

Asheville Daily Gazette.

VOL. V. NO. 72

ASHEVILLE, N. C. SUNDAY MORNING, MAY 5, 1901.

PRICE 5 CENTS
\$4.00 PER YEAR

Oestreicher & Co.,

Special Ribbon Sale

We will put on sale 100 pieces of fancy Ribbon, the regular 25c quality, at 12 1/2c the yard. 25 pieces colored and white Taffeta Ribbon, Nos. 5 to 7, worth 8c, special price 5c. 50 pieces 9, 12 and 16 Colored and white Taffeta, regular price 12 1/2c to 20c, special price, 10c. 20 pieces 22, 40 and 60 colored and white Taffeta, regular price average 25c, special price, 15c.

Oestreicher & Co.

51 Patton Avenue

We have a good plan for you to save money, and instead of paying out each month, with but

A FEW MINUTES EVERY OTHER DAY

this money may be yours. Shave yourself with

A GOOD SAFETY RAZOR

ASHEVILLE HARDWARE COMPANY.

FOOD WILL NOT CONTAMINATE IN THE ODORLESS REFRIGERATOR.

Buy one from Mrs. L. A. Johnson, 48 Patton Avenue.

Rock! Rock!! Rock!!!

We are in control of our stone quarries in city and suburbs. Are prepared for furnishing building stones, step stones, hearth stones, curbing, etc. Also for grading side or yard walks and excavating. BURGESS & MOORE, Asheville, N. C., Phone 25, Box 52.

BROOMCORN

This is a profitable crop to grow. We can supply Wood's Improved Evergreen Broomcorn at 10c per pound.

GRANT'S PHARMACY.

Watermelon Seed

Jackson, Dixie, Peerless, Mountain Sweet, Blue Gem, Jones and other standard varieties by the ounce or pound.

GRANT'S PHARMACY.

JACKSONVILLE'S AWFUL PLIGHT; TEN THOUSAND HOMELESS

Devastated City in Darkness Last Night, Patrolled by Soldiers and the Ruins Strictly Guarded—Relief.

Jacksonville, Fla., May 4.—The hot May sun rose over a smoke-enveloped and devastated city. The fire which broke out yesterday at noon and aided in its work by a southwest gale spent its force by 9 o'clock last night. The damage is enormous. One hundred and forty-eight blocks were swept by the flames and as far as known seven people lost their lives. A report in circulation that a party of twenty people driven to the docks along the St. Johns river were forced into the water, all attempts at rescue by boats being futile. The river is being searched.

The city was placed under martial law at 4 o'clock this morning. Local companies of the state militia have been on duty since midnight and, through Governor Jennings, military companies from four cities were ordered to Jacksonville by special train.

Negroes are huddled in groups in different parts of the city and the fear of an attempt at lawlessness by them, although not openly expressed by the whites, is the reason for the large military force ordered here.

Fire companies from Savannah, Ferdinandina, Ocala and other cities were necessary to quench the flames. It is believed that the fire is the largest in proportion to the size of the place that has ever visited any city. A distressing feature was the loss by many families of their libraries, pianos and household goods after they had been moved to supposed places of safety.

Street car service has been at a complete standstill since yesterday afternoon. The city was in darkness last night. Electric light circuits were interrupted and the gas plant destroyed. A conservative estimate places the number of homeless people in the city at 10,000. Most of these spent the night in the parks, on the docks, on the barges, and some slept on what few belongings they managed to save from the general wreck.

The St. James hotel, which was destroyed, has been closed since April 19. The loss on this building was \$175,000. Among the buildings destroyed are the Emory Auditorium, Board of Trade, St. James hotel, Windsor hotel, Seminole club, Daily Metropolis, city hall and market, Garner building, the largest office building in the city! Hubbard building.

Mayor Bowden said to an Associated Press reporter this morning: "Say to the world, please, that the loss in Jacksonville is greater than ever before inflicted by fire in the south. I estimate the loss of property at \$15,000,000. There is no hint of lawlessness. The people of every race and condition have shown a most helpful spirit, toward each other and I cannot find words of commendation enough to express my admiration of the work done. The progress of the fire was so rapid and the heat so fierce that it was only the helpfulness and obedience shown that prevented terrible loss of life."

At 10 this morning a cordon composed of militia, deputy sheriffs and policemen was thrown around the entire fire swept district. The fire is still burning fiercely in many sections of the ruins, but the exhausted firemen, giving up the fight for a time, sought rest, leaving the fire to burn itself out. Heat from the fire is intense, the temperature being 90.

