

# Mecklenburg Times.

VOL. I.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., FRIDAY JUNE 14, 1889.

NO. XXVII.

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### FARMERS' ALLIANCE.

**WHAT IS GOING ON IN THEIR ORGANIZATION.**  
Miscellaneous Articles Pertaining to Agriculture and the Alliance.  
**North Carolina Farmers' State Alliance.**  
President—S. B. Alexander, Charlotte.  
Vice-President—T. Ivey, Ashpole.  
Secretary—L. L. Polk, Raleigh.  
Treasurer—S. D. Allen, Falls.  
Lecturer—Dr. D. Reid Parker, Trinity College.  
Assistant Lecturer—D. D. McIntyre, Laurinburg.  
Chaplain—Rev. Carr Moore, Townsville.  
Doorkeeper—W. M. Tomlinson, Fayetteville.  
Assistant Doorkeeper—R. T. Rush, Mt. Gilead.  
Sergeant at Arms—J. S. Holt, Chalk Level.

**Alliance Directory of Mecklenburg County.**  
President—N. Gibbon, Drita.  
Vice-President—J. A. DeArmond, Garrison.  
Secretary—James A. Wilson, Hopewell.  
Treasurer—E. W. Lyles, Charlotte.  
Lecturer—J. M. Caldwell, Charlotte.  
Assistant Lecturer—T. L. Lowe, Paw Creek.  
Door Keeper—S. L. Cathey, Paw Creek.  
Assistant Door Keeper—R. A. Grier, Charlotte, box 10.  
Sergeant at Arms—R. H. McNight, Paw Creek.  
Business Agent—F. S. Neal, Charlotte.

**SECRETARIES OF SUB-ALLIANCES.**  
No. 216, Beach Cliff, J. M. Hanna, Martindale.  
No. 289, Alexandriana, Luther Wilson, Craft.  
No. 331, Hopewell, W. D. Harry, Hopewell.  
No. 283, McDowell Creek, J. T. Cashion, Cowan's Ford.  
No. 302, Pine Grove, R. B. Abernathy, Sandifer.  
No. 348, Long Branch, M. A. Alexander, Paw Creek.  
No. 233, Davidson, J. W. Little, Charlotte.  
No. 794, Holly Grove, W. A. Johnston, Sandifer.

No. 982, Vance, R. H. Elliott, Griffith.  
No. 330, Hickory Grove, Dr. W. W. Gaither, Hornet.  
No. 1239, Cleveland, J. M. Porter, Matthews.  
No. 147, Derita, D. T. Ritch, Derita.  
No. 319, New Hope, W. A. Alexander, Cowan's Ford.  
No. 413, Hebron, F. C. Harris, Pineville.  
No. 238, Mint Hill, C. A. Henderson, Mint Hill.  
No. 478, Oak Grove, W. L. Marshall, Leno.

No. 309, Sharon, W. B. Alexander, Charlotte, Sharon Box.  
No. 695, Ramoth, W. C. McAuley, Huntersville.  
No. 403, Bethel, L. C. Holler, Davidson College.  
No. 310, Polk, W. W. Phifer, Charlotte.  
No. 428, Matthews, G. B. Peninger, Matthews.  
No. 173, Mallard Creek, F. E. Query, Query's.  
No. 255, Back Creek, Jas. R. Hutchison, Query's.  
No. 396, Providence, O. E. Cunningham, Harrison.

No. 919, Steel Creek, Jno. McDowell, Charlotte, Box 10.  
No. 1322, Catawba, James Sledge, Randleburg.  
No. 1490, Craighead, N. P. Lyles, Charlotte.  
No. 1542, Wilson, R. F. Simpson, Martindale.  
No. 1532, Sardis, E. H. Walker, Sardis.  
No. 1901, Berryhill, C. A. Spratt, Leno.  
No. 1907, Grove, L. M. McAllister, Charlotte, Box 10.  
No. 1609, Wilson's Grove, W. W. Burnett, Mint Hill.

Respectfully submitted,  
JAS. A. WILSON,  
Sec'y of Mecklenburg Co. Alliance.

