

# WHY THERE'S NO MONEY TO LOAN

## How Capital Has Been Driven From This State.

## Injury That Has Been Done by the Six Per Cent. Law.

## A Full and Careful Review of the Subject.

### Who Are Responsible For This Legislation, the Repeal of Which Would Work Great Benefit to All Interests in North Carolina.

Written for the Asheville Daily Gazette by W. A. Smith, Esq.

Possibly the most damagig law that has been enacted by the law making power of North Carolina was the passage of the six per cent interest law by the legislature of 1895. The law, it will be conceded, is the worst law, which affects most injuriously the greatest number of people whoatall within the legitimate scope of its operation. These propositions will be maintained, if it is shown.

First, That the law was intended to benefit, at least, 95 per cent of the inhabitants of the state.

Second, That every man, for whose benefit the law was intended, has been greatly injured.

Third, That a very large per cent. of that class have been finally ruined.

Fourth, That that class (less than 5 per cent of the people) against whom the law was intended to operate has gained by that law, all the advantages which the large class has lost.

Now the proof. Ist. It was claimed by those politicians who advocated the passage of this law, that a very small per cent of the people were devouring the poor man who had to borrow money and go in debt, by charging them 8 per cent. the rate then allowed by law, and that to make it unlawful to charge more than 6 per cent would relieve that large oppressed class from the ravages of that small, devouring class. Will the advocates of the law deny this assertion? If so, why did they pass the law?

2. Has any man been able to get money at a lower rate, since the passage of this law than he had to pay before its enactment? Have not hundreds and thousands of that class been forced to pay twice, three times and often five times as much for money under the new law as they did under the old?

This question must be answered affirmatively by every man who has been forced to get, not borrow money, from the aforesaid devouring class. If any man denies this, offer him a mortgage on your property, and ask him to lend you money to the amount of one-half the value of the property mortgaged, as it is assessed for taxes, at 6 per cent, and if he says that he has not the money, then offer to pay him a commission of 6 per cent, to find you a man who will take the mortgage and furnish the money at 6 per cent, and see if you can get it. If you are a poor man, for whom the law was passed, and have no land, offer him a mortgage on your personal property; ask for one-third its value and offer the patriotic advocate of the new law, 20 per cent commission to find you the money, and see if he can find it for you. If you are solvent, offer him your note bearing 6 per cent interest, endorsed by your solvent friend, and have him go to the man or bank that loaned you money at 8 per cent, under the old law, and see if he can sell it at a discount of less than 10 to 20 per cent (Demaskey gets votes, but it takes logic to get money). Then, if this fails or succeeds with difficulty, we have the assistance of all the eloquence, logic and argument of the advocates of the new law to prove that the whole body politic of the state, save only the devouring class, has been greatly injured by it, for did they not tell the people that the money lenders under the old law were bankrupting the people and running the state?

3. That a very large per cent of that class, that the new law undertook to save have been finally ruined, needs no further proof than can be found upon the records at every court house in the state. Find the mortgages that have been fore-closed by sale of the property of good men at the court house for at less than one-half, one-third or one-fourth its value, and ask the poor sufferer why he did not borrow money and save his property for advantageous private sale, and hear him tell you how he tried to borrow money, offering any rate of interest, with unquestionable security, and how his neighbors offered to assist him to get the money. If he could find it, and how he finally failed and lost all not for the want of security, but because the law had driven all the foreign capital out of the state, leaving the home capital with more work to do than it could possibly perform; and how his representative, under the pretense of saving him 2 per cent, had robbed him of his crops, his land and his home, and delivered them over to that devouring class whom he so loudly denounced upon the stump.

4. That, that class, less than 5 per cent of the people against whom the law was intended to operate, has gained by the law all the advantages which the large class have lost is self evident to every man of the slightest common knowledge and general information. This proposition will not be denied by a man who thinks, to a man whom HE THINKS thinks.

