

**The Roanoke Beacon.**  
The Official Paper of Washington County.  
Published Every Friday by  
THE ROANOKE PUBLISHING COMPANY.  
W. FLETCHER AUBSON, Local Editor.  
THOMAS HUBSON, Business Manager.

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The editor will not be responsible for the views of correspondents.  
All articles for publication must be accompanied by the full name of the writer.  
Correspondents are requested not to write on both sides of the paper.  
All communications must be sent in by Thursday morning or they will not appear.  
Address all communications to

**THE ROANOKE BEACON,**  
Plymouth, N. C.

We appeal to every reader of THE ROANOKE BEACON to aid us in making it an acceptable and profitable medium of news to our citizens. Let Plymouth people and the public know what is going on in Plymouth. Report to us all items of news—the arrival and departure of friends, social events, deaths, serious diseases, accidents, new buildings, new enterprises and improvements of whatever character, changes in business—indeed anything and everything that would be of interest to our people.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1889.

WITH this issue the BEACON closes the first six months of its existence. It began publication June 21, under dark and very discouraging circumstances, owing to the failures of newspapers in the past that have tried to start in this town.

We began its publication with the promise, that if the citizens of Plymouth and Washington county would give us the support needed we would give them a first-class paper. While some have done their best in adding us to make the BEACON a success, yet others have held back and only prospected for us to fall as others had done. These are the kind of men that cancel all enterprises to fail. They are the men that will not take their home paper, even if we trust them, they will and do have check to refuse to take the paper and pay for it, but will borrow it and enjoy reading it, and that is not all, they are the first of all men to find fault of it and have the impudence to say we ought to do so and so. We do not blame any man for not taking his county paper, if he has not enterprise enough to want to know what is going on in the world, neither do we blame the people for not wanting to pay for a Plymouth paper in advance until they find it to be on a solid foundation, but when a man refuses to take a paper after the publisher offers to send it in advance, we do blame him to "beat" some one else out of it.

For the safety of subscribers we adopted a new system for the first six months, by furnishing the paper to city subscribers and collecting monthly, while subscribers elsewhere have received it six months in advance, and we trust that all who have received the paper six months will forward the amount, (which is sixty-five cents) without delay or trouble to us.

To our patrons of the past we extend thanks and solicit a continuance of the same, we also solicit the patronage of those who have failed to give us their support in the past.

We have endeavored to make the BEACON an interesting and welcome visitor to all. We have made known the needs of our town and county, in plain words we have denounced the unlawful actions of men, we have boomed the town and county and tried to present to capitalist the many advantages, both of climate and soil, that our county has to offer them. In fact, we have done all in our power to build up the county and advance the interests of its people.

While thus trying to discharge our duty some men have seen fit to take offense at our actions. To such men, and for the benefit of others, we would say that this paper is published in the interest of the whole people, and not for the personal benefit of any one man. If by mistake we should wound the feelings of any man we will always be found ready to make an apology, and if, by unlawful deeds or improper actions of men, we deem it proper to publicly comment upon such actions, we shall do so regardless of position or race, and bear in mind when we are forced to comment upon such actions, we will be prepared to meet the end.

Again thanking the public for their aid in making the BEACON what it is, and asking a continuance of their support, and wishing them a merry Christmas and happy New Year, we are

Very respectfully,  
THE ROANOKE PUBLISHING Co.

**GRACEFULLY** and gently the year 1889 is fast passing and soon it will be a year recorded in history as a thing of the past. As we now look upon the forest with its branches almost bare by the chilly winds of December, we yet see the beauty of nature there, and it seems that this scenery of magnificent splendor lingers as if waiting for the new year, with its icy breath. As the old year fades, and the new year rushes in then we will see the beauty of nature, that has withered at the close of these December days, only to be brought back to its former self by the warm rays of the suns now, as it is kissed by the keen north winds of January, wither and die, never to flourish again until the sweet spring time.

