

THE LENOIR TOPIC.

W. W. SCOTT, Jr., Editor and Publisher

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The scheme to raise a stock company for erecting a tobacco factory in Lenoir was started last week. When fifty shares at \$100 each are subscribed a meeting of stockholders will be called. A considerable number of shares were subscribed, but not the requisite fifty. This matter being broached must be carried through to the end. It is the most disheartening thing in the world to begin an enterprise, filled with enthusiasm yourself, to be met at every turn with inertia and obstacles over which you must climb and clamber before reaching success. It is the way, however, with all enterprises and with all enterprising towns and communities. It is the first step that costs. The further you go and the more obstacles you move from your path the easier it is to progress. Let us not be discouraged. It was always thus. All enterprises buffet with the waves and fight against the current. It is the man of energy who is not downcast by a few rebuffs, who works in season and out of season, who conquers opposition—he is the man who at last succeeds. Let us push forward, then, with the shares that have been subscribed, adding more and more as we can, advocating the cause at all times and sticking a pin right here—the tobacco factory shall be built. Is it needful to show the advantages that will accrue? One being built will be but a nucleus for several more to collect around it almost immediately. It needs only to show that one is successful to see others spring up near it. This brings us a market for tobacco at our doors, improves the chances, for sale and high prices, of those sections of the county which already raise tobacco and offers an inducement for the culture of this valuable weed in other sections where it is not planted. All this means the enrichment of the county and the spending of money in it and the bringing of a great amount of surplus currency here. A. is illogical when he says that he can see no great profit to himself in \$100 invested in a factory even if it make a profit of 100 per cent. No great direct profit, it may be, but does he not reap a great indirect profit by sharing the general advantages to be derived from these enterprises? That is plain. We are poor people compared with those of other sections; there are not a few men among us who can raise this money. Co-operation is the magic word that is opening the rich mines of the West. If we wish to do anything here we must follow suit.

We believe in turning on the lights so that all public practices which cannot stand the gaze of the people may be ordered down and out. We believe also in strict justice. Now, there is a current notion that the certificate of the Supreme Court's decision in the Anderson case was purposely held back in the Supreme Court and not sent to the Clerk of Caldwell Superior Court in session when the decision was rendered, when it might well have been sent at that time. This is spoken of to the discredit of the members of the Supreme Court bench in that they should wink at a useless and unnecessary delay and continuance of this case on the docket of the Caldwell Superior Court; thus giving the defendant time to prepare for his escape. The imputation is wholly undeserved and the explanation is easy. It is a rule of the Supreme Court to allow no certificates to be sent to the Courts below until the end of the term. The time of the Judges is taken up with the various cases and their decisions, motions have frequently to be made by counsel after decisions have been reached in their cases and it is not until the end of the term that the Judges have leisure to round up and review cases upon which they have passed. This, then, is the reason that the certificate of the decision in the Anderson case, rendered before Caldwell Superior Court, was not sent to the term of the Superior Court which met after the decision was made but before the Supreme Court adjourned, when only the certificate could be made out.

A new Methodist paper is spoken of at Statesville.

CALDWELL SUPERIOR COURT.

Fall Term, 1885, Judge, A. G. Avery Presiding.

CRIMINAL DOCKET.

State vs Gus Jones, d r w, guilty; judgment suspended on payment of costs.

John Clontz, a and b with d w, submits; judgment suspended on payment of costs.

W. J. Livingstone, c c w, submits; judgment suspended on payment of costs.

Gaston Church, a and b with d w, not guilty.

W. S. Miller, c c w, submits; judgment suspended on payment of costs.

Gaston Bowman, c c w, submits; judgment suspended on payment of costs.

Josiah Miller and Huldah Fin-cannon, f and a; all costs being paid and defendants married they were discharged.

W. C. Dula, sci fa, dismissed.

Wm. Gragg and Julia Chester, f and a; mistrial; judgment suspended on payment of half costs, defend-ants married.

