

# Daily Charlotte Observer.

Vol. XI.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1875.

No. 1338

W. M. SMITH. W. S. FORBES.

## WINTER TRADE FOR 1874.

### 1500 Cases Boots and Shoes

TO BE SOLD AT THE BOOT AND SHOE HOUSE

## SMITH & FORBES.

Tryon Street, CHARLOTTE, N. C., Nearly opposite Central Hotel.

WITHIN the next ninety days, we intend to sell a large stock of Men's, Women's, Boys', Misses' and Children's BOOTS, SHOES and HATS, comprising all grades, a large proportion of which have been

Manufactured Expressly in Our Own Order.

Merchants in Charlotte, as well as those in the surrounding country, will find it to their advantage to call and examine our stock before purchasing elsewhere.

We mean to sell goods as low as any house in New York, Boston, or Baltimore, with freight added. They can buy as they wish to do so.

W. M. SMITH & W. S. FORBES, Sole Agents.

Between the First National Bank and Bank of Mechanicsburg.

1875. SIXTY DAYS 1875.

PROM date, we will offer our stock of heavy Winter

## BOOTS AND SHOES

at greatly reduced prices, for our Spring purchases, which will be complete and especially for the

RETAIL TRADE.

CALL SOON FOR BARGAINS.

W. M. SMITH & W. S. FORBES.

Opposite Central Hotel, Charlotte, N. C.

Feb 9th

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## The Charlotte Observer.

Charles E. Jones, Proprietor.

Office, Observer Building, Corner Trade and College Streets.

## THE BALMASQUE.

THE MOST BRILLIANT AFFAIR OF THE KIND WHICH EVER TOOK PLACE IN CHARLOTTE.

For several weeks, preparations have been going on, such as the making of costumes, etc., etc., by those of the citizens of Charlotte, who proposed to attend the Central Hotel, Mardi-Gras Ball, which took place on the night of the 9th. Many tickets of invitation were sent out, and as a consequence, when the time came round, there was a feeling as if the business was over. The extraordinary preparations for one to suppose that Mardi-Gras in Charlotte would be grand and brilliant affair, and that it would be one which will long be remembered by the young folks of Charlotte.

At half past nine o'clock, the invited guests began to assemble in the hall which leads into the large and commodious dining room of the Central Hotel, and in their grotesque costumes, were the wonder of the hour. A special committee had been appointed whose duty it was to see that all were duly qualified to enter the Ball Room, as it was intended to be a *reception affair*, and many an applicant was turned back at the door of entrance, by the sturdy policeman, who kept guard there, long enough to make a visit to room No. 72, and then undergo a private examination, as to moral qualifications, and other good proclivities.

These formalities having been gone through with, the guests were admitted to the spacious hall, and spent a half hour or so in promenade around the room, when, upon the proper announcement, the company retired to the ball room.

At ten o'clock, the first-class string band, began to play, and the lights flashed on the ball room.

At this time, the dancing commenced, and the older or less gay members of the audience chatted sociably in different parts of the hall, and seemed to enjoy the occasion almost as much as the dancers themselves.

Upon the arrival of the masks, as the hall, we attempted to get a list of the names of each person, with the characters each represented. Our list became confused, and we finally gave up in despair. In noticing the characters, as we now propose to do, we shall do so entirely from memory, and we are conscious that it will necessarily be incomplete, knowing that, on this occasion, to say that whatever errors or omissions shall be errors of the head and not of the heart, as our determination in regard to this, as in other matters, is to meet out such a measure of justice, commendation or approval, as we think the merits of the case deserve.

We may be pardoned in noticing the masked characters, to allude first to the ladies, and in doing so, say, by way of parenthesis, that our lovely little city, so full of life, is proud of her fair daughters. The great and good Gaston wrote touchingly about the "true lightwood" which was supposed to dwell in every female heart in North Carolina. We rarely forget the old judge was at a masked ball, when he wrote that song. If he was not, and had been present at the one we are writing about, he could easily have written a dozen such. But we started to say something about the ladies who appeared in the ball room, en masque.

Mrs. Armistead appeared in the costume of Fanchon, and was one of the most noticeable in the room in the earlier part of the evening. Just before the unmasking ceremony, she retired from the room for a short while, and returned as the "Goddess of Liberty." We have often heard and read of that imaginable deity, but until that hour, had never fasted our eyes on that personage herself, and we cordially regretted that this epoch in our life had not been realized before the passage of the "Civil Rights Bill." But here it was resplendent in all that nature could do, or that art could perform.