**Chinch Bugs are doing much damage in Union county.**  
The crop of oats in 1889 was 407,859,999 bushels, raised on 16,144,593 acres, an average of a little over 25 bushels per acre. The increase between 1870 and 1880 was 45 per cent.

The total value of farming tools and machinery, as shown by the census of 1880, was \$151,587,638. In 1880 it had risen to \$406,520,055, a sum sufficient to make all the manufacturers of farm implements rich.

The amount of butter made in 1888 reached the enormous total of 806,672,071 pounds, and an average of nearly 16 pounds for every man, woman and child in the country. The value of this product almost equals that of the entire cotton crop.

The production of corn is increasing at a most astonishing rate. In 1880 there was produced 591,071,104 bushels; this amount in 1880 had grown to 1,754,591,676 bushels, and the next census will show a still greater proportionate increase on account of the great development in the new States and Territories of the West and Northwest.—*Nat. Economist.*

Mr. M. B. Simpson, president of the Union County Farmers' Alliance, reports a curiosity in the shape of a chicken with four legs. It is about two weeks old, and is quite lively, though it does not seem at all "steek up" over the fact that it has double its share of legs and feet. It walks around after the mother hen, and does not seem to realize that it is a freak of nature, and therefore more distinguished than its brother chickens. The extra legs are attached to the body just in the rear of the natural ones, and do not seem to be of any special use to the chicken.—*Monroe Express.*

**Less than One Bottle Did It.**  
Mr. P. W. Withers, Deputy Sheriff Jeff. Co., Ark., writes: "I can certainly say that Hughes' Tonic is the best child remedy I ever heard of. I used only part of a bottle and used no quinine and it cured me."  
Prepared by R. A. Robinson & Co., Wholesale Druggists, Louisville, Ky. Sold by Druggists.

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HALES & TOLAR'S, Jewelers.

### COTTON BAGGING FOR THE SOUTH.

**Address of the Committee.**  
Seven yards of jute bagging weighing 1 1/2 lbs. per yard will cost at factory 9 cts. per yard, making 63 cts. Seven yards of cotton bagging weighing three-fourths of a pound will cost 12 1/2 cts. per yard at factory, making 87 1/2 cts., or 24 1/2 cts. more for the covering than jute. In addition to this there is a loss or difference of weight between cotton covered in cotton and jute per bale, of seven pounds, and this at 9 cts. per pound is 63 cts. Now this added to the difference in cost—24 1/2, makes 87 1/2 cts. per bale apparent loss. Under the determinations of the National Alliance, and justly so, the producer will get an allowance of eight pounds per bale on cotton covered bags; this, at nine cts. per pound, is 72 cts. This taken from the loss of 87 1/2 cts. by the use of cotton, leaves only 15 1/2 cts. yet to be overcome. Now no sane man will dare deny that if 125,000 bales of the lowest grade cotton—just the cotton that all manufacturers do not want, and is always accounted for as comparatively worthless in the fixing of the price for a given season—is consumed in the manufacture of bagging, that the price will not be increased on the remainder of the crop and for two reasons: First, the demand for the better classes of cotton is constantly increasing and it takes the same labor and expense to produce the lower grades that it does the better grades; or in other words, as the lower grades increase in a given crop, the better grades decrease. The lowest estimate possible for this diversion of 125,000 bales of cotton, is an increase of one-fourth of a cent per pound, or 1.25 per bale. Take the loss of 15 1/2 cts. from this and we have a gain of \$1.09 1/2 in favor of cotton bagging as compared with jute at present prices. But still there is another source of gain in favor of cotton bagging. We are assured by those who control the insurance of cotton that they will not charge more than one-half present rates of insurance on covered in cotton bagging, such as is manufactured by the Lane Mills of New Orleans. This gives cotton bagging 22 cents per bale increase, which, added to \$1.09 1/2, makes \$1.31 1/2 total actual gain to the individual producer.

But suppose we throw this all aside and admit the loss of 15 1/2 cents per bale by the use of cotton bagging; then our committee assert that it is far better to make this individual sacrifice for the reason that if we use jute bagging, the five millions dollars that will be required to purchase jute for the crop of 1889 will all go North or East—quite a good sum of it to Europe, and in case we spend the five million with the addition of fifteen cents per bale for cotton bagging, the entire amount will stop South, and will either be invested permanently, or circulate as a debt-paying medium, and who is so blind or unpatriotic as not to be willing to reap his individual share of the profits from such an amount of money, spent in his own section, at the small outlay of fifteen cents per bale on his one crop of cotton? This five millions spent in the South in ten years would be worth twenty-five millions to the South, for reasons too patent to take space in this article to demonstrate.

