

THE PLANETS IN JANUARY.

Venus' Greatest Brilliance as the Evening Star on the 13th.

[Providence Journal.]

Venus is evening star and easily wins the first place on the January record, for, during the month, she puts on her brightest aspect. On the 13th, at 12 o'clock, she reaches her point of greatest brilliancy as evening star. There are two of these periods of greatest brilliancy. One occurs thirty-six days before inferior conjunction when she is evening star, as in the present case. The other occurs thirty-six days after inferior conjunction when she is morning star. On the first of these occasions she is 40 deg. East of the sun; on the second she is 40 deg. West of the sun. She takes on the form, when evening star, of a waning crescent, and, when morning star, of a waxing crescent. In both cases about one-fourth of her disk is illuminated. Venus, at superior conjunction, has her whole bright face turned toward us, but she is so far away that her diameter is only 10 sec. As she advances toward the earth less and less of her illuminated disk is turned toward us. But her increasing size more than counterbalances the loss of light, and she grows more and more bright until she reaches her period of greatest brilliancy. After that event the loss of light more than counterbalances the increasing dimensions, and her light grows dim, until at inferior conjunction she is lost to sight as she passes between us and the sun, her diameter being then about 64 sec. After inferior conjunction, as morning star, she repeats the same process, in reversed order.

There is no need of calling attention to this fascinating planet during the month, for no one can look at the Western twilight sky without feeling the influence of her gracious presence, or without wishing to imprint her face there forever. This superb star will repay close watching in her present phase. She casts a perceptible shadow in the evening, and is visible at noon to the naked eye as an intense white point to those who know her position in regard to the sun. Under favorable atmospheric conditions she is a charming telescopic object, taking on the form of a beautiful crescent, and growing larger, sharper and thinner as she apparently approaches the sun, and really approaches the earth. The fact of her approach to the sun is plainly evident to intelligent observers who watch her appearance from night to night. Her light will be lost in the evening sky thirty-six days after she glows in her brightest colors, and 64 days will pass before she comes around again to her present position. Venus lacks but one element for making her present conditions for observation as favorable as possible. She is not in her highest Northern declination, although she is turning her steps rapidly Northward.

The right ascension of Venus on the 1st is 21h. 53m., her declination is 13 deg. 4 sec. South, her diameter is 34 sec., and she is in the constellation Capricornus.

Venus sets on the 1st a few minutes after 5 o'clock in the evening; on the 31st she sets about a quarter after 7 o'clock.

Saturn is evening star. He wins the second place on the monthly record, for he is the sole planet visible in the early evening sky in the Eastern portion of the heavens, and is almost bright enough to dispute the starry supremacy with his fairer rival Venus, who holds her court in the West. He has the advantage that, while she sinks below the horizon about three hours after sunset, he graces the sky the livelong night, and shines among the brilliant galaxy of stars that sparkle in the winter heavens—one among them, but not of them. For while they pierce the sky-depths with their own inherent light his light is borrowed from a sun far less in size than many of the bright points gleaming around him. Saturn is still beautiful to behold; for, though perihelion and opposition have passed, he has not yet reached his highest Northern declination. He scarcely changes his position during the month in his slow retrograde course. On the 10th Saturn occults New Geminorum, a star of the third magnitude. Unfortunately the phenomenon occurs at 5 o'clock in the morning, when Saturn is too near the Western horizon for observation, but star and planet will be near each other during the night. The occultation of a large star by a planet is a rare occurrence, and observers are fortunate who are so situated as to behold the sight.

The right ascension of Saturn on the 1st is 6h. 19m., his declination is 22 deg. 3 sec. North, his diameter is 19 sec., and he is in the constellation Gemini.

Saturn sets on the 1st about 6:45 o'clock in the morning; on the 31st he sets about 4:30 o'clock.

