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To The WATAUGA DEMOCRAT.

1 copy 1 year.....	\$1.00
1 " 6 months.....	50
1 " 3 months.....	35

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1 inch 1 week.....	\$.75
1 " 1 month.....	1.75
1 " 3 ".....	3.00
1 " 6 ".....	5.00
1 " 1 year.....	7.00
1 column 1 week.....	9.00
1 " 1 month.....	13.50
1 " 3 ".....	25.00
1 " 6 ".....	37.50
1 " 1 year.....	50.00

Entered at the Postoffice at Boone, N. C., as second-class mail matter.

LOCAL NEWS.

—Pay your subscription.
 —Read H. C. Martin & Co. new 'ad.'
 —Trade with the man who uses printers ink.
 —What is worse than a tattler? Nothing.
 Ladies, that coffee at Jones & Vance' is elegant, try it.
 —Dr. Council is off on a visit to Salisbury.
 —"Humming Bird" flour takes the lead—sold by Jones & Vance.
 —When you want shoes go to Jones & Vance they have and will sell them.
 —We regret to hear of the critical illness of Mr. Frank Wike of Brushy Fork.
 —Misses Jennie Council, and Maggie Coffey left town on last Wednesday to enter school at Hickory.
 —Are you going West this spring? If so, and want the cheapest routes ever offered call on J. C. Ray, Boone, N. C.
 —The proceedings of the Board of Coms. will be published next week, also the jurors for spring term of court.
 —Col. J. B. Todd is visiting his daughter Mrs. Mary Moore, of the Globe, who has been quite ill for some time.
 —We are much pleased to learn that Dr. Gentry of Ashe, is thought to be rapidly recovering.
 —Capt. E. F. Lovill started to Johnson City last Monday to see his son W. R. Lovill, who is reported to be quite sick.
 —Married on the evening of the 5th., Marion W. Storie, of Sweet Water, to Miss Julia A. Norris, of Sands. Jont. H. Brown officiating.
 —See the new 'ad' of that enterprising young merchant A. P. Smith. He keeps a nice stock and asks you for a share of your patronage.
 —Capt. Jordan Cook, has moved his family to Linville, where he proposes working for the Linville Improvement Company.
 —It is reported that our friend J. W. Farthing is preparing to build on his lots at Linville, where he will move this spring.
 —One of the prisoners confined in the Boone jail, made his escape last Friday morning. He had planned the escape well, and succeeded in completely fooling the jailor.
 —If this issue of the DEMOCRAT appears to its many readers, to be light, they will please remember that 250lbs of editor is absent, and has been gone for a week, on a mining expedition, so you will please not criticize this issue too much, for it is rather hard for the "Devils" to furnish copy and to do the office work, at the same time.

—The ladies of Boone are very much pleased over their pits of lovely flowers. They are keeping nicely. Look out ladies King Cold may nip them yet.

—We hear it rumored that Prof. Spainhour is going to move back to Boone soon. We are glad to hear this, for we have missed him and his interesting family.

—Com. court last Monday. Quite a number of our Co. gentlemen were in town on that day, and some of them remembered the DEMOCRAT, by bringing in that much needed dollar.

—Jones & Vance have just received an other lot of Clothing and still have more on the road. They have an enormous stock, as to workmanship, style, quality and price cannot be beaten.

—Rev. E. F. Jones has been elected pastor of the Baptist church in Boone again. We are truly glad of this, Mr. Jones is an able minister and holds a warm place in the hearts of the people generally.

"The ground hog saw his shadow on the first, so you may look out for bad weather," is what you often hear now. We guess some of our citizens would be glad if Mr. Hog has told the truth as they are anxious to fill their ice houses.

—Our Cove Creek reporter informs us that the great revival meeting that has been in progress at the Cove Creek church for the past two weeks closed on Monday. The services were conducted by Rev's. Sherwood and Farthing. If we are rightly informed, there were 31 baptized and one restored, besides quite a number of converts who did not connect themselves with the church.

We learn from the News and Observer, just as we to press, that Sec. Tracy's residence in Washington, was destroyed by fire on the morning of the 3rd. His wife and daughter died of suffocation, and a maid of Miss Tracy's was burned to death. The Secretary himself suffered greatly from suffocation, and it tasked the skill of his physicians to bring him to consciousness.