Now we say to every Alliance man, *Wheel man or Union man* in the cotton section of our country—it is your duty to yourself, to your fellows, to your country, to fall into line. Use nothing but cotton, and demand, when you come to sell your cotton, all that has been advised, all that is just and right and no more, and those charged with the management and control of the question of tare and allowance will see to it that you get your demands, thus qualified. Shoulder to shoulder, now, for 1889. You will come off more than conquerors in this conflict, and prepare yourselves as individuals, and as an organization to "down" other wicked combines that now afflict our whole people for the sake of personal gain.

L. E. LIVINGSTON, Ga.  
L. L. POLK, N. C.  
E. B. WARREN, Tex.

**Cotton Seed Hulls as a Feed Stuff.**  
The possibilities of the cotton plant are simply wonderful. It has not been many years since the oil of cotton seed, was presented as a valuable product. The meal or cake has always been recognized as a fertilizer and also as a valuable food for cattle. But with thousands of farmers to-day the best and most remunerative use that can be made of the seed, is to put them out as manure, after having heated, scalded and steamed them in the fermentation furnace of huge piles of stable manure. Until very recently, the idea that cotton seed hulls was a valuable food for cattle was monstrously absurd. The hulls are to-day carted away from the mills and the best possible use found for them is as bedding for horses and cattle. But some recent experiments are developing the fact that they are really valuable as food for cattle, when used in connection with the meal. From the Director of the Arkansas Experiment Station we learn that Capt. Wright, of Little Rock, is feeding about 2,000 cattle, and that about 15,000 are being fed at Fort Smith, as a test of the value of the hulls as food, and the results thus far are "highly satisfactory."  
*Progressive Farmer.*

The largest cotton crop ever raised up to the last census year, 1880, was the crop of 1879, which was reported at 5,755,359 bales, having an average weight of 475 pounds, and roughly estimated to be worth \$300,000,000.

### The Farm Mortgage Canker.

Immense areas are soon to be open to homestead settlement in the Indian Territory. Much of this land is said to be excellent, and cheap homes are promised to many thousands of families. Large quantities of unopened lands are also available in Dakota, and on the whole land is still as "cheap as dirt" in this country. The most serious question is not so much as to the scarcity of available young canker of mortgages on farms already under cultivation in the great established States of the West.

Take the thriving State of Illinois, for instance, with its vast areas of rich prairie land, the finest corn producing section in the world. According to the last report of the State Bureau of Labor statistics the farmers are rapidly being swallowed up by mortgages. During the past 20 years this blight has increased its ravages with alarming rapidity. Between 1870 the farm indebtedness increased about 6 per cent. But between 1880 and 1887, as the ripper fruit of "protection," it increased 37 per cent. At the opening of the present year the whole number of mortgages on farms was 92,787, on farm values of \$112,400,300. There are estimated to be some 34,694,182 acres of land in the State, of which total 23.28 per cent. are under mortgage, over 20 per cent. of which is to cover loans incurred in keeping up the farms.

The situation in Michigan is still worse, over one-half of the farms there being in the deadly grip of mortgages. To sum up the whole situation, the farms of the West are rapidly being devoured by this eating canker, which it seemed impossible to cut out.

These farms were most of them opened under the homestead act, or were purchased at merely nominal figures. They have yielded richly, and the farmers have labored unceasingly to make them stand alone. Yet, in spite of all efforts they have gradually been pulled into the devouring maw of the interest-taker and ticketed deathward under mortgages, from which the farmer finds it impossible to extricate himself.

If this fatality is to continue with the American farmer, of what value is it to prospective ones to open new farms to them, seeing that they must inevitably fall into the hands of the money-lending classes at last, with the poor farmers' years of toil thrown in?

