

The Smithfield Herald.

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"TRUE TO OURSELVES, OUR COUNTRY AND OUR GOD."

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SMITHFIELD, N. C., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1903.

NO. 39.

ARCHER DOTS.

Messrs. W. B. and Lee Boyett went to Raleigh last week.

Mr. A. Ryals will soon build a residence on his farm near here.

Messrs. G. R. Stencil and J. H. Eason went to Earpsboro last Sunday.

Messrs. J. B. and Will Tomlinson, of Preston, visited Mr. Wm. Stencil last week.

Miss Lessie Barnes returned home from a visit to relatives and friends in Selma Sunday.

Miss Cynthia Austin, who is teaching the Batten school this winter, went home on a visit Saturday.

Misses Lizzie, Hattie and Master Mat Wall went to Raleigh to visit their sister, Mrs. Brauham, this week.

We are glad to say that the little child of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Barnes, who has been sick with sore throat, is improving.

Mr. J. H. Wall is going to Florida this week for his health. He has been in bad health for some time and expects to improve in a warmer climate.

Mr. John Woodard, principal of Archer Academy, was very sick for a few days last week with neuralgia. We are glad to say he is much better now.

At the residence of the bride's father, Mr. William Wall, last Wednesday evening as the clock tolled the hour of six, Mr. Romulus Fowler and Miss Etta Wall were made man and wife. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Mr. Cox. After the ceremony they went to the home of the groom. We wish for them a happy life.

The vocal union of this section will meet with Antioch church next Sunday. Everyone is invited and a joyful time is expected. S. L. W.
Dec. 2, 1903.

THANKSGIVING DOTS.

Quite a number of our young people attended the Association at Selma Saturday and Sunday. All report a good time.

Miss Mary Hatcher, our much accomplished teacher, gave the school children a Thanksgiving party Thursday evening which was much enjoyed by the little folks.

Rumor has it that one of our young men is to take unto himself a "better half" in the near future.

Several of our young people enjoyed a Flineh party at Mr. W. G. Earp's Thursday night.

Mr. S. R. Lee, the popular insurance agent of Selma, and Mr. Woodside passed through our community last week talking insurance to our people.

Cotton is all picked out and our farmers are making ready for a new crop. Nick.
Dec. 2, 1903.

Resolutions.

We the Committee of Sympathy from Union meeting District No. 1, of the Cape Fear Free Will Baptist Conference do extend our heart felt sympathy and prayers to the bereaved family of our beloved Brother and Moderator of our union meeting Elder J. A. Hodges, who fell asleep in Jesus on the eve of November 23rd, 1903.

The church has lost almost its founder as he has belonged to Hodges Chapel church for near 30 years. The conference has lost a beloved member, the community a christian citizen, his family a sainted father and husband, and this union its moderator. May the blessings of God sustain the bereaved family and may His mantle fall on those of us that are left to follow his Godly examples and sainted life. Committee,

REV. H. H. GOFF,
N. R. COATES.

O K Stovee and Ranges.

CLAYTON CHIPS.

Mrs. John Robertson is very sick.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. T. Jones were here Saturday and Sunday.

Miss Lona Williams went to Selma Saturday, returning Monday.

Mrs. Dewey Hicks, of Raleigh, spent part of last week with her mother.

Mr. Charles G. Guley, of Goldsboro, spent Thanksgiving with parents.

The Clayton school is very well supplied with students since public school began.

Messrs. James and Link Williamson spent Sunday and Monday with parents in the country.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Clayton Cotton Mills Co. was held Tuesday, December 1st.

Miss Elsie Penny spent part of last week with her sisters, who are boarding with Mrs. J. E. Page and attending school here.

Mrs. E. H. McCullers and Miss Melba, of St. Louis, are visiting relatives here. Dr. McCullers, we learn, intends to locate here soon.

Mrs. W. B. Driver, of Selma, spent part of this week with Mrs. Honeycutt, returning Tuesday. Mrs. Honeycutt accompanied her and will spend several days in Selma.

Rev. G. W. Fisher and Mrs. D. W. Barbour attended Conference at Goldsboro last week. Rev. G. W. Fisher has his same circuit for another year.

Thanksgiving services were held at the Baptist church last Thursday evening, November 26. About \$50 was raised for the Orphanage.

