

# The Smithfield Herald.

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

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SMITHFIELD, N. C., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1903.

NO. 42.

### CLAYTON CHIPS.

Dr. and Mrs. J. A. Griffin went Selma Sunday.

Mr. Jesse J. Ellis went to Raleigh Monday.

Another new establishment on Main street, shoe shop.

Mr. James R. Williamson spent Sunday at his home in the country.

Mr. J. H. Johnson, the jeweler, moved his family to town Monday.

It was so rainy Sunday the congregation at the Baptist church was small, however we had a good sermon.

The Baptists will give the Sunday School children a rare treat Friday night.

Mr. and Mrs. John S. Barnes spent Sunday and Monday with Mr. Barnes' mother.

Christmas holidays, and everybody seems happy. Don't drink any whiskey, boys!

Messrs. G. C. Bryant and J. C. Hardee passed through here Monday en route for Raleigh.

Prices on cotton seed are high at Clayton Oil Mill. The machinery will begin a short time after Christmas.

Mr. R. B. Whitley, of Selma, will soon cast his lot with us. Why do the best-business men come to Clayton?

The Methodists will have a Christmas tree Thursday night. Entertainment by music class of Clayton High School Wednesday night. Everybody is invited.

We are sorry to learn of the disastrous fire in Benson Saturday night. If it had not been for insurance carried many a Bensonian would have a sadder heart today. Oh, fire insurance is all right. Carry a policy.

"Yelir" sends Christmas greetings to THE HERALD force and to all brother correspondents. Dec. 21. "YELIR."

### SANDERS CHAPEL.

Cards are out for the broom jumping of Mr. Willie Smith Jr., and Miss Hagar Lynch, of the lower Johnston section. At home at the C. B. Sanders rocky hill right about Christmas.

Our ink has been frozen for a few weeks, but by a combination of powers, frigid, temperate and torrid, it has thawed out. "The sun do move" and we have it by the well-fall, so "let her go gallagher."

Mr. W. H. Whitley has sold his beautiful home to a Mr. Barnes of Fremont, and has bought and moved to the old C. B. Sanders plantation. He has already commenced improvements and it will soon assume its old-time prestige of beauty and fertility. The conventional horseshack will of course be near the front gate. Bill and his wife are sorter rheumatically this winter, but they are diggers from way back.

Miss Maude Powell from the Preston Ranch School, Master D. A. Powell from Six Runs, sweet Sampson, Messrs. Herman Whitley and Walter Bizzell of the Newton Grove high school are all spending the holidays in this ranch, and when Miss Nona Powell, of the Wilson Sanatorium and Mrs. Sallie Sanders and her tribe of Rustbusticators from the placid banks of the Neuse and Convua come to wigwam among us, it will not be "Lo! the poor Indian," but "Lo! the poor Granna. Farewell turkey stuffing, farewell old molly cottontail. Habes Copias, Hæcum Filiam."

The 1903 yule tide, the great festival, commemorative of the advent of the Christ-mass with the emblematical decorations of Acacia and Laurel entwined with a sprig of cypress, undescended in our minds with chalk, charcoal and clay. All this and festoons of dog and cedar and holly and the lovely mistletoe in our homes and family reunions during the holiday season of the seed corn of the earth, as well as the restless exportations of the buds

and flowers of our happy land for the annual visit of Chris Cringle or Santa Claus is nigh upon us. Sanders Chapel is proud to greet you all with a merry Christmas.

Miss Lillian Holt, teacher of the Sand Hill public school, gave a most enjoyable entertainment to her entire school, on Saturday evening last, at the beautiful home of her parents. Music, sleight-of-hand, magic lantern shows, and good old country plays, such as snap out, trip to Boston, chase the squirrel, I turn for No. 1. who turns for the good old man, winding up with a bountiful spread of confectionaries, and after filling the walking sacks and a reserve package for home, they hands all around and sang "Skip back darling," bowed their beloved teacher and hostess a happy Christmas, made a dive for the dim distance.

Dec. 21st, 1903.

### ARCHER DOTS.

Mr. Robert A. Wall was home Sunday.

Services at Salem Sunday by the pastor, Elder J. A. T. Jones.

Services at White Oak next Sunday by the pastor, Rev. A. A. Pippin.

Most of the schools near here have closed for the Christmas holidays.

Cards are out announcing the marriage of Mr. Willis Cook to Miss Ruth Batten Wednesday.

Messrs. J. A. and J. H. Eason went to New Port News, Va., last week which place they intend making their future home.

