

MORE ABOUT WOODBURY ELECTION.

Capt. Sellers Makes Characteristic Reply to Mr. Johnson and Throws More Light on the Woodbury and Britton's Neck Elections. The Controversy is Making Woodbury and Britton's Neck a Place in History.

To the Editor of the News and Courier:

When a witness goes on the stand and tells the plain unvarnished truth so that the case on the opposite side is totally ruined the only and best thing for the poor little lawyer is to tangle the witness or the case is gone and the fee is unearned. It is a trick of the trade. A favorite mode of doing this is putting in the mouth of the witness statements he has never made. Force of habit, no doubt, has caused Mr. Johnson his letter to your paper of April 22nd., to attempt the shifty methods of a 2x4 lawyer in a public discussion of a public matter. He coolly puts in my mouth a communication from Dillon published in your paper Feb. 27th. last, and bases his whole argument on a premise that is palpably absurd and ridiculous. I am responsible only for what appears in this discussion over my own signature and I am sure the News and Courier will bear me out in the assertion that I had nothing whatever to do with the communication from Dillon of Feb. 27th. I never read it, heard of it, inspired it nor saw it till I read it in the News and Courier the morning of its publication. The fact is when I read Mr. Johnson's first article in which he rather pompously proposed to "correct some errors" in reference to the New County I saw very plainly that he as well as the correspondent from Dillon of Feb. 27th. were both "away off" as to the true inwardness of the famous Britton's Neck and Woodbury petitions of 13 years ago that I wrote my first letter in reply to Mr. Johnson's "correction of errors." I was honestly endeavoring to lead them both into the light in a matter in which they were both bungling the plain facts of history. I have heard of no kick coming from the Dillon man so he must accept my version of the Britton's Neck and Woodbury petition as being correct, but my friend Mr. Johnson continues to kick worse than a bronco and will not "see the light," though I am fortified by the files of the News and Courier and the Marion Star of 1896. Mr. Johnson's whole argument is based first on the assumption and then the bald assertion that I was the author of the communication from Dillon Feb. 27th. This major premise being now effectually disposed of and eliminated what becomes of his minor premise and conclusion—the whole thing falls to the ground "flat, stale and unprofitable." Again I reiterate: "We have not been and are not now discussing what may or may not have happened in Woodbury township 13 years ago in reference to the attempt of the Marion politicians to kick that township off into Horry, but we are discussing the Britton's Neck and Woodbury petitions," the same petition that was discussed in the N. & C. in 1896—the same petition which the Marion Star defended and championed for the Britton's Neck and Woodbury people when it said in its issue of Nov. 4th, 1896 (not Dec. 20, as Mr. Johnson has it.) "If the people ask it as they have in this particular, to which we are opposed, the governor is bound under

