

# The Franklin Press

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## DEEDS OF STUART ARE RELATED

House Cheers as Stedman Relates Deeds of Famous Confederate Leader--Echoes of Rebel Yells of Old.

Washington, Feb. 6.—Representative Charles M. Stedman made a brief but excellent speech on Major General J. E. B. Stuart, commander of the Cavalry of the army of Northern Virginia today. He spoke to an interested and intelligent audience in the galleries and on the floor of the house. The occasion was the birthday of the great Confederate fighter. Among those who came here to hear Mr. Stedman were his daughter, Mrs. Palmer and her daughter, Miss Katherine Palmer, of Greensboro.

"It is not my purpose to give in detail the great events which will ever be connected with his name and which cast a halo of renown and glory upon his life," said Mr. Stedman. "It would be idle for me to attempt to do so of the brief time to which I must restrict myself. Chancellorsville, Brandy station and Gettysburg will ever recall the fields of his renown."

"Nor can I call to your attention those great qualities, which formed the basis of his character and which will forever perpetuate his fame. But my heart prompts me on this, his birthday, to express my admiration for a man whose memory I shall ever cherish, whose life was one of unsurpassed courage, of unexcelled heroism, of rare self denial—a life without stain and without reproach."

Kept

Mr. Stedman pointed out that a "promise made to his (Stuart's) mother that he would never taste intoxicating drinks was kept faithfully to his death, and no one who ever followed his banner ever heard him utter an oath upon any battle field of his renown."

In part he added: "The traveler from distant lands who has the good fortune to visit that section of Virginia located in Carroll and Patrick counties and that section of North Carolina lying in Surry county will be greeted by a vision of rare beauty, which ever charms and delights. Here nature is arrayed in her most gorgeous apparel, inviting rest and repose. Dense forests cover the landscape. Here the mocking bird and thrush undisturbed make their home and fill the air with their morning song of happiness and contentment."

"In Patrick county, Virginia, at a place called Laurel Hill not remote from the North Carolina line, on Feb. 6, 1833, was born Major General J. E. B. Stuart, Commander of the Cavalry of the army of Northern Virginia, and here he passed the days of his boyhood."

### Distinguished Family

"His ancestry on both his father's and his mother's side was distinguished. His father, the honorable Archibald Stuart, of Patrick county, Virginia, was an officer in the United States army during the war of 1812. He was a man of splendid ability. He had the confidence, respect and affection of all the people amongst whom he lived. His mother, Elizabeth Letcher Pannill, was a woman of rare accomplishments. She was the center of attraction in the high social circles in which she moved."

"As a military commander he had all the qualities requisite for success. As commander of Cavalry he had no superior, and few equals, if any, in either army. General Sedgwick, an officer of high repute in the army of the United States, said: 'Stuart is the best cavalry officer ever born in North America.'"

"During the war between the states in the two campaigns most disastrous to the federal army—that of General McClellan in his attempt to capture Richmond and that of General Pope, he contributed largely to the final result. He made the entire circuit of both armies and furnished information of the highest importance to confederate headquarters."

Military critics have pronounced the battle of Chancellorsville the most brief of the many victories won by General Robert E. Lee. When his inferiority in numbers and the fact that the Federal troops were driven from their entrenchments are considered, the statement is probably correct. It has been called the tactical masterpiece of the nineteenth century."

Trusted

"This battlefield will ever be blend-

## SCOTCH LASSIES HERE FEB. 15

Lockhart and His Scotch Lassies in Music, Song and Story Will Entertain Franklin Folks.

Who is there whose face does not brighten at the sight of the bonnie kilts and plaids, and whose heart does not stir to the lilting melodies of the stalwart Scot?

We may not all have had the privilege of hearing the famous John McCormack and Sir Harry Lauder, but the patrons of the local Lyceum course this season may see and hear some of their well known songs, for J. Coates Lockhart and His Scotch Lassies are splendid interpreters of the best in Scottish music, poetry and comedy.

Besides being a native of Scotland and one of the very best of Scotch entertainers, a friend of Sir Harry Lauder, and co-interpreter with him of the inimitable Scotch songs and stories, Mr. Lockhart is a concert tenor of real ability, reputation and experience. He has sung with the Henry W. Savage Grand Opera company, the Grau Savage company, at the Metropolitan, New York, and the Hogarth Opera company of London. He also toured the world as a soloist with the famous Kilties Band.

