

THE NEWS-HERALD.

COBB, Editor and Owner.

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Land Deals In Linville

Power Company Takes Up Options on Farms at Low Prices.

One month ago the Southern Power Company procured options on the land on Linville creek, in this county, for the view of erecting a great dam in the vicinity of Pool's mill. People wondered if the company would take up the options and now the Holloway is busy recording the farms on Linville river and Pool's creek, with a prospect of transfers to the company. The deals this week include about 100 acres from Mr. T. L. Berry, at approximately \$15,000; about 100 acres from Mr. R. G. Gibbs at \$17,000, and Mr. C. T. Jaynes at \$4,000. No doubt other options will be taken up within the next few days. Plans for the future of these people who are selling out are not known, but it is hoped that every one of them will invest somewhere in the county and remain with us.

HOPEWELL BURNED

Which Sprang Up in Less Year Reduced to Ashes.

Hopewell, Va., grown up since with the great new gun cotton of the Du Pont Powder Company, was practically destroyed last year by a fire which started in a barn and did property damage estimated at from \$1,000,000 to \$3,000,000. The Du Pont works outside the settlement were undamaged. The fire started in the barn of A. and B. near Hopewell, and spread to the families of many employees of the factory, also employees of wild disorder accompanied by fire and citizens lynched a mob for looting. There was no loss of life and only a few injuries were reported.

The law was proclaimed with the arrival of six militia companies, from Richmond by order of the court. The thousands of homes, women and children had fled to Petersburg and Richmond, but many men remained to what little property they had left to save. The fire started in a Greek restaurant and was caused by the accidental overturning of a stove. The fire raged from 9 p. m. until nearly 9 p. m. Available fighting apparatus was inadequate to cope with the flames eating their way through the flimsy frame structures thrown up during the early part of the town last summer, like tinder.

Deep Snow in This Section Years.

The deepest snow in years and the deepest in the memory of the oldest inhabitants to fall in Christmas was that which fell about the middle of the month Saturday with such velocity that the ground was white and the beautiful" and before 10 that night the depth reached 10 to 12 inches.

The Enterprise says: "Eight miles south, got only three inches. Asheville on the west side of the snow country, 10 inches, and Greensboro five. Remembered that at least one December snow came Christmas, 1877, if the date is correct, Christmas was the biggest Christmas that is now recalled."

Spainhour Returns.

In an absence of over six years as a missionary of the Baptist Church, Miss Lettie Spainhour returned to Morganton Sunday at noon to her home here.

The Marion Progress of last week appeared a notice by order of the District court of the conveyance of a tract of land in McCrory county, near Old Fort, to J. H. Giles and N. O. Glen Alpine. It is predicted that the government will add to the reserve which is being sold a number of western counties in North Carolina.

SENATOR TILLMAN SPEAKS

Says Bryan is "Simply Obsessed" and That Roosevelt is the "Giant in Mother Goose."

Washington Dispatch, 13th.

Describing William J. Bryan as "simply obsessed" and Theodore Roosevelt as "the giant in Mother Goose," chairman Tillman of the naval committee addressed the Senate today on national defense and assailed what he characterized as the greed of private manufacturers of war materials.

Senator Tillman upheld Secretary Daniels' administration of the Navy Department.

"The question of preparedness requires grave consideration and prompt action," said Senator Tillman. "There are all sorts of opinion and advice from all quarters—good, bad and not only unwise, but unthinkable of adoption except by wild men of Barnes."

"Mr Bryan, the evangelist of peace at any price, is utterly opposed to any and all increase. He seems to be simply obsessed on this question and has lost his poise. Ex-President Roosevelt, on the other hand, who snorts and roars like a veritable bull of Bashan, poses as the God of War, and clamors for a very large standing army and a great reserve. He reminds one of the giant in Mother Goose."

No Welcome For Ford Party.

