

JOSH FRANKS

RESIGNS FROM  
ELECTION BOARD

J. B. Freeman of Henderson  
Succeeds Him.

NEW YORK HEARING IN THE  
SUIT OF THE W. U. TELE-  
GRAPH COMPANY.

Raleigh, N. C., June 27.—J. C. L. Harris of counsel for the state in the suit in which the Western Union Telegraph company seeks to prevent the state from increasing its assessment to \$1,000,000, has returned from New York, where the first hearing was had before Standing Master Shepherd, five days of last week, and he tells me some interesting and important things about the case.

The hearing was had in the general offices of the W. U. company, ex-Judge Dillon and R. C. Strong of Raleigh appearing for the company and Harris and John W. Hinsdale for the state.

The Western Union showed that it valued its plant in North Carolina at \$300,000; that it owned no real estate or office, only wires, poles and instruments, but the state showed that it had paid taxes on a \$600,000 assessment, then on a \$750,000 one, and Harris' opinion is that it would not have kicked about the million but for the action the three big railway systems took in fighting the increased assessment.

The state took a very different view of values of the property, holding that as the capital of the company was \$97,000,000 the assessment ought to be on a valuation based on mileage; in other words, that the true way to get at it would be to take this state's proportion of the total mileage, which would give the taxable proportion of the \$97,000,000. It is found that this would be something over \$1,500,000 for North Carolina. The state got in all this evidence. Harris made inquiries of the various financial papers as to why Western Union stock was quoted at only \$6, which has for 15 years past never failed to pay 5 per cent. in dividends annually and has besides carried to the surplus account something over \$5,000,000. He says no one could say, and that the sole reason given was that the company might have to spend a large sum to buy out opposing lines. Stocks paying 5 per cent. are worth par or above, but the Western Union is quoted at only \$6.

The Western Union will use in its fight the evidence railways secure that property of other kinds is taxed at only about two-thirds of its true value in North Carolina.

Rev. Dr. W. R. Lambuth, missionary secretary of the M. E. church, south, preached a sermon here this evening in the interest of missions. His father was a missionary to China and he himself was born there and spent 15 years of his life as a missionary to the Flowery Kingdom.

The Raleigh & Gaston and Raleigh & Augusta railways adjourned their annual meetings last autumn from time to time until today. There was today yet another postponement, until July 15. John M. Sherwood was here as the representative of the railways, which are now, as well known, both absorbed by the Seaboard Air Line, while Attorney Groner of Norfolk was present as the representative of Ryan in the interminable fight in which the latter was so crushed.

At the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph B. Hatchler here last evening there was a very notable social assemblage, the occasion being their "golden wedding." Such anniversaries are rare. This one was most charmingly celebrated.

Quite a number of the society people are preparing to do their summer campaigning. The Atlantic City will be the resort of most of them. Some will go to Blowing Rock. The Morehead season is but now really beginning.

The rains damaged about 50,000 brick lying in the penitentiary drying yards. The output of brick this year is to be \$3,000,000. The clay is taken from a bed on lands bought by the penitentiary on the Raleigh and Cape Fear river.

In six months no one word has been heard of the Raleigh & Eastern railway. It is said there is a desire to get its charter amended so it can go further eastward into some large tracts of long leaf pine timber which a syndicate recently bought.

Ten days ago when Senator J. F. Franks left here he said he would resign as a member of the state election board. It appears that he wanted the state chairman (Holton) to elect a suitable Republican to take his place. After Franks got in the west he had an idea that the man he named would not be appointed. This was the reason why he said yesterday he did not know whether he would resign or not until he could see the board. He said early this morning he would not resign. But later, when the board met, he did resign.

The board met at 10 a. m., all present save Murphy of Buncombe. It met at the call of Chairman Neal, on request of Franks and Johnson, the fusion members. Johnson told the board when he signed the call for the meeting he thought it was to be held during the legislature. Franks said he had asked for it to be held today so as to anticipate the preparation of the ballots to be entered at August instead of waiting until the first Monday in July, the time fixed by law.

