

BLACK LACE NETS.

You must have a Black Lace Net for this summer and we have just received a beautiful line and the assortment is probably better just now than it has ever been. Many novelties have just come out and we are showing them on our counters. East window full of them today.

CENTS 79 CENTS

Buy a real Silk Fish Net of nice quality. A limited quantity has just been received, and we've been advised by the importers that this is the last lot to be had at this place. The demand has been very great and the supply of Nets limited. Our next lot of this Net will have to be sold at \$1.00 per yard. You can thus see what a bargain we are offering the public.

Marguerite Mohairs are still the most popular dress stuifs on the market. New arrivals in Crown Satines. They are American Cashmere Ombres, price 15 cents per yard. Few cream colored Jerseys left.

T. L. Seigle & Co.

Visiting Druggists

—AND—

General Merchants

—ARE—

Invited to Call

And examine the largest stock of DRUGS, MEDICINES and SUN-DRIES in the State.

We sell at manufacturers' prices.

BURWELL & DUNN,

WHOLESALE STORE,
3 and 5 West Trade street.
RETAIL STORE,
Opposite Central Hotel.

WATCHES, CLOCKS

—AND—

JEWELRY.

Selling Out

AT AND BELOW COST.

As I wish to close my business in the next two or three months I offer

GREAT BARGAINS.

EVERYTHING GOES AT

J. T. BUTLERS.

A. E. RANKIN & BRO.,

—AND—

Boots and Shoes



TRUNKS, VALISES, CANES, UMBRELLAS.

All New Goods

8 W. Trade Street

COTTON CARRIED SKYWARD.

An Odd, but a Very Interesting Sight at Baseball Park—Freak of a Whirlwind.

The baseball park enclosure is filled with loose cotton picked from the burned bales recently bought by Sanders and Oates. There are three or four hundred bales in the lot, and hands have been engaged in sorting it out and baling it. At 12:15 o'clock this afternoon, Sanders and Oates had a full bale snatched from them in an odd manner. At that hour, a whirlwind of considerable force and extent, swooped down on baseball park, and people who were fortunate enough to be in the neighborhood were treated to a rare sight.

The whirlwind caught up the loose cotton and carried it skyward with a surprising velocity. It went up revolving around and around in the shape of a large funnel spreading out at the top, reminding one of the pictures seen of water spouts, only this cotton spout was a bigger thing than has ever been seen on the water. There was a solid column of cotton, three hundred feet long springing upward. The course taken was southeasterly. The whirlwind of cotton went straight up to a great height and then sailed off in the direction of the fair grounds. The most remarkable part of it was that it went entirely out of sight.

Good judges say that there could not have been less than 400 pounds of cotton carried away by the whirlwind.

LOCAL RIPPLES.

—Prof. John F. Crowell, president of the Trinity College, is at the Central.

—There was a slight frost in this section this morning, but it did no damage to vegetation.

—Ten bales of cotton were brought to the city by wagon this morning. The price paid was 11.55 cents.

—Mr. Willis Pogram has gone to Rome, Ga., where he has secured a position in the railroad offices.

—Mr. John M. Morehead leaves this evening for Greensboro to attend a reception to be given there to Mr. and Mrs. E. Gilmer.

—Some passenger last night left a box of Paris green in a street car. The owner can get it by calling at the office of the superintendent.

—Parties in or out of the city who desire the illuminated posters for May 20th can get all they want by applying to Mr. C. C. Adams, secretary.

—Mr. Archibald Little died at his home at Triangle, near Cowan's Ford, at 9 o'clock last night. He was 45 years old. The funeral will be held at 11 o'clock tomorrow morning at Unity church.

—Mr. W. W. Phifer, of the Taurora farm, has presented THE NEWS with a fine lot of strawberries from the Taurora. They cannot be surpassed in size and flavor anywhere.

—Miss Alice Springs, of Charlotte, who has been attending the leading art schools of Europe, will be art teacher for Rev. Wm. R. Atkinson, in Columbia, on her return from Europe.

—All the old Confederates of the county are invited to join in the memorial exercises in Charlotte next Saturday. The meeting of the veterans will be held at the court house at 11 o'clock and will be an interesting one.