Something must be monstrously wrong in our national economy to have brought about such a state of things. Grover Cleveland had the manhood to stake his re-election on confronting that wrong with the true remedy; which is the abolition of a system of taxation which grinds out of the farmer the money wherewith the enormous subsidies lavished upon the "stimulated" industries are paid. In full view of this crying injustice it is no wonder that Citizen Grover has no apologies to make. Neither will his party have any apologies to make if it should choose him as its standard-bearer in 1892.

**Reforms.**  
A notable feature of the progress of the last forty years is the marked tendency of growth by the cities at the expense of the rural districts. In spite of all the methods adopted and arguments used to make the farm attractive, there has been a constant and gradually increasing emigration from the farm to the city. There must be a good reason for this because it has been discouraged by agricultural and agricultural papers, by city people and by city papers, all to no avail. There is a good reason and it may be found in the simple fact that the laws of the country and the regulations of society and business have made the varieties of business conducted in the cities more successful and prosperous than agricultural pursuits. This is a very simple reason, but it is a good one, and is sufficient to produce the results seen. The people may always be depended upon to find and follow such lines of business as are the most profitable, and if the conditions of the country are such that effort will secure a greater reward when expended in the city than like effort expended in the county occupation, in spite of the most specious arguments to the contrary. Self-interest rules the masses, and it would rule them. Any reform worthy the name should be of such a nature that it will conform to this fact before it deserves success.

The agricultural population of to-day is becoming rapidly aroused to the fact that agriculture, as a class, can only be rendered prosperous by radical changes in the laws governing money, transportation, and land, and this fact once realized, and then, by the great farmers' organizations demanded of the General Government, of the Republican, Democratic, Greenback, Labor Prohibition, and all other parties, will secure the adoption of the needed reforms. A land reform must be demanded, because a large per cent. of the lands of the country is now owned by foreign and domestic syndicates, and the greater part of all the balance of the whole volume of the land is under mortgage to corporations and speculators; and, as statistics and records show that the number and amount of such mortgages is constantly increasing, and as a consequence the title to the lands is gradually passing from the producer who lives upon them to the speculator, it is only a question of time when a point will be reached where the masses must submit to slavery or call a halt.

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### The Homestead.

Recently the Supreme Court of North Carolina has rendered two decisions of importance, concerning the homestead in this State. The first was in the case of Hughes vs. Hodges, where the court held "that a landowner who is not in debt, may, by deed absolute or by mortgage, convey his land that has never been allotted to him as a homestead, without the joinder of his wife in the mortgage deed," and that such a conveyance would pass the right of both the husband and wife to a homestead in the property. A conveyance made in this way, by the husband without the consent of the wife, would be subject to the wife's right of dower, however; nothing can deprive her of that but her own consent.

The next and more interesting decision was in the case of Jones vs. Britton, where the court held that a judgment creditor has the right to have the owner of a homestead restrained from cutting and selling timber trees, except for necessary repairs and improvements.

A remarkable thing occurred in this case: there are five Justices on the Supreme Court bench and every one of them wrote an opinion, three of them on one side and two on the other. These opinions make interesting reading.

First, Justice Merrimon, holds that the judgment creditor has a lien on the homestead and that he has the right to restrain the homesteader from cutting and selling the timber trees on land for any purpose other than necessary repairs and improvements thereon. Then Justice Davis follows saying he is unable to understand the nature of a lien of a judgment upon the homestead; that he does not think that a judgment creditor has any right to interfere with the homesteader, the law having been so decided; and besides, that even conceding the principle contended for to be true, he does not think the facts of this particular case are such as to entitle the plaintiff to an injunction against the defendant, concluding as follows: "I know of no precedent in this State or elsewhere where the constitutional provision is like ours for such an interference with the right of the owner of a homestead to use it as he may think most conducive to the comfort and support of himself and family, and I do not concur in making one. In the earlier days of the homestead law in this State it seems to me that the judicial pendulum lost its equilibrium, and, swayed by a benevolent sentiment prompted by the impoverished condition of the State, it was greatly on the side of the homesteader. Having a constitution which guarantees the unalienable right to a homestead, when its owner is denied the right to use it in any way that may best contribute to his support and comfort without being molested, harassed or vexed by creditors in regard to the manner in which he shall use it, it seems to me that the pendulum is swaying in the other direction."