Mrs. W. C. Morgan represented the Charlotte Ostrivian, and ought to have been first mentioned, out of the love and respect we have for that institution, but never mind. It was the first time we had ever seen her in the paper we mean, of course, arrayed in female apparel, and we did not regret the hard labor, and sleepless nights we sometimes have in order that our observations may be an accompaniment at the breakfast table each morning. "We're glad for our sake, and for Morgan's sake, that all the observations yesterday in our notice of the Lenten services at the Catholic Church, instead of the sprinkling of ashes every Wednesday evening as we said in our last, there will be a public recitation of the rosary of the B. V. M., with meditation."

A telegram received here yesterday announced that the Cotton Field Ministry will appear at the Opera House in this city on Friday and Saturday 29th and 30th inst. The contract for the Hall at that time was signed yesterday.

The Carolina Military Institute.

The semi-annual examination of the Carolina Military Institute will begin on Monday next. The system pursued with the advance classes, is that of the written examination. The object being, not to make a display but to test the thoroughness of the student and to see if he has accomplished the course.

The examination will close with a public exhibition of a literary character. There will be original Oration and Declaration and Essays by representatives of the two higher classes. Of this further notice will be given.

The second term of the Institute will begin February 15th.

MARRIED.

At the residence of the Hon. W. A. Smith of Johnston County, N. C., on the 4th day of February, Miss Hester Atkinson, daughter of Hon. W. A. Smith to Capt. W. F. Avery, Associate Editor of the Charlotte Observer.

We have always admired chess, but we were perfectly enraptured by these lady players, and shall live and die a perfect morphy—in our own imagination.

Miss Maggie Sprath, as Folly, beautifully carried out her character. We know several young men who decided before the evening's entertainment concluded, that it was worse than folly to try to keep up with her.

Mrs. John G. Young, the Janus-faced woman was awfully funny.

Waiting in, and waiting out, leaving the audience all in doubt.

Whether judging by or coming back.

She was going out or coming back.

Miss Mary Drayton, as Queen of the Gypsies, was verily a Queen.

Miss Emma Drayton, as Mary of Argyle, played her character in handsome style.

Miss Lelia Young represented the tamborine girl, in a handsome costume, and her character was beautifully rendered.

Miss Minnie Philps, as "Nora Nixon" was a character that could be admired. She was fascinating, and played her part well.

Miss Lou Young represented the French Peasant Girl, in a most beautiful costume, and should have been a Queen.

Miss Annie Belle Jones, of G. O., as "Judith," was in a beautifully gotten up costume, and though she carried no head in her hand, yet hearts were at her command.

Miss Maggie McDowell, as the "Goddess of Grain," was a fairy little queen, at whose feet the Grangers might conscientiously pay homage. Her character was done up handsomely.

Miss Fannie Backins, "The Lightwood Girl," was a good looking and as fascinating as any.

Mrs. Allen, was almost the most beautiful woman in the room, she appeared in a costume gotten up tastefully simply as a disguise, and called herself "Alf and Alf."

Miss Nellie Street, as "Little Nell," so she said, but we said she was a little elf who was as pretty as red roses with blue stripes in 'em.

Miss Florence C. Brennan, as "Maria de Medici," and most elegantly attired, and bore herself with a dignity becoming her station, which she maintained throughout the performance. Her long train was swept about with courtly dignity.

Mrs. George Welch represented the English Peasant Girl, and the character was well delineated.

Mrs. Dr. Fanner, of Wilmington, as "Centenarian," was dressed in the style of a hundred years ago, and created much comment.

Miss Ida Morrison, "Coquette," showed the Charlotte girls how the Wilmingtonians can play this game, coquetting with awful solemnity among the young and unwary Charlotte boys.

Mrs. Sutherland, personified the "School Girl" to perfection. If we had only been the teacher, it would have done us good to have heard her recitations. As it is we are compelled to leave all this to Mr. Sutherland.

Miss Fannie Orr, represented a lady of the "French Court," about the time of Marie Antoinette, and her character was carried out in fine style.

If there were other ladies present, we could not ascertain their names, and as we are disappointed by the printer, that our article is already out of the press, we will reserve our description of the gentlemen characters for to-morrow. Sufficient notice will be given in the day to the critic thereof.

LOCAL DOGS.

We ask as a favor that, if any of the characters at the masquerade on Tuesday night, are omitted in our report this morning, we be notified.

The street of last night made the streets as shivery as you please, and a fellow "had obliged to" "lead the track" pretty carefully, in order to hold his own at all.

We wandered yesterday in our notice of the Lenten services at the Catholic Church, instead of the sprinkling of ashes every Wednesday evening as we said in our last, there will be a public recitation of the rosary of the B. V. M., with meditation.

