

Mr. Editor:

Perhaps it may not be uninteresting to your readers to hear something from the educational interests of our mountain country. We can wonderfully congratulate ourselves upon being surrounded by the many natural resources and elements which tend to the enrichment and success of an industrious people, but whilst our country is thus preeminently blessed with all the natural advantages that could be desired, we have been heretofore lagging somewhat in the rear upon the question of education—that is, the true education of the young ladies and gentleman, boys and girls, of our mountain country, and how encouraging it is to know, that the country is fast relieving from this curse of ages, and that schools of high grade have been established all over this fair land, which is destined to become the garden spot of the "Old North State." Watauga has half dozen first class Academies which have, and are doing a vast deal of good in the preparation of the youthful mind for wider fields of thought and activity. The Academy on Cove Creek known as Cove Creek Academy, we are sorry to learn has fallen off considerably in attendance being a decrease from 160 to 40 the cause of which we do not know, but attribute it to the recent closing of the free school, which unavoidably caused a decrease in attendance. We also understand that Mr. John Bingham has quite an interesting school 1 1/2 miles from Cove Creek Academy, with an average attendance of 60; we congratulate the people of Cove Creek upon securing the services of Mr. Bingham who is a young man of sterling worth and possessing more than ordinary intellectual qualifications and is a worthy engraver of the human mind. The Institution known as Sutherlands Seminary in Ashe Co. which is conducted by Prof. John C. McEwin needs no words of praise to speak its greatness its past record being such, as ranked it first among the best Institutions of like grade in Western North Carolina, and as this Institution has flourished in the past, we are glad to hear of its rapid improvement in the many advantages which it now offers to the young ladies and gentlemen of our mountain country. Prof. McEwin has with him the present scholastic year Miss Lizzie Grant of Tennessee, who is teacher of primary dept., and is a young lady of rare intellectual attainments, and knows well how to train the youthful mind in the paths of rectitude and duty, so that it may steer itself aright in coming years. The musical dept. is conducted by Miss Minnie Bennett, who has won for herself a lasting reputation as a first class teacher; lessons are given at reasonable rates upon Organ or Piano. The recent purchase of a new and elegant Piano adds much to the interest and attraction of this dept. The services of Miss Rankin of Mooresville N. C. teacher of Art, have been secured by the principal, and will be present at the opening of the Spring session Prof. Mc-

ewen has an average attendance of 90 having 27 boarding students from various portions of North Carolina and Tennessee. Young men who are desirous of receiving a first class education, and at little cost can do no better, than to go to Sutherlands Seminary; and to young ladies, special advantages are offered, which can not be excelled in Western North Carolina. The motto of the Institution being—"constant thorough work, and close application of principles to practical life."

Jack.

BOOKS.

FOR THE DEMOCRAT:

The books remain while every thing else passes away. The ruthless hand of time does not change them. In this world change is the most perceptible feature in nature. It is written on the sky, on the land and on the sea and it lurks in the snowy petals of the lily and kisses with poisonous lips the tender leaves of the beautiful geranium. The friends of a few years ago, have passed away and new and strange faces have fallen in to fill the void and how often the smile of joy today may be transformed into a crystalized tear tomorrow. Not so with books. They remain the same true and tried friends that never fail. Tongueless companions of lonely hours.

We open our books and bring the past down to present. "The fancy of Jerney Taylor is as fresh and the wit of South is as keen and the fervor of Baxter is as intense as when the words first fell burning from their pens." What a privilege? to wander through the medium of books through sunny Spain and classic Greece, or historic Italy or to follow Scott on the wings of imagination through Caledonia's lovely hills and roam on the banks of her matchless "locks."

We have them to suit every mood of the mind. We read some because they soothe and quiet us; some because they amuse us and some because they kindle the imagination. Does the mind soar beyond this world and vainly strive to grasp that which lies beyond this spot on which we live; Take Bickersteith or Dante and follow them step by step through the unexplored regions of other worlds or play among the stars with Herschel. The old old books. How much we love them! Chatterton and Kirk White with reverential tenderness, we read these little volumes and breathe a sigh for those who fell ere the sun shine of childhood had left their ringlets.

Dreary indeed would life be without the companionship of books. Two would be "Cold as the midnight winds and dark as myriad nights in one."

