

# THE ASHEVILLE DEMOCRAT.

VOL. 1. ASHEVILLE, N. C., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1889. NO. 2.

## To the People.

We wish weekly information from every section of Western North Carolina and East Tennessee, of any or all manufacturing or mining enterprises established, or improvements to those existing; improvements in agriculture, especially results of new experiments in agriculture in this section; of schools, churches, Alliance and other orders or associations for the good and up-building of the people. Send us short, plain statements, as often as may be. THE DEMOCRAT desires to be the medium of announcing to the world the improvements in the social and material development of this section.

A slight "spit" of snow Monday. Winter is coming.

Overcoats are in demand. Read the advertisements in THE DEMOCRAT and go and select a good one.

A telegram from New York reports the entirely favorable result of the operation performed on the wounded soldier, S. S. Lynch.

Dr. W. L. Hilliard, of this city, has sold his farm of 86 acres, 3 1/2 miles south of Asheville, to Mr. Vanderbilt. The price paid was \$21,000.

The High School at Sand Hill, six miles west of the city, is in a flourishing condition. Prof. Brock, the principal, is assisted by A. H. Felmet.

Hon. Thomas D. Johnston left for Cherokee court on Monday. If he delivers his able address on the country, the Cherokees will be pleased and benefited.

Dr. W. P. Whittington, the able representative of Yancey county in the Legislature, is in the city. We are pleased to learn he contemplates locating in this city. We welcome all such.

Our dealers in agricultural implements report larger sales this fall than ever before in one season. An excellent sign of the improvement of our farmers. And they are buying a better class of goods, too.

Our thanks are gladly tendered Capt. Ben Newland for a new map of the United States. Capt. N. is the popular agent for this section of the great Chicago and Alton route across the continent, with office in the Swannanoa Hotel.

Northern visitors are beginning to engage rooms at the hotels and boarding houses in this city for the winter. The indications are that Asheville will have more visitors this winter than ever before, and they will find better accommodations than ever before.

We were informed recently that over two car-loads of clover and grass seeds were sold to the farmers of one neighborhood in Haywood county, the past season. The Haywood farmers are improving as rapidly as any in the State, and none deserve to do so more.

The Wilmington Star says: "Rev. Mr. Pearson left for Tarboro yesterday morning. During his short stay here he was the recipient of many attentions. Friday afternoon, in company with several friends, he took a trip over the Seacoast road to the Hammocks."

We thank our city contemporaries, one and all, for the very flattering reception given by them to THE DEMOCRAT. Asheville has a number of papers, religious and secular, which do the city great credit, and all are earnestly at work for the good of the community. May all live long and prosper.

Mr. W. H. Inloes informs us that a large deposit of magnetic iron ore has been discovered within five miles of this city. According to the specimen furnished him it is the finest ore he ever saw. Efforts will soon be made to work the deposit, and utilize it for all it is worth. Mr. I. says that if the deposit is as large as it is thought to be, and as fine as the specimen taken, it will be a magnificent property.

Mr. J. B. Harrington, late of the Skylands Hotel, has taken a lease from Mr. Jno. Baird, of Johnsonville, Miss., of the old Baird Homestead on the Swannanoa road, now known as Forest Hill Park. Mr. Harrington will furnish the house thoroughly, and as it has lately been greatly improved with water, heating apparatus, etc., it will be a most comfortable and delightful place for both summer and winter boarders.

The Weaverville mass meeting, which was to have taken place last Saturday to consider the proposition for an extension of the Asheville Electric Railway to that town, was postponed on account of the non-attendance of several speakers who were expected. A representative of THE DEMOCRAT drove down, and though greatly disappointed at the postponement of the meeting, was yet amply repaid by the picturesque country on the road and the prosperous and thrifty appearance of Weaverville.

## WITH THE ALLIANCE.

### A Picnic at West's Chapel—Speeches by Distinguished Men.

It was a great pleasure to us to meet with our many friends and their families at the picnic at West's Chapel, this county, last Saturday. A large number of the members of Beaufort, Gap creek, Salem and Bent creek Alliances met with their friends of West Chapel Alliance, and made an assembly of from one thousand to twelve hundred of the good people of Buncombe. Mr. David S. Roberts is President of the West Chapel Alliance, and performed his duties and the honors of the occasion most satisfactorily.

A stand was erected in a grove near the church, and seats prepared for the multitude. This stand was handsomely ornamented with the products of the section, and good things prepared by the housewives. Of these we will speak further on.