Jupiter is morning star. Those who watch the breaking of the dawn will find Jupiter a superb object in the morning sky, his bright glimmering in the rosy or golden light that heralds the sun's approach as he looks down from his high position near the zenith. Jupiter and Uranus, who have long been near each other, meet and pass on the celestial road. The conjunction takes place on the 24th, at 8 o'clock in the morning. Jupiter at that time being 1 deg. 51 sec. North-west of Uranus. Our brother planet is becoming more favorably situated for observations as he approaches the earth. Astronomers have already begun to take advantage of the improved conditions. Mr. Denning, a specialist in Jovian interpretation, describes a view of the famous red spot, obtained on the morning of the 25th of October. The spot was more plainly visible than it was on the 8th of July, his latest observation before the planet's conjunction with the sun. It was, however, not so dark as the equatorial belt, nor nearly so conspicuous as it was five or six years ago. He found it distinct, notwithstanding the low attitude of Jupiter, and that it retained much of its original form and size. This marking has now been obtained for seven years, and its present aspect seems to foretell that its existence will be indefinitely prolonged. It may, therefore, be regarded as a feature of singular permanency. The prospect is that during the ensuing opposition it will attract general observation. Astronomers have always the excitement that something unexpected may reward their patient work. It may be that during the present year light may dawn upon the meaning of the mysterious red spot, so long a mooted question. Amateur observers sometimes find prizes where scientists fail, and astronomical victories are gained by

those who have not won the laurels of the conqueror.

The right ascension of Jupiter on the 1st is 12h. 22m., his declination is deg. 058 min. south, his diameter is 35 sec., and he is in the constellation Virgo.

Jupiter rises on the 1st, a few minutes before half-past 11 o'clock in the evening; on the 31st he rises about half-past 9 o'clock.

Mars is morning star. He keeps on his monotonous course, meeting with nothing of importance on his way, but growing larger and taking on a more ruddy tint as he draws near the earth.

The right ascension of Mars on the 1st is 11h. 35m.; his declination is 5 deg. 48 min. north, his diameter is 9 sec., and he is in the constellation Virgo.

Mars rises on the 1st, soon after 10 o'clock in the evening; on the 31st he rises about half-past 8 o'clock.

Mercury is morning star. He is at his greatest western elongation on the 8th, at 7 o'clock in the morning. He is then 23 deg. 26 min. west of the sun, and were it not for his great southern declination would be plainly visible in the morning sky before sunrise. A sharp-eyed observer, who knows his exact position, may succeed in finding him.

The right ascension of Mercury on the 1st is 17h. 15m., his declination is 20 deg. 32 min. south, his diameter is 7 sec., and he is in the constellation Scorpulo.

Mercury rises on the 1st at half-past 5 o'clock in the morning; on the 31st he rises about a quarter after 6 o'clock.

Uranus is morning star. His conjunction with Jupiter on the 21st has already been referred to.

The right ascension of Uranus on the 1st is 12h. 29m., his declination is 2 deg. 22 min. south, his diameter is 3 sec., and he is in the constellation Virgo.

Uranus rises on the 1st soon after half-past 11 o'clock in the evening; on the 31st he rises about half-past 9 o'clock.

Neptune is evening star. At the close of the month Neptune, Saturn and Venus are evening stars; Mars, Jupiter, Uranus and Mercury are morning stars.

The right ascension of Neptune on the 1st is 3h. 24m., his declination is 16 deg. 50 min. north, his diameter is 2 sec., and he is in the constellation Taurus.

Neptune sets on the 1st at about 3:30 o'clock in the morning; on the 31st he sets about 10:30 o'clock.

The January moon falls on the 20th at 2h. 45m. a. m. The waning moon is in conjunction with Mercury on the 3d at 1h. 46m. a. m., being 2 deg. 34 min. north. A beautiful conjunction takes place between the moon and Venus on the 9th at 1h. 5m. a. m., the moon being 38 min. north. Moon and planets are invisible at the time of conjunction, but the three-day-old crescent and the evening star will make a charming picture on the evening of the 8th, as they approach the nearest point.

BUSINESS PROSPECTS FOR 1886.

[Baltimore American.]

The business year just closed has had features of encouragement and some of discouragement, and upon the whole a better feeling prevails than at the beginning of 1885. One of the most hopeful things is the revival of the iron trade. Rails are about eight dollars per ton higher than they were a year ago; nails twenty-five cents per keg higher. These facts indicate industrial activity, for the higher price of nails implies increased consumption, and this is one of the best tests of activity in building. Wool shows a slight advance over the figures of the year ago. Tobacco, wheat and sugar are a shade higher. On the other hand, corn, coffee, cheese and cotton have declined slightly, pork decidedly. It thus seems that in the main the products of manufacture, such as nails and rails, and the raw materials of manufacture, such as wool, show a rising tendency, while the food supplies, such as grain, pork, sugar, coffee, cheese and butter are either stationary or declining. The inferences to be drawn from these facts are not altogether favorable, yet they appear to indicate increased industrial enterprise and cheaper food, which are favorable to the working classes, and thus should be in the long run favorable to the food producers also, though the immediate effect may not seem so. Wheat is cheaper in Liverpool than in America, because American wheat has found in Russian and Indian products a formidable competitor. Whether the enormous exportations of cereals which formed a leading feature of our prosperity six or seven years ago, are to be counted on in the immediate future very few business men will predict.