The fire companies from Savannah, Ferdinandina, Ocala and other cities worked the entire night on the fire, but a soaking rain will be necessary to effectually quench the flames. The losses by the fire will not be known for a week. The path of the flames was thirteen blocks wide and nearly two miles long. Practically all old Jacksonville has been destroyed, nothing being left but a few suburbs and river-side, the most fashionable part of the city.

Dr. R. H. Dean, a prominent physician reported the loss of his two children, Helen and Francis, to the police at noon. Dr. Dean thinks the older of the two, Helen, will yet be found but he believes Francis burned to death in his

office where they sought safety. Dr. Dean collapsed on the street after an all night search and is falling seriously injured. W. B. Barrett, president of the First National Bank of Jacksonville, also fainted last night during the progress of the fire. He fell into some smoldering ruins, and his hair, beard and face were burned before he was rescued. The terrific strain added to the warm weather, is telling on many of those who were active yesterday, and last night in rescue work, a number of cases of prostration being reported up to noon. Fire Chief Haney is somewhat improved. He was brought down town during the day in the care of two or three firemen to view the ruins. Secretary of War Root wired the mayor of St. Augustine for the refugees. The offer was in turn transmitted to Jacksonville. St. Augustine offers also to take care of 1000 refugees.

Before the fire reached the county jail Sheriff Price assembled all his prisoners, 35 in number, and summoning all his deputies and prison guards, marched the men to Riverside. Here they were kept under guard all night and this morning removed to Glen Cove and St. Augustine. A bill will be introduced in the legislature immediately to at once bond Duval county for \$500,000 to rebuild the court house and jail.

A bill for a similar amount will be also brought before the legislature to be used in covering an old debt, and to erect buildings destroyed by the fire. Owing to the tremendous pressure of business the Western Union Telegraph company has given up all attempts to deliver messages. The office is crowded to suffocation by people endeavoring to get their messages on the wires and to reach telegrams awaiting them.

Outside of the telegraph office people are seen with blanks up against the building writing despatches. Money is pouring in from all Florida cities by wire and express. The Times-Union and Citizen has headed a fund which is growing rapidly. It is admitted by everybody that the situation is a serious one, and that help will be needed from the outside world.

That part of the city bordering on the smoldering ruins is in some danger from flying sparks. A strong breeze sprang up about 1 o'clock and fanned the smoldering embers into flames. A company of firemen was sent to one locality near Bay and Hogan streets and kept at work several hours playing on the flames. No action was taken at the citizens' relief meeting this morning, an adjournment being taken till two o'clock to confer with the city council committee. A large number of prostrations were reported today.

STORY OF THE FIRE.

Jacksonville, Fla., May 4.—1 a. m.—The most disastrous fire in the history of this city began yesterday shortly after noon in a small factory, from a defective wire, according to the best belief, and burned for nearly ten hours. In that time a property damage estimated at from \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000 was effected.

According to the city map one hundred and thirty blocks were burned; many of them in the heart of the business and residence section. The estimate of houses to the block is ten, hence 1300 of them went up in smoke. Many of the finest public and private buildings were destroyed, including hotels, theatre, churches and residences.

The casualties cannot be accurately estimated to-night. That there were several seems to be well authenticated. Among them was the fire chief, who sustained a bad fall. The Mayor ordered all of the saloons closed, and has impressed help to clear the wrecks.

The mayor at a late hour stated that he estimated the loss at \$15,000,000 and that 10,000 to 15,000 people were homeless. The situation is one approaching desolation in a large section of the city. The burned district reaches from Bainbridge street on the north to St. John's river on the south. The width of the desolated area is eleven blocks. Within this space practically everything is blackened ruins. On Bay street, the principal mart of trade, the Western Union Telegraph Company's building is the last going west. Every thing is the Laura on Bay, is gone. At 10:15 o'clock the fire was under control, having practically burned itself out. The suburban settlements, with the exception of La Villa, in the east, La Villa was badly hurt. The

Broken Glasses.

THERE is nothing so annoying to people who wear glasses as to get them broken. We make a specialty of work in this line. It does not matter how complicated they are we can duplicate them on short notice.

