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## WASHINGTON LETTER.

Short Sketch of John Sharp Williams, the Next Minority Leader in Congress.

(Special correspondence to THE HERALD.)

Washington, D. C., June 23.—Some time ago I told the readers of this correspondence that I would give them a few sketches of some of the public men of the nation, whose names are seen in print almost every day, and I will begin by saying a few words concerning the Hon. John Sharp Williams, of Mississippi. Mr. Williams will be the next floor leader of the Democratic party in the national House of Representatives, and it is well that the Democrats of the country should know something of him.

Mr. Williams has been in Congress for the past ten years, but not until the past four years has he asserted himself and obtained the standing in that body that he deserves to occupy. His brilliant intellect might not then have flashed across the horizon of the House, being a modest man, had it not been for the extremely poor leadership suffered by the democracy during that period. The leader of the minority party in the House is always the man who receives the caucus nomination for Speaker by that party. That distinction, for the past four years, has been enjoyed by the Hon. James D. Richardson, of Tennessee.

Mr. Richardson is a good man and one of the very best parliamentarians in the House, but he is a weak leader. He lacks political courage. When the Republicans would hit the Democrats over the head with a club, instead of hurling back a brick and scabbing some one's head, Mr. Richardson invariably would apologize for being on the face of the earth. This disgusted and disheartened the Democrats, and we invariably got the worst of it until De Armond, of Missouri, or John Sharp Williams came to the rescue and poured some hot shot into the ranks of the enemy enough to retire from the field.

It was just by such spurts as this that John Sharp Williams came to be known and appreciated as one of the ablest men on the floor of the House, loved and admired by the Democrats and feared and respected by the Republicans. It was, therefore, with great pleasure that the majority of Democrats greeted his announcement last winter that he would be a candidate for the Democratic caucus nomination for Speaker when the 58th Congress assembled. It did not take long for enough members to enroll themselves under his banner to assure his nomination, and thereby make him the titular floor leader of the Democrats during the life of that Congress.

His leadership will put snap and vim and go into the Democrats from the very outset. They will have confidence in their leader who will always confer with his colleagues. They know that when he hews out a line of policy that he seldom will make a mistake. They also know that when he gets after the Republicans the latter will be very chary in their attacks on the Democratic party. They have tested the steel of Mr. Williams more than once and they have no appetite for it. When in debate with him they know that their statements must be photographic in their accuracy or they will be badly tripped before he gets through with them.

In a professional beauty contest Mr. Williams would be a selling-plater. He would be a good hundred-to-one shot. His personal pulchritude is absolutely nil, but there is no discount on the quality of gray matter under his hat. He has a fine, well-shaped head, covered with bushy curling brown hair, a fine eye and a scraggy mustache, but his body is small and as thin as a stepchild's bread and butter. But where he defaults in comeliness of person, he makes good in intellectual brilliancy. One forgets all about the fact that he is

not a physical giant when he is on his feet, and you are listening to that well-modulated and penetrating voice and watching that long index finger which he persistently throws at the enemy. From his mouth rolls chunks of wisdom and eloquence fashioned in the most exquisite English ever heard on the floor of the House.

It is an intellectual treat to hear him. When he rises he can always count on a full press gallery and the cloak rooms always empty themselves into the House, and that is the greatest compliment any member of the House can receive. In short, John Sharp Williams is an able debater, a finished orator, as true a Democrat as ever marked the earth, as brave as a lion, and as relentless as fate when he goes after a Republican juggler with facts and figures. When he gets in action next winter there will be more Republican hair sailing around the atmosphere of the House than one has seen since the days of Ben Hill, Lamar, Alex. Stevens, Sunset Cox, John Carlisle and Bill Morrison. The democracy is playing in luck this time.

CHARLES A. EDWARDS.

## FOUR OAKS NOTES.

We are sorry to note that Mr. Robert E. Barber is sick with fever.

Mr. James A. Wellons and son Robert, were in town the first of the week.

Mr. B. B. Adams is attending the district conference at Louisville this week.

Mrs. W. H. Johnson and three of her merry youngsters, of Wilmington, are visiting friends in this place this week.

Miss Clyde Bandy, who has been visiting relatives in this place for some time, returned to Greensboro Tuesday.

Owing to the disability of our pastor, Rev. Mr. Suttle, his regular appointment was filled by Rev. James Smith Sunday.

Mrs. Bessie Bridgers, of Elrod, and her brother, Mr. Will Guill, of Smithfield, were in town Sunday visiting friends and relatives.

