

The Smithfield Herald.

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

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NO. 51

TRAGEDY IN CHARLOTTE.

W. S. Biggers, Former Railroad Man, Kills J. G. Hood on Tryon Street—Declares in Extenuation That Hood Had Tried to Rob Him—Apparently Mentally Unbalanced.

Charlotte, N. C., Feb. 9.—After bringing his victim to his knees by a shot in the forehead, W. S. Biggers, a former railroad man, stooped down and pointing his weapon straight at the head of the wounded man, sent the fatal shot crashing into the brain of his enemy, J. G. Hood, for a long time a leading business man of Charlotte.

Biggers was seen walking rather briskly along Tryon street about 9 o'clock this morning, going southward and at Independence square he had nearly overtaken Hood. Walking a hundred feet farther, Biggers came up with his victim immediately in front of the Central Hotel.

What words were spoken nobody knows, but in a few seconds Biggers, who is a one-armed man, whipped out a pistol, and opened fire. The first shot went wild, crashing through the hotel omnibus, and passing through a glass within four inches of the driver's head. The next shot pierced the hat band of Hood's hat in front, crushing the skull. Hood fell to the ground, and then it was that Biggers got in a dead sight directly at the head of the prostrated man and fired the deadliest shot of all, the ball piercing the top of Hood's head, and penetrating the brain. Another bullet grazed the stomach of Biggers's victim, cutting the clothing. The sidewalk was soon covered with blood, which spouted from holes in the dying man's head.

Hood was carried to a hospital, dying within twenty minutes after the shooting. Biggers made no effort to escape, and when the first officer on the scene approached him, he calmly handed over his revolver, remarking that Hood had tried to rob him.

The cause leading up to the tragedy reach back for six years when the firm of J. G. Hood & Co., was liquidated, Biggers losing several thousand dollars which he had in the concern. Recently it is stated that Hood had attempted to block a real estate deal which Biggers was attempting to make, and the matter, it is believed, preyed upon Biggers' mind until he deliberately resolved to kill Hood. After being locked in his cell Biggers sang loudly for a while and appeared unable to recognize any of his friends.

Biggers was formerly in the army, and after coming to Charlotte, lost an arm while working for the Southern railroad.—News and Observer.

What They Do Not Read.

Not one in ten citizens takes a religious paper.

Not one in fifty takes a scientific journal.

Not one in ten takes a youth's paper.

Not one in fifty takes a musical or art journal.

Not one in ten takes a household paper.

Not one voter in a hundred takes a paper devoted to the science of government and the principles of free institutions.

Not one citizen in twenty takes a poultry paper.

Not one farmer in twenty takes a paper devoted to horticulture.

No one in twenty takes a live sock journal.

No one in three takes a farm paper.—Farm Journal.

Upchurch-Batts.

On Wednesday, February 3rd, near Stantonsburg, Mr. W. H. Upchurch and Miss Hattie Batts, of Wilson county, were happily married. Rev. J. M. Martin, a Methodist minister, performed the ceremony. They will live at the home of Mr. Upchurch in Bertonsville township.

Card of Thanks.

Mrs. W. B. Guill and family return their thanks to the people of Smithfield who showed them so many kindnesses during the recent illness and death of their husband and father. They will be ever held in grateful remembrance by the bereaved family.

Smithfield Roller Mill will pay cash highest market price for wheat or exchange flour and feed.

Mr. Holt Replies.

MR. EDITOR:

I invite a careful reading of my letter in your issue of January 30th, and I ask your readers to read carefully the letters of Messrs. Stevens and Honeycutt, appearing in your issue of February 5th, which letters are supposed to be in answer to mine. And I submit that all careful readers of the three letters will acknowledge that the gentlemen have not answered the point in issue, but have dodged the question, and have tried to sidetrack the charges preferred against them into a discussion of a question that was settled in 1906 by a Convention of the Democrats of Johnston County.