Now will this in the end prove an unmitigated evil. American agriculture has been too much devoted to a few great staples. A greater variety of culture will be enforced by the sagging tendency of grain; cotton and provisions, silk, grape, hemp, wool—and other articles whose increased production in the raw material leads to increase industrial activity in manufacture—may furnish a sounder basis of material prosperity.

The business forecasts of the year 1886 are, on the whole, encouraging, but not such as to make any heavy drafts and discounts upon future prosperity wise or prudent. The era is not one to justify extensive speculation, either upon the bull or the bear side, but promises a fair reward to careful economical business.

The Parent of Insomnia.

The parent of insomnia or wakefulness is in nine cases out of ten a dyspeptic stomach. Good digestion gives sound sleep, indigestion interferes with it. The brain and stomach sympathize. One of the prominent symptoms of a weak state of the gastric organs is a disturbance of the great nerve center, the brain. Invigorate stomach, and you restore equilibrium to the great centre. A most reliable medicine for the purpose is Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, which is far preferable to mineral sedatives and powerful narcotics, which, though they may for a time exert a soporific influence upon the brain, do not act as a set, and invariably injure the tone of the stomach. The Bitters, on the contrary, restore activity to the operations of that all important organ, and their beneficial influence is reflected in sound sleep and a tranquil state of the nervous system. A wholesome impetus is likewise given to the action of the liver and bowels by its use.

Go to Edgerton & Finlayson's for Family Groceries of all kinds.

WHY JEWS LIVE SO LONG.

The New England Medical Monthly comments very favorably on the proverbial long and healthful lives of the Jews. Dr. Picard holds that this superiority is due to their stringent health laws. The Mosaic, like the older Egyptian code, is very stringent regarding the eating of flesh and other articles of food. Of the animals which are permitted, a large proportion are always condemned as unfit for food. People who eat meat indiscriminately are very prone to disorders of the blood and of the kidneys, for meat is composed of nitrogen, which the kidneys have to remove from the blood, and of course they cannot do this successfully except by the aid of Warner's safe cure, the best kidney strengthener, unless it is temperately partaken of and only the very best meat used. Jews also use alcoholic liquors very sparingly and thus keep up good digestion, and then again they are highly loving and Sabbath-observing class.—Housekeeper.

THE OLD DOMINION.

Installation of Gov. Fitzhugh Lee.

RICHMOND, VA., January 1.—Gov. Fitzhugh Lee was inducted into office to-day in the presence of the General Assembly of Virginia, gathered in joint convention in the hall of House of Delegates, the galleries of which, and every inch of available room being occupied by interested spectators, including many ladies. The rotunda and approaches thereto were also crowded with people, all eager to enter the hall or to catch a glimpse of the new Governor as he passed.

The Joel Parker Association of Newmarket, N. J., which arrived this morning, were assigned to privileged places on the floor of the House and attracted much attention by their fine appearance.

At 11.50 this morning the Speaker called the House to order and the proceedings were opened with prayer by the Right Rev. Dr. A. M. Randolph, Bishop of the Episcopal church.

Clerk Bigger then read the Journal of yesterday. Just as he concluded Hon. John W. Daniel, United States Senator elect entered the Hall and was escorted to a seat. He was greeted with much enthusiasm.

At 11 o'clock the Senate of Virginia was announced and that body filed in by twos and took the seats assigned them. The Speaker then called the joint convention to order and immediately named delegates, A. Fulker and R. M. Stribling and Senator Taylor Berry as the committee to notify Governor Lee that the General Assembly of Virginia was ready to receive him.