Go to the register of deeds of your county and ask him to examine the records of mortgages and give you a list of the men in your county to whom building and loan associations from other states have loaned money at 6, 7, and 8 per cent; then see the vast amount of money put out in your county by The British and American Mortgage company, The Equitable Mortgage company, and all the other companies, firms and men living out of the state, in 1894, even up to March, 1895, when the new law went into effect, and compare the total foreign capital loaned in your county with home capital, and see which is the greatest, then examine carefully and see if you find that every company and every

man outside of the state, on the day of April, 1895, tipped their hats and bowed themselves politely out of the State of North Carolina, where they remain to this good day, returning only to collect their money as fast as it falls due, which is quietly, but surely, with drawing from our people every year hundreds of thousands of dollars, and returning none. This, owing to the fact that the debtor must borrow at home, to pay abroad, is taking all competition and restraint out of the way of home capital, which is not half enough to supply the demand, gives the small class an advantage better than a Klondike, and puts the large class, intended (?) to be protected, at the mercy and within the power of those men whom our wise (?) law makers said were trying to devour them.

The law was made to prevent men from loaning money at more than 6 per cent, but its effect is the same as if it had been passed to prevent men from loaning money at any rate. If it is shown that men do not loan money at 5 per cent or less, this proposition will be established. It is affirmed that they do not, and all the transactions in which money has been obtained since April, 1895, is offered in evidence on this issue. Examine the proof and see if you can find a single instance where a single man has gotten money from a single member of that small devouring class that did not cost that man more than 6 per cent and even more than 8 per cent. Hundreds and thousands of poor men, heretofore well-to-do citizens with their dear wives and helpless children, made homeless and destitute by this monstrous abortion, are crying out in melancholy voices for a reason for their destruction at the hands of their representatives.

Some may wish to know why this law has driven out foreign capital and made money scarcer in North Carolina than in any other state. The answer is, that a man in London or New York will not come to North Carolina and lend out his money at 6 per cent, when he can go to other states, just as good and get 7 or 8 per cent under the law. Would you? Others may ask why that gentlemen from London or New York will not come to North Carolina and beat around the law as the home man does, and get, as they are now doing, from 10 to 100 per cent. The answer is, that foreign capital is timid and will not seek a field in which to violate the law, and risk the people in a strange land to stand by their contract and not plead usury, when by going to some other state, they could lend all their money at a satisfactory interest and take no risk, but what ever the reason may be, those who were here ARE GONE and none have come to take their places. To illustrate the difference in present and past conditions, and to prove the general propositions before laid down, I will give some figures. In 1893 and 1894 the British and American Mortgage company loaned out thousands and thousands of dollars in North Carolina to the farmers at 7 per cent on 5 years time, and in 1895, within the last 30 days before the new law went into effect, they loaned to some of the best farmers of Henderson county thousands of dollars and since the day the law took effect, they have not loaned a single cent in said county; the same thing is true, comparatively, in almost every county in the state. In April, 1895 there were tens of thousands of dollars loaned out in Henderson county at 6, 7 and 8 per cent. (The writer can give the names of parties) since April, 1895, it is safe to say that no man has borrowed money at less than 12, 15, 25 and 100 per cent. In 1895, a well-to-do farmer in said county, whose name can be given, borrowed from the British and American Mortgage company \$800.00 at 7 per cent interest. In 1897, the same gentleman was forced to borrow \$150.00 and on his note endorsed by four men, one of whom was worth all of \$15000.00. With this security he got the money; but it cost him 90 per cent. In 1895 another man with a good farm on the French Broad river in Henderson county was carrying a loan with the said company for \$302.00 at 7 per cent interest. In December, 1897 this man being unable to find money which he could borrow, saw his land worth three times the amount of the mortgage advertised for sale, which mortgage, by this time with interest, costs and commissions had run up to \$450.00, and after trying, with remarkable energy the town and county, including his friends and all the aforesaid devouring class, he found the money and saved his place. He got \$450.00 no more or less, but he finds his place now with a new mortgage resting upon it to secure a note of \$591.00. This note is due in twelve months from date, so that this money cost him something over 31 per cent per annum. It can be shown that the per cent which men have to pay for money where transactions are small and the time short, will in a great majority of cases, exceed the rate given in the last instance, and in a very large per cent of the cases, approximate 100 per cent.

