

Since our last issue there has been no important change in the Cuban affairs, and but little fighting done. There has been a great deal said about the United States and Spain agreeing upon an arbitration to close the Cuban war. It is said that Spain has agreed to let the United States interfere in a peaceful way allowing reforms in Cuba, Spain still to hold power and dominion over Cuba, but with less vigor in the way of taxes and tariff, so that the government of Cuba will hereafter be more liberal to Spain. So far the Cubans will not agree to any terms except freedom from Spanish rule. The news from Cuba is so uncertain and contradictory that it is hardly safe to believe any published reports. It is evident that Gen. Weyler has made a complete failure in his campaign against the insurgents in the province of Pinar del Rio and there is great dissatisfaction in Spain over his failure and reports are current that he will soon be recalled and superseded. Gen. Weyler has had 200,000 Spanish troops in Cuba and to-day the insurgent army is stronger than ever and Cuba is no less subdued than two years ago. This looks gloomy for Spain's success in the island of Cuba. Cuba is the richest country in the world, has a population of 1,500,000, composed of many nationalities. About one-third are negroes. The island is perhaps as large as North Carolina, and was one of the great sugar provinces. It is now a waste, having been burned by both armies.

The old year, 1896, has passed, leaving behind many sad recollections, of changes in many ways. Numerous sad changes have occurred, many failures and many deaths, while suicides have been a common occurrence. Fires and all kinds of disaster have happened in our country during 1896. The New Year, 1897, has entered upon its voyage and its few first days have chronicled big financial failures, railroad wrecks, murders, fires and storms. It will eve be as it has been. We can't know yet what is in store for us in the year 1897. Financially it is very gloomy to us, as we see no hope of prosperity for us. Providence may bless us with good health and good crops, for which we should feel thankful. Temporal blessings will no doubt continue, and we can have something upon which to subsist.

The tariff will now engage the attention of Congress and great speeches will be made on the blessings of a protective tariff under a gold standard. Congress will fuss and fume on the tariff and on the 4th of March it will close doors and nothing done. The people are still restless and clamor for financial legislation, but the die is cast; party spirit is too strong. The edicts of the bosses must be observed whether the people suffer or not. Business failures will continue to fail and the number of tramps will increase; more strikes will occur, but partisan legislation will continue.

People are starving in India for the want of bread and great suffering is reported.

We have a report that one Frank Gilliam, a former desperado of Watauga, has recently been hung for murder some where in Tennessee. He confessed on the gallows that he had killed five men, one of the number being Elisha Holder, of this county, who was found dead several years ago on the Tennessee side. It was supposed that Holder had died from natural causes, but Gilliam told that he killed him supposing that he had money but only found 45 cts. on his person. He further stated that he carried the old man's satchel off but dropped it near the old man Arch Thompson's and left it. The late Maj. James Brown was the one who found the dead man Holder, who had been so long dead that no cause of his death could be learned. Our people will vividly remember the daring of Gilliam and the death of old man Holder.

The Sultan of Turkey has again become aroused against the powers of Europe, and talks back to them. The Sultan still goes on murdering the Armenians whenever he feels so disposed. There will be stirring times in that part of the earth within the next few weeks, unless the powers back down from their position on this Turkish slaughter. It looks as if the Turkish Monarchy will soon topple and fall never again to afflict humanity.

R. C. D., writing from Cove Creek says: The wheat crop on our creek looks unusually well. Mr. S. S. McBride sowed 45 bushels; Mr. Jeremiah Green sowed 4 1/2 bushels and Mr. John McBride sowed over 30 bushels. Some of your subscribers at Yeger say that the last week's paper did not reach them last week, and would like to know the cause.

[The paper was not issued last week.—DEMOCRAT.]

The murderous rascals who obstructed the railroad two miles from Raleigh and caused a wreck of the freight train, have not been caught. It is supposed that their object was to derail the passenger train instead of the freight for the purpose of pillage and plunder, but the freight came before the passenger. One man was killed and another seriously hurt, while the train was entirely wrecked.

Late reports say that Gen. Maceo was severely wounded and not killed as reported, but is in seclusion, his whereabouts only being known by a few of his friends. Maceo it is probable may recover, and yet do good service. Such is the kind of news we frequently get from Cuba. We do not know how true it is, but there has been a great mystery hanging over the alleged killing of Maceo and it may be true that he is still alive.

Great activity continues in our navy. Ships are being made ready for immediate service and from outside appearances one would think that a great war cloud was hanging over us, and yet there seems to be no immediate danger.

The DEMOCRAT learns that the Board of Aldermen of Statesville has granted one of the members the sole privilege of riding on the 'merry-go-round' and popping fire-crackers as much as he wants to at the expense of the city.

Why will you buy bitter nauseating tonics when Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic is as pleasant as Lemon Syrup. Your druggist is authorized to refund the money in every case where it fails to cure. Price, 50 cents.