The crowd was addressed during the day by Col. T. B. Long, State Lecturer Farmers' Alliance; John W. Starnes, Esq., Supt. Public Schools of the county; J. B. Freeman, Esq., of Henderson, and Hon. Thos. D. Johnston. The speeches of Messrs. Long and Freeman were presentation of the purposes of and the necessity for the organization of the farmers known as the Alliance. They pointed out many of the glaring evils of the times which bear directly and heavily upon the agricultural interest and energies, and urged with much force the needs of the farmers and the necessity for unity of action in bringing about relief. Mr. Starnes urged the Alliance to a more united interest in educational matters. As one of the principles of the Alliance was to educate the farmers and their children, he hoped that every member would give special attention to this feature, believing it to be fraught with greater results, more lasting than any one thing which might or could engage their attention. They should insist on good schools, and having them should see that their children attended regularly.

Mr. Johnston reviewed the history of this country, compared its growth in industrial enterprises and wealth with the older countries of the world, showed that the farmers and the workmen produced this enormous increase of wealth, and withal, the wealth was rapidly passing into the hands of the few, the speculators in the labor of others, while the farmer—largely in the ascendancy as owners of the wealth—had fallen far below the speculators. He then told the people that this change, this rapid transfer of the wealth from the many to the few, was the result of the legislation of the past twenty-five years; of legislation which was intended to enrich the speculator in other men's labors, and which had finally created and fostered the trusts, the combines, &c., which was sapping the life-blood of the people. He showed that the farmers were taxed to death, while the speculators were protected by the legislation. While in the legislature, and in Congress he had fought every measure for and tendency toward this class legislation against the farmer. Mr. Johnston's speech was an able one, furnishing the farmers much food for reflection, and made an impression upon all. Every farmer who thinks and will carefully reflect upon the argument of Mr. Johnston, and other speakers upon the outrageous oppression of the trusts, &c., cannot fail to understand that the tariff laws, as at present arranged and maintained by the Republican party contributes more to bring about and sustain these evils than every other agency combined.

Much disappointment was felt at the absence of Hon. R. B. Vance who was expected to be present, but important business, (Col. Long suggested of a private nature) called him out of the State for a few days. He will soon meet with the Alliance at West Chapel and address them.

The farm products and home-made luxuries exhibited on the stand would do credit to any country, and prove that the farmers of that section of Old Buncombe are abundantly and well supplied with the good things—for man and beast. Mr. J. M. Rickman exhibited Irish potatoes, with the statement that from one-sixteenth of an acre he had gathered over 50 bushels, which was at the rate of 800 bushels to the acre. Mr. Rickman also exhibited some very fine beets, but Mr. Alex. West exhibited a beet measuring over 30 inches in circumference. Mrs. Rachel Williams and Mrs. T. F. Wilson, mammoth cabbage, Mr. L. Cressman, heavily grained corn; Mrs. F. Stevens, immense bell peppers and parsnips; Jeff Williams large turnips; B. Brown, 3 1/2 pound sweet potatoes, enormous ground cherries—new variety; J. A. Gibson, rocky bluff Irish potatoes weighing over a pound each; Wm. Ballaw and W. H. Griggs, very large sweet

potatoes; the finest pie plant we ever saw by Mrs. Robt. Williams; preserves by Mrs. Jane Stevens, Mrs. A. W. Williams, Mrs. Worley; ornamental cakes, Mrs. Addie Wilson; fine apples, several choice varieties, Messrs. Garren and Worley. Mrs. Williams also exhibited a large bunch of second crop strawberries, ripe and delicious. Altogether it was an exhibit that speaks well for the productiveness of our section and the character of our climate.

The dinner was spread on two long tables in the grove, and verily were they laden with the substantial and luxuries of a prosperous country home life. The multitude was fed, well fed, and many basketsful left, which was a surprise, considering there were two editors (Bro. Tomlinson of Country Homes and ourself) and several candidates of the ground. But the farmers and the housewives of this section are equal to all demands upon them.

THE DEMOCRAT was warmly received and congratulated by the farmers of this section, a large number entering their names as subscribers. We thank our friends for the courtesies shown us at West Chapel, and some days ago also at Gap Creek where we attended a similar meeting. THE DEMOCRAT is in hearty sympathy with the farmers in every effort they may make to better their condition, and throw off the burden which now bears upon them.

## Marriages.

A marriage license has been granted to M. R. Treadway, of Madison, and Annie Broadman, of Buncombe.

Rev. Samuel H. Hilliard was married in Hendersonville Tuesday evening to Miss Mamie Justus, of that place.