Franks tendered his resignation, say-

ing he did so because he was the Republican nominee for corporation commissioner. He thanked the board for its courtesies and asked to be allowed to nominate his successor. He then nominated J. B. Freeman of Henderson county. On motion of W. G. Lamb Franks' resignation was accepted and Freeman was unanimously elected, to go into office June 30, when Franks' resignation takes effect. The board adjourned to meet next Monday, the time fixed by law for it to inspect the official ballots.

The state charters the North Carolina Manufacturing company of Craven county, to do wood work; also the A. F. Messick Grocery company, capital \$75,000, principal place of business Winston, with leave to establish branches at Charlotte, Mt. Airy and other points.

The Republican county committee met here today, in Chairman D. H. Young's room in the revenue office. It was decided, as there might be a squabble about "pie," not to have a county convention, but to appoint a committee of seven, with J. P. H. Adams as chairman, to select the people who are to be the nominees for the Republican part of the offices—sheriff, coroner, three commissioners and two of the four members of the legislature. Adams when asked what they proposed to give the colored man and brother replied "anything he wants done." Adams called attention to the great liberality towards the Populists in "giving them far more than their share of pie."

Arrivals: A. C. Patterson of Asheville, E. X. Wilcox of Winston.

IN THE OLD NORTH STATE

Items of Interest Gathered From the Tar Heel Press.

—Shelby Aurora: H. F. Seawell, who was egged by some boys here several weeks ago as he was boarding the Seaboard passenger train, has brought suit against the railroad company for damages. The summons was received Monday by Sheriff Suttle and immediately served on Agent Walter Ramseur of the Seaboard. The summons is returnable to the August term of Moore county Superior court, the home of Seawell. We understand that the amount required to soothe the lacerated feelings of Mr. Seawell is \$50,000. "Eggactly, eggactly." From what can be learned he bases his suit for damages on the ground that, being a passenger of the defendant company, and the law recognizing its agents as police officers, he was entitled to protection at their hands. We learn also that Seawell and his friends are trying to connect the local agent, Mr. Ramsey, with the episode as aiding and abetting the boys who threw the eggs. To this Ramsey enters an indignant denial. It is also reported that Mr. Seawell was riding on a free pass. Softly, beloved, "tell it not in Gath nor whisper it in Askelon," that a Pop would ride on a free pass. Away, base calculator! Pish the thought! It occurs to us that if Mr. Seawell felt outraged he should have brought criminal action against those who might be guilty of the simple assault and not try to heal his injured feelings by a saive that smacks of sordid monetary consideration.

—Statesville Landmark: Saturday afternoon two citizens who had been partaking too freely of North Carolina corn got into a dispute in one of the back lots. One of them was sitting in his buggy while the other was near in the mud. As the argument waxed warm the citizen on the ground used words "calculated" and intended to bring on a fight, "stepped back and squared himself. This was too much for the man in the buggy and he started for his enemy, but alas! his foot caught and he fell sprawling in the slimy mud—face downward. This was too much for the other belligerent. His sense of humor was touched and breaking into a loud laugh, he helped the other man up and both started, locked arms, for the nearest barroom to drink each other's health.

—Greensboro Telegram: A horrible accident occurred yesterday evening at the home of Mr. Silas M. Borden, on East street, as a result of which a life was lost and a family cast into the darkest gloom. Kerosene oil was being used to kindle a fire in a stove, when an explosion occurred which ignited the clothing of the young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Borden, burning her body in a most frightful manner. The suffering of the little girl was intense for a few hours, when it was relieved by death. A physician and friends and loved ones did everything possible for the relief of the sufferer. The little girl was 10 or 11 years old. She was a faithful member of the Westminster Presbyterian Sunday school.

—Statesville Landmark: The Durham white graded schools will have a department for sewing and cooking next session. These two branches were taught in the Durham colored schools last session and with such excellent results that the girls in the white schools will be taught these branches.

—Goldboro Argus: The new cotton mill is going up rapidly. A siding has been run out from the A. & N. railroad and all the material required for the building is being shipped to the site. The brick walls are in course of erection and it looks like business in that immediate territory.

REFLECTIONS OF A BACHELOR.

