

A GLAD NEW YEAR.

ASHEVILLE'S LEADING BUSINESS HOUSES.

Prominent Industrial Enterprises—Our Local Institutions, Social and Otherwise—An Era of Increased Prosperity Just Ahead—A Brief Reflex, Etc.

It is with no small degree of pride and satisfaction that THE DEMOCRAT to-day presents to the people of Asheville the following reflex, though crude it may be, of the business growth and industrial development of the city during the past year, and a mention of the firms and individuals who have been to a greater or lesser extent directly the cause of this increased prosperity and importance as a commercial center of the "City Among the Hills," by reason of their progress, push and perseverance in all that tends to make a city prosperous, powerful and great.

Never before in the history of Asheville has its outlook been brighter than at the present, and the rainbow of promise illumines its future with dazzling brilliance and beauty. Our prosperity is increasing ten-fold; our internal development cannot be approximated, nor can our destiny be imagined. Our people are happy and contented; they are in no financial straits; they have plenty to eat, wear and drink, and their homes are sanctified by the true spirit of love and happiness. United and as one man the people of Asheville are working for the advancement of their beautiful city and the promotion of its every interest. They are not boomers nor are they spasmic laborers, but strong and firm with a determination to carry out their noble work they are banded together to make Asheville that which by right she should be—one among the foremost cities of our fair and lovely Southland. In this effort they will succeed, and the full fruition of their labors is not afar off if we read the signs aright. They are in earnest; they are active, vigilant and determined.

They know the truth of the fact that the eyes of all America are fixed upon Asheville and Western North Carolina, and they also know that thousands are longing to make their abode with us and become of us. Then to make this city the Mecca to which interested pilgrims from every quarter of the Union shall turn their faces and hasten their footsteps is a labor delightfully pleasant to perform.

Our woods and minerals and fertile valleys invite the capitalist and the home-seeker; our glorious climate and health-restoring atmosphere invites the sick and offers to them renewed health and happiness. For the tourist and pleasure-seeker no section on earth offers more diversified or splendid attractions than Asheville and its surroundings. Our waters teem with fish; our woods and forests are over-run with game. Our landscapes are the most magnificent on the continent and our railway facilities are unsurpassed. Our hotels are unequalled in management and appointments, and our better class of boarding houses are veritable homes. We invite the world to visit Asheville without limit or restriction. Once they are here we will have them always. They will cast their lot and fortune with us; build permanent homes and that which is our interest will become their interest, and unlimited progress and prosperity, full growth and perfect development will alike be our portion.

During the year that has now reached its end extensive and important industrial enterprises have been inaugurated both in city and county, which augur well for the immediate development of our varied and valuable resources—not simply alone in Asheville and Buncombe but throughout the entire section of our beloved State.

Mills of various kinds and factories of greater or lesser importance have been erected and are now in active and successful operation. In many instances the capital stock of longer established enterprises of similar character has been enlarged, capacity doubled or trebled, and the output correspondingly increased. Labor is plentiful and wages in general are higher. Skilled labor is in demand, local industries are forging ahead, and an era of multiplied prosperity is at hand.

The commercial importance and growth of Asheville is best attested by the many handsome new stores that have recently been erected. Many of these buildings would indeed do credit to a city five times the size of Asheville, both in architectural appearance and in the heavy stocks of various lines of goods contained therein. Business has been increased in the city during the past year, and only one or two houses have failed or made assignments. This speaks well for the intelligent and careful judgment of our business men, and we are proud of the record.

But, to-morrow is New Years, and the people naturally wish to know where they can secure the best goods for the least money, and where to find what they want. In order that they may become possessed of this information THE DEMOCRAT regards it a pleasure to issue gratuitously this extra which will be found to contain the name of every business house in the city, exact location and the lines of goods carried in stock.

Everybody in Asheville knows where

Whitlock's is, and the handsome lines of dry goods, dress goods, clothing and gent's furnishing goods on display at his stores in the Eagle block are sufficiently attractive in quality, quantity and price to keep his large force of clever salesmen constantly employed in waiting upon the throng of customers that flock to his place. Mr. Whitlock is one of our leading merchants and fully merits the success that has attended his enterprises since first he cast his lot with the people of Asheville and the West. His fine custom clothing is a special feature and many of the best dressed men in the State wear clothes of Whitlock's make.

