### THE GAZETTE. ASHEVILLE, N. C.

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# W. A. BLAIR,

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#### HANDICAPPED BY SUSPICION.

I, is no longer a question that the "white supremacy" campaign of 1900 is not proceeding along the "tidal wave" lines that characterized that of 1898. The reason for this is not far to seek. It lies in the aroused suspicions of the people, and these grow stronger instead of weaker as the campaign progresses. These suspicions have been engendered largely by two causes-

First-The passage of the Simmons election law.

Second-The breaking of the pledge made by the democrats that if they were returned to power they would submit no proposition to take from any man his right to vote.

As a minor cause of diminished confidence in the present democratic leadership may be also mentioned the passage in 1899 of a large number of acts proved on appeal to the courts to be unconstitutional. As one of the gravest charges against the proposed constitutional amendment, framed by this same legislature, is the unconstitutionality of an important section of it, this proof of incompetence on the part of the democratic majority has attracted considerable attention in the campaign.

It was recognized early in the canvass of the state for the election of 1898 that any proposition to limit the suffrage would excite public disfavor. There was not only no demand for such a measure as the constitutional amendment that the democratic leaders have now proposed, but there was a distinct sentiment against such an effort to reduce the voting population of the state. So strong was this sentiment that the democratic state executive committee and every democratic speaker and legislative : candidate made a public pledge that no such proposition would be submitted. Without this promise a democratic legislature probably could not have been elected.

Now the question is, has public sentiment changed in North Carolina on the question of disfranchising voters? We believe not only that it has not changed, but that, on the other hand, that sentiment is stronger today than it ever was before. And, we believe, the reason for this sentiment is the same in 1900 as it was in 1898.

There has long been a belief, especially in these western counties, never naturally democratic, that the democratic party if it acquired sufficient power in North Carolina would cut off the "poor and ignorant," destroy the political power of the rural population,

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both white and black, with the definite object of making North Carolina a "one party state."

The promise of the democratic leaders was made just as distinctly to the negroes as to the whites. We have proved this repeatedly during the present campaign by quotations from the circulars issued by the democratic committee in 1898 and from democratic newspapers of that year. There is also recognized to be the SAME IN-CENTIVE to destroy the votes of illiterate white men as of illiterate black men-in fact there is more, as the "negro counties" are easily manipulated while the republican white counties remain "obstinate" and grow in numbers First, a railway connection may be

Therefore, when the democratic majority in the legislature of 1898, inspired and impelled by the same democratic executive committee that conducted the campaign of that year, violated its pledge to the people and submitted the disfranchising amendment, these men destroyed all confidence and faith in the integrity of their word, and created suspicion of their intentions even beyond that which called forth these pledges in 1898.

That the democratic political leaders recognized the fact that their submission of the constitutional amendment outraged public feeling, and could not receive a popular endorsement, is proved by the enactment of the force bill known as the Simmons election

In that law the whole intention and purpose of the democratic organization stands revealed. That purpose is to destroy the republican institution of popular elections and popular government in North Carolina, and to substitute therefor the supremacy of a 'ring' of politicians, who can divide the offices, and govern the state in deflance of the will of the people.

It is not strange, under these circumstances that "suspicion" is the obstacle encountered by the democratic leaders in their campaign this year. Every white man "suspects" that the negro domination" talk, rehashed from the campaign of 1898, is only a part of the plot of these politicians to gain the power to break more pledges, They have devised a scheme that men of great legal learning, familiar with constitutional law and the workings of the United States supreme court, say is aimed at the rights of white voters as much as at the suffrage rights of negroes. And when these politicians dispute these great constitutional lawyers, and say that "not a single white man will be disfranchised," the people 'suspect" that these politicians have the same reason for making this statement as they had for making the pledge of 1898, and the white voters are not willing to trust themselves to the mercy of men who do not keep their

#### CORRESPONDENT'S SUGGESTIONS As to Street Improvement Work and night until my throat was nearly raw; the Trolley Roads.

Editor of the Gazette: I beg to offer a few suggestions to our esteemed "good roads" and city

1. As the improvement of the road from South Main street to Biltmore has been resolved on, would it not be well to cut away in advance some of its many corkscrew sinuosities. would not expect it to be made as straight as a figure 1 but, at comparatively little cost, many of the widings could be materially modified. It should also be made of uniform width; there are a few encroachments on such uni-

2. I think there is a mistake in that class of voters familiarly known as supposing there is nothing in a name. Surely a descendant of Praise God Barebones would in this genera-

#### tion ask legislative relief from such a load. The names of "North" and "South Main street" should be abandon and the name "Asheville avenue" given to the entire extent from the county at the north end and through Biltmore and beyond as far as Mr. Walker's residence. Thus we would have a grand direct thoroughfare, over five miles long with a distinctive, characteristic, intelligible designation,

conveying the information that it was

the road to Asheville. 3. The trolley lines should be compelled to harmonize. They are the beneficiaries of public franchises and should be controlled by the public convenience. The line to Biltmore should run from the postoffice to the square and thence straight out to Biltmore. The line to the Asheville depot should be from the square to the postoffice and over the present Biltmore track to the function with the present depot line and thence over that line to the sta-

This would economize for both companies and the public.

