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SWEETENED WATER CREEK

A Legend as to the Origin of the Name--The Genesis of a Local Industry--Molasses Cakes and Cupid--W. H. Wyatt True to Old Time Cooks

Among local items of interest recently mentioned in THE ENTERPRISE, was that of Sweetened Water Creek. The name looked exceedingly familiar and homely, and I remembered that the name was an old one--how old I do not know, and I doubt if any one living can tell the proper name of the creek.

Of the origin of the name, however, there was a legend, the age of which is doubtful, in effect that the name was derived from an accident or an incident, or both. The story was that a man had a sweet-heart living on one side of the creek while he dwelt on the other side. Every Saturday night he would buy some molasses cakes, tie them up in a big bandanna handkerchief, and take them to his girl, crossing the creek in a canoe.

One night the canoe was upset and both man and cakes were thrown into the water. Those cakes were said to be so sweet, so charged with good molasses that the color of the water was changed, and the name of the stream has ever since been "Sweetened Water" Creek.

As to the authenticity of this legend, I leave each of your readers to decide for himself. "I vouch not for its truth, d'ye see, but tell the tale as 'twas told to me." But in case any one cares to follow up the story, either for the gratification of curiosity, or to find a sure foundation for historical fact, let me here present some facts which may lend assistance to the curious.

The creek is there, 'twas there hundreds of years ago. What the color of the water was originally no one has told us--perhaps, it was as clear and sparkling as any mountain stream but we know that at present the water looks just as if it was generously mixed with molasses.

As long ago as any one can remember, the banks of the creek have been dotted with private landings leading to byways through swamp and forest and field, to residences in the islands along its courses. That a canoe should capsize is no wonder, particularly at night and this accident must have happened at night--on a Saturday night--to a black man--with the patrol after him.

Which way was the man going--from the country to Williamston or from Williamston to the country? I think that he was going from the country to Williamston. Why? Because, first, no cake of the kind described in the legend could ever have been found in Williamston unless carried there from "over the creek," and second, because such cakes have always (or as long as any living man or woman can remember) been made and sold in the Holly Spring neighborhood, about three miles from Williamston, on the Jamesville road.

In the early forties--how many years before that date I do not remember--but early in the forties, Mrs. Alan Moore, who lived in a little cottage about a mile from Leggett's Bridge over Sweetened Water Creek, made and sold molasses cakes of a peculiar shape, somewhat like a palm leaf fan with a handle at each end, and of such unusual sweetness and flavor as to render the cook and her cookies universally popular.

In the course of time death broke up the Moore family and stopped

Tarboro Easy Spoils

The ball team under the management of Clayton Moore, left here Tuesday morning for Tarboro to play a double-header there. Ward, the pitcher, was absent at Ayden, but was expected to join them at Tarboro, however, this was the thing that he failed to do. Jordan arrived on the train and went up with them. With several substitutes, the team was completed, and the Edgcombe boys lost both games. The first was won by the score of 5 to 4, the second by 18 to 10. A dispatch from Tarboro states that the two games aggregated 36 runs, 45 hits and 33 errors. Batteries: Williamston, Knight, Stubbs, Jordan. Second game: Moore and Jordan. Tarboro, Arnheim and Cherry. Second game: Weeks, Arnheim and Cherry.

Parson's Poem A Gem

From Rev. H. Stubenvoll, Allison, Ia., in praise of Dr. King's New Life Pills. "They're such a health necessity. In every home these pills should be. If other kinds you've tried in vain, USE DR. KING'S. And be well again. Only 25c at Saunders & Fowden.

Died at Jamesville

Mrs. W. B. Marks died at her home in Jamesville Sunday morning after a short illness. Her remains were brought to Scotland Neck on the 10 o'clock train Monday morning and carried to the Baptist cemetery for interment the burial services being conducted by Rev. O. M. Moore, assistant pastor of the Baptist church. Mrs. Marks was a daughter of Mr. J. G. Moore and until a few weeks ago she and her husband had lived at Middlesex. We sympathize with the bereaved ones in their sorrow and grief--The Commonwealth.