Verily the year 1889 has been one to be remembered by the people throughout this broad land of ours. For floods, fires and other disasters, both on land and on water, it will compare with any year of the past. We are ready to bid farewell to it, ready to meet and welcome its eventual end. While it draws to a close, we are brought that such nearer our eternal resting place, yet,

with anxiety we wait its coming, trusting that as it passes out and the new year dawns upon us there will be a change for the betterment of our country.

As the year 1890 dawns upon our nation we hope to see the people filled with new life, and to see their every effort crowned with success. May the coming year be recorded in history as one of the most notable for prosperity and advancement to the world, that has ever graced the pages of history.

We have before us the Industrial issue of the Washington Gazette. It is 24 pages of well-written matter, and gives sketches of the lives of the most prominent business men, also pictorial illustrations of the town, such as the various churches, public buildings, streets, &c. The manner in which it is gotten up is very creditable to the printer.

This industrial issue is not alone a benefit to the town and county, but reflects much credit upon the citizens that support the Gazette; and to its energetic editor, Mr. H. A. Latham, is due much credit. Mr. Latham, though a young man, has proven his ability and fitness for the position he holds, by strictest attention to business and untiring zeal, he has made the Gazette a success and done much to advance the interests of his town, county and State.

May the Gazette ever continue to grow until it and its editor may be raised upon the highest swell of the journalistic sea, and may it ever continue to fearlessly proclaim the rights and advance the interests of the party which it now has the honor of defending.

**FARMER IN POLITICS.**  
MR. EDITOR: There seems to be much fear on the part of certain politicians that the farmers will go into politics, and as a farmer, I would like to know who has a better right to hold the reins of government than the farmer? There is no class of men in this world more pure. That is one of the foremost reasons why they should come forward to cleanse the "plaster" of the corruptible spolia contained therein. As a farmer I venture the assertion that there is too many of the office seekers who are not anxious to fill the great places of trust in this government that they may prove a blessing to their continent, but that they may receive the salary attached thereto. Like Esau they sell their blessing for a mess of pottage and receive as the penalty the disapprobation of all honest people.

Should the farmers enter politics in a different way than is their custom, I believe they would remediate things in a general way.

1st, by reducing the salaries of government officials from the President down. There is quite a difference in the cost of living now, as compared with the times in which those salaries were affixed. In every campaign you will hear orators pleading against the reduction of "tariff" and use as an argument that you can buy almost double for one dollar to day what you could when the tariff system was instituted but they never intimate that it could live on half the amount that this government allows them. Now dear farmer reader you may make a poor crop after you have toiled from dawn to dark three hundred and thirty-six days in every year but this government of which you have the same right to share its blessings, never fails of an abundant harvest. You must pay your taxes or the Sheriff will sell the last available thing in your possession, that our trusted Statesmen may receive dollar for dollar of all that was allowed them, regardless of the stringent circumstances in which you have been abducted, not of your own will, but of the will of filia who works all things well for good to them that love him and keep his commandments." The men who are anxious to fill our offices are the men most polite during the warfare but after the battle the most impolite. Every man who has the right to cast a ballot is of such importance during election. And our former politicians would walk a league to shake his hand, hoping to gain his favor, but after his election or defeat as the case may be they will scarcely even bow when you meet them face to face, and I think it is high time that all such men were exiled on the island of reformation. Let them learn the truth that it is the agricultural classes that form the bone and sinew of this country.

More anon.  
A FARMER.  
Mackey's Ferry, N. C. Dec. 18/89.

