

Robert C. Rivers,

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

THURSDAY, Aug. 20, 1903.

The first Monday in September is the day designated by our board of county commissioners for receiving bids for the repair of the old court house and also bids for the erection of a new one, they to decide which they will do after the bids are in. No one would doubt for a moment the sincerity of the gentlemen composing the Board, and their anxiety to do the will of the people, in this very much discussed matter, and we are confident that they will use their best judgement in the decision of a matter in which every tax-payer in the county is directly interested. And, as we have often said before, we are decidedly of the opinion, after diligent enquiry for many weeks, that a vast majority of our people are of the opinion that it would be poor financeering indeed to put several thousand dollars in repairs on our old building, and then, when completed, have something entirely inadequate to the needs of our rapidly increasing population. The front of the old building is practically a wreck, and will have to be built entirely new; the west wall will have to be removed for the purpose of attaching the annex; the heavy self-supporting roof will have to be taken down and a new one put on that will conform to the size and shape of the building; the interior of the building, both above and below, will have to be radically changed, and, in fact, there will be nothing that can be utilized to any advantage whatever if the repair idea is carried out, save the north and south walls, and a few little dens, known as offices on the first floor.

Surry county tried a repair scheme of this kind, and when completed it cost \$8,000 and was then a very unsatisfactory building. The question for the Board to settle, it seems to us, is whether they can afford to pay out this much and possibly more on repairs, when we can get a modern court house for twice the amount, and turn all the available material in the old into the new building at its cash value? We say, verily, no, and in so doing we feel confident that we voice the sentiment of the people.

The negro, Willred Roseboro, who outraged and murdered Mrs. Dovie Beaver in Iredell county, was tried in Statesville last week and sentenced to hang on Sept. 10. He was given a fair trial, the jury being selected from a venire regularly summoned; Judge Allen named two attorneys who appeared for him who did what they could, for him. At the conclusion of the evidence the case was given to the jury and in just 23 minutes they returned a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree, and the death sentence was passed as stated above. Should such speedy justice as this always be meted out to such brutes, it would do more to prevent lynchings in the South than all other means combined. Nothing short of speedy justice will satisfy an enraged people when such a crime has been committed.

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"For years fate was after me continuously" writes F. A. Gullidge, Verbena, Alabama. "I had a terrible case of piles, causing 24 tumors. When all failed Bucklen's Arnica Salve cured me. Equally good for burns and all aches and pains. Only 25c. at M. B. Blackburn's."

Dr. Williams' Little Early Risers The famous little pills.

Referring to Mr. Cleveland and Mr. Bryan as presidential possibilities in 1904. Mr. Charles A. Edwards, one of our Washington correspondents, says: So far as Mr. Cleveland and Mr. Bryan are concerned, we may as well eliminate them to begin with. Each of these gentlemen has many admirers among the public men who visit the national capital. Many men who have always been ardent admirers of Mr. Cleveland since his first election as President, and who left the party with him in 1896, and supported the republicans on the money question, have told me that he is out of the running as a candidate next year on account of the prejudice against the third term for any man. Many men who loyally supported Mr. Bryan in 1896 and 1900 agree that he cannot possibly be called a candidate again. They still admire him for his manhood, his brilliance of intellect, his oratory, his steadfastness to principle and devotion to the cause of the people, but they admit that he cannot again be a candidate. They realize that the issue will not be the same next year and that the people have put the seal of their condemnation on some of the issues on which he twice led the party to defeat. They appear to realize that the chief issue next year will be one with which Mr. Bryan has not been sufficiently identified—the trust issue—to make him an available candidate even if he had not been brought under the ban of the displeasure of thousands of men who will next year support the democratic ticket on that very issue. Therefore they discard him as a possibility in the next race.

A Sheridan, Wyoming, dispatch of the 13th, says that Daniel Boone Potter, wanted in North Carolina for murder, escaped from prison on that day by breaking a lock and forcing an exit through an outer door. The authorities in that State have offered a reward for his re-arrest and that, together with the reward offered by the Governor of North Carolina, may bring him to trial. He is, as our readers know, wanted in Watauga for the murder of Deputy Sheriff Howell.

