

# The Smithfield Herald.

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NO. 6.

## STATE NEWS.

Wilksboro voted last week to establish a graded school.

Senator Simmons has appointed Wm. R. Smith, Jr., of Weldon as a cadet to Annapolis.

Greenville has voted \$75,000 of bonds for a graded school and for public improvements.

The State printing commission has awarded the contract for all the State printing to E. M. Uzzell of Raleigh.

The safe in the postoffice at Windsor, Bertie county, was cracked Wednesday night and robbed of \$400.

J. A. Braxton, 27 years old, drowned himself at Kinston Saturday by deliberately plunging into a shallow pool of water. He was suffering from excessive indulgence in liquor.

Capt. William R. Kenan, of Wilmington, died in Johns Hopkins hospital at Baltimore Tuesday. He was collector of customs at Wilmington during Cleveland's last administration.

The sheriff of Guilford reports to the Auditor his collection of 1902 taxes netting the State \$25,900.57. This is \$2,000 more than the State has ever received from Guilford before.

The negro James Bruce, who fatally wounded Officer Robertson in Henderson, in the fight there Thursday night, died of his wounds at Rex Hospital in Raleigh Saturday morning.

Mr. A. J. Johnson, of Sampson county, says the huckleberry crop of Sampson, which is usually worth \$50,000 to the county, has been cut off 75 per cent. by the cold snap. The strawberry crop is also damaged, probably 25 per cent.

Vance Spivey, the negro convict who was under sentence to be hanged on May 16, committed suicide in the jail at Halifax Tuesday night of last week by cutting his throat with a piece of iron which he took from the bottom of his shoe. He was a terribly vicious negro and exceedingly dangerous.

At a meeting of the committee Thursday night, Thomas S. Rollins was unanimously elected chairman of the State Republican Executive Committee to succeed ex-Senator Pritchard, resigned. He is a son-in-law of the latter. The committee recommends ex-Judge Robinson, of Goldsboro, as member from North Carolina of the Republican National Committee.

Prof. Jno. B. Carlyle, of Wake Forest College, says there are now 314 students there. The commencement will be May 24th. Rev. E. O. Dargan, of Louisville, Ky., will preach the sermon on Sunday. Monday Congressman Claude Kitchen delivers the address to the law class. Tuesday Rev. D. R. P. Johnson pastor of the Fifth Avenue Baptist church, New York, will deliver the literary address. Tuesday night Mr. J. Wm. Bailey will be the alumni orator, and a banquet will follow. Wednesday the graduating exercises will be held.

A patent has been granted Mr. Howard F. Jones, general superintendent of the Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company, for a very much needed device, viz: an instrument that the farmer can hang up in his barn while curing tobacco and set it to any degree of heat that best suits the tobacco, and it will notify him by an alarm bell at the sleeping place that the temperature has reached the danger point above or below the degree he determined upon. This device will enable one man to do the curing and get all the rest he desires. It will also prevent "scalding" or "running" of the tobacco, and enables the farmer who has good judgment to invariably make a good cure of his tobacco. Often fine barns of tobacco are ruined by the attendant falling asleep or "taking chances" upon the heat being as he "thought it was."

Dr. Ira Remsen, president of Johns Hopkins University, will deliver the commencement address at Davidson College May 26.

The Anti-Saloon League people in Asheville have decided to nominate a municipal ticket and to make their first fight against liquor by trying to control municipal offices.

Thirteen graduates in medicine, five in pharmacy and six in law received diplomas at the Leonard School of Medicine and Pharmacy and Department of Law of Shaw University, colored, in Raleigh last week.

Mr. R. D. Heath, of Charlotte, through his pastor, Rev. T. F. Marr, has given Trinity College \$2,000, to be known as the Heath Scholarship Fund, and used to aid worthy poor boys in securing an education.

The sheriff of Cherokee carried three convicts to the penitentiary. Upon his return home he sent the Auditor his account for \$152.30. He charged 405 miles at ten cents a mile and per diem. The account was not allowed and was sent back.

Mrs. Helen Green, of Charlotte, whose finger was broken in a runaway which resulted from her horse being frightened by an engine on the Southern Railway, has been awarded \$500 damages against the railroad by a Mecklenburg jury.

## 100 WET TO PLOW.

But the Week was Moderately Favorable for Crops.

