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STORY OF JOHN BROWN.

Arrest, Trial and Execution of Man Who Tried to Free Slaves.
School boys and girls sing about how they "Hung John Brown or a Sour Apple Tree," but how many know the details of the trial, conviction and hanging of John Brown in Charles Town?

Sixty-three years ago the nation was rent with discussion over slavery. It had become the greatest issue since the Revolutionary war. While Horace Greely wrote stirring editorials to free the slaves, John Brown took an even more violent course. He tried to free the slaves by force. It was a national issue.

George D. Moore, a former prosecuting attorney in Charles Town, W. Va., writing in a local paper, says: "During the early summer of 1859 a party of strangers arrived near Harper's Ferry, then a part of Virginia. With them was an old man of venerable appearance who called himself Isaac Smith. They represented themselves as prospecting for minerals and took long and frequent rambles over various parts of the Blue Ridge mountains near by. After a few weeks they moved to what is known as the Kennedy farm, about five miles from Harper's Ferry, on the Maryland side of the Potomac river, and established headquarters. They were amiable people and soon made a number of friends. In the meantime a large quantity of arms and ammunition was smuggled in to them.

"Twenty men descended upon Harper's Ferry on the night of Sunday, October 16, 1859. They shot men in the streets and took possession of the town. Nobody seemed to know what it was all about. Later one of the attackers declared they had come to free the Virginia slaves. They said they had the means to accomplish their plan.

"News of the attack on Harper's Ferry was flashed across the nation. The Virginia militia came, and Governor Wise of Virginia took personal charge. After a three day fight the little army was captured. Its leader was recognized as John Brown.

"Brown and his followers were taken to Charles Town, where the grand jury was in session. Virginia and what is now known as West Virginia were then one State.

"The old Virginia law required five days' lapse between the preliminary and the submission of the case to the grand jury.

"A whole nation was wrought up to the tensest pitch during those five days of suspense. It was rumored everywhere and particularly through the South that John Brown's little army of 20 men was but the forerunner of a mighty army from the North to come down and free the slaves, and that a powerful secret organization was planning revolt by riot and murder and the Brown gang was to be released from jail.

"These rumors grew; they traveled fast. It was argued that John Brown would not have dared attempt such a bold thing as the capture of Harper's Ferry unless he had ample backing.

"On October 26 the preliminary hearing opened, with the court house heavily guarded by militia troops. Everywhere the town was jammed with strangers. There was a little army of newspaper men.

"Brown, it is believed, fully realized what was to come. The court house was across the street from the jail. Brown was marched out from the front door of the jail, grim and determined. A double file of soldiers guarded him. He presented a remarkable picture.

"Whether he was legally right or not, he believed his cause just. He was six feet tall, stoop-shouldered, old, bareheaded and wore a long, shaggy gray beard. But his piercing old eyes showed no signs of fear. His condition is described as feeble, and bystanders gaped in silence as he moved slowly along, manacled.

"The court room was jammed with 500 or 600 people. Eight justices of the peace conducted the preliminary hearing. They constituted the court of first resort; upon their say would depend whether John Brown, avowed abolitionist, should be set free with his comrades or whether they should be held for the grand jury.

"Charles Harding was the district attorney. Governor Wise appointed Andrew Hunter as assistant prosecutor. Hunter was a great lawyer, a successful pleader, and a man of immense appearance.

"Prosecutor Harding demanded to know whether the prisoners were represented by counsel or whether they wished the court to assign counsel. There came one of the great dramatic episodes of legal history.

"John E. Carroll, county superintendent of education, Sheriff Fred E. Quinn, Hon. Emmet W. Pursley and Gist Finley, Esq., were out-of-town visitors who came to Fort Mill last Friday afternoon to witness the football game between the Fort Mill and York high school teams.

LEY-SPRINGS WEDDING.

Fort Mill Citizen Goes to Massachusetts to Claim Bride.