Mr. J. Walter Stepenson, who is teaching near Wendell, passed through here on his way home Saturday.

The Messes Moore, Mr. Leland Moore and Mr. John Glover, of Cumberland County, visited the Messes Jones this week.

Dec. 21,

### To Cure a Cold in One Day

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box. 25c.

### Marriage in Oneais.

Mr. Henry Lynch and Miss Louie Parrish were united in marriage last Sunday morning at 10 o'clock, Mr. J. R. Talton, J. P., officiating. The attendants were W. A. Eason and Miss Ida Murphy, Mr. Johnnie Lamb and Miss Annie Eason, Mr. James Brannen and Miss Mary Creech, Mr. Alonzo Batten and Miss Lucy Eason, Mr. Henry Price and Miss Rena Green. After the marriage all went to the home of the groom where a sumptuous dinner awaited them. May their lives be crowned with success and prosperity.

Dec. 17.

Nick.

### Rev. G. T. Adams to Wed.

Rev. Dr. and Mrs. J. T. Gibbs announce the marriage of their daughter, Mary, to the Rev. G. T. Adams, North Carolina Conference, on Wednesday, December the thirtieth, at nine o'clock, District Parsonage Durham, North Carolina. No cards sent out. At home to their friends in New Bern after January the sixth.

### Revolution Imminent.

A sure sign of approaching revolt and serious trouble in your system is nervousness, sleeplessness, or stomach upsets. Electric Bitters will quickly dismember the troublesome causes. It never fails to tone the stomach, regulate the Kidneys and Bowels, stimulate the Liver, and clarify the blood. Run down systems benefit particularly and all the usual attending aches vanish under its scorching and thorough effectiveness. Electric Bitters is only 50c, and that is returned if it don't give perfect satisfaction. Guaranteed by Hood Bros. Druggists.

### BENSON SWEEP BY FLAMES.

#### More Than 20 Buildings Burned—Loss Above Twenty Five Thousand Dollars.

Last night at 8:30 o'clock the town of Benson suffered the worst fire in its history. More than half of the entire business portion of the town was swept away. At 8:30 o'clock fire was discovered in A. H. Phillips grocery store where a fire place was used in which some fire had been left. Two hours from that time more than 20 wood buildings were burned. It was seen at the discovery of the fire that the town was doomed and no effort to control the flames would avail so the merchants began to take out their goods. Several succeeded in getting out a quantity of goods while others saved nothing. The store in which the fire originated was burned with all its contents.

The following is a list of the buildings burned as reported to us:

- J. W. Benson's drug store.
- Jake Wheeler, grocery.
- A. H. Phillips, grocery.
- D. J. Stone, harness house.
- Daniel Hill, barber shop.
- J. W. Whittington, jewelry store.
- Jim Holmes, grocery and bicycle shop.
- Davis, store unoccupied.
- Allen's beef market.
- A. B. Hudson, general store.
- A. L. Barefoot, dry goods and groceries.
- Ed. Hill and Broughton's barber shop.
- Attorney Woodall's law office.
- Mrs. M. C. Benson's buildings, and old post office building and Roykin hotel.
- Jim Norris, dwelling.
- Hodges & Hodges, livery stable.
- Britt's wood and Blacksmith shop.
- A. C. L. depot and contents.

A restaurant and several small buildings occupied by colored people, together with several storage rooms.

Most of the business men, we are informed, had some insurance, but not enough to cover half of the loss.

This is the second big fire to occur in Benson during the last six months.—Dunn Daily Guide, Dec. 19th.

### Another Trinity Student Heard From.

MR. EDITOR: Will you please state through THE HERALD to my friends, that I, as a student of Trinity College, wish them to know the position I took with reference to the hanging in effigy of Mr. Josephus Daniels, editor of the News and Observer, which act was committed on the night of December 1st.

I want to go on record as one who was strenuously opposed to such a rash act, and will say in all candor that I had no part in, nor approved of, the same. I wish to state further, that the said act was not representative of the student body at Trinity, a very small number of students being totally responsible for it.

Very truly,

E. F. LEE.  
Trinity College, Durham, N. C.,  
Dec. 18, 1903.

### Closer To An Armed Clash.

It is officially confirmed that about 100 Columbian troops have landed on the Isle of Pines, in the territory of the new republic of Panama. This, as far as is positively known, is the first movement of Columbian soldiers into Panama since the Isthmus declared its independence.

The United States auxiliary cruiser Mayflower was sent toward the Isle of Pines to reconnoiter.

More marines from the cruiser Prairie were landed on the Isthmus.

