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BOOTS AND SHOES.

SMITH & FORBES' SECOND FALL STOCK, BOOTS AND SHOES.

OUR MR FORBES has just returned from the Northern Markets and we are now selling our Second Fall Stock of BOOTS, SHOES AND LEATHER...

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

MERCHANTS are especially requested to examine our Stock before purchasing.

WE WILL NOT BE UNDERSOLD. SMITH & FORBES, NEW IRON FRONT BUILDING, TRADE STREET, CHARLOTTE, N. C.

GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICES BOOTS AND SHOES,

AT THE LOW PRICES OF THE GOOD OLD TIMES BEFORE THE WAR,

GEO. R. FRENCH & SONS,

Wilmington, N. C.

OFFER TO THE TRADE THEIR LARGE STOCK AND COMPLETE ASSORTMENT OF BOOTS AND SHOES...

GEO. R. FRENCH & SONS,

Wilmington, N. C.

FURNITURE DEALERS.

Burgess Nichols & Co.,

WHOLESALE & RETAIL

DEALERS IN

FURNITURE, BEDDING, &c.,

No. 5, West Trade Street

CHARLOTTE, N. C.

JUST RECEIVED.

A FULL ASSORTMENT

OF

Parlor Suits, in Hair Cloth, Terry and Reps. Also a new

Supply of Lounges, all grades. A full assortment of Metallic Cases, Caskets and Wood Coffins on hand.

STILL ALIVE

AND YET

SELLING GOODS

AS LOW AS EVER!!

BLACK AND WHITE BERLIN WORSTED,

AT 2 1/2 CENTS OUNCE.

ALL OTHER COLORS WORSTED,

AT 15 CENTS OUNCE.

(THESE WORSTEDS COMPARING FAVORABLY IN WEIGHT TO ANY OTHER.)

MOTTOES, 3 FOR 25 CENTS.

WHITE JAVA CANVAS,

AT 50 CENTS A YARD, WORTH 75 CENTS.

THE BEST REAL HAIR SWITCHES, all shades, at \$1.50 Each,

(REPORTED TO COST \$2.50 AP. ECE IN NEW YORK.)

ALEXANDER KID GLOVES, AT 75 CENTS,

(DISTANTLY RELATED TO THE WELL KNOWN ALEXANDERS.)

EMBROIDERIES A SPECIALTY,

EMBROIDERIES EIGHT CENTS, WORTH 12 1/2

10 " " " " 15

15 " " " " 25

25 " " " " 40

40 " " " " 60

And a Great Many Other Goods, too Numerous to

Mention, at Extremely Low Prices.

RESPECTFULLY, M. KOPPEL.

LARGE STOCK OF MOTTOE FRAMES WILL BE RECEIVED

IN A FEW DAYS.

THE CITY.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.,

December 20th, 1875.

On and after this date, mails will open and close in this office as follows:

Northern, delivered 8.30 a. m., close 9.00 p. m. Southern, 8.30 " " 7.30 p. m. Air-Line, 8.30 " " 8.30 p. m. Stateville, 11.00 " " 2.00 p. m. C. C. East, 8.30 " " 9.00 p. m. C. C. West, D., 8.30 p. m., 9.00 p. m.

Money Order and Register Hours from 9 a. m. to 4 p. m.

R. E. McDONALD, P. M.

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CITY BULLETIN.

The ice was an inch and a half thick, yesterday morning, and the youngsters propose to do some skating to-day.

Booth's name is upon all lips and his coming will be the town's talk until the 25th arrives and he with it.

Mr. W. R. Myers, Jr., of this city, has been appointed a United States Marshal, and yesterday filed a justified bond before Justice W. F. Davidson.

A colored lady, wearing a light colored calico dress and a dilapidated pair of white kid slip pers, was the most sordid object on the streets, yesterday, not excepting the breezes.

