

THE ASHEVILLE DEMOCRAT.

VOL. 1. ASHEVILLE, N. C., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1889. NO. 8.

To the People.
We wish to convey 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.

Bishop Lyman preached in Trinity Church, this city, last Sunday morning, and administered the rite of confirmation in the afternoon.

The ladies will find something of interest to them in every issue of THE DEMOCRAT. We are pleased to say they are among our most enthusiastic readers.

Gen. Smythe, of Ohio, gained a long pending suit at the recent term of the Federal court, fixing his title to the celebrated Janaluska tract of land in Graham county.

The banks take a holiday to-day. We presume all other places of business will also be closed. All the churches will be open, and services suitable to the occasion will be held.

Judge Spier Whitaker held Madison court last week, to the satisfaction of bar and people. He will make a good Judge. He will hold court in Buncombe, beginning December 2d.

A gentleman who came to Asheville one month ago for his health, has increased in weight over twelve pounds, and much more in strength. This is a general complaint of those who come to Asheville.

Would it not be a good idea to scrape the mud from the sidewalks occasionally, so that strangers might know there are brick and stone walks on our principal streets, besides it would make walking safer and more comfortable.

To-day is Thanksgiving. Let it be enjoyed; above all, let our people remember the poor. The Mission Hospital appeals strongly to the sympathy of all, and is sorely in need of assistance. Don't forget this noble charity.

There is fun brewing on Charlotte street between the property owners on said street and the street railway company. The latter have dug holes in the middle of the sidewalk in which to place their poles and the residents very naturally object.

The city circulation of THE DEMOCRAT is large and increasing regularly. We are thankful to the people in the city and country, for the generous encouragement extended us. Let every reader in Western Carolina take THE DEMOCRAT. It will pay them.

A monkey, a bagpipe and two Italians, named in the order of attraction, have enlivened our streets the past several days, greatly to the delight of the small boy. The monkey was immense—as an attraction, the music was hair-lifting, while the festive Italians were graceful collectors of the stray pennies.

Our Alliance friends had a large and pleasant meeting at Sandy Mush last Saturday. It being one of the best sections of our mountain country, composed of good citizens and good farmers, of course their gathering was a pleasant one. THE DEMOCRAT regrets it could not have a representative present, who was so kindly invited.

A cross-walk was laid at Bridge and Woodfin streets last Friday, and a portion of the dirt removed from the sidewalk on Woodfin street, with which a correspondent found fault last week, and who now desires to thank the city authorities, through THE DEMOCRAT, for their promptness in attending to these matters. Let the good work go on.

State Bank Inspection.
Maj. C. Dowd, of Charlotte, was in town the early part of the week on his tour of inspection of State banks. He was appointed by Treasurer Bain under the act of the last legislature requiring such inspection in much the same manner as is required for national banks. Major Dowd is assigned to the territory west of Raleigh in which there are about 23 banks. He had just returned from Waynesville whose recently established bank he inspected. He reports that bank as having the best kept set of books he has yet examined. Maj. Dowd thinks the inspection will prove of great benefit to bankers and their customers. He says 12 or 13 have been started since the law was passed and one or two were started out on his inspection trip. The eastern division has about as many State banks as the western.

FAYETTEVILLE CENTENNIAL.

Our Ratification of the Constitution Brilliantly Commemorated.

The Fayetteville Centennial commemorative of North Carolina's ratification of the national constitution was a great success, notwithstanding many adverse conditions, among which were bad weather, insufficient railroad accommodation and the overcrowded state of the town itself. Mr. Julian S. Carr and his marshals, with the Marine band of Washington and several military companies, turned out to meet Gov. Fowle, who came in from Raleigh at 11 o'clock. The grand ball also occurred on the evening of Wednesday, and was a brilliant success. There has rarely in the history of the State been such a congregation of beauty and youth. The ball occurred in a building which was erected as a tabernacle for the revival meetings of the Rev. R. G. Pearson.