Mr. Charlie Johnson, of near this place, and Miss Corinna Benson, of near Holt's Mill, were happily united in the bonds of matrimony Sunday at 11 o'clock by Justice of the Peace A. R. Keen.

We want to see some step taken toward the improvement of our school house or a larger and more suitable one built. We hope this will be done before the next school and we want one that will be a credit to the town.

## HONEYCUTT STRIPS.

Mr. W. R. Barbour, of Preston, was in our section Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Ennis, of Smithfield, spent last Saturday and Sunday in our midst.

Mr. A. J. Knight, the Rural Free Delivery Inspector, was in our midst Monday last investigating a daily mail route.

Mr. I. A. Barbour and Miss Florence Stephenson of our section were the guests of Mr. G. W. Johnson last Saturday and Sunday.

We learn that in the upper part of our section a baseball team has been organized and while playing the first inning they got convinced that the work was too hard and the pay too small, so it was consolidated at once.

Mr. Joseph Higgins, one of our young farmers, takes pleasure in showing his neighbors and friends the finest tobacco crop in our section. Mr. John Stephenson also has a fine field of corn just laid by that he is often calling to the attention of his friends.

CUMBO.

Doubtless you are progressive. Some medicines on the market are old-fashioned. Rheumacide, the great rheumatic cure is a discovery, a progressive remedy. It is the spring blood purifier that you want. At Druggists.

## DEMOCRATIC OPPORTUNITY.

Representative Pou Says the Party Stands a Good Chance to Win With Gorman or Parker.

Washington, June 23.—Representative E. W. Pou, who arrived in Washington today, is of the opinion that the Democratic party has a great opportunity in the presidential contest with the nomination of either Gorman or Parker. Speaking of the political situation today, he said:

"There is really no sufficient reason why the Democratic party may not present a united front next year. Nature has eliminated, for a time at least, the only issue which produced such distressing differences in our ranks. It seems to me the party should demand, first, a reduction of the import duty upon articles which are sold cheaper abroad than at home, to that point which will force the American manufacturer to sell his goods as cheap to Americans as he does to foreigners; and second, a rigid investigation of all the departments in Washington. The post office is not the only place where our Republican friends, intoxicated by a long lease of power, have been guilty of monumental extravagance."

"Upon these issues I know of no reason why both Mr. Cleveland and Mr. Bryan may not be found fighting, side by side, the battles of the party which bestowed upon them the greatest honor at its disposal. With either Senator Gorman or Judge Parker as our leader we ought to stand a good chance to win."

"When the platform is written and the candidate named, the great rank and file of the party expect both Mr. Cleveland and Mr. Bryan to do that which they demanded of Democrats every time they were candidates, and that is, support the ticket."

Mr. Pou came here on departmental business, but his visit related especially to the rural free delivery department. Having heard that delivery routes were to be abolished in some districts in the south, Mr. Pou came to see that his interests were protected and also to secure, if possible, the establishment of fifteen additional routes which already have been inspected and favorably acted upon. Fourth Assistant Bristow assured Mr. Pou that none of his routes would be discontinued, and he promised that the fifteen new routes would be established by the early fall, though he could not name a date. These fifteen new routes are distributed in all the counties of the district and will give Mr. Pou a total of fifty-eight. The fourth assistant and congressman chatted for a while and during the conversation Mr. Bristow took occasion to remark:

"I've been very busy of late."

"No doubt about that," observed the Tar Heel, "and you have done some good work."—Thomas J. Pence in Raleigh Post.

## CLAYTON.

Mr. C. W. Horne went to Raleigh Wednesday.

Mr. Nick Allen, of Auburn was here Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Victor Barnes have moved here.

Miss Carrie Scarborough is visiting at Dunn, N. C.

Mr. Hubert Griffin, of Raleigh, was here Sunday.

Mr. T. A. Griffin spent a day in Wendell last week.

Mr. W. A. Barnes has had an enormous sign erected.

Mrs. I. S. Bagwell spent several days with parents last week.

Mrs. A. D. Parrish, little son and Miss Hazel Saunders, of Greensboro, are visiting Mrs. W. G. Parrish.

Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Williams left Monday night for Lewisburg, Tenn., where they will spend about a month with relatives and friends.

Dr. Holland and Mr. Samuel Honeycutt were here Sunday night.

Mr. J. H. Holcomb, of Raleigh, representing Swift & Co., was in town Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Barbour are moving to their elegant residence just completed.

Mrs. J. W. Hardin and little son and Miss Nannie Belvin are visiting Mrs. C. W. Horne.