The Springfield (Mass.) Union of Wednesday afternoon, October 4, contained the following account of the wedding in that city of Miss Frances Hubbard Ley of Springfield and Capt. Elliott White Springs of Fort Mill:

"The Old First church was the scene this afternoon at 4 o'clock of the wedding of Miss Frances Hubbard Ley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Alexander Ley of Long Hill street, and Elliott White Springs of Fort Mill, S. C., son of Col. Leroy Springs of Lancaster, S. C. Before the ceremony the organist, John G. Clark, gave a recital, including the following numbers: 'Prelude,' from 'Lohengrin'; 'Wagner'; 'Pastorale,' Gullmatt; 'Romance in D Flat,' Leonard; 'Serenade,' Mowskowski; 'Spring Song,' Mendelssohn, and 'Cathedral Music' from 'Lohengrin.' The 'Bridal Chorus' from 'Lohengrin' was used for the processional, and the Mendelssohn 'Wedding March' for the recessional. During the ceremony, which was performed by Rev. Dr. Nell McPherson, Mr. Clark played 'Sanctus' from the 'Holy City.'

"The bride was attended by Miss Lucia L. Vennum of Watseka, Ill., as maid of honor, and by her sister, Miss Margaret K. Ley of this city and Mrs. William A. Fletcher, Jr., of Longmeadow. Lawrence Callahan of Chicago was best man and the ushers were Frederick Goodrich of Milwaukee, Bennett Oliver of Pittsburg, Julian Stanley, Arthur Walser and Winthrop Smith of New York city, and Stuart Walker of Rock Hill, S. C. "The bride wore a charming gown of white net embroidered in silver thread, combined with white charmeuse. Her court train was of white charmeuse and silver cloth and her veil, of old lace and tulle, was arranged high on the head in the shape of a Spanish comb. She carried white orchids, showered with lilies of the valley. Miss Vennum's frock was of orange crepe roma and the bridesmaids wore similar frocks of golden brown crepe roma, all three of the frocks being trimmed with brown crystal beads. Each wore a hat of brown velvet lace and carried an arm bouquet of fall flowers.

"Fall foliage and clusters of fall flowers were used to decorate the church, and torches of the flowers marked the center aisle. Decorations in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ley, where a small informal reception took place after the ceremony, were very simple. Only the relatives and Mr. and Mrs. Springs being assisted in receiving by their parents. Mrs. Ley's gown was of silver and gray lace and she wore a black hat. Among the out of town guests were: Col. and Mrs. Leroy Springs of Lancaster, S. C., Mrs. J. M. Odell of Concord, N. C., and Mrs. Fred T. Ley of New York city, Miss Mary Kend of Chicago, Miss Lorraine Goodrich of Milwaukee, Miss Nan Albert of Canton, Ohio, Mr. and Mrs. John Scott and Miss Calvin Scott of Charlotte, N. C., Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Callahan of Chicago, Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Lovell and Miss Doris Lovell of West Newton and Winifred Whitton of New London, Conn.

"Mr. and Mrs. Springs left for a wedding trip, the bride wearing away a gown of blue polka twill and a blue velvet hat. They will be at home after December 1 at the White home, Fort Mill, S. C. The bride is a popular member of the younger set here. She is a graduate of Central high school and of Smith college, and spent last year traveling abroad, where she met Mr. Springs. Mr. Springs is a graduate of Culver Military academy, Culver, Ind., and of Princeton university in the class of 1917. He served overseas with the Royal Flying corps and in the American aviation service, and ranks as the third living American ace. He received the D. S. C. and the D. F. C. medals. He is vice president of the Fort Mill Manufacturing company.

Interest in County Fair.
Indications are that many Fort Mill people will go to Rock Hill next week to attend the York county fair, which is to be held on October 18, 19 and 20. The fair this year promises to be the best the society has yet given and as a consequence more than the usual amount of interest is being taken in it among the people of this community. The upper section of Lancaster county also is expected to be represented by a large number of citizens at the fair.

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Unusual headline: "Winthrop Girl to Marry."

NEWS OF YORK COUNTY.

Items of General Interest Found in the Yorkville Enquirer.

There is no more water in the Catawba than it needs, but it is evident to all observers that except for that great dam at Bridgewater there would be a great deal less than there is.

Considerable improvements are being made in the Lockmore cotton mill village. The mill houses are being repainted and otherwise improved. It is understood that the mill is operating full time, both day and night.

Stories to the effect that there is an unusual amount of liquor in evidence on the streets here of late are without foundation, according to Chief of Police Ed Steele. It is ginger and extract that is most popular, or rather that is most used by the booze-hounds, according to the chief.

J. W. Marshall, councilman for Ward 3 in Yorkville, has tendered his resignation as a member of the council. Marshall, who for some time past has been in the employ of a local grocery, has obtained a job with the Southern Power company, which will necessitate his changing his residence. Hence the resignation.

