

Small Every Tuesday and Friday. W. F. HOFFMAN, Editor and Publisher. PUBLICATION OFFICE: Front Entrance Building, Corner South and Main Sts., Telephone Number 25.

TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 1903.

Don't skip the cartoon by Mr. J. K. Dixon, Jr., on first page. The old hen is the one that can pay the tax. The porker, according to some, is the Gastonia hog that wants everything, while others say he looks like he is squealing at the old hen about high taxes.

Boys, the old boat is going just right. She is headed toward the winning post, she has the proper speed, she is running smoothly, the wind and the current are with us, the goal is in sight, the watchers are cheering. Steady at the oars, no let up! Pull right along one more week, and Gastonia is the county seat.

It is gratifying to Gastonia and her friends to hear good reports from Cherryville and River Bend townships. Many of the good people of these sections are favoring removal and many others are considering the matter with friendly feelings to our town and section. The friendship of these people is appreciated, and we shall not be slow about showing our friendship for them when occasion arises in the matter of good roads or other public enterprises of interest to them.

AS TO MR. HOFFMAN'S REPLY.

Like a bee in a tar-bucket, Mr. L. M. Hoffman gets more hopelessly involved with every flutter. In his latest circular he evades essentials and quibbles over non-essentials, and juggles figures again. Let's be quick, brief, pointed, but just and accurate. Bolting down—certainly we practice it, Mr. Hoffman. Our remarks were written before the advice was given but the advice wouldn't apply here at any rate, since our article is shorter, we believe, by 100 words than that to which it was intended to reply.

Abuse—No, no. There is no occasion to employ abuse. Surely your organ at Kings Mountain would not have proposed to take pay for printing abuse of a leading citizen of Dallas, the newly adopted county seat of King county. We confess we have not greatly respected your efforts to frighten people, but it is scarcely fair to plead abuse when you have simply been lectured a little.

Complain that you have always opposed removal?—Never. We stated that we honored and respected you for it. We did give you down the country for resisting the right of the people to obtain an election on removal—which is a different proposition.

Nothing to do with spending the county money.—When money is spent, there are two important parties to the transaction, the party who spends and the party who receives it. The person or party or township that receives the benefit of money for which the county went into debt ought to have mind read before the debt was made or kept becomingly quiet afterwards.

"You shall not have bonds for good roads if I can help it." That does look cruel. But actions speak louder than words. When one's attitude of hostility and one's public speech in opposition to bonds for good roads are correctly epitomized into a single sentence and set down in black and white—its frightful sting may make one want to run away from it, but it will stare right on. "It's starvation starving me in the face," definitely exclaimed poor Patrick, who was not noted for comeliness of countenance. "And since" replied Mike sympathetically, "it cannot be overly pleasant for either of us yet!" The sales of matches—What quibbling! Whether three million or six, it cost the \$20,000. That

proposition you didn't care to tackle. The meat of the matter was not mileage but money, not distance but dollars. The cost is not exaggerated fifty per cent or any other per cent, but given so correctly that you make no criticism of it at all.

Now, now, Mr. Hoffman, you ought to quote accurately even as you insist on being quoted accurately. We did not write that \$1,000 had been "paid" since December. We did not refuse to take notice of any new notes since made. The data suited us all right. We took account of notes paid and notes made since December, and—without multiplying words—wrote the net result that "the indebtedness has been reduced" by about \$1,000. No juggling in that. Not a flaw anywhere, either in method or results. You have simply gone tangled again. If by omitting processes for brevity's sake we published less than we knew, we are still left on safer ground than those who publish a little more than they know. As to that High Shoals bridge, the commissioners did not place it among the county's debts in December, and they would not in a sworn statement place it there to-day. Still you keep on saying the horse is sixteen hands high.

Rural Free Delivery.

Southern Farm Magazine. If one were called upon to name the most popular innovation in governmental service during the two past decades looking to the greatest good to the greatest number and increasing the intelligence of its citizenship such an one would unhesitatingly name the establishment of the rural free delivery system. It is probably the most satisfactory service for the great mass of country people that has ever been undertaken by the government. It gives them many of the conveniences of a city life without the extra cost of living. It saves much waste of time in going to and from the postoffice. It encourages the habit of letter writing and increases at a manifold ratio the circulation of newspapers and magazines. The farmer is now able to keep informed in respect to the markets and the general movements in the political and financial world. Indeed, the establishment of this system, in connection with the telephone may be accounted among the greatest of the educational machinery of the country, reaching classes of people too old or too busy to attend schools. This system makes country life an ideal one.