The good and pure books lift us above the sordid avarice of earth. They inspire us with zeal and energy and cheer, comfort and make happy, what would otherwise be lonely hours. We cannot choose better companions than books. They will never forsake though all others should fail. All who love to read will echo the sentiment in their hearts.

"Blessings be upon the

head of Cadmus the Phoenician or whoever it was that invented books."

Einnan, Bamboo, N. C.

Passenger Train Derailed.

Several Persons Injured, and the Cars Entirely Consumed by Fire.

Charlotte, N. C. Nov. 12.—Passenger train number 53, due here from Atlanta over the Air Line at 5.30 o'clock this evening, met with a fearful accident near Gainsville about noon. It is impossible yet to obtain full particulars, but reports say the train jumped the track while running at a lively rate; derauling every car and seriously injuring a number of the crew. The mail agent is reported as perhaps fatally injured; express messenger also badly hurt, as is also others. No passengers reported as injured. The train soon caught fire, and frantic efforts were necessary to prevent many from perishing in the flames. By quick work, however, all were rescued, although many were injured and terribly excited. The entire express and baggage cars, first and second class coaches and Pullman sleepers were entirely reduced to ashes.

On our way from Jefferson last Saturday, we stopped with Mrs. Graybeal for dinner, where we met her mother Mrs. Mary A. Nye.

Mrs. Nye's maiden name was Finley. She was raised near Wytheville Va.—was married to Geo. W. Nye 69 years ago—is now 97 years old—is going this week some ten miles from home on a visit—is sprightly—could ride horse back but for an occasional head swimming.

Her mind is remarkably clear—her hearing as acute as in early life. In early life she was the sickly member of the family. She remembers to have seen Andrew Jackson and would have found great pleasure in voting for Grover Cleveland had she been a man.

She is a democrat of the old school. We hope she may live to see her hundredth birthday, and her chances are good.

New River Items.

School prosperous. A wedding or two expected. Col. Horton will move to Caldwell soon for the winter. John Elrod Esq. has been possum hunting. Cornshuckings common. Some cabbage being hauled off.

Mrs. Morris quite sick. Sunday school at the Academy, Jont Horton Superintendent.

A candy pulling at Capt. Critchers last Friday night. A pleasant time expected Christmas. X

Nov. 24th. 1888.

I beg leave to remind the subscribers for Heavens, Earth & Ocean, The Golden Dawn, Rays of Light and Encyclopedia of Business Law and Forms, that though I have been unable to meet my engagements as soon as I desired, I am nevertheless depending on the kindness of their subscriptions. I have been providentially hindered an hindrance to which all are subject; and, as such I

am sure the considerate Christian people—all those who are willing to gauge their actions by that great moral standard "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you," will not convert my delay into an instrument with which to trouble me. Any-day between this and Xmas you may expect me. Respect.

L. L. Hicks.

Didn't Wait for Him.

City Editor (to new reporter)—You say this man was blown up by a can of nitro-glycerine, but you don't state whether he is dead or alive.

New Reporter—I waited around there four or five hours but couldn't learn it.

Editor—Why couldn't you learn it?

Reporter—Because he had not come down yet when I left.—Life.

As a result of advertising furniture on the installment plan a Tremont street furniture dealer was rather surprised the other day when a woman came in and asked for "Mr. Installment" and did not want to talk to any one else.—Boston times.

G. C. LANE & CO.

DRUGGISTS AND STATIONERS

Elk Park, N.C.

Dealers in Pure Drugs, Chemicals, Paints, Oils, Varnish and Toilet articles. Fine Stationery a specialty. We keep the latest Novels and Periodicals in Stock. GIVE US A CALL.

BLOWING ROCK ON A

BIG

BOOM

The finest SUMMER RESORT in the United States and the finest CLIMATE in the world.

At this BEAUTIFUL place you will find

J. B. CLARKE

with an attractive stock of good elected with great care.

For Low Prices, Good

Goods and Polite Attention

you can do no better than to patronize him.

ROOTS, HERBS &c wanted in endless quantities, for which the highest market prices will be paid.

Thanking a generous public for a liberal support I hope to merit a continuance of the same.

All persons indebted to the late firm of J. B. Clark & Co. are earnestly requested to come forward and settle as the business must be closed. Resp'tly.

J. B. CLARKE Blowing Rock, N. C. June 7th 88. 1y.

T. B. FINLEY. ATTORNEY AT LAW, Wilkesboro, N. C.

June 25th 88. 1y.