the statutes to grant their petition." The idea The Star intended the outside public to believe was that this petition of Britton's Neck and Woodbury (naming both townships) was a spontaneous and voluntary thing on the part of the people of both townships, that they were just going to Horry anyhow in spite of the adverse opposition of the Marion Star. Could language be any plainer in reference to both Britton's Neck and Woodbury than this: "If the people ask it, as they have done in this particular," and who of all men know better that there was a petition from both townships than Jas. D. Montgomery, Luther Clark, and Mark Stackhouse, the owners and editors of the Marion Star. And yet in the face of this positive corroboration of my positive assertion that the first attempt to disrupt Marion county was a petition purporting to come from citizens of Britton's Neck and Woodbury townships, Mr. Johnson has the temerity to say is only supported by my ipse dixit. Let us see: On one side there is the positive assertion in the communication to the News and Courier as early as Oct. 1895 (possibly by Capt. D. W. McLaurin) that the townships of Britton's Neck and Woodbury were preparing to be cut off into Horry. Then comes Jas. D. Montgomery, Luther Clark and Mark Stackhouse in the Marion Star defending the action of those people and saying they had done so. So in this particular add to this my positive assertion and we have five to the lone one ipse dixit of Mr. Johnson. On which side, my friend, do you think is the preponderance of the testimony as you lawyers express it? It is not considered good practice for a lawyer to go on the stand at any time, but where he is the lone witness in his own case as in this instance it is fatal to his contention in this discussion. It is true, Mr. Johnson mildly threatens to give us the negative testimony of 200 citizens of Britton's Neck but this would be mere negative testimony. No doubt there are thousands who could truthfully say the same thing but what would it amount to in the face of positive assertion of five men who had heard about and discussed the petition that was then in the hands of the governor? I am willing to concede that my friend, Mr. Johnson, was perfectly honest in his conviction that the first petition did not include Britton's Neck township, and that when he went to the famous meeting down there if he had been allowed to make his speech he would assured those people that the petition only included Woodbury township, and even now he believes it, though I am gradually leading him into the light and he will come around alright yet. My friend has never yet been taken into the inner circle of every petition at the Court House. He is known to be a little too straight-laced for the ordinary wire puller. He was brought up on the shorter catechism and has old fashioned notions about right and wrong, honesty and rascality, and Mr. Johnson was the last man to whom these Past Masters in the political arts and sciences at Marion would have confessed their real purposes and schemes in getting up that petition from Britton's Neck and Woodbury. The petition was said to have been numerously signed by the citizens of both Britton's Neck and Woodbury, but whose names they were and who put them on that petition no one knows. The scheme was to get up this numerously signed petition, put it into the hands of the governor, have an election ordered, keep everything quiet, get up no excitement or discussion,

and when the day of election came a few henchmen in those townships were to go out and vote "yes," and some fine morning that fall the people of Britton's Neck and Woodbury would have awoke and found themselves living in Horry and the New County would have been dead forever! A grand scheme truly, but the "best laid plans of mice and men oft' gang-a-gee." Unfortunately the whole scheme was predicted on the supposed stupidity and indifference of the Britton's Neck and Woodbury people and the new county people as well, but the people were not so stupid as they were supposed to be. That petition has been seen and handled and some day after the new county is formed Mr. Johnson may be favored with a view of a copy (the original "got lost" "disappeared") when my hard-headed Scotch friend will have to admit "seeing is believing."

My friend is again "away off" when he says "no man in the county knows better, than you that no political meetings are ever held in Woodbury Township," and "that you have never made a speech in Woodbury Township." Until the political revolution of 1890 mass meetings were held in every Township at which candidates of the party addressed the voters and we then had 18. Your late partner and our lamented friend, the late J. Monroe Johnson, always insisted when he was chairman that such meetings be held in every Township. One among the first stump speeches I ever made was at Old Ark in Woodbury Township when the late Dr. Thos. R. Bass and I addressed the voters. The people of Woodbury Township in those days were courted by the party because they voted solidly for the Democratic party and were a unit for white supremacy. Now since they are no longer needed to keep the negroes from riding over us, they are kicked off by the Marion politicians into Horry. A faithful dog would be entitled to better treatment.

Jno. C. Sellers

Doings on R. R. No. 3.

We are very much elated over the new railroad, and hope soon to be able to ride down to the new court house on the new railroad.

We have been having very good seasons and the prospect for oats is very good. Considerable progress is being made at cotton chopping.

We are glad to report that Capt. Arch Sinclair who has been very sick is improving.

Mrs. B. T. Rogers is up again after several weeks sickness.

Mrs. Daniel Cottingham has returned home after a week stay with her daughter, Mrs. J. L. Dew at Latta.

Mrs. J. B. Ammons and son, Wright, visited her daughter, Mrs. E. A. McDonald at Hebron Sunday.

Miss Margaret Smith is spending some time at the home of Mr. T. C. Sherwood.

Clifton Stanton and sister Miss Blanche spent Saturday with relatives near Clio.

We have it on good authority that Mr. C. M. Proctor of Hamer called near Sinclair's cross roads Sunday last, in fact Mr. Proctor seems to have a standing appointment and meets his engagements very promptly.