C. D. BLANTON & CO.
This is a comparatively new firm, but one fully abreast of the times. The head of the establishment is Mayor Chas. D. Blanton, and the line of goods carried in stock comprises clothing, gent's furnishings, fine shoes, hats, etc. Blanton & Co. occupy the handsome store at 31 Patton avenue. The interior is finely decorated and the shelves and tables are filled with one of the most attractive stocks of ready-made clothing ever shown in Asheville. Custom clothing is also a feature with this firm, and the patronage enjoyed by Blanton & Co. is most satisfactory indeed. Col. W. R. Young and Capt. Henry M. Brown are salesmen, and are clever, accommodating and efficient. A warm welcome greets the customer at 31 Patton avenue.

JAMES P. SAWYER.
One of the pioneers in the mercantile business in Asheville is Capt. James P. Sawyer. For many years he has been one of the recognized leaders in commercial circles and as equally prominent in public affairs. His methods and manner of conducting business have secured for his establishment a large and remunerative patronage, not only in the city, but in Buncombe and adjoining counties. His pretty store at 15 Patton avenue is crowded with a select stock of clothing, gent's furnishings, fine shoes, hats, underwear, etc., all of which are offered to the people at very reasonable figures. The Captain is anxious to please his patrons, and his salesmen are polite and attentive to those who favor them with their patronage.

GRAVES & THRASH.
Successors to M. Levy, at 19 South Main street, are also extensive dealers in dry goods, clothing, boots, shoes, hats, gent's furnishings, etc. Their stock is all new and well selected. The prices, too, are marked down and their trade has increased greatly during the past few months. Both members of the firm have had long experience in the mercantile business and both know exactly the class of goods the people want. Mr. E. L. Brown, for many years connected with the establishment of Capt. J. P. Sawyer, is with the above named firm and will take pleasure in waiting upon his old friends and customers. This firm also carries a large line of ladies' and gent's fine shoes, also dress goods, etc., etc.

FITZPATRICK BROS. & ROBERTSON.
Dealers in paints, oils, leads, wall papers, upholstering goods, etc., may be found at 20 North Main street with an unusually large stock in all branches of their business. They do the best work and the most of it, in the city, and THE DEMOCRAT advises its readers to call on Fitzpatrick Bros. & Robertson for all work in their line.

J. N. MORGAN & CO.
The veteran booksellers, stationers, toy dealers, etc., in the Barnard block, are literally over-run with New Year goods. Some of their novelties in New Year books, cards and plush goods are the handsomest in the city, and our friends and readers would do well to examine stock and prices at Morgan's before purchasing elsewhere.

S. R. KEPLER.
The father of the grocery business in Asheville is Mr. S. R. Kepler, whose handsome glass front store at 53 South Main street, is filled to overflowing with one of the best selected and assorted stocks of fine groceries in the city. Every line is thoroughly complete, and every article he sells is guaranteed to be as represented. He has built up a large and remunerative trade, not only in Asheville, but in the county and section, during the ten years his establishment has been in existence, and that trade this year has exceeded in volume that of any previous year. Mr. Kepler is wide-awake, energetic and alive to the wants and needs of the people, and allows no opportunity to slip by to supply their demands with the best groceries, heavy and fancy, that can be purchased in the markets. Examine his New Year stock, get his prices, and you will be convinced that all we have said concerning Kepler and his goods is true.

A. C. DAVIS.
Dealer in heavy and fancy groceries, cigars and tobacco, at 8 North Court Square, is also another veteran in the grocery line in this city. Mr. Davis keeps a first-class stock, sells at close figures, and enjoys a fair share of the public patronage. Drop in at Davis' on your rounds, and "if you don't see what you want, ask for it."

BAIRD BROS.
Heavy and fancy groceries, country produce, etc., are the lines handled by this firm at their store-rooms on North Main street. Like Mr. Davis this firm carries a first-class stock. They buy for cash, do a cash business, and receive their share of the local trade. Call and see them.

G. L. McDONALD,
Dealer in staple and fancy groceries,

confectioneries, country produce, etc., at 17 South Main street, is largely patronized by the Ashevilleans. He handles a superior class of goods, which he sells at marked down prices. Get his quotations on articles you wish to purchase.

J. G. LINDSEY & SONS.
At 65 South Main street, deal extensively in general merchandise, their principal lines being dry goods, dress goods, boots, shoes, hats, woodenware, tinware, and staple groceries. This is one of the new firms recently organized in Asheville, and one that has met with much success since it began business. They invite the public to call and see them when in want of anything in their line.