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At the North-West corner of Trade and Tryon streets, known as the "Twin corner," was the same house that stands there now; it was occupied by John Irwin, but has undergone many changes, both by addition and subtraction. The large room now occupied by Dr. John Madden, as a drug store, then composed Mr. Irwin's store room, counting room, dining room and parlor. On the next lot below, Tryon street, known as the "David Parks lot," was a small one story brick store house, built and occupied, as a store by James Torrence. This was the only brick house in Charlotte, except the Court House. The next lot was owned by "Merchant Billy Allison," as he was called, who kept a store in the little house now occupied as a shoe maker shop by Mr. Cohn.

The next lot, now known as the "Owens property," was owned and occupied by Archibald Frew, who was a revenue officer and United States tax collector, and had a large store about where James Harty's dwelling now stands. The next lot, where Mrs. John Springs now lives, was owned and occupied by a man named Mitchel, a carriage maker. The next house was the jail, where the present jail now stands. It was a two story wooden building, painted red; there was a rough fence round it, nor was there any of the lot cleared, except a small spot where the jail stood. The balance of it was grown up in bushes and large trees. The Statesville road turned off from the Salisbury road just about where the Farnsworth stands, and passed in rear of the jail, thence a straight course out by where Frank Seider lives. The next house was on the lot where Bansom, Gray now lives. It was a long one story log house, with a partition in the middle. One end was used as a dwelling and the other end as a hat shop, and belonged to a man named Thomas Opps.

There was no other house on Tryon street until you come to the lot now owned and occupied by Mrs. Rufus Johnston, where there was a blacksmith shop which stood on the Salisbury road, and a log dwelling house and well some distance in the rear. This was owned and occupied by a man named Dick Mason, who owned all the land on that side as far as the branch where the Lincoln Depot is now.

Return to the Irwin corner and go down on Trade street West, the first house below the Irwin lot was the Cowan house, a long wooden two story building, with piazza and balcony extending the whole length, covering the ground where the side walk is now; then out side of that in front, about the width of the side walk, or some eight or ten feet distant from the piazza, stood a row of large China trees, extending the whole length of the house. This house occupied the ground now covered by Richard Moore's tin and hardware store, Frankenthal's store and James Harty's China store, and was known as the "Cook Tavern," where General Washington lodged on his return from his Southern tour, after the Revolutionary war.

The writer remembers of having heard a very old negro man, who was a boy and a servant in the Tavern at the time of Washington's visit, say that he would on his hand that there was a contention among the ladies of the house which should be the Washington's bed first after he got up in the morning.

The next house was on the lot now occupied by Dr. C. J. Fox, but it was of much more recent date than the other part of the town. It was built by Dr. Robert McKeluse, who lived there, and had a large practice in town and surrounding country.

There were no other houses in what is now known as Fourth Ward, except Allen Baldwin's, who lived in a small house on the lot where Doctor Cureton now lives, and not far from the spot where Dr. Cureton's house now stands. Baldwin was a tanner and had his tan yard near about where Mr. F. A. McNeill's house now stands. The old gray yard is situated in this ward, where all the old citizens of the town were buried, and among them was Col. Polk, who read the Declaration of Independence on the 4th of July, 1775.

The original deed conveying the tract of land upon which the City of Charlotte now stands, was signed by George Augustus Selwyn, by his agent, Henry C. McCulloch, on the 18th day of January, 1775, and contained three hundred and sixty acres, in the following words:

"To all to whom these presents shall come reading: Know ye that George A. Selwyn, by Henry C. McCulloch, for and in consideration of the sum of ninety pounds, lawful money of Great Britain, to him in hand paid by the said Henry C. McCulloch, the receipt of which is hereby certified, have bargained and sold unto Abraham Alexander, Thos. Polk and John Robinson, as Trustees and Directors of the said City of Charlotte, and their successors, a certain tract of land lying on the waters of Salls and Garrison's creek, beginning at a W. O. about 150 yards from the City of Charlotte, running thence 40 West 240 poles to a pine, then S. 40 West 240 poles to a B. O. sapling, then S. to the beginning including the cross roads, containing three hundred and sixty acres.

To have and to hold to the said Abraham Alexander, Thos. Polk and John Robinson, as Trustees and Directors or Successors in office or assignment forever.

GEO. A. SELWYN.

HENRY C. McCULLOCH.

In Witness whereof, he has hereunto set his hand and seal, this 18th day of January, 1775.

MICHAEL MOLES.

JOSEPH SAMPSON.

New Advertisements.

WEST & SONS.

ALADDIN SECURITY OIL.

WARRANTED TO PROTECT THE PROPERTY OF THE OWNERS FROM THE DESTRUCTION OF FIRE BY THE USE OF THIS OIL.

It burns in the fire, and does not burn.

It is the only oil that will burn in the fire, and does not burn.

It is the only oil that will burn in the fire, and does not burn.

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