Mrs. J. W. Bridges is spending some time with relatives near Latta.

We were sorry to give up our old rural carrier Mr. Allen, but are pleased to have such an efficient and obliging one in the person of Mr. Fenegan.

We will long remember Mr. Allen who served us so faithfully for several years. X.Y.Z.

Accident on Work Train.

Capt. Guy, in charge of the work train which is engaged in filling in the trestle over Little Pee Dee, was seriously and probably fatally injured by the breaking of a heavy draw chain Friday morning. The train was discharging a load of dirt at the trestle when the accident occurred. The scraper which drags the dirt from the flat cars is attached to the engine by a heavy iron chain. When all is in readiness the engine is detached from the flat cars and moves slowly forward, tightening the chain and putting the scraper in motion. Capt. Guy was standing near the chain at a point between the scraper and the engine when without warning the chain snapped and one of the heavy links struck him in the abdomen. It was a terrific blow and he fell to the ground helpless. The injured man was brought to town immediately and the local Coast Line surgeon, Dr. B. M. Badger, was summoned. Suffering intensely he was taken to Highsmiths hospital at Fayetteville Friday night. His injuries are internal and it will be several days yet before he is out of danger.

Capt. Guy Dies.

News was received in Dillon Monday to the effect that Capt. Guy died at Highsmith's Hospital Monday afternoon. The physicians entertained little hope for him from the first. From the time he was injured up until his death Capt. Guy suffered intensely and was unable to take any nourishment. Death was produced by hemorrhages in the abdominal cavity. The deceased was about 39 years old and unmarried. He was raised near Fayetteville where his parents still live. Although he had been in Dillon but a short while Capt. Guy had made a number of friends who are shocked and grieved at his sudden and tragic taking off.

Change of Trustees.

Dr. W. Stackhouse and A. B. Jordan have been appointed trustees of the Dillon graded schools to succeed Messrs. R. P. Stackhouse and J. W. King whose terms expired the first of May. The other member of the board is Mr. A. J. C. Cottingham who has been reappointed for another term. The school has greatly prospered under the administration of the old board and is in splendid condition financially and otherwise.

Maple Dots.

Mrs. Manthie Calder died Monday night (April 26). She was given to heart trouble and while sitting up with a sick neighbor Monday night died instantly. She was about seventy five years old and leaves several sons and daughters to mourn her loss.

She was buried at the Hulon graveyard Wednesday morning.

Mr. Charlie Norton died last Friday evening. He had been partially paralyzed for several years, but had only been confined to his bed a week when he died. He was about fifty years old and leaves a widow to mourn his loss. He was buried at Pleasant Grove cemetery Saturday.

Rev. W. W. Tucker was in this section one day last week.

Mr. J. D. Dove who is residing at Rockfish, N. C., visited his family Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. C. T. Jackson of Dillon visited in this section Sunday. Simon.

FOR SALE—Registered Berkshire boar one year old. In pink of condition. Apply to Maple Dairy.

The Dillon Herald \$1.50 a year

WASHINGTON LETTER

News From Our Busy Capital

The Republican party had undertaken to recast the tariff schedules, and it should do something positive to redeem its pledges and to meet obvious public expectations. The weakness of the Senate bill as it stands to-day is that it represents no sufficiently definite change from the Dingley programme, and with this programme the country has expressed dissatisfaction in unmistakable language. The Senate bill should offer some evidences of a rational adjustment to present conditions which can be grasped and accepted by the public.

Announcement is made that at the State Department preparations are in progress for a complete readjustment of our trade relations with the nations of the world, to follow the enactment of the new tariff law. In view of the introduction of the maximum, minimum policy into our tariff law, many treaties and arrangements covering trade relations will of necessity be abrogated and new ones must be negotiated. At present the United States has trade agreements with France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Portugal and Holland, and it will be necessary, on the new law, to give notice to these governments that the present agreements must be terminated and new ones arranged. The agreement with France can be abrogated by either party at any time without notice, but those with Italy, Spain, Portugal, and Holland require notice of one year from either government, and this notice will be served by this government immediately on the passage of the new tariff law. The agreement with Germany is the one arranged by President Roosevelt on June 1st, 1907. Under this agreement it will be necessary for this government to give Germany six months' notice before another arrangement can be effected.