NELSON BROS.
Grocers, and dealers in country produce, ask their friends and the public generally to call at their store on Pine street, examine their stock, get their prices, and award them a liberal share of patronage. They are young men, reliable, accommodating and anxious to please those who favor them with orders.

THE BON MARCHE.
One of the most attractive stocks of white, dress and fancy goods, ladies and children's furnishings, art embroideries and novelties in the city, is that now handsomely displayed at the Bon Marche on South Main street, presided over by Mr. Sol. Lipinsky and Miss Sarah Ellick. The proprietors of the Bon Marche are too well and favorably known to the ladies of Asheville to require an introduction at the hands of THE DEMOCRAT, but we cannot refrain from calling their attention to the very superior line of goods that adorn the show windows, counters and shelves at the pretty store that bears the pretty French name. In making your purchases don't forget to call in and look at the wares offered for sale at the Bon Marche. Polite and efficient salesmen and salesladies will take pleasure in showing you whatever article you may desire to see.

ASHEVILLE DRY GOODS HOUSE.
In dry goods, dress goods, hats, shoes, etc., a splendid assortment in each line may be found at the Asheville Dry Goods House, 17 North Main street. Mr. J. O. Howell, well known in Asheville business circles, is the clever manager, and will be delighted to have you step in, look through his stock and learn his prices. His goods have but recently been purchased, most of them under his personal supervision, and he is prepared to quote prices with any house in the same lines in the city. Put the Asheville Dry Goods House down on your list of New Year visits.

HERRING & WEAVER.
Exclusive dealers in fine shoes, hats, etc., display an elegant line of wares at their new store, 39 Patton avenue. Men's, youths', boys', ladies', misses and children's footwear in all styles, grades and prices, adorn their shelves and windows, while as to fine hats, in all the latest shapes, for men and boys, there is no end to them. This has been a long-established firm in Asheville, and the liberal patronage it receives testifies to its popularity among the people.

THE RACKET STORE.
There is not a man, woman or child in Asheville who has not heard of the "Racket Store," of Geo. T. Jones & Co., in the Johnston building on South Main street. The success of this establishment has been phenomenal from the start. So rapidly has its business increased through the splendid management of its proprietors and their belief in the liberal use of printers ink, that it now ranks among the leading commercial houses in the city. "Racket prices" catch the people, and the lines that Mr. Jones carries in stock embrace almost everything known to the trade. Dry goods, dress goods, clothing, boots, shoes, hats, caps, tinware, woodenware, hardware, gent's furnishings, ladies' furnishings, trunks, valises, fancy goods and novelties are among his leading features. His New Year goods are unusually pretty and comprise all the latest novelties. People looking around for New Year presents would do well to remember the "Racket," and pay Mr. Jones a visit.

J. M. HESTON.
The veteran confectioner and toy dealer, 56 South Main street, is again on hand this season with one of the largest and best assorted stocks he has ever handled. Huyler and Whitman's famous candies are his special features. These candies are the finest manufactured in America and he is having quite a run on them. An elegant assortment of foreign and domestic fruits, nuts, etc., are also displayed, and his lines of toys and fancy goods are indeed attractive. See Heston's fine exhibit before you make your purchase.

J. W. SCHARTLE.
A nice suit of clothes is just the thing for a New Year's gift for yourself or friend, and Schartle, the Tailor, at 49 North Main street, is just the man to make them up in the latest style, either of domestic or imported cloths. His stock is one of the largest and most attractive in the city, and his fits are perfect. Call on Schartle if it is clothes you want, and you will be suited every time.

JAS. H. LOUGHAN.
In fine imported and domestic whiskeys, brandies, wines, ales, porters, table beers, etc., for medicinal or household uses, Jas. H. Loughran, corner of Main and Eagle streets, offers a large and well assorted stock from which you can make your selections. His goods are warranted pure and free from adulteration, and his prices are very reasonable.

Mr. Loughran also handles the finest cigars and chewing tobaccos, in connection with his stock of liquors, which will be sold at "McGinty prices" during the holidays.

