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BANQUET AT CLAYTON.

Knights of Pythias and Fair Friends Have an Evening of Social Joy.

Clayton, N. C., Feb. 21.—Monday night was Pythians' "big night" by the proclamation of the Grand Chancellor of the State, it being the forty-second anniversary of the order in the State.

It has been the custom of the Clayton Knights since the organization of their lodge to observe these occasions with a banquet at which their lady friends are special guests. They have all been excellent and highly creditable to the lodge, which is composed of some of the town's best citizens but last night's events capped the climax. It was perhaps the most enjoyable social event of the kind in the history of this progressive little town. There were about twenty-five couples present, and every person seemed imbued with the spirit of the occasion. The supper was served in the spacious dining room of the Robertson Hotel, the menu being elaborate. The dining room was a thing of beauty. The tables were decorated with ferns, hyacinths, narcissus and carnations, pink and white. The parlor was literally filled with the knights and the fair ladies who had honored them with their presence. A most delightful social hour was spent, piano and vocal music being features of the occasion. Superb recitations were given by Prof. T. H. Lindsay, principal of the Clayton High school. He is a master in that realm.

The S. P. Club Entertains.

On Friday evening, Feb. 16, 1906, the S. P. club entertained their friends in a most charming manner, at the lovely home of Miss Anna Underwood.

About eight o'clock the guests began to assemble and soon the spacious rooms were filled with a throng of charming young people.

First they were entertained in the parlor with a guessing contest, the first prize being won by Mr. Lee Turlington, while the consolation was awarded to Mr. Henry Graves.

They were then conducted to the dining room where delicious refreshments were served. The remainder of the evening was spent most enjoyably in different ways, as suited the fancy of the guests.

Those who attended were: Misses Lucy Hood, Creecy Morgan, Ione Abell, Lucy and Mary Sanders, Anna Underwood, Alma Easom, Annie Peacock, Susie Ives, Rosa Patterson, Ruth Young, Alma and Vera Smith, Mary Booker and Mary McCullers, Messrs. Jim Cobb, Walter Grantham, Leon Stevens, Lee Turlington, Reuben Myatt, Will Guill, Elmer Edgerton, Edwin Tapp, Duke Duncan, Maurice Winstead, Roy Paylor, J. A. Masscy, Lee Sanders, Tom Ives, Henry Graves and Horace Easom.

Last Saturday the engine on the Durham and Southern turned over at Holly Springs and killed Captain Carey Thompson instantly, and hurt the fireman and Captain Bill Angier. It was running from Apex for some cars, and split the switch at Holly Springs.

A Modern Miracle.

"Truly miraculous seemed the recovery of Mrs. Mollie Holt, of this place," writes J. O. R. Hooper, Woodford, Tenn., "she was so wasted by coughing up puss from her lungs. Doctors declared her end so near that her family had watched by her bedside forty-eight hours; when, at my urgent request Dr. King's New Discovery was given her, with the astonishing result that improvement began, and continued until she finally completely recovered, and is a healthy woman to-day." Guaranteed cure for coughs and colds. 50c. and \$1.00 at Hood Bros., druggists. Trial bottle free.

Wedding Bells Peel Forth From the White House.

Washington, Feb. 17th.—In the beautiful white and gold East Room of the White House, a few minutes after noon to-day, the venerable Rt. Rev. Henry Y. Saterlee, Bishop of Washington, of the Protestant Episcopal Church, pronounced the fateful words which united in marriage Alice Lee Roosevelt, eldest daughter of the President of the United States, and Nicholas Longworth, the representative in Congress from the first district of Ohio.

The ceremony—the simple, beautiful and impressive ring service of the Episcopal Church—was attended with all the splendor of a grand official function and with all the devotional beauty of a Cathedral service. It was witnessed by one of the most brilliant and distinguished assemblages ever gathered in the White House, by far the largest company which ever graced the executive mansion on a similar occasion.

A halo of a hundred years of romantic White House history hung over the bridal couple, Miss Roosevelt was the twelfth bride, according to accepted authorities, to plight her troth within its classic walls and the identical spot where she to-day joined hands with the husband of her choice "for better, for worse," is hallowed in the memory of another White House bride, beloved "Nellie" Grant, who thirty-two years ago, on that same spot became the wife of an Englishman, Algernon C. F. Sartoris. Tender, indeed, must have been the recollections of Mrs. Sartoris of that day, now long ago, for she was one of the witnesses of Miss Roosevelt's wedding.

Tragic Death in Boon Hill.