It will be remembered by many here that Mrs. Marks lived here with her husband several years ago, occupying the Tucker home.

the supply of good molasses cakes. But a little later the industry was taken up by Mrs. Lilley, who lived near the Riddick School House a mile or so further on towards Jamesville. Mrs. Lilley's were fully as good as those of Mrs. Moore, and there was a ready demand for all she made. The last time I passed that way Mrs. Lilley was still making and selling those most excellent molasses cakes--no mother ever made better.

"Aunt" Nicey, a colored woman belonging to the Lanier family, near Foster's Mill, also made and sold cakes of the same pattern and general appearance--and good cakes they were, too, and a kind-hearted woman was "aunt" Nicey--but to my taste her cake were not as good as Mrs. Lilley's. I do not remember how Mrs. Moore's cakes tasted, though in my baby days I probably ate them frequently, as the Wyatt family lived near the Moores.

This legend, like most stories of its kind, can easily be proven to be a myth if you will only go far enough back. But why spoil a good story? We have the facts of the stream, the water of which looks like hogheads of molasses have been emptied into it, and we have the cakes--all that is best and satisfying in the story.

Let me add that I have eaten molasses cakes in several states of Union, and in several cities from Williamston to New York, but have nowhere seen a molasses cake that looked or tasted like Mrs. Lilley's. Her cakes had a pungency and flavor found in no other.

W. H. WYATT.
Rutherford, N. J.

EVERETTS ITEMS

D. D. Stalls left for Washington City Saturday.

Thomas House was here Monday from Robersonville.

Miss Lena Thomas was here from Williamston Friday.

Johnnie Kittrell, of Greenville, was here Wednesday.

J. S. Ayers attended the picnic at Oak City Tuesday.

Misses Daisy Taylor and Sarah Green were here Saturday.

Hon. and Mrs. J. B. Coffield have returned from a visit to Buffalo Springs.

Miss Ella Burroughs and Mesdames Snider and Spivey went to Bethel Monday.

Miss Minnie Bell and J. L. Gurganus, of Bethel, were the guests of Mrs. Willie Teel Sunday.

Mrs. S. F. Everett left Friday for Laurinburg, where she will be some time visiting relatives.

Misses Lanier, Critcher, Bethea and Peel, of Williamston, were the guests of Mrs. J. W. Williams Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Burroughs, of Scotland Neck, Mrs. S. D. Burroughs, of Bethel, Mrs. C. H. Snider and Mrs. J. C. Spivey, of Conway, S. C., are the guests of J. B. Burroughs and family this week.

To the tune of "Yankee Doodle" rendered by the Robersonville Band the local ball team was defeated by the Robersonville nine in a fast game Tuesday. The score was 6 to 1 and the first two innings were snappy and might be called league ball. Rawls and Roberson being the star players. The Band honored our burg with an open air concert after the game. The band under the leadership of Prof. Smith is fast coming to the front, and will soon equal Sousa. Not only a few but all of Robersonville including its pretty girls, visited Everett to cheer their team to victory. That town is on the dot when it comes to ball fans.

A Peek Into His Pocket

would show the box of Bucklen's Arnica Salve that E. S. Loper, a carpenter, of Marilla, N. Y. always carries. "I have never had a cut, wound, bruise, or sore it would not soon heal," he writes Greatest healer of burns, boils, scalds, chapped hands and lips, fever-sores, skin-eruptions, eczema, corns and piles. 25c. at Saunders & Fowden.

Mrs. Amanda Ward

The death of Mrs. Amanda Ward, wife of W. W. Ward, occurred June 24th, 1911. She was born June 5th, 1828. Three children and nine grandchildren are left to mourn their loss.

She was a consistent member of the Baptist Church. The Lord has taken her unto Himself and we hope to meet her in Heaven where partings will be no more.

Mattie Warren.

A man may like a girl all the more because she seems to like him less.

A Little Boy Dead

The home of Mr. and Mrs. John D. Mizell, of Griffins Township, was saddened for the second time within two weeks by the death of their little son, aged two years. He suffered with congestion of the lungs and died in agony on Monday night, July 3rd. About two weeks ago, a little daughter was taken and the afflicted parents have the deepest sympathy of friends and neighbors.