Jury List May Term.

The Board of County Commissioners met yesterday morning in regular session and will continue in session to-day. The jury list for May term of court was drawn as follows: Last week, S. W. McLean, J. W. Patterson, E. W. Robinson, R. A. Lewis, J. N. Roberts, R. R. Mauney, A. R. Rankin, J. A. Costner, A. C. Stroup, Jasper L. Armstrong, G. Luther Best, John W. Blackwood, Thad C. Fairles, E. W. Best, W. A. Leeper, Sr., E. T. Lewis, J. R. Carson, Philip Jenkins. Second week, Hugh L. Black, M. A. Friday, John Q. Rhyne, L. A. Friday, W. I. Stowe, Martin L. Rudisill, Robert Moton, Larkin A. Thornburg, D. F. Friday, W. C. Williams, J. C. Robinson, J. H. Rudisill, R. A. Caldwell, Walter Friday, E. W. Gooch, J. R. Quinn, J. J. Ratchford, Ed Kennedy. The tax assessors and list takers will be appointed to-day.

In Danger of Being Challenged.

And so Judge Shaw can see no difference between white and negro criminals brought before him for judgment. We are afraid he is not a good Democrat.

E. F. Virgin and W. F. Adams, the two traveling men who were held at Charlotte on suspicion of having robbed postoffices at Mount Olive, Rutherfordton, and McColl, S. C., were Tuesday released, there being no evidence against them.

The State of Indiana, on Monday of last week, dedicated on the battlefield of Shiloh, and presented to the national government, 22 monuments in honor of the 22 regiments from Indiana that participated in the battle of Shiloh. The monuments cost \$25,000. The battle of Shiloh was one of the great events of the war between the States. Gen. Albert Sydney Johnston, who commanded the Confederate forces, was killed in the fight and was succeeded in command by Beauregard.

REASONS FOR REMOVAL.

Succinct Statement of Considerations Which Make Gastonia the Logical Place for the County Seat.

The ordinary casual observer says, Gastonia should be the county seat of Gaston county, and active opponents of removal say it will be some day. The reasons for these expressions grow upon investigation. Gastonia is the popular center. It is possibly not the geographical center, but this is of no importance, since it is the citizens of the locality and not the locality that goes to court.

Gastonia is a modern town, having some 5,000 inhabitants within its incorporate limits, and some two or three thousand more just outside the limits.

One fourth of the people of Gaston county live within 1 1/2 miles of the town hall in Gastonia. Gastonia's municipal advantages of water works, of electric lights and public schools are not excelled in any town of equal population and its churches would be creditable to any city in the State. Its commercial future is assured, and it is exceptionally located for the convenience of the traveling public, either within or without the county. The main line of the greatest railroad system in the South passes from the extreme east to the extreme west of the county, so that the census of 1900 shows that out of 27,903 people in Gaston county, 10,168 lived within one mile of a station on the Southern Railway.

Four passenger trains going each way pass Gastonia daily; two going each way stop at every station in the county, and the schedules are as convenient as persons having business at a court house could reasonably expect or desire. The Carolina and North-Western Railway passes through the county from south to north and makes Gastonia accessible from points north and south.

In 1900, 16,898 people in Gaston county were just four miles nearer Gastonia than Dallas. With the increase of population since that time it is safe to say that two thirds of the people in the county are nearer to Gastonia than to Dallas by four miles.

It is also true that to one half of the other third, Gastonia is more accessible and more convenient, notwithstanding the fact that Dallas may be nearer to them in point of distance. Truly the section of country immediately to the north of Dallas, and a small scope east and west of north is more convenient to Dallas. On account of the Seaboard Railroad and the location of the county roads Gastonia is very accessible and convenient to a great scope of the northern part of the county. For the practical purposes of transacting business at a court house at Dallas, our present railroad service is unsatisfactory. Very few of us can depend on the railroads to take us to and from Dallas at the time we wish to go and come, and as a rule to go to Dallas means the time of a team as well as of a man. Gastonia affords better facilities for apprehending and holding criminals.

Our people in the country are peaceable and law abiding—the best citizenship in the world—but the disturbers of society float along the railroads and congregate in the centers. The advantage of a court house and a jail in a center is double. It exercises a wholesome awe upon the lawless and saves the expense of transportation of the prisoner to another town. A court house and jail in Gastonia would save the county about \$300 per year

on mileage of witnesses in state's cases.