Then follows Justice Shepherd, with this opening remark: "If any question is well settled in this State, it is that all of the lands of the debtor (the homestead inclusive) are subject to the lien of a docketed judgment," and that having a "charge" upon the land the judgment creditor "has a right to invoke the aid of a court of equity in certain cases to prevent the impairment of his security," and he thinks that this is one of the cases.

Then comes Justice Avery. He shows by quotation from the constitution itself that the homesteader has, at least, the right to the rents and profits of the homestead; and he says that, "both of these words are terms known to the law, have a legal meaning, and it must be understood that those who laid the foundation stones to our political edifice understood their legal significance, and intended that they should be interpreted accordingly." He proceeds to quote authority to the effect that if a grant is made of the profit of land, "the whole land itself doth pass, for what is land but the profits thereof, for thereby vesture, herbage, tolls, mines, and all whatsoever parcel of that land doth pass." Now, says he, how comes it, since the State has given the homesteader the profits of his land, that it has not granted to him for the time prescribed the unrestricted use of mines and timber trees thereon? Then comes this caustic paragraph: "If the sovereign State, in its organic law, has not vested every citizen who owns a homestead with the right to the untrammelled use of mines, timber, stone, and everything that might be used or consumed by the owner of a life estate in England, conveyed to him coupled with exemption from waste, then it must be because the State has no power to grant the privilege, or because by a strained construction we distort the meaning of words that have had a known significance as far back as the time of Lord Coke."

The concluding opinion is by Chief Justice Smith. He begins by saying in substance that the dissenting opinions of Justices Davis and Avery have a tendency to unsettle the law, and that he "can scarcely deem any evil in the administration of judicial functions in declaring and defining the law, and especially that in ascertaining the constitutional and statutory legislation in its effect upon existing law, greater than that which springs from conflicting decisions, and a want of regard shown in the latter in departing from the rulings made in those that precede, thus rendering personal and property rights acquired insecure and uncertain." Then the Chief Justice proceeds to depart from the known significance of the word "profits" as far back as the time of Lord Coke, and from the rule of construction

as contended for by Justice Avery without giving any authority on this point except his own opinion. "The true mode of arriving at the meaning of the provisions relating to the exemption of land as a homestead is to look at its terms and the purpose to be attained. The primary object was to secure a home to the unfortunate and insolvent debtor and his family, and to this end the prohibitory mandate is addressed to the creditor and the officer of the law, acting in his behalf, forbidding the sale of so much of the land as is exempted, either under execution or other final process for the enforcement of a debt, except it be for taxes or the purchase money due for the land itself thus exempt. This is for the relief of the debtor, and to prevent the expulsion of himself and family from their home or such land as he may choose to make his home on. It secures the home or 'homestead,' which designates the exempt land on which he has or may make his home, to his and their use for its full and undisturbed enjoyment incident to such enjoyment, as a precedent and unfettered order would use in its expectation of its indefinite continuance as his own home."

Notwithstanding this strong language, which would seem of itself to indicate that the Chief Justice agreed substantially with Justices Davis and Avery, the opinion develops later on into a contrary view, as follows: "Surely when the sovereign, the State says to the creditor: 'You shall not take the home of your debtor, and put him and his family out into the world, houseless and penniless, and you must therefore wait for your debt; but you may secure it by prosecuting your demand to judgment and enforce payment hereafter,'" it did not mean to say to him: "Your debtor may use the property in any way he may deem most to his own advantage in the meantime; he may remove the houses, he may destroy all the timber, and convert it to his own use, leaving the premises, it may be, well nigh worthless; and you cannot be allowed to complain unless he was prompted by mere wantonness, or a malicious motive, and did not do the act for personal advantage only."

And so, after more reasoning, and citation of authorities by the learned Chief Justice, the opinion is brought to a close. And thus it was decided that a judgment creditor holding a lien of \$50.30 against a homesteader, having 200 acres of land alleged not to be worth over \$1,000, and being subject to prior liens "amounting to several hundred dollars," was entitled to an injunction restraining the homesteader from cutting and selling the timber on his land, except for necessary repairs and improvements.