A discharge of forty-two guns, one for every State in the Union, saluted the dawn of Thursday. Nevertheless it was a most inauspicious one. The wind blew, the sky was overcast with heavy clouds and the rain poured in torrents. There seemed small prospect of a clearing away of the weather, while the streets were in a condition which made it out of the question to go through with the parade which had been arranged. The programme was therefore modified, and at 2 o'clock the literary exercises began from a platform upon the new market house which occupies the site of the old, where the constitution was ratified. Hon. Wharton J. Green read a letter from Hon. Jefferson Davis, reviewing freely North Carolina's part in the formation of the government and pointing out her honor therein.

After Gov. Fowle had presented each regiment of the State militia with a flag he introduced Senator Ransom, who was warmly received. The first part of the Senator's speech was a masterly review of North Carolina's attitude in deferring her ratification of the constitution. While paying the highest tribute to the historian Bancroft, he was forced to take issue with him in the three reasons which he assigned for North Carolina's delay, to-wit: that she was delinquent to the Confederation, that her geographical unity was disturbed by the establishment of what was called the State of Franklin in the West, and that she was laboring under the effects of over issue of paper money. It is necessary to read the full text of the Senator's speech, which is to be published, to appreciate his masterly array of facts in refutation of Mr. Bancroft's position. He cited the vast services which North Carolina, then the first in territory and third in population of the thirteen States, had rendered the Confederation, the delinquency of other States which had accepted the constitution; he pointed out that all the trouble over the State of Franklin had been settled long before the question of ratification was presented; he proved that the question of paper money had not entered into the consideration of the Fayetteville convention; he showed that North Carolina during her alleged hesitation and vacillation had refused to ratify unless twenty-six related amendments to the constitution were adopted. Ten of these were actually adopted very soon afterwards and the principles of others were incorporated. These facts proved wise and patriotic delay.

The Senator also pointed out the wise conservatism of North Carolina in the convention of the colonies which framed the constitution, the magnanimity and moderation of the delegates saving the instrument in three vital crises of its formation. The latter part of the speech was devoted to a discussion of the present status. With many others the writer was unable to hear this well, as the arrangements for hearing were far from good. The ceremonies were concluded on Friday. A grand street parade headed by the Marine band and Mr. Carr's corps of marshals escorting thirteen floats, upon each of which was a resplendent young lady, representing the original thirteen States. There were also a large number of military companies.

Senator Vance addressed the audience at the fair grounds upon the topic of the occasion. He was followed by Col. Wharton J. Green in an agricultural address. At night there was a fine display of fireworks at the fair grounds, followed by a brilliant gemman at the tabernacle.

The hospitality of the good people of Fayetteville knew no bounds, but the town was not large enough to hold the crowd. A pleasant incident of the occasion was the presentation to Mr. Carr by his Marshalls of some handsome bronzes. Maj. Louis Latham made the presentation speech in admirable style, and Mr. Carr's response was universally admired for its cordiality and grace.

Personal.

Dr. Newland of Lenoir is in Asheville. The doctor we understand is thinking of investing in Asheville real estate.

Our young friend, Mr. Will Aiken, of this city, is spending a vacation with relatives and friends at Hickory, N. C.

Hon. Kope Elias and his son Lewis reached the city Saturday evening en route home from the Fayetteville Centennial.

Mr. D. W. Belding, of Cincinnati, a large timber-land owner in Graham county, with Messrs. T. B. and C. Long, street, of Lansing, Mich., are at the Swannanoa, their visit being to look into the resources of this section.

Hon. W. H. Hargrove, of Haywood, has returned home from a business trip to Augusta and other Southern cities. Mr. H. is a large shipper of fine Haywood fruits and vegetables, and is doing his countrymen much good in aiding them in disposing of their surplus products.

We are pleased to welcome to Asheville, as permanent residents, Hon. Reuben McBrayer and family, late of Cleveland county, who occupy their residence on Haywood avenue. Mr. McBrayer is one of the prominent lawyers of this State, and will practice in this city and section.

Deaths.

The telegraph brought us information last night of the death of one of the most prominent gentlemen of Eastern North Carolina, Mr. W. T. Dortch, who died at his home in Goldsboro, on the morning of the 22nd. He had been seriously ill for some time, but abroad there seemed to have been no apprehension of a fatal termination to his illness.

