

ILLUSTRATED EDITION. THE DAILY CITIZEN.

Devoted to the Interests of Western North Carolina.

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For the reception of patients suffering from lung and throat diseases, and conducted upon the plan of the sanitariums at Gueborsdorf and Falkenstein in Germany. Ours is the only such institution in the United States, and endorsed by the leading members of the medical profession. Terms reasonable.

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I have a large amount of the very best city property that must be sold. I have some of the finest farms in the State, for sale. Hotel properties, mineral lands, timber lands, for sale on most reasonable terms.

All parties wishing to invest in Asheville property, would do well to consult my list before buying.

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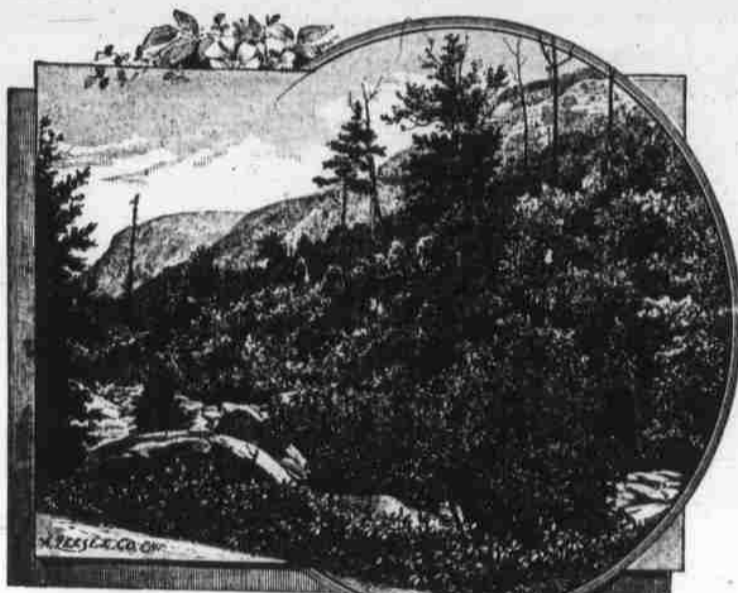
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WESTERN CAROLINA.

ITS PICTURESQUE SCENERY SALUBRIOUS CLIMATE— OTHER NATURAL ADVANTAGES.

An All the Year Round Resort
For the Seekers of Pleas-
ure and Health—Free
From Northern Rig-
or and Tropical
Heat.

TO THIS SECTION of North Carolina there has been attracted the attention, not only of other parts of the State, but largely of the whole United



HICKORY NUT GAP AND BROAD RIVER.

States; an attention drawn to it by reputed favorable climatic conditions, rare beauty and grandeur of scenery, and rich combinations of the essential elements of prosperous industrial life.

We propose, necessarily briefly, to refer to a division of the State which is set apart by topographical conditions as present features and characteristics peculiar to itself. It is essentially a mountain region. From the coast to the foot of the Blue Ridge, a distance of about 250 miles, the ascent is very gradual, averaging, in that direction, about six feet to the mile. Then suddenly rises to the height of from 1,500 to 2,000 the bold escarpment of the Blue Ridge. This long range, coming out of Virginia, enters North Carolina at Foster's Peak, in Alleghany county, thence pursues an irregular southwestern course to Henderson county, when it changes to a western direction, protruding near Cesar's Head into South Carolina, returning back, and again leaving the State in Macon county, where it passes into Georgia. This chain or escarpment, with an average elevation of 2,000 feet, but frequently rising into peaks of nearly six thousand feet, forms the eastern boundary of the plateau of which the Smoky Mountains with equal, in some instances greater height, forms the northern and western. The whole enclosed area forms an elevated plateau of a mean elevation of about 2,000 feet, crossed by several cross-chains of equal height with the bounding chains which they connect.

The political division of the State includes most of the Piedmont country, east of the Blue Ridge, in the general name of Western North Carolina, but which geographically and topographically is such as we have defined it. The whole embraces an area of about 9,500 square miles.