There is little if any change in the weather. It continues very cold. This is the first real winter weather we have had, and it verifies the adage that "it never rains but it pours."

An old, old fellow, deaf as an adder and too venerable to speak for himself, was in the Register's Office, yesterday morning, to get a marriage license. His son, a youth of 46, gave the old man's age at 81, and the license was issued to him.

Hold Theft.

Yesterday about noon, while Mr. Jas. Platt was waiting on some customers in his establishment on Trade street, opposite the First Presbyterian Church, he turned his back and some unkind wretch stole his cash box with a contents of \$100. Mr. Platt does not know how much money there was in the box.

Election of Officers.

The members of the Mercantile Reading Association, at their meeting last evening elected the following officers: President - J. Kintz; Vice-President - S. A. Cohen; Treasurer - J. Kooser; Secretary - H. Baumgarten; Directors - I. Asiel, S. Waddeker, J. Lindy.

The Courts.

There were two little cases before the Mayor yesterday morning, for fast driving, the first cases that have been in this tribunal for days and days. The Magistrate had nothing worthy mention except the highway robbery cases, which are reported at length elsewhere.

Cure for Rheumatism.

Salt water is said to be good for rheumatism - E.

"Oh, get out!" All this old granny talk about cures for rheumatism, make a man mad who ever had it. There ain't anything in the world that will cure it, except just to lay up in bed and pray.

Burned to Death.

A sad occurrence took place in Gaston county, about 4 miles from Gastonia, on Monday evening last. A little daughter of Mr. Samuel Grieson, about 4 years old, was playing near the fire, when the flames caught her dress, causing her to be so badly burned that she died the next morning. No one was in the house at the time.

To Hang.

Unless pardoned or reprieved or his sentence is commuted, Randolph Sutton, the negro who committed a burglary upon the store of Mr. C. Cooper, in this county, will be hanged at Concord, on week from to-day. A petition, begging that his sentence be commuted has been forwarded to Gov. Brogden, and also a counter-petition, asking that the law be allowed to take its course.

Important to City Subscribers.

Last January the Observer adopted the cash system in the matter of subscriptions, and so far as the mails are concerned, we try to adhere to it; but in some way or other, quite a number of our city subscribers have fallen behind, and now owing for the paper. We hereby give notice that on the 15th inst., we will strike from our lists every patron who is in arrears. All will be treated alike, from the highest to the lowest.

Booth's Company.

We see from the Baltimore Sun that Miss Emma Pearce and Ada Gilman are with Mr. Booth in his Southern tour. They are well remembered by our citizens as the "Two Orphans" which Hall's Combination produced here, and both are very fine. The Sun speaking of Mr. F. B. Warden, the leading support, says: "He is really one of the very best actors we have ever had supporting a Shakespearean star in this city."

Chills and Fever.

Here is an old woman's prescription for their cure: "To cure chills and fever the best apple vinegar is recommended. Many have tried it with success. It must be taken for nine mornings, first taking it for three successive days, then omitting three days, then taking it again for three days, then again omitting three days, and then taking it again for three days. The vinegar must be first rate."

R. & A. L. R. R.

A traveling correspondent of the Raleigh News gives in the columns of that paper, a lengthy description of a trip over the line of the Raleigh & Augusta Air-Line Railroad. This road is now completed to Cameron, 87 miles from Raleigh, and 40 miles from the line of the Carolina Central Railroad, 10 miles of which are now graded. The road is being rapidly located through to the Carolina Central. The correspondent states a fact which is not generally known to our readers, viz: that when it is built to the Carolina Central, it will give a line from Charlotte to Raleigh, 18 or 20 miles shorter than by the North Carolina Railroad.

Removal and Appointment.

The Wilmington Star says: "Mr. W. S. Dockery, has, we learn, received the appointment of Route Agent on the Carolina Central Railway in place of Mr. F. S. Cantwell removed. In justice to Mr. C. we would state that his removal was not due to any dissatisfaction as to the performance of his duties, but simply the result of a mistake in making the appointment, which was intended in the first instance for the present appointee, Mr. Cantwell is said to have made a good agent."

