

The Roanoke Beacon.

The Official Paper of Washington County.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 1890.

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 assist 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 illnesses, 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, MARCH 28, 1890.

SENATOR SPOONER, Republican, of Wisconsin, gave in his speech on Monday as one of his reasons for opposing the Blair Educational Bill, that the Southern people and the Southern press didn't want it. Correct. Now let Mr. Spooner be consistent and oppose the proposed election bill for the South which the Southern people and the Southern press don't want, either. —Star.

HEAR what one of America's greatest statesmen thinks of the two old parties. These words were uttered several years ago, but they were as full of truth as an egg is of meat and the only change in either party since their utterance is for the worse. Here they are:

"We have two parties in this country, and what are they? They have been going down, down, until they have almost reached the lowest depths. What a commentary upon the politics of a great Republic! They represent two colossal organic appetites thirsting for spoils. The two parties are like wild beasts trying to devour each other. The American citizen is an intelligent and far above the average citizen in the old world. They are the prop and stay of the republic and have the spirit of freedom in them handed down from father to son. They are honest, intelligent and energetic. The men that make the laws for them on Capitol Hill do not appreciate them. —Roseoe Conkling.

DEPARTED this life in the Senate Chamber at Washington, D. C., March 20th, '90, after being held by the House, for a long time between life and death, the "Blair bill."

We of the South need aid in perfecting education, but are not anxious to obtain it through the assistance of Federal government.

While the passage of the Blair bill would have been of great benefit to North Carolina, yet it would have placed the schools in the South under the control of Federal politicians.

At one time the majority of Democrats in North Carolina favored this bill, but now they see that it would interfere with home rule, they can see that it would lessen State and increase Federal power, and would in time destroy local authority.

We believe that since the Southern States have, in the dark days of the past, managed to support their schools, that now when a brighter future is upon them they can support the schools without the aid of Federal government.

The bill was defeated by a majority of 6 votes. Senator Vance voted for the bill and Senator Ransom against it.

The Norfolk Virginian in an editorial on the bill before its defeat said:

"The bill is the inspiration of a man who is a bitter partisan, an extreme hater of the South, a winner of its people, he has witnessed the States of the South overthrow the attempt that sought to deprive them of good government and render them subject to misrule and negro dominion, and finding that the efforts of force failed, he comes with this glittering temptation of gold, under the seductive plea of improving the educational interests of the States.

It is a cunning scheme, plausible and tempting, but it is hoped that it will not succeed.

EX GOVERNOR JARVIS, of North Carolina, is in favor of doubling the taxation for public school purposes. We admit that the public schools of North Carolina are in a deplorable condition, but would it not be better to increase the taxation gradually. To bring it from 25 cts. to 50 cts., would be too great an increase. Not for the good of the public schools, which means for the good of the people, but the poorer people of the State would think it an act of imposition, and would undoubtedly object to it. But we are sure the citizens of the State would not object to the increase if brought about gradually.

Note the condition of our public school houses that dot the road side. Are they not inefficient for the accommodation of the number of children that depend on them for an education? The houses are small and in many cases the seats are uncomfortable, in fact the very appearance of the school testifies that there is a lack of financial aid.

In these schools we often find teachers incompetent to fill the position they hold, but what are we to do to remedy this awful state of affairs? The tax is so small we cannot afford to build good houses, and furnish them with comfortable seats, neither can we employ first-class teachers at the wages paid—hence our children are made to murder out their days in these houses and before those teachers, and at the close of the session they know but little more than at the first. Granting that the school had been able to have good equal

houses and employ first-class teachers, there is another almost as great barrier in the way, that is the time given these schools. The average time spent in the free schools is two months in twelve when at least the child should be kept at school eight months of every year from the time it enters.

As long as the public schools of North Carolina are neglected we may not expect the State to be great for greatness can never be achieved by ignorance.

North Carolina, whose name we shall ever hold dear, may boast of her grand forests that bend to the gentle breeze, of the precious gems that lie hidden within her bosom, of her fish industries, but with ignorance throughout the land what is she? Though with millions she stands foremost in the ranks of States, yet with ignorance she rises, but to fall. What can be her future hold as a State if money is all it takes to make a State? It takes men and women to make a State and to make that State great the people must be educated.

In the march on to progress North Carolina carries two banners, on the one is read in bold letters, WEALTH, on the other IGNORANCE. To keep those banners floating on the breeze we must first that of ignorance and unful on its staff INTELLIGENCE.

