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VOL. XX.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1878.

NO. 2,987.

Dry Goods.

TO THE TRADE. It is with pleasure we announce the purchase of our

FALL STOCK. Much of it has already arrived, and our arrangements for this season's business will be complete by September 1st.

DRY GOODS. Prepared to offer inducements even

GREATER THAN HERETOFORE. We invite inspection of our

IMMENSE PURCHASE. We have made great efforts to meet the demands of purchasers for their

Furniture. BURGESS NICHOLS.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL. DEALER IN

ALL KINDS OF FURNITURE. BEDDING, & BEDDING, & BEDDING, & BEDDING, &

CHEAP BEDSTADS! CHEAP BEDSTADS!

LOUNGES! LOUNGES! LOUNGES! LOUNGES!

PARLOR AND CHAMBER SUITS! PARLOR AND CHAMBER SUITS!

COFFINS of all kinds on hand.

COFFINS of all kinds on hand.

No. 5 WEST TRADE STREET.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.

Best Assortment of Children's Carriages, just arrived. Call and see them.

BARGAINS

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST SHIRT IN THE COUNTRY!

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST SHIRT IN THE COUNTRY!

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST SHIRT IN THE COUNTRY!

Also, we have just received by Express, a Large Lot of

HAMBURG EDGINGS!

HAMBURG EDGINGS!

HAMBURG EDGINGS!

BROWN DRESS LINKS AND TRIMMINGS!

BROWN DRESS LINKS AND TRIMMINGS!

BROWN DRESS LINKS AND TRIMMINGS!

At Astonishing Low Prices.

At Astonishing Low Prices.

At Astonishing Low Prices.

Call at once and secure Great Bargains.

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Call at once and secure Great Bargains.

PARLOR, CHAMBER, DINING ROOM. H. MORRIS & BROS.

Dry Goods, Clothing, &c.

NEW GOODS. FOR THE

FALL STOCK. OLD CUSTOMERS AND FRIENDS IN GENERAL:

DRY GOODS. RETAIL TRADE IN CHARLOTTE.

I would remind you of the fact that this Stock is to be entirely new.

My Stock will be open for your inspection by the 15th or 20th instant.

BROWN BUILDING. Opposite Charlotte Hotel, Tryon Street.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Sept. 21, 1878.

Democrat and Home please copy.

GONE NORTH. Our Mr. ALEXANDER has gone North for the purpose of purchasing our

FALL STOCK! FALL STOCK! FALL STOCK!

He will visit all the principal cities, viz:

PHILADELPHIA. NEW YORK.

BOSTON, &c.

Where he will, with great care, select a

STOCK OF GOODS, which, when complete, will equal any ever before offered by us.

WAIT AND SEE. ALEXANDER & HARRIS.

P. S.—Our Canopy Mosquito Nets have come very cheap and nice. Call and see them.

A. & H.

LATEST NEWS!

LATEST NEWS!

LATEST NEWS!

THE CELEBRATED PEARL SHIRT!

THE CELEBRATED PEARL SHIRT!

THE CELEBRATED PEARL SHIRT!

Can now be had already finished and ready for wear at the same old price, \$1.00.

The best and Cheapest Shirt in the Country!

The Best and Cheapest Shirt in the Country!

The Best and Cheapest Shirt in the Country!

Also, we have just received by Express, a Large Lot of

HAMBURG EDGINGS!

HAMBURG EDGINGS!

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BROWN DRESS LINKS AND TRIMMINGS!

BROWN DRESS LINKS AND TRIMMINGS!

A HYMN OF PRAYER.

[Baleath News.] The following poem was written by Mrs. Mary Burton Clark, and was sung at a private service for the relief of the fever sufferers.

"DE PROFUNDIS." Lord, from our Southern Land, In mercy lift thy hand,

Lord, keep our hope alive, Give us the strength to strive Against the pestilence that lies Before Thy throne we kneel,

Aside our strife we lay, Both North and South, and pray "Thy will be done."