The entertainment given Friday night of last week by the students of Clayton High School was a treat. The honor belongs to the students, as the teachers had nothing to do with the "get up."

Mrs. E. L. Hinton gave an elegant dinner to a party of friends last Friday afternoon. Everyone who attended spoke in highest terms of this splendid affair and especially of the kindness of the hostess. YELIR.
Dec. 2, 1903.

SELMA NEWS.

Mr. C. H. Klueppelburg spent Sunday in Wilson.

Mrs. N. E. Edgerton spent Wednesday in Raleigh.

Mrs. R. B. Whitley is visiting relatives at Rocky Mount.

Mrs. W. M. Sanders spent Wednesday in our town, the guest of Mrs. Dr. Noble.

Some of our young men realizing how nice a wood box would be this cold weather are sending them to their friends.

Mrs. Kato Whitley, who has been visiting her son, Thad H. Whitley, Esq., returned to her home in Stanhope Tuesday.

C. P. Harper and R. M. Nowell will entertain a few of their friends at the "Jackson Cafe" Friday night from 9 till they are sleepy.

Jim Jeffreys was at his old home Sunday and reports that on two acres of land he will make four bales of cotton. He wants to know who can beat it?

Large crowds attended the Association here last Friday, Saturday and Sunday. They seemed to enjoy themselves. The Association was properly named "The Johnston County Baptist Association." Our people tried to make them have a good time. Hope they succeeded. Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Scarborough, of Murfreesboro, attended the meeting. There were some of the organizers of the Baptist church here, and with Mrs. W. B. Driver and Jno. A. Underhill are the only remaining members of the original church which, now numbers nearly 100 communicants. SENEX.
Dec. 3.

FOUR OAKS NOTES.

Mr. D. T. Wood, of Selma, was in town Monday.

Mr. D. H. Graves, of Smithfield, was here last Monday.

Mr. Elma Britt, of Goldsboro, visited friends here last week.

Mrs. C. R. Adams attended conference at Goldsboro last week.

Mr. John Durham, of Florida, is visiting relatives near Four Oaks this week.

Miss Willie Creech attended the Association at Selma last week, returning Monday.

We are glad to hear that Rev. Mr. Fisher returns to the Clayton circuit another year.

Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Adams attended the Conference at Goldsboro last week and returned Monday.

Miss Annie Best, of Louisburg, is visiting her sister, Miss Mary Best at Mr. B. B. Adams this week.

Messrs. C. C. Creech, J. A. Campbell and Will Guill, of Smithfield, were here Thursday evening at the oystersupper.

Miss Ora Stephens, after spending Thanksgiving at home near Goldsboro, returned Sunday to her school at Spilona.

Masters Jesse and Hugh Adams after spending Thanksgiving at home, returned to Trinity High School Friday.

Four Oaks is improving. We see another new house going up. It belongs to Mr. A. Moore, and the commissioners have ordered another street opened up.

The members of the Baptist church here gave an oyster supper Thursday evening for the benefit of their church. Everybody enjoyed the occasion splendidly.

Well, friends, we will see next Tuesday whether you are in earnest or not about voting saloons out of our little town, but we must believe you are unless you go back on your word.

A very delightful missionary tea was given by Mrs. B. B. Adams last Thursday evening from 7 to 8 o'clock for the benefit of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, and the evening was highly enjoyed by all present. H.
Dec. 3.

BEASLEY BITS.

Mr. George Thornton, of Smithfield, was here Saturday.

Mr. J. W. Stafford, of Bowden, was a visitor here Sunday.

Mr. Troy Surlis has bought Mr. C. C. Hudson's place here.

Mr. Gid Grantham, of Grantham's Store, was here Saturday.

We are sorry to know that Mrs. Mary J. Grant remains very sick.

Miss Hattie Hines is spending a few days with her aunt, Mrs. N. G. Massey.

Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Southard visited their parents near Benson Saturday and Sunday.

Messrs. John Hudson and McCullers, of Turkey, spent a few days in the village last week.

Miss Alma Beasley returned to her home Sunday from a visit to Durham. She reports a pleasant trip.

Messrs. Jim Williams and Nath Flowers have started their new saw mill, which we hope will be some improvement to our neighborhood.

Mrs. Betsey Bizzel, accompanied by Miss Annie Cox, of the Bizzel section, were visitors in this community last week.

