

THE ASHEVILLE DEMOCRAT.

VOL. 1.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1890.

NO. 50.

Looking Backward

Over the past eight years of our successful business life in Asheville has demonstrated to us the fact that our determination to sell only pure goods, guaranteeing weights and quality, and asking a small profit on everything sold, commends itself to the good sense of purchasers.

Second, That desirable customers cannot be gained by the oft-tried practice of some dealers in cutting prices on a few leading articles, hoping to make it up on something else.

That hard work and close application to business is the price of success.

That our business for 1889 shows an increase over the previous year of 20 per cent., which is very gratifying, and for which we wish to thank our many friends in Asheville and Western North Carolina.

Looking Forward

We are encouraged to enter upon the year before us with renewed energy and a determination to give our customers the benefit of our increased facilities for buying and selling the very finest goods to be had, at small profits.

Our stock is now the largest ever offered in this market and embraces everything in the line of Staple and Fancy Groceries, Table Delicacies, Fruits, Grain, Flour, etc. Respectfully,

Powell & Snider.

NOTICE, FARMERS, J. E. REED & CO.

Will pay the highest market price for good cotton delivered at their market, No. 10, North Court Square, Asheville, N. C.

\$100 REWARD

For any one who will buy a pair of Graham shoes and not get value received. Now at No. 21 North Main street, just above Farmers' warehouse.

ASHEVILLE DRY GOODS COMPANY.

Cheapest store on earth. Handle nothing but first-class goods, and intend to treat everybody right. We keep home-made shoes of every kind. Home-made jeans. Home-made plaids. Home-made domestic. Home-made drilling. We warrant every pair of Asheville Shoe Co.'s shoes.

ASHEVILLE DRY GOODS CO., J. O. HOWELL, MANAGER.

Howard Proffitt and Milt Holcombe are with us.

WM. R. KING,

Of the Engineer Corps, U. S. N.,

SURVEYING.

Draughting of any description a specialty. P. O. Box 228.

Local Briefs

The Yadkin river bridge has been repaired, and trains now make regular connections by that route.

Registration begins on the 24th of September and ends on the 24th of October. Every voter is required to register this year.

Col. J. G. Martin is at home for a few days. He reports work on the Morris-town and Cumberland Gap Road as progressing rapidly.

An entirely new registration is required this year. Books will be opened from September 24th to October 24th. Attend to this in time.

Work on the Kenilworth Inn, in South Asheville, is progressing rapidly. It will be one of the most elegant hotels in the South when finished, and will cost over a quarter million dollars.

Hon. H. G. Ewart will address the people of Jackson, at Webster, on Monday next, and the people of Yancey, at Burnsville, on Wednesday next. Mr. Crawford will be with him.

The Alderman to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Alderman Pulliam will be elected Friday night. Give us a West Warder of good business judgment, Messrs. Aldermen, and all will be well.

The measure granting to the Asheville Natural Gas Co. the privilege of laying pipes in case they strike the gas, has passed its second reading in the Board of Aldermen. It will doubtless become a law Friday night, as it ought to do.

Mr. G. N. Taylor exhibited in town Monday a five-months-old colt, one of the finest for his age we have ever seen. It was a dark bay, of beautiful shape and development, of good stock, and, if properly trained, promises to make a fine horse.

The use of calomel for derangements of the liver has ruined many a fine constitution. Those who, for similar troubles, have tried Ayer's Pills testify to their efficacy in thoroughly remedying the malady, without injury to the system.

It is astonishing how rapidly the feeble and debilitated gain strength and vigor when taking Ayer's Sarsaparilla. For what are called "broken-down constitutions," nothing else has proved so effective as this powerful but perfectly safe medicine.

Messrs. Gwyn & West sold some elegant city lots in North Asheville on the 13th. That part of the city is being rapidly built up, and is one of the most attractive sections of the city. These gentlemen have some more very handsome lots yet for sale.

Dried fruits of all kinds are selling well on the New York market now. Our people do not put up as much as they ought. Blackberries, which grow in abundance in this country, would bring many dollars to our section if carefully dried. Every little in this way will help.

Mr. Thad Thrash, of Thrash & Co., has gone North after a full stock of chinaware, house furnishings, etc. This firm has been carrying one of the best stocks ever brought to our market, but Mr. Thrash says his new stock will eclipse anything ever brought to Western Carolina.

Mr. S. P. Meares leaves this week for New York and other northern markets, where he will select the fall and winter stock of goods for his father's two stores. Mr. G. A. Meares and his two sons are doing a very large and increasing general merchandise business, and fully deserve their success.