From the New York Press.

Show me a girl's bureau and I'll tell you her favorite actor.  
Ananias probably made most of his reputation while he was courting.  
Lots of men who won't ever be arrested for bigamy have got one wife too many.  
The women who refuse to tell their ages to the census man are generally old enough to know better.  
You can always tell an old bachelor by the way he makes a baby cry trying to make it laugh.

Charge  
Against  
Stone Wall

C. B. Lewis in Chicago Daily News.

Lee was moving to invade Maryland and Pennsylvania. The mountains hid his marching columns from sight of the Federals, and at every gap in the Blue Ridge he left a force with instructions to hold to the last and give all the time possible to reach and cross the Potomac. It was the aim of the Federals to break through at some point and penetrate his movement, and there was fighting on every mountain trail and at the mouth of every mountain gap. The major-general had said to the brigadier ordered to proceed to Thoroughfare Gap:

"I do not know how many Confederates are holding that gap, but be the number 500 or 10,000 you must break through. That is the order—break through. If only one man of your command is left alive, he will bring us the news we want."

And the major-general on the Confederate side had said to the brigadier: "You will detach one regiment of your command to hold Thoroughfare Gap. It must be held against the Federals for three days. We can spare only a single regiment. If there is but one man left alive at the end of that time, he will follow on and overtake us."

A narrow wagon road, twisting and turning between walls from 20 to 100 feet high, with alternate spots of sunshine and gloom—that was Thoroughfare Gap. As the skeleton regiment of 600 Confederates entered it and pressed forward to its western mouth, its ruggedness and gloomy solemnity brought a feeling of awe. It reminded them of a tomb, and they shuddered to think of dying in the semi-darkness. Two field pieces rolled along with the regiment of infantry and the jar of the heavy wheels loosened a stone now and then to come clattering down from far above. When a blue brigade came clattering up it was to find the 600 in possession and the position one which the dullest private must see was well nigh impregnable. Every hour was worth a thousand lives to the Federal army, and the Federal brigadier lost no time in beginning the attack. In the open he would have gobbled up that skeleton regiment at a dash. Behind a rocky wall hastily thrown up, with no way to get at the enemy except in front, his surplus of men did not count.

At the sound of the bugles they dashed forward with cheers, but not a man got within five rods of the wall. Grape and canister and bullets tore the line to pieces. It was tried again and again. The orders were to break through the gap. A thousand dead and wounded would be a cheap price for the information to be had at the other end. Artillery was brought forward to batter down the wall, but it could not be placed to advantage. The pieces had only been fired once when their crews lay dead or wounded and the carriages were shattered. The Federal brigadier rode back and forth and stormed and swore and almost wept.

"Whether 500 or 10,000, you must break through!" were the orders, and if he failed to carry them out his career as a soldier was at an end. An army of 200,000 men was waiting to hear the splash of Confederate feet in the waters of the Potomac. The men in blue could hardly form company in the mouth of that defile. A charge against the wall meant death to every other man, but they formed up and charged and cheered and—died. After half a day of bloody fighting the Federal brigadier rested. He was still bleeding from a wound when he opened a dispatch and read:

"You have one of the best brigades in the corps, and it is certain you are opposed by only a handful of Confederates. By 9 o'clock in the morning you must have authentic news of Lee."

The brigadier had sacrificed 600 men that day, and he could not believe the Confederate loss to be over 50. There was but one way to reach them on the morrow—over that stone wall. He would drive them or die with the last man. There was no jollity in the Federal camp that night. Men will sing or joke as they swing into battle line in the open, but these men peered into the darkness of the gap and thought of the dead in front of the stone wall and spoke to each other in whispers. It was a brave sight to see them swing into line as the sun gilded the tree tops. Every face had its pallor, and every eye looked into the midst of death, but there was no lagging or faltering. You saw them tightening their belts and setting their jaws as they waited, and you held your breath for the signal which was to send them to death.