Quite a crowd were in the village Saturday to attend the sale of Mr. C. C. Hudson who has sold out with the expectation of making Dunn his future home. Dec. 3.

Felt Mattress at the right price at Cotter-Underwood & Co.

TOBACCO TRUST RELENTS.

LEAF TOBACCO ADVANCES.

Disastrous Decrease in the Acreage in the Bright Tobacco Belt.

It is an open secret that early in the leaf tobacco season this year, the president of the Tobacco Trust insisted on slashing the prices of leaf tobacco. It is said, too, that the head of the Leaf Department advised against the policy for the reason that the prices of the manufactured product could be easily maintained and for the further and more potent reason that starvation prices would result in greatly reduced acreage next year, but the head of the trust heeded not the warnings of his Leaf Department chief, and it is said that he went so far as to take the matter out of the hands of the head manager of the Leaf Department and personally conducted the campaign for securing the farmers' tobacco at less than it cost him to produce it. Of course some reason had to be given for this unmerciful slashing of prices, especially in view of the fact that while the prices for the leaf tobacco were forced down and down, yet the prices of the manufactured product in some instances were advanced.

So the trust at once put all their agents and hirelings to telling their reasons for the decline, and that was that the leaf tobacco had declined because there was a great over-production. "All of our warehouses, prize houses and factories are running over with leaf tobacco," they declared.

"We have forty million dollars' worth on hand, enough to last us two years." Of course nobody, not even the agents and hirelings themselves, believed any such rot. Every sensible man knew that it was all merely a determination on the part of the trust to get the farmers' tobacco for a song, but the slashing policy of the great "I am" of the trust was too far reaching.

Ruin and desolation stared the tobacco planters of the bright tobacco belt in their faces. They began asking themselves the question: "Shall we meekly submit and surrender and become serfs and servants of this grasping corporation?" They began organizing and sending out declarations of independence in ringing resolutions. They kept their tobacco off the markets. They began getting ready to plant peas, potatoes and pumpkins next year where tobacco grew this year.

The leaf tobacco situation drifted into demoralization, the great price-slashing head of the trust became alarmed and for the last two weeks they have been sending agents out into the leaf markets with instructions to the local trust buyers to advance the price on several of the leading grades.

The reason for this latest coup on the part of the great Duke of Tobaccodom is apparent to any sensible man. The trust can't afford to have the tobacco acreage decreased. The wise farmer, however, will proceed to curtail his tobacco acreage all the same, and if the farmers will unite along this line and in fighting the trust they will ultimately win the great battle with the trust.—News and Observer.

Fire in Smithfield.

Wednesday night between seven and eight o'clock the people of our town were disturbed by the sound of the fire alarms. The fire was found to be raging in Mr. J. Wayland Allen's kitchen. A basket of chips had been left near the stove and had caught fire. A hole was burned through one side of the room and the fire was burning between the weatherboarding and plastering and reaching up to the roof. It took almost half an hour to stop the fire and considerable damage was done to the kitchen. Mr. Allen and his wife were in town, but were not at home.

JOHNSTON STILL THE BANNER.

Sixteen out of Eighteen Years Sheriff Ellington First to Pay Taxes.

For eighteen years Sheriff Ellington, the poet sheriff of Johnston county, has held that office. During sixteen years of that time he has been the first sheriff in the State to settle with the State Treasurer. Yesterday he came to Raleigh and paid to State Treasurer Lacy the sum of \$15,869.77, the amount ascertained to be due the State. And he was the first sheriff in the State to make settlement, keeping old Johnston "the banner county."

Talking about his county and its affairs, Sheriff Ellington said: "Johnston county does not owe a cent, and has several thousand dollars in the county treasury. The tax rate is below the constitutional limit, the entire State, county and school tax being 63 cents. Is there another county with so low a tax? In addition two townships levy a road tax. During the past year two bridges have been built, one an iron bridge over Neuse river. There has been only one time in eighteen years when county scrip was not as good as gold—and that was when the State Bank at Raleigh failed. The treasurer of the county had his money deposited in that bank and for two months county orders were not paid on presentation. That was no fault of the county administration. I settle the school tax on the first of January and pay the county tax later.

"I understand that in some counties the first tax collected by the sheriff must go to run the county and that delays the settlement by the sheriff with the State. Johnston county has plenty of money. It is run on sound business principles and most economically, and the county does not need any money until the first of January."