The fact that we need better school houses more accomplished teachers and longer terms is undeniable and the next legislature should take some steps to increase the capacity of public education, and with such men as Gov. Jarvis, Maj. S. M. Finger, Prof. C. D. McIver, Prof. Alderman and others who have the educational interest of the State at heart we are sure there will be something done for the good of our people.

BISHOP LYMAN ON THE RACE PROBLEM.

Bishop Lyman, of North Carolina, who is on a visit to New York, is quoted by the Star as saying: "The Southern people know how to handle the negroes; they know just what they want and need, and if we are left alone we will provide for and take care of them to their satisfaction and our credit. We are glad we continue to feel that our affairs attract the attention of the North, and we believe that in our struggles upward we have their sympathy, even as we have received their assistance in regaining our commercial prestige. But there is one question that I do not think they fully understand. That is the race question. I will not touch the whole broad question, which is a vast thing, but dwell for a moment on the late negro exodus from my own State, on what I know to be the prime factor in that movement. It is not the hostility of the Southerners that has driven the negro away; it is not that all crops have been lost for the past three years; not political disfranchisement, incapacity, fear or any of the other ridiculous causes attributed by the Northern press. But it is the action of the railroads and their satellites, or scalpers. This traffic would be small to a large Northern railroad, but that it has been profitable to the lines of North Carolina, and more especially to the agent, let me cite as an instance only one case, and I could give you many. One rail agent has sent 30,000 acres out of the State, and his commission was \$1 a head—a total of \$30,000—and a very handsome fortune, I think. In the city of Raleigh and the town of Rocky Point the people rose up in righteous anger and drove these immigrants out of the State. And I believe they were justified in doing so, for it was a matter of traffic with those people, and resulted in cruel hardship to the poor negroes. The glowing promises of equality and profitable employment in Kansas and other States held out to them by these wretches would, of course, never be realized, and the penniless negro had not the means to return to the country which had, at least, given him shelter and subsistence. And I am sorry to say that in too many instances the exodus has been assisted by the statements made in Northern papers, which have not been one whit less highly colored than the agents' arguments. —News and Observer.

AN OUTSPOKEN UNION SOLIDIER.

The Norfolk Virginian says: "There are so many banquets, meetings and speeches in the North in which the South is the theme it is difficult to keep up. General J. O. Armstrong, a northern soldier, for many years resident in Virginia, has been speaking in Boston. He was kind in what he said of the South. For instance, he told his Yankee hearers:

"You speak of the South as a whole as all bad, but in eight of the Southern States it is admitted there is no trouble, but they are held responsible for the acts of the others. In the other Southern States there are occasional outrages, which are due largely to the peculiar temperament of the people, which the people of the North cannot understand. They cannot understand the peculiar relations of the negroes to the whites. What would you do if you had this great preponderance of negroes among you? You don't know. No one can know till it has been tried. The negro is a great political and social element, which has to be met at the South. It is not his political condition that makes the trouble, but his social standing. Fully one-half of them live in a worse and more degraded condition than when in slavery, and under a hopeless burden of debt."

This is only just to the South, but is nevertheless in striking contrast with the unjust reproaches which the Blaines, Shermans, and Forakers hurl at our people and their patriotism.

NINE REASONS WHY FARMING DON'T PAY.

- 1st. The markets or consumers, are too far from producers.
- 2nd. Too high railroad freight rates.
- 3rd. Too high rates of interest on borrowed capital.
- 4th. Too many dogs and wolves in the country and not enough sheep.
- 5th. Too much fashion, too much whiskey and tobacco, and not enough enterprise.
- 6th. Too high lawyer and doctor fees and not enough general intelligence.
- 7th. Too much party in politics and not enough principle.
- 8th. Too much listening to farmers' enemies and too little seeking for common sense for a guide.
- 9th. Business as now conducted gives the farmer no part in making prices. He sells, the dealer makes the price of his produce; when he buys, the merchant names the price he must pay, and both are generally against the farmer. —Flickory Press.

LONG RIDGE LETTER.

LONG RIDGE, N. C., March 14, '90.

DEAR SIR:—This place was visited on Saturday last by a severe wind and rain storm which blew down trees, fences etc.

The farmers of this section seem quite busy preparing their ground for their crops, though meeting with many discouragements they do not seem disheartened but work with renewed energy and perseverance.

It is with pleasure we inform the many friends of Mr. J. H. Harrison of his improving health, and that he may continue to improve until quite restored to the blessing of health, is our wish.