If there is a wrong here, with whom does the fault lie? Is it with the man who sells his goods in the market to the man who makes the best bid? (Surely not.) Is it with that man or that set of men who through ignorance or vice have made such prices possible? Wherein lies the hope for North Carolina? Some answer in a "gold standard and honest money"; "some in free silver, 16 to 1" (with an abundance of dummies); some "protection" and others "free trade" (Another parenthesis: This new law has DUMPED all our foreign capital over the state line. These suggestions may serve the purpose of the over zealous cross-road politician, and they may be accepted by men of slight knowledge and superficial minds, but the honest, thoughtful, informed man, must realize our condition; and must admit that any law which attempts to prevent the citizens of the state from loaning money at a greater rate than 6 per cent do matter how praiseworthy the effort, or desirable the end sought, must be an egregious failure. It is not folly to suppose that the wisdom required to accumulate money and hold it, will fall to serve its purpose when slightly obstructed in any particular line? Are there not more ways to do a thing indirectly than directly? Is it sensible to suppose that a man will lend his money at 6 per cent, when he can buy paper satisfactorily secured at a discount of 10 per cent? Is it wise to enact a law that drives capital out of competition with capital? That says to the unfortunate citizens that are already in debt, that you shall not borrow money legitimately at 7, 8, 9 or 10 per cent, even though by doing so you will save your property from sacrifice of many times the amount of said interest? Does this law not effect most injuriously every business man in the state, apart from the money-lenders, even though he may be so fortunate as not to have to borrow money? And does not every man including the money lender realize, that we must have money at a lower rate, whether you call it interest or discount, than now maintains. With the present repellent forces in North Carolina against foreign capital, can a rational man hope for relief through Pritchard, Butler, McKinley, Bryan, Gage and all the combined forces of our national politicians. Can a sane man by any financial scheme induce the lost foreign capital to return to our state while the present interest law remains upon our statute books? The passage of this law, under existing conditions was a most daring and dangerous experiment which has borne disastrous, sad and melancholy fruits, annihilating every man

# One Large Scar Is All That Remains of Great Scrofula Sores

## Neighbors Could Not Bear to Look Upon Her - A Grand, Complete Cure by Hood's Sarsaparilla After Others Failed.

"I was taken with neuralgia in my head and eyes. Not long after this, a scrofula sore appeared on my left cheek, extending from my upper lip to my eye. Other sores came on my neck and on my right arm and one of my limbs. They were very troublesome and painful and soon became great running sores. My face looked so bad that some of my neighbors could not bear to look at me and advised me to wear a bandage, but I feared this would irritate the sores and make it worse. So I

Could Not Hide the Sores. My niece, who was familiar with a case similar to mine, which had been cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla, urged me to try it. Finally I was persuaded to do so, and in a short time I saw it was helping me. The sores began to heal and the neuralgia in my head was better. In a few months the sores on my arms and limbs all healed; those on my neck gradually disappeared and now they are all gone. I have never had any symptom of scrofula since. One large scar on my right arm is all the sign that remains of my terrible affliction. The neuralgia is also cured." Mrs. J. M. HATCH, Esq., New Hampshire.

# Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the best - in fact the One True Blood Purifier. Hood's Pills are the only pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

who loves home, his country and his God, regardless of political affiliations, to call aloud from the hills and valleys of the Old North State for the speedy repeal of this most unwholesome law. Moral: Is the man who buys an acre of land for \$10.00 and sells it for a profit of 100 per cent in less than a year, a mean man? Is the man who sells an acre of land for \$10 and loans it out with the risk of losing it, for a year, at a profit of 10 per cent, a meaner man?

## TO USE THE X RAY.

Some time ago the little child of Mr. and Mrs. Will Harris, of Rocky River, swallowed a thimble, says the Concord Journal. The child was only three years old, and for several weeks it suffered great agony. Some advised an operation; others spoke against it. Finally, the pain, as a result of the presence of the thimble in the child's stomach, was allayed, but recently symptoms of a return of suffering have been developed and it has been deemed best to no longer delay action. This week Prof. Henry Louis Smith, of Davidson college, will make an examination of the child, and by means of his X-Ray machine will locate the thimble. He will photograph the child's body, showing exactly where the thimble is, and then the child will be sent to Richmond and placed under the care of Dr. Hunter Maguire, who will perform an operation and extract the thimble. It is believed the operation can be performed and the child stand in no very serious danger; whereas, if the operation is not performed, it seems that death will be the inevitable end. The little child has been a great sufferer.