On the other side of the stone wall there was no exultation. The dead and the wounded were comparatively few, but every hour would add to the number and only one day of the three had passed. The colonel knew what was coming and prepared for it. When the

THE HOLDING  
OF  
THOROUGHFARE  
GAP

blue lines, 10 deep, came dashing toward they met with such a hail of iron and lead that the first three or four were blotted off the face of the earth. Then, under the smoke cloud, some of them wounded and all desperate, the other lines crept forward and the wall was reached. It was a hand-to-hand fight now, and every man was a devil, and after a quarter of an hour of bloody fighting the Federals held the position. The dead lay three deep below the wall, but the living stood upon its crest and cheered and cheered again.

But the cheering soon died away in groans and oaths. A quarter of a mile above, at a bend of the ravine, there was another stone wall and the Confederates had simply withdrawn to the new position. They had lost 150 men, but the Federal brigade was no longer a brigade. It lacked a full regiment. That night a brigadier had another wound and again there were orders from the major general:

"We must have news of Lee at every hazard. Unless you break through at once your resignation will be accepted."  
A dark and narrow ravine, up which only eight men abreast could make their way at once; at the turn a stone wall, defended by two guns; behind the guns the muskets of the infantry. "You must break through," repeated the brigadier over and over again. He knew that he could not do it. He knew that the best he could do was to pile up more dead in the dark ravine. When morning came he stood on a knoll and looked down upon the sun-bronzed and waiting veterans and it was like a knife in his heart to give the order to attack. A single bugle call and the column dashed forward. There was never a cheer nor a shout. Men who feel that they are going to certain death do not cheer. They draw a long breath, choke back the gasp in the throat and rush forward with heads down.

In ten minutes it was all over. The wall had been reached and fought over but it could not be held. As the last few living Federals came limping back the brigadier sat down and wept. Orders, orders, orders! And yet he felt himself a murderer. More Confederates had fallen, but the force was yet strong enough to hold the gap. If he could not carry it, he would be disgraced. Like the brave man he was, he took the one way out of it. At high noon the column was formed again, and the brigadier put himself at the head of it. Officers groaned and privates murmured to see him there, but he was firm. He led in the dark—he was first to reach the wall—he mounted it and cheered his men in the fight which won it. But when it was won he lay among the dead, and the Confederates retired less than half a mile to a third wall. Two days had passed, and yet the Federals had not broken through. Then another brigade came marching up and there was another brigadier to take command. He saw the situation as the dead general had seen it, but he had less feeling. Column after column was formed up and dashed against that third wall and driven back, but in the end he won. It was twenty lives for one every time, but under his orders he could have doubled the sacrifice.

At dusk on the evening of the third day the last Confederate infantryman had passed the gap on his way to the Potomac, and the head of the column was in Pennsylvania. Lee had played his card and won.

Not a gap had been carried, and the news of his whereabouts had come from other sources. There was a last stone wall in Thoroughfare gap. Behind it 100 Confederates crouched and waited. Their two field pieces were useless for the want of ammunition, and their muskets were alone to be depended on. As the sinking sun filled the ravine with deeper gloom 500 Federals made a last charge. They had to tread the dead under foot to do it. That was the fourth charge of the day, and it was checked as the others had been. It simply meant more dead and wounded to choke that narrow way. Hundreds had been dragged out, but hundreds still remained. When night came down the men with powder-stained faces, who had scarcely broken their fast or closed their eyes for seventy hours, silently marched out of the gap and headed for the north in the wake of the invading army. There were no colonels, no captains, no lieutenants. A sergeant commanded the remnant, and his command was:

"Out of h— and into Pennsylvania—forward—march!"

And when the long night had passed and daylight came again Federals found the stone wall undefended and clambered over it and ran to the mouth of the gap to shout to each other:

"Lee has passed and we are too late!"

JUDGES OF ELECTION.

The board of elections of Buncombe county gives notice that on the first Monday in July, 1900, it will appoint judges of election for each precinct in the county.

Any and all persons who will be requested to be present or see the members of the board beforehand and aid them by suggestions or recommendations as to suitable persons for such positions.

JULIUS C. MARTIN, Chairman.  
J. P. KERR, Secretary.  
June 23, 1900.

Dressed Frog  
Legs.