Isaac Lewis and Samuel Pennell, affray; judgment suspended on pay-ment of costs.

Lewis Jenkins, delivery of whis-key in Lenoir; bill quashed.

John Clippard, a and b, judgment suspended on payment of costs.

John Jolly, affray; not guilty.

Wm. Ford, retailing, guilty; judg-ment suspended on payment of costs.

Two cases.

J. D. Starnes and others, trespass, capias ordered for R. A. Tucker, prosecutor, to show cause why he should not be taxed with costs.

H. M. Wilson, a and b; not guilty.

W. C. Dula, retailing, guilty; judgment suspended on payment of costs.

A. W. Austin, a and b, guilty; \$10 and costs.

J. M. Lutz and J. W. Kaylor, affray, guilty; \$10 and half costs for Lutz, \$20 and half costs for Kaylor.

Myra and John Sudderth, a and b, guilty; judgment suspended until next term.

Larkin Earnest, continued.

Myra Sudderth, indigent exposure guilty, 30 days in jail.

L. P. Honkel and A. M. Martin, affray, guilty; judgment suspended and costs divided between them.

Alfred Kaylor and Jas. Hood, il-legal arrest, not pros as to Hood and submission as to Kaylor and judg-ment suspended upon payment of costs.

John Wilson and Wm. Wilson, larceny, not guilty.

Twenty-five continuances and alias capias.

The criminal docket was finished up on Thursday at dinner-time when the Wilson larceny case was given to the jury. This was the most im-portant case tried and aroused some interest. The case of Billy Kirby, or Wm. Ford, under which name he was in-dicted, was a peculiar one. He is an old negro, so doubled up with rheumatism that he cannot stand and has to be carried about in a chair. He lives at German's Hill on the Yarkin and has for years kept up an illicit trade in spirits. Court after court finds him on the docket under this charge and it seems al-most impossible to punish him in his lamentable condition. He has been selling whiskey under a novel fiction of pawning. Persons would go to Billy and lay down 5 cents for a "short" glass, 10 cents for a "long" one, and larger amounts for pints, quarts and gallons upon the alleged condition that the whiskey would be returned and the money redeemed. In other words the whiskey was simply "borrowed" and the money was left to secure its return. Of course this was all a joke and no whiskey was ever returned.

CIVIL DOCKET.

We give below a few notes about some of the more important cases on this docket.

The case of W. S. Miller and wife against J. N. Harshaw and others was set for next term.

Phineas Horton vs D. L. Horton was compromised by deeding the land in dispute to the plaintiff for \$50 and the growing crop.

Azor Shell vs Trustees of Daven-port Female College was decided by the Judge in favor of the defendant on a point of law.

H. P. Connelly sued Azor Shell for time lost at plaintiff's mill when the defendant, who was trestle con-tractor on the railroad, had his pond drained in order to lay the founda-tion for Connelly's trestle. The Judge ruled that plaintiff had no cause of action because he willingly opened the floodgate. It could not have been opened without his con-sent and the damages should have been assessed at the time in the usual manner. They had quite a funny time in the court room selecting a jury, as the two parties to the action are related by blood or marriage to nearly everybody in the county. After exhausting the regular panel and sifting through a considerable num-ber of called jurors a jury was at last found. Even then the Judge on the bench was discovered to be related within the ninth degree to one of the parties.