See the new advertisements in this week's DEMOCRAT: Smathers' Springs Hotel. Jenks and Jenks. Asheville Dry Goods Co. Trustee's Sale—J. M. Gudger, Jr. Commissioner's Sale—R. B. Justice. New Drug Store—Worthen & Co.

The people of Macon county will vote next Saturday upon the question of subscribing one hundred thousand dollars to the stock of a railroad company to secure a road through that county. We shall be surprised if the vote is not unanimous. We take it there will be no bonds issued until the road is built and running, and if this be done the county will gain immensely on the investment. Macon possesses resources of vast value which only await such opportunity as a railroad can give to quicken them into active, prosperous life, building up all around them.

Married.

At the residence of the bride's father, Dr. J. A. Reagan, Weaverville, Sept. 4, 1890, Mr. T. H. Reeves, of Cross Rock, N. C., to Miss Annie May Reagan, Rev. J. H. Weaver, D. D., officiating.

IMPORTANT TO DEMOCRATS.

A Democratic Primary Election for Buncombe County.

To the Democratic voters of the several townships of Buncombe county: Pursuant to a call heretofore made to Democratic voters of the various townships of Buncombe county to hold primary elections on the 27th of this month for the purpose of giving the Democratic voters of the county an opportunity to express their choice of candidates for the House of Representatives and several county offices, it is thought necessary to give some specific instructions as to the manner of holding said primary elections as follows:

1st. The Democrats of the several townships are earnestly requested to meet at the usual voting place of the township not later than 10 o'clock on the morning of Saturday, the 27th of this month. The Democratic Executive Committee will select two good Democrats to act as judges of and conduct the election. In the absence of the executive committee, or a failure to act on their part, on the morning of the election, so soon as six Democrats shall arrive, they shall proceed at once to elect the two judges herein provided for, whose duty it shall be to provide a box or other means for voting. After the box or other means shall have been provided, each and every Democrat or other voter pledging himself to support the nominees of the Democratic party, shall be allowed to cast one vote for a candidate for each of the county offices, and one vote each for two candidates for the legislature. The votes may be either written or printed on one piece of paper or separately as the judges may determine before the voting begins.

2nd. The polls shall be kept open from 10 o'clock a. m., until 5 o'clock p. m., or later if the judges shall think advisable or necessary to give every voter in the township who desires to do so an opportunity to vote.

3rd. While the election of candidates for the various offices are being proceeded with, each voter shall also be allowed to vote for delegates to the county convention, who shall be in number one delegate for every twenty-five Democratic votes and fractions of fifteen or over cast for Governor Fowle in the last preceding election. The several townships and precincts will therefore be entitled to elect the following number of delegates, respectively: Asheville—East Ward 13, West Ward 22; Beavertown 3; Haw Creek 2; Blinnore 5; Hazel 4; Avery's Creek 3; Black Mountain 4; Fair View 5; French Broad 6; Flat Creek 3; Ivy 7; Leicester 11; Limestone 4; Lower Hominy 5; Reems Creek 4; Sandy Musa 4; Swannanoa 5; Upper Hominy 9. Total 120.

4th. It shall be the duty of the delegates so elected to attend the county convention which will assemble at the court house in Asheville at 11 o'clock a. m. on Saturday the 4th day of October, 1890, when and where they shall cast the vote of the township sending them according to the result of the primary election, giving to each candidate his proportionate part of the vote of the township as cast for him in said primary election. If any candidate shall fail to receive a majority of the votes in said county convention cast in accordance with votes cast in the primaries, then it shall be the duty of the delegates in said county convention to proceed to select a candidate for such office wherein such failure occurred.

5th. Upon the closing of the polls said judges will proceed at once, in the presence of such voters as may choose to be present, to count the votes cast, both for candidates and delegates, and certify the same in duplicate, sending one copy to the undersigned chairman of the county executive committee, and delivering the other to a delegate elect to be presented by him to the said county convention.

By order of the Executive Committee. C. M. McLoud, Chm'n.

Hon. Thos. D. Johnston

Will address the people of Yancey, at Burnsville, next Monday. Let all the people turn out and hear this able champion of a people's cause.

A Big Opening.

Col. Connelly is having an excavation made in the rear of the store of Messrs. Bostic Bros. & Wright, for the purpose of extending his building occupied by Messrs. H. Redwood & Co. Monday night, about 11 o'clock, the rear wall of Bostic Bros. & Wright's store fell with a crash, taking out the entire rear of the building. Several clerks were in the building at the time, all in the rear of the store, but fortunately all escaped unhurt. It was a big opening, but not such as the enterprising firm are in the habit of having.

A VISIT TO THE SMOKING MOUNTAINS.

The Visit Does Not Even End in Smoke—A Sensation Exploded.