A California abroad asserts that Spurgeon "fondly pawed the Bible while praying."

She—What age do you think I am? He (gallantly)—I don't know; but you don't look it.—Frank Leslie's Ladies' Journal.

A careful estimate of the funds collected throughout the country in the relief of the fever sufferers foots up one million dollars.

We are willing to contribute our share towards paying Kearney's expenses to go down and address the workmen of Memphis.—Cincinnati Times.

A Georgia railroad is to be sold in a few days for cash. How lucky! We were just casting about for a wedding present for a friend of ours.—Cincinnati Breakast Table.

Those who drank strong coffee at the Seguin bar were sorry for it afterward. They could not get a wink of sleep while the speeches were being made.—Cincinnati Times.

The name of the new St. Louis postmaster is Sam Hayes. He is no relative of the President, but was appointed by his namesake for his name's sake.—Cincinnati Times.

The Post says the lofty career of nearly all the "great statesmen" of Massachusetts has no more delicate office than that of a heavy dog on the back of a Durham bull.

A young man married against the wishes of his parents, and in telling a friend how to break the news to them, said: "You don't look it, I'm dead, and gently work up to the climax."

The man who "has helped a dozen young men to make their fortunes" lives here as elsewhere, but he never tells what interest he charged them nor what he fed on.—Cincinnati Times.

This is the season of the year when the night air is very dangerous, but the girls face death at front gates with the same heroism which has always been one of the chief ornaments of the sex.

The wife of a minister near Pawlet found him feeding chickens with dough in the dining-room. She "abused" the chickens out, her husband boxed her ears, she complained to the church and compelled him to resign—put him out on a fowl, as it were.

Wells and Anderson are calculating, with their usual cold-blooded ferocity, that 10,000 people who would vote against them for Congress will be absent on account of the yellow fever. Being absent they will not return in time to register and they expect to slip into Congress by grace of the plague—one pestilence producing another, as it were.

THE BURKE MYSTERY.

TRIAL OF THE SECREST MURDER CASE. The Evidence Adduced Thursday and Friday—The State's Testimony Finished.

[Specially reported for the Observer.] MARION, September 19.—The last report of the Secrest trial stopped with the evidence of Mr. E. M. Bullinger, who lives three miles from Newton in Catawba county.

The next place Secrest is heard from is at the house of Mrs. Alonzo Kline, the tenth witness introduced by the State. Mrs. K. lives about one and half miles below Hickory, between Newton and Hickory.

Here he stopped with the woman and child on the 6th of March, about 8 or 9 o'clock, a. m. Mrs. Secrest here cooked some bread, and they had a rest and ate breakfast on the roadside. After they had finished their meal they asked for a letter to write some letters. The writing was done at a lumber pile on the opposite side of the road from the house.

After they had remained about some time Mrs. Secrest came into the house and threw some pieces of paper into the fire, stating as she did so that he tore up her letters as fast as she wrote them.

She told Mrs. Kline that she had one which she was going to mail at Hickory. They left there about 12 or 1 o'clock, p. m., going in the direction of Hickory. After the cross-examination of the witness the court took a recess of two hours for dinner. The first witness called in the afternoon was D. B. Mull, who lives three miles from Morganton in Burke county, on the road leading from Morganton to Hickory and Lincolnton.

On Wednesday the 7th of March, the prisoner drove up to his house, asked for his dinner and wanted his mule fed. Young Mull and his father greeted Secrest's buggy, and he swears driving a dark bay mule, which has been described by several witnesses. Secrest was by himself at this place and left going in the direction of Lincolnton.

The next witness was J. P. Abram, who lives in the upper part of Catawba county about two miles from the Burke county line, on the road leading from Morganton to Lincolnton. Secrest drove up here and stayed all night on the 7th of March, 1877. Secrest was alone and came from the direction of Morganton; said he had been up above Morganton to see an uncle, but when he got there he found his uncle had moved away; witness never saw Secrest before that time; points him out in the court room.