EYE EXAMINATIONS FREE. S. L. MCKEE, Scientific Optician, 54 Patton Avenue

W. P. Western, Masseuse, Watson & Resaga, real estate office, Court Square, Phone 333.

Hammocks

You must have a Hammock. Palmer's are the best. Received today 135 beautiful Hammocks, prices from \$1.00 to \$5.00.

Heston & Sons

Phone 183, 26 S. Main.

extent of the damage cannot be told until to-morrow. Thousands of persons are on the streets to-night, homeless, with practically all their worldly possessions upon their backs. The depots of the railroads situated in the southeastern section have been turned into temporary sleeping-houses and hospitals.

It is not known yet if an appeal for help will be issued, though it is thought likely that the exigencies of the occasion will demand such action. It is hoped that an appeal can be avoided and Mayor Bowden this morning says the property loss will exceed fifteen million. Ten to fifteen thousand people are homeless.

The plans of the city as prepared by the city surveyors shows that 130 blocks were burned and a part of another block. The estimates of residents to the block in the residential district is ten, and in the business sections the blocks were sold.

The Chief of Police ordered all saloons closed until further notice. When the fire reached Julia street it was a roaring furnace without any prospect of being put under control. The local military companies were called out to keep back the crowds and the fire department began to use dynamite to blow up the houses a block from the fire and thus prevent the fire from spreading. So fierce was the blaze however, and so strong had become the wind, the millions of sparks and flying burning shingles spread over five or six blocks, setting fire to the roof of the houses in advance of the department. Soon Senator Tallafiero's residence, then the adjoining houses on that block, and in spite of all efforts to save the Windsor and the St. James hotels both houses were quickly enveloped in flames. For about an hour the guests in the Windsor had been busy packing their trunks and then went away loaded with trunks and grips, some unfortunately to the United States Hotel, but most of them to Riverside.

Leaping madly across the street from the Windsor the Seils House caught fire and then the Methodist parsonage and in a few minutes the Trinity M. E. Church was a mass of flames. The Richards and Livingstone boarding-houses, a desperate effort was made to save the Baldwin mansion, which was recently purchased by the Elks for \$18,000. No earthly power could save this building and that entire block and the greatest of it was quickly a mass of flames.

Once the fire got started on Main street the closely adjoining buildings went one after the other. Paint shops with barrels of oil were plentiful in this district and as they caught on fire after the other, the blaze arose hundreds of feet high and quickly set the other buildings across the street on fire.

Then the Hubbard hardware store caught and the people scattered when they saw what had happened. Hundreds of pounds of powder and a great deal of dynamite was stored in this building. Ten minutes passed when suddenly there was a roar and the building collapsed like an egg shell. The dynamite and the powder had exploded. Here again there was much danger for the firemen. Cartridges began to explode and bullets began to fly around, and the effort to fight the fire at this point had for a time to be abandoned. This was only the start of the most intense part of the fire. The new Furchrott building was soon ablaze and then quickly the Gardner building was also a mass of flames. Down the street the fire spread with rapidity and the entire section of Bay street from Market to Main street and street from Market to Main street back was burning all at once.

The city building went, the fire department building, the armory, the county courthouse, the clerk's office, the city hall and the graded courthouse, the Catholic Church and schools and the Episcopal Church parsonage, St. John's Episcopal Church and the convent. All these buildings were destroyed in less than four hours, the fire having broken out at 12:45 p. m.

At 8:30 p. m. the fire was checked at the intersection of Laurel and Bay streets, where the Commercial Bank is located, which went up in flames, the Western Union being just across the street, and not damaged.

Among the prominent hotels burned were the St. James, the United States, the Florida and the Windsor.

(Continued on the fourth page.)

WORTH READING.

Our large ad. and prices on 4th page. It tells of new goods worth buying at the prices. J. H. Egan, Patton Avenue.

SUMMER HOMES FOR RENT.

We are now in correspondence with quite a number of southern people who wish to rent furnished houses for the summer—some of the parties want houses within the city while others prefer suburban residences. We also have inquiries for small unfurnished houses with modern conveniences. If you have a house or houses for rent we would be glad to list same and will promise our best efforts to find a desirable tenant.

Wilkie & LaBarbe, Real Estate Agents, 23 Patton Ave. Phone 661.

TOMORROW'S ELECTION

Statement to the Public by the Citizens' Executive Committee.

Corporate Influences at work in a So-called Democratic Campaign.

REASONS FOR CHANGE OF ADMINISTRATION.