A number of football fans went to Fort Mill with the Yorkville team Friday afternoon and with pain and anguish witnessed the overwhelming defeat of the locals. Rain fell after the game was well under way and it was determined that Yorkville was no match for Fort Mill and there was a lot of fans who wished the rain had come before the game started.

John L. Carroll, road contractor, has been awarded a contract by the State highway commission to build a stretch of the West road from the Bullock's Creek bridge to the town of Sharon, it was announced Tuesday. The distance is about two and one-half miles. The amount of the bid was not made public and it was stated that the contract was let privately. Some time ago a bid on the project made by Stewart & Jones, Rock Hill contractors, was refused on the ground that it was too high.

Preliminary reports from a number of Clover farmers who have experimented with peanuts this year for the first time are good. It is estimated that farmers in the immediate vicinity have 100 acres or more in peanuts this year as an experiment and while all of them have not dug the nuts, several of them have and are well pleased. Jeff Davis of Clover No. 4, who had two acres in peanuts this year, estimates his yield at 50 bushels to the acre. Right now they are worth \$1 a bushel and Mr. Davis is of the opinion that his two acres in peanuts are worth considerably more to him than the same acreage devoted to cotton would have been.

No less than \$3,000 was saved to York county by the removal of the old Roddey's bridge from its position in Catawba river and using the bridge materials to build a bridge over Crowder's creek at Riddle's mill in Bethel township, which bridge has just been completed. The bridge at the mill is about 187 1-2 feet in length and it could not be built new for less than \$5,000, while the cost to the county for the whole job was not more than \$2,000. It took a force from the chaingang about eight days of working time to hoist the steel girders and other parts out of Catawba river at the site of the old Roddey bridge and transport it to Riddle's.

William C. Farley, held in the State penitentiary in Columbia on a charge of slaying four members of the Taylor family at Clover, September 5, wants the authorities to bring him back to the jail at Yorkville to be confined here until he is tried for his alleged crime, it is stated. Chief of Police John A. Jackson of Clover said Wednesday that Farley had stated that he was not given the attention he thought he deserved by the authorities in the State penitentiary and that he feared he would die unless his surroundings were changed. His idea was that he would be taken care of better in the York county jail and he would have the satisfaction of knowing that he was nearer his relatives and friends.

Sunday School Program.
The following program of exercises at the Fort Mill Baptist Sunday school has been arranged for next Sunday:

1. Opening song by school.
2. Song by children.
3. Prayer.
4. Sentence sermons by eight intermediate boys.
5. Saxophone solo, S. L. Meacham.
6. Reading by Miss Edith Parks.
7. Special music by choir.
8. Classes assemble.
9. Report and announcements.
10. Preaching at 11 o'clock.

Mr. Ford says our currency should be reformed. He ought to know—he has covered most of it.

FOR FREE TEXT BOOKS.

Correspondent Favors Law for Sixth Carolina Public Schools.

The following letter has been received by W. R. Bradford of Fort Mill, member of the General Assembly for York county, relative to the bill which he recently introduced at the 1923 session of that body providing free text books for use in certain grades of the public schools of the State. For reasons in which the reader would not be interested the name of the author of the letter is withheld:

"A you know, the law requires that children of certain ages must go to school, and it seems to be universal where such a law is in effect that it is just that school books be furnished free.

"Statistics show that the States which have free text books have a smaller percentage of illiteracy than where the children are forced to purchase their own books. Statistics also show that where the children are forced to buy their books there is a constant change in the text. As a matter of fact, in one of our largest cities, Cleveland, Ohio, last year the board of education made 56 changes in its text books during the year. Many of these changes were only revised editions, but it forced the additional buying of books and kept the children from trading their second hand books or obtaining any value for them. It has been said also that books are being sold at a higher price than ever before, at a 70 to 100 per cent increase over what they were a few years ago.

"The city of Cincinnati, Ohio, offers a very good example of free text books. They have been in use there for 22 years and they find that the initial cost of installing free text books is 69 cents per capita of the school enrollment; the second year 36 cents and the third year 17 cents. They figure that the average life of a book is five years. Of course if the book is unnecessarily damaged or mutilated, the pupil is required to pay for the loss. We find from their report that they also say that all books are kept covered with a tough paper cover. This, they say, increases the life of the book about 30 per cent.

