

THIS IS THE LAST WEEK OF OUR SPECIAL CASH SALE.

We still have a good many very desirable goods. Come while you can get such bargains as we now offer. 5 pieces bleached Table Damask from 41 to 99 cents. 3 pieces Red Damask from 31 to 87 cents. 54 inch Dress Flannels at 75 cents. TRUNKS, VALISES, READY MADE CLOTHING, &c.

Remnants in Dress Goods and Satins

At half their original cost. 15 pieces of LACE CURTAINS from 9 to 66 cents per yard. Don't fail to look at our new line of

HAMBURG AND TORCHON EDGINGS

That we have just opened up. Also, WHITE GOODS of every description.

HARGRAVES & ALEXANDER.

SMITH BUILDING.

More New Goods PEGRAM & CO.

First National Bank Building, South Tryon Street, - - - Charlotte, N. C.

DEALERS IN Ladies' Misses' and Children's FINE BUTTON, CONGRESS & LACE SHOES.

GENTS' FINE Silk, Soft and Stiff Hats.

TRUNKS, VALISES and GRIPSACKS, UMBRELLAS OF ALL KINDS.

SHOE BLACKING and BRUSHES, ALMA and RAVEN GLOSSING for Ladies' Fine Shoes.

Stock always kept full and up to the demand.

E. L. KEESLER & CO.

A new and handsome line of Irish and Everlasting Trimmings just received. Also a large and well stocked of

Checked Nainsooks, Bared Muslin, &c.

LADIES' SHAWLS

KID GLOVES IN STOCK,

E. L. KEESLER & CO.

Houses Rented.

THE LATEST AND MOST IMPORTANT!

ELLIOTT & MARSH.

The Charlotte Observer.

"FROM LIKE THE SUN, SOMETHING SUBTLE TO BE OBSERVED, FOR, LIKE THE SUN, ONLY FOR A TIME."

Subscription to the Observer. DAILY EDITION: Single copy, 5 cents. By the week, \$2.50. By the month, \$7.50. Three months, \$22.50. Six months, \$40.00. One year, \$75.00. WEEKLY EDITION: Three months, \$5.00. Six months, \$10.00. One year, \$18.00. In clubs of five and over \$1.50.

RAILROAD QUESTIONS

THE GEORGIA COMMISSION--ITS ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION.

The Defects Alleged Against It--Bad Effect on the Railroads--A Movement on Foot to Secure Its Modification.

SAVANNAH, Ga., February 7.--The railroad commission of Georgia was organized under an act of the General Assembly passed in 1878. The right of the General Assembly to delegate to a commission the powers over railroads expressly granted to it by the constitution of the State, was contested, but was finally decided by the Supreme Court of the United States in favor of the constitutionality of the commission law.

There had been much agitation on the subject of legislative control of railroads for several years and many complaints were made from the smaller trade centres of the State of unjust discrimination in favor of certain cities and firms, and of excessive charges for freights and passenger fares. No doubt these complaints were in many instances well founded, but it is undoubtedly true that popular prejudices had much to do with the crystallization of the sentiment which forced the convention, and later the General Assembly, to adopt stringent measures for the control, and, it may well be said, the "management" of the railroads of Georgia.

The constitution (article 4, section 2) authorized "the regulating of freight and passenger tariffs, and the preventing of unjust discriminations." It also prohibited the railroad companies from "buying shares in other corporations, or making contracts tending to defeat or lessen competition, or to encourage monopoly," and forbade "the granting of any rebate, or bonus in the nature of a rebate, tending to deceive the public as to the actual rates charged." The commission, which has ever since its organization been under the leadership of Campbell Wallace, one of the ablest railroad men of the South, went to work with great energy and zeal and it was not long before freight tariffs were remodeled and cut down from 20 to 50 per cent, and even more in some cases, and passenger fares were reduced on the main lines from 4 and 5 to 3 cents per mile. This heroic treatment at first created consternation in railroad circles, but it made the commission very popular throughout the greater part of the State, and its powers were somewhat enlarged from time to time. The commission were made almost as complete masters of the railroads of Georgia as if they owned every line, their decrees and rulings not being subject to review by any court or other authority.