Hosea Burns, the next witness, lives with another Mr. Mull, and on the road to Lincolnton, on Thursday, the 8th of March, Secrest overtook the witness four or five miles above Lincolnton. This witness had a good deal of talk with Secrest on the way to Charlotte. Secrest proposed to swap hats with the witness. They journeyed on till they came near Tuckasee ford, on the Catawba river, twelve miles from Charlotte. Witness stayed all night about eight miles from the ford, and he next morning (the 9th of March) witness met Secrest coming up the road from the direction of the ford, saying the river was too full to cross at the ford; they both then decided to go by Rozzell's ferry. They crossed the river and went out to Charlotte together. Here they separated about an hour before sundown, on the evening of the 9th. The accused was alone in his buggy all the time the witness traveled with him. This witness also identified Secrest in the court room.

Here is another day of which nothing is known of the prisoner; I mean Saturday the 10th.

Mrs. C. L. Deaver, who lives in Union county, about two and a half miles from where Mrs. Stevenson lived, is introduced and swears that on the 11th Secrest came to her house about 10 o'clock in the day, and stayed until after dinner. He came there to get a trunk left with her by Mrs. Stevenson. She says she told Hoke Secrest he had killed Maggie Stevenson and her little

girl Minnie. Secrest laughed and said:

"Mag and Minnie are all right." "Yes," she replied, "you would say they were 'all right' if they were dead and buried in a hole." Secrest got the trunk and took it away.

Mr. J. S. Tomlinson was the next witness on the stand. He was a tenant living on Mrs. Stevenson's place in Union county. He saw Mrs. Stevenson in the buggy with Secrest on the last day of February. When Secrest was starting away, about a quarter of a mile from her house, told this witness that she might go to her uncle, John T. Downs, at Pineville, or she might go to her brother in Georgia, but wherever she went she would write to him and tell him what to do when her rent came the land he was working. The next time this witness saw the prisoner after this morning, the last of February, was on the 15th of March, when he came to the house of the witness and took away one or two trunks, a bedstead, and several other things. He had an order purporting to be from Mrs. Stevenson, for the articles, and Clark gave Secrest his note for \$12.25, which he owed to Mrs. Stevenson.

Mrs. J. W. Clark, the wife of the last witness, was then placed upon the stand. She was in very bad health and quite sick; spoke so low that it was hard to distinguish what she said. Mrs. Stevenson told this witness that she and her brother were going to Burke or Buncombe to get married. Also, told witness that she might be back in a few weeks, if she did not take her little girl along. If she did take the girl she might be absent two or three months. This was a day or two before she started off with Secrest. The witness also stated that Mrs. Stevenson took two or three dresses with her, leaving her trunks and other things with the witness. When Secrest was on the 15th of March, he was accompanied by this witness that he had married Maggie Stevenson, but said that she had gone out West.

Abel Helms, of Monroe, was the next witness introduced by the State. His testimony was that on the 13th or 14th of March and showed him an order from Mrs. Stevenson directed to Clark, for the trunks and other things, which Clark delivered to him. Secrest further told this witness that he had married Maggie Stevenson, but said that she had gone out West.

Rev. E. David, who swears that Hoke Secrest came to him on the 7th of April, 1877, and asked him to write to Maggie Stevenson as he (S.) would direct. He stated to Mr. David that his object was to send whatever he should write to Mrs. Stevenson and that she would copy the same and send it back to him, and he (S.) would be in the following are the directions of Secrest to Mr. David: "I am on my way to Indianapolis, and expect to go fifty miles further to take charge of a school. You may say that Hoke Secrest and myself were married. It is not so. It was done that I might travel on the trains as a married lady. I sold Hoke Secrest my notes and other papers and some other things. Secrest directed Mr. David to sign Maggie Stevenson's name to the communication. Secrest took the letter when it was finished and said he would attend to the mailing of the same.