—Mr. George D. Hartman, cotton grader for Sanders & Orr, left this morning for New York, from which place he will sail Saturday for Germany. He is accompanied by Mr. Will V. Goldberg. They will return to Charlotte in the fall.

—Col. John L. Brown yesterday called at THE NEWS office and paid for an advertisement for a man servant to go in three times. This morning he came in and told us to take out that advertisement, as he was being bothered almost to death by callers.

—It has transpired that the fracas on Mr. Henderson's farm between two negroes, reported in yesterday's NEWS, has not terminated fatally, as the negro who was beaten on the head is not dead yet. The news yesterday was that he was dead. His assailant is still at large.

—Dick Morse arrived home this morning from Gastonia, where he has been attending the Pitt meetings. He reports that great interest is being manifested and a large number of conversions have been made. People come from the country for miles around and stay for the night services.

THE NEWS telephone No. 30.

WHEN THEY BRANDED MEN.

A REMINDER OF OLD TIME STATE LAWS.

Branding the Letter M in the Flesh of Those Convicted of Manlaughter—Times When They Said "God Save the State" Mighty Quick—Clipping Bars for Perjury.

In the office of the clerk of the Superior court of Mecklenburg county is an interesting collection of old relics, among them being a branding iron used in the times when the laws of the State required persons convicted of manslaughter to be branded with the letter M. The iron is a very simple affair. It is an ordinary iron rod about two feet long. On one end is a wooden handle. On the other is the letter M, of the size printers would call double great primer. This M end of the rod would be placed into the fire until it became red hot, then the sheriff would press it into the fleshy inner part of the convicted man's thumb. It was the law that the iron should be held to the flesh until the words "God Save the State" could be repeated three times. The punishment was always inflicted in open court, and those of our older citizens still remember branding scenes. When the judge would pronounce the sentence, the sheriff would come into court with a small portable furnace, something like that used by tanners. When his iron was hot enough, and it had to be red hot, he would make the prisoner lay his left hand palm upward on a table. Then the fiery iron was pressed to the flesh of the thumb. The meat could be heard sizzling all over the court house, and the odor would also be very noticeable. The prisoner would usually get some friend to repeat the words "God save the State," and it was of course said rapidly, nearly always coming out "God sa-Sta."

It is related of General Barringer, but we do not know how true it is, that on one occasion, a negro who was to be branded, was fearful that he couldn't say the words fast enough, and got the General to say them for him. When the red hot iron burned into his hand, he said it three times before Gen. Barringer got any further than "God save."

Capt. R. P. Waring was solicitor in those days, and he remembers seeing a notable branding. The victim of the red M was a white man. Immediately after the iron was removed he raised his lacerated thumb to his mouth and bit out a lump of flesh, thus destroying the tell tale M. This old law, together with the law requiring the ears of all convicted of perjury to be clipped, went up with the old State constitution at the close of the war. The old branding iron is preserved as a relic of the days gone by.

Oratorical Contest To-Night.

The inter-collegiate oratorical contest is to take place tonight at the Young Men's Christian Association hall at 8 o'clock. This is the first of the series, and only two colleges, Trinity and Davidson, will be represented. Messrs. W. F. Hollingsworth and B. C. Clark will represent Davidson, and Messrs. A. H. White and S. J. Durham will represent Trinity. There are a number of representatives from each college in the city. This contest will show what sort of stuff our college orators are made of. It will be an interesting occasion and the public is invited to attend.

Supreme Court.

The following cases were argued in the Supreme court yesterday: Rumbough vs. Improvement Co.; argued by Jones & Shuford for appellant. Wood vs. Wheeler; argued by Jones & Shuford for appellant. Clemmons vs. Arobball; continued. Jones vs. Commissioners of Person; argued by Graham & Winston, W. W. Kitchin and J. A. Long for the plaintiff, and J. W. Graham, W. W. Fuller, John W. Daniel, W. A. Guthrie and A. C. Denniston for the defendant.

The Election at Matthews.

The returns from the municipal election at Matthews were received at the court house today. Mr. H. C. Warlick was elected mayor, and Mr. J. A. Duncan, independent. The commissioners are: Dr. J. S. Bell, E. J. Funderbark, J. A. Stevens, S. J. Hooks, and E. S. Reid.