Signature of the Cross.

The following which is a clipping, is interesting, and will be new to many. The mark which persons who are unable to write are required to make instead of their signatures, is the form of a cross; and this practice, having formerly been followed by king and nobles, is constantly referred to as an instance of the ignorance of ancient times. This signature is not, however, invariably a proof of such ignorance. Anciently the use of the mark was not confined to the illiterate persons; for among the Saxons the mark of the cross as an attestation of the good faith of the persons signing, was required to be attached to the signature of those who could not write. In those times, if a man could write, or even read, his knowledge was considered proof presumptive that he was in holy orders. The clericus or clerk, was synonymous with penman and the laity, or people who were not clerics, did not feel any urgent necessity for the use of letters. The ancient use of the cross was therefore universal, alike by those who could not write; it was indeed the symbol of an oath, from its sacred associations, as well as the mark generally adopted. Hence the origin of the expression, "God save the mark," as a form of ejaculation approaching the character of an oath.

Reported Killing of a Highwayman.

It is reported in this city, that on Tuesday evening at dark, a man named Smith, a citizen of Cabarrus county, was on his way home from Concord, when he was met in the road by a negro who demanded money. Mr. Smith gave him \$5, and the scoundrel demanded more. He responded that he had none, but thought that ought to be enough for him. The negro told him to hand over all he had, and Mr. Smith reached in his pocket as if to get it; but instead of the money he drew a pistol, which he leveled upon his assailant and fired, the ball striking him in the breast and producing almost instant death. The negro was found lying dead in the road, with the \$5 bill in his grasp.

We have the story of this occurrence from excellent authority, but have serious fears that it is too good to be true.

Still Another Attempt at Highway Robbery.

On Wednesday evening, an old negro named Nathan Grier, who lives in Paw Creek Township, and who had been to this city and sold a bale of cotton was returning home with the same in his pocket, and when about 10 miles beyond Stewart's Mill, two miles from the city on the Raleigh's Ferry road, he was assailed by a negro who stepped from the road side. The negro dragged him from his wagon and attempted to rob him when the victim reached behind him as if to draw a knife or a pistol, whereupon the assailant desisted and fled. He aimed at the time to be alone but as the old negro remounted his wagon and prepared to resume his journey, he noticed him standing down the road in company with another negro, who was, no doubt, a confederate. It is stated that the negro had taken his money in a certain store in the city where there were several negroes at the time, and it is supposed that some of this crowd saw him and waylaid him for it.

Arrests for the Gaston County Grave Opening.

Mr. R. M. Martin writes us from Gastonia, under date of Wednesday, that two negroes were arrested at that place on the day mentioned, charged with some knowledge of the grave affair. Their names are Lebe Rankin and Austin Hambricht. The evidence was mostly circumstantial; that against Rankin was that he told of the grave having been opened, early on Monday morning, in the presence of O. W. Davis, and others, before it was known at Gastonia. He refused to tell anything more, and subsequently denied that he had told this much. The latest track seen in the grave-yard, corresponds exactly with his. The track showed that the left shoe had a half-sole on it. In length, size and shape, it corresponds very closely to his, and as to the other marks the shoe corresponds exactly. Upon this evidence the court sent Rankin to jail.

Little Julia Stoney.

The following sweet little poem was written yesterday afternoon by Miss Kate Putnam, as a tribute to the memory of Julia Stoney, who died in this city on Saturday morning. Miss Putnam has kindly furnished us the manuscript, and we gladly make room for it in our columns. It discloses a poetical genius on the part of the writer, which is hardly less marked than that which she possesses as an actress. She met Julia Stoney during her visit to Charlotte, about two weeks ago, and was naturally most struck by her bright face and mind and her lovely, amiable disposition:

Out of the mist into sunshine,
Out of the darkness to light,
Awakened in Eternal Morning
Never again for thee, Night.