Mr. Dortch was, we suppose, about 67 years of age, a little younger perhaps, but he appeared older because he had been so long and so prominently in public life, though not having attained many of its highest honors. He was a lawyer of learning and an advocate of power, and perhaps stood at the head of the profession in his section of the State. He was a politician of pronounced views; a life long democrat, an early an ardent advocate of the Southern cause. He was one of the Senators from North Carolina to the Confederate Congress. Subsequent to the war he entered warmly into the politics of the State, and as Senator from his district, was actively useful in shaping much important legislation, especially in those branches tending to relieve the people from the suffering incident to their new conditions, political and pecuniary, in which the learning of the lawyer and the wisdom of the statesman were happily blended. Mr. Dortch was a strong man though not a great one, and in his death the State loses a most patriotic son and useful servant.—Citizen.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. H. Clay Maddox, which occurred at the residence of his father, Lewis Maddox, Esq., on Merrimon avenue, on Sunday. Mr. M., who for years was prominent in business circles in New York city, came to this city over a year ago for his health, which had about succumbed to consumption, but the disease had gained too strong a hold upon him, and he quietly passed away Sunday. His parents and friends have the sympathy of our entire community. His father is the President of the Western Carolina Bank of this city. The remains were taken Monday to Columbus, Ohio, for burial, after funeral services at the house by Rev. Dr. Buxton.

The Democrat Abroad.

"One of the most attractive papers we receive is THE ASHEVILLE DEMOCRAT. It is chock full of news and good reading matter of interest to every one."—Chattanooga Journal of Commerce.

"We have received through the courtesy of Fred. M. Messler, formerly of this place, a copy of THE ASHEVILLE (N. C.) DEMOCRAT, with which he is now identified. It is an eight-page paper, neatly printed, bright and newsy, and Democratic to the core."—Somerset, (N. J.) Messenger.

Sale Extraordinary.

Mr. Len Henderson, of Madison county, sold on the floor of the Farmers' Warehouse last week 3,500 pounds of tobacco for \$1,404.80. This is extraordinary for that amount round. He says he has over a thousand pounds more which he thinks will sell for even more per hundred. Good, well handled grades are fetching good prices now.

Our Tobacco Market

Maintains itself well, in supply and prices. Sales have been large, and, if anything, prices somewhat advanced, especially on good grades. The outlook for the next week is very good.

Real Estate Business and Agents.

While there has been no "boom" in real estate transactions in Asheville yet transfers are constantly taking place, the purchases being made for improvement. This is better than mere speculative ventures. Our real estate agents have been among the most useful agencies of our city in securing purchasers and calling attention to the advantages of this city and section for profitable investment and good, healthful homes. They are as straightforward, honest men as this or any city can boast of. They offer properties at the fixed price by the owners, only charging a reasonable per cent commission, paid by the owner and not the purchaser. If these seem high, in any instance, it is not the fault of the agent, but the owner. But there is no property that is for sale that is too high in Asheville now; comparing it with other places, and taking into consideration the advantages, surroundings and certain future of this city, property is, in the main, fixed at reasonable prices. Some, a few, people who go to a place seem to expect that property should be sold to them at specially low figures to induce them to settle. And such, when they do settle, carry out their exacting propensities and spend as little as possible in or for the community. There is no Asheville property to give away or sell at a sacrifice. The people here have as correct an idea of the value of property, estimated upon experience, facts and comparison, as can have those who have only been sojourners for a short while. Good bargains can some times be picked up, owing to surrounding circumstances; but in general, fair prices are put upon property by those who are willing to sell, suggested by good judgment, and while willing to sell, are not willing to sacrifice. Property does not go begging in any live, progressive, growing town, such as Asheville is, and is known and acknowledged to be. It is our opinion, based upon a knowledge of this section of some years, and a reasonable faith in the continuance of those reasons for continued development which have brought about the phenomenal growth of the recent past, that property in this city must soon enhance in value. Every indication points to that result. Those who are now hesitating should do so no longer, specially those wanting well located homes in the city. We conscientiously believe the next five years will show far greater development, improvement and increase of population than that of the past five years, which has been so astonishing to our own people. A larger number of improvements, industrial and otherwise, have been arranged to be entered upon in the next six months than ever before for a similar length of time. Now is the time to invest.