Dr. Herman Horne was in town Sunday. We are glad to learn there's a young Dr. at his home.

Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Thurston have taken up their abode here. We are mighty glad to have them with us.

Mr. Mallie Gower has recently installed a new barber chair. His shop is up-to-date in every respect.

Bruce White, of Franklinton, N. C., preached two able sermons in the High School auditorium Sunday.

Miss Berta Walker, who has been visiting her sister, Mrs. R. H. Fussel, left last week for her home in Mt. Olive.

Mrs. Milton Baucom and children spent part of last week with Mrs. A. J. Barbour. Mr. Baucom was here Sunday.

We had the biggest rain of the season last Monday. It rained hard for about three hours. Some say not less than four inches fell.

Mr. J. R. Williams, of Louisville, N. C., spent several days with his mother, Mrs. Hopkins, who is sick at Dr. Griffin's, last week.

During the rain storm Monday evening one of Mr. J. A. Vinson's finest mules was struck and killed by lightning. Mr. Floyd Pollard was on the mule several minutes before it was struck.

We had a nice little race in town Tuesday evening; Mr. I. W. Dodd and W. H. McCullers had been out of town racing, when they came in town; as the streets were clear, they decided to try it up town. It's hard to tell which beat. The town got \$340.

On last Saturday night Mr. J. A. Vinson was walking about his barn when he detected a suspicious noise in the stable. He went to the gate and waited and directly a man come out with one of his mules. Mr. Vinson fired at the man three times; says he don't know whether any of the shots took effect as the man ran away.

Messrs. E. L. Hinton and J. L. Ellis went to High Point Sunday, returning Tuesday. While there they purchased the furniture for the High School dormitory. Mr. Hinton is an expert furniture dealer and says the dormitory will be furnished in the most stylish manner. Everything is coming the way for the Clayton High School.

## BIG EXCURSION.

The long-looked for excursion will go to Thomasville next Wednesday, July 1st. Biggest thing of the season. Train leaves Selma at 6:00 a. m. returning same day. Fare for round trip, \$1.50. Children under 12 years, 75 cents. Will go rain or shine. Tickets will be on sale at Clayton Hardware Co., John S. Barnes & Co., W. E. Stallings & Co.

YELIR.

## Killed on Railroad Track.

A negro was killed on the railroad just a mile and a half from Dunn, N. C., this morning at about one o'clock by one of the through fast trains. He is supposed to have been drunk and asleep on the track. He is a strange negro in that section and has not yet been identified.—Wilson Times, 24.

## Driven To Desperation.

Living at an out of the way place, remote from civilization, a family is often driven to desperation in case of accident, resulting in Burns, Cuts, Wounds, Ulcers, etc. Lay in a supply of Bucklen's Arnica Salve. It's the best on earth. 25c. at Hood Bros. Drug Store.

## STATE NEWS NOTES.

Short Items of Interest Clipped and Culled From Our Exchanges.

General M. W. Ransom will speak at the Confederate reunion in Greenville on July 3d.

Bob Ellis, a porter in a saloon in Greensboro, committed suicide last Thursday by shooting himself in the temple.

Lightning killed two fine milk cows at Weaverville on Saturday. Three mules were knocked down; they were unhurt, but the lightning went off worse for the encounter.

Treasurer Lacy says that the sheriffs are paying taxes unusually well, and that nearly all have paid in full. He says they have settled more promptly than they did last year.

A charter was granted Tuesday to the Clayton Cotton Seed Oil Mill at Clayton. The capital stock is \$60,000, half paid in. Ashley Horne, Charles W. Horne and others are stockholders.

David Williams, a shingle-maker, living about two miles south of Maxton, was killed by lightning Thursday afternoon. The lightning struck a tree under which he was working and killed him.

A charter has been granted the Wampum Cotton Mill Company, at Lincolnton, capital \$160,000. The mill will spin and weave cotton goods. Of its stock J. A. Abernathy holds \$130,000, R. S. Abernathy \$25,000, and T. F. Costner, \$5,000.

Ex-Judge Charles A. Moore and Thomas S. Rollins, of Asheville, have formed a co-partnership for the practice of law, and have been appointed assistant division counsel of the Southern Railway for the mountain section of North Carolina. The new firm begins business July 1st.

Vester Hancock, 15 years old, and Mrs. Lou Williams, a widow of 23, were married in Wadesboro a few days ago. The ceremony had just been concluded when the boy's father appeared on the scene and bade his son follow him, which the young man did. After consultation with a lawyer the boy was allowed to return to his bride.