Do You Use Hardware?

If so look at these prices and see when to Buy. Standard Nails, \$2.50 per keg Bar Iron, 3c. per lb. Horse Shoes, 5c. " " " Horse Shoe Nails 15c. " " " Splendid Axe, 75c. Ames' Shovel, 85c. FULL STOCK OF CARPENTERS AND BLACKSMITH TOOLS

Locks, Hinges, Glass, Putty, Table and Pocket Cutlery Guns, Pistols, Cartridges, Shot, Powder, Caps and a GREAT many other things in my line at equally low prices. Call and see me when in LENoir.

Very Resp't.

H. C. MARTIN.

REMOND & DANVILLE R. R. Co. Western N. C. Division. Asheville, N. C. June 27 '88

PASSENGER TRAIN SCHEDULE to take effect June 24, '88.

Table with columns: STATIONS, (read down), (west bound), (east bound). Rows include Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, Lynchburg, Danville, Alamoud, Asheville, Wilmington, Morehead, Goldsboro, Raleigh, Durham, Greensboro, Salisbury, Statesville, Newton, Hickory, Conley Spring, Morganton, Marion, Round Knob, Black Mt., Asheville, Hot Springs, Morristown, Knoxville, Louisville, Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis, Chattanooga, Nashville, Memphis.

Old SANTA CLAUS has certainly come.

IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE IT JUST TAKE A LOOK AT

WILL W. HOLSCLAW'S STOCK

YOU NEVER SAW THE EQUAL OF IT IN YOUR LIFE

Such a SIGHT is truly Worth Riding

20 MILES To See

Watch out for his advertisement in next issue. Nov. 27th. '88. 4t.

So. 15. Asheville Lv 8:20 a.m. Waynesville Ar 10:53 a.m. Charleston " 3:05 p.m. Jarratts " 6:48 p.m.

Read up No. 51 No. 53 Boston Ar 9:00 p.m. New York " 6:00 a.m. Philadelphia " 9:00 a.m. Baltimore " 9:25 p.m. Washington " 7:30 p.m. Lynchburg " 12:00 noon. Danville " 9:47 a.m. 12:00 p.m. Alamoud " 3:30 p.m. Asheville " 9:25 p.m. Hot Springs " 8:50 p.m. Morristown " 1:30 p.m. Knoxville " 3:05 p.m. Louisville " 8:05 p.m. Cincinnati " 3:15 p.m. Chicago " 12:10 p.m. St. Louis " 7:20 p.m. Chattanooga " 10:00 a.m. Nashville " 8:15 p.m. Memphis " 10:45 p.m.

Morehead " 1:00 p.m. Goldsboro " 4:30 p.m. Raleigh " 1:55 p.m. Durham " 12:45 p.m. Greensboro " 8:00 a.m. 8:40 p.m. Salisbury Lv 6:27 a.m. 7:15 p.m. Salisbury Ar 4:37 a.m. 6:30 p.m. Statesville Lv 3:30 a.m. 5:56 p.m. Newton " 2:20 a.m. 5:12 p.m. Hickory " 1:56 a.m. 4:53 p.m. Conley Spring 1:30 a.m. 4:37 p.m. Morganton " 1:01 a.m. 4:14 p.m. Marion " 12:01 night 3:36 p.m. Round Knob " 11:10 p.m. 2:35 p.m. Black Mt. " 10:34 p.m. 2:00 p.m. Asheville " 9:35 p.m. 1:25 p.m. Hot Springs " 8:50 p.m. 1:40 a.m. Morristown " 1:30 p.m. 8:25 a.m. Knoxville " 3:05 p.m. 7:15 a.m.

Waynesville " 3:20 p.m. Charleston " 1:00 p.m. 8:45 p.m. Jarratts Lv 6:00 p.m.

Daily except Sunday Nos. 50 & 51 Pullman Sleepers between Raleigh and Morristown. Nos. 50 & 51 Pullman Sleepers between New York & Salisbury. Nos. 52 & 53 Pullman Sleepers between Washington & Salisbury. Nos. 52 & 53 Pullman Parlor car between Salisbury and Knoxville. Nos. 52 & 53 Pullman Sleeper between Knoxville & Louisville. Jas. L. Taylor W. A. Winburn R. D. P.