The Ford peace expedition is also looked upon as a joke on the other side, and is thus unfortunately handicapped in any effort it might make in behalf of peace. Neither encouragement, recognition nor support in any shape or form will be offered to the Ford peace party by The Netherlands government, according to information from official sources given to a correspondent of the Associated Press at The Hague. Government officials, it was indicated, naturally noted the party's departure and also received a notification thereof from the leader, but no reply was forwarded. No opposition will, however, be placed in the way of the party's landing in Holland but should the activities of its members become embarrassing, they will in all probability be requested to transfer their headquarters to other than Dutch territory. Private pacifists, of whom there are many in Holland, probably will welcome the Ford party as an addition to their ranks.

Report Acts of Courtesy.

To encourage employees to be courteous in all their dealings with the public, the management of the Southern railway is asking that reports of examples of courteous acts on the part of employees be made to it. With this policy in view the following has been printed on the menu cards in some of the Southern railway dining cars:

"The management of the Southern Railway Company expects its employees to distinguish their service to the public by courtesy and requests the traveling public to report examples of successful service so that the employees may be encouraged by appreciation of their efforts."

Inasmuch as the public is always ready to talk about the discourtesy of the railroad people, it is but fair that acts of courtesy be reported.

Iredell Sheriff Must Refund.

The Supreme Court's decision in the matter as to whether the sheriff of Iredell county when placed by law on a salary last December had a right to collect for himself commissions on 1914 taxes collected after that date went against the sheriff and he must pay into the county treasury all such commissions. The total amount is estimated at \$3000.

Miss Minerva Arrington, who is a student at Salem College at Winston-Salem, will arrive in the city Friday to spend the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Arrington, at the Central Hotel. Miss Arrington is an exceptionally pretty and vivacious young woman and while she has resided in the city but a short while has already won numerous friends. Mr. and Mrs. Arrington spent much of last winter in the city and this fall decided to locate here permanently.—Charlotte Observer, 15th.

The Southern Commercial Congress opened in Charleston Monday to continue five days.

BURKE SUPERIOR COURT.

List of Cases Disposed of Up to This (Thursday) Morning.

Following is a list of cases disposed of up to this morning in Burke Superior Court which convened on Monday, Dec. 6th.

Port Berry vs. Emma Berry—action for divorce. Divorce refused.

Maud Abernethy vs. R. Lee Abernethy. Plaintiff granted divorce.

Hilliard vs. Abernethy, Lyerly & Co. Judgment for plaintiff and recovery of land.

Harrison & Packer vs. W. C. Moore. Judgment \$200 for plaintiff.

C. S. Smith vs. Southern Railway. Judgment for plaintiff \$250.

Mrs. W. C. Henderson vs. Huffman Mfg. Co. Judgment non suit and against plaintiff for cost.

D. F. Bailey vs. L. A. Kincaid and Marshall Arney. This was a suit for damages on account of an accident to Bailey's wife and child. Mrs. Bailey fell over a sack of corn with her child in her arms while the corn was being unloaded from Arney's wagon at Kincaid's store and the child sustained a broken leg. Judgment for plaintiff \$50 and costs.

Corpening vs. Westall—compromise.

Kennedy vs. Beckton—compromise.

Bondinghauser vs. Watts—non suit—judgment against plaintiff for cost.

Mrs. D. A. DuBose vs. Ray-Campbell Co. Judgment for plaintiff.

Henderson Pearson, Elias Walton, Dora Hamilton and W. T. Mull vs. Morganton Road Commissioners. Appeals dismissed.

Ed Dale vs. Lee Rust—compromise.

Huffman Mfg. Co. vs. J. D. Pitts—non suit.

Denton vs. Southern Railway—judgment for defendant.

Allen-Walton.