A case exciting considerable in-terest was the "railroad case." On Saturday before last New Year Al-fred Witherspoon, colored, was haul-ing wood for Dr. Beall along the McCall mill road. Just before or about the time up freight was due he was at the railroad crossing. He looked up the road and listened and neither heard nor saw a train. He started across and, looking up, saw a train bearing down on him. His wagon stopped on the track and he could not move his team. A lock chain had fallen and caught on the rail and he could not remove it. He stood by his horses, when the train

dashed past, overturning the wagon, making the horses run away and knocking Alfred winding. He al-leged that he was cooped up at home for six weeks and that he is no good any more. He employed Messrs. Jones and Vance to bring suit a-against the railroad for \$5,000 dam-ages. Gilley and Newland, of Lenoir, and Beverly C. Cobb, Esq., of Lin-colnton, appeared for the railroad. Jones opened for the plaintiff, Gilley and Cobb spoke for the railroad and Vance closed for the plaintiff. The four speeches were all good. Mr. Vance's speech was complimented on all hands as being an able and logical effort. The jury rendered its verdict about dark on Friday and gave \$150 damages to the plaintiff besides assessing the costs on the defendant.

That was the last cause tried and the Judge adjourned the court.

REPORT OF GRAND JURY.

We found the county jail in tol-erably good condition, the prisoners well cared for and the rooms kept in a healthy condition. The jail seems sufficient to keep prisoners safely.

We visited the poor house and found the paupers well provided for and expressing themselves satisfied with their treatment in every re-spect. As reported by our former grand jury we find still existing great necessity for the building of a new house for the keeper, for the old building is uncomfortable and dangerous, the chimney being liable to fall at any time. In consequence of the death of two of the inmates recently there does not now exist any necessity for building another house for the accommodation of in-mates, though some repairs are nec-essary for some of the houses occu-pied by the paupers to render them comfortable during the approaching winter. A. P. PUEBT, Foreman.

Watauga County Teacher's Association.

To the Editor of the Lenoir Topic: This Association held its first meeting in the Boone Academy, Sept. 4 and 5. As some of our teachers are not subscribers to THE TOPIC, they forgot the time, and so missed the meeting. I hope this little disappointment will, more than ever, impress them with the impor-tance of taking THE TOPIC. The meeting was not so largely attended as we hoped it would be. The As-sociation was organized on the last day of the Normal School with 25 or 30 members, but only about half that number attended. However the meeting was a good one. R. H. Farthing made a good speech on "What can the teacher do toward getting all the children in his dis-trict to attend school?" L. G. Maxwell read an interesting paper on "The County Teacher's As-sociation a necessity." A. J. Taylor ably advocated "the importance of every teacher being a reader of some good educational journal." W. S. Farthing made a good speech on "the qualifications of teachers," and Prof. R. H. Cline, of the Elk Knob Academy gave us a good speech on "Ladies, all things considered, are as good teachers as men for primary and preparatory work." The fol-lowing were appointed a committee on time, place and programme for next meeting: W. S. Farthing, L. G. Maxwell, I. W. Thomas, Miss Lucy Floyd and Miss Nannie River.

The committee reported the follow-ing: Place, Cove Creek Academy; time, 2 and 3 days of October; pro-gramme, Friday, 10 a m to 11 a m. How can the teacher best secure the hearty cooperation of his patrons? E. N. Miller, 11 a m to 12 m. Should corporal punishment be abolished in our common schools? R. H. Farthing. 1 p m to 2 p m, Class drill in English grammar, conducted by L. M. Trivett. 2 p m to 3 p m, Best means of advancing small children. An essay by Miss Lily Veach. Busi-ness and adjournment.

Saturday, 9 a m to 10 a m, Qual-ifications of teachers, Prof. R. H. Cline. 10 a m to 12 m, Theory and practice of teaching, Lecture by I. W. Thomas. 1 p m to 2 p m, Are ladies, all things considered, as good teachers as men? L. G. Max-well. 2 p m to 3 p m, Class drill in History of N. C., W. S. Farthing. Business and adjournment. There will be a drill in Calisthenics each day by Prof. Cline.