In a few minutes loud cheering on the outside announced the approach of the gubernatorial party, and soon afterwards Gov. Lee, arm in arm with the retiring executive, Gov. Cameron, entered the hall, followed by a number of ladies and gentlemen, including Hon. John E. Massey, Lieut. Governor-elect, and Mrs. Gen'l. Lee, (wife of the Governor) and Mrs. Beckham, (wife of ex-Mayor Beckham of Alexandria), and escorted respectively by Frank Davidson, of the Charleston News and Courier, and Doctor George W. Rose, of Richmond.

The appearance of the party was the signal for a perfect ovation of enthusiastic applause which continued several minutes. The two governors were escorted to the Speaker's platform where Hon. L. L. Lewis, President of the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia, administered the oath of office to the Governor and Lieut. Governor.

At the conclusion of this brief ceremony the joint convention was dissolved and the house took a recess for fifteen minutes. Congratulations and handshaking then became the order of the day, the Governor stepping to the floor and meeting friends and strangers alike with a pleasant word for each.

The Joel Parker Association were very prominently featured, the first member introduced fastening to the lapel of Governor Lee's coat the handsome badge of the association.

A noticeable incident to the ceremonies was the almost total absence of colored people in the hall. Only two colored delegates were present and a colored man wearing the badge of the Joel Parker Association. The latter joined in the stream of visitors who passed by the Governor and congratulated him. He extended his hand to the Governor, and with a smile upon his face said: "Governor, let me congratulate you."

Governor Lee looked at him, and breaking out into a laugh, exclaimed: "My friend, don't you think the country is safe now?"

The colored man laughingly replied: "Governor, I believe it is."

It was an amusing incident, and no one enjoyed it more than Governor Lee.

Captain E. M. Haynes, of the Fifth U. S. Cavalry, who was a bosom friend and companion of Governor Lee when he was in the 1st Cavalry, and who came all the way from the Indian Territory to be present at the inauguration, was among the crowd, and when Governor Lee spied him he saluted the Captain with: "Hello, Jack! how are you to-day?" to which Capt. Haynes answered, "Very well, Fitz; allow me to congratulate you," and a warm and cordial grasp of the hand followed.

After the assemblage had dispersed Governor Lee proceeded to the gubernatorial office in the capitol, where the retiring Governor turned the office over to him. Ex-Gov. Cameron remained in the hall during the reception, and was greeted by many of those present.

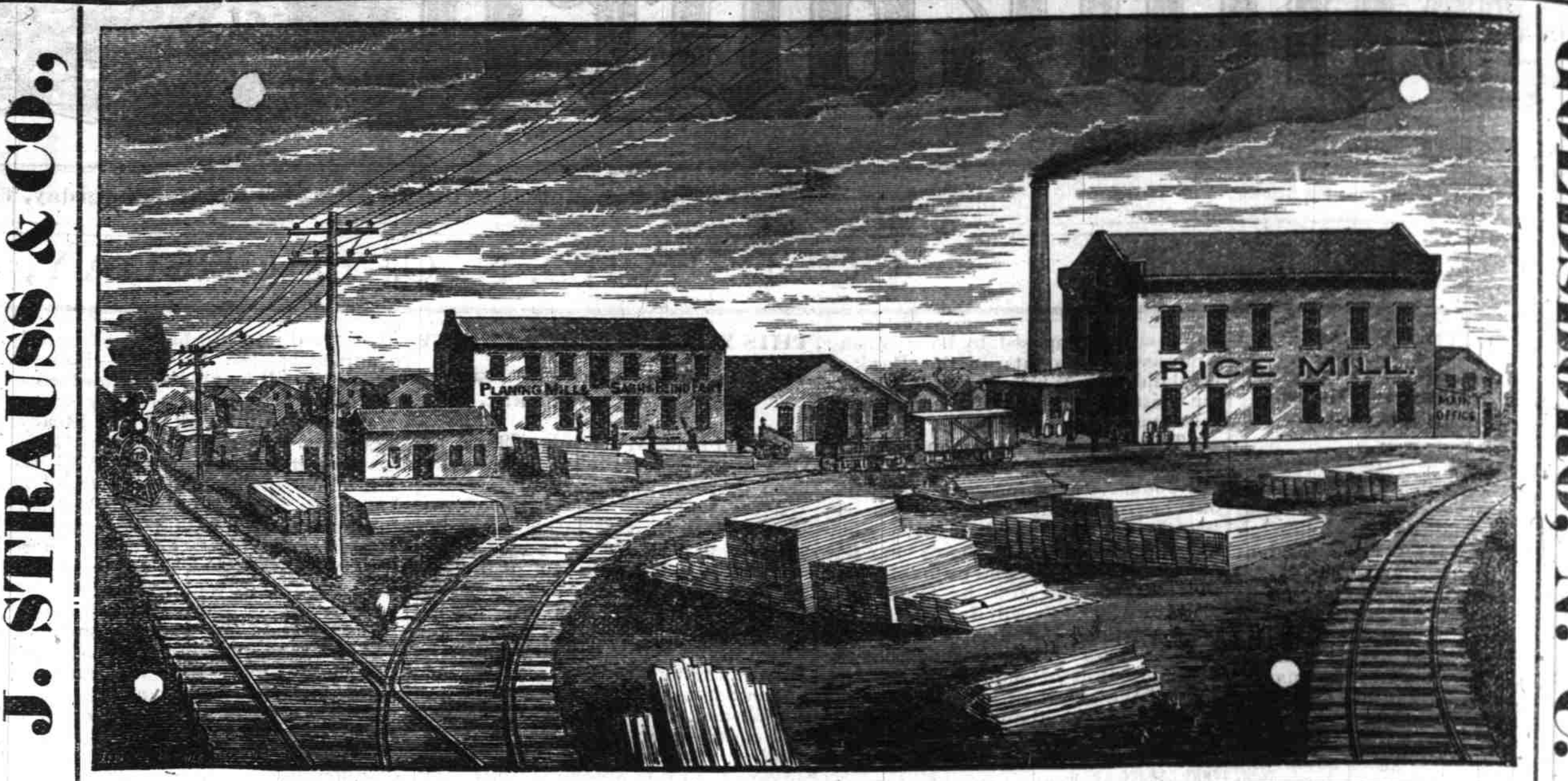
The Newark Association were taken in charge by the City Democratic Committee and handsomely entertained.