State Senator E. W. Pou, of Johnston Co., and Miss Annie Walker, of Raleigh, were married last week in the First Presbyterian church of that city.

At the First Baptist Church in Raleigh, Mr. Rufus Horton, an engineer on the Raleigh and Gaston railroad, and Miss Lou Crawford, were married.

Mr. Vernon W. Long, editor of the Winston Sentinel, was married on Oct. 2d, in Reidsville, to Miss Helen Daisy Murphy. The bride was valedictorian of her class at Salem Academy in 1886.

Among the marriage licenses issued by the Register of Deeds last week were the following: J. C. Myers and Miss S. C. Jenkins, of Buncombe; Sam McIntosh and Dorcus Fisher, both of Madison county.

To-day, at Trinity Episcopal Church, Lincoln, Ill., Mr. Joseph W. Sluder, of this city, and Miss Helen Louise, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James T. Hoblitt, of Lincoln. Mr. Sluder left this city Sunday, accompanied by Messrs. Thomas A. Jones and Lawrence P. McLoud. The best wishes of THE DEMOCRAT attend the happy couple. Mr. Sluder is not yet of age but he is armed with a permit from his mother.

## THE Y. M. C. A.

### Selection of a Permanent Board of Directors.

The members of the Young Men's Christian Association of Asheville met at the First Methodist Church Friday evening, and elected the following board of directors: H. T. Collins, H. A. Guder, P. P. Claxton, Dr. T. J. Hargan, J. H. Weaver, J. A. Porter, Capt. T. W. Patton, J. E. Dickerson, W. H. Penland, R. U. Garrett, H. D. Child, J. S. Adams, W. H. Ballard, C. E. Graham, E. T. Rhinehart.

The Association enters upon its noble work under the most favorable auspices. God speed it in all its endeavors.

Just think of it! About one-half million dollars' worth of buildings and other work being done, and contracted for to be done, in Asheville, this fall and winter. Contractors and builders inform us that the indications are that the next twelve months will witness most astonishing building improvements in and near Asheville; to a degree not heretofore surpassed in the South. The many opportunities offered in this city and section for safe and profitable investment is attracting the attention of capital. It is evident to the most casual observer that Western North Carolina has entered upon a season of industrial prosperity scarcely dreamed of a few years ago. The varied minerals—all valuable—the splendid and well-nigh inexhaustible supply of timbers—hard woods specially—must soon afford abundant resources for the energetic and shrewd capitalist and intelligent laborer.

THE DEMOCRAT intends to give special attention to agricultural and industrial interests and information. We ask our workmen and farmers to assist us in this.

## LETTER FROM SYLVA.

### Improvements in Jackson—Three Attractive Towns.

SYLVA, N. C., October 12, 1889. Editors Democrat:—We trust that a letter from this section may not prove uninteresting to at least a portion of the readers of your paper.

Jackson county has only recently, comparatively, been brought under the influence of that great civilizer, the railroad, and while her progress is decided, we must confess that she has not kept abreast with some of her sister counties in development. Owing to causes unnecessary to mention here, the railroad was not built by the county seat, and having to build a new court house to replace the old one, the question of removing the site to some point on the railroad has agitated the public mind almost ever since the railroad was completed through the county. Then too, two depots were established within less than two miles of each other and both about the same distance from Webster, the county seat. The consequence is that we have three small towns, neither of which is more than three and a half miles apart. Had harmony prevailed amongst the people the concentration of capital and enterprise at one point would have enabled us to show a much larger town than now exists in the county. Considering the geographical fact that much the largest part of the country lies south of the railroad, and that this is the nearest most accessible point to the largest part of the country, wisdom would seem to have dictated that the location of the principal depot should be here for the best interests of the county at large.

However the question was at last temporarily settled by the building of a splendid new court house on the site of the old one in Webster.

For beauty of situation and wonderful healthfulness, Webster is not equalled by any town west of Asheville. As a place of residence and as a desirable location for one or more large schools its advantages are such as will sooner or later, in our opinion, add largely to its population.

Dillsboro, the next station below this and within two miles, is quite a thrifty little town, containing, perhaps, one hundred and fifty inhabitants, a large hotel with something like forty rooms, several stores, and some excellent dwellings. A joint stock company known as the Carolina Manufacturing Company, having purchased some kaolin properties mostly in the vicinity of Webster, chose Dillsboro as the point for preparing the clay for market and erected there a small building for that purpose. It is said that a disagreement as to the management of their affairs caused a cessation of operations, and the capital invested is lying idle, without any apparent prospect of a resumption of work.

