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GREAT DAMAGE BY FLOOD.

Destruction by Last Week's Storm.

Much Damage at Asheville, Marshall and Other Points Along the Line of the Western Road.

The heavy rainstorm of last week did great damage throughout a large scope of country and western North Carolina suffered much. The following special of Friday to the Charlotte Observer from Asheville thus tells of the disaster:

The rainstorm of yesterday and last night was the most severe of a series of disasters which have visited this section during the past year. Water in the French Broad was two feet higher than in the great trestle last August. For a mile along the river front there is a scene of wreckage, devastation and incalculable loss. There has been but one train in and one out of Asheville in the last 36 hours.

About 2 o'clock this morning railroad men noticed that the water was rising at the rate of 12 inches in three minutes and raised an alarm in the factory district, the lowlands occupied by families of cotton mill and tannery operatives. In the darkness hundreds of cries for help rang out over the roaring waters. The rising water then stretched from hill to hill. With wagons and boats all the cotton mill people were rescued but one family, a man his wife and two babies. These were tannery operatives and were taken to a tannery building, where safe, although cut off from shore. From 5 until 8 o'clock desperate efforts were made to rescue the families of mill workers, which was finally successful. Further down the river a boat containing a woman and her son capsized. A rescuer fought the strong current, bringing both to the shore. The Southern's damage cannot be estimated. Hancock's Son's tannery lost \$10,000 or \$12,000; Asheville Cotton Mills \$2,000 or more. The Biltmore estate farms suffered heavy damages, especially the truck department, the extent of which will not be known until the flood subsides. Many people living along the river front lost all they had.

At 7 o'clock this evening the water has subsided two feet. Melting snow in the mountains, where it is four or five feet deep, added much to the volume of the flood. At Marshall, and it is feared beyond that town, the flood of Thursday night was a terrific disaster. Marshall is a scene of ruin and disorder. The river torrent, leaping the great wall of masonry 13 feet high, that forms a dyke between the river and the town, in the pitch dark night, tore through the long main street of Marshall, working fearful destruction. For a time, near midnight, the whole place seemed doomed.

Water was in nearly every house. The crash of falling buildings rose above roar of the flood. Houses moved from their foundations, toppled, swung around and floated with the torrent. Cars were removed from the track and rode, with a countless variety of debris, on the flood. Horses, cows and swine from the village and above it struggled in the torrent, amid household furniture and millions of feet of lumber. The village street disappeared under the rapid, rising water, and the houses built against the mountain side ceased to promise a safe refuge either for their inmates or for those who fled from the river side of the street.

The damage in Marshall alone is estimated to be from \$10,000 to \$50,000. Those figures are wide apart, but both are given by residents of Marshall who witnessed the flood. The only life lost was that of an unknown man—supposed to have been a tramp. By midnight not a building remained intact on the south side of the street except the three

brick stores owned by Redmond & Gudger.

The building of the Carolina Mineral Company was gradually undermined by the water, rose from its foundations and floated away. It finally came to a stop on the site to the approaches of the main county bridge, and there the ruined building now stands. Mr. Moore, secretary of the company, estimates their loss at \$2,000.

The law office of Senator Prichard and Thos. S. Rollins was moved from its foundations and completely flooded and its contents destroyed, including Senator Prichard's valuable new library. The loss to the law firm is fully \$2,000 in books and papers and damage to the building.

Three freight cars that were on the switch at the depot were floated from their place and lodged where the Mineral Company's buildings had stood.

In front of the county jail was a long trestle. The flood threw this against the jail and stove in the walls of the building. When the water was nearly to the second floor Sheriff Ramsey and Jailer Henderson released the nineteen prisoners in the jail—five of whom were women—and taking them to the court house placed them under guard.

This flood was the worst in the history of Marshall. In 1876 there was a flood that did much damage, but the rise of water Thursday was six feet higher than on that occasion.

Echoes of the Storm.

The approach to Greenlee siding, on the Western road near Marion, was washed away.

Five lives are reported to have been lost in Marshall during the storm, and reports from that section of western North Carolina say that two others are known to have perished in the flood.

The Southern Railway has every available force at work repairing its lines. Several depots at stations on the French Broad river were carried away.