The fire was discovered about 7 o'clock in the morning by smoke issuing from the windows. Every effort was made by the fire department possible, but of no avail. They worked valiantly, knowing that the members of the family was inside.

Mrs. Wilmerding, the Secretary's daughter, and his grand-daughter jumped from a second story window, and were badly injured. Among the first to visit the suffering man, after consciousness, returned, were the President, Vice President and several members of the cabinet. The President left the room with tears of sympathy trickling down his face. It is thought that the fire originated in the parlor, but whether it originated from the grate or from the heating pipes is not known, as no one could be found who could tell whether there was fire left in the grate the night before or not.

The residence of Judge W. S. Cox, of the Dist. Supreme Court, which was near, was badly damaged by water. The Senate adjourned when the recent affliction of the families of two of the members was announced.

REMINISCENCES AND CO-MENTATIONS.

NUMBER V.
 LINVILLE, Feb. 4.

To the Democrat:
 James G. Blaine Jr., told the Press correspondent that his father was undergoing the severest trial of his life. He was bearing up splendidly however.—New York Daily Press.

That word splendid is one of the worst abused words in the English language. It is wrongly used by all sorts and conditions of our English-speaking people. It is defined in the dictionaries as bright, beautiful, brilliant; yet we apply it to a horse, a load of hay or any other inappropriate thing. Let us, the writers for, and the readers of, the DEMOCRAT drop its preposterous use and apply it properly.

We have here in Linville a fire that never goes out, but is ever burning. It is the sawdust pile at Blackwell & Welds sawmill. No matter if the saw mill is idle two or three days, the fire goes on burning, yet it rageth not.

L. T. Kelsey received notice from his son in law, who resides in Velusia Co. Florida, of a Christmas present he and his wife had sent to him in the shape of a box of Halifax river oranges. The box was received only last week, and when opened they were as sound as fresh nuts. Volusia county is particularly celebrated for its growth of nice oranges. It has a town known as Port Orange—situated on the sea coast. The oranges sent Mr. Kelsey were large, smooth and of excellent flavor.

La Grippe has made its appearance here, or a disease supposed to be it. La Grippe is a French phrase and "la" is equivalent to "the" in our language, I do not know what "grippe" is, but before I write again I may learn all about it by experience. I do know what denngue is. Denngue, too, is a French word, and is equivalent to Break-bone Fever in our language, and there-by hangs a tale, which I may unfold in the next Reminiscences I write.

Waitell Aldridge, who resides on a good and large farm five or six miles from here, in this (Linville) township, has been engaged teaming all the fall and winter, has purchased the company's blacksmith shop, and is our 'village blacksmith.' His son William went home, a few days ago, sick with symptoms of "La Grippe."

Mr. Kelsey was unwell two or three days last week. To be sick is very unusual for him. I think he believes his ailment was the widely prevailing disease.

The last I heard of Mr. Hugh McKee, president of the Linville Improvement Company, he wrote that he was afflicted with a bad cold. He was in New York city. He is expected here daily. White Piery is under the weather with a weakness of the lungs.

MARRIED.
 In Aaron, near Linville, at the residence of Rev. Lewis A. Rominger, on Wednesday, Jan. 29' Mr. Bud Banner and Miss Missouri Carroll.

In Linville, at the residence of Mr. Joseph W. Mann, on Roanoke street Saturday night Feb. 7. Mr. James H. McCampbell and Miss Margaret R. Brockwell. Rev. A. S. Church officiating.

J. S. W.

SPECIAL

Shoes! Shoes!! Shoes!!!
 I have now, the largest and best selected stock of shoes and boots ever brought to the County, and can suit you in prices and styles. I propose selling my large stock, in this line, for 25 per cent less than the same goods have ever been sold for, in Boone. Don't fail to see my goods and get my prices, before buying elsewhere.
 Respectfully, W. L. Bryan.

PROF. LOISETTE'S Memory System is creating greater interest than ever in all parts of the country, and persons wishing to improve their memory should send for his prospectus free as advertised in another column.

There is much that needs to be done in, and around Boone, that would add much to its general appearance. The academy of this place is sadly in need of repairs. It is now simply a target for the negroes of Boone. We think if the citizens of the place took proper pride in their town, they would go to work and repair this building. It would cost but little, and if each one would do his proportionate part, no one would be injured in the least.