Sylva is forty-seven miles west of Asheville, on the Murphy Branch of the Western North Carolina Railroad. It has about 180 inhabitants, two stores, a steam saw mill, a water-power corn and wheat mill, a hotel and livery stable, a blacksmith shop, a shoemaker's shop, an excellent school building with a good school now in progress. Here too is the Equitable Manufacturing Company's mammoth factory for washing and preparing kaolin for use by the potteries.

Extensive deposits of this clay have been discovered within easy reach of Sylva, and large and costly preparations made to bring it into market. A large factory, 160x60 feet, supplied with all the necessary machinery, for washing and drying the clay, has been built, and all will be ready to begin operations before Nov. 1. The entire cost of the plant will be \$50,000. In addition to the machinery for washing the clay the Equitable Company design the establishment of a pottery here, and other industrial enterprises are also being contemplated in connection therewith, and will also build a large hotel on a beautiful site. Other banks of kaolin than those owned by the Equitable, have been discovered near the line of railroad and only a few miles above here. These are controlled by Capt. J. A. Irvine, of Columbia, Tenn., and the formation of another company and the consequent establishment of other large works is a strong probability of the near future.

Sylva has also a good weekly newspaper, with a steadily growing patronage, its politics indicated by its name, "The Tuckaseige Democrat."

Wishing your paper the success we are sure it will deserve, we close.

## Four New Cars.

Mr. Arthur, the courteous superintendent of our city street railway, informs us that within the next 30 days four new cars will be added to the equipment of the company, by or about which time he also hopes to have the cars running to Camp Patton.

## The Trade of Asheville.

Never before was the outlook for trade for this city so good as this season, and never before have our business men, in all lines, so thoroughly prepared for it. The largest and best selected stocks ever brought here are now offered. Special attention has been given to selections for the wholesale trade, and our business men are determined to give the merchants and dealers of Western Carolina and East Tennessee every inducement to trade in this city. They assure us that no place in the South, within easy reach of this section, can offer goods on a closer margin, and they invite the trade with every confidence of pleasing their customers in goods and prices.

The manufacturing interests, however, in their infancy though they be, have shown and are showing that Asheville can compete with any city or section. The Graham Cotton Manufactory, the Graham Shoe Factory, the Asheville Manufacturing (Roller) Mills, the Asheville Ice Company, the Asheville Furniture Company, the Asheville Tobacco Works, E. I. Holmes' Smoking Tobacco Factory, the Asheville Broom Factory, the several lumber mills, and others, all are kept busy, even pushed to fill orders on hand. Some of these manufacturers are not only finding Southern, but Northern and Western Markets, with every assurance of early enlargement.

All in all, the outlook for the wholesale and manufacturing trade of Asheville was never so bright as at present, and THE DEMOCRAT earnestly invites the attention of its readers, in this and other States, to the very excellent advantages offered by this market. An examination of the wares, goods and manufactures is all that is asked to insure trade.

## The French Broad Lumber Co.

We were pleased to learn from Mr. Wilkinson, of this company, of the success of the above extensive works. Notwithstanding some delays in getting their lumber they have succeeded so well that two additional boilers are found necessary, which are expected daily. These will furnish boiler capacity for over 300 horse power. These mills, situated on the French Broad, near the mouth of the Swannanoa, are supplied with the best machinery of latest improvements, band saws, etc., etc., and are capable of turning out 40,000 feet of lumber daily. The timber for this is obtained, largely, from Transylvania, Henderson and Buncombe and floated down the French Broad river; but a large supply is also obtained from other sections and brought to the mills by railroad. These timbers are the oaks, several varieties—poplar, hemlock (or spruce), cherry, white and yellow pine, chestnut and ash. Mr. W. also says that the company have determined to add a planer for dressing the lumber, which will be done at once. When this addition is made, from 75 to 100 hands will be regularly employed at the mills, besides a large force in the woods cutting timber.

This is one of the many important "infant" industries of our rapidly growing section, which already exhibits wonderful precocity for "one so young." It is the pleasure of THE DEMOCRAT to chronicle all such enterprises, and especially the success which evidently this one is meeting with.