The storm covered large territory but seems to have been most severe in North Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia, Tennessee, Pennsylvania and Georgia. At Pittsburg, Pa., and contiguous territory the damage was great. At Pittsburg Saturday night the Allegheny river had about reached highwater mark.

A dispatch from Atlanta, Ga., under date of Friday says: "Not in many years have the southeastern Gulf States experienced damage so widespread by a storm as that which, on yesterday spread over a section of country embracing Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Florida. As far as known several lives were lost and several persons injured. The damage is enormous, the railroads being particularly heavy sufferers."

Great damage was done at Pulaski and other points in Virginia, and throughout Tennessee.

Paterson, N. J., which was swept by fire three weeks ago, was partially inundated Sunday by the overflow of the Passaic river.

The railroads are the greatest sufferers, but river towns and manufacturing enterprises located on streams have suffered much. The loss of life is comparatively small but the property loss is immense.

A Sudden Death.

Rev. J. H. Gillbreath, a Methodist Protestant minister, died suddenly at the home of Mr. J. K. Hollowell here Wednesday afternoon. He was about 70 years of age and had been in his usual health up to a few hours before his death.

He came here a few days ago to spend sometime with his daughter-in-law, Mrs. H. Gillbreath, a sister of Mr. Hollowell. He was taken yesterday to his home in Vance county and buried at Union Chapel Methodist Protestant church. Mr. J. K. Hollowell and Mrs. H. Gillbreath accompanied the remains.

GENERAL NEWS ITEMS.

Brief Summary of the Week's Happenings.

Some of the Most Important News of the World Condensed for the Readers of The Herald.

The commission appointed to revise the laws of Porto Rico has completed its labors.

The installation of a new fare register on the trolley lines at Norfolk, Va., has caused a strike.

Two persons were killed in a collision of freight and passenger trains at Blanchards, N. D., Saturday.

Governor Taft, of the Philippines, says about one-fourth of the people of the Moro Islands are in slavery.

Mr. Charles Broadway Rous, widely known as a merchant and a philanthropist, died in New York Monday.

Two branches of the Lead Trust in Ohio have reduced their capital to a few thousand dollars to escape taxation.

The Minnesota Senate last week adopted a protest against allowing England to buy horses and mules in the United States.

Life imprisonment and costs of the trial is the sentence imposed upon Vernon Rogers at Cleveland, O., for killing his sweetheart.

Former Secretary of the Treasury Lyman J. Gage has accepted the presidency of the United States Trust Company, of New York.

The will of Charles Broadway Rous leaves his fortune to relatives. His estate is estimated to be worth more than three million dollars.

Because his wife was enamored of another man Stephen P. Papwicki, of Chicago Ill., killed her with a penknife and then killed himself last Saturday.

Ed Holland, aged 16 years, committed suicide by shooting himself through the heart at his home in Columbia, S. C., Tuesday night. A love affair caused the trouble.

The name of Senator W. A. Clark, of Montana, is mentioned as chairman of the Democratic Congressional Committee, to succeed Representative James D. Richardson, who will retire.

A south-bound passenger train on the Columbia branch of the Southern Railway went through a trestle into a creek at midnight Friday night near Zetella, Ga. The engineer, fireman, baggage-man and a mail clerk were killed and several passengers injured but none fatally. The trestle had been weakened by heavy rains.

For the first time in 44 years John Hoffman, of Bellefontaine, Ohio, and Mrs. Ellen Arters, of Pottsville, Pa., brother and sister, met Tuesday. The brother entered his sister's home as a vendor. Chance remarks about incidents in their childhood led to the discovery. The two were residents of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania.

President Roosevelt has designated Ralph Earle Sampson, a son of Rear Admiral W. T. Sampson, for examination for a cadetship at the United States Naval Academy. These cadetships have been assigned as follows: First, Woodward Philip, a son of the late Rear Admiral John Philip, who commanded the battleship Texas in the Santiago naval campaign; second, O. W. Howard, a son of Major Gay Howard, U. S. Army, and third, Prestry Morgan Taylor, a son of Rear Admiral Henry C. Taylor, who commanded the battleship Indiana in the Santiago naval campaign.

In Davidson Superior Court at Lexington last week H. A. Welborn was tried for shooting three chickens belonging to a neighbor. The charge was cruelty to animals. Welborn had to pay 25 cents apiece for the chickens he killed and also pay the costs of the action.

PRINCETON DOTS.

