

CLIPPINGS FROM AN OLD PAPER

Interesting Bits of History Gathered From Copies of Papers Published in Years Now Gone By.

The following items are clipped from The Franklin Press, for March 6, 1896. At that time the paper was published by Mr. W. A. Curtis, who was publisher of the Press until his death in 1910.

Last Saturday and Sunday were cold days.

J. F. Ray, Esq. is wrestling with la grippe.

Snow was three inches deep at Highlands Sunday morning.

Mr. A. A. Henry, of Highlands, paid Franklin a visit last week.

Some improvements on sidewalks are badly needed on Harrison Avenue.

Dr. C. D. Smith returned home last Thursday after a two weeks absence in Georgia.

Messrs. S. J. May and John Allison qualified as magistrates in Nantahala township last Monday.

Mr. N. C. Altman has been confined to his bed several days with rheumatism, we are sorry to state.

Mr. R. J. Rouse is quite sick at Mr. C. C. Smith's. He did not get off to Bushnell last week on account of high waters.

The railroad meeting was, by common consent of the committee, postponed from last Tuesday till the first Tuesday in April.

Mr. Stephen Porter, of Valleytown, was in town last Saturday on business. A more clever and upright citizen than he is hard to find.

The beautiful flowers that raised their heads so smilingly heavenward last week have been wilted by the frost and we must await another spring-time before we see them again.

Mrs. J. Johnston has been quite sick for several days of influenza. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Messrs. A. P. Munday and C. T. Roane have bought out the store of Penland Bros., and are removing it to Aquone. Mr. Jake Penland will be retained as salesman for the new company. Success to you, gentlemen.

The County Commissioners were in session last Monday and transacted general county business, the most important of which was an order for a jury to view out and lay off a new road from the court house by the jail on to the river and across to intersect the main road near Mrs. Russell's. This is a road much needed, as parties living two or three miles from town in that direction have to travel about twice the distance to reach town.

FRANKLIN, BY AN OUTSIDER.

An Old Man—An Indian Battle Field—Revolutionary Patriot—Residences—The New Street—A New Cemetery—Trimont Mountain—A Railroad—Franklin's Artist.

On our trip from Highlands to Franklin we met Mr. Smith, a Georgian, who is visiting Mr. Scott, of Cullasiea. He is over ninety years old and dwells lovingly in the past. His first vote for President was cast for John Quincy Adams.

Much of Western North Carolina is interesting as a locality because it was once so largely peopled by Indians. Mr. John Ledford kindly showed us where an Indian battle was fought in his field. The whites

FOUR GENERATIONS

Texas Lady Says Her Family Has Been Taking Thedford's Black-Draught, When Needed, for Many Years.

Alto, Texas.—"We inherited the use of Black-Draught in our family," says Mrs. Mary Shuptrine, who lives near here on R. F. D. 2. "My grandmother was an old woman when she died about ten years ago, and she had been using it literally ever since I can remember. She gave it to her children and grandchildren for biliousness and stomach complaints, so when I went to housekeeping we just naturally used it, too."

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had the advantage of position and killed over three hundred Indians. The Indians were driven back for miles to land now owned by Robert Phillips, but returned at night and buried their dead. This they did by digging four large pits, which apparently held some seventy-five bodies apiece. They were filled up and large mounds of rocks were heaped up on each. The rocks resemble cobble stones in shape. This burial ground should be fenced and the mounds of rocks kept rounded up, for if Franklin becomes a large town or a summer resort it will be a place of much interest to visitors. In this battle it is supposed that but one white man was killed, whose name was White. He was tenderly buried in his lone grave, which has been carefully preserved by the present owner. A rude headstone still marks the place, in a corner of Mr. Ledford's field, where rests the remains of this patriot of an earlier day. Mr. Ledford is over seventy years old and has occupied this farm for many years. We were also shown the burial place of Maj. Bryson, an old Revolutionary soldier who served under Washington. When he died his neighbors hastily formed a military company and drilled a day or two, and buried the old hero with military honors. Old people still remember this gallant old Major with love and veneration.

As one first catches a view of Franklin on the road passing the lands of S. L. Rogers, Esq., he is impressed with Franklin "beautiful for situation," and as he approaches the magnificent iron bridge across the Tennessee river, he is again impressed with the liberality and love of improvement existing in the people of Macon County. Then one thinks Capt. Tom Angel must have anticipated the beauty of an iron bridge when he built that neat and tasteful house. Across the river one notices the substantial and imposing brick house of A. S. Bryson, and on the other side of the road that wonderful Indian mound. Farther along at the right one sees the residence of Hon. K. Elias, amid a bower of trees, and as one enters town he is attracted by the handsome residence of R. L. Porter, with its finely dressed front yard. Those neat green and flowered front yards, such as are seen also at Mrs. Dr. Love's and Mr. J. Johnston's, affect the visitor pleasingly.

The new street laid out from Main Street near the residence of Mr. Elias to the Baptist church will be one of the finest in town. It is elevated well drained, and when occupied will add much to the popularity of the town as a place of residence.


Alack, those burial grounds! We noticed four of them, including the colored one. The town should prohibit the interment of another body in any of them, as a sanitary measure. While the people in town, by living constantly in sight of them, may not notice them, it is shocking to the sensibilities of visitors; and let those that are living remember that a person buried in the center of a town can never feel absolutely certain that his remains will always be undisturbed. Franklin should bear in mind that she can never be a prosperous business center, or a big town of homes, with those grave yards in the middle of town. This is not an agreeable subject, yet duty to the living demands attention to it. A suitable tract should be secured for a cemetery at least three miles from the court house, and should be laid off in avenues, paths and walks; and as fast as the company became able, improve it. If it was thought best, different denominations could secure their own plot. It would then become of interest to the whole town as a city for the dead.

Franklin has a fine location. The mountains that encompass it are indescribably grand. With the people in that beautiful valley, united for the common weal, she ought to grow and speedily take a position in this unexcelled climate that would sound her praises in all this broad land.

We made a visit to Trimont Mountain and must say the half had not been told us. In a ride of an hour or so one can gain its summit, and witness a sight that can never fade from the memory. The Tennessee valley stretches out before you as an enchanted picture. Beyond, the mountains stand thickly grouped together, as if protecting such a fairy land. One could hardly help thinking of the exclamation made by De Chabiers, as he looked upon the beauties of Loch Lomond for the first time, "I wonder if there will be a Loch Lomond in heaven?" Such a view from Trimont mountain ought forever to make Franklin celebrated.

Now, gentlemen of Macon County, let us appropriate a hundred and fifty thousand dollars for a railroad. We have the soil, the minerals, the timber, the water, the scenery, and as fine a climate as there is under the sun. The railroad here, and the future of Franklin and Macon County is assured. Land will have a better market value, every farmer who has timber can get the cash for it, visitors will add to the circulation of money, settlers will come in with their means and so add to the volume of business. It would bring a life and animation into our section, such as we have never felt before, and last, but not least, it would find employment for and keep our young men at home.

We were shown some of the paintings of Mrs. Sam L. Rogers and were surprised to see such evidence of



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real excellence. Her portraits have the unusual merit of the general air and exact similitude of features. The painting of "The Hunter's Scene" is a remarkable one. It is so vividly a living picture. Here I think she might win fame. Franklin has an artist that ranks high, and of her she should feel proud.

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