He was cross-examined very closely, but no new facts were elicited. The next witness was one J. W. Bowman, from the lower part of Burke county, about three miles from Hickory. This witness and two other boys were out rabbit-hunting, about the 10th of January, 1878, and found a hole dug out of the earth, and in it was a considerable part of it. These boys found some torn pieces of cloth and some hair, but did not disturb it. This witness went home and told his father and mother what they had seen. The next morning, Mr. Arney and his son went to the hole and found a considerable crowd gathered at the place and found, when they had cleaned out the grave, several bones, some hair and a pair of small, copper-tipped shoes, with the stockings in the shoes just as though they were on a child had been there.

(Here Mr. Arney, who gave this testimony, explained the location of the grave to the court and jury: It is about one hundred and fifty yards from the railroad and three miles above Hickory. Mr. Arney and his son went to the grave on Sunday evening, but did not disturb it; went back the next morning and a considerable crowd was at the grave; they cleaned the grave out and found some skull-bones in the west end of the grave, and a considerable amount of earth and west—some pieces of calico and other dress-fabrics; a piece of platted straw, which had been a part of a straw hat; a snuff-box about half full of snuff; some hair and ribbons, and a pair of shoes, with copper-tipped shoes, and a red-striped stocking sticking in each shoe. The witness could smell very strongly the scent of a human body decaying in the grave, and on the clothing and shoes. Mr. Arney was subjected to a very rigid cross-examination, which did not bring out any additional facts of public interest.

After his cross-examination was concluded the box containing the bones, pieces of dresses, hair, snuff-box, shoes, &c., was brought out and opened. (The crowd, here rose to their feet, and every one was standing on tip-toe to see what was the contents of the box. Mr. Arney identified several of the things which he found himself, or saw others pick up. The prisoner showed considerable nervousness when the contents were first brought out, but soon overcame the first exhibition of feeling and settled quietly back in his seat. His father sat beside him all the time in the court-room.

Mr. H. Adams, who was the twenty-second witness, examined up to 12 n. to-day, gave in very much the same evidence as did Mr. Arney, as the case was resumed, Abel Whitener was the first witness called on the stand. This gentleman is a magistrate; lives about three miles from Hickory and about eight and a half miles from the grave. When he went to the grave on Sunday, the 13th of January, 1878, Messrs. Arney and Adams were there. He got there about an hour before sundown; some scraps of clothing were hanging on the bushes, and some were still lying about on the ground, which had not been picked up by Messrs. Arney and Adams. All the things they picked up there were taken to Mr. Adams' tobacco barn and locked up there. Witness went to Mr. Adams' the next morning, and they took them to the barn and counselled with his father, who was sitting on the bench, which was by Mrs. Adams. These things were before the jury of inquest, on Monday evening, the 14th of January. Witness took the shoes

home with him, and on Tuesday, the 15th, carried them to Mr. Tomlinson, editor of the Piedmont Press. The next time witness saw any of the articles, was at the preliminary trial of Secrest at Court station. This witness also came down to the table in the bar, where the bones, shoes, hair and parts of the dressing were lying, and identified several pieces of the cloth, the shoes, hair, &c., as being the same which were picked up at the grave. This witness was cross-examined by the new facts were brought out. Re-examined by Mr. Bynum, as to the roads, he said the Hog Hill road led out into the main Morganton and Hickory road, or as it is sometimes called, the Island Ford road, near Court station; that there was very little difference in the distance, by either road.

J. S. Tomlinson was the next witness, the twenty-fourth. He states that on Tuesday, the 15th of January, "Squire" Hickey was over to a question of small leather shoes, copper-tipped, and one black-cloth gaiter shoe. This witness kept the shoes in his possession and took them to Court at the preliminary trial. Swears that he presented to him on the stand are the same shoes. Says further, that the Rev. J. C. Hartsell brought him (some time during the week) pieces of cloth, a snuff box and braid of hair. These were also identified by witness. On his cross-examination he answered a question of Col. Gaither that none of the things were washed while in his possession, and that no oil was put on the braid of hair. Identifies all the articles named. When this witness was put on his guard he could not swear positively whether Mr. Whitener or Rev. Mr. Hartsell gave him the snuff box. To a direct question by Col. 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