The lady teachers of Watauga are cordially invited to attend the next session of the Association and be-come members. The citizens gen-erally are invited to attend. We want to create a deeper and broader sympathy in the work of educating the children. As Superintendent Finger said in his address before the Normal School, "We want to create a sentiment in favor of education." It is to be hoped all the teachers will attend. Dismiss your schools on Thursday afternoon, and be on hand Friday promptly at 10 a m. Come all aglow on the subjects of teaching and education. Come to say something and say it. Tell your experience and troubles and difficul-ties as teacher, and may be somebody present can help you. If the teach-ers do not manifest a great deal of earnest, prudent zeal, we cannot expect the patrons to manifest much. We are having frequent calls for good teachers for certain localities, and we cannot recommend teachers who will not try to be up with the progress of the day. As teachers we may expect to be "laid upon the shelf" at no distant day, if we do not read, study and keep abreast of the times. Let us strive to make Watauga the "Banner County."

I. W. THOMAS, Chairman.

J. J. HARRISON, Secretary.

Rubber Goods! Ladies' and men's Rubber shoes, men's gossamer coats, ladies' gossamer circulars, very low; ladies' Jersey lower than ever known; Clover seed and orchard grass seed at Courtney Bros.

Suit brought Against a Newspaper for Libel.

Charlotte Observer.

A few days ago the Reporter, a small daily paper published at Dur-ham, made some comment upon the purchase of the property near Blow-ing Rock by Mr. R. A. T. Robertson, which displeased that gentleman, and gave sufficient ground, in his opin-ion, for a libel suit. The exact na-ture of the Reporter's offending is not known to us, but yesterday Mr. Robertson passed through Salisbury on his way to Durham. He was ac-companied by his counsel, Mr. J. J. Graham, of Virginia. They go to Durham for the purpose of institut-ing a suit for criminal libel against the Reporter, and Mr. Graham is to conduct the case for Mr. Robertson. As soon as the suit is filed, Mr. Rob-ertson and his attorney will settle for the purchase of the land. Mr. Robertson will build his hotel this fall and will have it ready for Blow-ing Rock tourists next summer.

"A Series of Surprises."

Bakersville Democrat.

THE LENOIR TOPIC, in its newsy way speaking of Ray and Anderson, gives an entirely different version of the "Calloway letter," from any we have heard. As we have some doubts about the authenticity of THE TOPIC's version, we are not inclined to reproduce it. Speculation in this matter is worse than lost time. "Let him who standeth take heed lest he fall." A series of surprises await those interested in this case.

A Sad Accident.

BOONE, September 10.

To the Editor of the Lenoir Topic:

A very sad accident happened on Meat Camp, Watauga county, last Monday. James Proffit a good citi-zen living on Meat Camp went out to cut down a cherry tree; his two children, girl and boy, 8 and 10 years of age, went with him. In falling the tree struck another tree and broke off and was thrown back by the spring of the other tree and struck both children, killing the girl instantly, mutilating the boy, breaking the skull and arm. The little boy was still alive when last heard from, but not able to move or talk. It is supposed that his skull is also broken. Mr. Proffit took both children in his arms and carried them home, a distance of nearly a mile, being covered with blood by reason of the lacerated bodies of his children. Nothing, perhaps, ever occurred more heart-rending to a father than this accident. I am told they were his only children and were very bright, and their father was very proud of them. D. B. D.

Lovely Lady Letter.

LOVELADY, Sept. 14.

To the Editor of the Lenoir Topic:

The march of improvement goes steadily on in our village—one house is scarcely completed ere another is begun. Mr. L. E. Hoke is erecting a nice two story house for Rev. F. S. Starrette who expects to move here about the first of Oct. We welcome him and all like him who will come here.

Our school opened last Monday, the 7th inst, and the prospects for a good school are fine.

Messrs T L Sparks and I T A Spencer speak of moving here; we hope they will. Caldwell can boast no better citizens than they.

Miss Jones, of Kings Mt, the sister of our esteemed friend M F Jones, is visiting her brother.

Mrs M V Moore of Lenoir and Mrs Dixon and mother are visiting the family of Mr P G Moore.