We are sorry to miss from our place, the pleasant face of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Sykes. We understand that Mr. Sykes has gone to Bath where he will accept a position. Although our people much regret to give them up, yet we wish for them every success and happiness in their new home.

Mr. H. W. Mathews and bride, see Miss Sadie Davenport, have made their home at this place; we give them a hearty welcome and our best wishes for a long and happy life.

It is very gratifying to note the interest taken in the Sabbath school here by both the children and their elders, no prettier sight could be seen than the many sweet little faces and bright eyes that give one an eager welcome each Sabbath afternoon and who assemble to receive their lessons and hear of Him who said, "Suffer little children to come unto me," and among those ladies and gentlemen who take such kindly interest there is perhaps none more attentive or hopeful of the success of this good work than Mr. Thos. Green of this place, the most noble and eloquent prayer we ever heard was offered by him in behalf of the school on Sunday last.

Our accomplished young friend, Mr. F. L. Morris, is attending school at Scotland Neck. His many friends here join us in wishing for him the brightest success and every blessing heaven or earth can give.

Our old Ridge is lonely enough for we miss from it the pleasant faces of many of our friends and we think the happiest time of all will be "When the swallows home-ward fly."

We are pleased to see the agreeable Mr. J. A. Morris out again after a severe attack of the Grippe.

We wish to return our warmest thanks to Mr. "Flipp" for the kind words spoken of us in the BEACON and we hope we merit his good opinion. We thank him for the kind encouragement given in thus expressing his good opinion of our articles while we humbly hope they may have been as kindly received by every reader and that it may have been our good fortune to give through them some word of help or encouragement to some who are like the writer, are struggling amid the thorns of which our friend speaks, striving to live, not as unprofitable servants but for some good in the world. Our unknown friend, Mr. "Flipp" has ever been quite a favorite with us, as we enjoy his letters very much, also is "Match," who we are sure is the merriest girl in all the world without those grim shadows, care and sorrow to darken her life. We should like to know her and we also thank her for her good opinion though we cannot plead guilty to the charge of being an angel. We hope she will continue to write as her letters are read with much interest.

It was with the most sincere sorrow we heard of the death of Mr. W. Cotten Dowling whose name has long been so widely known among the reading public. Though not personally acquainted with him yet we are sure our State has lost one of its brightest jewels and those who were honored with his friendship a friend indeed. We could scarcely believe the sad intelligence that he was no more; but such a short time had elapsed since we read in the BEACON an article from his pen in which he spoke so kindly of his old home and friends and so hopefully of his future, but alas! while we waited for a second article from his able pen there came to us the sad news that the grim angel of death had taken this talented gentleman from earth forever. Ah! it is well that we "watch and pray," for truly we know not when the hour cometh. To the friends and relatives of Mr. Dowling we extend our heartfelt sympathy and say with saddest heart, "Thy will, not mine, be done."

We will close our meager letter too long, with good wishes for the BEACON'S energetic managers. WILD ROSE.

FROM CRESWELL.

CRESWELL, N. C., March 24, '90.

MR. EDITOR:—It is generally understood that a branch of the A. & P. Railroad will be continued to Creswell, and if the A. & R. Road, which runs to Plymouth, will extend their line to Roper, Creswell will have a long-expected outlet to the Southern markets.