## HOW TO LOOK GOOD.

Good looks are really more than skin deep, depending entirely on a healthy condition of all the vital organs. If the liver be inactive, you have a bilious look; if your stomach be disordered, you have a dyspeptic look; if your kidneys be affected, you have a pinched look. Secure good health and you will surely have good looks. "Electric Bitter" is a good alterative and tonic. Acts directly on the stomach, liver and kidneys. Purifies the blood, cures pimples, blotches, and boils, and gives a good complexion. Every bottle guaranteed. Sold at T. C. Smith's drug store and Pelham's Pharmacy. 50 cents per bottle.

## SPECIAL RATES.

The Southern railroad announces the following special rates: Charlotte, N. C., account meeting of the Pullman and Pullman Association, tickets on file January 11th to 14th, inclusive with final limit, January 15th; round trip rate via Salisbury \$5.20; via Spartanburg \$4.70. To Oxford, N. C., account meeting General Lodge A. F. and A. M., tickets on sale January 8-11, final limit, January 13th; round trip rate \$11.55.

## Don't Tobacco Spit and Smoke Your Life Away.

If you want to quit tobacco using easily and forever, be made well, strong, magnetic, full of new life and vigor, take No. 10-Bac, the wonder-worker, that makes weak men strong. Many gain ten pounds in ten days. Over 400,000 cured. Buy No. 10-Bac of your druggist, under guarantee to cure, 50c or \$1.00. Booklet and sample mailed free. Ad. Sterling Remedy Co., Chicago or New York. -Pelham's Pharmacy.

## AFTERMATH.

"The autumn! To our ears the wind One little song doth bring; A sad refrain that runs like this: 'Oh, give me back my ring.'" -New York Journal.

Silk handkerchiefs and ribbons should be washed in salt water and ironed wet to look well.

It is easy to catch a cold and just as easy to get rid of it if you commence early to use One Minute Cough Cure. It cures coughs, colds, bronchitis, pneumonia and all throat and lung troubles. It is pleasant to take, safe to use and sure to cure. -C. A. Rayson.