No Gripe

When you take Hood's Pills. The big, old-fashioned, sugar-coated pills, which tear you all to pieces, are not in it with these. Easy to take and easy to operate, is true of Hood's Pills, which are up to date in every respect. Safe, certain and sure. All druggists. 25c. C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass. The only Pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Hood's Pills

HOOD'S PILLS are purely vegetable and do not purge, pain or gripe. All druggists. 25c.

NO FICE.

Whereas, Jane Miller and Edmund B. Miller did on the 5th day of August 1892, execute and deliver to Albert R. Shattuck, Trustee, a trust deed on certain lands in Watauga county, state of North Carolina therein described to secure the sum of \$1,300.00 due by said Jane Miller and Edmund B. Miller to the British & American Mortgage Company, Limited, which said trust deed is recorded in Watauga county in deed book "C" page 577 to which reference is hereby made; and whereas default has been made in the payment of the moneys secured by said trust deed; and whereas the undersigned has been duly appointed substituted trustee in the place of said Albert R. Shattuck, as provided in said trust deed, and has been duly requested to execute the trust therein contained; Now therefore notice is hereby given, that under and by virtue of the power contained in said trust deed, I, the undersigned substituted trustee, on Monday the 8th day of February 1897, between the hours of 10 a. m. and 3 p. m., at the court house door in the town of Boone in Watauga county will by public auction sell to the highest bidder for cash the following described property, viz: Four hundred and forty three (443) acres in three (3) tracts: 1st tract; two hundred and seventy five (275) acres in Meat Camp township; bounded on the North by the lands of C. Moretz and Mrs. Hank, on the East by the lands of T. S. Walls, on the South by the lands of J. H. Taylor, and on the West by the lands of J. E. Finley and John Green being the lands deeded to Jane Miller, wife of Edmund B. Miller by A. J. Moretz and wife, and fully set out by metes and bounds in the deed recorded in book "P" page 167 of the public records of Watauga county, to which record reference is hereby made.

2nd tract: one hundred and fifty (150) acres in Bald Mt. township; bounded on the North by the lands of J. W. Finley, on the East by the lands of the heirs of William Norris, on the South by the lands of E. B. Miller and on the West by the lands of J. W. Henry Steele, being the lands deeded to Jane Miller, wife of E. B. Miller by the heirs of Joseph Holman dec. and fully set out by metes and bounds in deed recorded in book "M" page 272 of the public records of Watauga county to which record reference is hereby made.

3rd tract: Eighteen (18) acres of land in Bald Mountain township; bounded on the North by the lands of E. B. Miller, on the East by the lands of E. B. Miller, on the South by the lands of the heirs of William Norris, and on the West by the lands of J. W. Henry Steele, being a part of the land deeded to Jane Miller by the heirs of Joseph Holman, dec. and fully set out by metes and bounds in deed recorded in book "M" page 272 of the public records of Watauga county, to which record reference is hereby made.

Said land will be sold to satisfy the debt secured by said trust deed, and such title will be given as is vested in said trustee.

E. S. Coffey, Substituted Trustee.

Interesting topics of the day:

- The Cuban war.
- Is Gen. Maceo dead, or is he wounded and recovering in some secluded place?
- Will there be war with Spain?
- Will Congress pass the bill recognizing Cuba, and if so will the President veto the bill and refuse to act?
- Has the President the power independent of Congress to recognize a foreign country?
- Has Secretary Olney and the Spanish Minister agreed on the conditions that the Cuban war should be settled, will the Cubans agree to the terms offered by Spain?
- Will Congress pass any tariff measure this winter?
- Will the Senate be republican after the 4th of March?
- Will the populists vote for Pritchard for the Senate in the North Carolina Legislature?

Raleigh has had a big fire. The electric plant was burned first, there being only two cars saved. The loss is estimated at \$50,000, with only \$12,000 insurance. The Capitol is in darkness and without street cars.

Purify And Enrich Your Blood By Taking

AYER'S Sarsaparilla

It was the Only Sarsaparilla admitted At World's Fair.

AYER'S PILLS for the Liver.

I'm no Cheap John, I have no breath to waste, No Time to Talk. I SELL GOODS AT MY STORE.

My goods do their own talking. I will not sell you a pair of boots for 10c. and throw in a bushel of corn. My goods have good value to them, my stock is new, fresh and choice. I want to sell them, that's what I bought them for. I am going to sell them too and don't you forget it. I know to be able to sell I must put them down low. You ain't going to trade with me just because you love me, you want the worth of your money in something that you know is good. Just wish you would step in my store and ask a few prices—you are not bound to buy, but I'd like to see you get away without buying after you learn my prices and see quality of goods, you can't do it. Shoes from 35c. up. I have just bought

\$1,000 WORTH OF bran new goods. They come in every week, I don't want to get overstocked so they must go to make room for the goods coming.

To be able to sell cheap a man must know when and where to buy.

GOOD LUCK would have it I struck it exactly right this time and I can sell you goods almost as cheap as you can buy them at **WHOLESALE.** Don't take my word for it—I may be lying. Just come and see for yourself. **YOUR FRIEND F. MARION HODGES.** Jan. 7, 1897.