In Washington many officials now regard war with Columbia as inevitable. Both navy and army are rushing ahead with plans for decisive movements as if for open war.—Baltimore Sun.

### A Christmas Memory.

The hour is late, the fire is low,  
And wry winds from northland's snow  
Around the eaves are moaning;  
A spirit roams the world tonight  
From land to land, in silent flight,  
As fast as flies the dawning.

The snow is trickling through my blinds;  
The owls, hid in the horded pines,  
Their Solomon's greetings render;  
Back into other yards I steal—  
A child at mother's knee I feel  
That gracious hand and tender!

I hear—and how my bosom swells!—  
I hear the neighboring village bells,  
Blent with the tempest's booming;  
Out in the whirling snow I hear  
The muffled tramp of nimble deer—  
Old Santa Claus is coming!

The rockets mount with trails of fire  
O'er roof and elm and lofty spire—  
Up, up to skyward winging;  
Thank God for Christmas! Man ne'er  
grows

So old but that he loves the snows  
And bells of Christmas ringing!  
—Henry Jerome Stockard.

### Mysterious Death of Bunn Capps.

About two weeks ago the following appeared in the Goldsboro Argus. We intended publishing same last week but overlooked it. Mr. Capps was a citizen of this county:

The man Bunn Capps, who was reported yesterday as being found in a ditch near the home of Capt. A. L. Sasser, in Fork township, in a critical condition, died last night and Dr. Thomas Hill, the coroner, has gone to the scene to hold an inquest today. At this time nothing definite of the finding of the inquest can be learned.

It is learned since yesterday that Capps was not lacerated with a knife as was reported here by Courier, but that he had been struck on the back of the head with some heavy blunt instrument and that his skull was crushed.

A bottle of whiskey was found in his pocket and it is presumed that he was drinking and got into difficulty with some one on the road.

Two negroes who live in the neighborhood where Capps was found yesterday morning have told since that they passed Capps lying beside the road early in the night and that they did not tell of what they had seen for fear that they might be accused of the deed. When Capps was found he had crawled on his hands and knees some distance from where the negroes saw him. Instead of being thrown into the ditch as was thought when he was found, it is now believed that he had started across the field to Capt. Sasser's house and got into the ditch and could not get out.

He never regained consciousness yesterday. Dr. Theo. L. Ginn, of this city, dressed the wounds yesterday and expressed the opinion that Capps could not live. He had no pulse and his extremities were cold and lifeless.

The question as to how Capps met with such a death is still shrouded in mystery and it is probable that the jury of inquest will not be able to throw any light on the subject. The theory that Capps was drunk and fell from his cart is contradicted by the wound on the back of his head, which, it is claimed, could not have been made in such a manner.

—It is very probable that the mysterious death of Bunn Capps, who was found with his skull crushed in the public road near the residence of Captain A. L. Sasser, in Fork township about two weeks ago, will soon be unravelled. Events that have transpired since Capps was found have caused suspicion to rest on some parties for whom warrants will soon be issued, if they have not already been arrested. The fact has almost been established that Capps was attacked for the purpose of robbery. He was thought to have on his person the money for a bale of cotton which he brought to town and sold on the morning of the day he was killed.—Goldsboro Argus, 21st.

### THE DREYFUS REVISION.

#### Mercier's Report Recommending It a Strong Argument for Dreyfus.

Paris, Dec. 21.—It has been learned by the Associated Press that at a meeting of the Dreyfus Commission next Wednesday afternoon M. Victor Mercier, reporter of the commission and one of the directors of the Ministry of Justice, will submit a report recommending revision of the case of Capt. Dreyfus. It is not yet positively known whether M. Mercier's report will recommend revision by the Court of Cassation, or by the court-martial, but there is every reason to believe that the Court of Cassation will now reconsider the case in the light of the facts gathered by M. Mercier, at the same time passing upon the other documents submitted.

While it is impossible at this stage to predict what view will be taken by the commission, it is expected that it will adopt at least by a majority, Mercier's recommendation.

If the revision of the cases should go favorable to Capt. Dreyfus he will be restored to the army, no matter what protests may be made, but it is not expected that he will assume active service.

M. Mercier's report, it is believed, not only establishes that Dreyfus is innocent of writing the Bordereau, but dwells with emphasis on the modification by M. Gribelin, keeper of the war office records, of his testimony before the council at Rennes. M. Gribelin then swore that Dreyfus was guilty, while the modification of his testimony now indicates that the alleged treason was committed by Col. Henry, who was at the time chief of the intelligence department of the Ministry of War.