Too bright, for this life of shadows,
Made dark with each growing year;
Too frail for the storms that assail us,
To God's blessed angels too dear.

Thy beautiful eyes with their clear glance
With wonder shall never more grieve
At the stars, and their wonderful brilliance
Thy young mind again shall not daze.

The mystery to thee is now clear, child;
How much happier art thou than we;
Thy frail barque is anchored forever;
Ours' tossed on a wild heaving sea.

For a few hours only, sweet flower,
Thy life's fragrance to me;
But thy memory shall cling to my heart,
Child,
As the ivy clings close to the tree.

Highway Robbers Coming to Grief - Arrest of Two. One of Them Turns State Evidence.

It is a source of congratulation for the people of the whole county, that the steps which have been taken to bring to justice the highway robbers who have recently been depriving the public roads near this city, are likely to be crowned with success. Two arrests were made yesterday and others will ensue. The manner of these arrests was as follows: On Tuesday evening a negro named Nelson Lee, who is in the employment of Mr. S. H. Hilton, saw the party of four negroes pass Mr. E. H. house just before the attempt was made to steal the trunk from the carriage of Capt. J. R. Erwin, of which occurrence a report has already been given the public. He told Mr. Hilton that he thought he knew some of the negroes, and was instructed to ascertain certainly if he did, and report the result of his investigations.

Yesterday he went to Mr. Hilton's office, and reported that he had just seen the negroes. Warrants were accordingly issued, and placed in the hands of Constable Whittier, who, accompanied by Nelson, repaired to the Five Points and had two negroes presented to him as part of the guilty party. He took them under arrest and carried them before Justices Hilton and McIninch,

A Fortune From Across the Waters.

Mr. Thomas Barbour, a prominent merchant of this city, has, by the death of his father in Belfast, Ireland, fallen heir to an estate valued at over \$2,000,000. - New York Herald.

Mr. Barbour is one of the largest stockholders in the Centennial Gas Light Company, of this city.

Signature of the Cross.

The following which is a clipping, is interesting, and will be new to many. The mark which persons who are unable to write are required to make instead of their signatures, is the form of a cross; and this practice, having formerly been followed by king and nobles, is constantly referred to as an instance of the ignorance of ancient times. This signature is not, however, invariably a proof of such ignorance. Anciently the use of the mark was not confined to the illiterate persons; for among the Saxons the mark of the cross as an attestation of the good faith of the persons signing, was required to be attached to the signature of those who could not write. In those times, if a man could write, or even read, his knowledge was considered proof presumptive that he was in holy orders. The clericus or clerk, was synonymous with penman and the laity, or people who were not clerics, did not feel any urgent necessity for the use of letters. The ancient use of the cross was therefore universal, alike by those who could not write; it was indeed the symbol of an oath, from its sacred associations, as well as the mark generally adopted. Hence the origin of the expression, "God save the mark," as a form of ejaculation approaching the character of an oath.

The Alleged Suit Against the C. C. Railroad, and the Circumstances.

Some days ago we condensed from the Rockingham Courier, and published in our local columns what purport to have been the experience of a Baltimore drummer, W. S. Hamany, on the Carolina Central Railroad, or a night week or two ago; how he had been told by the conductor that he was at Rockingham, where he wanted to stop, and got off the station proving to be Pee Dee, &c., &c.

On yesterday, we had a call from Capt. J. H. McCre, a conductor on the road, who informs us that Ramsey was his passenger, and that he got off at Pee Dee; that this is the only part of his statement which is truthful, and all the balance is a pure fabrication. Capt. McCre says that at Pee Dee, Ramsey woke up and asked a passenger if that was Rockingham; the passenger responded that he did not know, but that he would find the conductor and ask him; while that passenger went into the front part of the train to find the conductor, Ramsey got off and his absence was not known to the conductor, until the train had proceeded three miles. Capt. McCre states that there is a truth whatever in the statement that he stood on the platform of the train as it moved off and called to the late passenger that he had stepped from the wrong place. He had not exchanged a word with him regarding the stations. Ramsey had told a porter to call him at Rockingham, and the porter would most probably have done so, had he (R.) remained on the train until it arrived there. This is the conductor's story and we have not the slightest doubt that it is the true one.

