able to do the work as nicely as he thought it should be done, he declined. He distinctly remembers the Governor's death and burial and has no doubt as to the place where the remains of Sampson's illustrious son were laid to rest.—Sampson Democrat.

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A little girl was burned to death in Newbern last week by the explosion of an oil can while attempting to start a fire in a stove.