### Death in Smithfield.

At 8:15 o'clock last Friday morning Mrs. Olivia T. Ennis died at her home in Smithfield of pneumonia. She was taken sick on Sunday night before. From the first it was seen that her case was perilous. She was fifty-three years old. She had many friends and acquaintances in Smithfield and the country around. She was a member of Smithfield Baptist church and had done all in her power to help in its work. She was a good woman and had gone to her reward. Her funeral was preached Saturday at 11 o'clock by Rev. J. W. Suttle and her remains were interred in Smithfield cemetery. She was the mother of Mrs. W. M. Pettaway, of Smithfield, and a sister of Mr. George L. Jones, of Wilson's Mills township, and Mrs. Henry Holt, of Princeton.

—Last Thursday night Mr. W. M. Sanders' store was broken into, and his new \$425 cash register torn to pieces. Some goods were also taken but it is not known how much. No money was secured as the cash register contained none. There was no clue as to the perpetrators of the deed until Wednesday when some of the stolen articles were found in the possession of Will Harris. He was accordingly arrested and lodged in jail.

Japan is not blind to the serious problem before it, but it can not see well enough to devise a plan of settlement. This trouble will probably go on till somebody gets licked.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

The President having announced that he wants to turn the rascals out, Senator Gorman stands ready to lend a helping hand, and, no doubt, if need be, a foot also.—Columbus (Ga.) Enquirer-Sun.

### A Costly Mistake.

Blunders are sometimes very expensive. Occasionally life itself is the price of a mistake, but you'll never be wrong if you take Dr. King's New Life Pills for Dyspepsia, Dizziness, Headache, Liver or Bowel troubles. They are gentle yet thorough. 25c at Hood Bros. Drug Store.

### Aycock and Pou in Baltimore.

Baltimore, December 18.—Governor Aycock was the star in the banquet of the North Carolina Society of Baltimore at the Carling Hotel tonight. From all the chandeliers hung North Carolina flags and tiny Carolina flags adorned the lapels of every guest. The tables were decorated with trailing vines, Southern gray moss, holly and open bolls of cotton, while small Carolina pine trees stood at intervals around the room. The menu included North Carolina planked shad, turkey and roast partridge. President Edwin Geer presided. The Governor was greeted by prolonged cheers and aroused great enthusiasm. Congressman Edward W. Pou, of the fourth district, made an eloquent address on the progress of the State in the past thirty years.

Governor-elect Edwin Warfield was greeted with considerable applause and made a pleasing address on behalf of Maryland, the adopted State of so many Tar Heels. A number of other addresses was made and it was a late hour when "Auld Lang Syne" followed "The Old North State," and the brilliant annual banquet of the society was ended.

### Signs That Point to War.

Japan replied to Russia's latest note asking a reconsideration of essential points. It is regarded as certain that Russia is pushing her to the wall.

A high official of the Washington government was advised from official sources in London that it will be almost impossible to avert war in the Orient.

Berlin opinion is that the lack of money felt by both the rival powers will postpone war for a short time, at least.

In Paris it is expected that both France and Great Britain will hold aloof.—Baltimore Sun.

### A Troublesome Little Bug.

A little bug almost too small for individual notice is taking up the time of several great States, and has even caused the Louisiana Legislature to be called into special session. This little boll weevil seems a very small matter to the people of the country at large, but to cotton growers its coming is fraught with prodigious evil.

For years it has been the boast of Texas that she could raise cotton enough to supply the world, and she did appear to be satisfied with raising about a third of all the American staple. But this little weevil crawled across the border from Mexico and has swept the cotton fields like a pestilence. Each year the domain of the weevil is spreading, and its kind is multiplying by billions. No effective means has yet been found to check the spread of the pest, and the entire cotton belt is alarmed.

The Louisiana special commission has recommended to the Legislature that a non cotton growing belt be created between that State and Texas, by which it is expected to starve out the weevil and stay its further progress northward.

Already the loss by this insect is probably \$25,000,000, and experts of the national and State governments are doing everything in their power to devise some means to check this Texas terror.—Baltimore Sun.

### Fight Will Be Bitter.

Those who will persist in closing their ears against the continual recommendation of Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, will have a long and bitter fight with their troubles, if not ended earlier by fatal termination. Read what T. R. Beall, Beall, Miss., has to say: "Last fall my wife had every symptom of consumption. She took Dr. King's New Discovery after everything else had failed. Improvement came at once and four bottles entirely cured her." Guaranteed by Hood Bros. Druggists. Price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottles free.