The managers of the railroads accepted the new order of things sulkily, but they determined to do their utmost to save the great interests in their hands from wreck. They also went to work systematically but honorably to defend what they conceived to be their rights before the courts, and to represent their interests before the commission. They also began to endeavor to convince the people of the necessity of limiting the powers of the commission, and even of the advisability of abolishing it altogether. They argued that over \$70,000,000 worth of railroad property, which was entitled to the credit of having made Georgia the Empire State of the South, should not be placed permanently in the absolute power of three men, who might use that power to further their own interests political or otherwise.

Notwithstanding the most stringent economy on the part of the railroads, their dividends began to grow smaller, and of course the value of their securities began to decline. Railroad building in the State became practically at a stand-still for a time. Of course the railroad people charged all this to the commission, while the commission and their friends charged it to the general stagnation of business throughout the country, and especially to several short crops in this section of the South. The arguments on each side in the newspapers and before the railroad committees of the General Assembly were able and exhaustive.

proaching reaction of public sentiment. They doubled their efforts to place their views favorably before the people, modifying their position somewhat, no longer asking that the commission be abolished but only that its powers be confined within reasonable limits. They then began to gain ground rapidly, and several influential newspapers and leading politicians that had been supporting the commission espoused their cause. In the last General Assembly a bill covering the modifications asked by the railroads passed the Senate by a good majority, and only failed in the House by a few votes. The outlook for the passage of a similar bill in the next General Assembly is thought to be favorable.

During the past three months there has been set on foot in Georgia a number of new railroad projects, some of them being of great importance, and it is very reasonable to expect that two or three of the most important lines will be built. It is impossible to say what effect these enterprises will have on the commission question. It is proposed to build them by the combination of local and Northern capital, and while this may prove that the railroad commission of Georgia is not preventing the investment of money in needed lines of railroad, hundreds of influential men interested in these new lines will hereafter have a community of interest with the railroad people who have so long been fighting the commission. There seems to be a strong probability that the next General Assembly of Georgia will remove the more objectionable features of the railroad commission law.

STATE NEWS.

Mr. W. W. Kitchen, editor of the Scotland Neck Democrat, has surrendered his position on that paper, and left Monday for Texas, with the intention of staying there a year, at least, and of probably making it his future home.

Wilmington Star: We understand that the necessary arrangements have been so far perfected that it may be confidently stated that the electric light will be in working order in Wilmington in about two weeks. The machinery and wires are all here now, and the company will begin tomorrow getting them up and in position. Our informant says that the company have already sixty lights in Raleigh, and have ordered another plant to supply the demand there.

Warrenton Gazette: The Western Union Telegraph Company will run its lines into Warrenton and establish an office here in a few days. We saw some tobacco from Camden county sold in our market the other day, but it was very inferior article, and if it was the best that could be done, it will not pay the people there to make it. Some are now burning their plant beds with kerosene oil. The bed is covered with trash, which is saturated with the oil and fired. It is said to be as good as the old method and much cheaper.

Gastown Current: The Carolina Iron Mining Co., commenced operations on the Old Ormand ore bank on New Years day. They say they are going to do some extensive work. They are now shipping ten tons of ore per week. Mr. J. A. Shrum and Eusebius Costner on last Saturday evening baited a place and built a "blind" for turkeys and on Monday morning they went to the place early and succeeded in killing three wild turkey hens that weighed 30 pounds, at three shots, and wounded a large gobbler.

Clayton Bud: About the 5th of January last, Senator Ashely Horne, was stricken blind in one of his eyes, caused by hemorrhage. He has had but little hope of the sight being restored soon, if ever. He left on Monday morning for the North accompanied by his son, Master Charlie, where he will consult the best oculistic skill in regard to the other eye, which is very much in sympathy with the one that is lost. He has very grave fears that he will lose his sight altogether.

Goldsboro Messenger: Mr. Alex. Thain, of Johnston county, was choked and knocked down Saturday night, by some unknown party, while walking on the sidewalk near Mr. Tom Parker's, and claims that he was robbed of about \$45. It happened soon after the arrival of the midnight train on which he had come from Warsaw, himself, rather under the influence of liquor. He was found a few minutes after it happened in a rather bloody condition but not seriously hurt. Who his assailant was is not known. He says it was a tall slim built white man. The police made every effort to ferret out the perpetrator but without success.