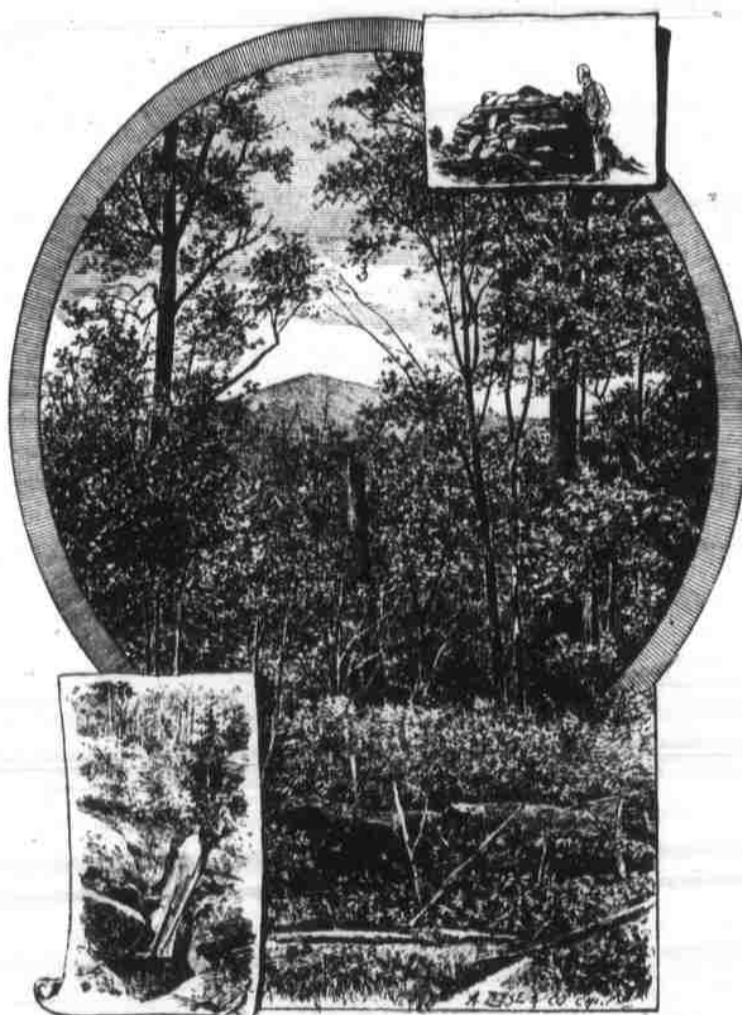
In this division the mountains reign predominant. The valleys are few and narrow, and are confined to the margins of the various streams, along all of which they are found of varying width. The mountains here attain their greatest height, surpassing all along the Atlantic slope. More than sixty peaks exceed 6,000 feet. Mount Mitchell in the Black Mountains being 6,717 feet high, and Clingman's Peak, in the Smoky Mountains, being 6,000 feet in height.

The general aspect is one of chastened sublimity. There is height and extent and all the attributes of grandeur, but the

graceful outlines, the symmetrical summits, the ever present verdure, the depths of forest and its richness and variety of color, fill the ideal of beauty rather than that of sublimity. There can be no reason to call Western North Carolina the Switzerland of America, because there is not a feature common to two systems. The height, the nakedness, the roughness, the ferocity of the Swiss mountains belong to the *sublime*; the smoothness, the verdure, the grace of outline, the delicate play of light and shade, express the beautiful.

These mountain chains are everywhere intersected with

rivers and smaller streams, clear, strong and perennial. Adding beauty to the landscape, they offer boundless water power to economical use. With the exception of New River, which finds its way to the Ohio through the Kanawha,



MOUNT MITCHELL—HIGHEST POINT EAST OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS—6,717 FEET.
PROP. MITCHELL'S GRAVE—POOL IN WHICH HE WAS DROWNED.

all combine to find their way to the Gulf through the waters of the Tennessee.

With the exception of the inroads made upon the forests by the agricultural work of a scattered population, they remain as perfected by the lavish hand of nature. The size of the trees as great, their variety numerous, no part of the United States shows in such perfection such a number of species. Oaks, pines, firs, hemlocks, poplars, walnuts, hickories, locusts, cherries, buckeyes, beeches, birches, maples, in quantities apparently exhaustless, attest the richness of the soil, from the lowest valleys almost to the highest mountain tops; these last sometimes covered with a wealth of grass surpassing the prairies of the west. In addition to the forest, there is rich and abundant shrubbery, with a flora that has no equal in the temperate region.

The climate of the whole section embraced between latitude 34° 30' W., and 35° 50' is much the same in all its parts. The average annual mean is 52. For the summer 70 and for the winter 38. The summer extreme is 90,

that of winter 10; and both of these are rare. The annual rainfall is, for the whole plateau area, about 45. The snow-fall is much lighter than might be expected from elevation, rarely exceeding six inches at a time. The snow of December, 1886—thirty-six inches—was phenomenal, and had not been equalled within living memory. The highest mountains are rarely covered for a week at a time; and cattle require no more winter protection than they do east of the mountains; and farm work is rarely interrupted or delayed by the cold of spring. The prevalent winds are Northwest and Southeast, with rare fluctuations from other parts of the compass.

The agricultural productions are the small grains of the other sections of the State, to which is added buckwheat, tobacco, fruits of all kinds known to the temperate zone, the apple in great perfection, the grape—the Catawba—indigenous, and other varieties in great excellence; garden vegetables of all kinds, the cabbage thriving beyond example, and become a profitable product for distant markets, potatoes, &c. Stock raising is a large industry, and dairy farming is beginning to excite the interest appropriate to the conditions so eminently favorable to its success.

To other sources from which industry and intelligence might draw their stores of wealth should be added varied and exhaustless mineral wealth. But we proposed here to present a simple outline of what is here possessed.

With such treasures now to be

reached by railroad penetrating the section from all directions, and with the vigorous health the mountain climate gives and secures, we feel very sure that Western North Carolina will not long remain the sealed volume it has been to the world up to the opening of the present era.

Mount Mitchell.

This peak is one of a group of nineteen in the Black Mountain Range, all of which are over 6,000 feet high. This range lies east of Asheville about eighteen miles, and is the oldest geological formation on the continent.