Nervous Debility.

VITAL WEAKNESS OR DEPRESSION: A weak exhausted feeling, no energy or courage; the result of mental overwork, indiscretions or excesses, or some drain upon the system, is always cured by Humphreys' Homeopathic Specific No. 28. It tones up and invigorates the system, dispels the gloom and despondency, imparts strength and energy - stops a drain and rejuvenates the entire man. Been used twenty years with perfect success by thousands. Sold by dealers. Price \$1 per bottle, or \$5 per package of five bottles, and \$2 per package of ten bottles, with receipt of price. Address HUNPHREYS' HOMEOPATHIC MEDICINE COMPANY, 562 Broadway, New York.

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where they divulged their names as Adam Phifer and Jim Poindexter. They at first denied all knowledge of the crimes with which they were charged, but the younger, Adam Phifer, who is nothing but a boy, finally "caved in," and turned State's evidence. Once acknowledging his complicity, he made an easy witness, and told a long and straight story. He said that there was an organized band, consisting of seven negroes, no being one, who had banded together for the purpose of highway robbery. He gave the names of the members of the band, and said that it was organized before Christmas; told all about their exploits, and gave in detail, the particulars of their operations. He described the personal appearance of the negroes belonging to the organization, and told their places of residence.

Upon a testimony, the negro, Poindexter, who was arrested with him, was committed to jail, and he was likewise committed for safe keeping as a witness for a further investigation of the case, which will be made to-day. Among other valuable evidence which he gave, was concerning the robbery on Thursday last week of Mr. Jos. H. Erwin, of Morning Star Township who was seized on the road and his watch taken from him. He told that the watch had been sold to a certain negro in the city. This negro was found, the watch recovered and returned to Mr. Erwin, who happened to be in the city. The witness also divulged that it was the purpose of the gang to have gone down the Monroe road, yesterday afternoon, and to have committed a robbery upon a passer-by, near Brier Creek. Two or three of the crowd had gone up the Air-Line Railroad, to about Gastonia, where they said they thought they could make a \$200 or \$300 "take."

The negro told his story with perfect frankness. He found, upon being arrested, that the only way to save himself was to tell on the others, and he seems to have his mind made up to tell all. His testimony will be of great assistance, and by means of this it is hoped that all of the scoundrels will be arrested. Great credit is due to the negro, Nelson Lee. It is due to his efforts that the clue was found and these two arrests were made.

The officers are in diligent search of those of the robbers who are yet free, and we hope to be able to record the capture of all of them, in our next issue.

P. S. - A. Fred Davis, a leader of the gang of robbers, was in the city last night by Mr. J. W. Durham, and taken before Justice McCre, who committed him to jail. As stated in the preceding portion of this article, there will be a further investigation of these cases to-day.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Endorsed by the people as a safe, reliable, harmless and cheap remedy. Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup.

CUT THIS OUT.

It May Save Your Life.

There is no person living but what suffers more or less with Lung Diseases, Coughs, Croup or Consumption, yet some would die rather than pay 75 cents for a bottle of medicine that would cure them. Dr. A. B. ROSEBERRY'S GERMAN SYRUP has lately been introduced in this country from Germany, and it is a cure for every one that tries it. If you doubt what we say in print, cut out and take it to your Druggist Messrs. T. Smith & Co., wholesale agents and retail druggists generally, and get a sample bottle for 10 cents and try it. Two doses will relieve you. Regular size 75 cents. [Dec 31.]

Nervous Debility.