To the citizens of Asheville:

The executive committee of the Citizens' ticket wish to place before the business men of the city the cause for the fight that has been and is being waged by those who advocate the independent move in the approaching municipal election.

First: Because the administration which is just closing has been a very unsatisfactory one from a business man's standpoint "with an exception or two." While we who have had in charge the management of the independent ticket have refrained from indulging in personal abuse, either of the candidates or anyone connected with the so-called "democratic" ticket, we shall frankly state our objections to the administration of the city government during the past two years, and why we think all the business men of the city, irrespective of politics, should avoid a repetition of the same. It goes without denial that the same influences which have controlled the administration during the past two years are now in charge of the "democratic" machine.

The Citizens' ticket and advocates have been charged with being nothing more or less than the regular representatives of the republican party, and it is rather amusing to see who makes this grave charge. C. A. Webb, chairman of the "democratic" executive committee stated in The Citizen of a few days ago "It is the same old thing," while Mr. Webb and J. C. Martin are known to be the attorneys for the General Electric company, the head of which is a life-long republican, hailing from Bangor, Maine, and contributing to the republican campaign fund in every national, state and county election that has been held since he has been in the state of North Carolina; and yet C. A. Webb says that the so-called Citizens' ticket is nothing more than a republican ticket.

It has been charged repeatedly during the present campaign that the General Electric company was the controlling factor. It has been frequently charged and as yet has never been denied until yesterday afternoon at the end of the election and besides it can properly be inferred from the interest taken in the election by J. C. Martin, attorney for the Electric company, and The Citizen, the organ of that company, that the charge is a true one.

The people of Asheville are too well acquainted with the record of the past administration in connection with the General Electric company to speak further about it. We will, however, call attention to the fact that Asheville pays more for its lights than any other city of its size in the South, and we will make this assertion that the General Electric company furnishes the poorest lights in the city of Asheville that we have ever had since the city has been using electric lights. The citizens of Asheville have not forgotten how Mr. Outler, with the assistance of the present board, has been able to crowd out every street railway and monopolize the same into the control of the General Electric company. The so-called "democratic" ticket must remember that in the future Mr. Outler has the sole control of the only "democratic" paper that Asheville had, and the part that we regret so much to see is that all of this has been accomplished with the assistance of a "democratic" administration within less than two years.

There is another matter which we (Continued on the fifth page.)

GREETED BY MULTITUDES

A Hundred Thousand People Welcome the President at San Antonio.

Today to be Spent at El Paso After a Remarkable Railway Ride.

Del Rio, Texas, May 4.—President McKinley today passed through a region which at different times has recognized seven sovereignties. The feature of the day was a visit to San Antonio, which boasts the most cosmopolitan population of the country. The president was driven about the place for nearly three hours and warmly greeted by Mexicans, Spanish, Italians, Germans, French and Irish. Governor Sayre greeted the president here and escorted the party on a drive through the city. At least 100,000 persons thronged the streets. Fort Sam Houston was among the places visited. Here salutes were fired. Finally the carriages reached the Plaza Alamo where a stand had been erected, from which the president made a brief address.

At noon the presidential party left for San Antonio, a run of 624 miles from El Paso without a scheduled stop on the way. The train of eight cars was drawn by two huge locomotives. Sunday will be spent at El Paso. While the engines were being changed the president addressed several hundred persons at Del Rio.

Special Sale!

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday



Our House Wrappers are Home Makers.

To the "stay-at-home," ease and comfort are important considerations. THE SCANT WRAPPER NOT IN IT. Ample width, proper fullness, and sensible styles are the three points of excellence that have made our wrappers famous.

Wrappers of Best Percale, waist lined, extra full through the hips, wide skirts, perfect fitting, exactly like picture.

Sale Price 98 Cents

G. A. Mears

23 South Main Street.

Never shed tears over spilt milk. There is enough water lost as it is.

Love in a cottage is all very well as long as the flour barrel isn't empty.

FOR SALE.

Near Sulphur Springs, an 8-room, slate roof house. Fire places and closets. New ice-cold well, 60 feet deep. 2 acres oak grove, 2 acres cleared. 3 acres well set in grass. Cables and other outbuildings. Fine small orchard, etc.

One other farm six miles from Asheville, on Hendersonville road. New 7-room house. 600 fruit trees. Beautiful location and good up and bottom land. Apply early to

CLIFFORD & DAVIES, REAL ESTATE BROKERS, Room 17 Library Building, Asheville, N. C.