The weekly crop bulletin issued by the North Carolina section of the Weather Bureau for the week ending Monday, April 13th, says:

The past week may be described as moderately favorable for agricultural interests in the eastern portion of the state, and as rather unfavorable in many western counties where the precipitation was heavy enough to completely interrupt farm work. Rain occurred generally on the 7th and 8th, and the night of the 12th, and the soil is still too wet to plow in most counties, especially in the west. However, Thursday, Friday and Saturday were fair and warm and considerable plowing was done on the uplands. The temperature averaged above normal the entire week and ranged as high as 80 degrees on the 12th. Vegetation has advanced rapidly in the extreme west and forest trees show considerable growth. The only disadvantageous feature at present is the backwardness in plowing and other preliminary preparations.

Planting corn made some progress on uplands, and early planted has come up nicely. Preparations for cotton have begun in the south and the large amount of fertilizer being used indicates that a large crop of cotton will be planted. Tobacco plants are very forward and fine for the season, transplanting has just begun, an unusually early date for the commencement of this work. Winter wheat and oats are still fine, though complaints of some damage by excessive moisture and rust are more numerous; frost caused some yellowing, which will disappear with warmer weather. Truck crops are doing well. Irish potatoes are being planted and a large portion of the crop is up. Shipments of truck and strawberries are becoming quite heavy.

The consensus of opinion in regard to the damage caused by the freeze on the 5th is that the injury is less than expected. Peaches, apples, plums and cherries undoubtedly suffered serious injury in the central-west portion, but less in the east where the fruit had set to considerable size; many correspondents state that there are plenty of peaches left; many apple trees are now in bloom and are safe. The damage to strawberries was less than 20 per cent, but much greater to truck crops away from the coast line, especially to peas and beans, necessitating considerable replanting. Warm, dry weather is needed.

## General News Items.

Fully 200,000 visitors enjoyed Easter at Atlantic City, New Jersey.

The United States Entomologist estimates that the loss of fruit by insects is about \$300,000,000 annually.

Serious labor troubles have broken out in Europe. Holland and Rome, Italy, are the immediate sufferers.

During the past year 1,520 locomotives were constructed at the Baldwin Locomotive Works in Philadelphia.

Many applications have been filed for the post of consul general at Guayaquil, Ecuador, despite the yellow fever epidemic raging there.

Two persons were burned to death and five more or less injured in a fire which destroyed a residence in Indianapolis early Sunday morning.

A dispatch from Evergreen, Ala., says that a wind storm visited the northern section of the county Monday, destroying considerable property and killing Henry Solden.

Brigham Young, president of the Council of Twelve Apostles of the Mormon church, died in Salt Lake City. He was born at Kirtland, O., in 1836, and was the eldest son of President Brigham Young.

The appropriations thus far made for the Louisiana Purchase Exposition aggregate \$10,000,000. And there are more to come. It looks as though the big show is to be a record-breaker as to expenditure.

Rufus Durst, a young white man, at Pleasant Cross, S. C., Monday, shot and instantly killed John Shaver, aged 60 and the father of a family. The trouble grew out of a dispute as to land rented by Shaver.

Ex-Senator McLaurin, of South Carolina, in an interview says the Mohawk Valley Steel Company, of which he is vice-president, has let contracts for the building of an immense iron and steel plant at Brunswick, Ga., to cost \$10,000,000.

The Hon. Edward M. Shepard has accepted an invitation to address the Alabama Bar Association at its annual meeting in Montgomery in June next. Judge Alton B. Parker is to address the Georgia Bar Association about the same time.

The Peking correspondent of The Times says the Imperial Postal Service organized under the Maritime Customs is attaining great proportions. The postal matter in 1901 amounted to 5,000,000 items and in 1902 to 11,000,000 items.

Punish Arnold, 15 years old, at Newnan, Ga., was killed Monday afternoon while playing baseball. He was struck over the heart by a swift ball and fell to the ground. Physicians were summoned, but the boy expired within a few minutes.

The Southern Pacific steamer El Rio ran down and sank the schooner Margaret L. Ward, 28 miles east of Galveston bar Monday. Two children of Captain McKown, of the schooner, and one man were lost. Others of the crew were rescued.

Adlai E. Stevenson, former vice president of the United States, lost his hair and mustache and received painful burns on his face, head and hands while trying to extinguish a fire in his home. He retreated before the flames caught his clothing. The loss to the house was \$1,000.