The estimable wife of Mr. Wm. Rufus Cox, the miller at Bakers mill, met a tragic death Monday. She was standing near the upright shafting, when her skirt in some way became entangled in the slick shafting and before her venerable husband could shut down the gates, she was wound around in such a manner as to crush both arms and legs from the effects of which she died while being attended by physicians. Drs. J. B. Person, of Selma, and W. B. Crawford were hastily summoned by telephone and rendered all medical attention possible, but to no avail. She leaves a devoted husband and several children, and grand children. Among her children is Mrs. Maude Smith of our community. She was a good woman, she and her bereaved husband being life long Quakers, noted for their quiet life and deep piety. May the God whom they served comfort him in this sudden and inexpressible grief. The burial will take place from the home today (Tuesday).—Walter correspondent Goldsboro Argus.

A Baby Like the Devil.

Greensboro, N. C., Feb. 19.—It was reported here Saturday afternoon that a colored woman, four miles east of the city, had given birth to a child with claws and wings, resembling the devil, and that it was a judgment sent on her for telling a man who wanted to sell her a Bible that she had as soon buy a devil or a little rather. Yesterday dozens of people visited the house, but no one seems to have seen the child.—News and Observer.

Woman Dead at Age of 105.

Southington, Conn., Feb. 21.—Mrs. Spila Langdon Dunham, the second oldest person in this state, died today, aged 105 years.

The oldest person in the state, Mrs. Debora Silliman of Easton, who is 106 years old today, is seriously ill as the result of shock caused by the death of her son, which occurred yesterday during a fire at his home.

GENERAL NEWS.

The people of America imported in 1905 thirty-six million dollars worth of diamonds.

Six blocks in the business portion of Rutland, Vt., were burned Sunday, entailing a loss of \$750,000.

Alexander Legler, Jr., has been arrested at Jersey City for murdering his brother to get \$3,000 life insurance.

The General Assembly of South Carolina has passed a bill appropriating \$20,000 for the Jamestown Exposition.

Clement Armand Fallieres assumed the duties of President of France Sunday afternoon in the Elysee Palace. He succeeded Emile Loubet.

The Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, last week declared a dividend of \$15 a share. The dividend declared at this time last year was at the same rate.

The President has offered the Governorship of Alaska to D. H. Jarvis, formerly of the revenue cutter service, but now engaged in business in Alaska.

At a meeting of the directors of the Atlantic Coast Line in New York last week, a new stock issue of \$10,000,000 was recommended to make immense additions to the equipment and for improvement.

John B. Stetson, the millionaire hat manufacturer of Philadelphia, died at his winter home near De Land, Fla., Sunday, at the age of seventy-five. He was the founder of John B. Stetson University at De Land.

Walsenburg, Col., Feb. 19th.—An explosion this morning in the Victor Fuel Company's Maidland mine caused the death of at least thirteen miners, and perhaps sixteen. Seven bodies have been recovered.

The reputed estate of Charles T. Yerkes, the Chicago traction owner, has dwindled since his death from \$15,000,000 to something like \$6,000,000. The people of America imported in 1905 thirty-six million dollars worth of diamonds.

Morgantown, W. Va., Feb. 20.—Through an accidental explosion of dynamite to-day at the plant of the Decker's Creek Stone and Sand Company, at Sturgisson, eight miles south of here, one man was almost instantly killed, another fatally injured and five seriously hurt.

Johnstown, Pa., Feb. 20th.—Five persons were burned to death, two others seriously injured and four houses completely destroyed early to-day by a fire which originated in the home of Patrick Grogan at Tunnel Hill, about twenty seven miles east of this city. The victims were Mrs. Grogan and her four children.

John A. McCall, the late president of the New York Life Insurance Company, died at Lakewood, N. J., Sunday at the age of fifty-six years. He began work in the insurance business when he was twenty years old and worked his way up until he was getting a salary of \$75,000 per year as President of the New York Life.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Feb. 19.—A charter was filed here to-day for the incorporation of the Wachovia Mills to manufacture cotton fabrics. The capital stock is to be \$1,500,000, of which \$1,000,000 is common and \$500,000 preferred. The names attached are those of Chattanooga, but Eastern capital is supposed to be back of the movement.

Luverne, Ala., Feb. 19th.—Mrs. Bozeman, who lives at Searight, yesterday discovered her baby in the cradle on fire. She carried the child into the yard and deposited it in a tub that was partially filled with water. She then ran to the well, her clothing burning and in her excitement either jumped or fell into the well and was killed by the fall or drowned. Dr. Parker, of Searight, saw the tragedy and called assistance.

A Good Man Passed Away.