In all their long letters they have absolutely ignore the fact that they, public officials as they are, accepting office, as they did, with an understanding that the reduced fees should prevail throughout their term, have gone up to Raleigh and secured, in a seemingly secret manner, the passage of a bill repealing the law affecting their fees, which law was brought about in response to a resolution adopted by the County Convention. They do not seem to realize that they have betrayed a great trust. They seem to ignore the fact that they set aside, without consent or authority, the commands of the Democratic party of the County; and when they are taxed with this breach of party expediency and common gratitude, they fly into a discussion of the question of the unreasonable fees they have been forced to take for the past year or more. They seem to forget the fact that there is no law, written or unwritten, that compels them to hold their respective offices one minute longer than they wish to hold them. In other words they can resign their offices at any time they wish, and if their compensation is not sufficient to afford them a decent living from these offices, no one can blame them or will blame them if they do resign.

Their labored letters evade the main point in question. This is not a discussion of whether the fees are too low or too high. I contend that the principle involved is a matter of two or three men assuming to themselves the power to undo what several hundred men representing the Democratic party ordered to be done. I say that it is un-Democratic that a few individuals should rule the rest of the party. When the Democratic party of Johnston county gets so weak as to allow itself to be carried around in the vest pocket of any one man, it seems to me that the time has come when strong measures are necessary to revive the party.

I shall ignore the remarks of a personal nature that Mr. Stevens saw fit to embody in his letter. I am no public official, and it is therefore immaterial with the people of Johnston county how I voted upon any question. And again, the matter of fees charged by me for professional services is a matter that should interest my clients only, and is not a matter of public concern.

"The people of Johnston county believe in fair dealing" and are not willing that two or three men should arrogate to themselves the power of nullifying, without notice, the wishes of the people.

Very respectfully,
S. S. HOLT.
Smithfield, N. C., Feb. 11, 1909.

Aged Negro Preacher Dead.

Rev. Ned Rice, a negro minister of the Missionary Baptist denomination of Nash county, died last week. Uncle Ned was something 70 years old and had been a preacher for a number of years. He was known by both white and black throughout Nash, Wilson, Johnston and Wake counties, and had many friends. He was a polite old negro, and in his humble way he did much good in the world. He was respected by the people of his own race, and the white people, too.—Wilson Times.

Death Near Benson.

On Tuesday morning of this week Mr. William J. McLamb who lived three miles west of Benson, died of dropsy after about six weeks of illness. The remains were buried Wednesday at Hodges Chapel Free Will Baptist church. He was a good farmer and useful citizen and will be greatly missed in his neighborhood.

UNFAVORABLE REPORTS.

The Liquor Bills of Representatives Morton and Myatt Sat on by Committee.

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 10.—The House Committee on Regulation of the Liquor Traffic met for the first time this session today with the net result of an unfavorable report for Representative Morton's bill to exempt New Hanover county from the prohibition law, turning down Representative Linney's bill to allow Alexander county farmers to sell brandy made from fruits grown on their own land, quelling Representative Myatt's bill to permit Johnston county folks to sell brandy, wine and cider manufactured from fruit grown on land whereon they live, and an adverse vote on Gaston's measure to permit the sale of wine in Upper Hominy township, Buncombe county.

Morton, of New Hanover, and Myatt, of Johnston, both gave notice of minority reports, so the whole thing will be fought out on the floor of the House.

Whiskey Advertising.

For a number of years, as the prohibition sentiment has gained strength throughout the country, there has been a marked tendency among newspapers to discard whiskey advertisements. Recently the Knoxville Sentinel published the long list of American newspapers that refuse to accept such advertising, and the list contained names of many of the most influential publications of the nation.

For a number of years the News has refused to carry this class of advertising matter.

From the Nashville Tennessean we take the following in this connection, which will be read with interest:

"Several weeks ago the Tennessean printed a list of monthly and weekly publications who do not carry any liquor advertising. It included practically every well known magazine and periodical in the United States, with the exception of Harper's Weekly and Harper's Monthly. And now the publishers of those two widely circulated periodicals have announced that liquor advertising is to be eliminated from their pages as soon as present contracts expire.