The Whitney Reduction Company, of Salisbury, has struck a phenomenally rich paying streak in the Barringer gold mine, in Stanly county, and already has taken out six tons of ore that assay \$20,000 to the ton. This is one of the greatest finds in the history of mining in this country and proves effectually that gold mining in North Carolina will pay.

The Raleigh Post says a Superior Court judge, whose identity it cannot disclose, is gathering statistics from each county in the State as to the number of divorces granted the past year and the number of this kind still pending. In reply to a card of enquiry the clerk of the Superior Court of Wake wrote that 25 divorces were granted last year in Wake and 24 cases are now on the docket.

A charter has been granted to the Hiss Manufacturing Company, with headquarters at Charlotte. Its capital is \$500,000, authorized and of this George B. Hiss, John M. Rhodes and D. O'Donoghue each owns 50 shares. There is to be common and preferred stock, and the preferred is to yield 7 per cent. dividends, anything after these are paid going to holders of common stock.

A dispatch from Rocky Mount says that one of the most destructive hail storms in the history of eastern Carolina occurred in that section Friday. Most of the crops of Edgecombe and Nash counties were damaged and in some sections of Edgecombe they were a complete loss. Most of the losses were covered by insurance. This is the second hail storm Nash county has had this year, both doing considerable damage.

## SELMA NEWS.

Mr. H. D. Hood is in town this week.

Mr. Robert Waddell went to Earpsboro Wednesday.

Miss Annie Hood has returned from her visit to Durham.

Mr. W. G. Wilson, of Wilson's Mills, was in town Monday.

Mr. J. B. Edgerton, of Goldsboro, was in town yesterday.

Messrs. C. W. Richardson and N. E. Edgerton, went to Earpsboro Wednesday.

The young men here have organized a baseball club and are now ready to play any one.

Hail struck the tobacco farm of our townsman J. J. Rives and did considerable damage to it.

Robert Millard Nowell, G. D. Vick, Will Richardson and Robert Noble visited Smithfield Sunday.

Master Daniel F. Peedin and Misses Octavia and Kizzie Peedin spent Sunday with relatives in Boon Hill township.

Mrs. Martha J. Holder, the mother of our esteemed Mayor, is spending this week with Mrs. Berry Richardson, fishing.

Mr. C. W. Edgerton, of Kenly, was here Wednesday shaking hands with his many friends who are always glad to see him.

Prof. Judd passed through here yesterday on his way to Kenly. It is thought that he will teach the school there next session.

Miss Mattie Gill, of Wake Forest, returned to her home Tuesday morning after a pleasant visit to her friend, Miss Etheredge.

Mrs. Harrison and Miss Kluppelburg, of Raleigh, are visiting their brother, Mr. C. H. Kluppelburg, who is the foreman of the Southern here.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred M. Hood are visiting his father, H. D. Hood. This is Fred's first visit to Selma since his accident at Greensboro when he lost his right leg; he lost his right hand some years ago. Fred seems hard to kill. We are all glad to see him so cheerful in his affliction.

The Selma and Clayton Baptist Sunday Schools will run an excursion to Thomasville, N. C. on Wednesday, July 1, 1903, leaving Selma at 6 o'clock a. m. They hope to have a good crowd. The rate is only \$1.50 for the round trip. Children half rate. No drunkenness or rowdiness will be allowed on the train. Gov. Aycock has, by special request, appointed two policemen who will arrest and leave at any station on the road any person who renders himself disagreeable to the excursionists. A ball game between Selma and Thomasville will be one of the attractions.

The trustees of the Graded Schools regretted to lose Prof. Thos. T. Candler who served them so well as Superintendent for the past two years; but business engagements prevented his acceptance of the position again. His place will be hard to fill. We wish him success in his new work. Prof. C. N. Peeler will begin the study of medicine this fall. Miss Nannie E. Richardson goes to Thomasville to teach. Miss Marion F. Preston will rest next year. The trustees hope they have secured a corps of teachers that are second to none in the county. (Announcement of the new teachers was made in this correspondence last week.)

SENEC.

## Startling Evidence.

Fresh testimony in great quantity is constantly coming in, declaring Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds to be unequalled. A recent expression from T. J. McFarland, Bentorville, Va., serves an example. He writes: "I had Bronchitis for three years and doctor'd all the time without being benefited. Then I began taking Dr. King's New Discovery, and a few bottles wholly cured me." Equally effective in curing all Lung and Throat troubles. Consumption, Pneumonia and Grip. Guaranteed by Hood Bros., Druggists. Trial bottles free, regular sizes 50c. and \$1.00.