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Boarding House Ads. page 6—People's Column.

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## FARMERS' INTEREST IN NATIONAL POLITICS

BLACKBURN TALKS OF BUSINESS MATTERS IN ASHE COUNTY.

Questions Voters as to Their Share in National Prosperity.

Contrasts to Present Good Prices of Farm Products With Those of Four Years Ago—Campaign in the Northern Counties Advancing Enthusiastically.

Special Correspondence of the Gazette. Transon, Ashe County, N. C., Oct. 8.—Mr. Blackburn is today at Transon, Ashe county. This is the point at which the democratic candidate had an appointment some days ago, but did not have a sufficient number to which he could speak. In contrast to the number (one) who came to meet the democratic candidate, Mr. Blackburn today, notwithstanding the inclement weather, had more than two hundred voters beside the women and children. This heretofore has been a democratic township, two years ago being more than fifty majority democratic. All concede this precinct to Mr. Blackburn in the coming election by at least forty majority.

The force of every word that fell from Mr. Blackburn's lips. He dwelt at length upon the price of each agricultural product, every fowl that is sold from the farm, sheep, horses and cattle. The price from 1892 to 1896 was contrasted with that of 1896 to 1900, and he only asked the voters of the people present upon the condition that it is to their interest to support him. The enthusiasm was unbounded among those present. I learned that there were but three who were not outspoken Blackburn men. Mr. Blackburn's campaign is a convincing one. The impression upon the audience today, two hundred or more stalwart mountaineers, who make their living upon their little plantations, from farm products and live stock, is in marked contrast to the demagogic talk of the democratic orator. The latter finds no field here for his visionary prognostications, since the people have not forgotten what they received for every farm product, as well as for their live stock. So intensely interested are the people in the discussion of the issues, that little attention is paid to the conditions of the weather when it is learned that Mr. Blackburn is to speak. These are truly freemen. Stuffing ballot boxes, unregistered voters and intimidation are things entirely unknown to them. Each man expresses his sentiment by depositing his ballot unmolesed and having that ballot counted, and everyone is a sovereign in the fullest meaning of that word. "The softest zephyrs," Mr. Blackburn said today, "whisper freedom to the child, rocked in its cradle, and the shrill winds of winter shriek freedom in stalwart manhood's ear. We're all one upon a common level and no vile machine dares assail freedom's eternal habitation or liberty's permanent abid-

The most feasible route is from the Norfolk and Western at Ivanhoe, Va., up the New river through Graison, Va., Ashe county, N. C., and Allegheny county, N. C., tapping the famous magnetic iron belt and will be within a few miles of the mica mines, running probably to Bristol, Va. These mica mines are in Ashe county, and have been opened since July 1, this year. They are owned by the Carolina Mining company, with C. E. Zeek as general manager. There are nine veins opened already, and a mill is being built to grind the mica to make mica flour for lubricating purposes. A great deal of the best sheet mica found in the state is being taken out. About two tons of mica is now being taken out and the veins are not fairly opened. Lieutenant Zull is the superintendent and has had a great deal of experience in mica work. The mines are (Continued on sixth page.)