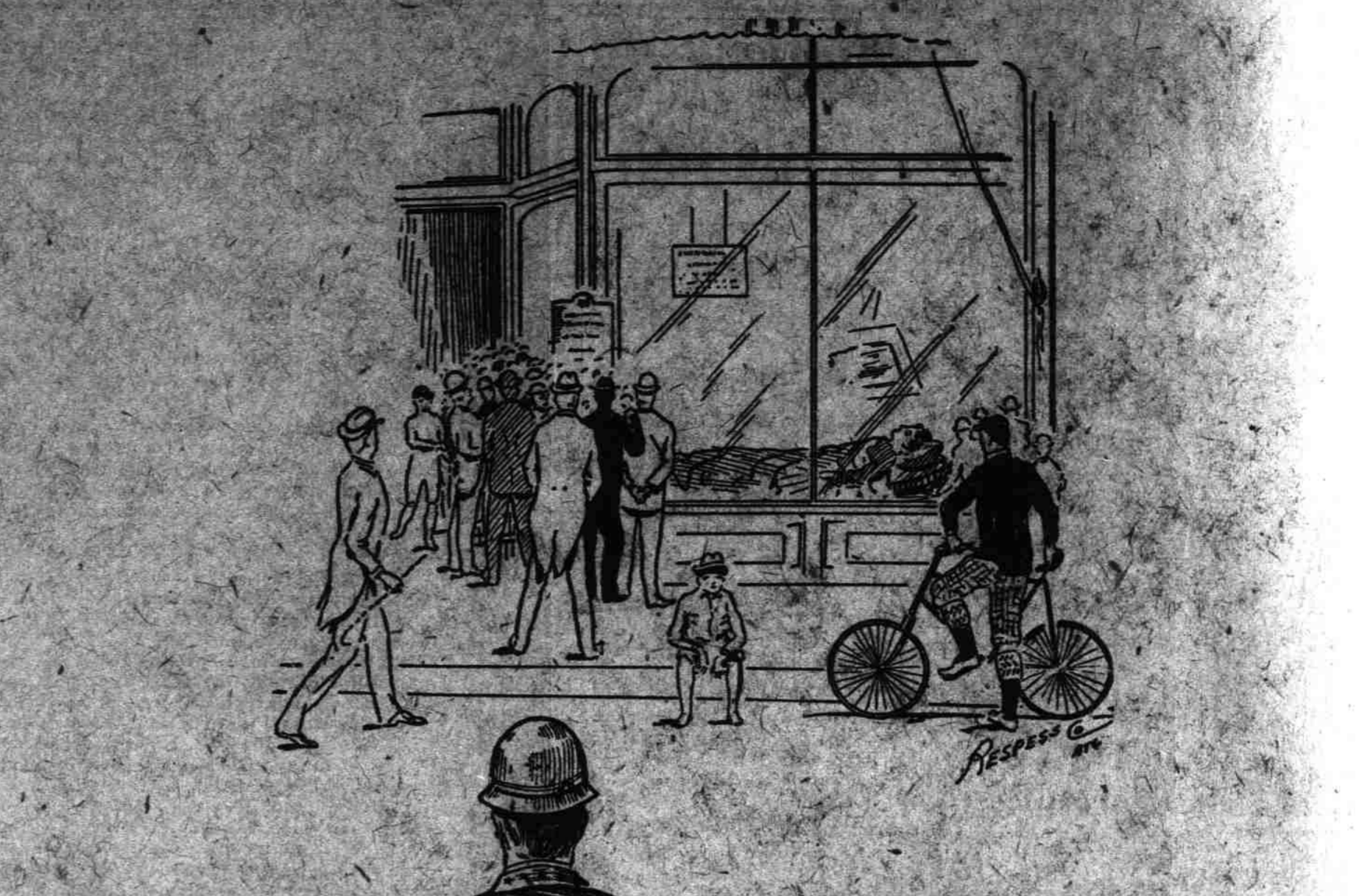
"Moments are useless if trifled away" and they are dangerously wasted if consumed by delay - in cases where a "want ad" inserted in the Gazette will bring you what you want immediately.

Mrs. Mary Bird, Harrisburg, Pa., says: "My child is worth millions to me, and I would have lost her by croup had I not invested twenty-five cents in a bottle of One Minute Cough Cure." It cures coughs, colds and all throat and lung troubles. -C. A. Rayson.

Mr. A. C. Rosenkrantz, a prominent manufacturer of Evansville, Ind., and his wife are to give a completely equipped industrial and technical school to that city, and place it under the supervision of the Young Men's Christian Association.

# THE HYPNOTIC WONDER!

## A Hypnotized Man Sleeping Two Days and Nights Without Food or Water in Our Window.



Monday night, during the performance of the marvelous Lees in the opera house, Dr. Lee will repeat the experiment that has created such widespread interest: the putting to sleep of a man for two days and nights without food or water. At the close of the evening's entertainment the sleeping man will be carried on a board to our store and placed on a cot in the show window, where every one can see him. Here he will remain, without food or water, watched by a curious crowd from the outside by day, and by a committee of

citizens on the inside by night, who at the awakening of the sleeper, will be asked to make the following sworn statement: "that they watched the subject continually, that he had neither food nor water, nor left the cot during his long sleep." Wednesday night he will be carried back to the theatre and awakened on the stage in full view of the audience. Any physician or dentist will be at liberty to examine the man at any time before, during or after the sleep. All the functions of the

body will be suspended, excepting the heart and lungs. While the man sleeps in the window we are busy on the inside waiting on the multitudes who know where to get the Biggest Values for the Least Cash. WE ARE HYPNOTIZED THIS WEEK. If you will, you can buy one of our overcoats at 20 per cent discount, a boy's or child's overcoat or sweater at 20 per cent discount, or any of our cosmopolitan shirts at just half the regular price - much less than cost.