Good Roads.

We are glad to note that our people, in various sections, are moving in the direction of securing better roads. The meeting at Leicester last Saturday, looking to that end, was a proper one, but it seems just now that the attention of the people is more directed to railroad schemes than any other. THE DEMOCRAT is in full sympathy with all the railroad schemes proposed, but not being able to think that railroads will be built from Asheville through every section sadly needing good roads to reach the city, for some time, suggests to the people of these sections that so soon as they can get done discussing railroad projects they hold a meeting to devise some means for improving county roads. All the hauling of the county to Asheville could not and would not be done on railroads if we had them already built in forty different directions from the city, so whatever may be hereafter done in the direction of railroad building, we still think something ought to be and might be done toward improving our county roads, so we can have better use of them while the great railroad lines are being constructed. The road from the city to Sandy Mush via Leicester; up Hominy; towards Democrat; up Swannanoa; towards Hendersonville; up the French Broad, the leading high-ways of the county, ought to be improved. Those interested in each road and familiar with each section thereof, its requirements to put it in good and permanent order, ought to meet, and unite upon a method to secure the improvement. What say our people to these meetings for improving our dirt roads? THE DEMOCRAT is ready to cooperate with every movement looking to the betterment of our people and of those agencies which tend thereto.

Removal of the Indians.

A Question that Presents Some Serious Difficulties.

WASHINGTON, November 23.—Secretary Proctor is endeavoring to make such arrangements as will enable him to leave the city during the Christmas holidays, in company with General Crook and Capt. Pratt, superintendent of the Carlisle Indian school, for the purpose of making a special visit of inspection to the Mt. Vernon barracks, Ala., where Geronimo and his Apache Indians are now in imprisonment.

An effort was made early in the year to secure the removal of these Indians to a tract of land in North Carolina which the Indians desired to purchase. Gov. Fowle, of that State, objected to the scheme in vigorous language, and Secretary Proctor declined to order their removal, especially as evidence had been given him from prominent medical authorities that it would be dangerous to send the Indians to a more Northern point, in view of the fact that they are exceedingly susceptible to pulmonary diseases.

Since then, however, there have been other ideas on this subject advanced from other medical authorities, and the Secretary decided that it was best for a layman to open his eyes when he found the doctors disagreeing. He has been informed by the surgeon of the barracks that the tribe is unusually sickly, and that there is special difficulty found in preventing the spread of the tendency to consumption that is characteristic of the tribe. He received a letter yesterday from Capt. Pratt, who argued strongly against the removal of Indians to a higher latitude or altitude.

The Leicester Meeting.

A meeting was held at Leicester on Saturday last to consider the question of better transportation facilities to Asheville either by rail or improved roads. Mr. B. G. Gudger presided and Mr. Lon, Wells was made secretary. Captain Nat Atkinson made a stirring address. Messrs. J. L. Slagle, Wilson Nash and J. C. Martin also spoke. Dr. D. F. Sumney then offered the following which was unanimously adopted:

Whereas, The townships of Leicester and Sandy Mush have long suffered on account of their bad facilities of traffic and travel with the city of Asheville, and Whereas, These townships have always paid without complaint their share of the burden of taxation without ever having received a cent for their development and convenience, Therefore be it resolved, That the chairman of this meeting appoint fifteen delegates from Leicester township, and the same number from the township of Sandy Mush to meet with those sections of Buncombe that are likewise deprived of the advantages that we feel so much the want of, in the city of Asheville on the first Monday of December next, and confer together as to what can and shall be done to improve the means of travel and communication with Asheville and the different sections of our county, and that we demand of the authorities of our county such appropriation as will give to our sections advantages similar to those that enjoy the blessings of railroads.

Still Coming.