"A you know, the city of Philadelphia was the first city in America to furnish free text books, and that was in 1819. The State of Pennsylvania has been furnishing free text books for many years, as have also a great many of the Eastern States. California also stands out as one of the free text book States. The State of Texas has been furnishing free text books for three years, furnishing all the books used in the public schools. We feel certain that within the next ten years all the States in the Union will be furnishing free text books. No doubt you feel the same way and for that reason are anxious that your State shall be among the first in the South to point the way to better education and to a higher plane for your coming generation."

Locals Too Strong for York.

The football team of the Fort Mill high school last Friday afternoon on the local gridiron won a decided victory over the York school eleven by the score of 58 to 0. During the first few minutes of play it looked as if the Fort Mill boys, who had piled up winning scores against the Charlotte University school and Winthrop Training school, had at last met their match, but the heavy York boys soon shot their bolt against the speedy attack of the Fort Mill backs, who scored nine touchdowns and kicked four goals during the 45 minutes of the game.

Heath Belk, coach of the Fort Mill team, put in his substitute linemen during the last quarter, which enabled Youngblood, plucky York full-back, to advance the ball by short plunges through the line to within one yard of the Fort Mill goal, but there the scrubs stiffened and York lost the ball on downs.

Youngblood was the star for the York team, while for Fort Mill Elms showed speed and accuracy in his tackling and receiving passes. Mike Link caught a pass and ran 60 yards for a touchdown and Moser's fine defensive work and Luther Patterson's good interference were features of the local boys' play, along with the cud runs of Tom Harris. In the line, Carothers, Paul Potts and Elliott Harris did the best work.

The next game of the Fort Mill boys will be with Rock Hill high in Fort Mill tomorrow afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. Neither team has been scored on during the season and a close and exciting game is expected.

When Greek meets Turk then comes a combat of the allies.

The verdict of the coroner's jury never furnishes any consolation to the subject of the funeral.

COUNTY FAIR NEXT WEEK.

Preparations Practically Complete for Annual Event.

What is expected to be the biggest and best county fair ever held in York county is being planned for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of next week, October 18, 19 and 20. The farmers and housewives generally of the county are taking unusual interest in the event, which augurs well for its success.

Never before have the grounds and buildings presented a more pleasing appearance and by the end of the week, when the big exhibit tent has been erected, everything will be in readiness for receiving the various exhibits on Monday and Tuesday. Everything in the main exhibit building will be judged Tuesday evening, and when the gates are opened to the public Wednesday morning blue, red and yellow ribbons will be in evidence everywhere.

This year the officials have endeavored to secure the best midway attractions possible, it is stated, and there will be amusement for old and young alike.

Wednesday, opening day, has been designated "Farmers' day," and on this occasion the motor cycle races will be a special feature. Thursday "Everybody's day," will be one of the big days of the fair, as the football game between Presbyterian college and Davidson will be one of the big drawing cards. On Friday, "Educational day," thousands of school children from every section of the county will be in attendance. Schools that cannot attend in a body have been notified that special tickets for the number of pupils enrolled will be sent on application. Much interest also centers in the high school football game to be played Friday morning.

As usual the racing program will be a special feature each afternoon at 2 o'clock. Superintendent Neely has given this department extra attention and horses from Indiana, Tennessee, Georgia, Ohio, North Carolina and South Carolina have been entered for the races.

The "Better Baby" contest Thursday will be held in the booth of the Metropolitan Life Insurance company and this will afford an opportunity for the mothers of the county to bring their children and have the official tests made. The scoring will begin promptly at 10 o'clock and with capable doctors and nurses in charge will be handled with dispatch.

Season tickets for the fair have been placed on sale at all the Rock Hill drug stores and in addition to the actual saving in money to purchasers of these tickets, an advantage they offer is that the holders have the privilege of leaving the grounds on pass-out tickets.

J. O. U. A. M. District Meeting.

The district council of the Junior Order United American Mechanics, composed of councils in Spartanburg, Union, Cherokee and York counties, met in St. John's Methodist church, Fort Mill last Thursday evening, with Deputy State Councilor W. H. Shurburt of Clifton presiding.

At the last State council, held some weeks ago, the areas of the districts were changed, which caused some confusion as to the place of meeting. The new territory of this district had two district meetings scheduled, one at Fort Mill and the other at Chesnee, to be held the latter part of the month. Owing to the confusion as to the place of meeting, only ten councils were represented at the Fort Mill meeting and it was decided to hold the Chesnee meeting on the date originally set for it, October 28. Permanent officers will be elected at the Chesnee meeting, but meanwhile S. F. Parrott of Spartanburg was elected temporary secretary.