The funeral services were conducted by Elder Ashley Mizell, and the little body was laid to rest in the family cemetery.

OAK CITY ITEMS

J. C. Trotman was in town Tuesday.

S. J. Everett, of Greenville, was here Wednesday.

Mr. Roberson, of Palmyra, was in town Wednesday.

Miss Edith Davenport has returned to her home in Roper.

Miss Thelma Beverly is visiting her sister, Mrs. Charley Hurst.

Tom Davenport and wife have gone to Washington for a short time.

Miss Lula Jones, of Rocky Mount is visiting Miss Blanche and Daisy Council.

Miss Ada Tew from Port Norfolk is visiting her cousin, Miss Emily Hines.

W. C. Nelson with his two daughters drove from Tarboro to attend the picnic.

Stanton Ayers was in town Tuesday and attended the picnic with Miss Fanny Johnson.

The Rev. Mr. Crisp, preached a very interesting sermon last Sunday at the Missionary Baptist Church.

The Oak City Band celebrated the fourth by joining the picnic on the Roanoke. We thank them for their courtesy and music.

Mr. and Mrs. Cardwright Taylor with their little son spent a few days with Mr. and Mrs. Charley Hurst. They left for home Sunday.

Bernard Hines, who has been with the Hospital Corps on the transport Kilpatrick, has returned to Fortress Monroe, after an extended trip to Texas and New York City.

The citizens and visitors with friends and acquaintances from nearby places, enjoyed a delightful picnic on Roanoke River on the Fourth. Boating, bathing, fishing, music and games were in order. Messrs. J. L. Hines and J. T. Savage furnished fish for an appetizing fry, which was enjoyed by all with the delicacies from the baskets.

Friday Evening Lectures

Rev. M. E. Bethea will lecture tonight (Friday) on "The Spread of Christianity in the Days of Persecution." This lecture will contain an account of the legend of the Holy Grail and also that of the Gastonbury Thorn. This is one of the most interesting epochs in the world and one with which the intelligent man cannot be too familiar. The lecture will be of particular interest to students of history.

The services will begin at the Episcopal Church at 8:15 and the public is cordially invited.

County Superintendent

The Board of Education met Monday and re-elected Prof. R. J. Peel, Superintendent of Public Instruction for Martin County. Prof. Peel has held this position for a number of years and the work has gone forward under his management equal to any county in the State. A tour through the county would give one a clear idea of the improvement in buildings which has been so marked for the past few years. The citizens of the county appreciate the ability of the man and feel that affairs will be safe intrusted to him. The Institute which assembles here on Monday, July 10th, will be under the directions of Prof. Peel, and the indications point to a very successful and profitable session.

Sprains require careful treatment. Keep quiet and apply Chamberlain's Liniment freely. It will remove the soreness and quickly restore the parts to a healthy condition. For sale by All Dealers.

Resolutions

Adopted at the meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary and Parish Guild, Church of the Advent, Williamston, June 29th, 1911.

WHEREAS, It has pleased our Heavenly Father to call from earth our friend and co-worker, Mrs. Virginia Cotten Lamb, on June 19th, 1911, therefore, be it resolved.

1st. That though we shall miss her ready help and interest in all things pertaining to the work committed unto us, we submit humbly to the will of Him who doeth all things well, and in whose arm there is strength to keep us when trials come.

2nd. That the sincerest sympathy of our hearts is extended to those upon whose hearts and home the dark shadow of grief has fallen, and that we commend them to the God in whom she trusted unflinchingly through all the years given to her.

3rd. That these resolutions be spread upon the record book, a copy sent to THE ENTERPRISE and to THE Mission Herald for publication, and that a copy be sent to the bereaved family.

MISS HATTIE THROWER,
MRS. W. R. FOWDEN,
MRS. A. H. SMITH,
Committee.

Operetta

The form of entertainment on the night of July 4th was the operetta under the direction of Mrs. Vivian Wysong Mobley. The affair was fairly well attended, considering the hot weather, and some of the features were warmly applauded. Mrs. Mobley is an accomplished musician, and worked very hard in training those who participated.