On Sunday, February 18th, 1906, at two o'clock P. M. Mr. R. S. Ryals, of Benson, breathed his last. He had suffered much for the week previous from a severe attack of pneumonia—contracted, it is supposed, by nursing his son, Eddie, and daughter, Bertha, who are still confined with the same disease.

The deceased was the son of our venerable townsman, Ransom Ryals, Esq., and was about sixty years of age. He leaves a devoted wife and seven children—four of whom are married.

By his death one of the best men of our county has passed from earth, yet by abundant evidence he has entered triumphant anew the higher, eternal life. While his demise shocked and saddened our entire community, still upon every lip was the same expression, "a good man is gone."

Mr. Ryals was a very industrious man, and was a mason by trade. From the very beginning of the building of the town he has plied the hammer and the trowel. In every direction as far as the eye can reach chimneys stand as monuments to his memory. In all the country around he was familiarly known as "Shade." Now moreover, in the day of his death numbers of jobs are impatiently waiting his busy hands. He was very particular to do stone and brick work just right, but not more so in doing good deeds to his fellowman.

Mr. Ryals' place can not be filled in our community. He was a friend—honest, truthful, conscientious, full of charity. By his industry an example has been laid for others. Above all Mr. Ryals was a Christian. He was an humble, faithful follower of the Saviour.

It is sad indeed to thus leave wife and children and friends, still all can take comfort in the thought—a life well spent. May the grief-stricken wife and children be reconciled to the ways of Providence, may his sons each strive to emulate the virtues of the father. J. P. C. Benson, N. C., Feb. 21st.

In Honor of Miss Wood.

Wilson's Mills, Feb. 15th.—Last evening from eight to eleven Messrs. Charles and Willie Wilson delightfully entertained at their home on Main Street in honor of Miss Vira Wood, of Kinston, who is the guest of Miss Lottie Vinson. During the evening interesting games were indulged in and music of the best kind was furnished the guests.

Those invited were Miss Vira Wood with Mr. Clair Wilson; Miss Lottie Vinson with Mr. Frank Davis; Miss Mary Mitchiner with Mr. Paul Davis; Miss Eliza Mitchiner with Mr. Willie Wilson; Miss Bessie Poelaw with Mr. Raymond Wilson; Miss Bertie Vinson with Mr. Leon Uzzle; Miss Evie Wilson with Mr. H. M. Lilly; Miss Sallie Wilson with Mr. Jim Vinson; Miss Sarah Parrish and Mr. Dempsey Vinson.

A Cotton Warehouse.

At a meeting of the Smithfield township branch of the Southern Cotton Association last Saturday a resolution was passed asking the next meeting of the county association to take steps for the erection of a cotton storage warehouse in Smithfield. This would be a great benefit to the farmers and would help the merchants also. Farmers could store their cotton at a very small cost for storage and insurance. If necessary they could borrow money on their cotton as soon as it is stored. The cost of the building would not be great and by forming a stock company the necessary funds could easily be raised. We hope the matter will receive the endorsement of the farmers and business men.

Shakespeare on Loans.—Professor—What does Shakespeare mean when he says: "Ue every man after his dinner?" Student—He means if you want a man to do something for you, strike him just after he has had a good dinner.—Boston Transcript.

STATE NEWS.

The Methodists of Statesville have undertaken to build a new church.

The Seaboard Air Line will spend \$100,000 in enlarging its terminal facilities at Raleigh.

The Monarch Cotton Mills Company has been organized at Dallas. A mill of 5,000 spindles is to be built.

The town of Zebulon will be midway between Raleigh and Wilson on the Raleigh and Pamlico Sound Railroad.

A collision on the Southern Railway near Asheville Sunday afternoon resulted in the death of Conductor Hough and Brake-man Simpson, and serious injury to four other men.

The charter of Jenkins Brothers Shoe Company at Winston-Salem has been amended, the capital stock being increased from \$120,000 to \$1,250,000, with \$50,000 preferred.

Practically the entire business district of Red Springs was destroyed by fire Sunday. Eighteen stores and two dwellings were consumed, involving a loss of \$80,000, with an approximate insurance of \$40,000. The fire originated from a defective flue in a restaurant in the rear of one of the stores.

At Winston-Salem Superior Court Monday Judge Peebles gave "Dr." Hinsdale, the old man who was convicted last week of giving some boys liquor, causing them to become intoxicated, his choice between two years on the roads or leaving the State, going to Virginia. After debating the matter in his own mind the old man decided that he would leave North Carolina.