This must look strange to visitors here, to see so many children, and learn that our larger boys and girls are off at the neighboring towns in school. If visitors had any idea of locating in our midst, this would be a serious drawback. It seems to us that this is calculated to injure our town, more than anything else. This could be made a handsome building, beautifully situated as it is, in the most eligible part of town. It is to be hoped that the good citizens of the place will seriously consider the above, and take steps at once, to repair the building, and then secure the services of an energetic, live teacher, and pay him a living salary, and keep him. It would add so much to the tone of the town.

Some old huts, not fit for habitation, should be removed, they give the place a ragged appearance.

The shade trees, on the streets, need trimming. The wood-piles should be removed from the walks, and the paint-brush industriously applied to some of the dwellings. Rickety palings need to be removed and replaced by new ones.

As winter is about over, we would suggest to the citizens to give the place a general brushing up, and give it such a neat, tidy appearance, that visitors will be glad to spend their summer in this quiet 'bird's nest', among the mountains.

When the Russian influenza first made its debut in America, it went the rounds of the press as "La Grippe," putting on foreign airs! Next we saw it as 'la grippe', (minus the capitals.) Then it was abbreviated to 'la grip', then to 'grip', but the very latest spelling is 'gripe', with a very long 'i'. We presume that the latter is correct. It seems that it is no respecter of persons, as Queen Victoria, Bill Nye and D. B. Dougherty have each been visited by his grim majesty.

When nature falters and requires help, recruit her enfeebled energies with Dr. J. H. McLean's strengthening Cordial and blood purifier \$1.00 per bottle.

READ!

GREAT REDUCTIONS.

In order to make room for our SPRING STOCK, we will close out our Winter goods at greatly reduced prices.

some special bargains
 In heavy Shoes, Boots, Hats, Shawls and Overcoats.

Don't fail to see us before buying.

We still keep our ENTIRE STOCK in all DEPARTMENTS

up to the demands of our customers and Guarantee prices as low as any-body.

Thanking our Patrons for their liberal Trade, we are

Very Respectfully

H. C. MARTIN, & Co.

A. P. SMITH,
 Successor To
Smith & Miller,

HALE, N. C.

To the people of Watauga. I am situated at the Ford of Elk Mitchell county, with a full line of General Merchandise, such as Dry Goods,

Groceries, Queensware, Glassware, Hardware, Candies, and Patent Medicines.

When you are on your way to

ELK - - - PARK,

Give me a call, as I am able to duplicate any bills sold there.

My goods are bought for CASH and I sell for the same.

Hoping to satisfy you in goods prices etc. I am Respectfully,

A. P. SMITH.

Feb. 6. 6mo.

A. G. Grayson J. H. Grayson.

Grayson Bros.
TRADE, TENN.

—And—

SWEETW'TR, N. C.

Dealers in general merchandise and country produce.

We wish to say to the public that our stock is full and complete at both points, and that we will duplicate any bills sold near us.

CHRISTMAS.

Step in and examine our goods in this line, and we are sure to please you in presents for boys, girls, sweet hearts, mother or sister. Give us a call and be convinced.

Thanking our Patrons for past favors and soliciting a continuation of the same. We are Resp.

Grayson Bros.

W. L. BRYAN,

Still On Hand With a

Nice line of

General Merchandise,

Consisting, in part, of Boots, Shoes, Dress Goods, Notions, Hardware, Tinware, Groceries, Coffees, Sugars, Tea, Rice, Cigars, Cigarettes, etc.

Drugs & Medicines

in good variety. Also take all kinds of

ROOTS

—AND—

HERBS,

And country produce in exchange for goods. Gent's furnishing goods, such as, dress shirts, (both laundried and unlaundried.) Collars, Cuffs, Slips, and in fact, almost anything needed in that line.

JUSTIN

Ready-Made Clothing from 8 to 25 dollars per suit. We handle only first class goods, and will guarantee prices as low as any other merchant who handles the same grade of goods.

For Cash, You Can Have

Goods at almost your own price. I run in connection with my other business, a

Hotel and Feed

STABLE,

which we think is equal to any in the county, and we guarantee our prices as low as any in the

COUNTY.

Also furnish transportation to parties wanting the same with a safe driver and with as good a turnout as can be found in the county. For the next

60 DAYS

We will make special prices, for cash, on all goods. Returning our thanks for past patronage we will, as heretofore, still continue to furnish you good goods and at as low prices as can be found. Truly yours,

W. L. Bryan.