The selection of President Taft of the famous North Shore of Massachusetts for his official summer home, this year, surprised no one who is familiar with the natural beauties and attractions of this peerless summer resort section of our country. Not only men and women of distinction in literature and society, sundry ambassadors, ministers and their families, but many illustrious Americans have made their summer homes upon the North Shore. Henry W. Longfellow, James Russell Lowell, Rev. Dr. Edward Everett Hale, Richard Henry Dana jr., and Daniel Webster have all found an abiding place in this loveliest of summer retreats, and Charles Sumner, visiting the Manchester neighborhood for the first time, pronounced it more beautiful than Biarritz, the summer home of Napoleon III.

A number of army officers, including those attached to the Army War College and some of the general staff on duty at the War Department, about the first of next month will start on a ride over the battlefields of the campaign of General Grant in 1864, from Fredericksburg, through the wilderness, to Petersburg and Richmond. The expedition is one of those made every year as a part of the course at the War College, to enable officers to pursue their studies in the art of war by following up the military operations of past conflicts. After the completion of the ride in Virginia, the

officers will be taken over the ground covered by the campaign resulting in the battle of Antietam.

Recruiting officers of the navy estimate that there will be about 25,000 enlistments into the naval service during the approaching fiscal year. Upon enlistment a man is furnished a complete outfit of clothing, etc., and for the next fiscal year the sum of \$1,291,000 is available for the outfits of all enlisted men and apprentice seamen.

Undoubtedly the advice of Senator Aldrich to Congress to practice economy will be assumed by each statesman to apply to all expenditures—not affecting his own constituents.

Senator Elihu Root, in his opening address to the members of the third annual meeting of the American Society of International Law, in Washington, recently, expressed the opinion that disputes involving the rights of nations can be settled with justice and equity far better through an international court of arbitration than through the fine hand of diplomacy. Senator Root made a strong plea for the recognition of a permanent international tribunal, composed of men whose judgments would be guided solely by judicial reasoning, justice and equity, and not by narrow and biased local or national prejudice.

It has leaked out at the War Department that the order to call a halt on the sale of discarded army rifles was issued that the United States might have a reserve supply of arm for volunteers in case of war, and not because the rifles were being sold to South American revolutionists.

The patrons of the Dillon Graded school who have children to enter the first grade next fall are requested to send their children into school on next Monday, May 10th, and allow the children to attend school until the close of this term. This enables the class to be organized, and the children to become acquainted with the regulations of the school, so that when they come back in the fall they feel more at ease, and are ready to take up their work at once.

Miss Nell Sprunt will have charge of this class for the three weeks, and will give some Kindergarten work. No books will be needed.

Early Closing.

We, the undersigned merchants of Dillon, do hereby agree to close our stores, for the benefit of our employes, beginning May 1st, ending September 1st, at 7 P. M.

- I. I. Fass,
- Gaitley-Tolar Co.,
- Wm. Brick,
- G. C. Johnson,
- Dillon Hdw. Co.,
- E. L. Moore & Co.,
- L. C. Braddy Co.,
- W. H. Dunbar,
- Dillon Cash Store,
- So. Loan & Trust Co.,
- W. T. Mercer & Co.,
- The Stubbs Co., provided all agree to close.
- Mrs. Barnes,
- L. Cottingham,
- Wheeler Hdw. Co.,
- Morris Fass,
- J. W. Dillon & Son Co.

The special services at Pee Dee church will begin Thursday night, May 6th., at 8 o'clock, followed by services as follows: Friday at 11 a. m., Friday night 8 p. m., Saturday 11 a. m. The Sacrament of the Lord's supper will be administered on the Sabbath.