The court house should be in the largest town in the county in order to give the greatest possible prominence to all business affairs of a public nature. Foreclosures, judicial sales of land, or any kind of sales under execution advertised and sold at a court house door in Gastonia would insure more bidders and better prices than in a small town, and would give an opportunity to more of our citizens to acquire valuable property.

A court house in a commercial center, like Gastonia gives better opportunity to know the location of the land. It makes the county records more conveniently accessible to the business world and thereby increases the market value of landed and other property all over our county.

The saving of expense and improvement in the market values of property is not the greatest good that would necessarily come to the county by the removal of the court house to Gastonia. Removal has an educational value. A county seat in a large accessible town is a city set on a hill. Many citizens of Gaston county come to Gastonia every day, on business or for pleasure.

County government located at Gastonia would be a continual object lesson of our municipal affairs. The facilities for becoming acquainted with our county government and all affairs of a public nature would be increased and an incalculable benefit conferred upon our citizenship. Our court rooms too, should be large and commodious; not only for the witnesses and suitors, but for our good and intelligent citizens.

Our courts are valuable instructors to our people in law and in morals. As a rule a judge's charge to the jury is a good plain, simple and yet comprehensive statement of law to an intelligent school boy who is to become the citizen of a great county it is worth days at school. In a live busy town like Gastonia the citizens of the county would find time to drop into court and spend an hour, not as loafers, but as good citizens learning something of the public affairs of their country.

Judge Hoke's charge to the grand jury at the fall term of our court for 1902 as well as that of Judge Shaw at the spring term of 1903, should have been heard by just as many young men in Gaston county as possible. Put the court house in Gastonia; hold up your light!

A court house in Gastonia could be used as a place for educational and philanthropic meetings, for Sunday school conventions and like meetings of non-sectarian character, and on the main line of the railroad would make all advantages of this kind most accessible to the county.

Government and all its functions exist for the benefit of the governed. The convenience, the advantage of the people, the greatest good to the greatest number—the governing principle and the motto we cannot forget without injustice to ourselves and our fellow citizens.

Business men have been compelled to establish their stores, their banks, their hotels, and we to locate our schools and churches with reference to this principle.

What our honored forefathers did in other times, under other

circumstances is an incident of history. The duty of the present, the eternal now, is upon us and we must meet it.

We need a new court house, briefly because the seating capacity of the old one is not sufficient. There is no petit jury room. No convenient waiting room for ladies who may have to attend court—the offices are small and the county superintendent of public instruction has no suitable place to conduct his teachers examinations. Judges condemn court houses these days and we have too much county pride ever to be put in the Ir-dell and Caldwell Co., class in that respect. Let us build it now while we have the opportunity to put it at Gastonia, and have a measure by which we may pay for it.

A court house in Gastonia means that the best and most progressive county in North Carolina has made a step forward; that among her sister counties, she is in a position to claim the honors and emoluments to which she is most justly entitled. It means a united county at work for the interest of every man in it. It means increased value to your property, permanence and solidity to every institution; inspiration and success to your men of ambition and public spirit; it means progress to the community and good to all.

GEO. W. WILSON. Gastonia, April 13, 1903.

List-Takers and Tax Assessors.

At Tuesday's session of the Board of County Commissioners the following were appointed list-takers and tax assessors for the several townships, the first named in each list being the list taker and the two following tax assessors:

- River Bend Township—J. M. McIntosh, W. C. Thompson, R. K. Davenport. Dallas Township—E. L. Mason, John J. O. Pasour, G. R. Rhyne. Cherryville Township—Jacob Kiser, Melvin L. Rudisill, Henry Kiser. Crowders Mountain Township—C. E. Whitney, J. T. Oates, S. M. Wilson. Gastonia Town—W. I. Stowe, J. Lee Robinson, T. W. Wilson. Gastonia Outside—A. C. Stroup, R. A. Caldwell, J. P. McArver. South Point Township—L. E. Rankin, A. J. Smith, Rufus A. Katchford.

It was ordered by the Board that the macadam road be extended through the corporate limits of the town of Lowell and to the bridge at McAdenville.

Wants Filled

Promptly by an advertisement in our business locals department. Ten cents a line for first insertion; five cents a line for each insertion thereafter.

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF LAND.