J. Ben Howell went down in Wayne to see his father yesterday.

On account of so much bad weather, our farmers have not done much on their farms to date.

Mr. Johnnie Bucher, who has been quite sick of rheumatism for the last month, is improving we are glad to note.

Master Alkie Massey accidentally fell and hurt his foot a few days ago. The last heard of him he was a great deal better.

Rev. K. D. Holmes preached for us last Sunday and night, his regular appointment. A good many were out to hear him.

The new barber shop recently opened by J. T. Edwards is quite a "swell" place. Those who want an up-to-date hair cut or shave should not fail to call and see him.

Our clever postmaster, Mr. I. W. Massey, is confined to his room on account of a severe attack of rheumatism. We hope he will soon be on the road to recovery.

Our street commissioners are doing some much needed work on east end of Front street this week. The weather has been so disagreeable and wet that the work could not have been done sooner.

Rev. W. G. Hall, the Baptist minister who would have preached at this place last third Sunday, but did not on account of the snow storm, will be here on the third Sunday in this month, also the fifth Sunday. Everybody is invited to come out and hear him.

Princeton should be one of the most thriving and hustling little towns in eastern North Carolina. It has sufficient water power within two miles of its center, so much so that a large factory or flour mill could easily be operated. It also could furnish the needed employees at ordinary salaries, as all hands would beat home. Then again, there is a bonanza for a man with capital to erect a tobacco warehouse here. We would not miss it much if we said everybody in this part of the county was going to raise tobacco this year. Only this week we heard one of our leading merchants say there was enough oil in Boon Hill township to supply the State for years. Why? because there is reason to believe that a few miles from here oil could be had for the "digging." All about the above mentioned place the ground is oily. Some body should investigate.

E.

PINE LEVEL ITEMS.

Mr. L. H. Taylor was in town Sunday.

Mr. D. U. Oliver and wife, visited Goldsboro last week.

Mr. J. L. Davis has been spending a few days in town.

Rev. Mr. Stencil has been preaching here for the last week.

Rev. J. H. Worley filled his appointment at Pleasant Grove Sunday.

Mr. J. F. Kornegay, (our policeman) is intending spending a few days abroad.

We are very sorry to learn that Mrs. Bettie Giles, of Goldsboro, formerly of this place, is seriously ill.

Miss Lillian Holt's school closed here Friday. Our little one's were sorry to see Miss Lillian's departure. She was greatly loved by her students.

Rev. W. G. Hall, of Smithfield, delivered a rich sermon in the Baptist church Sunday afternoon, followed by a short talk from Mr. J. M. Beaty. Both were greatly enjoyed by the people.

The elements have been having a playful or war-like time of late. High winds, rain showers, a little summer-like season, and then a change to almost winter; so we report these "capers" of the weather to the public.

CEPHERS.

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS.

Some Happenings of the Week Tersely Told.

Many Items of Interest Concerning Tarheeldom Clipped and Culled From the State Press.

Sheriff George A. Burns, of Cumberland county, died yesterday morning.

Tuesday the Senate passed the bill appropriating \$100,000 for a public building at Durham.

The North Carolina State Sunday School convention is called to meet at Fayetteville, March 18 to 20.

Four white men were put off the train at Marion Friday afternoon and after being put off they fired several shots at the train. They were subsequently captured and put in jail.

Norfolk capitalists are contemplating the erection of a large modern hotel at Raleigh and say the plans will positively be carried out if Raleigh capitalists will take some of the stock.

Fayetteville is preparing to hold a big good roads meeting in April and Gov. Aycock has been invited to be present. It is proposed to issue bonds for \$100,000 for road improvement.

The Winston Journal says that Old Man Billy Lovell, of Yadkin county, aged 80 years, fell from his barn loft, a distance of eight feet, Saturday morning, 22d ult., and sustained injuries from which he died.

James Ellis was shot from ambush while driving along the road near Saratoga in Wilson county about sunset Tuesday and received injuries from which he died next morning. There is no clue to the murderer.

The growth of the Odd Fellows in this State continues to be remarkable. The receipts this year will be nearly \$11,000. There were received Saturday applications for new lodges at Jackson, Northampton county, and Wadesboro.

The Apex Canning Company is taking steps to induce the farmers to plant tomatoes so that they will have a full supply this season. The Apex News shows that at twenty-five cents a bushel tomatoes pay better than cotton at ten cents.