Rich Ore at the Hemby.

Mr. J. F. Wiswell, who is working the Hemby mine in Union county, has struck a remarkable vein. The ore pans out finely. This mine is to be worked more energetically than ever, preparations having been made to increase the capacity of the plant.

THE 20TH IS COMING.

Three Big Days for Charlotte—Some of the Attractions Being Arranged for the Visitors.

The Trades' Display of the 20th of May celebration will be a more elaborate affair than had been supposed. Harry Harman, the professional float builder and designer is arranging displays of a gorgeous character for some of our merchants, and Mr. Arthur L. Butt, our home artist, is also at work getting up displays. Some of the floats to be seen in the procession will match the Mardi Gras floats. The floats cost from \$25 up. This feature will be a novelty, as nothing of the kind has ever been seen in Charlotte.

The committees having charge of the arrangements for the celebration are busily at work, and the full programme will be announced this week. Undoubtedly it will be a most attractive one, and will insure a celebration that will please our visitors. Prominent among the attractions will be the great fireworks display, the grandest thing of the kind ever seen in this State. This alone will be worth coming to Charlotte to see.

Senators Daniel, Vance and Ransom and the North Carolina delegation will be here. Other features of the programme will be the contests by the firemen, the prize drills by the military companies, the musical contests, the cattle fair, the Alliance parade, the Trades' Display, etc.

Up to date, the following military companies have entered for the prize drills: Wilmington Light Infantry, Monroe Light Infantry, Reidsville, Raleigh and Charlotte companies. Other companies are expected to enter this week. The firemen's contest will certainly be an exciting one and visiting firemen will be here from all parts of the country. Raleigh's team will come for business, and Charlotte will try to have a team that will hold Raleigh down. Specially low rates are offered by the railroads, and the outlook is for a tremendous crowd each of the three days of the celebration.

Sam Jones in Danville.

Some of Sam Jones' sayings in Danville yesterday are given from the Danville Register: "The trouble with you Main street Methodists is, your biggest man is a pigmy and you are all measuring by him. Your biggest man has given only \$2,000, and the last one of you is tapering down from him, and if you were to put that pigmy by the side of some real full grown man of God and send them down the street together, everybody would be asking what a little boy is that. Would to God some men would taper up instead of down. There never was a town more blessed of God than Danville, but you are a long ways behind the times in some things. It will be a scandal if you don't build a \$75,000 granite church."

More sinners have stumbled into hell over regeneration and being born again than any other trouble, and preachers help to mystify them.

When an Irishman, Frenchman and a German come to America, swear to revoke their allegiance to the countries they come from and to obey, support and maintain the laws of the United States, three foreigners die and three American citizens are born, so when a man stops serving the devil and goes to serving God he is regenerated, born again and has religion whether there is any feeling about it or not.

The Funeral of Conductor Joe Ross.

The funeral services over the remains of conductor Joe Ross, who was killed at Spartanburg yesterday, were conducted from the residence of Mr. J. D. Ross, at 4 o'clock this afternoon, by Rev. R. C. Reed, of the Second Presbyterian church. There was a large attendance of sympathetic friends. The body was interred in Elmwood cemetery. The pall bearers were selected from the railroad associates of the deceased, and were conductor W. T. Rowland, conductor Clarence Holt, yardmaster Wm. Orr, engineer T. P. Ross, conductor Ed. Roseborough, and engineer Thomas Cresswell.

The Crops of the State.

The following is the crop summary for April, showing the per centage of a full crop, made up from reports received at the Agricultural Department from all over the State: Wheat 84%, oats 81%, rye 88%, orchards 64, corn 96, cotton 92, tobacco 91%, sorghum 92%, clover 96, meadows 98%, gardens 91, stock 95 1-5, cattle 95%, sheep 91 1-5, swine 82%. The reports this month cover 22 of the 96 counties in the State. The correspondents from whom these reports are received and to whom blanks are sent out monthly by the department number one thousand.

PARENTS,

ATTENTION! LISTEN!