The writer of the famous poem, "Little Things," beginning "Little drops of water, little grains of sand," Mrs. Julia A. Fletcher Carpey, celebrated her 80th birthday at her home in Galesburg, Ill., on Monday last. She wrote the poem in 1845, when she was a teacher in a school in Boston, and her purpose was to persuade her scholars of the value of little things.

## WILLIAM J. BEST DEAD.

Once Figured in This State—Built Road From Goldsboro to Smithfield.

A dispatch from San Francisco says that Wm. J. Best, of New York, died of apoplexy at San Rafael Monday. In 1880 Mr. Best was an important personage in North Carolina. He came to this State as the representative of wealthy New York bankers and business men and proposed to buy the Western North Carolina Railroad, then owned by the State. Gov. Jarvis called the Legislature in special session in the spring of 1880 and the road was sold to Best and his associates. He took possession of the road but his schemes for the management were so extravagant that his New York backers deserted him and the road was sold, through the influence of Col. A. B. Andrews, to the Richmond & Danville Company. The close of his career in this State is thus given by the Raleigh Post:

"Mr. Best afterwards enlisted the support of a Boston bank and several wealthy Bostonians and endeavored to secure the return of the Western road to his control. As one step in this direction he leased the Atlantic and North Carolina road, and entered upon the construction of the North Carolina Midland Railroad from Goldsboro, intending to build an air line from the latter place to Salisbury, thus connecting with the Western road, in case he could recover the latter, and establish an all-State line from Morehead to Tennessee. Under this scheme he completed the road from Goldsboro to Smithfield. His efforts to recover the Western road created a great deal of excitement and no little animosity among public men of that day, Governor Vance espousing the cause of Mr. Best while most others, especially western men who were anxious for the completion of the road, and had lost faith in Mr. Best because of his first failures, felt assured of the good purposes of Col. Andrews and the Richmond & Danville authorities because of their earnest activity after assuming control. Mr. Best lost in his contention, his Boston bank failed, and this resulted in his surrender of his lease and loss of the Midland-Goldsboro and Smithfield link.

"Thus ended the career of Mr. Best in this State. He was a genial, whole-souled, impulsive Irishman, and his aspirations for a fine, elaborately furnished, Wall street office, suitable for a president of so important a factor in Southern development as the Western North Carolina Railroad were as soothing to his soul as they were alarming to his financial backers."—Statesville Landmark.

## Last Inter-Society Contest.

The last inter-society contest for the session at Turlington Institute took place last Friday night.

The following query was discussed:

Resolved, That the Fifteenth Amendment to the constitution of the United States be repealed.

The debaters were: Affirmative—J. F. Brinson and J. L. Jones; Negative—Oscar Creech and J. R. Barbour.

The committee rendered the following decision:

Debate won by negative.

Best reader—O. R. Rand.

Best declaimer—Clarence Johnson.

Best reciter—Miss Virginia Stephenson.

## Makes A Clean Sweep.

There's nothing like doing a thing thoroughly. Of all the Salves you ever heard of, Bucklen's Arnica Salve is the best. It sweeps away and cures Burns, Sores, Bruises, Cuts, Boils, Ulcers, Skin Eruptions and Piles. It's only 25c, and guaranteed to give satisfaction by Hood Bros., Druggists.

O K Stoves and Ranges.

## WASHINGTON LETTER.

Special Correspondence of THE HERALD.

Washington, D. C., April 15, 1903.—The scandal in the Post Office Department is one of the most flagrant examples of Republican administration furnished since the war. The charges—and they are well fortified—disclose a colossal scheme of jobbery. Several officials have resigned. Others don't dare. Several of the high officers of the department seem to have plundered right and left. In view of the millions annually spent for the postal service it is readily seen how venal officials could "rake-off" enormous sums yearly.

The jobbery apparently grew up under Hanna's man Perry S. Heath, who as First Assistant Postmaster General was a politician if nothing worse. The department was administered like a Chinese province and whether or not Heath was a direct beneficiary his methods bred up the rotten system now being pitched into the sunlight.

And this sort of thing has been going on while letter carriers, post-office clerks and railway postal employees are underpaid and overworked.

If the contracts for carrying the mails over the railroads were as economically let as they should be and could be, and the purloined millions were saved to the government, the postal employees could be paid decent salaries and there would be money left over besides.

Exposure in this case came as a result of a row among officials. Robert J. Wynne, who believes in having his authority respected, got mad at some of the well-trenched officials who were amused at Wynne's efforts to direct. Wynne was recently appointed First Assistant Postmaster General. The other fellows had been in their jobs for years and were rated as experts.