Mr. Lockhart is a complete program in himself, in his Scotch and Irish songs and ballads, his delicious jokes, yarns, quips and whimsicalities that keep the audience convulsed with laughter, but for greater variety he is accompanied by three charming young women who lend color and volume to the program by the introduction of piano, violin and saxophone music.

This company will appear in Franklin Monday February 15th at 7:30 p. m. at the courthouse.

ed with the name and fame of Major General J. E. B. Stuart. When General A. P. Hill was wounded, General Stonewall Jackson, upon that field of his renown, gave the last military order ever issued by himself for General Stuart. Tell General Stuart to act upon his own judgment. I have implicit confidence in him."

General Lee also sent a message to General Stuart to assume command. He had gone toward Ely's Ford when the message reached him, he rode rapidly to the scene of conflict.

The battle of Chancellorsville was brought on by the superior strategy of General Lee, but the result on that battlefield was due largely to the daring and skill of Major General Stuart. He rode in front of the Confederate forces, shouting and singing, "Old Joe Hooker, will you come out of the wilderness," there came back the response, "We will drive Old Joe Hooker out of the wilderness." His heroic conduct created the wildest enthusiasm, and the cheers which greeted him could be heard above the rattle of musketry and the thunder of artillery.

### "Stuart Is There"

"The face of General Lee lighted up with a certainty of success as he listened to the cheers, and he said, 'General Stuart is there, No force can stop him. The battle is won!'"

"Major General Stuart was mortally wounded at Yellow Tavern about eight miles from the city of Richmond, state of Virginia on the 11th day of May, 1864, and on the next day his mighty spirit went to a final rest, rejoicing in the triumph and faith of the Christian religion. His death brought sincere and profound sorrow to the brave of every land. He is buried in the city of Richmond amidst the people he loved so well, in whose behalf he had displayed boundless activity and heroism unsurpassed. When his death was announced to General Robert E. Lee that great commander said, "I can scarcely think of him without weeping." Ararat river, upon whose banks he had played in his early days—to the melody of those rippling laughing waters he had so often listened with joy and delight—will ever sing his requiem. His name will be respected and honored in every land where patriotism and moral heroism has a home."

"Fortunate is the nation and exalted will be its destiny which can furnish to the world such a model for emulation as that portrayed in the character of Major General J. E. B. Stuart."

At the conclusion of the speech the members of the house rose as one man and cheered with great enthusiasm.—Asheville Citizen.

## DAMAGE SUITS AGAINST TOWN

Mr. Tom Porter Claims \$23,000 Damages and Mr. Moore \$15,000—Property Damaged by Water Claim.

Mr. J. T. Moore has entered suit against the town for \$15,000 damages because flood waters of the lake cover a portion of his farm.

Some time ago the town started condemnation proceedings, with the idea in view of condemning the lands of Mr. T. W. Porter, which are, or will be, covered with back waters from the municipal dam. In his reply to these proceedings, Mr. Porter claims damages of \$1000 per acre for 17 acres just below the Franklin bridge. He likewise claims \$3,500 damages from the sewer line and \$2,500 damages for a water power he claims existed before covered by the waters of the lake. In demanding a total of \$23,000 damages Mr. Porter prays that the town be required to remove the dam and if this be not feasible, then to lower the water in the lake so as to remove the causes for damages.

Clerk F. I. Murray has appointed as a jury in this case, Messrs. Frank Moody, C. A. Lowry and A. J. Evans. Whatever the decision of this jury may be it is presumed that an appeal will be taken to the superior court.

The law firm of Horn, Patton & Poindexter represent Mr. Porter, while the interest of the town is in the hands of R. D. Sisk, city attorney.

## GOOD ROADS IN NORTH CAROLINA

Over Four Thousand Miles Embraced in Highway System—Roads Maintained Under County Supervision Would Increase Totals.

Raleigh, Feb. 7.—Of a total of 4,448.04 miles of highway, comprising the state highway system, work on 1,544.87 miles was completed during 1925. Figures compiled by projects completed during 1925 were started in years before that.