By virtue of the power of sale contained in a mortgage deed made and executed to me on the 28th day of February, 1902, by John M. Skidmore and wife and registered in Gaston county in book 49, page 22, I will sell to the highest bidder for cash at the court house door in Dallas, N. C., at noon, on Monday, April 13, 1903, the following described tract of land situate in Gaston County: Bounded by the lands of Henry Kiser, J. A. Robinson, M. A. Baldwin, and the Gates, and runs as follows: Beginning at a stake on Smith's line east of a gate post and running thence S 22 1/2 E 37 1/2 poles to a stone and spring; thence S 62 1/2 E 12 1/2 poles to a post; thence N 15 W 20 poles to a dead black oak; thence S 45 W 22 poles to post; thence S 1/4 W 8 1/2 poles to the beginning—containing 27 acres more or less. MORTGAGEE, W. W. WENTZ, Mortgagee. This 12th day of March, 1903.

SUCH A BUSINESS. There is a reason for our stores being the busiest stores in town, and perhaps you may learn the reason by looking through. We have thrown on our counters some big attractions for this week. They are worth your attention. Never before have we met with such satisfying success as experienced in our Millinery Department so far this season. It is, to say the least, the most magnificent stock we've ever shown. The gladdy [whirl] of fashion always finds us ready with the latest requirements of the hour. Our stock changes so rapidly with our great trade that the goods do not have time to get out of date. All the new things are here all the time and at bottom prices. Visit us often; always glad to show you through.

THOMSON CO. THE PEOPLES STORE.

HORSES MOVING. We now have on hand only about 25 head of Horses and Mules. The last car load for this season has already arrived. Twelve car loads is our record for this season! The choice stock we now have on hand is moving fast; come at once and make your selection.

NEW BUGGIES. With the arrival of spring we have received a lot of nice new Buggies just out of the factory. We are going to sell them. Get one and enjoy that Easter ride you are planning for.

CRAIG & WILSON. FLINCH! The newest and most fascinating Parlor Game. More Simple than Authors. More Scientific than Whist. Each pack consists of 150 cards, which are absolutely necessary to play the game successfully. The combinations while simple, are so intricate that the game has been pronounced by many to be more scientific than whist. Flinch may be played in any home by the whole family, and enjoyed by old and young alike. Price - 50 Cents. By Mail - 60 Cents. GASTONIA BOOK STORE.

Gaston Loan and Trust Co., Gastonia, N. C. (Incorporated under the laws of North Carolina.) Capital - \$12,000. STOCKHOLDERS: C. C. Cornwell, J. S. Torrence, J. W. Moore, T. L. Craig, J. White Ware, C. M. Dunn, J. Lee Robinson, R. B. Babington, J. E. Page, W. T. Rankin, J. F. Thomson, T. L. Clinton, M. A. Carpenter, G. R. Rhyne, L. F. Groves, E. G. McLurd, Geo. W. Wilson, R. M. Reid, J. H. Wilkins, W. T. Love, C. B. Armstrong, S. M. Robinson. BOARD OF DIRECTORS: J. Lee Robinson, W. T. Rankin, T. L. Craig, E. G. McLurd, W. T. Love. OFFICERS: W. T. Love, President, J. Lee Robinson, Vice Pres., E. G. McLurd, Treas., Geo. W. Wilson, Atty. We take this method of informing our readers and the public generally that we have opened offices in Gastonia for the purpose of doing a general LOAN AND TRUST business, comprising all the features such corporations usually include. The principal features will be: A SAVINGS DEPARTMENT, allowing interest on all deposits; a REAL ESTATE department; INSURANCE DEPARTMENT, including fire, accident and life insurance. We are authorized to act as guardian, administrator and trustee; make and negotiate loans; collect bills, notes, drafts, bonds, rents, etc.; deal in stocks, bonds and other evidences of value or debt, and act as agent in all kinds of commercial transactions. We shall inform the public from time to time of special features, and opportunities for our mutual benefit. In order that we may be of greatest service to each other we will be glad to have you confer with us whenever you have business in hand that we may properly transact for you. Our office is opposite the First National Bank and post office.

DR. MOFFETT'S TEETHINA (TEETHING POWDERS). Cures Cholera, Indigestion, Diarrhoea, Dysentery and the Bowel Troubles of Children of TEETHING AGE. Relieves the Bowels, Strengthens the Stomach and MAKES the Child Comfortable and Contented. Cleans the Gums and Teeth. Relieves and prevents Worms. TEETHINA Dissolves and Overcomes the Effects of the mother's milk upon Teething Children, and costs only 25 cents at Druggists, or mail 25 cents to G. J. MOFFETT, M. D., St. Louis, Mo.