So Wynne resorted to the familiar device of starting a fire behind his enemies and the disclosures resulted.

There is considerable comment here over the special train in which the President and his companions are making their flying trip over the country, and from the tail gate of which he is making his bid for the Republican nomination. That train is a marvel of magnificence. Nothing like it was ever seen before. Compared to the President's train those of King Edward and Kaiser William look like an American train of immigrant cars. The fact that this train is a "deadhead" train is what is causing the comment here. The President and his retinue of clerks, stenographers, newspaper men, telegraphers, etc., are guests of the railroad companies over whose various lines they are carried in this superlatively luxurious style.

They enjoy the "hospitalities" of the railroads, for if there were any arrangement for reduced fares it would be a flagrant violation of the interstate commerce act and the recently enacted Elkins law. What do the people of the country think of the propriety of the President of the United States accepting this "deadhead" favor at the hands of the railroads when they are going to the Congress and to the administration almost every day and asking favors? That is a question for the people to answer.

This "deadhead" trip is in striking contrast to another special train trip that will leave the city of Chicago next fall. That special train will carry a delegation of congressmen and their wives for a trip through the territories of Oklahoma, New Mexico, Indian Territory and Arizona, in order that the members thus carried might see for themselves the country and the people in those territories that were denied statehood by the Republican party.

The entire expense of this trip, train, mileage and everything, will be paid out of the pocket of that public-spirited Democrat, William Randolph Hearst. He is doing it for the benefit of the people of those territories and

not as a pleasure junket for congressmen. He will do it because he believes those people should have justice at the hands of Congress, and he is not asking any favors at the hands of railroads. Which method of special training over the country do the people think is more becoming of these two, and which the more truly American in spirit?

Some of the leaders of the Democratic party were here recently and they discussed the probabilities and possibilities of the future of the party and possible or probable candidates for the presidency on the Democratic ticket. It is the consensus of opinion among those to whom I have talked that no man can or ought to be nominated who did not loyally support the party and the ticket in '96 and 1900 and that will eliminate several names that have been mentioned in this connection. Among them is the name of David R. Francis, of Missouri. There is no doubt that some of the friends of the latter are quietly starting a boom for him as a sort of a feeler. They figure that he will acquire great prestige as the head of the World's Fair, and that the convention will be held in St. Louis on account of the Fair. They seem to forget that the people won't forget that he was a bolter in 1896, and that he can not carry his own state delegation in the convention.

Senator Gorman has his friends among those who have talked recently, and so has Judge Parker, of New York. They nearly all agree that the man should come from the East, and one man who is a leader of the party on the floor of the House said the other day that there was a man in the East who would have to be reckoned with as a potent factor before the next convention and who, he said, was the real hero of the masses of the people in this country, and that man is William Randolph Hearst.

"Prosperity strikes" is the very significant designation of a New York newspaper for the strikes on April 1, when several hundred workmen stopped work because their demands for higher wages were refused. The workmen are simply striking for some of the prosperity which the trusts and monopolies have been enjoying for several years. The workmen, along with the rest of us, have been paying the high prices and rates which have made the trusts and railroads prosperous, and they are now asking for their share of prosperity. As a matter of fact it will take an increase of 40 per cent in money wages to put real wages as high as they were in 1897, for, according to Dun's tables of prices, the cost of living is 40 per cent higher now than in 1897. Yet we call this prosperity.

CHARLES A. EDWARDS.

## MICRO DOTS.

The farmers in this section are nearly ready to set tobacco.

W. E. Smith has just received his spring and summer stock of goods.

We are very glad to note that Mrs. Jane Smith, who has been quite sick, is improving now.

Mr. George Wiggs, who lives near here, wears a smile as long as your arm. He is the happy father of a 10 pound boy.

REX.

## Robbed The Grave.

A startling incident, is narrated by John Oliver of Philadelphia, as follows: "I was in an awful condition. My skin was almost yellow, eyes sunken, tongue coated, pain continually in back and sides, no appetite, growing weaker day by day. Three physicians had given me up. Then I was advised to use Electric Bitters; to my great joy, the first bottle made a decided improvement. I continued their use for three weeks, and am now a well man. I know they robbed the grave of another victim." No one should fail to try them. Only 50 cents, guaranteed, at Hood Bros., drug store.