"Such is the trend of the advertising world. No body is quicker to feel the pulse of the public than extensive advertisers. They have discovered that the women of America are moving almost in a solid mass against the liquor traffic. They have found that women will not read advertising which is on the same page or even in the same publication, with liquor advertisements. The result has been that the publisher had to listen to the demand for the withdrawal of the pages given over to the brewer and the distiller.

"And now the crusade has reached the daily papers. Other advertisers refuse to appear on the page with liquor advertisements, and the enemies of the liquor traffic will not permit journals carrying liquor business to enter their homes. Dry territory is rapidly placing an embargo on wet papers. Furthermore, the liquor man himself is gradually dropping newspaper advertising. After long conferences the brewers and distillers have decided that newspaper publicity is one of the chief causes of the great prohibition wave which is sweeping the whole world. They have found that it is bad policy to try to convince the world that George Washington and every other great man of history was great because he drank liquor.

"Circulars are now the pet medium of advertising for the liquor dealers. They attract less attention and do not flaunt the foul traffic before the public in such an obnoxious manner. So the jug-house and the distiller will try from now on to debauch dry territory by flooding the mails with offers of firearms to young boys and men who will solicit orders for them. What more potent agent of crime is there than the hideous liquor folder picturing bowie knives and dirks and revolvers which the whiskey sellers offer as premiums to those who will forward their unholy traffic?"—Charlotte News.

For Visiting cards. Engraved or printed, leave your orders at THE HERALD OFFICE.

Another Enters the Discussion.

MR. EDITOR:

In the last two issues of THE HERALD I have noticed a controversy between Mr. S. S. Holt on one side and Messrs Honeycutt and Stevens on the other, and I am inclined, with your permission, to take some interest in this discussion myself.

I know that I am only a common tax payer, but I would like to ask every reader: "Why is it that Mr. Honeycutt was so anxious to get his office for a second term unless he was getting good pay?" I never heard any talk of his turning in his resignation during the past two years. I was in hopes he would and recommend me to fill the vacancy. Now since the bill has passed I would make him a present of \$1,000 per annum and I will take charge of the office and carry everything on O. K. and give bond to cover the liabilities. Although I live in Princeton, I guess I might be able to survive in Smithfield if I were a county officer, under the present laws, for a few days, months, years, or decades, in the latter event by economical living I might be a "John D." the 2nd.

Well, I hope the Democracy of old Johnston will look after the errors of the past, and in future will elect men to office who will appreciate the honor. A man who seeks office for the pecuniary part of it, is not worthy of holding office. If Mr. Honeycutt was so opposed to holding office under the laws prior to now, why did he try so hard to be elected again? Sam is a highly educated, refined, athletic, or in other words a first class gentleman.

"Judge" Stevens is, in my opinion, the peer of any man who has ever claimed Johnston county as his home. And yet he says that under the past law he did not receive enough compensation for the amount of work. But why should Mr. Stevens persist in holding his office if there was no profit therein.

I wrote the above on the spur of the moment, after reading Mr. Holt's letter, and then the answers of Messrs. S. T. Honeycutt and W. S. Stevens, and no one need reply with the expectation of an answer in any way. I merely expressed my thoughts in this matter.

J. H. WELLONS.
Princeton, N. C., Feb. 9, 1909.

BUILDING MONSTER GUN.

Work on Weapon Begun at Washington Navy Yard.

The construction of a 14-inch gun has been started at the gun foundry of the Washington Navy Yard. This will be the first built in the Navy Department, and will be used for experimental purposes. While the tendency in foreign navies is toward the use of more powerful guns, American ordnance experts take the stand that the present 12-inch gun is the most serviceable weapon.

The 14-inch gun will cost about \$100,000.—Washington Herald.

Found Dead on Bridge.

On Friday, January 29th, Mr. Pat Parker, of Selma, mail carrier, found Mr. Richard Baker a tenant on the land of Mr. John Brown, dead. His body was on the Brown bridge on the Haman road in Oneals township. It seems he started to Selma on a wagon accompanied by a little boy of his who drove the horse. When they came near the bridge he got out of the wagon to cut a switch and told his boy to drive along and he would overtake him. The boy traveled for awhile and stopped. He told Mr. Parker to tell his father to hurry along but when Mr. Parker reached the bridge he found the man dead.