We have just received another lot of those delicious frog legs. We have regular engagements, by which we get them often, and as those who get them for us get them near here, we can furnish them within a few hours after they are killed.

They have a crisp, fresh flavor, and are better than those shipped in here.  
ASHEVILLE FISH CO.  
PHONE 255.

**PURINA HEALTH FLOUR**  
Special Drive in  
**Pickles and Catsup**

We are a little overstocked in Pickles and Catsup, and are offering same at reduced prices for the next ten days.

All kinds of vegetables fresh from the garden every morning. Full line of staple and fancy groceries, in fact, everything housekeepers need, can be found at our store, No. 148 Montford Avenue.

P. S.—Try a small sack of Purina Mills Whole Wheat Flour.

**MAKES  
BRAIN BREAD**  
FOR SALE BY  
**BAIRD BROS.**  
Phone 224.

Some Facts of Interest to the Insuring  
Public of North and South Carolina.

**The Mutual Life Insurance  
Company of New York**  
RICHARD A. McCURDY, President

WROTE and "paid for" sixty per cent more business than any other company, and gained more in "insurance in force" than any other two companies in North and South Carolina in 1899.

DETAILED STATEMENT COMPILED FROM OFFICIAL  
REPORTS IN NORTH AND SOUTH CAROLINA:

NAME OF COMPANY	Amount of Insurance Issued 1899	Am't of Insurance in Force 1899	Gains in Force 1899	Am't to Insured Dec. 31, 1899
1 The Mutual Life of N. Y. Paid for \$2,491,241	\$766,892	\$1,924,349	\$18,793	\$785,737
2 NEW YORK LIFE.....	1,675,931	821,836	84,095	13,161,700
3 EQUITABLE.....	3,162,362	2,292,482	869,880	13,457,649
4 PENN MUTUAL.....	1,642,000	703,900	938,100	4,741,650
5 UNION CENTRAL.....	1,312,683	749,923	562,760	4,605,641
6 EQUITY.....	911,665	459,004	452,661	4,229,985
7 PROVIDENT SAVINGS.....	576,222	495,731	80,491	3,360,597
8 TRAVELERS.....	819,116	467,917	351,199	2,933,246

NOTE.—The Mutual Life of New York and New York Life report only "Paid For" business, 1899; other companies give "Insurance Issued," and do not state the amount Paid For.

The new form of policy sold by the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York provides:

First—The security of \$301,84,537 of assets.  
Second—Profitable Investment.  
Third—Liberal Loans to the Insured.  
Extended Term Insurance.  
Automatic Paid-up Insurance without exchange of policy.  
Liberal Surrender Values.  
One month's grace in payment of premiums.  
For further information address,

F. H. HYATT, General Agent for North and South Carolina, Columbia, S. C.  
Or, F. J. MITCHELL and A. E. BOYLES, Special Agents, Asheville, N. C.

**DAVIDSON COLLEGE**  
DAVIDSON, NORTH CAROLINA

SIXTY-FOURTH YEAR BEGINS SEPTEMBER 6TH

Classical Scientific	Mathematical Biblical	Literary Commercial
-------------------------	--------------------------	------------------------

COURSES OFFERED FOR A.B., B.S., AND A.M.

Terms moderate.  
Laboratories complete.  
Gymnasium equipped.

Location healthful.  
Teaching thorough.

Send for a Catalogue.      \*      J. B. SHEARER  
President.

**The North Carolina College of  
Agriculture and Mechanic Arts**

TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN—Agriculture, Stock-raising, Horticulture, Mechanical, Civil and Electrical Engineering, Textile Industry, Chemistry, and Architecture.

PRACTICAL TRAINING IN—Carpentry, Wood-turning, Blacksmithing, Machine-work, Mill-work, Boiler-tending, Engine-tending, and Dynamo-tending.

Tuition, \$20.00 a year; Board, \$8 a month.  
Next session opens September 6th.  
Entrance examinations in each county court-house, July 28th, 10 o'clock, a. m.; also at the college, September 4th and 5th.  
For full information, address

PRESIDENT GEO. T. WINSTON  
Raleigh, N. C.