We'll say a few words today about our BOYS' AND CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT. As you enter our store we confront you with the largest stock of Boys' and Children's Suits (all selected with the greatest care and taste) that is to be found in the State. All the

STYLISH PLAIDS,

NATTY STRIPES,

NOBBY CHECKS,

NEAT MIXTURES,

For which your heart, mind and boy wishes, and for very little cash.

HEAR US. HEAR US.

Try and see if you can't memorize a few prices herein mentioned. If you can't see 50 cents to \$1.00 in your pocket and three styles to other's one, we don't ask your patronage. Here's what a small amount will do. \$1, \$1.25, \$1.50, and \$2.00 elegant School Suits (dark or light) for the little fellow who's fond of fun and frolic. And along this line we'll say our special

SUITS
SUITS
SUITS
SUITS

\$4.95

SUITS
SUITS
SUITS
SUITS

For boys from 14 to 18 eclipses anything we've heretofore shown at \$7.50. Time and space forces us to an abrupt close. Bring your boy around and try us this time.

W. KAUFMAN & CO.,

LEADING CLOTHIERS, GENTS' FURNISHERS AND HATTERS,
CORNER CENTRAL HOTEL,
CHARLOTTE, N. C.

Come and see our Oxford Ties and Slippers, finest stock in the city. Our \$1.25 fine Kid Turt Oxforfs, Patent Tip and Common Sense, have never been equalled. Fine line of the popular colored Oxforfs in Ladies, Misses and Children's.

E. C. Burt & Co. celebrated New York Shoes and Slippers, now line just received, always the best makes and lowest prices.

GILREATH & CO.

New lot Paris Flat Top Trunks, extra sizes. Finest Valises and Club Bags ever in this market. New goods every week.

Those \$2.00 Ladies' Shoe have had a great sale. We have lots of them. Ask to see the finest \$3.00 Boots in the world and the best, and our unsurpassed \$4.00 Hand-made Boots, and the finest Goods ever shown at \$5.00. We get there ever time on fine goods.

GILREATH & CO. We make a specialty of the best goods, yet we carry a full line from the cheapest up, all made to our special order. We will sell you nothing that will not be worth your money.

OXFORD:-TIES.

We are Now Showing an Elegant Line of

Ladies' and Misses' Ladies' and Misses' Ladies' and Misses' Ladies' and Misses'

OXFORD TIES.

Ladies' and Misses' Ladies' and Misses' Ladies' and Misses' Ladies' and Misses'

DON'T FAIL TO SEE THEM BEFORE PURCHASING.

We Have a Number of Different Styles

IN CHEAP ONES AS WELL AS NICE ONES.

Our stock of Children's Shoes is immense. We have introduced several new lines this season and are having quite a success with them.

We again call attention to our stock of MEN'S FINE SHOES, which is now complete. We have an elegant line at all prices. Our \$1.00 and \$5.00 Gent's Fine Shoes are beyond a doubt the nicest we have ever shown.

Patent Leathers are very fashionable this season. We have a nice line of them, cheap ones as well as the nice ones. When you wear a Shoe for real service don't forget our \$3.00 Shoes. The demand for them is greater than ever.

We have a full line of New Trunks, Valises and Travelling bags.

CALL AND SEE US.

MAIL ORDERS SOLICITED.

GRAY & BARNHARDT,

19 East Trade Street.

Successors to Gray & Co.

PARLOR SUITS.

PARLOR SUITS.

New Goods! New Styles! My stock of Parlor Goods is so near complete now as at any time in the history of my business, and the people of this community know that I LEAD in the latest styles, knowing I have made it a special study for nearly a quarter of a century. "Think of this." One Solid Cherry Frame, upholstered in silk plush, 6 pieces, at \$42.00. Remember this is polish frame, and cheaper than it can possibly be bought anywhere. One Antique Oak Set, upholstered in fine quality, silk plush, 6 pieces at \$100. Everyone knows what oak is, and knows it to be stylish and also durable. I have a Silk Plush Suit, Cherry frame, upholstered in near Silk Plush, "Shell Back," at \$58.00. This suit is sold close, remember that. I have several grades of Plush on the same kind of frame.

PARLOR SUITS.

B. NICHOLS - Furniture Dealer