Soldier Balks Death Plot.

It seemed to J. A. Stone, a civil war veteran, of Kemp, Tex., that a plot existed between a desperate lung trouble and the grave to cause his death. "I contracted a stubborn 'cold,' he writes, "that developed a cough that stuck to me, in spite of all remedies, for years. My weight ran down to 130 pounds. Then I began to use Dr. King's New Discovery, which restored my health completely. I now weigh 178 pounds." For severe Colds, obstinate Coughs, Hemorrhages, Asthma, and to prevent Pneumonia it's unrivaled. 50c, and \$1.00. Trial bottle free. Guaranteed by Hood Bros.

THE NEWS IN BENSON.

Happenings of Interest in and Around This Thriving Little Burg.

Mr. and Mrs. Randall Turlington, of Wilson, visited relatives here last week.

Mrs. J. D. Parker, of Smithfield, spent several days with Mr. and Mrs. K. H. Parker recently.

Mr. F. A. Truitt went to Marion, S. C. Saturday afternoon, returning Monday.

Mrs. J. P. Lee went to Garner Sunday where she will spend several days at the home of her parents.

Miss Chida Lee spent Saturday and Sunday at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Lee, in lower Johnston.

Mr. Herman Boon left Tuesday for Enfield at which place he has accepted a position with the Bevens Drug Company.

Mr. C. O. Pickard, of Chapel Hill, has accepted a position in the drug store of Mr. J. W. Benson.

Mr. Dexter Blanchard, of Fuquay Springs, spent several days in town visiting his uncle, Dr. Rowland, recently.

Mr. Heber Creech, manager of the Rosemary Drug Co., spent Sunday in town with relatives.

Rev. J. M. Langdon filled his regular appointment at the Free Will Baptist church Sunday morning and night.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Holland, of Kenly, spent Saturday and Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. George Holland.

Mr. Merriman Thomas, who is principal of the High School at Buck Horn, spent Saturday with his father near town.

Mr. Walter Denning, who has a position with the A. C. L. Railway at Denmark, S. C., spent Saturday and Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Denning.

Miss Eliza McLamb, the 18-year old daughter of Mrs. Isham McLamb, who lives about a mile from town, died last Thursday morning. The cause of her death was consumption.

On Saturday, the 6th day of February, Lemuel Barbour, the son of Mr. E. E. Barbour, died. He had been afflicted for several years, though his death was unexpected at the time. He was 38 years old.

On Tuesday morning, February 9, Mr. Bill McLamb, who died about 4 miles from Benson, died of heart drop sy. Mr. McLamb was near 55 years old, was a good farmer and one of the best citizens of this community.

REPORTER.
Feb. 10, 1909.

CLAYTON NEWS.

Clayton is coming right along. The tobacco warehouses are just about a certainty. A committee was appointed at the mass meeting on Monday night, to find out all the information they can about warehouses and report at the next meeting which will be held on Tuesday night next. Already several lots have been offered as building sites and just about all the stock has been secured.

Miss Dorothy Kerr is visiting at the home of Mrs. L. F. Austin.

Mr. A. V. Gulley went to Richmond, Va., Monday accompanied by his physician, Dr. Hocutt, where on Tuesday he underwent an operation. He is doing nicely.

Mr. B. M. Robertson returned from Richmond, Va., where he has been to buy stock.

Dr. T. Arthur Griffin leaves Saturday for Baltimore. From there he will go to Grafton, West Va., where he will locate. We wish Dr. Griffin success in his new home.

We are glad to report Mr. C. M. Thomas able to be out at his work again after an illness of several weeks.

Mr. A. M. Sanders, of Smithfield, was in town for two or three days this week looking after the delinquents on the tax list.

Miss Mae Braxton, of Clayton High School, spent Saturday and Sunday at her home near Kinston, N. C.