In a pretty marriage ceremony at 4:30 o'clock this afternoon witnessed by near friends and relatives, Miss Anita Walton became the bride of Mr. George Allen, of Concord. Grace Episcopal church, where the ceremony was performed, was beautifully decorated for the occasion with evergreens, carnations and lighted with candles. Rev. George Hilton, rector of the church, administered the vows. Mr. Hardie Turner was at the organ, playing before the ceremony Berchuse and Hoffmung, and Mendelsson Wedding March as the wedding party entered. The bride, who was attended by her sister, Miss Cora Walton, as maid of honor, was beautiful in a brown broadcloth suit with accessories to match. She was given away by her father. Mr. G. Hendrix of Concord, was best man. During the ceremony "The Answer" was played softly, and the party left the church to the strains of Grand March from Tannhauser.

The bride, a beautiful brunette, is exceedingly popular in Morganton. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Walton, of Quaker Meadows. The good wishes of many admiring friends here will go with her to Concord, where the young couple will make their home.

Automobile Accident.

The first automobile accident of any consequence to occur in Morganton created much excitement on the streets here last Friday afternoon. In trying to avoid hitting a Deaton child who had darted out into the street in front of his machine, Mr. Ben Lane drove the car into the sidewalk in front of Presnell & Hogan's store with such force as to dislodge one of the street light posts. The child was knocked down, but not seriously injured, and no one was hurt. The car was rather badly battered up but can be repaired. Everyone who witnessed it felt greatly relieved that results were not more serious.

Deals in Real Estate at Drexel.

Mr. D. B. Mull has sold his use and lot at Drexel to Mr. Jacob Abee. Mr. Mull will move to Bowman's Crossing, where he is in business.

Mr. Lush Baker has sold 38 acres to the Misses Reid for \$1,000.

Mr. G. P. Asbury has purchased from Mr. Byard Williams a house and lot at Drexel. Mr. Williams will move to Bowman's Crossing.

The time is getting short until Christmas. Don't put off your shopping until the last minute. Eleventh hour customers get little satisfaction for themselves and add much to the burden of the overworked Christmas clerks.

BROWN MOUNTAIN LIGHT STILL A MYSTERY.

Investigations Find No Solution and Mystery is as Unexplained as Before—Dr. Wilson's Report.

Dr. C. L. Wilson, of Lenoir, a member of Mr. H. C. Martin's investigating party to find cause for the mysterious Brown Mountain light has made the following report.

Since reading the article from the pen of Mr. W. W. Scott, of Washington, D. C., concerning the Brown Mountain light mystery, I have been anxious to know more about it.

On December 8th I started in search of more information. I reached Loven's hotel on Jonas' Ridge about sunset and commenced my observation about 6:30 p. m., for the light can be seen now at twilight. It was a real cold night and the wind was blowing a gale, but I had gone too far, made too great a sacrifice of time to lose my opportunity.

Brown Mountain in its general course, points north-east and south-west. The west end is about seven miles east of Loven's Hotel. The south end is about twelve miles from Loven's hotel. A line drawn from point of observation near Rev. Dr. Gregory's cottage by Joy postoffice and on to Morganton, limits the south end of the mountain, this line is twenty-five miles long; the north end is bound by a line drawn from same point of observation to Lenoir, a distance of about thirty-five miles (a dim reflection from the electric lights of both towns can be seen at night.) In looking for the light from this point, you are on the west side of Brown Mountain looking east. Those who have observed this spectacular phenomenon most are a unit in the belief that it rises on the east side of Brown Mountain, and therefore has to rise above the top of the mountain before it can be seen. I will say frankly that this is not in accord with my belief, to me the light appears visible on the west side of the mountain when first seen. There are more points than one from which this light can be viewed, John Barrier who lives three quarters of a mile south-west of Loven's Hotel can see the light from his window or door, and it can also be seen from Tip Top U. G. Mr. Loven and Pet Tuttle (son of Esq. C. A. Tuttle of Lenoir) saw the light from the top of Rip Shin about three weeks ago, between one and four o'clock a. m. while coon hunting. Rip Shin is half way between Loven's hotel and Brown Mountain. This placed them within three miles of the supposed location of the light. They said "this was" the best view of the light they have ever had, all of which goes to show we will "catch" it when we go after it on Brown Mountain.