[LATER: From the News and Observer of the 16th, we clip the following: "A telegram received from the Wyoming sheriff, who arrested Boone Potter and then allowed him to escape in some way, brought the news yesterday that he had succeeded in recapturing him, and the North Carolina officer could come at once with the requisition papers. Potter is the man who is wanted in Watauga county to answer the charge of murder. It will be remembered that when first captured, although passing under an assumed name, he had in his pocket a pocket book on which was stamped his real name 'D. B. Potter' and inside the pocket book

there was a newspaper clipping of Governor Ascock's proclamation offering \$200 for his arrest."

Letter from Oklahoma.

Mr. Editor: With your permission, I would like to tell my Watauga friends a little about this part of Oklahoma. It is a rolling prairie with but little timber, save along the water courses, and as a consequence wood and posts sell very high.

Farmers are now gathering their corn, and the crop is generally good. The small grain crop was very good also, considering the newness of the land. This part of Oklahoma has only been open for settlement only about two years. We have some very severe storms here, and nearly every family has a storm cave where they seek refuge when a storm advances.

As to Indians, there is not many to be seen here now. They own land in the country, but they usually camp around some town nearly all the time. They do not work any.

Land is high out here. 160 acres will cost from \$6,200 to \$9,500. They make cotton, corn, oats, wheat, alfalfa, hops and nearly any crops that grows. It is second to no country for fruits of all kinds, and it always bears a good price.

We have to use well water as there are but few springs. The water is generally warm, but the well water is usually good.

I will close by wishing all my friends in Watauga much success.

ALICE MORETZ.

Moretz, Oklahoma.

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Letter from Ozark, Mo.

Mr. Editor: I am somewhat indisposed at present, but will try to write you a few lines for publication.

Wheat was about 1/4 a crop this year; corn is good, though somewhat damaged by a severe storm that passed over this section of the State. The grass is good; stock in fine shape. Farmers are breaking wheat land and fixing for the run in the tomato crop. There are five factories in this county that can tomatoes. It takes 200 acres each to run on full time and they will have something to do. There were two car loads of cans came into Ozark the other day to start the run there.

If it doesn't slip my mind I will send you later a list of our schools in this state. Each pupil gets \$1.20 to help run the public schools. We have 8 months school this year in this district. So Missouri has good school laws, but poor road laws, though it is hoped that we will soon have better roads.

This county has six little towns, two of them with a population of 1,000, one other 800 and the other two about like Boone, and there are five banks in those towns.

As I am not well I will not write more. Success to the Democrat. May it live long and prosper.

C. C. GREEN.

Ozark, Mo.

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*E. W. Grove*

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Blowing Rock, Aug. 17.

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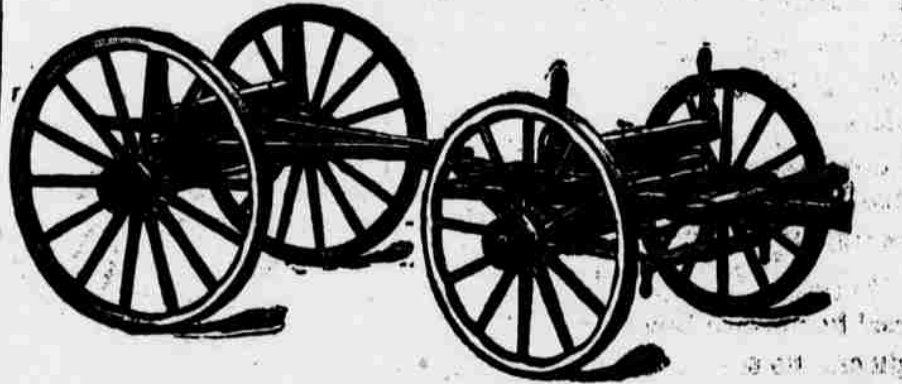
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