Wilson Mirror: We learn from a very interesting letter from our new correspondent, Plain Tom, that Liberty Dorch, the oldest negro man in Nash county, and perhaps in the State, died on Wednesday. He was the slave of Mrs. Drucilla Dorch, and the record shows that he was born in 1776, and the patriotic name here suggests the belief that the record is true, for about that time every hill and dale was vocal with the Declaration of Independence, and it is more than probable that the owner of this old negro was filled with that same patriotic ardor which shouted but two things--Liberty or Death, and hence this unusual and patriotic appellation.

IT WILL PAY YOU

To examine these lines. We are not selling them

BELOW COST, but BELOW VALUE.

TOWELS:

FINE LINEN HUCK	17x30 INCHES	AT 8c EACH	WORTH 12c
" " DAMASK	" " "	" " "	" " "
" " HUCK	" " "	" " "	" " "
" " KNOT'D FRINGE DAM.	" " "	" " "	" " "
" " EXTRA HEAVY	" " "	" " "	" " "
" " PURE WHITE DAMASK	" " "	" " "	" " "

TABLE DAMASK:

UNBLEACHED LOOM DYCE DAMASK	50 ins at 21c per yard	worth 35c
" " "	60 ins at 35c	" " 50c
" " "	62 ins at 50c	" " 70c
" " "	54 ins at 41c	" " 55c
" " "	60 ins at 52c	" " 75c
" " BORDERED	60 ins at 58c	" " 85c
" " "	64 ins at 75c	" " 95c
" " "	64 ins at 82c	" " 1.00
" " COLORED	60 ins at 32c	" " 50c
" " "	60 ins at 50c	" " 65c
" " "	60 ins at 62c	" " 75c
" " "	60 ins at 68c	" " 85c
" " "	60 ins at 70c	" " 90c

4 Special Numbers in Quilts

AT 98c	A WHITE CROCHET QUILT	10-4	WORTH \$1.25
1.15	EXTRA HEAVY	11-4	" 1.50
1.50	A BEAUTIFUL MARSEILLES	11-4	" 2.00
1.95	EXTRA HEAVY	12-4	" 2.75

UNUSUAL OFFER!

1,500 yards of Genuine Lace Striped Scrim, 40 inches wide, at 12c. per yard, worth 25 cents.

WITTKOWSKY & BARUCH,

CHARLOTTE, N. C.

MAIL ORDERS SOLICITED AND PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.

FOR SALE.

Two desirable building lots, 50x300 feet, fronting on South Tryon street, adjoining the property of J. H. Caron. Shaded trees on lots. Will be sold separately or together. Price \$700 each.

CHARLOTTE REAL ESTATE AGENCY.

L. J. WALKER. B. K. BRYAN.

L. J. WALKER & CO.,

Wholesale and Retail Grocers.

NEW FIRM - NEW GOODS

General Grocery Business

At the old stand of Springs & Burwell, corner Tryon & Fourth streets. We are qualified by long experience, to meet the demands of the trade, and give satisfaction to our customers. We will keep on hand at all times a full stock of

FAMILY SUPPLIES

which will be delivered in any part of the city, free of charge.

REMEMBER

We will not be undersold in the Charlotte market.

There is a good wagon yard in the rear of our store for the accommodation of our customers.

L. J. WALKER & CO.



THOMSON'S PATENT GLOVE FITTING

ARE STILL TRIUMPHANT! For fifteen years they have steadily gained in favor, and with sales constantly increasing have become the most popular correct throughout the United States.

The G quality is warranted to wear twice as long as ordinary corsets. We have lately introduced the G and E H Grades with Extra Long Waists, and we can furnish them when preferred.

Highest awards from all the World's great fairs. The last medal received is for First Degree of Merit from the late Exposition held at New Orleans.

While scores of patents have been found worthless, the Principles of the Glove Fitting have proved invaluable. Retailers are authorized to refund money, if, on examination, these Corsets do not prove as represented.

For sale everywhere. Catalogue free on Application. Thomson, Langdon & Co., New York. These goods in all styles and qualities for sale by C. M. QUERNY, Charlotte, N. C.

PENNYROYAL PILLS

"CHICHESTER'S ENGLISH" The Original and Only Genuine. Safe and always reliable. Beware of worthless imitations. Indispensable to LADIES. Ask your Druggist for Chichester's English and take no other. Or address CHICHESTER'S ENGLISH, 311 North Market Street, Philadelphia, Pa. Sold by Druggists everywhere. Ask for Chichester's English. Pennyroyal Pills. Take no other.