At Goldsboro Friday morning John Holmes, colored, was shot in the yard of Col. T. H. Bain while stealing corn. The weapon used was a shot gun loaded with bird shot. The negro was peppered in the face and breast and will likely lose both eyes. His wounds are not fatal.

The bill appropriating \$30,000 for a life saving station at Bluff Shoals on Pamlico Sound has passed both Houses of Congress and only awaits the President's signature to become a law. The bill appropriating \$6,000 for a life saving station at Bogue Inlet has also passed both Houses.

A call has been issued for a State Convention of colored men in Raleigh on April 15 "for the purpose of reorganization and to have a calm discussion of what plan is best to pursue, and for the purpose of creating a greater stimulus for improvement in the industrial and educational conditions of our people."

At Marion Thursday night Bob Montgomery, a colored prisoner in jail, called the jailer and when the latter went to him Montgomery knocked the lamp out of his hand and ran down stairs, jumped through a window and made his escape. He was under sentence of three months on the chain gang for fighting.

The storm at Morganton Thursday night demolished the iron stack of the Burke tannery and a new frame residence and many electric light poles were blown down. The Catawba river in Burke was 20 feet above low water mark, and several Burke county streams surpassed the high flood record made last May.

SELMA NEWS.

Mr. D. H. Graves was here last Sunday.

Mr. Oscar Price is building a home on Webb street.

Mr. J. A. Wall, of Wilson's Mills, was here Wednesday.

Mr. Bertie Graves, of Fayetteville, is visiting Mr. E. W. Vick.

Miss Annie Tucker, of Wendell, is visiting her sister, Mrs. R. E. Richardson.

Misses Castlebury and Barnes, of Wilders, spent Sunday with Miss Mary Hatcher.

R. B. Whitley went to Clayton Monday to attend a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Clayton Cotton Mills.

Mr. M. C. Winston came from Norfolk Wednesday where he had been to buy horses and mules to supply his trade which is increasing greatly.

Mr. M. A. Hooks, who has been here the past winter buying cotton for Sprunt & Son of Wilmington, left Monday for Charlotte, his old home. Sorry to see him leave.

Mr. J. B. Bailey, of O'Neals township, is building a nice cottage near Mr. C. B. Waddell's and will move his family here next fall to get the benefit of our graded school.

Mr. L. B. Debnam, of Clayton, was here Wednesday. The weather has been so bad since February 1st that no work has been done on the bank; but, when the weather opens, a large force of hands will be put on and the building pushed to completion.

Mrs. J. A. Griffin, of Clayton, was here Monday and rented a store in which to open a first-class millinery store. She will go to Baltimore in a few days to purchase her spring stock. The store, R. B. Whitley's store on the corner of Railroad and Railroad streets, is being refitted and painted and will make quite a nice appearance when finished. We know she will do well here. We have needed such a store here a long time.

The bill at the Watson-Buffalo Mills is being graded and will be finished this week if the weather permits. Buffalo Hill has always been a bad hill to pull a load up, but when it is finished it will be an easy pull. We know the farmers of O'Neals, will appreciate the work done on the hill and come here to sell their cotton and tobacco. One hundred and seventy-five bales of cotton has been sold here since Monday which shows that the farmers know where to sell their cotton and when the tobacco market opens they will find out that Selma is the place to sell their tobacco.

A School Close.

The Fitzgerald school, taught by Miss Mary Stencil, of near Selma, and Mr. George Braswell, of near Pine Level, closed February 20th, 1902, Miss Stencil being the principal and Mr. Braswell the assistant.

On the night of the 21st an entertainment was given. The exercises began at 7 o'clock p. m., and lasted until about twelve. The pupils acted their parts well, and all the parents and friends went home well pleased. Both pupils and teachers deserve credit. In spite of the snow and rain they assembled at the school house and toiled on with their practice for the entertainment. I wonder how many public schools continued during that snow? The work that the pupils did that week showed the ambition they possessed, and we well know they will stand a storm where others fail. The teachers were kind and firm in their dealings with the pupils and won the love and respect of all. Miss Mary has taught several schools, and has the reputation of being a good teacher wherever she goes, and seems to win many friends. We hope the pupils and teachers will always have success in all their undertaking.

A VISITOR.