Granite Falls Mfg Co is opening out a large stock of handsome new goods at their factory store.

There are being large shipments of shingles made from this point. Messrs Jones & Icard got an order for 250,000 from one party.

The third quarterly meeting for Caldwell circuit was held at Ebenezer on the first Sunday in this month embracing Saturday before; Rev R A Willis, the new P E, was present and preached to the edifica-tion of all, he is one of the finest preachers we have ever had on this district.

Crops are fine in this section and we think there will be no scarcity of corn another year. OREN.

Quit-Quit from Clay.

CLAY, Mitchell Co., Sept. 9.

To the Editor of the Lenoir Topic:

Mr. Richie went out on to the Burnett mountain the other evening, and his dog, Jeffrey, treed a wood-chuck, which Mr. Richie killed. It was large and, like Henry Clay's slaves, "fat and sleek." The wood-chuck was cooked in Mrs. Richie's best style, and was indeed very palatable eating. It may seem not worth while to make record of so simple a thing as the killing of what the na-tives call a ground hog; indeed, when a boy, I killed a large number. This was the first one I had seen for fifty years, though my business has called me to travel a great deal over East Tennessee and Yancey and Mitchell counties in the past ten years, not only on the highways, but over hill and dale, and where the wily woodchuck most do abound, yet I have not seen one under all these circumstances, which has caused me to make some remarks upon the singularity of the circum-stance. And this was the first I ever tasted.

Must, both oak and chestnut, ap-pears to be abundant, and if the frost does not destroy the chestnuts, there will be a superabundance. But the hogs are not here to eat them.

Speaking of frost, reminds me to

remark, that though the great northwest was severely visited on the 24th ultimo, and on the 27th, it appeared in some portions of our own, Watauga and Ashe counties, we have not had a semblance of frost yet, though we are usually credited with the first of the season, in this mountain district.

The tri-weekly mail brings THE TOPIC on Thursday, instead of Sat-urday, and we are happy.

There is a hitch somehow at Log-gy, the new post office near the head of Toe river. The mail is not de-livered there.

I have not yet fathomed the mys-tery concerning that "state" house to be built by J. C. Shull at Shull's Mills.

The road menders were out on Thursday and Friday last, on Lin-ville section, Wesley Summerrow, overseer, and on Elk Horn section, Frederick Ledford, overseer. They shoveled a little dirt here and there, and put it in the ruts, half-drained the mud holes, cut and pulled up a few roots, removed some stones and left a great many others and—went home, because the roads were worked out the two days. The rains will soon come and wash out the ruts, fill up the sloughs and leave the roadways as uneven and bad as ever.

The board of education for our county met yesterday. It was the day for appointment of school com-mittees for two years from Octo-ber next. D. F. Richie, Martin Banner, Jr., and Thomas Coffey were appointed for our district.

We are going to try for a new road from Jas. A. Aldridge's to Bulls-crape, a distance of 2 1/2 miles, on the old survey known as Mont-gomery survey. As it is much more than ten years since that survey was made we will first have to make a new one. If we are successful, we can reach Bulls-crape 1 mile nearer than by the present road.

Mrs. Crisp—wife of Joseph—turns up in East Tennessee. He and all the family have betaken themselves to Roan Mountain sta-tion, in Carter county. So, no more of this scrape, till Mrs. C. sees fit to come back.

My informant was over to Bakers-ville yesterday, and says that some fourteen persons have died there of a sort of flux. The wife of William Marsh, the lawyer, of the firm of Marsh & Green, was very low. The venerable J. K. Erby is very much afflicted with a sore leg; a chronic case, which will probably afflict him as long as life lasts. There is no more money in Bakersville than the law allows. "Hard times," which was the universal cry from 1837 to 1843—as I well remember—has "come to town" again, and I fear, will stay half the length of time it did then. "Things is out of joint, as Martin Van Buren once said in using that little word instead of are.