The figures show that in the year 1925, the state spent \$27,827,055 to complete 1,544.87 miles of various types of highways and bridges, this total representing about 1-3 of the total amount spent since the present program was inaugurated. The total spent on roadwork since the establishment of the Highway commission is now constituted is \$79,421,172 on highways and \$3,158,781 on bridges.

At the present time there are projects totalling 816.54 miles under construction which when completed will represent a total expenditure of \$14,659,532.

Mr. Witherspoon's figures show that North Carolina now has 813.66 miles of cement concrete highway which cost \$27,813,815; 557.82 miles of asphaltic concrete costing \$18,222,057; 165.07 miles sand asphalt costing \$2,778,803; 286.71 miles penetration macadam at a cost of \$6,072,818; 9.50 miles brick valued at \$233,180; 1,465 miles sand clay top soil roads costing \$13,587,378; 360.01 miles gravel highways costing \$3,521,231 and 789.74 miles graded roads costing \$6,812,890. In addition the system includes bridges valued at \$3,158,781.

This system of highways embraces only those designated as state highways and does not include a number of hard-surfaced and improved roads under county supervision. These county roads would considerably increase the figures of all grades of roadway.—Charlotte Observer.

### MR. ALMAZOV PLEASSED

Mr. W. D. Almazov and Miss Sophie Albert, owners of the Onteora Estates, are very much delighted with the news contained in last week's Press to the effect that the government will build a bridge trail from the top of Trimont Mountain near Franklin to the top of Wayah Bald. As stated last week, this trail will connect at Wayah Bald with 50 miles of government trail penetrating all parts of the Nantahala mountains. The Trimont-Wayah trail will pass through Wolf Pen gap and Poplar Cove gap thus skirting for two or three miles the lands included in the Onteora Estates. When this trail is completed about July 1st, those fond of riding will have at their disposal 60 miles or more of trails through some of the finest scenery in all the southland.

## GRAND RALLY AT THE COURT HOUSE

Local Park Committee Calls Meeting for Feb. 15—J. G. Stikeleather, J. G. K. McClure Among Speakers.

One of the greatest rallies ever scheduled in Macon county is planned for Friday, February 12, at the court house, at 2:30 p. m., when prominent speakers from Macon and other counties in the western part of the state will address the assembled multitude on the proposed national park in the Great Smoky Mountains.

Mr. James G. Stikeleather, chairman of the park committee for this district will be one of the principal speakers. Mr. James G. K. McClure, president of the Farmers Federation of Buncombe county, will also speak upon the advantages of the proposed park to the farmers of Western North Carolina.

The establishment of this park is of vital interest to every man, woman and child in Macon county. The park will furnish a market for all kinds of farm produce, it will increase the value of all lands in this part of the state, it will bring an estimated sum of \$100,000,000 to Western North Carolina each year from the tourist. Consequently, it is hoped that Macon county will turn out in full force to hear arguments in favor of the park. Present indications point to the possibility of one of the biggest crowds ever assembled in Franklin.

Macon county cannot afford to be a slacker in this great movement. Come to this meeting whether you intend to contribute or not. The meeting will afford each one the opportunity of seeing friends from all parts of this section.

Friday, the 12th, will be a great day for Macon county.

### FRANKLIN P. T. A.

The Parent-Teacher association met at the school house last Friday afternoon. There were only 24 persons present, including the teachers. There are 62 members enrolled. This is certainly a very poor showing. Surely the members of the Association should take enough interest in the work being done to attend the meetings more regularly. Many are behind with their dues, and it is absolutely necessary that these be taken care of if the Association is to do good work.

The entertainment, of which the leading feature was a debate between the Lanier and S. S. S. Societies, was very enjoyable. The speakers showed marked ability and careful preparation. It is hoped that there will be a better attendance at the next meeting.

The members are all urged to be present at the meeting to be held the first Friday in March at the school house.

### Coming Coming! Coming!!

As announced in last week's Press there will be a debate at the Court-house on Thursday night, February 18, at 8 o'clock.