The nine large cotton and woolen mills at Spray have agreed on a "ten hours a day" system, which will go into effect the first Monday in March. The mill people of this town have wanted this system for a long time. It has been a State law in Virginia for a good many years. However, there are very few mills in this State which have a ten-hour system. Heretofore the mills have been working eleven hours.

The campaign has opened in Wilson over the question as to whether the dispensary will be continued in that town after July first. The election to determine whether Wilson will have open bars, dispensary or prohibition will be held the first week of April. The present dispensary, which has paid profits of \$25,000 per year for the past two years, has gained supporters so its friends state, while the saloon advocates claim it has been a moral failure and are sanguine of defeating it at the coming election. The prohibition forces are gaining strength, and a lively fight is on.

J. L. Costner, of Spray, thirty-five years of age, was killed by passenger train No. 8. on the Southern Railway near Stokesdale Tuesday. He was walking along the track, and, seeing a freight train approaching, stepped from the track he was walking upon to the other of the double track system. The noise made by the freight train prevented him from hearing the approach of the passenger train behind him. The engine struck him with full force, and death was instantaneous. The body was terribly mangled, the head being severed and the remains were strewn alongside the track for a distance of several yards.

May Live 100 Years.

The chances for living a full century are excellent in the case of Mrs. Jennie Duncan, of Haynesville, Me., now 70 years old. She writes: "Electric Bitters cured me of Chronic Dyspepsia of 20 years standing, and made me feel as well and strong as a young girl." Electric Bitters cure Stomach and Liver diseases, Blood Disorders, General Debility and bodily weakness. Sold on a guarantee at Hood Bros. drug store. Price only 50c.

SELMA NEWS.

Mr. Gilbert Vinson is now with Mr. A. V. Driver.

Miss Annie Fitzgerald is visiting her sister, Mrs. H. B. Pearce, Jr.

Mr. Orrell, our painter, is painting Mr. Wm. Richardson's dwelling.

The post office has lately been enlarged and is now quite comfortable.

Mr. Harvey Candler, of Princeton, is visiting his brother, Prof. T. T. Candler.

Mr. Robert P. Noble, who is in Raleigh at the Medical school, spent Sunday here.

Mr. L. H. Allred left for Washington, D. C., Wednesday. He expects to return Friday.

Miss Jimmie Batton is visiting her grand-father, Mr. E. A. Batton, in Wilder's this week.

Mr. H. B. Pearce, Sr., is erecting several houses near the Smithfield road on Raiford street.

Mr. Otis Tucker has accepted a position with the M. C. Winston Co. and will be glad to see his friends.

Mr. Wm. Richardson came home last Sunday after a somewhat lengthy visit to South Carolina.

We have not been able to find out where the Knitting mill will be located as several sites have been offered.

John H. Parker, Esq., has purchased a fine saddle horse and can be seen every fine day taking horseback rides.

Mr. Floyd Griswold is erecting a nice two story house on his farm just out of town, on the Earpsboro road.

Messrs. Ira and Troy Batton have moved to Mr. Vic Vinson's house; and Mr. Ner Hatcher has moved to the house on Anderson street recently occupied by Mr. Stancil.

The Selma News office has been moved to one of "The Hub" stores. We expect it to be a better paper than it was. It now has good financial backing and a fighting editor.

Mr. Ephriam Wescott, of Chapel Hill, who has been here for some time buying old iron left last Saturday. He was quite sick when he left and we hear he is no better today (Wednesday).

The Johnston County Medical Society will meet in Selma on the first Monday in March, at 11 o'clock in Dr. Noble's office and will, after the business meeting, be entertained at dinner at the Merchant's Hotel by Drs. Noble and Person. It is hoped that there will be a large attendance as matters of importance will come before the meeting and several of the members have promised to have short papers.

Mrs. Bishop, our pastor's wife, arrived yesterday afternoon. The members of the Methodist church and friends thronged their home at seven-thirty o'clock to welcome them in the way of an old fashioned pounding. All present were peculiarly interested and expressed their feelings in this manner. "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Bro. Bishop and wife of course were seen moving among the kind friends expressing their appreciation of such signs of esteem and welcome. Senex.

Worldly Salutations in Zion.

Chicago, Feb. 17—No longer is the saintly salutation of "Peace be unto thee!" heard in streets of Dowie City. For some reason the brothers and sisters in the city of Eljah III, have ceased to use the fraternal address, and now as they pass they nod and say, "How d'ye do?" And, grievous to say, one even hears, "Hello, Bill!"

A bill creating the office of State bank examiner, was passed by the South Carolina General Assembly last week. The office carries with it a salary of \$3,000 and expenses.