Our townsman, W. H. Inloes, Esq., informs us that the Southern Engineering and Construction Company, of which Mr. Wm. Colcorel is financial secretary and L. C. Watkins chief engineer, headquarters in Boston, have organized with a capital of \$2,000,000, most of which has been paid up, and propose at once to construct the Blue Ridge system of railroads, beginning at Morristown, running to Knoxville, Athens, Tenn., Waynesville and Asheville, N. C., Greenville, S. C. and Augusta, Ga. Work is expected to be begun soon at Morristown. In connection with the railroads, five hotels will be built in the mountains at various points, the first to be erected in Asheville, to cost about \$100,000, and after the style and finish of the fine Renett Hotel of Baltimore. It is to be one of the finest hotels, in all its appointments, of its size, in the country. A central location in the city is desired, as it is intended to have six store rooms in the hotel building, but enough land is wanted—35,000 square feet—to give good lawn privileges. Mr. Watkins will be in Asheville about December 6, with a view of selecting and buying site if all the requirements can be complied with, and the price is not too high. We have no doubt the gentleman can and will be accommodated in our city. Asheville needs at least three more large, first-class hotels, to accommodate the rapidly increasing number of winter and summer visitors.

"Guilty"

Was the dreadful verdict of the jury in the case of Fore, tried last week for the killing of Amos Lunsford some months ago at the Turkey Creek camp meeting. The following jurors, good, true, conscientious men, tried the case: J. M. Israel, foreman; J. H. Foster, T. R. James, W. O. Wolfe, J. B. Ingle, G. H. Starnes, W. E. Pounders, Thos. F. Wilson, M. G. Coffee, R. S. Shook, W. M. Weaver, John Brown.

The charge of his honor was fair, impartial and clearly presenting the law as bearing upon the case as produced by evidence.

Messrs. J. M. Gudger and M. E. Carter defended, Solicitor Carter prosecuted.

The defendant Fore gave evidence in his own behalf, which, in accordance with the law as laid down by the court, justified the verdict of the jury. It was a fair trial, by a good jury, and the verdict was in accordance with the evidence and the law. It is a sad case, as all such are; but it is the vindication of law established for the protection of society which courts, impartially and fairly conducted as was the case here, are instituted to maintain.

The Trial of Berry.

The case of State against John Berry, for the killing of Geo. W. Bell, was taken up Monday morning, Solicitor Carter and Capt. M. E. Carter appearing for the State, and Messrs. Jones & Shuford and Maj. W. H. Malone for the defense. The jury is composed of the following good citizens: J. W. Holt, J. M. Stepp, T. T. Howell, S. F. Stroupe, W. A. Kelly, A. Lytle, R. B. Glenn, H. S. Carson, W. Fox, M. C. Davis, Pink Smith, L. Allman.

Defendant asked for a continuance, owing to absence of Chas. J. Harkins, a very material witness, who was beyond the reach of a subpoena, but who could attend the next term of court. After hearing argument, the Court overruled the motion, and the trial proceeded. A large number of witnesses were examined as to the difficulty; it was brought out that Bell had accused Berry of being a thief, and also had made indecent proposals to Berry's wife, a young and pretty woman. It was also in evidence that Bell was a violent, dangerous man, while Berry's character was testified to as being good.

Testimony closed Tuesday night, and yesterday argument was proceeding at the hour of closing this paper.

All Aboard for Chestnut Street.

Monday evening Supt. Arthur, Counselor Tom Jones, and a number of invited friends, jumped aboard the baggage car of the Asheville street railway, and passed swiftly over the new track to Woodfin street, the extent then of the trolley wire. Everything worked as smoothly as an old road, and was greeted all along the line by the plaudits of the residents of that route. The work has been well done, and now the system, as contracted for, reaching each suburb of the city, is complete. It is a great, a grand enterprise for Asheville, and our people are justly proud of it.

Geo. W. Reynolds, colored, has been appointed postmaster at this place. He is a school teacher and house painter. He will take charge of the office as soon as bond (\$10,000) can be arranged.—Murfreesboro Index.

Our Public Schools.

We begin this issue a series of articles upon the Public Schools of Buncombe prepared specially for THE DEMOCRAT by our faithful and energetic Superintendent of Public Instruction, Mr. John W. Starnes. They will give useful information concerning this most important work.

Hon. George H. Pendleton, of Ohio, ex-Senator and ex-Minister to Berlin, died at Brussels, on Monday.