The subject will be: "Resolved, that the church should provide more amusements, social activities and athletic exercises for the young people. This is a live question, and is one that the churches of today must face and answer whether they wish to or not. Youth is clamoring for recognition and age is retorting with the argument that things have already gone too far. The question is a live one and you can promise yourself that the argument will be a warm one.

The affirmative will be upheld by C. C. Poindexter and Geo. B. Patton, while the negative will be upheld by E. S. Galloway and J. Frank Ray, Jr. John Thomas will preside.

Everyone is invited and all Reds and Purples are especially requested to be there and support their respective team.

No admission will be charged and no collection will be taken. Meet your friends at the court house, 8 o'clock, Thursday night, February 18.

Mr. Walter Hunnicutt, a prominent photographer of Tallulah Falls, Ga., and brother of Mr. E. S. Honnicutt of Franklin, was here a few days last week taking views of various mountain scenes for use of local estate agents in Franklin.

## 40,000 ACRES IS BOUGHT IN SWAIN

Prominent Men Form Syndicate and Purchase Gigantic Area—Faces on Main Line of Railway.

Purchase of over 40,000 acres of land on Forney's and Hazel creeks in Swain county for a consideration in the neighborhood of \$550,000, was announced yesterday by David L. Strain, prominent real estate developer, who has just returned from a trip to the Middle West, where he completed negotiations for the land.

Associated with Mr. Strain in the purchase of this property are: L. B. Jackson, Frank O. Barber, James G. K. McClure, Jr., Charles E. Hughes, Dr. R. G. Scruggs, Patrick H. Branch, Bernard Elias, and others.

Of the 40,000 odd acres, 21,079 acres on the watershed of Hazel creek were purchased from the William Ritter Lumber company, of Columbus, Ohio, and 19,000 acres on Forney's creek were secured from the Norwood Lumber company. The deal was handled through S. G. Bernard, attorney of this city, for the William Ritter Lumber company.

Though no definite plans have been announced, it is understood that the owners of the property contemplate an extensive development program, the cost running into a high figure.

### Fine Lands

The 40,000-acre tract constitutes some of the finest mountain lands to be found in the Eastern part of the United States. The combined tract is among the last of the large lumber operations and the location and surroundings make the property one of the most coveted larger bodies of land in Western North Carolina.

The lands face on the main line of the Southern Railway from Asheville to Murphy, and the Smoky Mountain railroad passes through a major portion of the property. The Southern Railway branch from Bushnell passes close to a large part of the land. The new state highway from Bryson City to the Tennessee line passes through the property and the accessibility of the entire tract is all that can be desired. Automobile roads traverse a large portion of the property.

The tract is about 20 miles square and includes 125 miles of some of the finest trout fishing streams to be found in Eastern America.

### Towns Included

The holdings inside the newly purchased area include the larger portion of the towns of Forney and Proctor. The purchase includes 120 residences, club houses, hotels, water works, electric lighting systems, stores and other buildings. A number of churches are close at hand.

While a greater portion of the property has been cut over, there are many thousands of acres of virgin timber. The deal reserves all uncut timber and the parties are to vacate the premises at the earliest possible date and no more timber is to be cut or removed.

In regard to the attitude of the syndicate toward the Great Smoky Mountains National Park proposal, Mr. Strain said it would be the policy at all times to cooperate with the Park Commission. There are about 25,000 acres of the land within the proposed park area.

Mr. Strain and some of his associates are developers on a large scale and are interested in a number of projects in Asheville and this section. Mr. Strain is now interested in a number of business property improvements in this city, besides being one of the owners and developers of Beverly Hills, adjoining the new municipal golf course, and Sequoyah Hills Knoxville, Tenn. He is also interested in a number of water front properties between Wilmington and Norfolk, Va., along the new inland waterway from the North to the South.

Mr. Strain is a native of Texas, and located in North Carolina in 1919. He has been instrumental in the development of many large real estate holdings in this state.—Asheville Citizen.

## FRANKLIN GIRL HIGHLY HONORED

Word has just been received in Franklin that the Sophomore class at North Carolina college for women has elected Miss Virginia Sloan as president for the semester of the present college year. Miss Sloan is one of Franklin's most popular young ladies and the fact that she has been chosen president of her class is not surprising to her many friends here who have long recognized her ability and poise.