**SNOWDEN LETTER.**  
SNOWDEN, N. C., Dec. 16, '89.

MR. EDITOR: As I have no news of interest to your readers I will say a few more words regarding our coon and opossum club which seems to be taking the lead here in the way of sport, though the club is in its infancy, only four in number, but we have several names on file for initiation which will be initiated about Christmas. We went out one night last week; General Logan, our imported treeing dog was not long in putting a coon up a tree. Not being able to "line" his eyes nor climb the tree we were compelled to leave the coon so we off with our coats and fell the tree; the "General" was some time in finding the trail but got right after a while and after running him about three miles and making us wade through three or four swamps in water to our pockets brought him back near the place he first started and treed again. We examined the tree and found it to be hollow and by this time we were not best with the comfort of a coat, we had left them behind in small pieces on the briars. We cut the tree down and found that the coon was in his home, we put one of the hounds in the crowd at the top to keep him from getting away, while we cut a hole in the log to catch the coon, the man at the end of the log being badly fatigued stuck his head in the hollow and went to sleep. We were about 20 feet from the top when all at once we heard the man with his head in the hollow crying murder. It is needless to say we at once turned the dog loose and ran to the rescue of the man holding murder for every breath. The coon in trying to make his escape had fastened himself between the log and the man's head, and it was hard telling which of the two was scratching the hardest, the man or the coon, the dog first held the man's throat and then the coon's. Though we both badly chewed we succeeded in catching the coon.

We'll for fear I may make my letter too long I will bring it to a close, and tell the balance in my next. Wishing our hunters a merry Christmas and a fair o'possum, I remain  
Yours Truly,  
Old Rip.

**TOWN AND COUNTRY.**  
THEY MUST WORK TOGETHER FOR THE GOOD OF BOTH.  
Manufacturers' Record.  
In the great advances the South is making every town may share in proportion to its advantage, be they few or many. A town is a compact aggregation of inhabitants, simply because the surrounding country made such a nucleus of population necessary. What is for the good of the farmer around it is good for its citizens also. The relations between the scattered land workers and the villages of larger communities must necessarily be those of mutual interest. The town prospers if the agricultural country around it does, not otherwise. There must needs be interdependence, not independence. The thing, therefore, for the citizens of every town to see to it that all opportunities are utilized to add to its industries, in order that a market may be made for whatever surplus is raised upon the adjacent farms. In other words, the more mouths there are to feed in any place the better it will be for the farmer, and the more the latter get for their products the greater the trade done by them in the town. The one thing needful for any village, town or city is concert of action. The old fable of the bunch of sticks that could be broken singly, but that kept together could not be broken, has its counter-part in this. Harmonious action for the public good will accomplish wonders. Conflicting opinions that prevent united efforts will injure all concerned. But the selfishness that looks so closely after its own as to render it indifferent to the public interests will defeat itself. What many Southern communities need is to abandon provincialism and to become as broad and liberal as the present age requires. That way lies that progress which leads to prosperity.

**LONG RIDGE LETTER.**  
LONG RIDGE, N. C., Dec. 16, '89.  
EDITOR ROANOKE BEACON:  
DEAR SIR: This place once the most quiet, is now perhaps the most lively in our county. In our grand old woods the sound of the ax, the saw and the falling trees, together with the sound of many voices, are heard, while but a short distance from where I write the iron horse, (spoken of by "Flipp") blows its shrill whistle as it steams through the forest which was such a short time ago, almost a pathless wilderness. Our noble pine trees, the growth of several centuries, are fast disappearing and leaving our country much changed in appearance and while we regret to see our woods stripped of its grand old trees yet we are glad to meet many pleasant faces and welcome many agreeable strangers in our midst, among whom are Messrs. Whaley, Cohn, Vincens, Ludford and Parker.

We are always happy to see such gentlemen in our place and give them a hearty welcome. We are also pleased to note any enterprise and we hope the road now running through our place may become a permanent passenger line.

The railroad seems to be an object of much curiosity to some of our people but no one has "walked over the locomotive" as we are aware of, but stock is quite troublesome.

Messrs. S. F. Freeman and Arthur H. Mardison, contractors, are here with squads of hands, cutting and hauling timber.

A spy party of young people from Bearfoot county spent Sunday last in our place. We regret to say that Mr. Joe Harrison, of this place, is yet quite sick. But are pleased to add that Mr. Cicero Kelly, who has been ill for some time, is now convalescent.

Mrs. C. Jackson, of Bearfoot county, near here, is quite ill. She has our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

The Christmas holidays are drawing near and our people are very busy and many are looking with anxious eyes for some absent loved one to spend Christmas at home, and as the eager children fit to and for our thoughts go back to the days when we, like them, were eager over Santa Claus and Christmas, the happiest days of our lives, and we cannot be too busy to think once again of childhood's dear friends with whom those happy hours were spent, nor forget to give a thought to the friends of maturer years and wish with all our hearts that they may be successful and happy.