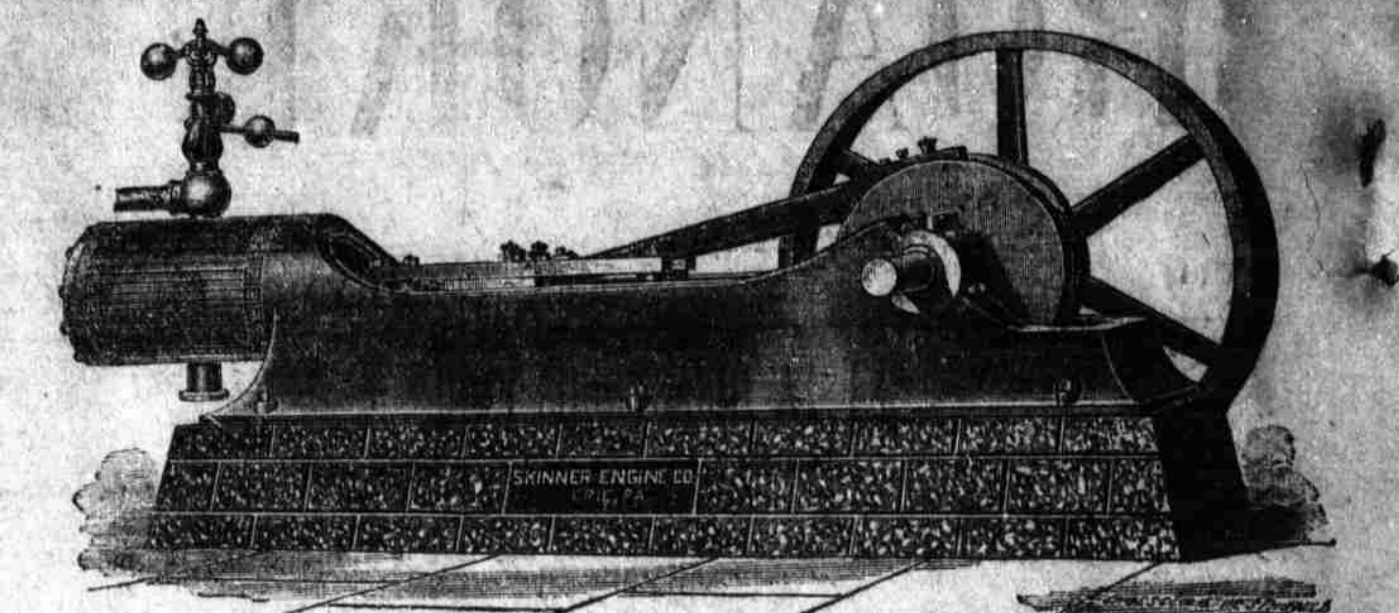
If you can afford a little space we will sketch a few hints that may be interesting to those anticipating investing their money in a Railroad to Creswell. Your readers have noticed the boom that has been going on in Creswell, under the pressure of hard times, and a series of the worst crop seasons that has been in the history of the country. But this is only an index to what is to follow in the near future. Mr. Harvey Terry, of Perquimans county, has purchased the old Sumner plantation, the residence of the late Josiah Collins, Sr. With ample means, and the able management of Mr. Terry this grand old place, with its thousands of acres of the most fertile land in the State, is to be brought back to its former productivity and splendor. Mr. Mateloy, of Beaufort county, has purchased the old Magaolia farm, and we learn is negotiating for the purchase of the old Manava plantation. These estates were the properties of Mr. Wm. S., and the late C. L. Pattigrew, deceased, and once the pride of these venerable gentlemen. Under the new regime the two farms are to be thrown in one, and will make one of the finest estates in the South.

The sequel of all this is that capitalists have been awakened to the superior fertility of these old farms bordering Lake Superior, and the thousands and tens of thousands of acres of virgin lands equal to, and adjoining. These old farms are to be reclaimed and these new lands are to be cleared of their immense forest of timber and put to the plow. And now Mr. Editor when these old lake farms begin to blossom as they did in Anti-bullum days, and these virgin soils begin to pour in their finest fruits, do you not think it will be a pleasant time for those who sent the Iron Horse to greet the NEW ERA, that is so soon to dawn upon Creswell and her environs? FARMER.

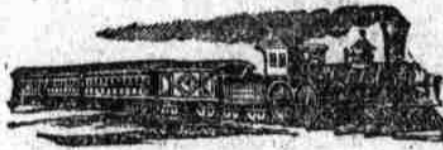
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For further information apply to Levi Blount, Agent, Plymouth, or to the General Office of the Norfolk Southern Railroad Company Norfolk.

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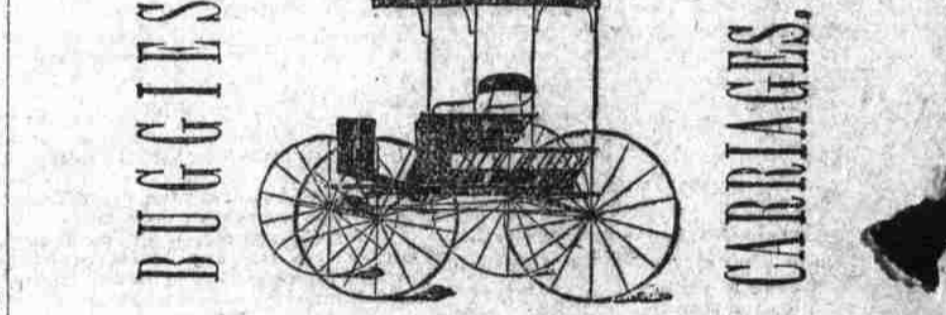
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