In June, 1857, Prof. Mitchell visited this mountain in order to verify previous measurements made. In carrying out the work he left the party that accompanied him to the mountain, and failing to return, search was made and Big Tom Wilson, a noted guide, found his body in the pool at the bottom of a gorge sixty feet deep. His remains were brought to Asheville but subsequently re-interred on the mountain, which bears his name.

ASHEVILLE.

GREAT SUMMER RESORT AND SANITARIUM OF THE SOUTH—2,350 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL.

Its Situation, Public Buildings,
Churches, Hotels and
Schools—Its Remark-
able Development
and Improve-
ment.

Is in latitude 35° 35' 53" north, 275 miles west from Raleigh, the capital of the State of North Carolina, and is the county seat of Buncombe County, a county whose name had a wide spread semi-political association, and which had been made to enliven the pages of humorous fiction long before the name of the humble village had been heard beyond the voice of the crier of the court. Yet that same village had early attained sectional distinction, as for a long period the only one west of the Blue Ridge. Buncombe, created out of trans-montane territory, as a county, in 1791, with the Blue Ridge as its eastern boundary, embraced all the region west, not reserved or occupied by the aboriginal tribes; and in its extent and indefiniteness seemed as vast as was once the great undefined north-west territory, now divided into great, populous and prosperous States. In like manner the State of Buncombe, with its head resting on the Blue Ridge; on the east, its arms stretching out right and left to South Carolina and Tennessee, and its feet projected into the vague recesses of the Indian solitudes, lay until its time for subdivision came, the giant of counties, the monarch of the mountain wilderness. Until Haywood county, on the west, was formed out of it, it had not been shorn of its dimensions nor its preeminence, the chief of which was that it possessed the only town to which the mountain people could repair to see "the sights," to trade, to attend the courts, and get their ideas of the ways of the great busy outside world. Asheville stood solitary and alone in all the dignity and consequence of its sole possession.

And it crept along, but slowly, in the stages of growth. It was hard to reach from any quarter, the roads to it were all across or through the mountains, and in its early days the ways of travel were not thickly strewn with roses; the roads were bad, the bridges were few, public conveyances had no existence, the sulky or the old fashioned stick gig, sometimes a phenomenal phaeton, were the only private vehicles, and the saddle was the almost only seat for travelers—male or female—long journeys, therefore, to Asheville were not often undertaken. Reports of magnificent scenery, of charm of climate, of recuperation for the invalid, did reach to very distant points, and the perils of travel and its roughness and inconveniences were of

our own State. The wealthy citizens of the former State, especially those of the sea coast, were compelled by climate to seek a healthier section where to spend the summer and autumn. While the citizens of our coast towns and counties, in like manner, were compelled to search for health, they sought it in the middle counties of the State, as remote from them as were the mountains from the South Carolinians. These last early found their way to localities, to points indelibly stamped, even now, after the ravages of war and amid the wreck of fortune, with the impress of wealth, elegance, taste and culture. There are summer resorts fixed in what is now known as Cashier's Valley, in Jackson county, along the French Broad river valley; near Brevard, in Transylvania; at Flat Rock, near Hendersonville; along Cane Creek, in Henderson county; and to significant, though not to large extent, in and around Asheville. For those who came to Asheville were sagacious enough, while enjoying healthful summer vacation, to observe not only the beauties of scenery and the happy influences of climate, but also its remarkable topographical relations to the new system of internal improvements then beginning to agitate the public mind. If these iron highways were to be built to connect the Atlantic ports with the productive Ohio and Mississippi valleys, they of necessity must cross the mountain chain; to do so they must cross at Asheville, because these natural barriers were more completely thrown down than anywhere else through these chains, and the way opened, not to one line, but to several, making Asheville a crossing or carrying point; and, with the development of other conditions looked up in the future, an important railroad centre. This idea took shape as far back as 1837, when the route of the projected Charleston and Cincinnati railroad was defined, with Asheville on its course. What was a project then, is a reality now, after a lapse of half a century, not in original form, perhaps, but with practically the same effect.

With long and faithful labor, with long and patient waiting, more than one railroad reaches and passes through Asheville; railroads not simply passing through it, but making it an objective point; railroads not serving simply regular or casual duties of incidental travel and traffic, but bending all their energies to perfect their lines, their speed, their equipment, their service, with end and aim to make Asheville, of all others, the destination, the culmination of all pleasure, hope and expectation.

Up to the summer of 1881, during which season the Western North Carolina railroad reached the Swannanoa Junction, two miles south of Asheville, in its progress towards its terminus at Paint Rock, the little city had made some considerable increase



THE NEW FEDERAL BUILDING AT ASHEVILLE.

ten braved with such good influences that Asheville, in time, began to be known and longed for. It is a fact, though not a strange or discreditable one, that it was first and better known to the people of South Carolina than to those of

in population, and had made large gains in notoriety; for as the lines of railroads from different directions coming towards it neared completion, so were the facilities and comforts of travel greatly

A. J. LYMAN, JOHN CHILD,
Att'y-at-Law.

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