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## News and Opinions

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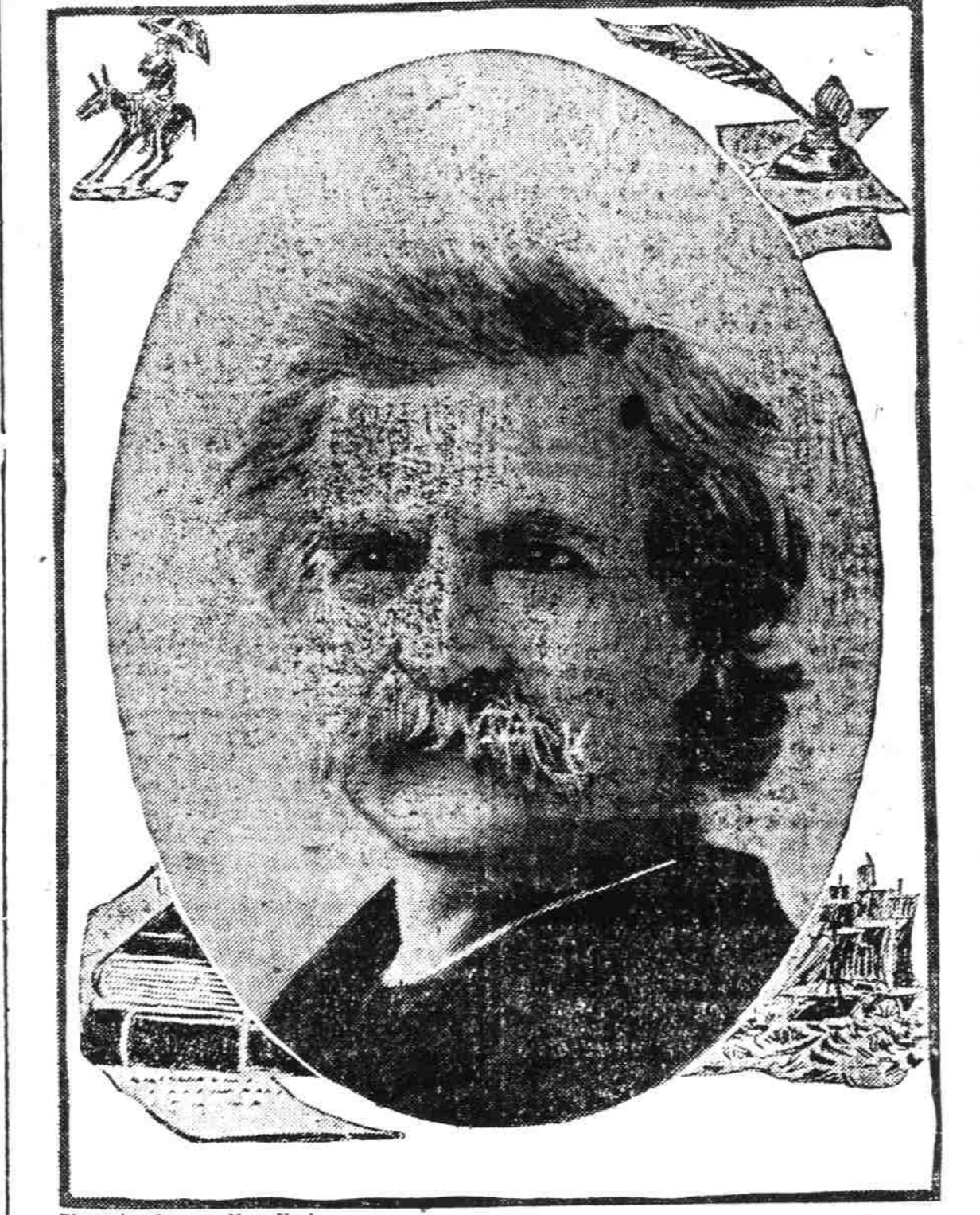
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MARK TWAIN AS HE LOOKS TODAY. After a long stay abroad Mark Twain is coming home. Although he is 65 and his hair is almost white, he has recovered his health and vigor. The great humorist has not yet laid aside his pen and is still doing good work.

ous enthusiasm, and many, heretofore democrats, were among his most enthusiastic hearers. It is to be remembered this is all a stock raising country, with "cattle upon the thousand hills," (and sheep by the hundreds) and each mountaineer who lent his presence to the speech of the republican candidate for congress knew full well

## Cancer

There are never any external signs of Cancer until the blood is polluted and the system thoroughly contaminated by this deadly virulent poison. Then a sore or ulcer appears on some part of the body; it may be small and harmless looking at first, but as the cancerous cells form and are deposited by the blood near the sore, it increases in size and severity, with sharp shooting pains. No matter how often the sore is removed by the surgeon's knife or flesh destroying plasters, another comes and is worse. The real disease is in the blood, and the treatment must begin there. The poisoned blood must be invigorated and purified, and when this is done cancerous cells can no longer form and the sore will heal naturally and permanently.

ing place. No revolution dares stalk abroad, nor murder, nor circumspicion. The rights of the citizen are inviolable and to all the ballot is secure.

"He who dares preclude his countrymen from exercising the right of the franchise will be punished as is right. I am just in receipt of a letter from Greensboro, stating that six of those registrars who suppressed our vote in the August election have been indicted in the United States court at Greensboro. We only ask the registration of our lawful voters, and none but lawful voters, and this we must have and will have. The laws of this country as well as our constitution insure to every man who obeys the laws the right to cast one ballot and have that ballot counted as cast, and it is our duty as citizens of a common country to maintain these laws and see that they are executed.

"Give us our rights under the constitution and all is well. Otherwise, lawlessness and anarchy reigns supreme. I appeal to each and every citizen to aid in the vindication of our system of government. In this section we fear no intimidation, and when the will of the people is registered a majority will be counted in our favor."

We passed Ore Knob on our way from Transon to Jefferson. The Ore Knob Copper company operated these mines about twelve years, getting out some of the richest copper ore that the country has ever produced. It had to be hauled fifty miles overland, and when copper got cheaper it proved too expensive and the mines were abandoned in 1892. About six hundred hands were employed and during several years as high as three thousand men were on the pay rolls. At one time seven big mill Rags of Mexican dollars were used to pay off the men. A mountain of ore is still piled at the mouth of the tunnel and the smelter and furnaces are still there. General Manager Clayton of the old company now owns all of the stock, and with a railroad through this section work would be revived. This project is practically certain of fulfillment if Mr. McKinley is re-elected.

## INDIGESTION

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