BEN. H. COSBY.
This well-known jeweler, successor to the late C. Cowan, has made ample preparation to supply all the demands upon him for New Year presents in his line. His store at 27 Patton avenue, is a veritable palace in which elegant solid gold and silver watches, diamonds, bracelets, rings, chains, buttons, scarf pins and ladies jewelry abound. In silver goods his lines embrace all the novelties, useful and ornamental, of the season. Solid silver and plated goods of all weights and grades, designs and prices are to be found in this branch of his stock, and a person will indeed be hard to please if he or she fails to find a suitable New Year gift for lady or gentleman friend at Cosby's.

J. S. GRANT, PH. G.
Swinging out from the pretty little brick store at 24 South Main street, is a handsome blue and gold sign upon which the legend, "Grant's Pharmacy," in shapely, artistic lettering appears. Stepping inside the doorway you will find the genial and clever proprietor, James S. Grant, Ph. G., graduate of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, behind a counter that is filled with handsome goods, purchased expressly for the holiday trade. And such goods they are! One must see them to fully appreciate their beauty. Elegant cut glass toilet sets and perfumery bottles, some of which it requires three V's to purchase; manicure sets in beautiful plush cases; fine perfumery, soap, and a thousand and one other things which we haven't the space to enumerate. A complete line of pure drugs, chemicals and medicines; sachets, tooth powders and brushes of every variety; mineral waters from every famous spring in America and Europe, surgical appliances, fine cigars, smoking and chewing tobaccos, etc.; is found at Grant's Pharmacy at prices that suit the times. Watch out for the blue and gold sign in your rounds about town to-day.

ARTHUR M. FIELD.
The show windows at 18 South Main street will catch your eye to-day. Those diamond rings are beauties, "and no mistake." Step inside and you will find all the latest novelties in the jewelry line; fine gold and silver watches, bracelets, chains, and charms; gold headed canes and umbrellas; handsome sleeve buttons, in all styles and at low prices; lace, shawl and scarf pins; diamond earrings and breast-pins. In silver you will find anything you may wish, from a solid tea set down to a collar button; all warranted to be as represented. Optical goods in profusion are also to be found at Field's, and if you are looking for a present for sweetheart, relative or friend, you will be pretty apt to find something that will suit your taste and pocket at 18 South Main street.

CORTLAND BROS.
Real estate brokers and investment agents, Harkins Block (upstairs), Patton avenue, offer superior inducements to capitalists and investors in Western North Carolina real estate. They will be glad to furnish information concerning the resources of this section, and THE DEMOCRAT takes pleasure in commending the firm to the public.

"THE BONANZA."
Frank Loughran, proprietor, J. A. Marguard, manager, 43 South Main street, carries a large stock of fine imported and domestic whiskeys, brandies, wines, liquors, etc., for medicinal and household purposes. These liquors are pure and reliable, and if you intend purchasing it will be well to examine stock and prices at the "Bonanza." A large line of fine imported and domestic cigars and tobaccos always in stock.

JENKS & JENKS.
These gentlemen are new comers to Asheville and THE DEMOCRAT is glad to welcome them to the Queen City of the West. They are located at 9 and 10 McAfee block, Patton avenue, and are buyers of and dealers in desirable real estate. They also represent several strong life, accident and fire insurance companies. Jenks & Jenks are State agents for the celebrated Morris & Ireland burglar and fire-proof safes, and desire agents in every town in North Carolina. These gentlemen are wide-awake and progressive and we wish them that success which such qualifications justify merit.

NATT ATKINSON & SON.
Perhaps the oldest established real estate firm in Asheville or Western North Carolina is that of Natt Atkinson & Son, whose office is in the Barnard block on North Main street. For many years Capt. Atkinson has been steadily at work bringing to the attention of wealthy capitalists, north, south, east and west the resources and attractions of this section. In this labor he has been most successful and hundreds of people from almost every section of the Union have been persuaded to come and make their homes among our people through this gentleman's influence and indefatigable labor. His firm has some of the finest farming, mineral and timber lands in this section for sale, and if you contemplate investing give Atkinson & Son a call.

FRANK O'DONNELL.
Dealer in fine liquors of all kinds, on North Main street, offers a large and well selected stock from which you may make your orders for medicinal or household whiskeys, brandies, wines, etc. A

large assortment of cigars, tobaccos and smokers supplies also in stock.

BOSTIC, BLANTON & CO.
Another prominent and well-known real estate agency in Asheville is that of the above named firm, located at 11 South Main street (Bostic Bros. & Wright's store). This concern deals extensively in city and country real estate, buys and sells options and do a general real estate broker's business. See Bostic, Blanton & Co.'s list of lands for sale before you finally conclude to purchase.