Messrs. Editors: On Saturday, in company with Hon. Thos. D. Johnston, I visited the mountain region, the recent alleged phenomena in which have been the occasion of so much curiosity. To say that they have excited alarm or anxiety is absurd and false; but they have excited much lively curiosity not at all unreasonable, not only among the citizens of the vicinity, but among those at a distance to whom rumor came in exaggerated form. Quite a number of gentlemen went out on Saturday, ostensibly to view the phenomenon, really and more pleasantly to participate in the large and agreeable picnic held the same day at Piney Grove. I, alone, of all the visitors from Asheville, carried out the purpose of my visit. Even the eager and veteran scientist, General Clingman, contented himself with an upward glance at the scenes of the fabulous terrors.

The mountains from the summits of which the columns of smoke are alleged to arise, are lateral spurs of the Blue Ridge, extending westward towards the French Broad river, the most western projection of which is the terminal summit of the Beau Catcher range overlooking Asheville on the east. They run parallel with the Swannanoa river in all its windings, and are intersected with numerous streams and their accompanying valleys, each group taking its name from the water courses on which they lie, such as the Bee Tree mountains, Bull Creek mountains, etc. There is no general name, and they are in fact a part of the Blue Ridge, part of the broad elevated back upon which the loftier summits of the great master chain erect themselves. The geological character of the chief range and its auxiliaries is the same, a mass of primitive rock, gneissoid in character, originally thrown upward by contraction of the earth's crust, and presenting in many places a violently distorted stratification. Primarily they might be called igneous rocks to the extent that they were, in remote geologic period, subject to the intense heat which held the earth in liquid form until the cooling of the surface converted them into solids, and made them subject to the violent forces of unequal contraction, resulting in upheaval, displacement and distortion. There is nowhere evidence, or the characteristic work, of volcanic action.

The scene of the alleged combustion is east of Cooper's Station, nine miles east of Asheville, and from two to four miles north of the station. There are several summits from which the columns of smoke or vapor have been seen to arise, among which are Watch Knob, Bee Tree Knob, and one of the Four Knobs. I stopped at the dwelling of Mr. John M. Patton, who lives in a little valley lying at the foot of Watch Knob and the Four Knobs, Mr. Patton kindly offering to accompany me to the top of the former, which is in full view of his house. He was not at all excited by the phenomenon; in fact had not seen any of the wonderful manifestations until the day before, though his daughters had frequently witnessed it. In truth, there is no doubt, that at this season of the year, columns of vapor have been seen for many years, exciting a wondering curiosity, but no alarm or excitement such as vivid imaginations have ascribed to it.

The ascent to the summit of Watch Knob is a steep and laborious one. For two-thirds of the distance of a mile there is a well trodden and not very difficult path; thence to the top is through the woods and bushes, the latter indispensable aids in pulling up the sharp ascent. The top of Watch Knob I estimate at eight hundred feet above the valley below. For two-thirds of the distance up the surface is covered with a rich vegetable mould, undisturbed by rocks, and supporting a thick growth of oak, pine, and dense underwood. As we approached the summit, there appeared outcrops of masses of stratified rock in nearly horizontal strata, deeply fissured, the fissures in some instance opening downward, and in all probability connected with subterranean chambers. The very apex of Watch Knob is crested with the characteristic stratified rock, a mass twenty-five or more feet long and six or eight high, set on edge, and if the ground were free from timber would stand out as a conspicuous landmark. Not far from this rock, and a little lower in level, is the only really remarkable object I saw on the mountain. It was a patch of ground about thirty feet square, surrounded by thick woods, but itself perfectly bare of vegetation, though free from rock and covered with soil, a type of blasted barrenness, suggestive of subterranean heats. Of this there was no

other evidence. With the bare possibility that I might be in position to investigate some interesting phenomena I had carried a thermometer with me. When on the spot I was convinced of the absurdity of the precaution; nevertheless I made full tests of underground temperature, using some pits which at a period not very remote had been sunk in search of ores of some kind. The mercury showed the temperature of the wet earth, nothing more; there was no fire beneath.

I reached the conclusion very speedily, that while vapors are to be seen at this season of the year resting on the summit of one or many mountains, it was not smoke, but simply condensed vapor, in the nature of fog, due altogether to the difference in temperature between the confined air within the fissures and the outer air when brought in contact at unequal temperatures. This is the simplest, and it appears to me, the most rational explanation. Most certainly the marvellous must be dismissed altogether from consideration. There is nothing volcanic whatever in the condition.

What applies to Watch Knob applies to all the other smoking summits. The phenomenon interests, but it cannot alarm.