Fortunate Johnston! It wouldn't be a bad idea for other counties to get the receipt for this state of affairs!—News and Observer, December 1st.

Smith-Jones.

The following card has been received by friends here:

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Jones request your presence at the marriage of their daughter, Althea Eunice, to Mr. Troy Gaston Smith, Wednesday evening, December the ninth, nineteen hundred and three, at eight o'clock, Pisgah Baptist church.

Why not take a trip this winter through Florida to Cuba. This beautiful State and island has been brought within easy reach of the splendid through train service of the Atlantic Coast Line, the great thoroughfare of the tropics. Winter Tourists Tickets are now on sale at all points in Florida and to Havana. For rates, schedules, maps, sleeping car and steamship accommodations write to W. J. CRAIG, General Passenger Agent, Wilmington, N. C.

"What to Say in Spanish and How to Say It" sent to any address upon receipt of a two cent stamp.

A Man Robbed.

Last Saturday in Lane's stables at Dunn Ed. Carroll and Gus Brooks, two former Smithfield negroes, robbed Henry Hodges, a white man, taking from him one hundred and twenty dollars. He was drinking and they beat him terribly. A telephone message was sent to Mr. J. T. Barham, our policeman, and he arrested the negroes on their arrival here. Deputy Sheriff Anderson came up Tuesday and took them back to Harnett county jail. The case no doubt will go bad with the negroes, for we think there are other charges against them.

O K Stoves and Ranges.

Strange News from Overshot.

There has been much talk and some excitement about some cracks or crevices that have appeared in the earth on Mr. Nathan Altman's place over in Meadow township.

Accordingly, in company with Mr. James S. Holder, we went over to Mr. Altman's to see for ourselves and report. We found Mr. Altman at home and anxious to give us all the information he could concerning the cracks.

The cracks seemed to start from the well in the yard and lead in two directions, one north the other in a western. The one leading north into the cotton patch, after going some fifteen or twenty steps, turns west and is soon lost sight of. The one running west and under Mr. Altman's dwelling house, leads under the chimney, cracking it and hearth open, and it stops, so far as can be seen. The recent rains have nearly closed the tracks, but there are plenty of signs left; so they can be easily traced, and Mr. Altman tells us that they were sufficiently large before the sand filled in that one could stick his hand in them. He told us also that fishing-reeds and long switches had been run in them without finding the bottom or depth. Also that he dug down in the one running under the house with same results.

The soil is a sandy soil with pipe clay about 18 inches below the surface. The well is about 18 or 20 feet deep, and it seems to be alright except a cave near the bottom.

These cracks first appeared during the summer and were near the well when first discovered. The neighborhood talk is that there must be subterranean disturbance that causes these crevices or cracks, or may be they are caused in some way by the well. We would like to know what a scientist would say about this strange freak.

W. N. ROSE, JR.

In Memoriam.

"In the midst of life we are in death."

Friday night, November 20th, the death angel plucked as his own a flower from the home of our friend and neighbor, Mr. A. B. Grantham, of Newton Grove.

In the bloom of maidenhood, this flower, Miss Sallie Kennedy Grantham, was transplanted from earth to bloom in heaven.

As the withering flower lets fall its petals to waste on the earth and wafts its fragrance on the gentle breezes, so her body was laid to rest and her influence left to live in the hearts of those who knew her.

Her long sufferings were borne with the meekness and fortitude of a Christian. When she realized that she would soon cross the "River of Death," she was not afraid. Her trust was in God; her walk was firm and upright, and when death called, she was willing "To be led by His gentle hand, Thither, O, Thither into the silent Land."

She was a devoted daughter and a loving sister, a flower, indeed, in her home. The Methodist church in her death has lost a faithful member and the Sunday School a loving worker. Our community is darkened by the gloom and our school, of which she was not long since a member, deeply mourns the loss of a dutiful student and a pleasant school-mate.

We extend to the bereaved family our sincere sympathy and commit them to Him who is able to comfort the sorrowing heart. (Once more the family chain is broken. Sallie is now with mother and Lucy, who had gone before. In the Resurrection Moru, may they again be united in one unbroken chain.)

A FRIEND.

LOST.

A Watch fob with Medal. The engraving on the medal was Music Grade 3, on one side and L. C. F. to S. O. W. on the other. A reward given to finder. D. D. ELLINGTON, Smithfield, N. C.