Reports from the councils represented indicated substantial growth in membership and showed that recently many Bibles and United States flags have been presented to public schools in the district. The Rock Hill council reported that every school house within a radius of 15 miles of that city has a flag waving over it and has a Bible in the building.

The council unanimously adopted a resolution introduced by S. F. Parrott endorsing the bill W. R. Bradford of Fort Mill will introduce at the 1923 session of the General Assembly providing for free text books in the public schools of the State and pledged the cooperation of the council to have about the adoption of such a law.

Much enthusiasm was shown at the meeting and all delegates went home resolved to put on a membership campaign and help make this year the best the order has had in this section.

One reason why government is often unsatisfactory is that too many sap-heads are elected to public office.

COUNCIL RETRACES FOOTSTEPS.

Raises, Then Lowers, Taxes Levy for Current Year.

Within the last ten days the town council of Fort Mill has marched up the hill and down again. The tax levy to meet the needs of the town government for the year 1922 is not to be 20 mills, as was agreed upon in an ordinance passed at a meeting of council on October 3, but is now fixed at 17 mills, according to the provisions of a supplementary ordinance adopted at a special session of council Monday evening.

For the year 1921 a tax of 15 mills was levied by council to keep the town government going. The amount of money brought into the treasury from the 15 mills seems to have been sufficient to meet current expenses, but left a surplus of only about \$1,000 to be applied to outstanding indebtedness incurred by a former council for street improvements. It was to materially reduce this old debt and at the same time save the taxpayers the interest on it that brought about the ordinance increasing the levy from 15 mills to 20 mills, according to the statement of Arthur C. Lytle, mayor, who also called attention to the fact that this year for the first time the sanitary department of the town is being supported by direct taxation instead of by quarterly collections from property owners as heretofore.

"We have not gone in a hole in running the town's affairs this year," said Mr. Lytle, "but we thought it good business judgment to add a few mills to the levy to wipe out, or as nearly wipe out as we could, the indebtedness put on the town by the council of 1917 for cement sidewalks. The bank which loaned the town the money with which to have the work done wants the loan canceled, and that does not seem unreasonable. This year for the first time the town will have to collect \$1,000 with which to create a sinking fund on account of the \$30,000 street bond issue approved by the voters in 1920, and in addition to that we shall have to pay the interest on the entire bond issue, besides creating other sinking funds, one of \$240 for waterworks bonds issued a few months ago, the other of \$300 for Main street paving bonds. Of course it gave us no pleasure to increase the levy this year, but we were forced to meet conditions over which we had no control."

Numerous taxpayers of Fort Mill do not concede, however, that it is necessary for the town to increase the levy this year over that of last year and it is understood that the meeting of council Monday evening, when the levy was fixed at 17 mills instead of 20 mills, was due to the protest made by these taxpayers to individual members of council. These citizens did not mince words in expressing the opinion that the town has spent too much money this year and that, at best, its affairs are not conducted along approved lines. "I am convinced," said one of the number, "that council is boring with an augur several sizes too big. If the town is not burdened with too many employees, for one thing, it at least is paying salaries larger than its income and the amount of work to be performed justly. What good does it do the property owners of Fort Mill for the Legislature to cut 5 mills off the State levy if it is to be put right back on us by town council? Times are too hard to increase our taxes."

Police Officer Relieved.

At a special meeting Monday night of the town council of Fort Mill a resolution was adopted requesting N. M. McManus to tender his resignation as chief of police, which office he had held for several months. Shortly after the meeting Mr. McManus was informed of the action of council and was relieved by Oscar Hammonds, who was given a temporary appointment as the successor of Mr. McManus. It is understood that a chief of police will be elected at the regular semi-monthly meeting of council to be held Tuesday evening, October 17, and that a number of applications already have been received for the place.

School to Open Monday.

The fall session of the Pleasant Valley public school will open next Monday morning with Lawton D. Golsen of St. Matthews, a graduate of the University of South Carolina, as principal, who will be assisted by J. P. Balles, Clemson graduate, in charge of the intermediate department, and Miss Owens of Barnwell, graduate of Columbia college, teacher of the primary grades. About 125 pupils are expected to be present for enrollment at the first day's session of the school.

The Fort Mill Times will soon put on a contest for a pine bark medal to go to the delinquent subscriber who will tell the biggest lie about paying his subscription to the paper.