Never give up. If you are suffering with low and depressed spirits, loss of appetite, general debility, disordered blood, weak constitution, headache, or any disease of a bilious nature, by all means procure a bottle of Electric Bitters. You will be surprised to see the rapid improvement that will follow; you will be inspired with new life; strength and activity will return; pain and misery will cease, and henceforth you will rejoice in the praise of Electric Bitters. Get a fifty cent bottle of Drs. Kirby & Robinson's, Goldsboro, N. C.

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Bedtick, good quality, only 9 cents per yard. Canton Flannel, good quality and heavy, 7 cents per yard. Lake George "AA" Sheeting, yard wide, only 6 cents per yard. Clarks "O. N. T." Spool Cotton 6 for 25 cents. Pins, best quality, only 4 cents a paper. Needles, Millwads, very best made, 5 cents. Spool Silk, Beldings, best made in the United States, at only 8 cents per Spool.

DRESS GOODS! DRESS GOODS!

Sateens, newest style of Goods out this Fall, per yard 7 cents. Cashmeres, hand-made quality, in all new and popular colors, per yard 15 cents. Worsted Dress Goods, 100 pieces, extra handsome styles, goods worth fully 25 cents per yard at 94 cents per yard. Cashmeres, double width, a handsome assortment of colors, per yard, 22 cents. Black Cashmere, warranted all wool and worth 75 cents, now 45 cents.

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White and Black Silk Spanish Lace at just one half their regular value. Ladies Hose, Fancy Stripe, Elegant Quality, 5 cents a pair. Ladies Hose, something Fine, 10 cents a pair. Pulse Warmers, in all the Newest and Latest Colors, 15 cents per pair. Table Oilcloth, all colors, 224 cents a yard. Ladies Silk Gloves, warranted Pure Silk and Fleece Lined for winter, for only 45 cents. Corsets, Elegant, Double Busk, all colors, worth \$1.25, only 50 cents. Hair Brushes, Elegant Quality at the ridiculous price of 10 cents. Ladies Hemstitched Handkerchiefs, all linen, at 124 cents each. Men's Yarn Socks, sold elsewhere at 40 cents, only 16 cents a pair. Ladies Linen Collars, worth 25 cents, only 8 cents each. Breakfast Shaws, all colors, good size, only 25 cents. Ladies Vests, a Good Quality, 25 cents each. Childrens Knit Hoods and Caps, all wool, 25 cents. Childrens Sacques, all Wool and Nice Style, 35 cents. Musical Instruments of all kinds at half their value.

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