Mr. Jim Price has opened a grocery store in Mr. J. H. Johnson's store house in upper Clayton.

YELIR.
Clayton, Feb. 10, 1909.

Disappointed in Him.

Nell—"Yes, he proposed to her, but she refused him; she was terribly disappointed in him." Belle—"In what way?" Nell—"He never asked her again."—Ex.

Death of Mr. L. B. Holt.

Mr. Leonidas Bright Holt, of the Sanders Chapel section, died at the Rex Hospital, Raleigh, Saturday afternoon, February 6th, at 5 o'clock. His health had been falling since December 1st, and about a month ago, he went to the Hospital for treatment and underwent two serious operations. However, these operations did not produce the desired relief, and death ended his sufferings and released the tired spirit from the tenement of clay.

Mr. Holt was born October 7, 1833, and was a son of the late Wiley Holt who lived near Princeton. He served in the Confederate Army during the Civil War, and after the war he made his home in Wayne county where he engaged in farming for several years. About twenty years ago he moved to Goldsboro, for the purpose of educating his children, where he lived until four or five years since, when he moved to his late residence, about six miles south of Smithfield.

He was married in January, 1869, to Miss Ellen Powell, a daughter of the late Ashley Powell and sister of the ex-sheriff, C. S. Powell. To this union were born eight children, two of whom died in infancy. Surviving him are his wife and six children: Dr. R. D. Holt, of Cherokee, N. C., Mrs. R. A. Moore, of Yuma, Arizona, Mr. E. M. Holt, of Quarantine, La., Mrs. C. R. Ross, of Yanceyville, N. C., Dr. T. J. Holt, of Wise, N. C., and Miss Lillian Holt, of Smithfield.

Mr. Holt had been a member of The Methodist church for many years, and had expressed himself as ready and willing to go. His funeral was preached at his home Sunday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock by his pastor, Rev. W. H. Pucket, and the remains laid to rest in the cemetery of the Powell family. The deceased was a man of means, was well informed and intelligent, as a leading citizen of his community, a kind neighbor and a devoted husband and father, he will be missed by all.

To the bereaved ones THE HERALD offers its sincere sympathy.

Daughter-Braswell.

On Thursday evening at the home of the bride's father, Mr. Alex Braswell, Mr. John Daughtery and Miss Jennie Braswell were united in marriage, the ceremony being performed by Elder W. J. Wilkins. The attendants were: Mr. Monroe Braswell with Miss Julia Adams, Mr. David Braswell with Miss Ella Daughtery, Mr. Tom Evans with Miss Amy Daughtery, Mr. Charlie Daughtery with Miss Mattie Braswell, Mr. London Braswell with Miss Cynthia Braswell.

The happy young couple are among the popular young people of their section and have hosts of friends who wish them all happiness.

Miss Lula Smith Entertains.

On last Friday evening Miss Lula Smith entertained a host of her friends at her home on Oakland Heights. They played lots of games, the principal game was the contest, which was guessing the names of some of the most prominent men. The prize was given to the one that guessed the most of the names right. Mr. Nathan Johnson, being able to guess the most names right. He having to leave on the shoofly and did not have time to get it, it was delivered to second best, Miss Mattie Smith, of Benson.

Those present were: Misses Addie and Florence Johnson, Mattie Smith, of Benson, Hannah Jones, Mary Tomlinson, Mabel Byrd, Bessie Sanders, Nannie Underwood, Annie Peacock, Carrie Hyman, and Lilly Barbour; Messrs. Hubert and Edward Woodall, Bernice and Daniel Jones, Mayo Bally Ransom Sanders, Walter Ives, Robt. Parrish, Elbert Bingham, Louis Paylor, and Nathan Johnson, of Benson.

At eleven fifteen they all bid farewell, saying they had had a pleasant evening.

M. V. S.

His Terrible Offense.

"Brown's in awful trouble." "What's the matter? Has he killed a man?" "No, worse than that. He stole a postage stamp and there does not seem to be any possible way of keeping him out of prison."—Detroit Free Press.