J. D. CAMERON.

Died

At her residence, 278 College Street, this city, Wednesday morning, 18th inst., Mrs. Barbara Frank. She was born in Rowan county January 14, 1814; moved to Buncombe in 1840, where she has since resided; was manager of the Wayside Hospital at this place during the war, and her ministrations to the sick and wounded can never be forgotten. She has been a consistent member of the M. E. Church South for more than 60 years. A son and four grand-children survive her, with hosts of friends who sincerely mourn her death. Verily, a good woman has gone to her reward. Funeral services were held at residence Thursday morning at 10 o'clock.

The Western Baptist Convention.

Those who contemplate attending the above convention, soon to assemble at Bryson City, are requested to notify Mr. J. S. Elmore, Bryson City, at once, so arrangements for entertainment can be made. A very large attendance is expected, and the DEMOCRAT can vouchsafe a most pleasant time with the good people of that section.

The New City Hall.

We are glad that work on this greatly needed building is to begin at once. It will be a handsome structure when finished, a credit to our city, and to the authorities under whose auspices it will be built. Mr. J. A. Tennent will have supervision, which ensures a good structure. It will occupy the place of the present City Hall.

Fatal Shooting.

Dr. James E. Rogers was fatally shot by W. F. Boyd near Alexander, this county, on the night of the 10th. Various reasons have been assigned for the difficulty which resulted so fatally. Wm. Boyd surrendered himself to the authorities and is now in jail. Subsequently a brother of his, who was present at the shooting, was arrested, and, waiting examination, was committed to jail. He was afterwards released, there being no evidence against him.

Transylvania Nominations.

Transylvania Democracy held a primary election last week, with very satisfactory results. The following very excellent ticket was selected, each receiving a clear majority of the votes of the entire county:

- For the House—W. W. Zackary.
- For Clerk—T. H. Galloway.
- For Sheriff—W. H. Duckworth.
- For Register—W. P. Whitmore.
- For Treasurer—P. S. King.
- For Surveyor—T. B. Reid.
- For Coroner—Dr. J. A. Cannon.

A Few Candidates.

So far as heard from at this writing the following gentlemen have either announced themselves, or been announced by their friends, for Democratic nominations:

- For House of Representatives—John W. Starnes, J. P. Lowry, W. H. Curtis, Dr. J. S. T. Baird, Locke Craig, Mark L. Reed, J. W. Nash, David Blackwell, J. C. Curtis.
 - For Clerk—J. H. Carter, W. R. Young, J. R. Baird, J. H. Woodward, B. G. Gudger, T. W. Shelton, J. M. Israel.
 - For Register—J. J. Mackey, C. P. Weaver.
 - For Sheriff—D. L. Reynolds.
 - For Treasurer—J. H. Courtney.
 - For Coroner—Dr. W. D. Hilliard, Dr. J. C. B. Justice, Dr. L. B. McBrayer, Dr. D. F. Summey.
- We hope we have all the returns as far as announced or mentioned. We will gladly add the names of others as furnished.

J. S. Grant, Ph. G.

(Of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy.)

Apothecary, 24 South Main St

If your prescriptions are prepared at Grant's Pharmacy you can positively depend upon these facts: First, that only the purest and best drugs and chemicals will be used; second, they will be compounded carefully and accurately by an experienced Prescriptionist, and third, you will not be charged an exorbitant price. You will receive the best goods at a very reasonable profit. Don't forget the place—Grant's Pharmacy, 24 South Main street.

Prescriptions filled at all hours, night or day, and delivered free of charge to any part of the city. The night bell will be answered promptly. Grant's Pharmacy, 24 South Main street.

At Grant's Pharmacy you can buy any Patent Medicine at the lowest price quoted by any other drug house in the city. We are determined to sell as low as the lowest, even if we have to lose money by so doing. We will sell all Patent Medicines at first cost, and below that if necessary, to meet the price of any competitor.

We have the largest assortment of Chamois Skins in Asheville. Over 200 skins, all sizes, at the lowest prices.

We are agents for Humphrey's Homoeopathic Medicines. A full supply of his goods always on hand.

Use Buncombe Liver Pills, the best in the world for liver complaint, indigestion, etc.

A thoroughly reliable remedy for all blood diseases is Buncombe Sarsaparilla. Try a bottle and you will take no other.

J. S. GRANT, Ph. G., Pharmacist,

24 S. Main St. Asheville, N. C.

W. A. BLAIR. J. V. BROWN.

Furniture

—AND—

Undertaking.

No. 32 Patton Avenue,

McAfee Block, Opposite Blair's Old Stand.

We are now ready, and invite our friends and the public generally to call and examine our well selected stock of

Furniture,

Which we are offering at

Rock-Bottom Prices.

Undertaking A Special Feature.

Calls Attended Day or Night.

Telephone, Day 75, Night 65

Blair & Brown.