### NEEDS OF RAILROAD.

#### Survey to be Made From Burnsville to Asheville.

Walter W. Vandiver, of Weaverville, was in the city yesterday, and in conversation with a Gazette reporter said: 'The main thing that Asheville and Western North Carolina needs is additional railroad facilities. The auditorium seems to be assured, the Good Roads association has done and is doing a magnificent work, and now the most needful and obvious thing for Asheville and Western North Carolina is an additional railroad connection. This result," said Mr. Vandiver, "can be accomplished in one of three ways. established with the S. A. L. either at Rutherfordton or Columbus. This connection might preferably be from Columbus, especially since the charter has already been granted to Columbus and even the Chimney Rock and Polk county people have voted \$100,000 of bonds for the construction of this

"Secondly. The C. C. C., which is already constructed to a point near Burnsville desires a connection with Asheville. A gentleman stated to me,' continued Mr. Vandiver, "that a trial survey from Burnsville to Asheville would be made within the next thirty days. A wealthy syndicate is now building a road from Brevard through the Sapphire country to the Seaboard Air Line at a point in North Georg'a not far from Sennecca City. The interest of this line would be greatly enhanced by an Asheville connection. It would seem," said Mr. Vandiver," that Buncombe county, encouraged by the board of trade or some other body of thoughtful men interested in the upbuilding of the county would be willing to take such steps as would guarantee the construction of one of these routes This would relieve at once the city and this entire section from its present 'bottled up' condition.

## IMPROVEMENTS.

#### Cotton Mill's New Storage Warehouse -Improved Looms Here.

The Asheville Cotton Mills have torn down the old depot building on West Haywood street and leveled off the ground, which improves the appearance greatly. The timber is being used in cottages which are needed for employes of the mill badly.

The old storage warehouse is also being torn down and on the site they will begin at once the erection of a fine new one, with all the latest improvements in construction for cotton There will be three or four compartments, each holding 1,000 or 1,200 bales. The number has not yet been definitely settled. The former storage capacity was about 1,800 bales.

The thirty Northrup looms have arrived. They were buil by the Draper company and will be put to running as soon as the expert arrives to set them up, which will be in a very short time. These looms have a self-feeder for the shuttle, and a stop motion for the warp, when the thread breaks. They will be run night and day. One man can run fifteen of these looms, and of the old style one man could only run four. The class of work is superior to that of the old style and will greatly increase the output of the mill.

## TORTURED A WITNESS.

Intense suffering was endured by witness T. J. Martin, of L'vie, Ky., before he gave this evidence: "I coughed every then tried Dr. King's New Disco ery which gave in tant relief. I have used it in my family for .our years and recommend i. as the greatest remedy for Coughs, Colds and all Throat, Chest and Lung troubles. It will stop the worst cough, and not only preve ts but bsolutely cures consumption. Price 50c and \$1.00. Every bottle guarante d. Trial bottles free at all drug stores.

Try a Gazette want ad.

Mrs. L. H. Drakeford returned yesterday from a six weeks' visit in Fort Mill and Yorkton, S. C.

D. M. Luther went to Canton yesterday for a few days.

Mrs. J. T. Dalton has gone to Chimney Rock for the summer for a rest. Postmaster Rollins returned from Marshall yesterday.

BERKELEY Arrivals-Julius Meyer, Richmond, Va.; A. H. Gilliara, Englewood, N. J.; W. H. Holdburn, V. B. McGaha Brevard; Robert Wingate, N. C.; S. G. Wesberry, S. C.; Ernest N. Hill, Anderson, Ind.; J. D. Herbert, Hayesville; F. W. Isham, Avon, N. Y .; L. T. Holmes, Knoxville.

Miss Isabelle Brown left this mornng for Asheville. From there she will go to Hickory Nut Gap to spend a month with her friend, Miss Grace Scott.-Salisbury Sun.

Mrs. E. B. Newell and Miss Katie Newell, of Asheville, are visiting the family of R. R. Hill, on Douglas street. -Greensboro Record.

Ms. T. G. Williamson, of Asheville, is a visitor in the city.—Charlotte Ob-

Esquire C. W. Malone leaves today for a week's trip in the country.

Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Ray returned last night from Louisville. Mr. and Mrs. J .F. Jarvis returned

Sheriff V. B. McGaha was here from Brevard yesterday.

from Marshall last night.

t Courtney's.

Courtney is selling Hanan's Tan Shoes at \$4 for one week.

Boys' Wool Suits at cost for one week

GLORIOUS NEWS.

Comes from Dr. D. B. Cargile of Washita, I. T. He writes: Electric Bitters has cured Mrs. Brewer o scrofula, which had caused her great suffer ing for years. Terrible sores would but now her health is excellent.' Electric Bitters is the best blood purifier known. Its the supreme remedy for eczema, ulcers, boils and running sores. It stimulates liver, kidneys and bowels, expels poisons, helps digestion, builds up the strength. Only 50 cts. Sold by all druggists. Guaranteed.

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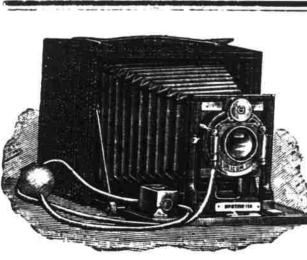
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