Mrs. Sally V., wife of James A. Aldridge, has been confined "to her bed several days, afflicted with a bad case of puerperal fever. With one other exception, our community is exempt from sickness. That case is Miss Mary Townsend, who is a con-firmed bed-ridden.

Granite Falls Academy,

LOVELADY, N. C.

A FIRST CLASS HIGH SCHOOL FOR BOTH SEXES. Conveniently located on the C. & L. R. R. in a healthy and moral community. Instruction, thor-ough practical, progressive. Tuition \$1 to \$4 per month. Music \$1.50. Board \$5 to \$7. Address, Fall Term opens Sept. 7th, 1885. R. L. HUGHES, Principal.

TO THE PUBLIC!

I am still at my old stand, next door to S. W. Hamilton's. All per-sons wanting either

Sheet Iron or Tin Work

Done, can have it done on SHORT NOTICE and in GOOD STYLE, and all NEW WORK GUARANTEED. Tobacco flues and stove piping to be had at

SHORT NOTICE.

Sugar and Coffee and other groceries and notions and bread and cakes always on hand. With thanks for past favors I humbly solicit a continuance of the same, promising to sell as Cheap as any of the rest can sell.

J. S. P. HAMILTON.

J. A. CRISP,

—WITH—

Cloyd, Nelson & Co.,

SHULL'S MILLS, N. C.,

Is opening up one of the

Best Stocks of

General Merchandise

Ever offered to the People of Watauga River.

Prices down to

ROCK BOTTOM FOR

Cash or Good Country Produce.

Cash Paid for Genseng.

Wanted:

Wild Ginger, Jamestown (jimson) Leaves, Oatnip leaves, White Hellebore.

Cloyd, Nelson & Co.,

SHULL'S MILLS, N. C.

The Land of the Sky!

The Land of Peace and Happiness!

The Paradise of the World!

But even in this Heavenly land, life is a burden, unless our homes are furnished neatly! Just Think! Today you can buy a suit of the latest style of fur-niture for

\$13. Thirteen Dollars! \$13.

Besides this, rare bargains are offered in Meat Safes, Bureaus, Washstands, Bed-steads, Tables, (square and round) Lounges, rocking chairs, children's chairs, dining extension tables, either walnut or ash, walnut bed-room suits, bed mat-tresses, springs, &c.

And one at Length, would

say that he is ready for

Every Kind of Trade in its

Season.

If you want to see or buy

Anything in my line don't

Forget to Give Me a Call.

Very Truly,

J. B. ERVIN.

Read & Remember!

—That we want all the—

Blackberries

We can buy this Season

And will pay the very

Highest Prices

For the same that the market will allow.

Owing to the "hard times" we

are now selling our

LARGE STOCK

General Merchandise

At Extremely

Low Prices

—Either for cash, or good merchantable produce.

Special attention is called to the following seasonable goods:

Grass Scythes,

Mason's Improved

Fruit Jars,

"Oriole" and "Gold Medal"

Apple Pealers,

Corers and Slicers.

Bear in mind we offer no "bates" to catch trade, but sell each article for what it is worth and pledge ourselves to give our customers both in

Buying and Selling

Every legitimate advantage of the market.

Hoping by honest effort and fair Dealing to

merit your continued patronage, we are,

Respectfully,

CLOYD AND NELSON.

SHULL'S MILLS, N. C.

F. WIESENFELD.

Not Having time to Write out an

Advertisement

And one at Length, would

say that he is ready for

Every Kind of Trade in its

Season.

Give Good Prices and Sell

GOOD GOODS

At Reasonable Prices.

Watt Plows,

Domestic

SEWING MACHINES,

Bar Iron,

&c, &c, &c.,

Always on Hand.

Respectfully,

F. Wiesenfeld.

YALDIP A. KOTAIKO

W. J. A. YANTONIA

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