Birthday Supper

Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Coffield entertained a number of friends at supper on Wednesday evening in honor of Mrs. Coffield's birthday, which was also the anniversary of their wedding. A delicious menu was served and each one present greatly enjoyed the hospitality of the host and hostess.

Those present were: Mrs. J. S. Cook, Misses Pansy Coffield, of Rockdale, Tex., Kate Blacknell, of Kittrell, Lettie Critcher, Anna Beth and Mildred Purvis, Hattie Lou Ward, and Messrs. Louis Bennett, Frank Fagan, Maurice Moore, Harry Biggs, Willie Watts, Hubert Coffield, of Rockdale, Tex., John W. Hassell and J. W. Biggs.

Right in your busiest season when you have the least time to spare you are most likely to take diarrhoea and lose several days' time, unless you have Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy at hand and take a dose on the first appearance of the disease. For sale by All Dealers.

A Little Babe Dead

Ethel, aged ten months and fourteen days, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Bennett, died at their home near Williamston, at 7 o'clock Sunday morning, July 2nd, 1911. The little child had been ill for five weeks with bronchitis, but the tenderest care of physician and family could not stay the hand of death.

Monday afternoon at 5 o'clock, the little body was interred in the Baptist Cemetery, Rev. G. J. Dowell conducting the services. Friends and relatives sympathize with the bereaved parents in the loss of their little child. "Suffer little children to come unto me and forbid them not for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven."

ROBERSONVILLE NEWS ITEMS

Local Happenings and People who are Coming and Going, Here, There and Yonder as Gathered by our Regular Correspondent.

J. C. Smith is at Mebane this week.

Mrs. L. T. Roberson spent Sunday near Hassell.

H. H. Morton, of Jamesville, was here Monday.

W. H. Elliott, of Norfolk, spent several days here last week.

S. L. Ross had the misfortune to lose a fine horse a few days ago.

Mrs. R. J. Nelson and son returned from Columbia Tuesday.

J. D. Woolard and Miss Lina Wynn spent Sunday near Everetts.

S. G. Smith and family spent several days near Bethel last week.

Mrs. C. L. Cannon and son returned home from Ayden Saturday.

Cecil Everett is off on a vacation to Richmond and Danville this week.

Miss Rosa Baker, of Palmyra, is visiting Miss Bettie Roberson this week.

Mr. Thos. Willingham and family of Kinston, are in town for several weeks.

G. M. Roberson, of Norfolk, was here Monday and Tuesday on business.

H. C. Norman went to Rocky Mount and other points on business Saturday.

The farmers in this vicinity report the best crops up to date in several years.

James Everett, of near here, spent Tuesday with his daughter, Mrs. J. S. Smith.

Mrs. J. H. Roberson, Sr., spent the fourth in the country with her brother, J. T. Everett.

Mrs. G. A. Coffield and children are spending the week near Gold Point with her mother.

Misses Blanche Daniel and Bettie Roberson spent the week end with Miss Selma Everett near Gold Point.

Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Johnson and Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Roberson spent Sunday near Hassell with Mrs. Ed Purvis.

The Robersonville Concert Band enjoyed a lay-out of barbecue and wine on the 4th, given by Messrs. W. C. Roberson and R. E. Grimes.

Elder T. M. Lawrence was called Wednesday to hold burial services over Mrs. G. W. Whitfield, of near Ballards, who died Tuesday.

Mrs. Mc. G. Gurganus made a flying trip to Kinston Friday afternoon to meet her little granddaughter, Hellen, who has been visiting her father at Comfort.

J. C. Robertson had the misfortune to lose one of the most notable cows in the county. She gave four gallons of milk and two and one-half pounds of butter daily.

The beautiful residence which Dr. R. H. Hargrove is having erected on Main Street, will soon be completed. It will be one of the handsomest on this street.

The death angel entered the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Whitfield on Monday, June 28th, and bore from earth to heaven their little babe, Ello, aged thirteen months. He was sick only a few days with gastritis.

Mr. and Mrs. D. P. Roberson, Prof. Outerbridge and wife, Elder T. M. Lawrence and wife, and Misses Lannie House and Lizzie Roberson spent the 4th in the

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