PULLIAM & CO.,
Fire, Life and Accident Insurance Agents, at the National Bank of Asheville, South Main street, will write your policy for any amount in the leading companies of the world. They represent only reliable and old established lines of insurance.

W. O. WOLFE.
For fine marble work, tombstones, slabs, statuary, etc., W. O. Wolfe, southeast court square, is the man you want to see. His stock is large, well assorted, and the prices are cheap. All the latest designs may be found in his works.

J. H. WOODY,
Proprietor of the Asheville Carriage and Machine Shops, 21-25 Willow street, Buggies, carriages, wagons, etc., of all grades and prices. Repair work done in the best manner. Prices moderate. Horseshoeing by expert workmen. All work guaranteed.

W. D. ROWE.
In Italian and American marble, granite, etc., this gentleman has a large and select assortment at his yards (Alliance warehouse) Patton avenue. Monuments, tombstones, urns, vases, statuary, etc., of the latest designs in all grades and at all prices may be found here in profusion.

HAMPTON & FEATHERSTON.
This firm deals exclusively in fine ales, beers, liquors, etc., at 9 South Main st. Their stock is large and well assorted, and if you wish to purchase goods in their line give them a call.

J. B. COLE
Is proprietor of the Asheville Foundry and Machine Shops, 8 Buttrick street. Saw, grist and cane mills, engines, shafting, farming machinery, etc., manufactured and repaired. An excellent grist mill is also run in connection with this establishment.

THE ASHEVILLE COAL CO.
is the exclusive agent for Western North Carolina for the best anthracite coal, which is sold in wholesale and retail lots. Jellico coal is also handled by the firm in large quantities and at reduced prices. Their telephone number is 36, and if you are in need of fuel give them a trial.

THE HOTELS.
Of course you will want a good dinner to-morrow, and there is no better place to find it than at the Battery Park, J. B. Steele, manager; or the Swannanoa, Rawls Bros., proprietors; or the Grand Central, kept by S. R. Chedester & Son; or at the Hickory Inn, Frank Loughran proprietor, Hickory, N. C.; or at Forest Hill Park hotel, J. B. Harrington proprietor, South Main street.

F. N. CARRINGTON,
Wholesale and retail dealer in hard and soft coal, hay, grain, bran, shorts and the best Jellico coal, 8 Court Square, invites your attention to his extensive stock. His prices are cheap, and you could not do better than give him a call if you desire to purchase anything in his line.

BANKS, ETC.
The National Bank of Asheville, D. C. Waddell, president; W. W. Barnard, vice-president; Lawrence Pulliam, cashier. The Western Carolina Bank, Lewis Maddux, president; L. P. McLoud, vice-president; J. E. Rankin, cashier. The First National Bank, W. E. Breese, president, Dr. G. W. Fletcher, vice-president, and W. H. Penland, cashier. All possess unsurpassed advantages and facilities in every line of legitimate banking business.

UNDERTAKING AND EMBALMING.
Jesse R. Starnes, 27 North Main street; Mann, Johnson & Co., 23 Patton avenue; J. Y. Brown & Son, South Main street.

THE WESTERN DRESSED BEEF CO.
Will soon move into their handsome new brick and marble building, corner of North Court Square and College street. This is a new enterprise, and is successfully conducted by H. T. Collins, president; P. C. McIntyre, vice-president; Phillip McIntyre, superintendent, and J. S. West, auditor. The present office and storage rooms of the company are located at McIntyre's market, College street.

W. E. PELHAM,
Pharmacist, 24 Patton avenue, invites your attention to his handsome new store and the elegant line of New Year goods, fancy articles, drugs, medicines, etc. Dr. Sam Pelham is in charge and will be glad to have you call and examine his stock and prices.

S. BRADFMAN,
Wholesale and retail dealer in clothing, hats, gent's furnishing goods, M. W. Ford, manager, 10 Patton avenue. Call and see him.

T. C. SMITH & CO.,
Wholesale and retail dealers in drugs, chemicals, medicines, toilet articles, fancy goods, paints, oils, etc., in Johnston block, occupy one of the handsomest stores in the State. You are requested to call and examine stock and prices.

E. F. HINES,
Successor to C. F. Penniman & Co., Pulliam street, comes to the front with an extensive line of carriages, buggies, wagons and agricultural implements, while