It is with the most sincere pleasure we note the constant improvement of the BEACON and we hope the good people of Plymouth and elsewhere will continue to give it their support and aid in making it the leading paper in our State. The BEACON has many friends among our people whose wish it is that its editor may write his name among the famous ones of our land.

WILD ROSE.

**MACKEY'S FERRY LETTER.**  
MACKEY'S FERRY, N. C., Dec. 16, '89.  
MR. EDITOR: Yesterday (Sunday) was a day of changeable impressions to your humble writer. The first impression was the sound of death as I beheld the lifeless body of the late widow of Dr. Lewis, but who was married to Mr. J. B. Vineet, of Martinsboro, N. C. She departed this life on the 13th inst. after an illness of only four days. There was a large assemblage of relatives and friends gathered at St. Luke's Episcopal Church at 10 o'clock Sunday morning to pay their last respect to their honored dead.

We are often reminded that we too must die by the repeated scenes of our friends passing away to a world unknown, one by one.

The second impression was preparatory to the first, made by the Rev. C. W. Robinson, in his sermon at Hebrew Church, in which he set forth the unimpeachable fact that man's duty is to live a sermon more impressive than any that has or may be preached from the sacred desk. A man or woman full of the Holy Ghost and of faith is "an epistle read and known of all men." Think not, dear reader, if purchase you belong to some denominational church simply that you will live all your life or even a great part of it and men take you to be a Christian. The Lord has said that "a tree is known by its fruit; a bad tree cannot bring forth good fruit, neither can a good tree bring forth corruptible fruit." "By their fruit ye shall know them." It was the first time I have had the pleasure to hear him preach, and I think I may with safety apply his text in my communication: "The son of consolation, a man full of the Holy Ghost and of faith." Doubtless many will be added to the Christian church through his ministry. Truly his sermon was not a failure in no sense, for there were many cheeks, bathed in tears and many hearts were exultant with joy as he rehearsed charitable circumstances that had come under his observation. Men full of the Holy Ghost going to and for administering unto the necessity of the poor, is a sermon that will never spend its force this side of eternity, it will gather strength in every heart until at last when seated around the great white throne of God, beyond the possibilities of this life, it will take up its reward and shout the anthems of praise among the redeemed of heaven.

23. 13. 2.  
**TOWN AND COUNTRY.**  
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Manufacturers' Record.  
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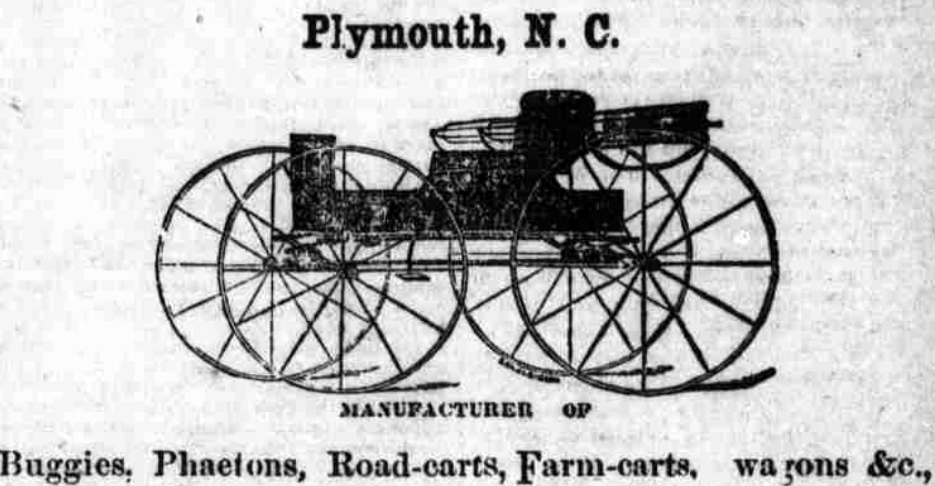
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