## Plain Talk From Rev. Dr. Keith.

Rev. Dr. Keith, one of the ablest members of Holston Conference, Methodist Church, South, who has served Broad street church Knoxville, the past two years, was assigned by the recent conference to Cleveland. In his farewell sermon at Knoxville Sunday he used the following language:

"Now I must go without my knowledge or consent. I have been sent away from this church without the knowledge or consent of the presiding elder. The bishop sent me word about my appointment, that I need have no fears, there would be no change at Broad street church. I bow to you with grace, but I do not see the reason or justice in it. The fault is not in this church, but it was influenced from another source. Let us hope it is for the best for you. The itinerant plan I deem the best, but it sometimes imposes on a preacher some hardships. It can be abused, and is. Sometimes the appointing power is bad. When one preacher is removed just to accommodate some one man, an injustice is done, and when a man is removed in spite, it is the grossest injustice. Sometimes preachers ought to be removed, but there ought to be wisdom in the appointing power. Now, I want to say to my friends who have been disappointed, let it not trouble you, but forget it and receive my successor and support him as you have me."

Mr. Geo. Vanderbilt is here, accompanied by an architect and landscape gardener, to consider the improvement of his large estate south of Asheville.

## THE PAGE MURDER.

### Ed. Brown Tried for the Crime and Acquitted.

The trial of Marion Ed. Brown, charged with the murder of Col. Roger Page, editor of the Times-Register of that town, occupied Friday and Saturday last of the McDowell Co. Superior Court. Nearly the entire bar of Marion, together with Messrs. M. E. Carter and E. D. Carter, of Asheville, were engaged for the defense. Solicitor W. H. Bower prosecuted.

Col. Page was charged with criminal intimacy with Mrs. Dora Butts, of Marion, wife of Dr. Butts and sister of Ed. Brown. He was shot from behind on the night of the 22d of July last, while walking on the railroad track near the depot at Marion, by some one who sprang upon him from the darkness, and after discharging several pistol shots into Page's body escaped on horseback. At the time of his shooting Col. Page was accompanied by two persons, both of whom were unable to identify the prisoner, Brown, as the man who did the shooting. No other witness could identify Brown, though the shooting and escape were seen as well as the darkness permitted by quite a number. Testimony showed that Brown had expressed much feeling over the alleged disgrace of his sister, and had declared that Page ought to be shot and that Dr. Butts ought to do it. Brown was absent from the town some time after the shooting, when he returned and surrendered himself. Page was a native of Virginia, a married man, but separated from his wife. He was a writer of considerable force and an editor of ability. He had lived in Marion less than a year.

The jury on Tuesday morning returned a verdict of "not guilty," which was received with some applause, promptly checked by Judge Phillips, presiding.

## Organize It at Once.

Yesterday an important meeting of a large number of the prominent business men of our city met at the instance of Capt. Atkinson, in the president's room of the First National Bank, for the purpose of conferring with Mr. King of Cincinnati, and Mr. Cullen of Nashville, upon the feasibility of organizing a Fire Insurance Company in this city. Mr. King has determined to locate permanently in our city; and having been, for a number of years, identified with the insurance business in Cincinnati, and recognizing the growing importance of Asheville, is satisfied that a company could be successfully established here. Mr. Cullen, one of the most prominent insurance men of Nashville, now visiting this city, fully concurs with Mr. King, and presented the advantages of such an organization to the meeting. After a full and free discussion, a committee composed of Messrs. W. E. Breese, President of the First National Bank, J. P. Sawyer, director of the National Bank of Asheville, W. T. Reynolds, Clerk of the court, and W. T. Penniman, of W. T. Penniman & Co., hardware merchants, was appointed to investigate further, and ascertain what may be done towards organizing the company. The capital stock will be \$100,000. THE DEMOCRAT can see no reason why the company should not be formed, and why it would not be successful.

## It is the City's Duty.

In reply to the suggestion in the last issue of THE DEMOCRAT that the Street Railway Company was required to keep tracks so that vehicles could easily and safely cross them, the Superintendent informs us that the Company is only required to keep the track "between" the rails smooth, and that it is the duty of the city to keep the approaches on the outside right. Let the duty be whose it may, it should be done and at once, or the city will have damages to pay for broken vehicles if not broken limbs. At times when the streets are crowded with vehicles, as is frequently the case, it is a wind back and forth across the track to get along, and at places the crossing is difficult and unpleasant, if not dangerous. Have the difficulty remedied, City Fathers.

Work is progressing rapidly upon the Asheville and Sulphur Springs Electric Railway. The splendid iron bridge across the French Broad is approaching completion; when this is done work of grading for the track will be pushed vigorously toward the Springs. What a magnificent additional attraction this enterprise will prove to Asheville. Verily, Mr. Carrier, the owner of the Sulphur Springs, and the principal mover in this work, will reap his reward.

THE DEMOCRAT acknowledges with thanks and blushes the very handsome compliments tendered its first issue by a fair and unknown but highly appreciated correspondent.