THE VIRGINIA FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE

ORGANIZED.
Paid in losses in last ten years, over \$2,000,000
Paid in losses last year over \$250,000

Rates on unexposed frame farm houses, with shingle roof, 2 1/2 cents per day, or 75 cents per month, or \$9.00 per year, for \$1,000 insurance payable in easy installments.

The names of a few of our most prominent Watauga County policy holders: DR. L. C. REEVES, JNO. F. HARDIN, B. J. COUNELL, JR., R. G. GRAY, R. F. VANNOY, J. C. HORTON, Mrs. R. L. COUNELL, Wm. HOLCLOW, Coffey BROWN, A. S. EDMISTEN, Mrs. M. J. BRADY, a hotel, council Taylor & Co's. hotel, R. D. HOLLOWAY, J. B. JOHNSON, J. P. COUNELL, Geo. W. OSBORNE, J. S. WINKLER, L. H. MICHAEL, C. D. TAYLOR, W. W. EDMISTEN, Geo. H. BLAIR, Allen Green, W. H. NORRIS, D. F. BAIRD, B. F. BAIRD, and Taylor, S. N. BINGHAM, Geo. W. ROBBINS, J. C. SHULL, W. B. COUNELL, Robey Moody, L. W. FARTHING, Capt. E. F. LOVELL, and A. EDMISTEN.

LEE F. MILLER, Agt. J. F. HARDIN, Local Agt.
ELIZABETHTON, TENN. BOONE, N. C.

The Normal and Collegiate Institute FOR YOUNG WOMEN.

ASHEVILLE, N. C. OPENING SEPT. 1897.

OFFERS TO THE STUDENT:

1. A Classical Course, including Ancient and Modern Languages, Science, Music, Drawing, etc.
2. A Normal Course for the thorough training of Teachers under instructors from the best Normal Schools.
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4. Domestic Science, including Scientific Cooking, Draughting, Cutting, Fitting and Making of Garments, Systematic study of the Bible in all departments.

Terms for Board and Tuition in any of the department \$50.00 per term or \$100.00 for school year. For catalogue, address

Rev. Thos Lawrence, D. D.

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WANTED—AN IDEA Who can think of some simple thing to patent? Protect your ideas before they are stolen. Write JOHN W. DUNN, Patent Attorney, Washington, D. C., for their \$1,000 price offer.

A Walking Advertisement

In February, 1862, I had six hemorrhages from the lungs, and for some months was under the care of two doctors, and finally went to Denver, but returned without any benefit to my health. I then read of your treatment and sent for some from which I felt great relief, and have continued using it steadily up to the present time, with good results.

"I am certain your treatment has been the means of restoring my health. I have added fifteen pounds to my weight and am still gaining, have a good appetite and sleep well. In fact, can conscientiously say I am walking advertisement for your treatment."

J. Fallon, 154 South Grand St. Chicago, Ill.

If you will know more of this treatment, and read the testimony of many others, who have been cured by the Compound Oxygen Treatment, not only consumption, but various other diseases, send for book of two hundred pages, sent free. Or call and see us. We treat patients at the Office as well as at home.

Dr. Starkey & Palen, 1629 Arch St. Philadelphia, Pa. Please mention this paper.

Xmas Trif!

FOR THE 25th.

I have in stock a fine line of goods suitable for Christmas presents. Consisting of things substantial for the aged for the young and profitable to all.

My stock of

Vases and Dolls complete
Caudies, (tt)
Nuts, (tt)
Figs, (tt)
Rasins, (tt)
Oranges, (tt)
Lemons

I also have a nice line of

GROCERIES AND NOTIONS.

Such as

COFFEE, SUGAR, CHEESE, CRACKERS, CAKES, CANNED-BEEF, POTTED-HAM, SALMONS, SARDINES, BUTTERNUTS, English walnuts, soft shelled almonds, peanuts, raisins, figs, canned fruits, shoe-dressing, inks, plain and fancy card dies, fancy and laundry SOAPS, TOBACCO, SNUFF, CIGARS, CIGARETTES, MATCHES, Horse and Cattle Powders, and many other articles too tedious to mention.

Your Face



Will be wreathed with a most engaging smile, after you invest in a

White Sewing Machine

equipped with the new

PINCH TENSION, TENSION INDICATOR, AUTOMATIC TENSION RELEASER.

The most complete and useful device ever added to any sewing machine.

The WHITE is

Sturdily and Handsomely Built,
Of Fine Finish and Perfect Adjustment,
Sews ALL Sewable Articles,
And will serve and please you up to the full limit of your expectations.

ACTIVE DEALERS WANTED in unoccupied territory. Liberal terms. Address

WHITE SEWING MACHINE CO., CLEVELAND, O.

VERY RESPECTFULLY,
J. B. CLARKE.
Blowing Rock, Nov. 1st.

N. B.—My goods are marked at cash prices, and will not, under any circumstances, be sold on time.