The first time this mystery was seen, and discussed, so far as is known, was by a party from Morganton stopping at Loven's hotel, about ten years ago, then there was a lull in the discussion of the affair for five years, until Rev. Dr. Gregory occupied his summer cottage. He saw the light every night, when the weather conditions were favorable, and again called Mr. Loven's attention to it, since that time it has been seen by hundreds of people. A more satisfactory observation can be had on a moonlight than on a dark night, from the fact that you can get an outline of the mountain and surroundings. So far as I can ascertain, there has never been an investigation made from the top of Brown Mountain, this, in my opinion, would help to solve the mystery.

Saw the Light.

Near 6:45 o'clock p. m. three of us were crouched behind a knoll to shield us from the wind when Mr. Loven said "There is that light." I said, "That is a sky rocket." The appearance was on the south end of the mountain, seemingly near Joy post-office. From that time until eight o'clock p. m. (one hour and fifteen minutes) we had seen the light at different points as regards north and south fifteen times; it was only in view from one-half minute each time.

What It Looks Like.

The light has no resemblance to the reflection from a headlight but has characteristics all its own, it resembles the morning star or a discharge from a sky-rocket. It also reminds one of a person, at some distance, carrying a lighted lantern and moves around with about the speed of a balloon. I do not regard this as a weird light, yet I noticed I did not sleep quite so well after viewing it as I do at home.

So far as the landscape is concerned

DEATH OF D. H. PEELER.

Perhaps the Oldest Man in the County Passes Away.

Mr. D. H. Peeler, who had passed his 91st birthday, died at his home at Rutherford College Tuesday afternoon, after a lingering illness, and was buried in the Methodist churchyard near the college today at 11 o'clock.

Mr. Peeler was one of our best known citizens, a man of high christian character, and had passed the age of 91 years, making him perhaps the oldest man in the county.

Mr. Peeler was twice married, the first time to Miss Eliza Robinson, who died years ago. His second marriage was to Miss Mary Ann Robinson, who survives. The surviving children are Mr. Alfred Peeler of Cleveland county, Mrs. Sallie Estes, of Council Bluffs, Iowa, Mrs. Ella Turner, of Virginia, and Miss Henrietta Peeler, of Rutherford College. The late Thomas Peeler and the first wife of Mr. J. A. Lackey were children by the first union. There is a large connection and the funeral was attended by quite a number of relatives and friends.

Marriage of Miss Kate Corpening.

Friends here have received the following announcement:

Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Corpening announce the marriage of their daughter
Kathryn
to

Mr. Bert White Kirkman
on Tuesday, the fourteenth of December

nineteen hundred and fifteen
at High Point, North Carolina.

The bride, a daughter of Mr. W. P. Corpening, of Upper Creek township, a capable and attractive young woman, has held a position for some time in High Point. Many friends here will join The News-Herald in wishing her much happiness.

It is possible to see a light from Connelly Springs to Brown Mountain and Loven's hotel, for Connelly Springs and Rutherford College can be seen from these points, yet I did not see the light Mr. H. C. Martin sighted for me at Connelly Springs on the night of the eighth (this was Mr. Martin's plan to either confirm or eliminate the headlight theory.) Will say if Hildebrand Mountain, near Connelly Springs, were a volcano emitting flames a mile high and illuminating the entire surroundings south of Brown Mountain, yet our modest little light would go on playing its pranks as it does now. My investigation thus far leads me to the belief that we are not dealing with the light of jack-o'-lanterns. I will see these lights or light no more till the roses bloom again, but when summer comes I will pitch my tent on top of Brown Mountain about four miles north of Joy postoffice. Who will go with me, for I should not like to go alone, for there is a knob in that vicinity called Mysterious light Rattlesnakes! How does this trio sound? But we must go in the interest of science, you know.
C. L. WILSON.
Lenoir, N. C., Dec. 11, 1915.

Miss Nigara Estes, of Asheville, is spending the week with friends in Morganton. She will go from here to Rutherford College on a visit.

Miss Willie Spainhour went to Charlotte Saturday to meet there her sister, Miss Lettie Spainhour, who was returning home from China.