# Alexander & Courtney, 50 PATTON AVENUE.

Drumcor Block. Clothing + Shoes + Hats + Furnishings

## A NEW FORM OF PERSONALITIES.

The old style of portraying famous people through a "sketch" or "biography" is to be modernized in The Ladies' Home Journal during 1898. Five of the most prominent Americans have been chosen for the departure: President McKinley, Mrs. Cleveland, Mark Twain, Joseph Jefferson, and Thomas A. Edison. Each will have a special article, which will consist of about fifteen or twenty fresh, unpublished stories and anecdotes strung together, each anecdote showing some characteristic trait or presenting a different side of the subject. The idea is to show famous personalities through their own doings and sayings, and to make these articles accurate, reliable and closest personal friends of the subjects have assisted and anecdotes within their own knowledge. Each article will thus represent the closest view of the one sketched. No authorship will be attached to any of the articles.

## BUCKLEN'S ARNICA SALVE.

The best salve in the world, for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns, and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Price 25c per box. For sale by T. C. Smith and Pelham's Pharmacy.

Robert Croker, a Mercer county (Pa.) farmer, caught 200 rats in his granary, and when he went in with a club to kill them the rodents overpowered him. He was taken out unconscious and badly bitten.

General Robert E. Lee's birthday will be observed in Atlanta on January 20 by an elaborate celebration by the Ladies' Memorial Association, the Daughters of the Confederacy, and the Survivors' Association of Georgia. Lee's birthday is a legal holiday in that state.

Try our peanut brittle, made fresh every day. -The Aloxar, 32 Patton avenue.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Town of Victoria, N. C., Jan. 1, 1898.

RECEIPTS. By balance on hand Jan. 1, 1897, \$42.92 By taxes collected for year 1896, 678.81 \$741.73

## DISBURSEMENTS.

To annual statement publication, \$2.00 To notice amendment of charter and election, 3.00 To bill, repairing main road, 300.64 To tile pipe bill, 97.40 To D. H. Webb, repairing side road, 22.53 To H. P. Grant, rebate Oakland Heights tax, 23.00 To W. S. Jones, repairing Swannanoa bridge, 39.90 To judge and inspector of election, 23.50 To freight bills, bridge lumber, 63.05 To bill of bridge lumber, 143.40 To deposit in wrecked bank, certificate, 33.30 \$741.73

H. N. LOCKWOOD, Town Clerk.

YOU NEED Hood's Sarsaparilla if your blood is impure, your appetite gone, your health impaired. Nothing builds up health like HOOD'S.

## WOLVES WANTED.

We will pay \$15.00 each for two or three wolves and \$10.00 each for two or three Canadian lynx, the big, tuft-eared, light colored cat, not the ordinary wild cat.

When you get one remove entrails immediately, stuff some dry hay or straw into the body and ship at once, by express, to State Museum, Raleigh, N. C., and money will be sent you by return mail.

H. H. BREMLEY, Curator, State Museum.



\$12-3000 BICYCLES must be closed out at once. Standard 97 Models, guaranteed, \$14 to \$30. '96 Models \$12. 2nd hand wheels \$5 to 15. Shipped to Any \$12. One on approval without advance deposit. Great factory clearing sale. BARN A BICYCLE by helping advertise us. We will give one agent in each town FREE USE of a sample wheel to introduce them. Write at once for our special offer. W. S. Mead Cycle Co., Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill.

## A New Year's Offering

in rich confections, put up in fancy baskets, boxes, and in most pleasing to the young ladies, and are gifts that can be properly received, and every morsel crunched under their sweet tooth with untold pleasure and gratitude. Our delicious stock is most tempting.

Asheville Candy Kitchen,

L. M. THEOBOLD, Prop.

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# JOB PRINTING

The Gazette, ASHEVILLE, N. C.

# ICURE FITS

When I say I cure I do not mean merely to stop them for a time and then have them return again. I mean a radical cure. I have made the disease of FITS, EPILEPSY or FALLING ILLNESS a lifelong study. I warrant my remedy to cure the worst cases. Because others have failed in no reason for not now receiving a cure. Read at once for a treatise and a Free Bottle of my infallible remedy. Give Name and Postoffice address. Prof. W. J. FEELE, P. O. Cedar St., New York

SCROFULA in its worst form yields to the blood cleansing power of Hood's Sarsaparilla. Thousands of cases have been perfectly CURED. Do you want a situation? Try the People's column.