**Little News Items.**  
Bill Weddington will be hanged in Charlotte June 11th.

It is claimed by his friends here that Mr. M. L. Motst will be assistant United States district attorney.—*Satesville Landmark.*

At the trial of Dr. McDow for the murder of Capt. Dawson, to take place in Charlotte June 27th, the plea of McDow will be self-defense.

Three hundred people have been buried in Grand View cemetery who were drowned in the recent flood. It required 35 men to dig the graves.

Blind Tom, the famous pianist is supposed to have been drowned in the recent flood at Johnston. He was engaged to perform at that town about the time of the flood, and nothing has been heard from him since.

Of the 53,486 miles of new railway already projected for the first quarter of 1889 it is a notable fact that nearly by the route the mileage will be confined to the South and Southwest. Indications continue to point to the fact that these are to be the sections of the future.—*News & Observer.*

Mr. A. D. Parks, one of the crack gardeners of the town, is to the front among the first with new cabbage and has remembered the Landmark with a contribution from his crop. Cabbage is not an aristocratic dish but it is mighty filling and when a man gets loaded up with it he has something to hold to.—*Satesville Landmark.*

A good Methodist brother once preached about the benefits of humility and poverty, and when he called on one of his devoted flock to lead in prayer the latter turned the doctrine of the sermon on his astonished pastor in this unexpected manner, "Lord, you keep him humble and we'll keep him poor."—*Abbeville Median.*

**Fast Travel.**  
A single mile in thirty-nine seconds, and eight miles covered at this prodigious speed, was the record made the other day on the Bound Brook Railroad by Engine No. 206, of the Wooten pattern, that drew the fast train which leaves Philadelphia at 7:30 a. m. There were five cars in the train and John Hogan, a veteran engineer, was in the cab. The speed recorded is equivalent to a rate of over ninety miles. It has been decided by the Pennsylvania Railroad to send one of its best engines to England to be tried on the roads there. It will make its first appearance on the London and Northwestern Railroad. As the English railroads are much straighter than those in this country, railroad men are much interested to see what an American locomotive can do on a too-line track.

**Worth Knowing.**  
HUGHES' TONIC.—The old time, reliable remedy for Fever and Ague. Reputation earned by Thirty years' success. You can depend upon it. Try It! DRUGGISTS HAVE IT.

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OF CLOTHING, GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS AND HATS BEGINS SATURDAY.

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Our Store in the old Central Hotel Building, the corner that is as familiar to you as your own houses and firesides, is to be remodeled, improved, enlarged and fitted up in Palatial style. The work will begin right away, just as soon as we can dispose of the Stock. We've an enormously large stock, and as remodeling will be general, we must sell it. Can't do anything else. So Saturday, at 8 o'clock sharp, we'll begin a

### SLAUGHTER SALE OF OUR ENTIRE STOCK,

a sale such as has never been seen in this city. Not a Garment of any description will escape. We've made reductions that will wake the State. We want to put three facts into your head, and we want 'em to stick there. The Goods we are compelled to sacrifice now are New Goods of this season; Reliable, Staple Clothing, such as we have always kept. As our entire store will be remodeled and improved we can't keep any Goods in any Nook or Corner, so the compulsion to sell is very great. The Stock to be sold is simply enormous, and the time very short. To empty the Store in the shortest possible time, we have boiled prices and value down; down to such a consistency as will pack our Store and keep it packed till every dollar's worth of stuff under our roof is gone. Be punctual.

**W. KAUFMAN & CO.,**  
Leading Clothiers, Gents' Furnishers and Hatters,  
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The farming people when they come in to see us. They can buy just about one dollar and a half's worth of goods for one cart wheel.

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They can almost name their own prices. You know we keep a splendid line of Clothing in our regular stock. We don't make all our profits on clothing, consequently we can sell it for less than some other people. Our styles are all right, and then we FIT you.

SHOES are here too! All kinds. Can fit the baby as well as the old lady; boy as well as his Pa. We want you to come! We try our best to treat you right.

### PANTS GOODS 3 YARDS FOR 50 CENTS.

That's a sample. ALAMANCE 30 yards for \$1.00. That's another. Come.

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### GRAY & CO. DEALERS EXCLUSIVELY IN BOOTS AND SHOES

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