Miss Belle Corpening attended the marriage of her sister, Miss Kate Corpening, Tuesday in High Point, returning Wednesday.

Hon. Solomon Gallert, an attorney of Rutherfordton and prominently mentioned for the Democratic nomination for Congress in his district, is in Morganton this week on business in the court.

Editor T. J. Robertson and Mrs. Robertson left Monday for their new home in Madison, Rockingham county. They are followed by the best wishes of many friends they have made during their residence in Morganton. Mr. Robertson expects to get out a paper in his new field as soon as he gets his equipment reestablished. The prospects for success for a paper there are very encouraging.

NEWS ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Brief Notes of Recent Happenings in North Carolina.

Judge Cline has named General Manager Edward B. Penny and W. M. Thompson of New York as receivers for the Elkin & Alleghany railroad. A reorganization of the road will be started shortly.

Fire at the orphanage of the North Carolina Methodist Conference in Raleigh Monday morning destroyed the barn, entailing a loss of \$2,500, protected by \$1,000 insurance. The live stock were saved.

Announcement was made Tuesday that Mrs. John W. Hanes of Winston-Salem had given the Methodist Children's Home, near that city, \$10,000. It is stated that the money will be used in the erection of an industrial building for the home and is in accord with Mrs. Hanes' interest in an advocacy of proper training for the boys.

Robert B. Dula, a native of Caldwell county, long a resident of New York city, formerly connected with the American Tobacco Company and now a millionaire, recently bought a building, corner Fifth avenue and Forty-fourth street, for which he paid about \$2,000,000. The yearly income from the rents is \$172,000.

Mrs. Julia Ann Troutman, an aged white woman, was burned to death at her home in the Organ church neighborhood, Rowan county, Sunday night. Her body was found on her front porch early Monday with the clothing practically burned off. It is supposed she caught fire from an open fire-place and rushed to the porch in an effort to put out the flames. She lived alone.

Three white boys, Eugene Burns, Claude Krider and a Teague boy were arrested in Hickory Sunday morning for store breaking. The Krider boy, 14 years old, is the same who was arrested in Statesville a few weeks ago for an attempt at store breaking. He is now under bond for his appearance at next term of Iredell Superior Court. The Teague boy figured in a store breaking case in Hickory over a year ago, when Abernethy Hardware Company's store was broken into and some bicycles stolen. He was caught after a sensational chase leading to Taylorsville.

The Newton Enterprise gives an interesting bit of information in the statement that all the clerks of the court of Catawba county, six in number, for the past 50 years are still alive. M. O. Sherrill, State librarian for many years, and living in Raleigh, was elected in 1866 and held the office 16 years; P. A. Hoyle of Newton was elected in 1882 and held eight years; J. F. Herman was elected in 1890 and had four years; J. W. Rockett came in 1894 and served four years; L. H. Phillips served eight years from 1898, and was succeeded by C. M. McCorkle who served eight years, from 1906. Filling county offices in Catawba, therefore, is a very healthy occupation, it would seem.

Miss Nita Shuping returned Tuesday from a visit to Lenoir.

Mrs. E. R. Haney has returned from a visit to Philadelphia.

Miss Hatcher, of Charlotte, is boarding at Mr. P. W. Patton's.

Mr. Macon Michaux arrived Tuesday from Richmond to spend Christmas at his home.

Mr. Allen Lee and Miss Annie Lee of Concord, were here today for the Allen-Walton marriage.

Miss Leah Howard returned yesterday from Black Mountain and will probably spend a month at her home here.

Mrs. John Garrison was called to Murfreesboro this week on account of the illness of her daughter, Mrs. John Evans.

The holiday trade is getting in full swing. Nearly every store in town is in holiday dress, the windows decorated most attractively, and perhaps never before have more splendid stocks of holiday goods been presented on the local market to the holiday shopper. In the variety offered for selection and reasonableness of price Morganton merchants would make favorable comparison with city tradesmen.